

THE Son



Issue 4
Winter 2021

Welcome to the December issue of **"The SON"**. Our newsletter has certainly reached parts other newsletters cannot reach and has served as a useful



communication tool for our members, as well as a promotional insight into who we are and what we do, it has acted as a useful tool in many ways including attracting new members. I want to put in writing my sincerest thanks to Bro's Phil Meynell and Clive Andrews-Lewis

for the long hours of work they have put into providing us all with The Son, which has kept us all in touch during some very trying and difficult times.

Although lockdown restricted a huge amount of our activities for the first half of the year, our members were still able to provide support throughout many communities across the country, assisting with the distribution of prepared meals to the elderly, collecting supplies for foodbanks and circulating much needed PPE, within the care and health sector. These activities should not be under estimated, as they made a real difference to the people receiving the support, not only in terms of hot food, but a smiling face to talk to, in some cases the only person who would knock on their doors to ensure their wellbeing. So, despite our charitable activities being somewhat thwarted, we have still achieved and provided a great service within our respective communities, and we should all feel (as usual) a huge sense of pride in what we do and will continue to do well.

Despite lockdown we still managed to enjoy a number of get togethers, I thoroughly enjoyed attending the Meet the Neighbours event hosted by the Parisi chapter, which is a great weekend, and is penciled in for 2022 for the weekend of the 1st-3rd July (watch this space for more details) and the Mad Panic rally, which a few of us threw together at the last minute to have some sort of national get together, it was a great weekend, and I thanks everyone who made the effort to join us, despite the event being more about Brotherhood, we still managed to raise and donate £1250 to Northumberland Blood bikes, for which they were truly grateful.



Our National rally is booked for the weekend of the 28th-31st July, tickets are £35, to order tickets please send your details to wsrally2022@gmail.com and you will receive further info in due course on tickets and merchandise. As this will be our first rally since 2019, the rally team has and are going to great efforts to ensure we have a great get together with a good venue, and top bands providing outstanding music, this will be the return of our finest event of the year, so please keep the date free and make every effort to attend.

2022 will also see the consecration of our very first Widows Sons Lodge on the 9th April, this will be a real landmark in the history of the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Assn in the UK

As the temperature drops and the chrome eating salt is spread on our roads, outings on our bikes become fewer and far between, as a consequence we must make every effort to remain in Contact and attend and visit our lodges. Remember that Freemasonry is the lifeblood of the Widows Sons, and supporting our lodges and Brethren is essential.

Finally, it just remains for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy new year, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2022, and as is our usual custom, please raise a glass to all of the WSMBA on Christmas day at 17:30 and post your picture on facebook for us all to share

W. Bro Peter Younger
National Chairman

Widows Sons MBA National Rally 2022

“The Northern Bash”

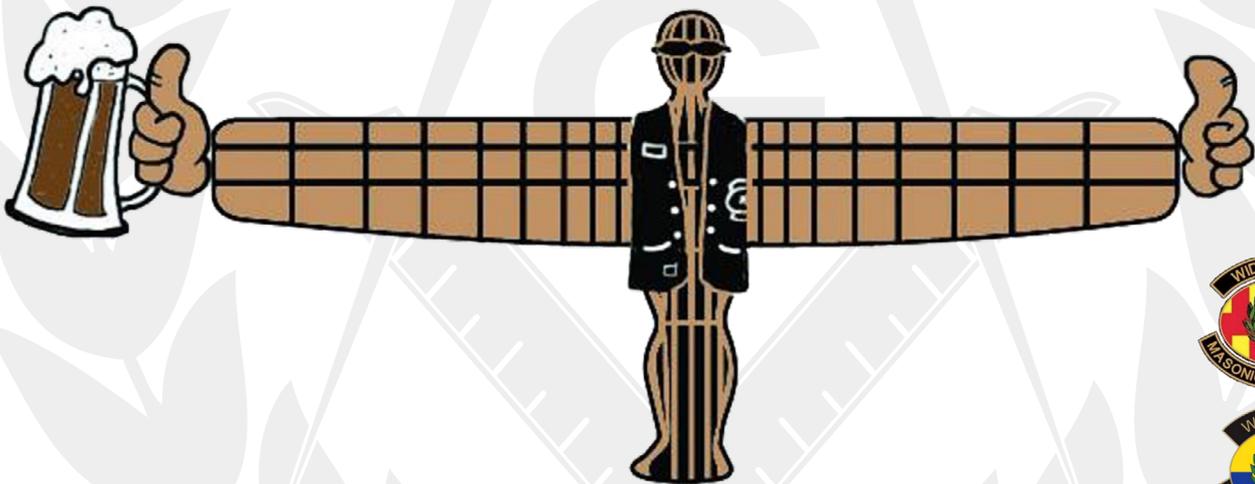
**A weekend of Beer - Bikes - Top Class Bands
and Brotherhood**

Open to all WSMBA members, associates and Invited/approved guests

Thursday 28th July to Sunday 31st July 2022

Tickets: £35 per person

Under 16's F.O.C



Ticket enquiries to wsrally2022@gmail.com

Hosted by:

WS Northumbria, WS Durham, WS Cumbria

Camping on site • campervans • Shower blocks available

No pets allowed

THE Son is edited by W. Bro Phil Meynell

Please send submissions (in plain text with attached pictures wherever possible) by email to:

wsmbanews@gmail.com

Philip Meynell (aka Animal)

West Kent Chapter Roundup

On Saturday the 4th of December, members of West Kent took part in their annual Toy Run dressed as Santa's and an Elf, to help disadvantaged children and families across the Borough of Bromley. A total of £3,000 was raised by donations across the province and this was topped up by £600 from the Entertainer Toy Store. The till receipt was over 2.5 metre long!!

Daniel J Spencer, Assistant Provincial Grand Master in West Kent said, "I've just spent the last couple of hours at 'Community House' in Bromley, representing the Province and supporting the 'Widows Sons' at the start of this years 'Toy Run'. The Bromley Children and Families Forum (who distributed to 20 local charities specifically looking after disadvantaged and disabled children) were blown away by our member's generosity and the hall here was packed full with presents that will be distributed this Christmas."



The Mayor of Bromley, Councillor Russell L. Mellor commented: "A big thank you to the Masonic Bikers Association for their participation in the weekend's Toy Run and once again they have delivered a great number of gifts to hundreds of children across the Borough. It is not just the gifts that matter, however, it's the heartfelt care and consideration behind the purchase, wrapping, and delivery of each present. The interests of our children were at the forefront of this operation, and Widows Sons has exhibited an impressive act of kindness that will certainly never be forgotten but forever cherished."

Chair of Trustees, Helen Sophia Dyer said: "All of us at Bromley Children and Families Voluntary Sector Forum value our Charity Members and are dedicated to supporting them in a wide range of ways. For us, being supported by Widow Sons West Kent means so much for their support enables us to disseminate Christmas gifts throughout the whole of the Borough of Bromley, to our charity members, the charity members recognise those in need and distribute items to specific children and families, those who are in need of basic equipment, food, clothing and shelter.

The families who are not able to afford more than the basics that so many people take for granted.

There are many children who would not have a Christmas present if it wasn't for the unprecedented kindness of this particular Freemasons group, the Widows Sons, Masonic Bikers Association, West Kent Chapter."

Beda Chapter Roundup

Beda Chapter has been really busy these last few months, here are some of the highlights!

The newly appointed University Scheme lodge John Bunyan 5973 took part in the Bedfordshire leg of the University Challenge in delivering the DKW cup to Isaac Newton Lodge in Cambridge. This was supported by members of Beda while members of the John Bunyan Lodge walked the 16 miles.



On an unusually warm day in the beginning of September, a small number of Beda Chapter went along to support the first ABF The Soldiers' Charity Motorcycle Ride. It was a fantastic event with the weather to match! We are looking forward to supporting it again next year, hopefully with more members from other chapters as well! 200 riders and passengers from across the United Kingdom took part on bikes of all shapes, sizes, makes and models. Departing from The Triumph Factory Visitor Experience, Hinckley, participants took off for a 37-mile route ride, accompanied by an escort from Leicestershire Police complete with flashing lights and Police Outriders. We were delighted to also be joined by members of The British Army Motorcycle Road Race Team, Fire Service, who provided first responder assistance; Biker Down UK; and Leicestershire and Rutland Blood Bikes. This event raised a fantastic £5500 for the Army family.

At the end of September Beda were approached to surprise Zach with a ride to his house. Zach is a 4 year old with cystic fibrosis and loves anything with an engine! Beda arrived outside his house where he sat on the bikes, revving them to the red line. Before leaving, he was made an honorary member being presented with a 'Cut' (a leather waistcoat) and a TLC Teddy.



Come the first Saturday in October some members took their annual pilgrimage to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire for the Ride to The Wall. It



was a very wet day, it even rained for the service, a first! It was great to catch up with the other chapters and we are looking forward to it next year, hopefully the gear has dried off by then!

Clanger Goulash (aka Stuart Prouse) started running at the end of lockdown 1, completing the Couch to 5k program. As an incentive to keep going, he signed up to the Run Silverstone 5k event last year which was rescheduled twice. On 10th October this year, the event happened and nearly 4000 runners set off to complete a 5k, 10k or half marathon. Goulash finished in 23:56 beating his personal best and finished 6th in the over 50s and 80th in the race. He raised £462 for the BEDA coffers. Run Goulash Run!



October called for John Bunyan's first lodge meeting since lockdown restrictions were put in place, which was well attended by Beda to see Bro Mark Crellin-Lane passed to the second degree, putting him one step closer to becoming a full Widows Son.

For the last organised ride of the year Beda made their way down to the Big Smoke, meeting up with Icenl at the Bike Shed. Thank you to Jeff "Snatch" Boote for leading us through London and avoiding the thousands of NFL fans!

President Pikey judged the Kids in Action Halloween costume party. He had the difficult choice of just picking the top 3 costumes. Beda showed their support by dressing up

Gizmo, Mavrick and spartan paid a visit to the local nursery to give a road safety talk and to let the kids sit and pay on the bikes.

Unfortunately, our Almoner has been involved in an accident. Spartan was test riding a ninja when unfortunately, a drunk driver got in their car and started the wrong way down a dual carriage way. Spartan is in good spirits and hasn't lost his sense



of humour and positive outlook on life. Spartan did have a few injuries but thanks to the NHS and a short two weeks in hospital he's now home with some new metal work implanted in him. President Pikey has managed to secure a wheelchair to get Spartan around. Spartan said, "the support I've received from my bothers in masonry has been unbelievable



and only been topped buy the support I've had from Beda with all the calls and messages and support from the chapter."

We have some socials planned for the rest of the year, including pub meets, online quizzes and the much-anticipated Christmas lunch! The hardened riders out there will still be out doing mid-week rides which are organised on an ad-hoc basis.

Looking back over a difficult year we have achieved a lot. Raising money for charity, virtual and in person socials, attending charity rides, organising our own and most importantly having a good laugh with friends while doing it! Let's hope for a better 2022 where we can start to look at longer weekends away both in the UK and over the continent. As well as organising larger charity events, such as the Beda Comedy night, which has always been well received.



Cheshire Chapter Roundup

Along with many others, Cheshire Widows Sons attended locations all over Cheshire to remember the fallen.



CWSMBA also placed individual crosses to the other heroes who have been awarded the Victoria Cross interred in the province of Cheshire. It takes some research to locate these, however the effort, we think, is well worthwhile.

Several of our members took along their children or grandchildren to the Remembrance Day parades as many others do, we feel it is important to never forget what others have sacrificed, and to pass this on to future generations.

Lest we forget.



Fundraising and donations carry on. The past and present CWSMBA presidents handed over two mobile phones to the Wirral Community Narrowboat Trust. Due to the isolation of some of the canal systems, it is imperative to have good communication in the event of an incident. Obviously, they can be used to call for assistance but utilising the "what3words" app can give very accurate location details.



Previous recipients of the Queens Award for Voluntary service the Wirral Community Narrowboat Trust seek to improve the quality of life for people who, by virtue of age, infirmity, physical disability, mental disorder, or social factors, are disadvantaged or deprived.



After a nice breakfast we celebrated by visiting the Macclesfield Rugby club where we had donated in raising funds for an Automated external defibrillator (AEDs)

W. Bro Pete Wright
(aka *Cridos*)
President
Cheshire Chapter

West Mids Chapter Roundup



It's been a good year for West Midlands, we have finally been able to meet up, with some Rides, Lodge meetings and socials.

Our President W. Bro Ian Cole has had a great year, dispersing the last of the funds raised at the National Rally at Lichfield, arranging the Rides and visits - and by taking the Chair of King Solomon for Prince of Wales Lodge, supported by a large "away team" from Widows Sons and Legge Lodge.

We have been able to support the formation of Burslem Chapter, with several members making it their first choice to take the step into Royal Arch membership. February 2022 will see the Lodge Banner dedicated - reflecting it's theme as a Motorcycle RA Chapter - we wish them every success.

Thanks also to our Social Secretary who arranged a camping weekend in the Summer - and our Christmas Dinner/Disco held at Tettenhall Road, the home of Staffordshire Province - a great success with a Raffle raising in excess of £400.

We are looking forward to opportunities to get out more next year, with the Branding, Bike4Life and of course Ride to the Wall - where we aim to have similar catering arrangements to this year.





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Lifelites and The Widows Sons

Lifelites is the only charity working with every children's hospice service across the British Isles to enrich the lives of children and young people with life-limiting illnesses and disabilities through donating the latest assistive and inclusive technology. Lifelites helps to ensure that children and young people can escape the confines of their conditions through using the technology we donate to play, be creative, control something



Giving kids with limited life unlimited possibilities

for themselves and communicate their wants and needs for as long as it is possible.



Thanks to support from the Widows Sons, Lifelites has been able to continue donating magical technology to life-limited and disabled children that will help bring them joy this Christmas. Christmas is such a joyful time, especially for children and Lifelites' life-changing technology ensures that life-limited and disabled children get to be a part of this magical time. Lifelites' tech allows these children to join in the festive fun and play games with their families and siblings just as any other child would.

The Lifelites donated Mobile Magic Carpet is jam-packed full of festive themes for children to enjoy, and with the Lifelites donated Eye Gaze, children who can only move their eyes can communicate to their family and join in on the festive activities.

This year has been especially hard with Covid-19 having a massive impact on the life-limited and disabled children that Lifelites support in partnership with children's hospices across the British Isles. Life can already be extremely difficult for these children, but the pandemic has increased their isolation and created more anxiety for them and their families.



Lifelites has been busy continuing to visit more children's hospices over the last few months to donate more technology for the children they care for so that this Christmas they can enjoy this tech and have fun with their families.

Lifelites empowers 10,000 life-limited and disabled children and young people using hospice services by providing them with opportunities to benefit from the power of assistive and inclusive technologies to learn, to be creative, to communicate and to take control. There is a Lifelites project in every baby and children's hospice across the British Isles. The hospices do not pay a penny towards their Lifelites project and all of Lifelites' work is funded by donations: the equipment, ongoing technical support and training at each hospice costs around £50,000 over four years.

www.lifelites.org

Charity Number: 1165791



Widows Sons Lodge 10011

The all brand new Widows Sons Lodge no 10011 is due to be consecrated on the 9th of April at Beverley Road, Hull. So what is it all about I hear you ask!

Well the concept is quite refreshing for the people that we are, read on and consider joining your brothers if you think it'll suit you.

The Widows Sons Lodge 10011, has been in the planning for over three years, we have 34 Founding Members and are starting now to collate a list of joining members, the emphasis has always been about Masonry, motorcycles, brotherhood and fun. We will be inclusive for our wives, partners and the significant others too.



What we are aiming to do.

We are setting up as a peripatetic lodge (Travelling Lodge) so we are not limited to one place, one county or province, and as long as we are able to get permission from the provinces that we intend to visit (usually a formality) then we can have meetings anywhere we wish. As per UGLE rules we do need a base, this is to be in the North & East Ridings of Yorkshire, but as above does not limit us in any way.

4 meetings a year on a Saturday morning in summer months.

These will normally be held in a pub or hotel, but maybe a lodge, regardless, this venue will need a close by camping field or a big garden / field.

The plan is to arrive either Friday or Saturday, set up camp, leave the better halves there and conduct lodge business in the morning. Return to camp and go for a ride out with the local WS chapter or on our own (TBA) then in the evening have a bbq or pub meal and a few drinks, a bit like a mini rally.

Sunday we make our way home after breakfast (or when ever you want)

We know from experience that these social events are great for bonding, fantastic for the ladies to be involved in our Masonry (without going in lodge) and are a great little get away from the house for a weekend. Naturally you aren't expected to stay over night but we are expecting that most will.

In lodge we are going to wear our cuts, no white shirt, tie or gloves required and in fact at the time of writing we are designing a lodge Polo shirt for lodge wear. You will of course need your aprons.

OK, so that's the basics of it, we also have a few little surprises in store for in the lodge. The cost of becoming a joining member is just £99.00 a year, remember this is a Lodge exclusively for you as Widows Sons, if you are interested in joining us please contact the secretary (Cholla) without delay and we will be able to join you as a member at the consecration so you can be a member from day 1.

More information will follow to interested brethren in due course.

Email to: wslodge.secretary@outlook.com

Looking forward to seeing you on the 9th of April, spaces are limited at the consecration so don't delay.

Keep shiny side up.

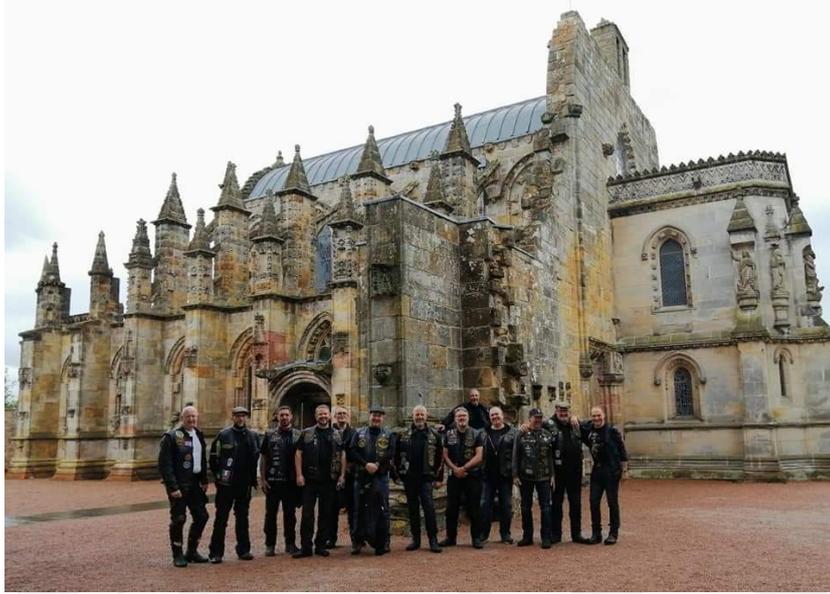
S&F

Andy (AKA Soul Man.)

Ridings Chapter Roundup

Visit to Roslyn Chapel

After escorting the Big Ride team up to the The Angel of the North, Ridings Chapter continued on to Scotland for our planned visit to the historic Roslyn Chapel.



With a 16 bike convoy we stopped at the border for the mandatory group photo!

We went on to visit the Roslyn Chapel, but we're sorry to report that much as we looked, we were unable to locate the Holy Grail!!

RTTW

We hooked up with a few other northern Chapters at Tamworth Masonic Halls before heading down to the NMA for the first RTTW event since before covid.

It rained as usual, but we were glad to join Widows Sons from around the UK for a day of remembrance.





Provincial Promotional Movie

The Ridings Chapter received a request from Provincial Grand Lodge.

They asked us to appear in a new film being produced to promote masonry in the area. We were more than happy to oblige...

No autographs, please!

Visit to Lascelles Lodge

One of our long serving candidates, Bro Buzz, was being raised at the beginning of November so 18 of us went along to give our support and to patch Buzz into the Chapter at the festive board.

With over 100 Masons present, along with a 17 strong Provincial team escorting the PGM, it was a fantastic opportunity to spread the word about the Widows Sons across the Province!

The patching ceremony was enjoyed by everyone, and we made a great addition to the Chapter – welcome Buzz!!



Surrey Chapter Roundup

Since our last update in the autumn, we have kept ourselves busy and visible.

In August we held our first BBQ, September saw us attend a memorial event for the Fire Brigade and the Cops & Robbers Rally and supported Surrey freemasons by taking part in the Surbiton festival parade. In October, we held our first patching in event for the chapter, attended RTTW, we have supported Sussex chapter on their Clay shoot, and have been out on numerous rides, held a WS Constitutional Chapter 55 exultation, as MEZ I had the honour of exulting a WS member into HRA. Two of us submitted forms to become Surrey masons in Sept by joining The Noel Surrey Motorcycling Lodge 2444, We have supported the Household Division Lodge 9545 where one of our members was raised and, on the 27th of November, we presented St Christopher's shooting star hospice at Guildford with a cheque & lots of goodies.



The BBQ:

August 20th was the launch of Surrey's annual Riverside barbecue held at the Sea Cadets centre alongside the Thames in Teddington, what originally was just going to be a regular natter night developed and grew into a BBQ for members of Surrey, Shires, southern, Southeast and Sussex WSMBA and their families. We were also joined by members of the Surrey motorcycle lodge and members of Surrey Fire Brigade River safety team.



At relatively short notice we had 50 people turn out for a fantastic event, a beautiful day, great company, and camaraderie.

We raised over £500 for our chosen charities after all expenses were covered, charging just £10 per head which include all food, prepped, and cooked by Miyagi, Savage & Chef, the centre also has a cash bar so a drink or two was had.

We will

build on the success for next year and hope it will become a great annual event for other chapters to join us.

The site is owned and run by the Twickenham Sea Cadets, and we look forward to building on our strong relationship with a charitable organisation that offers fantastic opportunities for local young people (boys and girls 10 to 18). Next year we will hold it on either Friday the 19th or 26th August.



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Patching:



October 15th With a bit of first night butterflies, we held our first patching of both WS members and an abridged version for our cornerstones, starting with two full WS members the circle was tight but as each member joined it expanded as did the soliloquy, thanks to our VP Miyagi & the Sea Cadet centre for arranging & hosting us we held the event upstairs in the Captains bar, and all agreed it was a good start and we look forwards to our next one in 2022.

The Noel Surrey Motorcycling lodge 2444:

November 24th Myself and our VP went to the lodge in September with completed forms in hand, our road captain Vampire is already a member, we were well received, and the lodge was keen to get some new biking blood in the family, the then serving WM was also presented with a cornerstones patch which he received with great aplomb. Roll on to Nov 24th we attended again, and no black balls were presented, and we became Surrey masons, a big thanks to all those that came to support us



from the surrounding WS chapter, also Prep School gave a short talk on WSMBAs and we potentially have 3 new joiners in the pipeline with one being our Provincial Deputy GM who is a keen motorcyclist and wants us to inject life into the lodge as it is whilst active not as active as it could be.

W. Bro Dean Johns
(aka *Blackbeard*)
President
Surrey Chapter

WSMBA Gibraltar Chapter - Portugal Inauguration

If we look back and learn from the history and heritage from the 20th century (1990) formation of the Portuguese Masonic Lodges and its relationship with the Gibraltar Mason Lodges, you will realise the depth of the Brotherhood's common values, understanding and working relationships that have led to the parallel 21st century bonding and support provided by the Widows Sons Mason Bikers Association Gibraltar Chapter to the formation of the Portuguese Chapter.

The WSGC were kindly invited to the Portuguese Founders Inauguration Meeting in Tomar. A city chosen for its deep historical significance as the Portuguese Capital of the Knights Templars, and therefore its links with Masonry and our Brethren.

Day 1: The Gibraltar Chapter left in two waves; three of us has to leave early for Cadiz and the remaining four joined us late morning. A brilliant ride in great weather, no issues, at a reasonable clip, and straight to Faro for our first night stop-over.

We were entertained by a local Brother Archim Müller who lavished us with his chosen wine (and high alcohol content digestifs!) in a well visited local restaurant. An excellent and very late evening of brotherly camaraderie and laughter.



Day 2: We were kindly picked up at the hotel at noon by a few of the Portuguese Chapter and greeted with a box of Pastel de nata! How kind. A very long riding day of three halves ... We rode along half of the famous N2! Before our late lunch, 11 bikes rode on winding roads for the first few hours, ... for the first part we were trying to fine tune/hone our riding skills by trying not to use the brakes at all, just gears, the second part accelerating and using brakes! ... While managing not to cross the white line! Post lunch involved long straight undulating roads with the occasional hairpin bends to stay awake and alert. The last 2 hours we rode in the dark ... arriving at the hotel at 2100! A challenge riding on bends in the dark ... there were quite a few emergency brake type situations! The last 500m to the hotel were the scariest – most bikes are large luggage

laden Harley Davidsons that do not enjoy this terrain! Riding in narrow alleys and roads made of slippery stone brick ... made worse by loose sand, recent rainfall, coupled with tired riders! An evening of fine dining at the hotel... We were being spoiled by the Founders of the Portuguese Chapter.

Eating late two nights in a row, at a certain age, plays havoc with the body mechanisms!

Day 3: The Portuguese Founders Inauguration Meeting was attended by leaders and members from UK, France & Gibraltar, including German, Russian and Spanish nationals. The multi-national nature of our Masonry at a local level becomes clearer on such occasions.

W. Bro. Gregory Kirby (South East Chapter) Dept. Chairman of the WSMBA was the Chief Guest of Honour.

Portuguese Chapter President: Jose Santos
Portuguese Chapter Vice President: Carlos Gonçalves
Portuguese Chapter Treasurer: Francisco Covelinhas
Portuguese Chapter Secretary: Alexandre Cebrian Valente

I as Gibraltar President presented Portugal with new banners and were kindly given items in appreciation for my personal role and efforts during the setting up of the Portuguese Chapter.

Our hosts had commissioned professional photographers and a drone videographer to record the ~22 motorbikes riding up to the Convent (World Heritage Site) for lunch in their great halls, built in 1536-38! 34 guests enjoyed a private lunch on a long table with a little wine ... as were there for a few hours! A most memorable venue and occasion.

Tomar is a gem of a city with so much culture and history. We were provided a private guided tour of the 12th (~1150) Century Knights Templar Castle and the Convent ... including the non-public areas. Many of the group learned how, why and where the 'Inquisitions' started and why 'Friday 13th' became an infamous date! We are still all still learning!

We were then invited to a relaxing evening BBQ at the local Temple where several lodges have their meetings, which was built on private land called Quinta das Acácias. For some of the guests it was their first visit to a Temple.

Day 4: Our hosts had arranged for a guided tour and lunch at a Historic Templar Castle on an island in the middle of a river. How I wished I could have been on that tour. Three of the Gibraltar Chapter had to leave early as they had evening commitments in Gibraltar, while the remaining four left for Badajoz after a late breakfast just before our hosts were due to depart.

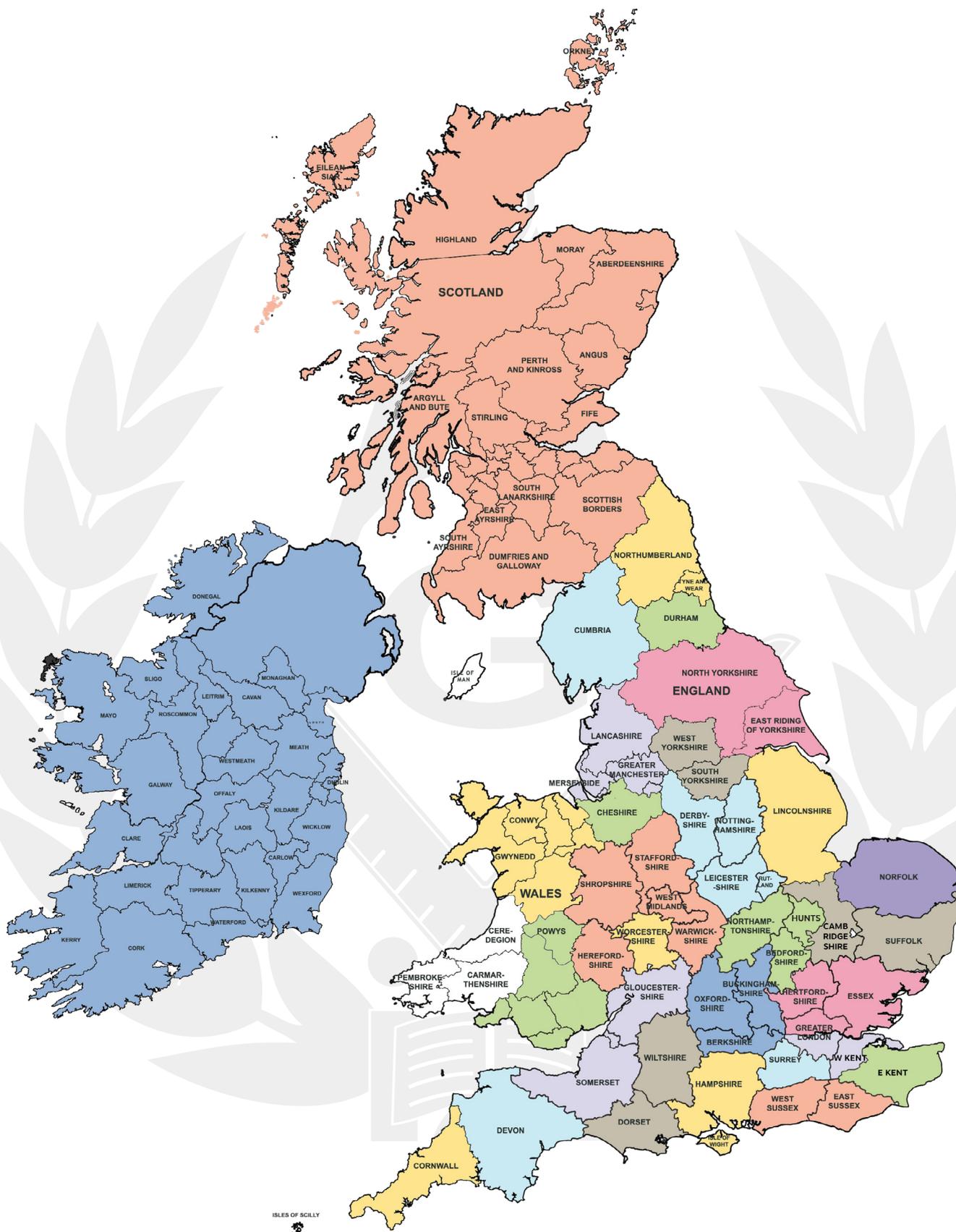
We had been spoiled by our hosts with great food, drink, culture and conversations. I believe we have all put on at least 3 kgs and inches to the waistline! ... no wonder many Harley Riders are larger than a normal human!

All WSGC riders arrived safely back to Gibraltar my Monday evening.

"We counted them all out, and we counted them all safely back in."

Who and where

Here is a map and interactive table including links to current websites (where available) or Facebook Pages/emails...



Chapter	Provinces covered	Website/email (clickable)
Anglia	Anglia, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk	
Beda	Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire & Huntingdonshire	https://bedachapterwsmba.co.uk
Cheshire	Cheshire	http://www.cwsmba.org.uk/
Cornwall (St Piran)	Cornwall	info@cornwall.wsmba.uk https://cornwall.wsmba.uk/
Cumbria	Cumberland & Westmorland	
Durham	Durham	https://www.dmmwidowssons.org/
East Kent	East Kent	https://widows-sonseastkent.com/
East Midlands	Derbyshire, Leicestershire & Rutland, Nottinghamshire	wsmba.eastmidlands@gmail.com
Guernsey	Guernsey & Alderney	Find us on Facebook (click here)
Iceni	Essex, Hertfordshire, Metropolitan	https://271499.8b.io/
Ireland	Northern Ireland and Eire	https://www.widowssonsireland.co.uk/
Lincs Imps	Lincolnshire	Find us on Facebook (click here)
Norfolk	Norfolk	http://www.widowssons-norfolk.co.uk/
North Wales	North Wales	https://widowssons.wales/
North West	East Lancashire, West Lancashire	http://northwestchapter.com/
Northumberland	Northumberland	http://www.wsmban.com/
Parisi	Yorkshire, North & East Ridings	http://www.parisichapter.co.uk/
Pilgrims	Devon	ws.pilgrims.20@gmail.com
Ridings	Yorkshire, West Riding	https://www.ridings.wsmba.uk/
Scotland	Covering Scottish regions	https://widows-sons-scotland.com/
Shires	Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Middlesex, Oxfordshire	ws.mba.shires@gmail.com
South East	London	http://wsse.uk/
South Wales	Monmouthshire, South Wales	Find us on Facebook (click here)
Southern	Hampshire & Isle of Wight	http://www.wsmba-southern.co.uk/
Surrey	Surrey	secretary@surrey.wsmba.uk
Sussex	East & West Sussex	www.wsmbasussex.com
Stonecutters	Dorset, Wiltshire	https://www.stonecutterswsmba.org/
West Kent	West Kent	https://westkentwsmba.co.uk/
West Midlands	Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire	http://www.widowssons-wmids.co.uk/
Worcestershire	Worcestershire	https://www.worcs.wsmba.uk/
Wyvern	Bristol, Gloucestershire, Somerset	https://wyvern.wsmba.uk/

Worcestershire Chapter Roundup

The Worcestershire Chapter, chartered in April this year with initially 13 members is going from strength to strength, now at 32 strong. Since our inaugural ride in July, we have had an active summer with rideouts most Wednesday evening organised by our Road Captain Philip Abram, and our formal Third Sunday get-together where we have met up for rides with many of the local chapters. One particular highlight was taking part in a Prom Escort ride (See alter article), which went viral on twitter, featured in the local and national newspapers and local television! Our final rideout of the year will be a Santa run on the 11th of December, supporting a local hospice and taking the opportunity to distribute teddies for loving Care (TLC).



The full news article can be found here: [https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/19758873. motorcycling-santas-take-toys-st-richards-hospice/](https://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/19758873.)

As a new chapter we are now starting to find out feet, including taking in our first non-masonic member who is joining Freemasonry through our affiliated Worcestershire Motorcycle Lodge, the Lodge of Progress No. 9893, and also building up our association members – the “Pear Drops”.

May I take this opportunity to wish all members our fantastic Christmas, happy new year and looking forward to next year’s riding opportunities!

President, Andy “monte” Philpott

Freemasons Ride to the Challenge

The charity work of Freemasons isn’t just about monetary actions, it can also be about giving up some of your time up to help the local community.

A recent post on one of the Worcestershire bikers Facebook page saw a request from a mum of a schoolgirl, who wanted to go to her prom on a motorbike.

Her mum stated that “Felicity had



been bullied from her very first day of primary school, all the way through into her last weeks of high school. Felicity is 15 and has dyslexia and she is currently being diagnosed with Asperger’s, so she finds making friends incredibly difficult”. Felicity has a love of bikes and anything alternative - she loves to be in her boots and her leather jacket and for that she’s been picked on”. She continued “Felicity has been looking forward to her prom as she feels that this will be the point where she can show them (the bullies) that they can’t hurt her anymore.”

The Worcestershire Chapter of the Widows Sons (the Masonic Bikers Association, WSMBA) took up the challenge and agreed to take part and help marshal the event — and unbelievably, what actually took place was that over 250 bikes turned up! Just getting off the car park in Droitwich took

over half an hour, explained WBro Andy Philpott, President of the Worcester WSMBA, and the route took them on a tour of Droitwich and surrounding area and onto The Rugby Club - to see the look on Felicity's face, and her family's, just showed how proud we were of all the bikers that took part, he said. Her father quoted "Proud of her doesn't even touch it, she's an amazing girl and she hasn't deserved any of this, so to see her light up like a Christmas tree was absolutely fantastic".

The news reports went viral on Facebook and Twitter, appearing in Worcester, Birmingham and other newspapers, and even made the Daily Mail. And to top it all, after reading these reports, the Widows Sons have now received an application from a non-Mason to join up, and hopefully be a candidate for the Lodge of Progress!



Note from Ed: being online, the usual trolls were active – in one case there was a comment which really grated the President, when it mentioned “an old bloke smoking a hamlet” (as is Monte’s usual style)...to which Monte replied, “I don’t mind being called old, but take exception about the hamlet, that was a very nice Cuban Cigar! ”



Wyvern Chapter Roundup

Despite lockdown and various other restrictions Wyvern Chapter have flown the flag for the WSMBA with pride. Rides and events that we have supported over recent months include:

Mayflower Lodge No 7241 ride the Devils Staircase 26/06/21

Mayflower Lodge is a Lodge in Devon which was 'saved' by members of the Widows Sons and is described as a 'Motorcycle Enthusiasts Lodge'.

The majority of members are bikers and also members of the Widows Sons 'Wyvern Chapter'.

Wyvern Chapter is an autonomous group with its own set of by-laws but is part of a wider community and currently covers Somerset, Bristol and Gloucestershire.

The Widows Sons has over 1,000 members in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

In Wyvern Chapter we have eighteen members and cover the entire age range, professions and motorcycle brands. Our activities include ride outs (usually in aid of local charities and good causes), rallies (including the Widows Sons MBA National Rally) as well as monthly socials (usually on the first Saturday of each month) which take place all across the area. We also hold regular rides and events with other neighbouring Chapters in Devon (Pilgrims Chapter), South Wales (Celtic Knights) and Wiltshire & Dorset (Stonecutters).

Our Wyvern Chapter Road Captain and Assistant Secretary of Mayflower Lodge, Michael 'Gunny' O'Meara, planned a day out to ride 'The Devil's Staircase' in Wales. A 2 ½ hr ride to get to the hills, a small detour and a couple of switchbacks and we arrived at the reservoir. What a fantastic view. Well worth the effort, and to be joined by a couple of Stonecutters who had ridden from Portsmouth, was wonderful.



Wyvern Chapter AGM 31/07/21



As the country comes back to life following the pandemic and following a lengthy discussion and a vote at the AGM, Wyvern Chapter decided to develop membership to Masonry and Wyvern and in particular by encouraging individuals to join the biking fraternity first and enjoying the camaraderie of biking, with the express desire to become a Mason. This sounds a little bit like the horse and cart, however, it seems to be paying dividends, because the new 'Wyverns' are now joining Mayflower

Lodge No 7241 to become Masons, which is the Bikers Lodge, based in Uffculme, Devon.

Three new applicants were voted in as 'Wyverns', two of whom are yet to be initiated into Freemasonry, following a change to our bye-laws.

Wyvern now has 18 Members with 3 very enthusiastic non-masons (Wyverns) queuing up to join Mayflower Lodge.

Gloucestershire Family Day at Highnam House, Gloucestershire 14/08/21

An invitation was extended to the Wyvern Chapter by the Province of Gloucestershire to the Family gathering on Saturday 14th August 2021 with over 350 classic cars attending which meant over 350 Masons.

The Wyvern Chapter came together from Somerset, Bristol and Gloucestershire and met up at Cribbs Causeway. From there, we made our way north (anywhere north of Bristol is North) and eventually arrived at Highnam House, a private country House, owned by a fellow Mason, who opens his doors for a grand Family Day. What a beautiful day it was. The sun shone through from start to finish. Wyvern Chapter arrived in style by riding through the entire gardens, past numerous vintage cars and astonished onlookers. "Sons of Anarchy" was heard more than once, until we parked up, dismounted and introduced ourselves.



Dana Noriega was voted in as a Wyvern and presented his Wyvern Patch on the day.

Having made our presence felt and eaten the last of the burgers, we departed for a very enjoyable ride back through Wales. An excellent day for the brothers, made better by being accompanied by a few new 'Wyverns'.

Bideford Bike Show 28/08/21



North Devon was our next excursion. Our Road Captain, Michael 'Gunny' O'Meara plotted a route through the wonderful north Devon roads, many of which I had forgotten, to land us in Bideford for a very pleasurable afternoon. We met up with the Stonecutters & Pilgrims

Bideford Bike Show 28/08/21

Simon Fox aka 'Cleo' was presented his Wyvern Patch
An annual run organised by The Pilgrims. The Pilgrims President was late to arrive, however, he was excused because he had just run the Plymouth half marathon with a personal best time.

A fantastic route around south Devon, with a photo shoot at the Churchill tank on Slapton Sands.



Southern Chapter Roundup

With Christmas rapidly approaching, the Southern Chapter closed the 2021 big ride fund raising by presenting a symbolic cheque for £13,000 to the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance CEO Richard Corbett. We were fully supported by R.W. Bro Jonathan Whitaker, Provincial Grand Master of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, and his predecessor - Widows Son R.W Bro Mike Wilks.

All that's left now is to get past Christmas and start the planning for The Big Ride 4 in 2022.

We sincerely hope we will be able to meet all of those brilliant brethren with whom we shared time with in 2021, and also many more of our Widows Sons Brothers throughout the UK.



Pilgrims Chapter Roundup

Robs Run....

Mark was given the duties of organising 'Robs Run' back when he was with the Southwest Chapter and he has been doing it every year since. This being the 4th year. Last year and this year was a massive challenge as we was still holding the event through covid (which was a massive task as extra forms, tasks and precautions was needed)

75 bikes attended the run this year and plus the kind gift of 42 'Robs Run' t-shirts being donated by Mark Stone at BMC Plymouth and selling these on for 100% profit in total we have raised to date £1090 for St Luke's Hospice Plymouth... Following on from the Robs Run Mark invited all Widows Sons back to his house for a BBQ...

Presidents BBQ

8 Members of the Pilgrims came back to the very knackered President's house and he held a BBQ for which all donations raised during the evening also went into the St Luke's pot... This little event (wind down) from a long and tiring day raised a nice handful of cash (£45) which was taken to the St Luke's shop in person...all in all... the three events raised £1747.50 gratefully received by St Lukes Hospice Plymouth.

Charity 2021

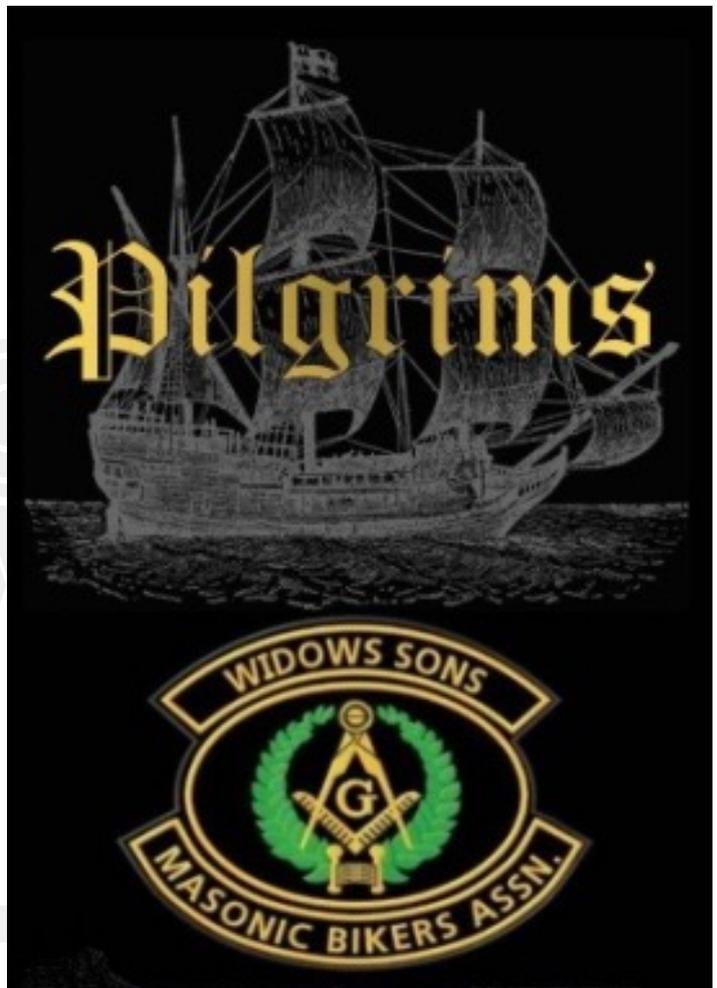
Late 2020 Mark signed up for the Ocean City Half marathon (Plymouth Half marathon) for May 2021 which got cancelled until 05 Sept 21 the same day as a yearly Pilgrims charity ride out, which was introduced after a founding member of the Widows Sons Southwest Chapter passed away called Robs Walls. This charity ride named 'Robs Run' was started in his honor with the monies raised going to St Lukes Hospice Plymouth. So on the same day Mark was very busy as he was organising and running an event for St Luke's Hospice Plymouth.

Plymouth Half Marathon

Mark arrived at Plymouth promenade at 0700 to help set up the St Lukes pitch, then was ready to start his run at 0830. This was Marks first Plymouth Half Marathon. He did it in a very respectable time of 2.02.53 which was an average of 9:20-9:30 minutes per mile. Marks only other half marathon was the Oxford half marathon, which was on the 14 Oct 2012 where he ran 2:29:53.. 9 years ago whilst he was so called in his prime and serving in the Royal Air Force.

Mark Raised £ 612.50 running the Half Marathon

After completing the half marathon Mark had to get to the next event on the far side of Plymouth, get changed into his biker gear and start the next charity event all in 20 minutes....



East Kent Chapter Roundup

The annual East Kent Jolly Boys outing to Beaulieu was a great success in September. The usual suspects in attendance managed to cause chaos and havoc wherever they stopped. Great trip, much needed by many as a welcome break away from the madness that has been 2021 – so far! The trip took in motorways to get there in plenty of time - which meant that 3G managed to miss the usual housing estate detour - followed by a good nosey around the museum. A nice ride back to the hotel for a (few) well earned beers. The morning brought lovely weather and a great coast ride back to Kent - again surprisingly avoiding housing estates.

We have also had a Breakout Party (postponed twice because of lockdowns) - where we had a band, good food, auction and great company at the end of October. We managed to raise over £700 on the night all going towards the annual toy run fund (which takes place on Saturday 11th December this year).

We have also had an initiation for one of our Cornerstones and 2 new advancements into the Mark degree for the Hundred of Hoo Mark Lodge that the Widows Sons have helped to save.

We have a busy calendar already for 2022 - with a number of rides planned.



Next issue

The Spring issue of **THE Son** will be published on 1st March 2022

THE Son will be published on the 1st of March, June, September and December. With a cut off two weeks before each issue.

Please send your submissions, articles, stories, images, events and Chapter News (plain text with separate images preferred) for the next issue to the Editor by email to: wsmбанews@gmail.com no later than **Tuesday 15th February** as this impacts publication dates!

Please all be safe, ride safe and keep well.



Scan me on your Phone



Don't forget the Widows Sons of Great Britain private Facebook page is open to all patched members and can be reached at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WSFFWS>