

July 2025



East Sussex Advance Motorcyclists

ESAM NEWSLETTER

Sussex Advanced Motorcyclists Newsletter

A Message from the Editor.....

Hi, like I said in the last newsletter I hope you're all enjoying the better riding weather, but WOW it's hot!! Too hot for me!
As long as you're all riding safe that is GREAT!

Great stuff has been happening so enjoy the read, and lots to look forward to, like: Isle of Wight & One Night Only



Development Come Breakfast Run / Unplanned Breakfast Run



A varied bunch for the development ride that became more of the usual breakfast run as everyone were full members. A good place and route with pleasant comments to confirm I'd done the job right

Breakfast was at Porcupine pantry in the grounds of Penshurst Place, not your usual fry up but nevertheless good options.

Time for a last minute photo then we left and all made it back to Boship Services.

2025 Awards

This year's awards were given for.....



Committee award - Ray B



Observer of the year- Andy H



Rider of the year – Julia F

Well Done All

Test Passes this month: Julia F on 08th May - observer Andy H and examiner Katrina
Well done

Members Raffle drawn by Alan B – Winner is: Andy C Well Done

Whitby for fish 'n' chips

Around these few months I like to do something a little different, last year I went to Bude for a Cornish pasty. I had planned to do St David's also then stop at Barry Island for the night but a slipping clutch put me off, I headed home. Only to find out the clutch was fine, it was just the lever not returning fully and a squirt of something would have solved the issue.

My son and I rode to Oakhampton and back for him to collect an end can for his Triumph tiger 800 from a very tired, just finished a nightshift paramedic who'd decided that it was too loud for him. Perfect for the 21 year old. It was fitted on the chap's driveway and the previous can wrapped and strapped to his top box.

I usually end up doing these rides on my own, not many people are willing to do that mileage in a day and there is something about the challenge.

Well this year I'd made plans to go to Wales, I'd seen a stretchy Ducati bike cover that would keep the dust off the old 1200s. The guy was willing to wait a couple of weeks so I could ride over, meet him at Baffle Haus, a 'hip' biker cafe over in Pontypool. (Apologies if the word 'hip' was triggering to some of you,) in this respect, it refers to a place where 'cool' people go for expensive coffee. Although I can't confirm this as when I contacted the seller to see if the plan was still on, he told me he'd sold the cover! He knew I was making a day of it, up through mid Wales so as not to touch the motorway, he even said I was nuts! But what can you do? I decided I wasn't going there for nothing, I could easily have still done the route I'd had planned but it wouldn't have had the same effect.

So to decide where to next, out came the google maps, we'd be lost without this 🤔🤔 and looked to see what else would be worth a giggle to me.

Mum lives in the Manchester area so could head that way and onto lakes and peaks but no I decided to go to Whitby. I'd been there once before with the wife, kids and her grandfather. So thought I'd get there for around lunchtime for fish n chips. Working backwards and the route being on Calimoto I estimated I'd need to be on my way about 2/3am. I'm a much better early riser than I am at staying up late.

2am the alarm goes off, make a coffee 0230 I head off, all checks were done the night before.

At Heathfield I get my first incident of the day, I make a perfectly acceptable overtake on a questionable vehicle going silly slow and wind the bike up to a good speed for the conditions then I spot this white tail and two eyes staring at me, on with the anchors, harshest braking that I've had recorded on Calimoto and first set of pants to change too! All was good though, after a little chase down the road and darting here and there we parted ways.

I had to do Dartford tunnel, I wanted to get north of the river quickly, took a left somewhere just after that.

Next incident I swear wasn't my fault, a set of cross road traffic lights appeared out of nowhere right on a 90% left hand bend. No signs, no nothing, the green light was filtered by those blind thingy's, the ones that make it hard to see that there actually on. Well, that changed at super short notice and I just stopped in time....

With various coffee, breakfast and loo breaks, navigating the boring straight roads around Peterborough/Spalding and similar areas I finally get to the Humber bridge. Quite a distance away I manage to get a distant photo of the top of the bridge, sent it to a friend who's got a strange relationship with all bridges and he named it immediately!

Found some cracking great roads thanks to Calimoto, it took me to Goathland (Village where Heartbeat was based if you didn't know) this was a trip back to memory lane with Grandad and the kids, but no time to reminisce, just a quick photo to prove I'd been there.



Then Whitby, I came in from the top end opposite the Abbey so took another photo of the bike with the Abbey behind, somewhere.... Rode into town, it was rammed, the bridge was closed to traffic and there was nowhere to park at all, not even the pavement. So I turned around, headed out of town north, found a petrol station and grabbed an egg n cress sandwich and headed for home.

The route back was a bit more main A roads, my arrival time home using Cali was going to be way past my bedtime so I opted for the more direct route.

Uneventful. I arrived home at 19.20pm, I covered 710 miles. And the chain was extremely dry. Didn't take chain lube.

As for the fish n chips, I don't really like them anyway.



What I could have eaten in Whitby but didn't.....



If there are any members that would like the club to offer further activities, other than what is planned, please let us know your ideas!

You can email or WhatsApp those to us.

Isle of Wight

Saturday 2nd August

Day ride taking the scenic route as much as possible.

Refreshments stops on mainland and IOW, plus on the ferry.



7:30 - Depart Hickstead

9:30 - Loomies

10:30-45 - Ferry terminal Southampton

11:00 - Ferry

12:00 - East Cowes

16:30-45 - Ferry terminal East Cowes

17:30 - Southampton

20:00 - Hickstead

We have 11 riders so far. If you'd like to join please let me know and I'll add you to the list.

You will need to book the ferry individually.

Please go to their website: <https://www.redfunnel.co.uk/>

Booking details:

Saturday 2nd August

11:00 Southampton to East Cowes - 16:30 East Cowes to Southampton



One Night Only 30th August 2025

One night only!

It's in the title, a chance to get away for one night only, with a twist!

I plan to lead a ride to a destination, this ride is NOT a training ride, I just thought it would be nice for members to get away and be able to ride in a group of similar abilities. Because it's not a training ride, the twist is that as an advanced rider or in training for your test, you can bring along ONE non advanced rider pal. I don't believe this has been done before through the club so it is an experiment but it's no different to a normal ride out. The idea behind it is for your friend who may be interested in doing the Advanced Rider Course to come along and see how we ride with our training, as a group of advanced riders and maybe want to book their own course. Now I appreciate that they may see how you ride but seeing others and in a group may help them understand the system better.

It's just an excuse to ride safely and to get away for the night.

With this in mind, although it isn't a training ride I will lead as if it were, safe and legal, I have to assume that some people may have never ridden in a group using the 2nd person drop off system, and we all ride to different abilities. No point speeding off and losing riders.

I'm taking Mrs F who typically hates being anywhere other than behind me so she'll hopefully learn how to ride in a group better too, using the marker system.

So where are we going? When? What's the mileage? Will we be stopping?

Saturday 30th August

We're heading to Little Witcombe, Gloucester. I will stay at Premier Inn Gloucester (Little Whitcombe) there is a beefeater restaurant attached. Personally I find them affordable and usually of good quality. There are still rooms available but the price is gradually increasing. This is where your pal comes in handy and you share rooms....

Total mileage for the whole trip is approximately 320 miles so average 160 miles per day. There will be a breakfast stop on the Saturday with a lunch/ cake stop in the afternoon. On Sunday again, breakfast if required along with lunch/cake stop on the return.

I know it's not lots of miles but for some that's more than enough.

So you just need to book your own room, I'm not getting involved in taking money, if this works then maybe we can look at group discounts etc then.

You can of course stay somewhere else nearby and you can eat elsewhere too, I won't be offended, just be at the meet point at the time if you want to ride back with us.

So, if that sounds like something you'd be interested in, just let me know when you book your hotel and I'll add you to a WhatsApp group, I shan't add your friends, but you can update them with any information.

Wayne

