

POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS - POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS - POLICE LINE

2005

ISSUE 10

HISTORIC POLICE MOTORCYCLE GROUP NEWSLETTER

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David's Page

YEAR 2005.....already.!

Welcome to the New Year every one, I hope all your biking dreams come true.

The HPMG were very busy throughout 2004 and had very good press from some of the weekly and monthly bike magazines, for which we are thankful. They were excellent articles. Reading them brought back many memories of events and incidents I have had the privilege to be involved with, since the first 'Meet and Run' in 1993.



1. Richmond Park being visited by 55 ex-police bikes started it all off brilliantly - plus who was the only person to breakdown on the run, little old ME.
2. Being invited to the Kent Police Headquarters to display our old police machines, and then ride through the fine country lanes of Kent.
3. The two day run through what seemed the whole of Essex with the traffic officers of Essex Police and then Fred Feather introduced us to his Essex police museum. Magic.
4. The Dutch group with their BMWs and Harley Davidsons riding with us on the Essex roads.
5. 1st International Run in Holland visiting the Dutch Police Museum in Appledorn. Excellent.

6. The Hampshire Police Emergency Services Weekend at Netley. That special sight of seeing Dutch and British motorcyclists repairing the broken down Dutch BMW (with sidecar). Some spoke Dutch and everyone else English, but somehow that machine was repaired and continued with the event, and drove home to Holland. Brilliant sight.

That's enough of my memories.

One notable event to attend is the Law Ride at the end of July. It is a run organised by Staffordshire Police and is in honour of fallen Officers. We ask as many of you to attend as possible. If you can get to some of the other events this year, please do, and enjoy them. We look forward to seeing again over the year.

Keep up the good work on the ex police motorcycles.

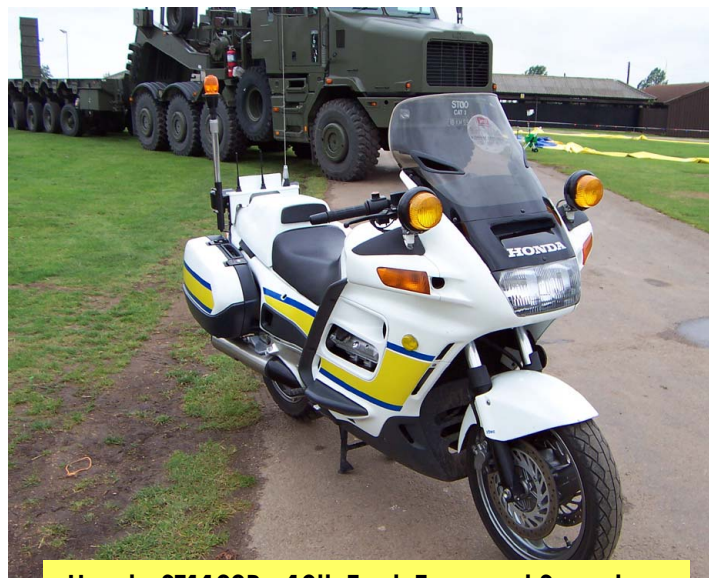
David Bragg

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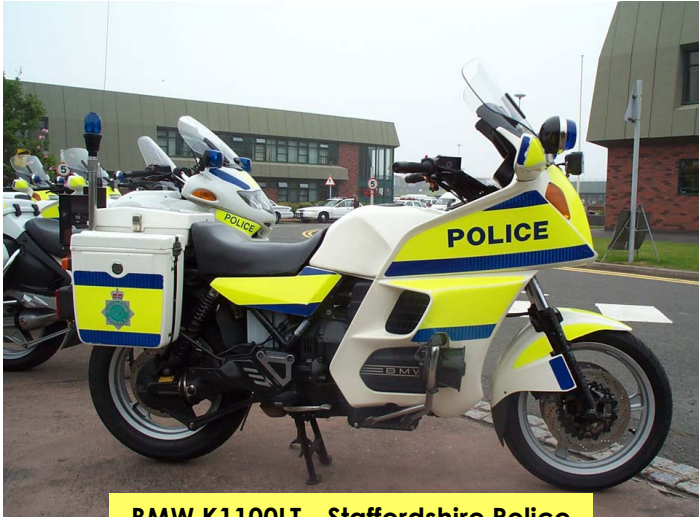
Current Operational Motorcycles



BMW R1150RT - Staffordshire Police



Honda ST1100P - 19th Tank Transport Squadron



BMW K1100LT - Staffordshire Police



Suzuki GSXR1000 - Sussex Police

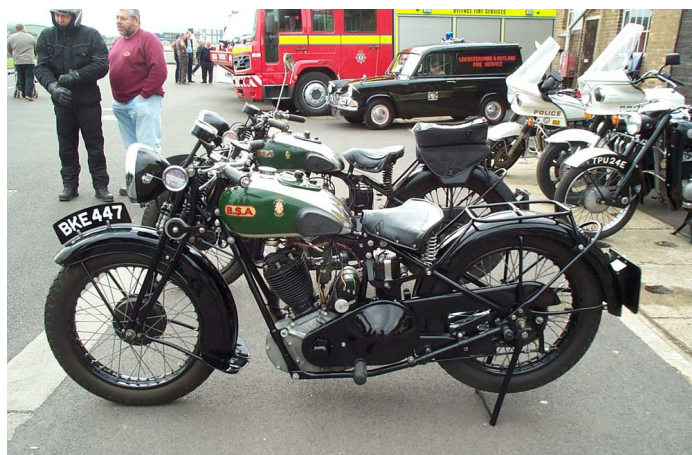
Honda ST1300P - US market model



Yamaha FJR1300 (new for 2005)



Chatham Dockyard – April 2004



The Naval Dockyards at Chatham hosted their annual Transport Show. We were invited over the Easter weekend by the Kent Police Museum to display our bikes along with other emergency vehicles, both new and old. Fortunately the weather held and many visitors explored both the site, the museum and our vehicles. One big surprise for us were the two BSA's that appeared. Both had seen service with the Kent Police traffic division around 1934. They had not been together since their service days for 70 years. A truly rare sight. It was also nice to see Clive with his ex Metropolitan Police Triumph. John Endicott, the Curator and his colleagues worked hard in the museum. Throughout the day, steam vehicles of all shapes and sizes paraded around the docks, adding to the atmosphere. Tim Watkin decided to do a bit of impromptu display riding on his Kawasaki to show of his new found skills from his training with David Smith in America. Impressive to watch. A great weekend, with many displays of ships and vehicles to see. This event comes recommended and is on again this year.

Classic Motorcycle Show - April 2004



Southern Bike Show – May 2004



Nick, Paul, and Dave set up the site for the Historic Police Motorcycle Group stand at the Southern Classic Show, Kempton Park.

They had asked for a large display area and got enormous site 20' by 12' and made good use of it. Thanks go to all the exhibitors for the bikes and items shown. Two Triumphs, Triumph T100P (Clive Harvey) and Triumph Thunderbird (Nick Carter) were at the rear of the stand, separated by a display board with photo's, the club banner and the illuminated 'Police' sign attracting visitors to the stand.

In the fore ground a varied selection of bikes were displayed with an LE Velocette, a grey coloured Triumph Thunderbird (bathtub type) from (Dick Attwell), a police Greeves (Bob Hennessy) and then a more modern BMW K75 (Rob Arnold). We welcomed on board Ken Wheeler (Surrey Police Bikesafe) to display his current Honda Deauville and answer questions and enquires from visitors to the show. Thanks Ken for an excellent addition to the stand and good public feed back. Behind the Honda were more ex-police bike photos covering many types of make and models and last but not least the Italian Police Carbinieri Moto Guzzi (Paul Harcus) with blue lights and siren.

It was an excellent display and received many good comments and vehicle enquires.

Well done every body.

David Bragg

Furness Bike Show – May 2004



FOUR GO MAD IN CUMBRIA - A MONSTER TALE

Early on Saturday morning we left our comfortable garage in Enfield to begin an epic adventure. Our first rendezvous was with an ex police Pan European at South Mims services which we achieved at the unearthly hour of 5.45am. Having met up, we then proceeded to our next meet at Toddington where our party was completed by an ex police Deauville and a 1000 Fazer. Having got the party together we then had to decide a route to our Cumbrian destination. Much head scratching ensued before a route up the M1 to Leicester and then to the M6 via the A50 was decided upon. As one smarty pants had brought a printed route with mileages we quickly established that the Derby services were a relatively comfortable (we thought) 80 miles away. This was accomplished without any trauma and with very little traffic although it was apparent that 80 miles was

really the most comfortable distance for the bottoms. Suitably watered and ablated the next stop at Knutsford was agreed. The journey then proceeded with the added entertainment of dozy car drivers mistaking the Pan for a real police bike which at one point resulted in us leading a huge convoy of bemused motorists. All of this being hugely entertaining.

Knutsford approached with Deauville and Fazer in the lead. Monster was at this point looking forward to the stop to do some bladder emptying! However all went pear shaped when the lead bikes, after much gesticulation between them, decided NOT to stop which meant another 26 miles of full bladder misery. Charnock came and all were happy to stop. On leaving the M6 we were split by an interloper who turned out to be a 600 bandit and brother of the Deauville. Having completed the first stage of our journey, lunch was taken at a suitable roadside establishment and we then waited for a 900 Ninja to join us, being a cousin of the monster.

The bulk of the journey was now completed and we embarked upon an afternoons entertainment riding around the Lake District guided by the Bandit. First stop were the shores of Lake Windermere at Bowness for a much anticipated ice cream. Us bikes did not have the hassle of looking for a parking place like the cars and we were parked within splashing distance of the lake. Suitably refreshed we once again set off on our tour all doing our best to keep up with the Bandit who had the advantage of Local Knowledge. Some found the tight lanes a bit tricky but we all got around unscathed and headed for Skelwith Bridge via the Kirkstone pass. Time for tea. We all basked in the very welcome and unexpected sunshine, enjoying our tea and the occasional local company.

Next stop was the Victoria Park Hotel in Barrow in Furness, the venue for tomorrow's show. Now the real entertainment started with a long convoluted discussion about where the bikes should stay for the night. Monster was already booked in locally but it was decided that the others should shack up for the night with the Bandit in Swarthmoor which ended up with poor Fazer stuck outside in the garden. Saturday was completed with a nice meal in a local establishment and we all retired for a well deserved nights sleep. Sunday dawned bright and sunny again and monster was comfortably parked in the garden of the Victoria Park Hotel by 9:30. The others turned up a little later having originally left behind the Fazer's owner due to a misunderstanding. A very

good day followed with some very nice examples of vintage British machinery on display with a good selection of newer machines also. The awards ceremony completed the day with the Pan getting the award for the longest distance travelled despite two others having travelled further!. The other members of the party put this down to the fact that it was parked outside the front entrance and he was the only member of the group to have left all the dead bugs on! After the show the bikes all stayed with the Monster for the night and we set out on a tour of the local area and a very nice meal in Baycliff.

Monday saw a leisurely start to the journey home via Furness Abbey and other local sights. The journey was completed via the M40 in bottom numbing 100 miles sections and we all went our separate ways around the M25 and home. A thoroughly enjoyable weekend with good company, lots of bikes and good meals. Here's to the next one!



Participants:

David Bragg – Honda Deauville (our organiser of sorts)
David Smith – Honda Pan European
Barry Thompson – Yamaha Fazer 1000
David Barker – Ducati Monster M750

Guests:

Philip Bragg – Suzuki Bandit 600
Tony Smith – Kawasaki GPZ 900R Ninja
Grateful thanks to Cousin Bob and Jan for the minibus and endless running around.

Hampshire Constabulary Families Day - June 2004



On Saturday 5th June, Hampshire Police had their annual families open day at their HQ in Netley. Steve Woodward (Hampshire Police) had organised accommodation for those staying the weekend. A splendid display of ex police motorcycles and cars assembled on Saturday morning, together with many current police, fire and ambulance vehicles. The contrast between young and old is brilliant. The ex Hampshire Police Lambretta scooter in the pictures is cute. The PVEC provided a gazebo with models on display. Lunch was provided, but I think the highlight must go to the barbeque provided by Steve and his wife back at the accommodation blocks. What a nice way to end the day. In the evening we had a stroll down to the beach to watch the new super ship, the Queen Mary steam by. A great weekend was had by all.

HISTORIC POLICE MOTORCYCLE



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Worthing Seafront Festival - July 2004



Pat Sheppard, who used to organise the open days for Surrey Police is now working for the Worthing Lions. She set up a weekend on Worthing seafront. What a beautiful sunny day it turned out to be. I must admit to turning up on a Honda Goldwing trike and not on any 'Job' bike, I had just come back from a bash in South Wales. Bob Hennessey turned up with his K100, ex Metropolitan Police Special Escort bike, Robin Arnold with his BMW K100LT, ex Hampshire Police. Once again poor Robin and his bike played Kiddies corner. The local Crime Prevention wagon was on display together with various police cars, fire engines and ambulances. The Goldwin owners club turned up with some 60 bikes. A lovely day was had by all. The event is on again this year.

UK COPS Law Ride - July 2004



On Sunday August 1st 2004 we were invited to the National Law Ride. It was organised by the Blue Knights based at the Police Traffic Unit in Stafford. The Law Ride is part of the National Police Memorial Day which is now in its third year. This event helps to bring to the attention of the public the number of Police Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. In America it is common to see thousands of serving Officers on their motorcycles taking part in a large parade.

We all met on early Sunday morning at the Traffic Garage in Weston Road, Stafford. Our escorts from Staffordshire Police on marked bikes were already there, and eventually the Blue Knights turned up in force with around 50 bikes. Also in attendance were our own machines of about a dozen with those members of our group who are still serving officers wearing uniform. Cars from the Police Vehicle Preservation Society added to the entourage. After a nice breakfast, the run took off towards the National Abaretum. After about 45 minutes, we had to stop short of our destination because we had outrun the widows and families who were



UK COPS Law Ride - July 2004



still travelling in coaches to meet us. Eventually we proceeded to the Abaretum to be greeted by a large gathering of Chief Officers and families of the fallen officers. All were clapping us as we arrived, a charming and welcoming gesture. The service was held by the memorial for Fallen Officers and had the band playing together with an honour guard made up of officers from around the country. Various Chief Officers spoke together with members of the COPS (Care of Police Survivors) who helped organise this event. Perhaps the most poignant part of this service was when all the widows and their families got up en-mass and collected a rose to put beside the memorial plaques. You do not realize how many people are affected until you see this.

After the service, we all retired to a nearby field where all the vehicles, both new and old lined up for a large display. Tents and seating was laid out, the police band played long into the afternoon, and all the families involved came round for a chat. Even the police helicopter came to visit. Various awards were made including one to the best turned out police motorcycle, this went to one of Staffordshire's own marked bike.

The event is open to all police officers from all Constabularies, as well as members of our group and are actively encouraged to join the run next year on their operational and retired bikes.

As a final note we would like to say it was both an honour and a privilege to be invited to partake in this event and we shall be there next year (2005), hopefully with lots more bikes in attendance.



Second European Police Vehicle Meeting - September 2004



It started innocently enough. Our Dutch friends mentioning that the second European convention of police vehicles and their owners was to take place in Klaaswaal in the Netherlands at the end of September. A look on the PVGNL web site confirmed the details. That's it! I am going. If any one wants to join me great. I ran my idea past Dave Smith, "count me in" he said, so that was two of us. Several e-mails later and I had a hotel booked close to the venue. That was the important bit, ferry crossings and the rest was easy.

We went out to Holland on a wet Thursday, interspersed with sunny bits, just enough to make you think that the weather is going to

buck up, but then it doesn't. As we stowed our bikes in the bowels of the Stenna HSS fast ferry, one of the staff told us to "tie em down well lads, it's a bit rough out there!" We crossed the North Sea without incident and arrived on time at the Hook of Holland. A chance meeting on the boat with an Anglo Dutch biker proved to be a great help to us. 'Lane', yes that was his name, was travelling to the next village to where Dave and I were staying. He was quickly asked if we could tag along as we were unfamiliar with the legendary traffic around Rotterdam. He took us right to our hotel. Thanks Lane. Friday saw us take a very wet trip to Arnhem, and now I know where the hills are in Holland.

Saturday dawned, the day of the convention. We only had about five miles to travel to the 'Newland' steak house/saloon venue, and we duly arrived to see the car park full. We had hardly parked the bikes before we were warmly welcomed by members of the Dutch club. A quick scan around the area revealed at least 15 bikes, 9 or 10 cars, a large sheriffs van and two large Kenworth trucks. The bikes ranged from Harleys and Kawasaki's through to BMW's, a Moto Guzzi, a very nice Harley Davidson Servicar and a Honda Trident Trike based around a CX 500. Cars were Chevy's, Fords and an AMC. It was a good job there was not a prize for the dirtiest bike, my Harley would have taken first place after all the rain we had to ride through. Inside the building were several stands selling all sorts of 'Goodies'. Police clothing, badges, patches and memorabilia, plus some useful items of emergency equipment, light sirens etc. People came and went throughout the day.



There were a few sunny periods and some heavy showers but they did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm. Many tales were told and retold, no one had a problem with the language as everyone spoke English, interspersed with Dutch or German depending who was in on the conversation. The siren systems were tested to full capacity during the day, 'Very Noisy' and during a particularly wet point in the evening the light show took place. Emergency lighting always looks impressive in the dark and this was no exception, with all the vehicles pursuit lights switched on.

Good food was found in the western saloon, a country band provided the entertainment and great company from all the folks there made for a very pleasant day. Sunday morning saw us re-convene at the steak house to say our goodbyes, and we all went in our separate directions. Dave and I had a good ride back and wouldn't you know it 'sod's law', it did not rain one drop all the way home. Many thanks to our old and new friends in the PVGNL Club who made us so welcome and the journey to get there worthwhile.

Special thanks to Leo & Hanny Greve, Ron & Monique Laurier, Theo Noe and all the rest of the gang. This year's Euro convention 2005 will possibly be back in Germany around July. Watch the Dutch website for details of this event at

www.politievoertuigengroep.nl

Andrew Boyce



Classic & Motorcycle Mechanics Show - October 2004



Star & Garter Open Day - November 2004



David Bragg arranged with The Royal Star & Garter Home in Richmond, Surrey for us to display some vehicles. The home is for disabled ex-service men and women and this was their Christmas Fair to help raise funds for their charity. We had on display outside, a BMW K100, ex Metropolitan Police Special Escort Group, a Honda ST1100, ex City of London Police and a Moto Guzzi 850T3, ex Carabinieri, Italy. Inside the grand main hall was displayed an ex Metropolitan Police Triumph Thunderbird, together with our display boards. Much interest was shown from the public, and we found that quite a few residents were ex police and told tale of many stories involving bikes. We have had a letter of thanks from the organiser and we believe the show is on again this year. Another fun event.

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From the Archive



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New Police Motorcycle - Honda STX1300P



Engine: four stroke, V four
Capacity: 1261cc
Maximum Power: 125bhp
Transmission: 5 speed, shaft final
Wheelbase: 1490mm
Weight: 630lbs (287kgs)
Speed: 145mph (232kph)

FEATURES AND EQUIPMENT

Full fairing, crash bars, solo seat, panniers, blue LED / strobe warning lights, electronic siren, modulating headlight, rear fog lights, Matrix sign, modulating rear reds and blues, rear blue pole light, radio system



After the success of the ST1100 as an operational machine, Honda replaced it with the ST1300P. An all new package, it is lighter and faster and comes with fuel injection, electric windscreen, ABS brakes and removable panniers. The bikes in the UK are converted to police spec by Sonic using the latest LED technology from Woodway Engineering. Specially designed keypads operate all of the emergency systems. At the rear is a matrix sign which can be programmed for different messages. Colour schemes are the familiar battenburg you see in the pictures.

Retired Police Motorcycle - BSA M34-12

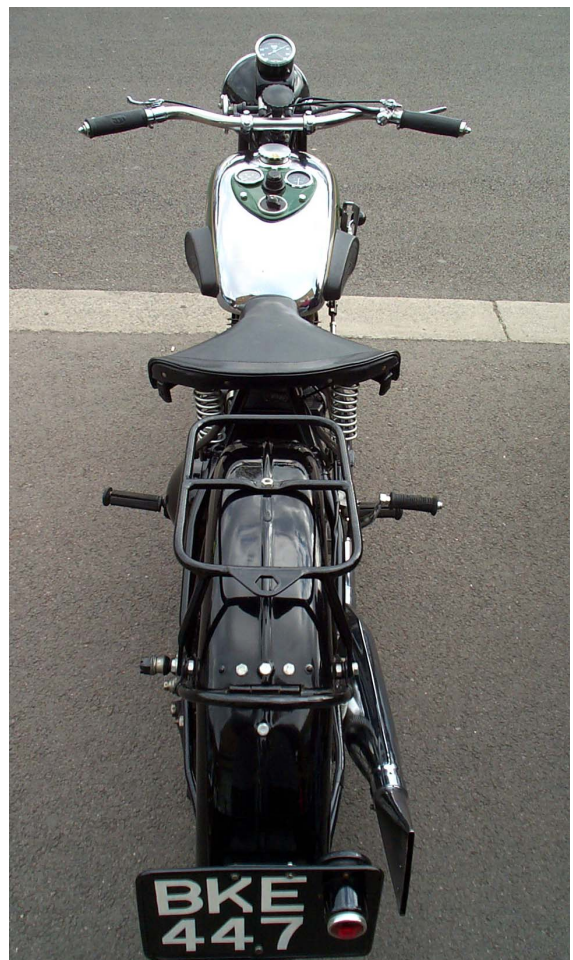


Engine: four stroke, single cylinder
Capacity: 600cc
Maximum Power: 5.95bhp
Transmission: N/A
Wheelbase: N/A
Weight: N/A
Speed: N/A

FEATURES AND EQUIPMENT

Solo seat,
rear carrier

Since the very early days of motorcycling, BSA have been producing machines for both military and police use. The bikes shown in the pictures are very rare models, both having served with the Kent Constabulary around 1934, and both based with the traffic division at the same time. They were supplied in the same batch of models from BSA and have almost consecutive numbers. In April 2004, they came together for a show at the Kent Police Museum for the first time in 60 years. One has been restored and the other is ridden regularly and is unrestored.



Events - 2005

27th/28th March - Medway Festival of Transport

Kent Constabulary Museum, Chatham Dockyard, Kent.
Static show. Contact Bill Fowler 01634 823800
The Old Surgery, The Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TZ

27th/28th March - Surrey Police Bikesafe

Box Hill, nr Dorking, Surrey. Static show.
Surrey Police and PC Ken Wheeler are launching their Bikesafe.
Contact David Bragg 020 8393 4958

2nd/3rd April - Bikesafe Launch

Cheltenham Racecourse.
Static show being run by all the Police Forces in conjunction
with Gloucestershire Constabulary to promote Bikesafe.
Contact David Bragg 020 8393 4958

24th April - The British Engineerium Motorcycle Run

The Goldstone Pumping Station, Neville Road,
Hove, East Sussex. Charity run. Tickets are pre-booked.
Contact Mike Peters 01273 502042 (before 9.30pm please)

23rd/24th April - 25th International Classic Bike Show

Stafford County Showground, Staffordshire
We are having our own large stand. Come and see us.
Staffordshire Police are joining us with Bikesafe.
Contact Gerry Scott 0151 2294472
E-mail: gerry.scott@btinternet.com

1st May - Abingdon Fayre Air Show

Abingdon Airfield, Dalton Barracks, Oxfordshire.
Static show. Contact the organisers 07789 654204
E-mail: brian@bdphotography.co.uk

2nd May - Emergency Services Day

Brooklands Museum, Weybridge, Surrey.
Static show. Contact Robin Arnold 01932 843921
Brooklands Museum 01932 857381
E-mail: events@brooklandsmuseum.com

7th May - Southern Bike Show

Kempton Park Race Course, Surrey.
Static bike show. We are having a stand again.
Contact David Smith 020 8361 4761

8th May - Furness British Motorcycle Club Show

Barrow in Furness, Cumbria. Static show.
Contact David Bragg 0208 393 4958

15th May - Faversham Classic Car & Motorcycle Show

Faversham Town Centre, Kent. Static Show.
Contact 01227 272073 Chris Syrett
Send a SAE to Faversham Classic Events,
78 Kingsnorth Road, Faversham, Kent ME13 8SB

4th June - Hampshire Constabulary Families Day

Police HQ, Netly, Hampshire. Static show.
Contact PC2113 Steve Woodward 08450 454545
Traffic Dept., Cosham Police Station, Wayte Street,
Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3BS
E-mail: steve.woodward4@virgin.net

25th/26th June - Preston Hall Fire Show

Preston Park, Yarm Road, Eaglescliffe, Stockton on Tees TS18 3RH
Static show. Contact Derek Batchelor 01642 527346
E-mail: events@stockton.gov.uk

26th June - Emergency Vehicle Day

Crich Tramway Village, nr Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP
Static show. Contact the museum on 0870 7587267
E-mail: enquiries@tramway.co.uk

26th June - Great Escape

Charity run around around the Lakes. 9.30am start.
Stollen car park, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria
Contact Crooks Suzuki 01229 822342

2nd/3rd July - Yorkshire Fire & Rescue 2005

Eden Camp Museum, Malton, North Yorkshire.
Static event. Contact Rick Loudon 01724 841483

23rd/24th July - 999 Emergency Services Display

Western lawns. Eastbourne, Sussex. Static show.
Contact Ff D. Stoneham, 01323 488095
Fire Station, Whitley Road, Eastbourne BN22 8LA
e-mail: thestoneham@btinternet.com

31st July - Worthing Seafront Festival

Worthing, West Sussex. Static show.
Worthing Lions Trust. Contact Pat Sheppard 07790 018117
26 Ambersham Crescent, East Preston,
Worthing, West Sussex BN16 1AH

31st July - National Law Ride

National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire.
Run in honour of fallen Officers organised by the Blue Knights
and Staffordshire Police. Starts at 9am from the Police Traffic
Garage, Weston Road, Stafford. Camping site available.
Contact PC2113 Steve Woodward 08450 454545
Traffic Dept., Cosham Police Station, Wayte Street,
Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3BS
E-mail: steve.woodward4@virgin.net

14th August - Durham Police Bike Wise

Aykley Heads Police HQ, Durham DH1 5TT
Static show and events.
Contact Bikesafe organiser Sgt Bob Brown 0191 3752136
E-mail: durham.police@bikesafe.co.uk

14th August - Historic Commercial Vehicle Rally

Woburn Abbey, Woburn, Bedfordshire MK17 9WA
Static show. Contact the organisers 01525 290666
E-mail: enquiries@woburnabbey.co.uk

3rd/4th September - Newark Air Museum Open Weekend

The Airfield, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottingham NG24 2NY
Static show. Contact Malcolm Hodson 0115 9101834

10th/11th September - Classic Bike Show

Ryde, Isle of Wight. Static show.
Contact Vic Galluci, Flat 37, Hugh Herland House,
Portland Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2SY

15th/16th October - Classic Mechanics Show

Stafford County Showground, Staffordshire.
If you would like to exhibit your motorcycle, can
you let us know. Contact Gerry Scott 0151 2294472
E-mail: gerry.scott@btinternet.com

If you have any more events or shows that might be of
interest, can you send details to HPMG
41 Shawford Road, West Ewell, Surrey KT19 9SW