



UK CHAPTER



Oxford Chapter Insight





Rally 2023

A Harley Owners Group event

**Friday 28th to Sunday 30th July
at the Supermarine Sports Club
South Marston, Swindon, SN3 4BZ**

**Ticket price up to May 31st - £44 each.
From June 1st - £50 each.
At the gate price - £55 each.**

**Ticket includes a pitch for tent,
motorhome or caravan**



Congratulations on your purchase and Hello from the Oxford UK Chapter and the world of H.O.G. (Harley Owners Group).

If you are new to the Harley experience you may be unaware that, in addition to the worldwide fraternity known as the Harley Owners Group (H.O.G.), there are regional groups known as Chapters. Our Chapter is sponsored by the Oxford Harley-Davidson Dealership.

We hope that you will join us and become a member of the Oxford Chapter where you will have the opportunity to meet, socialise and ride with like minded enthusiasts who love Harley-Davidson. We ride locally, nationally and abroad; compete in H.O.G. Challenges as well as our own Chapter events which means we're always out and about experiencing the roads near and far.

The Chapter meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every month, throughout the year at The Railway Inn, Culham, and also informally at the Oxford Harley-Davidson Dealership primarily on Saturday mornings. The map on page 13 shows locations of the Dealership and The Railway Inn.

In addition to events that have become part of our culture such as Saturday breakfasts, Ride To The Wall and the Toy Run we also plan frequent local rides and day trips as well as weekends away so there's always plenty to get involved with.

As part of our annual programme of events, raising money for good causes is always at the forefront of what we do. For instance, we organise and manage the now famous Jake Spicer Toy Run to the John Radcliffe Children's Hospital during September each year. We and our supporting chapters from surrounding regions usually gather over 150 Harleys to take part.

For more information take a look online at our website where you can always find information on what the Chapter are up to... www.oxfordukchapter.co.uk

There is an open invitation to potential new members to come along to a Chapter night to meet us and hear first hand what we get up to. Just let a committee member know that you are coming. If it's not biking weather use the car. We don't mind how you arrive just as long as you arrive prepared to have a good time.

Please do get in touch and I look forward to meeting and riding with you soon.

Bridey Dyer

Chapter Director

director@oxfordukchapter.co.uk

The Oxford UK Chapter—Who we are and what we do

Our Chapter was formed in 2003, shortly after the opening of the Oxford Harley-Davidson Dealership. In August 2005, the Blade Group bought the local franchise along with Cheltenham Harley-Davidson who sponsor our friends in the Rolling Hills Chapter. All chapters are sponsored by their local dealership, so we of course, are sponsored by the Oxford Harley-Davidson Dealership, also known by our members as *'the Toyshop'*.

Our Dealership is located at the top end of Nuffield Way in Abingdon. If you don't know Abingdon very well, as you drive from the A34 into Abingdon on the A415, the Fairacres Retail Park is on the left side. Take the left side slip road into Nuffield Way and follow it to the top end. You can't miss the Dealership. There is a location map near the back of this Information Pack.

We are into the leadership of our seventh Chapter Director, each of them elected by our Dealership. With guidance from the Director, the Dealership also elects any Assistant Directors, the Treasurer and the Secretary. All other committee members are voted for by the Chapter membership. Elections take place during our AGM in January but nominations must be made by the previous December meeting.

We also have a dedicated team of Road Captains and Marshals, without whom we could not conduct our many ride-outs and riding events.

It's usual that we have a full and varied list of events throughout the year so keep an eye on the events posted in our calendar on our web site

www.oxfordukchapter.co.uk.

The site can be accessed without a password, however, there is a section reserved for Chapter members only. The Oxford UK Chapter does NOT collect or store information about you when you visit our web site.

Chapter membership is valid for 12 months and runs from January 1st to year end, although late joiners may be liable to a discounted membership, depending on the month of joining. Annual renewal membership must be paid before the AGM in January.

The Chapter has its own magazine entitled THE HOGGIT. The Editor endeavours to produce 4 editions annually and it is emailed out to members as well as being available on the Chapter web site.

So, in a nutshell, that is the Harley-Davidson Oxford UK Chapter. But what do we do? The simple answer is PLENTY! Read on.

We are a very social group and like to meet up at the Toyshop, at our monthly Chapter night, at Breakfast club, at Wednesday club, at our organised events, at Ladies of Harley outings, at other Chapters events, and of course at our own organised ride-outs. So you see, if you are of a social nature, there is plenty to get involved with and you may even be roped into helping keep the Chapter running.

On a more serious note, we do apply rules to our riding. This is to ensure that everyone rides the same way and therefore there should be no confusion when riding as a group. To ensure our riding is as smooth and trouble free as possible, we instruct how to ride, how to use the second man drop off system and how to control a bike in slow riding situations. We arrange external courses on improving our riding skills and often invite professional riders to our Chapter nights to demonstrate how they stay safe. Safety is as much a priority as having fun.

Chapter night

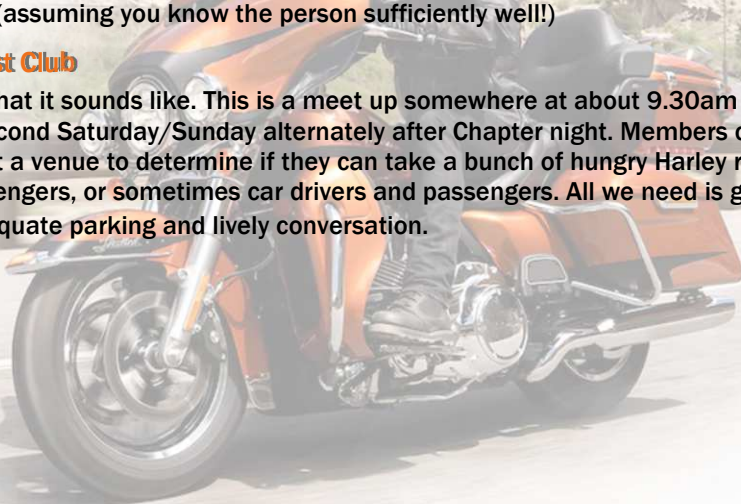
These are held on the second Tuesday of the month from about 7.30pm and last a couple of hours or so. We tend to wrap things up by about 9.30–10.00pm so it's not too late for those who have to travel further.

There's no official dress code, you will however, see articles of clothing worn on which badges and patches are displayed, e.g. waist coats with H.O.G. and Chapter badges. These waist coats and jackets tend to be worn with pride at Chapter evenings, events and ride outs. Waist coats are also known as Vests. We prefer that no offensive patches are displayed as our rides often take us to family events, and we don't want to give an unfavourable impression of our Chapter.

Male Chapter members do have a bit of a funny handshake. Being a friendly motor cycle bunch, the guys greet other Harley friends with a normal handshake followed in the same movement into a thumb grip. This has become the traditional Harley Handshake. Ladies tend to greet others (both male and female) with a hug and a side kiss (assuming you know the person sufficiently well!!)

Breakfast Club

Exactly what it sounds like. This is a meet up somewhere at about 9.30am usually on the second Saturday/Sunday alternately after Chapter night. Members can sound out a venue to determine if they can take a bunch of hungry Harley riders and passengers, or sometimes car drivers and passengers. All we need is good food, adequate parking and lively conversation.



Wednesday Club

Guess what day we hold this on. It normally comprises of a get together, maybe for breakfast, and a ride out with a stop at somewhere of interest. Information and ride details are posted on the Chapter website with a reminder on Chapter nights.

Chapter Organised Events

All events are usually developed months in advance and posted on the Chapter calendar. View it at www.oxfordukchapter.co.uk. We also support events organised by the Dealership. The onus is upon us to give this support as the Oxford Dealership is our sponsor, and without that sponsorship, there would be no Oxford UK Chapter. It works both ways.

Each year we determine which charities we will support and try to raise as much cash for them as possible. An event we always support, and indeed help with part of the organisation, is Ride to the Wall. This is a major event in the biking calendar, taking place in October and is in support of the National Memorial Arboretum, a beautiful and lasting tribute to those who served their country or who have died in conflict. We, and thousands of other bikers, make the annual pilgrimage to this heart of the Nation site.

Our own major charity ride is known as The Jake Spicer Toy Run. Jake was a brave young man from Oxford who died after a five-and-a-half year battle with a rare form of bone cancer. He was a motorcycle fanatic and was an honorary member of the Oxford Chapter in 2007. He rode pillion when we visited Oxford Children's Hospital each year to distribute toys and gifts to sick children. We continue this event in honour of him on a Sunday usually during September.

There are several long weekend events during the riding season, travelling to and staying at distant destinations. They consist of a scenic ride to the destination, a good hotel for the duration and interesting places to visit while we are there. These of course come at a cost but again, they are arranged many months in advance, so the finances don't come as a surprise. Signing up to them is a commitment to spent your hard earned cash, so be sure it's what you want.

In 2019, we held our very first Oxford Chapter rally, named **The Big Chilli**. Our next rally will be 28th –30th July 2023, so put the date into your diary and make sure to buy your tickets soon. See pages 2 and 15 for details.

Not all Chapter members will attend all of the planned rides and events. There are too many to expect that of you. Pick and choose whichever suit you, but always remember, the object is to ride and have fun!

All of our ride outs are categorised as Closed or Open events. A Closed event is for Chapter members only. An Open event is open to everyone.

Other Chapters Events

The Oxford UK Chapter is a comparatively small organisation with about one hundred and twenty members. This tends to fluctuate but we do have a strong and loyal core. Larger chapters are able to organise large scale events and there are many to choose from during the riding season. These large events are called rallies and they are held all over the UK and throughout Europe. You must be a H.O.G. member to buy tickets. Most of the rallies can be found in the H.O.G. magazine which you will receive as a H.O.G. member. The following are just a sample few.

- The Bridgwater Chapter run the first rally of the year in May - the Cider Rally.
- Dunedin Chapter (Scotland) organise Thunder in the Glens in August.
- New Forest Chapter have the Blazin' Rally in late September.
- **In July 2023 we are holding our second Oxford Chapter rally. See more information online at oxfordchapter.co.uk/bigchillrally. Also on the inside front and back covers of this booklet.**

Staying Safe

SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY - this is the message to all of our Members at all times. The Road Captains and Marshals have the important job of ensuring we have trouble free and safe ride-outs. On a ride-out these guys will be recognisable in Yellow High Viz (ability) vests. If you are not the leading Road Captain or Marshal and you want to wear a high vis vest, please use another colour.

Road Captains and Marshals are responsible for route planning and timings. The Road Captain will always give a briefing before the start of the ride-out. This will include a run down of the route, any known hazards along the route, second man drop off information, stop offs for food and/or fuel, and who the tail person is. The briefing may include more but this is the basic content. If you are going to join a ride-out, always ensure you turn up with a full fuel tank and an empty bladder.

Second man drop off is a method of ensuring that all riders stay on route and that no member of a ride-out is lost or abandoned. This can be explained by the Head Road Captain on a Chapter night. It's also in our Guidelines for Ride-outs. This is a 16 page document on how we stay safe on the road.

Slow riding is an art to be mastered. We have an expert who likes to impart his knowledge and experience, usually at the beginning of the riding season. This takes place on a large hard surfaced area in the confines of a school. There are usually two sessions, am and pm, and it caters for about 12 riders in each session. This is run on a first come first served basis.

A new members ride-out is arranged for the early part of the season so that basic rules of group riding are made clear.

Photographs and Videos

Event photographs and videos can be shared by sending to the Chapter Photographer who will load them onto the Oxford Chapter web Gallery pages. <http://oxfordukchapter.co.uk/members-area/members-gallery/> The Chapter Gallery is accessible only by Chapter Members. Our photographic policy is based on the following:-

1. Would people attending the event expect photographs to be taken?
2. Would people in the photograph consider themselves to be in a public place and not have a reasonable expectation of privacy?
3. Do you think it unlikely that anyone would object to the photograph being taken?
4. We treat the taking and management of photographs as any responsible family member would.

Our visitors policy

We welcome riders of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle who want to sample what we are all about. If the visitor(s) has never been a member of our Chapter before, they can join us as a visitor on two occasions before becoming a member, that's one closed riding event and one closed social event. If it's an open event, then everyone is welcome without restriction. There is usually no fee for dipping toes in the water, however, if we are running a BBQ or something similar, the visitor may be asked for a contribution. This sampling time allows a visitor to get a feel for what we do, how we do it and to get to know the current members. Don't forget though, to become a riding Chapter member, H.O.G. membership is also required.

Members of other chapters, or H.O.G. members who are not associated to a chapter, are always welcome at our events. If it's a subsidised event, they will be required to pay the full fee.

Previous, lapsed members are welcome to rejoin our Chapter and then join us on our planned events.

Please remember, we are a Harley-Davidson Chapter, and as such, ALL motorcycles ridden in our official organised ride outs must be a Harley-Davidson model.

Ladies of Harley (LOH)

Ladies of Harley (LOH) is a programme sponsored by the Harley Owners Group. It is not a separate organisation within H.O.G., but was established to encourage women to become more active in H.O.G. and their local chapters. There is a section on the Chapter web site specifically for Ladies of Harley information.

Ladies of Harley Officer

Hi to you all. I am Charmaine.

I am pleased to be representing Oxford UK Chapter as LOH Officer. After passing my bike test a few years ago back I now ride a very sparkling red Sportster 1200 called Betty Boop!

my Betty Boop!



Ladies of Harley welcomes all members of the Chapter to join us on ride outs or at events. The Ladies of Harley hold many events throughout the year and we encourage all members to participate as it is one way that the Chapter raises money for our Charities. We are always open to suggestions from the members and we try to include everyone in this.

To join the Ladies of Harley, you need to be a member of H.O.G. and the Chapter.

You will have full access to the Chapter website and Facebook page which will be updated as necessary with events etc. I will also be sending out emails throughout the year and my inbox/phone will always be available for anyone who has any problems or even if you just want a chat.

Please do get in touch with any suggestions or questions and I look forward to riding with you all on my own bike, not as a pillion now. Although I still love to go for rides as a pillion passenger on Neville's bike.

Charmaine Till

loh@oxfordukchapter.co.uk

www.oxfordukchapter.co.uk

Keep the shining side up

Oxford UK Chapter membership and the benefits

Harley-Davidson Chapter members must also be members of **H.O.G.** - Harley Owners Group. For information on H.O.G. membership go online to www.members.hog.com.

Chapter annual membership 2022:

Chapter Member	£20.00
Guest	£20.00

A Chapter Member will be a Harley-Davidson owner/rider with H.O.G. membership. A Chapter Member can pay for a Chapter Guest. A Chapter Guest cannot be a rider but may or may not ride pillion. A Chapter Guest does not require H.O.G. membership and can participate in all Chapter activities. Alternatively, a H.O.G Full member can sponsor anyone for H.O.G. Associate membership and they can then become a Chapter Member.

Membership fees are renewed annually before the AGM in January. Not all new members join in January, therefore a reduced fee may be applicable. Our Membership Secretary will provide details.

Late renewals are likely to result in termination of membership. This action will be taken only after reminders to the offending member. Please note that lapsed H.O.G. membership will result in automatic termination of Chapter membership.

Chapter membership benefits:

- A Chapter Membership card.
- Oxford Harley-Davidson Dealership discount on the production of a current Chapter Membership card. Discounts vary but the Dealership staff will explain which discounts apply to their products.
- Full access to the Chapter Facebook group and our website at www.oxfordukchapter.co.uk.
- 12 Chapter nights
 - a regular opportunity to meet and socialise.
 - a Summer evening BBQ.
 - presentations from interesting parties.
- Ladies of Harley (LOH) events specifically aimed at our female members.
- Organised ride-outs to places of interest during the riding season.
- Other organised activities related to riding, i.e., slow riding, professional instruction, etc.
- Organised evening events during the non-riding season, e.g., pub meals, ten-pin bowling, cinema trips, Christmas party.

Who's who on the Chapter committee



Bridey Dyer
Director



Mark Wardman
Assistant
Director



Dave Mabbett
Treasurer



Janette King
Secretary &
Membership



Charmaine Till
LOH
Officer



Paul McAnuff
Merchandise
Officer



Anne Gray
Hoggit
Editor



Clare Hunter
Webmaster
Officer



Stewart de Jong
Head Road
Captain



Martin Fisher
Safety Officer



David O'Dell
Photographer
Officer



Ian Hood
Activities
Officer



Leigh Gough
New Members
Officer



Jonny Mallion
Dealer Principal
Oxford Harley-Davidson

The Chapter Committee

A committee can seem to be a daunting thing when all you want to do is enjoy riding your Harley but all chapters need one to ensure that everything is organised as it should be. To that end, we have a committee of volunteers, all current Chapter members and all dedicated to ensuring we have as much fun as possible.

As with all committees, we must have rules, not only for the running of the Chapter, but also for the structure of the committee. The following should give you an idea of how the Oxford UK Chapter committee is organised.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in January.

The committee is made of Primary and Discretionary officers. Primary officers are appointed by the Dealer Principal, in conjunction with the Chapter Director, who is also appointed by the Dealer Principal. For consistency, the Primary officers are required to be in office for two years. There is no limit to the period of office for Chapter Director.

Discretionary officers are elected annually by the Chapter membership.

At the AGM the Discretionary officers stand down and the membership elect new officers for the following year. Discretionary officers can be re-elected to the post they held previously.

If a Primary officer stands down, the membership may be asked for a volunteer to take on that role. Any proposed candidate must be accepted by the Dealer Principal and the Chapter Director.

Committee members are not allowed to also be committee members of another Harley-Davidson chapter.

Primary Officers

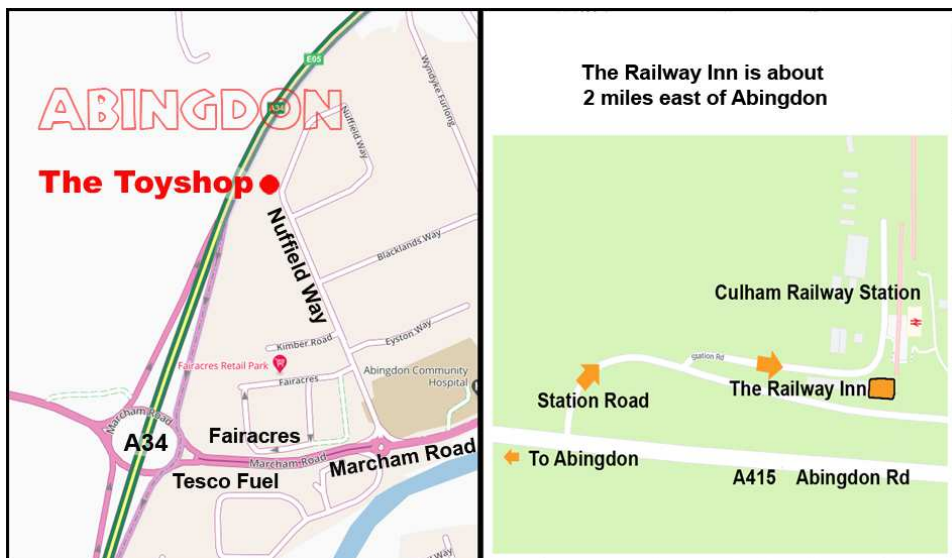
Dealer Principal, Chapter Director, Assistant Directors, Treasurer, Secretary.

Discretionary Officer Positions

Head Road Captain, Activities, Ladies of Harley, Safety, Membership, Editor, Merchandise, Photographer, Web Master and New Members.

The committee meet online the night before Chapter night. Minutes are kept and placed on the Chapter web site before the next meeting night so that everyone can be aware of what was discussed. There is no secrecy but the committee members must sometimes be discreet about disclosing something too soon. And that's about it.

There is just one point to remember. Whatever our Chapter committee develops and implements, it's always to achieve as much fun time as possible for our members.



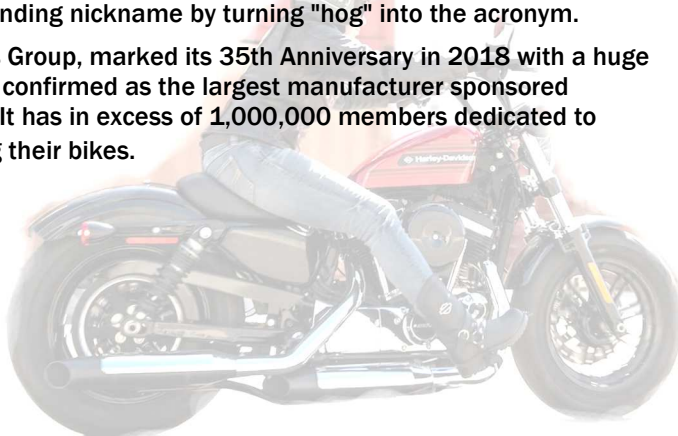
Dealership location

The **Toyshop** is of course our local Dealership—Oxford Harley-Davidson, situated at the top end of Nuffield Way in Abingdon. At the Toyshop you will find the Chapter area upstairs on the mezzanine floor. Hot drinks are free at the press of a button.

Why H.O.G.?

A bit of history - beginning in 1920, a team of farm boys who became known as the "hog boys," consistently won races in the USA. The group had a hog or pig as their mascot. Following a win, they would put the pig (a real one) on their Harley and take a victory lap. In 1983, the Harley-Davidson Motor Company formed a club for owners of its product taking HOG, for Harley Owners Group. They took advantage of the long-standing nickname by turning "hog" into the acronym.

H.O.G., the Harley Owners Group, marked its 35th Anniversary in 2018 with a huge event in Prague. It is now confirmed as the largest manufacturer sponsored owners club in the world. It has in excess of 1,000,000 members dedicated to having a great time riding their bikes.



OXFORD UK CHAPTER CALENDAR

Brass Monkeys Ride
Charity coffee mornings
Chapter meals
Monthly breakfast meets
LOH lunches
Cobwebs Ride
Dunstable Downs
Slow Riding School
Classic Motor Hub
Abingdon Air Show
Dawn to Dusk
AV8 Ride
Poole Bike Night
Cassington Bike Night
Koti Ride
Overnight trips to Wales (June/August)

The Big Chill (Oxford UK Chapter Rally)

Iron Butt Challenge
Bournemouth Air Show
Jake Spicer Toy Run to Oxford JR Children's hospital
Ride to the Wall
Halloween lunch
Chapter Christmas Party

And more





THE BIG CHILL **Rally 2023**

**Registration is open at midday Friday.
Ticket price includes a pitch for tent,
motorhome or caravan.**

**Live bands on Friday and Saturday
evenings and nights.**

Hot food is available on site.

**Cooked breakfast on Saturday and Sunday
is available to pre-order.**

*For more rally information along with a registration
form to download, go to our website:*

oxfordukchapter.co.uk/bigchillrally

