

Chairman's Annual Report to the Group Annual General Meeting

Monday 13 March 2017

The previous 12-months have been remarkable for our club, and I am very privileged to be able to work with a group of such **amazing** and **dedicated** people. I would like to thank everyone for their tireless contribution they make to our club.

Our success is the culmination of an amazing **team effort**, there are many people who play a significant part no matter how big or small.

Despite having **no Bike Safe** courses to rely on last year, we still managed to recruit over 30 new members to our club. Many of these came from the **Free Taster sessions**, which were a great success. The key to the success was down to how well we delivered the personal experience, so my thanks to everyone who put in the time and effort to show our potential new customers what we are all about. Despite these free sessions being dropped on a National level, I am delighted to report that we are going to offer these free sessions again this year.

Our test results have also been stunning. **Since we were awarded 2nd place in October 2015, not one single person has failed their test. All of our observers are now IMI qualified**, and they have such drive and determination to help all riders to achieve their goal of passing our advanced test. Around 30 riders took their test, 100% of them passed first time and **around 40% achieved a F1rst grade pass**. Very well done to everyone involved, especially to Geoff & Kieron for their hard work managing all our observer activities.

IAM Roadsmart now offer different products, so we need to be ready to adapt to these changes. For 2017, we have been chosen to pilot the **new "no test" membership scheme**. This option means that a new associate doesn't need to take a test, but their 'sign-off' is done by the groups. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to shape the future of this key program.

Our achievements have not gone unnoticed. We were **featured in the weekly news bulletin from Head Office** last year, and you may have seen our **two articles in the latest edition of the Members's Magazine**. It is only right that we get the national exposure for all the excellent work we do and the results we produce.

We have continued to deliver interesting events for you to enjoy, such as the **Biker Down first aid course** and our **popular group rides**. These are set to continue this year and, as ever, we would like to hear your ideas. After all, this is YOUR club. My thanks to Gordon for putting in so much time and effort to develop ride leaders and plan our group riding activities.

The **Toy Run in December** was the biggest attendance I have ever seen, and the hospital staff agreed that it was the best ever, so well done to all who supported the day. We will be returning to the Hospital at Easter time for our annual visit.

Our club nights continue to attract many interesting guest speakers, the highlight for last year possibly being the **airbag demonstration in December**. We also had **visits from IAM Examiners** and **Dragon Motorcycle tours**, and that's not to mention our **Slow Riding night in June** and the **visit of IAM Chief Executive Sarah Sillars in February**.

Again, there are plenty of guests lined up to come and visit us this year, but if you have any ideas then please make them known.

I would like to thank everyone who attended last month's club night with CEO Sarah Sillars, we put on a very professional event which impressed her and the other local groups who attended. So, very well done. This was the first time that a serving Chief Executive has ever visited our club, and it also marked Sarah's 50th club visit in 2-years which is far more than any other previous CEO.

We continue to **work closely with other local IAM groups, as well as our friends at Derby RoSPA. Derby blood bikes** is another organisation we are proud to be associated with and the excellent work they do for the NHS.

So 2017 is poised for yet more exciting riding and success. **The success of our club is not down to one person, but it is a collective, team effort.** Everyone is responsible for our success, so you all deserve huge congratulations.

We are amongst the very best groups in the country, and I relish the job of keeping us there where we belong.