



# RIDECRAFT

## CHAIRMAN'S RANT!

*A very happy New Year to one and all!*

*I trust that everyone had a good Christmas and all good boys and girls got the presents they wanted?*

*My wife, Jan, passed her bike test in mid November so I may be losing my bike - but, another potential NAB member in the making perhaps?*

*The Magistrates talk at the November meeting went very well and I'm sure everyone enjoyed it - I know I did!*

*It was a shame that the planned SLOW RIDING at Hipswell had to be cancelled due to the freezing weather and snow, but it is expected to be re-scheduled for sometime in the new season.*

*The OBSERVER TRAINING Introduction day at Leeming went well and we should have 6 new TRAINEES going to izi in March for further training.*

*We had another excellent Christmas meal at Thrintoft on 17th December. Alan and the staff at the pub did us proud again and the food was first class.*

*Seven members plus partners attended and the evening went well. I feel that it would have been nice to see a few more members there to support NAB and the pub, but I know it is a very busy time of the year for everyone.*

*As you may now be aware, due to the current economic climate Alan has decided to close the New Inn - and a suitable alternative venue is being sought.*

*For the time being, we have been invited back to the COORE ARMS at Scruton, which many of you will be familiar with.*

*All the best for 2009.*

*Enjoy your riding, but most of all stay safe  
Peter Waite, Chairman.*

**Noggin & Natter**  
Your first Social Meeting of the year is  
**TUES 27th JAN**  
7:30 pm  
**The COORE ARMS,**  
Scruton, nr Northallerton



**NOTE** - this month, due to the closure of the New Inn at Thrintoft, we have been invited back to the Coore Arms at Scruton.

MEMBERSHIP BITS MEMBERSHIP BITS MEMBERSHIP BITS MEMBERSHIP BITS

- No new members this month
- Congratulations to Andy BRAGG who was successful on his Advanced Bike Test at the end of November - well done Andy - last one of 2008!

- Don't forget that your new RIDEOUT COORDINATORS - Elly & Phil Harnott - will be looking to get the season's **Rideout Calendar** filled as soon as possible - so dig out those diaries and pick a date you would like to organise a ride before they get booked up!



- For those who use the **FORUM** - you will be aware of a new suggestion by 'Little Bill' Bland - namely the **MINI-RIDES** - ( around 2 hrs ) to be run on the 3rd Sunday of each month - May to August - for those not able to attend the full monthly Sunday Rideouts - your views please!
- Finally - a gentle reminder that **RAFFLE Prizes** are very welcome at each of the monthly meetings ( The Management ! )

**The Small Print . . .**

Please note that the views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the IAM ( Institute of Advanced Motorists ), NAB ( Northallerton Advanced Bikes ) or it's Committee

## **Post Test Training for 2009**

### **The Training**

NAB Post Test training has been designed for full members who have been successful with the IAM test and who wish to further improve their skills and riding ability with the intention of having fun on the bikes along the way.

Certain Senior Observers will assist you with the training, bringing your riding to an exceptional standard. When you are ready you will be put forward for an assessment ride. The training will be carried out, as ever, at a mutually convenient time.

### **The Assessment**

The assessment ride will be conducted by NAB's Training Officer, Martin Bevan or NAB's Chief Observer, Dick Cresswell.

The ride will be a little over 60 miles and there will be a few general questions asked about; pre ride machine checks, Roadcraft and the Highway Code (nothing to tax the brain too much).

Once the assessment has been successfully completed an 'in house' certificate will be presented to recognise your excellent achievement.

### **The Assessors**

The final assessment ride will be conducted by NAB's Training Officer, Martin Bevan or the Chief Observer, Dick Cresswell.

Martin is an IAM Senior Observer, the holder of the ROSPA Gold Standard and assists with training at i2i motorcycle academy.

Dick is an IAM Senior Observer, holder of the ROSPA Gold Standard, A ROSPA approved tutor with many Gold Standard tutees to his credit, holds a BTEC in Advanced and Defensive Riding and is a DSA accredited Post Test Motorcycle Trainer.

Martin and Dick have designed the training and assessment and hope that some of their skills and experience can be passed on to others.

### **Cost**

A small administration fee may be requested to cover admin costs and certificate production.

### **What happens next?**

If you are interested, please contact Martin on 01969 623578 or 07768 362347 or e-mail "<mailto:martinhbevan@btinternet.com>" [martinhbevan@btinternet.com](mailto:martinhbevan@btinternet.com) who will allocate a Senior Observer and you can start training as soon as possible.

Please do not think of this training as another test. It is not stressful and is designed for your enjoyment and to improve your skills.

(Dick Cresswell, Chief Observer)

Quote of the day . . . " Never be afraid to slow down ..... ! "

## LONDON BUS LANE ACCESS FOR MOTORCYCLES - THE KEY TO UNIVERSAL ACCESS SAYS BMF

Welcoming the opening of London's red route bus lanes to motorcyclists for an 18 month trial period, the BMF say that the success of the trial will be key to allowing access to all UK bus lanes.

Having actively campaigned for wider bus lane use for over 15 years, the BMF say that despite numerous local authorities adopting such measures, London has always been seen as key to a national rollout.

Essential to the trial's success however, will be safe use of the bus lanes and the BMF fully supports the Motorcycle Industry Association (MCIA) Code of Conduct for motorcyclists using bus lanes. (The full code is available to download from [www.mcia.co.uk](http://www.mcia.co.uk) and comes as both a leaflet and in a business card "cut out and keep" format)

The Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, has also said:

"Motorcyclists are already using bus lanes safely in many cities and parts of London, so I have long thought we should give this a go on the red routes. The new code of practice shows that motorcyclists are taking the privilege seriously and I am confident that all bikers, whether pedal or powered, will do a terrific job of sharing our bus lanes safely."

In a meeting with the BMF in February 2008, Mr Johnson said;

"Allowing motorcyclists into bus lanes would ease congestion and increase traffic speed."

A TfL report proved the safety benefits of motorcycles using bus lanes, indicating that m/cycle accidents were nearly halved during the 3 year trial period and despite scare stories to the contrary, it also proved safer for all users, pedestrians, cyclists and car drivers too.

In March 2007, the Government issued a Traffic Advisory Leaflet to Local Authorities that specifically encouraged a more objective assessment to be made of bus lane use by motorcycles.

Existing bus lane access sites :

Bristol has operated a permanent bus lane access since 1996, and Reading since 1999.

Northern Ireland, Birmingham, Colchester, Derby, Bath, Hull, Plymouth, Swindon, Sheffield, Richmond on Thames, Newcastle upon Tyne, Sunderland and the M4 bus lane.

ANY OTHER STUFF . . .

We should again have 3 places allocated on each of the forthcoming i2i **Observer Training** dates - **Sun 1st March** and **Sat 7th March** 2009.

Tom and his team are hoping to use some facilities at Harrogate Fire Station (to be confirmed) which allows good access to some fab riding routes specific to the days` training.

The dates are **fixed** and if you are one of the new **Trainee Observers** then **Martin Bevan** will need to know your availability as soon as please - so that we can ensure we fill our allocation of places.

There will be 12 riders on each day, with members from Cleveland, West Yorkshire, and Harrogate Advanced Bikes participating too.

Make a Diary Note

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DATES

**Tuesday 27th January 2009**

First social meeting of the year  
COORE ARMS at SCRUTON

**Sun 1st & Sat 7th March 2009**

i2i OBSERVER TRAINING Days  
For new Trainee Observers

**Sunday 5th April 2009**

Should be the first ORGANISED RIDEOUT of the season - do we have a willing volunteer yet ??

**Thursday 28th May 2009**

i2i CROFT CIRCUIT Event  
Previously mentioned and you must have already done the MCI and MC3 to attend.

25 places still available on this event !

Let us know if you are aware of any rides / events which you think other NAB members would be interested in !



SAFE-RIDER

CBT - TEST - ADVANCED

TRAINING

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[www.automoto-racing.co.uk](http://www.automoto-racing.co.uk)



MMT Motorcycle Training, Repairs & Sales are also based in Darlington and wish to be associated with us at NAB.  
(Call 01325 267569) [mmtdarlington.com](http://mmtdarlington.com)



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WHITE BROS MOTORCYCLES in DARLINGTON are kindly offering NAB members a 5 % discount on clothing & accessories. (Tel. 01325 466422)  
[www.whitebroshonda.co.uk](http://www.whitebroshonda.co.uk)

Have your say !

Any items for the newsletter - please send by email to the address below.

The newsletter is normally ready for publication one week before the pub meeting

[jayeph@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jayeph@tiscali.co.uk)

RIDE SAFE & ENJOY !