

# **SAM Weekly Newsletter - 10th February 2023**

Biking news for ALL our advanced riders, their family and friends

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## **Editorial**

If you weren't at the SAM Club Night last Monday, then you missed a real treat. Dave and Victoria from Instaride gave a great talk about motorcycle communications. Dave is an IAM member living in Evesham. Instaride provides communication solutions for motorcycle training companies, IAM Groups and other services. IAM RoadSmart provides the SAM Club with guidance on the use of communications equipment. Its main role is to improve riding whilst on the move. Whilst pulling up to brief on performance, learning is much more effective when help is given at the time we are riding. This approach is well recognised, in motorcycle training schools and the DVSA, as being an effective way to provide directions, observation and correction of riding performance. Immediate feedback with later debriefing and recording of riding performance, has been shown to be the most effective way to help bikers develop safer riding knowledge, skills and experience. See later in your SAM Club Newsletter for details on the equipment and services offered by Instaride. We extend our thanks to Dave and Victoria for making the journey and making our SAM Club Night a very enjoyable experience.

Onto other news. Bemoto Insurance and R&G Crash Protectors have agreed that motorcyclists insured with Bemoto do not have to declare any R&G components added to their bikes. They will automatically be covered for damage/loss on their Bemoto policy.

Whilst Bemoto and R&G now have a happy relationship, Harley Davidson Livewire is less than pleased with a downturn in sales. But on a brighter note you can read about a bullet-proof, glass-framed, concept motorcycle design. I wonder if they will supply a bullet-proof suit for the rider too? A much more practical development is the photochromic visor insert being made in a joint venture between Arai and Pinlock. It will certainly save on swapping out different visors when the sun goes down.

The Bub 7 needs a new pilot. Never heard of Bub 7? Something else I didn't know either! After losing some of her ground crew, Valerie Thompson, the world's fastest female motorcycle record holder (328 mph), resigns as pilot of the Bub 7 rocket bike. If you fancy trying to prove her wrong, that Bub 7 won't go any faster, why not give it a go. Although, I can think of many reasons not to try.

Land speed records might be taking a break, but bike manufacturers are busier than ever, supplying electric bikes for the 'last mile' delivery market. They carry everything from parcels to pizzas. Many of these riders could benefit from extra motorcycle training. An electric bike is still a bike and needs trained biking knowledge and skill to ride safely. The last mile delivery workers won't beat our Blood Bike colleagues relaying some interesting cargo from Birmingham to Gateshead this week.

As many ordinary people view the immediate future with concern, BP announced record profits. Although wholesale prices of oil on world markets have reduced, we are still not seeing any significant fall in the price of fuel at the pump. This also means more tax income for the UK government and more dividends for the investing pension companies. It just means a much poorer life for the rest of us.

On a more sober note, IAM RoadSmart, from April 1st 2023, for members paying fees by direct debit, is increasing the annual cost of membership from £38 to £46. An increase of 21%.

Slightly more modern history this week with a look at the Vicla motorcycle scene in California. Never heard of it? Neither had I, but the things they do with a motorcycle are astonishing. Take a look. Happy reading.

#### SAM ANNUAL PHOTO COMPETITION

Subject: Bikes, Biking & Bikers

Closing date: 12mn 20th March 2023

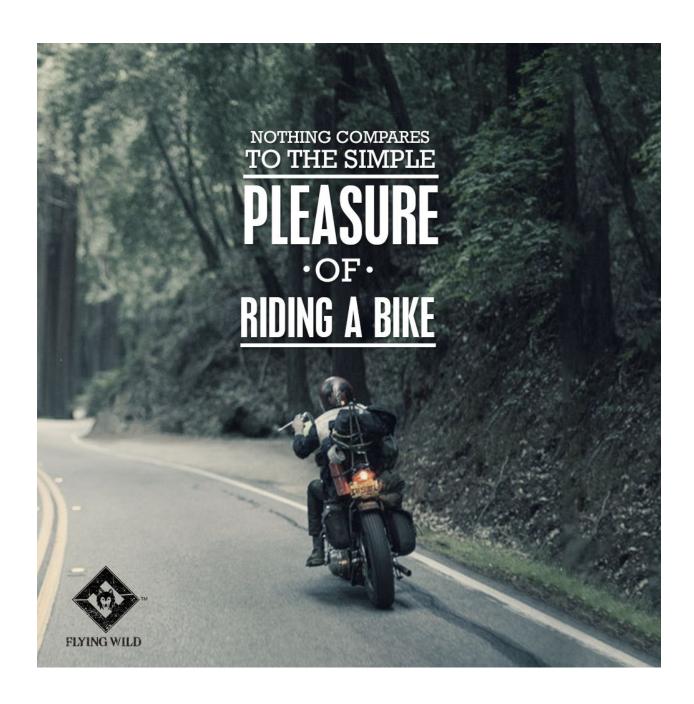
Email entries to: sam-editor@iam-sheffield.bike

# Ways to stay in touch with your Club!

It's really easy to stay in touch with your Club! We provide emails, a website and use social media accounts for you to contact us. All of which is free of any cost to the Club. If you are not getting the Club information circulated, or simply want to tell us something, **just let us know** at

sam-editor@iam-sheffield.bike. We'll be happy to ensure that we stay in touch with you. You can also now sign up for Club emails on the <u>SAM website</u>. You can unsubscribe at any time by clicking the link in any SAM Club email.

Paul Conway
Editor & Webmaster, Sheffield Advanced Motorcyclists





01527 908044



Intaride Ltd, 6 Lynwood Close, Evesham WR11 2PD

# **Biking News Online**



R&G, the world leader in damage protection products for motorcycles, is excited to announce that it has partnered with Peterborough-based insurance specialists BeMoto to give riders a better deal on their policy. From February 1st, in an

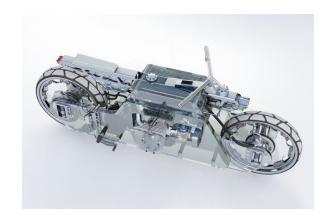
insurance industry first, riders who add any of R&G's extensive crash protection or styling accessories to their machine will be able to have complete peace of mind that they are automatically covered for them. That means motorcyclists will no longer need to notify BeMoto when adding any of the R&G range, although any non-R&G modifications will still need to be mentioned. Read more



Last week, we covered
Harley-Davidson's 2022 Q4
sales results; this week, we
consider Harley's decision to go
public with LiveWire and why it
was a sound idea. Harley bikes
are, in a word, iconic. From

their signature rumble to their clear ownership of the entire 9'-18' parking space, the brand's vibe (and her niche in our industry) is/are irrefutable. ...It makes all the more sense when revising that style, then, requires cashing out on anything with big hype that might not completely align. Something like a luxury EV motorcycle brand. Read more

A motorcycle designer called Mikhail Smolyanov has come up with an interesting concept bike, featuring a bulletproof glass frame, Ural engine and retro plunger suspension.



We see bikes like this from time to time, otherworldly designs

that, while they look outrageous, have little or no practical application. That seems to be the case with this design, created in collaboration between the above-mentioned designer and the <u>LBM</u> workshop. Read more



Most motorcycle helmet manufacturers have long-offered photochromic visors for numerous models. For those unfamiliar with the accessory, the transitional shields darken when exposed to high-frequency ultraviolet rays. When the sun dips behind the horizon, however, the lenses revert back to a clear finish, maximizing both vision and convenience.

Conversely, <u>sport-touring</u> lids tend to employ drop-down, internal sun visors for the user to deploy at will. Arai Helmet has steered clear of both features thus far, citing shell and shield safety issues as a primary concern. Instead, the firm championed a proprietary <u>Pro Shade system</u>. While the external, dual-pane visor preserves vision, it doesn't provide comprehensive shading and requires the rider to flip down the tinted shield when needed. <u>Read more</u>

Considered the "world's fastest female motorcycle racer" after inking a 328 mph speed record, Valerie Thompson is an independent team owner/driver who competitively drag raced before focusing on land speed racing, eventually earning 10 Land Speed Records on two continents.



"We lost some essential crew members over the last few months," said Thompson about her eroding confidence in the project. "The remaining crew contacted me late last week with the sad news they had quit and removed all their tools from the Team 7 Racing shop. Without this 'super crew,' I'm highly doubtful about the performance potential of the BUB 7 to recapture the world's fastest motorcycle title. More importantly, I'm concerned for my safety. These are not just my team mates—they're my guardian angels." Read more



Bike industry bosses need to grab the "low-hanging fruit" of opportunity in supplying clean vehicles for 'last mile deliveries' according to the Chief Executive of the Institute for Couriers. Dr Tracey Worth made the plea to motorcycle representatives during last week's

Motorcycle Industry Association conference at the National Motorcycle Museum in Solihull. Last mile, or express delivery, refers to the transportation of merchandise from the nearest distribution hub to the final destination, usually a home or office, and can include everything from parcels to pizzas. Read more

AS petrol prices in the <u>UK and</u> abroad are reported to be once again on the rise, British petroleum company, BP, has unsurprisingly recorded record profits. The news has raised calls from many for oil companies to be hit with far larger windfall



taxes, as small businesses and households struggle with increasing energy bills. The picture for motorists has been rosy recently, with petrol prices widely falling for the first time since before the invasion of Ukraine. As we reported earlier this week though, that trend looks to be coming to an end, as analysts predict a rise in the cost we pay at the pumps. Read more



In the burgeoning Vicla scene in Southern California, a Chicano cultural mashup that fuses traditional Mexican-American lowrider aesthetics with all-American V-twin muscle, there is agreement on only one point: "Vicla" is a Spanish slang word for "bicycle," and it probably was born a century ago somewhere in South Texas. The scene itself is very clear, and very vibrant. On a drizzly January morning in Los Angeles' Elysian Park, more than 200 Vicleros and Vicleras

gathered to celebrate and show off their highly decorated machines. Astride Harley-Davidsons baggers and cruisers, almost exclusively, they roared into the shadows of Dodger Stadium to

pose for photos, listen to live ranchero music, eat tacos, drink beer and swap stories.

A Vicla gathering at Elysian Park in LA; Cisco with his heavily customized Harley-Davidson. A man named Cisco rides a classic: Harley Softail, painted tip to toe in lush reds and blues featuring traditional Aztec imagery of "La Mujer Dormida," bedecked with ape hangers, 46-inch fishtail exhaust pipes and chrome parts meticulously tooled and engraved. Nearby, Cynthia Martinez shows off "La Reina," a custom Softail featuring deep blue imagery of an Aztec warrior princess. Across the street, Big Lou, who rides with a group known as Familia Viclera, has rolled up on "La Dona," a Street Glide that has been meticulously hand-painted in a Dodger-blue lace pattern. Like the lowrider cars on which the look is based, it's hydraulically lifted. All around them are plaid-shrouded men and tightly-trousered women in dark sunglasses and skid-lid helmets, burning rubber, busting eardrums and celebrating Vicla culture. Read more

## **SAM Meetings**



SAM Club Saturday Meetings, Meadowhall Retail Park 9am every Saturday throughout the year. Come and join us - you know you want to ride!



Next SAM Club night: 6th March 2023 meet at 7.30pm for an 8pm start at Treeton Miners Welfare, Arundel St, Treeton, Rotherham S60 5PW, UK



Always carry your *FREE Biker I.C.E. Card*. It gives emergency services staff vital information about the right treatment for you, should you be involved in an accident. Don't forget to

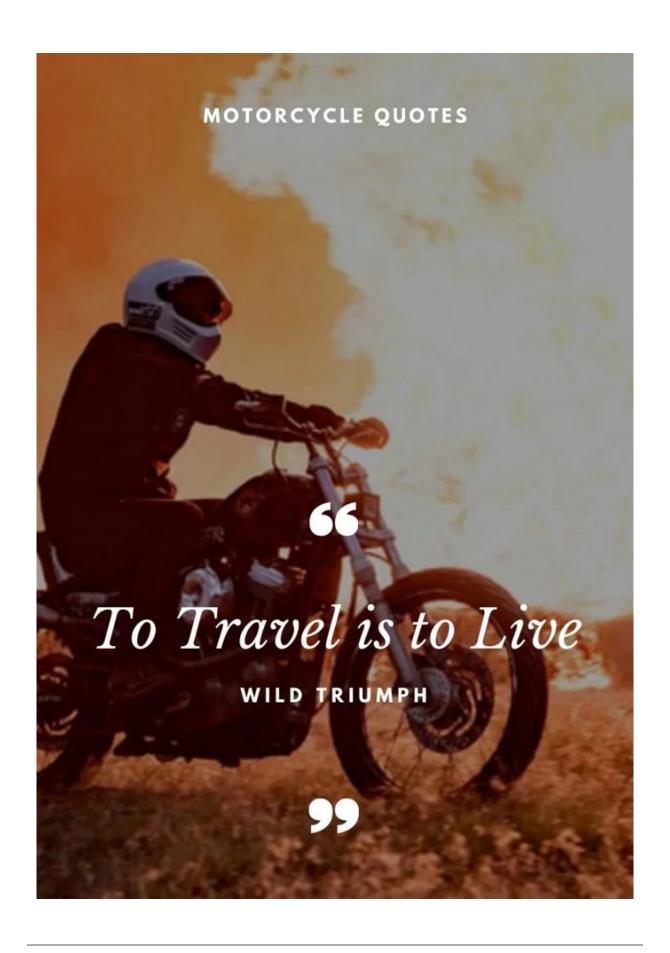
update it if your health and/or social circumstances change. SAM Club - dedicated to helping YOU to be a safer rider.



SAM Members FREE Spring Breakfast

15th April 2023 → 9.00am - 10.15am

The Moorlands Baslow Road, Owler bar Sheffield S17 3BQ ALL SAM members, family and friends are welcome to join us.



## Whiteknights Blood Bikers

Whiteknights Yorkshire Blood Bikes would like to hear from



people who are able to become volunteer fundraisers for this vital charity that benefits patients in Yorkshire.

Please get In touch. Even if you can only spare an hour to volunteer for us - we really need people to help us. Hope to hear from you soon.

Message us through Facebook or email:

fundraising@whiteknights.org.Uk

Thank you to Howard from SSCBB and Drew from Northumbria Blood Bikes for participating in this morning's urgent FMT relay to Gateshead. Thanks also to the Whiteknight's National Relay controller Steve Harker - who never gets enough thanks!





Yesterday Shropshire • Staffordshire • Cheshire
Blood Bikes collected Fecal
Microbial Transplantation
(FMT) samples from
University of Birmingham
Microbiome Treatment
Centre. They then relayed
with Whiteknights Yorkshire
Blood Bikes. It was then
relayed with our volunteer
driver, Drew, who delivered
it to Endoscopy Department
at Queen Elizabeth
Hospital, Gateshead.

#teamwork #itswhatwedo
#makeadifference #Charity

## #bloodbikes NABB

Thank you to Ray Matthews and our friends at Revs N Relics for organising the sponsored walk in aid of Whiteknight's Yorkshire Blood Bikes last night.



## South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership



National Highways launches Red X campaign. Smart motorways use variable speed limits and hard shoulder running to manage traffic and tackle stop-start congestion. The most common type in the UK, all-lane-running

(ALR), was introduced in 2014 and involves opening the hard shoulder permanently to drivers. Gantry signs displaying a Red X indicate if a lane is closed – usually as a result of a vehicle breakdown or in the event of a collision. Driving through a Red X sign is an offence, the punishment for which is three points plus a £100 fine. Since 2019, police forces have been able to use traffic cameras by means of enforcement. The campaign, which runs until 26 February, is aimed at all motorists that use the strategic road network.

FRIDAY FACT: Did you know that the Safer Roads
Partnership was first launched in 2009? That's 14 years of collaboration on road safety education, engineering and enforcement! Find out more



# Follow us...















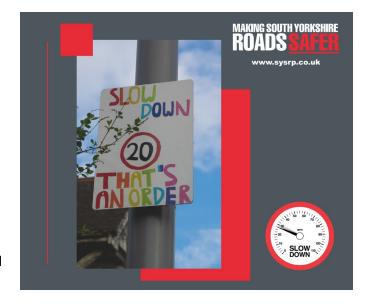
SUPPORTING BEREAVED FAMILIES: We've signed up to support the #RoadPeaceChallenge 2023 - which brings together emergency services, road crash victims and bereaved

families to make a united stand against road death and injury.

<u>Please sign up here</u>

WATCH YOUR SPEED... A speed limit means this is the absolute maximum speed you can drive, but it doesn't mean it is safe in all conditions. Road conditions should be taken into consideration, such as the weather, the condition of the road and the time of day you are driving:

https://sysrp.co.uk/speed





NEWRIDERHUB.NET

Home - New Rider Hub

CHECK OUT OUR ADVICE FOR GIG ECONOMY RIDERS... HE WON'T BITE! RIDE FREE! TAKE THE FREE ONLINE TRAINING COURSE Winter is coming THERE'S SNOW WAY YOU CAN IGNORE THIS (HOW TO' VIDEOS...

YOUNG RIDER SAFETY: We are delighted to be involved in this morning's National Young Rider Forum meeting. Reps from across

the country are coming together to help young riders (16-24) stay safe on our roads. <u>Find out more</u>

BetheBest – we have created a generic logo to encourage all riders to take additional training in one format or another; such as IAM, BikeSafe or ERS. The new logo and #BetheBest tagline has been printed on promotional snoods to promote the campaign (<u>available at SAM</u> <u>Club Nights</u>). The snoods have been produced



in a series of different motorbike brand colours, (Red, Orange, Green and Blue), to test if this approach is more appealing to riders.

## Kevin Williams



For many years road safety experts, police and motorcyclists have known that the most common collision between a motorcycle and another vehicle happens when the motorcyclist has right-of-way and another driver turns into the rider's path. All the way back in 1977, US researcher Harry

#### Hurt stated:

"The most likely comment of an automobile driver involved in a traffic collision with a motorcycle is that he, or she, did not SEE the motorcycle..." Read more... Also, see all Kevin's posts at ko-fi.com/survivalskills.

#### **LAST WEEK'S ROUND-UP**



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ELEVENSES \*\*\* Elevenses 309 Sun 29 January - motorcycle news, tips & views. in today's show... off to join Shiny Side Up in New Zealand again... South Shields primary school locked

down after riders in balaclavas spotted... clean air zone for Tyneside in force tomorrow... lower Thames crossing...Read more \*\*\* COMMENT \*\*\* Trying to hang onto the ICE could be a big mistake

Over the last two weeks I've been discussing an article published on the Crash.net series of websites, that quoted from an

interview with Steve Sargent of Triumph, where he appeared to be suggesting that by focusing on electric...Read more



# PERMANENT So make the practice PERFECT!

\*\*\* TIPS on TUESDAY \*\*\* Daft tips from bikers to bikers #5

"To gain confidence, there's no substitute for saddle time."

Oh boy. Another old chestnut,

based on the idea that 'practice makes perfect'. What's implied is that with enough riding time - the 'practice' - we can achieve a level of mastery...Read more

\*\*\* ELEVENSES \*\*\* Elevenses 310
Wed 1 February - motorcycle news, tips
& views. in today's show... a bad few
days for motorcycling as mobility
scooter rider dies & 6 year old child
injured in collisions with motorcycles,
unlicenced 17 year old who seriously
injured pensioner & 22 year old who hit
...Read more





\*\*\* FOCUS ON FRIDAY \*\*\*
Minor errors don't guarantee
minor consequences

Last Friday I talked about a recent study into crashes in New Zealand. The report said that the results challenge the

commonly-held belief that deliberate reckless behaviours such as driving drunk or at extreme speeds cause... <u>Read more</u>

\*\*\* SKILLS ON SATURDAY \*\*\*
Situational Awareness pt 2 threats. Last week, I said that
this second article would be
about enhancing our situational
awareness by developing our
awareness of our environment.
We need to know about other
road users and the hazards
posed by the road layout, we
need to...Read more





\*\*\* ELEVENSES \*\*\* Elevenses 311
Sun 5 February - motorcycle news,
tips & views. in today's show... driver
who rammed Met bike cop jailed...
Harley-Davidson post
'forecast-beating' sales in Q4 of

2022... Kawasaki's ZX-4R four cylinder headed for Europe... Honda's Transalp to arrive at £10,499...<u>Read more</u>

## IAM RoadSmart News



#### Road Trip Essentials

Are you planning a romantic road trip this Valentine's Day? Or maybe a family getaway over half term? Whilst planning your route, packing your bags, and

making sure your home is secured before you set off, do you make sure that you and your car are fully prepared for your long drive? More information

Our CEO, Tony Kildare, recently passed his Advanced Driver course. Through his blog, we get to know his driving history, how he found the course and his hopes for the charity. "I wanted to experience what our members go through on their journey and be the best driver I can be..." Read the blog here





We want to help you fall in love with driving and riding this Valentine's. Over the next two weeks, we'll be sharing five stunning road trips to help you do just that. The first road trip of our Valentine's series is the

NC500. Starting in Inverness, this route is known as one of the best trips the UK offers. You'll see incredible views along the way, including the stunning Kylesku Bridge. <u>Find out more</u>

Since passing his test in 1980, Nigel has years of different driving experiences. Some good, some bad, with him admitting over the years he picked up some bad habits. So, he decided to take his Mature Driver Review, but how did he get on? Find out here





If a Red Xappears on the gantry sign above your lane, don't ignore it. It's there for your safety and others, including road workers, police, traffic officers, emergency services and recovery operators. To learn more about Red X, visit

Our dedicated volunteers are at the heart of everything we do. Not only do they commit their time to taking associates out on Observed drives and rides, to help them reach 'Advanced Status' but they run and attend many independent events throughout the year. If you'd like to find out more about upcoming events <u>visit our website</u>.





We're here at the Northern Ireland

Motorcycle Plus Show this weekend at the
Eikon Exhibition Centre. Make sure you
come and say hello to our friendly team,
who can tell you more and answer any
questions about our Advanced Rider and
Driver courses! Also, take advantage of our
show exclusive offers!

Up next in our road trip series is The Lake District. The Lake District is a road trip gem that will take you from gentle hills to jagged peaks. The scenery includes everything from lakes to mountain passes - certainly not one to miss!



Find out more



Starting to plan your next getaway? Take out travel insurance this February and you can claim 10% off thanks to our insurance partner, Cornmarket.

Click here to find out more

If you're looking for the next step in your IAM RoadSmart journey, becoming an Observer keeps your skills up to date whilst being a rewarding role. If you're interested in <u>finding out more</u>



#### IAM MEMBERSHIP PRICE INCREASE

2022 was a challenging year for us as a charity. With a COVID-19 legacy, soaring inflation and an ongoing economic downturn, we, like other charities and businesses, faced tough choices and decisions. Now made, these important, strategic decisions will help us maintain our delivery and commitment to existing and future members and invest in new products. This means we will continue to sustain our charity mission, expanding the reach of our community, partners and supporters across the UK with our key focus continuing to be improving road safety for all.

In order to sustain all the great work that groups, volunteers and IAM RoadSmart staff deliver, we need to more accurately reflect the premium products, services and benefits that we have within our pricing, and at last year's AGM, members voted in favour of an annual membership increase, with the agreed increase below taking effect from the 1st April 2023.

We will share information on any additional price updates in due course via Headlight.

	2023/24 pricing (£)
Membership	
Direct debit	£43.00
Cheque, bank transfer or debit / credit card	£48.00
Fellows subscription (includes 3 yearly test)	
Direct debit	£61.00
Cheque, bank transfer or debit / credit card	£66.00

We hope to see you at one of the upcoming IAM RoadSmart Skills Days this year, a fantastic opportunity for our community of drivers and riders to come together to network and learn from experts.

Want to become a better rider? Our Advanced Riding Course can help. The roads can be a dangerous place, even for the most alert and cautious riders. While you can never be 100% safe, becoming an advanced rider



will equip you with the skills to correctly anticipate, and plan for, the hazards you encounter on your rides. Find out more

SAM members have you got some news to share? Send it to sam-editor@iam-sheffield.bike and share it with all your SAM Club friends...

## Stay healthy and ride safe

Paul Conway (on behalf of the SAM Committee) Sheffield **Advanced Motorcyclists** 

Charity no. 1089671 IAM Group no. 4152



Saturday Meetings are for club members, observers, associates and ANY biker interested in taking an advanced rider course. Meetings are usually for one of these purposes:

- members take the opportunity to catch up with each other and generally socialise
- observers will be taking their associates out as part of their preparation for the advanced test
- other members will form smaller groups and ride out usually for breakfast somewhere
- Bikers who want to learn about how to become an advanced motorcyclist

If you'd like to find out more about us, join us at 9am any Saturday throughout the year, at Meadowhall Retail Park, Sheffield S9 2YZ, just off J34, M1.

# Being a member of the SAM Club

To be a member of the SAM Club you MUST also be a current member of IAM RoadSmart. As a registered UK charity the SAM Club has charitable objectives to provide advanced motorcycle education and training. Our charity has to abide by the national standards, testing and liability insurance cover to continue these activities. Liability insurance ensures that, within the events covered, both the SAM Club, its Trustees and members are safeguarded against most untoward events; this includes all formal training and social events. Also, the SAM Club is dedicated to promoting the education and training of bikers in advanced riding knowledge and skills, both locally and nationally. At a total cost of £50/year, i.e. 96p/week, you help ALL your fellow bikers to improve their riding knowledge and skills. Thank you.

**Associates**: SAM's highly trained, dedicated, self-funding, volunteer Observers, meet all their own expenditure in providing

your training. When you go out on observed rides with your Observer, we are asking you to donate £10 to offset a little of their running costs in helping you to become an advanced motorcycle rider. Thank you.

## Extra bits

- Next SAM Committee Meeting: 29th March 2023
- Next SAM Club Night: 6th March 2023 at 7.30pm for an 8pm start Treeton Miners Welfare, Arundel St, Treeton, Rotherham S60 5PW, UK
- Gift Aid Form: Gift Aid allows UK charities to claim back the basic rate tax already paid on donations. This means we can claim back from the government on your behalf 25p for every £1 donated, boosting the value of the donation by a quarter. Use this link to fill in the form on the SAM website and send it to treasurer@iam-sheffield.bike.
- Not getting your SAM emails? If any member is NOT getting SAM Club emails, first check your junk folder, then send a request to <a href="mailto:sameditor@iam-sheffield.bike">sameditor@iam-sheffield.bike</a>. Pass on this message to any members who are complaining about not getting their SAM Club emails.
- Changing your email address: If you change your email address then let me know so that we can keep you informed of all the exciting things
- happening in your club.
- IAM RoadSmart member discounts: SAM members, are you making the most of your IAM RoadSmart membership? There are lots of discount savings that can offset your IAM RoadSmart and SAM membership fees, so grab a bargain TODAY!
- Share with your friends: Know someone who is interested in biking? Why not share this SAM Update and help them to be an advanced rider.

• Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram.

## What are we about...

The Sheffield and District Advanced Motorcyclists (SAM) are an independent charity that provides public education, and training in advanced motorcycling skills. Its aims are to increase public awareness and understanding of motorcycling and the advanced knowledge and skill skills required to ride safely on public roads. It is an affiliate group of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM RoadSmart) and works closely with statutory and non-statutory organisations in promoting public information and education on motorcyclists and motorcycling in its designated region. SAM's volunteer motorcyclists are all trained to and maintain national standards of advanced motorcycle riding. They provide ongoing guidance and support to prepare motorcyclists for UK nationally recognised advanced motorcycling tests. SAM works closely with other charitable groups who require advanced motorcyclists to support public events, NHS dispatch rider services and many other socially responsible activities. SAM provides an essential public service in encouraging, promoting and marketing improved safety on public roads in the UK and internationally through IAM RoadSmart. SAM also has a very active social events programme that encourages its members, family, friends and the public, to both support the charity's socially responsible objectives and enjoy the camaraderie and support provided by the club.

# Club Merchandise

"YOU can proudly support YOUR Club"



Clothing can be ordered online direct from:

**APRINT LTD** 

138 Morthern Road

Wickersley

Rotherham

S66 1EA

Telephone: 01709 709977

Fax: 01709 709987