



WRITE LINES



November 2006

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the NOTTINGHAM ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

Registered Charity Number 1060035 Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists No 7182

www.nottsam.org / nottsam@hotmail.com

Bumper crop of certificate awards at October's Club Night



Brian Negus



Mark Ellis



Alex Agar

IAM 50
FIFTY YEARS OF
DRIVING ROAD SAFETY

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As a member of the Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists your membership details are kept on a computer file for administration purposes and for newsletter distribution.

Chairman's Bit:

A look back at 2006

We have had a good year when you look back at it from here, but an email from Terry before the last committee meeting shows that we have lost 44 associates over the last two years, without them even taking their test. (Some people have more money than sense) This is one of the reasons why we didn't get to win the 1st place at the conference last month.

Another reason for not winning was because we didn't score any points in the membership retention category; this was due to quite a number of members not renewing their membership at the end of 2005. At the start of this year we sent out a questionnaire asking ex-members why they have left. The main reason was because we don't have a good social side to keep members entertained. So this year Nick Ireland took up the baton to keep you all happy.

Well, from my side of the table I think he has done a great job, but most of you have not taken full advantage of the events being put on, as only a small percentage of you ever join in. So I hope you don't leave this year complaining we don't do anything for you.

Nick is planning on finding lots of great things for your entertainment in 2007, so if you haven't attended any of his fun ride outs or skittles nights etc please give them a try. And if we haven't done the kind of thing you want to do then please tell us what it is and we will do our best to fill that void in your lives.

Leaving committee members

I would like to say many thanks to all those who are standing down this year from the committee.

These include Bill Williams, who is in his second year in the post following his generous offer to help us out back in 2004 when we couldn't fill the treasurer position. Thanks Bill and I hope we continue to see you at group nights and some forthcoming events.

Ken Octon has served on the committee for almost as long as I have, filling various posts including news letter, and most recently promotions, where he has been spreading our name around the press and any other place with ears that could be of benefit to NAM. This year he has completely rebuilt the group website getting over many problems we had, and bringing it up to date.

And this is one place we scored very highly in the IAM awards, getting either 8 out of 8 or 10, (unknown target) I first met Ken when he was one of my first associates. I had the pleasure of taking him out on a run to Melton back in 1998. Wow, that is such a long time ago! He then passed his test, joined the committee, became a GQ observer, then a senior. But sadly this year he has taken a hard decision to take a back seat for the new year to give him self a rest and a chance to explore other interests and his family.

So please thank him for all the work he has done whilst serving NAM, and I hope to continue to see Ken around at group nights and other group events.

Dave Bryant has also served on the committee for a number of years, as secretary and recently as general member. There is a rumour that we could twist his arm into replacing Ken as Publicity Officer. So please stick your hand in the air when we need a vote for him, and we can continue to use his skills.

The remaining committee members have worked their butts off this year trying to continue to improve the group. I want to say thanks to you all for your work and please keep it up for 2007. I appreciate it and I hope the group do too.

Mountain bike club

Some of you may be aware that I am trying to start a bike group up within NAM to keep us entertained and a little fitter during winter ready for next year.

But as the nights are drawing in I now need to buy some serious lights so we can see in the total darkness of the woods. The first thing that hit me was the cost of a suitable light; they are in excess of £150. S**T, these things need to give off a better light than the Hayabusa for that price. But they assure me that they do, so I will let you know next month.

Angela now has the use of her arm back, but has only had one trip out due to work commitments. Hopefully this will improve soon.

That's all for now, but if you don't get time to talk to me at group night, you can send an email or give me a call; my details are in the mag.

See you all soon,

Steve Laughton, your chairman.

Greetings

Those of you who were listed on the NAM SmartGroup site will have had 2, maybe 3, maybe more, emails regarding the closure of the site and the transfer to Yahoo Groups.

Whether you actually took the time and trouble to read those emails is another matter.

We have had a number of messages from members asking why they have been removed from the SmartGroup, and why, even, they have been "dropped from the NAM". This is not the case at all, as the messages explained. So, to avoid any further confusion and misunderstanding, please note:

SmartGroups has shut down their service. Not just our site - the whole service. They have closed down. It is no more, it has ceased to be, it is a dead SmartGroup. We have transferred the facility to Yahoo Groups, the site has been established, we are in the process of moving over all the data to the new site, and invites have already gone out to join the new site hosted by Yahoo. If you wish to register on the new group you can, easily enough, by responding to one of the emails sent to you.

The Group is an extremely useful facility and a terrific aid to communications, as has been said before, on many occasions. It is well worthwhile registering, so please do so if you have not already. If you weren't in the SmartGroup but would like to be a member of the new Yahoo Group, then please let Nick Ireland know and he will send you an invite. It has to be done that way as it is a private, closed network and the only way to get on it is to be invited, so it should be absolutely secure. His email address is nri01@tiscali.co.uk

Hopefully that should clear it up, so in summary, please read your emails and respond appropriately. Check your filters if you have them, and make sure that our emails are not being treated as junk mail, although it has to be said this is unlikely.

Thanks and Regards

Ron Maslin

Magazine Editor
Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists

Recent Passes:

Tony Bell

Congrats to Tony and to

Mike Gant

For passing his Senior Observer test!

Well done lads!

My motorcycling history from beginning to Test.....

Hi my name is Phil and I'm an alcoholic.....Sorry wrong newsletter

Anyway, I took my CBT (Car Park at Hucknall) and passed it on a 125cc Honda (at 6'05" and 18 stone - no mean achievement) and lessons in about 1991, took my test at the Police Driving School Epperstone - followed in the rain by a plain Police Granada for about 30 mins and passed. This was using the Riding Schools 125cc Honda. The Instructor was an Ambulance man from Hucknall - can't remember his name.



I had waiting for me at home a Suzuki GS450 'W' reg. (Mint Condition) Rode through rain, snow, ice, sun & cold as it was my only form of transport. One day my hands were that cold as I arrived at work I couldn't get my keys out so decided to warm my hands on the down pipes - brilliant idea except it melted the stitching and my gloves fell to bits.

I got broadsided at Nuthall Island junction with Low Wood Road by a white Astra Van on my way to a night shift at Bulwell. The van failed to stop leaving me flat out in the road - dented pride and bike. Repaired that - sold it.

Then in 1998 decided it was time to buy another bike (had longed for one in between). So looked around and bought an N reg Honda CBR600. Frightened the life out of me to start with. My pride and joy; loved it, rode miles mainly fair weather as had a car as well. Was transferred by work to a station about 17 miles away - convinced my wife (now ex) that I needed - NOT wanted, BUT needed - a different bike, more retro style for commuting, something like a Fazer 600/Bandit 600 - you know, the sit up straight type - "I can see over traffic on that better dear!"

Well, she thought it was a good idea too! So off I went looking for a Fazer..... Guess what I bought.... Yes, a VFR800! Why? Because I liked itand I got away with it - "You know darling it's more powerful, I can get out of trouble easier!!!!!" "It's a good all-rounder, all the magazines recommend it" and " It will last me for years - I'll not need to swap this one" (Come on you've all used that one!) and being big I don't look as daft on it. It was more than I wanted to spend but that's life... Ask me about the receipt story.....Can't incriminate myself by printing that!!

So there I was, happy as Larry (whoever he is) with my VFR800... had a few problems with flaking paint on the wheels but with the assistance of a friendly tyre place at Langley Mill and a Brother in Law who worked at TVR (The car place in Lancashire as was) who prepared and sprayed them for me. I cannot fault the bike. Anyway, then I separated from my wife and reluctantly had to sell the VFR to raise some cash (well

part ex with a chap at work) and ended up with a BMW F650 "M" reg. A good commuter - could see over the traffic (dear!) - But not much fun.

Tried to sell it and couldn't (not that I tried that hard) so decided to part exchange it at a dealership. My dream bike from having the VFR was a Blackbird. I looked at a Bandit 1200 at CMC, a ZZR1100 at Pidcocks and a Thunderace that a mate was selling - mint condition, but that meant selling my BMW privately - too much hassle!

I had heard good reports about a dealer in Alfreton, John Carr, from a friend that being Motorcycles. I had regularly checked their website and one sunny Saturday afternoon at about 3.30pm I again checked their site and saw a Black Honda Blackbird - slightly higher mileage than I wanted but just the bike in just the colour. Rang them took the BMW up and by 5pm I had bought it after a small amount of haggling.

A week later I picked it up and decided that after the BMW it was a little more powerful. Thought then for my own piece of mind to do my advanced test. I thought as most people do that it would be rather expensive but £85 Skill for Life - What a bargain!

Enrolled, did my Initial with Terry and then my observer was Shanus (with the very long name) MacMillan-Fraser - too big to fit in the box on the forms. I thoroughly enjoyed my ride outs, they were very well planned and well briefed and debriefed and he was so well organised (and patient) plus we had really good weather - well anything other than gale force winds and torrential rain is good to a Scotsman I'm told!

On 5th October I had my test. Met the examiner at the Rushley Public House Mansfield and as he pulled up it started to rain. Went for a nice ride Newark, Southwell, Farnsfield way and had a blip over the speed limit once (33mph), a bit of bad positioning in one of the villages between parked cars and a lorry - then as I was almost back at the Rushley Pub - I went round a corner and a lorry was heading towards me on the wrong side of the road. Moved over slightly and my rear wheel went on the manhole cover I was avoiding - the back end stepped out a little but made it back and after a few questions - where I highlighted to the examiner what I had done wrong he congratulated me and passed me.

My next stage is to become an Observer - Watch this space.

If you see me at Meetings or group nights - say hello - I'm the 6'05 skinhead drinking pints of coke!

Phil

**WANTED :
OBSERVERS**

Have you ever wanted to be an observer ?

Have you ever looked at your observer and thought “I can do that” or “I would like to do that”.

Now is your big chance. We are holding a pursuit riding day in order to pick some lucky people to become trainee observers.

Sunday March the 18th 2007 is the date, starting from the pub opposite the White Post Farm on the A614.

The day is open to anybody with a desire to become an observer with the provisos that they are:

- a) A paid up member of the IAM
- b) A paid up member of the NAM
- c) A full member (ie. Not an associate)
- d) Have notified me of their availability and
- e) Will make themselves available for the following 7 weekends
(due to time constraints this is essential).

The day will consist of a short introductory briefing followed by a ride of about 10/15 miles through the countryside with you following a Group Qualified observer and having a Senior Observer behind watching your riding skills. A debrief and quick question and answer session about the 5 point system of advanced riding will then be followed by you giving a demonstration ride along the reverse of the previous route.

All riding is to be carried out at the speed limit where safe to do so. A short debrief will then finish the day. There will be 2 courses being run starting at 0900hrs and 1130hrs.

It should be stressed that we are looking mainly at your riding and communication skills at this time, we are not expecting you to know how to be an observer from the word go. The lucky people that are chosen will then start an intensive 4 or 5 session course with a Senior and a Group Qualified observer per 2 trainee observers learning all the theory and a large amount of the practical side of becoming an observer.

After all that, a couple of runs out with real associates (and their Observer), then up for qualification with a Senior Observer (probably me).

For those people who are not chosen at this time, this does not by any means suggest you are not good enough or are not wanted. A further course will be held later in the year where we will hopefully be able to take more trainees on.

Could all interested people (including those who have already given me their names) notify me of their interest and availability on j.annable@ntlworld.com or 07973 815771 by the 10th February 2007.

*John Annable
Chief Observer
Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists*

Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists

Minutes of Committee Meeting on 3rd October 2006 at 9 Sidlaw Rise

Apologies: B Williams & J Annable

Minutes of last meeting:

Examiner R Baker will not be able to attend the next group night, Nick is to approach other examiners

Ron is to email Terry with the latest version of the Associate Letter

Reports:

Chairman – reported on the recent Motorcycle Forum, and that we once again have the backing of the council for next years HPP event on 1st April. They have also requested a greater attendance from the NAM committee as they see us as ‘The IAM’ in promoting safer riding in Nottinghamshire.

Steve reported on the recent regional meeting at Peterborough which focused mainly on the observer qualification scheme

Steve also gave a report on the recent IAM national conference where we were nominated and received a runners up (2nd place) award in the best IAM group category and we came away with a cheque for £600.

Secretary – Has attended the 2 conferences with Steve so had little to add
Andy now has to contact the IAM to request financial assistance for the HPP event.

Treasurer- N/A

Associate Coordinator – 20 passes to date, down on last year, 2 fails, 15 test ready, 5 being trained, 1 final required, 3 initials required and 13 look like they will not continue so will be dropping out.

Terry wants to reiterate to all senior observers that they **MUST** get the test application form from their associate as soon as is possible – preferably at their initial and get it sent to him.

Assistant Associate Coordinator – Duncan has reported that a number of observers have not been forwarding their hours on to him, to help with this it has been decided that Duncan will report all the hours received and by whom to the mentor of each group, so that they can chase up those that they feel are missing and find out what has/has not been happening.

It was also decided that Ron will publish the observer hours in the newsletter so that everyone can see what is going on, and again it will hopefully remind those who forget to get their hours logged.

Events – at the time of the meeting Nick had only had 2 confirmed riders for the Sandilands run on 15th Oct. He is still trying to finalise a visit to the police armed response unit, but will be limited to 12 guests.

Oct group night will hopefully involve a Q&A session with a couple of examiners along with a brief plan of action for next year from Steve, Andy, Terry, Ron, John etc. Nick is also considering other events that may include an egg run, visit to Scotland, and possibly an end of year event with a buffet.

Newsletter – Ron will be assisted in the role by Phil Meynell who will use his expertise in the field to help Ron with articles from local media sources.

Publicity – The website figures are getting better with the site starting to get picked up by more search engines, IAM links to our site has gone from 24 to 29 and Google has risen

from 7 to 33. We are getting about 200 visits per month and they are looking at 855 pages in total, mainly the newsletter, but this is to be expected.

AOB – the 2007 plan has been approved and can now be published in the newsletter, it will also be on the smart groups web site.

It has been requested that we video HPP in 2007, not only in the general documenting of the event, but also mini interviews of those who have taken part for use in future events/publicity material

Andy asked if John could cc him in all senior correspondence so that he has a better take on what the group is up too

Andy is to report on the amount of enquires received each month, this will be done on a separate sheet on the membership database.

Ron put forward a request to investigate/seek approval to run a Casino night in aid of the local Air Ambulance – it was agreed in principal and Ron will provide further details as the project moves forwards.

Steve expressed his views about the use of his and Angela's home for committee meetings and it was agreed that our offer of a £1 donation from each of us for the hospitality shown had been somewhat lacking, so just to remind us all that we agreed to this donation and can we please keep our side of the bargain.

Next meeting – Tues 7th November 9 Sidlaw Rise

Long Alley Skittles

12th November at Car Colston



It was certainly a night to remember. The tension could be cut with a knife as the two sides battled it out for the prestigious "N.A.M. Skittles Trophy".

Foul play was rife amongst the contestants as they cajoled and barracked the opposite sides but fortunately refrained from spitting as it made the balls slippery and no one wanted that.

At one stage it was neck and neck but in the end it was Duncan's team who managed to slip ahead through the magnificent ball control of Josh (Andy's

lad) who for his efforts was given the honour of holding "THE CUP" aloft in triumph, to the background noise of Hissing and Booming from Steve's losing team.



However, Steve felt right at home with his usual "Picture Pose" as he presented Angela with a cup and certificate for the Highest Score and Duncan with a single skittle for the Lowest Score.

All in all a very enjoyable evening with the added bonus that no one got hospitalised!

Sandilands, Sutton on Sea 15th October

By Events Organiser Nick Ireland



This was the last ride out for the year and surpassed all others regarding numbers as 25 bikes and a total of 33 members made the trip.

We split into 4 groups ranging from "Progressive" to "Associates" to enable us to get people in groups best suited to their ability so they could get the maximum enjoyment out of the ride.

We set off at 10 minute intervals to enable the groups to keep out of radio range of one another. We didn't want groups catching up and having to overtake one another so we sent the more progressive groups first ending up with my group last.

We only had one occasion where my sat nav caused me to go wrong but after doing a semi circular tour along some very narrow lanes we found ourselves back on track and making good progress towards the coast and our destination at the Sandilands Hotel.



Due to the staggered start the first groups to arrive already had their meals and were tucking in merrily but it wasn't long before we got ours.

Even though quite a few had finished their meals they were happy to sit around having a chat and exchanging experiences of the ride so far. Then it was back on with the gear and off to Mablethorpe for a look at the sea and an ice cream.

As it wasn't that far we didn't go in any particular order so my group were somewhere in the middle, which didn't help matters when I took them down a wrong turn and ended up in a dead end only to be witnessed by two of the other groups as we made our way back on to the main road! But what the heck, they knew what to expect didn't they?



We made it to the sea without any further mishaps and also managed to get to the Gainsborough rendezvous without detours so we must be getting better at it. Although we did manage to lose Debs at the Markham Moor roundabout albeit for only a few minutes as she took the

wrong exit, despite being in the middle of our group! So she is certainly a candidate to take over my reputation in the future.

We finally got to Ollerton where we said our goodbyes in the McDonalds car park and made our own way home after what had been a most successful 190+ mile round trip.

THE MEANING OF COLOUR

A biker in black craves protection; those in green will keep the motorcycle in good condition and a biker in blue is an insurer's dream. These are just some of

the results of a recent study by Devitt and a leading colour psychologist to evaluate what the colour of leathers and motorcycles say about the individual.

According to Angela Wright of Colour Affects, each colour has slightly different implications: the colour someone chooses for a motorcycle indicates his/her attitude to the activity itself, while the colour of the leathers indicates attitudes to oneself.

Although the most popular colours are comparatively predictable - for motorcycles: red, blue and black; for leathers: black and red - what each colour says about its rider makes for very interesting reading. "Many people think that colour is just a matter of how things look and it is often dismissed as being purely cosmetic. However, the truth is that colour is light - the source of life itself; there is nowhere that colour does not exist and our instinctive, unconscious response to it is a vital element in our survival," she says.

So, what can a biker learn from his or her own colours?

Beige: Calm, dependable, no fuss biker

Blue: A biker with clear thought, maturity and responsibility

Black: This biker requires protection from the outside world

Gold: Symbolises luxury, top-of-the-range, expense, sophistication and glamour

Green: Balanced and peaceful. The biker will keep the machine finely tuned

Grey: Enjoys a well-made, functional machine. Sometimes has slight low self-confidence

Mauve/Purple: Upmarket biker, but also rather naughty and self-indulgent.

Orange: A biker who likes physical comfort, pleasure and sensuality, though opposite to blue

Pink: A maternal biker, loving, nurturing and a strong assertion of the feminine

Red: The sign of strong and masculine biker, exhilarating and exciting

Silver: The biker who loves luxury, speed and fine engineering

White: The biker wants uncompromising, clean excellence and the world to keep away

Yellow: Self-confident and optimistic biker. Fun, yet more mature than the orange biker

MOTORCYCLE SECURITY

The Facts about Theft

Motorcycle theft remains a growing problem in the UK. Every year more motorcycles are stolen, more motorcyclists are disappointed and inconvenienced and finding their renewal premiums increasing because of theft claims.

- It takes approximately 12 seconds to steal an unprotected motorcycle
- A motorcycle is stolen on average every 10 minutes
- Approximately 140 motorcycles are stolen every day
- Less than 14% of stolen motorcycles are recovered
- Theft accounts for one third of insurance claims

Source: www.crimereduction.gov.uk

Unbelievably.

More than half of all motorcyclists neglect to use any form of motorcycle security!

Advice

According to Police statistics, 50% of bikes are stolen by the opportunist or “Joy-rider”. Incredibly, they also estimate that 50% of riders do not lock their machines. Reduce the risk of theft by following these simple steps:

- Buy the best lock you can afford and always use it
- Alarms can be very effective but they are only really effective if also used with a lock
- If you have a garage, always use it and remember to lock the bike and set the alarm
- your insurance policy may require this anyway
- When parking your bike try to avoid using the same parking spot every day and lock your bike to a secure immovable object wherever possible
- Never leave your lock resting on the ground and always lock it as tight to your bike as possible - this makes it much more difficult for thieves to attack
- Remember to maintain your lock. Keep it free from dirt and oil moving parts regularly



A few famous motorcyclists from history

James Dean

James Dean made only three movies before he was killed in a car crash. Dean loved motorcycles and fast cars. He owned five cars and seven motorcycles in his brief lifetime.

Roy Rogers

The King of the Cowboys, he was every kid's hero. Roy made countless movies with his horse Trigger. Roy had another passion and that was motorcycles. When he could no longer ride horses, he continued to ride his motorcycles.

George Bernard Shaw

George Bernard Shaw, the famous British dramatist (Pygmalion, Saint Joan), was a personal friend of T. E. Lawrence and shared Lawrence's passion for motorcycles. He once gave a Brough Superior SS100 motorcycle to Lawrence.

Elvis Presley

Elvis was a motorcyclist and appeared in several movies with a motorcycle theme such as Roustabout in 1964. Again, it's hard to find Internet references to this side of Elvis except a few auctions of his motorcycle memorabilia such as pictures of him astride one of his machines.

Steve McQueen

Steve McQueen became known for his motion pictures. Later, the public heard about his motorcycles and fast cars. His skill as a rider was even acknowledged by the professional riders that he rode with. Steve was a high ranking amateur rider as well. Here's a fan site about Steve with a good picture of him. This same site has a bio that shows Steve entangled in the barbed wire with his motorcycle in the movie *The Great Escape*. Steve did his own motorcycle stunts. The November 1966 Issue of *Popular Science* gave reviews by Steve McQueen as he tested six dirt bikes. Steve helped produce and star in the classic movie *On Any Sunday*. This movie has a lot of information about McQueen and his love of motorcycling. You cannot watch this movie without feeling a great sense of loss that Steve McQueen was taken at such a young age.

T. E. Lawrence - Lawrence of Arabia

Lawrence of Arabia was a famous person who actually did a lot of riding. He regularly rode 500 miles a day on his Brough (pronounced as "bruff") Superior SS100 motorcycle.

His motorcycles were numbered George I to George VII, perhaps factory numbers or just as an honour to his friend, George Brough, who built the motorcycles. His last motorcycle, George VIII, was on order when Lawrence died on George VII. Lawrence gave the same personal name to each of his motorcycles: Boa, which was short for Boanerges which means Sons of Thunder. Lawrence wrote letters to George Brough praising his motorcycles.

He regularly rode with Lady Astor, the first British woman member of Parliament. A reference to Lady Astor, his naming of his bikes and the last picture of him on George VII in 1935 is shown here.

Lawrence wrote about his motorcycles. Here is an excerpt from *The Road* about his beloved Boa.

He also wrote letters about his many crashes. They make for interesting reading, especially his last telegram home just before his fatal crash on May 13, 1935. Lawrence stayed in a small cottage that he had fixed up. He is buried near there.

Finally, there was a movie released in 1962 called *Lawrence of Arabia*. It's a long movie but the first 5 or 6 minutes of the film show Lawrence, played by Peter O'Toole, preparing his Brough Superior SS100 motorcycle for his last journey. He gets on the machine and heads down the narrow country road at high-speed. You get to experience what it must have looked like when he tried to avoid two young boys on bicycles and swerved off the road and mortally injured himself. He wore no helmet. His bike was intact but Lawrence never recovered from the trauma. The world had lost one of its most interesting personalities and motorcyclists.

How about you? Do you know some more famous people that I missed who have information listed on Web sites? If so, let me know or post to my Forum. I'd like to create a new category on the Motorcycles site for these famous riders. Oh, and I'm also interested in famous living riders too, but that's another story.

Phil Meynell



Derby IAM are doing a Toy Run to the Derby Children's Hospital on the 9th December.

The run will meet at The Little Chef at Little Eaton on the A38 (junction of A38 and A61) near the A6 and A52 junctions just outside Derby, at 9.30 for a 10.00 am depart.

There is going to be a police motorcycle escort so as to get us there and the toys will be delivered to the children on the wards.

Please wrap and mark any gifts you would like to bring and mark accordingly (eg. Boy/Girl 5 years ;11 years is req).

Hope some of you can make it, it will be nice to get the two groups together.

If anyone needs my number its 07802 191841 (work) and 07753452052 (private)

Leslie & Keith Hill
Derby Motorcycle Group

Email to the Group:

Please forgive this 'cold' approach. This is Bob Crawley an IAM Member and Examiner in Kelso. Best regards from the Scottish Borders. I hope you are well and that you have enjoyed your biking year.

My history? I was in the police service for 30 years finishing ten years ago. Note I said 'finishing' not 'retiring'!! Since then I have been contiually working happily away on a bike. Firstly as the proprietor of a motorcycle touring holiday business by the name of **Bike Ecosse Motorcycle Tours**, and also since 1998 as a **Honda MAC** Instructor. I have been organising and leading biking holidays in the UK & Europe since 1996.

Can I present to you details of my 2007 Tours Programme for your inspection? I also organise personalised group tours for clubs and other groups, and all at the right price. If your group have something in mind for 2007 please don't hesitate to contact me.

The website is presently being updated by the Webmaster but you should soon be able to find details of my 2007 Tours Programme by visiting www.bikecosse.co.uk He is also revamping the Picture Gallery so you will soon be able to enjoy many of the excellent tour photographs many of my customers kindly sent me over the 2006 season.

If you have any difficulty accessing the site or the enclosed attachments, or if you have any questions, then please just e-mail or contact me on **Tel: 01573 223203**, and I will be happy to assist.

thank you and take care

Bob

Note: documents and other details are available on request if you are interested.

Ron Maslin
Editor: ron.maslin@btinternet.com

International Motorcycle and Scooter Show at the NEC Birmingham 27th October to 5th November 2006

My visit was on Monday 30th October 2006 and I bought my ticket on line at £13 - it sounded quite a bargain - I think it was £15 or £14 on the door. The advantages of booking online were no queues and surprisingly there was no booking fee or postage costs on the tickets.

However the car park was £7 (Yes SEVEN English pounds) which was a fifteen minute queue to pay for before going in. I chose the line with the member of staff who was a techno f...kwit as the machine ran out of tickets and loading the machine which looked very simple to me - was like a challenge off the Krypton Factor (for those old enough to remember it - For the younger ones amongst you who don't know ask Ron Maslin!)

If you had gone on your bike it was free to park and was undercover and I do believe somewhere to leave your Helmet, Jacket etc. There was another queue for the shuttle bus to take us the short distance to the show itself.

Anyway, the show was fairly well set out, not as many freebies as I would have liked, but a Carole Nash mug and key ring were okay and a quote of £100 less than I'm paying now on my insurance was okay. (Not sure of the IAM discount I got if any - but I mentioned it as I have passed my test now thanks to Shanus Macmmmmilllllannnnn-Frassszzeerrrr - (Can't spell it sorry....) Anyway he's a little Scottish bloke. With grey silver hair!

Visited most stands - except the Harley one - wasn't that bothered really and it was one of the busiest when I arrived at it.

What did I like? Firstly I like big bikes. I really liked the Suzuki Hayabusa which was remarkably comfortable for a 6'05" 18+ stone biker "like that what I am". I would consider one of those - also the Kawasaki ZZR1400 was comfortable but rather ugly. The Blackbird (I currently have the older model) was disappointing - no real difference to mine I thought, the clocks have gone all modern and digital!!.....old fashioned me - sorry. I really hope they consider a 1300cc or 1400cc model. The Fazer's were ugly - sorry, my opinion. Some of the big trail bikes looked very good in particular the BMW GS1200 big KTM. I just like big bikes. The new BMW range looked very well as did the Gold Wing never really liked them but it was comfortable and full of boy's toys and gadgets.

Lots of ladies scantily clad apparently - ask an I'll show you the photos.

I sat and listened to a talk by the Pirelli rep and James Whitham - interesting - but very similar to the Bridgestone talk we had at club night a couple of months ago.

Loads of accessory stands - helmets to earplugs, leather to Gore-Tex, cleaning fluids to oils - but could I get one of those little windscreen wiper thingies for my glove to wipe my visor with - not a chance!

Watched a demo of MER the cleaning stuff - very impressive - Has anyone used it? I have always used AutoGlym myself.

After about 3 hours I had pretty much seen everything (apart from Harley) and went outside to wait for the shuttle bus that never arrived.... So had to walk... Never mind it's the only exercise I get....

Yes I would go again - What about a ride out next year Nick?

Phil Meynell

Fun & Games

This page seemed quiet popular last month, so we have built on it a bit, with some puzzles as well as jokey bits.

As Editor I have to disclaim any responsibility for the jokes on these pages. They are politically incorrect, a scurrilous slur on women of a female persuasion, council tenants and even God himself! Absolutely not representative of any of our members, or anybody else I know. But they are damn funny, though, so I have put them in!

Seriously, please don't take offence.

Ron Maslin
Editor

Anagrams: all Club related, I promise

Madman soothingly detracts convict.

Flirt once, fat nerd at blotch in lake.

WordSearch:

N	D	A	S	G	K	I	A	D	R	E	V	A	L	A
O	D	L	D	A	Q	S	W	E	R	T	Y	U	S	B
R	A	S	U	Z	U	K	I	S	A	P	O	B	I	R
T	D	F	C	N	O	H	U	S	Q	V	A	R	N	A
O	G	H	A	J	K	U	L	Z	C	A	D	N	A	H
N	M	N	T	Y	B	S	L	L	E	U	B	V	I	S
Q	W	T	I	Z	A	Q	I	U	G	Z	Z	G	D	R
W	E	R	Y	B	I	M	O	T	A	R	N	L	N	T
K	Q	A	T	R	T	K	A	W	A	S	A	K	I	T
P	H	W	R	Z	D	M	K	H	S	U	O	P	D	R
M	O	T	O	G	U	Z	Z	I	A	M	R	K	O	I
P	N	E	F	J	H	O	W	M	U	E	E	T	S	U
K	D	D	C	D	F	I	A	P	R	Z	W	M	B	M
L	A	P	R	I	L	I	A	Z	B	M	U	U	B	P
H	N	O	S	D	I	V	A	D	Y	E	L	R	A	H

APRILIA
HONDA
BSA
YAMAHA
SUZUKI
KAWASAKI
BMW

DUCATI
HARLEY DAVIDSON
KTM
MOTO GUZZI
BUELL
NORTON
LAVERDA

INDIAN
TRIUMPH
MZ
HUSQVARNA
BIMOTA

Lateral thinking puzzles:

For those of you not familiar with lateral thinking (or any other type of thinking, perhaps....) let me explain. Logic and reason and intellect will be of no use whatsoever. (was that a sigh of relief I heard?) To solve these puzzles you need to be creative and imaginative and have a flash of inspiration. Have a go, anyway - answers next month.

Easy start: - an old chestnut

A farmer is taking a fox, a chicken and a bag of corn to market. Please don't ask why on Earth he would want to do that, it spoils the puzzle!

He arrives at a river and the only way to cross it is by a small boat that is moored at the bank. Trouble is, the farmer can only carry 1 thing with him.

How does he get all 3 safely across the river, intact? He cannot leave the chicken with the corn, because the chicken would eat it if left unattended - likewise for the fox and the chicken. So he can only take one over at a time, but there is nowhere to tether or cordon off anything on either side of the river. You can assume, though, that they will not run off.....like I said, don't ask, this didn't really happen, you know!

A little harder:

You need to accurately measure out quantities of water from a very large barrel, but you only have a 3L and a 5L jug. The measured water has to be poured into a large container.

How do you measure out 1, 2, 3, 4.....all the way up to 10L into the container? No tricks, just numbers and lateral thinking - and once you have made a start the rest is much easier.

And really quite a tough one:

Imagine you are in a corridor with 3 light switches on the wall. 2 of the switches don't do anything, they are not wired up. The 3rd operates a light in a room, but the room is down the corridor and around 2 corners, the door is shut (but not locked) and there are no windows.

How can you establish which light switch works? You can do anything you want to the switches (except take them apart), but...here's the hard bit.....you may go to the room *once and once only to check the light.*

You have no tools or equipment or any other objects of any description, and no-one to help you. You are on your own and you cannot see inside the room or see the light from it from where you are at the switches.

So...how do you do it?



[Enlarge](#)



RED FORD KA with one of those big doors at the back,

Red. various gonks, lots of places for lippy and sunglasses, CD of Hairbrush Divas stuck in CD player, one of those beep beep parking thingies, mirror behind drivers side survisor!, smells nice, £2,000 ono. I don't know how many miles its done but I only really used to drive to Janice's house and back at a weekend, oh and sometimes to work if the bus was late, and my brother Key once drove it to see his pery mate Gary in Reading

Telephone: my dad Alan on 07937 326209

Price: £2,000 ono

[Glossary of Terms](#)

The Biker and God

A biker was riding along a California beach when suddenly the sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, the Lord said, "Because you have TRIED to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish."

The biker pulled over and said, "Build a bridge to Hawaii so I can ride over anytime I want."

The Lord said, "Your request is materialistic. Think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking. The supports have to reach the bottom of the Pacific! The concrete and steel it would take! It will nearly exhaust several natural resources. I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of something that would honour and glorify me."

The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally he said, "Lord, I wish that I could understand my wife. I want to know how she feels inside, what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment, why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, and how I can make this woman truly happy."

The Lord replied, "You want two lanes or four on that bridge?"

Worth a click.....

<http://video.google.co.uk/videoplay?docid=-4768736602450772596&q=genre%3Acomedy>

<http://video.google.co.uk/videoplay?docid=8735195355185448330>

<http://www.glumbert.com/media/roadblock>

These are extracts from actual letters sent to various councils and housing associations throughout the UK:

I want some repairs done to my cooker as it has backfired and burnt my knob off.

I wish to complain that my father hurt his ankle very badly when he put his foot in the hole in his back passage.

And their 18 year old son is continually banging his balls against my fence.

I wish to report that the tiles are missing from the outside toilet roof, I think it was that bad wind the other night that blew them off.

I am writing on behalf of my sink, which is coming away from the wall.

Will you please send someone to mend the garden path, my wife tripped and fell on it yesterday and now she is pregnant.

I request permission to remove my drawers in the kitchen.

50% of the walls are damp, 50% have crumbling plaster and the rest are plain filthy.

The toilet is blocked and we cannot bath the children until it is cleared.

Will you please send a man to look at my water; it is a funny colour and not fit to drink.

Our lavatory seat is broken in half and is now in three pieces.

I want to complain about the farmer across the road, every morning at 6 am his cock wakes me up and its now getting too much for me.

The man next door has a large erection in the garden, which is unsightly and dangerous.

Our kitchen floor is damp. We have two small children and would like a third so please send someone round to do something about it.

I am a single woman living in a downstairs flat and would you please do something about the noise made by the man I have on top of me every night.

Please send a man with the right tool to finish the job and satisfy my wife.

I have had the clerk of the works down on the floor six times but I still have had no satisfaction.

My bush is really overgrown round the front and my back passage has fungus in it

He's got this huge tool that vibrates the whole house and I just can't take it anymore.

MENTOR GROUPS

November 2006

Chief Observer J. Annable	0115 9175771	Sandiacre
R. Edwards (S)	0115 9491678	Stapleford
G. Hope (GQ)	0115 9192813	Chilwell
D. Bryant (GQ)	0115 8491590	Long Eaton
K. Priest (GQ)	0115 9304958	Ilkeston
P. Phillips (GQ)	0115 9825039	West Bridgford
A. Davis (GQ)	0115 8491098	Kimberley
P. Hunnisett (S)	0115 9816835	West Bridgford
D. Wallace (GQ)	0115 8469023	Wilford
R. Maslin (GQ)	0115 9375994	Keyworth
G. Roberts (GQ)	0115 8466835	Wollaton
B. Jackson (GQ)	0115 9534530	Netherfield
R. Walker (S)	0115 8461893	Gamston
K. Telfer-Banner (GQ)	01623 423243	Mansfield
C. Horsley (GQ)	01623 723078	Kirkby in Ashfield
A. Parkin (GQ)	0115 9207630	Arnold
N. Ireland (GQ)	01636 611246	Newark
S. Macmillan-Fraser (GQ)	01623 442436	Sutton-in-Ashfield
S. Laughton (S)	07973 815771	Warren Wood
P. Waldron (GQ)	0115 9279856	Bestwood Village
A. Beavis (GQ)	0115 8407370	Carlton
J. Ritchie (GQ)	0115 9551826	Rise Park
K. Savage (GQ)	0115 9558560	Arnold
K. Pickering (GQ)	07866 339386	Papplewick
I. Orgill (S)	01623 795654	Rainworth
P. Green (S)	01664 851557	Melton Mowbray
M. Gant (S)	01664 852353	Melton Mowbray
K. Octon (S)	01636 822208	Sutton on Trent
T. Towler (S)	0115 8465870	Wilford
T. Gelsthorpe	01623 429298	Mansfield Woodhouse
S. Turner (T)	0115 9198359	Bulwell

Passes to date:

Michael Saville
Marc Philips
Mark Bottomley
Jason Morgan
Ian Cameron
Justin Leary
Lorne Winborne
Gary Jones
Vince Shreeve

Rob Abbott
Kevin Stark
Richard Smith
Geoff Ellis
Ron Fahy
Brian Negus
Alex Agar
Deb Hooton
Dave Storey

Andy Hall
George Harrison
Mark Ellis
Phil Meynell
Peter Alton
Rob Abbott
Colin Boot
Tony Bell

Please check that your details are correct on the current training status!!!

Training Status	Associate	
BEING TRAINED - 1 2 1	Carl	Robins
	Ash	Lovett
	Sam	Wigman
	Craig	Garland
	Julie	Washington
	Gavin	Phipps
	Adrian	Mills
	Jeff	Cameron
FINAL BOOKED - RE	Hugh	Mccahon
TEST READY	Stephen	Groom
applied	Paul D	Thompson
booked	Ken	Jacklin
	Adrian	Hand
	Mark	Steele
	Les	Thomas
	Chris	Varley
	Robert	Varley
	John	Adkins
WAITING ASSOCIATE - BEING TRAINED	Chris	Adams
WAITING ASSOCIATE - CONTINUE NEXT SPRING	Stephen	Jacks
WAITING ASSOCIATE - FINAL REQUIRED	John	Davies
WAITING ASSOCIATE - FINAL REQUIRED	Matthew	Orchard
WAITING ASSOCIATE - INITIAL COMPLETED	Linda	Cree
WAITING ASSOCIATE - INITIAL COMPLETED	Mark	Shaw
WAITING ASSOCIATE - INITIAL COMPLETED	Mark	Baker
WAITING ASSOCIATE - NEXT YEAR	Sarah	Anson
WAITING ASSOCIATE - NEXT YEAR	Richard	Wright

Associates/Observers please check the above and if there are ANY discrepancies from your point of view, please let me know. If I am WAITING for anyone please update me too.

Terry Towler

Associate Coordinator & Senior Observer Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists

Group Nights & News Letters:

Group Nights: On the last Wednesday of every month, starting at 8:00pm. We meet *UPSTAIRS* (go through the pub lounge to the far left, thro the door and up the stairs) at the Black Lion Public House in Radcliffe on Trent, Nottinghamshire. The only month we do not meet is December, and our AGM is held in November.

We use the group nights to meet new /old members, prospective members and friends alike, listen to guest speakers (when available) have the odd quiz night, hear about what is happening within the group, and have a general chit chat about many varied subjects. We also use the evenings for informal question and answers, as every now and then someone has a burning question or two that may not have a straight forward answer, so we pool our collective minds together and sometimes have a good old debate.

The group nights are open to everyone, so please do come along and if you have friends or colleagues who are interested bring them along too!

Newsletters: Additional copies of this or previous news letters can be viewed and downloaded from our web site www.nottsam.org just follow the link for "Magazines". ***

*** Please note: Following recent problems with maintaining our website (reported at the AGM) we are currently undergoing a redesign and re-siting of our pages. Please bear with us and we'll keep you informed. Thanks

Don't forget to let me know if you change your email address! Every month I get a few failed deliveries, so make sure one of them isn't you!!! Without a current email address you WILL NOT receive your copy of the magazine or other notices.

Any articles for inclusion in future editions of 'Write Lines' can be sent to me either by email to ron.maslin@btinternet.com (I would prefer articles in Microsoft Word or text format wherever possible) or sent to me at:

Ron Maslin
79 Fairway
Keyworth
Nottinghamshire NG12 5DW

Feedback on the magazine is always welcomed!

Deadline for publication is 15th of each month

Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists Clothing 2006

Our new range of Club Clothing is now available – most of it from stock!!!

Apart from the standard range of black garments with a slightly revised logo (all white lettering) we will be showing samples of new items. We are sure you will be keen to see the new stuff - such as white T-shirts with black lettering around the logo and some long sleeved versions of the Polo shirt and the T-shirt, as well as a roll neck shirt and a zip-neck fleece. There's something for everyone and every season, so don't forget your cash or your cheque book on Club Nights. If you cannot make it to club night and would like to order some clothing items then use the order form below.

We offer a range of high quality clothing embroidered with our group logo.
New for 2005 – all lettering is in one colour.

The clothing comes in black with the attractive NAM logo on the chest
(pictured) and items are available in S*/M/L/XL/XXL/XXL*.

All *items are made to order. Other sizes should be available from stock

Standard Range 2006

- Fleece
- Polo Shirt
- Sweatshirt
- T-Shirt , black with white lettering
- T-Shirt, white with black lettering (new for 2005)



Order Form. Please enter the quantities you would like and calculate the total price

Size guide > Approx chest >	S	M	L	XL	XXL	£ Each	£ Total
<i>e.g. T-shirt, black</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>10.00</i>	<i>20.00</i>
T-Shirt, black						10.00	
T-shirt, white						10.00	
Polo Shirt, black						12.50	
Sweatshirt, black						15.00	
Fleece, black						25.00	
Other items available, made to order: (l/s = long sleeved)							
T-shirt black, l/s						12.50	
T-shirt white, l/s						12.50	
Polo shirt, black, l/s						15.00	
Roll Neck, black, l/s						20.00	
Zip neck Sweat, black, l/s						20.00	
Your Name: _____ Tel: _____						Total Order £ Value	

Please bring your order and your payment to the next group night or contact any member of the committee.
Please make cheques payable to “Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists.”
Your clothing will be available for collection at the following club night or from the clothing stockholder on the committee.

For XXXL and other sizes different prices/lead times may apply so please ask.

Urgent orders can be handled but additional charges may be necessary to cover our suppliers’ extra costs – price on application.

NAM Committee 2006



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**GAIN THE
ADVANTAGE**