



RIDE SMART
RIDE SAFE



Annual General Meeting
of
RoSPA Southern Motorcycle Advanced Rider Training
RoADAR Southern Riders
(RoSPA SMART)
at
The Haven Centre, Crawley Down. RH10 4LJ
on
Sunday October 16th 2022 at 10.00.

Present:	Tim Bergin (TB)	Chairman
	Jonathan Baker (JB)	Secretary
	Andrew Jupp (AJ)	Membership Secretary
	Steve Tovee (ST)	Group Chief Instructor
	Ben Kitchen (BK)	Treasurer
	Paul Ingleton (PI)	Kent Branch Chief Instructor

Attendees: See accompanying PDF - **Appendix 1**

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 10.10 a.m.

1. Safety Message:

JB informed the audience of the safety procedures and the location of the toilets.

2. Apologies for Absence.

A collective apology was expressed for the absentee membership and an especial apology from those who had previously stated they would attend.

3. Minutes 2021

JB proposed the Minutes from the 2021 AGM be adopted.

AJ seconded

Minutes passed.

4. Chairman Report:

TB opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending.

(see **Appendix 2** for *Chairman's report*.)

In addition, **TB** referred to the main events of the year:

- Training.
- Ride-Outs inc. 'Fish & Chips' runs.
- Wizzes to Wales, Isle of Man and Scotland.

He offered thanks to all those who had assisted the club over the course of the year,

TB also gave a vote of thanks to all those who had assisted the club over the last year and in particular to Naz Ulusoy for his work on the re-branding.

5. Treasurer Report:

- **BK** opened with the key figures
 - £5,341 Income of which £5,081 represented subscription fees.
 - £250 PayPal compensation for an earlier issue.
 - £8,015 Expenses representing a £2,675 net loss.
 - Ride School.
 - Re-branding.
 - Instructor Expenses.
 - Helite vest transaction fee subsidy of #330.
 - £19,310 at the Bank.
- (See accompanying PDF - **Appendix 3** for full breakdown)

6. Membership Secretary Report:

AJ opened by thanking all the members for their continued support.
(See **Appendix 4** for full membership report)

We opened the year with 322 members, of which 33 were Instructors and 10 "Lifers" having added 2 at the last AGM.

We lost 58 throughout 2022 – this number is higher than usual because due to Covid, membership was extended for 6 months and so the expected 2021 attrition rate moved into 2022.

In 2022 we gained 39 new members (35 brand new and 4 returning members)

We close 2022 with 301 members against an historic level of approximately 280.

Sue Manning asked whether we interrogate as to how members find out about us.

AJ replied that it was not a mandatory field but optional information tell us that a google search or a referral were the main reasons.

JB added that many people contact RoSPA HQ and the enquiries are forwarded on to us by them.

AJ added that we do enquire why they are leaving.

Peter Burfiend asked whether there was a target membership number.

ST said that it was at the 300 level; we wanted to increase awareness of our existence but not necessarily expand numbers heavily.

JB added that the mission was to encourage the next generation of members be it through Blood Bikes, HOG chapters or other avenues.

AJ went on to discuss Ride School 2022.

It was a new team with new material and overall, the committee considered it to be a great success.

- 77 booked for Part 1 of which 65 turned up.
- 86 booked for Part 2 of which 53 turned up.

For the first time, we sent out an electronic survey to which 33 people responded.

Ride School achieved an overall score of 4.4 out of 5 (88%)

The stand-out negative comment was the quality of sound reproduction (which will be addressed).

The stand-out positive was the food (4.8)

The key point was that we achieved a satisfaction score of 4.9 / 5 for attendees been satisfied that all their riding related questions had been answered successfully during the two days.

Planning for Ride school 2023 will begin soon and volunteers were requested.

7. Group Chief Instructor Report.

(See **Appendix 5** for full GCI report)

ST started by echoing the sentiments about the success of Ride School. He also talked about the 2x Slow Ridings days and confirmed that there will be more especially as the Hawth Theatre allow us to use the car park for free.

ST also talked again about the success of the Wizzes esp. Wales.

Roger Manning mentioned that these could be problematic with trips being over-subscribed initially only to have people drop out at the very last minute.

Clare Thurgar asked what happened to the deposits in such cases.

Roger said that they were non-refundable.

ST mentioned that Wizzes for 2023 would likely be announced in January.

He also reiterated that potential attendees would be vetted. They must have completed at least 4x training rides and be endorsed by their instructor. This is because the Wizzes are held over long challenging days (250+ miles) on challenging roads and safety dictates we have to be sure that the attendees are both capable and have the stamina.

JB reminded the membership that all accidents need to be reported to RoSPA HQ as in one case this year, the police contacted HQ before us.

Roger Manning also added that instructors should be ready to help out others who may appear to be struggling.

8. Election of Officers:

The following members were standing down:

Chair: Tim Bergin
Treasurer: Ben Kitchen
Secretary: Jonathan Baker.

The following members were standing for the posts.

Chair: Rory Lautenbach
Treasurer: Jonathan Baker
Secretary: David Buttery.

The last two members were standing for re-election:

Membership: Andrew Jupp
GCI: Steve Tovee.

(**Note:** the GCI role is voted on by the instructors not the membership.)

Chair: Proposed: Martin Smith. Seconded: Johan Pietersen

Secretary: Proposed: Paul Ingleton. Seconded: Andy Rehorn

Membership: Proposed: Tim Benians Seconded: Carlo Lattuada

Treasurer: Proposed: Martin Smith Seconded: Andy Palmer

9. Update on Club Benefits

AJ reported as follows:

- Helite vests: 68 purchased through SMART against a commitment to Helite for 50.
- Taggisar: 31 ordered through SMART

These were arranged at an unmatched discount to High Street pricing. And the club actually made a loss by partially subsidising the transaction costs associated with purchasing the vests through PayPal.

AJ also asked that if anyone had any further ideas, to let the committee know.

Colin Blackwood suggested "Auritech" for ear protection. To be followed up.
Martin Smith suggested "BikeSeal" – a temporary puncture solution.

10. Competition.

The committee decided to create a competition to find the next membership card photo. Any member can send in their favourite bike related photo for consideration. However, no pictures showing inappropriate images or behaviour.
The winner will have their photo displayed on the membership card for the whole year.

11. New role adjacent to the Committee.

The committee also wanted to create a new position as an adjunct to the committee itself. The role is loosely called "Social Secretary". It will be self-defining but in essence, it will have three core elements:

- Help coordinate the drive to increase awareness of our club through social media.
- Help attract a new generation of members.
- Help coordinate ideas and members to arrange further club activities.

Andy Rehorn volunteered for the role.

12. Any other Business.

None.

13. Questions from the floor:

Tony Gillingwater: Are SMART or RoSPA affiliated with the BMF or MAG?

Committee: No, but we will look at this.

Peter Burfiend: Are we involved in promoting SMART through the motorcycle press?

Committee: No but we will discuss at the next Committee Meeting.

(Peter added that he has a good friend who is the ex-editor of MCN and is now freelance and would be interested in doing an article.)

Colin Smith: extended, on behalf of the membership, thanks to the Committee for their efforts.

Peter Burfiend asked whether we could have a club-only "Biker Down" (BD) course.

Committee: unfortunately, they don't accept group bookings and individuals have to go to them – usually a fire station. Also, we are notified when "BD" courses are to be held and we inform the membership through Facebook and email alerts.

Peter then wondered if we could add a "BD" module to Ride School with the latest updates on 'scene of accident' protocols.

ST replied that he would be wary of this due to the dangers of effectively relaying information 2nd hand with the inherent possibility of something being misinterpreted.

Clare Thurgar expressed some concern as the BD course she went on did not mandate that all participants attempt some of the practices taught – e.g., helmet removal.

In general, this was diagnosed as a possible weakness of one specific course undertaken in the aftermath of Covid as all other members who had attended a "BD" course had been made to attempt everything.

ST also added that costs cutting had taken its toll on all such courses and less hand-on experience may be the result.



Sue Manning asked whether there were First Aid Kits (FAKs) carried on Ride-outs?

Committee: Answer Yes.

A number of comments followed:

Mike Graddage: Publish a reminder in Ride Out notes about a carrying an FAK.

Peter Burfiend: Anyone who carries an FAK should announce it to other attendees.

Roger Manning: Perhaps the club could provide an FAK to all Instructors.

Tristan Robertson: Should the club arrange its own First Aid Course?

Peter Burfiend: Do the FAKs carry bike trauma specific tools?

Committee: We will discuss this topic further at the next committee meeting.

Colin Blackwood asked whether we could invite service Traffic Officers to critique the instructors?

Tony Gillingwater added that we could invite the RoSPA examiners to attend Tulley's & Micky's training sessions or even join SMART.

Committee: we have arranged an instructor specific "BikeSafe" day. This was successful so the Club may look to subsidise further days for other instructors and the membership. However, it is unlikely that a serving Police Officer would be prepared to get involved at the level being proposed. Those that are already members do not always want it made known what they do for a living.

Colin Smith asked whether "Rapid Training" courses were value for money.

Andy Palmer said that whilst it was a good course, it wasn't worth the £795 to someone already at Gold or Instructor level.

ST mentioned that one of the officers on the recent BikeSafe day had his own business providing advanced rider training. The business is called "Unique" and the Committee may investigate it further.

14. The AGM closed at 12.25.

Minutes Proposed:

Minutes Seconded:

Appendix 1 – Attendees

AGM 2022 ATTENDANCE REGISTER

NAME	SIGNATURE
ALAN STEPHENSON	<i>Alan Stephenson</i>
ALEX BEATTIE	<i>A Beattie</i>
ANDY PALMER	<i>AP</i>
ANDY REOHORN	<i>AR</i>
ANTHONY DEL PINO	<i>ADP</i>
BOBBY THOMSON O'CONNOR	<i>Bobby Thomson</i>
CLARE THURGAR	<i>CT</i>
COLIN BLACKWOOD	<i>C Blackwood</i>
COLIN SMITH	<i>CS</i>
DARIO CZIRAKY	
DAVID GOODMAN	<i>APOLOGIES.</i>
DAVID MAGAR	
IAN SYPHAS	
JOHAN PIETERSE	<i>JP</i>
JOHN COWBURN	
KEIRAN WATTS	<i>Keir Watts</i>
KEN SHEATH	<i>K. J. Sheath</i>
LEN GRUNDY	<i>L. Grundy</i>

NAME	SIGNATURE
MARTIN SMITH	
MAX HARRIS	
MIKE GRADDAGE	
NATALIE ROBINSON	
NICHOLAS GOLDING	
OLUSOLA SEGUN	
PAUL INGLETON	
PETER BURFIEND	
PETER MARSHALL	
RICHARD WHITBURN	
RICHARD WORWOOD	
RODGER BAIN	
ROGER MANNING	
RORY LAUTENBACH	
SIMON LUCAS	
STEVE PHILLIPS	
SUE MANNING	
TIM BENIANS	
TIM BERRY	
TONY GILLINGWATER	X

NAME	SIGNATURE
TRISTAN ROBINSON	
YESH PATEL	

WALK-INS

NAME	SIGNATURE
ROB PURUS	
TIM BEESLEY	
NATHANIE ROBINSON	
MAX HARRIS	
CHARLO LATTUADA	
'NAZ' ULUSOY	

Appendix 2 – Chairman Report.

The economy might be in freefall and the political situation a mess, but 2022 has been a pretty outstanding year if you enjoy the simple pleasures of motorcycling. We have been spoilt with months of dry roads and perfect riding conditions. I have to say though that it was the first time that I have seen 40 degrees appear on my temperature gauge which certainly made for some pretty extreme riding conditions.

It has also been busy time for Southern Motorcycle Advanced Riders. We have attempted to make the most of the summer months and to offer various opportunities to help develop riding skills but also to provide some memorable occasions to ride and to meet up with other members.

In fact, since last year, when we were prevented from any form of socialising, members have been very active in making up for lost time.

I must take this opportunity to thank all those who have been so involved in making sure that there have been plenty of activities on offer to our members to not only improve their riding skills but also to meet up and to enjoy each other's company. This includes those involved in Ride School, slow riding skills, Fish and Chip runs, wizzes and end of month ride outs. This year has been particular busy, but on the whole, thoroughly enjoyable and importantly safe.

I should say, there was unfortunately one incident on one of the wizzes when a rider came off and was hurt. But the incident was not due to any fault on their part and importantly, they are largely recovered and back riding.

To begin with, I would like to thank all those involved in the running and delivery of Ride School back at the beginning of the year. It was well attended and there were some excellent presentations. It was a great way to begin the riding season.

This year we were spoilt with the various wizzes on offer. April began with a trip to the IOM with the biggest attendance ever of 18 riders. The ride was blessed with perfect weather without a hint of rain, just glorious sunshine to show the island at its best. I would like to thank Andrew Jupp for all the work he put into the organisation of this hugely successful trip.

This was followed by the two wizzes to Wales in July and September. These get more popular every year and are always well attended. They are a great opportunity to explore the beautiful country of Wales and to ride some outstanding roads. The Snowdon day is particular demanding with 275 miles of glorious riding. I would like to thank Tim Benians, Roger Manning and Hugh Curran for their outstanding contribution to making sure the Welsh trips are always a huge success.

This year, for the first time, there was also the opportunity to join the Scottish Wizz. This attracted 10 riders, who covered in excess of 1800 miles. If you find the OIM and Welsh whizzes exhilarating, you will love the Scottish whizz with often 60+ miles between junctions – pure riding heaven. I would like to thank Steve Tovee and Andy Rehorn for putting this fantastic and successful trip together and hope this will be on offer again next year.

I should also say a big thank you to all those involved in the other activities that have taken place through the year. Without your help, many of these simply could not have taken place.

I would also like to thank Steve, Paul, Andrew and Ben for their support and work on the committee. Much work goes on in the background without recognition and it is important this is



acknowledged. This year, we have been very busy re-branding the club which has resulted in the update of the website, instructor's cards, associate's training cards and stickers featuring our new logo. The design on the membership cards has been refreshed and the Members Portal has been added to the website providing a secure repository for members-only providing the following:

The online shop

Update of profiles

Riding literature with riding tips, club policies and AGM minutes

RoSPA test materials and books.

We have also provided copies of the new Highway Code to all our Instructors and Senior Instructors.

I am pleased to report that RoSPA SMART now has over 300 members, and we are training more instructors and senior instructors.

The past three years of my chairmanship have been eventful to say the least, but we have gone from strength to strength. I can report in that time, there have been no resignations, sackings, and no clandestine work events with bottles of wine which have resembled a good piss up!

Tim Bergin

16th October 2022



Appendix 3 – Treasurer Report



Southern Motorcycle Advanced Rider Training (Southern Riders)

Treasurer's Report Sep-22

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Treasurer's Report Sep-22



Accounting Summary

Cash at Bank	19,310
HSBC Com	2,556
HSBC Res	16,010
Paypal	744

Gross Receipts	5,341
Subs	5,081
Bank interest	10
Dispute Resolution	250

Other Assets	788
IT Hardware	391
PC Software	197
Equipment	200

Total Expenses	8,015
Website	380
Marketing	403
Instructor	1,019
Committee	163
VenueHire	2,259
SystemCosts	3,790

Liabilities	60
	60

Net Assets	20,037
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Net Income	-2,675
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Treasurer's Comments

Airvest - PayPal transaction costs borne by club = £337 in FY22

Net Loss partly due to systems costs & venue hire charges for prior year charged in FY22. MemberMojo costs (card issue etc) eat into unit margin.

Appendix 4 – Membership Report

A big thank you to all of our members for supporting the club through a second year of COVID restrictions.

Membership Stats

12-Oct-2022

Membership	Membership Breakdown				
	Associates	Instructors	Lifers	Honoury	Committee
301	271	33	10	1	6

AGM SUMMARY						
2021-2022	Associates	Instructors	Lifers	Honoury	Committee	TOTAL
Opening	280	33	8	1	6	322
New	35	1	2			38
Returning	4	1				5
Instructor Resignations		(2)				(2)
Leavers	(58)					(58)
Expired/Pending Leave	(4)					(4)
2022 Q3 Closing	257	33	10	1	6	301

Joiners, Leavers and Renewals

We opened in November with 322 Members including 33 Instructors and 8 Lifers.

A strong starting point for the year.

Our annual attrition of 58 has been higher than normal but was forecast due to the membership extensions granted during Covid moving our peak renewal from October to May.

Whilst we have welcomed 39 new members; split across 35 New and 5 Returning members, we stand at a nett reduction of 18 members compared to 2021.

This brings our current standing membership to 301 as of October 16th. So, whilst YoY our membership has reduced by 6.5%, this is as said not an unexpected loss. And a positive position given our historic membership level has been circa 280.

We also revised the picture and graphics with our new logo on our membership card and we have more on this topic a little later.

Appendix 5 – Group Chief Instructor Report.

Welcome and thank you all for coming to the AGM.

Slightly more to say this year than last. You may remember that the report for our 2021 year was somewhat diminished, as was the year itself. Not so this last year.

Training is the core of the group and where the origins of the club lie. We try and start the year with the Ride School classroom sessions. We had only half the event in 2020, nothing in 2021 and the full event earlier this year. So pleased to see it back again. Very well attended and the feedback has been excellent. Good to see so many people attending and especially this year hearing the feedback. We also had two slow riding and skills handling days held at Crawley. Very well attended and some great feedback from both sessions. Approx. 50 of you turned up to practice your skills in the large car park courtesy of the Hawth in Crawley. Good fun. Sun was shining, and only 2 people dropped their bikes! A good demonstration that if you want to drop your bike, do it in front of your peer group!

As many of you will know we hold some wizzes during the year. Trips away organised by instructors within the group. Usually oversubscribed. This year we have had four trips. Two to Wales, One to the Isle of Man and one to Scotland. There may be trips next year and at this point nothing has been organised or confirmed. Any trips normally get announced in the early part of the year. So, watch your emails for announcements. The trips fill up fast. They are a mix of roads and riding conditions.

All attendees are vetted prior to going on these trips. It's for your safety and ours. Some of the riding is technical for a few hours at a time, some more distance based and some a mixture of both. Factor in the weather, some early starts, and late finishes and you can understand how that can be testing for some if not all riders. We average 200-250 miles per day. Sometimes more. It's an excellent opportunity to practice everything you learn at training whilst riding in a group.

We have group training at Mickeys Diner and Tulleys Farm each month. The 1st and 2nd Sundays. Overall, there has been good attendance at both venues and positive responses from trainees and instructors alike. Over the year, nearly 430 training sessions. Our busiest months were March and May. That covers all types of training. Instructor training, associate training and also new associates coming for their initial assessment ride. The results are impressive. Year on year we have 116 Gold members, 18 Silver and 4 Bronze. Retests are 27 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze. We also have two members that have studied and passed the Level 3 Award in motorcycle instruction. Taking over from the original Diploma award. This is ahead of the previous years. SMART now have 33 instructors in the group and 9 new Gold members training to become instructors.

We have an EOM ride on the last Sunday of each month. Again, as before, well attended and normally we get to go out each month. Poor or very cold weather will stop these rides happening. We get to visit a new location every month. Some more unusual than others. This year has seen the 'not so secret, secret bunker', Gold Hill in Shaftsbury, and we got lost in Kent on the way to Dungeness and split the group on a ride to the Custom Café near Hastings!!! So much fun to be had on the EOM rides.

Tim Bergin ran an old bikes run in July and it's not unusual for John Cowburn to throw in a fish and chip run here and there.

As you can imagine none of this would be possible without the support and time spent by many instructors. The instructor group is something that helps keep SMART operating as it does.

I want to take a moment to thank some people for all their efforts behind the scenes. So, in no particular order, I want to thank Tim Benians, Roger Manning and Hugh Curran for their continued support and running of the Welsh wizz which has in July and September of this year.

Andrew Jupp for his organisation of the IOM wizz held in April of this year.

We also had a Scottish Wizz in September. This was an 8-day trip, great fun and 2500 miles!



We have the instructors to thank for turning up month after month at Mickeys and Tulleys. Their continued support of the wizzes and the hours that go into the training. A huge thankyou goes out to all those instructors that continue to support SMART with its activities. Some are obvious and some not so. A special mention to Paul Ingleton who organises the training at Mickeys diner every month. We also have a bi-monthly newsletter that I hope reaches you all. Let me know if it's worth the read!!

Thank you for attending today and being supportive of SMART
Stephen Tovee