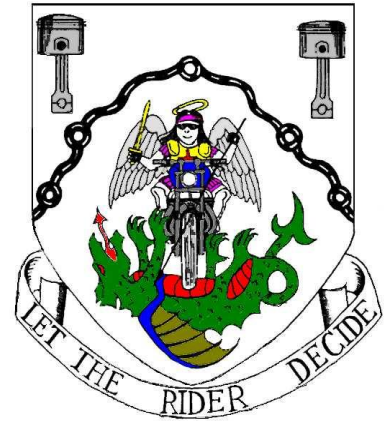


Basingstoke M.A.G. Minutes

03/02/2011



Rep Keith:

Emails:

Bike vs car: cost comparison

By Dan Aspel -

Getting on a moped or bike costs half as much as driving a car, and we've got the figures to prove it.

Our research below shows that a 17-year-old driving a car will have spent around £2640 to get on the road, while a 16-year-old riding a moped will have spent just £1288. A saving of over 52%.

If you're 16+ and are looking to get out on the roads independently, here's how to do it...

To begin with, you have three options:

- At 16 you are legally allowed to ride a 50cc moped
- At 17 you can either: ride a 125cc motorcycle or drive a car

Here's how each one prices up...

	50cc Moped	125cc Motorcycle	Car
Apply for provisional licence	£50	£50	£50
40hrs of lessons	x	x	£800
Theory test	x	x	£31
Practical test	x	x	£62
CBT	£89	£89	x
Purchase vehicle	£695 [2002 Baotian BT49 - 4000 miles]	£795 [1999 Honda CG125 - 4000 miles]	£575 [1998 Ford Fiesta 1.25 LX - 60,000 miles]
Purchase helmet/gloves/jacket	£120 [£50 Jacket, £30 Gloves, £40 Helmet]	£120 [£50 Jacket, £30 Gloves, £40 Helmet]	x
Tax	£15	£15	£125
Insurance	£319.22 TPFT	£357 TPFT	£996.96 TPFT
TOTAL	£1288.22	£1426	£2639.96

As the figures show, a large cost of driving a car comes from high insurance premiums: in this case three times more than the cost of [insuring a bike](#).

On top of that, there's the cost of paying for lessons. While some people may need as little as 20 hours of instruction, some require up to 70 or even 80. The national average is 40hrs, with an additional 20hrs of private practice with a family member or friend.

The big advantage of two-wheelers is that you will be able to travel independently from the day you've passed your CBT. The incentives for then going on to get your full bike licence are: being able to carry pillion passengers, ride on motorways and ride larger capacity bikes (as well as not having to renew your CBT every two years). And, as you'll have spent two years riding on the roads, you may only need a handful of lessons before you take your test, which could cost as little as £200 in total.

- Find a [125cc motorcycle for sale](#)

Even without the privileges of holding a full license, riding a bike means you can get yourself from A to B at a young age at a very low cost.

To find out more about getting your bike licence visit:

www.geton.co.uk
www.direct.gov.uk

Cheaper Fuel in a couple of years maybe

<http://uk.cars.yahoo.com/31012011/36/19p-litre-petrol-development-0.html>

How to fight parking charges

<http://uk.cars.yahoo.com/28012011/74/fight-parking-fines.html>

Fair Fuel UK - Petition

We would like to make you aware of an on-line campaign against the next proposed increase in fuel duty planned for April 2011 – which will put another 5 pence on a litre of fuel.

If you would like to register your protest against this please visit www.fairfueluk.com and sign the on-line petition – it only takes a couple of minutes.

The more signatures – the more the Government will be pressured to review this unfair and economically damaging policy.

PRESS RELEASE - MINISTER CONSIDERS CESSATION OF MOTORCYCLE TEST TRAINER BOOKING

I received this from a Gary Fossey (Campaign to Reopen Trowbridge DTC) 07939058851 - unfortunately my brain cells are not working as to who he is so I don't know anything more than this...

Please see attached press release from the Campaign to Reopen Trowbridge Driving Test Centre (DTC), supported by campaigns to retain or reopen DTCs in Warrington, Angus, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire, Kent and Lincolnshire.



Minister Considering
Cessation of Motorcy

Bedford Borough is helping bikes again!

Bedford Borough Council deserves to be in the news again.

As part of their involvement with MAG's GET A GRIP! campaign, they have decided to start using non-slip overbanding throughout their region.

This will be on an 'as needed' basis and won't be retrospective, but crack filling and seam joining happens all the time, so this is great news.

This move comes on the back of Bedford Mayor Dave Hodgson's approval of trials permitting motorcycles to use bus lanes and the Council's decision to trial composite, non-slip manhole covers.

They have also fitted extra parking bays for motorcycles, are currently identifying new areas that may be suitable and trialling an inovative ground anchor locking system.

Hats off to Bedford Borough at a time when too many Authorities use budget constraints as an excuse for inaction.

Westminster City Council Bully Boys!

Westminster City Council (WCC) are at it again, using public money to act against the public interest.

It has come to light that in their efforts to stop the 'No To Bike Parking Tax' campaign, WCC have sent threatening emails to the web service who have been hosting the 'No To' website. So vociferous have these been, that the hosting company felt compelled to withdraw their services, and as such, remove the No To website from the internet.

WCC have allegedly threatened to take legal action over some material on the website that they believe to be defamatory, but the irony is that the material in question is actually on a completely different site!

What is striking about this situation, apart from the fact that a public body such as Westminster City Council should be above such behaviour, is that they also instructed the web hosting service to remove all of the sites managed by an individual involved with the No To campaign. These are commercial sites, completely unrelated to the campaign and as such are seriously effecting the livelihood of an untold number of businesses.

It is not yet clear whether the action was as a result of Westminster policy, or that of one senior Council employee, but as I write this, the No To site is back online and now being hosted by the same organisation that supplies webspace for Wikileaks.

Who says motorcycle politics is dead?

Get A Grip! moves up another gear in Warks, Beds and Somerset

Today I am pleased to report that Warwickshire Council Highways Engineers heard a presentation from GET A GRIP! and as a result are prepared to trial the new composite non-slip manhole covers as part of their road resurfacing schedule. This is fantastic news, because it is an acknowledgment that even when budgets are at their tightest, local authorities who are committed to road safety, will actually consider new infrastructural developments in any way that they can.

It adds to the boost that the GET A GRIP! campaign recieved yesterday, when Bedford Borough Council officially endorsed the campaign by agreeing to provide the use of their Borough 'shield', or logo, in connection with the campaign. This is the first Local Authority to very publicly back us and join the likes of the Institute of Highways Engineers and the Asphalt Industry Alliance.

The further good news, is that as Bedford and Warwickshire were beginning trials, North Somerset Council, who have also been talking to MAG members, placed an order for 5 covers.

We have now made contact with 5 more Local Authorities who want to get involved and with the producer of an innovative non-slip overbanding material.

Seems like it's going to be really great year for motorcyclists, I just hope the weather is too!

If anyone is going to be at the MCN Bike Show in London this weekend, please come along to the GET A GRIP! stand and see the non-slip manhole covers we are so excited about. As soon as you stand on it you'll know why I am convinced "this is a major contribution to Road Safety". And you'll get a free keyring!

A.O.B.

Colin: Haslemere Fire Station are holding a Ready to Ride. April 17th at the Haslemere Fire Station West St Haslemere Surrey GU27 2AP.

Cheryl: Frank Thomas and Thomas Sports Group and Motrack have gone into receivership.

Miller: Date for Clay Pigeon shooting is 22nd May.

Unable to get the normal shooting club I used to go to but luckily found another one closer to Basingstoke half way to Hook.

Will take on party of novices and go through safety/shooting techniques a group of 10 will take about 2.5 hours training gun supplied. I think the idea is spend the time in training (about 30 cartridges and then use the remaining cartridges to have a go round the circuit) cartridges sold in boxes of 25 @ £3/box (not sure if this is included in the price)

People who have shot before can go round the circuit/stands for the following costs
£5 gun hire per person
£15 for the clays/round
£3/box for cartridges (2 required)

Names in to Keith ASAP so we can confirm the booking.

Google for chalky hill shooting ground for further details

2011 Events

Saturday, February 19, 2011 - East Anglia Regional AGM

Organiser: East Anglia MAG

Arrive from 14:00 for a 14:15 start Remember your Membership card - no card, no vote.

Location: 11 Short Drive, Manea, Nr. March, Cambridgeshire PE15 0GF

Web: <http://east-anglia-region.mag-uk.org>

Basingstoke MAG 2011 AGM. 24th March, 8pm at The Royal Oak.

Salisbury MAG bike show is on 3rd April

Southampton MAG bike show is on 15th April

Reading MAG Easter bike show is on Sunday 24th April. At Reading Abbey Rugby Club.

Basingstoke MAG 21st Anniversary Bike Show. At the small car park by The Royal Oak. 18th June.

Basingstoke MAG 2012 AGM. 22nd March, 8pm at The Royal Oak.