



October 2017 Newsletter



Welcome to the October newsletter

40,000 call-outs and counting (over 1,000 a month)

5 Momentum Place (The new HQ)

The new unit is coming along nicely, a bit slower than if we commissioned builders, but understandably so because we all give up our free time to do it and of course families and work come first.

A big pat on the back to all those who've already come along, especially Russell Curtis and Tracey, who've been there every weekend doing the upstairs & Scott Miller for being the (project manager and sparky), Wayne White, (plumber), Ian German and his mate (builders), Peter Leonard, (joiners mate), Alistair Taylor, (Sparky's mate & Plater boarder), and loads of other guys, but I'm bound to miss someone so I'll leave it at THANKS to all for now.



The skeleton upstairs: Master Craftsman Russ & Tracey

We are looking to get it up and running before the 3rd December because The Detailing Shack, across the road from our unit are hosting a Super Car Day, with 15 Super Cars, so it would be a great day to officially open our new HQ with Carl Fogarty there.

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The skeleton downstairs with Scruff making sure they get on with the work 😊

Followed by the almost complete upstairs, which is nearly ready for plastering.

Russell & Tracey have done a fabulous job, but so has everyone else and very soon we can call the plasterers in.

Scott Miller intends to have a painting day with a BBQ as well, and will let all members know when that is, but there's still quite a lot to do yet. Plus, we may be holding a wedding there, guess who?



New Treasurer

Sadly, Haydn Williams, who's been our Treasurer since we started as well as the very first rider on duty on 2nd May 2012, has had to stand down as Treasurer due to pressures of work and starting his own business, but a new one has been sought and found.

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Member Sara Hailes, partner of member & Blue Light trainer Mark Furnival, has agreed to take on the role. Sara has a wealth of experience in financial affairs and is the Finance Director of a large International company.

As Treasurer, Sara will be taking an automatic position on the Committee and Haydn, who is also a Trustee will remain on the Committee until May at least.

All this means that the Boys will have to behave at the meetings now 😊

Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations 1989 (as amended)

Just a reminder that only steady white lights (not flashing) to the front and steady red lights to the rear, along with amber indicators, front and rear are allowed on any standard road going vehicle, i.e. Cars, motorcycles, lorries, busses, etc.

Exceptions: Designated emergency vehicles using blue flashing lights. The only flashing white light to the front is a headlight, which may be displayed in daylight hours only.

Stolen vehicles:

Over the past 12 months the number of stolen vehicles has skyrocketed by 30%. Due to the fact that modern vehicles have coded key's or immobilisers, most are taken with the vehicle's own key. House broken into and key taken, etc.

Please make sure you keep your keys safe.

One thing I've learned and experienced over the years is that the scum who steal the vehicles have no compassion for other road users and wouldn't give a hoot knocking a biker off his/her bike, so please stay out of the way if you think there is one near you. "Discretion being the better part of Valour" 😊 STAY SAFE

We have motorways in every area of Lancashire and South Cumbria, but:

Did you know?

M55

During construction of the M55 (April 1975), a Jaguar military aircraft from nearby Warton Aerodrome made a test landing on the motorway, in order to prove its capability to use makeshift runways in times of war. Let's hope we never try it for real 😊



M58

Again, during construction, a stolen car was driven along it and the vehicle struck a mound of unused tarmac, went airborne and landed on its roof. The driver was killed making it the first fatal accident on the M58.

M6

Most news reports refer to the M1 as being the first motorway in Britain, well to put the record straight the M6 was the first, originally opened as the Preston By-Pass in 1958 by the Prime Minister Harold MacMillan, and Charnock Richard Services was the first motorway services. The first Police officers patrolling it were PC Billy Ball and PC Alan Green. Both remained on the motorway until their retirement in 1986/8 and Billy Ball became a Sergeant and then Inspector whilst there.

Forton Services, with its distinctive tower, which used to house a posh restaurant, was



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the only services in the UK to have a post office. It lasted 2 years before it was realised it was a waste of time.

M61

Has the only Services in the country that has no direct exit from the motorway and in 30 years has changed its name 3 times, Anderton, Bolton South and now Rivington. The place hasn't moved so why change the name?

M65

Originally it only ran between Nelson & Blackburn, but in the late 90's work began on upgrading it and linking it to the M6 & M61. During construction, I visited the road designers and realised the extension would predominantly be 2 lanes each way. I questioned that and was told by a young designer "Well it doesn't go anywhere", so now we have a motorway that goes: 2 lanes, 3 lanes, 2 lanes 3 lanes, 2 lanes 3 lanes and finally 2 lanes. Where's the sense in that? I'm sure the people in Nelson & Colne would be upset to learn they live in "Nowhere".

General Meeting:

Many of you attended the AGM in May and those who did will know that the owners of The Villa at Preston North End Football Club let us down, they forgot we were going so had to rush round to try and get it sorted.

I was promised that if we booked it again we would get VIP treatment, so I have. The meeting will be on Sunday 19th November 2017 starting at 10am. All members welcome. Oh! and I'm assured we will have enough tea and coffee this time as well as a working microphone 😊

If any of the non-members who this is addressed to wish to come along, especially our contacts at our hospitals, you are more than welcome, but please let me know if you are (so I can put out the red carpet 😊).

Blues & Two's refreshers:

To all riders waiting to take the Blues & Two's course, please wait we will get to you, but:

Due to the infrequency of use of our B&T's runs, we are starting to run refreshers before we take on any new B&T's riders, which will incorporate an advanced assessment ride too. This is twofold, 1) To make sure every rider is able to make progress safely and understand the dangers of emergency riding, and 2) A duty of care for every rider.

If you haven't already received an email on how to book a refresher you will when your 3 years is up for either your advanced course or your B&T's course. By doing it this way the two will marry them up and bring riders back up to speed.

We need Riders in the West:

Check out our latest push to get riders for our West Area by broadcasting on Southport's Soundgrunder Radio. Click the link and [scroll down to the Audio](#).

The interviewee has the perfect face for Radio 😊

Here's the link: <http://www.nwbb-lancs.org/gallery.php>

The Fleet:

Simon Hanson, our Fleet manager, has agreement from the Committee to upgrade the fleet, mainly thanks to the generosity of local organisations such as Rotary, Lions, Masons, and local businesses, Eric Wright construction, Pete Marquis plant hire & demolition, etc. Plus, those members who've made all donation possible.

Obviously, this means 3 of our current fleet bikes are to be sold to part finance the new bikes.

RTTW October 2017

This year, as in previous years, several of our riders went on the Ride to the Wall, The National Arboretum in Staffordshire, representing NWBBLL, and met up with Blood bikers from other groups. Well done all.



The NA is a very sobering place, Denise & I visited it a few weeks ago and it has grown quite a lot since I was last there. They say that in 10 years it will double in size, which means more tributes to those who either lost their lives or dedicated their lives to saving others, in conflicts around the world or dealing with local issues.

God bless them all.

Remember what we do

“SAVES LIVES”

but:

7 *Volunteers Who Care*”

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NO JOURNEY IS SO URGENT AS TO PUT YOUR OWN LIFE AT RISK

Paul (Founder, Chairman & Trustee)

If I've missed or forgotten something, forgive me, (but let me know, I can always do another supplement) also, if you want something including in the next newsletter? Feel free to Email your copy (text and images PLEASE) directly to me, chairman@nwbb-lancs.org