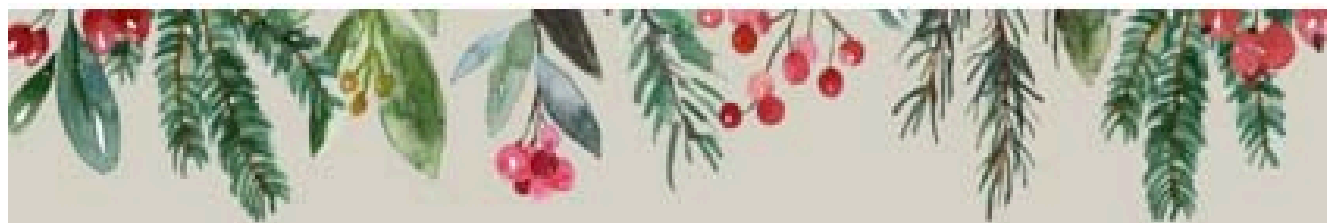


# POND LIFE

MARCH 2024



CHAPTER HARLEY OWNERS GROUP 7958



Early bird tickets

# Lakeside Chapter Christmas Party

**THREE COURSE MEAL £40.00 FOR MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.**

**DJ PLAYING ALL YOUR FAVOURITE DANCE SONGS!!**



**13TH DECEMBER 18:00 - MIDNIGHT**

**! Stifford Hall Hotel Thurrock, Grays, Essex RM16 5UE**

**Accommodation available at reduced rates!**



**Please contact the venue.**

**01708 719933**

**Family and friends are all welcome**

# PAGES



6

## DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS

Phill gives us some information about the last month and what's happening soon.



8

## HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFTEY

Ash has some words of wisdom.



13

## FUNDRAISING OFFICER

Chris shares what the Chapter is up to with regards to fundraising and our work with the chosen charities.



18

## LADIES OF HARLEY

Pam shares the news for the ladies.



25

## MEMBERSHIP

Mary reminds us of the arrangements for Sign-Up Day



28

## EVENTS

There is so much going on!





**PONDLIFE**

# COMMITTEE

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DIRECTOR  
PHILL POSTON



ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
CARL WEBB



CHAPTER SECRETARY  
NEIL SEARLE-JONES



TREASURER  
STEVE WINTERS



MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY  
MARY HARRIS



LADIES OF HARLEY OFFICER AND  
ACTING EVENTS OFFICER  
PAM SMART



FUNDRAISING OFFICER  
CHRIS BELL



HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN AND SAFETY  
OFFICER  
ASHLEY SMART



HISTORIAN  
DARYL SHEPPARD



PHOTOGRAPHER  
JEROME WATTS



WEBMASTER  
KEVIN SMITH



EDITOR  
TONY HITCHING



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER  
AND ACTING EVENTS OFFICER  
SUE STURTON



WELFARE OFFICER  
LYNN GUNN



# FROM THE EDITOR

Hello and welcome to this March edition of Pondlife.

Firstly I would like to say how great it was to see Helen and Barry Lewis, on behalf of the Aaron Lewis Foundation, at our February Natter Night. That's them on the cover of this month's Pondlife. Helen and Barry were attending as they were to be presented with a cheque from the Chapter for the Foundation – the result of all of your kind support during the year. All sounds very simple on paper, but the ceremonial cheque was unfortunately left at someone's house so for the photo op all they got was the chance to hold our flag up! But presentation doesn't come above substance and the funds kindly raised by you have all reached the Foundation. Read Chris Bell's item later in this edition on the work the Foundation does.



Looking forward to March, don't forget we have our Sign-Up Day on Saturday 8 March. Mary Harris reminds us of all the arrangements later in this edition, including the bake sale that will be taking place along with the opportunity to buy Chapter merchandise. As some remove the dust covers from bikes, Ash gives us some good tips to make sure bikes are in tip top condition for what may be a first ride after a period of hibernation.

Also in this edition you will read how some of the Committee Members are already responding to your comments given through the survey carried out a little while ago. For my part, hopefully by the April edition we will have some articles from our pillion riders as well as some articles about our members' bikes. As always, if anyone feels inspired to write any content for Pondlife, just get in touch at [editor@lakesidechapter.co.uk](mailto:editor@lakesidechapter.co.uk).

Another big thank you to everyone who gave up crash helmets and other riding gear to help riders in Kenya. See Sue's article later in this edition.

Finally, you will wish to note that Committee minutes will now only be available via the members' portal on the website, so head on over to [lakesidechapter.co.uk](http://lakesidechapter.co.uk) for these and so much more.

Well, that's all from me, and with so many rides in the calendar for March I hope to see many of you on the road.

Ride safe.

Tony H



# DIRECTOR'S THOUGHTS



“Hello” Lakeside Chapter

Well, we made it through the worst of the winter months and with March arriving it really does feel like Mother Nature and the weather are finally giving us a break and we can hit the roads without worrying about sub-zero temperatures, salt and grit!

Even so, February saw five Chapter Ride Outs, two Socials and the first LOH event of 2025, (that's pretty damn good).

March has 12 Ride Outs planned (so far) as well as the Chapter Sign-Up day, a Natter Night, Saturday/Natterday (our AGM) and the Chapter Bowling 'Social'. We're just getting started!!

Hopefully I'll see you all at Sign-Up day on Saturday 8th, but if you can't get there please remember you can download the forms from the Chapter website and join the UK's best orphan Chapter from your front room. Details are all on the Membership 'tab' (in the top left hand corner of the 'home' page). Please remember [www.lakesidechapter.co.uk](http://www.lakesidechapter.co.uk) is the place to go if you want to know anything about the Chapter, events, HOG and most importantly what's coming up with Ride Outs, rallies and social events in the Chapter diary.

Chapter Coms will be posting weekly updates on the website, on the Chapter Facebook page and by email, so there's hopefully no excuse not to know what's going on (unless your name's Pete). Try to look ahead in the diary because there are loads of things happening later this year that you'll need to book soon or plan for in advance. As always, if you have any questions you can have a chat with any of us on a Ride Out or at a 'Natter' event. You can always email me at [director@lakesidechapter.co.uk](mailto:director@lakesidechapter.co.uk) (or any other Committee Officer) if you don't get a chance to speak face-to-face.

We've been asked to record a Podcast for HOGpod about the HOG 365 Ride Awards and the ABC's of touring. Carl had an article in Pondlife before Christmas detailing all of this (it was the September 2024 edition – Ed), we'll post it again so everyone knows what it's about. As a Chapter without a Dealership we also have our very own mileage and ride awards, all are unique to Lakeside Chapter and the envy of many other Chapters around the UK. You all know about our Ride Award pins. For 2025 we're going to revive our 5000+ Club. Have us (me or Carl) record your mileage NOW and again in December. If you've done more than 5000 miles you'll get a 5000+ Club badge and 'Year-bar'. Keep your mileage over 5k for following Years and add 'Year-bars' to your badge each year.

No worries if you're not on your bike for us to check visually, we just need a photo of your VIN number and your speedo (showing the mileage). Carl will post more details.

I'm not going to go into too much detail about the coming month as (almost) all of the Committee have written articles which are in this edition of 'Pondlife'.

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What I will do is thank all the Committee and Road Crew for everything they've already done in advance of Sign-Up day and all the hard work they'll put in on the day.

Hopefully see you all on Saturday 8th March !!

Cheers, Phill 'Rainman'.



# HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN & SAFETY

As HRC I've taken a particular interest in your feedback about rides and destinations from our recent Members' Survey. There are some quick wins to ensure we continue to provide rides to suit everyone, plus some ideas that we will incorporate into the 2026 ride calendar.

Looking ahead to the 2025 rides, we have a great spread of destinations, distances & duration... here are just a sample:

Seaside destinations - 14

Biker destinations - 9

Places of Interest - 6

Overnights - 7

Short rides - 55

Long rides - 26

But don't forget you can suggest destinations to either me or one of the Road Captains.

Lakeside Chapter is known as the UK Chapter that rides the most. It's worth stating that we have over 100 official rides each year, whereas most other UK Chapters only do 30 or so Official Rides each year.

The Road Captains who passed the RC's training in Oxford last year have now all had First Aid Training, so all RC's are now fully First Aid trained. All RC's have been issued with Tourniquets and have had training on how to use them.



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In addition, a number of Road Captains have individually attended the FireBike Training and this is the feedback from Lynn Gunn.

## FIRST AID FOR MOTORCYCLISTS (FIREBIKE TRAINING)

The Fire Department in several areas offer this training free of charge. Depending on the catchment area, they do afternoons, evenings and even Saturdays and Sundays. You will spend about 3 hours with them. Believe me, the time flies!

The sessions are very relaxed, they supply you with tea, coffee and biscuits and are extremely pleasant.

If you ever wanted to know how to correctly apply a tourniquet, do CPR, bandage a limb or an area that's bleeding profusely, when and how to remove a helmet and so much more, it's time to get yourself signed up!

**Remember, this is not only for Bikers but for anyone in your family, also your friends, so please spread the word**

There is so much to learn! Imagine how grateful someone would be if you were able to be part of saving their life? It's the least we can do.

As an ex Operating Theatre nurse, I know how important it is to save time in these situations in order to get the help you need ASAP.

Contact: [andy.stroulger@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:andy.stroulger@essex-fire.gov.uk)



(continued next page)

**The weather is slowly improving so those of you that have stored your Harleys over the winter... don't forget you should inspect your bike before starting it...and riding it.**

If the proper steps were taken to prepare the motorcycle for dormancy before it was stored, starting it up should be a breeze. But not everyone takes the right steps in doing so and even the best of us forget a certain step before storing it.

Keeping a motorcycle stored for several months (or even years) is completely possible, but that doesn't mean it's not hard on the motorcycle. Motorcycles were made to run and be used, so checking certain points of the motorcycle after winter storage will ensure damage isn't done.

## **Tyres**

Tyres are often one of the most neglected parts of a motorcycle. This is unfortunate because they're basically what's keeping the rider and the road separated. Surprisingly, there's a lot that can happen to a tyre during storage.

Before starting your motorcycle, inspect the condition of the tyres and ensure they're still in good working order. The lack of usage can actually wear out tyres a lot faster than using them. Inspect for any cracks, bulges, or flat spots if the tyres were not elevated. If you find any of these, you'll likely need to get them replaced.

It's also important to check the tyre pressure. Over time, a motorcycle will lose air pressure even when it's not being used. This is due to two things: change in temperature and osmosis. A motorcycle tyre loses about 1 PSI for every 10° drop in outside temperatures. This may seem insignificant, but if you think about the difference in temperature between autumn and winter (usually about 50°), that can be a matter of 5 or so pounds of air.

## **Fuel**

Believe it or not, petrol does have a shelf life. People wonder why that is possible since it survived underground for thousands of years. That's because that oil found in the ground is unrefined. Once oil has been refined, it doesn't last anywhere near as long and needs to be used.

Before storing a motorcycle for the winter, a fuel stabilizer should be added or the fuel should be completely emptied altogether if your situation calls for it. Unstabilized petrol will start to go bad after about 30 days. Stabilized petrol can last 6-12 months.

When starting your motorcycle after storing it for the winter, check the condition of the petrol. If you had it stored for longer than 12 months, it's possible it has gone bad and you'll need to replace it altogether.

You can tell if petrol has gone bad first from the smell; it will smell off and not much like the smell of petrol you're used to. You can also tell if it's bad by the look of it. Bad petrol will start to get a varnishy texture and may have a green tint to it.

## **Oil**

When starting up your motorcycle after storage, you'll need to change the oil whether or not you changed it before you stored it. This doesn't necessarily need to be done before the motorcycle is started and ridden, but it does need to be done before riding it for too long.

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Oil still has the tendency to break down inside a motorcycle even if it's not being used. This is especially true if you didn't change the oil before storage; the oil will actually break down much more quickly in this case since its usage has already partially changed its chemical compounds.

Age is the biggest reason you need to change the oil. You don't want to be running on old oil that's going through the engine providing less than optimal lubrication. The engine has already been through enough just sitting there, give it the best chance by feeding it with some fresh oil that will ensure it runs well.

### **Hoses/Wires**

Like the tyres, hoses on a motorcycle have a tendency to break down without usage. You can think of it like muscles on a human body: without using them, they get weak and don't work as well when you try to engage them. Again, motorcycles were made to be used, so dormancy can be hard on those hoses.

When starting your motorcycle after winter storage, inspect the hoses and make sure there aren't any cracks or detachments. Replace them as needed preferably before starting the motorcycle since it'll likely run rough or won't run at all without those replacements.

Also, inspect the wires and make sure small vermin haven't chewed away at any of them. Mice especially take a liking to motorcycles during the winter time since there are plenty of nooks and crannies to nest in. They also like to chew things like wires because it helps file their growing teeth.

### **Battery**

Dealing with the battery is probably one of the most frustrating parts about taking a motorcycle out of storage. It's common to have a dead battery after doing this, even if you tried to keep it charged during its dormant months.

Your motorcycle isn't going to start if the battery is dead or doesn't have enough voltage. Starting a motorcycle up after it has been sitting for a while will take more battery power than normal since the engine oil may have lost some of its viscosity which means the pistons have to work a little harder to move up and down.

Cold temperatures can also be quite harsh on a motorcycle battery. A lot of that depends on the age of the battery and how much voltage is left. But when left dormant at less than a 100% charge, the battery is likely to drain much more quickly.

Test the voltage of the battery using a multimeter. In order for it to start a motorcycle, a battery must have 12 volts. Anything less than that will likely result in an unsuccessful startup. If you always have to charge the battery before every startup after that, you'll need a new one.

### **Leaks**

Don't forget to inspect the ground the motorcycle has been parked on while you're starting up after storage. Any leaks will likely indicate itself by forming a small puddle.

The cause of leaks can range anywhere from a mild issue to an underlying problem that should be promptly fixed. If you notice any puddles on the ground, try to identify what type of fluid it is and exactly where the leak is coming from.

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## Wash It

Once you take your motorcycle out of winter storage, it's important that you give it a good wash to rinse off all the dust and dirt that has accumulated while it was sitting. Dust and dirt have a tendency to absorb any moisture which can lead to rust. This is especially true if you didn't wash your motorcycle before storing it. Be careful to not use a high pressure washer to wash your motorcycle. That can ruin delicate parts that are exposed. If possible, the best type of motorcycle wash is one that's done by hand. Also make sure that you don't use dish soap to clean it. Dish soap can be extremely harsh on the clear coat of the tank.

Finally, I will be undertaking two safety refresher rides on sign-up day, so if you're rusty or new to the Chapter come along and sign up to one of the short (25mins) rides, where the Chapter Riding protocols will be explained and put into practice.

See you all on the road over the coming weeks/months.....

Ride Safe & Have Fun.

Ash





# FUNDRAISING OFFICER

As the year has now started there is not a lot to report, only that there was a great turn out for Natter Night and the charity we support. For those who couldn't make the Natter Night on Wed 12th Feb we had a great turnout and already looking forward to the next.

Below is a letter sent from the Aaron Lewis Foundation thanking the chapter for our continued support.

I would like to add there is a rugby charity dinner to be held at the Westcliff Rugby Club details below and on the web page.

Well guys that's all for now ride safe and rubber side down.

Chris



(continued next page)

THE AARON LEWIS FOUNDATION

37 Rectory Avenue  
Rochford  
Essex  
SS4 3AW

01702 544644  
info@aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk

www.aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk



19 February 2025

To everybody at the Lakeside Chapter H.O. G

We write to you all on behalf of The Aaron Lewis Foundation (ALF) to thank you for your continued support for The ALF and your generous donation of **£1,000.00**. Thank you also for inviting us to your February Natter night, we enjoyed meeting up with everyone and also meeting some of your new members.

Thanks to your support, and others that continue to support The ALF throughout 2024, last year was yet again, another fantastic year for The ALF, both with regard to fund raising and the help that The ALF was able to give to injured veterans throughout the country and disabled people here in Essex.

In 2024 the ALF was able to support the work of the Beacons Veterans Homeless Centre in Catterick and we have also done a lot of work with a veterans disabled rugby team supplying specialist rugby wheelchairs and a trailer for which they can transport the wheelchairs to rugby games and events in which they take part. There is more information on the Aaron Lewis Foundation website about beneficiaries and I also enclose a leaflet listing details of recipients and what has been achieved by our late son Aaron's legacy.

The Aaron Lewis Foundation would not be able to provide this help without donations such as that received from you all and without support such as that shown by The Lakeside H.O.G, Aaron's legacy could not continue. You all help to ensure that Aaron 'continues to make a difference' and for that we will always be extremely grateful.

Very best regards,

Helen & Barry (Lewis)  
On behalf of The Aaron Lewis Foundation.

FOUNDATION OFFICIALS

Lt Col (Retd) Steve Fraser MBE (Trustee)  
Helen Lewis (Trustee)  
Simon Jones (Trustee)

Ryan Brown (Founder)  
Anna Bakonyvari (Treasurer)  
Patric Redding (Marketing & Sponsorship)

Registered Charity Number 1151539

FORTITUDO PER UNITATEM

# WHO WE'VE HELPED SINCE 2009

Since 2009 the Aaron Lewis Foundation has made a significant impact, supporting both local and service-based causes across the UK. Below is a snapshot of the positive change we've helped create over the years:







# AARON LEWIS FOUNDATION

## HONOURING THE LEGACY OF AARON LEWIS

On 15th December 2008, Lieutenant Aaron Lewis of 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery was tragically killed in action in Afghanistan at just 26 years old, during his first operational deployment.

Aaron was driven by a deep desire to make a positive difference in the world, helping those in need. His courage, hope, and enthusiasm led him to Afghanistan, where he selflessly served his country.

Two years after his death, the Aaron Lewis Foundation was established by his family, friends, and former service colleagues, with a commitment to continuing his mission. Through unity and teamwork, we work together to support causes that were close to Aaron's heart, focusing on providing access to sport and wellbeing for all, while ensuring his legacy lives on.



## CAN WE HELP YOU?

Can we help you or someone you know – if so, please get in touch via:  
[info@aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk)

We are ready to help, guided by a few key principles:

- We support individuals living in Essex, as well as serving military personnel and veterans across the UK.
- We prefer to provide tangible, physical items rather than donate to fundraising campaigns.
- We typically do not fund what statutory services or the MOD should provide, but will assist when there is a gap or a compelling case.
- We're always open to collaborating with other charities.





**AARON LEWIS**  
FOUNDATION



# JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF RUGBY AND AARON'S LEGACY

**12** APRIL  
2025

12.00: Rugby kick-off  
14.00: Gala lunch

Westcliff Rugby Club  
SS4 1YG

**Tickets:** £35 per person, includes:

- 2-course meal with cheese & wine served at the table
- Guest speakers from Bath Rugby Club & the Armed Forces
- Auction featuring exclusive items
- Entertainment, including a table magician & DJ



## Menu choices:

| Starters  | Mains   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetable Soup</li> <li>• Pate</li> <li>• Feta cheese salad</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicken with mushroom sauce, dauphinoise potatoes &amp; vegetables</li> <li>• Steak pie with mashed potatoes &amp; vegetables</li> <li>• Wild mushroom roulade with spinach, goat cheese &amp; vegetables</li> <li>• Vegetable pie with seasonal vegetables</li> </ul> |

Please provide choices and special dietary restrictions at time of booking

**To book tables of 10 or 12 contact Barry Lewis:**  
**info@aaronlewisfoundation.org.uk**

Payment by 29 March c/o: The Aaron Lewis Foundation  
Sort Code: 20-21-78 Account number: 43668290  
Payment Ref: Booking name/Lunch (e.g. W Mitty/Lunch)



# LADIES OF HARLEY





# LADIES OF HARLEY

Hello everyone...that means you!

I hope you are all ok and like me are counting down the days until it is a little warmer...where at least I can shed some of my layers of clothing when I ride! I will keep my fingers crossed! March the 21st is the first official day of Spring, which sees the ride and events calendar jump into overdrive! The clocks spring forward and the evenings become so much lighter, meaning that we can use the bikes in the evenings! Oh, I cannot wait...!

It was fantastic to see so many ladies at February's 'Natter Night' and lovely to share a little Valentines gift with you all!

Ladies - you are all so amazing, clever, hardworking, beautiful and kind. You are all one in a million!



(continued next page)

## LAKESIDE LADIES BRUNCH!

I would just like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone who joined in the 'Brunch' at 'The Inn at the Belfairs' in Leigh-on Sea. We all had an amazing morning: the company was lovely; food was great and the venue excellent! It gave us all a chance to chat, laugh and connect back together. This is a venue that I can see us returning to very soon!



(continued next page)



## **A GENTLE REMINDER OF WHAT IS COMING UP OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS FOR OUR ‘LADIES OF HARLEY’!**

Another plea for our bakers to swing into action and start baking for our ‘Sign-up Day’ on the 8th of March 2025 at Belhus Park, Avely, South Ockendon. I was hoping that us ladies, (gents too) could bake a variety of cakes and savoury goodies for sign-up day.

Do not forget, I have heard about what fantastic bakers that you all are, so I know this will be something that you will all excel at and enjoy.

You can bake anything that you wish and I’m more than happy to come and collect your delights the night before Sign-up Day, or just bring it along with you on the day.

Of course, the money that is raised will go between our charity and the Chapter!

This will be another chance for us to have a few minutes to enjoy the homecooked delights, share a cuppa and have a chat, all whilst we sign up to the Chapter. You can even take a few delightful bakes home to the family.....!

Please, let me know if you can help, (I know quite a few of you have already contacted me), but if not, drop me an email or text me, letting me know what you will be baking and if you want me to collect your creations.

**A huge “Thank you” for supporting your Chapter.**



(continued next page)

## ROAST & RIDE

Ladies and Gentlemen

Please join Lakeside Chapter on the 25th May for a Sunday Ride in the Essex Countryside and then for a Hearty Sunday Roast at The Kings Arms!



All are welcome!

We will meet at 11:15 (at the Half-way House) and we will finish at The Kings Arms (12:45) for a Sunday Roast at 1pm.

If you are not up for the ride, just meet us for the Sunday Roast.

Cost: £16:00

Please pay the chapter £16:00- reference LOH Sunday Lunch – (non-refundable).

Please let me know if you can make it as I will book you a seat at the table.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

Look forward to seeing you.

(continued next page)

## PANCAKE DAY

I thought I would remind a few of you about Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day), which is on the 4th March 2025. Do not worry if you have missed it, have pancakes for tea tonight! It is the one time of year that I do not feel guilty about eating pancakes! I love all weird and wonderful toppings, from chocolate spread, lemon & sugar, golden syrup, honey, and banana, even a fruit topping! However, I am happy to try new toppings so please send a photo my way or let me know when I see you next!

I also thought I would send you a recipe to inspire you to all be creative in your pancake making!



### Ingredients

#### For the pancake mixture

110g/4oz plain flour, sifted

pinch of salt

2 eggs

200ml/7fl oz milk mixed with 75ml/3fl oz water

50g/2oz butter

### To serve

caster sugar

lemon juice

### Method

Sift the flour and salt into a large mixing bowl with a sieve held high above the bowl so the flour gets an airing.

Now make a well in the centre of the flour and break the eggs into it. Then begin whisking the eggs – any sort of whisk or even a fork will do – incorporating any bits of flour from around the edge of the bowl as you do so.

Next gradually add small quantities of the milk and water mixture, still whisking (don't worry about any lumps as they will eventually disappear as you whisk).

Now get the pan really hot, (using oil or butter) then turn the heat down to medium and, to start with, do a test pancake to see if you're using the correct amount of batter.

As soon as the batter hits the hot pan, tip it around from side to side to get the base evenly coated with batter. It should take only half a minute or so to cook; you can lift the edge with a palette knife to see if it's tinged gold as it should be.

Flip the pancake over with a pan slice or palette knife – the other side will need a few seconds only – then simply slide it out of the pan onto a plate.

Stack the pancakes as you make them between sheets of greaseproof paper on a plate fitted over simmering water, to keep them warm while you make the rest.

To serve, sprinkle each pancake with freshly squeezed lemon juice and caster sugar, fold in half, then in half again to form triangles, or else simply roll them up. Serve sprinkled with a little more sugar and lemon juice and extra sections of lemon.

(continued next page)

## LAKESIDE LADIES OF HARLEY PADDLE BOARDING EVENT

7th June 2025

10am-3pm

St Andrews Lake

2, Quarry Grove, Rochester, Kent ME2 1BA

Cost 15:00 for a 3-hour session

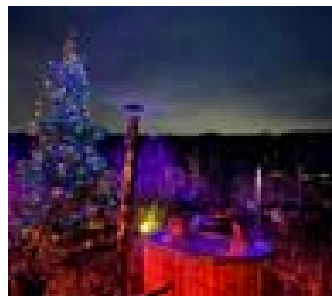
A former quarry, the area has been transformed into a superb beautiful blue lake reserve with an amazing range of water and land-based activities. Nestled in the countryside of Kent with easy access from the motorway network and national rail, St Andrews Lakes offers a retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life in a setting that seamlessly combines breathtaking nature with the thrill of adventure.

Please pay Lakeside Chapter (ref) swim / tub / swimtub – this event is non-refundable.



Café on site offering hot and cold drinks and lunch!!

After lunch why not relax at the Wellness Experience Centre



You will have access to the sauna, hot tubs & plunge pool for  
1 hour & 30 minutes – for the amazing price of £22:50.

Book for one or both experiences Please book your place and pay the chapter by April 1st 2025

Well, I think that will keep us going for a little while!! Stay safe, take care and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Remember if there is anything you fancy doing and it is not on the calendar give me a shout!

Pam  
XX



## CHAPTER SIGN UP DAY

SATURDAY 8TH MARCH 2025

10:00 – 15:00

BELHUS PARK, AVELEY, SOUTH OCKENDON

RM15 4PX



Come along and renew your Chapter Membership for 2025, to enjoy a year full of great ride outs and social events.

### Membership Fees

Single Rider £27.50

Add a Pillion £10.00

### Tips for the Day

Download & complete a Membership Form from the Chapter Website (if you are unable to do this there will be some blank forms available on the day).

Ensure your HOG Membership Number is on the form and up to date.

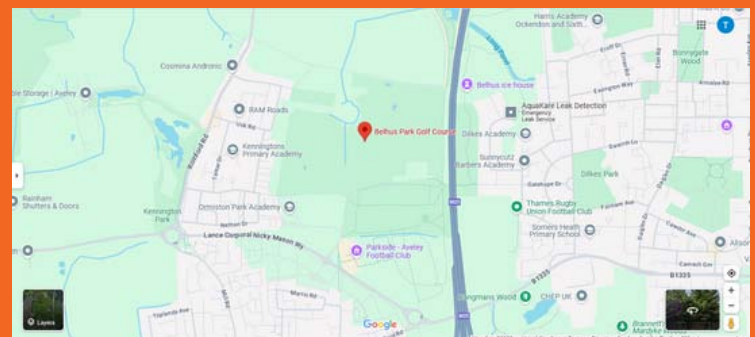
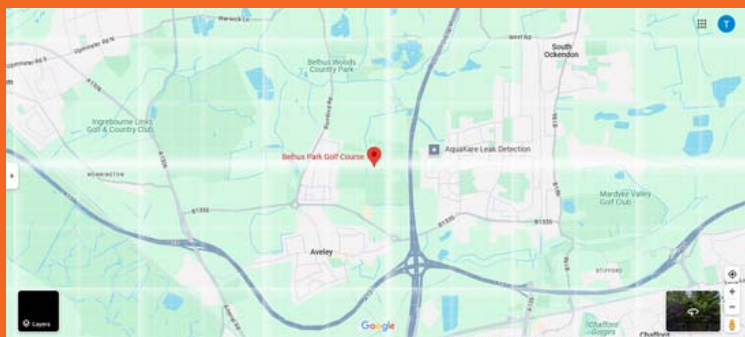
If you are unable to attend you can sign up online, please go to the Chapter website – [www.lakesidechapter.co.uk](http://www.lakesidechapter.co.uk) – for all the membership details.

Please enjoy the wonderful bakes – both savoury and sweet – available on the day. All we ask is that you kindly make a donation to the Chapter charity.

Update your wardrobe with the wide range of Lakeside Chapter Merchandise that will also be available for purchase/order.

Look forward to seeing you all there.

Mary  
Membership Officer





# Helmets for Kenya

Before Christmas I saw a Facebook post where a lady called Hilary of Hogsback Chapter had visited another Chapter to collect unwanted crash helmets and to take them to Kenya to make riding motorcycles over there safer as most people don't wear them. I thought this was a great idea so I asked the wonderful people of Lakeside Chapter if they had any old helmets they'd like to get rid of and help a good cause. You didn't disappoint: we had an amazing response. Not only did we receive helmets, you also very generously provided gloves and even some jackets.

Hilary recently collected them and was over the moon with your kindness and will be taking a trip to Kenya very soon and has promised us some pictures.

I must also say a massive thanks to Ash and Pam Smart for storing them in their container until Hilary was able to come and collect them.

Sue



# EVENTS





# EVENTS

Hello Everyone

You have responded to the Chapter Survey and your Events Team has listened.

We are very pleased to share in a little more detail, all the amazing events that have been taking place or will take place this year 2025.

January, March will see us bowling, and May brings the return of the very popular 'Ride & Roast' (see the Ladies of Harley section above for full details on the Ride & Roast).

Looking a little more into the future, your Events Team have been busy behind the scenes, organising the Christmas Party (Early Bird tickets are on sale now), 1066 and Sykes Summer Party and BBQ, (tickets on sale now), an Inter Chapter Ride with 1066 along the lanes of Essex, as well as other planned events such as a Chinese, Biker Show, the Christmas Glow Evening & Indian and a weekend away in Ypres, to name but a few!

As always, the best place to find out about all Rides, Events and LOH Adventures, is either to go to Lakeside Chapter's Google Calendar, look on the Website page, read it here in Pondlife, watch out for emails and weekly communications.

As always, your Events Team is happy to arrange and organize an event that you wish to see in our Chapter calendar, please just let us know!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all your support attending Chapter Events.

From Your Events Team



Pam & Sue



## Sign-up Day Baking

We have our wonderful 'Baking Event' for Sign-up Day coming soon, (8th March 2025) which I know quite a few of you are always so keen to become involved in. Last year saw fantastic, creative cakes and savouries - some even too good to eat! Again, this year, we have had requests already (from non-bakers) for certain cakes and savouries to be made again!

So once more, I would like to invite you to bake cakes and savoury delights for our special Sign-up Day! It would be wonderful if you could let me know if you would like to take part and more importantly the delights you would like to bake!

Your wonderful Bakes are then available for our members on Sign-up Day for a small donation towards our charity

I want to say a huge 'Thank you' in advance because it could not happen without you! I look forward to hearing from you soon!





## The Events Team at Lakeside Chapter

invites you to come

### Bowling



Where: Hollywood Bowl - Festival Leisure Park, Basildon

When: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 7:00 – bowling starts 7:30

Cost: £16:50 (for two games) – Please pay lakeside Chapter – ref: Bowling.

This event is non-refundable event.

Payment needs to be paid by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Any questions please contact the Events Team – Sue or Pam!

The venue offers food, drinks and snacks!

I do hope you can join us!



Also, a chance to win on the 'Bus-stop Scratch Cards' – so bring your pennies and pounds  
with you!



# **SIGN UP DAY MERCHANDISE**

## **FIRST CHANCE TO SEE AND PURCHASE OUR WINTER & SUMMER NECK SCARFS**

**PAYMENT BY BACS OR CARD ON THE DAY**

**10%  
SALE  
RAIL**

**THE 8TH OF MARCH - BELHUS PARK, RM15 4PX**



# LAKESIDE CHAPTER MERCHANDISE 2024/25

For all enquiries and orders contact Ann at:  
[merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk](mailto:merchandise@lakesidechapter.co.uk)



¾ Zipped Fleece £17.50  
Sizes XS – 3XL



Men's track polo £22  
Sizes XXS - 3XL



2 Tone Softshell Jacket  
£22  
Men's sizes S - 4XL  
Ladies 8 - 18



Men's Polo £14.50  
Sizes XS - 8XL



Zipped Hoodie £25  
Sizes S - 5xl





Heavyweight Hoodie £30  
Sizes XS - 3XL



Men's Chapter T-shirt £14  
Sizes XS - 6XL  
Also available as a long sleeve £16  
Sizes S - 4XL



Wicking T-shirts £12  
(Available in Black or White)  
Men's Sizes XS - 5XL  
Ladies Sizes 8 - 18  
Long Sleeve Ladies £13.50

Knitted Beanie Hat £7



Ladies Skull T-shirt £15  
Sizes 8 -16  
This print is also  
available in  
Zipped Hoodie £25  
Zipped Sweatshirt  
£27.50



Ladies Chapter T-shirt  
£14  
Sizes 8 - 16

Ladies Motorbike/Wing T-shirt £15  
Sizes 8 - 16

### Also available:

Sweatshirt £22.50  
Sizes XS - 4XL

Unisex Long Sleeve Polo £15

Zipped Sweatshirt £27.50  
Sizes S - 2XL

Chapter Cap £15



# £1 EACH OLD SURPLUS STOCK

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

2022

2023





# RIDE-OUT GUIDELINES

Chapter activities are conducted primarily for the benefit of H.O.G. Chapter members. There are three categories of activities, identified as follows:

## ***Member Event – (Rallies, Multi-day)***

Member Events are events that are only open to Chapter Members or to other HOG Members *with approval of a Chapter Primary Officer prior to the event date.*

## ***Open Events***

Open Events are open to Chapter Members and others. *Guests must be approved by a Chapter Primary Officer prior to the event date.*

## ***Closed Events***

Closed Events are open to Chapter members and one guest per member. *Riding guests will need approval of a Chapter Primary Officer prior to the event date.*

## ***Chapter Primary Officers***

Director, Assistant Director, Treasurer, Secretary.

## ***Guest Policy***

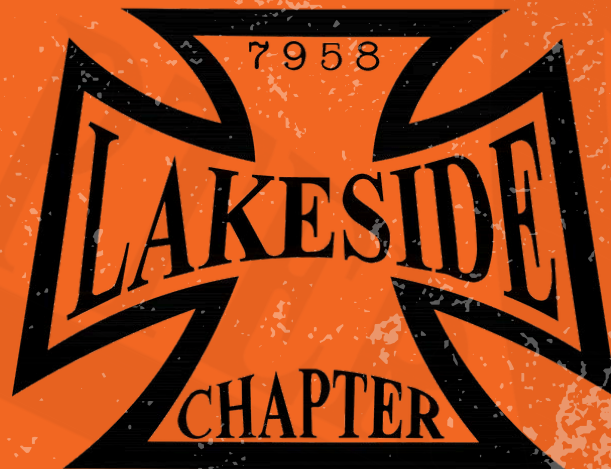
Guests are allowed to participate in Member Events if they are a current HOG member and pre-approved by a Chapter Primary Officer.

An Open Event Guest is permitted at the discretion of one of the Chapter Primary Officers.

**Each Chapter member is permitted to invite 1 guest, per event, to participate and may only have the same guest on 6 occasions in any membership year. If the event is subsidised then the guest will need to pay full cost.**

**Each guest must sign a Ride Disclaimer and the host Chapter member must take responsibility and must ensure that the guest abides by the Chapter rules.**

# RIDE OUT ARTICLES



# THURSDAY 6TH FEBRUARY: PAPERMILL LOCK

On a chilly Thursday morning, and with only 3 bikes and 4 hardy (or crazy) members, it was decided to have a shorter ride. Papermill Lock was chosen over Finchingfield (our original intended destination).

With myself & Mary leading, Vince crewing (thanks Vince) we escorted Phil H on a convoluted route along mostly B roads to Papermill Lock.

On arrival we all enjoyed the very tasty Sausage Baguettes & drinks in the welcoming cafe.

Best Regards

Paul H





# SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY: THE LAUGHING PEAR

With the weather improving and a window of dry weather forecast we headed out for a ride to the Laughing Pear in Rayleigh. A direct route would have taken about 15 minutes from the start point but who wants to do a direct route on a Harley?! So I planned a 30 mile one hour route taking us out to Stock/Woodham Ferrers/Rettendon & Battlesbridge before heading onto Rayleigh. Although busy, we did manage to get a small bite to eat and a warm drink.

Ash



# SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY: ROUND ROBIN CIRCULAR RIDE

A circular ride starting and finishing at The Kings Arms, the ride took us through the various lanes and roads heading out towards Blackmore before returning via Mountnessing and Dunton. This resulted in 40 miles and 1hr 30 mins of fun riding with the Chapter. Some small changes were made on the day as it had rained since my recce and I didn't think anyone would have fancied crossing the Ford as originally planned! I'll save that for another ride.....!

Ash



# SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY: BRADWELL MARINA

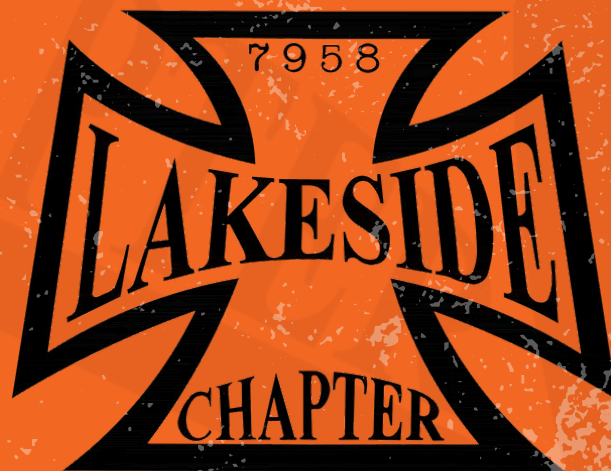
A dry, semi bright but cold day saw ten Harleys head out to Bradwell Marina. It's always a good destination and made for riding through the sweeping bends of the Dengie Peninsula. Getting to the Marina it was clear that other fellow bikers had also had the same thought as it was packed with all types of motorbikes. It was great to see the buddy Ssystem working well with ten bikes and proved that when everyone works together it's a great way to mark a route.

Ash





# FUTURE RIDES



**There are various channels of communication regarding ride-outs and upcoming trips, either local or abroad – Pondlife, the Chapter Website, Facebook and Google Calendar.**

**At times, due to circumstances beyond our control, rides may be cancelled/changed/postponed at very short notice.**

**If requests are made for you to show your interest in a particular event, please only do so via the requested means and please do so within the time frame requested. This is very important and will enable the road captains to accurately and efficiently plan the upcoming ride/event**



# March Ride Outs

We have a number of meeting places from which the Chapter begins its Ride Outs. The usual start points are as follows:

The King's Arms, Orsett, Grays, RM16 3LX

Starbucks, by the Halfway House (A127, just at the turn-off for the A128), CM 13 3LL

Boreham Services BP (truck side), A12, just north of Chelmsford.

The Barge Inn, Hawk Hill, Battlesbridge, SS11 7RE (this is by the Battlesbridge Antiques Hall).

The Toby Carvery, Runwell Road, Wickford, SS11 7QJ.

Tim Horton's, Lakeside Retail Park, Grays, RM20 1WN.

Always check Google Calendar, FB, the Website or weekly coms for most up to date information.

Ride outs (starting 8 March) through to April Natter Night:

Saturday 8 March – to Southend for fish and chips. Meet at Starbucks at 4pm for a 4.15pm departure.

Sunday 9 March – to Abberton Reservoir. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.30 departure.

Saturday 15 March – to the Bungalow Diner, Marks Tey. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Sunday 16 March – to Dunwich for fish and chips. Meet at Boreham Services at 10.15am for a 10.30 departure.

Tuesday 18 March – to Norton Heat. Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Wednesday 19 March – to Rosea Lea. Further details to be confirmed.

Sunday 23 March – to the Shed, Sawbridgeworth. Meet at Starbucks at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Tuesday 25 March – to the Barn at Assingdon (near Sudbury). Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Wednesday 26 March – to Dee's Café Diner. Meet at Starbucks at 10.30am for a 10.45 departure.

Saturday 29 March – to The Biker's Tea Hut, Epping. Meet 1.30pm for a 1.45 departure.

Thursday 3 April – to Trotter Café, Witham. Meet at The Barge Inn at 10am for a 10.15 departure.

Saturday 5 April – to the Bike Shed, Shoreditch. Meet at Tim Horton's café at 9.30am for a 9.45 departure.

Wednesday 9 April – to 2MT Café, Writtle. Meet at Starbucks at 10.30am for a 10.45 departure.

Then we are at our April Natter Night in the evening of 9 April, The Kings Arms, Stifford Clays Road, Baker Street, Orsett, Grays, RM 16 3LX from 6.30pm.



# Lakeside Chapter will be attending the following Rallies in 2025

See the Chapter's Google Calendar for full details of ride out details to these Rallies



See HogPod.com for full details on these and other Rallies being organised



## LAKESIDE CHAPTER RIDE AWARDS

Lakeside Chapter operated a **Ride Out Awards Program** based on the number of Official Chapter Rides each member attends. You must ensure you 'Sign-In' with the Road Captain each time you attend a Ride Out. This helps the RC know the number of Members on each Ride and will be recorded by the Chapter Historian on the Ride Awards Spreadsheet (displayed on the next Page).

Multi-day Rides and Rally's may count for more than one Ride Award. Check with the RC for this.

**Ride Award Pin Badges** will usually be awarded at Natter Nights for 10, 25, 50, 75, 100 (and so on) for completed Rides.

There is an All Time Total Ride Award Page and a Total Number of Rides completed (so far) this Year so you can track your Progress.





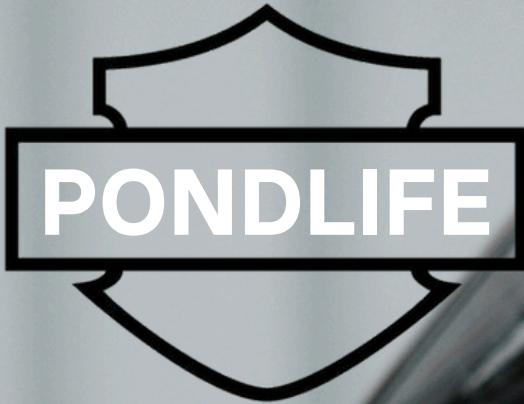


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