



## RoSPA West Midlands Advanced Motorcyclists' Group

### New Members' Information

Dear Prospective Member,

Thank you for your interest in our group, RoSPA West Midlands Advanced Motorcyclists' Group, which is part of RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders (RoADAR). The Group was set up in September 1999 and offers advanced training for all motorcyclists, regardless of experience. The Group is run by its own Committee and any organised event is open to all Group members.

Unless you are already a full motorcycle member of RoADAR (having passed the advanced test already) then you will join the Group as an Associate and be allocated your own trainer. In addition, a variety of organised, supervised runs and events are available to assist you. Our aim is to help you to develop your skills, achieve your full potential and become an advanced, thinking and safer motorcyclist whilst having fun.

### **Your Training**

As soon as possible after joining the group, you will be allocated your own trainer and he/she will serve as your mentor until such time as you have passed your test. All our trainers have passed their test at Gold grade and have undergone further training to a very high standard in order to be able to help you achieve your full potential on your motorcycle. The training team consists of Senior Trainers and Trainers and they meet regularly to discuss training matters and ensure all Associates receive the highest standard of training.

We use the Police Motorcycle Roadcraft and 'The System' as the basis of our training which is overseen by the Chief Training Officer, a Police Motorcycle Instructor. We aim to train you to Gold grade and to be as close to the Police grade as is 'civilianly' possible.

If for any reason you find that you are not happy with your trainer every effort will be made to allocate a new trainer as we are fully aware that not everyone will get on together. Once you have been paired up, it will be your responsibility to contact your trainer so that a mutually agreeable time, date and place can be arranged to meet. Should you be unable to keep your appointment then please contact your trainer and cancel as soon as you can. Please, DO NOT just fail to turn up.

At the end of each training session the trainer and associate will discuss the ride together and you will be given feedback and an online report analysing each aspect of your riding. Finally, you will be given guidance for improvement and then arrange a new date and time to meet. It is important that you take note of the advice given to you by your trainer and that you practice you're riding between training sessions in order to make the best progress possible. Training proceeds at your own pace, there is no pressure to complete it in a set time frame.

Training is also offered during organised club ride outs which are offered twice a month, one Saturday and one Sunday. This is an opportunity to have an extended training session, possibly with a different trainer. On the return journey you will ride with the Group and get a taste of advanced riding in practice. A system of 'second man drop' means that everyone can ride within their own ability level and at their own pace without the concern of getting lost and with no pressure to keep up with the leaders.

When you arrive for any activity within the group, whether it is a ride out with your trainer or an organised run, please make sure that your motorcycle is maintained in good order and road legal.

All our trainers are volunteers and receive no reimbursement of costs such as petrol, from the group, so if you feel it appropriate to make a contribution to the trainers' fuel costs or buy them breakfast or coffee, please feel free. Please remember that they are giving their own free time and using their own motorcycle and fuel to guide you through your test.

## The Test Grading System

RoADAR (RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders) operate a grading system when carrying out tests. On completion of your test you will be awarded either a Bronze, Silver or Gold pass, dependent on the examiner's view of how well you have ridden.

A Gold pass is the highest civilian motorcycle qualification available and an extremely high standard of riding is required throughout the 90-minute test to achieve this. Silver and bronze grades are also of a high standard, but maybe lacking just that little bit of "polish" or progress which would make a Gold ride.

No matter what grade is awarded it will be a tremendous achievement, you will certainly have improved your riding and be a safer motorcyclist for it. Perhaps equally important, you will enjoy your riding far more.

## Club Meetings

All group meetings are held on the **second Wednesday** of each month, at Veseyans Rugby Club, Little Hardwick Rd, Walsall WS9 0SQ

The meetings may consist of a talk by a member of the training team, on an aspect of the roadcraft system of riding or a topic from the book Motorcycle Roadcraft. Other meetings will offer ride outs to practice and hone skills and these are conducted and supervised by our training team.

The agenda for the evening is we meet up at 7:00 pm for a social gathering with the meeting starting at 7:30 pm with the training session running until 8:30 pm. We then have free socialising time until 9:00 pm when we must vacate the club. The club nights are a chance to socialise with other members of the group, speak to other associates and to ask advice or questions of the training team.

## Contacts

CHAIR – Steve Kay – 0780 1451483 – chair.ropawm@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY – Anita Clegg – 07771 750248– memsec.ropawm@gmail.com

If any problems are experienced, no-matter how small, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will help to resolve the problem amicably. If you have any ideas to improve the smooth running of the group, whether it be a skill you possess, which may be of benefit or just a willingness to "muck-in" and help generally it will be very much appreciated. There is a monthly newsletter which

welcomes articles from members. It is also nice to hear from people who have passed their test, letting everyone know how they did.

## The Group Membership Joining Subscriptions

**New Associate Member-** £49 Initial Joining Fees, (includes books: Motorcycle Roadcraft and Highway Code plus club polo shirt). (*£39 without books*)

**New Full Member** (holds a current Motorcycle RoADAR certificate) Initial Joining Fees, £25 (includes club polo shirt)

**Annual renewal (full & Associate member)** - £20.00 each April. Group membership subscriptions are reviewed and may change each year. All group subscriptions will become due annually from the 1st April, till 31st March.

When you apply for your RoSPA test there is a £66 test fee (subject to change). Once you have passed the RoSPA test you then become a full member of RoSPA and to stay a member will be required to pay a subscription to them which also includes a free triennial re-test.

## Group Bursary Scheme

The Group has a bursary scheme for potential members who wish to undertake advanced training but, for whatever reason cannot afford the membership subscription and test fee. The bursary is worth approximately £100 and includes the test fee. Up to two bursaries may be offered each year at the discretion of the committee.

The potential recipient must be nominated by a member of the Group and brief details of the applicant's circumstances are required. The application will be discussed confidentially by committee and the details will not be minuted. The application will either approved or not at the discretion of the committee and no reason will necessarily be given for the decision.

If you wish to be considered, please contact one of the people listed in the contacts section.

## Membership

Group Associate membership is open to anyone with an interest in improving their riding and those who wish to take the RoSPA advanced riding test.

We also welcome full members of RoSPA as members of the Group.

If you would like to join us please complete the attached form and disclaimer and send it with your remittance to:

The Club Membership Secretary,

*Anita Clegg. 20 Maple Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 9AA.*

**Cheques should be made payable to RoSPA West Midlands Advanced Motorcyclists Group.  
Please include a copy of your driving license.**

If you prefer to pay by BACs, please email me for details; [memsec.roskawm@gmail.com](mailto:memsec.roskawm@gmail.com)