

**Dunedin Chapter
AGM
Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth
5th February, 2012**

Welcome: After ensuring all present were fully paid up members, George welcomed everyone to the 2011 AGM, set out the format for the meeting and introduced the top table: George McGuire, Director; Stuart Caplan, Assistant Director; Alyson Jamieson, Treasurer; Anne McLennan, Secretary, Kirk Hale, Dealer Principal, Edinburgh Harley-Davidson.

Director's Report: The Chapter was founded in 1994 and is soon approaching its 20th anniversary. Last year the membership peaked at 385, a long way from the 40 or so members in the early years. The Chapter is going from strength to strength and is held in high esteem the world over and our global appeal is notable by the number of members we now have from abroad, including England, Belgium, Germany, Spain and the USA. George thanked all the members for their support and enthusiasm for both the Chapter and Dealership and for promoting the Chapter worldwide. At present there are 7 Chapters without dealerships in England, so it is important to support our Dealership as much as we can.

As the membership grows each year, so the pressure increases on the Committee. Thanks to Stuart for his counsel and support, to Alyson who manages the largest finances of any Chapter in the UK if not Europe, to Anne for looking after the membership, minutes and contributing to Chapter planning. To Richard for originally setting up the Chapter website (now retired), Fiona for developing and progressing the Ladies of Harley, the Lead Road Captains, Sandy and Frank along with the Road Captains and Road Marshalls for keeping us safe on the ride outs, Stevie Collins for his hard work organising events, Des for his technical and graphic skills and Ross, our new Webmaster, who is taking the website to another technical level. Most members are not aware of the work involved as much of it is undertaken behind the scenes and there is little recognition for this and I thank these Officers, on behalf of the membership, for their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to thank the host of volunteers who help out at Thunder in the Glens® and various events throughout the year and lastly, to our members for supporting our outings and events.

2011 brought its share of challenges, but nothing that could not be resolved through negotiation and discussion. The HOG Chapter Handbook is the bible which provides guidance for Officers in the running of the Chapter. The Primary Officers have a duty to protect both HOG and the local Dealership and must follow this guidance, as failure of any Officer to do so, will result in their removal from their position. Members are also expected to accept and adhere to the guidelines set down by HOG and abide by the Chapter Charter. If members are unwilling to do so, they have the choice to ride free. Our ultimate aim as a Chapter is to provide riding experience and have fun in a safe manner.

Thanks to the members who have promoted the Chapter around the globe. The Dunedin back patch is very much revered and personally it is a privilege and an honour to serve as Director. It has been very hard work to get the Chapter to where it is today and decisions made are very much for the benefit of the whole Chapter. 2011 has been a very successful year despite the economic downturn and it is hoped this will continue throughout 2012.

Dealership Report: Kirk thanked George and the Committee for their work over the year. He noted that there had been a few micro issues, but these have been resolved. He informed members that both he and George are willing to work with members to sort out any Chapter related problems. The HOT Training in Seville was a great success and he was blown away by the international recognition of our Chapter. Dunedin leads the way in how Chapters are run and this reflects well on the Dealership. Edinburgh H-D is doing very well in the current economic climate and he thanked everyone for their business which is very much appreciated. Dunedin is without doubt a fantastic Chapter and long may it continue. EH-D is organising a 'Boys Night Out' in Feb to thank members for their support. There is a nominal charge of £5 to help pay for the hospitality and manage numbers. Anyone who wishes to take part in providing the entertainment (not compulsory) should e-mail Kirk and let him know what you want to do.

Assistant Director's Report: Stuart reported he is proud to be Assistant Director for the best Chapter in the world, noting that it is the members who make it special. Since joining in 1995 when Scotland was just emerging as an area where you could buy a Harley-Davidson motorbike, Dunedin has grown from strength to strength and a steady progression of people are noting how good we are as a Chapter. Stuart is pleased to serve the Chapter and to assist George in any way he can. There have been a few problems throughout the year, but this is nothing new and can generally be resolved with a little effort on all sides.

Treasurer's Report: Alyson provided members with a breakdown of the Chapter accounts explaining that Thunder in the Glens® had made a small profit even though numbers had been 7% down on last year. Money has been set aside for the Road Captains course in April and there is also a slush fund for the merchandise which has been selling well. Memberships are up 9% on last year and rally registration is going well to date. Over 2011 we have supported a variety of charitable events and a list of beneficiaries is set out in the financial accounts.

Webmaster's Report: Ross has been building on the excellent work that Richard started in developing the website. The interface has been updated and the facility to pay for rally registration and merchandise on-line is now up and running and working well. Of the 800 rally registrations received so far, 60% of payments have been made on-line with many coming in from abroad. Ross is currently developing an on-line facility for renewing membership and this should be available within the next few months. There is also a Gallery for members to post their pictures and a Bulletin Page from H-D. Future developments include more interactive material, such as 'Plan your ride' which can be downloaded to Sat Navs. There have been over 47,000 hits in the last 9 months alone, with over 116,000 individual views, many prior to the run up to Thunder in the Glens®. All members (Full and Associates) will have a website profile which will allow them to register and update their own details. The website will also replace the system currently being used to keep a membership list. Ross is happy to take comments from members on what they would like to see on the website and the following suggestions were made: a picture of the month to reflect both members and Scotland, with an end of year competition to pick the best and perhaps a prize for the millionth hit on the website.

Road Captains Report: On behalf of himself and Sandy, Frank thanked his Road Captains and Marshalls for doing a great job with the ride outs. As always, the prime consideration is safety and the ride outs have all gone to plan. They hope to have more Saturday ride outs and also ride outs for new members. Aviemore grows every year and there is now a massive number of bikes taking part in the rideout. Without the help of the Road Captains and Marshalls, we wouldn't be able to do it. Frank asked everyone to return their yellow road marshal vests/jackets at the next meeting so a stock take can be done and more ordered if needed. It is intended to continue with the same procedures when marshalling ride outs and we hope to have another successful and safe riding season this year. Frank announced that Phil O'Kane and Gordon Dickson have now joined the team of Road Captains. It was noted that all Road Captains are now IAM trained. To date 19 members have passed their IAM test and another 8 are working on completing the training. IAM training is due to start shortly (around end March, after the Scottish Motorcycle show). Application forms are available from Mike Dall who organises the training.

Ladies of Harley: Fiona thanked all the members who had supported the LOH events last year, giving particular mention to the TITG® Fashion Show models and supporters, who again did an outstanding job. There were several outings organised last year, starting with Lorraine's Hen night in May, followed by a Star Trek walk in July and ending with a Charity Fashion Show in November. Fiona has several events organised: Casino night in Feb, 10-pin bowling in March and a private viewing of jewellery in April and also hopes to organise a trip to Aberdeen later in the year. Fiona is happy to receive suggestions for events and will happily organise them if there is enough support.

Puppet Gang: Tim and Aileen hoped members enjoyed the mime act on Saturday evening, which, with a donation from the Chapter, raised £200. 2011 saw the end of the 3rd full season of the puppet show. They raised £3,151 last year, which was donated to various charities. John accepted a cheque for £200 for the Erskine Hospital and Stevie Collins £200 for CLASP. George read out a letter from Brookes Dream who is overwhelmed by the support received. Tim and Aileen are setting up a charitable organisation to continue with their fund raising activities. George thanked them for their support and wished them well with their fund raising activities.

Primary Officers: All primary officers were prepared to stand again and as no nominations were received, the status quo continues.

Award Ceremony: George and Stuart presented several awards to members for their outstanding contribution to the Chapter during 2011 as follows:

Plaques: Chris MacPhee, Stevie Collins, Don & Lesley Middleton, Willie Newall, Des Urban,

Quaich: Ron and Irene Bloomfield

Certificate of Excellence: Brian & Muriel McCabe, Fiona Kenny, Lorraine McGuire

Flowers: Mary Chalkley

Honorary Membership: Alan Budsynski

Matters Arising: None

George closed the meeting.