

The SAM Observer

June 2015



Registered Charity No. 1067800



IAM Group No. 7219

This month's cover picture was submitted by Karl Hale and is of his KTM 1290 Adventure.

Mike Roberts did the cover picture editing and graphical work.



Jean and Steve ready for the off

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No Calls After 9pm Please

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I.A.M. EXAMINER

Kevin Stark 07801600378

If you would like to help out on the committee come along to a meeting and see what you can do to help out, after all many hands makes light work

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NEXT ISSUE

Closing date for copy – **Friday after club night**. Send via e-mail or on a USB memory stick (which will be returned) or even hand-written, not a problem.

The Editor reserves the right to edit, amend or omit as he feels fit.

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CHAIRMAN'S CHAT



A very warm welcome to the June edition of the SAM Observer.

I'm writing this between making plans for a week away touring / camping in Scotland, the MotoGP at Assen towards the end of the month and solving the clues for the SAM Chief's Challenge. By the time you're reading this I'll likely be back from my Scotland trip also having bagged several selfies from the westerly Suffolk locations for the Chief's Challenge. I'm also beginning to realise that it's getting to the time

of year where I've got to decide which event / events I want to attend as there are so many going on at this time of the year.

Talking about events the planned SAM Circuit of Suffolk event, due to take place on Sunday 19th July has unfortunately been cancelled. This is due to the SAM Ride Coordinators / Ride Leaders being stretched and unable to commit to this event on top of the already full SAM ride out calendar. The calendar including the twice monthly breakfast, chip run / brunch runs and the Hints 'n Tips event, which is going ahead on Sunday 14th June. Incidentally, our National Observer in-charge of Ride Coordinator / Ride Leader training, Leia Dowsing, is running an additional training event towards the end of September (in addition to the event that took place at the end of last month). So if you're a full member and would like to give something back to the group by taking up the challenge of qualifying as a Ride Leader / Ride Coordinator then perhaps you might consider September's training event...

I have a ride out of my own planned for Saturday 11th July to the National Motorcycle Museum to attend the IAM's Motorcycle Festival. I'll be leaving early, taking a cross-country route which you're most welcome to join me on (splitting up into groups of 5 or 6 depending on numbers). Keep a lookout on the SAM Forum where I'll post further details soon. Tickets for the event cost £10 per head which includes admission to the motorcycle museum, food & drink plus the opportunity to take part in the advertised events. Further details about the event and booking instructions can be found at the link below or by calling 0300 303 1134.

<https://www.iam.org.uk/homecoming>

Also on the 11th July (thanks for the details Linda Barker) there is an Allied Memorial Remembrance Ride (AMRR) being organised by the Royal British Legion Riders Branch in association with the American and Canadian veteran riders. The UK ride is from Cambridge Services to the Madingley American Cemetery where a Service of Remembrance will take place. For full details of the event and how to register please follow this link.

<http://www.alliedride.org>

Keeping with the military theme there is a charity ride taking place on Sunday 19th July in aid of the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA) being organised by Bev Lambert. The ride commences at the Cameo Hotel, Old London Road, Copdock, Ipswich. All riders must be registered to attend the ride. You can pre-register by donating your £5 entry fee on Bev's Just Giving page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/ssafasuffolk-bev2/>

Thanks to Colin Britton from Rider Mount for coming along and giving us a talk on device mounting options / connectivity at last month's group night. Colin took me up on the offer of a free assessment ride which took place on the Saturday of the Bank Holiday. He may also be joining us for the SAM Hints 'n Tips run which is open to pillions, friends, relatives, colleagues and acquaintances.

This month's group night will be a Natter Night as we don't currently have a guest speaker arranged. Keep an eye on the SAM Calendar / forum which will be updated should a guest speaker be forthcoming, following publication and prior to group night on Tuesday 16th June.

Now, back to solving the rest of the Chief's Challenge clues...

Cheers

Steve



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NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A warm welcome is extended to our most recent Associate members:

Bob Stiff Kerry Briggs Andrew Knappett

If anyone else has joined us and not had a mention yet, let the Editor know and he will put your name in the next Issue

CHALLENGING CHALLENGES

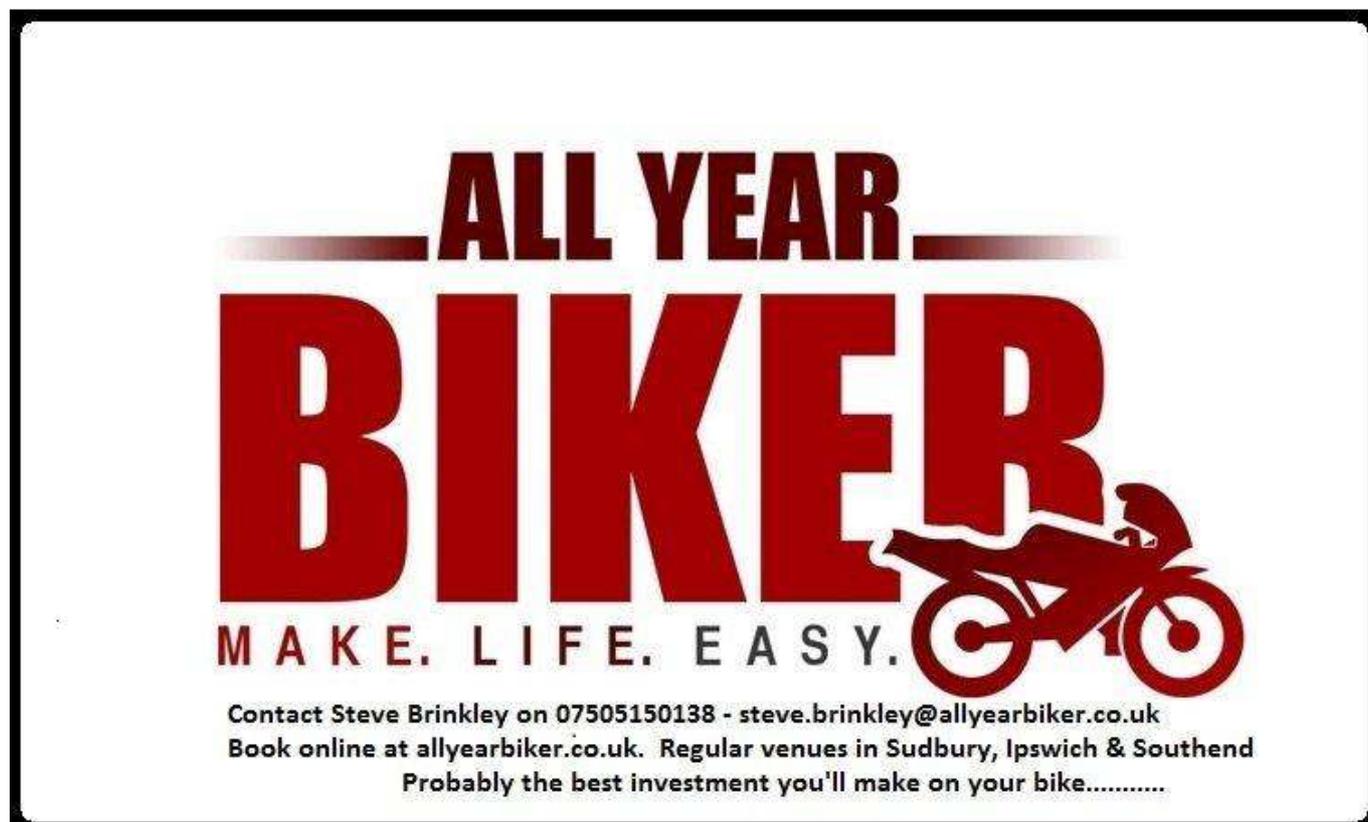
Back in march this year Jean, myself and Steve Milbourne decided it would be a good idea to do the East Coast Challenge. Sunday morning of the 29th. dawned to grey skies and drizzle, the forecast wasn't to good either so we thought we maybe going for breakfast at Wally's of Acton might be a better idea, then a text from Steve it was absolutely peeing down where he was so it was decided to cancel maybe in a couple of weeks then.

Three weeks later we meet at Steve's with another friend there, "challenge"? "thought we were just going for breakfast" so breakfast it was, we will re-schedule. Belatedly on the 10th May Jean and I meet at Steve's around 8am and head off first through to Stowmarket, a quick trip up the A14 and off to Ixworth, Thetford and on to Swaffham through to Holt and on to Sherringham a short trip down to Cromer for a welcome coffee and comfort break. After that a steady ride down the A149 through North Walsham and onto Stalham then past Yarmouth and on to the A12 past Lowestoft as far as Wenhaston and on to the B1127 to Southwold for a pleasant and leisurely lunch at the Pier Café

Leaving Southwold and back to the A12 first stop petrol, down to Yoxford and cross country through Badingham, Saxham, Earl Soham on to Stonham and the A140 back to the A14 and home. The weather was kind to us and the company was good, everything went as it should except for a minor detour (my dubious navigational skills) and 360 degrees round a roundabout (just to keep Steve on his toes you understand). Only six weeks late but at least we done it now we look forward to the Chief's Challenge 2015.

Sonnie Westley.

Picture Page 2



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SAM THEORY EVENINGS

As most of you know, on the Thursday evening, directly after Group Nights, SAM holds its monthly Theory Evening. Based on an ever revolving subject list of important rider skills these nights are an informal evening of facts and lively banter all aimed at improving your ride based on the information in "How to be a better rider".

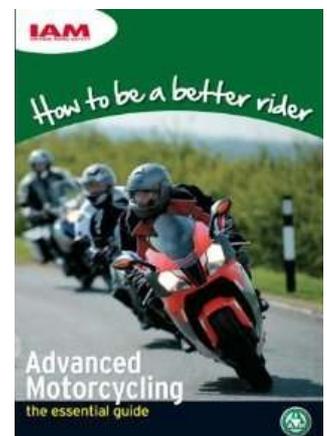
Each session covers one of the four main topic areas;

Overtaking

Cornering

Planning & Positioning

Gears & Acceleration



Mainly aimed at Associates going through the Skill for Life course, these evenings are also a good way for full members to brush up on their theory and add their experiences and questions to the session.

The great benefit of attending these sessions in the classroom means it saves time on the road, covering theory and has the added advantage of an opportunity to discuss any issues you may have generally on your Skill for Life Course.

Karl Hale,

SAM Chief Observer

CHIEF'S CHALLENGE 2015

O'SAM WITHOUT THE 'V'

This Challenge is now in full swing and it's not too late to enter as you still have a couple of months to complete it.

We have had a good take up as members are determined to get that special FREE mug to sit in pride of place on their mantle piece (or just enjoy a nice cup of tea from, it is a decent size).

There are 28 locations for you to visit and they are spread all over Suffolk. You can do the challenge over as many days as you wish and you can visit the locations in any order. All you need is a camera of sorts to show that you have been there and a motorbike to do it on. Even one of our IAM examiners has taken up the gauntlet!

I spoke to Kevin Stark (IAM Examiner) whilst he was taking part in the challenge and he said:



“This is one of the best things I've ever done with my clothes still on. It's given my motorcycling a new lease of life and makes me want to go out there and ride. I've discovered parts of Suffolk that I've never been to before and in the process have ridden some great roads. It's just what I needed and once I've completed it I will tick it off my motorcycling bucket list. Thank you SAM for giving me this opportunity and thank you Chief for arranging it, you are a great guy and an inspiration!”

This was a great compliment and proves if you haven't taken this up

yet you are certainly missing out.

The challenge is open to all members, full, associate, joint so if you belong to SAM you are eligible. Not only will you get that special FREE mug upon completion you will also be entered into a prize draw for £200 worth of Orwell Motorcycle gift vouchers together with a runner up prize donated by me.

The challenge must be completed by 1st September 2015 and the mug giving and prize draw will take place at Club night on 15th September 2015.

You can enter by emailing karlsarahale@btinternet.com for clues to the locations, full rules and conditions.

Karl Hale (SAM) Chief Observer

DISCLAIMER

Any quotes mentioned on this page are not necessarily deemed accurate by the Institute of Advanced Motorists or the Suffolk Advanced Motorcyclists Group. It could be deemed as the imagination of our Chief Observer, something we do not discourage but would like to warn readers of its presence. Published with a view that free expression promotes discussion, interests and a brief view into the world as he sees it – bless him!

Bryan
in
Wales



MOTORCYCLE DEXTERITY TRAINING FROM AN ASSOCIATE'S VISOR VIEWPOINT!

Having recently become an associate and with 40 years under my saddle of powered two wheelers (I use that term loosley as my humble motorcycle virginity was broken by a customised Raleigh Runabout!) I am still keen to learn.

Over my years on road and several years doing Moto X and Enduro I'd experienced steady and full throttle riding but wanted to hone my skills.

So, when I saw the above course advertised, I quickly booked onto it. Now, depsite the fact that it rained throughout the course right up till ten minutes from the end, I have to say it was still thoroughly enjoyable and more importantly, taught me new ways of doing what I've done for years!

Thanks to the excellent tuition of Derek and Mike, it was evident that that by the end of the rain soaked session that all of us had shown improvement from when we started.

We take so much for granted and what passes for 2nd nature on a bike & it's not till you're challenged to think about what you do, that often the light bulb comes on and things just click.

That certainly seemed to be the case on our training and I think I speak on behalf of everyone who attended, when I say that it was well worth braving the rain (it's not like we're made of sugar & will dissolve anyway is it??!!) and I for one would recommend anyone revisiting these valuable skills. It might just save an embarrassing dropped bike in the middle of a slow manoeuvre and damaging our two wheeled pride and joy!

So pleased was I at my new found skills, I was tempted to ride to Felixstowe in the sunshine in 1st gear, riding the clutch with just enough throttle as slowly as possible!!!

See you on the next ride out or Club night hopefully.

Jon Southgate

THURSDAY'S SUMMER CHIP RUN

25th June

Aldeburgh

Aldeburgh High Street

IP15 5DB

<http://www.aldeburghfishandchips.co.uk>

Meet at Beacon Hill **IP6 8LP** - and fill in 'Contact Number' sheet in good time for the **18:15** Briefing and subsequent departure.

All riders must attend Briefing

Ride Co-ordinator is **Phil Sayer**

Join the **A140** and down the bottom of the dip take the right turn on the **B1078** to Coddendam.

Just past the church go straight on where the road turns sharp right into School Lane.

Carry on respectfully through the villages of Crowfield to Pettaugh.

Turn right onto the **A1120** going through Earl Soham and then **Turn right** onto the **B1119** into Framlingham.

Go straight over at the mini roundabout past the market place, rejoining the **B1119** past the castle.

Stay on the **B1119**, crossing the **A12** into Saxmundham and on to Leiston.

At the traffic lights do a staggered straight across into Main Street, rounding into High Street and keeping on the **B1122** to Aldringham.

Turn left at the triangle green opposite pub onto the **B1353** through Thorpeness to Aldeburgh High Street.

Please check the SAM Calendar and SAM Forum on-line for last minute changes/cancellations. On the Forum you will also find the routes as text, route cards, and on Google Maps / Streetview, along with a photo of the destination, so you can familiarise yourself with the route before the day.

BREAKFAST RUN 2015

5th July
The Old Bull Inn,
56 High Street,
Royston,
SG8 9AW
Tel: 01763 242003

<http://www.oldbullinn-royston.co.uk>

Meet at Beacon Hill, **IP6 8LP** - and fill in 'Contact Number' sheet in good time for the **08:45** Briefing and subsequent departure.

All riders must attend Briefing.

Ride co-ordinator TBA

Set off through Needham market, through Barking, Bildeston to Lavenham.

Just past Lavenham Church **turn right**, follow lane to **A134** then **turn left**.

Take turn to right for Long Melford and turn right again at the green.

Follow **A1092** through Cavendish and turn right at Stoke by Clare on **A1017**.

Turn left to Steeple Bumpstead where a **left** at T is taken to Saffron Walden.

Turn left at war memorial to a **right turn** at mini Roundabout on London Road.

Take left turn at Station Rd onto **B1039**, follow to Barley. (Glorious road)

Keep following **B1039** to Royston – if you see the **turn to right** in time then straight over crossroads, or, if observation lacking, up to T at pub, **right** then **left**.

At Royston follow one way system to the **right** (signed Cambridge) and then left into Fish Hill

Take the **first left** in Fish Hill and then **left again** into Market Hill.

There you'll find a car park with a back entrance to the pub.

THURSDAY'S SUMMER CHIP RUN

30th July
Peyton Plaice
Barton Rd
Bury St Edmunds
IP32 7BE
Tel: 01284 766118

Meet at Beacon Hill **IP6 8LP** - and fill in 'Contact Number' sheet in good time for the **18:15** Briefing and subsequent departure.

All riders must attend Briefing

Ride co-ordinator **Phil Sayer**.

On leaving Beacon Hill services, at Roundabout take 3rd proper exit (**A1078**)

Take **second turn on right** onto Flordan Road. Stay on this road through the Creetings and into Stowmarket

At T junction **turn right** onto Mortimer Road

At Roundabout take **1st exit (B1115)**. At next Roundabout take **2nd exit (B1113)**

Stay on **B1113** through Old Newton and Finningham then take **left turn** to Walsham Le Willows At X roads **turn left** (opposite Six Bells pub)

Stay on this road through Badwell Ash, Hunston, Stowlangtoft, Pakenham and on to Gt Barton.

At T junction **turn right**, then **left** at X roads onto **A143**, then **right** onto Mill Road (**B1106**)

At X roads **turn left**. At T junction (on bend) **turn right**.

At Roundabout take **1st exit**. At next Roundabout take **1st exit**. At next Roundabout take **1st exit**. At next Roundabout take **2nd exit**.

Turn right at traffic lights. Chip shop and More Motos are on **right** just after Farm Foods shop

SOCIAL RIDES

Please note that it is you, the rider, who is deemed to be in control of the vehicle at all times during an Observed Run and during all other Group activities and that the Committee of Suffolk Advanced Motorcyclists cannot and do not accept any liability whatsoever for any injury to person or damage to vehicle occurring in the course of any rally or other event organised by the Group. Any member attending such an event does so entirely at his or her own risk and must maintain their own insurance to cover any said injury to person or damage to vehicle and must be riding a road legal vehicle, having valid road tax, insurance and MOT certificate (if applicable).

Participants on S.A.M social rides are advised of the Events Committee's guidelines as follows:

- 🏍️ You will be expected to provide a suitable means of carrying a map of the route
- 🏍️ If possible, have breakdown cover for your machine.
- 🏍️ Be responsible for your own safety
- 🏍️ Rides will commence promptly at the published departure time.
- 🏍️ Have a FULL tank of fuel
- 🏍️ No more than 5 in a group.

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TT CENTENARY 2007 THE PRIZE OF A LIFETIME!

Now, I have been known to play the odd practical joke but when I got home from work one day in January 2007 and opened my mail, I had to admit, this letter was pretty official looking! It had a crest on it and the words 'Isle of Man Tourist Board'. It went on to tell me that my winning draw ticket had been pulled out, live on stage by a chap called John McGuinness at the launch event for the TT Centenary event coming up in May / June that year! It said I had won a pillion lap around the closed TT circuit with an ex TT winner – Richard (Milky) Quayle

“ Brilliant” I chuckled to myself as I re – read the letter and put it in a draw, racking my brains as to who had gone to all that trouble to pay me back.....

Some days later, no one had claimed responsibility & I happened to mention it at work, looking for a glint in an eye that would give the person away! “ Are you really sure it's not genuine?” someone said, “ Nah” I replied, “ Couldn't be, nothing like that ever happens to me!” Then, like the Dr Pepper advert they said, “ Give 'em a ring, what's the worst that can happen?”

So, a few days later still, very hesitantly I rang the number. Very politely and cautiously I spoke to the person at the other end of the phone - “ Oh hello, I'm sorry to trouble you, only I've received a prize winning notification letter that supposedly has come from you but I'm guessing someone has gone to great lengths to create this wind up”

“ Mr Southgate” they said in disbelief, “ This is no wind up, you've won the prize of a VIP package on Senior's race day where you'll have pit access, be with Milky for the day, he'll introduce you to the 1st three home at the end of the Senior's race then before the Parade of Champions, you'll be taken on the race track on the back of Milky's bike!!”

The term gob smacked doesn't even come close!!

Rewind back to the Bike show at the NEC in November the previous year when I'd taken my son along to sample the feast of bikes on display and I'd gone in for every draw and freeby going..... and subsequently forgotten about every single draw I'd entered, including this one!!

We were restoring a Victorian house at the time & money was being ploughed

into the house at an alarming rate & I thought, “ well, great prize but I can't spend money on a trip to the TT (travel & hotel weren't included) maybe I could auction it & put the money into the house”

Several colleagues encouraged me to reconsider, despite my defence being that I didn't really follow the TT, I've always been more of an off road fan and participant _ I could honestly say up to that point I'd probably not seen more than 2 minutes of TT footage! (yes, I know that's sacrilege now!!)

So, I set about explaining to my wife that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity for me and our son, that he'd remember this forever and how much he'd gain from the experience. It worked and I booked the flights – trouble was, I got the return date wrong and wasn't allowed to change anything so had to book 2 extra flights home on the correct day! There was just the small issue that we were taking off from Liverpool & the only flight we could get back went to.....Leeds! Hey ho, at least there was a coach route between the two! This was getting more expensive by the minute!!

Fast forward then to race week, just a few days before departure & I'm researching this Milky Quayle chappy and come across a You tube clip <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Nzq2GorVH4> of an horrendous crash of his at about 160mph at the TT 4 years earlier!!!!!!

There was that Dr Pepper tag line in my head again!!

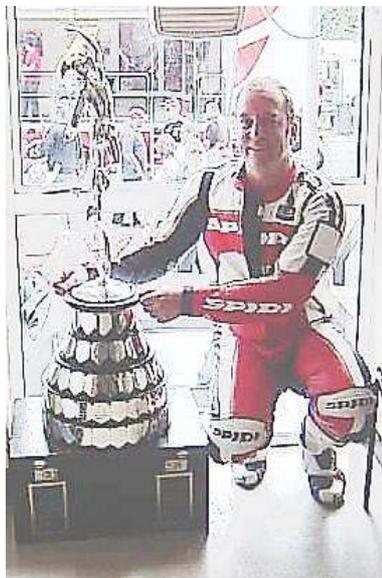
Race Day – 08:30 hrs;- Jake & I made our way up Bray Hill to the meeting point to be met by Paul Phillips – the TT equivalent to Bernie Ecclestone in F1. We had a great welcome, were taken to the press suite within the Grandstand, met Milky and were issued with our VIP passes for the day. Paul and Milky were fantastic in explaining our itinerary and reassuring me that Jake would be well looked after whilst I was out on track. Milky and Paul took us around the pits meeting some great riders and were asking some if they had spare leathers, boots, & gloves for me to borrow.

Martin Finnegan came up trumps with this request, the helmet came from the manufacturers own stand in the pits. It was all quite surreal, not least of all when we were told by Paul that “This is the bike you'll be going out on Milky, I know you've never seen it before but you'll be fine” (Dr Pepper again)

We were to go out on a factory tuned Fireblade road bike.

I got into the race gear and even managed a cheeky photo with the trophy before after the start of the Senior race which we saw from the pit wall and was worth the trip just for that experience! We then went into the Press suite and

were chatting to the TT legend that is Philip McCallen when the screen flashed up with a new lap record for John McGuinness – 130.354 mph!!!! Up onto the roof of the Grandstand for a snifter of champagne with a bowl of strawberries as we got the most amazing views of refuelling and pit stops before being led down to start final preparations for our turn on the track.



It was around this point that the news started coming through, there'd been a crash on the final lap on the mountain section & it was serious. We waited, gradually, more news came into the pits saying that a bike had gone into the crowd, it was very bad. It emerged that the rider and one spectator had been killed, another 3 spectators were injured, one seriously. A cloud of disbelief descended upon the pits and around the 37 mile course.

There was an inevitable delay in proceedings whilst investigations took place. Jake & I could only sit and watch this unfold in the pits. We waited, numb from the tragedy, resigned to the fact that I would not now be going out on track.

Now, as you can imagine, having my 14 yr old son with me, it was inevitable that he was going to be bored & hungry at some point whatever the tragic reasons, so, when he asked for some chips, I embarrassingly realised that my money was locked away with my clothes in the press suite! Luckily Jake had some on him so we went & stood in the queue at the chip van. Within a few minutes, there was a tap on my hand and when I looked round, a lad of around 9 or 10 stood there beaming with an autograph book!!!

“ Please mister, can I have your autograph?” Well, that's something I'd never been asked for before & I just had to be honest & say, “ I'm really sorry but I'm not famous!” “But you ride a motorbike don't you?” he asked in hope! “Well, I am going out on a lap with all the Champions at 3oclock, does that count?” “ his little face lit up - “yeah” he replied in the most enthusiastic way!! How could I refuse?? I duly signed – Jon Southgate (Nobody)

My Son was cringing with embarrassment! Chips eaten, it was my turn to ask for autographs when the likes of the great Ago and Foggy appeared – for some reason, they didn't ask for mine.....Hey ho!

As we sat by the pit wall, I heard a familiar voice from track side and popped my head up – yes, Murray Walker was just behind us & I nudged Jake! Murray came into the pits with a film crew, spotted Milky and signalled to his

cameraman to start filming. He went straight to Milky and spoke of his crash and asked his thoughts on being involved in the Parade of Champions. Milky said “yeah, it's pretty special but more so for him” and nodded towards me. Murray then beckoned me over and launched straight into an interview with me too! “ “what's your name, where are you from?” “ oh yes, I know Ipswich, I used to commentate at Shrubland Park Scrambling many years ago” he says! Our interview is now on Murray's DVD of the Centenary TT, what a treat!!

In that uncertain time awaiting confirmation if we were going out or not, Milky was told we'd be leading the parade of Champions as time was short. He told the organisers in no uncertain terms that with the legends behind us, they'd simply want to race and he'd be happier mid pack. This was agreed and after a 3 hr delay we were told to get ready. The bike was wheeled out onto the start area along with all the rest, there were so many legends. Now Prince Philip once told me never to name drop but I was sharing the start grid with the likes of McGuinness, Read, Foggy, Ago, Grant, McCallen, Surtees, Crosby, Redman, McElnea, Reynolds, Robert Dunlop, Shwartz, Lougher, Jeffries, Haga, Whitham Miller & Hodgson plus many others- in total 43 solos and 3 sidecars with Boddice, Molyneux & Fisher piloting them round!! In amongst all that lot was me on the back of a bike that the rider has never ridden before. We had a send off by Geoff Duke too (RIP)

I should also mention at this point that I'd borrowed a helmet cam to record this monumental occasion and fired it up when I put my helmet on in the pits (more of that later)

One by one, riders were waved off at intervals through the famous start gate as with every race, but this wasn't a race, this was going to be a steady ride round the course, after all, this was a parade lap – How wrong I was!!!!!!!!!!!!



From the tap Milky had on the shoulder, he launched the Fireblade down the start straight towards Bray Hill & I was suddenly rather glad he'd insisted on me holding onto the 'lovehandles' he was wearing!!! As we hurtled down that famous Hill at 135mph, I'd be lying if said I wasn't bricking it!!!!!! We got air over

Ago's leap and at every point around the track where the big boys get air!

I was willing Milky to avoid the white lines, convinced we were going over, at Quarterbridge, one of the few places I recognised from seeing film of a wipe-out there, we were cranked over & as we emerged from the corner, Milky whipped the bike onto the back wheel and flicked up through the gears, 70, 80, 90, 100, and eased the front wheel back down on Terra firma!

At every corner, he was waving to his adoring fans, after all, he was wearing his famous leathers and after several miles, I'd got the feeling back in my legs enough to grip with them and I thought I'd give it a cheeky wave too..... big mistake!

With a flick of the wrist, Milky brought the nose up and in doing so, brought my feet off the pegs and up under his armpits!!!!!! As I clutched onto the 'lovehandles' I pulled myself upright and regained composure, I'm sure he was grinning from ear to ear!!

The huge crowds were a sight to behold and I did manage to stay upright and throw out a few waves as we rounded the slower corners or biggest congregations.

As the mountain part of the course came into view, my thoughts briefly turned to the tragedy only a few hours earlier, a very sobering thought. I got my cameraman head though and over Mountain mile at over 140mph I was carefully panning left & right thinking this is gonna' make great footage!

Past Kates Cottage and Creg ny baa were again iconic views and through the remaining course until all too soon we hit the start straight, flying over the finish line and easing down through the gears to bring it home in the parc ferme with the other bikes.

It was difficult to pull the crash helmet over my enormous grin and Milky's first words were, “ well, what do you reckon to that, was it alright?” I mumbled something about him being able to handle a bike, promised him that I'd return the favour on the back of my enduro bike back home & he said “Well, there's not many people who can say they've overtaken Haga on the track, I was determined to do that for you!” We were quickly inundated with autograph hunters and souvenir seekers.

“ Sign this programme / shirt mate” & “ Give us yer knee sliders mate” were two of the most common requests but they wouldn't accept that these weren't my leathers! Several press interviews followed before we finally went back to the press suite for our debrief & a catch up with Jake.

At the end of the day, we headed into Douglas to join the throngs of race fans for the rest of the evening, I was absolutely buzzing, like nothing before!

That amazing experience taught me many things,

1/ People do actually win big prizes!

2/ Carpe Diem – don't look a gift horse in the mouth!

3/ Always check when you're racing & don't book flight tickets home for that day!

4/ Always check the security of your memory card in your action camera – you see the 1st thing I wanted to do when I got home was see the footage. I rushed round to the guy that lent it to me in eager anticipation to find that it stopped recording around the time I got on the bike on the start line!!! #gutted! Still, the memories will never fade & I do have that DVD.....

Jon Southgate





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EDITORIAL



Gosh, this month has been a whirl wind of events, After last month's breakfast run I phone Autofit and order a new front tyre, and guess what... the front tyre I had been using as it's the only fitment for the bike was not available, so I had to have the new Avon 3D XM. But guess what again... the rear Avon Azaro, which I had such a problem getting hold last year as it was out of

production is not compliant with the new Avon 3D XM tyre... Autofit who would not fit the front tyre without a rear, So had to order both

Saturday morning I had to take my Daughters car in for its MOT in Bacton, which it passed then to the shed to collect the bike tyres. Go to the local scrapyards to scavenge a few parts for both my son's and daughter's cars, got everything that I needed as they had similar cars in the yard, dash to Ipswich to get the tyres fitted, £250 lighter I have changed both tyres back to the shed fitted the wheels back on the bike. Mrs Editor and the Editorlets came up to the shed to collect their cars and fit the scavenged parts.

Rode home and this is the first time that the bike has a pair of matching tyres instead of a fitment that would do... and by golly what a difference, instead of having to wrestle the thing round the corners it just fell in and swooshed round...

I have been volunteered to help out on the beekeepers stand at the Suffolk Show so I again took the bike which are free to park so found a nice spot under an oak tree but the gate. When I got back, the bike was covered with a thick layer of dust, which had been thrown up by the land rover safari

Safe Riding **Felix..** Editor

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Thank you

To all the members who have contributed to this month's magazine. ☺

But.... what about the rest of you.... ☹

CLOSING DATE FOR COPY FRIDAY AFTER CLUB NIGHT

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If you'd like to help save the Group on the printing and postage costs of your monthly 'hard copy' of the 'SAM Observer' by opting to receive an email notification instead, then please give me your email details on Group Night or send me an email.

I hope that you have been enjoying the reports that members who go on ride outs have written, and as you can see, it doesn't have to be a wordy passage, so feel free to scribble a few words down, a few pictures and next month you will have another great magazine to read

Don't forget to take your cameras and a notebook to record your trip then you can write a nice article about it for your favourite magazine. I have a word template if anyone would like it, email me and I'll send you a copy which has all the formatting re-set on it. Please remember that we use Times New Roman as the main font for the magazine at a size 16 so that when the printer converts the A4 pages down to A5 the font looks like a 12. I like pictures to be separate to your articles because I can make them bigger or small to fill the page

MEMBER INFORMATION

A lot of useful information about SAM and its activities is available on our website. Below are some key links members will find useful.

CONTACTS

Contact details of SAM's Committee & Observers, complete with photographs so you can recognise everyone.

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/com>
<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/obs>

CALENDAR

Our online calendar with relevant links which can also be linked to your smartphone. Contact: Mike Roberts

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/cal>

OBSERVER ASSOCIATE CHARTER

What is expected of the Observer and Associate while preparing for the IAM motorcycle test. Contact: Karl Hale

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/chart>

CARING SAM

Our customer service & complaints procedures. Contact: Brian Ellis

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/care>

DISCOUNT SCHEME

Proof of identity will be required to be shown. (e.g. Current IAM/SAM membership cards). Save your membership fee, and more, by using these retailers who give a discount to SAM members. Contact: David Arbon

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/disc>

ADVERTS

Got something to sell? Want to see what other members are selling? See our online adverts section. Contact: Mike Roberts

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/ads>

SHOPS

T-shirts, sweatshirts, fleeces, hats, and more are available from SAM's two online shops. Contact: Mike Roberts

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/shop>

FORUM

All the latest news and discussion on all things SAM and motorcycle related. Have a read, and then register to join in. Contact: Mike Roberts

<http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com/forum>

SAM EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE 2015

Fri 12th ~ Sat 13th Safe Rider. If you can help the Publicity Team on the Saturday of this event, please contact Martin Drury on **07595277831**

Sunday 14th Hints and Tips Ride. A chance to refresh your road riding skills. Details on Page 20 in May's magazine

Tuesday 16th SAM Group Night. Announcements at **19:30** followed by Natter Night, Bar and restaurant serving all types of food/drinks including teas and coffees.

Thursday 18th Theory Evening. Fynn Valley Golf Club. Come along and learn more about Roadcraft. **19:30**. This month's topic: **Gears & Acceleration**

Thursday 25th Summer Chip Run, Aldeburgh Chip shop **IP15 5DB**. Meet Beacon Hill **IP6 8LP** in good time for **18:15** Briefing and subsequent departure. All riders must attend Briefing

JULY 2015

Wednesday 1st SAM Committee meeting. Fynn Valley Golf Club. **19:30**

Sunday 5th Breakfast Run. The Old Bull Inn. Royston, **SG8 9AW** Meet in good time for Briefing and subsequent departure. All riders must attend Briefing.

Fri 17th ~ Sat 18th Safe Rider. If you can help the Publicity Team on the Saturday of this event, please contact Martin Drury on **07595277831**

Sunday 19th Ipswich Wheels. We will be having a stand at his new show. If you can help please contact Glyn Hill. <https://www.ipswich.gov.uk/content/new-wheels-event-ipswich-summer>

Tuesday 21st SAM Group Night. Announcements at **19:30** followed by Guest Speaker, Michael Bettell (Phantom Pilot). Bar and restaurant serving all types of food/drinks including teas and coffees.

Thursday 23rd **Theory Evening.** Fynn Valley Golf Club. Come along and learn more about Roadcraft. **19:30.** This month's topic: **Overtaking**

Thursday 30th **Summer Chip Run,** Peyton Plaice Bury St Edmunds IP32 7BE. Meet Beacon Hill IP6 8LP in good time for **18:15** Briefing and subsequent departure. All riders must attend Briefing

Fri 31th ~ Sat 1st **Safe Rider.** If you can help the Publicity Team on the Saturday of this event, please contact Martin Drury on **07595277831**

NOTE FROM EDITOR

Please check the SAM Calendar & Forum for further details and for any changes after going to press. Especially in winter months when the weather can be unpredictable

DISCLAIMER

The articles published herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists or the Suffolk Advanced Motorcyclist Group. They are the opinions of individual contributors and are published with a view that free expression promotes discussion and interests.

NORFOLK ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

3rd Thursday of the month, 19:30, at Dunston Hall, A140,
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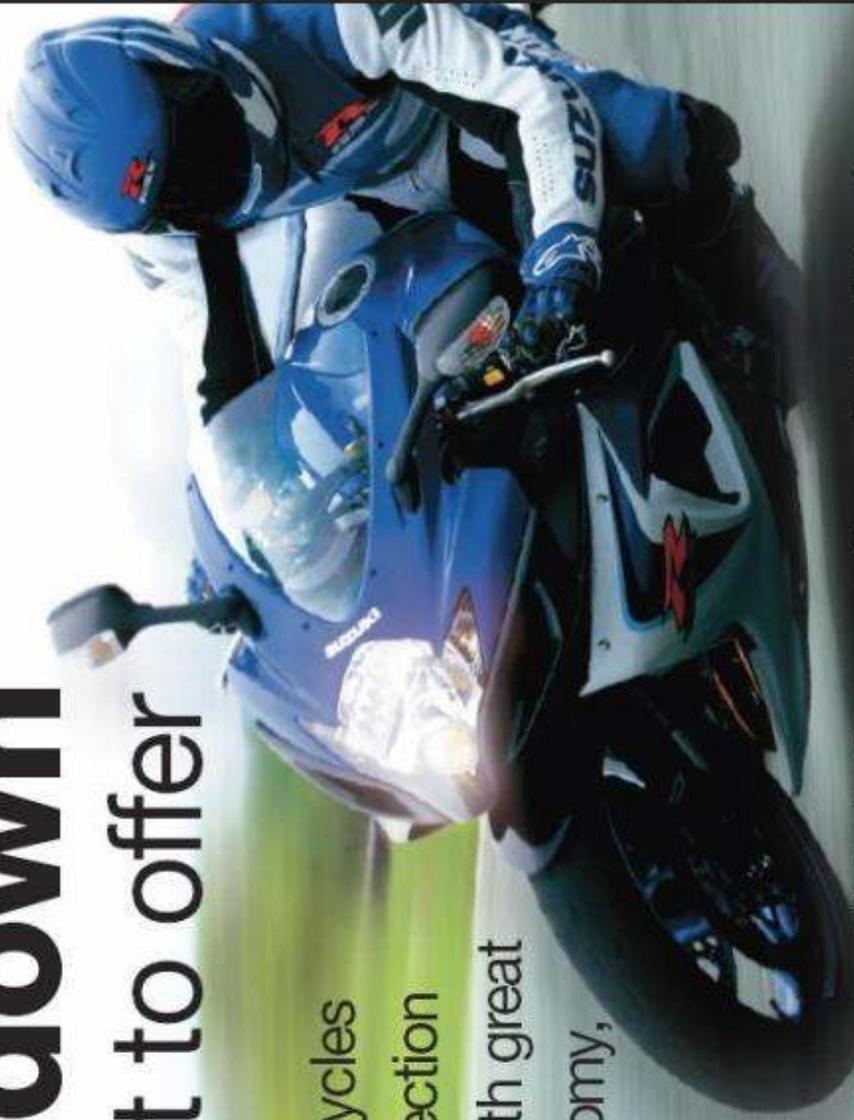
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BRYAN DUNCAN SENT IN A PICTURES FROM A TRIP TO WALES



And on Page 12

