

RIDERS

Official magazine of the [Blue Knights](#)® Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club UK & Ireland Conference



England X Ride Winnats Pass



Lawride



Isle of Man



Little Blue Heroes



www.blueknight.org

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Editor's Note

Welcome to our Autumn edition of the UK & Ireland Knight Riders magazine. Once again, my thanks go out to the members who have contributed the articles and photographs that keep our magazine interesting. With 29 UK & Ireland Chapters, we should have at least one newsworthy event in every three month period from each, so please let me know what you are doing.



Its great when a contributor thinks a bit wider than events too, as that provides variety. Thank you to Aneurin Jones for his interesting article on policing in the Isle of Man. Moves are afoot for an IOM Chapter, so it's great to have a preview of what makes them tick.

I have now handed over my Conference role of European Representative to Tim Knowles, (Zigmunt Kletterstein) from England XIX. For a long time, I have felt that my lack of language skills was a barrier to me doing justice in the role. Tim speaks both German and Russian, so I am delighted that he agreed to take over from me.

I have remained on the UKIC Board as Communications Director. Through my business, I work in publishing and press liaison, but I am not fluent in many of the newer forms of Social Media. If a younger member would like to help me out in that area, I would be very grateful of your skills.

UKIC Chairman's address



Social Media is a very powerful tool, if used properly. Facebook has revolutionised how we communicate with each other, and we can now have online-meetings without travelling. However, it is

important to realise that there isn't any substitute for meeting people in the flesh. Miscommunications are common in the single dimension provided by text and email. In a club such as ours, ride-outs, travelling and meeting people are what we are about. Why would we want to substitute this? We wouldn't be in a Bike Club if we didn't like riding our bikes. To me, a minute spent riding my bike isn't a minute wasted.

We now have expectations for a quick response to emails, and get grumpy if there's not a quick response. Should we be like this, or should we allow time and space to think? Perhaps things are too easy, meaning that through quickness, we might not be as considerate as we would otherwise be.

We are coming up to our conference AGM, and also the round of Chapter AGMs. Work or illness aside, I would like every member to attend their Chapter AGM. It is the one time in the year when ideally, we should get a good attendance. It is good to meet up and see faces that we've only really seen on Facebook, or read their comments on WhatsApp. Meeting up is the glue that binds us together, providing shared experiences and memories. I therefore ask you to go to meetings, be involved in your Chapter, and support Blue Knights events both here and abroad

We are privileged that Ireland 1 is holding the International Convention next year. This event showcases the best of Ireland and Irish hospitality. The countryside and scenery are some of the best in the world. A great deal of organisation goes into an event of this nature. Please consider going and supporting our Brothers and Sisters, meet up with everyone and allow yourself to have a great time.



As a conference, we continue to grow, again Ireland 1 lead the way, currently having 110 members. With members and events that are frequently both sides of a politicised border, this is a great achievement, promoting friendship and camaraderie. Their support of Little Blue Heroes is also brilliant.

Over here we continue to be big supporters of UKCOPS, long may this continue. Chapters also have individual charities and fundraisers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Chapter Officers and any member who organises events, this is what makes the Blue Knights great.

Next year is going to be a great year, look at next years events and book them into your diary. Make the most of every second, ride your Bike and join with your fellow Blue Knights. Next year let us truly Ride With Pride.

Tom Elliott Chairman UKIC





On Sunday 1st August, Blue Knight Chapters from around the UK, met to ride in support of UK-COPS. The UK & Ireland Conference, and most Chapters, support COPS in some way throughout the year. Our annual Lawride, organised by England XI, is our most visible showing of support to our fallen comrades.

We rode from around the country to the Derby & Burton Services on the A38, from where our huge convoy travelled onto the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA). It is heartwarming to see the surviving families lining the Arboretum's paths as we ride through. Joining the survivors are a great many officers, cadets and senior officers, all waiting for the Blue Knights to arrive. They never fail to give us a tremendous applause.



Lawride continued

UK-COPS pick up the story:

More than 1,000 people attended a special service, held in memory of all police officers and staff who have died on duty in the UK. Surviving families of fallen officers, police staff and senior police officers, together with the public and The Blue Knights, attended COPS annual Service of Remembrance. The event took place at the NMA in Staffordshire on Sunday 1st August. The service brings together survivors and supporters to provide an opportunity to reflect and remember their loved ones, friends, and colleagues.



A Roll of Honour was read out by COPS national president Gill Marshall paying tribute to the 27 police officers who died in service during the past two years, since COPS' last physical Service of Remembrance.

Gill said: *"Sunday's service opened with the spectacular arrival of the Blue Knights and the Police Unity Tour, set against the backdrop of the beautiful surroundings of the NMA and The Beat. The readings from fellow survivors moved many to tears, and truly underlined just how special our charity is. As the sun made a welcome appearance, the sight of hundreds of survivors, supporters, chief officers and guests gathered together in remembrance of all our fallen loved ones, was indeed one to behold."*

Family members who lost loved ones also spoke to share memories of their officers. Survivors Ali Gibb and wife Sandi, spoke about their son Daniel, and talked about how they have been supported by COPS.

Ali said: *"The service is always an emotional occasion for us and, of course, exceptionally emotional this year as we spoke about our beloved Daniel. We met up with other parents, one couple attending for the first time and have exchanged numbers. We hope to be able to be of some little help to them in some way, in the near future."*

Other readings were done by Samantha Dixon, whose husband PC James Dixon of the Thames Valley Police died, in 2017, she spoke about coming together for friends and family who have been lost. Survivor Shonagh Gawthorne also spoke, describing COPS as 'a wonderful gift'.

The UK Conference of the Blue Knights, an international motorcycle club for active and retired police officers and law-enforcement agencies, also rode to the event to pay tribute to fallen officers.



COPS Chief Executive, Tim Buckley, said: *"The service is the conclusion of the charity's annual Survivor Weekend, a two-day event bringing together the families of officers who have died on duty. It is a chance for us to get as many survivors together as possible, to support one another in rebuilding their lives. Being able to witness first-hand the power of peer support is undeniably powerful, as the weekend unfolds you see many new friendships being made and old ones reignited."*



European Conference AGM



As international vice president of the Blue Knights, I attended at my first official meeting of the Blue Knights European board in October. Thanks to the headquarters of the Koln Police North-Rhine Westphalia for hosting a very positive meeting. I was delighted to hear that the little blue heroes are becoming well known by their European colleagues too. Well done to all. Onwards now as we see our way out of the pandemic and back to meeting old friends and making new ones.

England X 21st Anniversary Weekend



England X celebrates its 21st Anniversary this year, so we decided our annual weekend away should take in some fantastic biking roads.

Our destination was Matlock in Derbyshire, in the Peak District, so we gathered riders and pillions on 15 bikes from all four of our counties before heading off. Our lunch stop along the way was at Bouverie Lodge Bison Farm, near Melton Mowbray, where we were able to sample their bison burgers. From there the roads were good all the way to Matlock, except for getting round Nottingham, but we arrived as a group at the hotel. Matlock is a pretty town, which is well worth a walk around and it wasn't long before the two for one cocktails were discovered.

On Saturday the skies looked ominous, but just before kickstands up, the glowering clouds gave way to bright sunshine. Our ride leader for the day was Neil Hallam, from England VI who led the first leg to take in Snake Pass. We took in some of the ruggedly beautiful landscape, where the roads rise and fall sharply, and high on the peaks the weather can be very different.

Our first stop was Ladybower Dam, famous as the practice ground for 617 Squadron. There the vagaries of the Peak District weather continued, with grey skies and persistent rain. Waterproofs on, we headed away for at least half a mile before hitting bright sunshine again! Neil took us over some great roads and of course, a decent bacon sandwich stop.

England X continued



Back at the hotel, with improving weather, riders went on rides to their own destinations. Satnavs produced some interesting routes that definitely challenged us. On Saturday night in Matlock, it proved impossible to find tables in any restaurant, so pizza in the park was the solution. A very sociable evening was spent in a bar that let us in.

Sunday morning saw several England VI riders meet with us and take a very circuitous route to Matlock Bath, for a brunch and look at all the bikes. Our thanks to Neil and England VI for helping us enjoy such a great weekend of riding and socialising. Although some of us had visited the area before, our recruiting this year means we have plenty of new riders and in any case, it would be hard to grow tired of riding there. Here's to next year!



NC500 in One Day Mark Robinson, England XIV



Two weeks after my successfully completed ride, the giant cheque arrived, and I met up with the NERVS (North East Rider Volunteers Scotland are Aberdeen's local Blood Bike Group) Chairman Dale Walker, to hand over the £1,022.40 in donations, raised for completing the 516 mile NC500 in just 12 hours and 45 minutes. I'm sure the money will be very well spent keeping their vehicles roadworthy and safe for us volunteers to use. I would like to thank Phoebe of MAXXIS tyres, for providing me with a pair of their ST tyres, which performed brilliantly. If you add on the two hour ride to Inverness and the ride home, my mate Goody (aka Brett Bonas) and I rode 698 miles, in under 17 hours. Both bikes were fitted with identical tyres, and we thoroughly recommend them.

A big thanks to my M.D. at Leiths (Scotland) Ltd, who agreed to pay my hotel for the night before the event, and cover the cost of my fuel. It's gestures like this that help make events like this happen.

A huge thanks to Goody, who "just fancied coming along for the ride." It was great to share a ride like this with someone I trust on a bike.

My sincere thanks to you, my friends and family, who year on year, whether I'm being sponsored for endurance motorcycling, walking or cycling, still support me with enthusiasm, putting a few quid in the pot. Finally, to my long suffering team at home, Liz, Lexi and Sophie Robinson, for being behind me. I know that whatever short notice stuff I come up with, you always support me, even close to the event when my impatience is as clear as day, as all I need is to get cracking.





Mark met up with the NERVS (North East Rider Volunteers Scotland are Aberdeen's local Blood Bike Group) Chairman Dale Walker, to hand over the £1,022.40 in donations, raised for completing the 516 mile NC500 in just 12 hours and 45 minutes.



Policing The Isle of Man Aneurin (Max) Jones, Wales II



The Isle of Man is an independent country just off the coast of Britain. But it is linked to the UK by language, laws, currency and Queen Elizabeth II. As a 'British Crown Dependency' the IOM is defended by the British Military and the Queen, acting as 'Lord of Mann', appoints a 'Lieutenant Governor' as her representative on the island.

The IOM Parliament, or Tynwald, is the oldest continuous parliament in the world. The island is independent of the UK, but it adopts our laws and procedures when they feel appropriate to their particular needs. They have their own form of currency, which is directly linked to the UK pound, so you can spend British cash anywhere on the island. However, don't try spending IOM cash in a British shop, as unlike Scottish currency, it will not be accepted.

The island has been inhabited for at least 8,500 years and has at various times, been under the control of several 'nations' such as King Edwin of Northumbria, King Magnus III of Norway, and in 1266 it even became part of Scotland. It came to the English Crown in 1399.

Although 'linked' strongly to the UK, The IOM has always retained its internal self-government, the Tynwald. So, policing in the IOM is like, but not quite the same as on the mainland. The force is completely independent of the UK, despite following much the same training, pay and conditions of service.

If you are thinking of a transfer, it can be done, and the IOM sometimes recruits directly from UK forces, with transferees undergoing a short 'conversion course' to cover local procedures and local differences in laws. Uniforms are similar, but their white helmets are recognised all over the world.

For new recruits, training on the IOM includes everything we remember from the UK. Driver training is done on the island (They have 2 police & 1 civilian instructor) for basic and intermediate levels. But for the advanced training, officers travel to a UK force. Specialist courses such as Accident Investigation, Specialist Search Teams and Motorcyclists also train in the UK alongside their UK colleagues.

I wrote to the Chief Constable to see if I could learn more about the 'force'. He was on leave, but he arranged for me to talk to Sergeant Mikey Taylor of the Roads Policing Unit. A Manx born and bred officer, he began as a Community Officer, moving through various roles like custody, and patrol to the speciality department we used to call Traffic, but is now the Roads Policing Unit (RPU). On the IOM they do things a little differently to the UK, rather than "leaving it with you," Traffic, (okay, RPU), deal with everything, rather like a fast response Panda Car, they are sent to anything and everything. Mikey also spent time in their Control Room, which in the IOM is known as the Emergency Service Joint Control Room [ESCJR]. This is a joint control room manned by civilian operators and a Sergeant. ESCJR covers all emergency services, the very first of its kind in the UK.

IOM continued

With the IOM being such a small force, all officers from all departments are multi skilled, and very much work together as one team. The island can go days (not often!) without an RTA, (sorry, RTC, I'm old) to attend. RTC's on the island are on the decline due to several reasons, such as enforcement and education campaigns. When RTC's do occur, they are all too often serious. I've been watching the 'social media' for months now, and the number of single vehicle incidents did surprise me. Not anymore though. With my 'police' head on, I've been riding the roads and looking for problems. There are lots of ways to leave the road, at speed, for those who have a heavy foot or wrist. Little wonder that for many years the annual number of RTC's was around 1,000. I think Covid and no TT has reduced that a bit.



Sergeant Taylor is the only Sergeant in the RPU with six PC'S, four special constables and two road safety staff under him, covering an island 33 miles long, 13 miles wide and 221 square miles in area, with over 500 miles of roads. During the TT, his

team swells to 29 PC's, with two Sergeants and a dedicated Control Room Sergeant covering the TT course and coast road, to cope with the massive increase in visitors.



Vehicles on the RPU are mostly BMW motorcycles, with some Hondas, which are about to be replaced, and both BMW (X5, 5 series, 3 series) and Ford (Focus ST, Mondeo) cars. Single make fleets risk product recalls, but simplify parts availability and servicing, which on an island is more important

than you might think.

Servicing is done in house, with three dedicated police mechanics who are, so I'm told, very helpful and flexible in their duties. During TT weeks, the availability of vehicles is critically important, and it's not unknown for a mechanic to be called at home in the evening to come in to fix a problem. They are an important part of the policing team, and that comes across very strongly.



Indeed, there doesn't appear to be the same departmental isolation that I experienced in the UK. Not only do the officers of departments within

the police work in harmony, but cooperation with other agencies, such as Fisheries and Customs, is effective and professional.

I often wondered how a small force of 231 Police Officers and 42 Special Constables cope with the pressures of events such as the TT. The normal population of 85,504 can increase by thousands, so it's 'all hands on deck' and officers work long hours to provide cover.

There is a massive disparity between UK force areas, when it comes to police numbers per 100,000 head of population. UK numbers vary from about 145 officers per 100,000 population, to over 300 per 100,000. So, on paper, the IOM with 231 Officers for 85,500 (equivalent to 270 / 100,000) looks reasonable. However, when 231 is all you've got to fill all the specialist departments like CID, there are not many left over for uniform patrol. Then, when you factor in the distances travelled, the increase in population during the TT and tourism, lack of Mutual Aid from the neighbouring forces, and the picture looks very different. This may not be a high population density city force, but it's no holiday camp either.

This is where the specials and civilians are important as well. Often not acknowledged for their contributions, such a simple thing as providing enough vehicles for the event is down to a civilian. We all know how manufacturers like to lend us Demo Vehicles. In the IOM, a lady in the office works with them to ensure that, as far as possible, all demonstration vehicles are provided during the TT. The mechanics work long hours to keep the fleet up and running throughout the event, and officers police with humour and professionalism, regardless of how little sleep they get.

IOM continued

In the past, we have seen a couple of German motorcycle police on the island for the TT, having ridden their patrol bikes all the way from Germany, and then been 'sworn in' as 'Specials'

Then there's Covid. I wondered how an isolated island force coped with high sickness rates during the Covid pandemic. Some were able to work from home, which helped. Again, it looked like the island mentality of 'we will cope' and their willingness to go beyond 'duty' and do what must be done to serve the public was the answer. Sgt Taylor told me they came close, but things never became critical, which was remarkable given such small numbers, and such a large area to cover on roads that are not quite 'motorway' standard. Yes, I'm jesting, as finding a dual carriageway will take time. Some roads are quite uneven, as in 'like riding across a corrugated sheet' uneven. As we rode down one very smooth road, I couldn't help wondering if some important member of the government lived there!

So how is the law enforced on the IOM? Think back a few years, or decades, to when the public really did support the police, criminals expected to be punished and courts were less restricted in sentencing. Drugs are a typical example. Punishment in the IOM is likely to be double that now seen in the UK. Class 'A' drugs are a problem, and rival gangs have become innovative in their transportation methods during Covid, and more aggressive towards each other. Media reporting has been misleading at times, with a proactive exercise to examine fishing boats being reported as "drugs being imported by fishing boats", which was not the case. A long and convoluted coastline is impossible to police effectively, so exercises are an important part of deterrence, rather than an effective method of detection. For that you need, as we have seen in Wales, good local intelligence on the suspicious movement of vehicles and boats. Their close relationship with the population helps. It's not far from Scotland, and even a jet ski can be used for more than simply visiting your girlfriend. Most importation is by the ferry, and during lockdown that was a challenge for the dealers.

In the UK, some offences attract a fixed penalty ticket, which is accepted as a part of life, a bit like a tax. But in the IOM the same offence is likely to get you arrested and a cell at the island's prison. There is more deterrent value in that, I think.

With Covid offences, being arrested sent a very strong message, and claiming that you were driving to the other end of the island to "walk the dog" was not an acceptable excuse. It appears to have worked well and the public were behind it all the way. I was told that a few officers came up with 15 names of people who would be likely to break the Covid restrictions and, by the end, around 11 had been caught. We've all known our 'regular customers' and the IOM is no different.

Policing the island is a joy as the public are very supportive of the police, and the public understand

their part in helping to keep the island safe by assisting the police.



With less than half the officers having worked the TT before, 2022 is likely to be yet another challenge for this small, but highly motivated and well respected police service.

Harley is the police drug detection dog. Harley is having an extra portion of biscuits, because he found cocaine and ketamine in a vehicle search when he and his handler were called out.



The white helmet is the normal headwear for the island.

It was a summer helmet, but became so famous they now use it all year round.

Little Blue Heroes: Ireland I Charity Initiative



Ireland I have been supporting the Little Blue Heroes charity for some time now. This year, their achievements have included donating toy Police motorcycles to deserving little heroes. Esmark Finch, the company that brand all the Garda vehicles, kindly marked up the toy bikes in police livery.

Ireland I, had the honour to present one of the bikes to Dylan Tobin, another of our Little Blue Heroes. Twenty members of the Chapter rode with the official escort, led by Chapter member Sergeant John Staunton. Junctions were manned on the way into the station, where Dylan was met by a party including Chief Superintendent Sean Colleran. Our International VP, Brendan Condon made the presentation to little Dylan.

As well as marking up the toy vehicles, Esmark Finch also donated a motorised Garda Car and a Fire Car to Ireland I. The Fire car has found a home at Willowbridge Special Needs School in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland. On hand was the local Fire Chief to assist in the handover.





Ireland I were joined by two guests from the Red Knights, to present another of their "patrol bikes" to Arvalee Special Needs School in Omagh, Northern Ireland. The members were escorted from Monaghan Town by a Garda Traffic Corps Unit, including Chapter Member Mick O'Shaughnessy to the Border with Northern Ireland, where a PSNI escort took over. Another Chapter Member Trevor Kirke, led the PSNI contingent into Northern Ireland. The school children were awaiting the arrival of the escort, those of us taking part could not help but be moved by the enthusiasm of the children. Over 20 BK Members took part, and stayed for almost two hours as the children evaluated each bike.



Scottish Chapters

Attend the COPS Picnic

Libby Chisholm, Scotland II



29th August 2021 saw members from all three Scottish Chapters attend the COPS Picnic, which is held within the grounds of the Scottish Police College at Tulliallan. COPS (Care of Police Survivors) is a UK based charity who do a wonderful job looking after survivors, following the death of a loved one. Being a survivor myself, I know that no one really understands what you are going through, unless they have gone through the same thing. I found the peer support received from COPS members to be fundamental in the recovery of the survivor.

A beautiful fitting service was delivered by Ewan Skinner, President of Blue Knights Scotland II, in memory of all fallen Police Officers from forces throughout Scotland. During the service I took a moment to not only remember my husband, but also my colleague Matthew Edwards, from across the pond.

Following the service, a fabulous lunch was served and judging by the empty plates it was enjoyed by all.

COPS picnic continued

There was a good turnout at the Scottish Police College today for the COPS picnic .

Stuart McCarthy and members of England III joined the Scottish Chapters.

A cheque for £600 was handed over to Cops from Scotland I.

Christine Fulton put on her usual good spread of food for everyone which was much appreciated.



Apple Orchard Summer Camp Steve Bendell: Wales I



Over the weekend of the 9th July, Wales I and England XX hosted their annual summer camp at The Apple Orchard campsite, at Westbury on Severn in Gloucestershire.

More than 50 people attended the event from several English and Welsh Chapters. We adopted Care of Police Survivors (COPS) as our rally charity, raising a fantastic £586.55 from the weekend.

The Friday evening was a gentle get together, refreshing ourselves with some of the sites own cider. We enjoyed lots of chat, banter and catching up after a long lay-off from rallies, as you would expect from our brotherhood.

On the Saturday morning we hosted a ride out, with 22 bikes, including guests from the Widow's Sons and some riders who had travelled just for the ride. All donated £5 towards COPS. Our 90-mile ride took us up to Herefordshire, then back down towards Monmouthshire, riding through the spectacular scenery of the Wye Valley, through Ross on Wye and Symonds Yat Rock, skirting the Forest of Dean, then back across the River Wye at Monmouth. We stopped for lunch at the Red Door Deli and Diner, in the village of Mitchel Troy.



Apple Orchard continued



After lunch, we rode via Devauden, across Monmouthshire to Tintern Abbey, where we were unable to stop as it was full of cars. We returned down to Chepstow, where we re-grouped at the Castle carpark, prior to crossing the Old Wye Bridge into England. Andy Stone and his brother Steve, were waiting on the other side to take photographs of us riding over the bridge, with Chepstow Castle in the background.



We then rode through the Forest of Dean, via Coleford and Littledean, back to camp. We avoided the rain and had a fabulous ride out, with some challenging A and B roads, which were both twisty and scenic.



During our Saturday evening soiree, we were entertained by England XX's very talented David Kelly. His swing repertoire, with a bit of Elvis and Tom Jones thrown in was fantastic. We sold raffle tickets, played games and auctioned items for COPS. We had a great weekend and thank everyone who attended and gave so generously to our charity collection.



This event was founded by Wales I, to support the retired Gloucestershire Officer who owns and runs the delightful Apple Orchard site.

England XX has recently expanded out of Wales I, and both Chapters are very keen to keep this event running annually.

So, keep your eyes open for the 2022 announcement, and put it in your diary to avoid missing a fabulous weekend.

England XV First Anniversary celebrations. Neil Hallam, Editor



Thanks to a happy coincidence of work landing me nearby, I was able to join England XV for their First Anniversary celebrations.

Our Warwickshire Chapter, which almost exclusively consists of Prison Officers, has adopted the Royal British Legion Social club, in Offenham, as their informal clubhouse. We were very well looked after by the Royal British Legion members, who supplied a fantastic buffet for us. England XV gave the RBL a £150 donation in thanks for their hospitality.

It was a great chance for a get together with other Chapters, as we were joined by England VI, VII, XIV, XX and the Mercian Chapter of the Copperheads.



England VI Meet the Yorkshire Neighbours Neil Hallam: Editor



England VI made their 2021, post-covid mission, one of meeting neighbouring chapters. We had evening and day rides with England IX and XII. Then, we pulled in a Yorkshire weekend, hosted by England XIX.



Basing ourselves at the Hull West Premier Inn (on the edge of the Humber Estuary) Barry Stocker and his Chapter led us through some stunning Yorkshire scenery. Along the way we visited Heartbeat's Goathland and the Bangers & Cash location at Matthewson's Garage.

Wales I Abergavenny



We can always count on the Welsh chapters for a scenic ride out. Here are Wales I enjoying one of their August rides.

Their ride started at Abergavenny, riding past the Green Man Festival in Crickhowell, which provided an interesting interlude. They then rode up to the Glan Usk Cafe in Sennybridge for a brew and a chat. The next part of the ride was across the Western Brecon Beacons, down to Ystradgynlais, then across the Black Mountain. At the top they stopped at the viewpoint car park, where a group of super car owners were meeting, Lamborghinis, Porsches and a Jaguar XR8 provided a group photo opportunity.

They reached the Owls Nest Tea Rooms at Llandovery for Lunch, the Chapter's first visit since lockdown one.



Jersey I BBQ & Party Night

Jersey I organised and funded a BBQ party night for the Youth Inclusion Group, a youth club for young people with disabilities.

We support them each year and I can't thank them enough for the honour to do so. Such a lovely young group of people that made the members there feel so welcome.



Meeting the Neighbours: England VI, IX and XI visit Bakewell



**England VI, IX and XI met up for an evening of Bakewell Fish & Chips.
We rendezvoused at the Devonshire Hotel at Baslow, before riding en masse into Bakewell.**

Dave Robinson, a founder member of England VI, who transferred to XI a few years ago, received his 25 year membership certificate.

England XVIII £500 Hospice Donation

England XVIII presented a £500 cheque to the Children's Hospice South West, in Barnstaple.

Richy & Lisa attended at short notice, to meet Ruth & Andy from the Hospice. Sadly we weren't allowed in the hospice due to their current restrictions, but our money will be put to good use.



Be Incredible with Children's Hospice South West · [Join](#)

Children's Hospice South West · 1h · 🌐

Not all heroes wear capes ...some ride around on two wheels!! 🏍️😄

Thank you to the awesome Blue Knights Motorcycle Club (Devon chapter) for raising £500 for CHSW. Some of the members revved up to our Little Bridge House hospice in North Devon today (all the way from Torquay!) to deliver their fundraising cheque to our area fundraiser Ruth.

Thank you for coming to see us and choosing to support CHSW as your charity of the year 🍀

Jersey I Life Jacket Donation

Blue Knights Jersey I bought 10 life jackets for the Wet Wheels charity that provide boat trips for young people and the elderly. We were invited out on a trip with the youth inclusion group, a club for young people with disabilities who Jersey I are also sponsoring this year. It was great to see the young people having such fun and we were spoilt when the dolphins came along side for a play.



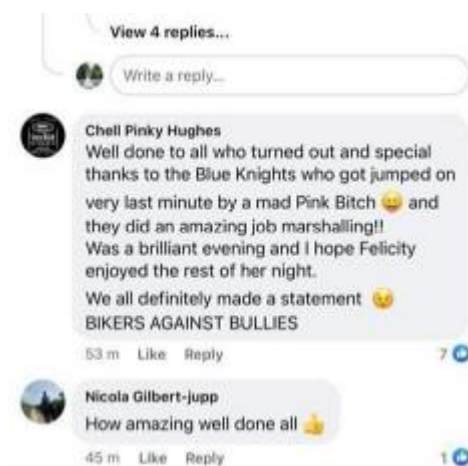
England X annual Dogs Trust visit August 2021



England XV help out with Prom Escort

England XV attended a very special event, providing a Prom escort for a young lady who had been bullied all through school because she has Dyslexia and Asperger's. Her Mum put out a request on FB asking for any bikers who would be prepared to escort her to her Prom.

The Blue Knights were even given the honour of marshaling the ride. They had a great time, did a fantastic job and it was excellent PR for the Blue Knights.



Three Chapter Meet: at Dom's Bike Stop

England XV, XX and XIV all met up at Dom's Bike Stop. They had a great ride and great company



Run to Norfolk John Rolfe, President England XVIII



England XVIII, joined by some England XIV members, completed a four day trip up to Norfolk from the south-west. We set off Friday along the A303 to meet everyone at Cartgate services, (14 in total) then off to the Ace Cafe in London.

All of the next three days were wet, as we rode along the A11, through Newmarket to get to Lowestoft, then taking the coastal road through towns including Great Yarmouth, Wells-Next-to-the -sea, Cromer, and ending up at Kings Lynn for the night.

Day 3 saw us head back across several counties, through Butterworth, Melton Mobrey and Draycote, to reach Evesham.

For our final day, we headed home back down to Devon, along the glorious A42 through Pershore, Bishops Cleeve, Chelenham, Stroud, Tetbury, Chipping Sodbury

We raised £100 for the charity pot, through fines and a dice game.

Cheque presentation to COPS Wales I & England XX



Cheque presentation to COPS Wales I

On 15th August 2021 members of Blue Knights LEMC, Wales I and England XX presented Daisy Godfrey with a £700 cheque, a donation to Care of Police Survivors (COPS). The money was mainly raised by the chapters at the clubs Summer Camp in July and from other donations throughout the year.

Daisy Godfrey was just 6 years old in June 1999 when her father, South Wales Police Officer, 30 years old PC Ian Godfrey, who was just and 18 months into his police career, tragically lost his life following a collision at Clydach, South Wales, Ian was a passenger in a Police Patrol Car.

Daisy said, "My life completely changed on 20th June 1999. My father Ian Godfrey was sadly taken away at the age of just 30 - Leaving behind me my sister and my Mum. At only 6 years old this is not something that any child wants to hear is their Daddy being taken away to heaven - Its life shattering and I am forever heartbroken. I hear stories about him all the time and how much he was loved by everyone".

Daisy is now an active fundraiser for Care of Police Survivors (COPS) who have supported her and her family since the tragic incident.

In the photographs from left to right, Wales1 President Bryan Griffiths, Wales I Treasurer Steve Bendell, Daisy Godfrey and England XX President Andy Stone

Ireland I visit Woodenbridge Memorial Garden



Seven members of Ireland I toured The Garden County on Thursday July 29th. The route was organised by the Chapter VP [Fergal O'Neill](#). The group visited the Memorial Garden in Woodenbridge, dedicated to the Wicklow men who lost their lives in WW1.

After lunch they visited the German War Cemetery in Glencree. It contains 134 graves of mainly Luftwaffe (Air Force) and Kriegsmarine (Navy) WWII personnel. Many of those interred within washed up on the country's beaches or crashed their aircraft overhead. Among the buried soldiers from WWII, 53 are identified remains and 28 are unknown. There are also the graves of 46 civilian detainees who were being shipped to Canada for internment when their ship, the S.S. Arandora Star, was torpedoed by a German U-Boat in July 1940, as well as the graves of six people the British held as prisoners of war during the First World War.

The last stop of the day was to a bridge dedicated to Garda Ciaran Jones who lost his life in 2011 directing motorists away from a bridge near his home that was in danger of collapsing in a storm.

Presentation of the cheque to Maggie's of Fife: in memory of Gwyn Garrett



On the 8th of September several Scotland II riders, and a contingent from my Mother Chapter at England XII accompanied me on their motorbikes, to say farewell to my wife of 49 years, Gwyn at the crematorium in Fife. Following our departure, we held a collection in the British Legion club to raise funds for Maggie's Cancer Centre.

A few weeks later, we made a presentation of the cheque to Maggie's of Fife.

The money was raised by kind donations from family , friends , and the Blue Knights , both Scotland and England

Maggies looked after my wee Wifie Gwyn Garrett when she found out that she had liver cancer.

Paul Garrett

RTTW (Ride To The Wall) 2021



This year proved to be a wetter than usual day for the annual biker event at the National Memorial Arboretum.



Events Section

April 2022



**Blue Knights LEMC
England XIV**

Walton Park Hotel in Clevedon
Friday 22nd to Sunday
24th April 2022



St George's WEEKEND RALLY 2022

The price for the weekend (bed, breakfast and evening meal for two nights) will be £150 per person (£10 per person per night single room supplement applies, so £170). The gala dinner only (four courses), will be £50 per person, and the special rate for extra nights will be £62.50 per person (£72.50 for single), per night, which includes Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.

This is our main charity fundraiser of the year. 2019's event was highly successful and raised £400 for Freewheelers, and £400 for UK COPS.

Dress Code: Black Tie (for Gala dinner)

Book on line at: www.bkengland14.org.uk

Non-refundable deposit of £100 per booking (£50 single)

£50
Gala dinner only

£150
2 nights + meal

£62.50
Extra Night

£10
Single room supplement

Due to the unfortunate previous cancellations, we have now rebooked this fabulous venue for 2022. We have secured all rooms in the hotel and are hoping for a fantastic and long-awaited weekend event. We would love to see as many of you as possible after such a long lock down. Half of the rooms have been already booked, so early booking is advised.



June 2022

Ireland I had to postpone the International Convention due to Covid-9 restrictions. The Rally will now take place from **26th June 2022**. Please take this opportunity to strongly consider your attendance. It is a great honour for us to hold this event in Ireland. A lot of hard work has gone into this, and we should support their efforts.



BLUE KNIGHTS IRELAND 1

BLUE KNIGHTS

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION 2022
INCLUDING UK & IRELAND CONVENTION

UPDATED JANUARY 2021



Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland
Sunday 26th June - Friday 1st July 2022

Blue Knights® International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club, Inc.



Blue Knights England XI Present The Annual Law
Ride Memorial Weekend 19/20/21st August 2022



COPS
CARE OF POLICE SURVIVORS



The Memorial Weekend culminates in the Annual Law Ride to the National Arboretum, Alrewas Staffordshire On Sunday 21st August 2022. This is to support UK Care of Police Survivors annual remembrance service,

The weekend is held at the Roman Way Hotel, Cannock, Staffordshire.

Prices per twin or double room are £119 per person dinner B&B. Entertainment both nights.

This includes £10 Law Ride registration fee and wristband. All proceeds go to UKCOPS.

£50 deposit secures your booking.

To Book, or for further details. Email thomascgelliott@gmail.com

BLUE KNIGHTS SCOTLAND 1 20th Anniversary Rally



Join Us!
2 - 4 September 2022
£140 per person for weekend

- Accommodation
- Ride Outs
- Local Tourism
- Evening Entertainment

**Cameron Barracks
Inverness, Scotland**
Bookings from 1 September 2021



For more information email:
rally2022@bks1.org
www.bks1.org

Blue Knights England II Presents

COPS AND ROBBERS

Onsite accommodation
Evening BBQ
Live Bands

September 2nd - 4th
2022

£75pp

Bookings
being taken

Saturday
Rideout

On site catering

Camping

Free Bar

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

Dibgate Army Camp, St Martins Plain Folkestone

copsandrobbersbookings@gmail.com

The Robin Hood Rally 2023

UK & Ireland Convention Rally

September 8th to 10th 2023



England VI last ran their popular Eastwood Rally in 2009. They would like to welcome Blue Knights back to Nottinghamshire's stunning 4* Eastwood Hall Hotel.



Operating as a wedding and conference venue, Eastwood Hall offers us fantastic facilities for conducting the weekend's Convention business



Eastwood is in the centre of England, within easy access of the M1 (j 26 & J27)

The Rally package will include

- Friday and Saturday night accommodation
- Breakfast on Saturday & Sunday
- Friday evening informal Dinner
- Saturday evening gala dinner
- Live entertainment on Saturday evening
- A Rally Patch
- Saturday guided ride outs

Costs expected to be

£160 per person (2 people sharing)
£230 per person (single occupancy)

On the Bikes

Within easy reach of Derbyshire's Peak District, Eastwood offers rides into stunning countryside. We will offer guided rides on Saturday. On Sunday morning, you could visit the regions biker capital, at the Victorian Spa Town of Matlock Bath

Off the Bikes

Eastwood is the birthplace of author DH Lawrence. His birthplace museum is a short walk from our hotel. Also close by are the Cromford and Nottingham Canals, with walks to take in our area's industrial heritage.