

SLIPSTREAM

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR TVM MEMBERS

MAY 2022

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Blue seas and white sands on the Isles of Scilly

I had managed two years of avoidance and then gone half way round the world and back before it found me. Perhaps it was inevitable that COVID would catch up with me! Anyway I'm done with that and it's finally time to put some miles on the Trident, so off I went down to North Cornwall. I did then abandon the bike for a week while I went walking on the Scilly Isles with a friend which I would highly recommend to anyone who would appreciate unspoilt beaches, lots of fresh air and fantastic seafood. I have to say I was so fortunate with the weather with blue skies and bluer waters on what appear to be a tropical set of islands, albeit cold waters, which you find hard to believe are off our shores. Back in Cornwall I set off on the bike again via the Eden Project to Plymouth and visited ex members Kate and Steve Warren and on to Dorset to say hi to ex member and Observer Bryan Greenwood in Beaminster on my way back home.

In this issue we have feedback on the recent 7Ws trip, more legal information from Gavin answering questions from members, and a reminder to get your tickets for the Austin Vince seminar – bring friends, even non bikers will be fully entertained!

Welsh Wanders had a great weekend in Wales and promise another in September. Check the calendars both in here and on groups.io for all the latest trips, rides and training events.

Meanwhile keep the rubber side down!

Slip G.

Slipstream Editor



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TVAM ROLL OF HONOUR

BETTER BIKING

NEW MEMBERS IN MARCH

Rick Archer	Richard Lawson
Richard Blake	Jonny Low
Gordon Davis	Giuseppe Marchese
Sylvester De Koster	Jude McEwan
Julien Dian	Omar Smith
Simon Evans	Richard Sutcliffe
Stephen Fisher	Chris Taylor
Rebbekah Lamont	Malcolm Ward

LATEST TEST PASSES

Candidate

Keith Boden
Paul Burton
Ondrej Martinak
David Tilton
Ruecha Waranusart
Jeffrey White

Observer

Andrew Storey
Paul Johnson
Brian Hare
Peter Dalglish
Geoff Pretty
Andrew Griffin

with a **FIRST Pass**

LOCAL OBSERVER VALIDATION

Paul Rowse



Test Pass certificates received and a new Local Observer congratulated at St. Crispin's April meeting.

FROM THE SADDLE

The improvement in weather over the last month or two has seen a welcome increase in our riding activities – and also more bike traffic on the roads. We encourage everyone to ride appropriately at all times and bear in mind that other road users can see how we ride and may comment if our riding is not appropriate.

In April we held the latest incarnation of our flagship training weekend, the 7Ws. In response to feedback from previous weekends we made some changes to this 7Ws:

- We changed the start point to the Wandering Kitchen at Berinsfield. The café opened early especially for us and provided everyone with bacon, sausage, egg and hash brown baps, pastries, teas and coffees – all very efficiently. The change in start point meant a wider choice of routes to leave Oxfordshire.
- We changed venue to the Metropole Hotel in Llandrindod Wells. After several years at the Commodore Hotel (also in Llandrindod Wells), we couldn't get the dates we wanted, so we thought we'd try the Metropole which we've used for the Observer Weekend for many years. We hoped the higher prices would be justified by more comfort, better facilities and better food.
- We opted to use smaller groups of two Associates and one Observer to get to Wales on the Friday, rather than the larger social runs, as well as retaining this format for the Saturday sessions too. This provides Associates with more opportunities to read the road and ride for themselves, as well as being more flexible. Full Members were catered for with runs in smaller groups of up to six, with optional observation.

We're very pleased with the feedback that we have received on the weekend which has, with one or two small exceptions, been universally supportive of the changes. We will, therefore, be retaining these changes for forthcoming 7Ws weekends.

I'd like to thank the Training Team for taking on the organisation of 7Ws, moving the weekend to a new format and making it such a success. Do read the article (page 8) to find out more about 7Ws from the perspective of an Observer, an Associate and a Full Member.

I'm very pleased to announce that Sam Grant has joined the TVAM Training Team. Sam brings a wealth of business process experience to the team and, as an Associate, will be able to contribute directly to the development of our revised Associate Training Programme.

Some Full Members have been getting out early on the Advanced Plus rides that we offer – and you can sign up for these at the Green Team desk at St. Crispin's, as well as online. We're pleased to be able to offer an extension of this with Advanced Plus rides now available in Yorkshire, courtesy of our very own Nigel Taylor. There's a short article on page 7 about how this works and how to book up. I'm sure this will be a popular extension to our Advanced Plus programme.

Here's to a great summer of riding!

Chris Brownlee
Chief Observer





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IAM ROADSMART MOTORCYCLE SKILLS DAYS 2022

May

- Tuesday 31st May – Thruxton

June

- Tuesday 14th June – Thruxton
- Thursday 30th June – Croft

July

- Tuesday 5th July – Mallory Park – Ladies Day
- Tuesday 12th July – Thruxton

September

- Tuesday 6th September – Thruxton
- Tuesday 20th September – Mallory Park
- Monday 26th September – Thruxton



For more information visit
<https://www.iamroadsmart.com/events/skills-days>
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AN ADVANCED PLUS WEEKEND IN YORKSHIRE?

The Advanced Plus programme offers Full Members a day, or a half day, of observed riding on a 1:1 or 2:1 basis. It's free (well, you'll be expected to buy the coffees) and enables Full Members to get a check on their riding, and to get suggestions for further development.

We're now able to offer Advanced Plus rides, on a weekend basis, in and around Yorkshire for TVAM Full Members, courtesy of our own, Yorkshire-based, National Observer, Nigel Taylor.

Ideally this is for two riders per session, although Nigel could do four as there is another experienced National Observer available to help.

Day 1 - Riders make their way to Yorkshire for an overnight stay. Nigel has some interesting routes from the TVAM area to Yorkshire, mostly avoiding motorways.

Day 2 - Advanced Plus ride (distance etc. to be agreed) with overnight stay

Day 3 - Ride home (again, Nigel can provide suggested routes)

As a variation, Nigel is happy to offer Day 3 as a second Advanced Plus ride, or a day of leisure riding with some routes suggested by Nigel, with a ride home on Day 4.

Riders will need to book their own accommodation and Nigel has some suggested hotels from around £55 per room per night.

For a one-day Advanced Plus Nigel suggests riders stay 2 nights to avoid a long ride home after a full day riding. For a two day Advanced Plus the riders should book 3 nights.

Nigel is available to do the rides 7 days a week. Booking should be via the standard Advanced Plus booking form at <https://www.tvam.org/forms/book-an-advanced-plus-ride/>, or scan the QR code below.

This is a great opportunity to develop your riding with one of TVAM's National Observers on some great Yorkshire roads. Like the standard Advanced Plus rides, there's no charge for the riding - all you need to cover is your hotel and food bills. We're very grateful to Nigel for extending the Advanced Plus programme.

TVAM Training Team





7Ws From Three Perspectives

The Associate – by Joey Buttfeld

It's Friday 8th April and the 8am breakfast rendezvous point is The Wandering Kitchen Cafe near Berinsfield. My Observer for the day is Hev, who discusses with me the areas I want to improve on over the weekend and introduces me to my co Associate Ilhan. I was expecting a larger group, so delighted with the 2 to 1 ratio.

As I hadn't ridden with Hev before she asked me to lead off as all the groups dispersed on multiple routes to Llandrindod Wells.

All communication is done via the mirrors, supplemented by arm signals, so all very clear and timely. I especially enjoyed the frequent stops to discuss aspects to work on and also how Hev would demonstrate techniques and elements of the system I was struggling with.

Ludlow Farm Shop, Bromfield was our lunch stop and the rendezvous point for the social ride to our destination, via some awesome roads led by Barrie. This really helped me to practice and reinforce the techniques I was shown by my Observer Hev.

An awesome day was rounded off by a swim in the hotel pool and a great dinner. I must also mention the after-dinner presentation from Sean Westlake which seriously awakened me to many facets of riding I was hitherto blissfully unaware of, and his colourful Welsh banter!

On Saturday I was paired up with my Observer Barrie and trainee Observer Aaron. I especially liked this format as from my perspective I had the benefit of two instructors! And what a day, just awesome on every level. I loved the challenging routes and the way both parties instructed, as well as the feedback given.

After a leisurely Sunday breakfast, I had to make a difficult choice on which Observer led run home to take with a choice of three no less.

A big shout out to Barrie, Hev and fellow Associates who got me back to Oxfordshire via some stunning roads.

"I felt the Starburst on the Friday and on the Saturday worked really well for both the Observer and the Associates"

I am now a much-improved rider, but importantly understand my journey is just beginning. Get yourself booked on this awesome learning curve that is the 7Ws. Thank you all so much.

The Full Member – by JB Staunton

Having recently passed my motorbike test and bought my first bike (a Honda CBR650F), I joined TVAM in October 2019, and although I didn't get much riding in before the first lockdown, I had oft heard members tell me in hushed tones that the 7Ws trip as something "you had to do".

I'd swear, that without exception, everyone who uttered the phrase "7Ws" said it with a wistful smile and glazed eyes – you could tell they were thinking back to some awesome riding on the twisty and windy roads of Wales. I knew from the get-go that I wanted a piece of the action too!

Although I knew the trip is focused on Associates, I applied for a place on the trip in January, knowing I'd just passed my advanced test in December '21 – I didn't know if I'd get a place, but as my wife says "What do 100% of winners have in common? They try!" In this case I tried and succeeded.

This would be my first trip away on the bike and honestly, I was a little anxious of what to expect. I googled a few articles on "what to pack on a motorbike trip", and, oh yeah, I also had to google "how to attach soft panniers to your motorbike"; luckily, I picked up a set at the St Crispin's moto-jumble in January 2020 (they were a bargain!).

If you've not been on one of these trips before I would highly recommend it and I'd like to commend the organisers on how well things ran. It was an early start on day one, but along with a filling breakfast bap at our breakfast rendezvous point, I met the rest of my group for the trip to Wales – there were only half a dozen of us in total: Run leader Alan Highway, back marker Marianne

Myburgh as well as fellow TVAM members Konrad Marciniak, Neville Till and Rhona Ferry.

Despite Alan's Sat Nav being a bit temperamental, and Rhona nearly running out of fuel, we had a great run down on the backroads of England and Wales. However, has anyone mentioned the rain, hail and snow, yes snow! Well, it wouldn't be a good trip without a story or two, would it?

On the final leg to Llandrindod Wells, we had to climb over some hills and I wasn't worried when it started to rain – it's Wales in





*"I learned so much in
a day riding on
amazing roads"*

April right and what do you expect? However, I'd never ridden in hail before and was a tad nervous of this when it started, but it really wasn't an issue as the hail just bounced off our helmets and clothing. The snow was a

different story as it was that claggy and wet kind of snow that sticks to you, resulting in having to wipe your visor every 30 seconds or so (which was reminiscent of my advanced test). In all, the bad weather only lasted for a maximum of an hour, over the course of the weekend I hasten

to add, but I was glad to get to the hotel in the end and I have some good stories to tell!

Saturday was a great day of riding too and our group was lucky enough to be paired up with ex-motorbike police officer, tour guide and 7Ws event guest speaker, Sean Westlake. Unfortunately for me the day started slightly embarrassingly insofar as my battery had died overnight due to the previous owner of my bike wiring the heated grips directly to the battery, and me forgetting to turn them off after our "Arctic" experience the afternoon before. I appreciate a number of fellow riders help in trying to bump start me (Konrad you star) as well as Neville letting me use his jump start battery (birthday/Christmas gift idea anyone?) and an unnamed member lending us his mini-jump leads!

In the end we got going 15 minutes late and not only did Sean bring us on a very scenic 150-mile route, he was able to give us the history of the places we visited too!

By the way the hotel worked very well for the group, with ample parking, a private dining room for us for both evening meals, decent food and a large bar, which was unsurprisingly frequented by TVAM members.

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In summary it was a well-run event, which was great fun and certainly one I'd endorse. I'll be aiming to attend another TVAM group trip as well as make it over to Wales again...oh those roads.....

The Observer – by Andy Hunter

Having completed my pre-ride checks in the afternoon, I packed and loaded my bike the evening before we set out.

So, Friday morning I was up and out early for my 45-minute ride to the meet point, arriving 10 minutes early to find the place already open and serving food. The coffee and bacon sandwich were spot on, perfect, just what I needed.

Top marks to the management and staff at The Wandering Cafe, they did a superb job of looking after us. Well done and thank you.

We had been previously allocated two Associates for the ride up, so having met both Sam and Ondrez, I started to understand what each was looking for on their observed ride into Wales. One had passed his crosscheck, the other of a very similar standard. From the Observer's viewpoint it is very much easier if the Associates are of a similar standard, as it makes the route planning easier.

So shortly after 9am we headed out towards Abingdon, then on towards Burford to find the first planned coffee and chat stop, allowing a chance to swap the Associates over. A power cut derailed those plans and meant they were unable to serve anything as it had rendered their till out of action. We decided to continue towards Stow-on-the-



"I feel that the new format gave the three of us more space to work on my riding, with far less of the distractions of a group ride"



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Wold, then stopped for a slightly belated coffee as we entered Tewkesbury.

We discussed a few minor points for both Associates before getting back on our way, heading towards Leominster and picking up the A44.

As we were running well for time, we continued towards Hereford and found a golf club for lunch – ideal for the snack that we needed.

The weather was a mix of cloud with the sun breaking through, but as we approached Crossgates we experienced a 5-minute sleet storm. In fairness this was the only rain that I saw all weekend, so I still don't know if my new waterproof

gloves are any good or not!

We refuelled at Crossgates and, as we had arrived with time to spare, rode from Crossgates to Newtown and back. That rounded off an excellent day's riding and we headed to the Metropole hotel, our accommodation for the two nights. Having used the Metropole many times, over the years, I knew that we were in for great hospitality and we were not disappointed.

Saturday morning, we were again allocated two Associates who were different from the Friday allocation. Again, I was blessed that both rode to a similar standard and they agreed that they wanted to work on riding bends. We headed south and west giving both Associates the chance to lead for a time before stopping for coffee at the West End Cafe in Llandovery. A true bikers' cafe.

After coffee and a chat, we headed out towards Aberystwyth where we found the 'Diner on the Prom' to be very busy. We continued to find somewhere a little quieter for a slightly later lunch. Returning to the hotel, from Newtown to Crossgates, we refuelled ready for the Sunday ride home.

Sunday was entirely a social ride. Having offered to lead a ride towards Henley, and getting a little banter from Mr Brownlee, it was agreed that anybody that wanted to take my route would meet at 9.30am for a briefing in the car park before heading out.

The run back was pretty much a re-run of my outward route, with myself, two Full Members, one other Observer and one Associate. It was all very relaxed, giving the Associate a chance to practice what he had learnt during Saturday's session.

More top-quality riding skills were on display, stopping for a sandwich and drink

"The trip to Wales with small groups having an observed ride was great"

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"The quality of tuition from the Observers was excellent"

at the filling station at Stow-on-the-Wold. We had agreed at the briefing that people would simply give us a wave and peel off at a point close to where they lived. Checking on my phone messages, it was good to see that everybody returned home happy.

Overall, this was a great weekend. It was a chance to meet and chat with old friends, introduce some Associates to the roads in Wales and reacquaint myself with a couple of great roads I have not used for some time.

Firstly, the Tewkesbury road out of Stow-on-the-Wold and then the A44 heading west into Crossgates.

I have no doubt that all of the Associates returned home with new or improved riding skills. We must not forget the importance of the team building benefits of these events.

Thanks to the Training Team and all that were involved in planning and running this event.

*"Clear information.
Friendly people.
Happy with new hotel.
Great service and food.
Enjoyed smaller group rides.
Appreciated the feedback.
Thank you for organising a
cracking weekend."*





"The jacuzzi was a nice addition for getting rid of any aches and pains"

"I much preferred the smaller, more focussed groups"

TVAM SPRING SEMINAR • TVAM SPRING SEMINAR



An evening with **AUSTIN VINCE**

Wednesday 15th June

7.30pm – 10.30pm

Masonic Hall, 7 Reading Road, Wokingham, RG41 1EG

Tickets £6 from tvam.org webshop

One time maths teacher, Austin Vince launched and filmed two motorcycle expeditions, Mondo Enduro (1995) and Terra Circa (2001). The Mondo team were the first people ever to get to Magadan on the far eastern Russian seaboard. On Terra they did it again but this time didn't use the train for the notorious 400 mile section in Siberia known as 'the Zilov Gap'. Hence, they were the first people to motorcycle across Russia without using the train.

Their self-made films were on Discovery and Men & Motors respectively. Ewan MacGregor saw them, then bought the DVDs and eventually, Long Way Round was born. The Mondo/Terra teams were the senior Siberian and Kazakh consultants to the LWR production. Unlike the MacGregor/Boorman trip, they were unsponsored and unsupported.

Austin is also Europe's leading expert on off-road routes in the Spanish Pyrenees. He has created sundry events to share this knowledge with the broader motorcycle community. His Mini Mondo camping week was described by the editor of MCN as the 'best thing he had ever done on a motorcycle'. The Vertically Integrated Navigation Challenge Event (The V.I.N.C.E.) is Europe's leading self-navigated trail-riding adventure.

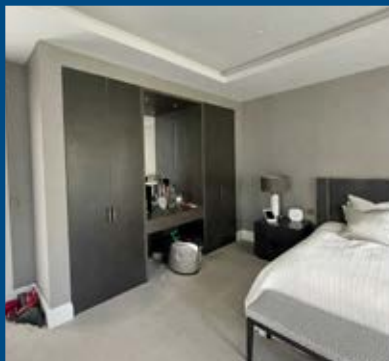
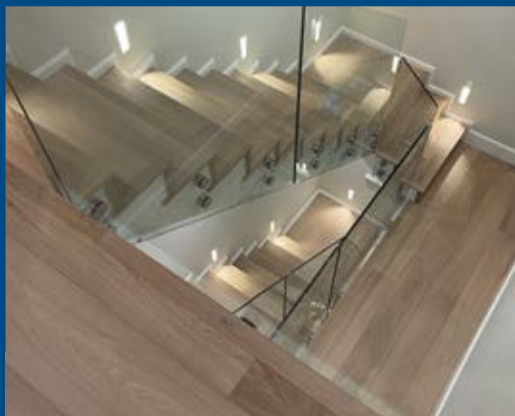
With his wife, adventure biker Lois Pryce, the Adventure Travel Film Festival was born, raising awareness of adventure film makers, with speakers and hands-on events at their weekends. This year they are in the UK – Perth, Scotland (July) and the Cotswolds, England (August).

Now retired from teaching it is Austin's life's work to encourage others to embark on low-cost DIY travel. An all round raconteur on any subject you like to raise – this is an evening not to be missed!





WHEN IT COMES TO QUALITY



SERGIU PLAMADEALA (TVAM MEMBER) 07476 433363 INFO@SP-CONSTRUCTION.CO.UK

Bugatti Trust Roadtrip

Route by John Gordon
Distance: 204 miles

The route was planned as a visit to the Bugatti Trust www.bugatti-trust.co.uk and joining me on the trip were club members Bryan Symonds, Alan Mossman and his wife Gill, Chris Caswell, who came as far as the first stop and Ged Sillitoe who came by car. Terry Stansfield, a member of IAM Solent, also rode with us.

On arrival Sue, who helps run the trust, came out to meet us. She then asked if we would like tea or coffee and sat us down at a table to watch a video prior to looking around. Incidentally she rides a CCM and a 998 Ducati so I can guarantee you a warm welcome. It is open all year round to visitors interested in cars, art, design, engineering and history of the Bugatti family. The attention to detail is outstanding. Bugatti even re-engineered the basic vice used in the manufacturing process to have the action of a precision instrument. Try the one at the trust and be amazed by how smooth the action is.

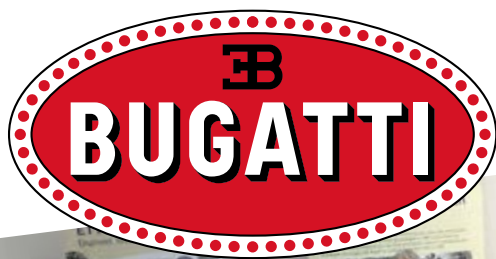
Make a point of looking at the 10.5cc Bugatti Type 72 motorcycle engine with its tiny piston. Typically visitors spend 1 to 1.5 hours there. With prior notice they can take up to 40 visitors but I suggest you give Sue a ring whenever you are going, even if you are on your own, to ensure they do not have a special group visit and are closed to the public.

Our coffee stop was at the Burford Garden Centre, lunch was at The Royal Oak, Gretton where we were looked after very well and is local to the trust. Since our tea stop was late afternoon, when cafes are closing, we used the services on the A303.

The route is a mixture of fast, sweeping roads and some narrow lanes, it is largely traffic free and you pass through some beautiful villages. Add a good lunch and a great destination and we all agreed it was a fabulous day.



Garmin and Tomtom files can be found in allmembers files on Groups.io.
If you have a favourite ride you would like to share on these pages, please get in touch to add it to this series - slipstream@tvam.org



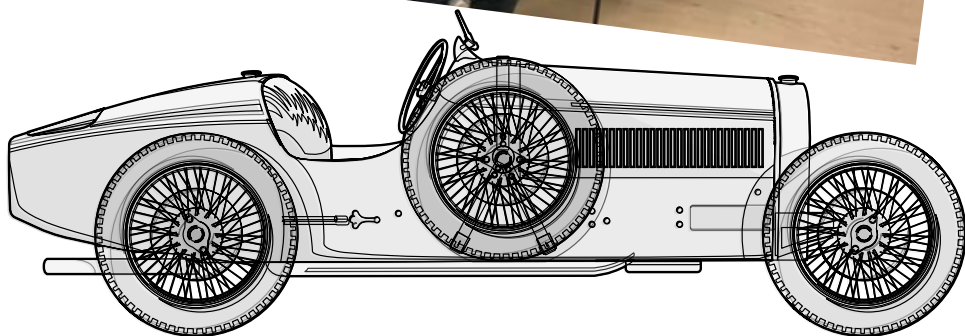
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Gavin Grewal
Legal Eagle
answers your questions



The *Slipstream* legal corner is brought to you by Gavin Grewal of White Dalton Motorcycle Solicitors. Gavin is a qualified Solicitor in England and Wales and a passionate biker. He currently rides a ZZR1400 and a GSA1250. Gavin also works as a Roads Policing Officer having racked up 11 years' experience with two different police forces. TVAM members are invited to put legal questions (bike related of course!) which may be answered in future articles to gavin@whitedalton.co.uk

Motorcycle Insurance, the law and modifications

Ahh the age-old question about insurance and your motorcycle. What do you need to declare? Is it enough? Have you missed anything off, what should have been included? Is the bike under-insured? Can they void my policy?

Your contract of insurance, the clue is in the name, is contractual in nature. That is the basis upon which it exists, and that contract will tell you what you and your insurer must both do. However, Parliament has had something to say about such contracts and a decade ago The Consumer Insurance (Disclosure and Representations) Act was given Royal Assent and became law.

This is an important piece of legislation as it sets out your obligations and those of your insurer.

For example, it did away with your duty to disclose material facts to the insurer. This was ground-breaking at the time as you no longer need to tell the insurer about anything which may impact the insurance contract, rather the duty is on the insurer to ask you questions!

It does mean you need to answer those questions honestly and with reasonable care.

One of the most common issues I see is with insurance and bike theft. Imagine you live in a flat, you tell the insurer your bike is kept in a locked, brick garage with a concrete base, four walls, a roof and lockable point of entry. So far, so good you think. However, read the small print. I bet it reads along the lines of 'for which only you, and those with your permission, have access to'. Oh dear. This would mean, the garage underneath your block of flats would not be classed as a garage by the insurer. Even though it clearly is a garage.

This opened up an entirely new can of worms and dependent on whether the answer you gave was deliberate/reckless or careless then dictated whether the insurer had the power to void the policy as a whole (and keep the premium) or reduce the value of the pay-out, on the basis they would have still underwritten the risk but on

different terms or for a different premium.

I won't go into the intricacies of misrepresentations within this article as it will bore a glass eye to sleep but, rather, I will deal with the day-to-day questions us bikers have of our insurance.

I have changed the pads on my bike to non-OEM parts. Does this matter?

Generally not. If the bike is running a factory braking system and all you have done is change the pads, for example, at a routine service then this will likely fall under the requirement to keep your vehicle in a safe and serviceable condition. There is no need to tell the insurer you are using EBC pads or Brembo pads. It is expected your machine will be using brake pads.

If I declare something like a top-box and then I remove it temporarily, do I need to declare that?

No. If the item was declared at the outset of the policy the fact it is removed, temporarily, for a period of time will not trigger a further disclosure to the insurer. A top box by its very design can be removed and fitted at your convenience.

I have got my renewal information pack and it is missing some information, shall I tell the insurer or leave it? I have been with the same insurer for five years.

Tell them. A renewal is treated like a new contract, so it is important that if you spot an error i.e. it is missing your Bike Safe course or the estimated mileage is incorrect, it is no good trying to fall back on previous years. The renewal contains a declaration that you have checked the information and it is correct. Don't give the insurer an easy way out of paying a claim. Tell them and get it amended.

My policy contains a clause not to ride on the Nurburgring Nordschleife. I have read insurers cannot include these types of terms in a policy? I am minded to just ride it despite this warning.

They can and they do! Don't forget, whilst Parliament has laid down law in relation to insurance it does not involve itself in the intricacies of the policy. Therefore, if your insurer is not willing to underwrite the risk, they do not have to. If you act outside of the terms of the policy and ride the 'Ring you do place your insurer on risk. If you do then have an accident on the 'Ring, your insurer will have to pay out on any claims, but it also means the insurer has a contractual basis upon which to claim back from you those costs which it paid out. This can be an expensive lesson, so pay close attention to what is and what isn't covered.

My bike was stolen, and the insurer is refusing to pay out on the basis the motorcycle was not chained up. Is this fair? I had the steering lock on but no chain.

It seems unfair. Unless your policy specifically stated that you would have the bike chained up, then it is sufficient for the steering lock to be on. I have dealt with a number of insurers who 'try' and defeat a claim by running this argument, it is nonsense. The last one folded after receiving a single letter from a Solicitor hinting at legal proceedings.



Moto-Junkies off-road 4 day trips in 2022

These are fully inclusive trips with 3 nights' accommodation, 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!

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!

Glamping Machynlleth - Nick Sanders Expedition Centre

Individual heated cabins set in a beautiful location. 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. 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 for food, trail riding and camaraderie!

Send your preferred date and requirements plus

Beginner or **Improver** to

phildon3@gmail.com

Phil Donovan



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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.

JOINING LOCAL TEAM SOCIAL OR TRAINING RUNS

Many of the local teams now post their runs here. Many rides use either a database or an RSVP on the groups.io calendar to allow you to sign up for a ride, and it's now much easier to subscribe to a local team to participate. From the **allmembers** area click in the menu on **Subgroups** and look down the list at **Subgroups You Can Join**. Click to join, then you can access their calendar and run database to sign onto the run.

You can adjust subscriptions from that group afterwards to receive fewer or more notifications or unsubscribe from it. Easy peasy!

MAY 2022

WED 11	BRANSCOMBE FOR LUNCH (B) A run to the coast for lunch at the Sea Shanty beach café. A round trip of approximately 240 miles. Meet at former Little Nellie's Diner, Newbury Road, Kingsclere, RG20 4TA at 8am for an 8.30am departure. Run Leader Mark Spittles 07753 931570. Limited to 10 riders – see calendar Groups.io for booking your slot.
WED 11	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SUN 15	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. Observed rides for Associates and Social Runs for Full Members.
WED 18	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SUN 22	TRAINING RUN - hosted by RAMs (T) Join the RAMs T-Run. All Observers, TObs, Associates and Full Members welcome. Two informal observed runs in the morning for Associates/TObs, also available to Full members. After lunch there will be a marked social run back to Calcot ending 4.30pm approx. Total run mileage 100 miles. Meet at McDonald's Calcot RG31 7SA at 9am for a 9.30am departure. Sign up on the RAMs database. Any questions contact Dana – 07707 694583 or reading@tvam.org
WED 25	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
FRI 27 – SUN 29	3Rs AT THE METROPOLE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS (T) The weekend will mirror previous 7Ws, however will be specifically aimed at offering a training weekend dedicated to Full Members only. Places are limited (this year) to 30. Based on a 2-night stay and half-board, the rates will be £164 per person for the weekend (sharing twin/double) or £214 per person for the weekend (single occupancy). Event fully subscribed.

SUN 29	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
SUN 29	WOBOB MONTHLY SOCIAL RUN Full details on WOBOB groups.io calendar two weeks before the run. Sign up on WOBOB database.
JUNE 2022	
WED 1	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SAT 4	SAMs FIRST SATURDAY RUN (B) Meet at Jenner's Cafe, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NP at 9am to join SAMs run. See calendar on Groups.io for any changes.
SUN 5	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. See GNATs database for run details and to sign up.
WED 8	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SAT 11	TRAINING RUN - hosted by GNATs (T) Join the GNATs T-Run with informal observed runs in the morning for Associates/Tobs, also available to Full members. After lunch there will be a marked social run. Meet at ASDA car park (fuel on entry) HP12 4NU at 9am for briefing, depart 9.30am. Finish around 5pm at Oxford Services, M40 Junction 8. Sign up on GNATs database.
SAT 11	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
WED 15	AN EVENING WITH AUSTIN VINCE Spring seminar held at the Masonic Centre, Reading Road, Wokingham – see page 16. Book your seat in TVAM webshop – £6.
WED 15	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
FRI 17 – SUN 19	WAGS IN WALES - ASSOCIATES TRIP Back in the calendar, a weekend in Wales for any Associates wanting some great roads and company to hone their skills. More details to come on Groups.io calendar or contact Mimi – mimiceej@hotmail.com
SUN 19	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. Observed rides for Associates and Social Runs for Full Members.

WED 22	VALLEY OF THE ROCKS - EXMOOR (A/B+) A long day's ride to Exmoor (350+ miles). Due to distance any interested Associates should contact Mark before signing up. SatNav route available. Consider carefully if you can do the mileage. Return by 8pm. Meet Andover Services, A303 Westbound at 7.30am for an 8am departure. Run Leader Mark Spittles 07753 931570. Limited to 10 riders – see calendar Groups.io for booking your slot.
WED 22	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SUN 26	RAMs GREEN TEAM RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
SUN 26	WOBMOB MONTHLY SOCIAL RUN Full details on WOBMOB groups.io calendar two weeks before the run. Sign up on WOBMOB database.
WED 29	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
JULY 2022	
FRI 1 – SUN 3	TVAM OBSERVER WEEKEND (T) Observer weekend in Llandrindod Wells.
SAT 2	SAMs FIRST SATURDAY RUN (B) Meet at Jenner's Cafe, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NP at 9am to join SAMs run. See calendar on Groups.io for any changes .
SUN 3	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. See GNATs database for run details and to sign up.
MON 4	CASTLE COMBE TRACK SKILLS DAY (T) Road skills on a track. A perfect way to hone your skills in small groups with our instructors. See groups.io calendar or tvam.org/shop.
WED 6	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SAT 9	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
WED 13	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.

Do you have any runs or trips for 2022?
Please email them to socialruns@tvam.org

SAT 16	ADVANCED BIKE CONTROL (ABC) From slower manoeuvring through to higher speed control and advanced braking techniques. Held at RAF Odiham, Hook, Hampshire, RG29 1QT. This course is just £25 and you can book (and pay) via the TVAM webshop – tvam.org. See Groups.io calendar for full details. Any questions contact Chris Caswell – abc@tvam.org
SUN 17	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. Observed rides for Associates and Social Runs for Full Members.
WED 20	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
THU 21 – SUN 24	OFF-ROAD WITH GLAMPING, MACHYNLLETH - IMPROVERS NICK SANDERS EXPEDITION CENTRE See page 24.
SUN 24	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
SUN 24	WOBBMOB MONTHLY SOCIAL RUN Full details on WOBBMOB groups.io calendar two weeks before the run. Sign up on WOBBMOB database.
SUN 24	KEITH'S ANNUAL ISLE OF WIGHT FORAY (B+) It's a long day! Be at Chieveley services (M4 Jcn 13) at 7am for the briefing with a prompt departure at 7.30am. Back to Chieveley no earlier than 8.30pm. About 205 miles. Costs: Ferry £40 return, (negotiating a group rate – do not book your ferry ticket until told to). Limited numbers (20) so please RSVP to the calendar invite and email Keith Miller at mybikeruns@outlook.com. Once your place is confirmed Keith will email you directly with a 15% discount code for the ferry. See groups.io calendar entry for more details.
WED 27	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
AUGUST 2022	
WED 3	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SAT 6	SAMs FIRST SATURDAY RUN (B) Meet at Jenner's Cafe, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NP at 9am to join SAMs run. See calendar on Groups.io for any changes.
SUN 7	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. See GNATs database for run details and to sign up.

Social Runs
 Trip
 Events
 Track Day/Training Run/Training Trip

WED 10	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
THU 11 – SUN 14	OFF-ROAD WITH GLAMPING, MACHYNLLETH - BEGINNERS NICK SANDERS EXPEDITION CENTRE See page 24.
SAT 13	LUNCH IN WILTSHIRE (B) Approximately 130 miles round trip finishing at Sutton Scotney around 3pm. Meet at former Little Nellie's Diner, Newbury Road, Kingsclere, RG20 4TA at 8.30am for a 9am departure. Run leader Mark Spittles 07753 931570. Limited to 10 riders – see calendar Groups.io for booking your slot.
SAT 13	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org . Sign up on RAMs database.
SUN 14	TRAINING RUN - hosted by WAGs (T) Join the WAGs T-Run. All Observers, TObs, Associates and Full Members welcome. Two informal observed runs in the morning for Associates/TObs, also available to Full members. After lunch there will be a marked social run. Meet 10am at Wantage Market Place, OX12 8AB. See groups.io calendar for more information.
WED 17	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SUN 21	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. Observed rides for Associates and Social Runs for Full Members.
WED 24	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SUN 28	RAMs FOURTH SUNDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org . Sign up on RAMs database.
SUN 28	WOBMOB MONTHLY SOCIAL RUN Full details on WOBMOB groups.io calendar two weeks before the run. Sign up on WOBMOB database.
WED 31	GNATs MIDWEEK EVENING RUN (B) Midweek evening run. See GNATs database for details and to sign up.
SEPTEMBER 2022	
SAT 3	SAMs FIRST SATURDAY RUN (B) Meet at Jenner's Cafe, Ray Mead Road, Maidenhead, SL6 8NP at 9am to join SAMs run. See calendar on Groups.io for any changes .

Social Runs
 Trip
 Events
 Track Day/Training Run/Training Trip

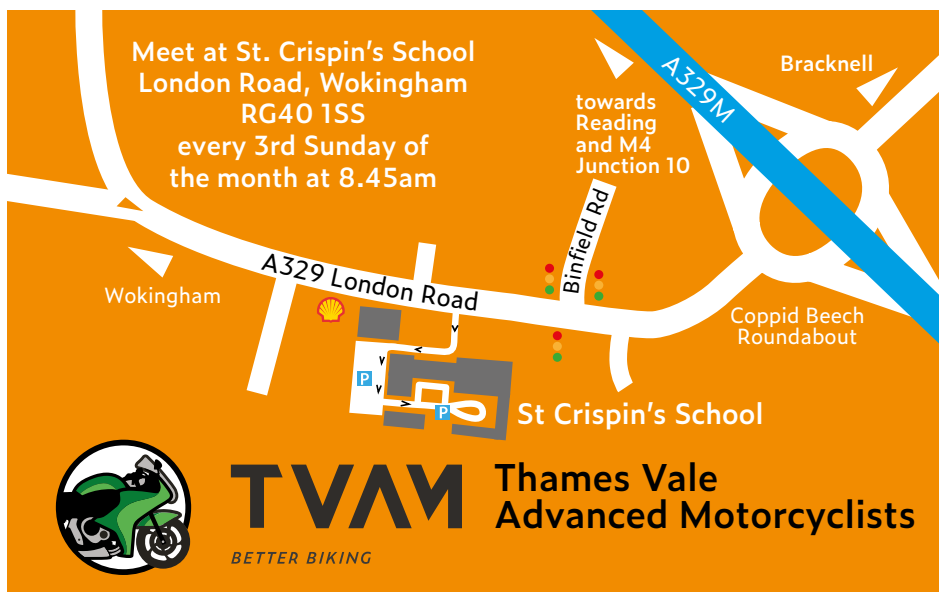
SAT 3	POETS CORNER (A) A run across North Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset on some fantastic roads, 165 miles, further details to follow. Meet at McDonald's, Basingstoke Leisure Park, Worting Rd, Basingstoke RG22 6PG at 8.30am for a 8.45am departure. Run Leader Mark Spittles 07753 931570. Limited to 10 riders – see calendar Groups.io for booking your slot.
SUN 4	GNATs FIRST SUNDAY RUN (B) Join the GNATs for their first Sunday of the month run. See GNATs database for run details and to sign up.
SAT 10	RAMs SECOND SATURDAY RUN Details to be posted on Groups.io. Contact Dana or Ben with any questions at reading@tvam.org. Sign up on RAMs database.
SAT 10	ADVANCED BIKE CONTROL (ABC) From slower manoeuvring through to higher speed control and advanced braking techniques. Held at RAF Odiham, Hook, Hampshire, RG29 1QT. This course is just £25 and you can book (and pay) via the TVAM webshop – tvam.org. See Groups.io calendar for full details. Any questions contact Chris Caswell – abc@tvam.org
SUN 18	ST CRISPIN'S SUNDAY - 8.45am Members' monthly meet at St Crispin's School, Wokingham. Observed rides for Associates and Social Runs for Full Members.
FRI 23 – SUN 25	WELSH WANDERS After a fantastic April visit to Wales we are doing it all again! This weekend combines great roads with a friendly and relaxed social atmosphere. Based at the Hotel Commodore in Llandrindod Wells, the format of the long weekend is a full day riding on Friday; a full day ride out on Saturday and then a more direct ride back to England on the Sunday. If you've never been to Wales before then it's time to visit, and if you have then you know how good the roads are. Price for the weekend is £100 per person sharing a twin or double room and £120 for a single. Inclusive of Friday and Saturday night three-course dinner with coffee/tea, and a full breakfast on Saturday and Sunday. Everyone is welcome. Contact waleswanders@gmail.com to register your interest or to get more information.

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.

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
Time: 7.30pm

Camberley (CLAMs)

When: 1st Tuesday every month
Where: The Windmill, London Road, Windlesham, Surrey, GU20 6PJ
Time: 8pm

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

Aardvarks	Chris Brownlee	aardvarks@tvam.org
Allocations	Peter Browne	allocations@tvam.org
Assessments	Andy Wedge	assessments@tvam.org
Bike to bike radios	Chris Brownlee	bike2bike@tvam.org
Cross Checks	Simon Whatley	crosschecks@tvam.org
Cross Check link		www.tvam.org/cross-check-request
Observer Health Checks	Andy Wedge	observerhealthchecks@tvam.org
Observer Interest	Andy Wedge	observerinterest@tvam.org
Observer Training	Chris Brownlee	observertraining@tvam.org
Run Reports	Chris Brownlee	runreports@tvam.org
Test Passes	Peter Browne	testpasses@tvam.org
Trainee Observer Coordinator	Hev Smith	tobcoordinator@tvam.org

OBSERVER FORUM (mailing list):

Observer Group <https://tvam.Groups.io/g/observers>

LOCAL TEAM CONTACTS

TEAM LEADERS (teamleaders@tvam.org): Quarterly meetings - Zoom - 7.30pm - Wednesday 17th August

Basingstoke (BAR)	Dennis Lutley	basingstoke@tvam.org
Camberley (CLAMs)	Jez Brown, Mike Morrison	camberley@tvam.org
Great Northern (GNATs)	Gary Jackson,	wycombe@tvam.org
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 (WOBOB)	Andy MacWalter, Ian Gaitley	wokingham@tvam.org
Green Team	Alan Hudson	greenteam@tvam.org

SOCIAL CONTACTS (socialleaders@tvam.org):

Basingstoke (BAR)	Mark Spittles	basingstoke.social@tvam.org
Camberley (CLAMs)	Caroline Harvey	camberley.social@tvam.org
Great Northern (GNATs)	Gary Jackson	wycombe.social@tvam.org
Reading (RAMs)	Dana Gottschalk, Ben Graham	reading.social@tvam.org
Slough (SAM)	Ally McCulloch	slough.social@tvam.org
Wantage & Newbury (WAGs)	Paul Gilmore, Mimi Carter Jonas	wantage.social@tvam.org
Wokingham (WOBOB)	Andy MacWalter and Ian Gaitley	wokingham.social@tvam.org
Green Team	Alan Hudson	greenteam@tvam.org



TVAM is affiliated to
BETTER BIKING



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.org 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	Ian Gaitley	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
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), 8th June (I), – all meetings normally on second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. If a member wishes to attend they should contact Ian Gaitley – 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
Advertising	Salli Griffith	advertising@tvam.org
BikeCraft	Di Woodcock	bikecraft@tvam.org
Bike Maintenance	Phil Ryan	bikemaintenance@tvam.org
Café and Stopover Database	Chris Brownlee	cafedatabase@tvam.org
Events	Barrie Smith	events@tvam.org
Events Diary (non-run events)	Salli Griffith, Keith Yallop	eventsdiary@tvam.org
Girl Torque	Salli Griffith, Alie Ball	girltorque@tvam.org
Groups.io Support	Andy Wedge, Chris Brownlee	Groups.io@tvam.org
Incident Reporting	Training Team	incident@tvam.org
Leaflet Supply	Barrie Smith	leaflets@tvam.org
Look Lean Roll		llr@tvam.org
Merchandise	(to order items away from St Crispin's)	merchandise@tvam.org
Midweek Runs	Alan Hudson	midweekruns@tvam.org
Offroad Riding	Mark Barrett	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	Alan Mossman, Issy Griffiths	runleaderbackmarker@tvam.org
Social Media	Kyriakos Chrysostomou, Aaron Braich	socialmedia@tvam.org
Social Run Co-ordinators	Alan Hudson, Salli Griffith	socialruns@tvam.org
St Crispin's Sunday Runs	Alan Mossman	sundaysocialruns@tvam.org
Tea & Coffee Bar at St Crispin's	Carole Hooper	coffeebar@tvam.org
Toy Run	Steve Harris (volunteers for Dec Toy Run)	toyrun@tvam.org
Track Skills Days (Training)	Dave Hepworth	circuitsskills@tvam.org
Webmaster	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.

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