



South Cheshire Advanced Motorcyclists Newsletter

Est. 1994

December 2021

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A final reminder about the Group's Christmas meal

Our first since the pandemic and a wonderful opportunity to meet old and new friends in convivial surroundings. Places are still available but you will have to be quick. The blood bike group had to cancel its meal because of a lack of support.

It is at the Woodside Inn, Valley Rd, Wistaston, Crewe CW2 8JU on the 10th December with a 7-00 for 7-30 start (note new time after talking to landlady!). Dress is casual. A menu is attached, the cost of the 3-course meal is £19.99 and the 2-course £16.99 per person. The prices exclude drinks and beverages, the cheese and biscuits at the bottom of the menu are an extra cost.

After discussion with the chairman it has been agreed that the group will subsidise the first 25 people coming to the meal with the deposit cost of £5.00 so if you have not yet told me you're coming, now's the chance. I have to finalise things by the 1st December so that the Woodside can be advised of numbers and meal orders. The balance to be paid on the night.

Don't worry if you have paid the deposit – Andy, our treasurer, will sort it out with his usual thoroughness!

Look forward to your support and seeing lots of you there.

Many thanks

Geoff

Message from the Chairman

So there's one session of the Autumn course to go, not only have the dark nights and cold mornings arrived but thanks to storm Arwen we've got snow in November! That can only mean that, sadly the season is coming to a close.

It's certainly been a strange year, not as many associates as normal but those we did have proved to be of a high standard with some very good results. Again, thank you to all the Observers who gave their time so willingly to assist. Let's hope things get back to normal next year.

With one eye on next year we will be holding an Observer Course in March, so if you fancy taking the next step and training to become an Observer this will be your opportunity. You'll need to ride to a standard exceeding test requirement, be able to recognise development issues in other riders and have good communication skills to give appropriate guidance. It's not easy but it is very rewarding, if you think you're up to the challenge, let me know.

Elsewhere in this issue you may see a brief report on our recent Biker Down session at Stafford Police HQ. I'm delighted to let you know that following on from it, the committee have made a £100 donation to Doc Bike Staffs on the group's behalf.

I hope to see many of you at the Christmas meal but if not, I hope you and your families have a great Christmas and see you in the New Year.

Dave

Message from the President



I would like to wish all members and their families all the very best for Christmas and a very Happy New Year (I hope Santa brings you what you want)

Chris

Biker Down

For quite a while I'd heard that 'Biker Down' was a worthwhile presentation and had been trying to arrange to get to one. Unfortunately, Covid put the brakes on courses in Cheshire, so when I was asked by the team who run the courses in Staffordshire whether our group might like to attend, I took them up on the offer.

For those who don't know, Biker Down is a free course presented by emergency professionals, on what actions to take on coming across a motorcycle collision.

The course in Staffordshire is run through the DocBike charity. The Staffordshire arm of the charity is dedicated to the memory of Luke Van de Sande and was set up by his mother Carol. Luke was a cop, sadly killed in a motorcycle collision, her aim was to prevent other families going through the pain she, her family and Luke's colleagues went through.



So, on a cold misty November morning a few of us met up at Barthomley to ride down to Staffordshire Police HQ where the course was to be held. Some, who shall remain nameless but they know who they are, went by car! Definitely, a fine in the form of cakes I think.

The course is presented in three modules, the first presented by Brian, a Police collision investigator, explains the actions to take on initially arriving at the scene.

How to keep yourself and the casualty safe

Protecting the scene from other traffic.

Calling for help

Module two was First Aid presented by Dan, a Police firearms medic and covered :

'Snatch Rescue'

Haemorrhage Control

Airway Maintenance

Helmet Removal

CPR

Module three was presented by Rob Gilligan who is an IAM examiner and Police Senior Investigating



Officer (SIO). It's Rob's job to investigate serious and fatal collisions and this section was about how to avoid being involved in a collision in the future.

Visibility – making yourself seen

Invisibility – how to protect yourself from those who don't see you

Protective riding strategies

Why bikers get knocked off and how to prevent it

On a normal course, since most attendees are not advanced trained, in this section the benefits of further training is pushed but

obviously, this wasn't required for our group.

It was definitely worthwhile attending and I'm sure everybody learned something from the morning. Hopefully, something we'll never need to use but you never know it might just save a life one day.

If anyone wishes to attend a future course let me know and I'll get the dates for you or go to the DocBike website.

As a thank you, the group will be making a donation to the charity and if you wish to yourself, that too can be done on the website <https://docbike.org/staffordshire/>



Dave

Gadget Corner

Howard's Laser alignment review...

I am a man who loves a gadget and I am sure many of you are also so perhaps you could let Ed know so he can put your favourite gadgets into the newsletter.

This month's gadget from me is only of us if you have a chain or drive belt (Elastic band!) so any of you with shaft drive can move on .

This is Profi CAT Laser Alignment Tool.

It is simple to use just switch on and you get the laser activate then place the flat side on the rear sprocket rotate the wheel slowly and if the laser light touches the chain in the same position all the way up to the front sprocket then it is bang on, if not keep adjusting until it is in line.

Very quick to check and is accurate.

<https://www.profi-products.de/en/drive-chain-alignment-laser/?p=1>

I have had mine some years now and there are now newer and more variants.

Ride safely.

Howard Payne



The Great Scottish Petrol Hunt Continues

Tuesday 5th October, being on holiday Ian and I strolled into breakfast, well Ian strolled, I wobbled and hobbled, due to knackered knees, at 9am, whilst enjoying



breakfast Dave Smith our host came over and asked if we wanted a route for the day, we explained that we had pencilled in a run out the west coast, and would have lunch at Port Patrick, he said west was good as the rain was in the east. Having had a leisurely breakfast we donned biking gear and set off for port Patrick at ten o'clock, having fuelled up on our arrival there was no need to hunt for fuel, we agreed that on returning to Moffat we would dive

into a petrol stn that did not look to busy, it was dry but not very warm, I was wearing my heated waistcoat so no problem, just turn it on to a low setting, we travelled along scenic roads through forests and besides lochs, the views were spectacular, and the pace sedate, no need to rush we had all day, it was man and machine in perfect



harmony, well until you meet a logging truck coming the other way on a single track road, then it becomes buttock clenching, they always appeared on a bend, having had a couple of close shaves we emerged back on a proper two lane road, from there it was more calming until we reached our lunch stop Port Patrick, we had lunch in the Crown Hotel, Ian had his heart set on a crab sandwich, and he was a bit miffed when the waiter

said there was no crab, I on the other hand asked for a prawn sandwich, which was on the menu, Ian not wishing to be pedantic also opted for the Prawn sandwich, when it arrived it was more like a prawn feast, a large salad with prawns and two pieces of

brown bread on the side, it was a sandwich in kit form, make it yourself, we also ordered a side order of chips, as you do. We were on holiday, having eaten well we went back to the bikes and Ian consulted the map, regarding a different route back to Moffatt, having worked out a route we headed off back to Moffatt, again the roads were deserted, and the ride was enjoyable, on the last leg back it started to rain, we were about half an hour out of Moffatt, so it was not too bad, we passed a petrol station, that did not have much of a queue, but Ian kept on going, the next thing we were in Mofatt, we pulled into the petrol station, to find they had no unleaded, only diesel, the station assured us they were expecting a delivery in the next couple of hours, so we went back to the hotel, and agreed that tomorrow was another day, having had a shower and changed into evening attire we went for a walk round Moffatt, during our walk, we noticed a second petrol station, so I went in and asked if they had any unleaded, plenty was the reply, so we agreed that we would fill up there in the morning, satisfied in the knowledge that we were not going to struggling for fuel we went back to the hotel had a drink, had an enjoyable meal washed down with a palatable Malbec and retired for the evening, we discussed the route for the following day over dinner, and decided that we would ask Dave for one of his routes and see where it would take us, having had a fabulous day it was nice just to relax and savour the moment.

To be Continued.

By Chris Steel



Annual Subscriptions, 2022

As you all know, because of the pandemic, we deferred payment of the annual subscription for 2021. The committee has decided to ask for payment for 2022. To that end, here are some helpful points:

As in previous years the subscription will be £12-50 – substantially less than a tank of fuel

The SCAM “financial year” has also been moved to coincide with the calendar year so **payment is now due on the 1st January**. You also need to complete a membership form which Geoff will send by email nearer the time

Payment can be made in several ways – by cash, by cheque or by CHAPS internet banking transfer to **South Cheshire Advanced Motorists, Sort Code: 54-10-17; Account number 36603198**

Please tell Geoff when you have paid because statements take some time to catch up and it will probably stop you receiving some reminder emails.

If you pay by automated transfer you will probably have to get the payment date changed or take out a new mandate. The person that pays in June will most certainly have to (no names!) or risk receiving “snotty” emails for 6 months! (We will continue to investigate the payment from Coutts Bank.)

If you were on the 2021 Autumn course you do not have to pay the 2022 subscription – it is included in your course fee

Our membership is at an all-time high so administration is sometimes difficult. We are all volunteers and give out time freely so please try to make things run smoothly by paying on time.

Thanks

Geoff

In Brief

- *Payment, £12.50, Due January 1st*
- *Transfer: best method of payment (See above)*
- *Tell Geoff when you've transferred*
- *Automated transfers need to be aligned to January 1st*