

DUNEDIN CHAPTER

MONTHLY MEETING

9th January 2011

Leapark, Grangemouth

Welcome: George welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. Due to more snow, the absence of many of the northern members was noted and it was hoped things would improve so they could attend next month's AGM. George introduced Donna & Kelly from Richmond Hope, Susan Heron from the Venchie Centre and Martin MacNamara from the RNLI. Lorna Johnston from the Muscular Dystrophy Society was also invited for a cheque presentation, but was involved in a car accident earlier in the day. George was pleased to report she was unhurt.

Membership: We have 3 new members based in Germany who have taken out membership with the Chapter and also purchased tartan for kilts. Members should note that their current membership runs out on 31st January and is now due for renewal. For those who have already renewed, membership cards are available for collection today or at the AGM. Thereafter they will be posted out.

Presentations: George introduced Martin MacNamara, a Crewman from the RNLI Anstruther, who was delighted to accept a cheque from the Chapter for £250 which was raised at last year's event in Anstruther.

£250 raised by the puppet gang and a further £450 raised at the Northern Sector Dance last year was presented to the Archie Foundation, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. George thanked all members who organised/ supported these events.

Donna Hasting from Richmond Hope informed members of the work they undertake with children who suffer from bereavement. Based in Craigmillar they cover the City of Edinburgh and Lothian's area. The age group of children ranges from 2 to 18 years and the purpose of the project is to help children work through their grief which, if left unattended, can lead to mental health problems. They currently receive £50k from Edinburgh Council which is only a third of their annual running costs. The funding deficit is made up by fundraising and they are delighted that Dunedin has chosen them as one of their beneficiaries for 2011. They are currently running a Memory Mile fundraising project which involves filling sticks with £1 coins. Each stick is 1m long and they hope to fill enough sticks to measure a whole mile when set out end to end. Donna thanked the Chapter for its support and will be happy to provide further information on their work.

Susan Heron from the Venchie Centre provided members with a general background of the work they do. Based in a deprived area, the Centre is open to all children in the community and provides targeted assistance to many children who are referred to them from the Education and Social Work Services. The Centre provides a safe and stable environment for youngsters of all ages and offers them the opportunity to improve their social skills and enhance their educational development. The children can participate in a wide range of

sporting and play activities which vary from baking, gardening, and dancing to horse riding and rock climbing. Provision includes Breakfast Club, After School Care Scheme, Day Trips and Playschemes during school holidays. With funding always a problem, the Centre is grateful for all external assistance.

Events:

Toy Run - On 11th December gift donations were taken to the Venchie Centre by van. There was however 3 hardy riders who turned up on their bikes. Trevor donated a Nintendo Wi and games and has also agreed to donate a 42" plasma TV. George thanked everyone for their support and hoped that next year the event will run as planned.

EH-D Open Day on 18th December was well supported and a great success.

Forthcoming Events:

Still in draft format and subject to change - any further suggestions, including rideout destinations to George:

<i>5th Feb</i>	Annual Dinner Dance, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth - Costs are £22 per head for members and £27 for non-members. Names, including invited guests to Anne McLennan.
<i>6th Feb</i>	Annual General Meeting, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth
<i>12th - 13th Mar</i>	Scottish Bike show
<i>12th Mar</i>	Ceilidh - only 250 tickets are being sold - see Stevie Collins. Any members who can help out with accommodation would be appreciated.
<i>15th - 17th Apr</i>	Blackpool - see Stevie Collins
<i>23rd Apr</i>	Northern Sector Pre-Season Dance
<i>May</i>	EH-D Birthday Bash
<i>29th Apr - 2nd May</i>	Cider Rally So far 80 members have signed up for this
<i>28th May</i>	Richmond Hope Memory Mile
<i>11th Jun</i>	Battle of the Bands
<i>18th - 19th Jun</i>	Ride to either Port Patrick or Skye
<i>May/June</i>	Blood Run
<i>9th - 10th July</i>	BMF Bike Show at Kelso
<i>27th - 31st July</i>	Ace Café - Leaving earlier so as to be there for the Harley night which takes place on Thursdays. come back Sat/Sun - see Stevie Collins
<i>7th Aug</i>	Festival Carnival Parade
<i>26th -29th Aug</i>	TITG
<i>30th Sept - 2nd Oct</i>	RTTW
<i>29th Oct</i>	Harleyween

**** Watch the website for Event updates ****

Thunder in the Glens: Pre-Registration is open to all from 1st January. George has received 550 forms to date. There has been a lot of interest from several Chapters in the UK and abroad: Rolling Hills Chapter (70), Lyon Chapter (30), Bridgewater Chapter (30), Wofruna

Chapter (40) to name a few. Hotel rates have been negotiated with Macdonald's Hotels and although a few pounds more than last year, are still good value.

As yet, no further bands have been booked but Stuart has been in touch with a local entertainment agency in Inverness to try and source more local bands. "Inverness Gigs" has given Dunedin a good write up, promoting the rally, which should give the Battle of the Bands a boost and provide even greater competition due to the enhanced publicity and higher profile.

Stuart has tried to contact the Hairy Bikers but as yet has had no response. Their celebrity status is much greater than it was several years ago and they now communicate through their agent.

John suggested organising a coach trip for youngsters from the Venchie Centre to the Harley Village on the Saturday. Agreed that John, Tim and Aileen will look into this further.

Tartan: Stuart has a sample of lighter grade material for the ladies to view. The bale is double width and costed at £30 a linear yard. Orders should be placed through Stuart.

Kilt Pins: The Chapter kilt pins have arrived. Those who have pre-ordered should see Ron and Irene.

Merchandise: Some merchandise is available today and a further order has been placed - see Lorraine.

Dealership: In Kirk's absence, George passed on his best wishes for the New Year, wished everyone a safe and happy riding season and expressed his thanks for the support for the Open Day in December and the take up of the recent service deals. Anyone who needs their bike serviced should get it booked in early and not wait until the start of the riding season. Members gave their unanimous approval for receiving details of special offers via text messages from the Dealership.

Chapter Mileage: The results will be announced at the Directors meeting next week and a breakdown of the winners will be announced at the Chapter Dance and AGM.

Ladies of Harley: Fiona is organising a cocktail night on Saturday 27th February. The cost will be £23 per head which includes tuition and 3 free cocktails. Further details including the venue will be posted on the website.

AGM: To be held on 6th February, 2011 at the Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth. George confirmed the committee is due for re-election and the current Committee members have indicated that they are happy to stand again for a further 2 years. Further nominations should be forwarded to George by Saturday 29th January, and should include the Members Name, Post they are interested in and the experience they have to undertake the post - persons nominated should have the skill base to undertake the post. Nominations for Director or Assistant Director should be forwarded to Kirk Hale.

Child Protection: Further to discussion on this issue at an earlier meeting, George proposed and members agreed that a paragraph relating to the Child Protection Act be included in the Chapter Rules and Membership Form. The paragraph will highlight the responsibility for

individual members to ensure that in taking out membership with Dunedin, they meet the terms of the Act.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 6th February, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth following the AGM.