



WRITE LINES

October 2010



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER of the NOTTINGHAM ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

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

www.nottsam.org.uk newslettereditor@nottsam.org.uk

H a p p y



Guy Fawkes/Bonfire Night

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Please make sure you're sitting down for this.

It has been brought to my attention that I, wait for it,

have made an error!

In last months spectacular issue (well I thought so !) was an article from Duncan which, as is my want, privilege and let's face it, job, I edited and translated into English from the raw Geordie dialect provided. In doing this I seem to have re-named Stratstone Powersports in Clay Cross as CMC Stratstone, as seen below.



Oh Bunger!

Following on from this action shot at CMC Stratstone (*Page 18 April Issue*), I, Duncan, would like to thank the workshop and staff for repairing the right faring bracket on my VFR800.

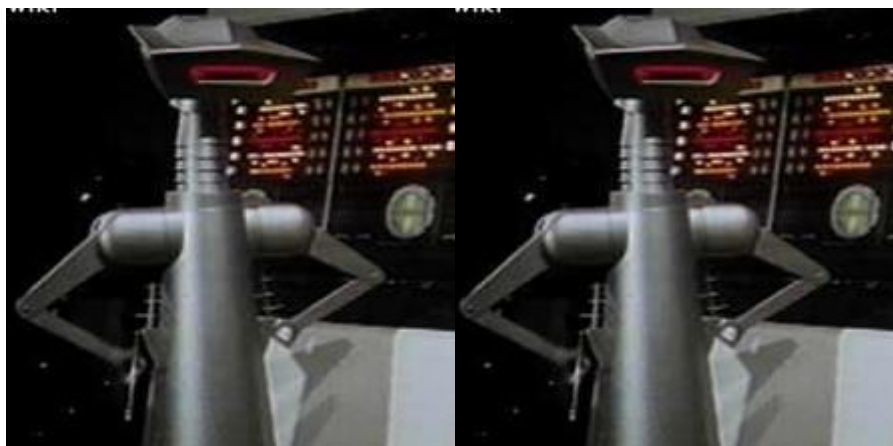
Can you imagine my utter dismay at not only discovering this heinous crime but at having it pointed out to me by only one person! And he hasn't even read all of it! And it wasn't Duncan!

I can only offer my deepest, grovellingist (yes, it's a word, in my world) apologies for this error with assurances that it will never happen again. Although having said that, never say never!

Breaking News!

Apparently, I've made another error!!!!

For some time now ('bout 6 months!) I've published Dave Bryant as Senior Observer on the last page. His position is of course **CHIEF** Observer. More grovelling apologies blah, blah, blah. Correction made on back page.



Anyhoo, in this month's error free zone.....

THINK B KE

www.shinysideup.co.uk

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THE CHAIRMANS BIT...

Me again,

We said that last month felt like autumn and this month's not much better either.

So what have I been up to since the last magazine?

I've carried out two or three final assessments and attended our annual senior observer meeting held at the Black Lion. We had planned an observer meeting for the 16th October as well, but we only had two observers say they were prepared to come and less than half even bothered to reply to our chief observer. I know this is a hobby and you are all volunteers but we do need some commitment from you for the observer meetings we put on twice a year. It was a very disappointing response and we had to cancel it due to a lack of interest.



We also organised a group ride out to the village of Ryhall for Sunday lunch, but once again the rain gods didn't let us down, and we had to call off the ride before 8am of the morning as it was raining cats and dogs as normal.

Twelve of us did decide to go down by car, and the conditions of some of the roads were really bad, we found lots of deep mud and deep standing water in parts so I was very pleased we called it off, as it was much safer in the car.

Bike Problems

I told you last month about the non starting problem I had with the bike down in London the other week. Well recently I have stalled it twice during slow riding demonstrations and had to bump it up to get it going again.

So Dave (*That's Dave Bryant, the Chief Observer*) offered to carry out an amp usage test with some of his Hi-Tec kit at work today. We hooked it up to the machine and found that there was no drain from anything whilst everything was turned off, just as it should be.

We then started to turn on everything we could, with the ignition turned on but not started. There was a drop of quite a few amps but nothing serious. We then tried to start the bike but it showed only 5v in the battery after only a maximum of 2 minutes of everything turned on and max amps drain of 260A whilst trying to turn the engine over.

So the battery wouldn't start the bike as it was flat, even though when the ignition was turned off, it showed 12v again??

Dave (*the Chief Observer*) then got out the heavy duty fast charger and connected it to the battery and turned it on. Then we could hear a strange fizzing sound and then there was battery fluid bubbling out of an indent in the side of the battery caused by a wire melting against it when I short circuited out an accessory wire a few weeks earlier. (So the battery's dead then I asked?)

Dave (*the Chief Observer*) managed to locate me a local bike shop that had one in stock and sent me off walking to collect it. I paid £40 for it and returned to fill it with battery acid and we put it on charge for an hour or two before re-attaching it to the bike again.

Hope fully now my problems are over with the non starting problem.

Thanks Dave (*the Chief Observer*), don't know what I would do without your help?



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E.ON Rider assessment day November 10th

We have been contacted by E.ON to take part in a road safety day they are holding on the 10th November.

They are planning on starting the day around 8-8.30, and finishing around 5-6pm.

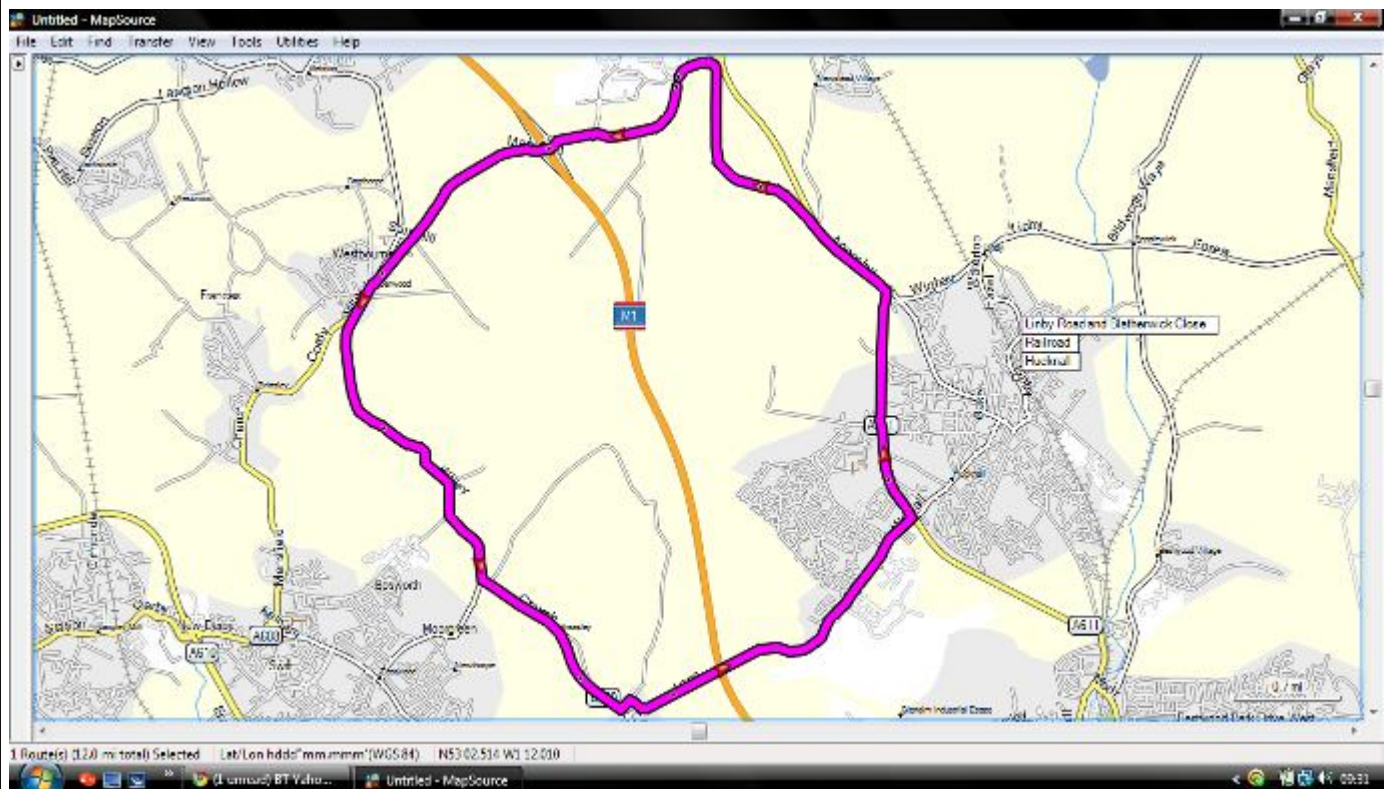
This is a little vague at the moment as they do not know how many staff members will take up the offer of the assessment. They generally have 30 people ride in each day, but they don't have any numbers yet. So we don't know how many observers we need yet either. But the more we can get the better service we can offer.

Once we have taken them around the route a couple of times, and returned to their head office, we will be able to give a little more detailed briefing about their riding and encourage them into taking on a full "Skills for life" course with our group.

Angela will be there covering the information desk and sorting out who is out with who and when. You should find her under the feather flags.

Apparently they have a canteen for our lunch and refreshments. They are going to cover our observer expenses and make a donation to group funds for our support so it will be well worth our trouble, and hopefully gain some new members as well for next year.

Here is the map of the route we are using on the day. It starts and finishes at the industrial park near J27 of the M1. It is 12 miles long and should take around 20 minutes a lap. So an hour should get us out and back safely, and then another 15 minutes to talk to them afterwards before you get your next customer.



THINK B O Y KE

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NAM Christmas Party Saturday 4th December

Due to popular demand we are going to hold a NAM charity Christmas party and buffet on Saturday 4th December at 8pm till midnight at the Black Lion Radcliffe on Trent.

Tickets will be on sale for £10 each, so please bring a friend or partner and celebrate Christmas with NAM.

There will be a large buffet and music in the function room we have for our group night. The bar will also be open up stairs to save you the chore of walking up and down stairs for a drink. The land lady has said that the car park will be locked up at night so if you want to leave your car there over night you are welcome to and collect it in the morning (*or afternoon if you really enjoy yourself!*)

Your ticket cost will pay for the food and the bar staff, and any remaining money will go towards the Air Ambulance. As we have only had three ride outs this year due to bad weather, our fund raising collection is not going very well compared to this time last year. So we are planning to use this event to get everyone together and raise some money for a really great cause.

So please send me an email to Steve.laughton1@btopenworld.com confirming your intention to attend ASAP, so we can plan how much food we need to prepare.

Tickets will be on sale very soon, and we look forward to seeing you all there.

Round up

Well that's all for now. I will tell you more next month.

Once again I look forward to chatting to you all soon. Don't forget to come and say hello at group nights.

And if there is anything I can help with please ask, and I will see what I can do.

And to all the existing NAM members, if there is any one you don't recognise at group nights please go over and have a chat with them as it may be their first night and they may like a friendly face to welcome them in.

We have had comments from various group members that some of the more long standing members tend to sit in the same chairs each month, and just talk to their friends, and that they don't put themselves out to welcome new members. If this sounds like you, please make an effort to say hello to someone new. Thanks guys, see you all soon.

Steve Laughton



Bring and Buy Night

At the **November** group meeting there will be a 'bring and buy' event so please bring any motorcycle related 'stuff' you want to sell on – sensible prices mind!!!

A while ago a similar 'bring and buy' night was quite successful!

With Christmas bearing down on us, a few extra quid for presents might come in useful – and you may get yourself a stocking filler too!

I myself have a few items that somebody else may find useful, a Hein Gericke jacket, some fabric trousers, a pair of BMW waterproof size 11 boots and a brand new pair of waterproof gloves.

So cash only on the night and if you do a deal with someone and it goes tits up, don't blame NAM!

Good news on the legal front as our resident Legal Eagle explains:-

I have been reading a number of articles regarding the old chestnut of people sending off their licence to the DVLA and it being returned without their full motorcycle category. Perhaps the following article may give some assistance to the members of NAM. It would normally cost between £20-25 to have a solicitor do this but I will do it for **free!!!!**

"The old chestnut of the DVLA returning licences without the full motorcycle entitlement has again raised its head. This had been a bone of contention for a while and I am sure that it is the exception rather than the rule with many licences being renewed without a hitch. However, when it goes wrong, the consequences can be quite catastrophic. In the MCN last week, they reported that the DVLA are not always returning the old licence as agreed and they are destroyed leaving the individual to prove they have passed their test. On many occasions due to having to argue against bureaucracy and losing, the biker has to re-take their test, which results in time and money.

Solicitors are empowered to compare an original document with a copy and verify it to be a true copy of the original. I am the Membership Secretary for NAM and most of you are aware

that I am a specialist motorcycle accident solicitor, I am therefore able to sign a photocopy of the Bikers' licence before the original is sent off to the DVLA, verifying it to be a true copy of the original, dating and stamping the copy with my office stamp. This hasn't been tested yet and therefore there are no guarantees but I would be surprised if the copy would be challenged if signed by a Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales.

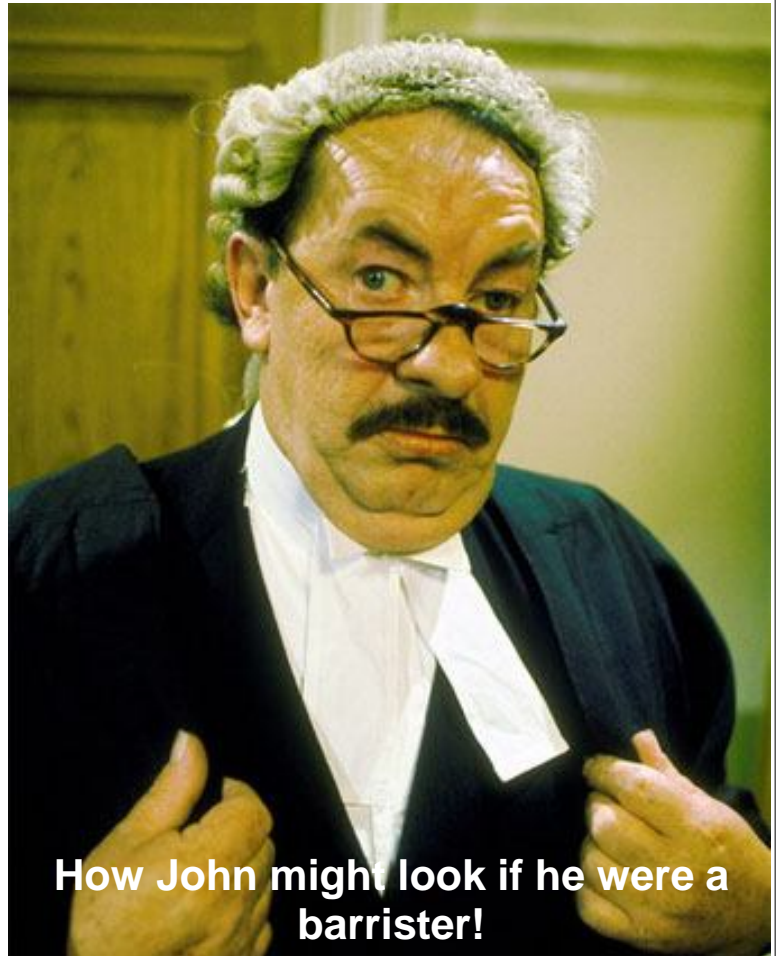
The certification should say

"I certify that I have seen the original documentation and this copy is a complete and accurate copy of that original."

I am at most NAM monthly meetings, otherwise my office is at West Bridgford. If any members wishes to bring their licence and a photocopy (preferably in colour), I will certify it for them **free of charge**. If you want me to certify your licence at a meeting, please give me a quick call on 0800 021 3065, and I will bring the office stamp to the meeting. Alternatively, if you want to attend my office (in that case I will photocopy the licence for you), please call first to make sure that I am in.

Regards,

John Measures



How John might look if he were a barrister!

Did you know?

Motorcyclists are about 50 times more likely to become a KSI casualty than car drivers.

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A serious message from Secretary Paul Thompson.

Dear members,

Our group has a Facebook page (Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists) which is rarely used!

I have been given permission by your committee to keep the Facebook page updated and make it something you would like to use! However I know that some folk don't like this 'social networking' tool or don't have an account - it's free to set up. So we must still place relevant information on the yahoo site as usual.

I would urge you all to make use of this 'social networking' tool, please put on your motor biking photos, video and links to any site you might think would be of interest to the group – **and please remember to also make use of the yahoo site!**

Regards

Paul T



Mark Flint and Michael Croft receive their pass certificates from Chairman Steve Laughton at Septembers group night.
Hearty congratulations to both.

THINK B KE

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Triumph Thunderbird vs Honda DN-01

(Words and good looks courtesy Tony Bell, bikes courtesy of Pidcocks.)

Back in the day when I had way too much time on my hands, I rode the odd bike or two. (You may have noticed. Well I had to do something in between not getting a job, didn't I?)

These two bike are similar in some ways but so different in others.

The Thunderbird (yes, I only rode it because there was a competition attached to the test ride!) was a 1700cc (Big Bore) with straight (beautifully noisy) pipes and was de-cated (Poor pussy! But what have dolphins got to do with it?) It's a long leg stretch to the pedals and the hand levers are built for an Orang-utan. The engine has so much grunt, most of the gears are superfluous. It will go everywhere in 2nd or 3rd and still pull your arms out of their sockets.

With no wind protection, anything over 70 gets you a buffeting but that's not what it's about. Mellow cruising is the name of it's game, fiddling with the fancy switch on the right grip which changes the trip display on the tank mounted clock. That and frightening little old ladies with the sounds of fireworks going off as you shut off the throttle down the high street. Lovely!

The Honda on the other hand, although meant to be a cruiser as well, does far better as a Sunday toy for people with too much money. Anyone who has seen me on my YP400 scoot will know I love the relaxing way you just go along for the ride. It's the same with this but with more. It has a fully automatic mode and clutch-less gear, and an awkward, thumb operated mode button. There's a "sport" mode but I didn't notice any difference. These gear thingies was what I was interested in but found them hard to use. It's like turning your headlights on and off full beam to change gear unlike some others I've seen where the left index finger and thumb are used. I found myself constantly resting the heel of my hand on the grip in order to keep my thumb in the right place, therefore not being in proper control.



Did You Know?

9 out of 10 riders over the age of 30 who are killed while riding are on bikes over 500cc.

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The engine is a quite responsive, being just under 700cc, the seats are vast and comfy but it does have looks only a mother could love. The screen seems to be designed to put all the wind straight into your face and there's little chance of adding any luggage. Good job there's an after market screen and back packs available. (Did someone say "Job"?)

A marriage of motorcycle and scooter some say but with a price tag of 10k plus no wonder the father left town after that liaison! Now widely available at less than 7k.



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T 020 8996 9600 F 020 8996 9601

enquiries@iam.org.uk

iam.org.uk

Terry Towler

**Institute of Advanced Motorists and Regional Co-ordinator, North London
And Eastern England (North)**

Phone: 0115 846 5870

Mobile: 0771 388 2854

Email: rco7@iam.org.uk

www.iam.org.uk

Senior Observer — Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists www.nottsam.org.uk

Senior Observer — Nottingham No 1 Group of Advanced Motorists www.nottinghamno1iam.org.uk/

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Use your magazine to
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less prized possessions
Anything considered.**

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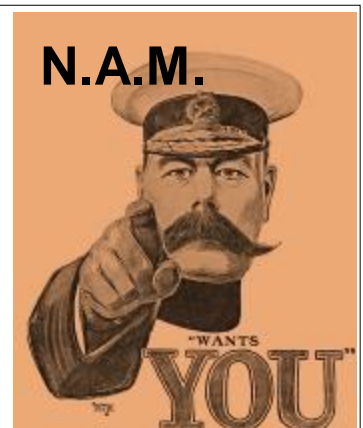
newslettereditor@nottsam.org.uk

**If you're one of the very few without a pc, see me or
one of the other committee members. Tell us what
you want and we'll do our best.**

Your Committee Needs Your Help.

Next weekend is the Guy Martin led ride round the lanes in aid of this years British Legion Poppy Appeal. In order for this to run smoothly, Notts Advanced Motorcyclists has been asked by the organisers to put their expertise into practice and "escort" the riders to their destination but to do this it needs your help. If you fancy a few hours in the company of like minded souls, not mention one of the top TT racers around, and give a bit back to the group, contact your chairman now!

These things don't organise themselves you know!



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Warsop, Meden
Vale and
District Branch,
The Royal
British Legion



Top TT Rider Guy Martin to Launch the WARSOP 2010 Poppy Appeal. Join us and **Guy** at 12 noon Saturday (30th October) John Fretwell Sporting Complex, Sookholme Road, Sookholme, Mansfield, Notts. NG19 8LL Come and have your photo taken with him and get his autograph £10 per bike includes automatic entry into a Grand prize draw, bacon butty, brew and a ride through Nottinghamshire/Lincolnshire led by the man him- self. Call 01623 843944 or log onto

www.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/warsop

**for ticket/payment information
to support this very worthy
cause. All proceeds to the
Poppy Appeal**



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Don't forget if you have you had a really good or bad bike orientated Xmas/Birthday/Valentines/Easter pressie we need to know about it, even those "warm" socks from Grandma not to mention the Xmas jumpers.

Been anywhere, done anything, tell us (we won't laugh, honest). Give us your opinions on your bikes, kit, toys, tours, places to go and how to get there. Put it in an e-mail and send it in. Everybody knows something.

WRITE LINES

We're not looking for Booker Prize stuff just half a page (or more) and a photo or two could put your name in lights (metaphorically speaking).

So come on, put finger to keyboard. You've all seen the level what gets published so don't be shy.

Deadline is 15th of each month with publication usually the weekend before group night.

WRITE LINES

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More crazy photos and jokes.....as always, the Editor and Committee do not intend to cause any offence by any photographs or jokes.....



Don't mess with women in uniform!



Are you getting the maximum usage out of your vehicle?



BACK SEAT DRIVER WITH THE HUMP?



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One for the Maths teachers of the group?

★★★ 4. It took Marie 10 minutes to saw a board into 2 pieces. If she works just as fast, how long will it take her to saw another board into 3 pieces?

Answer: 20 minutes

Answer: 15

10 = 2 pieces
15 = 3 pieces
20 = 4

Seems fine to me!

Did You Know?

Casualties broadly reflect bike traffic i.e. peak riding KSI's in Summer and least in Winter.

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Associate Co-Coordinator by Nick Ireland

Andy Frith	Final being Sorted
Gabriel Rey	Final being Sorted
Naill Moore	Final being Sorted
Dean Meakin	initial required
William Thompson	initial being Sorted
Rob Walker	initial being Sorted
Kirsty Boss	On Hold
Larry O'Toole	On Hold
Richard Jordan	On Hold
Kev Naylor	one 2 one
Steve Bailey	one 2 one
Gareth Mitchell	one 2 one
Tony Welch	one 2 one
Steve O'Connell	one 2 one
George Gill	one 2 one
Dan Mason	one 2 one
Chris Dames	one 2 one
Karen Elliott	one 2 one
Terry Anderson	Test Ready
Dylan Thorley	Test Ready
Gareth Maslin	Test Ready
Richard Walker	Test Ready
Jamie Pendrill	Test Ready
John Anderson	Test Ready
Mark Habgood	Test Ready



Firstly the serious stuff:

If you are listed as Test Ready and haven't had confirmation from the IAM that they have received your test application **you most probably haven't sent it in!**

You can either complete one on line or download a form from the IAM site at: www.iam.org.uk/iammembers/IAM+Test+Booking+Form

Those listed as "Initial Required" may well have had it before this edition.

Test Ready:

I will do my very best to get a refresher sorted for people whose test is imminent and haven't been out for a while but the new associates will take priority. **You need to either ring or email me.**

Observers:

Please remember to let me know each time you take an associate out.

Associates:

You must practice between runs, at least 90 miles, that way you should be up to test standard by run 5.

Remember that your mileage from the last training run is noted on your sheet so **GET ON YOUR BIKE...!!**

However, don't take it for granted you will pass as we also had 2 fails this month but they are both looking at retaking as I type.

And finally keep busy but most importantly **Keep Safe.**

There is always someone out there who will hurt you.

Nick Ireland

**Associate Coordinator
and Senior Observer**

Test Passes

Congratulations to:

Martin Foster, Alex Mac, Lindsey Trueman , Adrian Richardson and,
STOP PRESS!, Jamie Pendrill.

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Nick Ireland - Associate Coordinator & Senior Observer



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Raffle prizes kindly
donated Dave Bryant
(Director of Retford
College of Vehicle of
Technology)

Retford College of Vehicle Technology.

Who run courses in : Vehicle Fast Fit, Vehicle Repair and Maintenance,
Motorcycle Maintenance, Auto Electrical

Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists on

facebook

Alan Godfrey (Nottinghamshire Fundraiser)

Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance

Email:- agodfrey.airamb@btconnect.com

www.lnaact.org.uk

Air ambulance is also on Facebook



Lincs & Notts
Air Ambulance

This is a quote from Steve Laughton the Chairman of NAM.

"I had an interesting conversation the other weekend about not riding like the advanced rider when going for a play! I went to great trouble to explain that if the speed increases that everything else should continue to be done in the order of the 5 point system. After all this was invented by the police to get from A-B as safely and quickly as they can. We have to work within the speed limits but everything else is based on their methods. And if you're speed increases then your observations need to be even sharper and more systematic than they are at 60mph."

Remember this and how true it is.....

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GROUP NIGHTS

When: Last Wednesday of the month,
Time: 8:00pm.
Where: Black Lion Pub,
 Main Rd, Radcliffe on Trent,
 Nottinghamshire.
Postcode:
 NG12 2FD

GROUP NIGHTS—The only month we do not meet is December, and our AGM is held in March.

These nights are for meeting new/old members, prospective members and friends alike, We usually have guest speakers (when available) and we hear what is happening the group.

There's time for a general chit chat and 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 fashioned 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: This and previous newsletters can be viewed and downloaded from our web site www.nottsam.org.uk - just follow the link for "Magazines".



Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists Clothing

NEW PRICES—SEE NEXT PAGE
 SOME ITEMS CHEAPER!!!!!!

The clothing comes various colours with the NAM logo on the chest (pictured) and various items are available in sizes that range from XS to 5XL.

NAM clothing now available in any colour you like..... Even pink!!!

HOW TO GET YOUR CLOTHING

There is an Order Form on the Yahoo site.
 (Don't forget the colour, size and quantity)

Please contact a committee member or alternatively please e-mail your completed order form to...

nam.clothing@ntlworld.com

Please make cheques payable to "Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists."



Nottingham Advanced Motorcyclists Committee 2010-2011



**Nick May
Marketing**

**Dave Bryant
"Chief" Observer**

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