**Blue Knights Scotland II**



**Annual General Meeting 2018**

The Station Hotel, Perth

Saturday 20th October, 2018

**Welcome**

The chapter president, Ewan Skinner opened the meeting and welcomed all

**Present**

Ewan Skinner, Andy Salmon, George Ritchie, John Bryden, Kyle Walker, Jack Russell

Guest – Paul Garrett

**Apologies**

Steven Mackay, Ian Mackay, Nicola Henderson, Dave Norris, Ross Denholm, Stewart Blyth, Jim Thomson.

**Minutes silence** – A minutes silence was held for fallen officers

**Previous minutes** – The minutes of the 2017 AGM had been circulated to all members and unanimously agreed as accurate

**Presidents report** – Ewan Skinner

'The past year has been a busy year for me in many ways. Work wise Ihave been busy at times and in my personal life, as many if not all of you will know, things have taken a turn for the better.

On the Blue Knights front things have been just as busy.

Having got the Christmas festivities out of the way, we had our Burns Supper, which once again due to the hard work of chapter members and their supporters was a success. It was good to have John and Jan there and hearing their version of the Toast and the reply to the Lassies. Sadly our regular piper was not able to be there. I have tried to find out how he is doing but not had a recent reply.

I keep him in my thoughts.

Meetings about the impending Scotland Rally at Tulliallan were also taking place on a regular basis and had been for some months. More of that in a moment.

Apart from the monthly meetings, some of us attended the Easter Egg Run to Robin House. This was a well attended event.

The Scottish Motorcycle Show was postponed for a month due to the 'Beast from the East' and sadly Kirsty's Kids were one of the losers as a result.

I missed the meeting in May due to work, but we did have a successful bunkhouse weekend at Trust House at Lochailort. Our plans to go on and complete the NC500 were dashed by a classic car club booking most of the Mallaig ferries but John did lead us on a circuit involving a crossing back from Skye.

The main event of the year for Blue Knights in Scotland was the Gathering of the Clans Rally at the Scottish Police College at the end of August. This was a major event and would not have been the roaring success it was without the three Scottish Chapters input and efforts.

There were 108 guests accommodated and fed, given time to socialise and activities on the Saturday. There were two successful runs and a coach run to Glasgow. Considering some of the BK Rallies I have been to, there was one run and a coach trip more than is normally offered.

There were guests from Europe, US, Ireland, Wales, England, and also Red Knights.

One of the guests was Karen Borza, the Int. VP and she said she had a great time.

I received this email from Max Jones :-

*Hi Ewan, myself, Carl Mann, Gareth Alexander, and our wives attended your very well organised rally earlier this month. I am writing this short note to ask that you convey our thanks to all your team involved in the event who, together, made it a most enjoyable and memorable weekend. We tend to extend our visits to events and see a bit more of the area or country in which we find ourselves. In this case we all took a week or so to look around and see what we could find of interest.It was a great week riding the Scottish roads and by good luck it only rained when we were in a cafe or bed.*

*I have reported to our Chapter on the visit and hope to encourage a few more to visit in the future.*

*Thanks again, we look forward to future events.*

*Regards*

*Max.*

That sums up the Rally, probably the most successful that has been held in Scotland.

I am aware that some things did not go quite as they should have and I have asked for and received good feedback from Chapter members. In the New Year I shall be arranging a debrief amongst the core rally team to ensure that feedback is heard and the errors and failings are prevented in the future.

During the year we saw Jack move away to a new adventure, following Kathy who left the day after the Burns Supper. He is still currently a member of our Chapter and I hope he continues to be so, however it is quite a commute.

Steve Mackay, who joined us only last year, travelled to Croatia solo to raise money for Kirsty's Kids. Unfortunately on his return journey, a German lorry driver crossed the centre line of the road and took him out. He received life threatening injuries but made it home and is on the long slow journey of recovery. Andy and I visited him, and he would be more than happy to see anyone. However he has decided that one brush with death is quite enough and he is in the process of selling off his motorcycle gear. I doubt he will be on a bike again.

As one of our members headed to ventures south another member started a new phase of their lives north of the border. Dave Norris finally made the move he always intended and found himself an honorary Fifer. It is good he has made the move.

Talking about moves, we have with us this weekend Paul and Gwyn Garrett. Paul and Gwyn have always supported our Burns Suppers so they need little introduction. Paul is currently working at Edinburgh Sheriff Court and is staying with me just now as they sort their house sale and purchase up here. Hopefully the move will be followed by a request to become a member of our Chapter.

And thinking about the future ... Our Burns Supper is on the 2nd February next year. In 2020 there will be another Scottish Rally, but perhaps bigger is the UK&I Int. Conference coming to Ireland. This is only the second time it has left the US. We made good connections with the Irish contingent at our Rally and I plan to go. It would be some trip.

I have once again enjoyed being the President of the Chapter and enjoyed the support of many people in that role, pointing out just two - Ian and Andy, but meaning everybody else too. Ian has been a great secretary, keeping me right on more than one occasion and Andy has done sterling work (pun intended) as treasurer and I hope they continue in their respective roles.

As for my continuing Presidency, I am more than happy to continue as President but understand that others may wish to put their names forward. If that is the case, I am willing to work with them and give them the same level of support that I have had.

Let me conclude by saying it has once again been an absolute pleasure being part of Scotland II, the Chapter which is without doubt the best in Scotland.

Thank you

Ewan Skinner

**Vice President** - No report received

**Treasurer** - Andy Salmon

I have brought together the accounts for the Chapter for the year 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2018.

This reporting year has been a fairly lean year for income, the majority being from the successful Burns Supper. However, although income from the event was £630.00, members expenses amounted to £318.60 giving a profit for the evening of £311.40 (this profit does not include the money raised from the 'roll the £1' for the bottle of whisky). That amount will be included in the 2018/2019 income).

Outgoings for the year exceeded income by just under £1000.00, £1000.00 being the amount donated to our year's chosen charity of Kirsty's Kids.

I think we are all extremely pleased to see that John has reached his target for the Hexhog, and the charity is now the proud owner of a Hexhog, which no doubt John and Janet have both tested to its limits (if his Facebook entry is anything to go by!)

You may have noticed that the accounts do not include any profit from this year's International Rally. We have yet to receive them.

21 members of the Chapter paid their subscriptions for the year 2018, and all subscriptions have been forwarded to International Headquarters.

Subscriptions for 2019 are now due

Initial response for the 2019 Burns Supper has been quite good after our mail shot at the International Rally. Ian has sent out a number of booking forms and if everyone comes who has asked for forms, the number stands about 38, this includes the usual members from our Chapter. I will close on the note that as at 31st August, 2018, the Chapter bank account stood at £480.34.

Andy Salmon

**Chapter Officers**

Present Holders - President Ewan Skinner

Vice President - Ross Denholm

Treasurer - Andy Salmon

Secretary - Ian Mackay

At this point the President stood down from the Chair and George Ritchie assumed the chair and asked the members present for nominations for the Chapter positions.

As there were no nominations and as the present Officers were willing to continue in post, George Ritchie stated that Officer bearers for the year 2019 would be as follows -

President - Ewan Skinner

Vice President - Ross Denholm

Treasurer - Andy Salmon.

Secretary - Ian Mackay

Directors - George Ritchie (Ride Captain), Kyle Walker (Quartermaster), Jack Russell

Ewan resumed as Chair of the meeting

**Hon Member** - No nomination

**Annual subscription** - To remain at £25.00

**Chapter Charity**

A letter had been received from Blood Bikes Scotland a charity who deliver Blood and hospital supplies by motorcycle in the Scottish area. After a considerable discussion, where the main point was that Kirsty's Kids is totally self-funded, it was unanimously decided that we would not change our present arrangements and Kirsty's Kids would remain our nominated charity.

**2019 Events**

The first event of the year will be the Burns Supper on the 2nd February 2019. To book your place contact Andy Salmon or Ian Mackay. The top table is yet to be confirmed.

The Scottish Bike Show will be on Saturday 9th March and Sunday,10th March 2019. This was the dates for 2018 and it had to be postponed for a month because of the weather, same again for this year?

Kirsty's Kids will not have a place next year as the group who rent the space will not be attending.

There will be a Bunkhouse weekend at Trust House on 7th – 9th June 2019

It was proposed by John Bryden to have a Highland Games at Trust House at a date to be finalised but probably August/September 2019.

Other dates for the Diary are the Cops and Robbers Rally on 6th to 8th September and the Lawride on 26th to 28th September 2019

International Convention 2020 will be held in Ireland, June 21-25th. Further information to follow when known

 Ewan read out the Blue Knights Pledge which has been included below

*As a Blue Knight I pledge to act with honour and pride to promote motorcycling and motorcycle safety by being an example of the safe use, operation and enjoyment of motorcycles. I will work at all times to improve the relationship between the motor cycling law enforcement community and the general public. The fraternal spirit will always guide me in relating to other Blue Knights.*

The Meeting was then closed