



## Capital Chapter - United Kingdom

### BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE®

#### Update Q4 - 2022

**Introduction:** Capital Chapter, Bikers Against Child Abuse (B.A.C.A.) United Kingdom, is once more pleased to send our friends and supporters our Quarterly Update, the last one of 2022. As you will see, we continue to work our Mission and to 'be there' for abused children. More people have applied to join the Mission, and more Supporters have graduated through B.A.C.A.'s Training Programme to be awarded their Member Patch. Wearing that Member Patch is much more than a piece of cloth, it brings a huge responsibility, it conveys on the wearer the right, honour and privilege to become a Primary to a Child. That means being on-call for that Child at any time day or night and turning up to be with them, without fail. Many of our children feel let-down by adults; we will not do that.

**B.A.C.A. United Kingdom Help Line:** This last quarter we've been busy 'spreading the word' across Social Media by asking all our friends and supporters to share our Help Line contact information. (Please see our poster opposite.) Thanks to their kindness this poster has spread through Facebook, Instagram and others; the more children and families that know how to contact us, the more abused children we can help. Our **Help Line: 0300 030 2131** and our **Website: unitedkingdom.BACAWorld.org** operate all year round, there are no 'closed' times, no 'out-of-office' responses. Children and families can reach us 24x7x365 ... few organisations are capable of making that commitment.

#### **Removing fear from abused children ... something unique:**

Our commitment to be there for abused children is unique. No other organisation in the world does what we do. We focus entirely on abused children; that's why we call them our 'Heroes', because each child has heroically overcome fear. **No other entity has the single, narrow focus of removing the fear from victims of child abuse.** Fear that destroys childhood. Fear of sleep that brings nightmares. Fear of being alone. Fear of having to testify in court. Whatever their fears, B.A.C.A. children know that we will be there 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. 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.**

#### **Our constant commitment to being better at what we do: "No matter how much you think you know, there's always time to learn more."**

That's a true statement, and it's something that we believe in and implement. Capital Chapter remains dedicated to training ... we are dealing with wounded children that have been let down by adults ... no matter how much you think you know there's always something to learn. That is why 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. and serve our Heroes.

**Proving B.A.C.A. works:** We know there are many hundreds of children in the UK that experience abuse and live with the resulting fear and trauma. 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 \(bacaworld.org\)](https://www.bacaworld.org/evaluation-of-b.a.c.a.-program)





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**Capital Chapter Q4 News:** Quarter 4 might wrap up the year and for many 'motorcyclists' as poor weather, shortening days and early darkness, mark the end of the so-called 'riding season'. For B.A.C.A. bikers and Capital Chapter, there's no such season. We ride 24x7x365, whatever the weather, daylight or in the dark, whenever there are abused children that need us, we are there, no exceptions.

**Our Members and Supporters:** This year began with more Applicants passing their background check and security clearance, becoming Supporters, and starting their training to join the Mission; and Q4 proves that we are ending the year in the same way.



Members and Supporters are presented with their staged training awards and certificates at Chapter Meetings so their brothers and sisters can witness and applaud the effort required to continue their progress. Most recently, Bear, Jill and Jaxx received their 3-Bar Training Pins (**Opposite L to R:**

**Bear, Jaxx and Jill, show off their Training Pins.**) at the same meeting, Mix, Coco, Foggy, Duke, Higgie, Wolverine and Grumpy received their Advanced Safeguarding Certificates.

October saw the last of the year's rallies, with more opportunity to spread the word of our Mission. Members and Supporters from Capital Chapter supported the traditional Caldarium MCC, Hex Rally. After starting out in the rain, the weather steadily improved. Most of us removed wet weather gear at the meeting point, and by the time we arrived at the rally site the skies had brightened; typical English weather! We made new contacts and of course, met old friends. Caldarium provided good eating facilities, plus lots of stalls to visit. A good day was had by all.

On the return journey, some of us took the time to drop into a local hostelry, The Lamb in Chalgrove, Oxfordshire. We visited The Lamb during the summer on our way to the Wolfpack MCC, Yeknod Rally, and Katie (the owner) was pleased to see us return. Katie, kindly offered us the use of a meeting room for Chapter Meetings in 2023. Katie also asked to take a photograph for the pub's website. She uploaded the photograph and our Help Line poster to her Facebook page. Thank you, Katie.



The last part of our November Chapter Meeting was dedicated to an update on our Trauma Training with our resident Chapter Medic, Splinter. This is an important session and everyone benefitted from the training. Capital Chapter is lucky to have a fantastic range of professionals within the Chapter, and we ensure that we use their skill sets and extensive knowledge to help us work our Mission.



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**‘Ride To The Wall’:** Duke (our Road Captain) with his wife Fiona, plus Jaxx and Mix, attended this year’s Ride To The Wall (RTTW) and laid a wreath on behalf of B.A.C.A. The annual RTTW is a

fundraising ride and Service of Remembrance. It’s a unique opportunity for organised groups of motorcyclists to ride to the National Memorial Arboretum, Staffordshire to pay their respects and recognise the sacrifice made by the 16,000+ service men and women whose names are engraved on The Armed Forces Memorial.

‘The Wall’ is a 43 metre diameter stone structure constructed of 200,000 bricks faced with Portland stone panels that hold the names of those honoured by the Memorial, recognising those who gave their lives in the service of the country since the end of the Second World War.



**Capital Chapter visits Raedwald Chapter:** As their ‘mother-Chapter’, we continue to work closely with Raedwald Chapter (Temp Charter) who cover East Anglia (Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk, and Sussex).

Two of our Members, Wolverine and Chuck, went to visit them recently. Wolverine as our Sergeant at Arms, to complete Security Checks for their new Applicants and Chuck as European Treasurer to evaluate their progress. After the business of the day, Raedwald Chapter invited Wolverine and Chuck to join them at an Axe Throwing event, which was a high-point for all concerned. These guys obviously take their association with ancient Saxon links, very seriously!



**Report on Midland Chapter Level 1:** Capital Chapter Supporter, Jaxx, attended a Midland Level 1 in

November. The Level 1 is the ceremony we use to bring another child into the B.A.C.A. family. Jaxx joined brothers and sisters from Midland, Coalfields, Raedwald and Praeses Chapters.



This is Jaxx’s report: “After introducing myself, Animal from Midland, stepped up and volunteered to act as my

Sponsor for the day. After the briefing, we travelled the 1.4 miles to the L1 location, to meet the Hero and their family. The Midland Security Team quickly secured the area, and we formed a semi-circle around the Hero and family. The Hero was then introduced to his Primaries, and presented with his Vest and Teddy Bear. The bear was previously passed around the semi-circle, everyone hugging each other with the bear between them, to fill the bear with love. The members of his family even hugged the Teddy Bear to fill it with more love. Everyone was then asked to stand by their bikes for the Hero to walk the line and check out the machines. It was a wonderful experience to witness a child warming to their new family.”



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**Whitchurch Christmas Lights:** This year we made two visits to see our friends Ken and Vicky in Whitchurch, Hants. Each year, these wonderful people create the now famous, 'Whitchurch Christmas Lights' in their garden. Our first visit was on an extremely cold evening, after an even colder ride, for the official 'Switch-On' (including artificial snow) by television personality and sports reporter, Mike Bushell. There were also representatives from Association of Blood Bikes (volunteers who transport blood products for the NHS), who also benefit from the money raised by 'Whitchurch Christmas Lights'. **(Opposite L to R: Dozer, Capital Chapter President, Mike Bushell and a Blood Bikes volunteer.)**

Our second visit to Whitchurch, was a few weeks later, to spread the word about our Mission to families and children from Whitchurch and surrounding villages, as they queued to see Santa Claus. Although it wasn't quite as cold, we drank lots of hot chocolate and parsnip curry soup (not together!) to keep warm. When we were ready to leave, the visors of our helmets had frozen over, but that didn't dent our Christmas spirit.



**B.A.C.A. in the Media:** We were recently mentioned in Back Street Heroes Magazine (BSH), which is excellent, as media coverage helps 'spread the word' about our Mission. The more people that are aware of B.A.C.A. and understand how to refer children to us, the more children we can help. Huge 'thank-you' to Nik Samson, Editor, BSH for taking the time to talk to us and to understand what we do.

**Until next time ...** Another fantastic year closes for Capital Chapter. We look forward to 2023, with our belief that 'No Child Deserves to Live in Fear'. We will continue to bring abused children into the B.A.C.A. family, take away their fear and teach them to trust adults once again. As 2023 begins, the principle and promise remain unchanged ... empowering 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,

Dozer - President - Capital Chapter

**B.A.C.A.® UK**

To find out more about Capital Chapter and B.A.C.A. please contact:

[CapitalChapter@unitedkingdom.BACAWorld.org](mailto:CapitalChapter@unitedkingdom.BACAWorld.org)