

# **EU Hands Off Biking demo – 24 June 2012**

## **Central Glasgow to Edinburgh outskirts on the M8**

### **Action is MAG's middle name.**

MAG campaigns at all levels and there is always some activity, mostly behind the scenes where we are talking directly to politicians, but sometimes we need to get numbers out on the street to back up the rhetoric and show the true strength of feeling.

Many politicians and public figures are listening to us already and realise that **riders are voters**. The British Government supports us now too, but other politicians aren't listening yet and this ride out is part of making them pay attention.

### **Why are we doing this?**

As part of updating Type Approval rules, the EU Commission are attempting to introduce compulsory ABS, automatic Headlights On, and anti-modification rules to stop us modifying the powertrains of our new bikes - from airbox to size of the back tyre. They say it is to reduce emissions and to keep us safe. **But...**

**They have no evidence for this.** They admit there is no problem. The UK Government can't see any evidence for this law. The European Ombudsman says there is no evidence and there is a case to answer that the EU Commission has breached the Treaty of what it's allowed to do.

Negotiations continue and we are gaining concessions all the time.

We are being taken seriously which is why it is important that we conduct ourselves well.

### **At the start point –**

The run starts at 13.00 with assembly from 11.30 onwards.

On arrival don't waste available space. Form up from the exit point and as directed by marshals, leaving vehicle access along the centre. Reverse park where possible for an easy exit at the start.

### **Where??????**

Start point is Cheapside Street, off Anderston Quay, in the shadow of the Kingston Bridge in central Glasgow. This will give relatively easy access to the M8 at jn. 18.

Enter from Warroch Street (forms a 'U' with Cheapside St.) or as directed by marshals.

### **On the run –**

**Normal road regulations and traffic laws apply and must be observed at all times.**

**Speed** - No less than 40 mph on the motorway.

**Lane discipline** - Leave the outside lane free at all times – this is very important because we need to create a spectacle that is seen by as many as possible.

If no one can overtake they won't be able to see us or read the message on the support vans.

**Don't bunch up** - Allow plenty of space for other vehicles to cross through the demo so they can join and leave the motorway at junctions. More space also means cooler air for bikes and fresher air for riders. And a much bigger demo.

We want everyone to talk about all the bikes out on the street, not say they were stuck in yet another traffic jam that they couldn't see the reason for.

**We need the support of the public- not to antagonise them.**

### **The happy ending - - - ?**

Original plans have had to be abandoned due to a date clash with the Highland Show.

The demo will officially end with a 'rolling dispersal' after passing j3 Livingston.

This means turning off / back or heading for home from j2 on.

Or -

Saltire Suzuki have offered to fire up the barbie and have the urn ready for a brew up at the end. They're behind the SHELL filling station on the A71. Where MAG and the support vans are going.

**Above all, ENJOY THE RUN.**

T-shirts may even be available at the start!

MAG Scotland would like to thank Saltire Suzuki for their continuing support.