

**LEATHERHEAD RESIDENT TAKES UP TRANS-CANADA MOTORBIKE
CHALLENGE TO RAISE MONEY FOR
MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE ASSOCIATION**

02 June 2009; Leatherhead resident Roger Wakeford, a member of the Foresters Friendly Society, is set to embark on a motorcycle ride across Canada to raise awareness and funds for the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA).

Roger, who is also an MNDA volunteer, will undertake the journey – which is expected to be up to 4,000 miles – from 28th July, aiming to ride for 22 days. Sponsorship will be based on the distance Roger is able to cover; so this could be by the mile, the Canadian province, the number of riding days or a lump sum for completion.

The MNDA is the nominated charity of the Foresters Friendly Society during 2009. The Society supports a wide range of charitable causes across the UK with members having raised a total of over £45,000 in 2008 for CLIC Sargent, the children's cancer charity alone – this was their nominated charity then. Roger also felt drawn to support the MNDA following his mother's death from the disease in 1995.

Of the challenge lying ahead of him, Roger Wakeford commented: "The Motor Neurone Disease Association plays an invaluable role in providing support and advice to help people living with this disease, as well as those who care for them, to maintain the highest possible quality of life.

"The association and its volunteers share many important values with the Foresters Friendly Society including a commitment to looking after the interest and well being of its members. "

.../more

/...continued

Roger continued: "The Foresters Friendly Society is dedicated to lending support to the work of charities such as the MNDA which work tirelessly to support those who are experiencing hardship, illness or challenge."

Anyone wishing to donate funds should send cheques to the Motor Neurone Disease Association at PO Box 246, Northampton, NN1 2PR. Credit card donations can be made on 01604 250505. For further information please e-mail - mndconnect@mndassociation.org

-Ends-

Notes to Editors

About Foresters Friendly Society

Foresters Friendly Society was founded in 1834 and offers a range of financial saving, investment, insurance and protection products, as well as educational grants and healthcare support for its members. All financial products come with the accompanying benefits of membership of the Society at no additional cost. There is no obligation to purchase a financial product in order to become a member. The Society currently includes over 70,000 members across 250 UK branches.

About The Motor Neurone Disease Association

The Motor Neurone Disease Association has a vision of a World free of MND.

The Association was formed in 1979 by a group of volunteers who wanted to co-ordinate support, guidance and advice for people affected by the illness. It now consists of 1,500 volunteers and over 120 paid staff, all dedicated to improving the lives of people affected by MND, now and in the future.

The Associations network expands across 95 Branches and Groups, who provide local support, and raise funds and awareness of the Association

A network of 15 Care Centres across England, Wales and Northern Ireland offering quality multidisciplinary team care and raising the standards of care for everyone with MND Regional Care Development Advisers who support people with MND through educating and influencing local Health and Social Care Professionals and services

For further information:

Weber Shandwick Financial

Bilal Mahmood

T: 020 7067 0715 or E: bmahmood@webershandwick.com

Foresters Friendly Society

Neil Armitage

T: 023 80216 867 or E: NArmitage@forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk