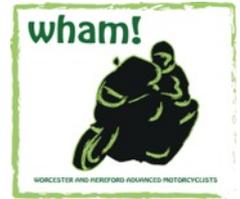


WHAM! NEWS

October 2011



WONDERFUL WHAM! WIN



**A winning combination -
From the left: Rog Brooks, Ian Ross, Neil Hawley (Group Sales
Director, IAM) Annie Morgan and Del Britton.**

Full Story Pages 5 - 9

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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

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Chairman's Notes

Team WHAM shows everyone how to do it!

I am absolutely delighted to tell you that 'Team WHAM' won the Region 3 Ashes Competition which was held on Saturday 1 October at the Motor Heritage Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire.

Ant Clerici tells the story on pages 5 - 9 so I'll just stick to saying a big 'thank you'; firstly to Annie, Del, Roger and Ian for the amount of effort they put in and secondly to all those who provided the 'back up' and who showed up to support our team on the day. Bearing in mind the size and experience of some of the teams taking part, the result is a credit to our guys and to the culture of 'getting it right' that is adopted by so many of our members. It was a delight to see our team working so closely together to achieve this excellent and well deserved result.

Day Rides

As a result of some 'comments' about how bad the weather apparently was during the day ride I organised to Lampeter, you'll have no doubt noticed that I sorted it out for the end of Sept / beginning of Oct'. It happened to coincide with my week off too! I'm thinking about asking for an extension to cover the next day ride (to Llandeilo) on 16 October but I'll only submit the application for good weather if enough people turn up. So – it's in your hands.

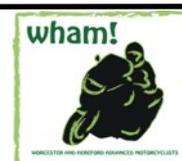
On the subject of the Lampeter ride – well it was a little bit damp between Rhayader and Llandovery but, being Welsh, I can't say I noticed at the time. After stopping off for a bit of brekkie at the Halt cafe we made our way across the mountain road towards Aberystwyth and turned left at Cwmystwyth towards Tregaron which, due mainly to the weather, looked better than I've ever seen it. After Tregaron the 'Little Britain' fans among us would have noticed that we ventured though the home of the notorious 'only gay in the village' (Llanddewi Brefi) – It was shut.

Thankfully, by the time we got to the West End cafe at Llandovery we were basking in the sun – no – wait a minute – it was still raining but I stayed outside to show how tough I was (and I wanted to smoke my pipe).

From there on in the sun did actually pay us a visit as we rode up through Tirabad and across the ranges to come out at Brecon and on to our last stop at the Honey cafe, Bronllys. The last section of the ride in particular was very scenic and gave us some really good biking roads.



Unfortunately the weather put the photographers off but there is at least one of some sheep – which strangely enough knew my name – apparently (thanks for that Ant and Gill) and who seemed to be able to tell the difference between a Stelvio and a Pan.



We had a turnout of 9 bikes (11 people) which, considering the conditions wasn't bad. Hopefully we can improve on that number for the next day ride.

On the subject of the next day ride (on Sunday 16 October) owing to the fact that so many of our members live in the Midlands, I thought it might be best to start off at The Honey Cafe, Bronllys. If we arrange to leave there by about 10.30 – 10.45 it'll give everyone time to get there. We will be making our way down to an interesting cafe/ tea room owned by some friends of mine situated at Cennen farm, Trapp, Llandeilo. (There is a castle in the grounds if anyone fancies a walk up there). The route back will take in the Black Mountain road which is a really nice biking road with stunning views. I hope to see as many as possible turn up and I look forward to the company. Details of the route will be on the website but you are most welcome to meet us at the venue if you prefer.

You will see on page 14 that Ant has been busy designing a new KTM accessories catalogue. The idea was spawned at a recent weekend trip a few of our members went on to Northumberland. I don't want to embarrass anybody by identifying them (Rog Brooks) but it's fair to say that Honda came to the rescue of KTM on more than one occasion. If you'd like to know more about it – just ask Rog.

Cheers.

Brian.

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to **Guy Boardman** on passing the IAM test. His observer was *Rog Brooks*.



John Beasley

receives his IAM Certificate from
his observer: *Gary Barnes*

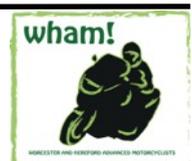
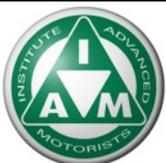


Martin Wedd

receives his IAM certificate from
his observer: *Paul Whitcombe*

Editor's Gold Star Award: I am delighted to award a Gold Star to Ant Clerici for his many excellent contributions to the Newsletter generally and to this issue in particular. Ant requested a bottle of red wine - sorry Ant, you just get the ★.

(The Editor's Gold Star award is awarded whenever the editor remembers or when there are outstanding contributions. Derek McMullan should have been awarded one for his excellent series of articles on his Himalayan trip - but the Editor forgot!! However, if you'd like to win this prestigious award, please submit your photos (accompanied by words if necessary)!



EDITOR'S Notes and Notices

All Day Ride - Sunday 16 October. Please see the Chairman's notes above and check the WHAM! Website "[Programme](#)" page for further details.

NATTER NIGHT - WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER Paddy Tyson, the Campaign Manager for the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) will be coming to talk to us about his many experiences. Paddy is a good, amusing speaker and is guaranteed to keep you awake. To help cover costs we're asking £2.00 pp. Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible there!

BOOKINGS FOR WHAM! CHRISTMAS DINNER

WHAM!'s Christmas Party is again being held at the Falcon; this year on Friday 9th December, the cost is £17.50 per head. The Menu is on page 13.

The party is open to all Members and Associates, and a warm welcome is extended to partners - a chance for them to come and meet us. (We will endeavour to keep the Chairman's speech short - and he has agreed - but we'll see on the night!)

Please email Barb on whamsecretary@hotmail.co.uk to reserve your place, or if you do not have email please ring 0300 365 0556.

If you wish to stay overnight at the Falcon, please contact the hotel direct on 01885 483034.

Natter Night - 28 September Bridgestone Tyres



We had a good turnout for the interesting talk from the Bridgestone Tyre Technical team but, except for the few genuine techno nuts, it perhaps went on a little too long. Unfortunately my eyes started to close after about an hour - which is better than Ken Shaw, who was sitting next to me. Luckily, because we were at the back - we could sleep quite well. I think most of us are well aware of the importance of tyres and this talk certainly helped to fill in any knowledge gaps. Many of the audience were obviously more inspired than Ken and me and asked lots of questions about tyre pressures, tyre wear, tyre performance, tyre this and tyre that. Tony Davis unfortunately couldn't attend but had sent in a number of questions previously to the team relating to

his abnormal tyre wear. It transpired that all his questions had the same simple answer which I regret cannot be published here - but I'm sure Tony will be more than willing to share the answer if you ask him.

John Hodges



WHAM BAM! by Ant Clerici

(Cartoons - Ant Clerici; Photos - Ant Clerici and Derek McMullan)

The idea of an Ashes Competition was first raised at the IAM Regional meeting where Roy Aston promoted the idea early in the year. Birmingham Advanced Motorcyclists (BAM) had run similar competitions as part of their regular calendar so it looked like the rest of the Groups would be on 'catch up'. It took a little persuasion to encourage Groups to enter teams but last Saturday (1st October) 7 teams parked their bikes at Gaydon's Motor Museum for the briefing. Not surprisingly the organising team took credit for the late summer sunshine.



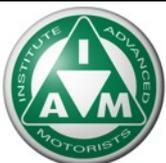
So what was involved?

Four tests - fairly judged and marked by Senior Observers.

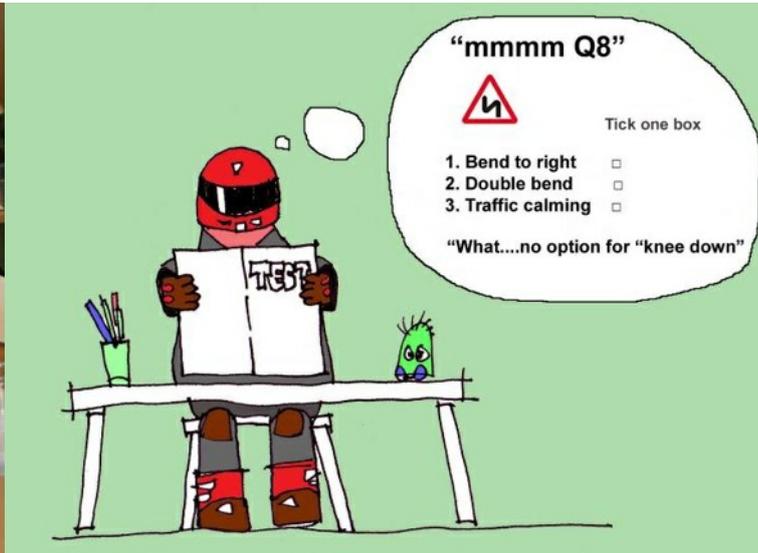
1. Highway Code and IAM Biker Skills written test
2. Mechanical test – find 10 faults
3. An observed ride – varied roads of around 22 miles
4. A slow riding test with a twist in the tail

Teams took the tests throughout the day.....

The WHAM team (all complete heroes) **Del Britton, Roger Brooks, Annie Morgan and Ian Ross** were supported by a small but enthusiastic set of groupies from WHAM – Derek McMullan, Tony Davis, Sharon Palmer and cheerleader Mike Franzen, not forgetting Brian Morgan (on the machine faults) and James Dickson (observing).

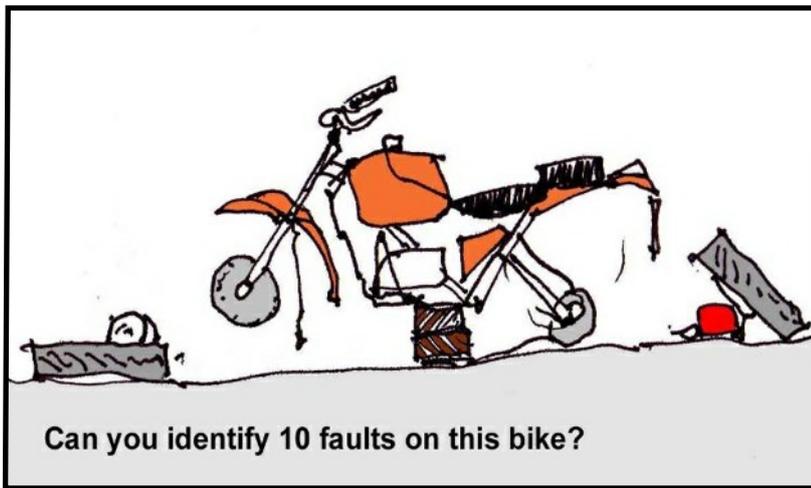


So the morning began as the Fab 4 walked anxiously into the **examination** room.



A scholarly hush fell on the room as the nervous banter was replaced by terror and sweaty hands...but before long they were out having answered all that they could.

Next the **machine faults** where there were two bikes each with 10 faults to find: eg missing oil filler cap, broken lights, loose pegs. You get the picture.



So far so good; lying 3rd on the scoreboard with BAM leading (was this really inevitable?)

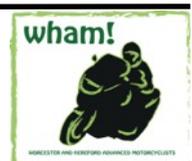
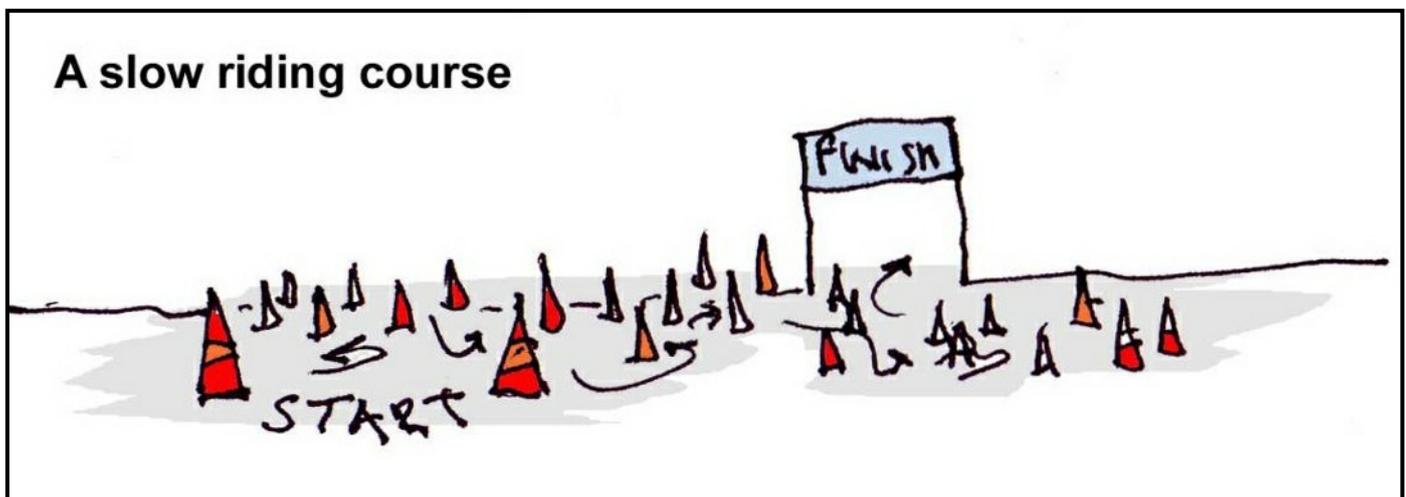


The day was getting warmer and the competition was hotting up. Next up the **observed ride**.

One by one they disappeared from the car park each followed by an observer from a different Group. Roger returned saying he'd 'overtaken others out there....', was this good or foolish, only the scores would tell?



Finally **slow riding** – surely WHAM’s best discipline? This is what Den Osborne has been working towards for most of his adult life!?



We had watched as many other riders had knocked down posts, squished cones or even ridden out of the arena. Was it so hard? The team were briefed; they were encouraged by the WHAM supporters because, of all the tests, this was in the car park for everyone to see. So no pressure! Roger was first up. Like the rest it would be his 'best of three runs' to count and he nearly had a clean run first time round. But he then managed a stunning 100%!



Waiting for the slow ride



Roger starts on the slalom

Annie went clear first time! Which caused Roger to give a very emotional and non-PC comment: 'I've just been de-frocked - by a girl!'

"Stop and go - feet up!"

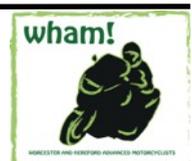


....and to finish, your front wheel between the narrow lines - PERFECT!!

So to the prizes.... **BAM** declared winners and **WHAM** a glorious 2nd but WHAM had individual successes in there too with some 100% marks and **Roger Brooks** overall 1st and **Ian Ross** overall 3rd

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S

but wait - there is late breaking news - there is a recount



WHAM had won!!! 1463 marks - the same number as BAM but declared winners on count back! BAM's Goliath had been beaten by the Region's newest Group.

B R I L L I A N T



WHAM's Winning Team



Roger Brooks - Best rider!



Our Chairman, Brian Morgan, on behalf of the WHAM! Team, collecting the Ashes Trophy from Keith Daffern, Chairman, Coventry & Warwick Advanced Motorcyclists, at the IAM National Motorcycle Conference at Warwick University on Sunday 9th October.

On behalf of all WHAM! Members, I'd like to congratulate the WHAM! Team, supporters, and all those who took part in the Ashes Competition. You really did us proud! Very well done and thanks. The Editor



NORTHUMBERLAND TRIP : 9 - 11 SEPTEMBER

The trip to Northumberland was organised by Steve Dalloway with Tony Davis helping. The group consisted of Barbara and Steve Dalloway, Alex Hoyle, Tina Whitmore, Derek McMullan, Brian and Annie Morgan, Ant and Gill Clerici, Tony and Ali Davis, Richard Stilwell, Rog Brooks and Craig Endicott. Most of the group stayed in the "String of Horses" but Rog, Richard and Craig elected to go camping. The group as a whole met up for the first time at the String of Horses on the Friday night.



Ant Clerici takes up the story:

A hose, a plastic bottle, an old carrier bag and some sticky backed plastic.

Thank goodness the WHAM team were fans of Valerie Singleton and John Noakes. There were moments during our trip to Cumbria, Northumberland and "Gods own country" where inspiration and sheer manual dexterity were a joy to witness! We must have earned at least 3 Blue Peter Badges! Anyway back to the trip.

We had travelled up in dribs and drabs to meet at the String of Horses on Friday night.

The hardy campers joined us ready for the 0930 start on Saturday morning.



Biking makes you sooooo hungry! (Well it does Craig and Ali)



But before we set off.....
(Cue the "Barnacle Bill" soundtrack)
the Blue Peter team had built a new rear light cover on Tina's bike with tape and a red plastic bag. It had apparently "jumped ship" somewhere en route.



Tina's "new" rear light

Saturday's ride took us North away from the forecasted rain to Keilder. Our route included the fabulous A686 Penrith to Alston then through the Northumberland National Park to Keilder's Visitor Centre where we sat out on the terrace enjoying the views and warm September weather.



Rog, Craig and Tina chilling out!

(Continued on page 8)



But our autumnal bliss was shattered by the news that Tony and Ali were attending the scene of a fatal motorbike crash. Our first group had seen the riders involved – standing in a lay-by ready to getting ready to move off.

(Editor's Note: See September Newsletter for how Tony and Ali assisted at the scene of the fatal incident.)

The rest of the day took us across into Scotland and back towards Faugh.

The next Blue Peter moment came at the afternoon tea stop where Roger announced that his KTM would not make it much further – no fuel.

The closest petrol station was far beyond his machine's capabilities.



(Cue the "Mission Impossible" soundtrack)

Barb was seen leaving the café and briskly walking down the road, then left into the next side turning. A few minutes later she returned with a length of green hose. The Café then provided an empty milk bottle. Roger then tried to siphon Derek's tank but those cunning Germans had designed the 800GS tank to prevent such hooliganism. However Brian's Pan was easy meat (note if you ever run out of fuel try a Japanese bike first) and Roger had enough, or was it enough, fuel to get going again?



Rog Brooks with milk carton, hose, Pan European, petrol and KTM.

Then, more great roads and a petrol stop on our way back to the pub where we were reunited with Tony and Ali who had returned from the crash scene.

Sunday dawned with rain showers and a strengthening wind. Over breakfast Tony and Steve devised a route away from the worst of the weather, this time heading East across the Pennines and then south to Hawes. The hardy campers didn't join us. The first hour or so was wet and very windy but once we'd crossed the divide the weather improved.



Alex Hoyle



Tina Whitmore



Derek McMullan's GS800

(Continued on page 9)



The Dales and in particular Cliff Gate Road were stunning. Hawes was busy with day trippers and a lot of bikes.



Soon after Hawes, Gill and I headed for home leaving the rest of them to return north to Faugh and their last night in the pub.

What a weekend! From lane splitting on the M6 to twisty mountain passes, from narrow picturesque villages to cobbled town centres.

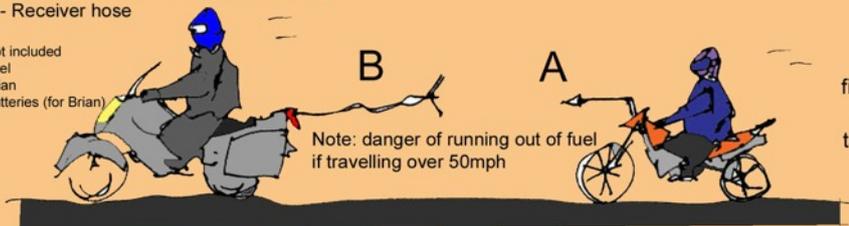
Can't wait for the next trip.....must remember to pack a used washing up liquid bottle, some paper clips and a sheet of red paper.....

KTM ACCESSORIES

In the box:

- B - Delivery hose - fits Pan European only
- A - Receiver hose

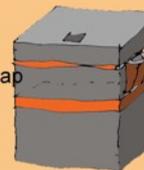
Not included
Fuel
Brian
Batteries (for Brian)



5 litre storage lid

Fits standard pannier rails
Holds an additional 15 litres giving an extra 20 miles when combined with the eco-grip
Takes unleaded fuel only

filler cap
tank

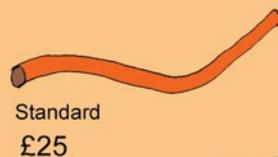
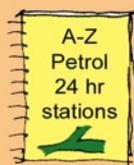


PETROL PANNIER £299

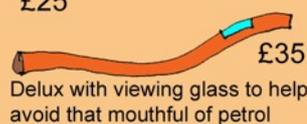
IN-FLIGHT REFUELLING £349



Short trips
(Scottish borders)
Where to find fuel:
24hr petrol and
M-ways (UK)



Standard
£25

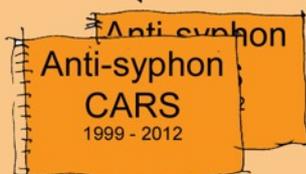


Delux with viewing glass to help avoid that mouthful of petrol

SYPHON HOSES



Carbon hose
(only fits Pan European)



Anti-syphon vehicles (cars and bikes)

ESSENTIAL HANDBOOKS



Limits throttle to 5% travel
ECO-GRIP £55

LUO CATALOGUE 2011

the alternative KTM Xmas gifts range: "one step beyond"

As proposed by Ant Clerici for Rog Brooks



WHAM Christmas Party

When - Friday 9th December 2011 @ 20:00 hrs

Where – Falcon Hotel, Bromyard

Who – Members & their Partners/Guests

Why – to meet & have fun!

Menu

Starters:-

Prawn Cocktail.
Tomato & Basil Soup with Croutons.
Game Terrine with Damson Compote.

Main Course:-

Roast Turkey, with Rosemary Stuffing, Baby Sausage & Roast Potatoes.
Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding & Roast Potatoes.
Mushroom & Celeriac Stroganov with Fragrant Rice.

Dessert:-

Homemade Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce.
Homemade Berry Meringue Trifle.
Selection of Cheeses with Biscuits, Celery & Grapes.

Coffee and Mince Pies

And last but not least – cost £17.50 per head
Email whamsecretary@hotmail.co.uk to reserve your place.

I would like to share an experience with you all, to do with drinking and driving. As you know some of us have had brushes with the authorities on our way home in recent months. Well I for one have done something about it. The other night I was out for a dinner and a few drinks with some friends. After having far too much vino, and knowing full well I was wasted, I did something I've never done before. I took a bus home. I arrived home safely and without incident, which was a real surprise, as I have never driven a bus before.

Submitted by Andrew Culley

