

DUNEDIN CHAPTER

MONTHLY MEETING

6th March 2011

Leapark, Grangemouth

Welcome: George welcomed everyone and thanked them for supporting the bring and buy sale which was a resounding success. George was pleased to introduce Gordon Dik (Director of the Red Rose Chapter) and his wife Nicola who were visiting relatives in Scotland and who dropped in to say hello and provide details of their 'Wake the Lakes' Rally which takes place from 1st to 3rd July.

Membership: Willie introduced several new members: Richard & Vikky McLaughlin from Markinch; Allan McKelvie from Prestwick; Lee Anne Horsburgh from Kelso; John & Marella Reid from Peterhead; Mark & Sara Doggett from Dundee and Tim Joy from Dalkeith, bringing the total number of members to 305.

Chapter Mileage Programme (CMP): As mentioned at the last meeting, there was a challenge to the declared winner of the individual award. George was pleased to announce that there is now a new winner, our very own John Nisbet from Eyemouth who managed to clock up 20,654 miles. There will be an official presentation by H-D in recognition of this achievement and Kirk has also offered to provide John with a free bike service. George asked all members to join up this year regardless of the mileage they expect to clock up. It only costs £5 and all funds raised will go to the Muscular Dystrophy Charity. 2011 forms can be downloaded from the H-D website and members should take the form to the dealership with their bike and get the mileage verified. Thereafter, keep the form safe until October as the mileage will require to be verified again. Chris and Frank will organise verification for the Northern Sector.

Events: Shave Off on 19th February was a very successful event, with Russ Craig having his head and beard shaved off raising over £700 for charity. This included £140 which was raised by Chapter members when Napoli decided to get a last minute head shave. Thanks to all who supported the event and to Caroline for her work in organising the nibbles.

LOH Cocktail Masterclass on 26th February - another great evening with 14 ladies attending. For some, this was their first Ladies of Harleys event and it is hoped they enjoyed their evening and will come along to further events in the future.

Forthcoming Events:

- 12th - 13th Mar** Scottish Bike show - The Chapter will be promoted within the EH-D trailer which will have a prime site in the main hall.
- 12th Mar** Ceilidh - The venue has been moved to the Mason Lodge, 47 Clerk Street, Loanhead and the event is now fully booked.
- 22nd Mar** IAM Presentation and Awareness Evening - 7.00 pm at the Dealership. Mike Dall will provide an audio visual presentation informing

members about the content of the course. Around 8-10 observers will be present offering an opportunity for members to chat with them and have any questions answered. Coffee and sausage rolls will be available.

- 26th Mar* Ride to Tynecastle Stadium to support a charity Zip Wire Slide in aid of Erskine House. If the weather allows, charity rides will be offered. Depart Dealership at 11.00 a.m. EH-D may also take a couple of demo bikes down.
- 15th - 17th Apr* Chapter Weekend in Blackpool - A larger, more upmarket hotel has been sourced providing more accommodation - there are still places left for anyone who wants to go - enquires to Stevie Collins.
- 23rd Apr* Northern Sector Pre-Season Dance - It is hoped that members from the central belt will be able to support this event. There is still accommodation available in the Craighaar hotel, Dyce - speak to Lorraine Leslie for more details, or see website.
- May* EH-D Birthday Bash - date to be confirmed
- 29th Apr - 2nd May* Cider Rally - Over 80 members are now attending, with several members travelling in a group and many others doing their own thing.
- 28th May* Richmond Hope Memory Mile at Portobello Promenade.
- 26th - 29th May* European Rally in Croatia.
- 11th Jun* Battle of the Bands.
- 25th & 26th Jun* Ride to Skye - see website for more details or contact Gordon Dickson.
- 9th - 10th July* BNF Bike Show at Kelso.
- 27th - 31st July* Ace Café - see Stevie Collins.
- 7th Aug* Festival Carnival Parade.
- 26th -29th Aug* TITG
- 30th Sept - 2nd Oct* RTTW
- 29th Oct* Harleyween

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

Thunder in the Glens: Almost 1300 Pre-Registration forms have been received - quite phenomenal. George reported that he had been in Aviemore last week discussing details of the Rally with Macdonald's, the local Constabulary and other Hoteliers. They now recognise that TITG is the No.1 event in their calendar. George raised the question of drink prices with Macdonald's, requesting this be standardised throughout all venues and was pleased to report that, with the exception of The Highlands hotel, this has been agreed. Several hotels in the surrounding area that can provide additional accommodation have been identified and this information is being sent out with rally tickets. Grantown On Spey have more traders interested in attending this year and intend to increase their involvement and provision. All in all everything is on track.

Stuart reported that there will be 19 bands at the Rally and, with the exception of Ballroom Gitz, will be a complete change for 2011. He is still waiting on confirmation from 2 bands and once this has been received, the list will be put on the website. E-mails will go out to previous Venue Managers inviting them to undertake the job again. With so many bands, the Venue Managers will be busy and for some, depending on the venue, it will be a full time

job. If any other members are interested in this job, please let Stuart know as there will be opportunities to shadow the Venue Managers and learn what is involved.

Chris MacPhee and Jim Anderson have again offered to oversee the campsite and Steven Kenny will look after the mobile home site. Fred Henderson has agreed to run the Bike Show and Mary and Alyson will be in charge of Registration.

George thanked Paul Clements and Trevor Newman who have put up £100 each to help pay for the coach to transport the children from the Venchie Centre to Aviemore. Now looking at the possibility of the children staying over on the Saturday night and travelling home again on the Sunday. This will be dependent on the availability of the carers from the Venchie Centre as it will be their responsibility to look after them. Phil Paterson who works with Ronnies offered to look into the supply and sponsorship of a coach.

The provision of a bike wash and rally merchandise will also be looked at.

Dealership: Kirk was unable to attend today but is currently very busy organising everything for the Scottish Bike Show next weekend. There has been much preparatory work and he has secured a prime spot in the main hall for EH-D/Chapter. Kirk thanks everyone for their business and asks that you book early if you need your bike serviced, as the workshop is getting busier with the onset of the 2011 riding season.

EH-D have new merchandise in stock for anyone looking to kit up for the new season.

Tartan: The last of the heavier weight tartan is now sold out and a new bale has been ordered and will be available in about 5 weeks. To date, the uptake on the lighter grade material is lower than expected so there is still plenty available- orders should be placed through Stuart.

Merchandise: Some merchandise is available today and another order is expected soon. The Chapter can't afford to keep a large stock of merchandise so orders should be placed with Lorraine and paid up front.

Ladies of Harley: As the 2011 riding season is now upon us, there will be no further LOH evenings organised until September. The Chapter Diary of Events provides full and varied options which the ladies can participate in throughout the spring and summer months. If any ladies have suggestions for girlie nights for later in the year Fiona will be happy to hear from you.

AOCB: Venchie Centre: Work on the roof and internal ceilings is on-going and should be completed in around 3 weeks. The windows are in the process of being resealed and Taz is organising an examination of the heating and boiler system to see how this could be improved. Once this work is complete, the Chapter will be looking for volunteers to decorate the inside before flooring and carpets are laid.

The Puppet Gang are putting on a show in Anstruther today so cannot make the meeting. George thanked them for their fundraising work and for spreading the good name of the Chapter.

HOT Event: George reported that the attendees for 2011 will be Alyson, Lorraine, Fiona and Anne. The event will provide an opportunity to learn how it all works, liaise with other Chapters and to promote Dunedin.

Debra Run to Dublin: Ross provided an update informing members that Robin Hood would be going to Canada and will take his daughter Alex's ashes with him. At some point they will be returned to carry on the journey round Europe. In the meantime Ross offered pins for sale at £3 each and hoped members would buy one in support of the Debra charity.

The North section have been invited by Grampian police to attend the Operation Zenith 2011 Road Safety Campaign event on Sunday 3rd April. This is the second year of the year programme aimed and promoting the vulnerability of motorcyclists and the need to reduce the numbers being killed and seriously injured on our roads.

The website is currently under review and may take a month or two to complete. During this time, whilst updates are being carried out, there may be periods when members cannot access the site. If so, a message will come up advising you to try again later. The title of Dunedinhog.com has been relinquished to the Director of Dunedin and this means we can now legally use e-mails with post titles i.e., director@dunedinhog.com. Many thanks to Ross for helping with the website review and sorting out the technical issues.

Following on from the successful sale of kilt pins we are now looking at kilt belt buckles and cap badges. This will be taken forward and an order placed once prices are numbers are known.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday, 3rd April, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth.