

# WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS



**JANUARY 2019**

## CHAIR'S FOREWORD

January is for many a time for looking ahead and a time of reflection.

2018 had many great biking moments but ended with a sad December where we lost Richard Mundy an enthusiastic biker and WHAM slow riding champion. As you may have seen on our Facebook page a number of us attended his funeral with a dozen bikes escorting the cortege. Also Sylvia from The Falcon died at Christmas; she was a strong supporter of many Bromyard charities. We will miss them both.



We are already planning to repeat the highlights of 2018. First, our slow riding day where, last year, we saw 45 bikes at Throckmorton, including friends from Severn Advanced Motorcyclists. Then for our observers the annual training day which provides valuable practice and (entertaining) presentations with a focus on observing and communications. Both these events are led by our chief observers, Gary and Alex with assistance from our Training Team.

Richard Hewitt is taking bookings for the WHAM trip to Brittany – a long weekend in early October. And others I know are planning trips both here and beyond Europe. I'm looking forward to riding on dry roads in warm sunshine – I just don't know where it'll be – watch this space.

The AGM is being held at The Falcon on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January. Please come along – we will endeavour to get through the formal business quickly before a wider discussion about WHAM and the year ahead.

Finally, my sincere thanks to two people who, over the last few years, have made important contributions to the work of the Training Team. Both Derek McMullan and Del Britten are standing down. Their dedication to the application of 'best practice' means that WHAM is appreciated beyond our membership: IAMRoadsmart considers WHAM as one of the better groups in the country.

Ride safe

Ant Clerici



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## WHAM EVENTS—PAUL WHITCOMBE

### WHAM 2019 Birthday Party—Chateau Impney, Droitwich CANCELLED

Regrettably, due to low interest, the WHAM 'doo' scheduled for early February has been cancelled. We couldn't even rustle up enough interest to cover the deposit...

So, what next?

The last membership survey indicated that members look forward to and want some sort of Christmas or annual get together. Suggestions can be sent to the editor; alternatively, we have an AGM coming up and can discuss in open forum then.



## REVIEW— GS VS. ANGRY WASP... TONY DAVIS

So, our Newsletter Editor must have been desperate for articles this month as He's asked me to do a little article on my latest bike purchase.

You may remember my article from about 3 years ago extolling the virtues of the BMW R1200GS. Let's face it, it was all in jest. The GS is just so good at being a motorcycle.

Anyway. I got a bit bored of riding a bike that was so perfect and decided to torture myself and buy something a little more flawed. Enter stage left the bright red 2012 Triumph Speed Triple 1050.



The Ed wanted me to do a comparison between the GS and the Speedy. Impossible!, they just don't compare.

The Triumph feels like it's made out of a solid block of metal. All aggressive riding position, snarly after-market exhaust system, complete lack of refined electronic riding aids, it's like riding an angry wasp.

To be honest it was a real handful when I picked it up from a private seller in St Albans, it felt really reluctant to turn a corner, the throttle felt snatchy and the suspension was so harsh I was getting bounced out of the saddle all the way home. It wasn't helped by the fact that it was about 4 degrees and it has none of the GS's pampering aids like a plug for my heated jacket, a windscreen or heated grips. None of that detracted from the overall ride though, that engine is sublime.

Once I got it home it was straight up on the bench for some TLC. A set of lovely Metzeler Roadtechs were fitted (it had some ridiculous sporty Bridgestones on it that did not work in the cold or wet). The rear suspension linkage got a strip down, clean and lube, along with the head races and that transformed the handling. The bike comes with a full suite of suspension adjustments, far more than any bike I've ever owned. I spent hours riding around the local back roads with a screwdriver, pen and notebook tweaking it to get a happy compromise between bounce out of the seat hard and wallowy soft but it was well worth the effort.

## REVIEW— GS VS. ANGRY WASP... TONY DAVIS

Compared to pretty much any bike I've owned this thing goes round corners effortlessly. Head into the bends on the A44 at Broadwas at 50 on the GS and it feels like you are leaning over at a ridiculous angle with the rear tyre digging in. Do the same on the Triumph and it sails round making you think you could have gone in 20 mph faster. The real difference kicks in when you want to slow down mid bend though, touch the front brake on the GS and it just keeps on tracking in the direction you pointed it. Do the same on the Speedy and it sits up on you and tries to go straight on, very disconcerting, it's the downside to that brilliant Telelever suspension in the GS, it makes other bikes positively dangerous if you get too used to it.

The 2012 Speed Triple model fits into that nice era where you can hook it up to a PC via the diagnostic port and change literally everything including throttle body synchronisation, fuel maps etc. It turned out that the bike had a full Triumph arrow race exhaust fitted but it was using the standard map for the normal under seat pipes. Downloading the correct map sorted the snatchy throttle response completely and resulted in that addictive popping in the exhaust on the overrun. It also means that the bike never has to go near a Triumph Dealer for servicing as even the service indicator can be reset via the OBD port.

So, I now have a well sorted Speedy that ticks all the boxes as an antidote to the GS. Every time I ride it I am amazed how much fun it is. Being a naked bike you get a real sense of speed. 70 on the Speedy feels like 90 on the GS. I've even added a little home-made fly screen that makes it almost luxurious on the motorway.

Many of you will have noticed that I still have the GS. There are a number of good reasons for this:

It is very comfy; It has great weather protection; It has luggage for going touring; It has a pillion seat; It has electronic rider aids that work brilliantly in bad weather; It does everything and goes anywhere; I bought it from new and the amount of money I've lost on it frightens me; It is very comfy though....

If I had to sell one it would be the Triumph as you have to pick your windows of opportunity to enjoy it, i.e. a reasonably warm day with dry roads. It is horrible in wet weather. It wears you out after 200+ miles. It eats tyres. It drinks fuel. But, it's a proper motorcycle. It does involuntary wheelies, makes antisocial noises, it feels FAST, its light and it's easy to service at home.

If you are going to run 2 bikes then it makes sense to make them different from each other.

There is no doubt that I've achieved that goal these two.

Next step for me is to try a track day on it, probably an IAM day a Thruxton, I just hope it's a dry one.



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# 12-DAYS TOURING NORTH ISLAND NZ ON A GS—TONY REUSSER

## Day 10 Napier to Porirua (313 Kms)

Porirua was as far south as I would get in North Island until my wife arrived and we took a hire car to Wellington. From there we would catch the ferry to Picton in South Island via the Cook Straits.

Still mainly on State Highway 2, the GS purred through the Raukawa Range, passed the Ruahine Forest Park and Range, onto the Tararua Range that rose to my right as I headed south.



## Day 11 Porirua to Taumarunui (363 Kms)

The overnight in an unremarkable Porirua had been very average, so I was looking forward to getting back on the GS and covering ground as I headed north only a day away from retuning the bike to Auckland. The only exciting part of the day would be the waves that occasionally broke over the sea wall on State Highway 1 with moderate strength winds coming off the sea. There had been cyclones in the area which thankfully I would miss during my whole stay in NZ.



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# 12-DAYS TOURING NORTH ISLAND NZ ON A GS—TONY REUSSER

## Day 12 Taumarunui to Hamilton via the Marokopa Falls (295 Kms)

This was my last day on the bike. I was going to take State Highway 3&4 then head directly west to the Marokopa falls before going onto the coast.

The road west was 50km of excellent quality switchback roads and I thoroughly enjoyed the ride. The falls were only a short 400m walk from the road side parking. I reached the coast after a 30 minutes delay while more sheep than I have ever seen before, cross the road, but I spent it in conversation with the farmer's wife who was waving down the traffic (me).



## 12-DAYS TOURING NORTH ISLAND NZ ON A GS—TONY REUSSER

The journey back to Auckland (113 km) was slight fraught with the worry of running out of fuel, but I made it back to the outskirts of Auckland having travelled through some of the most beautiful countryside in the world. Total distance for my 12 day trip, 2737Km or 1700 miles not a world record by any means, but that wasn't the intention. If you get the opportunity NZ should definitely be on your bucket list.

Safe riding.



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## NEWS—RICHARD HEWITT

Obituaries -

A topic I thought, or hoped, I'd never have to report on within the pages of this newsletter is the passing of one of our members.

It is with great sadness that the committee needs to inform you that just after Christmas we lost Richard Mundy after a short battle with cancer.

Let me remind you of Richards prowess at the last two throckmorton slow riding events. I personally remember having to instruct him to stop going round and round and round the main 'tennis ball slalom course' during our lunch break and get some water and sandwiches with the rest of us. At the time he was practised to such a point that Eric calculated his top speed around this course was reaching into double digits. Richard went onto win the overall slow riding race that day with ease.

Joining us in 2016 as a full member he'd not been with us long yet was planning, upon impending retirement from the world of work, to join us on our European tours. A lot our number have ridden with Richard on many a Sunday and all agree his skills were such that he was an asset to the club and would have been welcome on any and all our summer tours.

Richard leaves a wife, Alex, three grown Children and several grand-children.

Richards Alex had requested a number of our riders to escort Richard to his final resting place at Worcester Crematorium and it was with much pride and sadness that twelve of our number carried this out on Friday 11th January. His family were very appreciative of this gesture and I for one was proud to offer them support at such a sad time.

Richard will be missed yet not forgotten. To this end the committee is to discuss renaming the annual off-road slow-riding event, and trophy, in Richards name.

— —

Sylvia Silver—The Falcon

It's with shock that we've also lost Sylvia in January.

For those of you that don't know Sylvia was part of the husband (John) and wife team that own and run the Falcon in Bromyard. WHAM have been using the Falcon for some years now and Sylvia and John are therefore good friends to WHAM.

It's worth noting Sylvia was certainly a character; with John by her side Sylvia always offered WHAM members a cheerful welcome and a amusing joke at the bar before it was time for us to adjourn to the natter night room.

There will be a collection at our upcoming AGM in Sylvia's memory, with that raised going to one of Sylvia's named local charities.



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## NEWS—RICHARD HEWITT

SAM natter night Helite talk -

Eric Bush of SAM has been in-touch to invite WHAM members to a SAM club night.

SAM have Lee from Helite Airbags coming to their club night on Tuesday 12th February 2019.

The venue is Walls Club Hammond Way Barnwood Gloucester GL4 3YL.

The evening starts at 19.30 hours

Here's the link <https://helite.com/airbag-motorcycle>

The venue is an awkward place to find....

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Walls+Club+Limited/@51.8651596,-2.2102315,16.5z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x5c7c574c870a0d65!8m2!3d51.8649246!4d-2.2072937>

WHAM membership update -

Ahead of our AGM we thought it useful to publish our current membership stats -

Current IAM (paid up) Paid WHAM Full/Fellow (130) Associate (26)

Not paid WHAM Full/Fellow (7) Associate (1)

Expired IAM (not paid) Paid WHAM Full/Fellow (9) Associate (3)

Not paid WHAM Full/Fellow (0) Associate (0)

Lapsed (Resigned) Paid WHAM Full/Fellow (0) Associate (0)



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# WHAM EVENTS—RICHARD HEWITT

## Brittany 2019

For 2019 the late September Normandy run is being changed to Brittany in early October. The aim is to spend less time unnecessarily sitting either on Motorways or daytime ferries, and indeed more time on open roads rather in some Normandy Coastal town festooned with multiple mini-roundabouts and 80 km/h (new) speed limits. The schedule is as follows:

- Overnight ferry Portsmouth to St Malo on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at 2015hrs.
- Disembark 0815hrs. And ride to “Le Fosso” afternoon 3<sup>rd</sup> October
- Half board—£150pp
- Depart after breakfast 6<sup>th</sup> October
- Proposed afternoon lunch somewhere before the Port of St.Malo
- Back on Overnight ferry St. Malo to Portsmouth on Sunday 6th October 2019 at 2030hrs.
- Arrive Portsmouth 0715hrs. With planned WHAM group ride back up country NOT on Motorways and with a morning coffee stop

Le Fosso:

A warm welcome in the heart of Brittany.

Accessible accommodation in Brittany, France for groups of all kinds. Open since 1991, Le Fosso is a unique site bringing together comfortable holiday accommodation available to all, with a real experience of France. Registered for schools, clubs and specialist organisations as well as families.

At Le Fosso you will find an authentic Breton setting, and easy access to a wealth of visits, sports and cultural activities. We specialise in bespoke holiday programmes for groups which include disabled people. Le Fosso is fully accessible to people with impaired mobility. Our comfortable and spacious gîtes set in six acres of peaceful gardens and woodland make it an ideal setting for special interest groups of all kinds... gatherings of family and friends, yoga, botany, theatre, crafts, walkers, motorcyclists ....

<http://www.lefosso.com/>

Thanks to Ant & Gill Clerici for making this accommodation recommendation. Le Fosso sit’s slap bang in the middle of Brittany and provides us many decent, distinct, runs out that include countryside and sea-side destinations.

Brexit regrettably means the accommodation price is left flexible at the owners request and I will require a £50pp deposit to satisfy our hosts. All full members and partners welcome. Contact Richard Hewitt to book - [rhewitt@grichan.com](mailto:rhewitt@grichan.com)



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# 2019 AGM

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

### AGENDA

Wednesday the 31st of January 2019

At the Falcon Hotel Bromyard Starting at 7.30PM

Item 1	Welcoming Remarks	Ant Clerici
Item 2	Apologies	Paul Whitcombe
Item 3	Approval of 2017 AGM minutes and any matters arising from them.	Paul Whitcombe
Item 4	Chairman's Report	Ant Clerici
Item 5	Treasurer's Report	Eric Reynolds
Item 6	Election of Committee Officers	Paul Whitcombe
Item 7	Election of Committee Members	Secretary
Item 8	Presentation of Certificates	Chairman
Item 9	Programme for 2017	Chairman
Item 10	Any other business	Secretary
Item 11	Date and time of next AGM	29/01/2020 Secretary



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## Annual General Meeting – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018

### Worcester and Herefordshire Advanced Motorcycling Club (WHAM)

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#### Officers

Chairperson: Stuart Poole (SP)

Secretary: Alex Hoyle (AH)

Treasurer: Eric Reynolds (ER)

#### Apologies for absence

Del Britton, Derek McMullan, Mike Franzen, Ian Rivers, Stewart Morehead

The annual general meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2017 was called to order at 7:30 pm by AH.

#### Approval of the minutes from the last AGM

No matters were arising from the previous minutes of the last annual general meeting.

The minutes were approved by John Nixon and seconded by Gary Barnes.

#### Chair's report

SP thanked the Committee for their commitment and hard work over the last year, and the time and effort given by the members.

SP reviewed the year commenting on the slow riding day as a highlight. SP thanked Tony Davies for planning day and weekend rides. He requested any recommended routes be passed to him.

SP outlined changes to RoadSmart over the last 12 months, including a change to corporate branding. SP explained how WHAM was very successful and set the standard for other clubs. IAM were in the process of developing systems for standardising club standards. SP explained how WHAM was 99% of the way towards having the expected standard and was seen as a model of good practice.

#### Financial report

ER distributed financial overview and gave his summary report.

Current assets £8567.80. Report signed by independent examiner, D.J. Curzon.

The report was approved by Paul Gill and seconded by Paul Hayes.

# 2019 AGM

## Election of committee

Stuart Poole standing down as chairman. Ant Clerici proposed as new Chairman.

Alex Hoyle standing down as Secretary. Paul Whitcombe proposed as new Secretary.

Eric Reynolds seeking re-election as Treasurer.

Approved by S Poole and seconded by Gary Barnes.

## 2017 Committee roles

Vice chairman – Richard Hewitt

Newsletter editor - Richard Hewitt

Membership secretary – Adrian Wheeler

Webmaster and route master - Tony Davies

Regional representative – No longer required. Anthony Clerici will inform Committee of relevant information.

Associate coordinator Worcester - Paul Gill

Associate coordinator Hereford – Stuart Morehead

Chief Observer Hereford – Alex Hoyle

Chief Observer Worcester – Gary Barnes

It was noted that Derek McMullan continues as one of the two IAM RoadSmart vice chairs

These roles were approved by Stuart Poole and seconded by Matt Dent

## 2019 AGM

### Ant Clerici's (AC) address as new chairman.

AC thanked SP for the support he had provided to the club over the last year and commented on his organisation of a very successful WHAM Dinner at Chateau Impney. AC congratulated him on leading WHAM through a productive year, with more National Observers and acceptance on two pilot schemes run by IAM. SP nodded and was overwhelmed.

AC outlined PW's thanks to DB at the WHAM dinner. AC thanked the Newsletter's efforts for producing a wonderful piece each month. The survey showed its value to WHAM. It was commented that RH was a special member. AC thanked the efforts of the training team and Committee who successfully run all aspects of the group on the member's behalf. AC thanked RB for his contribution to the club and wished him good luck on his Harley.

AC outlined what the future holds. This included:

Continuing with excellent training. WHAM is 11 yrs old and has 22 National observers. WHAM is recognised by IAM as a well organised group which offers excellent training and is therefore an example of best practice.

AC paid particular thanks to DEN Osborne and his highly significant contribution to the club. AC commented on his quality of riding and organisation of the very successful slow riding days and off-road experiences. Den even organised bacon butties in remote locations in Wales.

AC explained that Den did not want fuss, as he stands down from WHAM, but a picture has been produced on the club's behalf, to be presented to him at his workshop by a representative group.

AC offered his congratulations to all those who had successfully passed their National Observer test. AC commented on this year being all about recruiting and training new associates.

AC commented that the training team have set this as a priority as well as offering additional training to current members in the form of 1<sup>st</sup> Pass, Fellowship or Masters.

### Any other business

AH thanked Guy Boardman for bringing bike safety materials for the membership to purchase with a donation.

Matt Dent requested clarification on briefings prior to Sunday rides. AH explained how the briefing was there to cover potential legal issues if the worst happened and to ensure group riding protocols. It clarified that the individual rider was responsible for his/her own ride. TD commented that there was a disclaimer on the website. GB commented that he will be coordinating this at Worc.

AC stated that TD was running through the survey results after the AGM. AC concluded with an invite out to all members to come out and enjoy. Next annual general meeting scheduled for the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Meeting was brought to a close at 8.15PM



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# 2019 AGM

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WORCESTER & HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The Group AGM will be held at the Falcon Hotel, Bromyard Starting at 7.30PM

The main purpose of the AGM is to review the events and finances of the past year and to elect the committee for the coming year. All full members and associates are invited to attend but only paid-up full members of the Institute and the Group may vote. (Those who have passed their Advanced Test)

### Committee Changes

The current officers – Chairman, Secretary, & Treasurer must stand down but can offer themselves for re-election. The current known intentions of the Committee are given below.

### Officers

Chairman: <b>Ant Clerici</b>	Seeking re-election
Secretary: <b>Paul Whitcombe</b>	Seeking re-election
Treasurer: <b>Eric Reynolds</b>	Seeking re-election

### Committee Members

Vice Chairman: <b>Richard Hewitt</b>	Seeking re-election
Newsletter Editor: <b>Richard Hewitt</b>	Seeking re-election
Membership Secretary: <b>Adrian Wheeler</b>	Seeking re-election
Webmaster: <b>Tony Davis</b>	Seeking re-election
Routemaster: <b>Tony Davis</b>	Seeking re-election
Region Rep: <b>Ant Clerici</b>	Seeking re-election
Events Coordinator: <b>Alison Whitcombe</b>	Standing down
Associate Coordinator, Hereford: <b>Stuart Morehead</b>	Seeking re-election
Associate Coordinator, Worcester: <b>Paul Gill</b>	Seeking re-election
Chief Observer Hereford: <b>Alex Hoyle</b>	Committee Appointment
Chief Observer Worcester: <b>Gary Barnes</b>	Committee Appointment
<b>Current Known Intentions:</b>	
Events Coordinator: <b>Duane Sanger</b>	Seeking Election

Any fully paid up members of the IAM and of WHAM are free to apply for any of the above posts.



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# 2019 AGM

## Nomination Form

For the election of  
Worcester & Hereford Advanced Motorcyclists Committee 2019

TO BE HANDED TO ANY OFFICER/COMMITTEE MEMBER OF WORCESTER &  
HEREFORD ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS PRIOR TO THE AGM OR TO THE  
SECRETARY ON THE EVENING OF THE AGM ON:

WEDNESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019

I .....

(Name in block capitals) wish to stand for election to the position of:

.....

Signature..... Date.....

Proposed by: (Name in Capitals) .....

Signature..... Date.....

Seconded by: (Name in Capitals) .....

Signature..... Date.....

Nomination Accepted by.....

In the event of 2 or more nominations for the same post, I agree to a vote by ballot on the night & will abide by the majority decision.

Please note: You may not stand for the committee if the law debars you from being a charity trustee.

If you wish to volunteer for the committee but do not know someone who can nominate you or second your nomination, please contact the Secretary, Paul Whitcombe by E-mail [whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com)



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# 2019 AGM

## COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Any WHAM full member wishing to put themselves forward for any of the officer posts or the vacant committee posts should complete the attached nomination form.

Voting will take place to fill the three officer posts and vacant Committee positions at the AGM. In the event of 2 or more nominations for a post, there will be a vote by show of hands on the evening.

Nomination forms are attached to this notice. Please remember, only fully paid up members of the Institute and the Group may nominate or be nominated.

Please return nomination forms to any of the Officers/Committee Members as soon as possible or hand them into the Secretary at the start of the Annual General Meeting.

All members are invited and indeed, encouraged to attend the A.G.M., not only to participate in voting in your committee, but also to volunteer your ideas, express your views and discuss where/how you would like the Group to progress.

## ITEMS FOR AGM AGENDA

Any member can submit items for inclusion in the AGM Agenda. Items need to be submitted to the Secretary Paul Whitcombe on E-mail [whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:whamgroupsecretary@gmail.com) at least five days before the AGM.



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## WINTER RIDING WITH WHAM — ALEX HOYLE

Just because it's winter doesn't mean that you don't have to get out on your bike; and in fact, over the last few weeks even though we've been in the depths of winter, the weather on most of the Sunday morning runs that I've been on has actually been pretty good.

The only time I never ride is when it's on, or around freezing, and the temperature is forecast to stay there for most of the day. Having come off on black ice a couple of times I can tell you it's not much fun, and in fact not only does it dent your ego, it also puts a pretty big dent in your wallet. The last time it happened to me it cost me best part of £700 to get the bike straightened out. So, it's not something you really want to repeat on a monthly basis.

That said don't be put off just because it's winter, most of the modern bikes have heated grips, and quite a few of the guys have heated vests, or heated jackets, and gloves, all of which help tremendously at this time of the year. The worst thing you can do is to be cold on a bike, so if you find yourself cooling off; stop the bike, get off it and have a walk around, or jump up and down, do anything to try and get some heat back into your body. Then make sure you find the nearest café and have a cup of tea or coffee, or hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows.

As a group what we've learnt is that those people who ride throughout the year, particularly through the winter months, tend to be the better overall riders, quite simply because if you can ride in these conditions at this time of the year, when you get to the summer months and it's nice and warm and you're on dry roads with hot sticky tarmac, then it's a bit of a doddle, compared to riding in the winter.

Over the last few weeks we've had a pretty good turnout on the Sunday morning rides from both Hereford and Worcester. As always its good to meet up with the other guys and gals, when we all get together at the café, and have a breakfast and a chat, which to be honest is my primary reason for riding. I don't actually enjoy motorcycling it's purely the big breakfast I do it for (only joking).

O.K. the chances are when you get back home, you're probably going to have to wash the bike, but as I said in one of my previous CO articles, washing your bike by using MPOWDERSS is a really good way of checking the overall state and condition of your machine.

So, if you are someone who doesn't normally ride at this time of the year, then you might want to have a rethink and come out with us on one of the Sunday morning runs, the information for which can be found on the website.

<http://www.wham-motorcycling.org/events/>

Tony is the route master, and to be honest all of his routes are pretty good, and the cafés at the end of the rides, all provide a good hearty breakfast.

So, give it some thought, hope to see you at a café at some point in the not too dim and distant future.

Alex W Hoyle

CO Hereford



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## THE TAIL ENDS— BY MR ALAN RIDER



Alan sends you his best wishes from his Winter Cruise ship moored somewhere of the cost of Cuba. What he doesn't send us unfortunately is any pearls of wisdom this month although he passes on his best wishes to you all for a good 2019 riding season and promises to come back loud and proud in February.

His last words to me were something about waitresses and rum; I didn't quite catch the exact phrase yet he was rambling on about the Clintons, cigars and dresses. I understand not....

Ed