

# HOG<sup>®</sup>

THE MAGAZINE OF THE H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> EXPERIENCE



ISSUE 4, 2018



TWO ICONS. ONE SPIRIT.



**Jeep**  
THERE'S ONLY ONE

**Jeep, range homologated figures:** fuel consumption from 16.8 to 4.4 l/100 km; CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 385 to 117 g/km (combined cycle). CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel consumption values determined on the basis of the measurement/correlation method referring to the NEDC cycle as per Regulation (EU) 692/2008. The CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel consumption values indicated are for comparative purposes; homologated values may not reflect actual values. Fuel consumption from 7.9 to 4.8 l/100 km; CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 209 to 127 g/km (combined cycle). CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel consumption values determined on the basis of the measurement/correlation method referring to the NEDC cycle as per Regulation (EU) 2017/1152-1153. The CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel consumption values indicated are as of 30th September 2018; up-to-date values will be available at the selected Jeep, official dealer. The CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel consumption values indicated are for comparative purposes; homologated values may not reflect actual values.

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# ***WE WANT TO BE FREE***

**WHAT DOES FREEDOM MEAN** to Harley® riders? Listen to Primal Scream's 'Loaded', released in 1991, and catch the infamous quote from the film *The Wild Angels*, released in 1966. "We want to be free, to do what we want to do...." Those words transcend time and capture the very essence of what generations before us discovered on the open road and what those ahead will undoubtedly find. That intangible feeling, unleashed with a rumble, sets us on a path to finding our own freedom and it's something all H-D® owners can relate to. And while that feeling that an open road and a Harley-Davidson® motorcycle generates is unsurpassed, it's made all the more exhilarating when an experience is shared. The highs, the lows, the camaraderie and the stories you take away. They're what memories are made of.

For 35 years the Harley Owners Group® has brought together like-minded people from a variety of backgrounds around the world, uniting them in their mutual love of Harley-Davidson. During that time, the landscape has changed. Harley-Davidson

may be the world's oldest motorcycle company, but it never stands still. It's continually evolving while maintaining the rich heritage that remains the company's backbone. The range of motorcycles appeals to a wide range of customers, and with each one a new owner joins the H.O.G.® community – with a membership now as diverse as those motorcycles. There's a new breed, and good examples can be found in those that participated in the motor company's recent 'Find your Freedom' initiative, which offered eight lucky candidates from around the world a summer internship and the chance to learn to ride via H-D's Riding Academy. On completion they were given the keys to their very own Harley, with the mission of finding their freedom and sharing their experiences out on the road online. You can read how our very own Tony Peries got on this summer on page 46.

On a more literary note, turn to page 56 to discover what happened when acclaimed Scottish crime writer, Lin Anderson, went undercover at the Thunder in the Glens rally to research her latest novel, incorporating

H-D culture and characters in the process. And there's a Harley twist in the tale to boot!

Speaking of Scotland, on page 62 there's a regional special focusing on this summer's activities, along with a guide to the area and ride-out routes through the magical Highlands. Looking back, 2018 has been a year of fantastic celebrations across the board, whether in the UK, Europe or in our spiritual home of Milwaukee, USA. Our Ladies of Harley® share their memories and experiences on pages 27-29.

Harley-Davidson is far more than a motorcycle company; it is an institution that offers a gateway to freedom and friendships that can last a lifetime. So, as you head into the holiday season, raise a glass to the friends and freedom you've found. H-D wouldn't be what it is without the H.O.G. community, because it's you that inspires the continuing journey. And we will always be with you on yours.

**Marjorie Rae**  
Consumer Experience Manager,  
H.O.G.® UK & Ireland



Road-testing the latest riding gear, p58

## CONTENTS





# THIS ISSUE

- 03 WELCOME**  
to issue 4 2018 of *HOG*® magazine!

## IGNITION

- 07 UPDATE**  
The latest news and opinions from the world of H.O.G.® and Harley-Davidson®
- 12 RALLY MAP**  
The latest rally map for 2019
- 14 INTAKE**  
The latest letters from H.O.G. members across the EMEA region
- 18 APP SNAPS**  
Check out some of the photos you've sent via the H.O.G. app
- 21 GALLERY**  
The pick of the images we've received since the last issue

## FEATURES

- 27 LADIES OF HARLEY®**  
A run-down on this year's ever-popular Sparkle and Twinkle Tours
- 30 TOUR DE FORCE**  
Discover the power of the new Touring models released in 2019
- 32 NEW TRIKES**  
Read our showcase on the upgraded Freewheeler® and Tri Glide Ultra® three-wheelers
- 34 MORE ROADS**  
Harley® CEO Matt Levatich wows the Milwaukee crowds on a LiveWire
- 36 FACEBOOK FIRST AID**  
How to get the most out of the H.O.G. UK & Ireland Facebook page
- 38 RIDE 365**  
The launch of a new programme to encourage you to ride further
- 40 BATTLE OF THE KINGS**  
The remaining regional winners from this year's contest
- 46 AN AMAZING ADVENTURE**  
How Tony Peries found his freedom
- 48 'THE SKINNY' STEALS THE SHOW**  
A closer look at the custom bike that's been a big winner in 2018

- 52 HAPPY BIRTHDAY H.O.G.®!**  
The fourth and final part of our series looking back on 35 years of the Harley Owners Group®
- 56 MURDER IN THE GLENS**  
Scottish crime writer Lin Anderson adds some Harley intrigue to her latest novel
- 58 FXRG®**  
Testing the latest H-D® riding gear on a tour of the Olympic Peninsula in Washington State
- 62 REGIONAL FOCUS**  
We head to the Scottish Highlands
- 64 EVENTS CALENDAR**  
Find out what rallies are taking place in the UK & Ireland in 2019
- 67 EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK®**  
We head to Faaker See for the 21st time to celebrate once again
- 73 CHAPTER NEWS**  
The 1066 and Nene Valley Chapters reach for the skies
- 74 MAN WITH A PLAN**  
Learning the art of ride planning
- 76 PASS MASTERS**  
A fantastic Alpine escape with Authorized Tours operator Tour1
- 82 RALLIES**  
Updates on the European H.O.G. Rally in Cascais and Prague Harley Days®

## REGULARS

- 84 MEET THE TEAM**  
Get to know the H.O.G. regional managers around the world
- 86 H.O.G. BENEFITS**  
Discover the latest perks from the world's greatest riding club
- 88 DEALERS & CHAPTERS**  
Listings including contact details for all Harley-Davidson® dealerships and H.O.G.® chapters in the UK & Ireland
- 90 EXHAUST**  
Vanessa Ruck explains how Harley helped to power her recovery

**On the cover:** The new LiveWire™ electric motorcycle, available in 2019



# HARLEY-DAVIDSON®

PERFORMANCE EYEWEAR BY  WILEY X®



**HD DRIVE 2**

CE APPROVED RIDING GEAR 



# IGNITION



## ***SILICON VALLEY, HERE WE COME!***

**Harley-Davidson® has unveiled plans to establish a research and development facility to support the new line of future-perfect H-D® products.**

In tandem with the 'More Roads to Harley-Davidson' campaign, Harley-Davidson recently announced plans to construct a site in Silicon Valley that will support the forthcoming portfolio of electric vehicles via research and technological support.

It is expected that the new centre in Northern California will be operational in the next few months. Recruitment has already begun for an initial workforce of approximately 25 mechanical, electrical and software engineers, with specialist skills in electric vehicle design and production. The team in Silicon Valley will be turning their attention towards researching batteries, power electronics, advanced manufacturing and e-machine design.

The facility will function in alignment with Harley-Davidson's growth plan to help make motorcycles that are more accessible to different demographics, encouraging new riders to embark on a journey with Harley-Davidson that will hopefully last a lifetime. This will be achieved through new electric models, a renewed investment in dealerships and a range of bikes at affordable price points.

Harley-Davidson CEO Matt Levatich said: "Recently we

shared with the world our accelerated plans to build the next generation of Harley-Davidson riders globally. This new R&D facility in the heart of Silicon Valley will help us deliver on those plans and demonstrate our commitment to lead the electrification of the sport."

**IMAGE:** The Willie G. Davidson Product Development Center in Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, of which the new R&D facility is a satellite



IMAGE: The parade at the Harley-Davidson 115th Anniversary celebrations in Milwaukee



## 5 THINGS ABOUT...

# THE HARLEY-DAVIDSON 115TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



The birth of the Motor Company is marked every five years with a huge party in Harley-Davidson's hometown of Milwaukee in America, as well as events across the world. Here's some history about the celebrations...

**1** The first Harley-Davidson® anniversary event was held in 1953 to mark its 50th birthday with a small celebration in front of the Capitol Drive plant in Milwaukee during the annual sales conference. The next official anniversary took place in 1978 with a small number of company executives and guests riding to Louisville, Kentucky and on to Milwaukee.

**2** The current cycle of five-year celebrations started with the 85th Anniversary, branded 'The Reunion'. Ten separate rides departing from cities across the US and Canada converged on Milwaukee – a tradition that continues to this day.

**3** The H-D® 115th Anniversary Celebration in Prague was held in conjunction with the world's oldest Harley-Davidson club, H-D Club Praha, which was marking its 90th birthday.

**4** The H-D 115th Anniversary drew more than 150,000 people to the Milwaukee area for a bike-centric celebration focused on motorcycle performance, along with multiple street parties.

**5** More than 6,500 motorcycles joined the H-D 115th Anniversary Parade down Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee, including chapters from China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Colombia and Indonesia. The first anniversary event to feature a parade was in 1988.





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## CROSSROADS

As part of our new series exploring the opinions of our H.O.G.® members on a hot topic, we asked you if you preferred decorating your riding jacket with pins and patches or keeping it natural. Here's what you had to say...

At a rally where chapter members from various parts of the world are present, it really feels good when a fellow biker comes up and starts talking to you about your ride to the venue – the ice-breaker is always the patched-up vest.

*Keith, UK*

**I like to keep my motorcycle jacket clean. My pins and patches, which I have collected for 26 years, have a nice place at home. They are my personal memories and I don't have to broadcast them.**

*Gitti, Germany*

The motorcycle jacket must come with pins and patches. How beautiful it is to see them representing our dreams and memories!

*Roberto, Italy*

**Pins and patches 48%**

**Just pins 10%**

**Just patches 10%**

**Don't mind 7%**

**Clean 25%**

**I ride with a plain and simple leather jacket from the Willie G. Skull Collection with no patches or pins. The jacket is heavy enough with all the protection without having some pins or whatever jeopardising my riding comfort. But that's me.**

*Patrick, Norway*

Memories live on my leather vest like the wrinkles on my

face and the signs of wear on my Harley. I think a 'sober' jacket is sterile and arid.

*Emilio, Italy*

**My jacket weighs 2.8kg. It is covered with patches and pins, each of them tells a story. I'm like a jukebox – if you touch a pin I'll tell you how I acquired it. I could never undress it because it would**

**be like taking a sponge to a blackboard full of notes.**

*Pietro, Italy*

For me, a discreet jacket suits me very well.

*Patrick, France*

**A jacket unadorned with pins and patches is like a body without tattoos. They help to tell your story.**

*Vicky, Netherlands*



NEXT QUESTION:

**Do it yourself or ask the expert?**

Do you like to be hands-on, and change the oil and service your Harley-Davidson motorcycle yourself? Or do you prefer to leave it to the experts at the dealership?

Let us know via email at [hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com), with the subject line 'Crossroads', or tweet us @HOGEurope – we'll publish a selection of the best responses in the next issue!



# ONE TO WATCH

**A rare wristwatch has been created from an antique, one-of-a-kind Harley-Davidson® pocket watch from 1920.**

Vortic Watch Company recently developed the unique wristwatch in partnership with the National Watch and Clock Museum in Pennsylvania. The timepiece was auctioned online on November 8, with the proceeds dedicated to the ongoing mission of the museum.

The watch's mechanism was recovered from the pocket watch, which had been 'orphaned' from its original casing. The watchmakers at Vortic then painstakingly restored the piece using only authentic components, whereupon a modern wristwatch case was created to house it.

The wristwatch was manufactured using the original movement, dial and hands from the 98-year-old pocket watch. The face features the famous Harley-Davidson logo along with the branding from the original manufacturer, South Bend.

Antiques dealers, collectors and historians believe the original might have been crafted for a specific Harley-Davidson dealership to offer to a cherished customer, while another theory claims the pocket watch was owned by a Harley-Davidson fanatic who decided to customise it.

Regardless of its origins, the watch is undoubtedly an iconic piece of American history and a perfect example of the timelessness of Harley-Davidson.





## CHAPTER CATCH-UP

# TARRACO CHAPTER, TARRAGONA, SPAIN

Historically, Tarragona's main chapter was the Costa Dorada Chapter based in Reus. When the dealer left, the Harley-Davidson dealership was dissolved along with the chapter. But the spirit lived on.

A handful of former partners from the Costa Dorada Chapter formed a group composed of Harley enthusiasts, referring to ourselves as "H-D friends". Although our province was without an active dealer, the group consolidated itself and created an identity that was attractive to other fans. As a result, the group grew.

When the Tarraco dealership opened a little over two years ago, its owner proposed that we spearhead the creation of a new chapter. With great enthusiasm we forged a new path as the Tarraco Chapter.

Ours is a small province but it is blessed with a real fondness for motorbikes. Every weekend we arrange



outings and we attend almost every event organised by chapters close to us – we love to rub shoulders with other groups of Harley-Davidson fans.

For a next-generation chapter to work and attract new fans, it has to be considered a fun, relaxing environment without too many obligations, ladders or

ranks. So, we encourage joint decision making and general participation from all our members.

Now we are a well-travelled, proactive group who love to enjoy the road; a group that has grown in size while retaining its personality as a committed group of H-D® friends.

## SUSPENSION

**Motorcycle suspension is often seen as a "dark art," understood by few and requiring great technical skill to get right. In reality, with just a little basic knowledge bike owners can make significant improvements to the quality, comfort and safety of their ride.**

The basic principles are simple. Motorcycle suspension is designed to absorb changes in the road surface and keep the tyres in contact with the road. Based around a spring that extends and compresses under load, the rate of movement is controlled by dampers, which change the tendency of the spring to bounce.

Rear suspension preload is the adjustment most commonly made, usually when changing between solo rider and carrying a passenger and/or heavy luggage. Preload adjustment allows the suspension to operate in its optimum range by compressing or extending the

suspension springs, altering the sag (the degree to which the suspension compresses from full extension with the rider and any additional load).

Before adjusting the suspension preload on your bike, make sure the tyres, head bearings and rear linkage are in good condition; the belt tension is correct; and the bike has the right quantity and grade of oil in the forks. Then make a note of the existing settings so you can return to them if needed.

Next, consult your owner's manual for the settings and adjustment method specific to your model and year of motorcycle. Preload adjustment methods vary but commonly involve the use of a spanner for models fitted with adjustable twin-shock rear suspension units, or conventional wrenches to adjust the suspension on pre-2018 Softail® models. The 2018 and newer Softail models feature an easily adjusted monoshock suspension, allowing greater payloads



and passenger comfort, as well as improved ride quality.

For the performance-oriented rider, high-performance Screamin' Eagle® shocks and forks also offer rebound damping, which controls the amount of damping force and suspension bounce as the suspension extends. They also provide compression damping, which controls the damping force as the suspension compresses and is critical for balancing ride quality and suspension bottoming out.

Finally, if in doubt take your bike to an authorised Harley-Davidson® dealer. H-D technicians are the experts, and they can help you find the right suspension settings to suit your Harley® model, riding style and payload quickly and professionally.



# TIME TO GET PLANNING

WITH A HOST OF EVENTS HAVING NOW BEEN ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2019 RALLY CALENDAR ACROSS THE EMEA REGION, NEXT YEAR IS SET TO BE TRULY ACTION-PACKED. WHILE YOUR BIKE TAKES A REST OVER THE WINTER SEASON, TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SORT YOUR ITINERARY FOR THE YEAR AHEAD – YOU’LL BE SPOILED FOR CHOICE!







FINNISH HARLEY WEEKEND  
OULU, FINLAND  
AUGUST 1-4

NATIONAL H.O.G. RALLY,  
JÄRVÖ TREFFEN  
JÄRVÖ, SWEDEN  
JULY 11-14

H.O.G. RALLY MINSK  
MINSK, BELARUS  
SEPTEMBER 13-14

PRAGUE HARLEY DAYS  
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC  
JULY 5-7

EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK®  
FAAKER SEE, AUSTRIA  
SEPTEMBER 3-8

OPEN ROAD FEST  
LAKE BALATON,  
HUNGARY  
JUNE 5-9

ZAGREB H-D® RALLY  
ZAGREB, CROATIA  
MAY 31-JUNE 2



SEND US  
YOUR  
STORIES



This is your place to help fellow H.O.G.® members by sharing knowledge you've acquired on the road.

- When submitting a letter, include your name, address, H.O.G. number and chapter affiliation (if any).
- Keep your submission brief but include enough information to make it interesting. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length and content, but the better your letter begins, the better chance it will find its way into print.
- Submissions can be in any language.

You can also email submissions to: [hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com)

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Several years ago, I discovered that there was a Harley-Davidson® dealership in Springfield, Illinois, with the same family name as ours: Hall.

With the purchase of a t-shirt bearing our shared name, a connection was made that has since become a firm friendship through social media, and which culminated in us travelling to the USA for Harley's 115th celebration in Milwaukee, and making a detour to Springfield via Route 66 to meet our 'family' for the first time in the flesh!

We rode The Great River Road in Illinois together, sharing our love of all things Harley; there was lots of laughter, and generous helpings of BBQ ribs!

The Ride Home to Milwaukee for the 115th was a once in a lifetime adventure, but the friendships we have made across the miles because of Harley-Davidson are priceless and here to stay.

**Neil and Helen Hall, United Kingdom**

## OUTSIDE THE FRAME

If you take a motorcycle holiday, things take on a completely different look. In a car, you're always in the passenger seat; you're used to it, and you don't realise that everything you see from the window is not as it truly is. You're a passive observer, trapped inside a frame. On a bike, in motion, the frame is gone. You have complete contact with everything. You're not a spectator; you're in the scene. The feeling of presence is overwhelming.

This experience is made even better when shared with your friends. On our unforgettable Harley® holiday, myself and my friends Massimo, Marco and Sabrina rode through California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona and Colorado. We wish a good road to everyone!

**Enzo Borrelli, Italy**



★  
**WINNER!**

Neil and Helen Hall  
from the UK are the winners  
of our mystery H.O.G.® prize.  
If you want to be in with a  
chance of winning next time,  
why not send us a letter?







## JOINING THE FAMILY

My introduction to the biking scene was at a tender age of three months, being held on the back of my Dad's BSA Bantam whilst my mum took a photo. I had no chance really!

I've had lots of riding adventures over the years with my good lady Viv, including a European tour on our Pan European. One highlight was when we were invited to store our bike overnight in the ballroom of a hotel on the border of Belgium and Luxembourg!

Enjoyable though the Pan was, it

lacked something. When we found ourselves at HarleyWorld in Chesterfield one Saturday, we had a look around and a chat with some Peak Riders Chapter members, before taking an Ultra Limited out for a test ride. And so began our Harley chapter! We started with a round Britain tour of 2600 miles, and I have since completed the excellent Iron Hog challenge run by that great Chapter, Hogsback.

We are now the proud owners of this stunning CVO Road Glide® Ultra, my missus is Activities Officer for the Peak

Riders and I am the new Director! We are doing our utmost to revamp our small chapter and encourage everyone to come along and ride with us.

If you are not currently a member of a chapter, I thoroughly recommend that you consider it. You will find great riding buddies, help and advice, and you will always find members of other chapters only too happy to have a chat.

Join the largest family in the biking world – we are so pleased that we did!

**Derek Tate, United Kingdom**



MARCO PERAZZINI





## LIFE STARTS AT 50

With our three daughters grown up, my other half and I decided on my 50th birthday that it was time for a new joint hobby. My partner already drove a beautiful 1998 BMW chopper; but for me switching to something that rode on two wheels was an 'abracadabra!' moment.

It was fun to try being pillion first, on a ride to Cochem in Germany. Looking for a bike of my own, I initially fell for the Sportster Iron® in Sand. After the dealer made me a member of H.O.G.® and LoH®, a whole new world opened up to me. Soon the Iron was traded for a Street Bob®, and the BMW rider himself bought a Fat Boy® Special.

After having clocked almost 30,000 kilometres, this year we took a ten-day trip. First, there was Willingen Bike Week – our third time attending. Then we made our way via the German Wienstrasse to Lake Neuchâtel, which exuded a real southern French atmosphere. The highlights of our four-day stay were the hairpin bends, the wonderful country roads and the picturesque cities. The return trip included an overnight stay in Strasbourg and a ride through the stunning Vosges to Trier on the Moselle. After a ride through the Ardennes and

an extra 2500 kilometres on the clock, we arrived home in Sittard. It was a great Harley experience.

This was not a decision made on a whim – it is a new way of life for my partner and myself.

Sending love from a LoH officer from the Limburg Chapter.

**Annemie Wijnands, Netherlands**

## CHILDHOOD DREAM

When I was a little boy, I received a toy Harley-Davidson® from my father.

I was crazy about my little bike, and carried it everywhere with me – at school, on holiday, wherever I went. The bike and I were inseparable.

When I was 12 years old, I was on a boat close to the island of Capri when the toy fell into the water – I dived in to try to catch my Harley®, but it was too late.

From that day on, Harley-Davidson became a state of mind for me – you're either H-D® or you're not. But I'd never dared to go into a Harley-Davidson store because I thought that that was only for the 'real bikers'.

Finally, in September 2017, at the age of 51, I decided to visit a dealership. I was like a child in Disneyland – it was a dream come true. In just one hour I chose my bike, and on September 15, 2017 I received my Street Rod® 750. The bike stayed in the garage until I got my driver's licence on March 22 this year, and since then I've been on the road every day.

Each time I ride, I think about crying as a little boy on that boat because I thought life was unfair. Forty years on, life is beautiful and spent on the road. So thank you, H-D! ■

**Giuseppe Piroddi, Belgium**







Harley-Davidson Budapest is proud to present



20th  
**ANNIVERSARY**  
**05-09. JUNE 2019**

# OPEN ROAD FEST

— Alsóörs, Lake Balaton Hungary —

**Europe (SWE)**  
**Tankcsapda (HUN)**  
...and many others coming soon!

**LIVE MUSIC ON 3 STAGES WITH OVER 40 BANDS**


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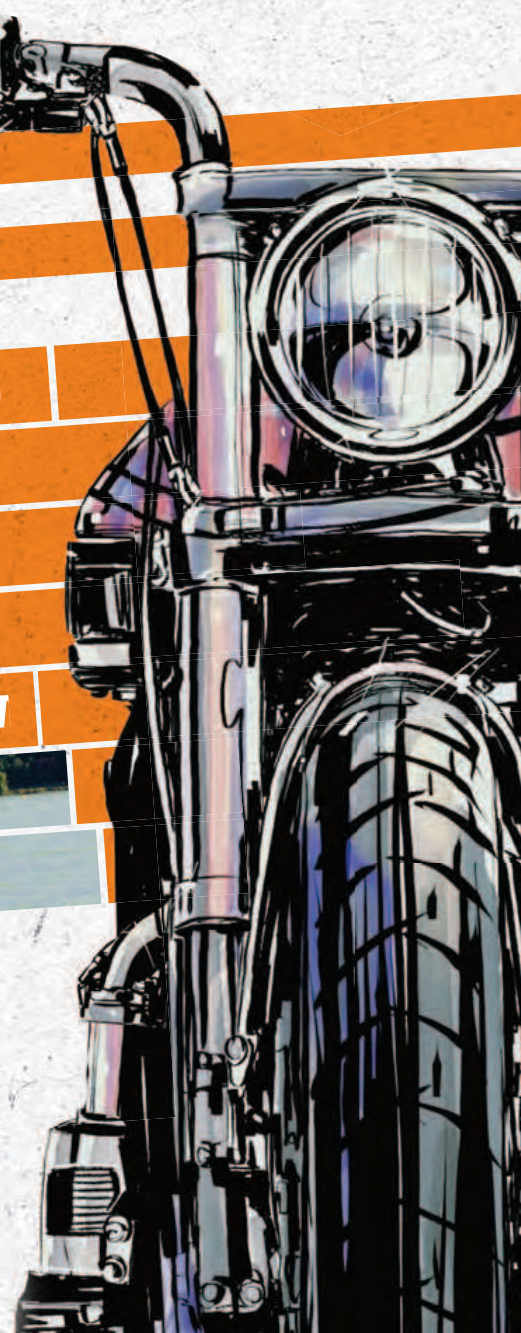
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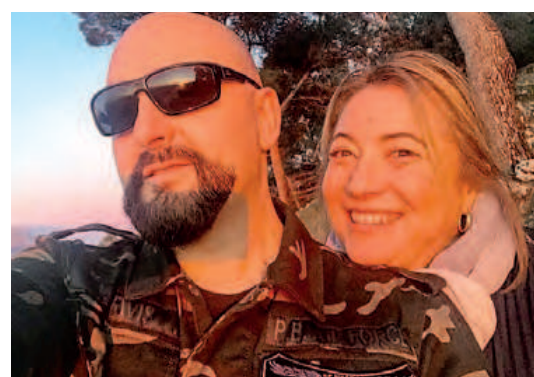
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# APP SNAPS







# A CLUB FOR PEOPLE WHO TEND NOT TO JOIN CLUBS.

**JOIN YOUR LOCAL H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> CHAPTER, WHERE YOU'LL FIND OTHER RIDERS WHO SHARE A DEEP PASSION FOR THE OPEN ROAD.**

Friendships built on Harley<sup>®</sup> motorcycles don't crumble. Your local chapter is the perfect place to meet like-minded independents who all share a love of the open road. See why joining a local chapter helps you get the most out of the ride. Learn more at [hog.com/chapters](https://hog.com/chapters).

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# GALLERY

Jonathan Ohashi says: "I've seen so many people smile and be so overwhelmed by the simple act of a H.O.G.® member giving them a ride on their Harley® ... it reminds me how great people can be. If you've ever cleaned your bike and thought 'damn, those white walls are dirty', take the time to remember why..."







◀ Andreas Wuest enjoys a weekend ride to South Tyrol and the Dolomites with the William Tell Chapter Switzerland

Gonzalo Pozo Carpio shares this photo of two Harley® motorcycles waiting to get back on the road



Saif Humaid's 2018 Heritage Softail® embraces the sunrise on a mountain road in the UAE ▶



# ***GALLERY***







▲  
A stylish retro shot from  
Roberto Tagliani

Frédéric Rossignol found  
a fantastic backdrop for  
his Sportster® Iron 883™  
in the ruins of  
Aulne Abbey, Belgium ▶







▲ Peter G Saant took this 'Ghost Rider' picture during a local ride with his wife near Saintes-Marie-De-La-Mer in the south of France

## MORE PHOTOS ONLINE!

If your photo isn't published here, we may have included it in the digital version of *HOG*® magazine – make sure we have your email address so you get the link in the monthly *HOG Insider* e-magazine. It might also appear in the gallery at [blog.hog.com](http://blog.hog.com)! You can send us your photos through the site too: click on 'Submit your photo'. Don't forget to send captions!

## THERE ARE LOTS OF WAYS TO SHARE YOUR HARLEY® PHOTOS WITH US:

- Visit [blog.hog.com](http://blog.hog.com) and click on 'upload my photo'
- Download the H.O.G.® app and send us your photos on the move – check out the App Snaps gallery at [blog.hog.com/app-snaps](http://blog.hog.com/app-snaps)
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Every picture published in the printed edition of the gallery wins its photographer a H.O.G.® Staff Photographer pin, so remember to send your name and address!



◀ Mario De Leenheer from the Ghent Chapter, Belgium, during the parade at the 115th Anniversary event in Prague



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## *A vintage year*

### Elaine Shepherd reminisces on a remarkable 2018

**LOOKING BACK ON 2018**, there are so many fantastic memories. In January, Lorraine and I did a presentation on LOH at the H.O.G.® Chapter Director and Dealer meeting. And then, much later, in October, we facilitated the second Ladies of Harley workshop as part of the regional H.O.G. Officer Training (HOT) programme. Rounding off the year, we presented a review of the year at the annual national LOH Officer meeting in November.

But one of the real LOH highlights was the Sparkle and Twinkle Tour weekend. Only in its third year, interest and participation has grown significantly – more than tripled! – a true reflection of the increasing number of female riders and their desire to connect with others in the H.O.G. community via LOH activities. Supported by H-D® dealers around the country in numerous and varied ways, this annual event is set to appear in the ride calendar for years to come.

This year I've also seen many ladies taking part in the H.O.G. Road Captain's training courses, keen to become part of the road crew for their chapter rides or to support a Sparkle Tour. And throughout the season Ladies of Harley have seized many other opportunities to meet up – at rally receptions, on International Female Ride Day or through dealership events. Many have shown support for LOH taking part in the Iron Hog challenge – Jo Green going it solo, and Lorraine Seedhouse riding it pillion for the second time!

Like many, a high point for me this year was taking part in the 115th Anniversary celebrations. My journey to Milwaukee was definitely one to remember! Meeting Lorraine and other LOH from the UK there was most enjoyable, as was meeting fellow LOH and friends from American chapters.

I dare say, 2019 has much to measure up to.

**SHARE THE SPARK,**

**ELAINE SHEPHERD**  
NATIONAL LOH OFFICER, UK & IRELAND

## *A happy anniversary*

### Lorraine Seedhouse has enjoyed a year packed full of highlights

**WOW! WHAT A YEAR IT'S BEEN** – packed with rallies galore! Sharing the spirit of the Cider Rally, Heart n' Soul, Blazin' Big Top and the H.O.G.® 35th and H-D® 115th anniversaries with Elaine made it even more memorable.

What an event it was in Milwaukee! I got to meet and have my jacket signed by Willie G., Nancy, Bill and Karen Davidson, which is something that will stay with me forever. In addition, meeting up with Marjorie Rae for a couple of hours' social time was particularly special, allowing us to reflect on this unique rally.

My husband Malcolm and I have also covered numerous miles as part of the ABCs of Touring contest. I'm often on the road and find this one of the benefits of being an associate H.O.G. member. This year I've travelled all over the UK, Europe and the US as part of the challenge.

I've met fellow Ladies of Harley® here and abroad, and hopefully encouraged some ladies to join H.O.G. along the way. In fact, I've chatted with various pillion riders who have since gone on to take their CBT with a view to becoming riders in their own right.

In June I completed my second Iron Hog Challenge, visiting all 28 dealerships on the UK mainland – a real personal achievement. It still makes me tingle every time I think of what I accomplished as the first pillion rider to do this.

Another highlight was having an article published in the H.O.G. 35th Anniversary book (copies are still available from hogmerch.com if you want one!), and then getting that signed by Karen and Bill Davidson at the Anniversary celebration in Prague.

And, if all that wasn't enough, there was the second Twinkle Tour and the various Sparkle Tours – great examples of how ladies unite and ignite to 'Share the Spark'.

**FROM THE REAR SADDLE,**  
**'THE DUDETTE'**

**LORRAINE SEEDHOUSE**  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATE LOH OFFICER, UK & IRELAND







# All for one

This year's Sparkle and Twinkle Tours were the best yet, with a record number of ladies hitting the UK roads one weekend in September

## Sparkle Tour Scotland

**Lorraine McGuire**

After organising the Sparkle Tour North in 2017, I wanted to follow it up with a tour of Scotland, my homeland. In the three days we visited six castles, a couple of which allowed us to take photos of our bikes in front of them.

The tour was a huge success and everyone had a fantastic time. For me the most memorable part of the tour was riding alongside these experienced lady riders on some of the most glorious roads on Scotland's east coast.

For any ladies out there thinking 'I'm not sure if I could do a tour on my own' – trust me, you can!



## Sparkle Tour Northern Ireland

**Judith Ringland**

The first leg of our route was the safest and quickest route, considering the volatile weather. I knew that the approach to Sligo over the mountains would be a beautiful sight, and the last leg to Achill would be challenging for even the most experienced riders. The last thing I wanted was for everyone to be navigating narrow, twisty roads at dusk with crazy sheep wandering about!

Shaun Campbell, a former Road Captain with New Island Chapter in the US, agreed to take us out since he was familiar with the local routes – we're very grateful to him for all his help.

**WHAT STARTED AS** an idea and then a conversation, has developed into an event that continues to grow and gain interest. This year's Sparkle and Twinkle Tours were more ambitious than ever – here's a snapshot from the saddle...

"In just three years, interest and participation in the Sparkle and Twinkle Tour weekend has grown tremendously. When Jo Green and I created the idea of a weekend of riding for ladies with H.O.G.® membership, we had no idea how significant it would become.

"This year, there were a total of seven tours exploring the length and breadth of the UK & Ireland during the weekend of September 14-16. Between six Sparkle tours and one Twinkle tour, 70 Ladies of Harley® visited a total of 21 dealerships. Ladies embraced the camaraderie of the weekend – for some it was their first time riding within a group or without their partner.

"Each tour was unique but all of them captured a common key element enjoyed by all: the freedom of riding a Harley-Davidson® on the open road."

**Elaine Shepherd – National LOH Officer, UK & Ireland**

## Sparkle Tour East

**Betty St Quintin**

Prior to the start we enjoyed tea, cake and a 'carnival' atmosphere provided by Norwich Harley-Davidson.

Our first leg took a less common route to Newmarket and our first night's stopover at Bedford Lodge Hotel. An abundance of bunting, flags, refreshments and party poppers ensured the party mood continued on Saturday morning when we arrived at the Newmarket dealership. From there, we headed to Robin Hood H-D in Nottingham for a cuppa, before travelling to the Orchard De Vere Hotel for a well-earned rest. After breakfast on Sunday we headed back east to the seaside town of Sheringham, which was hosting its annual 1940s carnival day.







### *Sparkle Tour North East*

**Ann Cozens**

On Friday morning we left Leeds and meandered through Harrogate and Ripon, and then went on through Masham and Leyburn to the Bowes Museum in Barnard Castle. Slayley Hall was our resting place for the night, a gorgeous spa hotel that had no idea what had hit it!

On Saturday morning we headed across the North Pennines to Windermere via Alston, Penrith and the awesome Kirkstone Pass. We had lunch in Windermere, before heading to Morecambe.

After breakfast on Sunday we donned our waterproofs and headed to Bowker Harley-Davidson in Preston where we received a lovely welcome. Another great trip with great ladies who all sparkle in unique ways!

### *Sparkle Tour South West*

**Debbie Atterton**

We decided to start at Swansea Harley-Davidson since the DP, Lynette Ballard and the Black Mountains Chapter were so supportive last year. We rode to Riders of Bristol for breakfast, before continuing to Riders of Bridgwater for an amazing lunch.

Next up was Plymouth H-D – that reception was unbelievable! There were lots of people to greet us, and even gift bags for us on arrival – all in pink, of course!

All 12 ladies on the tour bonded very quickly, and after spending a weekend together sharing our mutual love of riding Harleys® we've all made long-lasting friendships.



### *Sparkle Tour South East*

**Jo Green**

After starting with a real 'bang' at Reading Harley-Davidson, where Dealer Principal Mike Wilson provided a sparkly welcome with fireworks and confetti cannons, we were waved off by lots of chapter members, supporters and partners.

Fourteen ladies, 10 bikes and two trikes from four chapters (Thames Valley, Oxford, 1066 and Chelsea & Fulham) set out to visit five H-D® dealerships (Reading, Guildford, Shaw, Maidstone and Lakeside) over three days.

We rode 340 miles and were blessed with super riding weather and warm welcomes from all of the dealerships. New friends were made, challenges dealt with and lots of laughs were had along the way.

### *Twinkle Tour South East*

**Lorraine Seedhouse**

Born off the back of the Sparkle Tour, the Twinkle Tour allows female pillion riders to participate in this unique weekend too. The second Twinkle Tour took a different twist, meeting up with the Sparkle Tour South East in Eastbourne at the end of the day on Saturday.

There were ten ladies in all, visiting three dealerships and other places of interest along the way. This tour is a great way to spend a weekend with like-minded ladies, and joining in with the other ladies from the South East Sparkle Tour made it all the more memorable. Thank you to each and every one of you that took part! ■





## New power and technology for 2019 Touring motorcycles

**Many 2019 Harley-Davidson® Touring motorcycles** will offer more power and new infotainment technology, changes designed to enhance the riding experience for the long haul and the short run.

### **MORE MILWAUKEE-EIGHT® POWER**

A rider can never have too much power on the open road, and for 2019 select Harley-Davidson Touring models will come from the factory with the 114-cubic-inch (1,868cc) Milwaukee-Eight® 114 engine,

the most displacement offered by Harley-Davidson in standard-model motorcycles. The Milwaukee-Eight 114 engine delivers 5 per cent more torque than the Milwaukee-Eight 107 (1,745cc) engine it replaces in these models, and 5 per cent quicker 0-60mph acceleration. That's more power for confident passing with fewer downshifts; for accelerating down a motorway on-ramp; and for pulling away from traffic, especially when laden with passenger and gear.

The following Harley-Davidson models will be powered only by the Milwaukee-Eight 114 engine for 2019: Ultra Limited, Ultra Limited Low, Road Glide® Ultra, Road Glide Special, Street Glide® Special, and Road King® Special.

### **NEW HARLEY-DAVIDSON® BOOM!™ BOX GTS INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM**

The new Boom! Box GTS infotainment system offers the contemporary look, feel and function of the latest mobile devices and tablets, with features designed specifically for motorcycling, plus Apple CarPlay® compatibility and hands-free voice recognition. The GTS system replaces the Boom! Box 6.5GT on select 2019 Harley-Davidson models.

The 6.5-inch Boom! Box GTS system is glass from edge to edge, with a durable



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Corning® Gorilla® Glass touchscreen surface coated to minimise reflections. The glass is optically bonded to a TFT display (thin-film-transistor, a type of liquid-crystal display noted for high image quality and contrast), with 100 per cent more resolution, and a four-times-higher contrast ratio than the display it replaces for a crisp and clean appearance even in bright sunlight.

The new Boom! Box GTS processes faster and has more memory than

previous Boom! systems. Start-up time is reduced from 21 seconds to 10 seconds, and route calculation time is reduced from 10 seconds to 2.5 seconds. The home screen display is simplified to three key system buttons: Navigation, Phone, and Music, and each screen features condensed information that's easy to read and navigate. The Apple CarPlay feature is enabled using the owner's Apple iPhone® 5 or newer model and the microphone of an optional Harley-Davidson Genuine Motor Accessories headset. When CarPlay is enabled,

audio apps, messaging apps, and voice calling apps from the iPhone can be accessed through the Boom! Box GTS.

The base system Boom! Box GTS audio features 25 watts per channel through two or four speakers, depending upon motorcycle model. System upgrades available from Harley-Davidson Genuine Motor Accessories support up to three sets of Boom! Stage II speakers and 900 watts total power.

The Boom! Box GTS is standard equipment on all Harley-Davidson Touring models available in the EMEA region, with the exception of Road King® models, which do not come fitted with infotainment systems. ■



# CE



# TRIPLE PLAY





## 2019 Trike models feature new suspension, brakes, traction control, and more power

### The Harley-Davidson® Tri Glide®

Ultra and Freewheeler® three-wheeled motorcycles receive significant upgrades for 2019, including an all-new braking system, new suspension, and more power – changes all designed to enhance confidence, control and the overall riding experience.

### ELECTRONICALLY LINKED BRAKING SYSTEM

The new Reflex™ Linked Brake System for Harley® Trike models is electronically linked and utilises the latest inertial measurement unit (IMU) technology, including sensors that enhance braking control in corners. The system has four key features that work together to inspire greater rider confidence:

- Traction Control System (TCS) is designed to prevent the rear wheels from excessive spinning under acceleration, which can occur on wet or slippery road surfaces, or when the rider initiates abrupt acceleration. If the TCS detects that a rear wheel is losing traction under acceleration, it will limit wheel spin.
- Drag-Torque Slip Control System (DSCS) is designed to prevent excessive rear-wheel slip under deceleration, which typically occurs when the rider makes an abrupt downshift, or decelerates on wet or slippery road surfaces. When DSCS detects excessive rear-wheel slip under deceleration, it will adjust engine torque delivery to better match rear-wheel speed to road speed.
- ABS is designed to prevent the wheels from locking up under braking, with the goal of maximising deceleration while maintaining braking control when stopping on wet or slippery road surfaces, or over-braking due to an unexpected hazard.
- Linked Braking electronically connects the front and rear brakes to apply both braking systems simultaneously when either the hand lever or foot pedal is activated separately. Linking is active any time the brakes are applied when vehicle speed is above approximately 4mph. Linked brakes are a rider aid and don't replace proper braking technique. The maximum vehicle deceleration on most surfaces is still achieved by the rider applying both the front and rear brake controls.

A technical highlight of the system is its ability to measure lateral acceleration – the force the rider feels in turns – and adjust accordingly as that lateral force affects available traction. For example, the brake pressure required to limit wheel slip when cornering is typically lower than the pressure required under straight-line operation, so when the system senses lateral acceleration that indicates the trike is cornering the ABS response is adjusted accordingly. The actions of traction control and linked braking are also adjusted based on lateral acceleration.

### NEW FRONT AND REAR SUSPENSION

An all-new suspension system gives 2019 Harley-Davidson Trike models a significant improvement in ride quality. The new front suspension features dual bending valve internal technology for linear damping performance, a smooth ride, and confidence-inspiring handling and braking performance. Emulsion technology rear suspension features a single-knob preload adjustment that's easy to reach below the seat, making it much easier to set preload for optimal suspension performance to suit rider preference, and the weight of a passenger and luggage.

### MORE MILWAUKEE-EIGHT® POWER

The Milwaukee-Eight 114 engine that powers the 2019 Tri Glide Ultra and Freewheeler models delivers 5 per cent more torque than the Milwaukee-Eight 107 it replaces in these models, and 5 per cent quicker 0-60mph acceleration. Riders will feel stronger acceleration from a start and enjoy improved passing performance. ■





# H-D MARKS THE SPOT



The More Roads to Harley-Davidson® campaign is blazing a trail and mapping out new adventures. Find out all about the next stops on the road for H-D

**It is an exciting time** indeed in the world of Harley-Davidson. You can feel something in the air.

At the 115th Anniversary Parade in our hometown of Milwaukee this summer, Harley-Davidson CEO Matt Levatich set the tone, cruising on the new LiveWire™ electric motorcycle through a sea of more conventional petrol-powered Harley® bikes, as disbelieving eyes looked on.

#### ELECTRIC EXPEDITION

The LiveWire model will be available to the public in 2019. This future-perfect high-performance bike is a next-generation concept that remains as expressive and individual as any model in the H-D canon. Imagine: Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity meets sustainability and old-fashioned fire power.

And that's not all: the electric bike is only the first in a new line of easy-to-ride twist-and-go vehicles. The Pan America™ 1250, our first ever Adventure Touring bike, is set for release in 2020 along with the 975cc and 1250cc Custom Streetfighter™. These models will be nimble yet



More Roads to Harley-Davidson®



noteworthy, geared for those who might be on their own maiden voyage on two wheels.

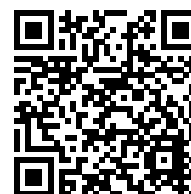
#### THE SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE

Adventurers traditionally left behind a map so others can follow. But we're tearing up the old map and going out on our own.

The LiveWire electric motorcycle has been called the most "radical departure" in our 115 year history. With innovations like this, we're keeping alive the pioneering spirit that has always been at the heart of our brand.

We're putting Harley on the map all over again, and we want you to help us redraw the atlas. Join us for an adventure into the unknown. ■

For more information, visit [harley-davidson.com/us/en/about-us/more-roads.html](https://harley-davidson.com/us/en/about-us/more-roads.html) or scan the QR code.





# facebook first aid

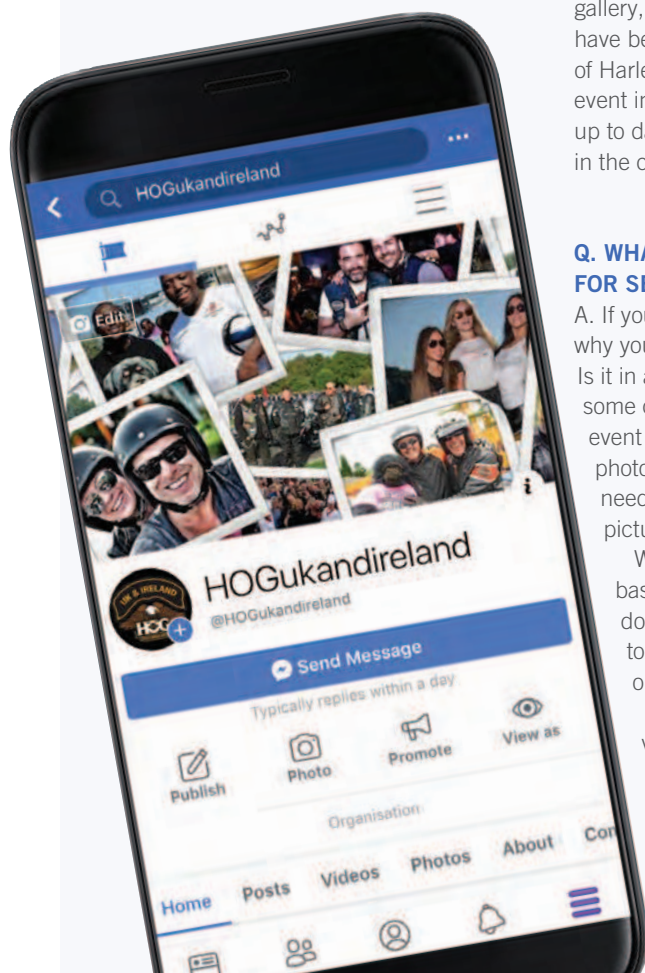
**WHETHER YOU'RE** a social media expert or a certified technophobe, you can benefit from stories, ride info and the observations of fellow members through the H.O.G.® UK & Ireland Facebook page.

Just point your browser at [facebook.com/HOGukandireland](https://facebook.com/HOGukandireland) or search @hogukandireland on Facebook to join in the fun! Here are a few questions and answers that might help you as you look to connect with others there.

## Q. WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO SHARE MY CONTENT WITH OTHER MEMBERS ON THE FACEBOOK PAGE?

A. Send your content by:

1. Email to: [HOGukandireland@harley-davidson.com](mailto:HOGukandireland@harley-davidson.com), where it will be considered for all H.O.G. communication channels (including *HOG*® magazine and *HOG Insider* e-magazine);
2. Direct message to the Facebook page using the 'Send Message' button located at the top of the profile (see image below).



## Q. WHAT TYPE OF CONTENT WILL I FIND ON THE PAGE?

A. A variety of content is submitted to the page – some of the most popular include photo entries to the 'Greetings From' gallery, photos of what H.O.G. chapters have been up to, event posters, and Ladies of Harley® stories. You'll also find H.O.G. event information and news to keep you up to date on what's happening nationally in the community.

## Q. WHAT ARE YOUR TOP TIPS FOR SENDING PHOTOS?

A. If you send a photo, it's good to explain why you've sent it and what's cool about it. Is it in a unique location? Do you have some cool bike customisations? What event was it taken at? Who else is in the photo? Any information is helpful, as we need to write a post to accompany any picture we share.

When taking photos, don't forget the basics: make sure your lens is clean, don't forget to focus, don't zoom in too close, and check what's going on in the background.

Finally, if you're sending photos via Messenger then Facebook will compress them if they're over a certain size, meaning the image quality is lower. This is fine for sharing on social media or for

*HOG Insider*, but if we want to use your stories in *HOG* magazine, we may be back in touch for high-res versions.

## Q. AND WHAT ABOUT VIDEOS?

A. You can also send videos via the Send Message button, but they may be too big to send on an email. If you have a video you want to post to your audience, it's always best to upload it to Facebook (even on your own profile). Facebook's algorithm doesn't put them on people's timelines, so even if we post them no one can see them.

Pro tip: if you're recording a video, it generally works best to hold your phone in the landscape position. Please refrain from sending YouTube videos!

## Q. I'VE GOT A HEAD FOR FIGURES – CAN YOU SHARE ANY STATS ABOUT THE PAGE?

A. At the time of writing the page has about 1,200 likes and followers. On average, a post will reach about 1,000 people – but these aren't always people who have 'liked' the page. Sometimes it will be friends of those people who Facebook determines like similar content. If someone shares one of the posts, their friends will then see it.

Our fans are normally online in the evening between 6-9pm, with a peak at 8pm. We also see a spike in traffic at 9am. Our best-performing post to date in terms of people reached was the shared article from [pressandjournal.co.uk](http://pressandjournal.co.uk) about Thunder in the Glens.

Lastly, the city with the highest amount of people who follow our page is... London! That's not surprising for a city with such a large population but following on from that, our top cities are Dublin, Plymouth, Glasgow and Birmingham.

## Q. HOW DOES THE FACEBOOK PAGE FIT IN WITH OTHER H.O.G. COMMUNICATIONS?

A. The team of people who work on the page, the magazine and the e-magazine assess which platform submitted content is best to be shared on. Facebook is great for content that relates to an event happening at a



The H.O.G. UK & Ireland Facebook page offers members and others interested in what's going on a myriad of ways to interact and share with others online. **Vicki Sherman** has some top tips...



specific time, but it's also ideal for shorter content and a picture taken on your phone. It's also the quickest and most immediate way to share information. *HOG Insider* and the Hog Blog is the next step up from this, with no space restrictions allowing for longer articles and more pictures. Sent monthly, it's ideal for keeping members up to date on news and sharing more detailed member experiences. *HOG* magazine, produced quarterly, requires high-resolution images (as previously mentioned). In it you'll find articles of interest, items for future reference and things worth sharing but that are not time-sensitive.

#### Q. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SUBMITTING MY CONTENT?

A. One of the greatest benefits of being a H.O.G. member is being part of the community – where members learn from and teach other members, support and encourage each other and create experiences for one another. By sharing your insights and experiences you make your personal contribution to the overall pool of content available to others, keeping it fresh, interesting and relevant. Peer-to-peer information sharing and storytelling helps many craft their personal journey and shape their plans for the future.

The ride you did is undoubtedly the ride someone else will want to do – or at least a similar version thereof! When sending in content always keep in mind this question: 'Is this something I'd like to read about?' And if you've got a great idea or story to share but are a little nervous about how to get it across – whether for social media, *HOG Insider* or *HOG* magazine – it's always worth reaching out to the H.O.G. comms team. They may well be able to help you directly. ■

**NOW GET OUT THERE AND SHARE YOUR STUFF!**



# BENEFITS

## LIVE TO RIDE, RIDE TO LIVE

The new Ride 365 programme offers great incentives for H.O.G.® members to do what they love to do most: ride!

### RIDE365



### What is Ride 365?

Ride 365 is the official mileage recognition programme for the official riding club of Harley-Davidson®. Ride 365 includes the existing Lifetime Recognition and two new programmes – Annual Recognition and an annual Chapter Challenge.

#### INDIVIDUAL LIFETIME RECOGNITION

H.O.G.® members riding toward the ultimate goal of Lifetime Recognition can apply all the miles logged toward their lifetime goal.

#### INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL RECOGNITION

The new Annual Recognition programme rewards members throughout the year for meeting various milestones. Members validate their mileage at an H-D dealership starting January 1 and ending December 31, and then check in frequently to record their miles logged. It's that simple!

#### ANNUAL CHAPTER CHALLENGE

The Chapter Challenge makes things even more interesting by adding a competitive element among H.O.G. chapters.



### WHY SHOULD YOU PARTICIPATE?

We want to reward you for what you like doing most – riding your H-D® motorcycle.

### WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME AS A H.O.G. MEMBER?

- Celebrate good times – log your miles and be recognised
- Track your riding experience – rack up miles and celebrate the milestones
- Contribute to your Chapter Challenge mileage goal – have fun as you strengthen your chapter

### HOW WILL MILEAGE BE TRACKED?

You must have your odometer mileage validated at your H-D dealership at the beginning of the calendar year. After that, you can return to the dealer throughout the year to add to your total annual mileage. Your miles will also be added to your lifetime total and tracked as part of the lifetime programme.

### CAN I ENTER MILEAGE MYSELF?

To maintain the integrity of the programme, mileage must be read and entered at an authorised Harley-Davidson® dealership.

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN RIDE 365?

Any H.O.G.® member can and should participate!

### IF I TRADE IN A MOTORCYCLE, CAN I KEEP THE MILES?

Yes. The miles ridden by you, belong to you.

### WHAT IF I HAVE MORE THAN ONE BIKE? CAN I REGISTER ALL OF THEM IN RIDE 365?

Yes.

### DO MILES THAT I RIDE WHEN I RENT A HARLEY-DAVIDSON COUNT IN RIDE365?

Yes, if the bike has been rented from an Authorized Rentals provider. Contact the Member Services Centre for more information.

### CAN H.O.G. MEMBERS START THE PROGRAMME AT ANY TIME DURING THE YEAR?

Yes. You may check in your mileage at any time during the year. The Annual Recognition programme recognises miles ridden from January 1 to December 31, so it's smart to check in mileage at the beginning of the year. Your miles will also be added to your lifetime total and tracked as part of the Lifetime Recognition programme.

### HOW MANY TIMES EACH YEAR DO H.O.G. MEMBERS HAVE TO CHECK IN THEIR MILEAGE?

You only need to have your odometer checked in twice each year at the dealership – the first time to validate miles on or after January 1, and the

second time for a final annual total on or before December 31. However, you'll want to check in with your dealership frequently to update your miles so you can earn rewards and add to your totals. Adding your mileage will instantly update on hog.com.

### HOW WILL THE CHAPTER CHALLENGE BE TRACKED, AND WHAT DO WE WIN?

Please contact your local H.O.G. Consumer Experience Lead for more information.

- All miles ridden by a chapter member including the miles ridden outside of official chapter events count towards the Chapter Challenge.
- At H.O.G.'s discretion, we may add additional rewards for winning chapters. ■

### FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT HOG.COM

## WHAT ARE THE INDIVIDUAL LEVELS, REWARDS AND RECOGNITION OFFERED IN THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME?

• 1,000 miles	Digital badge
• 2,500 miles	Digital badge
• 5,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 7,500 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 10,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 15,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 20,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 25,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 50,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 75,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate
• 100,000 miles	Digital badge, digital certificate



# BY ROYAL APP

Here are the remaining regional winners from this year's Battle of the Kings custom contest

**NORWAY: HARLEY-DAVIDSON KRISTIANSAND 'FREEDOM MACHINE'**

Norway's winning entry is based on a Sportster® 1200 Custom with the overall aesthetic completely changed to the look of an old-school bobber. The theme was 'All for freedom – freedom for all', with the look designed to pay homage to bobbers of the past but using modern accessories and techniques.

The rear end of the bike has been completely redesigned with strut-style suspension, a cut rear fender and rigidly mounted solo saddle. The tank is from a Sportster Forty-Eight®, mounted high on the frame and clear-coated over bare metal. The exhaust system has been replaced with a high-clearance setup, the bars have been replaced and – a recurring theme in this year's competition – Harley-Davidson brass fittings have been used to accentuate the retro vibe. As a nod to modernity, the build includes a USB charging socket.





# OINTMENT







## “ANCIENT GREEK MYTHOLOGY WAS THE STARTING POINT”

### SWITZERLAND: H-D MÖNCHALTORF ‘APOLLON’

Inspiration for custom bike builds comes in many forms. In the case of the team at Harley-Davidson Mönchaltorf, ancient Greek mythology was the starting point for their winning Battle of the Kings bike ‘Apollon’.

In the myth, Apollo (or ‘Apollon’ in German) is the god of light, healing and spring, a young god so powerful he dares to rebel against his father Zeus. In keeping with the legend, the donor bike had to be young, fresh and dynamic, so a brand-new Fat Bob® was chosen. The Mönchaltorf team used a simple and dynamic palette of black and yellow, with the

bright accents of colour designed to evoke the light brought by the mythical god. Yellow handlebar clamps, fender supports, wheels and accessories bring the bike to life, with the only other dash of colour coming from the red brake calipers. The build was completed by shortening, painting and replacing various parts of the original bike with genuine H-D accessories and fitting a custom seat.

“Our bike Apollon is more futuristic, sharp and risky than our usual custom creations,” explains the team, led by head mechanic Adi Ikanovic. “With his new look and agile riding behaviour, our Apollon is teaching fear to the competition!”



SWITZERLAND





## SOUTH AFRICA

### SOUTH AFRICA: H-D WINDHOEK 'HOLLYWOOD DREAM'

The Africa division of the 2018 Battle of the Kings competition has been won by a first-time entrant, new dealer Harley-Davidson Windhoek from Namibia.

H-D Windhoek transformed a stock H-D Sportster® Forty-Eight® into bespoke creation 'Hollywood Dream', which snatched the crown ahead of the competition. Led by advanced technician Mareé Smit,

the Windhoek team achieved a retro look with a modern twist based on extensive use of H-D Brass Collection components – handgrips, footpegs and air filter, a Hard Candy painted gas tank topped with a custom spinner gas cap, and a sprung saddle seat in tan leather. A chopped rear fender, new front spoiler and Hollywood handlebars give the bike a completely new stance and profile, while the overall look has been completed with an LED headlamp,

matching handlebar LED indicators and engraved whitewall tyres.

"Our dealership is very proud of this achievement as we were up against some stiff competition," said Smit, who has been running the Harley-Davidson Windhoek workshop since its doors opened two years ago.

The project took five months of planning from start to finish, and the bike is now displayed for sale on the Windhoek dealership's showroom floor.





# WORLDWIDE WINNERS

HERE ARE THE OTHER REGIONAL WINNERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD. BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS MAGAZINE, THE GLOBAL KING OF CUSTOM WILL HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED - WE'LL PROFILE THE WINNER IN THE FIRST ISSUE OF 2019.



JAPAN: HARLEY-DAVIDSON SHIZUOKA 'DALI'



AUSTRALIA: ADELAIDE HARLEY-DAVIDSON BIKE WORKS 'BACK TO THE TRACK'



MEXICO: HARLEY-DAVIDSON QUERÉTARO 'BOBBY SCRAMBLER'



CHINA: HARLEY-DAVIDSON KUNMING 'DARK GOLDEN RIDER'



BRAZIL: RIO HARLEY-DAVIDSON 'RUSTY RIO'



THAILAND: HARLEY-DAVIDSON OF BANGKOK 'THE PRINCE'



INDIA: HARLEY-DAVIDSON NINE BRIDGES 'MIRAKI'



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\*20% Labour Discount has already been applied. \*Complimentary collection and delivery within 50 mile radius of your local dealership. †Finance subject to status. To be eligible for finance you must be aged 18 or over, have been a UK mainland resident for 3 years or more and be in regular employment. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Other conditions may apply and we cannot guarantee that your application will be accepted. Credit provided by Close Brother Finance Limited. Lind US Ltd is a credit broker and not a lender. Full terms and conditions available in-store. We reserve the right to withdraw finance on certain products at any time. If your application is successful you will enter into a Credit Agreement. Minimum spend to qualify for finance is £300. You may borrow up to £15,000. Deposit required. Finance rate is dependant on length of term. Offers end 14 February 2019.



A man with a full beard and sunglasses stands in front of a brick building. Above him is a large sign that reads "MOTOR HARLEY-DAVIDSON CYCLES" and "OFFICE and VISITORS' ENTRANCE". He is wearing a denim jacket over a dark t-shirt. The background shows a clear sky and some distant trees.

# An AMAZING ADVENTURE

Tony Peries looks back on a remarkable summer spent on a Harley-Davidson® through a 'Find Your Freedom' internship



**IT'S DIFFICULT** to know where to start when telling the story of my summer internship with Harley-Davidson – in a matter of a couple of weeks, I went from working in a warehouse, to riding my brand-new Roadster™ to the 115th Anniversary event in Prague!

### A SOCIAL SUMMER

Harley gave a brand-new motorcycle to each of eight 20-somethings from across the world, including me, and told them to 'find their freedom'. Some like me had been riding for years, others had never swung a leg over a motorcycle.

The brief of the internship was to ride the bikes around, gather social media content, and get grassroots feedback from the public about Harley. At the end of the summer, we presented our findings to senior management, including the CEO, Matt Levatich, in Milwaukee. It felt great to be able to work with people who are so passionate about the brand. The energy that filled the offices

at Juneau Avenue is a testament to the love that Harley-Davidson employees have for their work.

I wanted to show people what it is about the bikes that make them so popular, and what it is about our community that makes us so unique. It's about so much more than just the motorcycles.

### FORGING FRIENDSHIPS

The 'Find Your Freedom' interns came from all walks of life, but most of us weren't what people would consider typical Harley riders. The programme was all about following the proud Harley tradition of breaking rules and stereotypes. I think the internship really showed people that there are no barriers to becoming a part of the Harley-Davidson community: whether you ride a brand-new CVO™ or a 20-year-old used Sportster®, everyone is welcome.

Even though I wasn't with the other interns apart from the couple of weeks we were in Milwaukee together, I kept in touch with them daily through social media



and I can honestly say that I think I've made some friendships that will stand the test of time. For all our differences, we are still united by the love of motorcycling.

### AN EVENTFUL SEASON

Over the summer, I had the privilege of working with Warr's H-D in London to get my new Roadster ready for the ride to the rally in Prague. Once I hit the road there was no stopping me! After the rally I took the long way home, taking the bike through the winding roads of Germany, the mountains of Switzerland and across the great open fields of France.

Once I was back in the UK I hit all the bike shows I could; I've always been a massive fan of custom bikes. I had the privilege of getting behind the scenes access and watching Charlie Stockwell weave his magic at Warr's, and Neil Sefton working wonders at Shaw H-D. The highlight of the custom shows for me was the Assembly London Chopper Show at House of Vans – the bikes on show were incredible, and the atmosphere was great.

Another highlight of the summer was the ride to Thunder in the Glens in Scotland; it was a fantastic event, and I had the opportunity to work closely with the team from Harley-Davidson

UK & Ireland. Aviemore is beautiful, and the turnout for the parade was staggering! People lined the streets, little kids' faces lit up to see us all riding together, and we got to see some of the most beautiful parts of the Highlands. I'll definitely be back next year.

### CONTINENTAL CHUMS

I also had the opportunity to attend H.O.G.® Officer Training (HOT) in Brighton. I was amazed that H.O.G. chapter officers from across Europe came to represent their chapters and volunteered their time to learn how to make their chapters better for members. I made so many new friends that weekend – I'm already planning my next European trip so I can go and ride with them! That is what H.O.G. and Harley is all about to me – the friends you make on the road. The biggest problem I'm going to have will be getting the time off work to go to all the H.O.G. rallies from all over Europe I've been invited to!

The whole experience has truly shown me that no matter who you are, a love of motorcycling will forge a friendship between you and anyone you cross paths with. ■



To see more of Tony's adventure, follow him on Instagram @tony\_the\_biker





# ‘THE SKINNY’ STEALS THE SHOW

Fabrizio Caoduro has created a remarkable chopper that managed a clean sweep at this year’s Harley-Davidson® custom bike shows



For most custom bike builds, the work follows a similar process – construction of the bike comes first, followed by the paint job. Not so in the case of ‘The Skinny’, the beautiful Ironhead Chopper creation that has won Best In Show at all three major European Harley-Davidson® events this year – the Euro Festival in Golfe de St-Tropez, the 115th Anniversary in Prague and European Bike Week® in Faaker See.

It’s less surprising when you consider that the owner, Fabrizio Caoduro, is also the owner of 70s Helmets, a custom paint company based in Vicenza, Italy that specialises in motorcycle helmets and bike paintwork. ‘The Skinny’ was always intended as a rolling showcase of the company’s paintwork skills, designed to be used as a promotional item at shows and exhibitions across Europe.

“The paint job was in my dreams before starting to build the bike,” says Fabrizio, “so the shape, dimension and style of the build follows the style of the painting, not the other way round.”

The painting style is, as you would expect, quite extraordinary. Loosely based on the Mexican concept of

‘Day of the Dead’, the design also incorporates inspiration from the Far East, 1970s California and many other less definable influences.

Fabrizio’s business involves a lot of travel to bike shows across the world, so it’s hardly surprising to see so many disparate influences involved in the intricate style of the bike. “We attend many international shows and we keep in contact with styles from many different countries, so I think





## Custom

we got some influence from Japan too,” says Fabrizio. “I have always had a love for detail, so my plan was to create a piece of art with two wheels and one engine.”

That plan began with sourcing a suitable bike. An original 1975 Ironhead Sportster® was located in the UK and imported to the 70s Helmets HQ near Venice so the work of brainstorming a design could begin. Top Italian ‘old school’ customiser Andrea Radaelli of Milan’s Radikal Chopper was the choice for much of the fabrication work, while the impeccable paintwork was entrusted to Fabrizio’s 70s Helmets crew and master custom artist Manuel Castello.

The design concept of the bike was decided as a team, with the original style of the Ironhead and the paintwork concept leading to a highly distinctive minimalist style reminiscent of a historic speedway bike – and always with the goal of the making the paintwork the hero.

The speedway-style frame was built by ChopWorks and the handmade bodywork – the tiny gas tank, oil tank and swooping rear fender – were the work of Anvil’s Disciples. Leatherwork for the seat was entrusted to LR Leather. Hand-crafted details abound everywhere you look on the bike, from the exquisite springer front end to the split exhaust system running around the frame tubes.

Finally, the bike was ready for its crowning glory – the complex deep paintwork designed by Manuel Castello of ‘Castellodesign’ and laid down by the 70s Helmets crew.

The results speak for themselves, and the exquisite build and its jaw-dropping paintjob has been rewarded with major recognition at the 2018 Verona Expo where the bike took the Jammer Old School class win – as well as success at the three biggest Harley-Davidson events in 2018.

Bellissimo! ■



“MY PLAN  
WAS TO  
CREATE A  
PIECE OF ART”



PAUL BAYFIELD





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# IT'S BEEN A LONG AND CRAZY RIDE...



**H.O.G.® HISTORY** – FROM THE BEGINNING TO  
THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY PART 4:  
**2010-2018**





## H.O.G. CONTINUES TO GO GLOBAL AS ITS EXPANSION CONTINUES INTO EVER MORE TERRITORIES AND COUNTRIES

**By the time 2010 rolled past**, robust national rallies were continuing to take place across Europe and elsewhere across the globe. In 2011, the 16th Annual Canadian H.O.G.® Rally took place in Kamloops, British Columbia and the European Annual H.O.G. Rally celebrated its 20th incarnation in Biograd, Croatia. Down Under, New Zealand and Australia both celebrated their 21st National H.O.G. Rallies in 2011.

In addition, the European contingent embraced an important U.S. H.O.G. tradition, staging the 1st European Posse Ride in 2008, riding from city to city over an extended tour – a tradition that

still continues. And a whole new kind of chapter got started in 2010 with the introduction of the first official military chapter, the Sigonella Military H.O.G. Chapter. Based on Naval Air Station Sigonella in Sicily, it was specifically formed for members of the US military serving overseas –

and to have the feel of a traditional US chapter 'back home'. At the same time, H.O.G. was launching in the world's biggest motorcycle market, India, with the first H.O.G. chapters quickly following – all of which just goes to show that the spirit of H.O.G. knows no international boundaries.

Even as everyone was tightening their belts due to the global financial downturn – and in some respects, because they were – H.O.G. continued to expand the member benefit package in other areas. Million Mile Monday, for example, which debuted in 2008, grew to become a very popular global annual tradition; in 2013 the benefit was relaunched as World Ride, with more interactivity at [members.hog.com](http://members.hog.com). Time-tested programmes – such as H.O.G. Roadside Assistance, the H.O.G. Mileage Programme and the ABCs of Touring contest, to name just a few – remained as popular as ever. *HOG*® magazine increased its reach by appearing in multiple language versions; this high-quality publication continues to be the most popular H.O.G. membership benefit, as well as one of the most popular motorcycle magazines in the industry. International editions serve members in Canada, Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA), Latin America, Australia and New Zealand, and Japan.

The H.O.G. logo that had been in place since the inception of H.O.G.

**1.** On the road at the 2012 European H.O.G.® Rally in Cascais, Portugal – and we're heading back there for more excitement in 2019! **2.** Crowds line the street for the 110th Anniversary parade in Milwaukee







## 2010

H.O.G. LAUNCHES IN INDIA.  
1ST NORWEGIAN H.O.G. RALLY –  
WORLD'S NORTHERNMOST.  
1ST MILITARY H.O.G. CHAPTER  
(SIGONELLA, SICILY).  
H-D MUSEUM OFFERS  
JOINT MEMBERSHIP TO  
HOG MEMBERS

## 2011

FLY&RIDE MERGES WITH  
AUTHORIZED RENTALS

## 2012

EUROPEAN H.O.G. RALLY IN  
CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

## 2013

NEW H.O.G. LOGO  
LAUNCHED. H.O.G. 30TH  
ANNIVERSARY. MILLION  
MILE MONDAY  
BECOMES WORLD RIDE



BEN CAMPBELL

was brought up to date with a sharper, more modern design, and the following year new H.O.G.® apparel was launched, offering a wider choice of logos to appeal to a wider range of members. A new benefit – unlimited access to the famous Harley-Davidson Museum™ in Milwaukee – launched in 2015, along with free Museum/H.O.G. pins for visitors. In 2016 the link between H.O.G. and the Motor Company was further reinforced when the Bar & Shield was added to chapter chevrons.

Worldwide, H.O.G. events continued to grow in number, geographic reach and attendance. In 2018, the 35th Anniversary of H.O.G. combined with the 115th Anniversary of Harley-Davidson® brought with it a flurry of activity. Anniversary celebrations took place in Milwaukee and worldwide, with a major urban event in Prague that drew more than 100,000 celebrants. H.O.G. events continued to spread worldwide, with notable new events in Belarus and St Petersburg.

**Who knows what the future holds?** Change, of course. That's what we know for sure – along with this: no matter what the road ahead has in store for H.O.G. and the Harley-Davidson Motor Company, riders around the world will continue to love their Harleys like no other brand in history. ■

**What would you like to see as part of the future of the Harley Owners Group®? We'd love your opinions and feedback – email [hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogmagazine.emea@harley-davidson.com) and let us know what would make H.O.G. even better for you!**







3



5

3. This summer's party in Prague was one for the ages! 4. In 2015, access to the Harley-Davidson Museum® in Milwaukee became free for H.O.G.® members 5. Lake Lugano in Switzerland was the picturesque backdrop for the 2016 European H.O.G.® Rally



2014

NEW H.O.G. REGALIA WITH CHOICE OF LOGOS INTRODUCED

2015

UNLIMITED ACCESS TO H-D MUSEUM FOR H.O.G. MEMBERS

2016

BAR & SHIELD ADDED TO CHAPTER CHEVRONS. EUROPEAN H.O.G. RALLY IN SLOVENIA FOR FIRST TIME

2017

EUROPEAN H.O.G. RALLY IN LUGANO, SWITZERLAND

2018

H.O.G. 35TH ANNIVERSARY AND HARLEY 115TH ANNIVERSARY – EUROPEAN CELEBRATIONS IN PRAGUE





# MURDER IN THE GLEN

The world of Harley-Davidson® is drawn into a web of crime and intrigue in Lin Anderson's latest novel

**IF YOU WERE** at the Thunder in the Glens rally in 2017 enjoying the atmosphere and entertainment, you were also being observed to see just what it is that makes the Harley® community tick.

Making those mental notes was acclaimed Scottish crime writer Lin Anderson, who's just launched her latest book, *Sins of the Dead*. In it are references to her findings and the names of some real-life H.O.G.® members. Lin subsequently returned to the event this year, with copies of the

completed novel, to give a talk on how her experiences inspired the book. With the book now set to become a film, next year some scenes are planned to be shot at the event!

#### LOCAL INFLUENCE

Inspiration for Lin's Rhona MacLeod novels, of which there are now 14, comes from various quarters. Having grown up near Aviemore she would join the throngs out on the streets as the ride-outs from the rally roared past. Later in life, Lin created the character Ellie for the previous novel *Follow the Dead*, who just

happened to work at West Coast Harley-Davidson® in Glasgow. The dealership was previously located near the Mitchell Library – a favourite location of Lin's, who would pass the dealership on her way to the library.

"Maybe I was watching too much *Sons of Anarchy*, but she marched into the timeline and became a really interesting character," laughs Lin.

In keeping with the Harley theme, that book ends at Nethererton Cottage near Aberlemno – home to the original Davidson family before they left for America in 1857 to seek their fortune.

"I came across the cottage before I wrote the Ellie character; its restoration was featured in a newspaper and it stuck in my mind. When I was previously at Thunder in the Glens to see some mates in a band I had the idea for an opening with Ellie and several fellow Harley ladies blasting through London Road tunnel in Glasgow. These female riders became pivotal to the whole book."

#### FORENSIC DETAIL

Ken to ensure authenticity, Lin contacted Alex Glen at the Dunedin Chapter, arranging a meeting at the Harley-Davidson dealership in Edinburgh. "With



the book opening with Harley riders I had to immerse myself. Alex was great, answering any questions when they came up," says Lin. "It was wonderful going through the shop, looking at all the products and asking questions, particularly with the boots and the tyres. When researching in my line of work, you find elements such as the soles of the boots and the treads of tyres, which feature a particular pattern. That all feeds into the forensics theme that runs through the book."

This being the crime genre, forensics plays a big part in Lin's writing – so much so that she's gained a diploma on the subject to further her knowledge. "The forensic scientist Rhona MacLeod [the character that Lin is most famous for] is inspired by Emma Hart, the daughter of a good friend of mine. She later became a forensic scientist and moved to London to work for the Metropolitan Police.

"When I wrote the first book in 2003, Emma checked that the forensics detail added up to the reality. I was so fascinated by that world I did a course in forensic medical science, and in turn made contacts that I still refer to now for fact checking."

### GETTING INTO CHARACTER

While the inclusion of Thunder in the Glens was always on the cards for the novel, it didn't actually take shape until Alex put Lin in touch with Jim and Fran Anderson, Dunedin Chapter members living in Aviemore, who are involved with the rally. Organiser George McGuire and his Lady of Harley wife Lorraine, who subsequently organised the talk Lin gave at this year's rally, were also introduced to her.

"I needed to know the whole setup, how it all worked. I'd previously put a lady Jim and Fran knew called Mary Grant in a book, so they said: 'If Mary's been in a book, we want to be in one too!'"



Jim proceeded to give Lin an insight into the Harley family and highlighted how certain things would pan out given a specific situation. "In the book there's the whole business of people looking for Ellie in among the masses at Thunder in the Glens: I needed to know how they would go about that, what the reaction would be. "What I found along the way was the incredible culture surrounding Harley-Davidson. You have a preconception, but when I was sat there soaking it up, watching the number of people – and women in particular – congregating in this Highland village, it astonished me!"

Naturally, it wouldn't be a proper Harley experience without a ride-out. "If you'd told me a year ago I'd be on the

back of a Harley-Davidson riding with 3,000 bikes through the roads of the Spey Valley, roads I know like the back of my hand, I'd have said you were mad!"

In fact, Lin fell in love with the experience so much that she's now purchased a black customised Harley from Edinburgh Harley-Davidson, and is currently

in the process of getting her licence.

"I have so much on at the moment with deadlines, and also with helping to organise the Bloody Scotland crime writing festival, which I co-founded. But I'm determined to fit in the bike test and be up and running before the end of the year." ■



# 48 HOURS ON THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA



STORY BY STEVEN RICHARDS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROB WILLIAMSON





**The Seattle skyline faded into the morning fog** as the MV *Tacoma* ferried us across Elliott Bay toward Bainbridge Island. I sat on my Harley-Davidson® Road Glide® motorcycle, parked on the back edge of the steel ship, and watched greens and blues toss in the brackish wake.

Photographer Rob and I had flown from Southern California to the more challenging climate of Washington State to put to the test riding gear from the all-new CE Approved Harley-Davidson FXRG® Collection.

The FXRG Collection is designed for the most demanding touring riders. This premium gear is extensively road tested and incorporates innovative technologies, materials and designs. It's a complete system that can include base and mid-layers for customisable head-to-toe comfort and versatility in any riding environment. Our 627-mile route around the Olympic Peninsula and through portions of the 922,000-acre Olympic National Park would offer not just fabulous scenery and some inspiring roads, but also rolling fog and tricky weather that even in mid-July would challenge the best riding gear system.

Renting Harley® motorcycles from EagleRider Rentals & Tours Seattle, located in Burien, Washington, just a few minutes from Sea-Tac Airport, put us on the road within an hour of landing. From the EagleRider inventory I picked the Road Glide model for its menacing style and playful chassis. We loaded our gear and rode into downtown Seattle, stocked up on supplies, boarded the ferry, and began a 48-hour road trip through what might be the greenest corner of America.

### Go with the flow

The foundation of my kit for this ride was the new FXRG® Triple Vent System™ Waterproof Riding Jacket, a multi-season jacket that layers up or down for full weather protection. The patented Triple Vent System features three strategically placed vents on each side of the body for adjustable airflow. The shell of this jacket is three-layer waterproof Schoeller® C-Change® fabric with four-way stretch for enhanced mobility. The new Coolcore® lining on the upper body wicks moisture through thermal regulation for year-round comfort. The CE jacket comes with lightweight CE-Certified body armour in the elbows and shoulders, with a pocket for optional back armour. The FXRG base layer

top and bottom provided temperature regulation, and my gear outfit was completed with the Mens FXRG CE Approved Waterproof Overpant, Welton Waterproof FXRG Performance Boots and the new FXRG Renegade-V full face helmet.

When the MV *Tacoma* docked at Bainbridge, Rob and I rolled back on to land. The Olympic Peninsula is a naturally occurring terrarium, where diverse creatures cohabit and new growth thrives atop decay; a showcase for the fascinating relationship between nature, life and death, and the dance between them. Snow-capped peaks sit high above rainforest canopies, wild animals roam along miles of ungroomed coastline, and picturesque roads dip and juke with the constantly moving earth.

The main road around the peninsula is U.S. 101. Stay on it, follow well-marked road signs, and you'll pass almost everything you'd care to see. We could've ridden three hours south-west of Seattle to join Route 101, then followed the road clockwise around the peninsula, but we figured we'd take the ferry and enjoy a quicker ride to Port Angeles, the largest city on the north shore.

As the day warmed I unzipped the jacket's front, back, and side vents, orange mesh peeking through the slits. I aired out over 40 minutes on





## FXRG® riding gear

the 101, and in Port Angeles we ate fresh-caught halibut for lunch. Another 30 minutes down the road we arrived at Lake Crescent and the trail for Marymere Falls.

A mile hike through lowland forest blanketed in thick moss brought us to the viewing platform for the waterfall. I didn't think twice about jumping the fence and tiptoeing over wet boulders to sit beside the falls, which earned me a well-deserved reprimand from a National Park ranger. I convinced Rob we should backtrack toward Port Angeles and ride up to Hurricane Ridge, which offers panoramic views of the Olympic National Forest from about 5,250 feet.

### Riding the ridge

More attractive than the view was the prospect of riding up Hurricane Ridge Road, which some say is Washington's premier motorcycle ride, a steep 17-mile stretch of smooth pavement with tunnels, chicanes and long corners. Unfortunately when we arrived



a construction worker said we'd have to wait 10 minutes for an escort to lead us up because the road was being resurfaced. Slowly following a truck with flashing yellow lights, I cheered myself up by blaring music through the Road Glide motorcycle's speakers. Before arriving at the park entrance, about five miles up, the pickup pulled off and revealed an empty road ahead. I was first in line, with Rob idling beside me. "Don't wait for me," he said. I watched the ranger station disappear in the bike's mirror and then opened the throttle.

After all, I had a dozen miles of uninterrupted road ahead and a Milwaukee-Eight® 107 engine beneath. The torque Milwaukee-Eight power moved the Road Glide motorcycle with authority, and I had the footboards kissing the tarmac in tighter corners. I arrived at the summit well ahead of Rob and draped myself across the top of the bike for a catnap. When Rob eventually caught up, we hiked trails lined in red mountain heather, picnicked with a curious doe, then rolled back down Hurricane Ridge Road in neutral.





## FXRG® riding gear

stayed at Cape Flattery the whole day, but we had more to see and fleeting time to see it.

We found a route south to the 101, then drank roadside coffees in Forks, which is where author Stephenie Meyer based her 'Twilight' book series. Just outside of Forks is the driftwood graveyard of Rialto Beach and the Airbnb-sourced campsite we stayed at that night. Our host told us about the time she heard Sasquatch's howls and screams, and discovered giant footprints beside a tent. She said: "I've seen a lot of cougars around here, and they definitely weren't cougar prints," then walked away, like we should be more scared of Bigfoot than actual cougars. Still, I fell straight asleep in my FXRG® base layers, toasty inside my tent.

### Sunrise to sunset

On our last morning we visited the otherworldly Ruby Beach, where giant sea stacks stand just offshore, dramatic tides wash over reddish sands, and an ethereal fog thickens and thins without reason. Along the coastline are tide pools filled with purple starfish, crabs and neon-green sea anemones. Rob and I were overwhelmed by the beauty of this place. Neither of us wanted to start the three-hour ride back to EagleRider Seattle and admit our adventure on the Olympic Peninsula had come to an end.

We did what you're supposed to do on any good adventure: got lost in it, riding from sunrise to sunset. Each day I watched my CE Approved FXRG Riding Gear get dirtier and dirtier, but I noticed it very little during our trip, even though it was the FXRG gear that brought us to the Olympic Peninsula in the first place. In my mind, though, the best touring outfit is the one you forget you're wearing. It's working well if you don't have to think about it, and you can focus on the freedom of the ride and the wonderful people you're with. ■

### Tents and twilight

Under a hot-pink sunset, we followed gravel paths to an Airbnb cabin on the banks of the Elwha River. The next morning we diverted on to the Strait of Juan de Fuca Scenic Byway, State Route 112, and rode toward Cape Flattery, the very northwest tip of the contiguous United States. The briny air, opaque fog and cold, wet roads gave us ample reason to stop for breakfast at the Blackberry Cafe in Joyce. The quaint restaurant's \$33 Sasquatch Burger tempted me: a 20-ounce beef patty with bacon and barbecue sauce, lettuce, tomato and onion.

At the Cape Flattery trailhead, Rob and I ventured into the forest, leaving the nicely groomed wood-plank trail to follow an overgrown one-track that looked more interesting. Suddenly we found ourselves on a cliff, looking out at a cluster of rocks covered in lush greenery that were jutting up out of perfectly clear, vibrantly coloured saltwater. Murre birds nested on the rocky walls, an otter playfully tumbled in the ocean, and a sea lion barked before disappearing into a cave. Rob and I agreed we could've



To see the full range of Harley-Davidson MotorClothes®, including the new FXRG® range, visit your nearest Harley-Davidson dealership



Known for its superlative scenery, the Scottish Highlands plays host to two key events in the rally calendar

**RALLY: THUNDER IN THE GLENS  
ORGANISING CHAPTER: DUNEDIN  
LOCATION: AVIEMORE**

Asked to sum up this year's Thunder in the Glens rally, organiser George McGuire came back with just one word: "Fantastic!"

And rightly so. With a record 3,000 pre-registrations, backed by an increased programme of events and diverse range of bands, it's easy to see why 2018 was acclaimed as the best ever. To get a flavour, Saturday saw 10,000 people on the streets of Aviemore to watch the mass ride-out roll through, while back at base the bands rocked out to great acclaim.

Topping the popularity stakes was tribute act Clearwater Creedence Revival, who were pushed hard by '80s icons The Skids, the up-and-coming Maison Hill and top Scottish rock band, Gun.

"On top of all this we had local author Lin Anderson as a guest at the Ladies of Harley® event, launching her latest crime novel Sins of the Dead, which features ladies riding Harleys and heading to TITG," says George.

"As always, the opportunity to try out the latest Harley-Davidson range of motorcycles and Jeep vehicles was a great attraction for many rally-goers and visitors alike."

Next year's plans are already under way, with tickets expected to go on sale in early January 2019. "Several bands, including the headline act, have already been signed up and will be announced in due course. We're also looking to extend the number of bands playing on the rally site during the day," says George, who adds that 'glamping' is also being considered.

Of course, as Aviemore's in the heart of the Scottish Highlands the roads and the scenery are exceptional, with stunning views across the Cairngorm mountains.

Wherever you go there is always a warm welcome from the locals, who

are keen to know where you have come from and how long you are staying.

In the local area there are lots of things for all the family to enjoy including taking a ride on the local steam train, visiting the local Highland Wildlife Park and its new panda cubs, and a trip up the Cairngorm mountains on the Funicular Railway. There's also the adventure playground at Rothiemurchus Estate for the kids, and a visit to the local brewery and distillery for the adults.

And, of course, there are also the surrounding roads. With 14 major regions in Scotland, each sporting its own beautiful scenery and different



layout, from wide sweepers to single-track roads across mountains and twisting around lochs, there's certainly something for all tastes.

The two most talked-about routes are the NC500 and the SWC300. The former includes the famous route to Applecross via Bealach na Ba, which is the closest thing the UK has to an Alpine-type pass.



# RIDE



**RALLY: THE GATHERING**  
**ORGANISING CHAPTER: CLYDE VALLEY**  
**LOCATION: DUNOON**

This year's rally set the standard for the chapter's 20th anniversary event next year, according to Clyde Valley director, Stephen Trainor.

"The Gathering rally got off to a great start, with the Ladies of Harley® 'meet and greet'. The ladies quaffed a few bottles of Prosecco and collected more than £300 for their chosen charity," says Stephen. "This is the fourth year the ladies have met up, and it's a great introduction to the weekend festivities."

The group that played Friday night was an old favourite of Clyde Valley, The Kilts. "These guys know how to rock and within a few songs the dance floor was full and stayed that way until the close of play," says Stephen.

"The weather was stunning for Saturday's well attended ride-out, making the views unforgettable. We stopped off at the village of Lochgoilhead, where the locals had kindly laid on a BBQ for the riders. It was then back to the rally site for a whisky tasting, with a range of malt whiskies kindly provided by Argyll Holidays."

The Saturday night entertainment was provided by a seven-piece soul, funk and rock band new to Clyde Valley, Groove Train. They were then followed by Clyde Valley's resident DJ Eric, who entertained the troops into the early hours.

"Sunday is usually a chill-out day, but this year we had a great turnout for the Sunday ride-out to Inveraray on Loch Fyne, with more stunning scenery and glorious weather," says Stephen.

Sunday night's entertainment was



provided by Fat Alligator, another Clyde Valley favourite, who rocked on until it was time to head back to the accommodation for a nightcap or two!

Factor in a custom bike show, a 'loudest pipes' competition and chapter games, and it all adds up to a fantastic weekend.

For 2019, the chapter plans to build on the success of 2018, for Clyde Valley's 20th anniversary. "It promises to be another great rally – we've even put in a special order for the same weather as 2018," says Stephen.

Of course, The Gathering isn't just about the rally. Located at Hunter Quay, just outside Dunoon on the Cowal peninsula, it's surrounded by Loch Fyne on the west and Loch Long and the Firth of Clyde on the east.

Included with the purchase of the rally ticket is free access to the park's leisure facilities for the whole weekend, which

would normally come at an additional charge. This allows free use of two heated swimming pools, sauna, steam room and jacuzzi, gym, fitness classes, and even archery!

The 'Seven Lochs' signature ride-out on the Saturday takes in some of the most scenic roads in the area passing by Loch Eck, Loch Striven, Loch Tarsan, Loch Ridden, Loch Fyne, Loch Goil and Loch Long.

A smaller affair than Thunder in the Glens, which some might prefer, The Gathering also gives good reason to venture north. There are many other places of interest nearby to visit. A short ride will take you to Colintrave, and from there a short ferry ride will take you over to the island of Bute, where you can visit the famous Scottish seaside town of Rothesay. Or a short ride away is the famous Loch Fyne Oyster Bar, one of the finest seafood restaurants in Scotland. ■

# NORTH!



# UK & IRELAND EVENTS 2019



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## MARCH

23

### WINTER BALL

Bridgwater Chapter  
[bridgwaterhog.co.uk](http://bridgwaterhog.co.uk)

## MAY

3-6

### CIDER RALLY

Bridgwater Chapter  
[bridgwaterhog.co.uk](http://bridgwaterhog.co.uk)

17-20

### IRON HORSE RALLY

St. Leger Chapter  
[ironhorserrally.co.uk](http://ironhorserrally.co.uk)

17-19

### 20TH ANNIVERSARY RALLY

Sherwood Chapter  
[sherwoodchapterrally.co.uk](http://sherwoodchapterrally.co.uk)

31-June 3

### IRELAND BIKEFEST

[irelandbikefest.com](http://irelandbikefest.com)

## JUNE

7-10

### THE GATHERING

Clyde Valley Chapter  
[clydevalleyhog.co.uk](http://clydevalleyhog.co.uk)

21-23

### HOGS IN THE HAYFIELD

Great Western Chapter  
[greatwesternchapter.uk](http://greatwesternchapter.uk)

27-30

### WAKE THE LAKES

Red Rose Chapter  
[redrosechapter.com](http://redrosechapter.com)

28-29

### ROAR ON THE MOOR

Aire Valley Chapter  
[avhog.co.uk](http://avhog.co.uk)

28-30

### VALLEY RALLY

Thames Valley Chapter  
[thamesvalleyrally.co.uk](http://thamesvalleyrally.co.uk)



## JULY

11-14

### PROUD TO BE RUTLAND RALLY

Rutland Chapter  
[rutlandchapter.co.uk](http://rutlandchapter.co.uk)

25-28

### FENLANDERS RALLY

Fenlanders Chapter  
[fenlandershog.co.uk](http://fenlandershog.co.uk)

26-28

### THE BIG CHILL RALLY

Oxford Chapter  
[oxfordukchapter.co.uk](http://oxfordukchapter.co.uk)

26-28

### HEART & SOUL RALLY

Geordie Chapter  
[geordiehog.com](http://geordiehog.com)

## AUGUST

2-5

### HOG N' BOG

Belfast Chapter  
[belfasthog.com](http://belfasthog.com)

16-18

### SQUIRES & SPIRES RALLY

Nene Valley Chapter  
[nenevalleyhog.co.uk](http://nenevalleyhog.co.uk)

23-26

### THUNDER IN THE GLENS

Dunedin Chapter  
[dunedinhog.com](http://dunedinhog.com)

## SEPTEMBER

5-7

### CIRCUS MAXIMUS

Deva Legion Chapter  
[devalegionhog.co.uk](http://devalegionhog.co.uk)

13-15

### SPARKLE / TWINKLE TOURS

Ladies of Harley® –  
various locations  
ChapterRepLOH@  
[harley-davidson.com](http://harley-davidson.com)

13-15

### DRAGON FEVER 4

Black Mountains Chapter  
[blackmountainshog.co.uk](http://blackmountainshog.co.uk)

27-30

### BLAZIN' RALLY

New Forest Branch  
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**European Bike Week, Faaker See**  
– limited places available  
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# ALPINE GLORY

European Bike Week®  
celebrates 21 years in  
its spiritual home of  
Faaker See, Austria







## HARD ROCK HEADLINERS!

Those of you who were at the main stage for The Darkness's headline set on Friday night will no doubt remember the moment when lead singer Justin Hawkins dived into the crowd. We managed to capture the moment on video, and the video was liked and shared by the band themselves!

Scan this QR code to relive the moment:







## A SHARED PASSION

### Thorsten Schneyer from Germany

was amazed to be selected as the lucky winner of a H.O.G. 35th Anniversary presentation award, displaying all the patches and pins from the formation of the Harley Owners Group in 1983 right through to the present day.

Thorsten's passion for motorcycles started in 1981 and since then he has amassed 600,000km on motorcycles travelling around Europe. However, it was not until 2013, when his wife, Eva, decided she had to have a Harley-Davidson, that their ongoing love affair with the Harley Owners Group® really began. "I bought my wife, Eva, a Sportster® as an engagement ring, so to speak," says Thorsten. "Of course, I bought one for myself so we could ride together. The huge H.O.G. community, and the events where everyone has the same passion, inspires us so much that now we spend all our free time at Harley rides and H.O.G. events."

### 120,000 Harley-Davidson® riders.

**70,000 bikes.** A selection of the most exciting bands and entertainment in the world. This year's European Bike Week® ramped up the excitement to the max for a milestone 21st year of celebration of Europe's greatest open and free motorcycle event.

An electric atmosphere coursed through the area from the opening celebration on Tuesday to the wild closing party on the Saturday evening. The famous lakeside Harley-Davidson Village formed the beating heart of the event, with 40,000 square metres of constant spectacle and entertainment. The expanded Harley-Davidson Expo Zone showcased the 2019 range of motorcycles, while the Demo Area provided the opportunity to test them on the incomparable Alpine roads, including the new FXDR® 114 with its brutal power and take-no-prisoners styling. For those yet to obtain their motorcycle licence, Jumpstart® static

bikes were available to sample the Harley-Davidson experience.

At the H.O.G.® Zone, representatives of the world's biggest motorcycle owners club were on hand to help with member enquiries or just to provide a haven to relax and hang out with members of this unique community. The Jeep® Area allowed visitors to test drive the brand's latest models on a purpose-built test ride course, including the new Jeep Cherokee, new Jeep Wrangler and 2019 Jeep Renegade. As well as an on-site obstacle course, there was also an Off-Road Experience where drivers could take advantage of the four-wheel-drive ability that the Jeep range offers.

As night fell, the atmosphere of the Harley Village was transformed as the plaza rocked with a succession of top bands from across Europe, drawn together to play on the famous European Bike Week stage.



## European Bike Week®

The Darkness – one of Europe's greatest live rock acts – performed a storming set on the Friday night, while Sweden's Backyard Babies wowed the crowds on the Saturday evening slot.

The spectacular Parade took to the Alpine roads on Saturday, spread across 20km with 10,000 bikes taking in the spectacular scenery and cheering crowds packing every vantage point to see the cavalcade of bikes pouring through.

By Saturday night the atmosphere on the main stage was electric as the crowds awaited the prize draw to win a Harley-Davidson® motorcycle. Valantis Pavlou from Cyprus was overcome with emotion when his wristband number was drawn, winning him a brand new Forty-Eight® Special. Valantis had ridden the 3,500km to the event with 30 members of Cyprus Chapter, a bittersweet journey in



# GET SOCIAL!

**Make sure to search** for the hashtag #europeanbikeweek on your social media channels to see what your fellow members posted about the event!



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memory of long-time European Bike Week attendee Minis, who sadly died this year. And to mark 35 years of H.O.G.® a special presentation featuring all of the H.O.G. annual patches and pins since the Group was founded was awarded to the winner, Thorsten Schneyer.

The famous Custom Bike Show on Friday saw intense competition for the prestigious Best in Show trophy. The award was lifted by a victorious team from Italy's Radikal Chopper with their spectacular Ironhead Sportster build 'The Skinny' (see p48).

During the day, riders took to the incomparable riding roads surrounding Faaker See, from the challenging hairpin bends of the Alpenstrasse to leisurely rides around the lakes. Guided tours by the Alpe Adria Chapter showed riders the secret routes that would be impossible to discover alone.

As the event finally drew to a close on the Sunday morning and 120,000 riders dispersed across the surrounding roads on their journeys home, all that remained was to make a commitment to attend the 22nd European Bike Week® on September 3-8, 2019. Ambitious plans are in place to make the 2019 event even more spectacular than this year. See you there for another amazing celebration of all that is great about Harley-Davidson... ■



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# TAKING *to the* SKIES

## A flight of fancy for two chapters as they go in search of aviation history

### Becks Ivers regales us with tales of Nene Valley Chapter's recent visit to the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre in East Kirkby

Having been around aircraft all my life, when the opportunity came to visit a Lancaster bomber, I was on board. Housed at Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, the Avro Lancaster Mk VII, NX611 (pictured below), named Just Jane after the popular wartime comic character, is definitely the main attraction.

The Lancaster was built in April 1945 for use against Japan as part of the RAF's Tiger Force. However, Japan's surrender meant it never saw action. In 1987, NX611 was brought to the Heritage Centre and

a restoration programme began in 1992. The Lancaster is now used for regular taxi runs, which help raise money for maintenance.

Following a walk round the centre we were allowed to set up our bikes for a photo shoot, which attracted as much attention as the Lancaster – people's love for Harley® always amazes me.

A disabled gentleman asked if he could ride pillion around the site, so Mike Wakelin duly obliged. The gentleman's experience was summarised thus: "I don't have the words to fully express my gratitude. It was a day I'll never forget. One Harley makes a lovely sound, but all of them together

was almost as good as four Merlin engines on the Lancaster."

After all the excitement we headed back to base, the glorious sun still shining. Peterborough was our final destination before our squadron went their separate ways. And despite some fuelling issues (power cut at the petrol station) we made it back just before the rain. All in all it was a fab day out, with great company.

### Stories of derring-do abound as Bealy commands 1066 Chapter to Biggin Hill airfield

In the year the RAF celebrates its 100th anniversary, and the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, 1066 Chapter got up close and personal with a whole squadron of one of the most iconic planes ever – the Spitfire.

Through chapter member Malcolm Duffield, who makes replacement parts for these machines, we gained access to the Heritage Hangar, located at Biggin Hill airfield – previously the forefront of fighter defence in the Second World War.

Planes from all over the world arrive here for rebuilding. Once dismantled, all parts are X-rayed and scanned, before it is decided which bits can be used and which need replacing – then the rebuild can commence.

It's the real deal standing next to one of the rejuvenated planes. Each one has a detailed record

of its travels and exploits. These machines are truly beautiful, with slender wing sections and nearly half of the fuselage taken up with the Rolls-Royce Merlin engine. Witnessing a number of them taking off and landing is truly a sight, with that Merlin engine still sounding formidable today.

We were free to talk to the technicians and take photos (one of which is above). As well as the planes, there were a few 1940s cars and motorcycles to add to the occasion. We were even allowed to ride airside and line up in front of the hangar.

If you're feeling flush, you can book an hour-long flight: it sweeps over the White Cliffs of Dover and completes a victory roll for a cool £5,000. And if that sounds like small change, you can buy one fully airworthy for just £4 million.

Many thanks to the Heritage Hangar staff – Sally, John and David – along with the technicians who answered our questions. They were as interested in our bikes as we were in the planes.

Tally ho! ■

A longer version of this story appeared in the *HOG Insider* e-magazine – scan the QR code to read it!





# MAN WITH A PLAN

Taking on his first road trip provided Javier Romero with a fast-track lesson in the art of ride planning and preparation

**PLANNING A ROAD TRIP** is not to be taken lightly, with numerous variables to consider along the way. There's the route, the traffic, fuelling, the obligatory spot of sightseeing... and, of course, you have to prepare for the unexpected.

## BEST-LAID PLANS

Take Javier Romero's first road trip. Just an hour in, his front tyre took on a shard of glass, stopping him in his tracks. Fortunately, coming along for the two-day ride that was set to cover 1,000 miles was Mark Peck, a Thames Valley Chapter officer.

Javier had approached Mark after deciding to plan a sponsored

road trip to support Bliss, the charity that assisted him when his daughter was born prematurely. Having now completed the trip, entitled 'South Coast Challenge' – albeit with a delay and an ad hoc rerouting – what advice can Javier and Mark offer to those planning their own adventure?

"Firstly, ask for help from people who've done similar rides before. There are many things that should be taken into consideration before setting off, and there's a lot of planning involved," says Javier.

While being ambitious is a positive, it pays to keep a sense of perspective to ensure you get the most out of the trip. "The original route was around Europe.



However, after talking with Mark, we agreed to do a smaller ride – around the south of England – with the format of an Iron Hog, but with the twist of visiting some railway stations, as I drive trains for Great Western Railway."

## STICK TO THE SCRIPT

Once the route is agreed, Mark has plenty of ideas about what should happen next. "Involve your group. The greater the distance and shorter the time frame to complete it, the more everyone needs to understand and agree to the plan.

"Also, study your maps well. GPS is very useful, but it helps to know where places are and how they relate. If the unexpected happens and you have to take diversions, it can save a lot of time and worry. Google is your friend, but it's not infallible. Double-check your information. Phone or email places you intend to visit, and make sure the details are correct. Check your intended petrol stops, as not all stations are open 24/7."

Fuelling is a key issue in Mark's book, whether the bike or the rider. "My 2015 Street Glide® Special can do around 200 miles to a tank, and so can I if I want. However, I find it more comfortable to stop every 150-175 miles when covering 1,000+ miles in 24 hours. Know and understand your limits. Understand how you function under fatigue."

This means planning your stops to minimise your stress level and that of your co-riders. You need to understand that they all may not have the same stamina levels.

## SHARING IS CARING

Javier admits that Mark's knowledge proved invaluable, highlighting the worth of experience. "If you are new to riding, ask for help and guidance from those with more experience, and don't take on something too ambitious as your first ride. It's easier to sort unexpected things out when it's a shorter ride, and it will give you more experience for next time."

Javier admits that the tyre incident was a blow, but once this was overcome, the overall experience was hard to fault. "It was something I could have avoided, but again that comes down to experience. I wouldn't do anything else differently – it was a great adventure with great company."

Mark concurs, adding: "Enjoy it! Share a joke, a story, your life. Take your time, enjoy people's company and allow them to enjoy yours."

Between them they raised more than £600, which was split between Bliss, Javier's choice of charity, and Alexander Devine Children's Hospice, which was Mark's choice. Great work, gentlemen! ■





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Alps

# PA MASTERS





# SS

H.O.G.<sup>®</sup> member Vanessa Ruck takes a 2,700-mile trip through Europe's best Alpine passes with Authorized Tour operator Tour1

Photos: Alex Ruck







## BOOK AND GO

Tour1 is an official Harley-Davidson Authorized Tour operator offering trips in the US, UK and Europe. The 'Altitudes with Attitude' tour, for experienced riders wanting a real Harley-Davidson adventure, focuses on 35 mountain passes in Switzerland, Italy and Austria and includes your route down to the Alps and back: a great ride in itself.

For more details, visit [tour1.com](http://tour1.com)

## THINKING ABOUT MAKING AN EPIC ROAD TRIP?

Then get up and go! I guarantee you'll wonder why you didn't do it sooner. The world is filled with seriously spectacular roads and for me in the UK, there are stunning views waiting a short hop across the English Channel.

Plunge into the Alps and you'll lose count of how many times you say 'wow' as mountain passes, aggressive climbs and plunging descents unfurl round every turn. I've seen the Alpine peaks countless times as a snowboarder, but I've been naïve to their wonders in summer. Picture rugged, untouched terrain as far as the eye can see, cyan lakes, raging waterfalls and powerful rivers, vast skylines and endless switchbacks. It's an addictive riding heaven.

### STARTING OVER

So how did I get here? A honeymoon road trip on Softail® bikes, a Street Bob® wedding anniversary ride-out and a serious road traffic accident in 2014 have all led to me being unable to imagine life without my Harley-Davidson. Now I'm physically unable to participate in the sports that once filled my life, it's my route to exploring the countryside around home. Without it, I don't know how I would have kept smiling through the dark days.

And now I was heading beyond the UK, crossing via the Channel Tunnel at Folkestone, then throttling across France, Belgium and Germany along the stunning B500, on endless ribbons of road gift-wrapping stunning scenery – the ultimate aperitif to a tarmac glutton's main course: the mountain passes of Austria, Italy and Switzerland.

When you're undertaking a 2,700-mile-plus road trip, it's easy to stress. Have I picked the best route? Will the roads be as good as I hope? Can I handle the distances between stops? But I hadn't a worry or question in my mind. I had offloaded all that by booking a guided tour with Tour1, allowing us to concentrate on the ride of our lives instead.

### STRESS-FREE TOURING

The Tour1 guys recce everything, researching the best routes, testing hotels and picking the ultimate roads, restaurants and coffee stops to make your ride as perfect as possible.





## DON'T MISS...

- The B500 through Germany's Black Forest on the way south – it's stunning
- Cobblestone hairpins – getting used to them is essential to ride the St Gotthard Pass
- The Steak House Braulio, in Bormio – epic, if you're not a vegetarian!
- Swimming in a mountain lake so cold it burns like hell is unmissable
- The Passo di Gavia, a single-track mountain pass, scares and thrills in equal measure.

They take the stress out of contingency management too. If your Eurotunnel is delayed by four hours (yes, it happened), they know how to get you back on time with the group. Landslide closes a mountain pass? (Yes, this happened too.) Relax with a coffee while they plot an equally impressive alternative route. The only variable no one can plan for is the weather, which in the Alps can alter between passes, let alone days. This meticulous organisation combined with staying in three- and four-star hotels, meant the tour was great value for money.

Take a beautiful road in the UK, full of sweeping turns and breathtaking scenery, and before you've settled into the flow it runs out. In the Alps, you can have this all day, every day. Pick the right tour route and you'll also be immersed in some technical and challenging riding. Take the Stelvio Pass, the third highest in the Alps. At 9,045 feet, it offers 75 hair-raising hairpins and stomach-lurching views. The Passo di Gavia, listed as one of the world's most dangerous roads, is a single-track ascent featuring oncoming cars, bikes and bicycles, potholes, gravel and rock slides. For some it's

the ultimate challenge, for others a risk too far – but no one forces you to tackle it. Then there's Switzerland's St Gotthard Pass, made both challenging and breathtaking by cobblestoned hairpin bends. Initially, I wobbled like a newborn Bambi, but after stringing a few switchbacks together, I realised how much grip was available and it became a tour highlight.

### SAFETY IN NUMBERS

There are many more fabulous passes that haven't achieved such reputations and the roads connecting them are often gorgeous valley sweepers, ebbing and flowing through towns and lowlands, providing a welcome breather before the next ascent. I had sore abs on some days from leaning my 320kg Sport Glide over around corner after corner on so many passes.

There's confidence and safety in numbers. Our 15-strong gang of Harley-Davidson motorcycles was hard for drivers to ignore and our range of experience and skills meant we had a solution for every eventuality. You'll also learn from such a group. At a minimum, the tour leader will be an advanced rider capable of teaching you a few tricks. At best, you'll rub shoulders with some awesome riders. A Kiwi guy became my favourite back wheel to follow. I learned from his lines and took guidance from his speed: an incredible way to improve my riding. Without such an experienced lead, I wouldn't have developed to such a level, and the Stelvio in particular was a real education...

### SURMOUNTING THE STELVIO

We click down into first, hands gripping the bars. We're off. The potato-potato of our V-twins kicks in as we accelerate through the first hairpin. Dab on the back brake entering corner two, heads looking up. Bend three, weight leaning over, bends four, six, nine... pegs kissing the ground on 10, rubber gripping the tarmac... 13... 17... 21... the throttle whips open, revs flying as we climb... 25... 27... gears changing, up and down in quick succession... 31... the wind whistling past... 34, 35... riding hard, gaining speed on the straights. Left turn, right turn, whipping back and forth across the rugged terrain. Coming out of 48, the summit is in sight.







## MEET THE BEAST

I love my Dyna Street Bob® but I knew that with a tour around the best mountain roads in the Alps, it was time to try a bigger motorcycle – the 2018 Softail® Sport Glide™ – and boy did it win my heart. It's a big bike in a small package, offering power on tap and plentiful torque for passing on hairpins. I always felt like she had so much to give!

Harley have done a superb job of distributing the load, improving the comfort and making an awesome-looking machine. The bike feels light and agile, and the ride comfort is smooth and refined. After 2,714 miles together, I can vouch first-hand for the fact that this bike is a beast!

We pull over. Time slows as I take in the views, the jagged mountains. My body is flooded with something I've never experienced before. I'm throbbing with adrenaline. I've never felt so alive!

### BACK ON TRACK

How do you keep 15 bikes together in unknown terrain with the lead man on navigation duties? The buddy system kept us linked together while allowing us to ride to our own abilities, fast riders at the front. Each rider was responsible for making sure their 'buddy' – the rider behind – knew where to go at any turn-off: ride the straights, wait at junctions. Doing this mileage in a group was something special, as were the looks on locals' faces as we thundered through. We even had a nursing home out on the pavement when we stopped nearby. Judging by their smiles, they'll have talked about us for weeks.

The tour passes through nine

countries and the transformation of cultures as you cross each border adds a subtly different flavour to each leg. From Swiss mountain lodges to Austria's cowbells and lederhosen, and seemingly infinite local beers after a day's riding, travelling by motorcycle brings you closer to every country you visit.

The engineering of the roads is incredible: high-altitude passes with sheer drop-offs and no guardrails, and totally exposed hairpins. The occasional rock slide, herd of cattle or throng of Lycra-clad cyclists all add to the road surface challenges. Riding in a place free of the health and safety police is liberating, and a sensory overload too. You try to drink in the scenery as the potential for disaster spikes your adrenaline, while also ensuring you don't fixate on the drops. It's a riding nirvana that leaves you feeling you're living on the edge. Literally.

Something I hadn't anticipated was riders in Lycra, not leathers. The Alps attracts a huge volume of cyclists and with their lightweight set-up and crazy grip they can hammer it down mountains, cornering at mind-blowing speed. I followed a clearly very experienced cyclist for a good mile, with the short straights between corners, plus oncoming traffic, making it little too tight to squeeze past. It's nuts to think I had a 1,745cc engine and he had only his legs.

I smashed him on the up, though, and some of the ups were huge! For guaranteed pothole-free riding, where you can power around any corner with confidence in the rubber to road traction, head to Austria and Switzerland.

As a relatively new biker, only really taking up two wheels after my accident, the Alps were a huge learning curve. Yet it didn't take long to get the feel of the riding, pegs down, grinning from ear to ear. Now, having completed my 2,700-mile trip, I feel more confident and more secure in my everyday riding than ever before. ■



You can follow  
Vanessa on Instagram  
@thegirlonabike





## ADRIATIC ADVENTURE

12 days

Germany, Austria, Italy, Slovenia, Croatia.

Grossglockner Pass - Italian coastline - Croatian coastline - Split - ferry across Adriatic - Assisi - Florence - Venice - The Dolomites - Karersee - Timmelsjoch Pass

## EUROPEAN HARLEY-DAVIDSON TOURS



## ALTITUDES WITH ATTITUDE

13 days

France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, Italy.

Black Forest – 35 mountain passes in the Alps – stunning roads – glorious scenery – Stelvio Pass – Grossglockner Pass – St Bernard Pass



For details of  
our 2019  
tours see  
[www.tour1.com](http://www.tour1.com)



# TOUR1



Back in 2012, more than 12,000 Harley® enthusiasts blasted through the cobbled streets of Cascais for the 21st European H.O.G.® Rally. Next year, the bikes are coming back to town for an even bigger and better bash

# MANY HAPPY RETURNS

**Cascais is a sun-bleached Portuguese town** with an air of calm about it. It's chilled out, really easy going. That is, until thousands of Harley-Davidson® fans cruise into town and light it up with music, motorbikes and merriment. That's what we did in 2012 and that's what we'll be doing all over again in June 2019 – this time with more firepower. And the locals love it!

The 28th Annual European H.O.G.® Rally will take place in Cascais from June 13-16, 2019. We'll be retracing our tyre tracks down to Cascais because of its incredible beachfront setting, which provides a backdrop for some of the most colourful rides on the continent. Cascais enjoys 30km of Atlantic coastline and is only 20 minutes' ride from the national capital of Lisbon. The exquisite Estrada do Guincho is an



unmissable route, but it's not only picture-perfect touring that's on offer. Festival-goers can enjoy the Harley-Davidson Parade, witnessing the most striking two-wheeled beasts in a procession along the promenade. The Custom Bike Show will see members competing for the prize of the best and most radical modifications to their Harley models. You will be able to check out the bikes from the 2019 H-D® portfolio and even go on a test ride in the Demo Area. The main stage will be pumping out music just off the beach, and the Harley Bar will

quench your thirst into the wee small hours.

Last time around, the entire town centre was closed off for motorbikes only. The people of Cascais really did help us put on a party to remember – with Harley-Davidson themed drinks, black and orange bunting decorating the esplanade and a fantastic atmosphere. We can't wait to be back in Cascais: listening to the smack of the surf, the rumbling engines, the cheering crowds and the rocking music.

Harley-Davidson International Event Lead Bev English said: "I am delighted to announce that we're heading to Cascais for 2019's annual European H.O.G. Rally. People were overwhelmed by the welcome we received in 2012, and the local team there are promising an even bigger welcome in 2019."

**Don't forget to book your accommodation soon – beds are already in high demand! Scan the QR code to book a room today.**







# FEELING NOSTALGIC ALREADY?

## PRAGUE HARLEY DAYS®

Ease those post-festival blues by reliving the 115th anniversary celebrations at the Prague Harley Days® reunion in 2019!

**Thousands upon thousands of H-D® fans made it all the way to Prague in July to celebrate 115 years of Harley-Davidson®.** Not only was it rewarding for the event organisers, but the people of Prague and even the entire Czech Republic enjoyed feedback describing the experience of this one-of-a-kind event.

It's great to look back and browse the pictures and videos of all the rides and memories that were made during that weekend. But there's nothing that compares to meeting the people, seeing the sights and embarking on another journey – writing the next chapter in the history of Harley-Davidson as you do it.

And that's why you are cordially invited to a reunion!

But let's get this straight: we're not just going to sit back and reminisce about the 2018 meeting.

The 115th Anniversary Afterparty will be held on July 5-7, 2019. A rich programme of events and attractions is already being prepared. You can look forward to enjoying some of the most appreciated highlights of the 115th anniversary celebration, such as stunt

shows, new and historic bike expos, free demo rides, custom bike contests, the dealers and vendors trading village and the family zone. There will also be an array of local and international cuisines to experience, an extensive selection of drinks including classic Czech pilsner, mind-blowing musical performances and – of course – the parade through the city of Prague on Saturday morning.

This celebration of freedom on two wheels will take place at Prague's Vystaviste Holesovice exhibition grounds. The site is located in the city centre, just 15 minutes' ride from the historic Old Town Square – though it's so close you could even walk it. The site benefits from having enough space to host Harley fans and their motorcycles, while remaining central enough for easy access to the awesome summer atmosphere of

downtown Prague. This setting provides the perfect base to set off from for a sightseeing ride, whether you're flying solo or cruising with your chapter.

From Prague, the prospect of exploring Central Bohemia and spending some extra days in the heart of Europe is an unmissable opportunity for attendees. The possibilities of road trips – whether you're into castles and chateaux, the automotive industry or military museums, sports and wellness or you just prefer to enjoy the journey through the beautiful Czech countryside – are almost endless.

**So grab your ticket, book a room and get ready to rumble to Prague once again! The pre-sale package includes full entry plus an event beer cup and a pre-paid MasterCard. Early bird tickets are available now at [harleydays.cz](http://harleydays.cz)**





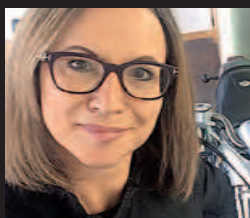


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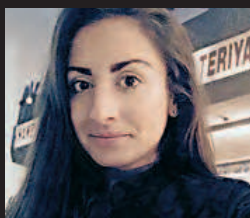
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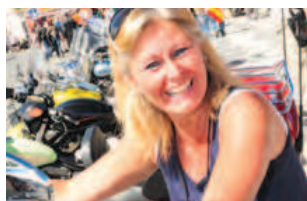


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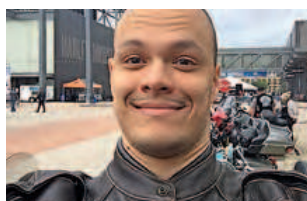
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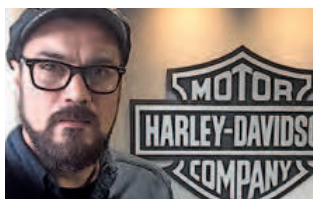
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your passenger does too. Never ride while under the  
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and understand your owner's manual from cover to cover.

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## READY, SET, ACCESSORISE!

Check out the latest offerings from the official H.O.G.® merchandise catalogue – for the full range, take a look at [hogmerch.com](http://hogmerch.com)



### FLYING HIGH

If you want to represent your chapter in style at the next big parade, or just have something to fly for that epic group photo, these 50x30cm flags should do the trick. They're made from tough knitted polyester, so they're sturdy enough to withstand plenty of fluttering!



### BEST OF THE VESTS

Stay safe and stay seen with this superior-quality fluorescent yellow 'Road Captain' high-visibility vest.

These zip-up vests are perfect for keeping your riding jacket in place while you're on the road. They contain a pouch for your mobile phone, two large pockets to keep all your belongings safe, and a transparent pouch for any ID documents.

This vest offers maximum safety with a reflective print, meaning you'll be visible in all lighting conditions. Why not treat your Road Captain before your next chapter ride-out?



### TO TREASURE FOREVER

We have a limited number of copies of the 35th anniversary H.O.G.® hardback book left for purchase. Buy the book in this great bundle deal – you'll get a copy of the book, plus a pin, patch and magnet for just £50 or €60. Don't dally, or you'll miss out on this incredible one-off memento.





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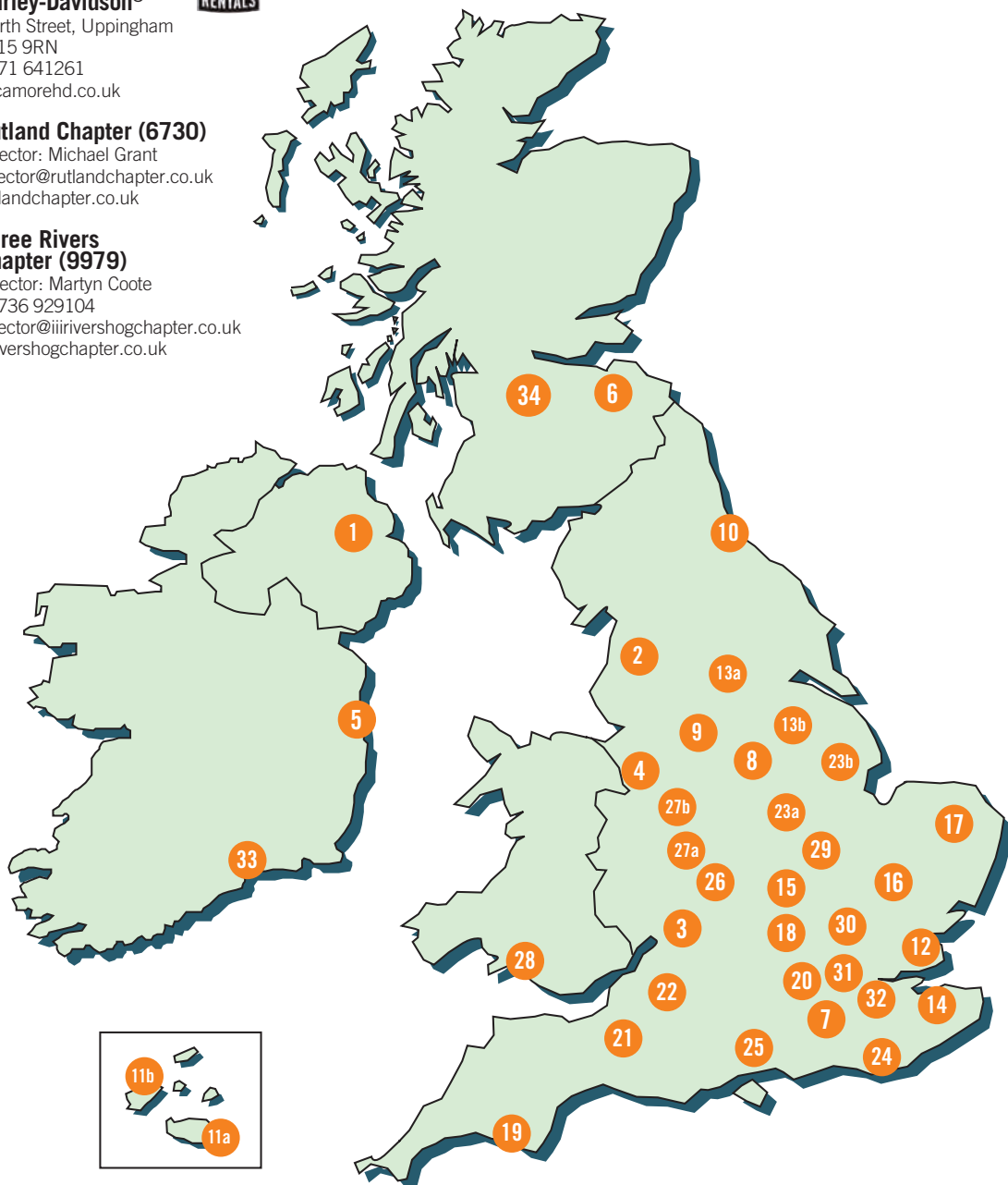
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## AN IRREVERSIBLE JOURNEY

When an accident turned her life inside out, **Vanessa Ruck** found salvation in Harley-Davidson®



**MY ADDICTION TO** Harley-Davidson® emerged following a few challenging twists in the road of life. It all started on our honeymoon, when we hired two Harley-Davidson motorcycles in Texas, exploring 1,000 miles around Route 66, Cadillac Ranch, Amarillo and the breathtaking scenery of the Palo Duro Canyon. It was an amazing adventure.

Back home, our lives were full of excitement; we lived for sport and the great outdoors. There was this constant underlying thirst for adrenaline. With a full-time job, I found my ways to shape life around these needs. Weekdays entailed a 16-mile daily cycling commute, lunchtime gym sessions and summer evening wakeboard sessions.

Weekends were filled with road trips, kite surfing, mountain biking and climbing.

But things took a life-changing turn in March 2014 when, while cycling, I was hit by a car that jumped a red light. In that moment, life as I knew it was gone. As I write this nearly five years on, it's three weeks since my sixth surgery, but I'm confident it'll be the last operation. We've had to make a lot of changes in our lives following the injuries, and there have been ups and downs between surgeries. No sports, no adrenaline, my social life vanished, and I was unable to do my cycling commute. I decided to get a motorcycle to skip the traffic and save money, and this was the first catalyst to Harley® ownership.

Later, my husband Alex was posted by the Royal Air Force to Afghanistan, which devastatingly was just one week prior to my full shoulder reconstruction surgery. On his return, for a belated wedding anniversary, I organised two Harleys for the afternoon – and that was it. It was immediately apparent that this thumping V-Twin was the key to a world of enjoyment that required minimal physical demand, something that would bring adventure to our worlds with my injuries.

Within weeks we were Harley owners and the adventures unfolded. In the three and a half years since, around my surgeries and rehabilitation, we've done 15,000 miles, countless weekend trips, wild camping, explored six National Parks, enjoyed sunrise rides over London's Tower Bridge, and undertaken a 2,700-mile Alpine adventure [see p62]. We have had a blast on two wheels.

I genuinely can't begin to imagine how I would have made it through the last few years without 'Thug', my 2015 Dyna® Street Bob®. She's given me a sense of adventure that went missing after the accident. I've also started an Instagram blog, @TheGirlOnABike. While bed-bound following one of my surgeries, I decided that there must be other people out there facing similar struggles; maybe I could reach them through social media? I never imagined that so many people would find hope and encouragement in my story. There have been days when I didn't want to get out of bed, but my followers helped me find strength, and there have been many days where my followers were struggling and my story has helped them.

When people say 'recovery', you typically think of returning to how you were before the accident. But there is no going back. You do not merely recover, you reinvent yourself. You learn so much as you fight through; it's an irreversible journey. While my journey over the past five years has been brutal, I feel somehow lucky. I have friends now I would never have met, I have a Harley-Davidson I would never have bought, I have realised the importance of a work-life balance, I've become even closer to my husband and soulmate, and I have a fire in my soul only this type of recovery could light. ■





# Salt & Pepper

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