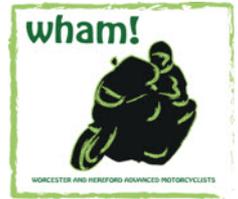




# WHAM! NEWS

January 2011



*A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL*



**We had our first Sunday ride of 2011 on 2 January with riders from Hereford and Worcester meeting at Crossgates. More photos page 11.**

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[www.wham-motorcycling.org](http://www.wham-motorcycling.org)

Worcester and Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists.

Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorcyclists. Group No. 3260

Contact John Hodges, Editor: [Newsletter@wham-motorcycling.org](mailto:Newsletter@wham-motorcycling.org)

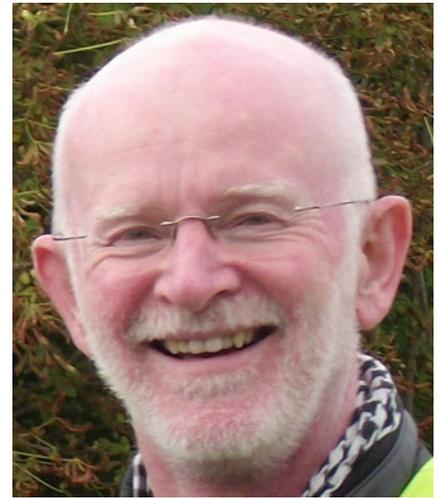
DISCLAIMER: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN WHAM!NEWS ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR, THE IAM OR THE WORCESTER AND HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

## Chairman's Notes

### Changing of the Guard

Well, that was 2010 and we're now fast approaching WHAM's AGM on Friday 28 January, 4 years and 4 days after the formation of WHAM. You'll know that I'm about to claim my freedom from WHAM's Chair; in days past a serf would gain freedom after 1 year and a day on the run – where did I go wrong?

Back in 2007 when we formed WHAM we had no idea whether the Worcester and Hereford area would sustain an IAM Group. John Hodges, Cliff McFarlane and me hatched the plan and booked "The Prancing Pony" for the inaugural meeting on 24 January 2007. We needed 20-30 members for the IAM to support the formation of the Group. In the event we had more than 100 people present that evening and more than enough members to start.



Our first ride, on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2007 tempted 28 bikes out in -2°C but the weak winter sun shone for us! (28 bikes still stands as the record number on a ride). So we were in business!

You'll know now that WHAM has grown into a vibrant Group sustaining a membership of over 100; we have a regular ride programme, superb special events such as off-road riding and Den's Slow Handling day, our day-trips and short breaks. More than that we have a large Observer team whose Associates enjoy an excellent pass rate and we are closely involved with rider training developments at Regional and National level so we're certainly meeting our training objective. That's the serious side – we always try to make it interesting and fun for our members too so I hope you have enjoyed it every bit as much as I have.

All of this happens only because we are fortunate in having so many willing volunteers able to assist in the running of the Group – I salute and thank them all. Your Committee in particular is strong and more than capable of moving WHAM on; we all hope to see Brian Morgan take over as Chairman (subject of course to your support) and I am confident Brian will be very good for WHAM.

...and it's goodbye from me!

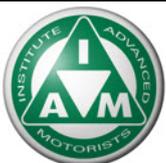
Derek

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***WHAM's AGM - FRIDAY 28 JANUARY 2011*** Please really try to attend the AGM. It is your Group and the more feedback you can give your new 2011 Committee the better. The AGM Agenda is on page 15 with the Minutes of the 2010 AGM on pages 15/17. The proposed committee changes are on page 13. The nomination form for committee membership is on page 14.

*Please remember that only paid up full members of both WHAM! and the IAM are entitled to vote but associate members are welcome to attend and give feedback.*

*The WHAM! Membership Renewal Form is on page 12.*



# WHAM!S Year (and answers, where appropriate, to December Quiz!)



The WHAM! Observers at their training day on **6 March**. Organised by our Chief Observer, Tim Hutt. The names of our observers, from left to right, are: Guy Butcher, Paul Whitcombe, Allan Wright, David Curzon, Brian Morgan, Eric Reynolds, Andrew Wibmer, Tony Davis, Tim Wynn, Phil George, Steve Edwards, Derek McMullan, Guy Jenkins, John Nixon, James Dickson, Ant Clerici, Martyn Newman, Tim Hutt, Gary Barnes, Rich Smith, Den Osborne.



Den's Dirty Weekend at the end of **March**.



Slow Riding Day on **10 April** with thanks to the organiser, Den Osborne.



Hereford Rider Skills Day **25 April** with thanks to organiser, Steve Edwards.  
(Observer in picture is Guy Jenkins)



Den's Wales Tour **23 May**.



Worcester Rider Skills Day **16 May** with thanks to organiser Steve Edwards.

Continued on next page.





WHAM! Summer Luxembourg Tour in **June** with thanks to organiser, Derek McMullan.



North Wales Ride in **July** with thanks to organiser Steve Edwards.



Slow Riding Day in **September** - once again thanks to Den. The bike is our chairman's, Derek McMullan, being used in a "How to pick up a dropped bike" demonstration.



WHAM!'S Christmas Dinner in **December** with thanks to organiser, our secretary, Barb Dalloway.

## WHAM! Successes in 2010

We had another very successful year although the bad weather arrived earlier than expected and this has stopped a number of "test ready" associates from taking their IAM test. Our figures for the year show that we had 28 new associates and we have achieved 13 test passes. Well done to all involved. (We have had no failures as such and as soon as the weather improves we have quite a few associates who will go on to take the test.)

A special mention must be made of the excellent efforts of Roger Brooks and Craig Endicott in reaching the last 50 of the IAM "New Members" Yamaha competition. Roger went on to reach the last 5. A brilliant effort. Very well done to both!

**WHAM! THANKS** A sincere thank you to everybody who has helped to make 2010 another very successful year. A review of this Newsletter shows that we owe a very special thanks to Den Osborne. A special thank you also to all our helpers, observers and, last but not least, the Committee.



**WHAM! OFF-ROAD EVENT 19 MARCH 2011 (and Sunday Ride).**

The Next WHAM Off Road Event with "[Mick Extance Off Road Experience](#)" is on Saturday 19 March 2011. The hotel will be booked for Friday night to enable a good, early start. Hotel bookings will also be made for Saturday night for those who need to recover after a hard day's brilliant off road riding and for anyone who wants to come along for a special Wales ride on Sunday. (Den is organising a ride which will leave the hotel at 0930 - all are welcome!) If you are interested in either the Off Road session or the Sunday ride, please contact [Den Osborne](#) as soon as possible so the appropriate arrangements can be made. It promises to be a great dirty weekend but places are restricted so please don't delay! Den can be contacted by e-mail (follow link above) or telephone (home) 01527 876391 (Mobile) 07831 341217



Tina Whitmore, who passed her test in October, receiving her IAM Certificate from her observer, Den Osborne. Well done to both.

### **RIDER SKILLS DAYS AT HEREFORD AND WORCESTER**

**The two most important dates in our calendar for 2011;**  
**17 April** for the Hereford Rider Skills Day at Sutton St Nicholas.

**8 May** for the Worcester Rider Skills Day at Worcester RFC ground.

**Please note in your diary now.**

We will need as many observers as possible but also helpers for catering, reception, parking, setting up and pulling down. More details in the next Newsletters.

### **Chief Observer - Tim Hutt**

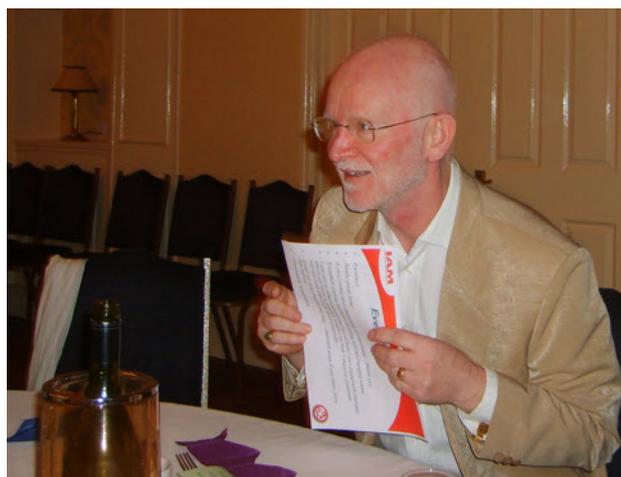
Tim Hutt is moving to the Forest of Dean which unfortunately is even further away from WHAM's operating area than his present home in Tewksbury. Because of this Tim has regrettably had to step down from the CO role but it is hoped he will now be an "outpost" observer and maybe even spearhead a new recruitment drive for us in that area. Tim stepped in at a critical time in WHAM's development and has done a great job. A review of the "Observer Hours" for 2009 and 2010 show just how much Tim has devoted himself to the role and we have been very lucky to have such a dedicated and skilful rider as our Chief Observer. Our sincere thanks.

(Note: The Chief Observer is appointed by the Committee and a new one will be appointed after the AGM.)

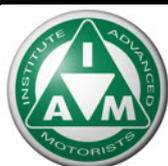


# WHAM!'s Christmas Dinner

Many thanks to Barb Dalloway for organising the annual WHAM! Christmas Dinner at the Falcon Hotel in Bromyard on Friday 10th December.



The pictures show various dining tables as well as Brian Morgan on the "Ladies Couch", the Chairman getting ready for his after-dinner speech, and Diana McMullan receiving a presentation of flowers (for dedicated support to Derek and WHAM!) from John Hodges.



## Himalayas (4) – August/September 2010

by Derek McMullan



An impossibly grand moonscape of mountains! They get bigger as we traverse east towards Tibet. You'll know that India and China dispute the "ownership" of this area and as we approach Tibet there is a heavier military presence and increasingly now certain roads and areas are denied to tourists; these are restricted to military access only. For this part of the trip I needed an "inner line permit"; this turned out to be a glorious celebration of all that's bad about Indian bureaucracy. The queues at the Regional Government centre in Jangi were large and slow moving. Some technology was evident, for example there were webcams to take our mug shots but with Indian efficiency they also ensured the maximum numbers of steps in the process and one worker to each step – no overlap of separate processes or assisting any impossibly overloaded workers thank-you! Some hours later a 5 minute process was completed and we could get into the Spiti Valley.

The Valley is high-altitude semi-desert typically 3000-4000m. At least I could expect a few dry days even if distinctly cooler. Life here is tough, the cattle were every bit as scrawny as the goats – and come to think of it the people too! Despite the tough conditions the locals were always smiling, so courteous and always pleased to see tourists.



This lady runs a mountain café right up on the border. The speciality drink is her locally distilled "hooch" made behind the café. Fortunately we were able to drink Chai and to take the high-voltage brew down in empty water bottles for sampling that night. Her son really wanted to come with us!

It was summer and felt warm because of the strong sun, but the temperature would dip alarmingly as the sun went down and one or two mornings our saddles were frosted as a warning for the early rider. Motorcycling here in the winter would be impossible: too much snow and daily average temperature always below freezing.



Initially we were treated to more sections of billiard smooth tarmac punctuated by deeply rutted river crossings, and (just to see if motorcyclists were alert) a hideous section of deep gravel. The stones were finely graded to have just enough mobility so that the tyres would dig well in and the rutting caused by other traffic could have maximum effect on the front wheel. The confident riders sailed through and the less experienced inevitably came a cropper fighting the front wheel for control of direction.



Our first overnight stop in this valley was at Nako, a very isolated settlement, sitting at 3800m. Like a lot of the towns locally the Buddhist influence is strong and the dry stone walling is made entirely of prayer stones all intricately carved with the prayers of the faithful.



After a walk around the village I commented that it was significantly cleaner than anywhere else we had seen. It turns out that the progressive mayor has implemented a policy of 500 Rupee (£7 – but a fortune to the locals) fines for anyone dropping litter – it works!

This was one of the highest points for an overnight stop and we were warned that altitude sickness might affect us. At breakfast a couple of the group were looking distinctly poorly. The organisers were very firm in telling them “No riding, get in the Jeep” - which was just as well with the descending section we faced – more narrow roads with broken surfaces, no space to pass another vehicle and steep drops to the river. The organisers were not entirely joking when they said that we must not let the bike slip off the road since it would take weeks to recover the motorcycle – and whatever of us that was left by the vultures! When we stopped only a 1000m lower the “altitude sickness” casualties had made a miraculous recovery; they were perfectly OK again and so were reunited with their Enfield for the rest of the day which turned out to be spectacular valley riding. Whenever we climb from the river or descend back to it we know we’re going to have a serious hairpin section. Certainly these sections are much bigger than European climbs but unfortunately not as interesting to the motorcyclist since they are built for the Indian trucks and buses so the gradient is generally tame. They nevertheless proved interesting in the descent as the Enfield’s brakes would give a severe lesson in “fade” to anyone foolish enough to rely on the brakes.





Down by the rivers their power was evident; in places the road became much narrower where the last flood event had taken a bite out of the carriageway and occasionally we would come across a maintenance “heavy crew” armed with huge bulldozers. These guys (the women do the really hard manual work) are the front-line in keeping the roads open. Any job in road maintenance is a “job-for-life” in this area as the weather does it’s best to level the Himalayas. We were stopped by a “heavy crew” tossing a landslide into the Spiti River. In true Indian form we all stopped in the middle of the road and broke out the water/snacks/fags not knowing

how long the reinstatement of the road would take. After only a couple of minutes there was a sharp shout just as I realised it was raining gravel. Unknown to us or to the road crew there was yet more clearance work going on above our heads. We quickly moved ourselves and the machines back 50 m and had a grandstand view of an avalanche where we had just been -that really was one life used up!

There was mile after mile of open road but always we had to be aware that it could change dramatically in an instant. Although we all anticipate changes in road surface and conditions as part of the way we ride the severity of changes, like the mountains, is at the Himalayan end of the scale. Not surprisingly there are frequent accidents and the Border Roads Organisation has developed a good line in roadside philosophy some of which fits straight into our “System”.  
(Next month - Episode 5)



# Ant Clerici's Review of 2010

It's December, the weather has allowed me one quick ride to Halesowen (!) in the last 3 weeks, so I thought I'd review my 2010 for a bit of light relief....here is my **biking top 10** for this year!

## Number 10

Midlands Today announced the installation of **electric charging points** in Brum: this has meant I can, at last, use my Vextrix for meetings in Brum; before the charging points became "live" I would have got there but not home again! So for £25 for the access fob I have free parking and free electricity!



## Number 9

**Fame for 5 minutes** at Hindlip Police HQ

## Number 8

Allowing Dennis to **drop my bike!**



## Number 7

650 miles on the **Bloodbike** in 3 nights and 1 day



...but I had to pick it up!

## Number 6

**Creative filtering** during the IAM's Special Assessment

## Number 5

When my Associates passed their **advanced test**

## Number 3

**Reaching the top** of the first mega-climb on the off-road day in N Wales (number 1 for adrenalin!)



## Number 4

Being able to witness **state of the art biking** in Luxembourg



Gaffer taped helmet

No gloves  
The best 'gear'

Smoking engine  
Completely bald tyre  
Deafening exhaust  
No blind spot check!

## Number 2

2000 miles around **Northern Portugal** and Northern Spain in the summer



## Number 1

At the bike show, where I helped on the National Association of Bloodbikes stand, I managed a quick scoot around the show and discovered I already had the **best bike** at home!

So thank you to everyone at WHAM – it's a Group that has enabled me to take my riding to places I'd never imagined! I can only look forwards to 2011 – Slow Riding, off-road, Europe.....maybe a track day?

S a f e r i d i n g i n 2 0 1 1



The First Sunday Ride of 2011 took place on 2 January.



Hereford group (Brian Morgan, Guy Jenkins, John Hodges, Martyn Newman and Del Britton) meet and take the advice of their local Welsh resident and decide to avoid the mountains on their way to Crossgates.



Photo by Ant Clerici

Worcester group (Derek McMullan, Andy Peckston, Rich Smith, Ian Barnard and Lynton James) meet at Worcester McDonald's and decide that the mountains are a challenge but nothing compared to their leader's Himalayan experience!

The more observant of you may note that the famous Rukka twins (Ian Barnard and Rich Smith) are ready to ride from Worcester but do not appear in the front cover photo at Crossgates. It is understood they had an attack of Herefordshire Sense and avoided the mountains! However, this rumour is unsubstantiated.

### "You never stop learning" or "What is the temperature?" by Den Osborne

Obviously a few of you know I've been off the road for several months (had my personal ecu remapped) and have only started driving again in the last few days. So the chance of nipping down to Llandrindod for some parts I needed for work was too much of an opportunity not to brush up on my driving.

Setting off about 0830hrs I headed down the A44 from Worcester, a road I've driven more times than I want to remember. A pilgrimage to the Cross Gates cafe on the way for tea and toast was called for. The day was overcast, the roads dirty, damp, and greasy with the left over salty road muck. Temperature was 4°C. The drive down was fairly uneventful but I still tried to make progress (as we say) and by the time I got to New Radnor it was down to 3°C. Past the Forest Inn turning, up over the hill and down to 1.5°C. Still loads of grip from my new winter tyres (in some countries it is law to fit these in winter months - try telling the British public that!). On the greasy surface nothing to worry about and plenty of confidence with a nice balance in the car.

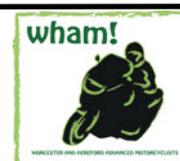
By the time I got to the Cafe temp was back up to 2.5°C. As I approach I notice the cars were parked at the bottom of the car park. Odd I thought. I turn in at a sedate speed as I'm looking for a reason why. What you could not see was the car park was covered in black ice! You would not want to be barrelling in on a bike. I'm now thinking what the main road would have been like without the gritting. Me making progress and all that. A steady drive around revealed not a lot of grip and in fact stopping gently from 5mph set the ABS off. Happy with four wheels today! It was even difficult walking to the cafe. The ice was really difficult to see, almost as if the moist air had frozen on the cold ground. After tea and toast down the road to Llandrindod and the main road was fine, grip ok and felt as normal as the A44. Turn into the industrial estate expecting less grip and yes, same as the Cross Gates car park.

I can only presume with the very cold ground temperatures any moisture will settle and freeze on untreated surfaces while the air temp can be quite high. What our bikes need is to show is ground temp not air temp. I feel a project coming on!

What this did bring home to me was even with temperatures above 0°C and well gritted main roads there are obviously side roads, B roads and maybe sections of A roads that have not been treated and are just waiting to catch you out at this time of the year. So take care out there, riding through the winter can be good fun and you will learn a lot but do not let your confidence get too high.

On the way home I got thinking about this ground temperature against indicated temperature we see on some bikes and now most cars. So with an infrared temp gauge from the workshop over the next few days I took ground readings against dash indicated and it made interesting reading. I found anything for -2°C to -6°C difference! So when you see +4°C indicated it could be -2°C on the ground. This was not a research paper but should give you food for thought. Do not forget to read up on micro climates in the Blue Book.

Remember..... "Ride the road you see; not the road you know."



# WHAM Membership Renewal Form 2011

(Renewals due by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011)

To renew your WHAM membership, please fill in the renewal form and give it, with the Group Membership fee of £15.00 if applicable, (members who joined after 31 August 2010 are exempt payment) to a Committee Member or return it to me, at the address shown below before 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Renewals will be accepted at the AGM. We need this form completed to ensure our records are up to date.

**No membership fee can be accepted without a completed form.** If anyone has any questions regarding their membership please contact me on:-

01905 723531 or [andrew.peckston@krafthoods.com](mailto:andrew.peckston@krafthoods.com)

IAM No: .....IAM Membership Expiry Date.....

**(You must be a member of the IAM to be a member of WHAM)**

**Personal details:** Title: \_\_\_\_ Initials: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B \_\_\_\_\_

**IF NO CHANGES, PLEASE LEAVE CONTACT DETAILS BLANK.**

## CONTACT DETAILS:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone or preferred contact telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## STATUS

Membership Status: Associate / Full  
Observer status: Group Qualified / Senior

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

I want the charity to treat all donations I have made since 24 January 2007 and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.

Signature ..... Date -- / -- / ----

## NOTES

1. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give).
2. You can cancel this declaration at any time by notifying the charity.
3. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).
4. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self- Assessment tax return.
5. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, ask the charity. Or ask your local tax office for leaflet IR 65.
6. Please notify the charity if you change your name or address

Please give completed form and membership fee to any Committee Member or return to:

Andy Peckston, 26 Snowberry Avenue, Worcester, WR4 0JA

DATA PROTECTION ACT: As a member of WHAM, the personal information given on this form will be held in confidence on a computer file for membership records and newsletter distribution purposes only. If you wish to see your own details please contact the Membership Secretary.

**Membership Fees £15.00. Cheques payable to WHAM.**

**Membership renewals will be accepted at the AGM on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**which then entitles full members to vote.**



**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS**  
**Friday 28 January 2011**

The Group AGM will be held at the Falcon Hotel, Bromyard at 8.00 p.m..

The purpose of the AGM is to review the events & finances of the past year, & to elect the committee for the coming year. All full members & associates are invited to attend but only paid-up full members of the Institute & the Group may vote. *(Those who have passed their Advanced Test)*

**Committee Changes**

*The current officers – Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, & Treasurer must stand down but can offer themselves for re-election. The current intentions of the Committee are given below.*

**Officers**

Chairman:	<b>Derek McMullan</b>	Standing Down
Vice Chair:	<b>Brian Morgan</b>	Standing down/ Seeking election as Chairman.
Secretary:	<b>Barbara Dalloway</b>	Standing down/seeking re-election
Treasurer	<b>Eric Reynolds</b>	Standing down/seeking re-election

**Committee Members**

Newsletter Editor	<b>John Hodges</b>	<i>Continuing</i>
Membership Secretary	<b>Andy Peckston</b>	<i>Continuing</i>
Routemaster	<b>Tony Davis</b>	<i>Continuing</i>
<i>Events</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	
<i>Publicity</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	
Blue Group SO/Webmaster	<b>James Dickson</b>	<i>Continuing</i>
Red Group SO	<b>Guy Jenkins</b>	<i>Continuing</i>

**Current Known Changes:**

**Brian Morgan** will be seeking election as Chairman.

**Steve Edwards** has resigned from Events.

**Any WHAM full member wishing to put themselves forward for any of the officer posts or the vacant committee posts should complete the attached nomination form.**

**Voting will take place to fill the three officer posts & vacant Committee positions at the AGM.**

In the event of 2 or more nominations for a post, a vote involving a show of hands will take place on the evening.

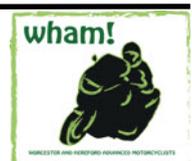
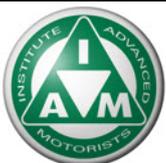
Nomination forms are attached to this notice.

Please remember, only fully paid up members of the Institute & the Group may nominate or be nominated.

Please return nomination forms to any of the Officers/Committee Members as soon as possible or hand them in to the Secretary at the start of the Annual General Meeting.

**All members are invited & indeed, encouraged to attend the A.G.M., not only to participate in voting in your committee, but also to volunteer your ideas, express your views, & discuss where/how you would like the Group to progress.**

**No one will be pressured into taking on a role they do not want.**



# Nomination Form

for the election of Worcester & Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists 2011  
Committee Officers & Members

*TO BE HANDED TO ANY OFFICER/COMMITTEE MEMBER OF WORCESTER &  
HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS  
PRIOR TO THE AGM,  
OR TO THE SECRETARY ON THE EVENING OF THE AGM ON  
FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011*

I .....  
(Name in block capitals) wish to stand for election to the position of:  
.....

Signature..... Date.....

**Proposed by:** (Name in Capitals) .....

Signature..... Date.....

**Seconded by:** (Name in Capitals) .....

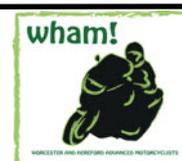
Signature..... Date.....

**Nomination Accepted by**.....

*In the event of 2 or more nominations for the same post, I agree to a vote by ballot on the night & will abide by the majority decision.*

**Please note:** You may not stand for the committee if the law debars you from being a charity trustee.

If you wish to volunteer for the committee but do not know someone who can nominate you or second your nomination, please contact the Secretary Barb Dalloway on 07947 442468 or E-mail: [whamsecretary@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:whamsecretary@hotmail.co.uk)



**Annual General Meeting**  
**Worcester and Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists**  
**Friday 28th January 2011**  
**Falcon Hotel, Bromyard 7.30 for 8.00 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

Item 1.	Welcoming Remarks	Derek McMullan
Item 2.	Apologies	Barb Dalloway
Item 3.	Approval of 2010 AGM Minutes & any matters arising	Barb Dalloway
Item 4.	Chairman's Report	Derek McMullan
Item 5.	Treasurer's Report	Eric Reynolds
Item 6.	Election of Committee Officers	John Hodges
Item 7.	Election of Committee Members	Secretary
Item 8.	Presentation of Certificates	Chairman
Item 9.	Programme for 2011	Chairman
Item 10.	Any Other Business	Secretary
Item 11.	Date of next AGM	Secretary

**MINUTES OF WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING 2010 HELD AT THE FALCON HOTEL BROMYARD  
27 JANUARY 2010 AT 2000HRS.**

**ITEM 1. Welcoming Remarks.**

The Chairman, Derek McMullan, thanked and welcomed all members & guests for attending, particularly Dave Shenton from IAM HO.

**ITEM 2. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from: Andrew Culley, Paul Cooper, Matt Cooper, Simon King, Paddy Tyson, Derwen Hinds, Mac Gasking and Richard Smith.

**ITEM 3. Approval of 2009 AGM Minutes and any Matters Arising.**

The previous AGM Minutes were approved and there were no matters arising.  
Approval Proposed by John Hodges. Seconded by Andrew Peckston.

**ITEM 4. Chairman's 2009 Report.**

A huge success in 2009 – 33 WHAM Associates passed their tests! The Hereford and Worcester Rider Skills Days were put on with huge support from WHAM's members. Thanks to Members who helped on the day, and particularly the Observers who transformed Associates to Members. Particular thanks to John Hodges who organised the days.

Alongside the Associate successes we have had a successful year in Observer recruitment and training. The Group is strong and ready to take on more Rider Skills Days in 2010.

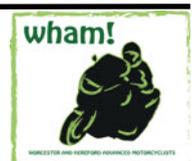
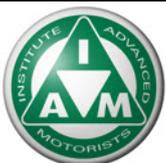
As well as our fundamental objective of advancing motorcycling skills in Hereford and Worcester we maintained the weekly ride programme, had a few very successful day trips including Dennis Osborne's Brecon's tour, & Steve Dalloway's Llyn Brenig outing. Slow Handling day organised by Dennis Osborne (2 planned for next year) and the regular monthly natter evenings.

The Group was awarded a Group Achievement Award at the National Motorcycle Conference, a spectacular acknowledgement for such a newly formed group. The Groups Newsletter also came in for a special mention, as many groups are studying its format. Thanks to Tony Davis, who due to work commitments is stepping down as Newsletter Editor.

This will be Derek's last year as Chairman of WHAM, as he is now a Trustee of the IAM.

**ITEM 5. Treasurer's Report.**

Eric Reynolds, Treasurer gave a résumé of the Financial Report, which had been circulated before the meeting. Eric confirmed the Balance Sheet had been Independently Audited. Resolution was passed to keep the membership fees the same.



Proposer to accept the Accounts – Steve Edwards, seconded James Love. Carried unanimously.

#### ITEM 6. Election of Committee Officers.

John Hodges took the chair for the election of the Committee Officers.

- **Chairman.** Derek McMullan put himself forward for re-election.  
He was proposed by Steven Edwards, seconded by John Hodges.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Vice-Chairman.** Brian Morgan put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by John Hodges, seconded by Derek McMullan.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Secretary.** **Barbara Dalloway put herself forward for election.**  
She was proposed by Derek McMullan, seconded by James Dickson. Carried unanimously.
- **Treasurer.** Eric Reynolds put himself forward for re-election.  
He was proposed by Derek McMullan, seconded by Andrew Peckston. Carried unanimously.

#### ITEM 7. Election of Group Committee Members.

Derek McMullan took the chair for the election of Committee Members.

- **Newsletter Editor & Events Assistant**  
John Hodges put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by Steven Edwards, seconded by Eric Reynolds.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Assistant Newsletter Editor**  
Tony Davis put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by Derek McMullan, seconded by Barbara Dalloway. Carried unanimously.
- **Events Organiser**  
Steve Edwards put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by John Hodges, seconded by Barbara Dalloway.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Webmaster & Blue Group SO**  
James Dickson put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by Barbara Dalloway, seconded by Derek McMullan. Carried unanimously.
- **Red Group SO**  
Guy Jenkins put himself forward for election.  
He was proposed by Barbara Dalloway, seconded by John Hodges.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Membership Secretary**  
Andrew Peckston put himself forward for re-election.  
He was proposed by Eric Reynolds, seconded by Steve Edwards.  
Carried unanimously.
- **Ride Co-ordinator**  
Allan Wright agreed to continue for a 3<sup>rd</sup> term.

#### ITEM 8. Presentation of Certificates.

James Love by Observer Allan Wright.

Dean Ferrier by Observer David Curzon

**Jonathan Telford by Observer James Dickson**

#### ITEM 9. Programme for 2010.

Derek McMullan outlined the Calendar so far.

- The Sunday ride routes are being modified, to incorporate new roads, avoiding creeping 50's and closed cafes. The length of the Sunday rides is being reduced to accommodate members who



have limited time. They will be split into an “Out” and “Return” route,(a)to avoid confusing Sat Navs that don’t understand circular routes, and (b) they can be mixed to add more variety.

- 2 Rider Skills Days planned, one in Herefordshire and one in Worcestershire.
- Off road day being planned 27 March.
- 2 Slow handling days, to incorporate braking skills, the first is 10<sup>th</sup> April and another towards the end of the season.
- 3 full day rides are being planned.
- Vista tour this year is to the Ardennes.

James Love asked if more speakers or training talks would be held on Natter Nights.

Derek McMullan was able to confirm this was in hand, members were asked to advise on any unusual road layouts that could be photographed and discussed. A visit to West Mercia Police Training school is being planned, the police preferred this rather than sending speakers to the Natter Night.

#### **ITEM 10. Natter Nights on a Friday. (Raised by Andrew Culley)**

It was acknowledged that the members attending the AGM were probably those that preferred Wednesdays to Fridays so that a vote would not be representational of the membership as a whole.

The main objection on the evening appeared to be that Friday evening was part of the weekend, and with members already spending time at the weekend observing or on rides, it ate into family time, particularly in the Summer months. It was decided that the committee would look at organising 1 or 2 natter nights on a Friday during the Winter Months.

It was agreed to canvass the whole membership for their thoughts and preferences.

#### **ITEM 11. Any Other Business – None**

#### **ITEM 12. Date of next AGM – *FRIDAY 28th JANUARY 2011***

**Meeting Closed 2100hrs**

**Dave Shenton then addressed the members present, congratulating the group on their test passes and progress over the last 3 years, and giving an insight into the future plans for the IAM.**

Signed on original

Barbara Dalloway,  
Secretary.

30<sup>th</sup> January 2010

30 Persons Attended. 

