

# Wakefield & District MAG

## Minutes of the 21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at 8:00pm on Tuesday 17th January 2023, at the Thatched House, Stanley, Wakefield

### 1) Welcome by chair and introduction of Yorkshire Region / National Observer

Steve Travis, Branch Chairman & Rep opened the meeting at 20:02 hrs. Gary Timms, Yorkshire Region Finance Officer introduced as the Region observer.

All members in the branch area had previously been notified via the December 2022 mailshot (emailed or posted), of the date, time, venue and agenda for the 2022 AGM. The details of the AGM were also publicised on the branch website ([wakefield.mag-uk.org](http://wakefield.mag-uk.org)), the National MAG website ([www.mag-uk.org](http://www.mag-uk.org)) and the Branch Facebook Page ([www.facebook.com/groups/wakefieldmag](http://www.facebook.com/groups/wakefieldmag))

### 2) Apologies

Apologies received from Jake Halsall and Henry Grainger (Branch Political Officer).

### 3) Minutes of previous AGM and matters arising

The minutes of the previous AGM (for the 2021 year), held on Tuesday 11th January 2022 were circulated. These minutes had also been published on the branch website for the past year following the 2021 AGM.

Vote taken that the published minutes represented a true and accurate reflection of the meetings proceedings:

Proposed: Chas Milner

Seconded: Martin Burgess

Voted unanimously.

No Matters Arising.

#### **4) Committee Reports**

##### **Branch Reps Report**

FINANCIAL

Covered in Finance Officers Report

##### **RUNS, RALLIES & OTHER SOCIAL EVENTS**

- Hosted a Christmas Do at our HQ, the Thatched House in December
- Held a Christmas Toy collection for Wakefield based Charity Kidzaware
- Held 18th Wakefield MAG Biker Quiz Nite in November (which Leeds MAG won for a change)
- Attended Wakefield and Mirfield Remembrance Sunday services
- Held a Bingo Night in October which raised £73.10
- Attended a Zero Test Ride event at NYA bikes in September, with a road test report on the branch website
- Held a Surprise 80th Birthday Party for Chas in September
- Assisted Wakefield Hospice with marshalling a cycling event in September
- Attended the South Yorkshire and Huddersfield MAG Market Top Box Sale
- Members attended and marshalled the 19th Yorkshire Pudding Rally in August
- Held an evening rideout to Sheffield Speedway in July
- Members attended and marshalled the 2022 Farmyard Party in June
- Held a Wakefield MAG Curry Night / Alex Reunion in June
- Held a number of monthly rideouts throughout the riding 'season'
- Held a Wakefield MAG Bike Show at the May Day Gala (first time in 2 years due to Covid lockdown restrictions). Bike show was popular (40 odd bikes), the tombola was particularly successful pulling in £134.17 and product sales raised a further £7.50. Not bad for a days work.
- Members attended and marshalled the Into the Valley Rally at the new Driffield Showground venue
- Held an Easter Egg Collection in aid of Wakefield based Charity Kidzaware
- Held Social events on the last Tuesday of the month with various activities including quizzes, pool and darts competitions

- Assisted Wakefield Hospice with Marshalling their 10K Race in March
- Held the 17th Post Christmas Auction in January which raised £339, which we rounded up with £7 from branch funds so MAG received £226 (2/3 of the proceeds) and the remaining 1/3 (£120), was split equally between Yorkshire Air Ambulance and NABD

## POLITICAL

- Hosted the Wakefield MAG AGM in January
- Attended the Yorkshire Region AGM in August
- Attended the MAG AGC in September
- Supported National Campaigns by contacting MP's / signing petitions etc where requested by Central
- Ensured all 4 Wakefield district MP's were contacted as part of Operation Earthquake

## MEMBERSHIP

- **2022 Membership (as @ 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022) was 85** (1% drop from 2021, but represents our average membership over the past 15 years)
- Previous stats:
  - 86 members in 2021
  - no stats available for 2020
  - 78 current members in 2019
  - 78 members in 2018
  - 85 members in 2017
  - 85 members in 2016
  - 88 members in 2015
  - 82 members in 2014
  - 93 members in 2013
  - 83 members in 2012
  - 99 members in 2011
  - 105 members in 2010
  - 113 members in 2009
  - 116 in 2008 (highest ever membership)

Average membership over past 15 years: **85**

- **N.B. Membership retention figures no longer available**
- Meeting attendance has slowly increased since covid lockdown restrictions were lifted but despite getting a few new members attending meetings over the year, with the exception of one, none have returned after their first meeting (something to look at in 2023)
- 10 Monthly newsletters produced (2 of which both covered 2 consecutive months) covering local, regional and national news & updates (published on the website and plugged on Facebook too (website stats show these are widely read)
- Annual mailshot letter sent in December to advertise AGM and plug membership renewal

#### OTHER ACTIVITY

- Website regularly maintained with current content & event reports for all of the events and activities we get involved with. Site is regularly looked at (53,539 hits since visitor stats first maintained in July 2008). Site gets a lot of praise at the NC and is held up as a model MAG Branch web site
- Facebook site maintained with current content & currently 546 members of the Wakefield MAG Facebook Group (498 members last year) – Facebook converted site to a Public group in November 2021 so people no longer need to apply to join the group (unfortunately, members / contributors are not all MAG members)

#### ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST 2022 PLAN

- Look to introduce a new Political Campaign (locally or to support Region / National initiatives, as applicable) – **Fully supported Operation Earthquake [ACHIEVED]**
- Continue to support Wakefield Hospice events:
  - Marshal Wakefield Hospice 10K road race (if held in 2022)
  - Marshalled Dark Sportif Cycling Race **[ACHIEVED]**
- Increase membership figures within WF postcode area, and encourage 'new-blood' to the meetings (Target: **5% membership increase i.e. 4 new MAG members in WF catchment area** / increase meeting attendance to pre-pandemic levels i.e. **10-15 average weekly attendance**) **[NOT ACHIEVED]**
- Forge stronger ties with Wakefield based Bike & Scooter clubs (where possible – not many clubs in the WF postcode area) **[ACHIEVED, liaised with Wakefield Motorcycles Facebook Group and Wakefield Outlaws Scooter Club]**

- Maximise Fund raising for MAG fighting fund – Target: **£2,000 [ACHIEVED]**
- Look to introduce a new fundraising initiative for 2022 (1-90 raffle to win £50 / £40 to MAG funds) **[ACHIEVED]**
- Continue to support other local MAG groups with their activities / events **[ACHIEVED]**
- Continue to host our annual events:
  - Post Christmas Auction **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Birthday Bash **[NOT ACHIEVED]**
  - Bike Show (at Wakefield Gala – if held in 2022) **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Camping Weekend (TBC) – replacing the much loved Edinburgh MAG Rally & the Lakes Camping Barn weekends **[NOT ACHIEVED]**
  - Bingo Night **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Remembrance Day Services / Parades **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Biker Quiz Nite **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Kidzaware Christmas Toy Collection **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Christmas Raffle **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Christmas Do **[ACHIEVED]**
- Continue to support the major Yorkshire MAG rallies (ITV, FYP, YPR) – at least one marshalling shift p.p. for every Wakefield MAG member attending **[ACHIEVED for attendance; NOT ACHIEVED for marshalling]**
- Hold formal organised rideouts:
  - Monthly Sunday ride-outs (March-October) **[ACHIEVED]**
  - Summer weekday evening ride-outs **[ACHIEVED]**
- Get regular coverage in Wakefield Express and/or other local papers e.g. Cas & Ponte Express etc **[ACHIEVED – Event details sent to Wakefield Express]**

## SUMMARY

We now celebrate 21 consecutive years as an active MAG Branch and 20 consecutive years with me as Branch Rep !!!!!

In those 21 years, we haven't had to reform / re-launch to keep going. WF postcode Membership numbers at 85 are the average over the last 15 years. Meeting attendance isn't quite back at the pre-pandemic levels but we get greater than the MAG national average at our meetings (10% meeting attendance of the membership in a groups catchment area is considered excellent). We have lost some active and long standing members over the past couple of years which we really need to replace with new blood – something to focus on in 2023.

This year has pretty much been back to normal and we have run our full set of events and absolutely smashed our fund raising target for the MAG fighting fund. We are a small branch, but it is fair to say, that in spite of our size, we really do punch well above our weight in terms of active members, activities we hold and the funds we raise for MAG.

I also have to personally thank Chas Milner, Deputy Rep and Champion Fundraiser, who is retiring after 10 years service – you have served the branch exceptionally well and will be a hell of a tough act to follow.

In summary, another highly successful year for the branch. A huge thanks to all our meeting regulars and all those who have supported the branch in all our activities. Hip Hip .. Hooray.

*Steve Travis*

*Branch Rep*

*97513*

### [Deputy Rep Report](#)

- Attended Wakefield Hospice 10k race
- Collected Easter Eggs for Kidzaware
- Helped with stall at May Day Gala
- Marshalled Wakefield Hospice Dark Peak event
- Attended MAG AGC and one Yorkshire MAG meeting
- Laid wreath at Wakefield cenotaph then attended Mirfield British Legion Riders parade with other members of Wakefield MAG
- Submitted general knowledge questions for bikers quiz night
- Attended Christmas dinner

- Delivered Christmas toys and chocolates that members had donated to Kidzaware
- Deputised for Branch Rep when necessary

Due to personal reasons will not be standing for Deputy Rep position in 2023

*Chas Milner, Deputy Branch Representative*

## **Finance Officer Report - Financial Report & Audited Accounts for 2022**

We started 2022 with a healthy £670.50 in cash and £1,653.88 in our bank account. This was mainly due to not making a donation to Yorkshire MAG in 2021 as we'd still been up and down with the Covid pandemic.

At our 2022 AGM in January I was re-elected as the finance officer and we all agreed that a reasonable donation to Yorkshire MAG would be made during 2022.

We had a total income of £1,526.14 and a total spend of £345.27 throughout 2022 (full breakdown of this is detailed on the attached spreadsheet)

We decided in June to donate £2,500.00 to Yorkshire MAG and this was done around the time of the Yorkshire MAG AGM.

This leaves us with a closing balance for 2022 of £1,005.25 which is £52.05 in cash and £953.20 in our new Lloyds bank account.

### **Significant events during 2022:**

- Our previous bank HSBC had decided to charge £5 per month for the privilege of using their services so we decided to f\*\*\* them off and as an interim measure all account money was transferred into a "spare" account held by Steve Travis (probably got more Swiss bank accounts than a giant Toblerone has corners). This wasn't ideal and after a bit of hunting round for a new bank Steve found a Lloyds account which suited us. Lots of formalities to go through to set this up, but it's up and running now and with on-line banking is much easier to use.
- Our post Christmas auction in January raised £339.00 so good result there.
- Our bike show tombola raised £134.17 so hats off to the organisers (Pete, Carrie & Izzy) for their work with that.
- Bingo night was down a bit on previous event but still managed £73.20
- Cheers to Chas (official fundraiser) for the Christmas draw tickets which brought in £203.01. Also thanks to Pete Taplin for huge ticket sales.
- Chas's one to ninety draw brought in £120 (3 x £40) and saw Crazy John winning £50 on two occasions and Ash Dobson winning the third (still hasn't bought a round though).

- And finally our weekly number draw, which can still be won even if you not in attendance at the meeting raised a whopping £482.00 which works out as an average of £12.36 over the 39 weeks it was drawn.

Massive thanks to everyone who dug deep in 2022 and/or helped with various events and we start 2023 with another healthy balance and potentially in a good position to donate significantly to Yorkshire MAG later in the year.

Finally thanks to Pete Taplin and Terry Scott for auditing \* the figures and as finance officer for 2022 I'm more than willing to continue this role through 2023.

*\* Accounts have been independently checked by auditors Pete Taplin and Terry Scott and signed off as being a true and accurate reflection of the Branches financial position.*

*Martin Burgess*

*Finance Officer*

### **Press Officer**

Contacted:

- Wakefield Express
- Ridings FM
- Rhubarb Radio

for the following events:

- Post Christmas Auction
- Bingo Night

Ridings FM email bounced back.

No reply from Wakefield Express or Rhubarb Radio

*Sharon Scott*

*Press Officer*

### **Political Officer**

The first thing I did as political officer was getting in touch with Tom Lonsdale the Yorkshire political officer. After an initial call, I got more of an understanding of what the role of political officer involved ... a lot of emailing to MP's. After this initial call I created a national MAG political group chat on Whatsapp, the current members include political officers from across the country.



The first email I sent to the Wakefield MP was on the Anti-tampering legislation the government want to introduce to stop motorcyclists modifying their motorbikes. Unfortunately, I didn't receive a reply but I think that has a lot to do with the Imran Khan scandal. The petition for the anti-tampering legislation received 112,000 signatures and a parliamentary debate took place. I am glad to say the governments "intention is to ensure that we maintain a thriving aftermarket including motorsports, restoration, repairs and other legitimate improvements and alterations to vehicles.", I consider this a big win for motorcyclists and would like to thank mag members who signed the petition. You can watch the full debate by following this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxV7WyUO9F4>

I also emailed Louise Haigh the Shadow Secretary of State for Transport of the United Kingdom, outlining the issue that motorcycles do not get mentioned in Labours Transport plan of a general election manifesto. This is a great shame as 10% of driving license holders have a motorcycle category on their licence. Unfortunately, again no reply. We did get a reply from Mark Jenkinson MP on MAG's four point plan to support motorcycling, with Mark ending the email by saying he is looking forward to further constructive engagement from MAG.

I think the Wakefield political environment in 2022 has been turbulent, however I think 2023 brings the opportunity to consult more with Simon Lightwood our newest MP, Simon is also the shadow minister for Transport. During 2022 I also set up a Wakefield MAG Instagram account which has gained 395 followers to debate, I currently post photos of motorbikes and information about MAG rallies, I think the account can also be used in 2023 to raise awareness of political issues facing the motorcyclists. Finally, I would like to wish everyone at Wakefield MAG a happy new year.

*Henry Grainger*

*Wakefield MAG Political Officer*

## **Products Officer**

Very short report - A few patches, sticker sales and bag sales made from existing stock, but no activity during the year to procure any new products.

*Steve Travis, Products Officer*

## **Social Committee**

- Helped to organise, run and collect donations for the Post Christmas Auction.
- Set up and clear up at the May Day Gala.
- Manning of the information stall.
- Collected and ticketed prizes for the tombola stall.
- Helped with the bike show.
- A number of social nights, alongside meetings nights, also put on throughout the year.

*Sharon Scott and Terry Scott, Social Committee*

### **Rideout Coordinator's Report**

Fellow riders.

Here is the ride-out report for the 2022 season which will be perhaps one of the shortest to date and will also be my last as I do not intend to stand for re-election in 2023.

Our first ride-out of the season was reasonably well attended with half a dozen or so other riders enjoying the roads and cafes of east Yorkshire but after that attendance gradually slipped away to only a couple of other riders then only one and finally only me riding alone.

I realise people have other interests and commitments that may prevent them from attending ride outs and others that simply don't want to. Gone are the days when our ride-outs used to attract a dozen or so other riders but it was mostly a different mix of people then, some of whom have sadly passed away, some have emigrated, are not in general circulation or just do not ride anymore either due to old age or ill health. So we have lost the hard core of ride-out attendees which unless we attract some new members doesn't look like being replaced.

This is a shame as there are still a few members who would probably still like to do the occasional ride-out when time and other commitments allow and I hope that by me stepping aside someone else will step forward into the role and hopefully inject new impetus which may attract new interest, as maybe it's my ride-outs that people don't like, as I must admit they were aimed more at the experienced rider and a little off the beaten track which may have been a little daunting for some who prefer an easier less challenging ride.

Going forward I intend to engage in ride-outs organised by other clubs of which I am a member as their average attendance is considerably higher and means I will not have to do any of the organising. There is no reason why any of you should not attend if you so wish as you would be most welcome to tag along.

Also I am in two minds about whether or not to keep the Ride-out WhatsApp group up and running as I am the current administrator but if someone else steps forward as Ride-out co-ordinator then it should really pass on to them. Alternatively anyone can post on there that they are going for a ride somewhere at the weekend and does anyone want to tag along. This wouldn't be an official ride-out as such but just a social ride with a few friends.

I would like to finish by thanking all those who have attended my ride-outs not just last year but over all the years I have been involved in organising them it has been a pleasure to be in your company. Special thanks to Chas for being the almost permanent back marker for nearly all of them and to others for leading when I was unable due to various mechanical issues etc.

If someone else does step forward into the role I can assure you of my full support and attendance at any future ride-outs.

Ride safe

*Mick Culpan, Rideout Coordinator*

### **MAP Consultative Committee Representative(s)**

- Attended all MAP meetings & ITV, FYP & YPR marshal briefings held in 2022, giving feedback to the Wakefield MAG meetings as required.
- Attended and marshalled at ITV, FYP & YPR rallies
- Attended MAP AGM

*Steve Travis, MAP Consultative Committee Representative / Martin Burgess MAP Consultative Committee Representative (Deputy)*

### **Clubs Liaison**

No report, position vacant (covered by all members)

### **Fund Raising Officer**

- Acted as one of the auctioneers for the Post Christmas Auction
- Organised weekly and 1 to 90 raffle
- Called bingo
- Events:
  - Post Christmas auction
  - May Day Gala tombola
  - Bingo night
  - Weekly raffle plus 1 to 90 raffle
  - Christmas hamper raffle

Thank you to all.

Due to personal reasons will not be standing for fundraising officer for 2023.

*Chas Milner, Fund Raising Officer*

### **Auditors**

Branch Financial Accounts for 2022 have been independently checked by auditors and signed off as being a true and accurate reflection of the Branches financial position at year end.

*Pete Taplin (Auditor #1) / Terry Scott (Auditor #2)*

### **Webmaster**

Covered in Reps Report

## 5) Election / Re-election of branch officers for 2023

The following officers were elected / re-elected onto the 2023 branch committee, unanimously in all cases:

- Rep / Chair: **Steve Travis** [Proposed: Martin Burgess; Seconded: Carrie Scott-Huby] (Re-elected)
- Deputy Rep / Secretary: **Pete Huby** [Proposed: Chas Milner; Seconded: Izzy Scott-Huby] (Elected)
- Treasurer: **Martin Burgess** [Proposed: Steve Travis; Seconded: Allen Archbold] (Re-elected)
- Products Officer: **Steve Travis** [Proposed: Martin Burgess; Seconded: Pete Huby] (Re-elected)
- Political Officer: **Henry Grainger** [Proposed: Steve Travis; Seconded: Izzy Scott-Huby] (Re-elected)
- Auditor x 2: **Pete Taplin, Terry Scott** [Proposed: Martin Burgess, Seconded: Steve Travis] (Re-elected)
- Social Committee: **Terry Scott, Sharon Scott** [Proposed: Martin Burgess; Seconded: Chas Milner] (Re-elected)
- Rideout Coordinator: **Vacant Position** (*see below*)
- MAP Consultative Committee - Wakefield Rep: **Steve Travis** [Proposed: Allen Archbold; Seconded: Terry Scott] (Re-elected)
- MAP Consultative Committee - Deputy Wakefield Rep: **Martin Burgess** [Proposed: Allen Archbold; Seconded: Terry Scott] (Re-elected)
- Press Officer: **Sharon Scott** [Proposed: Terry Scott; Seconded: Pete MacGowan] (Re-elected)
- Clubs Liaison Officer: **Vacant Position**, although agreed to be part of every members remit to promote MAG to fellow bikers – position agreed to be now removed as a dedicated Wakefield MAG Committee role
- Fundraising Officer: **Martin Burgess** [Proposed: Steve Travis; Seconded: Chas Milner] (Elected)

### ***Footnote on rideouts***

*In the absence of an elected rideout co-ordinator, we agreed to attend rideouts organised by other groups, and advertise them on our website / Facebook page / WhatsApp group. This way, we still can offer a schedule of rideout events to our members, but no one within the branch has responsibility for organising them.*

## 6) Motions

No motions submitted

## 7) Objectives and branch development plan for the forthcoming year (2023)

- Continue to support the Operation Earthquake National Political Campaign to abolish / significantly postpone the ICE ban in seven years time
- Continue to support Wakefield Hospice events:
  - Marshal Wakefield Hospice 10K road race
  - Dark Sportif cycling event (if marshals requested)
- Increase membership figures within WF postcode area, and encourage 'new-blood' to the meetings (Target: **5% membership increase i.e. 4 new MAG members in WF catchment area** / increase meeting attendance to pre-pandemic levels i.e. **10-15 average weekly attendance**)
- Forge stronger ties with Wakefield based Bike & Scooter groups (where possible – not many clubs in the WF postcode area)
- Maximise Fund raising for MAG fighting fund – Target: **£2,000**
- Continue to look for new fundraising ideas and initiatives
- Continue to support other local MAG groups with their activities / events
- Continue to host our annual events:
  - Post Christmas Auction
  - Birthday Bash
  - Kidzaware Easter Egg Collection
  - Bike Show (at Wakefield Gala)
  - Bingo Night (not in October however as Q4 is felt to be too heavily loaded with fundraising and donation requests)
  - Remembrance Day Services / Parades
  - Biker Quiz Nite
  - Kidzaware Christmas Toy Collection
  - Christmas Hamper Raffle
  - Christmas Do
  - a.n.other (Introduce a New Event for 2023) – discussed possibility of hosting a Saturday bike day at the Thatched House, with BBQ and music, possibly as our 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday Bash – further investigation required

- Continue to support the major Yorkshire MAG rallies (ITV, FYP, YPR) – and increase marshalling done by Wakefield MAG members attending
- Hold regular rideouts:
  - monthly Sunday ride-outs (March-October) – (either informally organised by ourselves or tagging along on rideouts organised by others)
  - Summer weekday evening ride-outs (Speedway meeting visit et al)
- Get regular coverage in local press - Wakefield Express and/or other local papers e.g. Cas & Ponte Express etc

## 8) Presentation to branch heroes

Awards were presented for the branch heroes of 2022, based on points accumulated by members for attendance/participation in MAG/Branch events over the course of the year.

Our branch heroes for 2022 were:

- Most attendances: **Martin Burgess** (840 points)
- Most attendances runner-up: **Dave Roantree** (620)
- Most attendances to Branch meetings on a bike: **Steve West** (7)
- Charman's Award: Biggest contribution to the Branch): **Chas Milner**

## 9) Any other business

None raised

## 10) Date of Next AGM

The date of the next AGM was set for Tuesday 16th January 2024.

The meeting closed at 21:48 hrs.

Region Observer concurred the meeting had been run in an open, professional and democratic manner.

Steve Travis  
Wakefield MAG Rep (since the early Carboniferous Period)  
97513