



SAM Weekly Newsletter - 5th May 2023

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

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Editorial

Your editor has begun revising the SAM website this week. If there is anything that you think is outdated and should be replaced, or new sections/material you would like to see included, just drop me a line at sam-editor@iam-sheffield.bike.

Just in case you hadn't noticed, it's Spring. The SAM Committee are working hard to take advantage of reaching bikers taking their machines out of hibernation. There are two events that SAM members can support. The 21st May is Emergency Services Day. As usual there is a FREE Fun Day on The Moor in Sheffield. We are joining our partners, the Whiteknights Blood Bikes, to spread the word about how we help bikers develop their advanced riding skills. Another great event is the Bike Fest at Outwood School. Entrance is just £1/family and is a great chance to get our message to young people before they head off to College on their 125cc bikes. We need volunteers for both these events, so let a member of the Committee know if you can help. If you can't, please make an effort to attend the event and show your support for the SAM Club.

Tuesdays are a great day for your editor. I get to spend the day researching, reading and writing about all kinds of motorcycling and allied subjects. It definitely beats doing home improvements at my son's house! Tuesday is the one day of the week that I catch up on Kevin Williams articles. Normally, I wouldn't mention them as they are linked in your newsletter and SAM members can decide for themselves what they want to read. Two articles, that I thought worthy of sharing, particularly piqued my interest this week.

The first article was about blame and personal responsibility. Stuck in a rabid blame culture, motorcycle accidents and coroner's inquest seem to be about identifying fault and apportioning blame. This is not the way to make riding safe or

help road users understand and respond to any lessons that might be learned. Kevin, in recent articles, has been looking at the shared responsibility for some motorcycle accidents; and what each party can do to avoid conflicting road use. Extending some of the advice given in 'Roadcraft', he argues that understanding how we bikers perceive the hazard, in some instances there may be things we can do differently. See what you think.

The second article was about a recent, long-awaited, report on the death of a Blood Biker. The rider was using the blue lights fitted to the bike and had passed a traffic light at red when the fatality occurred. Grant Schapps (Minister for Transport at the time) was asked by the coroner to clarify the law on how Blood Bikers can respond to emergency deliveries. The answer was enlightening and disturbing in equal measure. If the NHS were properly funded for the out-of-hours/holiday dispatch riding work, there would be no need for unpaid volunteers to undertake the emergency and routine work involved. Blood Bikers provide an invaluable service. As Kevin shows with an example from his own experience, if blood, other clinical specimens and documents are not delivered in a speedy way, patients and NHS clinical staff are seriously compromised. Make up your own mind, but the tragic death of this unpaid volunteer is a timely reminder of their dedicated service. The comments on the article are worth reading too. The SAM charity trains and encourages volunteers to support the vital services the Whiteknights provide. We expect that their welfare will be the first concern of everyone involved in helping them to deliver the NHS services we all need.

In the rest of your Club newsletter this week you can read how BikeSafe are heavily promoting their courses. Triumph is taking on young people to help the future of motorcycling and a

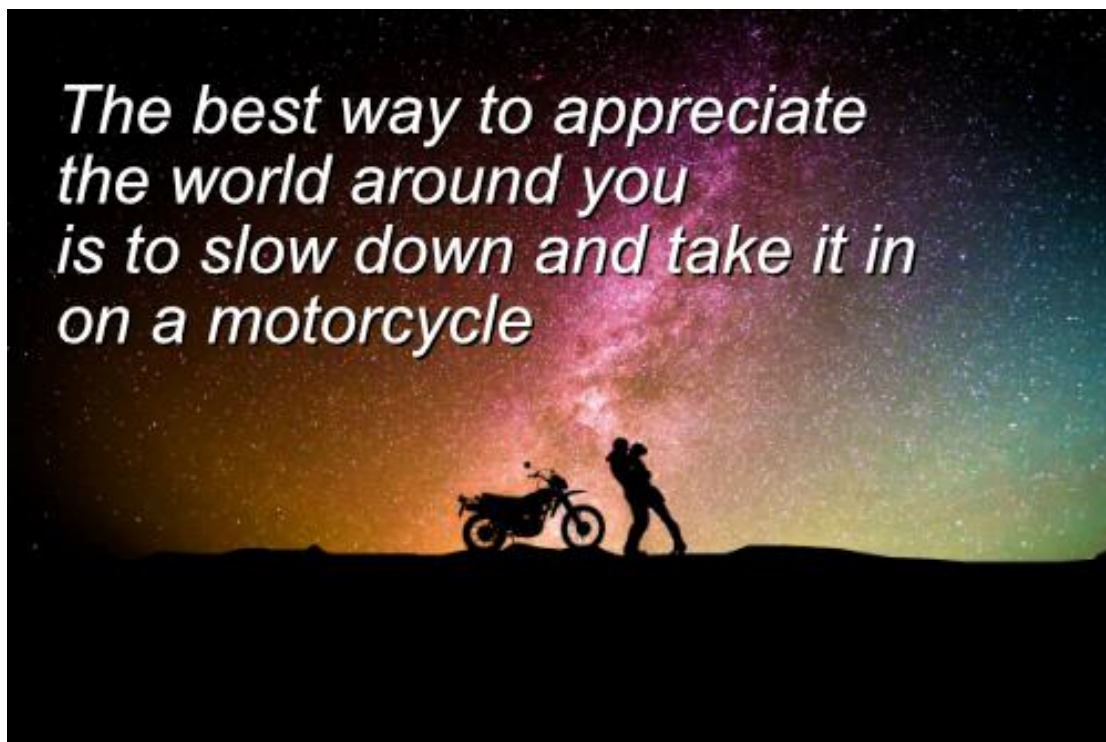
90-year-old granny reminisced about her riding days when taken on a pillion ride. Adventure riding can be done on small bikes and Romania seems a great place to ride. Finally, the pioneers of motorcycle racing is retold for you to enjoy. Happy reading.

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](#). Paul Conway

Editor & Webmaster, Sheffield Advanced Motorcyclists



Biking News Online



From the Ocean to the Desert on a Yamaha TW200. You can be as ready for an adventure as possible—but something is holding you back. Sometimes it's simply the fear of the unknown that keeps us home in our supposed comfort zones... There's a book that helped me out of that zone, [The Complete Walker IV](#) by Colin Fletcher and Chip Rawlins. It can be read in two ways: as a regular book, or as a resource guide. For this trip, it was the guide for a three-day weekend reserved for moto-camping completely from the bike. The bike... I've had all kinds, so this is not my first, but it is the one I've been having so much fun with, a 2016 Yamaha TW200. Yes, it's small compared to what most consider an "adventure bike," but it has made me love riding motorcycles all over again. How? It presents challenges, benefits, and comforts in very different ways, from the distinctive, stubby fat tires to the low seat height that makes it perfect for a wide range of riders. I've been riding for 48+ years and the TW200 makes for a seriously enjoyable experience. [Read more](#)

Romania: A Hidden Gem for the Adventure Motorcyclists. 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](#)





Sergeant Rob Gilligan from the Central Motorway Policing Group (CMPG) is leading workshops this year for Biker Down, a project created in memory of PC Luke Van De Sande, who lost his life in an off-duty motorcycle crash back in 2019. He's joined by several currently serving and former emergency services personnel. The

team of presenters boasts significant specialist experience and expertise in the fields of operational motorcycling, advanced first aid and collision investigation.

[Read more](#)

Young guns: Triumph commits to further youth worker programs to encourage more into the bike industry. Triumph are doing their bit to help the future of the British motorcycle industry, with plans to boost the number of young people working in their dealers and a new



awards scheme on the cards to help students showcase design ideas. "In addition to employment opportunities being created each year at head office, there are plans to expand the numbers of younger people working within our dealer network, and we are supporting our dealers' efforts to actively recruit younger retail and technical staff," Triumph's Chief Commercial Officer Paul Stroud told MCN. [Read more](#)



[Super gran rides again for her 90th birthday.](#) A great-grandmother from Wigan has proved you are never too old to get back on a bike as she celebrated her 90th birthday last week with a ride on the back of a Harley-Davidson with the

north-west...



THE PIONEERS OF MOTORCYCLE RACING: THE FIRST EVER RACERS

The first ever motorcycle race is widely believed to have taken place in 1894, when a group of motorcyclists gathered on a beach in France to race from one

town to the next. The race was organized by a French magazine called "Le Petit Journal" and attracted a large number of spectators. The early days of motorcycle racing were marked by a sense of experimentation and innovation. Engineers and mechanics were constantly trying to improve the performance and reliability of their bikes, and races were seen as a way to showcase the latest technology and design innovations. [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: **5th June 2023** **meet at 7.30pm for an 8pm start at** [Treeton Miners Welfare, Arundel St, Treeton, Rotherham S60 5PW, UK](#)



WVW
RoadSmart

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.*

Blood Bikes ...



SAVE LIVES!

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 Plasma Donation Week, we are celebrating the 12,000 life-saving plasma donors that have come forward since the relaunch of the service which resumed 2 years ago. Donors in England are now able to donate plasma for the creation of life-saving medicines. Thank you to all of our life-saving plasma donors 🧡👏

You have helped to make a huge difference to the 17,000 people who rely on medicines made from plasma to stay alive. If you would like to donate differently and become a proud plasma donor, you can donate plasma in Birmingham, Reading or Twickenham. Giving plasma is as easy and safe as giving blood and you will be helping to make medicines to treat 50 diseases. [Find out more about plasma donation](#), [#PlasmaDonationWeek](#) [#PlasmaItsInYou](#) [#GivePlasma](#) [#NHS](#) [#SaveLives](#)





Today Whiteknights participated in a national relay of donated breast milk. We collected 3 large boxes of milk from Ria of Northumbria Blood Bikes and transferred to Rhianna and Keith of Nottingham Blood Bikes . Good work team blood bikes! [#bloodbikes](#)

Whiteknights Yorkshire Blood Bikes are on call throughout the Bank Holiday. Here is our Yamaha fjr1300 Blood Bike at the regional NHS Blood & Transplant Centre, Barnsley. We regularly travel across Yorkshire to deliver blood samples for urgent Immunohaematology testing here.



[#bloodbikes](#) [#NHS](#) [#itswhatwedo](#)

South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership



ARE YOU FEELING TIRED?

Statistics show that fatigue contributes to about 4% of fatal road crashes and 2% of all collisions in Britain. However, it is likely that the true figures are far higher because fatigue is hard to spot. Let us help to keep you safe: <https://sysrp.co.uk/Fatigue>

[#wednesdaywisdom](#)

VAN WALKAROUND:

Are you a van driver? Does your partner drive a van for work?

Have a look at this handy checklist that will help to keep you and your loved ones safe on the roads:



WALKAROUND

<https://sysrp.co.uk/.../SYSRPMedia/News/WEB-walkaround.pdf>

[#FridayMotivation](#) [#work](#)



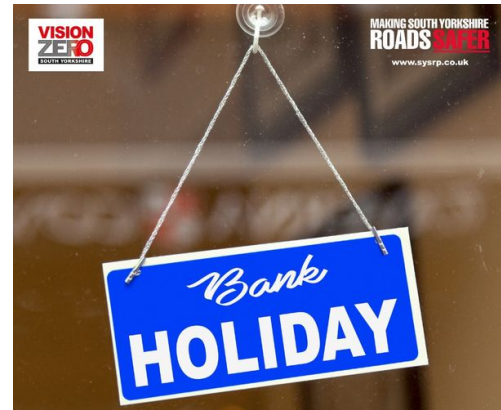
BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND: Have you got any nice plans this weekend? Dinner with friends? Movie night? Just remember that if your plans include having a drink of alcohol, you need to sort out your journey home. No amount of

alcohol is safe in your system when you're driving.

Play your part in the Safe System. Have NONE for the road.

[#VisionZero](#) [#roadsafety](#)

SUNDAY FUNDAY? Hello everyone - what are you up to this [#bankholiday](#) weekend? Off out later? You can never rely on the weather to serve up a lovely, Spring evening...but as many people have tomorrow off work, please be mindful that there may be more pedestrians in and around our drinking venues. We all have a role to play in preventing collisions so where you're walking, riding or driving, please look out for each other. Don't bank on being invincible.

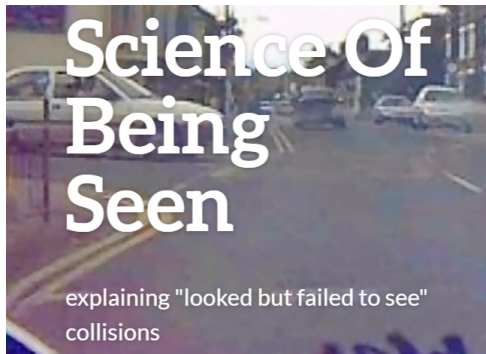


[#VisionZero](#) [#SafeSystem](#) [#roadsafety](#) [#responsibility](#) [#driving](#)
[#walking](#) [#cyclinglife](#)



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.

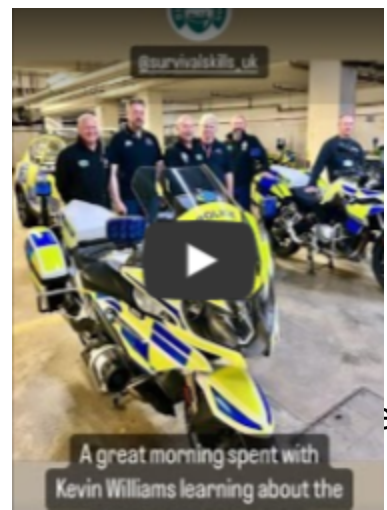
LAST WEEK'S ROUND-UP



Last time out I covered the costs of getting involved in biking as a commuter, and I pointed out that you really do need to look at the budget you have available before anything else, because there's a lot more to becoming a biker than choosing, buying, then riding a motorcycle. [Read more](#)

in today's show... a very special Science Of Being Seen audience - London's BikeSafe team... Bennetts launch new 'high performance' clothing labelling system... drivers under 25 could face passenger ban... biker 'swarms' bring traffic to a halt

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in San Francisco and Auckland... New York aims to prevent similar events by seizing illegal bikes... Livewire's S2 Del Mar comes to the UK... too late - you missed Scott Redding's WSB bike... in today's discussion point - do we need Bennett's new clothing labelling system? [Read more](#)



Taking responsibility is not accepting blame

A few weeks back I got a rather exasperated response to something I'd written in one of my posts, or as an answer to something that was in the comment section on one - I can't quite

remember.

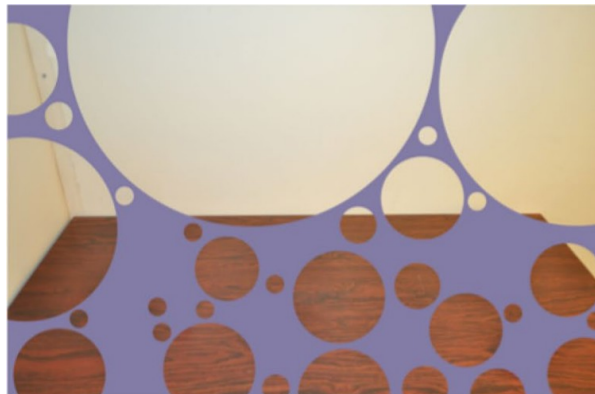
"I despair at your 'Two to Tango / Tangle' comment. That suggests the only way to completely avoid a 'two to tango' on a main road when approaching a right turning vehicle is to come to a complete stop and wave them across otherwise you are partially to blame."

[Read more](#)

Out of sight, out of mind

Over the last two weeks I've been looking at some basic principles from 'Motorcycle Roadcraft', the need to take account of:

- what we can see
- what we can't see
- what we might reasonably expect to happen



Roadcraft makes it sound very straightforward, but the way in which our brains process visual information makes it anything but - as I've previously explained, even careful and conscientious humans are quite capable of missing what's in plain sight.

As you'll recall, brain processes information to build up a mental map of our environment, what's frequently called 'situational awareness', and it does it this way: [Read more](#)



Elevenes 329 Sun 30 April -
motorcycle news, tips & views

in today's news... bike parking
charges in Hackney given
go-ahead... rider killed in collision
avoiding deer... blood-biker
involved in fatal collision shouldn't

have been using flashing blue lights... most SMART motorways
refuges in SE shorter than recommended length... graffiti warning
slapped on man who sprayed around pothole... another 'first ever'
pair of airbag trousers announced... Bajaj-Triumph set for London
launch in June... FIM to launch Women's Motorcycling World
Championship... Eurosport to merge with BT Sport... today's
discussion point - emergency vehicle regs and the issue of 'noble
cause' for blood bikers... [Read more](#)

Saddle time or teaching time -
setting the balance. Years ago I
was reading some responses to a
rider trainer article. One letter had
referred to a discussion with the
owner of another school who, he
claimed, "boasted of controlling
his costs by 'padding out talks and
never covering more than 50-60
miles during a full day's training'" The writer of the letter was -
predictably - highly critical of the first school's approach and
claimed to offer to "maximum on-road instruction". His plan was



to get the trainee on the bike and get them riding, then he suggested most things could be sorted out on the move via the "high quality" radios. I also remember having the latter conversation with an ex-police instructor, who claimed that a trainee couldn't learn anything because he couldn't offer meaningful feedback unless they rode 200 miles in a day. I did wonder if they were one and the same. [Read more](#)



Blood bikers and blues & twos. A statement made by the former Transport Secretary Grant Schapps in response to a coroner's 'prevention of future deaths' report has finally been made public . It refers to the death of volunteer blood biker Russell Curwen, 49, who died after colliding with a car

whilst going through a red light on the A6 whilst using blue lights and a siren at around 7:45 one evening in May 2018. He was transporting blood between hospitals on a red and yellow liveried BMW R1200 run by North West Blood Bikes. [Read more](#)

IAM RoadSmart News



Find peace of mind when you insure online. For a quick, comparative car insurance quote, try Cornmarket's online service – with an exclusive Price Match for IAM RoadSmart members.

[More information](#)

[Gilly Miller Blog 50 years with IAM in November](#) Golden Girl Gilly Miller will be celebrating 50 years as an IAM RoadSmart member later this year. Gilly is the Vice Chair and currently Acting Chair at Basingstoke Advanced Motorists (BAM). [More information](#)

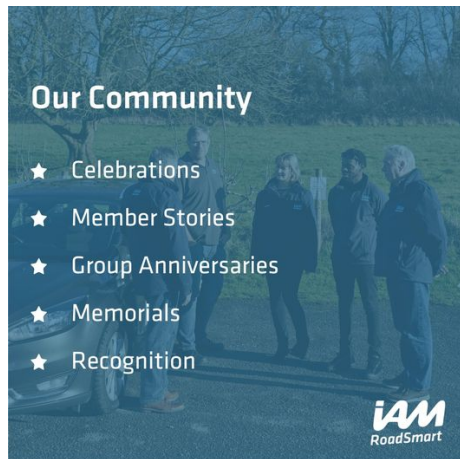


Our first motorcycle Skills Day was a great success, with a brilliant turnout.

We hope all who attended had an enjoyable experience, and we look forward to seeing you all at the next Skills Day at Blyton Park. [#SkillsDays23](#)

We will be at [Adventure Bike Rider Festival](#) from 23-25 June this year. ABRF is a celebration of motorcycles and riders, and we're excited to hear how many of you will be attending this year, keep an eye out for more updates!





Our Community dashboard is exclusive to members, where they can share their stories and experiences with other members. From celebrations to group anniversaries, it gives members the opportunity to connect with the wider IAM RoadSmart community and recognises those who support us. [Find your Advanced course](#)

Safety at work is vital within any role, especially roles which require being on the road a lot. In conjunction with World Day for Safety and Health at Work, we want to know how often you use the road for your job and the steps you take to remain safe.



Also this week, we were at The Health & Safety Event at the NEC, where we have been promoting driving safely for work.



Using the circuit as a classroom, you're sure to come out a more experienced, skilful driver or rider through our Skills Days; Ready to take on any road scenario, while enjoying yourself along the way!

[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: **24th May 2023**
- Next SAM Club Night: **5th June 2023 meet 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"



Clothing can be ordered online direct from:

APRINT LTD

138 Morthern Road

Wickersley

Rotherham

S66 1EA

Telephone: 01709 709977

Fax: 01709 709987