

Dunedin Chapter
Monthly Meeting 6th November 2011
Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth

Welcome: George welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted the number of bikes out and asked everyone to take extra care now that the first frosts were upon us. Unfortunately this year's riding season will soon be over, but planning for next year has already started.

Congratulations to Granddad Stuart on the birth of his first grandchild. Although 4 weeks premature mother and baby are both doing well. Congratulations also to Russ Craig who passed his IAM test, bringing the total number of members who have passed this year to 9. The Chief Examiner said that it was almost the perfect ride and expressed their delight at the standard of Chapter riders who are going through the test. George thanked Mike for organising the training and encouraged more members to sign up next year. George also thanked Frank McGregor, Paul Bailey, Phil O'Kane and Paul Prescott Clements for their excellent job in marshalling the group ride to RTTW last month.

George reported that Margaret Drysdale is being treated for breast cancer and on behalf of the Chapter wished her a full and speedy recovery.

Membership: Willie introduced two new members: Kenny Frame from Prestonpans and Stewart Lynes from Edinburgh bringing the total number of members to 387. George asked everyone to remember to check their HOG membership is up to date especially the auto renewals as there have been some problems with these. It was acknowledged that there are faults with the HOG site which have yet to be resolved and it may be quicker for members to phone with their queries.

Events:

HOT Seville - Fantastic event with 500 members from 32 countries. Fiona and Lorraine provided members with feedback from the event, describing the many workshops attended and how the training could be transferred and used to practical advantage in their current Officer roles. The event also provided a good opportunity to network with officers from a host of different countries and cultures and provided an insight into some of the challenges they meet and how they overcome them.

George reported that Harley reaffirmed that all Chapters and their members are bound by the HOG rules. He reported that the Geordie dealership had stood down all of their Chapter Officers as there were issues contrary to the rules. It is hoped that a new Committee will be put in place and George will keep us posted of events.

Harleyween - Thanks to Stevie, Robin and all others who helped organised the event and prepare the food. The evening was again, a great success, with a lot of thought and effort put in to a variety of costumes. £50 prizes for the best dressed male and female were won by Ian Bruce and Elaine Dickson respectively, both of whom kindly donated their wins to charity. The top raffle prize of a bike service presented by EH-D was won by Trevor.

Chapter Mileage Programme - Forms need to be collected and passed to HOG soon, so please get your forms handed in as quickly as possible. Doesn't matter whether you have a low or high mileage as it all counts towards the Chapter total and hopefully we will be in with a good chance of winning.

Forthcoming Events:

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| 30th - Nov | EH-D Ladies Evening from 6.00pm - 8.00pm. Champagne and nibbles, a presentation from a make-up artist and lots of special Harley offers just in time for Xmas. |
| 3rd - Dec | Xmas Toy run from EH-D to Venchie Centre. If you can't make it, but would still like to donate, presents can be handed in to Caroline at the Dealership. |
| 4th - Feb | Annual Dinner Dance, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth. Cost is £20 per head for members and £25 for non-members. Currently restricted to Members, but this may be opened up at a later date, if capacity allows. |
| June 2010 | European Rally. Lots of Dunedin members attending either by bike or flight so should be a great party. |
| tbw | Another visit to the Dick Vet will be organised if enough interest is shown. Only 4 people have noted their interest so far. If you want to go then let Gordon Jamieson know so that a date can be arranged. Will look at the possibility of taking along some of the kids from the Venchie Centre. |

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

Thunder in the Glens: George will be visiting Aviemore next week to discuss next year's rally and is hoping to have everything in place to open registration for members on 1st December. The possibility of registering on-line will be looked at, but this will be dependent on security issues.

Tartan: Both weights available - orders should be placed through Stuart. Still time to get kilts made up for the New Year.

Merchandise: Both Official and Chapter merchandise is available. George reported that T-shirts for non-members will be designed to include the wording 'friends of Dunedin Chapter', which will distinguish members from non-members. George reported that contrary to some rumours, there are no members profiting from the sale of merchandise and that all takings go into the Chapter funds. George also confirmed that as there is no H-D branding on our Chapter merchandise we are legally allowed to sell it and are not breaking any copyright rules.

Ladies of Harley: Fiona reported that the 'It's Good 2 Give' fashion show is taking place this afternoon in Edinburgh and any ladies who would like to come along were more than welcome. LOH waterproof jackets will shortly be available to order via the Dunedin website. These are good quality jackets priced at £44 and can be ordered today via Dez. George noted that the 'LOH on Tour' tops were well admired at the HOT Event .

North Section: There are now over 100 members in the north and this number continues to grow. George thanked Chris and Frank for the work they do in promoting the Chapter in the north area. Chris is trying to organise an event which will cover the topic of '1st on the scene after an accident', more details will be posted on the website when known.

EH-D: Thanks to Kirk and his staff at the dealership for all their hard work throughout the year and for their continued support and sponsorship of our Chapter events. Members should look out for winter deals coming up.

Chapter Website: Work on the website is on-going and is a credit to Ross who has put in a lot of work and effort into updating it. The work behind the scenes is quite amazing and the site can monitor how many hits are received day/month/year and whether they come via search engines or other chapter web-sites and there has been a good response from around the world. So far only 50 members have registered and more are encouraged to do so as this will allow you to post photographs and keep your own details up to date. To register you will need your HOG Number. Jim McGregor queried whether Google translate could be linked to the website as this would allow browsers from other countries to understand the content. This will be discussed with Ross on his return from holiday.

AOCB:

George reminded members that the Chapter will be sending a Christmas shoe box to Mark Dogget who is currently serving in Afghanistan. Any donations should be handed in a.s.a.p. as it will have to be posted early next month to get there in time. Any surplus items will also be sent over.

George congratulated Brian and Muriel on their campaign to promote organ donation. They were proud to say that 6 people had been given a further chance of life after receiving organs following the death of their son. This was a brave decision for them at a very tough time. Forms are available at the meeting for anyone interested in signing up, or alternatively, this could be done by text or on-line.

Phil mentioned the bike safety initiative "Round the Corner" campaign sponsored by EH-D, had Received a national award for its contribution to motor bike safety.

If anyone has ideas for ride-outs for next season please let George know. George has already received a request from a Microflight Club to join them at Perth Airfield. Rodger Dik suggested that we could try to get the OCC bike built for Diageo on display at TITG.

Members wished Katie a happy birthday.

Mark and Emma donated an H-D clock for today's raffle which was won by Mike Dall.

Date of Next Meeting: Sunday, 4th December, Leapark Hotel, Grangemouth.