



# Network

November 2014

A networking tool for Activists and other interested parties

Editorial	2
Leon and Lembit Update	3-4
Moving House. Buying a vehicle and the new tax law from Madam Vice.	4-5
Introducing the new co-opted Regional Reps Liaison Officer.	5-6
Bus Lanes in Brighton. Wiltshire Parking Review.	6-8
Institute of Advanced Motorists.	9
FEMA – General Secretary Job Advert.	10-11
Dept for Transport: Annual Report. Launch of THINK Campaign.	11-13
Doug Smith's, (Devon) interview for BBC.	13-14
FEMA. Interest in ACEM (Motorcycle Industry in Europe)	14-18
Dutch roundabout in Battersea.	18

The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group

Early Day Motions. DVSA vehicle safety recalls in September. Ethanol in Petrol.	18-20
Contacts	20-21

## Editorial

A couple of members were concerned at the BRAKE item in the October edition of Network - hence, I agreed the caveat footnote which is self explanatory.

Its been a busy few weeks. MAG now has a new Reps Liaison Office, Jane Carrott, We haven't been able to fill this post since my good friend, Bill Pugsley, resigned. Jane introduces herself in this edition.

Excellent media coverage around the country:

Salford MAG had an extremely successful DEMO on 25<sup>th</sup> October highlighting the danger of those dreaded Armadillos resulting in an excellent report in a local paper. So watch this space for any update that the Council may have taken notice.

In the South West the BBC interviewed North Devon Rep, Doug Smith, on the insufficient sentencing in the case of the death of 19 year old motorcyclist Greg Taylor in Paignton, Devon which, once again, highlights the lack of justice for riders.

And, great news from Brighton on bus lanes.

If you're feeling you have the qualifications there is an advert for the post of General Secretary for FEMA.

Just in case you thought Bedford were the only lunatic Council to think 'Dutch' roundabouts are a good thing - nope. Towards the end of this publication you'll find details on one proposed for Battersea, London.

On that happy note, I'll leave you until December!

Ride safe and free, AG

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

Copy for Network to me by 25<sup>th</sup> of the month @ [AnneGaleMAG@aol.com](mailto:AnneGaleMAG@aol.com)

[Acknowledgments: George Legg. Trevor Baird. Jane Carrott. Selina Lavendar. Tracy Smith. Mark Greening. Paul Dore. Joe (Brighton Political Officer). Leon and Lembit. Tim Peregrine. Anyone else I've forgotten]

### Update from Leon & Lembit on a few of the things they're doing for MAG.

- Lembit attended a superb open day at O'Neill's hauliers in Heysham on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> October. The event celebrated the fact that a large proportion of the staff there are bikers. CEO, Dave Chambers, also met with MAG member and local MP Dave Morris. Dave said 'this event is about celebrating the right transport tools for the job. The staff use bikes to get to work – quick, economical and environmentally friendly. And they drive some of the most eco-friendly lorries on the roads. It's a success story all round, and I'm really pleased to be here as a MAG member and a supporter of local business for this great open day.' Lembit added, 'Dave Chambers and Dave Morris were real stars on the day. And Tony Cox was excellent as the man who brought us all together. I'm hoping this is just one of many events where bikes enjoy their rightful place in the travel mix.'
- On Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October, Lembit addressed the Honda Owners Club at the National Motorcycle Museum near Birmingham. He covered the vision MAG has as the foremost riders' rights organisation in the UK. Lembit also shared MAG's ambition to make sure that motorcycling matters are taken to all political parties in the run up to the General Election. In an extensive Question & Answer session, the meeting discussed rider safety, regulations, highway planning and the need for a level playing field for powered two wheelers, in comparison to cycling. 'I had the impression that MAG's vision was well received,' observes Lembit. 'I'd really like to find a way to get more riders to become direct members of MAG. The only really powerful way to achieve that is through a direct relationship with people. This was one of the good results of the day.'
- Lembit and Leon are busy working up the manifesto for the General Election. We need to have the materials ready by the end of December, so everyone can use the document in their local constituencies. 'The more members visit their MP surgeries, the more seriously we'll be taken,' says Dr Leon Mannings. 'We're taking a heavy duty approach to getting the details right, so it's a really credible document.'
- Leon has had further contact with the BMF, in an effort to make progress following the fractious developments surrounding the infamous Bedford Roundabout debacle. 'We need to get on with things, and if we can do that together on some matters, that's good for riders. The BMF are supporting the Manchester demo, and that's a good sign. I think the phrase an American President once used was Trust but Verify. That's a good motto.'
- Lembit attended the Manchester Demo on 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday, to object to the ludicrous 'Armadillo' highway scheme. These obstructions are nothing but trouble for all vehicle users, not least because they get broken and become highly dangerous debris on the

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

road. This is part of an on-going campaign to banish these killer blocks from Manchester's – and Britain's – roads.

- MAG's Political Unit met with MCIAs representative Craig Carey Clinch, as part of a regular strategic meeting process. It's clear we have the capacity to improve our relationship with manufacturers, and that is potentially valuable in terms of joint working on matters of shared political concern. MCIAs is gearing up for the General Election, and it's worth ensuring we know what each organisation is doing.
  - The shocking and tragic case of motorcyclist Greg Taylor has become a major campaign issue. Greg, aged 19, was killed by a car driver who received an incredibly light penalty for his action. 'There's a great deal wrong with this case,' says Lembit. 'I'm working with Tracy Smith to see what we can do to open this affront to justice up to wider scrutiny, as well as considering an appeal. His mum, Bev, has really suffered and needed support desperately with the case. We're providing our perspective and political assistance. I'm hoping our legal unit will also be able to help. We'll keep you posted on developments.'
- 

### **Moved / Moving**

Remember to get in touch with Central Office to ensure your address details are kept up to date or you won't receive your copy of The ROAD or a renewal letter when your membership is due to expire. Contact: [central-office@mag-uk.org](mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org) with your name, membership number and new address. Many thanks from all our membership secretaries.

**Moving House**

---

### **Madam Vice gives us the lowdown on Buying a vehicle and the New Tax law**

From the website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/vehicle-tax-changes>

#### ***Buying a vehicle***

From 1 October, when you buy a vehicle, the vehicle tax will no longer be transferred with the vehicle. You will need to get new vehicle tax before you can use the vehicle.

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

You can tax the vehicle using the New Keeper Supplement (V5C/2) part of the vehicle registration certificate (V5C) [online](#) or by using our automated phone service - 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on 0300 123 4321.

Alternatively, you may wish to visit a Post Office® branch.

DVLA are unable to check the vehicle insurance details for new keepers in Northern Ireland online or by phone. If you're a Northern Ireland new keeper, you will need to tax at a Post Office® branch that deals with vehicle tax.

So...

I then rang the DVLA and went through a multitude of menu options to speak with a person and asked:

I am buying a vehicle, I know I have to have insurance in place to cover me, however as the tax no longer belongs to the vehicle how do I make sure it is taxed as at that time the DVLA will not have me registered as the new keeper. Having previously used the online option to tax other vehicles I am aware that it comes up with the keepers details.

Kevin at the DVLA told me that I need to use the 'New Keeper' slip of the V5C to tax the vehicle and I can do this by any of 3 options (I would guess the reality of this for many people would be using their smart phone and accessing the Internet at the time of purchase). The reference on the New Keeper's slip is apparently different to the reference on the main part of the V5C. This is how the DVLA will know and apply tax to a new keeper whilst on their records the vehicle has existing tax with the 'old' keeper until such time as the documentation is received in the post.

---

### **Introducing the new co-opted Reps Liaison Officer**

"Greetings All,

Some, all but hopefully not none of you will be aware that at the October 2014 NC meeting I was tricked, er, I mean volunteered for the position of Reps Liaison Officer, so I thought I would kick off with a brief "pen portrait" and an idea of how I anticipate the role going forward.

I was born at an early age and, like many motorcyclists, have never really grown up! I have been a MAG member for most of the last 30 years, and am active in my local branch. I have been taking the Minutes for AGC since 2007, including a set of "Spoof Minutes" that I know several of you await rather more eagerly than the official ones! In 2012 I was asked to add the role of Minute-taker to the NC meetings.

In my spare time I am an Information Officer at my local College of Further Education, attend a Bellydance class and read as much as possible (there is never quite enough bookcase at Carrott Towers!).

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

I see the role of Reps Liaison Officer as a neutral, nurturing and informative one, providing timely and useful information that supports you in your role as a Representative of MAG. I am currently re-writing the Reps Handbook and my aim is for it to be easy to read and easy to implement. I also feel that a (relatively informal) induction process would benefit Reps new to the role and this is something that I will be looking to have in place in the near future.

I am always happy to receive feedback, suggestions and moral support; and remember – the only stupid question is the one that isn't asked!!

I look forward to working with you all and (hopefully) bringing relevant and useful support to you in your own roles.

Kind regards, Jane, aka The Lady Rootveg. Jane Carrott. MAG National Reps Liaison Officer”

---

### **Bus Lanes in Brighton.**



**If we can do it here then we can do it anywhere.**

**Recently there was cross party support in Brighton for making a bus lane trial permanent on two roads and to start a new trial on a third. Cross party support that included the majority Green party!**

All main arterial routes into and out of the city will then, in due course, have bus lane access for bikes and scooters. This positive outcome was arrived at however after many months of careful lobbying, negotiating and partnership working.

For several years Brighton MAG has been a member of the Transport Partnership. A council chaired forum for all stakeholders living and travelling in the city e.g. bus company, taxi drivers, cycling groups and pedestrians etc. Brighton and Hove is very busy city with congestion, pollution and road safety issues all pressing concerns. Attending the partnership has been invaluable in giving riders a voice amidst the din of others with their own causes. Regular attendance has also enabled Brighton MAG to understand which officers in the council are responsible for which aspect of the roads infrastructure and we have had some

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

success e.g. protecting bike parking and increasing it in some cases. Secure bike parking provision is also increasing year on year despite the financial climate.

Back to bus lanes. A trial was begun in June 2013 (See photo) following a lobby by Brighton MAG to M.P.s and Councillors. A council project manager worked with MAG to help design and distribute publicity to help ensure that all road users were aware of the change. During the following year the trial demonstrated:

- No significant impact on accidents
- Increases in powered two wheeler usage
- No reduction in cycle usage or impact on cyclist safety

A subsequent report to The Transport Committee made for encouraging reading there then however followed a very busy week for local MAG members; writing to the political members on the committee urging them to vote in favour of the recommendations. All three local MPs were also making encouraging noises to their councillor colleagues, this I am sure helped, as in the end the report was passed unanimously, in advance ,by all members and no debate/vote was needed at committee!

It gets better. One small part of the trial on the Coast Road fell within the East Sussex County Council boundary. They have just voted to make their bit permanent and have committed for bikes to use the new bus lanes along the A259 Bexhill Road, between Glyne Gap and Hastings, when they are installed next summer.

If using the lanes regularly or as a visitor, take care. Use them, don't abuse them!

Joe. Political Liaison Officer . Brighton MAG & South East region.

---

## **Wiltshire – Review of parking services (If you drive 4 wheels you may be interested)**

### **Introduction**

Wiltshire Council is reviewing its Car Parking Service. The review focuses on car parking charges and management, with the potential use of new technologies and the future role of local communities. The review also covers other aspects such as parking standards, first hour free parking and other charging options.

We are keen to hear the views of residents, stakeholders and other interested parties to help us shape the new strategy. The Council has made no decisions at this stage and would like to see how far you agree or disagree with the presented options, or alternatively suggest your own.

Initial background documents for each town (Overall Strategy and Town Profile) are available from today (27<sup>th</sup> October 2014) from <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>.

Following this, one possible charging option and an on-line questionnaire will be available for viewing and completion respectively from the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

Other supporting documents including the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment, and Habitat Regulation Assessment will be available for viewing from the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at the latest.

Consultation documents can be viewed under the 'Supporting Documents' tab at the bottom of the consultation portal page.

### **How to respond**

Our preferred method to receive comments is through completion of an on-line electronic questionnaire. Please note that there is no requirement to register or log-in to the portal to respond through the on-line questionnaire – a web link to the questionnaire will be available from the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

If you wish to pre-register for a questionnaire please either email [transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk) or ring the council's customer service centre free on 0300 456 100. We will take your details and either email you the web link or send a hard copy in the post when they become available on the 10<sup>th</sup> November.

In the interim, if you wish to make comments on the Overall Strategy or Town Profile, please email [transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk).

Please note that it our usual policy to treat all responses as non-confidential.

The consultation will be open from the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014 to 5pm on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

If you have any queries, please contact us using the details below or by telephone on 0300 456 0100.

Sustainable Transport Group. Highways and Transport. Wiltshire Council. County Hall. Bythesea Road. Trowbridge. Wiltshire. BA14 8JN.

Tel. 0300 456 0100. By email to: [transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:transportplanning@wiltshire.gov.uk)

### **Viewing of documents**

In addition to this website, the documents can be viewed at Wiltshire Council libraries and at the following Wiltshire Council office locations:

Salisbury: Bourne Hill, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 3UZ, (open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm)

Trowbridge: County Hall, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JN (open Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 5.20pm Friday 8.30am to 5 pm)

Chippenham: Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 1ER (open Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm Friday 9am to 4.30pm)

Devizes: 3-5 Snuff Street, Devizes, SN10 1FG (open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm)

### **Next steps**

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

All the responses received through the consultation will be considered in the writing of a report for Wiltshire Council's Cabinet to consider at its meeting in March 2015. Approved changes will then be implemented as soon as possible allowing for any legal and resource requirements.

---

### **Institute of Advanced Motorists**

IAM sheds winter blues with red hot campaign to keep you safe - 14 October 2014

The Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) is warning riders and drivers to be extra vigilant on the road this winter through its national winter campaign, *wheels in winter*.

Existing research from the Department for Transport in 2013 shows winter is a dangerous time of year for motorists, with a reported 57,260 cars across England and Wales involved in accidents as a result of wet, flooded and icy roads.

Motorcyclists are also being warned about the severe weather, as over 5,000 reported motorcycle accidents took place in the same year across the country as a result of wet, flooded and icy roads too. Skidding alone, caused by rain, sleet and snow resulted in an 11,614 major road accidents occurring – putting both riders and drivers safety at risk <sup>1</sup>.

The top five regions in which accidents have occurred as a result of rain, floods, ice and snow in 2013 are <sup>2</sup>:

- 1. South East reported 6,675 accidents, of which 3,566 were serious
- 2. London reported 4,485 accidents, of which 2,112 were serious
- 3. North West reported 4,436 accidents, of which 2,347 were serious
- 4. East of England reported 4,382 accidents, of which 1,936 were serious
- 5. South West reported 3,413 accidents, of which 1,625 were serious
- 

*Wheels in winter* will be dedicated to addressing these concerns; helping motorists better prepare for the weather. Through weekly advice, reactive weather forecast updates and social media activation, the IAM winter campaign will aim to increase rider and driver consideration and reduce the number of winter weather related fatalities.

IAM chief executive Nick Stonard said: "Driving in winter requires much more care and preparation. The *wheels in winter* campaign is part of a national effort to cut the number of road traffic collisions and incidents."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. Department for Transport statistics for reported road casualties across England and Wales in 2013

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

2. Department for Transport statistics for reported road casualties in different weather conditions across England and Wales in 2013
  3. The IAM is the UK's largest independent road safety charity, dedicated to improving standards and safety in driving and motorcycling. The commercial division of the IAM operates through its occupational driver training company IAM Drive & Survive. The IAM has more than 200 local volunteer groups and over 100,000 members in the UK and Ireland. It is best known for the advanced driving test and the advanced driving and motorcycling courses. Its policy and research division offers advice and expertise on road safety.
- 



### **GENERAL SECRETARY (m/f)**

The Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA) is the Brussels-based Non-Governmental Organisation representing motorcycle riders' interests within the European Union institutions and the United Nations agencies. We are looking for a dynamic individual to be the voice of European riders as FEMA's General Secretary.

#### **MAIN TASKS**

- Representing the interests of riders with the European Union institutions on developments in European Community policy and legislation impacting motorcycling.
- Monitoring and analysis of regulatory and policy developments, advising national member organisations on their implications, supporting campaigns of the member organisations in relation to proposed EC policy and legislation.
- Drafting position papers and clear reports on regulatory and policy issues.
- Managing the communication with the member organisations, the institutions and the media.

#### **WE OFFER**

- An exciting and rewarding full-time job in a federation representing citizens.
- Inspiring co-operation with the delegates of the 20 national member associations from 15 different countries.
- Interesting contacts with our European and International partners (riders, industry, others).
- An informal working environment.
- An attractive remuneration package.

#### **WE ASK FOR**

#### **PROFILE**

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

- Either university degree or relevant working experience at an equivalent level.
- A practising motorcycle or scooter rider.
- Fluency in English, any other language is an asset.
- Good written and oral communication skills.
- Strong advocacy and negotiation skills.
- Ability to understand and resolve cultural differences.
- Skills in dealing with the media.
- Good computer skills.
- Willingness to occasionally work abroad and at weekends.

### **EXPERIENCE**

- Ideally: working for a riders' organisation professionally or as a volunteer.
- Knowledge of the EU decision-making procedures.
- Professional experience in the EU institutions and/or lobbying field is an advantage.
- Experience in a Non-Governmental Organisation or in the Transport sector is an asset.

**Send application letter, CV and picture before 13<sup>th</sup> November 2014 to:**

FEMA, Rue des Champs 62, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium, [president@fema-online.eu](mailto:president@fema-online.eu)

**Selected candidates will be interviewed in Brussels Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2014.**

### **Department for Transport publishes annual report**

The Department for Transport has published its [Reported road casualties Great Britain: annual report 2013](#).

The findings for 2013 include:

- road deaths decreased by 2% compared to 2012, to 1,713. This is the lowest figure since national records began in 1926
- the number of people seriously injured decreased by 6% to 21,657, compared to 2012
- the total number of casualties in road accidents reported to the police was 183,670, down 6% from the 2012 total
- vehicle traffic levels have remained broadly stable with a small increase of 0.4% between 2012 and 2013
- pedal cyclist deaths decreased by 8% to 109, compared to 118 in 2012
- pedal cyclist deaths have seen a long-term fall, but have fluctuated between roughly 100 and 120 over the last six years. Since records began in the 1920s, the highest annual figure seen for cyclist deaths was 1,536 in 1934. The lowest annual figure for pedal cyclist deaths was 104 in 2009, 93% lower than the 1934 high

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

- our best current estimate, derived from the NTS data, is that the total number of road casualties in Great Britain annually, including those not reported to the police, is within the range 630 to 800 thousand with a central estimate of 720,000
- the latest estimates of drink drive casualties are for 2012 and show that there were 230 drink drive deaths in 2012, not significantly different to the previous two

Statistics - national statistics

### Reported road casualties Great Britain: annual report 2013

From: [Department for Transport](#)

First published:

25 September 2014

Part of: [Road accidents and safety statistics, Reported accidents, vehicles and casualties \(RAS40\)](#), [Survey data on road accidents \(RAS54\)](#), [Strategic framework for road safety outcome indicators \(RAS41\)](#), [+ others](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/reported-road-casualties-great-britain-annual-report-2013>

Tim Peregrine has pointed this out: It's the introduction of M3 J2-4a Smart Motorway scheme which will be third of its type in South East England, and follows the opening of two sections on the M25 earlier this year.

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/our-road-network/managing-our-roads/improving-our-network/smart-motorways/>

### Department for Transport launches latest THINK! campaign

The Department for Transport has launched its latest THINK! road safety campaign today to warn drivers of the dangers of country roads. Figures show:

- Three people die each day on average on rural roads
- The number of people killed on country roads is nearly eleven times higher than on motorways
- A quarter of drivers have had a near miss and one driver in twenty has had a collision on a country road

A shocking 25% of drivers report having had a near miss on a country road, while 40% have been surprised by an unexpected hazard, such as an animal. A third also confess to taking a bend too fast.

These findings suggest many drivers are failing to anticipate dangers on the road ahead. The research mirrors newly published casualty statistics which show that the most

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

commonly reported contributory factor to being killed or seriously injured on country roads is motorists losing control, often because they are driving too fast for the conditions.

The new THINK! campaign urges drivers using country roads to:

- Read the road ahead and anticipate potential hazards
- Drive at a speed that allows you to stop in the distance you can see to be clear
- Stay in control and give yourself time to react by braking before a bend, not on it
- Give cyclists and horse riders plenty of space when overtaking

Road safety minister Robert Goodwill said, "Britain's roads are among the safest in the world, but most people don't know that motorists are nearly eleven times more likely to die in an accident on a country road than on a motorway. On average three people die each day on country roads and these are needless tragedies.

"I want the public to understand these risks and adapt their driving to the conditions they face. That is why the new THINK! Country Road Campaign is so important – we are urging drivers to read the road ahead, select a safe speed and brake before the bend."

For further information please click [here](#).

Published: 11 October 2014

<http://www.drivingforbetterbusiness.com/article.aspx?article=2334>

---

**Devon interview for BBC:** Recent BBC reporting about the case of the death of 19 year old motorcyclist Greg Taylor in Paignton, Devon has again highlighted the lack of justice for riders.

Greg was killed by a driver who had a long history of driving offences and who shouldn't have been on the road in his highly un-roadworthy and uninsured car.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-29664811>

South West Rep Tracy Smith made contact with Mrs Taylor, initially as one parent to another but their conversations have progressed to one of possible collaboration with Mrs Taylor and MAG to address the sentencing issue that MAG demonstrated about this year MAG Chairman John Mitchell has reported that the Sentencing committee is now not meeting on this issue until after the general election.

This is certainly an issue that should be included in correspondence with MPs etc as we draw nearer to the Election next year 6 months suspended sentence....aren't riders worth a little more than that?

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

MAG thinks so!!

BBC Devon radio yesterday ran a long item about the sentence handed out to the Killer of Greg Taylor. Listen from 05.30 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0289227>

BBC Spotlight ran the item on every news report during yesterday watch from the beginning.. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b04ls5rm/spotlight-22102014>

Doug Smith the North Devon Rep stood in for Tracy Smith who was at work when the BBC made contact. The radio broadcast included much more of what he said but true to form they cut the more important bits. Please note these broadcasts have a limited internet life.

---

### **FEMA – Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations**

In last month's Network (October 2014) we reported that FEMA - Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations – had sent a letter to every MEP, especially as the European Parliament was back in session with its newly elected MEPs. The letter explained the role of FEMA as a representative of European motorcyclists.

We suggested that it might be an exercise to try at your next group meeting with a letter to your MEP about FEMA and MAG as National Organisation of FEMA.

Did anybody complete their homework assignment?

Anyway a new European Commission - EC has just been elected – yes elected - by the European Parliament in Strasbourg with 423 votes in favour, 209 against and 67 abstentions.

“The European Commission can only enter office once it has been approved by the European Parliament. As part of the scrutiny process, all candidate commissioners were questioned by MEPs to assess their suitability for the post.”

In basic terms the European Commission – “proposes new legislation to the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union, and it ensures that EU law is correctly applied by member countries.”

Although you might have different thoughts on what constitutes an elected and responsible body, is that another conversation?

FEMA has stated on its Facebook page that there are three priorities from the total of ten set out by the EC that are of importance for the motorcycling community in the long run.

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

A Connected Digital Single Market - An Area of Justice and Fundamental Rights Based on Mutual Trust - A Union of Democratic Change – although we wait for FEMA to expand on how these will affect the motorcycling community - [http://ec.europa.eu/about/juncker-commission/priorities/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/about/juncker-commission/priorities/index_en.htm)

In the meantime the workings of the EC remain the same and briefly – “The Commission is divided into several departments and services. The departments are known as Directorates-General (DGs)”

These DGs deals with separate polices for example:

### **Mobility and Transport (MOVE)**

All aspects of Road, Air, Rail, Maritime safety.

Recently responsible for the Roadworthiness testing which included looking at mandatory testing for motorcycles across the EU.

They have been responsible for statements on their website such as - Motorcycle use is the most dangerous mode of road travel - Discouraging or restricting the use of PTW's may be more acceptable if alternatives are made more attractive – although redeeming themselves with this - PTW's are a economical means of transport. Riding a PTW gives a special sensation which is attractive to some groups of riders.

Although we hear that this text which is several years old is being rewritten through new projects on motorcycle safety and vulnerability.

[http://ec.europa.eu/transport/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/index_en.htm)

### **Enterprise and Industry (ENTR)**

Its general objectives are listed as - to strengthen the sustainable competitiveness of Europe's industrial base, including the contribution it makes to societal goals - to ensure an open internal market for goods.

This was the DG that proposed the new Type-Approval package - Approval and market surveillance of two – or three-wheel vehicles and quadricycles.

[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/enterprise/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/enterprise/index_en.htm)

Meanwhile on the FEMA website we learn that in Finland young moped riders and young motorcyclists gather regularly to ride together in hundreds or thousands, meeting in a single place to “meet, greet and stunt” with the rider groups MP69 and Smoto involved with others sitting down meeting leaders and the police to find a solution that reduces the risks and downsides related to these meetings. Watch the videos of these events on You Tube -

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

<http://www.fema-online.eu/index.php?mact=News,cntnt01,detail,0&cntnt01articleid=410&cntnt01returnid=15>

FEMA is your European representative which represents, defends and promotes motorcycling through its national organisations of which MAG is a founding member.

### **FEMA Riders' Charter**

Did you know that FEMA has a Riders' Charter which MAG as members of FEMA has signed?

The charter, an update and rededication of the founding FEMA charter was signed by FEMA National Organisations in Edinburgh in June 2008.

*We share the vision of a world where motorcycling is:*

*fairly considered as a practical means of transport, addressing economic, environmental and social issues*

*promoted as a positive travel alternative and*

*equally protected by fair treatment and relevant measures taking into account the specific nature of all kinds of motorcycles and their riders.*

*We pledge to:*

- *promote and preserve all riders' interests,*
- *protect riders from negative discrimination and exploitation,*
- *promote the advantages of motorcycling,*
- *promote safe and responsible road use and*
- *preserve the spirit of motorcycling*

*throughout Europe and globally.*

<http://www.fema-online.eu>

FEMA on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Federation-of-European-Motorcyclists-Associations/193674387342050>

### **Interest in ACEM**

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

ACEM the motorcycle manufactures association in Europe have released the latest edition of their newsletter.

ACEM have a strong lobby in Europe headed up by Antonio Perlot the ACEM Secretary General who was FEMAs (Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations) general Secretary until 2006.

You can read the full ACEM newsletter on their website – link below - but here are a few snippets from the newsletter which as you have read from the piece on FEMA has some relevance in riders representation at the European Institutions.

**ACEM Secretary General** - The European elections back in May have brought to Brussels many new Members of Parliament - In the coming weeks the new Commission will take office (this has now taken place) – so November and December, and into 2015, promise to be very busy months, as EC priorities become more defined and stakeholders engage with the new Commissioners and their Cabinets - For ACEM, 2014 marked the association's 20th anniversary - To celebrate this, ACEM organised a cocktail reception in the European Parliament - the retirement of outgoing Secretary General Jacques Compagne as well as his major contribution to the Motorcycle Industry - An opportunity to look back at past achievements, but also to look ahead.

**Type-Approval Package Motorcycle** - In terms of regulation, the new Type-Approval package for L-category vehicles has been finalised and looks as far as 2020, with challenging objectives, some requiring still in-depth technical and economic analysis to be performed by the Commission.

**Industry Policy** - ACEM is also looking at 2020 and beyond in its recently issued Road Safety Strategy, which shows strong innovation from manufacturing members. This, in spite of the European market only showing timid signs of (very early) recovery, is a testimony to the forward-looking commitment of ACEM members not only in the field of technology, but also in the area of training and activities at national level, together with industry national associations.

**Policy** - The new ACEM Secretariat is looking forward to further engage with policymakers and continue bringing forward the values of the Industry, and the assets of its vehicles, within EU policy.

**Road safety strategy** - The motorcycle industry unveiled its new road safety strategy to improve safety for motorcyclists across Europe - The safe ride to the future, its new road safety strategy to further improve safety levels for motorcyclists in Europe.

**European Law** - On 22 August the European Commission published in the Official Journal of the EU the implementing regulation on administrative requirements for the approval and

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

market surveillance of two- or three-wheel vehicles and quadricycles (Commission implementing regulation 901/2014).

**ACEM celebrates its 20th anniversary in the European Parliament** - On 7 October 2014 ACEM organised a cocktail reception and a photography exhibition in the European Parliament to commemorate its 20th anniversary. The event, kindly hosted by Bernd Lange MEP, was attended by a host of esteemed guests and friends of ACEM including several recently elected and re-elected members of the Parliament, Commission officials and industry representatives.

**Market** - Registrations of PTWs increase by 0.86% during the first eight months of the year - A total of 779,588 powered two wheelers (PTWs) were registered during the first seven months of 2014 in the EU. This represents an increase of 1.5% compared with the 768,232 units registered between January and July 2013. Between January and July registrations in the motorcycle segment grew by 7.4%, whilst moped registrations fell by 11%.

**ACEM appoints new public affairs manager** - The European Association of Motorcycle Manufacturers is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Ludovic Basset as its new Public Affairs Manager from October 2014. Mr Basset is a highly experienced EU affairs specialist with more than 10 years of experience in advocacy and public affairs.

So there you have what ACEM has been up to and some of what it is looking to do in the future as representatives of its members – the motorcycle industry in Europe..

Full newsletter available at – <http://www.acem.eu/index.php/media-corner/newsletter>

You can also find ACEM on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/acem.europe>

**Here we go again. Check out this website.**

<http://lcc.org.uk/articles/space4cycling-at-battersea-roundabout-but-is-it-dutch>



**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

## Early Day Motions

“Early Day Motions (EDMs) are formal motions submitted for debate in the House of Commons. However, very few are actually debated. EDMs allow MPs to draw attention to an event or cause. MPs register their support by signing individual motions.”

You can view if your MP is supporting an EDM or if you are concerned with the subject you may want to write to your MP asking if he would sign the EDM.

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/business-papers/commons/early-day-motions/>

Need to find who your MP is or their contact details best to use direct communications via an e-mail or letter - <http://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/>

### Driving And Diabetes - EDM number: 393

23/10/2014

That this House welcomes the new report from the Transport Research Laboratory on the forgotten risk of hypoglycaemia among drivers with type 2 diabetes; notes with concern its findings that drivers are not being provided with adequate advice to prevent hypoglycaemic incidents which, as a result of road safety risks associated with debilitating symptoms, can cause them to lose their driving licence and sometimes livelihood; further notes that hypoglycaemia is a side effect of certain types of oral medication for type 2 diabetes; and calls on the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency, employers and health care providers to ensure drivers are receiving the right treatment and advice to prevent hypoglycaemia and manage diabetes effectively in order to keep them healthy and on the road.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/393>

### Improvements To The A1 Carriageway – EDM number: 384

21/10/2014

That this House recognises the tireless work over many years of the right hon. Member for Berwick-upon-Tweed to bring much needed improvements to the A1; notes the Government's decision last year to undertake a feasibility study into considering improvements to the carriageway north of Newcastle; further notes the economic and safety benefits that this would bring; and calls on the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, as the Minister responsible for infrastructure spending, to include funding for the dualling of the A1 in the forthcoming Autumn Statement.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2014-15/384>

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

## DVSA vehicle safety recalls in September

Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency vehicle recalls for September 2014.

For further information on any of these recalls, visit the DVSA recalls database or contact your local dealership.

RM/2014/023 - Yamaha MT-90 and MT-09A - Headlight may fail

RM/2014/024 - Yamaha YN50F and YN50FU Neo's - Loss of vehicle stability

RM/2014/025 - Kawasaki KLX125CA/CB/CC/CD and KLX125DA/DB/DC/DD - Engine may stall

Recalls Database - <https://www.gov.uk/check-if-a-vehicle-has-been-recalled>

---

**Ethanol in petrol:** <http://www.roadrunner.travel/2014/10/22/motomojo-ethanol-gasoline/>

<b>MAG UK Central Office:</b>		
<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">MAG UK, PO Box 750, Warwick CV34 9FU</a> Tel: 01926 844064 Fax: 01926 844065 Email: <a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>		
Executive Officer	Julie Sperling	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Membership Administrator	Carol Ferrari	<a href="mailto:membership@mag-uk.org">membership@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of Communications & Public Affairs	Lembit Opik	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Transport & Policy Advisor	Leon Mannings	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
<b>NATIONAL OFFICERS</b>		
National Chairman	John Mitchell	<a href="mailto:chair@mag-uk.org">chair@mag-uk.org</a>
National Vice-Chairman	Selina Lavender	<a href="mailto:vice-chair@mag-uk.org">vice-chair@mag-uk.org</a>
National Finance Officer	Patrick van Aalst	<a href="mailto:finance-officer@mag-uk.org">finance-officer@mag-uk.org</a>
Network Co-Coordinator	Anne Gale	<a href="mailto:AnneGaleMAG@aol.com">AnneGaleMAG@aol.com</a>
President/ <i>TheROAD</i> Editor	Ian Mutch	<a href="mailto:theroad@mag-uk.org">theroad@mag-uk.org</a>
National Reps Liaison Officer	Jane Carrot	<a href="mailto:nrlo@mag-uk.org">nrlo@mag-uk.org</a>
National Clubs Liaison Officer	Oliver Rose	<a href="mailto:clubs-officer@mag-uk.org">clubs-officer@mag-uk.org</a>
Events (Shows and Stands)	Neil Stevenson	<a href="mailto:events@mag-uk.org">events@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Pete 'Veece' Davison	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Graeme 'Scouse' Hoose	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Neil Liversidge	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Phil McFadden	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**

Director of TMAGL	John Mitchell	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Paul Turner	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
Director of TMAGL	Patrick van Aalst	<a href="mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org">central-office@mag-uk.org</a>
<b>REGIONAL REPS</b>		
British Independent Islands	Position Vacant	<a href="mailto:british-independent-islands-region-rep@mag-uk.org">british-independent-islands-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Cumbria	Paul Turner	<a href="mailto:cumbria-region-rep@mag-uk.org">cumbria-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
East Anglia	Selina Lavender	<a href="mailto:east-anglia-region-rep@mag-uk.org">east-anglia-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Lincolnshire	Andy Carrott	<a href="mailto:lincolnshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org">lincolnshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Eastern	Dave Hammond	<a href="mailto:eastern-region@mag-uk.org">eastern-region@mag-uk.org</a>
East Midlands	Juliet MacVe	<a href="mailto:east-midlands-region-rep@mag-uk.org">east-midlands-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Greater London	Position Vacant	<a href="mailto:greater-london-region-rep@mag-uk.org">greater-london-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Herts & Essex	Mick Southgate	<a href="mailto:herts-essex-region-rep@mag-uk.org">herts-essex-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
North East	Dave Wigham	<a href="mailto:north-east-region-rep@mag-uk.org">north-east-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Northern Ireland	Steven O’Kane (Acting)	<a href="mailto:northern-ireland-region-rep@mag-uk.org">northern-ireland-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
North Wales	Bill Hughes (Acting)	<a href="mailto:north-wales-region-rep@mag-uk.org">north-wales-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
North West	Tony Cox	<a href="mailto:north-west-region-rep@mag-uk.org">north-west-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Scotland	Steve Wykes	<a href="mailto:scotland-region-rep@mag-uk.org">scotland-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
South East	John Mitchell	<a href="mailto:south-east-region-rep@mag-uk.org">south-east-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Southern	Tim Peregrine	<a href="mailto:southern-region-rep@mag-uk.org">southern-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
South Wales	Phil McFadden	<a href="mailto:south-wales-region-rep@mag-uk.org">south-wales-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
South West	Tracy Smith	<a href="mailto:south-west-region-rep@mag-uk.org">south-west-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Thames Valley	Gareth Lewis	<a href="mailto:thames-valley-region-rep@mag-uk.org">thames-valley-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Warwickshire	Roger Ford	<a href="mailto:warwickshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org">warwickshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Western	George Legg	<a href="mailto:western-region-rep@mag-uk.org">western-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
West Midlands	Eddie Lowe	<a href="mailto:west-midlands-region-rep@mag-uk.org">west-midlands-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
Yorkshire	Oliver Rose	<a href="mailto:yorkshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org">yorkshire-region-rep@mag-uk.org</a>
<b>OTHER CONTACTS</b>		
MAP Ltd: Yorkshire region event organiser	Pete Walker	<a href="mailto:maphq@maphq.karoo.co.uk">maphq@maphq.karoo.co.uk</a>
Official MAG merchandise	Neil Stevenson	<a href="mailto:events@mag-uk.org">events@mag-uk.org</a>
The MAG Foundation - Trustee contact	Paul Turner	<a href="mailto:info@mag-foundation.org">info@mag-foundation.org</a>

•

**The items included in this publication are to inform the reader and not, necessarily, the views of the Motorcycle Action Group**