



Chairman's Report

Brethren all, Welcome to the June edition of the Son. We are now back on track for quarterly publication and the News Team are happy to receive articles as you produce them rather than imposing a deadline. Roughly a sheet of A4 in Word or text, and a photo or two attached and not embedded, will help with editing and typesetting. Copy to **news@wsmba.uk**.

Peter Younger and I recently visited Bulgaria to witness first hand the WSMRA policy of "no head no tail" in action. The Widows Sons is now a global Masonic Motorcycle Association in harmony. No European Council, no one at the head, No Global ruler. All Charters issued by Carl Davenport have been reissued. Each Country able to charter its own Chapters as we do already. Carl Davenport has given up all claims and actions relating to the running of the WSMRA. The WSMBA already distanced itself from Davenport way back as we were able to demonstrate that we were autonomous and independent, as defined in our original Charter, over 20 years ago. Accordingly, please feel free to socialise with the WSMRA from anywhere in the world as we are all on the same page now. The only caveat

is visiting their lodges, as laid out by our BoC by UGLE, always check any invitations to visit craft, or Holy Royal Arch, are from those in amity with UGLE so as not to compromise your obligation as a Freemason. Brother Joe Norman has worked tirelessly to make this happen and has to be applauded for his efforts over many years to establish global harmony for our dynamic association.

The hospitality we received from the Bulgarian Chapter hosting the gathering was awesome, with Alex Sashev, the secretary, ensuring everything went smoothly. Nothing was too much trouble. The Romanians are hosting the International Gathering in 2026 and am sure the WSMBA will be at the round table again supporting the fraternal unity the event exudes.

Our 2025 National Rally is soon upon us and am looking forward to seeing you all there in numbers to ensure another successful event. Region 8 are already organising their turn in 2026 and in 2027 we head north to party with Widows Sons Scotland.

I recently asked you all to save the date, the 1st November 2025. That has now been updated to the week before, being the Saturday 25th October 2025. The reason being UGLE want to establish an annual wreath laying event at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire for the Provincial Grand Masters. This year it is the turn of the Metropolitan Grand Lodge to organise as follows: The wreaths are being issued by the British Legion to the respective offices and the PGM's are to liaise with their WSMBA Chapter to officially hand them over to be taken to the NMA for storage before the event. The ceremony of handover is being considered an opportunity to raise awareness with the local press together with a photo opportunity.

On the 25th we are to arrange to meet up and ride in to deliver the wreaths to the Memorial Garden as a large group for the UGLE team to film for promotional material. We have to be the best moving spectacle Masonry can offer the general public, so am encouraging as many of you as possible to saddle up and join in. More details to follow as the event firms up. Back of my mind is we take the opportunity to visit the Masonic Memorial Garden once we have delivered the wreaths. To do so we need to pre book parking at £3 a bike. Full details will be sent to Chapter secretaries to co-ordinate.

Currently recovering from a hernia operation but have been following the rides on the Whatsapp groups with envy, but hope to back in the saddle for the National Rally, otherwise am after a lift.

Sincerely & Fraternally

Prepschool

W. Bro. Gregory Kirby SLGR.



Digital Donations

You are, no doubt, all aware that we are collecting for Lifelites over the next few years and we have raised in excess of £28,000 so far. To aid this we have opened a relief chest with the Masonic Charities Fund which means we can claim the 25% gift aid for every applicable donation. To make collecting for relief chests easier the MCF have created a QR code for us that you can see here.

This QR code will make collecting from chapters, lodges and individuals much easier, all you have to do is take a photo of this card, keep it on your phone and show it to people when they say they want to donate. Use this wherever and wherever you are, so long as you have an Internet connection!

The benefits of Digital Donations

- No need to hold cash or have unnecessary physical contact.
- Fast and simple donation process.
- Donate before, during or after all Masonic and non-Masonic events as and when
- convenient (in the middle of a lodge meeting might be frowned on, for example).
- Donors can keep a record of all their donations by requesting email receipts.

Whether you use the QR code or follow the URL <https://gtap.uk/e1072> you will be taken to a web page where you need to provide certain details. The following will help you to help those who are filling those details in.

- The address details are obvious.
- Name of Lodge/Chapter – This is the donor's lodge and is used to keep tabs on how much a given lodge or chapter has donated. If the donor is not a freemason then just put your own lodge.
- Number of Lodge/Chapter to be credited – The number of the lodge or chapter they provided in the previous box.
- Appeal name – This can be left blank since we are only collecting for Lifelites.



Ellan Vannin Chapter Easter Egg Run

The Widows Sons Ellan Vannin Chapter

met up at the Paramount City Coffee shop newly run by ex TT rider, Richard 'Milky' Quayle, where we managed a group photo with the man himself.

Armed with copious chocolate Easter eggs we set off to the Ellan Vannin Residential Home where we were met by Mrs Thelma Lomax MBE,

chair of the Board of Directors. Mrs Lomax gave us a tour of the facility, explaining that the home is a charity and receives no government funding. We were then taken to the dining room where many of the residents were gathered and Easter Eggs were distributed whilst the Widows Sons were plied with copious amounts of tea and cake.

After about an hour we said our farewells and dispersed in various directions and look forward to maybe doing all again next year.



Beda Chapter Roundup

**The Clangers Progress - By Brother Andy Mann,
Lodge: John Bunyan 5973**



I met the Beda President Jeff (Snatch) Boote many moons ago when he was a client of the company I worked for. After months of business telephone calls and email correspondence. we finally met and hit it off straight away.

I noticed Jeff's 50s style , piercings and tattoos. Nothing like I imagined him to be, and even better a biker.... A man walking the same path as I. We became great friends in business and socially. I knew Jeff was a Freemason and that was one thing we did not share.. Being naive about it, I asked very few questions, I just wasn't interested. Jeff mentioned that he and some fellow masons had created a Widows Sons Bedfordshire chapter called Beda... did I want to join as a non-mason Associate Member? This revved up my interest engine... I was interested for sure!

Jeff explained that I would not be a Widow Son but would be called a 'Clanger'. I still smile to myself of my first reaction to being called a clanger by Jeff. He'd called me a lot worse... but it made me smile.... Andy a 'Clanger' Obviously I knew Jeff and I had now met Chris (Fugazi) Handley, a Beda Past President. The next step was to meet and ride with the other members of Beda for a while before being admitted as a Clanger. This went well, and I was now in... a member of Beda Chapter Widows Sons.

I felt very proud to be a part of Widows Sons, even if I was a Clanger. I also felt extremely proud of the Widows Sons, Beda, Clanger patch I wore on my Cut. I instantly felt the brotherhood.

Some months later I began to wish I knew more

about Freemasonry. My interest lead to further questions to Jeff and Chris. After an interview and the proof of me being a just and upstanding man, I was proposed as an Entered Apprentice, Joining the John Bunyan lodge 5973. From Entered Apprentice to Fellow Craft and onwards to Master Mason, and Full Membership of the Widows Sons. The journey for me was amazing, the brotherly love and camaraderie I will cherish always. I watch in awe my brethren memorising and carrying out various parts of initiations. I constantly swell with pride at the charity work Freemasons and Widow Sons do. Raising money for those in need. Giving up their spare time to help others. I was proud to be a "Clanger". Without the option of joining the Widows Sons as a Clanger, my progress would not have led me here a Master Mason and Widows Son. A very proud Widows Son.

'Cracker' of the Bedfordshire Beda Chapter.

Beda Rideouts and Socials

Rideouts started again in the spring with rides to Sywell Aerodrome, and the Silver Ball café at Buntingford and a full programme is planned for the rest of the year.

Beda's monthly Social meetings and excellent Quiz Nights are well attended.



Beda AGM

Beda held their AGM on 16th March which was very well attended. News was provided from the National AGM, the principal Officers were formally invested, the supportive Officers appointed, rideouts confirmed, the



National Rally discussed, Charity activities proposed, and the Treasurer, Charity Steward and Almoner gave their reports.

Beda Vantastic 2025

Beda members share many interests including camping and a large group attended our annual camping weekend Vantastic 2025 in Dent Dale Yorkshire. We visited the Wensleydale Creamery Cheese Factory to meet Wallace and Gromit, celebrated our President's Birthday, had a scenic walk and spent a few happy hours testing local ales.



Beda France 2025

Eight brave souls set off on a warm VE Day for a 750 mile four day round trip to Chartres in France. Wiggi, Snatch, Corn Beef, Cracker, Jay, Pugwash, Ploughman and Goulash rode down to Le Shuttle at Folkestone which was deserted.

After a 35 minute journey and remembering to ride on the wrong side when in France, we rode country roads for most of the journey.

First night was a hotel on the edge of Abbeville where



we were warmly met by Paulo. The hotel was on the edge of an airfield with a plane in the entrance. Day two and the first stop was petrol ahead of 150 miles to Chartres via Vernon. Our next hotel in Chartres was in the centre of old town with narrow cobble streets to be navigated. The hotel felt like a converted nunnery so eight blokes were well suited! On Saturday morning we walked inside the cathedral. Only Goulash's squeaky boots broke the silence. Back to the hotel to saddle up and a last photo in front of the cathedral on bikes before heading off for another 170 miles to Arras. We stopped at the Thiepval WWI memorial and then on the Lochnagar Crater. Arriving at our hotel in Arras, we



were met by one of the hotel managers who poured eight beers which were well needed and deserved on the hottest day of the ride. We dressed for dinner and our pidgin French was tested as our waitress spoke no English. Avez vous un cuppa? After dinner we retired to the bar. Corn Beef snorted and Snatch broke into



Henry VIII.... Second verse same as the first. Sunday morning came too soon and we headed off for the last war memorials and then the ride on the French motorway back to Le Shuttle. Duty free and food before passport control and the train back.

Petrol stop, then remembering to ride on the right side of the road, up the M20 and M25 to Thurrock for a



break where all scattered in different directions before the last ride home. Another BEDA tour complete and looking forward to the 2026 one!

Charities

Beda continues to raise the largest part of our charity pot from the monthly "Crazy Legs Draw" and has used the proceeds recently to support: the Provincial Easter Egg runs to Bedford and L&D Hospitals giving both chocolates and TLC bears; Keech Hospice with TLC Bears; Respite at Home based in Flitwick with equipment; and W Bro Ian Cording of John Bunyan Lodge walking 56 miles in aid of Prostate Cancer Research.

Easter Run 2025 - An eggs-ellent day out

Our Provincial Easter Egg run often takes place under grey, wet skies, but this year we were blessed with a beautiful, sunny day for a change. On Monday



14th April the Provincial Grand Charity Steward was accompanied by a record-breaking 14 Beda Chapter, Widows Sons bikes and riders to deliver Eggs to Bedford and Luton & Dunstable Hospitals. A large quantity of Eggs were donated from the Provincial Charity Fund Trustees and Beda themselves. Sarah Goodale, representing the recipients, remarked: "I'd like to extend a huge thank you to you and everyone involved for your generous delivery of Easter eggs. The



Paediatric Team will be distributing them to patients over the Easter bank holiday, and we're hopeful that each child will enjoy a little cheer with an egg to take home'.

Beda then travelled on to Keech Hospice where they donated yet more eggs and a good supply of TLC Teddies to bring some much-needed comfort.

The PGCS wrote: "I am always hugely grateful for Beda's support on the Easter and Christmas runs. They are wonderful ambassadors for Freemasonry. The Hospital staff and patients love the bikes and the noise and their presence turns what could be a dull visit into a spectacle, remembered by all present".

National Rally

We are really excited to be hosting the National Rally with our co-hosting chapters. There are around 2 months to go and we are looking forward to a great event. Tickets, T-shirts and a commemorative pin are all available from our online store at <https://rally.wsmba.uk/> and may be collected at the event.

Paul Myers (Maverick) on behalf of Beda 17/05/25



East Kent Chapter Roundup

The first half of the year has been a busy time for East Kent!

In April, we had over 20 bikes and 4 support cars, as we conducted our annual Easter Egg Run, delivering nearly 1,000 Easter Eggs across 6 different charities within the East Kent Province. Thirteen of us attended the raising of Bro John 'Dapper' Harrison at his Lodge, where we were given permission by the WM and the Lodge, to patch him in to the Widows Sons in the Lodge as part of the risings. We also welcomed Charlie 'Sensor' Vanstone to WS in a similar patching ceremony at Belvedere Lodge as part of the East Kent WS lecture to the great interest of the attending brethren.

At the end of the month we combined with South East, Sussex and Surrey to honour the memory of 'Old Bob' and had a ride in the beautiful sunshine to Beachy Head to have an ice cream at his old favourite spot. We then headed to his old local to raise a glass to him and also to Tony 'Frosties' Pratt who East Kent lost earlier in the year, 2 original members of the South East Widows Sons, who are both greatly missed!

In May, we were invited along by Sussex to attend Goodwood and have parade lap of the race circuit – who could turn that down!! 7 of us headed down to show our support and promptly turned into Valentino Rossi the second we got on track! But what a great



experience. Over the last 3 months we have regularly been meeting up with either West Kent, Sussex, Surrey or South East to offer and show support across the Region.

We have had our summer Mark meeting, followed by a white table breakfast and a ride, we advanced Bro Bryan 'Cuthbert' Baird to the friendly degree – we now have over 20 WS in the Lodge and we're starting to build the Royal Ark Mariners Lodge to same numbers over the next 2-3 years!



In July we will have a new President for East Kent, over the last 4 years East Kent have grown in numbers, charitable donations and reputation! We are now recognised by our Province and invited to attend provincial events, have spoken at our Provincial promotions meeting and noticed for our passion wherever we go!

We have donated over £20,000 worth of toys at our Xmas toy runs and over 4,000 Easter Eggs along with various charitable donations. Our Hundred of Hoo Widows Sons lodge is now the 2nd largest Mark lodge in Kent, and we have taken on the RAM Lodge with the same intentions and helping to get the WS noticed



across other Mark Provinces. We are normally one of the best represented Chapters at the National Rally, where we always turn it into a 4 day event – generally with at least 25 of us in attendance.

We launched the inaugural Presidents Ball and so glad to see it doing exactly as we hoped – growing, an annual event and moving around the country – please support it, it is an awesome event!! We have helped a number of people stay in Freemasonry and brought a number of new masons in as well.

We have had some challenging times both from internal and external forces, but with the support of my officers, brethren of EKWS, our Cornerstones, other Presidents and WS from other Chapters – we've done alright I think!! We like to have fun in EK and we try to remember that. I would like to thank every person who has helped me along the way and please support our new President as much as you have helped and supported me along the way.



Our new President, Jason 'Bluebell' Davies-Baker has been with EK from very early on after we were founded, has been Secretary and Vice President, is a dedicated and passionate WS with lots of ideas on how to grow, develop and take the Chapter forwards. He will have a good team of Officers behind him and I look forward to sitting back, enjoying the rides and watching EK go from strength to strength as they are the finest bunch of friends, WS and masons anyone could ask for!

Thank you for the last 4 years it was a unexpected position when I got it, but I could not have been prouder to have served EKWS!

3rd Gear

Past (will be by the time this comes out) President East Kent



Widows Sons Shropshire Chapter

- The event is set for 21st September
- Start point at Freemasons Hall, Loft St, Oswestry SY11 2EP (use the what3words QR code to find it)
- Register & collect a ticket. Head to Barmouth, get your ticket checked, fill the supplied bottle with sea water, return to the start point to hand in your ticket & seawater
- There is no set route (but there are some obvious ones)
- Departing from 09:00 to 11:00, to return by 15:30 for draw. Ending by 16:00
- Registration via Just Giving. No anonymous registrations please
- Suggested minimum donation - £10 per rider, £5 per pillion

What3Words (start point)



Facebook



Just Giving



Scan / Tap / Click the QR codes to go to the pages



All proceeds go to the Movement Centre

Discover Freemasonry Event

Saturday, the 10th of May saw the Metropolitan Grand Lodge hold their latest Discovery Freemasonry event at Freemasons Hall, Great Queen Street in London.

The aim for this event was to give a presentation to over 200 members of the public and over 30 of them went on to be interviewed under the “soft interviewing” process which the Metropolitan Grand Lodge had introduced this year to speed up the Membership application process to become a Freemason.



These events are put on to invite members of the public who are interested in becoming a Freemason to see what Freemasons get up to and what our charity fundraising goes towards.

At this event, the Metropolitan Grand Master Warren Duke was in attendance.

To assist with the smooth running of this event, the Metropolitan Grand Lodge invited members of the Widows Sons along to help out. The Widows Sons were invited to wear their regalia to show the members of the public the different associations within freemasonry.

There were 14 Widows Sons in attendance representing eight different chapters from across the United Kingdom, including a Quarrymen from Dorset.

The members of the Widows Sons are extremely grateful to the Metropolitan Grand Lodge for allowing them to wear their Regalia within Freemasons Hall yesterday while helping out with this event.

On behalf of the Chairman, the officers and the brethren of the Widows Sons, I would like to thank the Metropolitan Grand Lodge for the invite, and we look forward to helping out again at a future date.



Widows Sons (Guernsey & Alderney) Chapter

In 2024 a small group of members from the **Widows Sons (Guernsey & Alderney) Chapter** travelled for our first visit to a national rally, held in Devon, under our President Andre Quintal. In addition to a hugely enjoyable weekend, we also met many Brothers and Sisters from Chapters as far afield as Portugal and France. It was during conversations with a couple of members from Cornerstone Lodge in France that we were invited to meet up at their rally in 2025.



borrow her spare Harley Sportster, so after a 70-minute drive to her house he was soon back on two wheels. Freemasonry at its best!



What followed was an absolutely fantastic weekend with like-minded Masons enjoying some great organised bike rides around the peninsular, an unusual but very impressive badging ceremony for new members, and plenty of eating, drinking and partying.

And so, on 4th June six members of the Chapter, Rob Grant (President), Andre Quintal, Sean Petralia, Tim Smart, James Scowen and Brian Crocket, sailed from Guernsey to St Malo, and then after a brief overnight stay, drove the 240 km down to Erdeven on the stunning Brittany coastline.

The trip down was not without mishap, as Andre's Harley suffered a catastrophic breakdown of the rear pulley 100 metres from the destination, requiring the bike to be unceremoniously pushed over the finishing line!

After a couple of welcome beers, Helen, our host for the weekend, soon very kindly arranged for Andre to



One further mishap occurred when Sean's bike suffered a nail in the tire during a ride-out. This was promptly put right through the combined efforts of Tim with his repair kit, and a French Brother with his air compressor, and he was soon back on the road, enjoying the sights and roads of this scenic part of France.



We had a superb long weekend and got to experience Freemasonry as we know and love it, with our French and Belgian Brethren, bringing back many happy memories of fun spent with our new friends. If you ever get the chance, and have not already done so, I would strongly recommend a visit.



WSMBA chapter website design

- **Got a chapter?**
- **Want a website?**

If you answered “Yes” to these two questions then this article is for you!

In issue 7 of The Son we discussed how the wsmba.uk domain is set up and how each chapter has their own domain beneath it, shires.wsmba.uk for instance. These subdomains are mostly used for emails but with a little bit of work you can also have a website that uses your chapter domain name to access it.

The technical bit

The association offers a web hosting facility to all WSMBA chapters. You design your website on your own machine and upload it to our platform and we allow the rest of the digital world to see it.

The domain is secured with an SSL certificate so people can trust that our sites are safe and can be trusted (but see below on design software).

Your bit

First, you will need to find a website designer that you can lubricate with intoxicating liquids until they agree to design your website for you. Alternatively you can create it yourself if you’re willing to learn, it’s really not difficult, read on.

Software

There are many different software applications that you can use to create your website and the cost varies from free to thousands of pounds to buy and use. We will focus on the two.

Mobirise

Mobirise is free software that runs on both Windows and MacOS machines. This software is highly recommended because although it is free the final website has no forced advertising. The company makes its money from renting design templates but you don’t have to use them.

There is a small learning curve but once you understand the basics it is simple to use and the WSMBA I.T. gurus are willing to answer any questions you may have.

A good example of a Mobirise website is our national one at <https://wsmba.uk/>

Wordpress

Like Mobirise, Wordpress is free to use and makes its money from renting templates and plug-ins, however we do not recommend the use of this software due to

the number of security holes that these free plug-ins create, currently 333 published vulnerabilities, 118 not yet patched (and you have to download the patch if it’s fixed)*.

If you insist on using Wordpress and your site is found to be a source of infection then it will be shutdown and deleted immediately.

Hosting

However you design your site, once it is completed and you’re happy with the result you will need to upload it to our hosting facility.

Send an email to technical@wsmba.uk, we will respond with the details you need to upload your site. Once you have this information you can transfer the site and thereafter add updates as and when you want to make changes.

Afterwards

- Now that your site is live you will need to keep it up to date.
- Make sure that photos are changed on occasion.
- If you keep a calendar on it then it is vital that old entries are removed and new items added frequently.
- Consider the timing of photos, Toy runs are great in winter but will look out of place by August, especially if they are over 12 months old.
- source: <https://patchstack.com/database/statistics/wordpress>

**The BEDA, Cobble Stones, Hallstone, Iceni,
Norfolk, Oxonian, Shires, & Suffolk
Chapters of the WSMBA are proud hosts of
the “Key to the door”**

21st National Rally



Tickets

£35

Per Person



25th, 26th, & 27th

July 2025

**Leighton Buzzard Rugby Club,
Leighton Rd, Stanbridge
LU7 9HR**

**Lodge meeting - Bands – Hog Roast - Vendors –
Real Ale – Rideout**



Son

Notts Chapter - Nurse Visits Natter Night

Nurse Yvette came along to our natter night in March to explain how welcome the Food Boxes provided by the Notts Widows Sons are to patients and their families who attend the QMC hospital. It was great to hear what Yvette had to say. Notts Widows Sons recently made an appeal to all craft Lodges in the Province for donations to enable us to continue with this project. The generosity of Lodges was way beyond our expectations, and we raised over £3000. This secures the future of the project for quite some time to come.



Community Action: Worcestershire Chapter WSMBA Easter Food Bank Donation

This Easter, Freemasons from across the Province gathered at Kings Heath Hall, to support a donation to the local community food bank. The food bank is situated just 10 doors down from the Hall and is an excellent example of how Freemasons are engaging in, and actively supporting, our local communities.

The Easter Food Donation was led by the Provincial Grand Master, Stephen Wyer. On this occasion, the Food Bank benefitted from the generosity of the Provincial Lottery, who gave a £500 donation. This was augmented by charitable donations from, amongst

others, The Lodge of Hospitality No. 8325 and Wythall Lodge No. 5665.

Social Value is at the heart of what we do as Worcestershire Freemasons

Unprompted, the Food Bank Staff and Clients expressed their personal thanks to both Stephen and the Lottery Chairman Derek Taylor for their support. The words '...I don't know you, but I want to thank you for helping me put food on the table for my family this Easter and for the first time in a very long-time of giving my children an Easter Egg'.

Moving words that sum up 'what we all try to do as Freemasons: make a difference'.

Making a difference can also be fun, as those who were there witnessed a range of Easter themed events as part of the 'Easter Food Bank Big Shop'. These involved a chance to catch up with friends, make new friends and too much amusement, energetic exercise for the children who went on an 'Easter Egg Hunt' around the





Hall.

Pride of place was also given to the 'Blood Bike', named the 'Widows Son', which was donated last year from fundraising efforts by the Worcestershire Chapter of Widows Sons, and which every day supports our local community, augmenting the work of the NHS. All of which was helped by the excellent work of Hall Director Stan Hems who ensured that there was warm welcome and an endless supply of tea, coffee, biscuits and other light refreshments.

In addition, the Widows Sons (Worcestershire Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association), gave an honour guard escort to the Donation Cavalcade, led by the Provincial Grand Master Stephen Wyer, Lottery Chairman Derek Taylor, Assistant Provincial Grand Master Paul Wong, and

Provincial Almoner Bill Tucker and driven by Simon Bumford. With Mark Barber, along with Adam Lewis, following closely behind carrying the Food Bank Donation. This was aided by Mark Keepax, who bravely stepped into the busy traffic on the Alcester Road South to bring it to a standstill to let the convoy out! This was further augmented by a number of guests taking the brief walk up to the Food Bank to witness and join in the donation proceedings.

This Easter, the generosity of Masons across the Province has made a difference. With the 'cherry on the top' being a fantastic personal donation by Tom Carr, of Chickens and fresh produce, to ensure the Food Bank users all went away with a special Easter dinner. Everyone involved, and those who simply turned up to support the donation were warmly thanked by the Provincial Grand Master.

The Kings Heath Food Bank has benefitted from our support since the start of this Masonic season. The current economic situation is hitting even harder on families and the elderly, as more and more people are being forced to look and rely on the voluntary work of the local Food Banks. Hence, the reason and the real importance of helping those who are in need who live in our local community.

Sadly Every Two Minutes a Family Uses the Kings Heath Food Bank...

It's run by Sharon Power and is open for 2 hours every week on a Friday morning and 1.5 hours on a Saturday morning. During this short time, they have over 100+ visitors using the service. Which means it supports a family every 2 minutes when it is open. The Food Bank runs purely on donations and is struggling to keep up with demand. Hence the need for our support.

And by way of a follow up; If every member of the units meeting at Kings Heath, and every visitor, brings just one item of food with them each time they visit the hall... we can make regular donations and make a real difference to this charity - and in turn help the people who are struggling right on our very doorstep. This aligns with our Provincial Grand Master's desire for Worcestershire Freemasons to be making positive charitable contributions by engaging in our local communities.

So whether it's popping in a few extra items whilst doing the weekly shop, or pinching a can of beans from the cupboard before you leave the house...

The Kings Heath Hall Mantra: "When you Can Bring a Can!"

The initiative is simply a heartfelt ask for your kind help and to show compassion for others less fortunate. So let's unite in making a real difference to this local charity. The Food Bank which started in 2020 during lockdown is now a community life line.



Bikesure insurance discount for WSMBA members

My name is WB George Young and I am a member of the Northumberland Chapter.

If you need anything more give either myself or Nick a shout.

I have managed to get a discount of upto 25% from Bikesure insurance for WSMBA members.

Please see the email below from Nick.

Good afternoon!

My names Nick and I am the Owners Club Representative for Bikesure Insurance. Bikesure are the UK's leading specialist motor intermediary and my role is to build relationships with owner's clubs regardless of size or machine and to promote the many benefits of becoming one of our acknowledged clubs.

As a specialist motorbike broker, we will compare motorcycle insurance from dozens of providers to find you the very best deal, whatever your individual needs. We treat all our customers as individuals and because we have access to more than 40 different motorbike and moped insurance schemes, you can be sure there will be one suited to you.

We have teamed up with "The WSMBA" to offer discounted Insurance Policies to its members. We can tailor our quotes to suit the individual providing benefits such as Agreed Valuation, Extended European cover, Free Legal Cover and Like for Like cover on your modifications!

All you need to do is call on 0800 089 0165 and mention "WSMBA".

If you already an existing customer and have any customer service queries or are due for a renewal then again don't hesitate to drop me a message and I will be happy to help.

Thanks

Nick Wilkinson

Owners Club Liaison

Adrian Flux Insurance Services

T. 01553 845 585 E. Nick.Wilkinson@adrianflux.co.uk

Adrian Flux Insurance Services, East Winch Hall, East Winch, King's Lynn,
Norfolk,

PE32 1HN





WORCESTERSHIRE CHAPTER WSMBA PRESIDENTS BALL

31st January 2026, 6.30pm
The Abbey Hotel, Malvern,
Worcestershire, WR14 3ET

Tickets
£60 pp



Double
rooms from
£110 inc
Breakfast,
£85 any extra
night

Fantastic venue, extensive menu choice, wonderful countryside
Make a weekend of it!

Full details about tickets and room bookings are on the booking form, or
use the QR Code or at <https://worcs.wsmba.uk/page41.html>



To obtain a booking form or further info, just email

Presidentsball2026@gmail.com



and a booking sheet will then be sent to you.

Please submit chapter orders where possible to aid in the seating plan.

Taurus Chapter Inaugural Run

Saturday 29th March 2025

The roar of engines, the glint of polished chrome, and a palpable sense of camaraderie marked a momentous occasion in Herefordshire on Saturday 29th March, as the newly established Taurus Chapter of the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association hosted its inaugural ride-out.



Meeting at the Asda car park in Hereford, nearly 50 riders rolled in, each bearing the insignia of one of seven supporting chapters: Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Meridian, Hallstone, and Oxonian. Their presence was more than appreciated—it was symbolic of the strength and unity that runs deep within the Widows Sons brotherhood.

The convoy thundered through the heart of Hereford, attracting admiring glances and curious smiles, before heading out into the countryside en route to the Shobdon Airfield Café. There, the atmosphere was as warm as the breakfast: stories were shared, friendships were forged, and laughter echoed among the bikes.

It was more than just a meet-up—it was a celebration. A testament to shared values, shared purpose, and shared roads.

As the day wound down, a smaller group continued on to HR4K in Hereford, enjoying a quiet coffee and reflecting on a ride well done. The consensus? A brilliant beginning, and the start of something special.

For the Taurus Chapter, this wasn't just a first ride—it was a declaration: Herefordshire has a new voice in the Widows Sons MBA, and it's riding proud.



Widows Sons Bring Joy to West Bank Nursing Home

On a warm and sunny day in July, the West Kent Chapter of the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association responded to a heartfelt request from the staff at West Bank Nursing Home. The home had reached out asking if a few motorcycles could be brought down to brighten the residents' day—and we were only too happy to oblige.

outside, eager to meet the bikers and get up close to the machines. The looks of pure delight, the laughter, the wide smiles—these are the moments that remind us why we do what we do. For many, it was a chance to relive a sense of freedom, excitement, and connection with the world beyond the home. The staff were incredibly welcoming, and the residents were

visibly uplifted by our visit. The bikes sparked memories, stories, and smiles all round. It was a simple act, but one that had a big impact. As one resident put it, "I never thought I'd be on a motorbike again!"

We'd like to thank West Bank Nursing Home for inviting us, and to all our members who made the effort to attend. It was a day of brotherhood, community spirit, and true Masonic charity in action.

We believe we genuinely made some elderly people very, very happy—and ***that's what it's all about.***



As the nearest chapter, we quickly mobilised and rode in with a fantastic turnout of eight bikes. One of our members brought along his eye-catching red Harley-Davidson trike, which quickly stole the show. With the help of care staff, we were able to give several residents joy rides around the car park, an experience that moved more than a few to tears of happiness. The atmosphere was electric as the rumble of engines filled the air and curious residents gathered



West Kent Chapter Rides for a Cause

Fundraiser at Westerham Brewery Raises £541 for The Ravensbourne Project

On Tuesday 25th June, the West Kent Chapter of the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association held a memorable fundraising evening at the vibrant Westerham Brewery — combining brotherhood, beer, and benevolence in true Masonic style.

The event was held in support of The Ravensbourne Project, a local charity dedicated to enriching the lives of children and young people with complex needs. Thanks to the incredible generosity of all who attended — and with especially strong support from our Brethren in the East Kent Chapter — we successfully raised £541 to help fund their vital work.

Live music from Flipping The Bird provided the perfect soundtrack for the night, with their energetic set getting boots tapping and heads nodding in true biker fashion. The brewery's warm hospitality, combined with an enthusiastic crowd, created a buzzing atmosphere that captured the spirit of the Widows Sons.

A special thanks goes to our raffle sponsors, whose donations added excitement to the evening and helped push the fundraising total even higher. Prizes were generously contributed by:

- Helmet City
- The Rabbit Hole
- Westerham Brewery
- And several generous Brethren who attended the event.

From craft ales and quality conversation to roaring laughter and raffled rewards, the night was a resounding success.

Events like this not only support great causes but also strengthen the bonds between Chapters — proving once again that when we ride together, we rise together.

To learn more about the incredible work of The Ravensbourne Project, please visit: <https://ravensbourneproject.org.uk/>

Ride safe. Ride with purpose.

— West Kent Chapter, Widows Sons MBA

The evening also marked a proud moment for the Chapter, as we officially patched our latest Widows Son. Welcoming a new Brother into the fold is always a special occasion, and the sense of unity and purpose it brings was felt by all. Congratulations and welcome to our newest rider on the journey.



Widows Sons Race to Success by Smashing Fundraising Target

Taken from the Lifelites Website News Pages: <https://www.lifelites.org/widows-sons-fundraising-success-lifelites/>

Exceeding Expectations

In February 2024 at their AGM, the Widows Sons Masonic Bikers Association pledged to continue supporting Lifelites and children with life-limiting conditions by setting out to raise £25,000 to fund vital assistive and sensory technology for hospices across the UK within a year. Widows Sons ended up turning this pledge into an incredible fundraising success.

As with their previous fundraising in 2023, the Chapters of the Widows Sons not only succeeded in reaching the target ahead of schedule but also smashed the original figure by raising an incredible £28,035.

Events and Challenges Behind the Fundraising

Funds were raised through a variety of activities including the National Rally in Region 7 and the President's Ball, as well as local events and individual challenges like Simon Berriman's epic cross-country ride in June.

Widows Sons President, Greg Kirby, said, "It never ceases to amaze me how generous the Widows Sons are, especially when it comes to helping children in need. Widows Sons not only adhere to their Masonic Principles, they enhance them. Long may we continue to support the work that Lifelites undertakes on behalf of children less fortunate than ourselves."

A Long-Term Commitment to Lifelites

Head of Fundraising and Communications, Simon Pitts, said, "This collective effort to support vulnerable children and families in communities across the UK demonstrates the incredible generosity, kindness and philanthropic nature intrinsic in Freemasonry. The members of the Widows Sons have once again taken a target and thrown everything at it, smashing expectations and proving just what an incredible group of fundraisers they are. Huge thanks from all of our palliative care partners, children and their families who will benefit from this wonderful achievement."

We are honoured to announce that the Widows Sons have reaffirmed their long-term commitment to Lifelites and hospices across the UK by pledging to fundraise for Lifelites and our unique assistive technology, training and support services over the next 12 months. it's a menu then go and get a real one!



Widows Sons Dedicated Marketplace



BroBay



'So Mote It Be'

Widows Sons, buy and sell pages. UK

WS "BroBay"

A marketplace for like minded bros to sell & buy bike related items @ honest prices

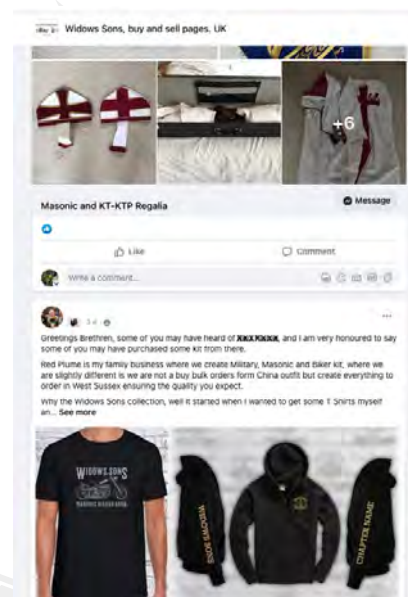
The only criteria to join is to be a Widows Son located in the UK & Ireland.

So please feel free to invite your fellow Widows Sons from the UK & Ireland to join us.

We'll take it that you can vouch for any bro you invite.

Please note we can not allow business posts, personal gain posts or 'service' posts.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/662943394115662>





Widows Sons Worcestershire Chapter Tailender

Secure your spot now for the
Worcestershire Tailender Rally, happening
from August 22nd to 24th, 2025!

Join us for an exclusive gathering for just
£20 per person, reserved for patched
members of the Widows Sons, Associates
and their guests. Enjoy an organised
motorcycle ride on Saturday, the 23rd,
followed by live entertainment that evening.



Book via the following link:

<https://forms.gle/x8YhJyLLNFYLjC8z6>

Camping pitches, caravan or motorhome
parking available, & food available on site.

Queries etc please contact:
president@worcs.wsmba.uk



Here is a set of guidelines for submission of articles to **"The SON"**. These guidelines will ensure that your submissions are not rejected, that your images look their best and that there is no chance of them being omitted due to missing deadlines or workload issues.

When supplying articles please:

- Send them in Word Format or Plain Text as attachments only, these are the only acceptable formats.
- Please do not send articles as PDF's, in email bodies, PowerPoint or other non-text apps, **this will result in your article being rejected**, and/or missing its inclusion in the Magazine.
- Please title your article and the submission email with your Chapter name, subject of the email and that it is a submission for **"The SON"** Magazine - i.e. "West Midlands Chapter, Son Submission, Autumn 2024"
- Please spell and Grammar check your articles before sending (Word has Spell and Grammar Check tools - see <https://bit.ly/3QJI0XX>)
- Send images separately - please use **descriptive image names** that reference the chapter name, article and approximate place they should be in your article. Do not put any text in "pic goes here" - as this has to be manually edited out
- Please send original images only - do not edit them down, crop, change resolution or process in any manner that may result in loss of image quality. We have sufficient server size to receive hi res images.
- Please do not send articles or attachments via time limited File transfer applications like WeTransfer
- Please limit the size of your submissions to an absolute maximum of 1,000 words minus images (using the Word count tool) This will make 2 pages in the magazine. The Editorial team may, upon consultation, take additional or larger articles if of special interest or importance.
Important note: if you add images, you will need to subtract about **50 words per single column width image** from your maximum. (so a 2 page doc with 4 pictures will only have room for 800 words)
- Publication is on the 1st of March, June, September and December. With a cut off two weeks before each issue. Cut off is **not** a target date! Please submit your article as soon as possible before the deadline - if Chapters consistently send on deadline day, the result is a delayed edition - the average time taken to assemble is 20-25 hours before editing process. We may have to bring the deadline forward, meaning it may become difficult to keep articles current.
- Please send your submissions, articles, stories, images, events and Chapter News for each next issue to the Editor by email to: news@wsmba.uk no later than two weeks before as this impacts publication dates!
- Please send your article just once, you will receive an auto response from the Mailbox confirming receipt. Sending again duplicates the work for the editorial team, and will have a knock-on affect on other articles.



WIDOWS SONS MBA
24TH JULY 2026



NATIONAL RALLY

Camping
Vendor stalls
Meetings
Live Music
Organised Ride
Onsite Catering
Tattoo &
Piercing

Eastbourne Borough F.C
Priory Lane, Eastbourne,
East Sussex,
BN23 7QH



Save the date!



**Widows Sons MBA
Durham Chapter
10th Anniversary Bash**



**Saturday 16th August
Bishop Auckland Rugby Club**

West Mills Playing Fields Bridge Road Bishop Auckland DL14 7PA

Come and join Widows Sons Durham for a fun evening of live music, fun and drinks celebrating 10 years on the road together. Site opens at 14:00

Tickets £12 in advance only including a free raffle ticket

Fee includes camping/accommodation for the night

To book your ticket pay online to:

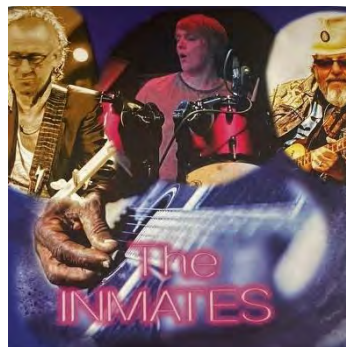
Widows Sons Durham Chapter

SC: 30-97-44

Acc: 43415060

As a payment reference please use your name and DWS10

Live music from The Inmates



Dogs welcome with "well behaved" owners

All funds raised will be donated to charity

Next issue

The Spring issue of **THE Son** will be published on 1st September 2025

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 - not embedded in documents) for the next issue to the Editor by email to: news@wsmba.uk no later than **Friday 22nd August**.

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>



Son