CWAM Club Night April 2017

Club Nights continue to be very popular and Ryan opened proceedings to a full house. With quite a bit of enthusiastic handshaking, Ian Collard presented Sagar Depalar with his test pass certificate.

Whilst there is undoubtedly much to celebrate, just enough restraint to enable the photographer to take at least one picture where the quickness of the hand doesn't defeat the lens is something to aim for in future.

Jim Sampson treated us to a session of 'What should happen next' using a series of his own videos shot on local roads. He invited us use our powers of observation and general roadcraft to make suggestions on what the rider should do next, as his deft assistant Ryan paused the action at crucial moments. This successful format resulted in some informed audience participation and a few collective ahhs, ooohs and intakes of breath at appropriate moments.

After the break Andrew Freeman from the Moto Gymkhana Association gave us a lively and well illustrated introduction to Moto Gym. In the most basic terms, it is the art of negotiating a compact and intricate course in the minimum amount of time. It is promoted as the most fun you can have on a motorbike. With quite a few videos illustrating superb biking skills verging on circus trickery, Andrew stressed that bikes are generally more capable than their riders. It's all about accurate control, bursts of speed, ruthless braking and a good memory to learn the course. As with all things, success only comes with practise and by good fortune Andrew runs coaching sessions

within easy reach at Donnington. There's a short example here https://youtu.be/c5erdy08i_s - where, just to add a degree of difficulty, it was run on a wet surface. Next time you do a U turn or negotiate a tight corner, just think how much better and with how much more confidence you could do it with some Moto Gym experience under your belt.

Another good Club Night, thanks to all concerned. Next month (May 17) the main speaker is Sean Hayes from Circuit Based Training.