



SAM Weekly Newsletter - 17th March 2023

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

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Editorial

This is the last newsletter before the close of the SAM Club Annual Photo Competition. Many thanks to those SAM members who have sent entries. Other SAM Club members, if you could ferret around your photo archive it would help to improve the competition. If you don't fancy a framed picture, I'm sure that we could consider another prize such as mugs, tea towels, coasters, pinafore, or whatever you might like us to consider. Just support the event and let's have some fun in these trying times.

The SAM Club Annual General Meeting will be held on the 3rd April, 2023. Due to health and family reasons, I'll be stepping down as a SAM charity Trustee at the AGM. However, if the new Committee agrees, I'll be happy to continue volunteering to assemble and send out the newsletter, send out notifications and look after the website. Whilst the SAM Committee can have up to 20 members, in recent years we have been reduced to the 8 current members. If the number of Committee members falls below six, the SAM charity becomes unviable and will have to cease its activities. Being a SAM Committee member is a great way to help determine the future direction of the Club, support new Associates and our hard-working Observers. Also, to ensure that we have a successful Club to take forward for another year. If you can't put yourself forward for the SAM Committee, how about volunteering to help organise various activities for members.

I've had a very interesting week. Apart from collecting a new bike, a Piaggio MP3 530. Motorcycle manufacturers are continuing to invest in leaning 3-wheel bikes. Kawasaki being the latest company to file patents. Also, this week I took part in an IAM Social Media workshop using Microsoft Teams. There were representatives from 15 IAM Groups. There was a presentation on which social media platforms to use and how to set up social

media campaigns. The IAM RoadSmart sales and marketing team are working hard to provide material that Groups can share with the general public. The future of any charity relies on getting new people to support its cause. The SAM Club is no different. Our core mission is to educate, promote and provide advanced motorcycle training; and, to help our local communities to experience safer roads. SAM Club members have an important role in helping to keep those around us safer.

Onto other content in your SAM Club newsletter this week. It's been a long time since I did any camping, but one thing that Janis and I have learned about travelling by motorcycle is to pack it well. Now we may prefer a warm place to stay and a soft bed, rather than a tent, but how to pack for a motorcycle camping trip has some practical advice to offer.

If you fancy travelling far, why not read about touring Romania. There is a fascinating insight into some hidden gems that you might want to explore. You can also read about the opportunities to tour with a Zero Electric Motorcycle. A great way to test, for yourself, the reliability of electric motorcycles over long distances. Although most motorcycles have self-cancelling indicators these days, there are still those riders, including me, who will forget to cancel indicators after turning. Have no fear, a retired electronics engineer has come up with a reliable and cheap solution. Being away is also a time to relax and read about other biker's adventures and perhaps marvel at the artwork of Easy Rider cartoonist Hal Robinson.

The history slot this week is about a true WWII hero, Beatrice Shilling. This lady battled gender discrimination for most of her life. But, this record breaking motorcyclist saved countless RAF pilot lives by inventing a thimble-shaped carburetor washer for use in the Rolls Royce Merlin engines of Spitfire aircraft.

If it's a long time since I've been camping in a tent, it's an even longer time since I was abseiling out a 4-storey barrack room

window and off of mountains in the Snowdonia National Park. However, here is a chance for the more fit members of the Club to abseil for charity. James Toseland, former Superbike Champion, will be leading an abseiling event to raise money for Sheffield Children's Hospital. If you are not up for abseiling down the side of a building, how about signing up for TT Marshalling. Alternatively, you can support the National Association of Bikers with a Disability by going to the final 'You've be Nabbed Concert'.

Finally, there is an important article, from Kevin Williams, about NOT handing over your UK National Insurance Number, to a motorcycle dealer, before being allowed to test ride a bike that you fancy. 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 [SAM website](#). You can unsubscribe at any time by clicking the link in any SAM Club email.

Paul Conway

Editor & Webmaster, Sheffield Advanced Motorcyclists

have made adjustments, not only regarding our equipment but mainly regarding the expectations and realities about camping on a long-term bike trip.

The source of knowledge is experience, and this was the case for us. From the absolutely amazing, yet terrifying, first night of wild camping in the Western Sahara, to the sleepless night at an organized campsite somewhere in Brazil thanks to partiers, almost every camping experience can be described by one word: unpredictable! Although unpredictability is the heart of adventure, being as well-prepared as possible is key to enjoying the ride and avoiding nasty surprises. [Read more](#)

From the very beginning, Romania offered a full package and completely fulfilled my every expectation.



Romania belongs to the European Union, but it isn't a part of the Schengen area, where international treaties make travel much easier. Therefore, if you're not part of the EU, expect a brief stop at border control for a passport check and an examination of your motorcycle papers. [Read more](#)

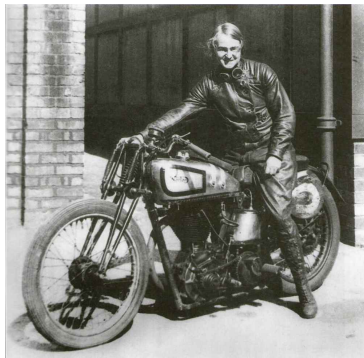


Bruno is Coming

Bikers Meet the Old West

Bruno rode a Sportster like the wind caught fire. He rode hard and fast as if every Orange County law enforcement agency was after his fat ass. Not much to look at, his round features and big smile said a lot about the man and his continence. He worked constantly, tuned his motorcycle a rode until he slid up in front of Cook's Corner in the Irvine Hills on a Saturday night. [Read more](#)

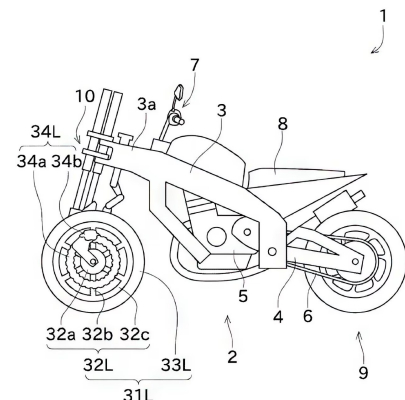
The Master of the Line Drawing for Early Easyriders Magazine. I am writing this because I want people to know about the things Harold (Hal) Robinson went through in his life; things that led up to his greatness as a Cartoonist of the late '60s, '70s and the '80s. Hal Robinson did not have an easy life. However, he called his own shots and did things his way. He needed this freedom to think and do the magnificent works he created. I loved my husband, Hal Robinson. I loved his drawings also, and I loved him because he was a great human being. [Read more](#)



[World War II Rider Beatrice Shilling, OBE.](#)

With a simple, thimble-shaped washer, this pioneering woman gearhead saved the lives of countless RAF pilots in WWII. During the Battle of Britain, the Royal Air Force discovered a glaring problem with its Rolls-Royce Merlin-powered fighters—the Hawker Hurricane and the Supermarine Spitfire. See, that generation of Merlin was fitted with dual-choke, updraft carburetors built by the S.U. Carburettor Company Limited. These worked just like your regular updraft carb and were great in level flight. Problem was, you see, that fighter planes don't spend a lot of time in level flight. [Read more](#)

Kawasaki Continues Tilting Three-wheeler Development. More than two years ago in January 2021, we revealed [Kawasaki's](#) designs for a [leaning three-wheeled motorcycle](#) with a simplified suspension and steering system compared to its rivals. Now additional patent applications



have been filed indicating that the project remains alive—even if some of the benefits of the original design appear to have been lost in the latest iteration. [Read more](#)



I am an all-year-round biker doing about 40,000 miles a year whether it be rain, sunshine or snow. To be blunt, I do not have a choice because I do not have a car, so the bike is it. Whilst it snowed at the back end of last year, the roads were generally pretty good where I was still able to commute to work (plus it's more fun than taking the train!). I rode out of my estate and joined the ring road. Fair play to the council as the roads had been gritted and were clear so there no issues. That was until I pulled out from lane one into lane two and behind a big Range Rover. I was in no rush, and I guess we were doing about 50mph. As it was cold and possibly icy, I left a good gap between myself and the Range Rover. [Read more](#)

The Experience Electric tour gives motorcyclists an opportunity to sample Zero motorcycles in the form of a guided ride out.

The 2023 tour starts in the south west, with dates at Oily Rag and Fowlers over the Easter weekend, before the MCN Festival of Motorcycling in May. The tour then goes south to three biking hotspots in the form of the Route 1066 Café, the Sammy Miller Museum and Loomies Café over the weekend of 19-21 May. [Read more](#)





Wave goodbye to forgotten blinkers: UK biker invents indicator alarm system A retired electrical engineer has developed a one-size-fits-all indicator alarm for the inevitable times we sail down the road blissfully unaware the orange bulb is blinking – and is looking for investors to come on board. Joe Cowell's invention differs from the few indicator alert systems already on the market in that it does not rely on a Bluetooth communications device to alert the rider, nor does it require a direct attachment with the battery for power. Instead the Eskaz device wires straight into the indicators and a 90dB alarm, contained in a waterproof box, is attached to the handlebars or suitable mount. [Read more](#)

Take the plunge with James Toseland for charity. Two-time World Superbike Champion James Toseland will abseil down the 160ft Owen Building at Sheffield Hallam University this weekend to raise awareness for The



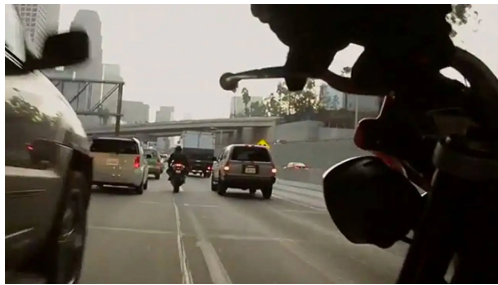
Children's Hospital Charity – and you could join him. There are still places left for the abseil with James on Sunday, March 19, who will be taking the plunge in his motorcycle leathers. Fundraisers are required to pay a non-refundable £24 deposit to secure their place, which covers the cost of the abseil, with a promise to raise a minimum of £100 to support Sheffield Children's. The public are also welcome to attend to watch the event with the abseil scheduled for 10am. [Read more](#)



Last call for NABD rally: Charity that started to assist a disabled colleague has now raised thousands. It's a charity that has helped thousands of riders with disabilities get back on the road, but now

the National Association for Bikers with a Disability is calling time on one of its biggest annual events. May 5-7 will see the NABD hold the 30th and final You've Been Nabbed Rally with bands, beers and more at the Cheshire Showground. The group says numbers at the rally have been dropping, while it's becoming harder to recruit volunteer marshals – that said, they are hoping it will go out with a bang when people learn it is the last but new events are in the pipeline. [Read more](#)

JavaScript



Lane Splitting: So Exactly Where Is It And Isn't It Legal? Lane splitting, lane sharing, lane filtering, shoulder surfing... there are as many laws as there are possible maneuvers and keeping track of everything can be a

bit dizzying. Especially since the laws greatly vary from state to state. Worry not, we're here to (try and) keep up on them and let you know where you can do what. We updated the map with the latest information about that so let's have a closer look. [Read more](#)

MARSHAL SIGN-ON OPENS FOR 2023 ISLE OF MAN TT RACES. Marshalling sign-ons for the 2023 Isle of Man TT races have been officially opened by the Isle of Man TT Marshals Association. There are now less than 80 days until the 2023 Isle of Man TT races begin, and it is now possible to sign-on as a marshal for this year's races. The [Isle of Man TT races](#) are almost unique in [motorcycle racing](#), such is their draw and the particularity of the challenge they provide. [Read more](#)



SAM Meetings



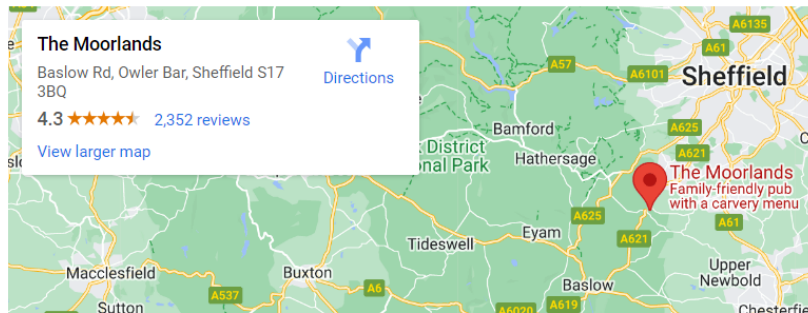
***SAM Club Saturday Meetings, Meadowhall Retail Park
9am every Saturday throughout the year.
Come and join us - you know you want to ride!***



Next SAM Club night: **SAM Club
Annual General Meeting 3rd
April 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

This morning Whiteknights Yorkshire Blood Bikes were participating in another FMT national relay. Pictured is Yorkshire's only female Blood Biker, Ann, at the handover with Neil from neighbouring Blood Bike group Blood Run Evs. Well done team! [#bloodbikes](#)



[#womensday2023](#)



Out on a training run this weekend? We would love runners to run in aid of Whiteknights. We still have places available. Contact us for more information. [#LeedsMarathon](#)

South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership



HERE COME THE GIRLS....

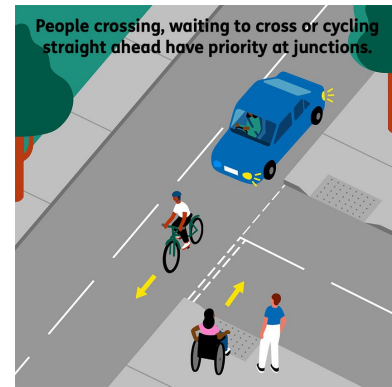
On [#internationalwomensday](#) here are a few photos of women who have been part of the Safer Roads journey and have worked hard to make South Yorkshire roads free from serious and fatal collisions. [#iwd2023](#) [#visionzero](#)

PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: Do you know which side of the road you should walk on if there is no pavement? Keep to the right-hand side so that you can see oncoming traffic. Take extra care and be prepared to walk in single file, especially on narrow roads or in poor light. [#HighwayCode](#)



HIGHWAY CODE RULE 3: Help other road users to see you. Wear/carry something light-coloured, bright or fluorescent in poor daylight conditions. When dark, use reflective materials which drivers using headlights can see up to 3 times as far away as non-reflective items. [@rotherhamcouncil](#)

PEDESTRIANS AND JUNCTIONS: When you are crossing or waiting to cross the road at a junction, other traffic should give way. Look out for traffic turning into the road, especially from behind & cross at a place where drivers can see you:



<https://www.gov.uk/.../the.../rules-for-pedestrians-1-to-35>

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We're

only

human...



If we are ever to achieve [#VisionZero](#) we ALL have to stick to the rules. Mistakes will happen but we can reduce the chances of serious injury/death by travelling at a safe speed, putting our mobiles away, wearing our seatbelts and driving/riding sober. [#SundayMorning](#) [#mistakes](#)

WE MADE YOU LOOK... The most common cause of collisions in Great Britain is the driver (or motorcycle rider) failing to look properly. We really need you to give the road your full attention if we are going to prevent people getting seriously hurt on S Yorks' roads. [#VisionZero](#) [#MeghanTrainor](#) [#look](#)

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Forget Gucci and Versace dresses...



We're making you look!



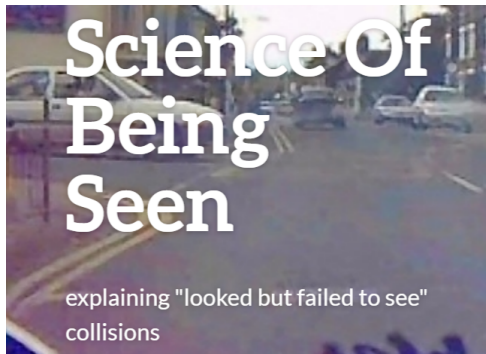
BRIGHT IDEAS: What type of clothing is best for active travel during darker conditions? Reflective or high-vis? Or both? [FIND OUT](#)

Whatever the conditions, motorists must be vigilant & look out for more vulnerable road users to reduce the chances of a collision. ❤️

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 ([available at SAM Club Nights](#)). 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

*** SKILLS ON SATURDAY *** Quick-n-Easy #1 STANDARD BRAKING Right now I'm in New Zealand working on the Shiny Side Up events talking about how to get 'our head in the game' and be more alert to two of the most common crashes of all - collisions at intersections and the rider-only error that leads to a bend crash. Ideally we'll see the problem developing - which is why I have been talking about 'Situational Awareness' but eventually we get to the point where we may need to take some evasive action. As New Zealand moves towards autumn, it's never too late to build up these skills ready for next year, but in the UK spring should be just around the corner, so it's an equally good time to look at the first of three skills: braking. [Read more](#)



*** MYTHS ON MONDAY *** ABS isn't as good as a good rider. Though riders in the UK are now far more likely to accept Anti-lock Braking Systems as the norm for a modern bike and are even seeing the most advanced cornering ABS as a desirable feature to have on the machine, it's only in the last couple of years that ABS has been mandated on new machines in New Zealand, and hence riders here are still at the beginning of the discovery process. [Read more](#)

*** TIPS ON TUESDAY *** Hazards and how to understand them Pt 2. Last week I defined what we actually mean when we talk about hazards and you'll recall I defined a hazard in the road safety sense as anything that could pose a threat to our personal well-being, meaning that to avoid it we need to change speed or direction. I also explained



some classification schemes. [Read more](#)



*** SHINY SIDE UP *** Over for another year. It's been a strange trip. After starting the tour via Zoom from London, then landing in the middle of the cyclone to find our connecting flight cancelled, waking up next day to all the disruption which caused the cancellation of two of the North Island events, and being unable to get to the South Island for the next two events at the beginning of the tour, we finally finished with a rush. [Read more](#)

*** SKILLS ON SATURDAY *** Smoothing the brake / throttle transition. One of the skills I've noticed even experienced riders can sometimes lack - and it's a really common problem with new riders - is dealing with the transition from brakes to gas. Why? We riders are in too much of a hurry. We're not on a race track and gaining a fraction of a second by rushing the switch from braking to accelerating is totally unnecessary. [Read more](#)



*** MYTHS ON MONDAY *** Dealer wants a National Insurance number for the test ride. A couple of years ago. I'd spotted the local Yamaha dealer had a Niken, Yamaha were saying that they were all available for test rides, and so I wandered in and asked if I could set up a couple of hours ride on the bike. "Sure", I was told, "just bring your licence, passport and National Insurance number and we'll sort you out". [Read more](#)

IAM RoadSmart News



[Drinking alcohol - The morning after](#)

How would you know if you were fit to drive the morning after drinking alcohol? IAM RoadSmart, the leading road safety charity in the UK, is warning drivers of the dangers of driving with a hangover. [More information](#)

[Keeping women safe on the road](#)

Coinciding with International Women's Day, IAM RoadSmart is raising awareness of the importance of keeping women safe on the roads with some expert advice to minimise the anxiety some women may have when travelling. [More information](#)



Whether she's a driver or rider, give your mum the gift of road safety this Mother's Day with one of our gift vouchers. There is a selection of courses to choose from, and if you purchase before 19th March, you could win a Fortnum and Mason Hamper. [Buy one here](#)



Rule 229 of the Highway Code requires drivers to ensure they do not have obscured vision and that any snow or ice on their car will not fall off into the path of another road user. This includes removing any snow from the roof and windows and clearing any frost and ice which could have an impact on visibility.



We love hearing positive feedback from our members and how they found their experience. The Advanced Driver course offers you the opportunity to expand your skills and knowledge further so you can enjoy every drive with confidence. Find out more about the course [here](#).

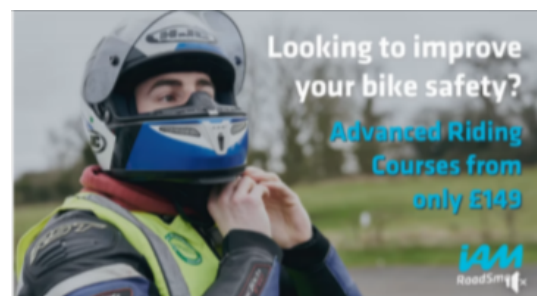
Road users can underestimate the restrictions of an HGV, such as blind spots and the areas of limited visibility around them. Always allow plenty of room when overtaking and do not linger alongside the HGV by ensuring you have enough space ahead before attempting the manoeuvre. Read more about the [National Highways 'Know the Zones' campaign](#)



Did you know that speed kills and injures 54 young people every week? [THINK Road Safety](#) is running a speeding campaign to help raise awareness about the risks of driving too fast for the conditions of the road. It focuses on male drivers aged 17-24, as they are overrepresented in speed-related deaths and injuries. [Find out more](#)

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: **Date here**
- Next SAM Club Night: **Annual General Meeting 3rd April 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 sameditor@iam-sheffield.bike. 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"



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