



Capital Chapter - United Kingdom

BIKERS AGAINST CHILD ABUSE®

Quarterly Update: Q3 - 2023

Welcome once again to Capital Chapter's Quarterly Update. This is where we share with all our friends and supporters, some of the activities we've been up to during each quarter. This latest Update covers the third Quarter of 2023.

For our newest friends, here is a brief introduction to Bikers Against Child Abuse, more widely recognised as B.A.C.A. The first two sentences of our Mission Statement make it as clear as it can be: *"B.A.C.A. exists with the intent to create a safer environment for abused children. We exist as a body of Bikers to empower children to not feel afraid of the world in which they live."*

Why B.A.C.A. works:

B.A.C.A. is built on biker values of honour, loyalty, integrity and respect. Bikers are a tightly knit group, forged through brotherhood and sisterhood. Our family values are not just a way to live, but a way of life. 'One for All and All for One', is not just a quote, it is our reality. Children have an uncanny sense for honesty and trust. Children can feel when they are being lied to or deceived. B.A.C.A. earns their trust.

When B.A.C.A. bikers ride to a child's home to support that child, tell them they no longer need to be afraid because B.A.C.A. is there for them, children feel the security of that brotherhood and sisterhood. Children understand that child abusers are cowards that prey on the helpless. Once children are part of B.A.C.A. they know they are no longer helpless or powerless.



What is required to join B.A.C.A.?

To join B.A.C.A. requires regular access to a motorcycle, be 18 years old or older, pass an enhanced Security and Background check, undertake and complete the required B.A.C.A. training program, gain an accredited Safeguarding qualification, and ride with a B.A.C.A. Chapter for a 'minimum' of one year. After that commitment, an individual is presented to the Chapter Executive Board to be considered for Membership, which must be unanimously approved by all Members.

How B.A.C.A. is funded:

B.A.C.A. is funded by donations from the public, corporations, other charitable organisations, private business owners and more. No B.A.C.A. Members, from our International President to the most recent Applicant receives any financial reward for their efforts. 100% of all funds donated to

B.A.C.A. go to support our Mission to empower abused children.

If require, B.A.C.A. uses its funds to provide our children with immediate access to private therapy. No child that has been through trauma should have to wait for therapy. However, national services are overwhelmed and waiting times can be extensive. B.A.C.A. works closely with therapists and counsellors known for their expertise in working with children.

No Child Deserves to Live in Fear: 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)



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Capital Chapter Training

The B.A.C.A. Training Programme focuses on making ordinary people exceptional. People that children can trust. It's a strictly enforced programme, and no Applicants are allowed to be near our children until they have passed an enhanced Security and Background check, and completed their Basic Training. B.A.C.A. Supporters also receive **Basic Safeguarding Training**, rising to **Advanced Safeguarding Training** for Members. Our trained Members possess the knowledge required to take an active role in any Safeguarding situation and apply our Safeguarding Policy.



Training progress this Quarter saw Trux, G and Bat (**L to R opposite**) receive their Tomato Patch, signifying they have completed their 'BACA Basics' Training. This enables them to now attend Level 1 Interventions, the simple ceremony we use where we bring abused children into B.A.C.A. Attending a Level 1 is of course, an empowering experience for our children; it's



also magical when Supporters attend for the first time and see for themselves the difference we make to the lives of our children. Also, as part of this Quarter's Training achievements, Spitfire (**pictured right with our President, Dozer**) was awarded her Chain Patch. This signifies that Spitfire has completed her Advanced Training and has passed B.A.C.A.'s strict training requirements.

Training to become a B.A.C.A. Member

B.A.C.A. understands that not all Supporters are able to make the commitment to wear a Member Patch and have the **right, honour and privilege** that comes with that Patch, to be a Primary Contact for a child. Taking on a Primary position demands that the individual is available to be on-call for abused children 24x7x365; whenever a child calls. There can be many reasons that prevent an individual stepping up to be a B.A.C.A. Member, such as work, having a young family at home or because they are unable to commit their time. They are however, eligible to remain as Supporters to work hard for the Chapter and are needed just as much as Members.

Capital Chapter activities in Q3

The usual 'behind the scenes' interaction continues with online and face-to-face meetings to Agencies and Law Enforcement. We continue to present B.A.C.A. to Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs), Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs), Child Protection Agencies, Courts, Witness Services, Counsellors and Therapists. The more we introduce our service, the more we are referred to help wounded children.

Following an invitation after the **Oxford Schools Wellbeing Conference**, from Emily Stanyon at Response UK, Dozer our President and H our Treasurer visited Response UK in Oxford. Dozer was interviewed for their monthly podcast, '**Real Life Responses**', which aired on 18 September 2023 on Spotify and Podbean. Here is the link so you can hear Dozer describe how we work with abused children and what B.A.C.A. does:

<https://realliferesponse.podbean.com/e/s1-ep2-dozer-big-hearts-big-harleys-from-baca/>



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Dozer, H and Mix (our Agency Liaison officer) travelled to **Guildford SARC**, to present B.A.C.A. to their team of ISVAs. It was a successful meeting, with all those present impressed by B.A.C.A. and our Mission. They confirmed that when they have a child that could benefit from our involvement, they will refer to B.A.C.A. without hesitation.

Janine Brockway, a Wellbeing and Healing Counsellor met Capital Chapter at the recent Shire Horse 'Meet B.A.C.A. Day', and invited us to attend the '**Mind, Body, Spirit Fayre**' in Twyford, Berkshire. Dozer, H, Rolo, Bear and Tigger attended and spoke to many people, all of whom were interested in B.A.C.A., our Mission and the work we do for abused children. It was a great event and well worth attending. Janine's next event is in Bracknell in October, and once again, Capital Chapter is invited to attend.



Capital Chapter Members and Supporters also attended the '**Plot 10 Community Project**' in Kings Cross to spread the word and raise awareness of our Mission. Flyers were handed out and they spoke to a variety of people. The event organisers were pleased to see us and made us feel very welcome.



As you can see (**photograph R opposite**),

Rolo, our resident Swedish-giant, could not help but find his inner-child and decided to brave the slide.



Mix, recently visited our brothers in **Raedwald Chapter (Temp)**. They rode to the Sutton Hoo Exhibition Museum on Saturday to learn more about **Raedwald, the King of East Anglia from Anglo-Saxon times** ... hence their chosen Chapter name. Raedwald Chapter (Temp) was formed by a 'breakaway' of Members and Supporters from Capital Chapter; which is precisely how B.A.C.A., grows with established Chapters 'spawning' new Chapters. Capital Chapter has supported Raedwald throughout their journey so far, and will continue to do so. Raedwald continues to grow and learn together as we watch them head towards full Charter. Keep up the good work brothers!

Cheque Presentation:

Members of the **Thames Valley Coalition (TVC)**, long-time supporters of Bikers Against Child Abuse, have made frequent donations to our Mission. Dozer, Capital Chapter President and H, Capital Chapter Treasurer accepted the cheque on behalf of B.A.C.A. outside the showroom of Reading Harley Davidson in Wokingham. Huge respect and thank you to all the MCs and MCCs in the TVC that helped to raise money for B.A.C.A. Dozer said: *"You are helping us to make a difference to the lives of abused children. Although 'thank you' seems insufficient and misses the mark, it comes from the heart, so Thank You."*





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Children's Summer Party 2023



Once again, Capital Chapter held its annual **Children's Summer Party**, and once more our children had a great time. Party games were played (both loud and quiet), cakes were decorated (with way too much icing) and hotdogs and curly fries went down a storm. It was wonderful to hear happy children laughing and having fun, all of them



without a care in the world. This is also a time where parents get the chance to speak to one another, and sometimes for the first time, realise they are not alone.

Awareness Events – 'Spreading the Word':

'Meet B.A.C.A.' Awareness Days are a regular feature on the Capital Chapter calendar. Local venues kindly allow us to set up the bikes in their car parks and we do our best to talk to everyone. This was our first 'Meet B.A.C.A.' day at **Pinewood Centre Bar and Café in Wokingham**. We were made thoroughly welcome by the owner, Pauline (and the resident German Shepherd, Shadow). It was a great day with blazing sunshine despite the dire predictions of thunderstorms.



A second 'Meet B.A.C.A.' day was held this Quarter at **The Shire Horse, Littlewick Green, Maidenhead**. The photograph (left) shows Capital Chapter Members and Supporters ready to greet people as they arrived at the pub. We spoke to a lot of people, and it was wonderful to hear so many positive

comments about our Mission. Word is obviously spreading as many people said; *"We've heard of B.A.C.A. and love the great work you do with children."* During the day we managed to hand out all the flyers we had brought with us, and the B.A.C.A. merchandise table (**right with Bear and Grumpy**) proved popular as always, especially with children who quickly managed to clear us out of balloons!



Meets, Rallies, Events and Shows:



Capital Members and Supporters always make the most of the summer months by riding to rallies, events and shows. This enables us to continue updating the two-wheeled community about B.A.C.A. and our Mission. Brotherhood and Sisterhood is built 'on the road' and is another vital part of our Mission. Recent visits



included the **Ace Café** where the National Chopper Club London were hosting an event, the **Gate Bike Show in Northwood**, organised by The Posse and West London Harley Riders, and to **Ryka's Café at Box Hill** for their 'Wednesday Night Sunset Rally'.



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A few hardy Capital Chapter Members and Supporters braved torrential rain and hail to visit the Wolfpack MC's annual 'Yeknod Rally', which suffered from awful weather. There was the ride-in down a flooded road with single-file riding compulsory, an incredibly soggy parking area with pucks needed under the side-stands to prevent the bikes sinking into the mud; and Duke, our Road Captain, giving all those present a lesson in how to successfully ride a Harley Davidson Ultra down a heavily-rutted, muddy track.



We also made our annual visit to the 'Brothers of The Third Wheel Bike and Trike Show' at the Silver Ball Café in Royston. As usual, the weather was glorious, and the sun shone all day. As in



previous years, Capital Chapter Members and Supporters spoke to the attendees about our organisation and our Mission, and once again we were asked to judge the bikes and trikes in the show. John and Ruth from 'Brothers of The Third Wheel' and 'Boss' the owner of the Silver Ball Café, made us truly welcome.



Capital Chapter once again visited the 'Custom Bike and Hot Rod Show' in Andover, organised by the Savages MC. There was literally something for everyone ... bikers, families and children ... from a 'petting zoo' to the ice cream van, the range of stalls and food outlets, to the amazing bikes and cars on display. The show was a great



success and a good day out for everyone. The sun decided to shine, despite threatening grey clouds that rumbled into view from time to time.

Until next time ... Capital Chapter continues to work hard for abused children, to take away their fear and teach them to trust adults once again. Throughout the last Quarter of 2023, that principle and promise will remain unchanged ... empowering abused children to not be afraid of the world in which they live ... together we will continue delivering 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:

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