

# **Basingstoke MAG**

**14/10/2010**

## **Rep Keith:**

### **E-MAIL'S**

More interference in biking from Brussels

- Mandatory anti-lock brakes.
- Anti tampering measures.
- Mandatory daytime headlight use.

All the above are threatened by Brussels in a new wave of legislation which bureaucrats think will cut motorcycle accidents.

The current proposals suggest medium and high powered bikes be routinely fitted with anti-lock brakes, while linked systems to ensure both brakes are applied, are proposed as an option for low powered machines.

A raft of anti-tampering design features to obstruct owner modification in pursuit of higher power is being promoted for all bikes.

MAG President Ian Mutch said: "The Commission is trying to address complex road safety issues with 'sledge hammer' tactics yet again.

"Rider groups defeated anti tamper legislation in the 1990s and now we have to respond to the threat once more. The benefits of anti-lock braking systems are as unproven as the use of headlights in daytime and yet these supposed panaceas are being re-floated in lieu of sensible efforts to develop better attitudes and consideration among all road users.

"Worse still, the EU is handing over responsibility for these issues to technical experts appointed by the United Nations, thus robbing European citizens of a voice in the future of motorcycle construction and use.

"The resilience to logic of these irrational demands underscores the need for an articulate voice for motorcycling. MAG will work to inform the debate among the technical specialists if the politicians cannot be persuaded against abandoning their responsibility."

Mutchie sent this through,

This is a remarkable clip that I feel everyone should look at.

As a cyclist in London I have run more red lights than I can count. Why do I do it? Because it isn't dangerous. Why don't I do it on my Harley ? Because I'll get points if I'm caught. Simple as that. What the cyclist's behaviour really tells us is not that they are bad mad people but that we don't need most of the traffic lights we have. Certainly there is scope for getting rid of many and making others react to traffic or pedestrian demand.

My feeling is that we should have a policy on this, the financial savings could be astronomic.

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<http://www.wimp.com/trafficlights/>

The Riders Are Voters campaign organisations have called for Mass Lobby of Parliament on Monday 8th November 2010.

The Mass Lobby is not a street demo, it is a rare opportunity for riders from across the UK to gather at Parliament and tell the politicians how best they can serve the riding public.

There is plenty for the riders to say to their elected representatives and the governing parties:

- # The cost and bureaucratic complexity of getting a licence is spiralling out of control, while DSA has slashed the number of driving test centres.
- # Road conditions are worsening - road design and repair must become bike-friendly if cuts in public spending are not to result in avoidable danger to riders
- # The UK Parliament must resist European proposals to restrict rider choice - current proposals for a new 'Multi-Directive' threaten to restrict riders carrying out basic maintenance task or modifying their own bike to suit their needs. Mandating the use of expensive anti-lock brakes and electronics will add further cost and complexity to biking. Mandating permanently lit headlamps on all new bikes may do more harm than good.
- # Riders are paying too much for too little in return - many bikes pay higher amounts of road tax than do less fuel-efficient cars
- # The Bike industry has been left to sink or swim as Government bail-outs for the Car industry and public money to develop more environmentally-friendly vehicles are not available for two-wheelers.
- # Many Bus Lanes are still closed to bikes despite the advantages of opening them.
- # Motorcycle Sport is under pressure from agricultural policies that deter land-owners and planning

rules that threaten to close circuits.

Taking part in the Mass Lobby is very easy and free of charge, but you must register your details with Riders Are Voters if you want to attend.

You can register by Emailing [central-office@mag-uk.org](mailto:central-office@mag-uk.org) or Phoning the Riders Are Voters office on 0800 9883193 (rider registration is being co-ordinated by MAG on behalf of the RAV campaign organisations).

You will need to tell us:

- your Name and home Address including the Postcode (we will need to check details for your constituency and MP).
- your E-mail Address and Telephone contact details (we will need to confirm your registration and may need to tell you about final arrangements for the day).
- which motorcycle organisations you are a member of, if any (RAV is a coalition of groups working for a better deal for riders).

RAV will send you further information about arrangements for the day, including travel information.

Riders who are not able to take part in the Mass Lobby at Parliament can still support the campaign by making an appointment to see their MP at one of their local constituency 'surgeries' - ideally BEFORE the 8th of November.

See [www.ridersarevoters.org](http://www.ridersarevoters.org) or phone 0800 9883193 for further information.

This is your opportunity – meet your MP where they work for you.

Hear what lies ahead for biking in the UK - Say what should be done.

Be a part of it, let your voice be heard.

Please find attached the information relating to Afghan Heroes request for support regionally with Ride of Respect on 3 April 2011

If you have any further questions or you would like to be involved, please contact Den at [den.powell@mag-uk.org](mailto:den.powell@mag-uk.org)

Please be aware if anyone points you to the following website <http://www.rideofrespect.org.uk/> please advise them that this is not an official website for the ride. Please point them to the Afghan Heroes website at <http://www.afghanheroes.org.uk/>



Ride of Respect  
30411.pdf

## **A.O.B**

**Keith:** Winchester MAG Christmas Party on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Hot & cold buffet, Raffle, live band.

Southampton MAG Christmas meal 18<sup>th</sup> Dec at The Cricketers Pub.

**Colin:** **Basingstoke Christmas meal.** Set for Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. at AM top of town, same as last meal. Meal then go for a few beers. 7.30pm at AM. Names to keith so he can book the tables.

**Red:** Need to sell tickets for MAG raffle.£1 per ticket.

**Keith:** The band playing at the Christmas party is STRICKEN 22.  
Prizes for the raffle and donations for the kids home in ASAP.

**Meeting closed.**

## EVENTS:

### October

**26<sup>TH</sup> October:** Ride out to Winchester MAG. To see Paul from JtheBs.715pm at the Royal Oak, to leave at 7.30pm.

**28<sup>th</sup> October:** Milestones Museum Meet. 5pm – 9pm

### November

**9<sup>th</sup> November:** Winchester MAG AGM. At The New Queens Head.

**13<sup>TH</sup> November:** Southern Region AGM. At the Royal Oak Basingstoke. 6pm

**27<sup>th</sup> November:** Carole Nash Bike Show, NEC 27<sup>th</sup> November-5<sup>th</sup> December. £15

### December

**18<sup>th</sup> December:** Basingstoke MAG. Christmas Children's Run and Evening Party at the Royal Oak.

**30<sup>th</sup> December:** **NO BASINGSTOKE MAG MEETING.**

**30<sup>th</sup> December:** Basingstoke MAG Christmas Meal. 7.30pm at AM top of town.

### January 2011

**15<sup>th</sup> January:** Salisbury MAG, AGM. At The Village Pub in Salisbury.