



DERBYSHIRE
ADVANCED
MOTORCYCLISTS

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 12 March 2018

1. Good Evening everyone, welcome to the 2018 AGM. In particular a very special welcome to our Guest Speakers this evening Simon Parry who will be delivering to us a presentation on Route 66.
2. 2017 was another hectic year in the Club with there being many highs and the odd low or two.
 - a. Our Group had another hugely successful year in terms of Test Passes and awards of F1rstst which I have no doubt will continue on into 2018 with there having already been 2 F1rstst obtained already by two of our Observers when re-taking their Tests as Fellows Members.
 - b. Our first low of 2017 arose because of further Group Success when our former Chair, Stephen Carr succeeded in his goal to become an IAM Examiner, culminating in the need for a new Chairman.
 - c. Another sad loss to our Group was as our former Treasurer, Mick Ford stepped down as Treasurer. Mick had given many years' service to our Club and his legacy will continue, I'm convinced having provided training to our present Treasurer, Amanda.
 - d. We have however had the opportunity to reformulate our Committee and now have some fantastic Committee Members who have given their time and expertise willingly for all our enjoyment.
3. I should at this stage add that none of the Committee are paid for their time they are all volunteers. I think it is this that makes the measure of our success even more special. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank all the Committee Members now for keeping our club running. Without you all, there is no DAM – thank you!
4. Our success as a group does not come easily but thanks to the effort put in by our Observing Team I can report that we are well ahead of the national average for performance figures. We have a significantly high first-time pass rate and F1rst grades, plus we also train riders quicker than most other groups, too. This is due to the skill, dedication and experience of all our group observers, to whom I am extremely grateful and proud.
5. All our Group Observers are IMI qualified, a number of them are working towards their National Observer Qualifications.

6. Our Group are now looking to embrace new technology available with many Observers being trained in Radio Communications. I should add at this stage that whilst in the ideal world we would have liked to have provided all Observers with radios, due to financial constraints this simply hasn't been possible. That said, several Observers have purchased Radios with their own funds simply because they feel they can provide a better service to our Associates in this manner. This is dedication to the cause folks!
7. Unfortunately, due to a range of reasons Group Rides outs in 2017 were less prolific. I am delighted now however that our new Ride Coordinator has prepared a full programme of rides for the entire season. I'm sure they'll build on the many successful ride outs in previous years. Please, if you're interested in Leading any of our Group Rides, I urge you to liaise with Luke who will gladly schedule you in!
8. Unfortunately, the Bike Safe Courses continued to lack any funding for 2017 which made one of our biggest challenges to be attracting new Members. We trialled our first Bikers Breakfast which was held at Pidcocks in Breaston attracting some 12 new members. This event proved to be highly successful but also a major learning event for us as we struggled with the infrastructure to support our Event. I'm delighted to advise that we have learnt from our efforts last year and our first event was held at Pidcock Triumph on February 22nd with the second event which was scheduled to take place on at CMC Motorcycles in Claycross on Sunday 8th March, this was however cancelled due to adverse weather and is currently in planning for the Easter Weekend.
9. In 2017 we enjoyed presentations on Motorcycle Airbags and indeed from the Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership. The first of 2018's Presentations will begin this evening. We look forward to presentations this year hopefully from the Blood Bikers and other organisations whom we hope will interest you.
10. This year we hope to work closely with other local IAM Groups which will hopefully include some joint Group Rides and other events.
11. In 2017 our Group was chosen to take part in the Group Sign-Off Scheme as part of the IAM's driven to modernise the way riders achieve their advanced riding qualifications, sadly there were no takers for the new training scheme, however this option remains open to new and members who prefer the non-examination route.
12. I'm sure as in previous years there will be many new changes which we must embrace as we try and meet the new demands and challenges which lay ahead. I'd therefore like to thank each member for making our group so great. It is an honour and to be your Chairman, and I will continue to work hard on your behalf to give you exactly the club that you rightly demand and deserve.