

DUNEDIN CHAPTER

MONTHLY MEETING

6th February 2011

Leapark, Grangemouth

Welcome: Following on from the AGM, George welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduce Lorna Johnston from the Muscular Dystrophy Society who had been unable to attend last month's meeting due to a car accident. George wished Lynn Goode a happy birthday and also congratulated Maureen McKellar on passing her bike test.

George thanked the 170 members who attended the dinner dance the previous evening and for their generosity in purchasing raffle tickets which raised £760. Trevor and Graham purchased between them the Harley bike made from balloons. The sale raised £600 and Graham took it home for his son.

Membership: 2 new members - Mark and Emma Taylor from Glencoe. It was suggested that Glencoe would make a nice ride-out for one of our monthly meetings during the summer months.

Chapter Mileage Programme (CMP): The 2010 winners were announced at the Directors meeting in January as follows:

1066 Chapter won the highest number of participants and the best average mileage. The Geordie Chapter won the individual award although their own Director challenged the total mileage figure and a recheck is being made.

From a total membership of 370 Dunedin Members, only 69 took part which was quite disappointing. The total mileage we clocked up between March and October was 339,569. Highest mileages went to:

1st	John Nisbet	20,654
2nd	Dez Urban	14,246
3rd	Shirley Gunn	12,163
4th	Mike Dall	11,989

The CMP raised £500 for Muscular Dystrophy and Lorna Johnston was very happy to accept a cheque on behalf of the charity. A further £540 was raised at TITG, giving a total of £1,040 for the year.

The CMP will be running again this year and George asks that all members participate regardless of the miles they do as even small runs will help raise the total Chapter mileage. It costs £5 to take part with all proceeds going to the Muscular Dystrophy Charity. Forms are

issued with HOG members renewal packages or can be downloaded from the HOG website. Members should fill them in and get their mileage verified at the Dealership. Chris will work out a verification plan for the Northern Sector. For members who wish to try for the individual award as well, 2 Forms will be needed.

Directors Meeting: George updated members on the Directors meeting held last month. It was attended by 32 UK Chapter Directors and provided a great opportunity to meet old and new friends and discuss new ideas and challenges. The main purpose of the Directors meeting is to ensure that Chapters adhere to the rules. In this regard, HOG have insisted that Dunedin provide a newsletter for members. Dunedin had previously argued that this was unnecessary as our website is up to date it negates the need for a newsletter but HOG have insisted we comply. Lorna Hardy will draw up a template for the newsletter which will be a short 1 page e-type bulletin and a competition to find a name for it is now open to members, so send your suggestions to George. The HOT event for Chapter officers will be held in Seville this year. George was asked to give a presentation on Thunder in the Glens and he based it on the history of how we got to where we are now. He highlighted the importance of having a good relationship with the local community where the rally is based and of giving something back to the community.

Forthcoming Events:

- 19th Feb** Shave Off - Russ hopes to raise £500 for the Dogs Trust by losing his hair and beard. Dealership at 2.00pm with the shave off starting at 3.00 pm.
- 26th Feb** Ladies of Harley Cocktail Masterclass - 4.00pm, Le Monde, George Street, Edinburgh - see website for more details or contact Fiona Kenny.
- 12th - 13th Mar** Scottish Bike show - New EH-D trailer which will promote both EH-D and the Chapter and will be set up in the main hall.
- 12th Mar** Ceilidh - tickets still available - see Stevie Collins. Venue will be confirmed asap, but will be around the Mayfair area in Edinburgh for those who wish to book accommodation.
- 15th - 17th Apr** Chapter Weekend in Blackpool - see Stevie Collins
- 23rd Apr** Northern Sector Pre-Season Dance - Lorraine is collecting dealer pins from around the world to be auctioned at the dance so please send any spare pins you have to her. Further details are available on the website.
- May** EH-D Birthday Bash - date to be confirmed
- 29th Apr - 2nd May** Cider Rally
- 28th May** Richmond Hope Memory Mile - line Portobello Promenade with the memory sticks
- 26th - 29th May** European Rally in Croatia
- tbc** IAM Presentation - introduction will be held in the Dealership - now have members who are observers
- 11th Jun** Battle of the Bands
- 25th & 26th Jun** Ride to Skye with overnight stay at £46 per head for b&b. Hotel will accommodate around 50 people and places are booking up fast - see website for more details or contact Gordon Dickson
- 9th - 10th July** BMF Bike Show at Kelso

27 th - 31 st July	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
7 th Aug	Festival Carnival Parade
26 th -29 th Aug	TITG
30 th Sept - 2 nd Oct	RTTW
29 th Oct	Harleyween

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

Thunder in the Glens: 1000 Pre-Registrations have been received - up 300 on this time last year and again there is world wide interest. Hotels in the Aviemore Macdonald's resort are now sold out. This will be announced on the website and a flier will be put out with all pre-reg forms informing people of this. George is currently working to identify accommodation and prices for other hotels in the surrounding area and will provide periodic updates when progress is made.

George warned members not to book through E-Bookers or other similar on-line sites for accommodation in the Macdonald Resorts. These companies are taking full payment for accommodation that is not available, as all accommodation at the Macdonald Resorts has been block booked for the rally and is being distributed only through our pre-registration system.

There will be no TITG refunds for anyone who finds they are unable to make the event. This takes up to much time during the run up to the rally which is a very busy and stressful period. Ticket holders have the option to resell their tickets to others who may wish to attend or can request their Rally packs are sent to them after the Rally.

Update on Progress:

- § H-D demo Truck - HOG have confirmed they will be there with 30 bikes including a Dyna Bike on rolling road. A new device which allows riders to try out new seats and bars will also be there.
- § Learning to Ride - still working on insurance issues but hope these can be resolved so that this provision can be incorporated into our Programme once again.
- § Mobile Tattoo facility - new for 2011 - will likely be run on an on-line appointment system.
- § T-shirts - design is finalised and has been printed on posters dotted around the hall for members to view - it is hoped there will be no problems with printing and delivery this year.
- § Fencing - 1st load has been ordered for Tuesday delivery (a day earlier than usual due to the hiccup last year) with the 2nd load being delivered on the Wednesday.
- § Trade Stands - Irene confirmed that forms are going out to traders now and it is expected that around 43 of them will be in attendance this year.
- § Events Programme Update - Stuart confirmed negotiations are still on-going for some bands, but the main headline bands are now booked but as undernoted:

Vampire Rock
Shindig Ceilidh Band

Ballroom Gitz

Grantown on Spey may put on added entertainment and perhaps run a bus into Aviemore. Stuart noted that TITG is seen as an Area/Town Rally rather than limited to the MacDonald Resorts. Satellite venues around Aviemore put on entertainment and advertise it as part of the Thunder event. Stuart also noted that The Lost have done very well since their debut at Thunder in 2010 and have intimated they would like to come back.

Paul Clements has kindly offered to donate £100 to the cost of transporting the children from the Venchie Centre to Aviemore.

Dealership: H-D have withdrawn their allowance to Dealerships for the free 1st service. As such, this will now have to be paid for. The reason for withdrawing the service is due to the economic downturn but their intention is to keep the purchase price of new bikes down. Kirk is preparing a fixed price for a 1st service which will be below £200. The 1st Service is critical (first 1000 miles) as it can pick up any minor issues before they turn into major problems. EH-D are also drawing up a Service Plan which will include up front payment for 3 services. With two dealerships going bust in the UK last year, George asked members to support their local Dealership where they can. EH-D are currently planning events for the year and will be supporting the Scottish Bike Show. The Chapter will be sharing their stand and Robyn has again offered to help decorate it.

Tartan: Another bale of the heavier weight is currently being woven for men's kilts. Stuart has a sample of lighter grade material for the ladies to view - the ladies' bale is double width and costed at £30 a linear yard. Orders should be placed through Stuart. It was queried whether the lighter grade would be suitable for men trews. It was felt that the lighter grade would not be as hard wearing as the heavier grade, but up to members to opt for their chosen preference.

Merchandise: A new order was received last week and is available today - see Lorraine.

Ladies of Harley: Following on from the Salsa, Belly Dancing, Chocolate Making, EH-D Ladies Evening/Body Shop events, a cocktail night has been organised for Saturday 27th February. The cost will be £23 per head which includes tuition and 3 free cocktails. Further details will be posted on the website. For any guys who may be at a loss after dropping of the ladies at this event, Napoli has suggested a cultural evening which he is happy to organise. Let him know if you are interested.

AOCB:

Venchie Centre Update - Following last month's meeting George was happy to report that £500 had been donated to both the Venchie Centre and Richmond's Hope. The Chapter has been invited to visit later in the year to experience first hand the work that they do. The Venchie Centre building is very run down and in need of extensive repairs and they don't have access to funds for renovation. Installation of a new internal roof and insulation is on-going and this will be followed by repairs to the guttering and resealing of windows. Members with the appropriate expertise have been inspecting and advising on required work which includes central heating, electrics, flooring, etc. George is negotiating with B&Q for

paint and other decorative materials and asks for volunteers to help paint the interior - names to Anne.

NABD has asked us to sponsor a barrel of real ale at a cost of £75 which we have agree to do.

A voucher for a Davida Helmet worth £255 in aid of the Vets Trust was offered for auction to members. As no offers were made it was decided to raffle it at the Ceilidh. 2 Return tickets to Madrid won at the annual dance raffle have been handed back and will also be raffled at the ceilidh.

Willie gave an update on David Blane who is terminally ill. David has a great interest in bikes and has in the past visited TITG. Willie asked if there was any way in which David could become a member of the Chapter. David, who is 63 does not own a Harley, but it would mean so much to him if he was allowed to be a member. It was agreed to bestow on him an honorary membership of the Chapter and suggested that a ride-in be organised to make the presentation.

Brian has model bikes for sale at £10 each for anyone who would like to support the Friends of Tsungirirai Scotland Charity. Any funds raised will go to support the university education of orphans.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday 6th March, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth.