



# Bournemouth & Wessex Advanced Motorcyclists



## Newsletter — April 2005

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## **NEWS**

### **NEWSLETTER ONLINE**

*21st century beckons*

This newsletter is now available on the Club's Web site as a PDF (portable document format) file. Unlike the dead tree edition, the PDF may include colour pictures. You can zoom to a comfortable size for reading, search, print (possibly in colour) or save selected articles. The file is about 300K in size, and will be downloaded quickly even via dial-up.

You need the *Adobe Reader* software (or an equivalent product) to view or print the newsletter. If you haven't already got this (it's free) then just follow the link from the Web page. You can then view the Newsletter in your Web browser by clicking on the link, or save it on your computer's disk by right-clicking (Mac users: Control-clicking) the link and selecting **Save As**.

The current edition of the Newsletter will be found at the following URL:  
**<http://www.bwam.org.uk/newsletter/>**



### **Snail Mail Opt-Out**

You may prefer to receive the monthly Newsletter electronically. If convenient for you then it will benefit the Club by saving photocopying time and effort, and the cost of postage.

We will email you when each new edition is published. We can either send the Newsletter PDF as an email attachment to your in-box, or send you a link to the online copy of the PDF. Submit the form on the Web page if you are content to read the Newsletter as a PDF only. This will continue each month — to cancel, contact the Webmaster.

### **BIKES SHOULD SHARE CARPOOL LANES, SAYS BMF**

*Sometimes it's necessary to state the obvious*

News that Transport Secretary Alastair Darling is considering a 'congestion-busting carpool lane on the M25' has led to the British Motorcyclists'

Federation asking that motorcycles be included in such a scheme.

Following approaches from the BMF over the trial of a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane on the M1, the Highways Agency confirmed that motorcycles would be allowed in these lanes, so despite the subtle name change to 'carpool lane', the BMF still expects the same rule to apply.

BMF Government relations executive Richard Olliffe fully expected that motorcycles would be able to use such lanes. His main concern now was that the apparent renaming of HOV lanes to 'carpool lanes' might mean that only vehicles registered to a national carpool system would have legal access to carpool lanes. He said: "It's important that we get this clarified, because if electronic enforcement is used, bikes will need to be registered or exempted."

The Highways Agency is to consider a carpool lane on the M25 between junctions 12 and 15 (M3 - M4), to encourage drivers to share cars, reduce congestion, and help the environment. This section is already being widened to provide either five or six lanes in each direction, and the carpool lane could help make the best possible use of this additional capacity.

## ***BWAM WEB SITE REDESIGNED***

*Fresh new look for premier local motorcycle safety resource*

The BWAM Web site has been redesigned with a distinctive and attractive new appearance which is more accessible, easier to navigate, and friendlier for search engines.

The new design reflects the constantly-updating nature of the site, and provides the platform from which new features (like the recently announced Ride Pics and Newsletter sections) can be launched. Programmed using PHP for quick and simple updating, it also meets current World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standards, and complies with recent Disability Discrimination legislation.

It has been created by the Webmaster's daughter Alice Dryden, a professional Web developer as well as a scooterist of eight years' experience, who has recently enjoyed safety training with Bikesafe London, and a "first-on-scene" First Aid course with St John Ambulance. She welcomes enquiries for further freelance Web development projects.

For more information proceed immediately to URL:

**<http://www.bwam.org.uk/>**

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **Wednesday 13th April 2005 - First Wednesday evening run**

Summer's just over the horizon and so it's not too soon to start Wednesday evening rides. Starting from Wimborne Somerfield's (formerly Safeway) car park, and taking a circular-ish route to finish somewhere near Bournemouth. Now's the time, before we are overrun with tourists.

*Wednesday 13th April 2005, 6:00pm at Wimborne Somerfield Car Park*

### **Sunday 17th April 2005 - "Chocolate Box Run" to Wiltshire**

This is a scenic poddle through some really attractive bits of Wiltshire, and is ideally suited to pillions. We pass through a cathedral of beeches, we see the last resting place of a prominent ex-Prime Minister, we visit a maypole and we see a duck-pond the like of which I doubt you'll have seen before. We'll go through the kind of front gate that the likes of us can only dream about and we'll go on to look at a small village church in a real picture-postcard setting. We'll follow the Avon past Sting's Pile and pile into the Friar Tuck.

If we're lucky with the weather, and if the countryside's wearing its Spring coat then it'll be well worthwhile bring the camera. There'll be plenty of time to take piccies as this is definitely not a "point-it-and-nail-it" ride. Come on, ladies, this is one for you! You never know, you might actually enjoy this one. Time we saw some of the old boys too. Rod – that old beezer's made for this one, though the lanes'll shake the nuts off both of you! This is a ride for anyone, whether or not you're passed for social riding, and you should be home by 2.

*Sunday 17th April 2005, 10:00am at the Avon Heath Park Café*

### **Monday 18th April 2005 - Club Night - A Street, A Track, An Open Road**

“Hi, I'm Suzi Perry and you're coming to Club Night to watch *A Street, A Track, An Open Road*. It's one of the most entertaining things I've seen since the Purple Helmets. Once you've watched it, I'm sure you'll agree that it's a unique mix of real challenges, top riding, and good sense that from time to time we all forget we need, all rolled up in a large bundle of humour.”



Three expert riders: race (Chris Walker), road and town. A competition is set for each to instruct the other two on his particular expertise and it is judged by three experts of the same discipline i.e a police advanced instructor, James Tosland and another. They end up with a winner who is deemed best overall inc

instruction. The road section is really excellent, very entertaining and more to the point educational with regard to us and the IAM.

It lasts 90 mins, there are three sections so we can have a drink break between each and still be done by 22:00 as long as we start at 20:00 sharp.

*Monday 18th April 2005, 8:00pm **sharp** at the Cobham Social Club, Merley Park Road, Wimborne*

**Friday 22nd -- Monday 25th April 2005 - Dave's West Country Weekend**

*For further information: <http://www.bwam.org.uk/events.htm>*

**Saturday 30th April -- Saturday 7th May - France on Two Wheels 2005**

*For further information: <http://www.bwam.org.uk/events.htm>*

**Wednesday 4th May 2005 - Dorset Evening Ride**

As the evenings get longer, Chris Reed will be showing us some splendid Dorset scenery in a sunset ride. He'll be stopping at some of our rather picturesque tearoom/gardens, for tea and/or horticulture.

*Wednesday 4th May 2005, 6:00pm at Wimborne Somerfield Car Park*

**Sunday 8th May 2005 - Beautiful Cotswolds**

Paul Savage will be taking riders up to the beautiful Cotswolds for a look round, and planning to be back about tea-time.

*Sunday 8th May 2005, 10:00am at the Avon Heath Park Café*

**Sunday 5th June 2005 - Observers' Ride**

Yes, a ride for Observers and Trainee Observers only. Martin Sheppard will be leading a day's run to Wales.

*Sunday 5th June 2005, 9:00am departure TBA.*

**Sunday 19th June 2005 - Duxford**

Chris Reed will be leading a day's ride across to Europe's premier aviation museum, the Imperial War Museum, Duxford. About 400 miles return for those with comfy saddles. Did it last year, a very good day out. Back for about 7.00pm.

*Sunday 19th June 2005, 8:00am at the Avon Heath Park Café*

**Monday 18th July 2005 - Club Night**

Steve Carey will give a talk at club about Top Fuel racing at Santa Pod, and bring his bike to show us all. This will get you all spooled up for the Santa Pod run in September!

*Monday 18th July 2005, 8:00pm at the Cobham Social Club, Merley Park Road, Wimborne*

## **Coffee on the Cobb – 6th March 2005**

*New members (and others) out in the cold*

John Topping – last seen polishing up the Steve Strong trophy – normally does the annual “Brass Monkey Run” so we really should have taken note when he declined to come with us, muttering something about going off to play mummies and daddies on Mother’s Day. The good weather on the day, though pretty chilly, certainly had tempted out a goodly complement for a trip to Lyme Regis for coffee on the Cobb, with four new riders as something of a record. Kathleen and her brother Yousseff had already been out for their assessments with Steve H and, proudly sporting their new statuses as Associates, were clearly up for more, and it was good also to see David and Peter.

It’s becoming something of a tradition on these rides to go via Zig-Zag Hill. I say that it’s because the hill incorporates so many useful aspects of bike control, and that one of the several purposes of these rides is to acquaint new riders with roads that we frequent, but the real reason is that I like going that way. Yeah, sure, the first few miles are as boring as polishing trophies, but once past the Horton Inn life becomes interesting. It got boring again at Shaftesbury when I ran out of markers, which turned out to be the result of an impromptu visit to Wimborne by the latter half of the contingent, after the Horton Inn marker felt lonely and rushed off to join those in front. Whoever it was, just keep very quiet!!

That was, thankfully, the only marker hiccup, and the ride then stayed intact through Yeovil, past the garage on the Crewkerne road where Trevor brought us in his search for that lovely pub at Hardington that we really must visit again some day soon, and along the A30 through Crewkerne and on to the B3165. This again has possibilities for a further visit, preferably on a warmer day, as by this time I’m sure I wasn’t the only one starting to miss heated grips such as those of my last Pan. For our purposes it’s a cracker, with a good mix of twisties, some pleasant scenics and some provocative straights to tempt things along a bit. We shall see that one again.

And so on to Lyme Regis and the steep drop to the Cobb, with those spectacular views along the Jurassic Coast towards West Bay. The cliffs were washed with golden-warm late afternoon sun and the sea was at peace, all of which did wonders to lift the spirits from the chill of the ride. It shows how long it is since I’ve been there, as they’ve moved the lifeboat station, though the beach-side ciffs are still the same. Delightful as it is as a destination for us motorcyclists, the sailors amongst us will know what it feels like to arrive at such a haven by boat, and that this is one of the trophies of the South coast that

bigger boats miss out in their haste to cross Lyme Bay. For sailors and motorcyclists alike it is a trophy that we should polish more, and I for one will be Strongly in favour now that West Bay has lost its lustre. You should have come with us, John.

*John Spinks*

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## **New Highways Agency Vehicles on Patrol**

*Gratuitous use of colour to encourage use of PDF newsletter edition*

By the end of 2005 Highways Agency Traffic Officers (HATOs) will patrol all of England's motorway network — see page 8. For recognition purposes, here's what one looks like.



The Highways Agency's objective is to help tackle the growing problems of congestion on England's roads.

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*Forthcoming Events continued from p5*

### **Sunday 11th September 2005 - Santa Pod**

Santa Pod Top Fuel European Finals! Fantastic mind blowing day, power that makes your whole body burst with noise, speed and acceleration that would fry your brain! Miss it at your peril.

*For further information: <http://www.bwam.org.uk/events.htm>*

## ***New Legislation - You Have Been Warned!***

*Chris Reed dissects the latest from Whitehall*

### **VOSA inspectors and examiners given accreditation**

Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA) officers (Department of Transport) are now being given accreditation powers from Chief Police Officers across the country. Accreditation provides them with powers to stop vehicles under section 163 Road Traffic Act 1988 for the purpose of a roadside test so allowing them to perform their functions, mainly in relation to goods and commercial passenger vehicles, without the need for a police officer to assist them. A new fleet of Ford Galaxies is now on the roads in distinctive VOSA high visibility livery.

### **HATOs on Motorways**

Highways Agency Traffic Officers are now patrolling the motorways - they have been given powers to stop vehicles under section 163 Road Traffic Act 1988, and the Motorway Regulations have been amended to allow them the same flexibility to patrol these roads and deal with incidents and accidents upon them as the Police.

### **Digital Tachographs**

The introduction of digital tachographs is expected to commence on or after 5th August 2005 - all new vehicles subject to EU Drivers Hours requirements (in scope vehicles) first used on or after the commencement date will be required to fit an approved digital tachograph. There are no plans for retrofitting in vehicles. However, where a replacement is required in an older vehicle it is expected a digital tachograph will be fitted.

Digital Tachographs will retain a full record of activity for at least 12 months and will also record details of any faults, interference, errors and over speeding that occur.

Tachograph cards, which contain a microchip, are inserted into the front of the unit. A Driver card allows the recording of driving time and rest periods both on the tachograph unit and the card. Up to 28 days' data will be recorded on the card. Details previously entered in the centre field of a chart are now recorded automatically by the vehicle unit - driver name, odometer reading etc.

The use of a mode switch is still required to differentiate between work and breaks. Work away from the vehicle can be manually entered on the vehicle unit. The unit will also accommodate a co-driver (2nd man) card.

## **Road Safety Act 2005**

The Road Safety Bill was passed to the House of Lords on 10th March 2005 and contains many amendments to traffic legislation, including:

### **Drink driving**

It closes a loophole allowing those offenders at highest risk of re-offending to drive pending medical enquiries, and introduces an experimental scheme for alcohol/ignition interlocks.

### **Speeding**

It introduces variable fixed penalties for speeding, and increases the range of penalty points available for those offences. Carriage or use of speed camera detectors and jammers will be banned.

### **Penalties and enforcement**

The Bill increases the maximum penalties for various road traffic offences, and provides for a graduated fixed penalty scheme that will match the punishment to the severity of the offence. Provision is made to prevent foreign drivers escaping punishment in Great Britain by requiring them to pay a deposit where an offence is committed. It provides for retraining courses for offenders convicted of speeding and careless driving, gives police the power to detect uninsured driving through the use of Automatic Number Plate Reading technology and access to insurance data, and confers new enforcement powers on vehicle examiners.

### **Driver training**

New schemes are targeted to meet the needs of individual sectors eg lorries, buses, off-road and fleet driving.

### **Driver fatigue**

Improvements to the enforcement of EU Drivers Hours rules (digital tachographs as above) and allows for a pilot of motorway rest areas similar to French "Aires".

### **Driver and vehicle licensing**

Changes to the driver and vehicle licensing systems include international exchange of driver and vehicle data to combat driving licence and vehicle crime, mandatory recording of mileage on the vehicle register to help prevent clocking fraud, and the extension of the current registration scheme for number plate suppliers.

*Chris Reed*

## ***Awkward Customer***

*Humour in the front line*

A lesson to all employees who work with rude customers.

Indeed, an award should go to the Virgin Airlines gate attendant in Sydney some months ago for being smart and funny, while making her point, when confronted with a passenger who probably deserved to fly as Cargo.

A crowded Virgin flight was cancelled after Virgin's 767s had been withdrawn from service. A single attendant was re-booking a long line of inconvenienced travellers. Suddenly an angry passenger pushed his way to the front of the line. He slapped his ticket down on the counter and said, "I HAVE to be on this flight and it HAS to be FIRST CLASS".

The attendant replied, "I'm sorry sir. I'll be happy to try to help you, but I've got to help these people first, and I'm sure we'll be able to work something out."

The passenger was unimpressed. He asked loudly, so that the passengers behind him could hear, "DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO I AM ?"

Without hesitating, the attendant smiled and grabbed her public address microphone: "May I have your attention please, may I have your attention please," she began - her voice heard clearly throughout the terminal. "We have a passenger here at Gate 14 WHO DOES NOT KNOW WHO HE IS. If anyone can help him find his identity, please come to Gate 14."

With the folks behind him in line laughing hysterically, the man glared at the Virgin attendant, gritted his teeth and said, "F\*\*k You!"

Without flinching, she smiled and said, "I'm sorry, sir, but you'll have to get in line for that too."

*Paul Savage*

## **Membership matters**

### **New members**

We extend a very warm welcome to the following new members:

Tom Alford  
Gary Burton  
Fred Burgess  
Russell Chaffey  
John Challis

Mark Hadfield  
Kathleen Pearson and Youseff  
Peter Pinckston  
Michaela Trunwitt  
Maurice Walton

This is the time of year at which interest in our pastime generates more than the average number of enquiries, and not all assessment rides have yet been done. Hopefully you will find this an enjoyable opportunity to have your ride looked at, and will benefit from the demonstration of our kind of riding. It is not a test but more of a chance to “meet and greet” on a one-to-one basis and to discuss the wider issues of club membership. *Please don't forget that nothing more will happen until you post your application form and IAM Skill for Life form to me afterwards.*

### **Subs renewals**

To renew, please send (preferably) a cheque to:

**38, River Way, Christchurch, Dorset. BH23 2QR**

**telephone 01202 267797 and e-mail membership@bwam.org.uk**

### **Late subs**

Failure to respond to a second reminder, within a few weeks, results in the simple deletion of your membership. Should you be moving on to other interests it would be appreciated if you could let me know via a note, phone call or email

### **Membership Fees**

Associate Membership: First year £22 (includes documents), £16 thereafter.

Full Membership: £8 (plus IAM membership, payable separately).

*John Spinks*

## **Club Shop price list**

Please see Ian Newey at Club Night for any of the following items from the Club Shop.

### **Available To Members**

IAM Metal Badge	£6.50
IAM Square Badge	£6.50
IAM Key Fob	£2.00
IAM Lapel Badge	£2.00
IAM Stick Pin	£1.10
IAM Cloth Badge	£2.00
IAM Vinyl Badge	£1.00
IAM Reflective Disc	£0.70
IAM Tank Wings	£1.10
IAM Helmet Sticker	£1.10
IAM Small Sticker	£0.20

### **Available To Members and Associates**

Pass Your Advanced Motorcycling Test (IAM)	£7.99
Motorcycle Roadcraft: The Police Rider's Handbook (IAM)	£11.99
The Highway Code (DSA)	£1.49
Know Your Traffic Signs (Dept of Transport)	£2.50
Not the Blue Book (by Dave Jones)	£4.50
The Assessment of Advanced Motorcycling (by Dave Jones)	£4.50
BWAM T Shirt	£10.00
BWAM Polo Shirt	£14.00
BWAM Sweat Shirt	£15.50
BWAM Baseball Cap	£7.50

## **Your Committee**

Chairman	Chris Reed	
Secretary	Paul Savage	
Treasurer	Andy Mansfield	
Vice Chairman	Vacant	
Membership Secretary	John Spinks	01202 267797
Chief Observer	Nigel Jones	
Guidance Co-ordinator	Mark Bezzant	
Events Co-ordinator	Vacant	
Associate Liaison	Paul Savage	

### **Other volunteers:**

Club Shop	Ian Newey
Auditor	Doug Grimes
Photocopying	Malcolm Merry
Raffle Organiser	Tim Balmer
Newsletter Editor and Webmaster	Martyn Dryden

Names and addresses of all members are retained on magnetic media and stored in a computer database. Access to this information is restricted to certain committee members and is used for mail purposes only.

### **Email addresses**

To contact any group official by email, please use the following addresses:

Associate Liaison	associates@bwam.org.uk
Chief Observer	chief_obs@bwam.org.uk
Events Co-ordinator	events@bwam.org.uk
Group Secretary	secretary@bwam.org.uk
Guidance Co-ordinator	guidancecoord@bwam.org.uk
Membership Secretary	membership@bwam.org.uk John Spinks 01202 267797
Newsletter Editor	newsletter@bwam.org.uk
Treasurer	treasurer@bwam.org.uk
Webmaster	webmaster@bwam.org.uk

You can send a quick note, easily and conveniently, using the form on the BWAM Web site at the following URL

**<http://www.bwam.org.uk/people.htm>**

## **Your Observers**

The latest organisation chart appears on the next page.

### **Observer Expenses**

There is no charge for the guidance offered by the IAM, but significant expenses for Observers, who offer their time for no financial reward. It is polite to make an offer towards Observers' running costs so that their enthusiasm for guiding others isn't dampened by the financial drain.

The committee has agreed that Observers should be offered £6 per ride. If there are two Associates then they should offer £3 each. It is then at the Observer's discretion what to accept.

### **Fuelling**

Can all Associates please make sure that they have enough fuel in their bike before they begin their ride. This will avoid inconvenience to the Observer and fellow Associates on the same ride.

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## **IAM Membership Matters**

### **Test Application**

It would be appreciated if all Associates would send off their test applications by their third or fourth ride. This indicates to us the Associate's commitment towards their guidance and the test. The fee for the test is £45.00, which includes £15.00 for your first year's membership of the IAM. The £15.00 will be refunded to you if you fail the test.

If you have lost your test application form, further copies are available from the Membership Secretary.

### **IMPORTANT**

Please write 'Associate Preparing For Test' at the top of your application and also ensure that the Group number '1208' appears in the box at the bottom of the page.

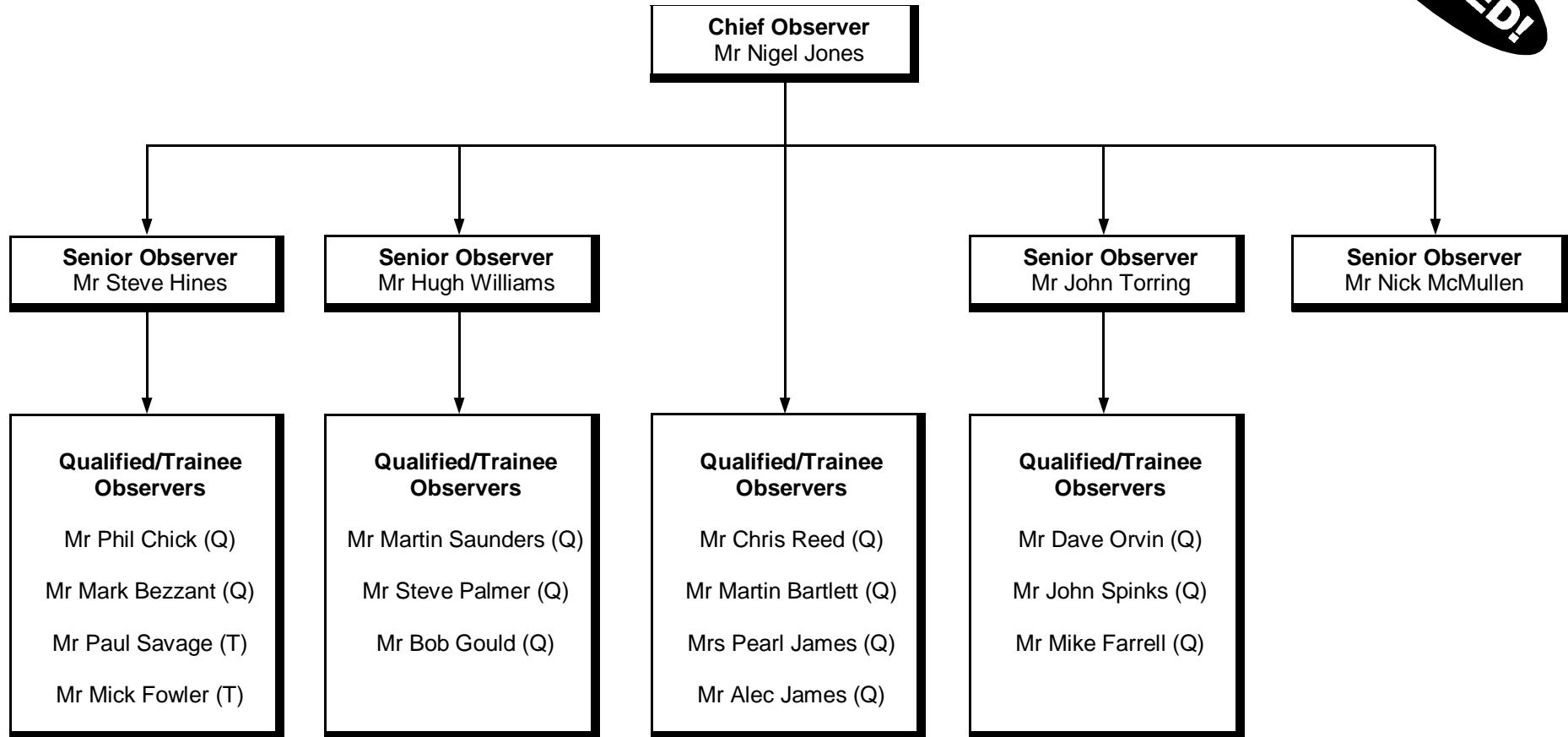
### **Club Membership**

The IAM fee is separate from the Bournemouth & Wessex Club Membership, therefore once you have passed your test you will still need to pay the £8.00 annual subscription to BWAM in order to remain a member of the Club.

# **BOURNEMOUTH & WESSEX ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS**

*Observer Organisation Chart*

**UPDATED!**



## **Notice Board**

*Something to sell? Offer a service to members? Free advertising!*

### **For Sale**

DUCATI M900 DARK May 02, one owner, as new condition, Datatool immobiliser, only 2500 miles, dry stored last two years. £ 3450

For more info. contact Roy Arnold on Ringwood 01425 478998, or

**[roy\\_arnold\\_mqa@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:roy_arnold_mqa@tiscali.co.uk)**

### **Chesil Cottage**

ETC 4\* rated Portland stone cottage, approx. 50 metres from Chesil Beach.

The cottage sleeps 4 in one double and one twin bedded room. Prices start from £130 per week in November which includes gas, electric, bedding, towels and welcome pack. For more details please phone Heather on 01305 820940,

Mobile 0781 8213579, Email [heparsons@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:heparsons@tiscali.co.uk) or visit

**<http://www.portlandholiday.co.uk>**.

### **Apartment in Los Christianos, Tenerife**

First floor; 1 bedroom; large lounge + sat TV; fully fitted kitchen + w/mach;

balcony overlooking swimming pool. Level access to pool + promenade, 10

min stroll to town. Rental c£200 pw. Malcolm or Marie Merry 01202 381871

### **Gervis Court Hotel**

A biker friendly hotel close to the pier and shops, bars and restaurants. The seafront, beach, and BIC are only a short walk away. We pride ourselves on our well-maintained and presented gardens. We are one of the fine hotels in Bournemouth. For your choice of holiday accommodation in Bournemouth, the Gervis Court is ideally placed for you. All rooms are non smoking, please check out our tariff page for more details.

**<http://www.gerviscourthotel.co.uk/tariff.htm>**

Tel; 01202 556871 or email [enquiries@gerviscourthotel.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@gerviscourthotel.co.uk)

### **ACF-50**

Are you letting your bike corrode away? Is salt melting the metal this winter? Use ACF-50 and say "No!" to corrosion. John Tarring has some amazing deals available to BWAM members only. Catch up with John at the Club Night or contact him at Worldwide Aviation 01202 511282

*To get your advert on the Notice Board email it to **[newsletter@bwam.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@bwam.org.uk)***