

the  
**year**  
view

Rotary



International Fellowship of  
**Motorcycling Rotarians**

Volume 1

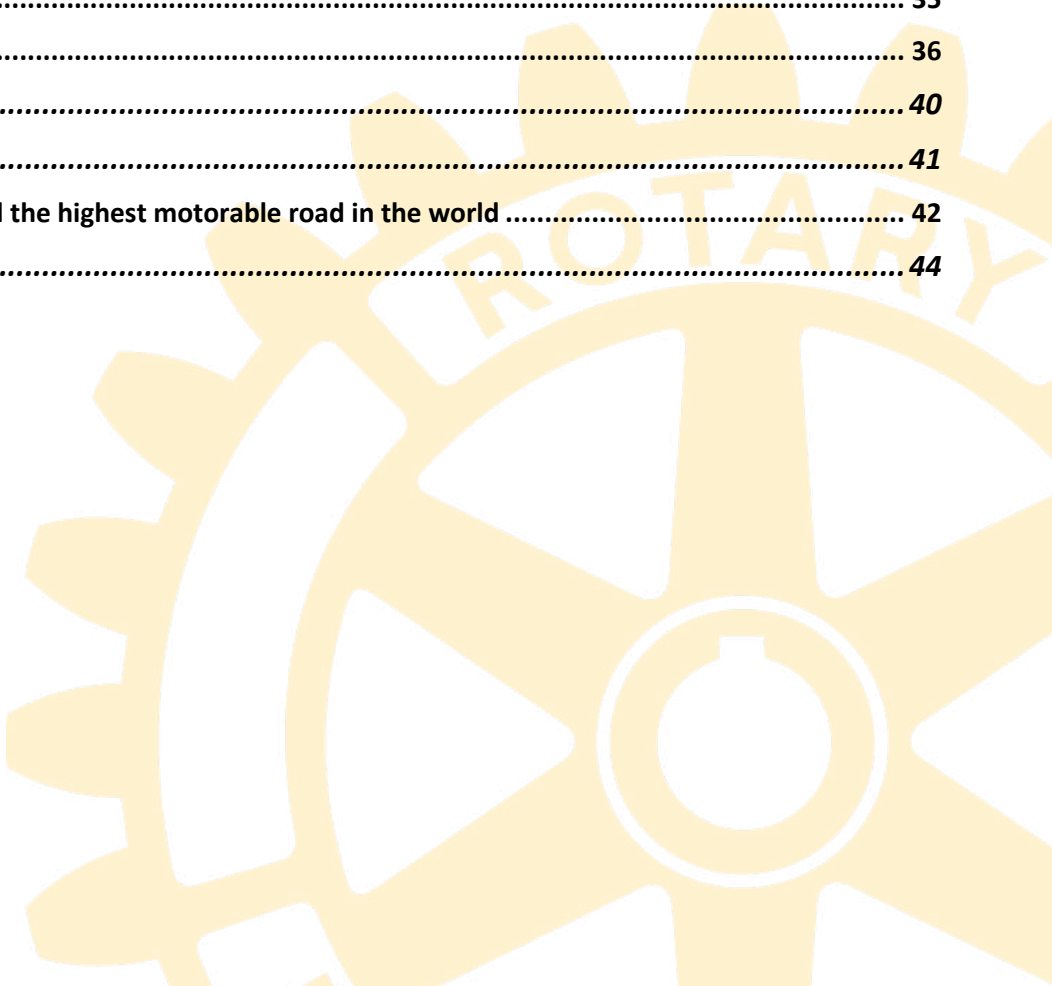
April 5, 2023





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*A long ride is the answer to a question you will soon forget!*

## From the President's Desk

Greetings from India!

The International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians is, undoubtedly, one of the most active and vibrant fellowship groups that exists in Rotary. We ride for pleasure, we ride for the brotherhood, we ride to show solidarity and at times we also ride to support a greater cause or a project.

We started this Rotary year with a bang by chartering our West Africa Chapter in the month of August 2022. The 29 Chapters of IFMR cover over 50 countries and organize and participate in so many wonderful activities across the world that uphold the true spirit of Rotary. And I believe it is the duty of the IFMR's international office to ensure that the news reaches all its members.



It was a dream that Dirk and I saw a few years ago that we have an international newsletter for our fellowship group that shared the updates from our various chapters on a regular basis. The newsletter should not only ensure that the good work of chapters is known to the rest of fraternity, but should play a big role in motivating other chapters that are striving to be active and vibrant.

Personally for me, it was just another effort to shrink the IFMR World and bring the chapters closer. Like the entire world shrunk and came together on a computer screen through the Virtual IFMR World Meets that we started in 2020, I wanted all the key updates from the IFMR World to shrink into a digital booklet that could reach every IFMR'ian across the world.

However, some dreams are challenging and hence take longer time to realise. So was this one! But, like they say the only thing that stands between the dreams and reality is your 'persistence'. It is indeed our persistence and the unconditional support from the chapter leaders that has turned this long-pending dream of IFMR into a reality!! Kudos to each one of you to make this happen!

This edition may not be a very well drafted or refined one, but it shows what we as IFMR can achieve in just 7 days if we collaborate. It is just a beginning to a new trend. And I am sure in the future editions we will have updates from more chapters, some interesting articles, travel experiences, puzzles and many more!

So folks, let me present to you our maiden international newsletter "The Rear View"!

Best Wishes,

**Sunil Telkar**

International President 2022-25





## From the Secretary's Desk

Greetings from your International Secretary!

Dear all in our Rotary Fellowship all over the world. I'm completely convinced of the great value of Rotary Fellowships in general, especially with regard to IFMR. There are not so many fellowships allowing members to take one's passion in their own hands steering a motorbike at their own style, in many countries on different terrains.

What did I do as your secretary feeling responsible for informing you regularly about updates concerning actual composition of our chapter boards, data administration, general overview about the tour programme including upcoming events? Just that, including processing numerous requests within and outside IFMR only a few of you got to know. I cannot refrain from emphasizing that a secretary of course needs information from the chapters in order to perform to everyone's satisfaction. Today I can add a typical example of IFMR - Rotary at its best. Larie Trippet, president of chapter North America allowed me to pass this information to our chapters, please read his words:

*We have an awesome opportunity in Milwaukee in July!!! Harley Davidson is hosting their 120th Anniversary party July 13-16.*

*<https://www.harley-davidson.com/us/en/content/event-calendar/homecoming.html>*

*Chris Spresser from the Rotary Club of Elmbrook has offered to coordinate hosting of visiting motorcycling Rotarians who are attending the event. She has several willing Rotarians to host (lodging) IFMR members in their home for the weekend. Chris can be reached at [c3spresser@gmail.com](mailto:c3spresser@gmail.com)*

*Please contact Chris directly if you are interested. If you already have a room booked, or otherwise will be in town, she invites you to her Rotary meeting Friday morning at 7 AM.*

Contact Chris for location. What a great example of Rotary Fellowship!!!!

I can only repeat Larie's last sentence about fellowships in general, and IFMR in particular.

**Hans-Dieter**

International Secretary 2022-25



## *Chapter Updates*





## IFMR France

The rides of IFMR France are usually from Thursday evening till Sunday lunch (4 days, 3 nights)

### Ride 1:

25-27 March: Circuit of Le Mans, 6 members on 6 bikes



A special ride supporting Livio Mirabel, a talented young motor racer, suffering from dysphasia, riding with IFMR colors on his gear. 6 of our members assisted at trials on Saturday and 2 runs on Sunday of GPG (Goal Grand Prix) permitting Honda HSF 250R bikes to prepare French Championship with power levels adapted to age categories. Livio is 14 years old, champion 2021 'Coupe promo sport 125'.



See <https://www.facebook.com/livimirabel707/> (in French)

### Ride 2:

28 April-1 Mai: Normandie, 19 members on 13 bikes, organized by Pascal Marilly (our founding President) with our actual president Philippe Valetoux.

Very nice weather for this northerly ride, with visits of Honfleur, le Havre and the port (by boat).



Beautiful little roads in the lands of Auge, the Valley of the river Seine on Friday, and at the North the country of Caux and the Alabaster



Coast on Saturday. Sunday Southwards in the fields of the apples (cider and calvados). Happy to be together again for this first ride of the year in a superb hotel of old restored chalets in the countryside.

### Ride 3:

9-12 June Auvergne, 41 members on 27 bikes, organized by Patrick Delabarre and Bernard Emanuely. Mercure in Saint Nectaire (not perfect) more than overbooked, 4 rooms in another hotel nearby. Very hot weather this time, but no

rain, no complaints. All mountain roads : curves and passes, beautiful views and visit of little mountain villages, churches, abbeys and a petrified fountain (Calcium)



### Ride 4:

15-18 September Alpes, 31 members on 22 bikes, organized by Daniel Lemaire, 3 different hotels= riding with luggage. Bad weather, impossible to ride on mountain roads because of freezing temperatures and snow, so we stayed in the valleys







and visited the museum of Opinel knives. We will have to come back to see what passes Daniel prepared for us!

Proud to be Rotarian, happy to be biker, IFMR is made for us!



**Edward Wismeyer**  
President Elect

## IFMR Great Britain & Ireland

### Sunday Lunch at the Bear Hotel, report by Ed.

Our Annual (but not last year due to Covid) gathering at The Bear for Sunday lunch was this year a smaller attendance, mainly due to members being concerned with Covid restrictions which were eased slightly only 2 days beforehand but we were delighted to meet our latest members David & Julia Sayle.

The majority of those who participated arrived on the Saturday which is now the usual practice, only 12 for this time



followed by two more on the Sunday. In all the years I have been, I think this is by far the lowest number as in better times we have had in excess of 50. Surprisingly, things don't change and we all automatically drop into a very comfortable 'fellowship' family group. Both Sturday evening dinner and Sunday lunch we were treated to the usual excellent 'Bear fare' and superb service. Plenty of the expected banter as well as some more serious conversations around the table filled our bodies and minds to perfection.

Sunday morning breakfast was most interresting as young Alan Kay regaled some of us with tales of his time in the Army during his 'National Service' - where in the very early days he was sent to Aldershot barracks for either heavy vehicle maintenance or may have been driving instructor when he approached his CO and said "I don't think I'm gonna like it here.....Sir" Ooops! The next day he was on a plane to Egypt for two years (Suez Crisis)!!! He (Alan) then said that perhaps he should write all his thoughts and memories down and we all agreed, then Dr John said 'Why don't you do a Pod-Cast' ..... the look on Alans face was priceless! (he's definitely NOT tech savvy!)





## Elan Valley AGM 2022 Report - a joint effort Powys Weekend & AGM. Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th April 2022.

### Friday.

Twenty-nine members plus 4 guests arrived on Friday afternoon at the start of our first AGM weekend for three years at the Metropole hotel in Llandrindod Wells, Powys, Wales for fellowship and riding around this beautiful location. And, oh yes, they did let us back after our previous visit many moons ago.

Most arrived from the four corners of England (and the odd corner of Wales) a few met up for lunch at The Lion Hotel, Leintwardine on their way to the hotel and rode in together. Not the least of which was your co-authors own posse from Cambridgeshire and Warwickshire where Gordon (Ed) and Chris ('No2') met Dr John and guests Anthony and Matt for a 'shakedown' ride to AGM HQ by way of practice. The group almost got altitude sickness riding over Clee Hill but the views more than compensated whilst we in turn compensated for the wind!

Everybody arrived safely with no reports admitted of any mishaps or incidents on-route; the only issue was Neil's party beating us to The Lion and cleaning them out of food leaving nothing for us!! Three or four members who, for various reasons could not ride, came by car. Following registration and settling into our rooms we all met in the bar (where else – although some preferred to settle straight into the bar) for a pre-dinner drink and a catch up since we last met face to face at Brooklands, September 2021. Some anonymous members tried and doggedly stuck to the local Welsh Lager throughout. The food was excellent and the seating arrangement facilitated small groups able to socialise and get to know our guests – one of whom had only passed his test in December 2021 (Shhhhh). Chris and I 'hosted' three guests, namely his brother Anthony and friend (yes, he has one) Matt O'Rourke, in addition to my daughter Clair. Following dinner our organiser and leader, Neil, gave a briefing for the Saturday ride including the drop off system to ensure we lost no one and arrived together at our coffee and lunch stops together; noteworthy that we had a 100% success rate.

### Saturday.

Saturday dawned cloudy with a fresh easterly breeze accompanied by a drip-drop of rain so was a little cool to start,

dispelled by some 'hot' riding later. 18 bikes left the Metropole Hotel at 9.30 following the usual photo call and pre-ride briefing, with others following by car.



The route quickly took us around fantastic country roads to our first stop at The Bear Hotel in Llandovery for tea, coffee and biscuits. Your co-author was so enthralled with the riding, he has to admit to not knowing where we were. When I asked our host at The Bear some member, who shall remain nameless, said we were in 'Lovey-Dovey' which sent the host into a fit of the giggles – she explained we were in Llandovery. The proprietor, Jean also told me that if I contacted her privately we could get far better rates than 'the internet' – I am still not sure if this was for the group or just me?!?!

The hosts at the Bear could not have been more attentive (particularly with the 'Miracle Biscuits' where there were more when we left than arrived) and a social media blogger, or was it vlogger (that's a video blogger) took many photographs and filmed us from a drone; many of the pictures can be seen on our Facebook site as well as the 'Earths Eye Media' website. We left the hotel as a group with the road traffic held back so we could all be filmed as we left the venue.







We had a brief issue with a Ewe (or a 'Yow' if you're from North Yorkshire!) and her lamb on a narrow road. They ran in front of us until they found a gap in a temporary mental fence which Neil 'repaired' and tied up to prevent further escapees. Please note that naughty Tail-end- Charlie – no names but known as 'The Parkers' - was spotted overtaking the entire group – his excuse being that curiosity as to what was happening had got the better of him; pity the truth was so boring.

Our route continued up hill and down dale, with only a couple of slight diversions, to our lunch stop at the Talbot Hotel, Y Talbot Tregaron where we had what seemed like a constant supply of sandwiches and chips, especially the chips which kept appearing – much like the 'Miracle Biscuits' – that must be Welsh hospitality, 2022 style!

After lunch we travelled on to visit the Craig Goch Dam over some narrow country roads over hills and then down again with a couple of hairpins bends to test our skills. Neil's fabulous route seemed to get more technical with every mile but perhaps I was rusty or had too much Welsh lager (Chris). The dam system is spectacular and well worth the visit. The ride covered 110 miles over a few different road types with great bends on the A roads to narrow country lanes that required full attention for a different reason. The day was noteworthy in that no marker was left waiting long with newer/younger riders easily keeping up with the pace – I just hope Neil enjoyed a new found form of motorcycling ie keeping to the (ahem) speed limits.

We arrived back at the Metropole Hotel about 4ish without managing to lose anyone (?) or gain any sheep with no mishaps to convene again for the Chapter AGM at 6 o'clock followed by dinner and an evening of great fellowship.

### Sunday.

Sunday morning dawned with sunshine but still a little cool with a slightly later start for a shorter ride today of about 60 miles. Several members left for home because of distance to travel so only 8 bikes left to ride to the Elan Valley visitor centre at Caban Coch Reservoir. The only issue was that our route via the A470 was closed so we had to detour, superbly led by Neil to arrive at the intended venue. I think a fine will be due to anyone who actually went round the visitor centre which demonstrated how the various dams were managed as everyone spent their time in the café for coffee and more

fellowship! What else would bikers do!! Names of swots actually visiting on a post-card please.

Following refreshments we set off for our lunch stop on the A44. This is a great biking road with enough 'twisties' to enjoy without being over taxing – perfect for a Sunday morning. We arrived at The Lion Hotel, Leintwardine about 12.30ish for our prearranged lunch of sandwiches and chips and a final hour of fellowship and banter before we all headed in different directions for home. I chatted to our guests over lunch and all said how much they had thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and the company. So much so that my daughter, Clair, has asked if she can come on the Trough of Bowland weekend in September. Can't be that bad riding with her old man then! (No – she wants to show you how it really should be done, Clair was really good – Chris, co-author). The guest riders swelled our bike numbers and, I think, added an interesting and positive dimension to our weekend. Finally we must extend heartfelt thanks to Neil and Maggie for their organisation and for leading the rides so efficiently and we look forward to seeing many of you again in July in Northumberland and again in September in the Trough of Bowland.

Arthur Jones – Author (aka Upper-case)

Chris Charlton – Junior Assistant Trainee Author's Mate (aka Lower-case)

### Ride report - 2022 Northumberland 5-7th July by Steve

The venue; The Riverdale Hall Hotel, Bellingham.

Arthur and his friends arranged an excellent mid-week trip for us.

A total of 22 people attended 4 of whom were guests of Arthur; Mal, Steve, Geoff & Alan, the latter being TEC and Ride leader on Wednesday along with 18 IFMR members

**Day 1 Tuesday;** we all made our way up to Northumberland, meeting at the hotel for an evening meal and catchup.

**Day 2 Wednesday;** 140 miles round the east coast. stopping at the Amble Inn, in Amble, for coffee and biscuits with lunch at The Barn Inn, Nr Beal. Twelve bikes started at 9:30 and finished at 4:30.

Riverdale Hall Hotel from the far side of the cricket pitch



The day started wet and overcast, the roads providing challenging riding. Twisting backroads with the unforecast rain occasionally flushing gravel across our path. The hilly terrain giving us a real '3D' ride. This day was good for wide handlebars, commanding sitting positions and grippy all terrain tyres. I loved it on the GS. but big, long distance Lunch-stop at The Barn Inn, near Beal, overlooking Holy Island mile eaters had a harder task. The coffee stop provided an extravagance of biscuits, delicious coffee and mouthwatering cake. Gerry Brown managed to stop eating after two pieces. I'm afraid I 'munched' straight past that and tucked into the President's special biscuits as well!!



The morning weather improved as we rode up the coast past Bamburgh Castle to enjoy sandwiches and chips overlooking Holy Island, just as the causeway was clearing and traffic started to flow across. The afternoon ride was a privilege, the drop off system putting me behind Alan for miles of lovely roads. His pace and style giving me the confidence to ride along; both Angela and I enjoying the views and physical motion of the bike. Looking in my mirror I could see Arthur easily keeping pace and wondered if he realised that he was only riding a 700!!

We all know that motorcycling connects us more closely, intimately, with our environment. This day we enjoyed some delicious scents; newly mown hay, wild garlic and forest pine.

**Day 3 Thursday:** A short ride to Kielder Dam followed by a run up over Hartside Pass and down to lunch at The Old Village Bakery in Melmerby, Cumbria, total distance approx 60 miles.

Photo shoot not far from Bamburgh Castle, bikes lined up like dominoes! Much kinder weather and more open roads today.

There were still interesting elements but forewarned by Arthur, we met the few hairpins with equanimity and really enjoyed



the curves and bends along this very popular motorcycling route. The highlight must be the view from the top of the Hartside Pass, 1904ft above sea level; giving us uninterrupted views across to the mountains of Cumbria.

One issue we found puzzling; how did Rob Gittins, who started behind TEC, end up arriving 5 minutes before him? Must've been doing some extra-special advanced driving in that Skoda!

Scents today? - home cooked ham in Haydon and flowers in Alston.



Through necessity some of us are now using cars to join with the fellowship jaunts. I've found this adds to the occasion. They visit places of interest while we ride and provide really interesting conversation as they relate their experiences back in the evening. It's great that we can still enjoy one another's company.





The Riverdale Hotel staff were exemplary, nothing was too much trouble. The meals were tasty and quickly prepared. It was nice to have a dining room exclusively for our own use. The Hotel is in a good location within walking distance of the town.

We felt it was one of the best trips we've enjoyed with IFMR; the scenery was exceptional. I would like to thank Angela and all pillion riders for their confidence and support as they trust in our competence and occasionally, endure our 'enthusiasm'.



Lunch stop at The Old Village Bakery in Melmerby 500cc Norton

It was lovely mid-week break shared with friends old and new. Can't wait for the next one.

- Steve

### THE FOREST OF BOWLAND. 16-18 September 21, 2022. – by Rob Gittins

I compose this lightly to serve as a memory for those present and perhaps to evoke a sense of regret for those sadly unable to be with us.

What a superb weekend we all enjoyed. Venue, location, company, weather could not have been improved. Well, Sunday could have enjoyed better visibility from the tops but Arthur had enough on his plate in many ways to pay attention to that minor glitch.

We gathered on the Tarmac surfaced park before an impressive chunk of architecture supporting what once was a simple farmhouse. If this was outside what were we to find inside?

Inside was magnificent. A very fine reflection of one woman's concept, design, development and pride and joy. Janet Simpson's baby now a sophisticated adult. We were allocated a suite which for all sakes'

was half the footprint of the bungalow we now live in. Walking around, past the assembled bikes of

course, found the grounds extensive, including individual covered and outside dining alcoves, an self-contained and exclusive wedding arena, lawns, a youngsters' play court,



flower and kitchen gardens. Within, the *salon* was set up as a wedding layout and "temporary" guests (us) had our own settings within. Reeling somewhat from what we had seen we retired to prepare for bar and dinner. The latter to be, we were advised, *al fresco*. And so it proved. Well refreshed we were guided to two of the aforementioned alcoves to await uniformed waiting service of a succession of cold and hot dishes of delectable nature.



The larger alcove was heated, well heated for some, and the other not so, which proved a factor for some of the ladies as the ambient temperature declined through the evening. Back to the bar and bed.

Saturday found twenty-one bikes and one car standing by for an 09.30 foray into this new riding region. Excellent riding disciplines and competence (viewed from astern the convoy) were displayed and found us enjoying coffee/tea and biccies at Helwith Bridge, lunch at Caton and onward though "The Trough of Bowland." This might appear as long dormant crater now rural, villaged and farmed for time immemorial. As the sun dipped we viewed the Irish Sea sparkling to our right and enjoyed rolling, nicely curvaceous and 'up and down' roads giving riders both challenge and fun. Finally after a hugely enjoyable day it was back the hotel to have dinner indoors,





much to the ladies' preference. Another 'fine dining' event in itself. We were exceptionally pleased and fortunate to be joined for dinner by none other than Mike Blackledge, past member and 'former' biker (responsible for recruiting Arthur and Carol) but sadly without Jean who was recovering from foot surgery, regardless, we caught up on gossip and enjoyably re-lived past memories.

Sunday proved a cooler morning and a somewhat depleted convoy departed further North and Westward. More concentrated rurality and closer set farming. Highlight



being a one car width 'lane' surmounting Tatham Fell. Challenging for riders, perhaps rather more for a car. A rearward viewpoint brought the convoy to a halt and consequently I was obstructing the whole road. No trouble though we soon moved on to Wray for sarnies and chips. All welcome and very good and most of which disappeared! Time to go home via various routes with our sincere and well deserved thanks ringing in Carol and Arthur's ears. Some weekend for the records.

**Gordon Johnston**

On behalf of the President

**IFMR Hungary**

2022 was our second year as an



active chapter. We have around 30 members and 10 really active friends.

Our season usually opens in April and we have organized a one day tour with our Austrian IFMR friends in Western-Hungary



We participated with 4 members on the AGS organized tour in Romania, it was an excellent experience and a good opportunity to learn how to organize a tour in a professional way.

**Tour Hungary 2023**

25.6. - 1.7.



Our first international tour in Hungary for 2023 has been organized and advertised.

A uniform vest has been designed by our friend, who is a famous stylist in Hungary, and he produced them for us. Now we have a unique look when we go riding or participate in a Rotary event.







Our website: <https://ifmr-hungary.hu/>



**Lajos Giczi**  
President

## IFMR India

### January

The year started with a bang on 2nd January when IFMR participated in the mega show of ABC, All Biking Community of Bangalore at Kunigal, 70 km from the starting point one way. 13 riders from IFMR had registered for the same. It was a carnival affair at the venue, with lots of show, music, competition etc. All had a great time meeting other biking communities of Bangalore.

Over Night Ride to Coimbatore/Munnar from 21st to 24th January along with Cochin and Thrissur Sub Chapters. It was a mega event, had all the possible ingredients of fellowship, joint meeting and Charter of Coimbatore Chapter. 12 riders from IFMR India Chapter registered for the same, reached Coimbatore after covering a distance of 320 km, met members from Cochin and Thrissur in the evening and had a gala meeting with the members of Coimbatore Chapter. In a grand function Coimbatore Chapter was chartered, by IPP Ajit Ram, in the presence of over 70 Rotary members. Next morning close to 30 riders left for Munnar, a hill station close to 200km. On reaching Munnar we were joined by a few more bikers from the Cochin sub chapter. In the evening there was a joint meeting of all the chapters in the presence of a PDG from Cochin District. In the evening it was Fellowship time, the next day was a relaxed day, kept for sightseeing and off-road rides. On the 24th morning it was time to say goodbye and our Bangalore riders left together for a ride of 550 km to back home. It was a super-duper ride and event.

### February

This month's first Sunday was scheduled for Kokkare Belluru, a bird sanctuary, 100 km one way from the starting point, it was fixed for 6th February. There were 18 riders registered for the same. After a midway breakfast halt, we reached the sanctuary by 10 am and saw many migratory birds coming from the northern hemisphere, especially the giant Pelicans. It was a treat to watch them, took many pictures and left for back home, all were home for lunch.

### March

The monthly ride for March was scheduled to a place called Shivagange, 110 km away. 13 riders had registered for it. As per schedule we went to this temple town situated on a hilltop.



Had very good darshan of Lord Shiva and slowly we returned back to Bangalore in the afternoon, a good ride with a lot of fellowship in the way.

## April

From April 8th to 10th, an overnight ride was organized for a ride to Avalanche, an upper reach of Ooty hill station, 15 riders had

registered for the ride. It was a fun ride crossing Bandipur National



Park and then Masinagudi National Park, the place is 27 km above Ooty with an amazing view of Lake downhill. It was a forest reserve with total privacy.

April monthly ride was a short and a sweet one to popular hilltop in Bangalore called NANDI HILLS, 45 km one way. The date was 3rd April, 15 riders had registered for the same, had a sumptuous breakfast at the foothill restaurant, NANDI UPACHAR. Despite less distance, it was a challenge to climb the hilltop, fortunately it was open to the public, most of the time due to the heavy rush the hill top gets closed for the general public. On the return journey, took a detour towards Doddaballpur and returned to Bangalore in the afternoon. Another great ride and bonhomie.

IFMR INDIA chapter had scheduled a long 20 day ride to seven sisters state in North East India, covering Assam, Arunachal



Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura and Meghalaya, covering 2800km from Guwahati. 8 riders had registered for same; dates were 25th April to 15th May. All 8 bikes of individual riders were sent to Guwahati one week before from Bangalore. All 8 riders flew to Guwahati together

and flagged off the long journey on 27th April, first state to cover was Arunachal Pradesh, visited Bomdila, Dirang and Tawang, crossed China border pass at Sela Pass and Bumla Pass at an altitude of 15200 ft. Entered Manipur, visited Imphal and touched base with the Myanmar border, and did mandatory sightseeing. Entered Nagaland state capital Kohima, stayed there for three nights, visited all around, including world famous Horn Bill Village. In between came back to Assam's Kaziranga's One Horn Rihno Sanctuary. From there we went to Kolasib in Mizoram and Dharmanagar in Tripura and finally to Shillong in Meghalaya. On 14th May we were back at Guwahati to take our flight next day afternoon. Loaded our bikes in the stationed



lorry and flew back to Bangalore for a gala reception at the airport by a few IFMR friends.

## May

The monthly ride for May was scheduled for 1st May, being the first Sunday of the month, destination was Man Groove of IFMR'ian Naveen Scindia, a 125 km from Bangalore. 12 riders joined the ride for it. It was a great experience for all to visit this Man Groove farm, everyone enjoyed the hospitality extended by Naveen. After spending over 3 hrs. all returned back to Bangalore. Great time spent by all in a private place.

## June

This month's first Sunday ride was to a place called MUTHATHI, close to 100 km ride, 14 riders had joined for it, after customary breakfast midway, all reached the place, spent some time there, took few group pictures and soon left back for home, Bangalore.

On 19th June, there was an awareness Rally called LOVE IS LOVE, few riders had joined for the same. On 26th June, World Motorcycle Day was celebrated by participating in an event organized by ABC, there were 37 members participating in it. It was a full day fun activity with fashion, music and carnival atmosphere purely for bikers, over 1500 riders had participated in it.





**July**

First ride of the year was to KANVA RESERVOIR on July 4th, one side distance of 69 km from the starting point, 18 riders had participated in the same. All were very happy with the destination, nearby but away from city life.



Second event of the month was a CSR activity, it was BLIND BLINDERS PILLION MOTORCYCLE RALLY on 31st July, organized by AWAKE VISHWA SEVA FOUNDATION, it was a treasure hunt rally in motorbike

wherein the riders were navigated by the visually challenged person sitting in the bike as pillion rider,



from IFMR 6 riders had joined for the same led by President Arun Belur, over 50 riders had participated and out of top three winners, two were bagged by IFMR. Great morning spent with visually challenged people by bringing some adventure and cheer in their life.

**August**

First ride of August was to a place called CHOTA LADAKH on



9th August, again not very far from Bangalore, 50 km ride one way, we had 17 riders joining early in the morning, all completed the ride in good time and spirit and had another

round of outing with Rotary Club of Lake World on the way back, it was water sports activities like Kayaking at YELE MALLAPPA SHETTY Lake.

A few members from IFMR joined directly at the lake. Again, a very satisfying ride combined with other fellowship activities.

As per the riding calendar we had an overnight ride to HAMPI on 26th August, one way distance of 325 kms. 10 riders had enrolled for this ride, all had reached Hampi on 26th afternoon and for next two days it was pure fellowship and sightseeing at various UNESCO heritage sites. The team was back on 28th August afternoon to Bangalore.



On the same day of 26th August, another bike ride was planned with Sub Chapter of Cochin and Thrissur to KOLI HILLS, a distance of 300 km from Bangalore, 3 riders went for it from India Chapter and 18 riders from Cochin/Thrissur joined



them midway. Again, a great adventure ride, involving over negotiating over 75 hair pin bends. They stayed overnight and returned back on 28th August.





**September**

The monthly ride for this month was to DEVARAYANA DURGA



HILL ON 4th September. Despite heavy rains and unwelcoming weather, 15 riders joined for it early in the morning. One way distance covered was 75km. It was a ride to a hill which is not far from Bangalore but had all the adventure of going to a far-off hill station. Great fellowship and bonding happened with many other bikers who also had come there.



September saw a grand 12 day CAUSE RIDE to ATTARI BORDER in Punjab from Bangalore by 12 riders, it was termed as UNITY RIDE aptly as we were touching base with neighboring country Pakistan. The cause for the ride was to raise funds for pediatric heart surgery. It was flagged off by DG Rtn Jitendra Aneja in a grand ceremony with god's blessings in a temple on 11th September. The riders covered a distance of 2500kms one way, crossing various states of



India, and the team stopped at various places for sightseeing. Spread the message of Rotary and the cause of the ride with various other Rotary Districts whom they met on the route. Fellowship could not have been bigger than this.

**October**

Monthly ride of October was to a place called KURUDUMALE, 110 kms one way from the starting point, 13 riders had

joined for the ride and visited a temple which is 5000 yr. old. It had attracted a lot of social work by Rotary Clubs in general. All had stopped in



between to enjoy Mulbagal Dosa for breakfast. Again, a trouble-free ride and bonding.

WORLD POLIO DAY Ride - We celebrated the same on 24th October, it was a rally organized by District 3190, over 25



bikers had joined at the Town Hall and was flagged off by DG Jitendra Aneja, covered the city area and reached

Lal Bagh for finale show, garnered good publicity and public image for Rotary movement.

**November**

The first Sunday of the month, 7th November, we had scheduled our ride to a place called MELKOTE, one way



distance of 150 kms. 20 riders had joined for this ride, after a brief stopover

for breakfast on the way, had reached on time for a good Temple Darshan at Melkote, spent few hours around the town and left in the noon for back to Bangalore. All had a good ride to a new place.





On 19th November, a CAUSE RIDE was organized by Kier Hospital in Bangalore City, around 10 riders participated in it, a bike rally was organized to make awareness on SAFE FEET SAFE RIDE. Again, a good public image event by IFMR.

**December**

INDIA BIKE WEEK was organized in Goa from 1st to 4th



December, IFMR decided to participate in it by making a grander event by making it a joint meet with other Sub Chapters of IFMR India meet in Goa, covering a distance of 650 km one way. 15 riders from India Chapter took off on 1st December from Bangalore, they met other members of IFMR Sub Chapter from Hassan, Sholapur, Goa, Cochin and Thrissur. It was a great gathering of members in Goa for the next 3 days, attending the IBW event, holding joint meetings and above all bonding over fellowship programs. Made our presence felt in IBW among other 5000 riders who had come from all over India.

DECEMBER monthly ride was scheduled for 4th December to Ghati Subramaniam Temple, one way distance of 45 km, since many had gone for IBW event to Goa, 5 riders joined for this ride. It started at 6.30 am and we were back by 10.30 am after a good Temple visit at the hill town of Ghatti Subramaniam and a good breakfast on the return to Bangalore.



**Vinod Agarwal**

Core Committee Member  
On behalf of the President







## IFMR Italy

### APENNINES DAY TOUR | Modena | AMRI District 2072 | 26<sup>th</sup> March

A day tour began in Maranello (MO) that through the twists and turns of the famous Via dell'Abetone n 4 brought us back to Sassuolo.



### CONCA DEL RE | Calabria | AMRI District Federico II | 2nd - 5th June

A tour with a visit to an abbey and a winery peaked with a beautiful sunset at the salt pans of Torre Pietra.

### LONG TOUR | Lazio | AMRI District 2080 & IFMR Finland | 14th - 18th April

A journey through one of the most distinctive regions of southern Italy with our IFMR friends from Finland as special guests.



### LONG TOUR | Tunisia | AMRI District 2110 | 30th April - 8th May

An adventurous journey into unexplored Tunisia among sandy roads and desert dunes.



### BIKE TOUR | Umbria | AMRI District 2080 & National Police MC | 24th - 26th June

A motorcycle ride through the picturesque Umbrian landscape, among boundless fields and important historical monuments, with members of the Italian State Police motorcycle club.





**SALT ROAD | Staffosa Valley, Trebbia Valley, Avedo | AMRI District 2050 | 16th July**

A journey along the ancient Salt Road, following the turns of some of Italy's most picturesque roads between the Alps and the sea.



**BEST MOTORCYCLE ROADS | New England (USA) | IFMR NE | 6th - 16th September**

A wonderful travel experience together with IFMR New England in which participants were able to ride down some of the most famous roads in North America.

**3 BORDERS LONG TOUR | Italy, Austria, Slovenia | AMRI District 2060 | 9th - 10th July**

A tour along the borders between Italy, Austria and Slovenia, rich in unforgettable experiences such as a birds show and a typical lunch together with friends from IFMR Slovenia.







**SAFE DRIVING COURSE | Tuscany | AMRI District 2060 | 9th - 10th September**

A very educational course in which participants were able to learn how to enjoy riding their motorcycles to the fullest, without sacrificing safety.



**TRINACRIA TOUR | Sicily | AMRI District 211 | 13th - 16th October**

A motorcycle tour featuring Italian food culture, among the picturesque Sicilian landscapes.



**SUMMER TOUR | Corsica | AMRI District 2031 | 16th - 18th September**

A beautiful ride to discover wild Corsica with breath-taking views and sunsets.



**Emanuala Linetti & Bruno Matosel Loriani**  
On behalf of the President





# IFMR Malaysia

## World Motorcycle Day Ride

M. Munisparan, among the legendary and feared racers around the 90s and also synonymous with the identity of Suzuki RG and HiRev. He was one of the inspirations for the teenage bikers of the 90s. At that time we were also influenced to go and buy a blue Suzuki RG moto. The cubprix tournament used to be a little special like the Isle of Man TT, which was once organized in Bandar Sunway Perai, Gerogetown, Taiping, Shah Alam. 25 years later, in conjunction with the World Motorcycle Day 2022, small funds were collected and handed over to Mr. Munisparan as a token of gratitude.



The ride was organized by VB Motorsports & IFMR Malaysia.



## Ride for Suicide Awareness

Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background. In conjunction with World Suicide Prevention Day, VB



Motorsports together with VB Motorsports has organised a ride for a good cause with 200 bikers from various motorcycle clubs to raise awareness on this stigmatized, and often taboo, topic. The Marine Police department, several NGOs as well as the Malaysia Bridge authority has joined hands



## Ride to Sekinchan (save the nature)

He who plants a Tree plants a Hope. International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians Malaysia Chapter & Rotary Club of Klang Central jointly organised a ride to Sekinchan. Stopover at Kuala Sgor Nature Park to plant mangrove seedlings. Followed by lunch hosted by YB Tuan Ng Suez Lim of Sekinchan. Thanks to all participating Rotary Clubs for making it memorable.







**Vanesh Biloo**  
President

## IFMR Netherlands

After all the corona-related restrictions, we had a very good year.

The opening tour on April 30 was an instant hit. A ride through the bulb fields of Holland. (yes, tulips!!) More than 30 members participated.



On May 7th there was a tour through Groningen, the northernmost part of the Netherlands.



On June 4th, we had a ride across the Veluwe, a nature reserve in the central part of Holland.

The 18th of June we visited the eastern part of the country.

16th of July we were riding through the most southern part.

2nd and 3rd September our traditional weekend trip, lots of fun, drinks and dinners.

At the end of September we organized a ride together with our eastern neighbours, the IFMR-AGS. 20 members of our club





and 20 members of the AGS and 2 Belgian members gathered in Bocholt, Germany.



We had a beautiful tour through Germany and Holland. In the evening animated international drinks and dinner. Everyone thought it was such a success that we decided to organize a joint ride every year from now on. Fellowship optima forma!



Our final tour the 22nd of October went through the western part of our country.



### Plans for 2023:

1st of April opening tour

Further tours scheduled in May, June, July, August, September and October.

### Our Board:

Henk Van Iterson	President (iterson@xs4all.nl)
Irmgard Reijntjes	Secretary (ireijntjes1@gmail.com)
Gem Bot	Treasurer
Ton van der Bruggen	Webmaster

### Tour Committee:

Frank Weber, René Janssen, Ernst-Jan Schubad and Maurice Uytdewilligen,

We have 75 members.

Lots of BMW's and Harleys, some Japanese bikes and some exotica.

P.S.: We ride with motorcycle boots, not wooden clogs.

### Henk Van Iterson

President

ROTARY





## IFMR Norden (Northern Europe)

Dear members of IFMR worldwide,

IFMR Nordic has 140 members in 5 different Nordic countries; Denmark 48, Finland 19, Island 15, Norway 21 and Sweden 37 members.

We have the opinion that IFMR was founded here. In the year 1989 Jan E. Johnsson found out that there was no fellowship for motorcycle interested Rotarians. He contacted RI and got OK to start International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians Chapter Northern Europe. It was anyway in 1992 when the first constitutive meeting was held in Perstorp Sweden and the first nationwide meeting was held in September 1993 in Örebro Sweden. So this year 2023 we are celebrating our 30th Anniversary.

We publish our own magazine McRotary on our web pages (<https://ifmr-norden.org/>)

5 issues per year. The web pages and the magazine are unfortunately still written in different Nordic languages but translation work in English is under construction.

We have annually two official meetings; Spring Meeting at the end of May and Autumn Meeting at the beginning of August. The organizing country of these annual meetings is rotating. Additionally local meetings and tours are organized in each country or to other countries either based on some location or topic.

In 2022 we had the following 11 meetings/tours.



Ancient city Matera

### 14.-19.04.2022 Tour to Rome in Italy by IFMR Finland

The tour started from Rome, Italy to "steel city" Terni and from there to east coast to Pescara and then south along the coast to Foggia. From there to west

coast and Matera, Salerno, Sorrento, Pompei and Napoli and back to Rome. Some friends of IFMR AMRI (Italy) also joined the group.

**29.04.-01.05.2022 Rotary MC Weekend, by IFMR Denmark**  
2 days tour close to Denmark/Germany border near the city of Flensburg.

**25.-26.05.2022 Tour to Spring Meeting in Norway, by IFMR Sweden**  
2 days tour from South-Sweden to Kirkenär Norway where the Spring Meeting is held.



Nabol seen from Vesuvio

**26.-29.05.2022 Spring Meeting In Norway, by IFMR Norway**  
Meeting was held in Kirkenær in Norway. First day tour was to Finnskogen

outdoor museum where learned the history of this forest area and how most of its inhabitants came from Finland. In the evening the annual official IFMR Nordic meeting was



Finnskogen outdoor museum

held. Second day's first visit was Motorcycle museum in Morokulien close to the border between Norway and Sweden. In Morokulien we then visited the Peace Monument exactly built on the border line in 1914 to honor the then 100 year old

peace agreement between Sweden and Norway. Third visit was to Kongsvinger Fortress a place full of history of wars and conflicts between Sweden, Denmark and Norway.



Skandinavien Motorcykel Center





Peace Monument between Norway and Sweden



The tour started with an interesting visit to factory of Laxö Special Vehicles which is building the special models of Scania heavy trucks. In the afternoon interesting tour in the area between the big lakes and last visit to the beautiful church of Laxö. The second day started with visit to DJ's Garage, a workshop which is building and renovating veteran cars. Again tour in beautiful lake area including Tiveden National Park. Official IFMR Meeting in the evening and after that a delicious dinner.

**02.06.2022 Tour round Sydhavsoerne, by IFMR Denmark**

One day tour on the most southern island of Denmark; Sydhavsoerne.

**04.-08.06.2022 Tour I Gotland, by IFMR Sweden**

3 days tour on the biggest island in West-Sweden. Driving around the island and visiting many historical and cultural historical sites and for ex. a lime stone mine.

**11.-12.06.2022 Tour in West-Finland, by IFMR Finland**



Dinner in Nauvo

2 days tour in West-Finland starting from city of Naantali and heading south with ferry boat to Harbour city Nauvo.



Laxö Special Vehicles



Bikes at coffee stop



Ferry boat to Nauvo



Laxö church

**18.-21.08.2022 Autumn Meeting in Laxö Sweden, by IFMR Sweden**

The annual Autumn Meeting was organized in Laxö Sweden, which is located between the two biggest lakes in Sweden Vänern and Vättern.





DJ' Garage in Laxö

A 2 days tour in the southern province in Sweden Skåne. Visits to museums and castles and driving on the beautiful winding roads of Skåne.

**Jaakko Ingren**  
President



Renovated Volvo P1800



Gala Dinner

**28.08.2022 Hills, valleys and bends in Mid-Jylland, by IFMR Denmark**

One day tour round the island of Jylland.

**02.-04.08.2022 All inclusive, by IFMR Denmark**

3 days tour in Copenhagen area, Malmö on the Swedish side and Nord Sjælland up to Helsingör and finally back to Roskilde.

**17.-18.09.2022 Skåne adventure, by IFMR Sweden**





## IFMR North America

Chapter Update from North America.

In 2022 we organized and staffed the IFMR booth at the Rotary International Convention in Houston. Local members arranged for a big beautiful BMW to be on display.

Attendance was very low, but we had a lot of interest in the fellowship. North America chapter added more than 20 members and referred a lot to the international website.

Following the convention there was a ride to the hill country of Texas. The weather was very hot but a good time was had by all.

Unfortunately, very few rides were held in North America in 2022. One ride was in the Sierra Nevada mountains between California and Nevada. 4 of us attended.

The weather was very good in October and the roads and scenery were outstanding!

Organizationally, we have decided to move from a ClubRunner based management system to iMembersDB. iMembersDB is a member management system for clubs and social organizations.

It is a spinoff of DACdb which is focused on Rotary districts and Rotary clubs. We plan to go live with iMembersdDB in April 2023.

The company that owns DACdb and iMembersDB is a PDG and IFMR-NA member and past president.

For 2023 we have several rides in the planning stages. 2 rides in the Pennsylvania area are confirmed and accepting registrations. A repeat of the Sierra Nevada ride will also happen in cooperation with a local club.

Also, Rotarians near Milwaukee will be hosting IFMR members during the Harley Davidson 120th anniversary weekend.

**Larimore 'Larie' Trippet**  
President

## IFMR Philippines

As we travel throughout the Philippines with our Big Bikes, we learn about the pressing social issues that require our attention as citizens. Most of the Activities of Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter are aligned to the needs of those area in the Philippines that are quietly neglected. Several of our initiatives are connected to the advocacies we wish to be recognized and acknowledged for.

In Year 2022, we did several Community Service Program:

**Upland Panay Island Outreach** at Sitio Molada Brgy. Rizal Nabas Aklan on September 26, 2022 where 150 families are the chosen beneficiaries, this outreach was led by Rtn. Ronald Rada, Community Service Chair and Spouse Neneth Rada and in partnership with Tau Gamma Phi Manoc Manoc Boracay Community Chapter headed by GT Jonaks Escanlar.



We ride, We care, We feed the kids (Feeding Program) at town of Jose Panganiban, Camarines Norte on October 12, 2022 where 100 kids from Brgy. Osmeña and 52 kids from Isla Cion are the recipients of the said program.







### We ride, We care and protect the environment

This activity was conducted in the town of Jose Panganiban in Camarines Norte. After the feeding program, we also did the clean-up drive and mangrove tree planting activity. These two activities were both held in Camarines



Norte and were headed by the Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter Community Service Rtn. Ronald Rada and Sps. Neneth Rada, with VRC as the Partner Organization.



One of our main objectives in making this happen was to ensure that marginalized families and children were nourished well with nutritious meals and that their community environment was taken care of.



We also carried out a task where the emphasis was on good health.

Yakap Kalusugan: Freed Medical Mission was conducted on August 19, 2022. This medical mission served a 259 patients in Quezon City with free consultation, laboratory test and medicines this initiative was with partnership with PCCI-QC

headed by Ar. Alfred Geoffrey C. Carandang, Jamie Ongpin Foundation,



Embrace I, 55 medical volunteers and Chay Macorol with 10 HWPL "We are One" volunteers.

**Give Blood, Save Lives Life-ON:** Life sharing blood donation campaign was held on July 30, 2022 at Brgy. Vergara Covered Court, Mandaluyong City. The Rotary Club of QC Big Bike







Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter was invited to collaborate and be a sponsor with Heavenly Culture, World Peace, Restoration of Light and also in partnership with our partner hospital The Medical City.



**Medical Mission:** We ride-We care, We Share-We Heal this initiative was made by Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter & Delos Santos

Medical Centre with the project lead by PE RB De Dios and ISP Roderick Lindayag and in partnership with Ms. Carmen Soriano of DSMC, We have a specialty doctors for Urology, OB-Gyn, Pedia, ENT, Ophthalmology, Surgery, Orthopaedics, & Internal Medicine that serve the total of 350+ patients in the Brgy. 559, Zone 55 of Valdez Community on August 06, 2022 also the Delos Santos Medical Centre and RCQC BBR / IFMR-PH conducted another Medical Mission in the Barangay 420 Zone 43 District IV on December 17, 2022.



There are other emergency calamities that occur in the Philippines that call for prompt action to address the requirements of the victims and aid them in surviving the tragedy.



### Ahon Abra

The hilly Province of Abra was hit by an earthquake of 0.7 magnitude on



July 27, 2022, at precisely 8:43 a.m. This earthquake caused landslides and the collapse of buildings. The Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter begin to gather and solicit funds for the earthquake victims' families.

### Assistance to the Fire Victims

A fire broke out in The Don Manuel Compound, Brgy. Balingasa and Brgy. Apolonio Samson in Quezon City on September 8, 2022, at roughly 9:58 a.m. The fire was declared out at 1 p.m., On September 17, 2022, the Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders / IFMR-Philippines Chapter initiate to give assistance to more than 60 families led by Rtn. Votz Aseron.



The other activities for year 2022 to 2023 are about fellowship, promoting peace, and leadership seminars.





**Motorcycle and Music Festival: Rotary Fellowship to End Polio Now!**



This fellowship with the advocacy to "End Polio Now!" happened last October 28–29, 2022, at Eton Centris in Quezon City. Motorcycle exhibits, motorcycle club meetings, a big bike

community, a big bike test drive, safety and first aid talks, the RCQCBBR's

anniversary, the IFMR-PH grand launch, live bands, live DJ sets, a district 3780 family day, a pet day, a Halloween party, business talks, and a bazaar will be held at the Fellowship.



Four groups signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Safer Streets Program on October 28, 2022. These groups are the Rotary Club of QC Big Bike Riders, represented by its President Roderick Alexis P. Lindayag; Safer Streets Inc., represented by its Chairman Mel Zulueta; Harley Owners Group (HOG) Davao Chapter, represented by its Director Feliciano M. Adriatico, JR.;



and International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians Philippine Chapter, represented by its Chairman Alfred Geoffrey C. Carandang.

**Alfred Geoffrey C Carandang**  
Charter President

**IFMR Polska (Poland)**

**1) International Tour Malopolska – June 2022**

The first IFMR Poland Tour in 2022 was organized by Janusz Potepa and Tomasz Zientarski in Malopolska.

Most of us arrived on Wednesday, June 8, to the hospitable Petrus Hotel in the suburbs of Krakow. despite the traditionally pessimistic weather forecast.



The first route, the next day, took us along the picturesque roads of Jura Krakowsko-Częstochowska. We visited, among others, the charming town of Lanckorona, the monastery in Kalwaria Zebrzydowska and Czerna, where we had lunch, and the beautifully situated castle in Pieskowa Skała.

We had dinner with a beautiful view of the Wawel Castle, and the highlight of the day was a concert dedicated to us at the Jazz Club at Muniak's.

Traditional evening talks lasted until late in the hotel. Unfortunately, all forecasts for the next day were very bad. And there was a long route to the south planned. So we decided to change the program.







As a result, on Friday morning, some of us went to visit the salt mine in Wieliczka, and some for a short drive to the Bledowska Desert. In the afternoon, almost in full force, we went to conquer Krakow. The city seemed to put up a lot of resistance, since some of us came back very late and a bit tired ..



The next day brought nice weather and a drive through a very beautiful area and winding roads towards the Tatra Mountains. A longer stop was in Niedzica. Soon after, we tasted delicious trout on an agritourism farm. Consumption was graced by the unexpected presence of the Rural Housewives' Association, whose members turned out to be our ladies, donning local, beautifully embroidered scarves.

The highlight of the day was a ride on a well-kept mountain rally route, where you could test your skills.

In the evening, during the gala dinner, we had the opportunity to host Marek Wcislo – our Nominee Governor 2023/2024. As a traditional charity project, at this special time, the President of IFMR Poland, Michal Frelichowski, proposed to help Ukraine through RC Zamość Ordynacki.

Generally, despite very bad forecasts, the weather was good. And the moods even more. As usual! Many thanks to Janusz and Tomek for wonderful days in Malopolska!

## 2) IFMR AGS Franken Tour – April 2022

In April 2022 some of us had an opportunity to join IGS Franken tour.

Marvelous rides was not only benefit of that visit – it allowed us to present the scale of help provided by Polish Rotarians towards Ukraine and encourage other Rotarians to join it.

## 3) IFMR Norden Denmark Tour – September 2022

From September 1st to 6th, 2022, we participated in an All-inclusive MC-weekend in Denmark. The organizer was Carsten Sejling from the Hørsholm Rotary Club, as part of IFMR Nordic.

On September 1st, Michał from Łódź (380km) and Bendt from Gdynia (15km) reached the ferry in Karlskrona. During the 12-hour crossing, we managed to have dinner and get some sleep.

The next day, after breakfast, we left for Copenhagen at 9:00 a.m. Along the way, Bendt didn't miss the opportunity to have coffee and cake at his favorite restaurant.



A big attraction was the crossing of the famous Øresund Bridge and tunnel, connecting Malmö in Sweden with Copenhagen in Denmark. On the other side, in the charming town of Dragør, we admired the bridge's panorama in beautiful, sunny weather. On the way to the hotel, we also stopped at the famous Vaffelbageren Nyhavn ice cream parlor in the centre of Copenhagen.

Carsten and his wife Annette were already waiting for us on site. In the evening, we all met for a delicious dinner.



On the third day, after breakfast, we started with an hour-long canal cruise in Copenhagen, discovering the Danish capital from the water. Then, on our motorcycles, we headed along





the winding coastal road to North Zealand. We happily arrived at the Helsingør Golf Club for lunch. Luckily, just after we entered the building, a short but very violent rain shower broke out.



The next place we visited was the Nakkehoved Light Tower lighthouse, where the guide told us incredibly interesting stories associated with the place.

After taking a souvenir photo, we returned to the hotel, where we enjoyed a wonderful dinner in the evening.

On the fourth day, we started our journey towards Roskilde at 8:45 a.m. through picturesque, winding roads. We stopped at the cathedral, which happened to be under special protection that day due to the planned arrival of the Queen of Denmark. Continuing on local roads, we reached the Brorfelde Observatoriet astronomical observatory located near Holbæk. The Brorfelde Schmidt Telescope used by University of Copenhagen students is still located there.

We had lunch in Karrebæksminde, a beautiful place on the Kroen canal with a view of the Græshoppebroen drawbridge. After lunch, we went to Camp Adventure, where we climbed the 135m high Forest Tower, the highest point in Zealand. That was the end of the rally program. Michał and Bendt headed towards Sweden, crossing the famous bridge again. We stayed overnight in a hotel in Lund.

On the fifth day, with plenty of time and beautiful weather, we decided to take a scenic route along the southern coast of the Baltic Sea to Karlskrona.

Along the way, we visited the Atlex Stener stone circle, the charming town of Simrishamn, and the birthplace of Absolut, Åhus, where we had lunch at a restaurant that was also a meeting place for the Rotary Club Åhus.

#### 4) International Tour Świętokrzyskie I – September 2022

For the first time, our IFMR-Poland Club had the opportunity to meet in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains.

The organizers were Janusz Cieślak and Jerzy Staszczuk from RC Kielce. Even though our province is not impressive in size, the choice of routes and tourist attractions was not easy. In short, to see all significant attractions, the meeting would have to last about a week.

We were accommodated and warmly welcomed at the foot of the Karczówka Mountain in the hotel of the same name. From the observation terrace 100 meters above, a panoramic view of the entire city could be seen. The next day, we set out on a trip to Sandomierz, a medieval gem of our province.

We drove through the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, a picturesque gorge of the Lubrzanka River, and roads that allowed us to admire the panorama of mountain ranges. Upon arriving in Sandomierz, the guide introduced us to the rich history of the city. We visited the market square, the Długosz House, the Cathedral, and Collegium Gostomianum – the oldest secondary school in Poland, which has been functioning since 1602. We had lunch in a picturesque restaurant under the walls of the Opatowska Gate and then headed to the next point of the program, the ruins of Krzyżtopór Castle in Ujazd. Built by Krzysztof Ossoliński in the 17th century, it fell into ruins after over 100 years. It was one of the largest magnate residences in Europe. Unfortunately, we could only admire it from the outside as the area was closed due to the filming of a Bollywood movie.

As time was pressing, after the guide's story about the history, we set off to the next point of the program – Szydłów, a town surrounded by 14th-century defensive walls with a history dating back to the 12th century. After all these attractions, we arrived at the hotel at dusk for a well-deserved rest, as the next day there were more attractions waiting for us. On Saturday, the first point of the program was one of the greatest natural attractions of our province – the Raj Cave.

Then we went to Jędrzejów to see the 3rd largest collection of sundials in the world. The museum was created from a collection gathered by Feliks Przytkowski, a doctor, and an amateur astronomer, and the entire collection is housed in a tenement house, which was his home.

The return journey led us through Samsonów with the ruins of a foundry furnace from the first half of the 19th century, and





then we arrived at our next natural attraction – the "Bartek" oak tree, one of the oldest.

After lunch, we went, not on motorcycles, to the 60 km distant Opatów for a grape harvest at the Brzostowiczów vineyard, which produces wine using traditional methods. The owner of the vineyard is a member of RC Opatów.

The event also has a charitable purpose – we also supported the Sister Chmielewska Foundation with our funds to maintain her help centers in difficult times. It was fun, as seen in the photos, and we could taste the wines produced "by hand" and "by foot."

The weather was excellent, as agreed, except for a short "shower" on Friday. We said goodbye with regret after spending a wonderful time together.

### 5) Winter meeting in Herbarium Hotel & Spa – December 2022

The natural circumstances are not favorable for using motorcycles, and the need for meeting in the IFMR Polska group is always significant.



Therefore, during the December weekend, our group of friends from IFMR Polska decided to meet again and spend the weekend together.

HERBARIUM - a hotel located in Chomiąza Szlachecka - hosted a group of nearly 20 Rotarians for two days. There was time for reminiscing about motorcycle trips and planning new ones.



There was also time for a Christmas Eve dinner, walks, swimming in the pool, sauna, lots of laughter, and a unique atmosphere.



As usual, the time spent together passed by far too quickly... Photos

### IFMR helps Ukraine!

Providing you this information I want to show how excellent is the cooperation within our IFMR family and encourage you to follow RC Korneuburg (Austria) steps!





It all has started during my participation in Franken Tour 2022 in Germany (April 2022), organized by Stefan Frick (IFMR AGS).



An excellent tour was a great opportunity to meet friends from Germany, Austria and Switzerland again. Three days of riding Franken roads, meeting local history and culture, having good food and beer was, as usually, a great opportunity for charity action, usually held by the tour organizer.



This time – having an extraordinary situation in mind – I was also able to say a few words about Ukraine war and Rotary efforts to help Ukrainians.



Showing all participants current situation and Polish Rotary Clubs' engagement I was trying to encourage them to help by donating funds which Polish Rotary Clubs exchange for

goods (food, medical supplies, etc.) and send – using verified channel (mostly Rotarians) directly to people in need as well as front line soldiers in Ukraine.

A few weeks later Peter Leonhardt from RC Korneuburg (Austria) called me asking if we can help them to purchase and efficiently deliver medical goods to Ukraine for 10 000 EUR.

We have organized everything, from purchasing medical goods, transportation up to delivery directly to front line troops and our fellow Rotarians. We cannot express their gratitude for this act, so one more time on their behalf I want to thank you Peter and your Rotary Club Korneuburg and thank you IFMR for bringing such extraordinary people together!



Club Lviv, District 2232

Sincerely thanks to

**Rotary Club Korneuburg**

for humanitarian help to Ukrainian people suffering from the war.

Governor-elect

Myron Uhryn





## IFMR Polska 2023 plans:

May, 12th-14th – Polish-German District Conference Szczecin  
<https://ifmr-polska.org/event/w-szczecinie-odbedzie-sie-konferencja-dystryktow-polsko-niemieckich-polish-german-districts-conference-will-be-held-in-szczecin/>

May, 25th-28th – IFMR Polska International Ride Elblag  
<https://ifmr-polska.org/event/international-ride-elblag/>

July, 13th-16th – Spreewald IFMR AGS Tour  
<https://ifmr-polska.org/event/spreewald-ags/>

Sept, 1st-3rd – IFMR Norden Denmark Tour  
<https://ifmr-polska.org/event/ride-north-zealand-denmark/>

Sept, 14th-17th – IFMR Polska International Bieszczady Tour  
<https://ifmr-polska.org/event/ifmr-polska-tour-in-bieszczady/>

**Michal Frelichowski**  
 President

## IFMR Slovenia

IFMR Chapter Slovenia operates in the area of district 1912 Slovenia and North Macedonia.

We were established in August 2005. Members come from



Slovenian and Macedonian Rotary clubs. The association currently has 29 members from 17 Rotary clubs. Our motto is "Pay attention and keep the rubber down".

As a great confidence and motivation for our further work, we were also given the opportunity to organize the 7th European IFMR meeting, which we held very successfully on June 1-3, 2012 in Ljubljana.

Each year we usually organize Opening and Closing day, between we have also at least two or more days of moto trips. For better visibility we setup our own web site: <https://www.ifmr.si/en>, where all data also are available.



Some of our moto trips are also internationally with the IFMR friends from the Italy, managed by our current president Rasti Fakuc. We enjoy together driving and socializing.





## IFMR Turkey

We provided training to people who are interested in motorcycles.



Last year we have also organized one week road trip to the North Macedonia, where our Macedonian members guided us through the main tourist attractions.

**Andreaj Kebe**  
Past President







We have organized dinner meetings with IFMR Turkey members many times



We organized tours, we ride together.



As a IFMR Turkey, we gave motorcycle beginner training to 30 people. The training lasted 8 weeks. At the end of the training, 3 people got their motorcycle license.

We held dinner meetings with our IFMR members.







We organized many tours in the city, outside the city and nearby countries. Participation was minimum 4 motorcycles and maximum 12 motorcycles. We had so much fun. Our guest came from India





On Rotary day, we introduced the Governor to the motorcycle. We introduced IFMR to Rotarians.

Opened a stand in Rotary mixer day and we introduced the IFMR

IFMR India Chapter IPP Rtn Ajit Ram visit Turkey. We exchanged club flags. We had a nice day together.

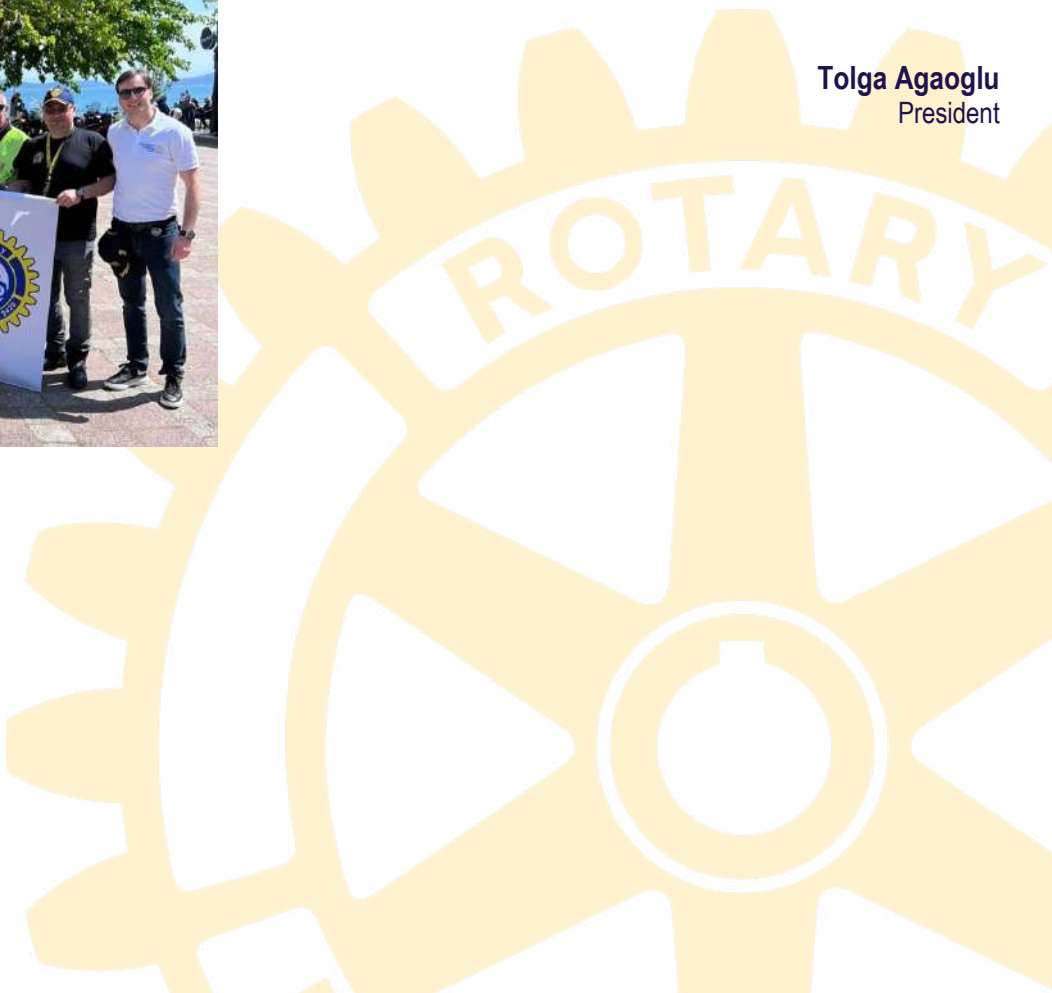
We joined Rotary Day



We introduced IFMR to Rotarians & Rotaractors. We had a nice day together.



**Tolga Agaoglu**  
President







# Obituary

We lost **Tuncer Ozisik**, IFMR Turkey President (2021-2023)



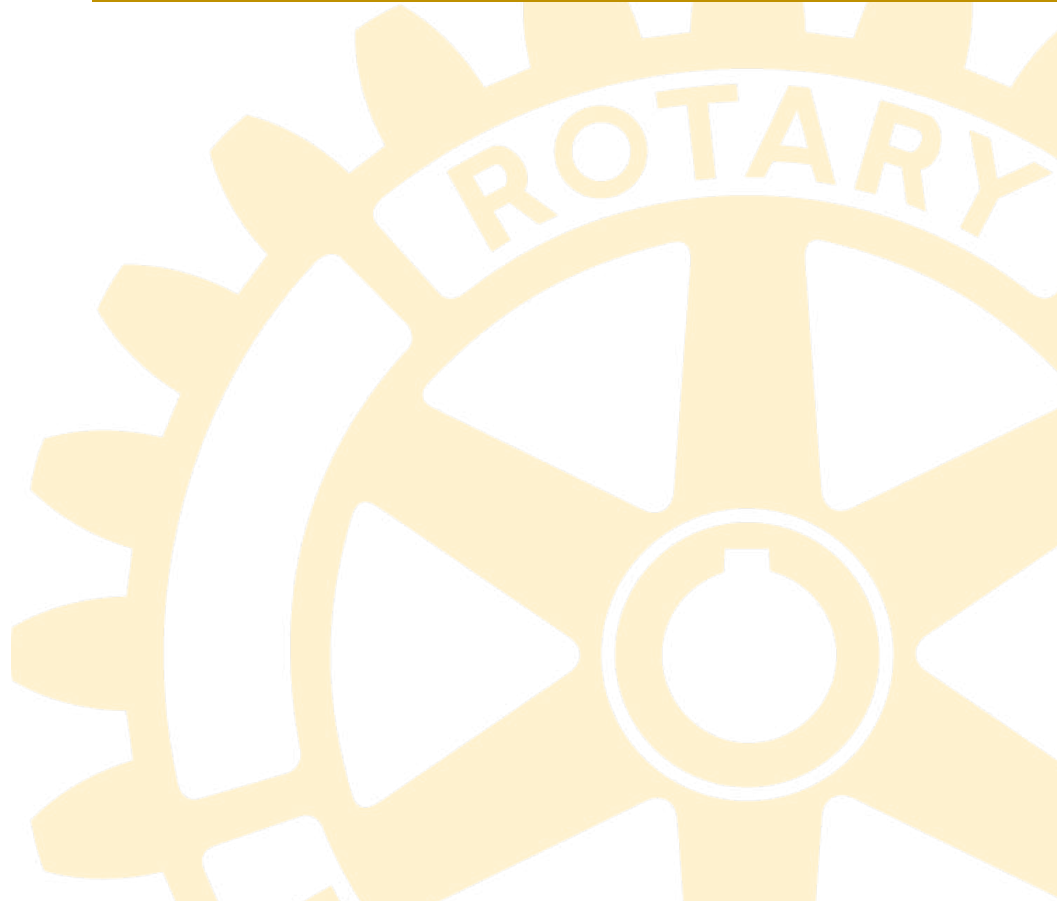
*May his soul rest in eternal peace!*

- IFMR Family





## Articles







## Saga about: Six guys, three bikes and the highest motorable road in the world

- Prashanth Babu SJ, Past President, IFMR India

Six, twenty something year olds set off on an adventure determined to ride from Delhi to the highest motorable road in the world, Kardungla pass at an altitude of 18380ft. The decision to take on this challenge was a result of a



typical, 'nukkadwala talk'. (Curb side talk) We even went so far as deciding to ride a two-stroke bike (Yamaha RX 100 cause that was the bike we owned) and the Yezdi Road King with a pillion riders.

With the planning and prep phase done over an year of yes we will do it, no we can't do it, let's do it come what may, we transported our trustee steeds to Delhi. And no surprises when we rode into Manali all pumped up for the upward climb, only to find the road to Rohtang pass closed due to snowfall. This was during the pre-internet era and 'googling' weather conditions wasn't even a part of the dictionary.

We waited out the storm and took to the winding road from Manali to Rohtang and into the valley of Keylong.

It was a hard ride over the next few days as we rode through the high altitude passes such as Baralacha la (16000ft), Tangnangla pass (17000ft) before we reached Pang. It was then on to Leh. From Leh we rode to Kardungla pass the highest motorable road in the world. Then it was back to Delhi. It took us 34 days to complete this ride.





on a bike until, someone told us so but, Guinness said no as we had not informed them beforehand. Oh how naive we were.

All this was way back in circa 1991.

There is so much more to this journey than just an adventure. This was a right of passage for every rider. Since then I've been on many rides, some even more ambitious than this one. That said, this is by far the best and most memorable ride of my life.



Little did we know this was a Guinness record of riding to the highest motorable road on 100cc motorcycles with 2

## THE FIVE MAN ADVENTURE ARMY:

The spirit of adventure has indeed imbibed itself amongst our young men and women today, and very often we have an opportunity of reading about, or watching on television the daring feats of adventure loving people in India.

On 14th June 1991, five young men of Bangalore would be leaving on a challenging trip to Kardung-La Pass on their motor cycles. Kardung-La Pass is the highest motorable road in the world. At a height of 18,300 feet above Msl, it is a snow clad mountain pass during most parts of the year. The route that our young men should be following, remains closed to traffic from October to June and due to dangerous terrain during the monsoon season as well. Their planned route would be Bangalore - Delhi - Bilaspur - Mandi - Kye-long - Leh - Kardung - La Pass - Leh - Kye-long - Simla - Dehradun - New Delhi - Bangalore.

According to Prashanth Babu, a B.Com., graduate of Christ college, he and his comrades hope to return to the city around 15-07-1991.



# Rotary



International Fellowship of  
**Motorcycling Rotarians**

## Final Words...

So, Friends! This was the maiden edition of the international newsletter of International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians – a result of the efforts put in by all the chapter leaders and me.

We will be coming up with the next edition on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023, which will feature the chapter updates of January through June 2023. The updates can be shared by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

I look forward to similar support from you in terms of sharing updates, articles, trivia, quizzes, or anything related to motorcycling, road safety, travel, etc. that you feel the readers may find interesting.

Please feel free to share your suggestions with me at [president@ifmr.org](mailto:president@ifmr.org).

Thank you for all your efforts!

- **President and Editor**