

From: Lt Col RH Case (Retd)

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6th September 2019

Proposed Extinguishment of Motor Vehicle Use of the A303 between Byways 11 and 12

I have been invited to share my experience of motorcycling as a means of transport for the disabled and less able amongst us.

Motorcycling has long been a popular method of transport for the less able. This is due in part to the relative technical ease and economy with which they may be adapted to personal accessibility requirements compared to cars. A small but expert cottage industry exists in the UK to manufacture, supply and fit the components necessary to restore independence to a variety of users with a wide spectrum of disabilities.

These adaptations range from simple mechanical aids, or adapted controls to assist motorcycle operation for people with limited strength and endurance to custom solutions for the limbless, a number of whom have returned to motorcycling following road traffic collisions which were not their fault. The principal organisation supporting such motorcyclists is the National Association for Bikers with a Disability (NABD).

As a lifetime motorcycle rider who suffered a [REDACTED] injury early in my adult life, I have endeavoured to maintain an active and varied lifestyle which has incorporated a wide variety of motorcycling activity - as sport, leisure and a normal means of transport.

Wiltshire born and bred, Salisbury Plain has been a major place for me to enjoy both independence and solitude. In the course of this activity I regularly enjoy travelling Byways 11 and 12 - not just for recreation, but also as part of my commute between the West side of the Plain and Andover, Wilton, Larkhill and other military sites. They also form a crucial link between my home and the city of Salisbury, the fords along the River Bourne and the stunning Roman Road at Old Sarum.

I would be significantly inconvenienced if the continuity of this route along the A303 were severed.

Yours faithfully

Robert H Case Lt Col (Retd) BEng MSc CEng
Secretary - Army Motorcycling Association