

Coventry & Warwick Advanced Motorcyclists

Be a Better Rider

100 70



Sunday start times at the Jaguar Social Club revert to 9am now that Summer is on the way - Tootle out to Broadway on roads less travelled with me on April 3rd - Leading a rideout has become so popular that there is only one vacancy this month and that is on 17th, so if you fancy blazing a trail please contact [Trev Smith](#) - May's issue may not be out in time to catch Lee Vigor's Excellent Adventure in Wales for full members on Sunday 1st so you are reminded now.



Super Sausage Rideout March 20 **March CWAM Social Club Night**

Get together ride March 6th **Rideout to Winslow**

Congratulations to

Martin Williams & John Kickham

on gaining their National Observers Award

The big news this month is that like the hero in a Victorian melodrama, IAM will, with one audacious bound, free itself from the chains of its post-war mindset and embrace the 21st century. So what does the future hold? Launch day has slipped 2 weeks to April 18 but all should be explained in the next edition of Advanced Driving due out soon.

Obviously there will be a new logo for what re-branding exercise would be complete without a new logo, a stylish new IAM website, a new 'marketing toolkit' and some ideas for spreading the word and widening our demographics. There will undoubtedly be a few gainsayers who will rail against change but we will not be amongst them for CWAMs are forward thinking and dynamic, supporting progress where it isn't misguided. Ian Firth & Pete Doherty from IAM will be at our June Club Night ostensibly talking about Post Test Training and the Masters Qualification but hopefully also taking any questions you may have about the new regime.

Gail Biddolph is our second speaker on April 20th. She circumnavigated Britain in 16 days, travelling just shy of 4000 miles in those happy days when petrol was around 50p a litre and sat nav for motorbikes just didn't exist. She has also explored North Africa and does her fair share of off roading. A follower of William of Occam, Gail is a keen advocate of the simple solution. In motorcycling terms, if you've got a flat tyre, it's probably caused by the six inch nail embedded in the tread so start there rather than checking for porous rims or renewing the valve. Why overcomplicate things, the simplest solution is usually the best solution. With the first half hosted by roadcraft guru Jim, we should be in for another entertaining and informative evening.



Trevor Smith proves that practising good road craft is never a waste of time.

Don't Forget that Blind Spot Check!

We are a bit like dogs.

If we do things that earn us a reward, we will keep doing them because we value the reward. If that reward doesn't come because we do the thing and nothing happens, we tend to figure it has no value and stop doing it.

Unlike Mary Poppins, I am not practically perfect in every way. I must have done hundreds of lifesaver checks in my motorcycling journeys, none of which had a positive outcome for the event for which they were intended. If I'm honest, I should do more, avoiding doing them by rote and considering their effectiveness in each situation. However, because I am always unrewarded, I don't always do them when appropriate.

However, before executing a right turn into a minor road from a queue of traffic recently, said blindspot check revealed a cyclist, head down, furiously pedalling past the outside of the queuing traffic behind me, clearly unaware of my declared intention to turn right.

I held back as he passed me at 20mph or so with no acknowledgement that he had missed my turn signal.

Not the most devastating example, I know. But it could just as easily have been a motorcyclist filtering down the outside.

Having been rewarded, just this once, blindspot checks have since been performed with a real sense of timing and purpose. So, remember your blindspot check when appropriate and one day, it may well reward you and save your bacon!

A shoulder check is not normally, nor should it be, as extreme as that illustrated.

'Come and be part of something BIG this July' says IAM.

'The IAM 60th birthday motorcycle festival is on July 2nd 2016 at the National Motorcycle Museum Solihull. If you enjoyed our *ROAR* event last year then we are going to do it even bigger and better this year to celebrate our 60th birthday!

Full details to follow but keep the date free, Saturday 2nd July 2016. We are also looking to showcase one motorcycle for each of our 60 years - do you own a classic? The car celebration is on the 9th July at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon.'

Sarah Sillars reminds us that at 100mph the stopping distance is 182 metres (or 200 yards to old British Imperialists like me).

You may remember softly spoken Derek Mc Mullen from last May's Club Night when we got mired down in a seemingly endless discussion about bike insurance. Well, the good news is that he is now IAM vice chairman. We wish him well. These topics and so much more may be read in full on the [IAM News Page](#).



Welcome to new members

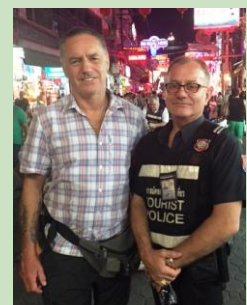
*Christopher Watts, Alistair Gray,
Rebecca Catchpole, Paul Padmore,
Julian Sanders, Paul Horn,
Mike Searle, Adrian Bethune &
Tarnya Brink*

who joined us in the first quarter of 2016

There was much nervous throttle twitching and last minute visor polishing as the entrants in this year's Fantasy League readied themselves for the punishing season ahead. Chairman Roger's *Bees Knees* tore into the first corner and à la Rossi disposed of Nick Lilley's *Cautious Cornerers* with a manoeuvre cleverly hidden from the cameras. Mark Ford's *Wheely Tyred* put some Super Plus into their tanks and moved into third. Playing the waiting game in fourth and fifth respectively are last year's runner up *Scooter Boyz* and winner *Gringos Steer*. Trailing slightly in 15th but strategically conserving £500,000 for a late run on the inside, *Simon's Sporters* are just exiting the pit lane. BSB starts this month! How will we contain ourselves as the excitement stretches nerves to breaking point in the coming months?



The latest brief missive from Paul Owen touring in Thailand - 'Last few days now. I decided to drive down to Koh Chang via Ranong and Pattaya (long drive from Phuket). It's a very nice place and quite relaxing though I could've done without another drive. In the photos you see the scorpions they eat and the school run thai style, 5 on one bike. I also had a night with the Pattaya tourist police which is very interesting. See you all very soon



CWAM Events in April

Sun	Apl 3	Social Ride Out	Long Itch Diner CV47 9QZ Meet 09:15 Leave 09:45	Associates & Full Members	A vroom with a view. A gentle jaunt with the Cautious Cornerer to Broadway Tower. Back by 13:00	Nick Lilley
Thurs	Apl 7	Observer Meeting	Shilton Village Hall, Wood Lane, CV7 9JZ	All Observers	Start 20:00	Ian Collard
Sun	Apl 10	Police Instructor Assessment	Sessions must be pre booked. Meeting place tba to attendees.	FULLY BOOKED	This is an on-road session with Jim Sampson. Book through Paul Lewis.	Paul Lewis
Sun	Apl 10	CWAM Club Sunday	Jaguar Sports & Social Club Fenton Road CV5 9DR Starts 09:00	Associates & Members	Not just for Check Rides but a chance for all CWAMs to get together, socialise and go for an informal ride out.	Ian Collard
Sun	Apl 17	Social Ride Out	tba	Associates & Full Members	Provisional date - Please contact Trevor Smith if you would like to lead this ride out.	Trevor Smith
Wed	Apl 20	Club Social Night	Jaguar Sports & Social Club Fenton Road CV5 9DR Open 19:30 start 20:00	Everybody & guests	Roadcraft with Jim Sampson followed by Gail Biddulph talking about her trip around the UK as a very inexperienced motorcyclist.	Ryan Howat
Sun	Apl 24	CWAM Club Sunday	Jaguar Sports & Social Club Fenton Road CV5 9DR Starts 09:00	Associates & Members	Not just for Check Rides but a chance for all CWAMs to get together, socialise and go for an informal ride out.	Ian Collard

For all future events check out the [Diary page](#)

**If anyone has news to share, tips to pass on, pictures for the gallery or items
for sale please mail me (webadmin@cwam.org.uk).**



Your website - your news - your contributions!