



SAM Weekly Newsletter - 27th October 2023

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

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Editorial

Despite the disturbing weather, the FREE SAM Club Autumn Breakfast was very successful. A big thank you to all those members who helped everyone to have a great time. I know that some members missed the feast due to being surrounded by flood water. As I write this editorial the rain is forecast to remain for the immediate future. Coming up on the SAM Club calendar is the SAM Club Night with the guest speaker Supremecoat. [Book to have your helmet protected for the discount price of£20 \(normal price £25\).](#)

Some SAM Club members are suffering with health problems at the moment. Steve Eyre (Big Steve) is home from hospital and remains very unwell. Chris Worrall sent a message to all members, saying that he was very grateful for all the good wishes he's received. If members can stay in touch with anyone who is having a difficult time, it can make a really big difference to both their mood and welfare as long as you don't eat all the grapes and chocolates!

In other news this week you can read advice about filtering and riding. We know that, as advanced riders, you may be highly knowledgeable and skilled in the art of filtering on a bike. The point of these articles is to review whether you would give the same advice, or in what ways you would modify it. A useful exercise for a thinking rider. The same goes for the article on common motorcycle accidents and how to avoid them. Is there any advice missing? Are there any points that have to be stressed differently? It's also a useful exercise in clarifying how YOU would advise other riders to cope with these hazards.

Also in your newsletter this week, other topics include how does motorcycle design affect handling and how do you know if you have a fuel pump problem? There are arguments brewing about the MCIA proposals to change the motorcycle licensing

regulations. Whilst organisations representing motorcyclists seem to be broadly supportive of the initiative, bikers are not so sure they will work as intended. The aim of progression toward a full motorcycle licence is to show competence in machine care, riding and performance on the road. The proposals suggest that, beyond CBT, 'self-taught riding experience' will produce, with minimal training, a level of competence that is sufficient to pass a full test. The proposals do nothing to address the social consequences of removing serial CBT retakes. These were an unintended consequence of the current licensing process. As advanced riders we know the value of progressive, sustained training in developing riding competence. We need an affordable, continuing riding education and development programme. This could ensure that motorcycling will truly become a part of an integrated, sustainable method of personal transportation.

As the weather has decided to play havoc with the Autumn riding season, there are articles about riding in the wet and the cold. Just to whet your appetites for next year, there are stories about making memories with your riding adventures and the world's longest bike.

Our friends the Whiteknights have been getting support from the Rotarians and Revs 'n Relics. If you know someone, or an event, that might help to keep their vital work going, tell Roy Clark (SAM Membership Secretary).

There are two items for the history slot this week. The story of a Honda CX500 Turbo and how Joe Craig helped to make Norton famous. 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



Making Memories Around the Caspian Sea. I had a 2003 Honda XL 650 Transalp, a year of riding experience, and slightly more than \$1,000

accumulated for a trip. It was to be a great and crazy adventure through Belarus, Russia (Elista, Dagestan and Chechnya), Georgia, Armenia, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Russia again. And there would be the whole range of experiences from being on my knees at gunpoint, fueling the bike with condensed natural gas at a dried sea bottom, camping on neutral territory between two countries, and a bunch more. As the entire story won't fit into ADVmoto's word limit, I'll share some of the most memorable moments with you. [Read more](#)

Lengthening wheelbases has been something of a trend for a while in the motorcycle industry. Stretching the wheelbase improves stability, but there is a tradeoff in terms of manoeuvrability. And so, it's not



something you'd want to take too far. Like putting the front and rear wheels so far apart you could park a [Honda Goldwing](#) between them and have space to spare. [Read more](#)



First Time Off Road Riders, This Seasoned Instructor Has Advice For You

What kind of riding do you like to do? Lots of people grow up riding dirt, and then might progress to street riding over time. That's awesome for them, but unfortunately for me, I

wasn't one of them. For those of us whose main riding experience is paved street riding, dirt, gravel, and off road pursuits might look cool—but also extremely intimidating. [Read more](#)

[Malta to ban rented e-scooters from March](#) The decision had been taken because of “intolerable abuse,” Transport Minister Aaron Farrugia said. A surprise announcement on Friday mentioned the cause as inconvenience to pedestrians. The violations are so many, doubling the number of enforcement officers overnight would not have solved the issue as per the minister. [Read more](#)



When weather's a factor – especially rain and cold – your gear makes the ride. Stifling heat in Death Valley. Biting cold in Michigan winters. Hail and snow in the Mojave. Flattening winds in the Texas panhandle. You name it, we've ridden through it. Oh yes, include in the list a drenching cyclone in New Zealand. In that one, veritable buckets of rain per minute descended on our group like heaven's own turbocharged water wastegate, driving us into the nearest general store, looking for new gear to wear. (All we found were wool mittens.) [Read more](#)

Personally, I'd rather see this 1982 Honda CX500 Turbo get restored and put back on the road (it's so close), but I'm not blind to the fact there are people out there who covet the CX500 to turn into cafe racers or some other



custom. Located in Washington DC, this seller came to the realization that many of us encounter when it comes to restorations (myself included): sometimes life just gets in the way. Now their loss is your gain. And for \$3500, you could come away with a mechanically sound cult classic. It's got some scratches and dings, and could use a proper install of the fairing, but that all seems like minor stuff for an otherwise ready-to-ride motorcycle. [Read more](#)



HOW TO FILTER YOUR MOTORCYCLE SAFELY AND SPOT HAZARDS. Filtering through traffic is one of the many ways a motorcycle can save you time on your morning commute. But are you doing it safely? WITH their slim profile and nimble base, motorcycles make ideal

vehicles to slip through stationary or slow-moving traffic. Sometimes it can gain you a few places on up the road, in other cases it could see you scything through mile after mile of stationary traffic on a motorway, saving you hours off your journey. [Read more](#)

MOST COMMON MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENTS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM Few motorcycle crashes will be entirely identical but most follow a theme... we'll help you be prepared for worst rather than simply hoping for



the best. It doesn't take a genius to understand motorcyclists are - together with cyclists - the road user most likely to get hurt in a sizeable shunt. The exposed nature of the transport, the weight disadvantage when it is struck by something heavier and the higher speeds they can attain mean that while many of us are fortunate to have low speed folds to our embarrassment, when it

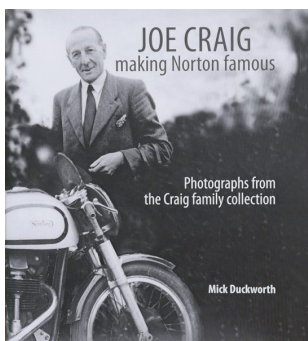
goes wrong on a bike, it can REALLY go wrong in a big way. [Read more](#)



HOW TO RIDE A MOTORCYCLE IN SNOW AND ICY CONDITIONS. How to ride a motorcycle in snow - if you really have to, and your life depends on it! IN the UK we really cannot avoid winter.

Our tiny (in comparison) island has a micro-climate all of its own, meaning, for the most part, riding all year round will mean meeting some sideways rain, snow and ice at some point. If you really need to this winter and want to know how to ride a motorcycle in snow, this article is for you! [Read more](#)

TAKING A MOTORCYCLE CBT: MY EXPERIENCE. A motorcycle CBT can feel like a daunting prospect but, in reality, minimising pressure can lead to an enjoyable and fulfilling experience. I started working at Visordown in February 2022, but I had not taken a motorcycle CBT nor even ridden a motorcycle before. This, of course, needed fixing, but it took me a few months to do anything about it. Thanks to some organisation via [Honda](#) and Visordown's chief wordsmith Toad and fixed it has now been. [Read more](#)

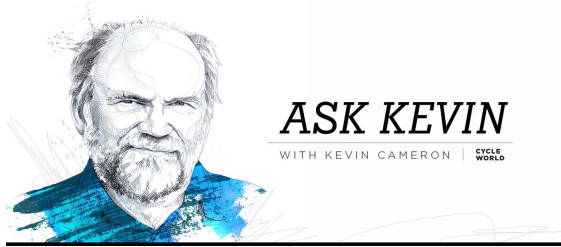
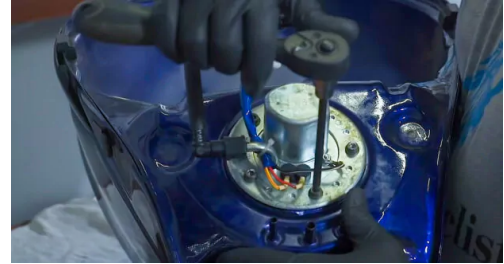


“Joe Craig – making Norton famous”

To many motorcycle racing enthusiasts of a certain age, the name of Joe Craig is forever linked with the development and success of the Manx Norton. However, the man himself remained something of an enigma, rarely giving

interviews and claimed by some to be dour and as unapproachable as his Nortons. [Read more](#)

How To Tell If Your Motorcycle's Fuel Pump Is Going Bad. Fuel pumps are an integral part of a motorcycle's fuel system, ensuring the engine receives the right amount of fuel for optimal performance. Just like any other mechanical component, fuel pumps on motorcycles can experience wear and tear over time, leading to various issues. In this guide, we'll delve into the world of motorcycle fuel pumps, discussing signs of trouble, testing methods, and replacement considerations. [Read more](#)



What Is Motorcycle Handling? At first this was not even a meaningful question. Reader Joe Broussard often writes to CW with comments. Today his subject is motorcycle handling, going back to

the time when European off-road bikes were said to "have it" and Japanese bikes, while fast in a straight line and mechanically reliable, did not. [Read more](#)

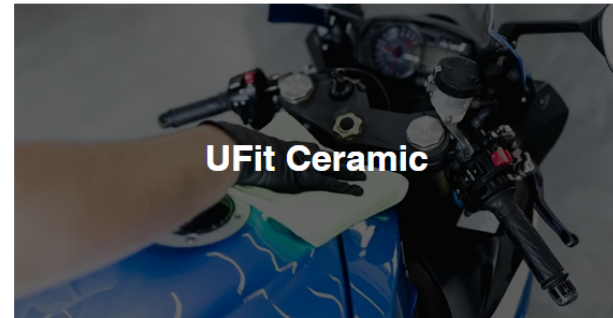
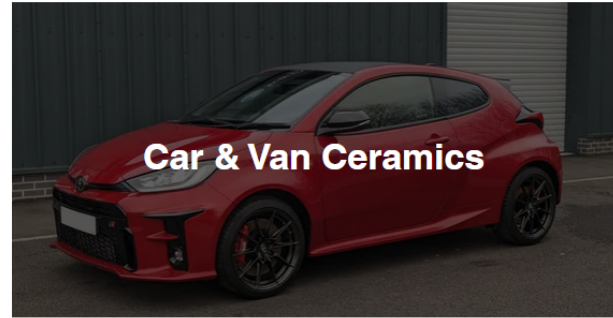
SAM Meetings



***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
November 2023 meet at
7.30pm for an 8pm start at
Treeton Miners Welfare, Arundel
St, Treeton, Rotherham S60 5PW,
UK**



Our products deliver exceptional quality at affordable prices for our customers across the world. With over 21 years' experience in the paint protection industry we can confidently deliver unrivalled packages of treatments and service to our customers within our specialist Application Centres.

Rest assured, no Supremecoat product will be applied without all our highly trained Technicians going through our Supremecoat academy giving our customers peace of mind and assurance with the Supremecoat Brand.

SAM Club Night Speaker.

[Book to get your helmet treated](#)



VVA
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.*

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](mailto:fundraising@whiteknights.org.uk)

An excellent meeting this evening, with our speaker Matthew Beynon-Tullett from White Knights Yorkshire Blood bikes, telling us about the work they do delivering 'out of hours' blood and other medical samples all over North, West and East Yorkshire. Plus our visiting Rotarian, Jane Metcalf from the Rotary Club of Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Both seen here with Knaresborough President Jim Moorhouse. Jane used to live in Harrogate, but now enjoys warmer temperatures and the odd tropical storm in the Caribbean! [Read more](#)



Whiteknights Yorkshire Blood Bikes say a huge "Thank You" to our friends and supporters at Revs N Relics. They have serviced another of our bikes, only charging us for the parts. Your support for our charity is very much appreciated 🙌

[#revsnrelics](#)

South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership



WHY SPEED MATTERS:

A pedestrian hit at 30mph has a very significant (1 in 5) chance of being killed.

This rises to a 1 in 3 chance if they are hit at 35mph. Even small increases in speed can lead to an increase in impact severity. [Find out more](#)

RIDE HAPPY: Good morning - how are you? Have you seen our [YouTube](#) video guide to checking the tyres and wheels on your motorbike or scooter? Good tyres will help to keep you safe and [help you to enjoy your ride](#). [TyreSafe](#)



[@southyorkshirepolice](#) [#motorcycle](#) [#scooter](#)



BRIGHT IDEAS: Do you ride a scooter or motorcycle? As we approach the darker mornings and evenings, it's vital to check the lights on our vehicles. Kieran and John from our Mech It Better series are on hand to show you

[how to change a bulb](#) [#Honda](#) [#indicators](#) [#brakes](#)

South Yorkshire
BIKER DOWN!

Lifewise Keeping our communities safe MAKING SOUTH YORKSHIRE **ROADS SAFER**

**WOULD YOU KNOW
WHAT TO DO?**

We would like to thank everyone who attended our BikerDown! sessions this year.
A great mix of drivers, riders, cyclists & pillions.

Thank You for your support!

Sessions still available to clubs & groups over the Winter period.
Contact us for more info.

**COLLISION
SCENE
MANAGEMENT**

**FIRST AID FOR
TWO WHEELED
RIDERS**

**THE SCIENCE
OF BEING SEEN**



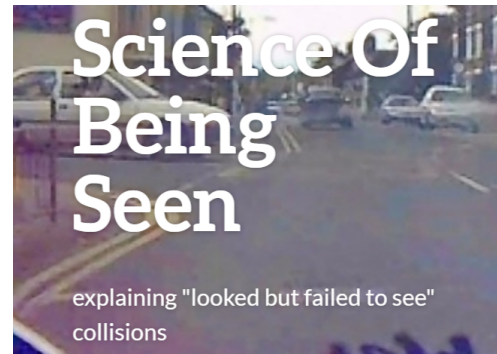


BetheBest – we have created a generic logo to encourage all riders to take additional training in one format or another; such as IAM, BikeSafe or ERS. The new logo and #BetheBest tagline has been printed on promotional snoods

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.

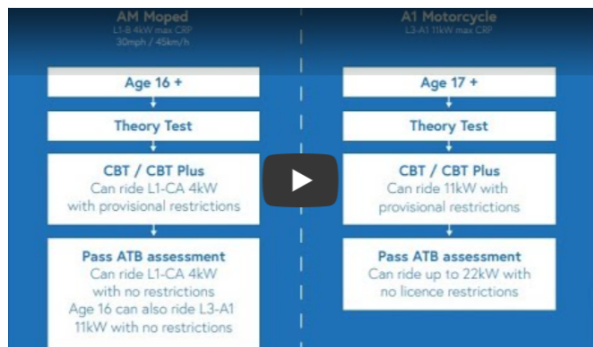
Kevin Williams

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



Elevenes 376 Wed 18 Oct Sep
- motorcycle news, tips & views

in today's show... MCIA publish zero-chance 'licence to net zero' plan... around the world by Zero... end of the road for Burwin Motorcycles... OSRAM

release LED H4 fitment for bikes... first test report on Kawasaki Ninja 7 hybrid... bolt-on auto-clutch from Honda... Royal Enfield Scrambler seen testing... in-depth today - datalog your own riding - monitor the throttle, it's a great diagnostic tool... [Watch here](#)

Capsize, wobble and weave

Today I'm looking at motorcycle instability. You've probably heard of wobble and weave, but you may not have heard of capsize, sometimes called overturn. It's

simple enough - a motorcycle capsizes when it falls over. That's why we put bikes on the stand when stopped. At very slow speeds and riding with feet up, the bike can still capsize - we solve the problem by keeping the bike's mass centered over the wheels by turning the steering from side to side. [Watch here](#)



Getting Started - out on the Mod 2 riding test Pt 3

[This post was scheduled for Tuesday but appears to have failed to appear - better late than never!]

This is my final look at what happens - or should happen - on the Module Two road ride part of the bike test. But before I tell you about some of the commonest errors that candidates commit on test, I'll reiterate what I said last week - the examiner is not expecting you to ride like a learner, but as a reasonably competent rider. Failing to do that could well result in some of the errors that result in test fails. [Read more](#)

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A2				
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B1	17.02.97	04.07.34	01.15.20.25.42	
B	17.02.97	04.07.34	01.15.20.25.42	
C1				
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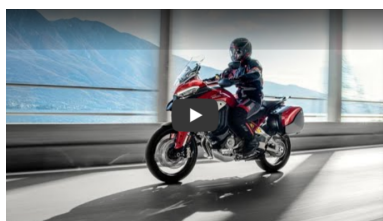
Whatever happened to tiered training?

This week, the Motorcycle Industry Association (MCIA) came up with yet another action plan to change the way motorcyclists are trained and tested in the UK. With my cynical hat on, it's

something the MCIA do every couple of years as they roll the dice in a way to suit them, just as the Department for Transport (DfT) runs consultations to be seen to be doing something. [Read more](#)

Autumn exercises #3 - it's a mud-bath

Right now I'm in the middle of the latest mini-series about problems we might encounter in autumn. The season usually brings some special problems, and on cue, the weather has served up Storm Babet which has delivered record quantities of rain. Today's tip is all about an issue Joe Smith actually mentioned two weeks back in the comments. He said: [Read more](#)



Elevenes 377 Sun 22 Oct - motorcycle news, tips & views

in today's show... rider dies in crash during heavy rain from Storm Babet... Met police driver under investigation after motorcyclist dies in blue light crash... another council proposes huge motorcycle parking charges... ARC gets government funding... safety at a price with mirror extenders... Honda's 2011 RC-E electric concept resurfaces in patent application... Ducati's 180 hp Multistrada V4 RS... in-depth today - do the MCIA's proposals for bike licence changes actually benefit riders... [Read more](#)

'Experience teaches us what we need to ride'. Yesterday as I discussed the Motorcycle Industry proposals for the overhaul of the motorcycle licensing system. Here's what's proposed: new riders would take the Theory Test first, then Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) before they begin riding on the road. After a maximum of two years, they would have to return to take an as yet undefined CBT Plus course, then after a further two years they would be required to take a 'riding assessment' to gain a full A1 light motorcycle licence.



[Read more](#)

IAM RoadSmart News



[More than half a million drivers just a text away from a driving ban](#)

There are more than half-a-million drivers with six points on their licence who are a text, like or an emoji away

from an automatic driving ban, according to new analysis of DVLA data by UK road safety charity IAM RoadSmart. [More information](#)

[Are cold and flu remedies leaving you vulnerable behind the wheel?](#)

The colder months are upon us, and with them comes the increased risk of catching a cold, cough, or the flu.

[More information](#)



Motorcycles make up 3.5% of all licenced vehicle types, yet riders represent a fifth (21%) of all fatalities and 2.5% of all casualties.

We have created a petition to scrap VAT on life-saving

motorcycle air vests, arguing that they should be treated as other essential life-saving equipment which are zero or lower VAT.

Our CEO, Antony Kildare, [shares his statement here To help bikers to buy the best safe riding gear, Sign NOW!](#) Thank you.

DRIVERS AT RISK



107,919

motorists at imminent risk of losing licence*

94,088 motorists in the UK with 9 points

547,288 with 6 points

2,030,985 with 3 points

All 3 points away from the 12-point ban threshold

Most common driving offences and points...



Speed Limits

1. SP30 - Exceeding legal speed limit on roads - 3 to 6 points
2. SP50 - Exceeding motorway speed limit - 3 to 6 points



Insurance Offences

3. IN10 - Driving uninsured vehicle - 6 to 8 points



Construction and Use Offences

4. CU80 - Distractions, i.e. using mobile phone - 3 to 6 points



Traffic Direction and Signs

5. Ignoring traffic light signals - 3 points

SOURCE: Freedom of Information request to DVLA by IAM RoadSmart.
Data supplied August 2023.

*Motorists with 9, 10, 11 points according to DVLA data in August 2023.

**Reasons that these drivers can keep their licence include exceptional hardship, such as loss of employment.

iAM
RoadSmart

Points on licences are on the rise for drivers, many of whom are one text away from a driving ban.

Figures have risen rapidly since 2022, reinforcing drivers' need to change their behaviours at the wheel.

Our Director of Policy, Campaigns and Standards, [Nicholas Lyes](#), [shares a statement](#)

More than a third of motorists are unaware of the number of HGV blind spots.

Heavy goods vehicles have four areas of 'limited visibility' that other road users must be aware of. HGVs are considerably longer, heavier, and more powerful than standard vehicles, so they require a longer stopping distance.

National Highways is running a 'Know the Zones' campaign to help educate road users about the dangers of driving around HGVs. [Find out more here](#)

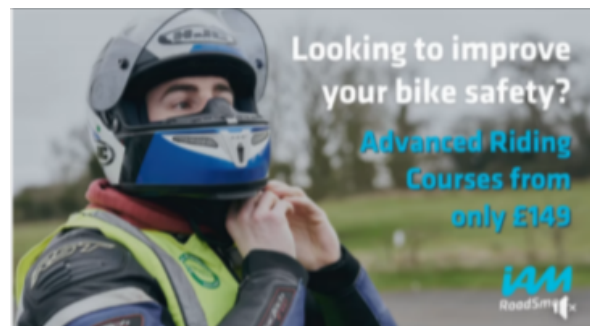


<h3>Driving in a storm</h3> <p>Driving in a storm can be a real challenge for motorists. It's important all drivers are aware of the top tips to keeping safe.</p>	<p>IAM RoadSmart has some tips to keep you safe in bad weather:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• If weather conditions are extremely poor, don't start your journey• If you're travelling in strong winds, grip the steering wheel firmly and be mindful of vulnerable road users• Keep an eye on the movement of trees as they can give an indication of wind strength• Watch out for hidden potholes as heavy rain often leads to damaged road surfaces• Drive at a steady speed to ensure you give yourself more time to slow down before a hazard arises• Lights, heater and wipers lead to an increase in fuel and battery consumption, make sure you fill up with fuel or charge your vehicle before you travel. <p>Remember, in very bad conditions avoid driving unless essential.</p>
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Areas of the UK are set to be hit by Storm Babet this week, with yellow warnings in place for heavy rain and strong winds across many parts of the country. We have put together some [tips to help you stay safe](#)

[on the roads](#)

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 should also be a current member of IAM RoadSmart. As a registered UK charity the SAM Club has charitable objectives to encourage and support the wider use of powered-two-wheeled transport in the UK. We provide advanced motorcycle education and training to help all bikers ride more safely. 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 £55/year, i.e. £1.06p/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: **6th November 2023**
- Next SAM Club Night: **6th November 2023 meet at 7.30pm for an 8pm start [Treeton Miners Welfare](#),**

- **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 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