

Dunedin Chapter 9083

Monthly Meeting 9th October 2011

Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth

Welcome

George welcomed everybody and said it was good to see so many bikes.

- Congratulations were given to Tim Joy, Ken Waterstone and Dave King for passing their IAM. There are now 23 Chapter members who are IAM qualified and hopefully more members will sign up for it next year.
- A plaque was presented to John Nisbet for winning the individual highest mileage in the HOG Chapter Mileage Programme for 2010. The 2011 challenge ends on 31st October 2011 and all bikes should have their mileage confirmed at EH-D or by Chris/Frank in the north by 31st October. All forms with the £5 Muscular Dystrophy donation should then be given/sent to George, EH-D or Chris/Frank as soon after this date as possible.
- There were no new members in the hall today but there have been a few enquiries in the past 2 weeks from prospective members. The total stands at over 380 members.

Events

- **25th September – Teddy Bear Parachute Jump** -Eddie the Teddy (renamed Barnaby Wilde!) did an excellent second jump and the parachute (designed by the Colonel (Jim Palmer) worked well but did not earn Eddie a winning place. The Chapter donated £200 to the Seagull Trust which raised £10,000 on the day. There were 2 young boys singing at the event who raise money for charity and it is hoped they may come to TITG next year to perform in the outside venue.
- **1st October – RTTW** - A fantastic event for the Chapter and for the organisers. 12,000-15,000 attended the Arboretum. George thanked those who volunteered to marshal the Drayton Manor ride which only took 11 minutes this year, compared to last year's 3 hours.
The 2 soldiers who were sponsored by the Chapter – Steve and Clarky – had a great time. Before leaving to travel to RTTW the Chapter handed over 2 cheques for £1,000 each at the Barracks for the Soldiers' Benevolent Fund and Erskine House. The soldiers gave the bikes a line of honour on leaving the Barracks which was very humbling. A letter of thanks from Major George Connelly for our donations was read out at the meeting. He said it was very generous and welcome and would go towards welfare activities in Germany next week. Our donation confirms the value that the public put on the contribution made by our soldiers and the soldiers themselves are very grateful for it.

Forthcoming Events

- **12th -16th October – HOT Seville** - Those committee members attending the training this year will give a short presentation over the next 2 meetings to share their experiences with the rest of the Chapter.
- **29 October – Harleyween** - Tickets are all sold out. For those who have ordered tickets, you must pay now or your tickets will be given away. If you don't turn up for the event, you will still be charged for your tickets.
- **Xmas Toy Run** – date to be confirmed
- **4 February 2012 – Annual Dinner Dance** - Names will be taken soon for the Dinner Dance and prices will be decided. We are looking for a volunteer who may already be booked into the Leapark for this event to move to the Holiday Inn instead as we have a Belgian member coming over for the whole of the week who is booked into the Leapark for the week before but cannot get a room on the Saturday night. Please see George if you can help.
- **TITG 2012** -Preparations are already underway for next year's rally with confirmation that Vampires Rock will again perform on the Sunday night. Registration will open for all Chapter members on 1st December 2011.
- **Davidson's Cottage** - were hoping to have an opening rally at the cottage next year but the organisers were looking to George and the Chapter to organise the rally. As it is too close to TITG, George has declined advising them we are happy to assist and attend but not run it. He wished them good luck and was advised that they hope to bring the Davidson family over for the opening. Hopefully we can tie in a visit to TITG for them at the same time.

- **Dick Vet** - Names of those interested in attending an open viewing at the Dick Vet should be given to Gordon Jamieson as soon as possible and he will try and arrange a suitable date to visit.
- **July 2012 – Wake The Lakes** -If enough members are attending this rally, we will look at making the July 2012 Chapter meeting in Gretna again.

Ladies of Harley - Fiona advised the next event will be a charity fashion show on Sunday 6 November from 4-6pm in aid of “Good to Give” – a children’s cancer charity. Grant Stott from Forth One is co-hosting and it is hoped to leave after the Chapter meeting to go straight to the event at the Tom Fleming Centre for Performing Arts, Queensferry Road, Edinburgh.

A rhinestone clothing order has just come in and Fiona has 3 extra items if anybody is interested – please see Fiona.

Tartan - Stuart advised tartan sales have been steady but there is still a fair amount of the lightweight tartan available.

Puppet Gang - The puppet gang update was read out in their absence as Tim and Aileen were attending Rachel House in Kinross, where they were doing a show for the children and then presenting cheques totalling £470 afterwards. It was hoped that as many chapter members and bikes as possible could come along to this after the meeting.

EH-D - George advised Kirk was working on the winter servicing and pricing offers. George thanked him for providing the bikes for the soldiers for RTTW and for his many donations of raffle prizes and vouchers. Unfortunately Kirk had been unable to attend the meeting.

Merchandise - All merchandise – Chapter specific, HOG and TITG – is now on the website. Members were encouraged to purchase the Chapter belt buckles and hat/lapel badges.

Website - Ross reported that the website is a continual work in progress and that it is now receiving around 200 hits per day. For Chapter online merchandise, members must login to the website – if you don’t already have a login, register for one as soon as possible by using an email address and your current HOG number. Any ideas for things members want to see on the website should be address to the webmaster.

It was suggested that we put a members list on the website with contact details but George advised this was not possible due to data protection rules.

Rallies and Rideouts – George advised that all members have a duty to ourselves and to others to behave appropriately and act in a safe and sensible manner. It is unacceptable to consume alcohol to excess and expect to ride a bike safely the next morning. For Chapter events, it is the Director’s, Assistant Director’s and Road Captains’ responsibility to ensure everyone is in a fit state to participate and any members deemed to be unfit will not be allowed to ride with the Chapter.

George also advised that when riding with the Chapter, it is permissible to only fly Chapter or national flags. Flags of other motorcycle clubs must not be flown at these events. If you wish to fly this type of flag then you must ride with that club and not the Chapter.

George also advised members to be careful of flags getting caught in wheels and brackets when riding with them.

Any other business

A complaint was made about seats being pre-booked in the Osprey Arena on the Sunday night at TITG. George advised this would be looked into.

The Chapter has 1 member on active service abroad at the moment (Mark Doggett) and it was suggested that the Chapter could make up and send him a Christmas box.