



AMCA EUROPEAN CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

September 2019

Hello AMCA Europe Members,

This time we have coverage of the International Harley and Indian rallies, both held in Finland this year. First though a word from our Treasurer Martin van Kuijk, who has organised 5 x 10 metre stands at 6/402 in the big show in Mannheim next month. If any members have parts to sell, or want to meet other members, please contact Martin through the Email address at the back of this newsletter.

International Harley-Davidson Rally

The Harley Super Rally was held 5-9 June in Himos, Finland, with nearly 9000 visitors, and our German ambassador Claudia sent these pictures and comments:

"We had absolutely stunning weather, in fact it was too hot. Everybody was looking for shade, cold drinks and ice cream. Hotels and cabins around the event area were booked out to the last bed, and wherever you could go you would meet Harley riders. No restaurant, bar or ice cream parlor was without Harleys parked in front. And it never got dark, because it was the time of 'midnight sun'. Unfortunately, in the evening we had hundreds of mosquitoes.

Of course we met Fiskis (our Finnish ambassador) there, he had come from Helsinki with his Panhead. He had a little problem, but was able to find somebody who did a good welding job, so he was able to ride home safely. We also met with Johan Wijers and Larry Elias from AMCA Netherlands. They had come all the way to Finland with old bikes.



Actually, there were only a few really old bikes there, I think most of the people preferred to ride that long trip on their Twin Cams...

Here are Claudia and Manfred with a typical Finnish animal (real ones could not be found):



On our way home, Manfred's Shovelhead had a breakdown 125 km from Helsinki just 4 hours before the ferry was due to leave. But we got very lucky! A young guy from Estonia, who said he was a Harley enthusiast, stopped with his small truck, picked up the Shovel, and brought us all the way to the ferry terminal, just in time so we could check in! Thanks again for the great help."

International Indian Rally

The event was held 26-28 July at Ellivuori Resort in Finland, and our UK party managed to cover 5,000 miles and ten countries, with 11 ferry trips, in getting there and back. At 0400 on Monday 22nd, our intrepid team set off for the Dover ferry, with Simon Roud on the newly acquired 1913 Thor twin, brother Nick on the 1922 ACE, and Brett Wright on the Indian Woodsman. Overnight was at the German/Danish border, followed by two

ferries to Rodbyhavn and then Helsingborg and Stockholm. Tuesday night was spent at Frederik Eriksen's workshop, with a barbecue and other riders arriving. Wednesday saw the Kepelskaar ferry to Marienheim on the Åland Islands. There are apparently about 20,000 of them off the east coast of Sweden, with 7500 inhabited. The party then rode to Martin Cromwell-Morgan's guest house, to make a party of 83 bikes and people entertained by an impromptu concert from Martin's wife, who is a singer.

Thursday was another ride, with clear blue skies, clear blue water, and temperatures 30-35C, say high eighties Fahrenheit. A front tyre blew out on the Thor, fortunately at low speed, and reminding me why I don't ride clincher rims any more.



Two more ferries to Brando were followed by a stay in summerhouses and a live band.

Friday, another ferry took the party to Finland and the resort hotel – a ski resort in the winter well able to cater to a large party in the summer. Swedish club member Jürgen Sundberg had organised an inner tube for the Thor, so this was fitted and all departed on the Saturday run through forest roads past picturesque lakes, to take the Hard Luck award at the end of the day. The hotel was relaxed about camping in their grounds, and many attendees appreciated this. Sunday morning it was off to Turku for a 12+ hour ferry ride to Stockholm, including live entertainment. A marathon van drive then took the guys to Raalte Netherlands late Monday night, with most of Tuesday spent chatting to host Max Middelbosch before catching a late ferry back to the UK – phew, that was a punishing program of relaxation. Most comments were of a 'trip of a lifetime' type, with the AMCA 'fellowship of a common interest' being remarked on, as many people of different backgrounds and nationalities got together to enjoy our hobby.

Here's Max and the guys relaxing near the end of a great experience:



Goodwood Revival

On 13 September I was lucky enough to be given a ticket for this high dollar event, where 150,000 attendees race vintage vehicles and dress up in period costume for three days. I stayed with the 1913 Thor much of the day, giving my technical spiel and encouraging visitors to join our Club. We were lucky to have a 3 year old grandson with us to help with the wrenching on the bike:



The motorcycle pits were mostly filled with Manx Nortons, many I understand having a lot of new parts:



Inside the track is an old airfield, and numerous historic planes had flown in for the show. Here's a 1944 Beechcraft:



And a 1914 Bristol Scout:



It was the 60th anniversary of the 1959 launch of the Mini, and old and new versions were on show and raced. There were also plenty of Land Rovers from the 2018 show celebrating the 70th anniversary of this workhorse vehicle, still in production. Numerous WW2 jeeps and other military vehicles were also to be seen. This was the 22nd year of this spectacular show, sold out again, and it looks like it will continue for a long time yet. This, our Raalte Meet in May, and the Goodwood Festival of Speed held earlier in the season would be great excuses for your European visit next year...

More Stuff

In June I again visited our local Lydden Hill race track for VMCC race day and saw this tasty Laverda and Guzzi in the pits:



Our Deputy Chief Judge Peter Reeves visited Wauseon, and the two biggest UK shows at Beaulieu and Netley Marsh, had a good time and apparently bought nothing, showing excellent restraint.

Next time I hope to have reports from the big Mannheim show in Germany, which pretty much closes out the European season, plus pictures of the projects I've been working on over the last six months.

2019 Events

Below is our latest timetable for the year. The AMCA events are firm, but some of the others may be provisional. Please advise me of any corrections, or additional events you would like to see included.

2019 AMCA National Meets

February 22-23, Omaha Chapter, Fremont, NE
March 08-09, Sunshine Meet, New Smyrna Beach, FL
April 26-27, Perkiomen Chapter, Oley, PA
May 17-19, Southern Meet, Denton, NC
May 24-25, European Meet, Raalte, NL
June 14-15, Viking Chapter, St. Paul, MN
June 14-15, Fort Sutter Chapter, Dixon, CA
July 05-07, Empire Chapter, Trumansburg, NY
July 19-21, Wauseon Meet, Wauseon, OH
August 02-03, Yankee Chapter, Terryville, CT
August 24-25, Australian Chapter, Sydney, AUS
September 27-28, Chesapeake, Jefferson, PA

2019 AMCA National Road Runs

April 08-10, Cherokee Chapter Road Run, Kerrville, TX
June 09-12, Allegheny Chapter, Ligonier, PA
September 04-06, Music City Chapter, Nashville, TN
September 23-25, Yerba Buena Chapter, Monterey, CA

Other 2019 Events

Austria

September 03-08 European Bike Week, Faaker See
www.europeanbikeweek.com

Belgium

Feb 23 Ruijbeurs Oude Motoren,www.earlyriders.be

Aug 15-18 Where is Anna? 85 km run near Newport for pre-1931 bikes. whereisanna1418@gmail.com

Denmark

Aug 31 Laholm Beach Jutland, pre-1947 beach racing and partying www.romomotorfestival.dk

Finland

Jan 12 Jyväskylä swap meet

June 05-09 Harley-Davidson Super Rally, Himos
www.superrally2019.fi

July 26-28 International Indian Rally, Sastamala
www.indianmotorcycle.fi

Croatia/Slovenia/Italy

June 27-30 FIVA World Motorcycle Run, www.fiva.org

Germany

Jan 20 Winter Classic Bike Show, Im Alten Opel-Werk, 65428 Rüsselheim

Jan 25-27 Motorrad Bodensee www.motorradwelt-bodensee.de

Mar 07-10 Retro Classics Stuttgart www.retro-classics.de

Mar 16-17 Technorama Kassel www.technorama.de

Apr 05-07, Veterama, Hockenheim www.veterama.de

June 20-23 Magic Bike, Rüdesheim, www.magic-bike-ruedesheim.com

Sep 07, Board Track racing at Bielefeld. Contact motoholic@web.de

Oct 11-13, Veterama, Mannheim. Biggest European swap meet. www.veterama.de.

Italy

Jan 17-20 Motorbike Expo Verona
www.motorbikeexpo.it

Jan 11-12 Harley and Snow Hillclimb, Bolzano
www.harley.bz.it/de/harley-snow

May 10-12 ASI Moto Show, Parma race track
www.asifed.it provisional

Sep 07 Roll'n Flat Beach Race, Caorle
www.venicebeachrace.com provisional

Latvia

July 10-13, Kurland Rally. A 60 bike limit this year, so book early at www.kurlandround.lv. provisional

Netherlands

Jan 12-13 Oldtimerbeurs Autotron, Rosmalen
www.oldtimerbeurs.net

Feb 17. Swap Meet, Hengelo, www.alemite-motoren.nl *provisional*

Feb 23 Oldtimer+Tweewielerbeurs Eurohal Zuidbroek,
www.1up25.nl

June 21-23 Silent Gray Fellows Meet, Oosterhout. 16th meet for pre-1966 American bikes,
www.silentgrayfellows.nl

Aug 09-11, Old Timers Run, Den Haag. Pre-1966 American bikes for the 41st time.
www.hdcitheoldtimers.nl

Sep 06-08, Alemite Run, Beuningen. www.alemite-motoren.nl.

Poland

June 13-16 Old Timer Club summer rally, Bocheniec
www.oldtimerclub.com.pl

June 29-30 Antique motorcycle swap meet, Lodz
www.motoweteranbazar.com

Aug 21-24 75th D-Day anniversary, Hel
<https://www.facebook.com/DDAYHel>

Sweden

Jan 24 Eskiltuna swap meet, Harleys/bobbers 1940s up
provisional

Feb 07 Enköping Indianmarknaden. Indian/early Harley
provisional

Switzerland

Feb 21-24 Swiss Moto/Custom Zürich www.swiss-moto.ch

May 25-26 Swiss Classic World, Luzern
www.swissclassicworld.ch

June 22-23 Oldtimermesse, Uster *provisional*

Aug 26 Gran Prix Suisse Berne Memorial, Bern
provisional

Oct 27 Oldtimermesse, St. Gallen *provisional*

United Kingdom

March 24. Pioneer Run, 350 pre-1915 bikes, Epsom Downs to Brighton.

June 17 Banbury Run, Gaydon, 450 pre-1931 bikes

Oct 11-13 Stafford show and auction

European Chapter Directors 2019

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Country Ambassadors

In addition to those Directors marked with asterisks (*) above, we also have the following country ambassadors:

Denmark. Michael Pedersen,
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Please volunteer if you would like to be representative for a country not mentioned. You just need to know what bike-related events take place in your country, and answer occasional Email questions.

Don't forget to renew your subscriptions at
www.antiquemotorcycle.org

And keep me up to date if you change Email address.

The next newsletter will probably be in November, so please keep sending me articles and photos on bike related items.

Wishing you safe and happy riding, and best regards,

Steve Slocombe,
President AMCA European Chapter

