

Worcester & Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists



January
2016



The Chairman's Notes



A Happy New Year to all our members, and prospective members, reading our newsletter for the first time.

I am looking forward to being part of WHAM in 2016 and getting out on the bike with you.

It has been a wet start to 2016 and my bike is looking fwd to a spring clean – at least there's no salt to start the rot. I've ridden the A44 three times over the last few weeks and each time has been markedly different; flooded roads, muddy roads and superb dry roads (which had to include Newtown and back!).

After the excess of Christmas I'm looking forward to getting bike fit and fit(ter) for the Spring, well that's the theory anyway....those choccies and mince pies are still calling.

Keep an eye on our programme on the website for Sunday rides, adapted for routes more suited for the winter. Make sure you download the latest version.

We had a very good season last year in WHAM with a lot of new members, ride outs, promoting training at events like Slow Riding and of course the trips away. This year will be just as busy and we try and cater for everyone's needs, but we can only do it with your help. There will be a questionnaire coming out soon and I would appreciate it if you could fill it in. The Committee and I are keen to plan our training programme and social programme to fit the needs of the membership.

If you have ideas for events we could attend, such as bike shows, bike meets, recommendations for speakers or social events then please get in touch with any of the committee. Richard Hewitt is planning Go-karting so watch out for the date.

2016 will see new test standards being introduced by IAM which will provide us with a national, cohesive approach to observing. The IAM have listened to the thoughts and experiences of the many clubs and looked at their different approaches to training. WHAM submitted their paperwork and our approach to training is very similar to the proposed good practice – well done Training Team and Observers.

I hope to meet many of you at the AGM on 27th January and look forward to riding with you in 2016.

Paul Whitcombe

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

DISCLAIMER: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE EDITOR, THE IAM OR THE WORCESTER AND HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS



I haven't touched a drop - honest!



If you can think of a better caption - or have a photo for the magazine email:
whamnewsletter@gmail.com



Car Park Manoeuvres

by Derek McMullan

We all do it – we use car parks. We do it every Sunday we're riding with WHAM at two specific locations – both McDonalds.

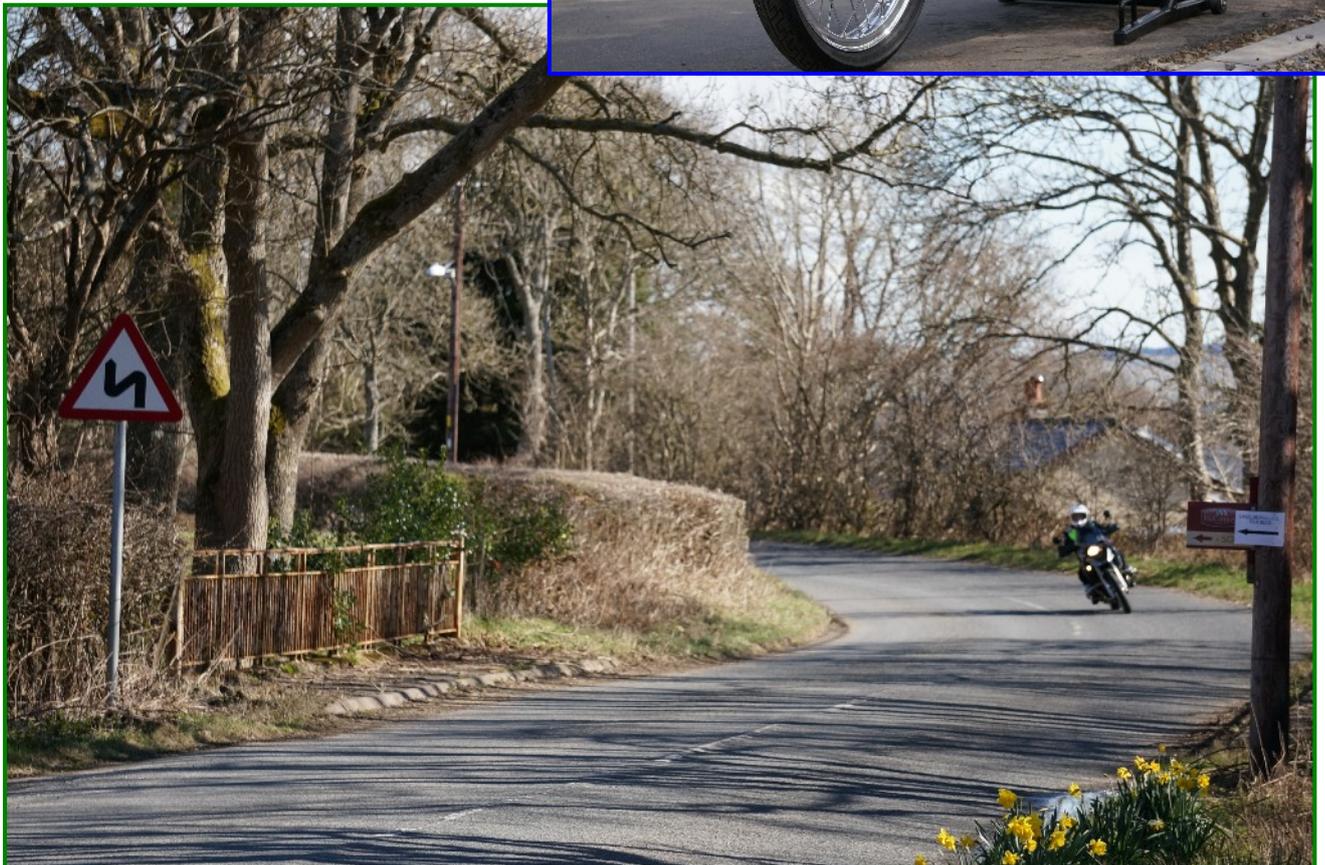
There is one key difference in these McDonalds Car Parks we use: Hereford has no sleeping-policemen, Worcester has four.



On the road we will often look for the opportunity to avoid the discomfort of the “bump” over the raised sections intended to slow down the traffic. In those instances there is little risk from the side if we take flat section; it is usually pedestrian pavement or a deliberate “traffic engineered” restriction in road width.



Just pause and think of the purpose of “bumps” – yes to slow traffic. How fast do you manoeuvre in the car park? It is likely that at your safe manoeuvring pace you are best keeping a good margin from parked traffic rather than brushing past the cars to avoid the bump. At some stage the parked traffic will be leaving. Don't rely on their patience and expertise in spotting manoeuvring motorcyclists give yourself more margin.



Den wrote this article for the Newsletter some years ago and thought it would be a good idea to repeat it at this time of the year .



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

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.

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





AGENDA

Annual General Meeting of Worcester and Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists.

Wednesday the 27th of January 2016

At the Falcon Hotel Bromyard Starting at 7.30PM

| | | |
|---------|---|----------------------|
| Item 1 | Welcoming Remarks | Paul Whitcombe |
| Item 2 | Apologies | Alex Hoyle |
| Item 3 | Approval of 2015 AGM minutes and any matters arising from them. | Alex Hoyle |
| Item 4 | Chairman's Report | Paul Whitcombe |
| Item 5 | Treasurer's Report | Eric Reynolds |
| Item 6 | Election of Committee Officers | Alex Hoyle |
| Item 7 | Election of Committee Members | Secretary |
| Item 8 | Presentation of Certificates | Chairman |
| Item 9 | Programme for 2016 | Chairman |
| Item 10 | Any other business | Secretary |
| Item 11 | Date and time of next AGM | 25/01/2017 Secretary |



Minutes of the

Annual General Meeting of Worcester and Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists.
Wednesday the 28th of January 2015

Prior to the commencement of the meeting pass certificates for 'Skills for Life' were presented to Mathew Dent, Ian Craggs

Item 1 Welcoming Remarks Paul Whitcombe

The Chair opened the meeting stating it would be a short AGM followed by a presentation on the WHAM Speedway Day. The Chair expressed his thanks to the committee for their efforts over the last year. A special mention of Tony Davis's efforts was made, thanking for all the background work he does particularly with the WHAM routes and the Newsletter. The Chair also thanked all those who had supported the WHAM events. A thank you was also expressed to Del Briton for his contribution to maintaining quality with regard to training. The Chair also reflected on the successful Christmas Dinner held at the Falcon Hotel and thanked the WHAM members Phil and Ian, who entertained us with their great musical performance.

Item 2 Apologies Alex Hoyle

Tony Davis, Will Hopkins, Laurence Arms, Simon Allen, Ant Clerici.

Item 3 Approval of 2014 AGM minutes and any matters arising from them. Alex Hoyle

Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated prior to the AGM. There were no matters arising. These were agreed as an accurate and true record.

Proposed by: Roger Brooks

Seconded by: Ali Lewis

Followed by a unanimous yes vote.

Item 4 Chairman's Report Paul Whitcombe

Item 4 was included in item 1 presented by the Chair

Item 5 Treasurer's Report Eric Reynolds

Eric circulated copies of the accounts to members and invited questions. He was asked why we had a greater balance in the accounts this year than in the previous year. Basically, there was an increase of income and slightly less expenditure than the previous year. Fees income was higher, and we also had a grant Safety Road Scheme to boost income. Less was spent on the Rider Skills Day.

The club is looking to purchase additional radios and invest in more observer training. Members were asked if they were happy to adopt the accounts.

Proposed by: Richard Hewitt

Seconded by: Ken Anderson

Followed by a unanimous yes vote.



Item 6 Election of Committee Officers Alex Hoyle

There being no other proposals from the floor the three current group officers stood down and were then elected on bloc.

Paul Whitcombe – Chairperson

Alex Hoyle – Secretary

Eric Reynolds – Treasurer

Proposed by: Del Briton

Seconded by: Sharon Palmer

Followed by a unanimous yes vote.

Item 7 Election of Committee Members Secretary

Vice Chairman – Roger Brooks

Newsletter – Stuart Poole

Editorial Assistant – Ali Lewis

Committee Member – Paul Gill

CEWW Region Rep- Ant Clerici

Associate Co-ordinators – Ken Anderson, Stewart Morehead

Proposed by: Denise Anderson

Seconded by: Gary Barnes

Followed by a unanimous yes vote.

The Chief Observer Delmore Britton is a committee appointment.

Item 8 Presentation of Certificates Chairman

This item opened the proceedings.

Item 9 Programme for 2015 Chairman

Members were advised to keep an eye on the website. Ali is organizing the Exmoor trip again this year. There is a go-karting event organized for February.

Item 10 Any other business.

There was no other business raised. Meeting closed at 7.55pm.

Item 11 Date and time of next AGM.

27/01/2016 Recorded by Stewart Morehead.



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

Wednesday 27th January 2016

The Group AGM will be held at the Falcon Hotel, Bromyard Starting at 7.30PM

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

Committee Changes

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

Officers

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chairman: Paul Whitcombe | Standing down/seeking re-election |
| Secretary: Alex Hoyle | Standing down/seeking re-election |
| Treasurer: Eric Reynolds | Standing down/seeking re-election |

Committee Members

| | |
|---|---|
| Vice Chairman: Roger Brookes | Seeking re-election |
| Newsletter Editor: Stuart Poole | Seeking re-election |
| Newsletter Editorial Assistant: Ali Lewis | Seeking re-election |
| Membership Secretary: Roger Brookes | Seeking re-election |
| Webmaster: Tony Davis | Seeking re-election |
| Routemaster: Tony Davis | Seeking re-election |
| Region Rep: Ant Clerici | Seeking re-election |
| Associate Coordinator, Hereford: Stuart Morehead | Seeking re-election |
| Associate Coordinator, Worcester: Ken Anderson | Standing down |
| Committee Member: Paul Gill | Seeking election to the role of Associate Coordinator: Worcester |
| Chief Observer: Delmore Britton | Committee Appointment |

Any fully paid up members of the IAM and of WHAM are free to apply for any of the above posts.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

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 and vacant Committee positions at the AGM. In the event of 2 or more nominations for a post, there will be a vote by show of hands on the evening.

Nomination forms are attached to this notice. Please remember, only fully paid up members of the Institute and 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 into the Secretary at the start of the Annual General Meeting.

All members are invited and 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 and discuss where/how you would like the Group to progress.

ITEMS FOR AGM AGENDA

Any member can submit items for inclusion in the AGM Agenda. Items need to be submitted to the Secretary Alex Hoyle on 01885 400772 or E-mail whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com at least five days before the AGM.



Nomination Form

For the election of
Worcester & Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists Committee 2016

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:
WEDNESDAY 27th JANUARY 2016 STARTING AT 7.30PM

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, Alex Hoyle on 01885 400772 or E-mail whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com





Observation links

Observations links are clues to physical features and the likely behaviour of other road users. Aim to build up your own stock of observation links, which will help you to anticipate road and traffic conditions as you scan the environment:

Observation links:

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| When you see a cluster of lamp posts in the distance, look out for a probable roundabout ahead. | When you see a single lamp post on its own, look out for the exit point of a junction. | When you see no gap in a bank of trees ahead, look out for the road to curve to the left or right. | When you observe people standing up on a bus to the front of you, consider it will stop shortly at a bus stop. |
| When you see ... | Look out for ... | | |
| A railway line beside road. | Road will invariably go over or under it, often with sharp turns. | | |
| A row of parked vehicles. | Doors opening, vehicles moving off. Pedestrians stepping out from behind vehicles. Small children hidden from view. | | |
| A bus at a stop. | Pedestrians crossing the road to and from the bus. Bus moving off, possibly at an angle. | | |
| Cyclist. | Inexperienced cyclist doing something erratic. Cyclist looking over shoulder with the intention of turning right. Strong winds causing a wobble. Young cyclist doing something dangerous. On coming vehicles moving around a oncoming cyclist. | | |
| A gap in the traffic. | Cars emerging between queuing vehicles. | | |
| Recently laid road surface. | Loose chippings causing loss of traction. | | |
| Tractors working in nearby fields. | Mud on the road especially in and around rural villages and by gaps in hedgerows where tractors having be turning on to the road. | | |

Local road Knowledge

Increasing your local road knowledge of the roads can help your riding, but never take familiar roads for granted. Loss of attention is a major cause of collisions – don't let your attention wander on roads you know well.

Town riding puts heavy demands on your observation, reactions and riding skills, and you need to be alert at all times. At complicated junctions where it is important to get into the correct lane, local knowledge is useful. But even when you know the layout of main road junctions, one-way streets, roundabouts and other local features, always plan on the basis of what you can see – not what usually happens.

