

# Derbyshire Advanced Motorcyclists



## News Letter March / April 2010

for members and friends of Derbyshire Advanced Motorcyclists.

I.A.M. Group no.3146

Registered Charity no. 1049060

We meet at 7.30 p.m. on the second Monday of the month in the Meadows Inn,  
Chequers Road, Derby, just off the A52 Pentagon Island.

## Chairman's Report.

2009 turned out to be a very difficult year in many ways, from a test pass viewpoint it was disappointing with only 6 passes in the year a large reduction on previous years.

We as your committee have looked deeply into this and some of the problem must be laid at the door of a high increase in the cost of taking the course, now standing at £139 against the serious effects of the financial downturn resulting in the average person having a much reduced amount of disposable income and therefore such bodies as ours have had to take a back seat until the situation begins to improve.

However towards the end of 2009 we were pleased to announce that the Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership were offering to assist Derbyshire motorcyclists in taking IAM training and testing, in the first instance this will offer 20 new associates the chance to complete the course for a much reduced fee and benefits from this scheme are already beginning to be apparent.

Like many other facets of today's society there is a demand to formalise systems, we as a club have

not missed out on this and we have to formalise the training of existing and new observers. This difficult task has been taken on by Tony Grimshaw and training sessions have already started with the first having taken place at Chaddesden fire station two weeks ago, my thanks go to Tony for taking on this onerous task and I wish him much success in the future.

The social side of the club, something which I value highly has been pretty successful with good attendance at the majority of monthly meetings and I thank the membership for that.

Speakers have been difficult to find but we have managed a few with most recently Gordon May relating his adventures of riding to India from the UK on a 55 year old Royal Enfield. Efforts will continue to try to attract entertaining speakers for the future and any ideas from members are always very welcome.

At a recent committee meeting it was agreed and I was very pleased to offer honouree membership of the club to Pete and Kath Clarke and to Mike and Anita Sheehan.

Pete and Kath have worked tirelessly in the past to help with club funds by organising the monthly raffle , they

have decided to sell the bike but I sincerely hope that they will continue to come to club nights and hopefully organise a raffle still, it would not be the same without them.

Mike and Anita have moved to pastures new in Lincolnshire so as to be able to continue their passion for flying. Both Mike and Anita have served the club for many years as Chair and Secretary and I thank Mike very much for his help in the efficient running of tonight's AGM.

Again we all hope that both Mike and Anita will be regular attendees at club nights when they can, where their circle of friends will be always pleased to welcome them.

Finally may I thank the committee for all the help they have given me over the past year, thank you to all the active observers who so willingly give up their time to help associates and last but by no means least my thanks to all you members who attend and make the club as successful as it is, for without you we would have no club.

Many Thanks.

Graeme.



### **Quick report on D.A.M 2010 AGM**

Good turnout of members, including 5 Associates, apologies from Mike Barker, Mary Jerrison.

Last year's report approved: 16 test passes, 30 associates, start on Observer training.

Chairman's report for this year (Graeme Willett):

only 6 Test passes, partly due to high increase on cost of skill for Life

Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership now sponsoring limited number of places

(20 initially) on scheme

Club must formalise training scheme (1st session 2 weeks ago)

Social side successful - good attendance at majority of meetings

Speakers difficult to find

Honorary membership offered to Pete and Cath Clarke, Mike and Anita Sheehan

Thanks to committee and observers, and attenders at meetings.

Secretary's report (Rob Hughes):

Not all national IAM meetings attended by our reps

Training (Skills for Life) is national issue

Use of Nottingham Rd Fire Station as well as Duffield

Treasurer's report (Mick Ford):

Both funds healthy

Year's subscription set at £5

Test and Guidance report (Mike Barker via John Cowley):

Encouraged by high turnout at observer training

Head Office want more uniform training at higher level

Thanks to Tony Grimshaw, accompanied by bottle of whisky

Presentation of flowers to Cath

Elections:

Chairman: Graeme Willett

Treasurer: Mick Ford

Secretary: Rob Hughes

Test and Guidance (Senior Observer): Mike Barker

Deputy Test and Guidance: Tony Grimshaw

Committee: John Cowley, Mary John Lloyd, Pete McRorie, Peter Harris (others may be co-opted)

Tony Grimshaw to deputise for Graeme Willett, who will be back in June

### **February meeting**

At the meeting on February, members were treated to an astonishing account by Gordon May of a travel overland from Britain to India via Europe, Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan, 8400 miles on a restored 1953 Royal Enfield Bullet. Wow; no wonder everyone queued up to buy the book.

### **Committee 2010 / 2011**

**Chairman: Graeme Willett**

**Treasurer: Mick Ford**

**Secretary: Rob Hughes**

**Test and Guidance** (Chief Observer):

**Mike Barker**

**Deputy Test and Guidance:**

**Tony Grimshaw**

### **Committee Members:**

**John Cowley,**

**John Lloyd,**

**Pete McRorie,**

**Peter Harris**



**I know every one in the group will join me in wishing Dennis well after his recent hip replacement.**

**Dennis has been a member of D.A.M. since the days of Noah. He has regularly participated in meetings, club runs and social events.**

**We all look forward to seeing the VFR with Dennis on board out and about very soon.**

**Mike F**

### **Is Your Lovely Pillion Passenger Insured? (Are You Certain?)**

Watch out, there's a bandit about and not all bandits wear masks. I have been asked to remind you about an experience that I had last year when I re-insured my motorcycle with a really reputable firm. I discovered that without any specific warning my cover had been reduced where carrying a pillion passenger was concerned. The schedule actually stated that I would not be carrying one! I had never declared this and a comparison with previous years showed that this was a new exclusion. I checked with the firm who deleted the exclusion at no extra cost, but at the same time they told me that if I had actually had a spill whilst carrying a pillion, my insurance would have been reduced to third party. I think that this stinks. So much so that I moved this year to *Footman-James* and they offer a brilliant package that includes roadside recovery and all sorts of goodies. I wrote to the BMW Owner's Club letter page and other correspondents replied that this 'trick' was not unique. So, watch out!

*Mike Sheehan*

### **Footnote.**

*Adelaide (I.A.M. Surety) also offer a good deal. It not only covers you and your pillion but they also include full cover whilst observing and riding other bikes. Speak to them before you renew!!*

*Mike F*



*Everyone's darling, Cath was presented with a bouquet for services rendered. Probably for extracting money from members at every meeting since before we can remember.*



*First Test Pass for 2010.  
Congratulations  
Carron Holland.  
Observer: Tony Grimshaw.*



*Gordon May who gave members an enthralling account of his epic Royal Enfield adventure.*

*Taz Tours Northumberland.*

*(18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> June 2010.)*

*We will be staying at the White Swan Hotel in Alnwick. Cost will be approx £200 p.p. for 3 nights dinner bed and breakfast. Full details in the main flyer out very soon.*

*If any body's interested or would like the date changing please contact me.*

*Mark Boag*

*Derby Road safety Partnership.*

*D.R.S.P. Will have a presence at the Mining Museum in Matlock Bath on the first Sunday of every month starting from April The first event will take place on Sunday 4th April 2010. They will be there from 12.00 to get set up and the stand will be "manned" from 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. D.A.M members are invited to attend. It gives us a chance to promote Advanced Riding, tout for new D.A.M. members and recruit associates into the group.*

*Please contact Tony Grimshaw for more info.*

*If you are out on the bike on that Sunday "just turn up" and add your presence to this promotion which will benefit D.A.M as well as safer biking in general*

# D.A.M. Calendar. 2010

**Mar**            **Saturday 27th Annual Easter Egg Run.**  
                    **Meet 09.45 a.m. Little Chef, Little Eaton. Leave 10.15 a.m..**  
                    **Bring Easter Egg(s) Don't eat on the way.**  
                    **More Info John Lloyd 01332672499**

**April**            **Mon. 12th April Club Night.**

**Sunday 18th. The 1st club run of 2010**  
                    **Setting off from Little Eaton, Little Thief at 0930**  
                    **Next stop Uttoxeter, Little Thief at 1000.**  
                    **I plan on a short tour of Shropshire around Ellesmere & Clun.**  
                    **I promise no gated roads or fords!**  
                    **Regards, Paul**

**May**            **Mon 11th May Club Night**

**June**           **Mon 8th June Club Night**

**July**            **Mon 13th July Club Night**

**August**        **Mon 10th Aug Club Night**

**August club run Anderton Boat Lift, Cheshire. (Peter Harris) Details to follow.**



**This is  
looking  
better !**

*Remember, if you haven't got a smile on your face and laughter in your heart...*

*Then you are just an old sour fart!*