

## Region 3 Reps Report – Jan 2006

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### Leicestershire – Roger Ellis

- 10th November 2005**  
Attended Leicestershire County Council Traffic Forum. useful meeting decided that the interests of PTW users must be taken into account over such things as road safety, from a riders point of view, considering the needs of PTWs in future road schemes and designs.
- 30th November 2005**  
Attended Leicester & Leicestershire Motorcycle Forum meeting at Jack Whiley House, Enderby. Useful meeting discussed at great length the way motorcycle organizations can be involved with Leicestershire County Council in developing a LTP that is inclusive to PTW use.
- 4th December 2005**  
Organised the 2005 Leicestershire Toy Run, well attended with over 200 bikes taking part, all went well apart to a minor hick-up at start, collected over two mobile pallets and over £300 for Children's ward at LRI.  
  
Special thanks to all BMF members that attended especially for those that helped to marshal. (Date for diary Toy Run 2006 is on Sunday 3rd December 2006)
- 14th January 2006**  
Attended BMF Council meeting at Loughborough.

### Derby – Rod Nuth

- Bus lane trials continue in Derby with no adverse effects. There will be no blanket acceptance of bikes in future bus lanes because each case must be made individually, but the assumption will be that they are allowed in unless there is a specific reason not to.
- Motorcycle Forum continues – consideration being given to some form of promotional event during the summer.
- Attended first BMF Council meeting attended as a councillor rather than as a visitor. Good meeting, a different more consultative approach than previously, only spoilt by two rather irritating councillors, one who kept making speeches and one who wanted to vote on everything – he, in the end, got his vote – it was to move on to next business so that he would be quiet! Got co-opted to be involved with the resurrected Structure Progress Group and peripherally involved in Jeff Stone's work on a new BMF website.
- Membership database – analysis suggests that Region 3 has lost up to 20% of its members in the last year – I hope I've made a mistake but other figures suggest that the overall membership rate is going down by around 1,000 per year; it is highly likely at the moment that that Region 3 will only qualify for 3 councillors this year, rather than last year's 5 (1 per 750 members or part thereof).

5. Atkins still not replying on safety concerns re: skid resistant surface at the A514/A50 junction.
6. A5102 Via Gellia has been resurfaced in part but they have re-instated the rumble strips on the approach to the corners in contravention to IHIE guidelines – being pursued again.
7. “Armourstud” cats-eye replacements now being used in Derbyshire – in discussion with the County they state the yare now using the smaller models with an abraded top to provide better grip. Further discussion required.
8. BMF-Midlands website now operational for public use – but needs more content from the Reps showing what activities they are involved in.
9. Contact with Derbyshire police re accident statistics, especially in relation to urban v. rural accident causation.

## **Staffordshire – Chris Jackson**

10. Quality checks made on motorcycle parking provision – spaces now in all major centres in Stoke-on-Trent i.e. in Hanley, Longton, Tunstall, Burslem and Stoke. List drawn up of faults and forwarded to Stoke C.C. engineers for attention. On street parking is free while off street parking has a nominal charge of 20p for a day.
11. Ongoing consultation with private shopping centre in Hanley to introduce bike parking in their private car park. Also ongoing consultation with Newcastle Borough Council re bike parking. Stoke City Council to producing updated map of all parking sites including motorbike parking. Map to be sent to all households in council area.
12. Organise/attend/chair quarterly North Staffordshire Motorcycle User Group meeting (October and January). General contentment with progress and current format. Most motorcycling issues catered for and rapid response to most complaints/issues. Number of attendees falling due to most requests/complaints having been sorted. New forum for Staffordshire as a whole to be set up in 2006 in addition.
13. Attend/chair North Staffordshire/South Cheshire Motorcycle Training Forum for all training bodies/police/road safety officers/transport planners in the region to try and address locally the national problem of increasing numbers of motorcycling accidents by better training, better policing, better road design etc. various speakers from DSA. MCIA, MRTA . Seems to be general consensus that any local initiatives will be overtaken by national changes i.e. National Motorcycle Strategy/IHIE Report on Road design for motorcycles/changed in training and testing standards.
14. Attended Staffordshire Moorlands LA21 Transport Meetings to ensure motorcycling issues are taken into account.
15. Received consultation documents from Stoke and Staffordshire regarding all TRO proposals. Visited various sites throughout Staffordshire where traffic management measures are to be introduced so that informed comment to those consultation documents can be made.
16. Liaise with Staffordshire County Council regarding lack of PTW parking in county and lack of PTW strategy in current LTP. Obtained commitment for increased provision for PTW consideration in next LTP.
17. Assist in Stoke Toy Run Dec11th with approx. 3000 bikes.
18. Assist Staffordshire Constabulary with 2005 BikeSafe campaign – 4 events in Staffordshire. All pursuit ride out events, all fully booked. 2006 will probably be similar.
19. Promote BMF at motorcycle dealers.
20. Assist County/City Councils in drawing up motorcycle safety leaflets.

21. 5 red routes now in operation in Staffordshire-no results yet as to success. More imminent

## Herefordshire – Dave Peake

1. **Road Safety.** Have been in touch with Hereford road safety staff. We are going to run road safety initiative just before main riding season starts. Will be getting in touch Shynyside up partnership to supply us with BIKESAFE stickers.
2. **Local Members** Been writing to all BMF members in Herefordshire with help of membership list supplied by Rod. In the letter, which included SAE, I gave details of my local BMF meeting place. And asked for them to send me their email addresses so that I can keep them in touch with any biking issues in Hereford.
3. **Jason Jones Memorial Trust.** Have attended meetings to help this group with their ambition to set up Motocross Park. Over three thousand petition signatures have so far been collected in support of a Motocross park. Funding has been applied for. On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> Jan they are holding Scrambling awareness day in the middle of high town Hereford. I will be helping out on the day also bringing along old Scrambler to display. The young friends of Jason have produced DVD showing the bikes in action and interviews with them giving their reasons for wanting a track.
4. **Website links** have requested links to Leominster Classic Motorcycle Club and Federation of Sidecar clubs to be added to our BMF Midlands website links page. In return I have asked the two sites mentioned if they could give link to our site. They have both agreed for a pint beer and a packet of crisps, which I think is not to high a price

## Coventry – John Nelson

The inaugural meeting of the Coventry Motor Cycle Forum will take place on February 9th, 7pm at the MCIA offices, Starley house adjacent to Coventry train station. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.

During the meeting before Christmas with Ted Hiscocks and Jas Somal of Coventry Council, it was suggested Mike Ellis should take the chair for at least the first meeting.

Mike Ellis is trading as Coventry Classic Motorcycles and is a member of MAG, Triumph Owners MCC and Three Spires MCC.

Invitations have gone out to clubs and businesses in the area to join the forum.

Coventry Council have agreed to provide meeting room and secretariat facilities once the forum has been formed at this first meeting.

## West Midlands – Jim Sumner

1. Unfortunately nobody has turned up to the monthly meetings at the Bluebell last year. However, every Sunday lunchtime the BOF (Boring Old Farts) meet there. They are a friendly bunch, a mix of old BSAs a few other British bikes mainly Triumphs, old and new, and several rather swish Harleys and Harley clones. The BOF club is affiliated to the BMF. They have invited me to their official meeting place in Kings Norton and I will go there in the Spring.
2. The Forum has been rearranged for the second time. Now it is to be on Monday 6th Feb at the wheels project. I have indicated that I will go to that meeting.