

# Coventry & Warwick Advanced Motorcyclists

## *Be a Better Rider*

100 70



*Sumer Is Icumen In* and CWAM bursts into June with a dazzling array of exciting activities. Our Open Day on 5<sup>th</sup> plus two ride out favourites: Simon Daffern's Father's Day outing and the Chairman's evening dash to the Mermaid Fish Bar. Late entries are an evening wander through the lanes to Towcester (and back) with Nick Lilley and Trev's Mystery Mission calling at two McDs! Club Night sees the top men from IAM RoadSmart giving us the low down on post test training and any other IAM related topics you wish to raise but please not insurance again!



[Club Night May 18](#) [Slow Riding May 15](#)

[CWAM Club Sunday May 22](#) [Paul Owen's trip to Far East](#)

[Staunton Harold rideout](#) [Lee leads in Wales](#)

[CWAM Open Day Sunday June 5th from 09:00 to 13:00](#)

*Congratulations to*

*Alistair Gray*

*who recently passed the advanced test and to*

*Darren Brink who gained a FIRST.*

*Richard Guest passed as a National Observer.*

On Sunday June 5th the flags will be out to welcome visitors to our Open Day which starts at 9am. Please encourage as many people as possible to come along to experience what CWAM has to offer and see just how much fun it can be becoming one of the most skilled riders on the road.

Not only will we be offering our usual free one to one ride outs with CWAM's brilliant observers, we'll also be giving valuable tips on specific aspects riders consider deficiencies such as cornering or slow riding. Don't forget that this year we are offering the first ten young riders under 30 a discount of 50% - Yes, the treasurer has gone bonkers!

Come along for free tea, coffee and bacon butties to Shilton Village Hall, Wood Lane, CV7 9JZ. If you want to guarantee a free ride out with an observer please book in advance with Mark Ford on 07765 663514 or email [here](#).

Back in February I mentioned the deal that Mike Abbott from British Superbike School is offering us.



June is really the start of their main season so an apposite time for a reminder. Mike is discounting courses by 50% for IAM members, That's £144 instead of £289. There are separate courses for road and track riders. See [www.britishsuperbikeschool.co.uk](http://www.britishsuperbikeschool.co.uk).



No matter what your family commitments are on the 19<sup>th</sup> Simon Daffern's Father's Day ride out will be so much more fun. This year Simon's leading us to 18<sup>th</sup> century Houghton Water Mill on the banks of the Great Ouse in darkest Cambridgeshire and he knows a cracking route. Simon and Mike always give tremendous value so make a note in your diary now. Enjoy a cuppa, buy some freshly ground flour for your own bake off and revel in the good company of fellow CWAMs. What's not to like? Details in the Events Calendar.



Paul Owen's account of his three month jolly touring the Far East on two wheels and a walking stick is [here](#). Who doesn't envy him the sights and sounds of the Orient, if not some of the tastes? "The food in Asia is varied. I ate spider, crickets various bugs, frogs and other things. I really didn't want to know what they were." Brave man.

Chairman Roger's Bees Knees really are the bees knees this year buzzing round the track at a pace that makes the rest of us look bumbling amateurs. I kid myself that had I not missed a couple of transfers whilst on holiday it would be a different story but that's nothing more than a flight of fancy. I am expecting Wheely Tyred, Scooter Boyz and Gringo Steers to put in some good practice times and bring some excitement and sparkle to the Fantasy League. Failing that I'll be sprinkling varroa mites on the track.

The latest, somewhat minimal IAM RoadSmart news is [here](#). Guess they're too busy writing new processes and debugging at the moment.



You may have noticed that our website cast aside the old IAM biker green layout and with the gay abandon of a colour-blind paint sprayer on a drunken spree, adopted RoadSmart Blue as the predominant colour. RoadSmart Blue is seen by the Chiswick elite as being '*engaging, friendly but still authoritative*'. That may well be so but it is bright and too much RoadSmart Blue can seriously damage your health; it certainly excoriated my retinas. So now blue has toned down to a dark grey which I believe is *purposeful, suggesting serious intent without being blackly sombre and is ineffably chic*; a description which appropriately describes most of the membership.

There is still time to enrol in the National Rally the premier scatter rally for bikers. You can set your own target, from 120 to 540 miles. If you don't fancy the whole 20 hours you can opt for the 6 hour sunrise rally, the moonlight or daytime rally, both of which last around 10 hours. Plan your own route, visit some new places and meet some nice people along the way. Enter [here](#), full details [here](#). Unfortunately it clashes with IAM's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday bash at NMM.

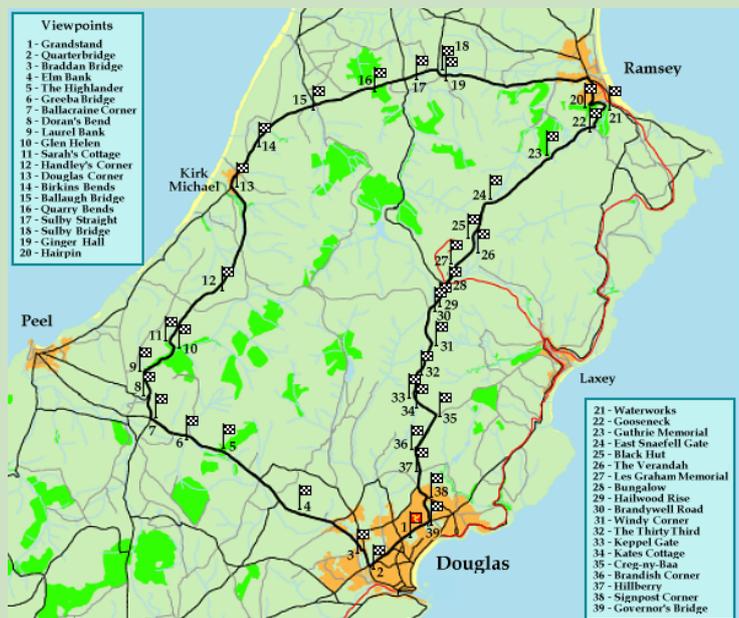


The reason I and possibly quite a few others joined CWAM was self preservation. At this month's club night Ian Firth & Pete Doherty from IAM RoadSmart will be telling us how to take our skills to the next level which I guess is something many of us will be interested in. CWAM is at a distinct advantage when it comes to post test training because not only do we have an excellent corps of National Observers, we also have our own Masters mentor in the form of the talented and tireless Ian Collard. Attendance at IAM's last visit was a little disappointing but now we are new, improved IAM RoadSmart I'm pretty confident we will have a packed house. Please make an effort to come along and let Ian and Pete inspire you to becoming an even better rider.

Last month IAM RoadSmart held a joint meeting at the Jag to explain the new 'Advanced Driver and Rider Course Content' to observers and examiners. A surprising amount of time was spent on the rights and wrongs of steering wheel use! Even more bafflingly, 'overlapping' was discussed at length, which is, it transpires, using gears and brakes at the same time. The minimal amount of time spent on the motorcycling content suggested that for the associate rider, there is next to no change in the way current 'roadcraft' is interpreted, a view supported by Ian Firth after the meeting. Disappointingly there were only three 'cars' examiners present and three less motorcycle examiners. Reassuringly Ian Firth said that absentee examiners would be tracked down and re-educated; whether this will be in the best Maoist tradition or more gently is anyone's guess.

The Isle of Man TT roars into life once again and you can thrill to the sound of barely muffled exhausts in comfort with ITV4's highlights. The show is on at 9pm every evening until the 11<sup>th</sup> (with odd exceptions so check the listings). There's a final review of the event on June 13.

There's also BSB at Knockhill on 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, again the highlights are on ITV4. Nearer home the Banbury Run is on June 19<sup>th</sup> but this will be run-of-the-mill stuff when compared to Simon's ride out.



With light evenings and warm days, we are approaching what should be our peak months for ride outs. We already have a Cambridgeshire Mill, Ludlow and Skeggy pencilled in as well as some evening rides but there are still a number of vacancies which, like the teeth of a child with an addiction to Coca Cola, need to be filled. We all like riding, most of us quite like each other, all that is needed is someone to combine those two ingredients, add a route and the result will be a good time had by all. Where you lead, we will follow. Please contact Trev our ride out coordinator.



**A Roman Dividend** - Rideout 29<sup>th</sup> May *Trevor Smith Social Ride Coordinator writes*

I was a little surprised to roll in to McDonalds car park 15 minutes before the start of the rideout to be met with a host of CWAM riders. I had anticipated a small turnout given it was a Bank Holiday Sunday and that many members would be away for the break or tackling jobs around the home. After two false starts as yet more riders arrived the briefing was delivered to 23 members.

It was a struggle to keep together whilst we headed out of the Walsgrave Triangle but once over the M6 the group was free of other traffic and we could pick up the pace.

The route, courtesy of "Motorcycle, Sport and Leisure" utilises the declassified road previously known as the B4525 to link Watling Street with the Fosse Way. I last used the A5 southbound when it was a 3 lane carriageway! Surprisingly quiet now, it affords some magnificent panoramic views



of Northamptonshire as it runs alongside the busy M1. Romans built the road to allow their armies to march north from Londinium to Wroxeter, a Roman fort west of Shrewsbury.

Turning off towards Litchborough, the swooping tarmac spits us out through Banbury into the high ground of the north Cotswolds and on to Edgehill and beyond to the crossroads with the B4455, better known to the Romans as the Fosse Way.

The final sprint sees us dive off the Fosse towards Long Itchington to the ample car park of the



Green Man where a warm welcome, coffee and soft drinks were on hand.

I was pleased to hear that I was not the only rider to have switched on heated grips as summer gloves failed to ward off the morning chill!

Finally, thanks to the Romans we have on our doorstep a couple of remarkable roads

that have survived to inspire and entertain us to this day.

*Note to rideouters - It is only good manners to look at the ride organiser when he is taking your photograph.*

-----

I know we've got what is probably the finest motorcycle museum in the country on our doorstep but if you fancy a trip out and you're looking for a good destination on one of the few days that CWAM has nothing in the diary, the following will all give you a reasonable day's ride and a wander down memory lane. [Brooklands Museum](#) in Weybridge, [Haynes International Motor Museum](#) in Yeovil, [London Motorcycle Museum](#) in Greenford (the right side of London), [Sammy Miller Museum](#) in Hampshire. If you want a longer ride the [Craven Collection](#) at Stockton on the Forest just outside York may be for you.



## CWAM Events in June

Wed	June 1	Social Ride Out	McDonalds, 2 Wigston Road, Walsgrave, CV2 2RZ Meet 18:45 Leave 19:00	Associates & Full Members	We all enjoy a good mystery so Trev's Mystery Rideout is a must. No fuel stops so a full tank of fuel essential. Finish 20:45 at a mystery McDs!	Trevor Smith
Sun	June 5	CWAM Open Day	Shilton Village Hall, Wood Lane, CV7 9JZ 09:00 - 13:00	All	CWAM opens its doors and showcases its wares to the World. Food and drink available.	Ian Collard
Sun	June 12	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
Wed	June 15	Club Social Night	Jaguar Sports & Social Club Fenton Road CV5 9DR Opens 19:30 start 20:00	Everybody & guests	Ian Firth & Pete Doherty from IAM talking about Post Test Training and the Masters Qualification.	Ryan Howat
Sun	June 19	Police Instructor Assessment	Sessions must be pre booked. Meeting place tba .	Places available	This is an on-road session with Jim Sampson. Book through Paul Lewis.	Paul Lewis
Sun	June 19	Social Ride Out	McDonalds Binley. Willenhall Lane, Coventry CV3 2AY Meet 08:30 Leave 09:00	Associates & Full Members	Celebrate Father's Day in style on Simon Daffern's ride to Houghton Water Mill. Return mid afternoon. Full tank required.	Simon Daffern
Thurs	June 23	Social Ride Out	Long Itch Diner CV47 9QZ Meet 18:30 Leave 19:00	Associates & Full Members	A twisty run out to The Mermaid Fish Bar in Moreton-in-Marsh, eat round the War Memorial then a dash home up the Fosse to Green Man Long Itch. 70 miles	Roger Barratt
Sun	June 26	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
Wed	June 29	Social Ride Out	McDonald's Europa Way Leamington Spa CV31 3JZ Meet 18:30 Leave 19:00 prompt	Associates & Full Members	A gentle jaunt through meadowsweet lanes to Towcester then back along the Welsh Road to finish in Long Itchington before dark.	Nick Lilley

**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](mailto:webadmin@cwam.org.uk)).**



**Your website - your news - your contributions!**