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HISTORIC POLICE MOTORCYCLE GROUP NEWSLETTER

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David's Page

Welcome everyone to 2013.

Hopefully this year will be a little bit drier than last year's downpours. We had a quiet year in 2012 because there was the Queen's Jubilee Celebrations in June followed by the Olympic Games which meant a lot of people were either involved operationally or as spectators. This being our 20th anniversary, the Historic Police Motorcycle Group (HPMG) was started in March 1993 with the first ever run from Richmond Park to Box Hill in Surrey. Some 50+ bikes turned up for the ride out under police escort, which considering it was just an idea I had was fantastic. Over the last 20 years we have done and attended a awful lot of shows and events. When you look back at the old newsletters, you appreciate the range of things we have done. This year can I urge you all to attempt to bring out your old police motorcycles and show them off. People still love to see them, love to chat about them. A lot of people will never have seen an older Triumph or an LE Velocette, let alone a police one. Whether they are in police trim or have been civilianised, it matters not. What's important is the fact that they were working machines and they have their own history.

See our full events diary on the back page for 2013.

Hope to see you at the events through the year - Remember, Enjoy Yourselves.

David Bragg

From the archive - 20 years of the HPMG



Harry Harris, Fred Baker & Robin Arnold at the very first HPMG Motorcycle Rally at Richmond Park Police Station in March 1993

From the archive - 20 years of the HPMG



Motor 2000 - Utrecht, The Netherlands



International Police Association Rally
The Netherlands - August 2000



Stafford Bike Show in conjunction with Stafford Police - October 2000



Southern Bike Show - May 2001



Kent Police Motorcycle Run - 1994

From the archive - 20 years of the HPMG



Southern Bike Show - May 2006



Cheshire Police - September 2008



The Best Beach Police Station
The Netherlands - August 2000



Beaulieu Motorcycle Show - August 2008



Isle of Wight and the inshore lifeboat - July 2000

From the archive - 20 years of the HPMG



Buckingham Palace photoshoot - 1999



Chatham Dockyard Show - April 2007



Capel Transport Show - August 2008



Chatham Dockyard Show - April 2007



Hampshire Police Open Day - June 2011

Chatham Dockyard Transport Show - 8th April 2012



Chatham Dockyard Transport Show - 8th April 2012



On Easter Sunday, we had our annual trip down to the Chatham Dockyards for their Steam Transport Show. Based opposite the Kent Police Museum, we displayed 9 bikes including 2 LE Velocettes', one Honda ex City of London Deauville, and a Honda CBX750P from Gifo in Japan, We were joined by our friends from Police Car UK and other Emergency Services Groups. The weather wasn't kind to us as it rained more or less all day. However, it did stay dry for the cavalcade of motorcycles around the dockyard. Despite the conditions, it was well attended by the general public and to add to the variety of the show, they now included lot's of people dressed in Steam Punk costumes, a form of attire based on Jules Verne but brought into the 21st Century.

Brooklands Emergency Services Show - 7th May 2012



May 7th - Brooklands Museum Emergency Service Day , May Day. Once again we visited Brooklands for their annual show. As always, it was well attended by all the Emergency Services, including Police, Fire and Ambulance. Unfortunately, the weather yet again was against us with showers all day but it didn't put of the public attending. We were joined by PC-UK with their preserved vehicles along with the Metropolitan Police and their cars and bike from their historic fleet. One of the motorcycles put on display was a brand new never used Honda CBX750P from Greg Holliday. Originally brought into the UK by David Silver Spares, it is in as new condition complete with all of it's police equipment. See page 17 for further information. In the afternoon they held the usual cavalcade of vehicles which circumnavigates the Brooklands circuit. As ever a very colourful sight of Police, Ambulances, Fire Engines and other assorted vehicles with all their lights blazing.

Brooklands Emergency Services Show - 7th May 2012



Southern Bike Show, Kempton Park - 19th May 2012



Hampshire Constabulary Families Day - 2nd June 2012



Saturday 2nd June - Hampshire Police Families Open Day at Netley Police headquarters. I expected the show to be a little bit quieter the normal with bikes on display because of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations and the forthcoming Olympic Games. We managed to display 8 bikes including Anthony's ever popular Metropolitan Police Special Escort Group BMW K100, Nick's retired Honda CD250 finally back in it's police livery, David's ex Metropolitan Police BMW R75/7 and Ron & George's LE Velocettes which always add a little colour and spectacle. As always, Eric our old fashioned 'Copper' kept an eye on everything (see top picture), he's always popular for photo shoots. Police Car UK laid on a large display of police cars and vans and all of the Emergency Services in Hampshire were represented. Weather was kind to us and there was a very large turnout of families and friends all day. As ever lot's of questions were asked and lot's of photographs taken.

Hampshire Constabulary Families Day - 2nd June 2012



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Chiltern Open Air Museum Transport Show - 22nd July 2012



We attended the Chiltern Open Air Museum Transport Show on Sunday 22nd July. Feared the worst, because it had been raining the week before heavily. However, the sun shone all day and the show had it's best attendance of vehicle ever, perhaps because it was the first show of the year that it actually stayed dry. We have been coming to this event for a few years now and is well represented by other car and bike clubs. The museum is devoted to restoring and rebuilding old buildings and they range from the iron age right through to the fifties. Show is on again this year and it would be nice to get some more bikes to attend. If you want to come along, please see the events page for details and contact.



Capel Classic Vehicle Show - 18th August 2012



London Bus Museum Open Day - 21st October 2012



From the archive - 20 years of the HPMG



Hampshire Police Families Day - June 2008



Cobham Bus Museum - April 2011



Oostende Docks, Belgium - 1998



Essex Police Weekend Run - 1995



Surrey Police Open Day - May 2001

Current Police Motorcycle - Kawasaki 1400GTR



Introduced to the world in 2007, the Kawasaki 1400GTR is the newest police model. With a powerful 1352cc engine producing 157 bhp, it is easily one of the fastest police bikes on the road today. The model pictured is the 2013 Kawasaki 999 special. The UK conversion is undertaken by Woodway Engineering and uses Whelen LED's, light heads and siren. In America it is called the Enforcer and is in use with the Los Angeles Police Department and the California Highway Patrol. Their colour schemes are black & white.



Retired Police Motorcycle - Norton Commando Interpol



Norton Interpol, Hampshire Constabulary, UK

The Norton Commando Interpol was built by the NVT (Norton Villiers Triumph) Group in the early 1970's at the Norton factory in Andover, England. They produced a 750 version based on the civilian model and then later upgraded it to 850. The bike was provided with all the police accessories. It was fitted the famous Isolastic system for damping the engine vibration. The later models were fitted with a front disc brake and an electric start.



Norton Interpol, Lancashire Constabulary, UK

New Police Motorcycle - Honda CBX750P



First produced in 1984, the Honda CBX750P was based on the civilian version of the 650 Nighthawk model, then upgraded to 750. In production for many years and only sold to police departments, it has seen active service in such countries as Jamaica, Japan, Ireland, Malaysia and Hong Kong. This particular model pictured was originally imported into the UK by David Silver Spares and is now owned by Greg Holliday. The CBX750P is brand new and has no miles on it.



