

BMW Club Oxford Section

Slow Riding Course – Stoke on Trent

Saturday 22nd April 2017

Where was it.....

The BMW Club Oxford Section Bike Skills Academy course took place on SATURDAY APRIL 22ND 2017 at the Stoke FC ground. The course was run by Craig Jones and Kevin Bryan of Bryans BMW Rider Training North.

BMW Rider Training:



Bryans BMW Rider Training have been offering professional motorcycle training since 1989, training over 20,000 new riders.

Bryans motorcycle training has always been there to help achieve these goals and looks forward to helping the next generation of riders through the various stages of their development to becoming a safe responsible motorcyclist. The

centre's location is perfect, being right on the doorstep of North Staffordshire's major arterial roads and within minutes of every type of road available, from urban streets to A and B roads and the motorway for those doing post-test training.

They are surrounded by several acres of open tarmac to which Bryan's have exclusive access, making an unrivalled venue to learn in complete safety, free of any traffic or other hazards, both on the large CBT training area or the full-sized Mod 1 practice area.

Here riders can be trained in the basics of bike control so they are completely familiar and comfortable with its workings before venturing out onto the public road. In addition, it is also the perfect place to practice more demanding skills such as the emergency stop and more advanced handling techniques, again in an environment where there is ample room to correct mistakes safely.

Bryan's now have new BMW bikes which comply with the new A2 category test and are running F 700 GS's for the category A (direct Access) tests.

Slow Riding

This course is both practical and physical, requiring concentration and focus. Increasing your confidence to muscle your bike in a typical low speed environment, with braking and avoidance skills which will quicken your reactions on road.



6 hearty souls arrived at a local hotel on the Friday evening and enjoyed some pre-course drinks and a meal whilst discussing who was going to be the first to “throw their bike down the road”

The day dawned bright and after an excellent breakfast we set off for the long journey (10 minutes) to the centre where the welcome was very warm and everyone relaxed immediately. We were carefully shown the course and introduced to the BMW 650 and 700cc bikes which were ideal learning steeds!

With 2 instructors, we were guaranteed 1 to 1 teaching and plenty of opportunity to practice the new techniques. I was the first one off, with I am told a very impressive commando roll..... But it's such low speed it was certainly not a problem.

That was to be the first of several offs, which were a result of everyone gaining skills very quickly and in a very safe environment.

All too soon the day was over with a good-natured competition around a set course, which had been practiced on all day. We then all made our way safely home.

The e mail banter on arrival home started immediately of course but from a personal point of view it was an incredibly professionally run course, with 2 instructors of the highest calibre and well worth a day of your time – videos below:

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Instructor Craig Jones:-

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

Instructor Kevin Bryan, Dave Tomlinson doing his ride and some of Craig doing his stuff: -

<https://youtu.be/bS5yfrpZR5M>

Riding School: -

<https://www.bryansmotorcycleschool.co.uk/courses/bike-skills-academy/>