



## 'Quarterly Update Q4 - 2021'

### BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE®

### United Kingdom

As we begin 2022, Bikers Against Child Abuse UK is pleased to send you the last Quarterly Update of 2021. Despite the restrictions, difficulties and demands of these strange times, all UK Chapters continued to go the extra mile through Q4, to work our Mission and 'be there' for abused children. Although certain restrictions relaxed, the spectre of pandemic still hovers in the background, so we remain vigilant to ensure we comply with all Government directives. Whatever 2022 brings, we look forward to the challenges. We remain prepared to do whatever it takes to serve the children that need us, and to be there for our brothers and sisters.



#### The power of our Mission and our commitment to

**Training:** You will notice from the individual Chapter reports in this Update that we place great significance on our Members and Supporters reaching training 'milestones' through our progressive patch system that recognises the time and effort they must invest to become part of B.A.C.A. This programme is designed to ensure that everyone wearing the Tomato, Chain and B.A.C.A. Member Patches are recognised for what they are ... someone that children can trust. In addition to our own strict programme, B.A.C.A. Supporters receive Basic Safeguarding Training while **all B.A.C.A. Members are Level 3 Safeguarding Trained** and accredited. Our trained Members possess the knowledge required to take an active role in any Safeguarding situation and apply our Safeguarding Policy.

We still know there are many hundreds of children in the UK that experience sexual, physical or emotional abuse and live with the resulting fear and trauma. We know that B.A.C.A. can help them; all we need is the referral to start the process, which is why we follow an active Agency Liaison programme. Research shows that B.A.C.A. children experience a decrease in emotional stress, show fewer conduct and attentional problems, do better at school, and have improved peer group communication and relationships. To see the clinically significant findings: [Evaluation of B.A.C.A. Program | Bikers Against Child Abuse® International \(bacaworld.org\)](#)

**Removing fear from abused children ... the essence of the B.A.C.A. Mission:** As a body of bikers, we do something unique, we focus entirely on abused children. There is no other entity like B.A.C.A. with the single, narrow focus of removing the fear from victims of child abuse. Fear haunts all abused children. Fear that destroys childhood. Fear their abuser will harm them again. Fear of sleep that brings nightmares. Fear of being alone. Fear of having to testify in court. Whatever their fears, whenever they feel afraid, B.A.C.A. children know that we will be there 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year ... without fail. B.A.C.A. fills a void that is not addressed by any government agency, independent agency, law enforcement agency, private organisation or foundation. The simple truth is, if we don't do it, it won't get done.

**Chapter-by-Chapter reports Q4 2021:** In Quarter 4, 'physical' Chapter Meetings, Level 1s, child visits and rides continued, and all Chapters were 'out and about' once again, riding together and riding for the children we support. The following Chapter Reports show our many friends and supporters some of our activities during Q4 2021 ... where we went, what we did, and demonstrate our firm focus on our Mission.



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**Brigantes Chapter:** In addition to being busy with 'working our Mission', the last quarter of 2021 saw Brigantes Chapter welcome three new Supporters, and then see them awarded their Tomato Patches (commonly known in B.A.C.A. as T-Patches). Through dedication and hard work, these patches were gained in time for those Supporters to attend Brigantes first Level1. As stated earlier, the T-Patch is the



first of our training 'milestones' within a progressive patch system that recognises the time and effort our Members and Supporters must invest to become part of B.A.C.A. The T-Patch being the basic requirement for a Supporter to attend a Level 1. So, our



congratulations to Phlapz, Solo and Husoi, shown here receiving their T-Patches, from Badger, Brigantes' President.



On 11<sup>th</sup> December, we held our second Level 1, when we welcomed two new Heroes into the B.A.C.A. family. It was a truly wonderful day for us and for our Heroes. Brigantes would like to thank those Members and Supporters from other UK Chapters that were able to join us and brave some lovely Scottish weather!

Thanks to a lot of time and effort by our Members and Supporters, we have managed to break ground with another section of the Scottish Local Authority. We have worked hard to forge good links and ensure they are now aware of us, our Mission and the work we do. Hopefully, this will lead us to be able to empower more Heroes.

**Capital Chapter:** Q4 2021 proved to be another busy quarter for Capital Chapter with a press interview, Agency Visits, an Awareness Day and two Level 1 Interventions, when we brought more children into the B.A.C.A. family; more children no longer living in fear. During the first month of the quarter, Dozer our President, was interviewed by the editor of 'The Road' Magazine, which is the official magazine of the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) and posted to around 50,000 MAG members. The magazine featured B.A.C.A. with a double page spread in the Nov/Dec 2021 issue, again helping us to 'spread the word' about our Mission.



We continue our drive to contact and visit as many Child Protection Agencies as possible, so they know about us and recognise that we are happy to work with them. These meetings also enable us to explain our Policies and Procedures that that make it 100% safe for them to refer abused children to B.A.C.A. During early October, some Capital Chapter Members and Supporters took part in presentations to advocates and counsellors from the Citizens Advice Witness Services at Woolwich Crown Court, when some 12 attendees were introduced to B.A.C.A. We also met with counsellors from Thames Valley Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) at their Slough Office, with a promise to visit their Bicester facility in the New Year.





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We also revisited our friends at the Caspian Horse Centre, where therapists use Equine Assisted Techniques to provide therapy and counselling for some of our children. We were once again greeted by Jan and Naomi, who kindly gave us a talk about the Centre and provided us with tea and homemade cakes. On the way to the Centre, we stopped off at Loomies Moto Café,

near Alton in Hampshire, a well-known biker haunt. We met lot of people who were interested in B.A.C.A. and made a number of good contacts for future presentations.



The beginning of November saw some Capital Chapter Members and Supporters join Midland Chapter for their Level 1 ... thank you, Midland, it was a pleasure to join you and help to show another Hero that B.A.C.A. operates across the UK. The second week of the month saw Capital Chapter organise another of their own Level 1s, when we brought three more Heroes into the B.A.C.A family ... Spike, Chimp and Shorty were delighted to meet their new family and everyone had a great day. Members and Supporters from Readwald (Temp) Chapter joined us for the day.



At the beginning of December, we planned yet another Level 1, where we brought 4 more Heroes (they chose the Road Names: Zeus, Tokyo Revenger, Sparkle Pup and Hercules) into our family. It was a very cold day and as we all signed our names inside the children's cuts, our pens constantly needed warming to work properly! Once again, we were joined by Members and Supporters from Readwald (Temp) Chapter (they just can't stop turning out to work the B.A.C.A. Mission) plus Ursa from Coalfields Chapter. Also, during December the Capital Events Team organised the 'Capital Winter Party',

where we invited all our children to take part in games and eat lots of food. The Party was a huge success, giving children and families the opportunity to meet each other, play and laugh.

Just prior to Christmas, we participated in an evening of 'Christmas Lights', a regular event in Whitchurch, Hants, organised by a local couple that turn their garden into Christmas Lights experience for children.



Once again, loyal Capital Members and Supporters attended, and the majority of Whitchurch Village turned out to meet us. The event was organised by Ken Morse (kneeling on the left with the Chapter) and his wife Vicky (seen here dressed as an Elf, alongside the Lady Mayor of Whitchurch and Santa). The Lady Mayor expressed a keen interest in B.A.C.A. and our Mission, and we received another invitation to return in the New Year. Dozens of

children from Whitchurch came to see Santa (Dozer, our President) and the queue stretched out of Ken and Vicky's garden and snaked down the road! The event was even reported in the Basingstoke Observer.





## 'Quarterly Update Q4 - 2021'

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**Coalfields Chapter:** During 2021 Q4 Coalfields Chapter has been busy working the Mission. We were honoured to accompany one of our Heroes to court for her S28 statement. We have supported this Hero during lockdown when she was feeling very low. With the court case delayed again and again, there were times when she simply wanted to give up. We continued to do our best to keep her positive, and when the day came, we helped her to appear before the judge in a clear and determined frame of mind. No matter what happens, we aim to empower all B.A.C.A. children to make a stand, speak their truth and do their part, and then move on stronger than before.



The rest of the quarter was spent doing the usual B.A.C.A. activities: raising awareness, attending B.A.C.A. child events around the country and enjoying the simple pleasure of being 'on the road' together. During the quarter we also held Awareness Events in Leeds, Manchester and the Wirral, some of which included some very cold camping; possibly not the best pastime for the winter months. Roll on Summer!



**Midland Chapter:** Over the last quarter of 2021, Midland Chapter were busy visiting Agencies, attending events and 'spreading the word' about B.A.C.A. and our Mission. On 17<sup>th</sup> November, Midland Chapter presented B.A.C.A. and our Mission to the Coventry Riders Action Group ... a great evening led by our President, Jock. During December we gave a presentation to Social Workers and Child Protection Agencies to give them an insight into our work with abused children. Midland Members and Supporters also attended an Awareness Event at the Kings Hall, Stoke. The day started with a 'Toy Run' at 10:00 before the public looked around at the stalls and activities. We spoke to a great many people about B.A.C.A. and our Mission; we also found a few people interested in coming to our open meetings. Thank you to some of Coalfields Chapter who also attended.



On the 9<sup>th</sup> November, Midland Chapter welcomed Nugget into the B.A.C.A. family with help from Capital, Coalfields, Praeses and Ireland Chapters, we showed Nugget that her B.A.C.A. brothers and sisters are prepared to show up for her. Jock introduced Nugget to her new family, presented her B.A.C.A. cut and teddy bear, explaining that all those present had hugged her bear to fill it with 'biker hugs and love'. This was followed by Nugget looking at all the bikes and being taken for a ride on a trike with bike escort ... a truly empowering day for our Hero.





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In October, some of our Members and Supporters took part in a Midland Chapter 'Bacon Ride' to a café for coffee and food, which also turned out to be a lovely day. When we stopped for bacon sandwiches Red received her T-patch ... another valuable Supporter for Midland. In addition, we are pleased to report that Fleur has taken on the role of Chapter Historian for Midland, so look out for her quarterly reports.



Throughout the quarter, we worked hard to carry out our Mission and to be there to support our Heroes physically and emotionally, to empower them not to feel afraid of the world in which they live. Well done Midland Chapter and thank you for your continued hard work, day-in day-out.



And just to show some more of our 'smiling' faces, here's a selection of happy Midland Chapter Members and Supporters, engaged in a range of Chapter activities, from receiving patches to attending their first Level1s. Each and every one of them ready and willing to do whatever it takes to empower abused children. Together, we look forward to another year of 'being there' for our Heroes in 2022.



**Praeses Chapter:** Throughout Quarter 4, Praeses Chapter remained 'on the road' meeting Agencies and liaising with the various clubs in the motorcycle world to ensure all our friends and supporters are aware of us, and know what B.A.C.A. can and does offer.

During October and November, those of us that hold Member Patches, which means we can be Primaries to B.A.C.A. children, continued to contact and visit our Heroes. The physical presence of a Primary is an important continuity in abused children's lives. Being there when a child needs us is the reason for holding that Member Patch, which gives the wearer the right, honour and privilege to become a Primary to a child.



It was great to make a number of patch awards during December. These are important achievements within B.A.C.A. and show the effort and commitment our Supporters and Members make to progress through our Training Programme.

Fagin completed his 'B.A.C.A. Basics' training, which introduces Supporters to our Mission, makes clear our Code of Conduct and explains exactly what we do and don't do. As you can see from the photograph, both our Vice President and Fagin, were pleased when he received his 'Tomato' Patch.



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To show completion of Advanced Training, Soulman received his Chain Patch and the important 'back strip' for his cut, which announces 'No Child Deserves to Live in Fear'. Finally, it was a huge moment for Chez, when Praeses Chapter Members voted that he should become a Member of B.A.C.A. and receive his Member Patch. Well done to all of them!



To join in the season's festivities, Praeses held its 'Covid-Compliant' Christmas Meal, when besides good food and fellowship, we all discovered that 'Secret Santa' had been to visit us, however we can't give away any secrets.

As Praeses Chapter moves on into 2022, we do so in the hope that the pandemic won't hang over us for too long, and that travel and other restrictions continue to relax enabling us to help and support our Heroes and welcome new children into the B.A.C.A family. We also look forward to new Supporters joining Praeses Chapter to help us work the Mission.

**Raedwald (Temp) Chapter:** With the end of the lockdown (to a degree) and Raedwald able to meet up freely again; we wasted no time, holding 'physical' Chapter Meetings, organising 'socials' and building brotherhood. As a Temp Chapter, we are working hard to progress, so most of our focus for T1 has been training, more training and then some more training! We are pleased to announce that our two new Applicants, Polo and Pits have completed their 'B.A.C.A. Basics' training. As a result, they were recently



awarded their T-Patches ... these were well-deserved because alongside committing to their training they've proved valuable assets to Raedwald Chapter and the B.A.C.A. nation. During the quarter, Double D stepped into the Vice President role, which he has taken on with confidence, displaying drive and prowess with his ambitions for our Chapter and our Mission.



Raedwald continues to go from strength-to-strength, which is down to the combined commitment of the Chapter and the guidance we have received to take us on our journey. We are well underway with planning our 100 Mile Ride for 2022, B.A.C.A.'s annual awareness ride when all Chapters, worldwide, ride 100 miles on the same day! We have also established ourselves with several local venues who are fully supportive of the Mission and are happy to accommodate us for Chapter Meetings and 'socials' and to prove it, here's our President, Dusty and our Secretary, Stumpy, enjoying a coffee break at one of them.





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**The Mission continues to expand:** Across the UK, it is fantastic to report that an increasing number of 'new interests' contact us to join our Mission. Of course, it takes time, however once Applicants are security-cleared and attend Chapter Meetings, they begin their compulsory 'B.A.C.A. Basics' training. When the basics are completed, they face several months of intensive training to work with abused children, this includes accredited Safeguarding. We know that our training takes time and demands much, but we are dealing with 'wounded' children, so all our Members and Supporters must be trained to the highest degree ... as we say, it's a marathon not a sprint.

**UK President's observations:** Throughout Q4 2021, as with every other quarter during the year, UK Chapters have worked diligently to bring abused children into the B.A.C.A. family, to take away their fear and teach them to trust once again. Each Chapter also invests a lot of time and effort to arrange meetings with Child Protection Agencies and Police, attend Awareness Days and generally 'spread the word', to make as many people as possible aware of our Mission. Despite the difficulties and restrictions caused by the pandemic over the past years, this remains an exciting time for B.A.C.A. in the UK. We have new Supporters, new Members and a Temp Chapter working hard to reach full charter. As 2022 takes off, we look forward to continuing our Mission. The principle and promise of which remains unchanged ... to empower abused children not to be afraid of the world in which they live ... together we will continue to deliver on that promise.

Thank you for reading.

Respectfully,

Hobo

President

**B.A.C.A.® UK**

To find out more about **B.A.C.A.®** in the UK please contact:

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