

## SLIPSTREAM

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR TVAM MEMBERS

*JANUARY 2022* 

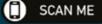




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Happy New Year from not so sunny California! So, no need to be that jealous as we have had an inordinate amount of rain and cooler weather before, during and after Christmas.

Caution is the word over here on the west coast of the States, so mask wearing indoors is compulsory.

No motorcycling on the cards for me whilst here, the fastest I go is with pedal power on my e-bike and I haven't done too much of that yet with the heavy rain and cycle paths awash with storm debris. Hoping for better times in January and also a visit to New Orleans.

I hope you have all managed to have reasonable Christmas and New Year celebrations this year without too many changes of plans.

Looking back at December, in this month's issue we have a pictorial record of the Reading Toy Run, in which so many of you participated. Nick Tasker reviews some of the bikes you may have seen if you visited Motorcycle Live at the NEC, and if, like me, you were unable to attend he gives you a rundown of what you missed. Thanks to John Gordon for supplying the route for me to create a winter ride which you will find on the centre pages. I haven't created one for a while, so perhaps some of you have a ride worth sharing to send me in gpx or itn files with a few words, to share with all?



Keep the rubber side down...

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#### **NEW MEMBERS IN NOVEMBER**

Keith Boden **Hugh McCurry** Calin Spicica Hume Fairholme Duncan McLaughlin **Kevin Spokes** Jose Fernandez Frederick 'Fred' Norton **Daniel Spring Rob Harris** Anthony Olsen Nathan Thomas Kevin Hurley Colin Rackliff David Tilton David Jenkins Aivars Silins John Watson Nick Lambert Charlie Smith Resat Yucesir

#### TEST PASSES NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

CandidateObserverMartin BeukesLance GibsonNicholas CollinsPeter DalglieshGeoffrey CooperPaul NaishEd CozensChristopher Davey

Daniel de Matos Andrew Smith With a F1RST Pass

Mark Evans Paul Wells

Julian Evins Paul Naish With a F1RST Pass

Jeremy Fisher David Parker
David Grieves Andrew Storey

Luke Graham Mick Goodhall With a F1RST Pass
Donna Heath Andrew Ball With a F1RST Pass

Philip Jones John Stevenson

David Mack Graham Kitteridge With a F1RST Pass Pierre Louw **Barrie Smith** With a F1RST Pass Shaun MacGregor Carl Flint With a F1RST Pass Konrad Marciniak Peter Dalgliesh With a F1RST Pass **Trevor Warwick** With a F1RST Pass Owen Mayes **James Bates** With a F1RST Pass Harry Morgan

Adrian Percival Andrew Collins With a F1RST Pass
Lijo Philip Christopher Davey With a F1RST Pass

Simon Plank Carole Hooper

Chris Procter Paul Johnson With a F1RST Pass

Mark Thomas Di Woodcock

### COMBINED NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER ENTRIES FOR NEW MEMBERS AND TEST PASSES AS WE DO NOT PUBLISH IN DECEMBER AS THE EDITOR AND SLIPSTREAM TEAM NEED A BREAK!

#### **NEW MEMBERS IN DECEMBER**

Colin Campbell Martin Sweetman
Jacqueline Carli Oliver 'Oli' Wiseman
Mel Dickinson Danny Wozny

Nick Evans Adrian Garman Arnold Hornsey Alex Lemon

Mark Woodrow

#### **TEST PASSES NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**

CandidateObserverBrian WalmsleySid CollyerCrispin WalkerAndrew CollinsAlexander WattsMick GoodallJohn WillockPeter BrownePaul WinterPaul Taylor

With a F1RST Pass



**Graham Bugby** 

November's test passes. We are sorry we couldn't take one of the December test passes acknowledged at the St. Crispin's monthly meet, as the meeting only took place online.

#### FROM THE SADDLE

And Happy New Year to everyone.

Firstly, I'd like to remind everyone that our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Sunday 16th January at 12.30pm. At the time of writing, we hope to hold the AGM as a face-to-face meeting at St. Crispin's. We are continuing to evaluate the Covid-19 risks and guidelines and if conditions deem it appropriate then we will move this to an online meeting.

The ongoing monitoring of the guidelines and rules around Covid-19 will also be used to inform any restrictions we might place around our social and riding activities. I'm writing this on New Year's Eve and there are currently no formal guidelines or rules in place in England that mean we need to restrict our activities – although this may have already changed by the time you're reading this article. We do urge members to keep themselves safe and to take appropriate individual measures. We will keep everyone informed as to any restrictions that we, the government or IAM RoadSmart decide to implement, so please keep an eye out for any relevant messages on Groups.io.

One of our flagship training events, the 7Ws weekend, continues to evolve. Started many years ago under the leadership of Daf Phillips, we held the 40th 7Ws last September. Ness and Andy Boudier organised a very successful celebratory event, with a great mix of observed runs, social runs and social interaction – as well as raising a whopping £464 for the Air Ambulance (which receives no public funding) via contributions and a raffle. Due to family and business pressures, they have decided to step back from 7Ws and the organisation is now with the Training Team; we'd like to say a big "thank you" to Ness and Andy. Details of the 41st 7Ws, to be held on 8th-10th April 2022 and based in Llandrindod Wells (where else?) are now on the

Groups.io calendar. Although some things have evolved, the core aims of 7Ws as a training weekend, aimed at Associates, and enjoying great riding on some fabulous Welsh roads, remain the same. See the calendar entry on Groups.io for more information or scan QR code to register your interest.



The local teams have been organising some fantastic runs in the lead-up to Christmas and over the New Year break. It's great to see so many getting engaged on these runs despite some less-than-ideal weather. The team leaders will be taking more steps to increase engagement and will also be taking the lead on driving TVAM involvement at local events. Please ensure you engage with your local team and get along to the team meetings and social runs. The local teams are really the heart of the

club and so much of the social and riding activity is driven from the local team members.

Although we've had some unseasonably warm weather over New Year (the warmest on record), and the evenings are starting to get lighter, please do keep an eye out for cold snaps, icy patches and micro-climates. It's sometimes better to delay going out for an hour or two than to risk encountering frost or ice. We have better weather to look forward to and I hope to see you on a ride soon.

Chris Brownlee Chief Observer



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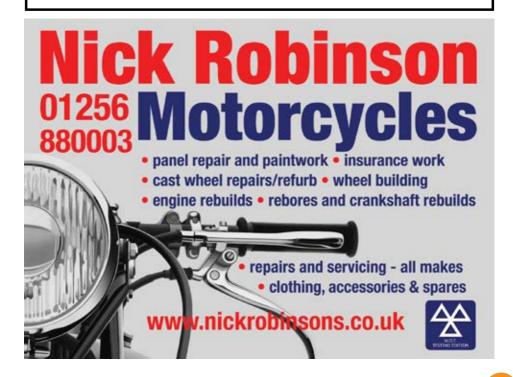
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## Nick Tasker takes a look at the 2021





Lots of great bikes, but is there anything really exciting?

Until Covid-19 put paid to the expo season last year I hadn't missed a single Motorcycle Live since I first passed my test in 2009. A family event, my Mum views it as a nice day out with the family where she can snag a few bargains on next year's touring gear. My brother and his wife poke skeptically at bikes while meeting up with friends. I use the opportunity to corner bewildered staff and bombard them with technical questions, climb all over every motorcycle I can find and try to take motorcycling's metaphorical temperature.

My motorcycling obsession – and there is no other word – is about everything on two (or more wheels). I never got into it for the culture, or the machismo, or the bragging rights – I liked the machines. As such, stepping into the hall at the NEC is just...fantastic. Doing so on a weekday and discovering that there are half as many people crowding the space was a wonderful surprise, allowing me to get more time with more bikes. I usually come with a list of specific machines to get up close and personal with, but also try to get an overview and see if I can put my finger on the pulse of the British motorcycling industry.

This year was always going to be a bit weird; Covid-19 hasn't gone away, and there are some manufacturers who, after getting stung last year, clearly gambled on the show not happening at all. But even ignoring the fact that the only Yamaha products on

## YCLELIVE held at the NEC in December

display were T-shirts and that the entire Piaggio Group failed to materialise, there was still something rather flat about the show this year. The stands that were present were a little more restrained; marketing budgets and general uncertainty contributed to this, but so did customs and border issues, slimming Honda's line-up and stranding most of Ducati's bikes in France.

Half the bikes I'd seen announced in manufacturer press releases in the previous weeks and months were absent. I was curious about the newly-updated Yamaha T-Max 560 and the all-new Moto-Guzzi V100 Mandello would have had my attention. Ducati's Desert X was notable by its absence, and Triumph were only showing a camo-wrapped 'pre-production' version of its (since revealed) Tiger 1200. But even if those bikes had been there, they wouldn't have been anything truly revolutionary. The only genuine surprise was BSA, unveiling for the first time their re-launched (Indian-owned) brand and very aesthetically-convincing new Gold Star. And that's just a dressed-up old BMW/Rotax engine in a retro chassis.



Norton's back! And they're offering the same V4 and retro-twin they made before...



Ducati's new 17" Multistrada Pikes Peak was stuck in France, along with most of their other bikes

It was cool to see (and sit on) Harley–Davidson's new 1200cc adventure bike, the Pan America, and the suspension that automatically lowers as you come to a stop is a neat addition to the genre. Their new Sportster uses the same water–cooled engine and comes with so much plastic cladding that it makes a Kawasaki Ninja look naked by comparison. I like flat bars and I like feet–forward riding positions, but not on the same bike. I'm sure we'll see ergonomic variants of that platform in the years to come as noise and emissions regulations strangle the life out of their air–cooled engines, but on this occasion, I was left feeling somewhat underwhelmed.



Dressed-up BMW engine in a 60's chassis and running gear. Cool, but not new.

And honestly, that's my overriding impression of the entire show, and indeed motorcycling as a whole at the moment. In theory, we've never had it so good – choice, build–quality, features, performance...we're living in a golden age of motorcycling. And yet, there's no excitement, no passion, and no risk. Late–stage motorcycling has figured out what the best way to solve every problem is, and no–one's trying anything new. They simply benchmark the leading competitors and remix their own version. And if a manufacturer is already the segment leader, then they just iterate and tweak the formula, so as not to upset their existing customers.

The Moto-Guzzi V100 Mandello should be a seismic event; Guzzi is finally going water-cooled! Piaggio has clearly decided the brand will live on and has stumped up



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the not-inconsiderable investment in an all-new power plant. But by all accounts, it's yet another ~110bhp two-box half-faired sports-tourer. Harley-Davidson making an Adventure bike should have stopped the whole motorcycling world in its tracks, but instead, we're informed that it's merely another credible entry in the fully-saturated 1200cc Adventure market. One neat new innovation does not a groundbreaking motorcycle make. It seems churlish to complain about a bunch of really good new motorcycles simply because they're not blowing my mind, but that's what gets people out into showrooms. Nobody gets so giddy they can't resist rushing out to buy a bike that's basically the same as the one they already have.



Like Ducati discovered with the Diavel, making a modern bike look "authentic" takes a lot of plastic



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Honda's new NT1100 is literally a restyled Africa Twin with a smaller front wheel. Same engine, same frame, same electronics suite. The Japanese manufacturer had more stand-space dedicated to a display of old Fireblades than their "all-new" sports-tourer, which says a lot. Suzuki's GSX-S 1000 GT is an updated GSX-S 1000 with panniers; they fixed the obvious flaw from the old model and executed an extremely questionable styling pass. On paper, it finally trades blows with the Kawasaki Ninja 1000SX, but ignoring aesthetics it does nothing whatsoever to get my attention. That aside, Suzuki had nothing new to offer, and so tried to distract everyone with old race bikes instead.



Tucked in a corner of the Honda stand, the NT1100 looks fine but lacks 'wow' factor



Triumph added a half-fairing and luggage to their Trident to make the new Tiger Sport 660. I'm sure it's fine, and I can summon zero enthusiasm for what will, I'm sure, be a very competent and practical entry in the segment. Honda added slightly bigger panniers to the Goldwing and refined a bunch of their scooters slightly. BMW added radar-guided cruise control to their R125ORT. Ducati rebranded the Multistrada 950 into the Multistrada V2, raising the price and reducing the engine

If anything, that front fairing looks even worse in person



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performance to get past EU emissions regulations. There are updated variants of most of their bikes, so I quess they're all better now...?

Kawasaki added some electronics to the Versys 650. Royal Enfield had me temporarily excited when I spotted a Himalayan with the 650cc twin-cylinder engine from the Interceptor, but I later learned that this was a third-party one-off and not a production model. CCM are still selling unlimited new variations on their 600cc single-cylinder naked retro thing, and KTM boosted their 790 Adventure to 890cc to create the new 890 Adventure. I'm sure it's just like the old one, but slightly quicker.



Adventure re-skin for the Forza 350 scooter will probably see as much dirt as the average Africa Twin

We've got a real problem here, folks. I normally find all motorcycles exciting and interesting, and yet looking at the current showroom options leaves me cold. There's nothing new, nothing exciting, nothing that might make me sell everything in my garage in order to claim as my own some all-new and revolutionary new two-wheeled machine. The closest we've come of late are Kawasaki creating an insane 200bhp supercharged sports-tourer (a few years old, now) and Ducati stuffing a V4 in their already-excellent Multistrada. Light-weight adventure bikes are apparently all the rage, but Yamaha's existing Tenere 700, MV Augusta's new Lucky Explorer, and Aprilia's just-released Tuareg 660 were all no-shows.

In theory, this apparent plateau could be explained by the fact that internal combustion motorcycling's days are certainly numbered. The dates are already set for cars, and it's only a matter of time before the two-wheeled world is given its own deadline. Against that backdrop, it makes sense to reduce the models and engine choices, re-use platforms, and recycle existing, winning formulas. Now is the time to maximise profits while they still can, because manufacturers sure as hell aren't ready for the electric revolution.



Even with Formula 1 tech employed we're still nowhere near parity with petrol

Super Soco and various other Chinese manufacturers are working hard on building credible urban-use 125-equivalents for reasonable money, and at the other end of the

spectrum you've got £20,000 Zeros and Livewires. There's nothing with reasonable range, reasonable performance, and a reasonable price tag, which puts us about 10-15 years behind where electric cars currently are. My own calculations suggest that fitting enough batteries into an electric Ninja 1000SX to match the petrol version's performance would result in a 750kg motorcycle. Electric cars are averaging over two tons, or around double that of their petrol forebears at the turn of



None of the established players are seriously developing marketable electric motorcycles yet



Will motorcycling survive the electric transition?

the century. Like an obese diabetic vacationing at an all-you-can-eat fast-food buffet, Motorcycling can't survive that kind of weight gain.

In short, I think that the entire motorcycle industry is holding its breath. No-one is spending any money developing any radical new internal-combustion motorcycles because they don't know if that investment will pay off before the technology is banned. They also don't want (or aren't able) to sink the vast sums required into battery R&D, and know that current technology can't meet their current customers' expectations on price, performance, or range. They're hoping that someone in the car world, where deep pockets are engaged in extremely expensive research, makes some kind of breakthrough (solid-state batteries, batteries-as-chassis etc.) that suddenly makes electric motorcycles a realistic proposition, and are saving up to buy said tech when it becomes available.

They're probably also hoping that said technology becomes available before internal combustion two-wheelers are banned from showrooms. Those of us who like to travel or don't want to have to recharge every 70 miles when commuting or riding for fun will just stick to used bikes, maintaining what we have while we wait for electric bikes to become genuinely competitive. But many motorcycle manufacturers simply won't survive that gap, if it comes. They need sales year-on-year to maintain R&D and staff budgets that will be required to develop, build, and sell future motorcycles. You need a healthy industry to attract new riders and fight over-regulation. If the new-bike industry goes into hibernation, it might never reawaken.

So; if you're in the market for a new motorcycle, then go out and treat yourself. Enjoy it while you can. That's what the whole industry is doing right now...



## WHEN IT COMES TO QUALITY





#### Winter Ride

Route by: John Gordon Distance: 190 miles

The route makes a good winter ride and the 190 miles can be completed in 5 hours. So allowing for two stops of 1.5 hours means if you leave at 9am you will be back home by 3.30pm, within daylight

hours. It is a mixture of roads that you can ride at pace or enjoy the villages and countryside you pass through at a more relaxed speed. If the motorway stretch is not for you there are numerous other ways to get to Stockbridge.

Additional waypoints have been added to ensure Tom Tom and Garmin satnavs follow the same route. Approximately 3 miles before approaching Kingston Lacy on the B3082 is a two mile avenue of beech trees. These were planted by William John Bankes who inherited the Kingston Lacy estate in 1835. The avenue was a birthday gift to William John's mother, Frances, and there were 365 trees on one side of the road for each day of the year and 366 on the other, for a leap year. Driven into exile by his liking for men he never saw the fruits of his labour. It is there for us to enjoy but to see it at its best come back in the spring.

On my ride I used the Bird and Carter Café (large heated marquee) for brunch and Carlo's for a

second stop, which suited a run from Fleet. Since members will start from different locations I have added Cholderton Farm Shop, Compton Abbas Airfield Café, Cranborne Garden Centre Café and Loomies so you can adjust the stops to suit your start point.

After a pleasant lunch, go back through Fordingbrige and top up on petrol, then enjoy a faster return trip with plenty of decent country roads.







## THANK YOU READING TOY RUN DECEMBER 2021



drone footage

Just a quick note from me to say a very big thank you for those that helped make the 2021 Reading Toy Run such a success. There were 1320 motorcycles and 339 pillions who rode past the smiling Richard Clauson, Alias Count-ing Dracula (Blood Bike Joke – which most of us had to have explained to us) and his clicker team at Shute End. As a matter of interest Richard comes down from Derbyshire for the event, so thank you for that Richard and may you long continue to do so. I just can't think of anyone else who would get so excited about numbers!

As you will no doubt be aware, almost every time we hold the run, there are more junctions to marshal. This is the reason it is so important that we are able to call on members of the club year after year to bring your experience and enthusiasm to the run, not only to make the run itself a success, but also to provide such a wonderful spectacle for the thousands of local people who line the route.

I have attached a photo that one of Santa's little helpers took at the school so you can see at least some of the toys which were donated, and which will make Christmas so much better for a huge number of less fortunate children. All possible because of you. I don't get tired of saying it, but, without you it wouldn't happen.

I am always humbled when I see the bottom car park with over 160 marshals milling around who, under the direction of Corinne and the Group Leaders, Robina Maher, Andrew Gardiner, Garry Tallet, Jim Bates and Garry Andrews (all club members incidentally) magically form into a cohesive force and go out and do the business. The cheerful camaraderie shown by everyone is amazing and I really feel like I'm with 160 mates – Thank you for that.

As Tiny Tim said "God bless us every one". I hope you and your families had a truly great Christmas and New Year. I'm sure that I'll see many of you at St Crispin's and out on runs etc. before too long, but if not, I look forward to seeing you all again at the 2022 Reading Toy Run.

If Ben Spiller were still with us he would have told me in no uncertain terms, as he did every year, to make sure that I thanked all those from TVAM who marshalled. So thank you from Ben's family and the rest of the team that organise the Reading Toy Run.

Steve Harris
Chief Marshal
Reading Toy Run
Mobile 077 9090 8371
Drone footage 2021 Run https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnwiH8VT10w



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## PILLION RIDER COURSE

We have two dates for 2022 so far for this course which is for both the rider planning to take a pillion and the pillion who would like some reassurance and safe practices when taking the rear seat.

We will be holding these courses at Thatcham Football Club on:
Saturday 9th April
Saturday 14th May

It is a one day course, starting at 9am and finishing around 3pm.

The cost is £25.00 for rider or pillion and £50 for rider and pillion.

To book a slot on your preferred date go to the TVAM website at tvam.org - Shop - TVAM Courses and book the appropriate date.





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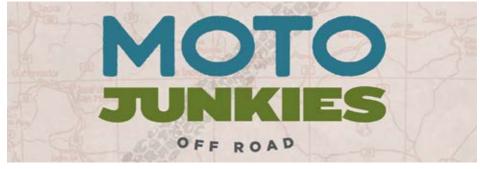
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Sun 12 Jun 2022 to Mon 20 Jun 2022

For more information on all these go to www.rapidtraining.co.uk



#### Moto-Junkies off-road 4 day trips in 2022

Following the success of the off-road weekends in 2021 we have reserved space in their 2022 calendar. The 2021 weekends were over-subscribed by double so we have increased capacity to suit.

These are fully inclusive trips with 3 nights' accommodation, inclusive of breakfast, fantastic dinners and wine!

Also including off-road bike hire, all protective kit and coaching by Steph Jeavons (Solo Round the World Rider) plus others!

But most of all these weekends are so much FUN! There are 2 locations and 2 types of weekend –

Beginners for those who have had little or no off-road experience Improvers for those who have some basic skills and wish to further improve!



#### Bryn Adda - Dolgellau

A beautiful 16th Century Farmhouse in 4.5 acres of land with sauna (robes and towels provided), games room and local award-winning chef cooking amazing evening meals with local produce. Wine also included. Other selections of alcohol also available at extra cost. Breakfast is provided plus snacks including a selection of local cheeses, and local cakes etc.

Accommodation for 6 riders single occupancy and 4 more sharing twins There will be 10 hire bikes – or take your own bike!

**Price** for 3 nights stay with bike hire, kit and two days guided trail ride.

Single occupancy - £750

Sharing twin room - £650 each

Without bike hire is £200 less than above.

#### Dates

Tues-Friday 22nd - 25th March - Improvers Trip Friday-Monday 22nd - 25th April - Beginners Trip







#### **Glamping Machynlleth - Nick Sanders Expedition Centre**

Glamping in individual heated cabins set in a beautiful location this is a lovely spot to start your off-road days from. You will get an amazing breakfast and dinner as well as cakes in-between all cooked by Nick's wife Caroline, the food is delicious. Wine is free with dinner and there is a barn bar (honesty system) for all other drinks. We will also get a fire going outside or put a movie on in the cinema. Accommodation for 11 riders – all single occupancy but can cater for couples. There will be 10 hire bikes – or take your own bike!

**Price** for 3 nights stay with bike hire, kit and two days guided trail ride. Single occupancy per cabin – £700 Couple sharing cabin – £650 each

#### **Dates**

Thurs-Sunday 21st – 24th July – Improvers Trip

Thurs-Sunday 11th - 14th August - Beginners Trip

These really are great venues and we will have both places to ourselves - so it is very relaxed.

Both are top-end weekends and the food really is to die for! :) The trails are great too and you will have so much FUN!

We anticipate a high demand so please reserve your places early – in the first instance send your preferred date and requirements plus **Beginner** or **Improver** to phildon3@gmail.com

Happy off-roading

#### **Phil Donovan**

#### **TVAM CALENDAR**

#### **SOCIAL & TRAINING RUNS, TRACK DAYS, TRIPS & EVENTS 2022**

If you have a run for the calendar please send details to socialruns@tvam.org. Keep an eye on the groups.io calendar for the latest news. Also check local teams.

keep all eye on the groups.lo calendar for the latest news. Also check local teams.				
JANUARY 2022				
SUN 16	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am. AGM - 12.30pm Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.			
SUN 23	BOB'S FAVOURITES (B) Starting in Marlborough town centre, 10am for a 10.30am departure. Bob takes us on a tour of some of his favourite roads and back lanes. A run of about 100 miles. Back before it gets dark. An RSVP would be useful to gauge numbers but not essential. Further details from Bob D'Mellow at bob.dmellow@gmail.com			
SUN 23	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C) Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
SUN 30	ROBBIE'S FIFTH SUNDAY RUN (B) For details check groups.io or contact Robbie McIntosh at mcintosh.robbie@btinternet.com but will be heading out of WAGland somewhere!			
FERRIARY 2022				

#### **FEBRUARY 2022**

Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wycombe@tvam.org for meet details.

#### SUN 6 WAGs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B)

From 10am and about 100 -140 miles. A social run led by Mr Byrne usually involving some interesting roads that haven't been mowed for a while. Open to all badges and other TVAM group members. Further details as and when available so keep a watch on Groups.io. An RSVP is encouraged. For further information contact Paul Gilmore 07527 777500 or Sean Byrne 07977 222272.

#### SAT 12 RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN (C)

Usually a morning run. Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org

#### SAT 12 AVEBURY ADVENTURE (B)

Meet at McDonald's, Bath Road, Calcot, RG31 7SA at 9am for a 9.30am departure. Around 140 miles, returning to Calcot for about 3.30pm. This will be a re-run of last year's Avebury Adventure taking in some of the best roads around the North Wessex Downs AONB. Check groups.io calendar - Paul Gilmore - paulusgg@btinternet.com or 07527 777500.

#### SUN 20 ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am

Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.

#### SUN 27 RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C)

Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any guestions at reading@tvam.org

#### **SUN 27**

#### **PAV'S ZIG-ZAG TO ZIG-ZAG HILL (B)**

Pav takes us on a ride through the lanes to Zig-Zag Hill in Dorset. Meeting in the car park outside Stryker UK, Hambridge Road, Newbury, RG14 5AW at 10am for prompt 10.30am departure. Pub lunch at the Royal Oak in Swallowcliffe. Total distance approx 140 miles, and back to Newbury by mid-afternoon. An RSVP would be useful to confirm numbers for lunch at the pub, also OK to turn up on the day if you can't commit before. Contact Julian 'Pav' Pavitt at julian.k.pavitt@gmail.com

#### **MARCH 2022**

#### SUN 6 GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B)

Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wwcombe@tvam.org for meet details.

#### SAT 12 RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN (C)

Jsually a morning run. Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact
Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org

#### SUN 20 ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am

Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.

#### TUE 22 -FRI 25

#### **MOTO-JUNKIES OFF ROAD 4 DAY TRIPS - BEGINNERS**

For those who have had little or no off-road experience. These are fully inclusive trips with 3 nights' accommodation, breakfast, dinner and wine! Also including off-road bike hire or take your own, all protective kit and coaching by Steph Jeavons, staying at a beautiful 16th century farmhouse in Dolgellau. Send your preferred date plus Beginner or Improver to phildon3@gmail.com. See page 26.

#### **SUN 27**

#### **RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C)**

Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tyam.org

#### **APRIL 2022**

#### SUN 3

#### GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B)

Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wycombe@tvam.org for meet details.

#### FRI 8 -SUN 10

#### #41 7Ws TRAINING WEEKEND, LLANDRINDOD WELLS (T)

Now staying at the Metropole Hotel with a focus on Associate training, the 7Ws weekends help improve riding skills and confidence while having fun on some stunning Welsh roads. See the calendar entry on Groups.io for more details and the link to register your interest.

SAT 9	<b>TRAINING RUN - hosted by RAMs (T)</b> Full day - locations to be confirmed. Two observed runs in the morning, lunch, then a run back to to Reading.			
SUN 17	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.			
FRI 22 - MON 25	MOTO-JUNKIES OFF ROAD 4 DAY TRIPS - IMPROVERS For those who have some basic skills and wish to further improve. These are fully inclusive trips with 3 nights' accommodation, breakfast, dinner and wine! Also including off-road bike hire or take your own, all protective kit and coaching by Steph Jeavons, staying at a beautiful 16th century farmhouse in Dolgellau. Send your preferred date plus Beginner or Improver to phildon3@gmail.com. See page 26.			
SUN 24	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (B)  Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
MAY 2022				
SUN 1	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wycombe@tvam.org for meet details.			
SAT 14	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN (C) Usually a morning run. Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
SUN 15	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.			
SUN 22	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C) Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
JUNE 2022				
SUN 5	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wycombe@tvam.org for meet details.			
SAT 11	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN (C) Usually a morning run. Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
SUN 19	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.			
SUN 26	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C) Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org			
<b>JULY 2022</b>				

#### SUN 3 GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B)

Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wvcombe@tvam.org for meet details.

#### SAT 9 RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN (C)

Usually a morning run. Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org

#### SUN 17 ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am

Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham.

#### THU 21 - OFF-ROAD WITH GLAMPING, MACHYNLLETH - IMPROVERS SUN 24 NICK SANDERS EXPEDITION CENTRE

Individual heated cabins for 3 nights accommodation in Wales, breakfast, dinner plus cakes and free wine. Great trails and a perfect venue. Send your preferred date plus Beginner or Improver to phildon3@gmail.com. See page 27.

#### SUN 24 RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN (C)

Details to be posted on groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org

#### **AUGUST 2022**

#### SUN 7 GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B)

Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. Contact wycombe@tvam.org for meet details.

#### THU 11 - OFF-ROAD WITH GLAMPING, MACHYNLLETH - BEGINNERS SUN 14 NICK SANDERS EXPEDITION CENTRE

Individual heated cabins for 3 nights accommodation in Wales, breakfast, dinner plus cakes and free wine. Great trails and a perfect venue. Send your preferred date plus Beginner or Improver to phildon3@gmail.com. See page 27.

#### **TVAM Run Ratings**

- A: Skilled/progressive for confident riders on all types of road.
- B+: Progressive pace for the confident, focused rider.
- B: Medium paced, relaxed ride.
- C: Suitable for first timers or those looking for a MORE leisurely pace. No overtaking within the group.
- T: More formal training run observed/social ride with an element of coaching.



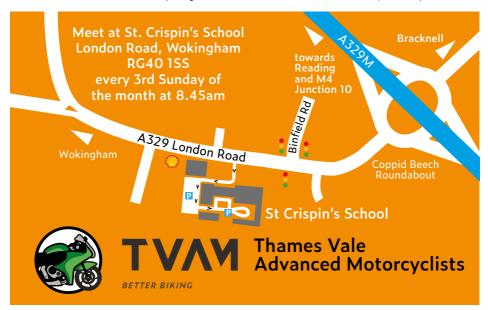
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A year's membership of £27 includes a bimonthly 85-page colour magazine, for all the important biking news

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#### **CLUB MEETS**

We meet from 8.45am on the 3rd Sunday of each month at St. Crispin's School, London Road, Wokingham, RG40 1SS. We welcome any wanting to come for an observed ride, or to see what we are about and just grab a coffee and a bacon roll – and you can join here!



#### LOCAL TEAM MEETS - contact your local team for online meeting times.

To join a team other than your own, go to groups.io all members and see Wiki - Join a subgroup

#### Basingstoke (BAR)

When: First Monday of the month
Where: Jekyll & Hyde, Hartley Wespall,
Turgis Green, RG27 OAX

7.30pm

Camberlev (CLAMs)

Time:

When: 1st Tuesday every other month
Where: The Bee, School Road, Bagshot,
Windlesham, GU20 6PD

Time: 8pm (Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

**Great Northern (GNATs)** 

Meet 1: After each St Crispin's for coffee at The Farm Café, Ashridge Manor Garden Centre, Forest Road, Wokingham.

RG40 5QY (to be resumed when possible)

Meet 2: Rideout first Sunday of the month.

Reading (RAMs)

When: First Monday of the month
Where: Fox and Hounds, Theale, RG7 4BE

Time: 8pm - ride beforehand

see RAMs group in groups.io for details

Slough (SAM)

When: First Saturday of the month

Where: Jenners Riverside Café, Ray Mead Road,

Maidenhead, SL6 8NP

Time: 9am

Wantage & Newbury (WAGs)

When: Second Wednesday of the month How: Join us - wags@tvam.groups.io

Time: Zoom call at 7.30pm

Wokingham & Bracknell (WOBMOB)

When: 3rd Tuesday of the month How: Join us - wobmob@tvam.groups.io

Time: Zoom call at 8pm

Green Team (Full Members)

Meet 1: Last weekend of the month - see Slipstream or groups.io calendar

Meet 2: Wednesday following St Crispin's at

The Crown, The Street, Swallowfield,

RG7 1QY Time: 7.30pm

#### **OBSERVER CONTACTS**

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**OBSERVER FORUM (mailing list):** 

Observer Group https://tvam.groups.io/g/observers

#### LOCAL TEAM CONTACTS

TEAM LEADERS (teamleaders@tvam.org): Quarterly meetings - Zoom - Wednesday 26 January, 8pm

Basingstoke (BAR) Dennis Lutley basingstoke@tvam.org Camberley (CLAMs) Jez Brown, Mike Morrison camberley@tvam.org Great Northern (GNATs) wycombe@tvam.org Gary Jackson, Reading (RAMs) Dana Gottschalk, Ben Graham reading@tvam.org Slough (SAM) Ally McCulloch slough@tvam.org Wantage & Newbury (WAGs) Paul Gilmore wantage@tvam.org Wokingham & Bracknell (WOBMOB) Andy MacWalter, Ian Gaitley wokingham@tvam.org

Green Team Alan Hudson

#### SOCIAL CONTACTS (socialleaders@tvam.org):

Basingstoke (BAR) Mark Spittles
Camberley (CLAMs) Caroline Harvey
Great Northern (GNATs) Gary Jackson

Reading (RAMs) Dana Gottschalk, Ben Graham

Slough (SAM) Ally McCulloch

Wantage & Newbury (WAGs)

Paul Gilmore, Mimi Carter Jonas
Wokingham (WOBMOB)

Andy MacWalter and Ian Gaitley

Green Team Alan Hudson

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Slipstream editor and designer: Salli G - slipstream@tvam.org Editorial team: Kathy Wright, Nick Tasker, Robin Hennem and Paul Harris

Copy deadline: 3rd week of the month. To ensure your article or information is included please inform the Editor to book space - slipstream@tvam at the earliest opportunity, issues are planned well in advance of print date which is generally the first Friday of the month.

Advertisement sales: advertising@tvam.org
TVAM enquiries: 0118 402 4800 TVAM Website: www.tvam.org

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#### CLUB CONTACTS

Committee (committee@tvam.groups.io): Who are they? Photos on groups.io

Chairman Barrie Smith chairman@tvam.org Chief Observer Chris Brownlee chiefobserver@tvam.org Secretary Adrian Ellison secretary@tvam.org Treasurer Bjorg Arnadottir treasurer@tvam.org Membership Secretary Dave Simmons 0118 402 4800 membership@tvam.org Slipstream Editor Salli Griffith slipstream@tvam.org **Events & Promotions** Phil Donovan events@tvam.org Green Team Leader Alan Hudson fullmembers@tvam.org

Committee Meetings: These are held at James House, Mere Park, Dedmere Road, Marlow, SL7 1FJ Next Meeting: (M - Marlow/Internet), 9th February (M), - all meetings normally on second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. If a member wishes to attend they should contact Adrian Ellison secretary@tvam.org before the meeting date.

#### **Special Roles:**

Advanced Bike Control Chris Caswell advancedbikecontrol@tvam.org or abc@tvam.org Advanced Plus (previously EAR) Andy Wedge/Chris Brownlee advancedplus@tvam.org Advertisina Salli Griffith advertising@tvam.org BikeCraft Di Woodcock bikecraft@tvam.org Bike Maintenance Phil Rvan bikemaintenance@tvam.org cafedatabase@tvam.org Café and Stopover Database Chris Brownlee Phil Donovan Events Diary (non-run events) eventsdiarv@tvam.org Girl Torque Alie Ball, Salli Griffith girltorque@tvam.org Groups.io Support Andy Wedge, Chris Brownlee groups.io@tvam.org Incident Reporting Training Team incident@tvam.org Leaflet Supply Phil Donovan leaflets@tvam.org Look Lean Roll IIr@tvam.org (to order items away from St Crispin's) Merchandise merchandise@tvam.org Midweek Runs midweekruns@tvam.org Alan Hudson Offroad Riding Clive Marsden offroad@tvam.org Pillion Rider Course Alan Hudson prc@tvam.org Red Zone Mel Hakhnazarian redzone@tvam.org RideOn Training Team trainingteam@tvam.org Run Leader & Back Marker Course Issy Griffiths runleaderbackmarker@tvam.org Social Media Kyriakos Chrysostomou/Aaron Braich socialmedia@tvam.org socialruns@tvam.org Social Run Co-ordinators Alan Hudson/ Salli Griffith/Phil Donovan St Crispin's Sunday Runs sundaysocialruns@tvam.org Alan Mossman Tea & Coffee Bar at St Crispin's Roger and Marianne Lindsay coffeebar@tvam.org Steve Harris (volunteers for Dec Toy Run) tovrun@tvam.org Track Skills Days (Training) Dave Hepworth circuitskills@tvam.org Wehmaster Steve Dennis webmaster@tvam.org

#### Website:

TVAM Website www.tvam.org

The website gives you access to the web shop for booking courses, trips, training and track days.

#### TVAM Groups.io

Groups.io is the system used by TVAM to share details of news, events and much more.

https://groups.io/groups

You will automatically be added to the system when you join TVAM so you can get involved in the conversations with other members. There are local team and special interest groups available for you to join also. Get involved and find out what's happening.

Correspondence Address & Telephone: 23 Comet Way, Woodley, Reading RG5 4NZ, 0118 402 4800

#### **Registered Office:**

Thames Vale Advanced Motorcyclists is a charitable company limited by guarantee, and is a group within the IAM. c/o Durrants Accountants, 24 Wellington Business Park, Dukes Ride, Crowthorne, Berkshire, RG45 6LS. Registration Number: 03556042. Charity Number 1069767.



#### **BULLDOG TRIUMPH**





