



## **SAM Weekly Newsletter - 19th April 2024**

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

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## ***Editorial***

What a brilliant Spring Breakfast Meet! Thank you to all those SAM members who made it such a great success. The AGM saw a very humble Editor receive an engraved tankard for services to SAM. Thank you to everyone, I'm very grateful for the recognition and will continue to support SAM as a volunteer. Clive Lewis joins the SAM Committee as Social Secretary. Any other SAM members who can contribute would be very welcome, so why not come and help out.

Rider safety has been a hot topic of discussion amongst members this week. Everyone is generally very pleased with the SAM Club and grateful for the opportunity to ride out with advanced riders. There are a couple of issues we can think about. The first is that members don't appreciate 'unsolicited, critical riding advice'. It's not the way to give feedback on riding performance and it only serves to cause resentment and animosity. You can talk about how YOU would approach a particular riding event and let the listener make up their own mind about how or whether to change their riding. A 'holier than thou attitude' isn't going to achieve anything. The second issue is about 'chasing the speed limit'. Criticising a rider going 2mph slower than the speed limit again shows an unwelcome 'holier than thou attitude'. Roadcraft makes clear that a rider's speed is the rider's decision on what they consider to be safe. To paraphrase it says that:

*'The only safe speed is the one where the rider can stop safely, on their own side of the road, within a distance they can see to be clear.'*

It's time to focus on riding safely. We are in 'motorcycle blindness' season. As more bikes get pulled out of the shed, other road users are somewhat surprised to see them. It happens every year, but other road users continue to forget we might be riding by. Vehicle manufacturers haven't helped. There has been

criticism of the over-complicated, confusing and distracting touch screens fitted to vehicles. Another in-vehicle hazard is A-pillars. Kevin Willams, reflecting on a recent near miss coined the phrase: 'A-pillars = biker killers!'. He also suggests that riders can help themselves. Put yourself in the driver's line of sight, move position to be seen and sounding the horn might help to avoid 'motorcycle blindness'. Just a thought.

Electric motorcycles are in the news again. A Lexmoto Insurance survey has shown that, over the past 5 years, enquiries for insuring electric motorcycles and mopeds are up a staggering 1,000%. Google reports that searches, in the last 12 months, for electric motorcycles are up 250% and for electric mopeds up 200%. The global trend is for the electric motorcycle market to grow 10%/year until 2030. Africa and Indonesia are leading the way in market growth. Bajaj, the Indian motorcycle manufacturer has bucked the trend by filing patent applications for a compressed natural gas fueled machine.

Just at a time when we need them the most, some local motorcycle retailers are downsizing and moving premises. They blame the economic climate and Sheffield's ULEZ policy for a drop in trade. On the 22nd June 2024, Via Moto are moving to an industrial unit in Wombwell (12 Everill Gate Lane, Wombwell, Barnsley S73 0SF). As there would be conflict with other dealers in the area, they will no longer be Piaggio, Aprillia and Moto Guzzi dealers. They will continue to honour warranty, recalls, updates and service agreements for these brands. They will remain Honda, Norton and CFMoto dealers. Staffing will reduce from 8 wte to 1.5 wte staff.

Some SAM members are still poorly. They continue to need your support. We wish them well with their health struggles and hope they are making the best progress possible.

Vietnam has had a spike in motorcycle fatalities. They have introduced a new initiative to remind riders to wear helmets. When dealers sell a new bike, the rider will get a free 'Second Life Helmet'. This is an unused helmet from a rider who has died. It makes you think about what the new bike owner will do.

There are lots more great articles to read and videos to watch via the links in this week's newsletter. Happy reading.

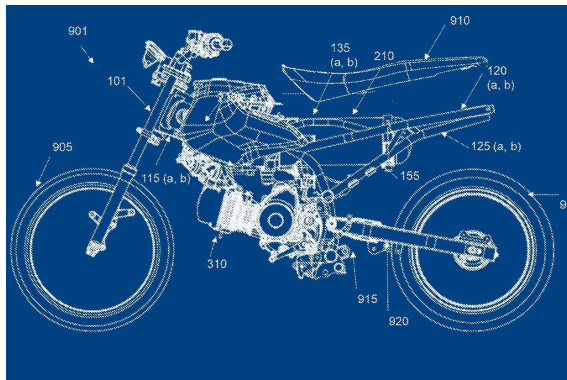
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### ***Ways to stay in touch with your Club!***

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](mailto: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

### General News



#### CNG-Powered Bajaj on Way

Indian brand bringing pair of compressed natural gas motorcycles to market.

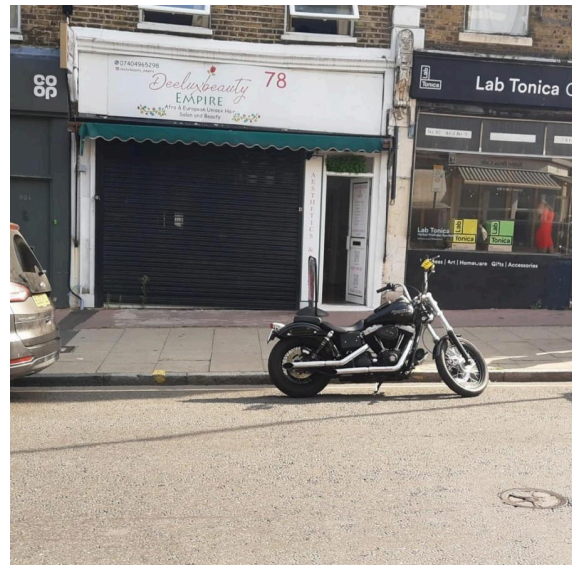
India's [Bajaj](#) is one of the world's biggest motorcycle manufacturers with ties to big name brands

including [Triumph](#) and [KTM](#), and this year it will launch the first production model to be powered by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). [Read more](#)

#### UK MOTORCYCLE ACTION GROUP MAKES "BOLD CALL" FOR ON-STREET BIKE PARKING

The UK's Motorcycle Action Group has made what it calls a "bold call" for motorcycles to be allowed on-street parking "waiting time"

The UK Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) has announced a new demand relating to motorcycle parking that will be a part of the group's campaign to take place after the upcoming PCC (police and crime commissioner) and Mayoral elections, which are set to take place in May. [Read more](#)



## ***Rider Safety***



Hope for nation's roads as government pledge 'largest ever' funding boost for local route repairs

Britain's pothole strewn roads are set to receive their largest ever injection of cash as the Government commits £8.3 billion to improving local transport networks.

The project is made possible by a reallocation of funding recovered from the HS2 project and this payment represents the first tranche of several further planned instalments. [Read more](#)

## **Best Fuel-Efficient Motorcycles 2024**

Love fuel efficiency? Check out these motorcycles, plus an EV bike crashes the party.

As of this writing, the average gas price in the US is \$3.53 per gallon, which is below past spikes in 1981, 2005, and 2008. But adjusted for inflation, we pay twice what we paid 40 years ago. Whether it's global conflict, supply disruptions, or seasonal reformulations in fuel, the result is the same—higher prices. [Read more](#)



## Touring & Adventure



It's a question we're often asked: Why did we opt to ride a couple of Honda 125cc motorcycles from the U.K. to Kazakhstan when there are many alternatives better suited for long distances and tough roads? Many larger, faster, and more comfortable adventure motorcycles were

specifically designed for this kind of overland travel... so why the 125s? [Read more](#)

The Motorcycle Camp Cookbook  
By Amanda Zito Is A Handy, Tasty  
Guide

Written for solo campers, the  
recipes are also easily multiplied  
to feed more people.



I don't know how you like to ride, but for me, the promise of eating something yummy when I stop is a pretty strong motivation. Whether that's because I've stopped somewhere to eat food someone else made or I'm planning to cook a meal myself, you can bet that I'm probably thinking about what that food is going to taste like more than a little by the time I'm parking. [Read more](#)



Watch What Happens When You  
Take A Honda Gold Wing Ice  
Fishing

Not every bike is good at every  
type of riding. Could a Honda Gold

Wing make a good trials bike? Unclear. What is clear so far is that, at least in Matt Spears' control, a 'Wing can make [a more capable enduro bike](#) than anyone ever expected. (Maybe even Honda, although we won't put words in its mouth.) [Read more](#)

[Itchy Boots](#): Noraly is stranded in Madagascar. Actually, in a village that had only one outside visitor 20 years ago. It was a missionary who built the church and school. The guide's Kawasaki breaks down and they have to take a boat back to their base. It's riveting entertainment.

[Freddie Dobbs](#): Forgets which bike he has bought. It turns out to be a Harley Davidson Bobber. Monica can only tolerate 15 minutes on the pillion seat!

Saffy Sprocket: on a photoshoot, in Sardinia, for Royal Enfield 450

## ***History & Custom***

### [GRUNTER—A SIX-FIGURE VINCENT RAPIDE HEADLINING BONHAMS](#)

Countless motorcycle manufacturers popped up in the 1920s and '30s in Britain, but somehow, none quite as cool as Vincent. High-end speed





machines, combining old-school big-displacement twins, monochrome finishes and titillating names like Rapide and Black Shadow, a Vincent V-twin welcomes you into any roundtable of motorcycling, and it's not hard to see why. A...[READ MORE](#)



When it comes to motorized [off-highway](#) activities, motorcycles already have some pretty strong credentials. As replacements for ATVs there are even more extreme designs like the two-wheel-drive [Rokons](#), but the Oruga Unitrack (under development in Latvia) takes a different approach. [Read more](#)

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## **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: **13th May 2024** 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.*

## 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](#)



307  
Jobs completed



295 Urgent Jobs  
1 Emergency Jobs  
9 Relay Jobs  
2 non-urgent jobs



The time donated is an average saving to the NHS of approx. £11,988.17 over the Month



5717 Miles Ridden/Driven  
504 Hours on call

Just some of the Items we have transported this month



9 - Breast Milk



195 - Bloods and Other Samples



0 - FMT Samples



2 - Fluids



101 - Pharmacy Items and Patient Records

Vehicles Sponsored by:



Investing For Tomorrow



FreeMasons



We maintain the service 365 nights a year, and weekend and Public Holiday daytimes. This is a 100% volunteer service provided at no cost to the NHS

Registered Charity No. 1124510

Here are our March 2024 statistics. Last month we delivered 101 pharmacy items deliveries to benefit patients. This could be collection and deliveries of medications or medical supplies and equipment to clinical locations or to patients' homes. Please support the work of our voluntary emergency service charity.

Click on the link below and [please make a donation today.](#)  
[#bloodbikes](#)

Today Whiteknights received a warm reception from a very large gathering from the University of the third age group in Barnsley. Thank you everyone.



Whiteknights' South Yorkshire Team would like you to thank our friends at [RTT Moto](#) for the recent vital maintenance work on one of our BMW R1200RT s . Thank you!

Whiteknights have today participated in another relay of donated breast milk.

Thanks to Mike Heath for volunteering today. A large consignment can be seen loaded into the car.





York family presents a donated Blood Car to Yorkshire Charity.

The family of a post-war era, North York Moors AA Patrol Man has presented a donated Blood Car to Whiteknights, the Yorkshire Emergency Voluntary Blood Bike charity. Bertil Wilson, patrolled the

North York Moors for 35 years from the 50's to the 80's, initially on a motorbike and sidecar and was renowned in his local community.

In memory of his father, Peter donated the Skoda Fabia Blood Car named, "Boy Wilson" in Bertil's honour.

At the unveiling at York Hospital today Peter and his wife Maggie were presented with a "Whiteknights Champions" award in recognition of their generosity.

The car will be used to transport urgent blood specimen samples, donated breast milk, and urgent medications by volunteer drivers at no cost to the NHS.

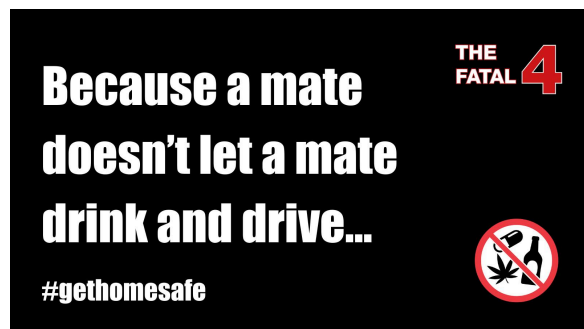
The Yorkshire Blood Bike charity is reliant on cars during adverse weather conditions too dangerous to use their fleet of motorcycles. Prior to this donation volunteers were using their own vehicles in freezing winter temperatures.

Whiteknights Yorkshire Blood Bikes made over 3000 urgent deliveries last year for hospitals and hospices and travelled more than 80,000 miles around the region.

Pictured at the unveiling from the York Hospital Trust, Jenny Fullthorpe, Krishnan Sharma, Joanna Andrew. Whiteknights Volunteers:::; Mike Harrison and Andy Richardson are alongside the vehicle's donors, Peter and Maggie Wilson.

## South Yorkshire Safer Roads Partnership

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.



Wow finally we have some sunshine!

Please make use of [our travel planner](#) if you're fancying a few drinks tonight. Just one alcoholic drink will affect your judgement.

With serious & fatal casualties rising, please don't risk being involved in a collision. [#barnsley](#) [#Doncaster](#) [#sheffield](#) [#rotherham](#) [#fatalfour](#) [@followers](#)

MAKE A PLAN TO GET HOME SAFE:

We've put together a page of taxi numbers / travel links to help you avoid the temptation to drink or take drugs & drive. Scan the QR code below or [follow the link](#)

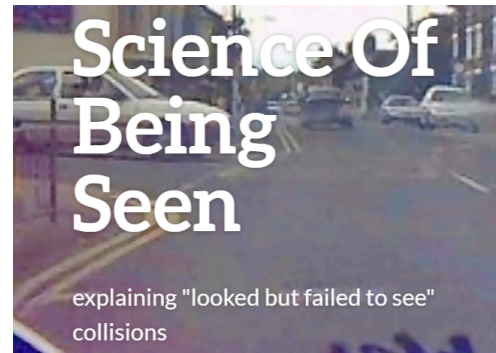


[SYP Operational Support South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue South Yorkshire Police @followers #barnsley #Doncaster #sheffield #rotherham #fatalfour](#)

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## **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](http://ko-fi.com/survivalskills).

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



Ryan at FortNine bins his body armour - is he right?

[Based on the in-depth items from Elevenses on Wednesday and Sunday]

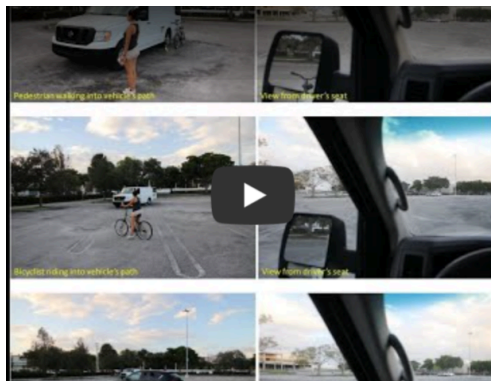
Last Monday - April Fool's Day in case you had forgotten - an new FortNine video appeared entitled:

"Why I stopped wearing motorcycle body armour". I recommend

you go watch the video but essentially what Ryan says about body armour is that "I never questioned its usefulness." But when he got to wondering whether a CE level 1 pad would be enough, or whether he should fit the clunkier CE level 2 items, "you don't have to dig deep to see these things in a different color". And the video ended with him tossing his protectors away and walking off into the sunset [Read more](#)

### Newbie Mistakes #19 Skittled by surfaces Pt 2

It's almost twenty years since ago to the day, I wrote a response to a research paper that examined where road users actually look. Not too surprisingly, the researchers found that motorcyclists looked at the road surface more than drivers. It was called 'Surface Attraction'. [Read more](#)



Elevenses 419 Wed 10 Apr - motorcycle news, tips & views

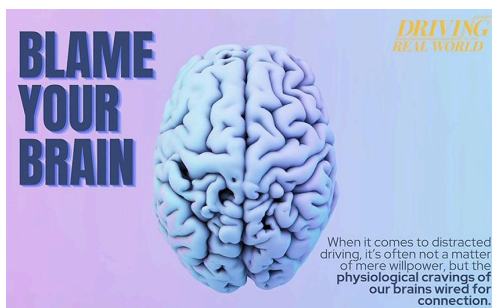
in today's show... driver knocked off teen he thought had stolen son's bike... 'don't use headlights between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm' says Mirror... AA claim two wheelers 'hard to see' because drivers 'lack awareness'...

Colorado lane-splitting rule 'stupidly complicated'... two very different safety campaigns from UK and NZ... silly season products... Italian e-bike range sets fashion milestone... in today's in-depth feature: - vision blockers, blind spots and eclipses - some objects really ARE just out of sight...[Watch here](#)



## Keeping it Simple isn't Stupid!

Hardly a day goes by without me opening up YouTube to discover yet another 'what you learned was all wrong' video from a motorcycle 'influencer'. Or since I'm a motorcycle coach, the implication is "what you teach is all wrong". A great example is the current fad for videos that say: "forget braking in a straight line, learn to trail brake into corners instead". [Watch here](#)



'Distracted Driving'? It's how our brains are wired

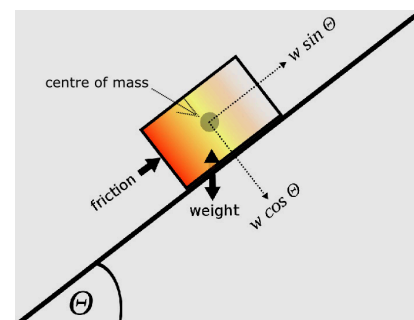
I've started following Mi Ae Lipe (@DrivingReal) on the platform formerly known as Twitter. She bills herself as "a national-award-winning

citizen advocate changing US driver training & public perception of traffic safety w/ social sciences, data, psychology & common sense." [Read more](#)

### Braking to load the front in corners - pros & cons

Last week I was talking about US rider coach Nick Ienatsch and his '100 Points' which he uses to explain grip. As I explained he says that those "100 points are divided". In the case of the front tyre, between providing grip for deceleration and cornering traction.

[Read more](#)





Elevenes 420 Sun 14 Apr -  
motorcycle news, tips & views

in today's show... Danish  
government wants to disband  
patch club... Irish Gardaí seize  
huge haul of motorbikes, drugs  
and cash in Dublin... Northants

blame rain for potholes AND for not filling them in... MAG want  
waiting time on yellow lines for bikes only... loan companies  
investigated over disappearing bikes in Kenya... more people than  
ever searching for electric motorcycles on Google... limited  
Jonathon Rea replica R1... in-depth today - crash detection  
systems still struggle to spot motorcycles...[Watch here](#)

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## ***IAM RoadSmart & Other News***

### ***IAM***



IAM RoadSmart to host EV webinar with FairCharge founder and campaigner Quentin Willson

- FairCharge was founded by transport campaigner Quentin Willson to ensure the UK has the right EV-related policies.

- Fourth IAM RoadSmart member webinar of 2024

The UK's leading road safety charity IAM RoadSmart is delighted to announce it will be joined by [FairCharge](#) founder and transport campaigner Quentin Willson for its fourth member exclusive webinar of the year on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 at 6:30pm.

IAM RoadSmart responds to DfT's announcement on local roads benefitting from pothole funding

Responding to the [DfT's announcement](#), IAM RoadSmart Director of Policy and Standards

Nicholas Lyes said: "While it is welcome the funding is finding its way through, crumbling road surfaces continue to be an expensive nuisance for drivers and a road safety hazard, particularly for those on two wheels. The onus is both on remaining councils to prioritise their reporting and on the Government to find a way of front loading some of the money



that has been reallocated from HS2. The last thing we want is to be heading into another winter where motorists are swerving to avoid the thud of an unfixed pothole.” [Read more](#)



The graphic is a blue rectangle with white text. At the top left is the 'iAM RoadSmart' logo. The text is arranged in a circular pattern around a central white button that says 'JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER!' with a hand icon pointing to it. The text includes: 'Media', 'News', 'Hints & Tips', 'Expert advice', 'Exciting events', 'Offers', 'Competitions', and 'Member stories'.

Not a member but still want to keep up to date with the latest news from us? 🏍️ 🚗

You can sign up for our monthly newsletter, where we'll share all the latest news about our courses, hints and tips, member stories, and more!

[Don't miss a thing and sign up today!](#)

## **BMF**

### BMF Supports The AA's "Think Bikes" Campaign

On the 10th anniversary of the original campaign, the AA's message remains as relevant as ever with 350 motorcyclists and 91 cyclists alone killed on UK roads in 2022. It is important that we continue to increase motorists' awareness of those on 2 wheels to reduce the continuing high number of collisions and fatalities caused by a failure to see them on time. Government road traffic statistics show that cycles and motorcycles make up just 2.75% of miles travelled compared to cars but account for more than one quarter of road deaths. This is completely unacceptable and highlights the importance for all drivers to look



out for vulnerable road users and to always think bikes when out on the road. [Read more](#)

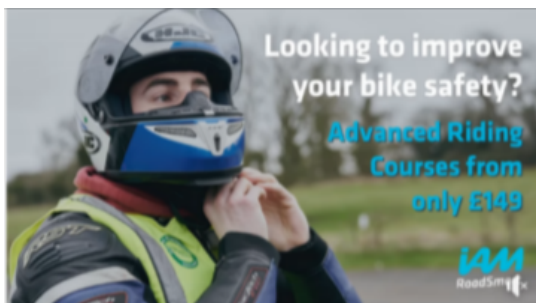
## FEMA



Swedish Motorcyclists: Include Us In Infrastructure Plans From The Start. The Swedish government plans to present an infrastructure bill to the parliament in the autumn, regarding financial frameworks and the direction for a new planning period. In June of 2023, the Swedish Transport Administration received the task of developing [a policy document](#) for the transport infrastructure for 2026–2037. [Read more](#)

## NMC

The NMC has today issued the second edition of its 2022 position on motorcycle licensing, testing and training, which sets out updated proposals for change to the current regime. It also reinforces its existing call, plus those of others, for the government to undertake a fundamental review of the current regime. [Read 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](#)

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*SAM members have you got some news to share? Send it to [sam-editor@iam-sheffield.bike](mailto: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.

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## ***Being a member of the SAM Club***

To be a member of the SAM Club we encourage you to 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.

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**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 April 2024**
- Next SAM Club Night: **13th May 2024 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](mailto: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 [social-media@iam-sheffield.bike](mailto:social-media@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 the Social Media Secretary - [social-media@iam-sheffield.bike](mailto:social-media@iam-sheffield.bike) - 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](#).

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## ***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