

# The SAM Observer

September 2013



Registered Charity No. 1067800



IAM Group No. 7219

The cover picture was supplied by Sara Hale and was taken at Ribblehead Viaduct, B6255 near Ingleton, North Yorkshire.

Mike Roberts did the picture editing and graphical work.



Picture taken by Judy Chittock at Bawdsey

# YOUR COMMITTEE

No Calls After 9pm Please

## OFFICERS

Chairman	Beverley Rudland	01473 401362
Secretary	David Rudland	01473 401362
Treasurer	Judy Chittock MAAT	01473 737356

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Chief Observer	Derek Barker	01473 327555
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Events	Vincent Evans	01473 890496
Events	David Arbon	01473 684206
Publicity Co-ordinator	Paul Spalding	07879 844618
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## OBSERVERS

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Paul Newman	01473 620450	Simon Phillips	01473 830671
Tony Chyc	01206 231782	Martin Leach	01473 717713
Paul Spalding	07879 844618	John Sillett	01473 219488
Leia Dowsing	07841 699081	John Van-Eyk	01206 306495
Steve Studd	07903 867000	André Castle	07730 526674
Ruth Elmer	07783 007100	Mark Hardy	07557 671465
Ross Mckinlay	07986 838028	Tim Murgatroyd	07901 332757
Nigel Chittock	01473 737356		

Associate Co-ordinator, Susan Smith, 01206 251946

## I.A.M. EXAMINERS

Bob Gosden	01473 716873	Kevin Stark	01473 310504
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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.

## WEBSITE ADDRESS

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

SAM is a registered Charity ~ No. 1067800

All Official Correspondence to: **David Rudland**, 36 Sherborne Avenue,  
Ipswich, IP4 3DR



# SEPTEMBER'S CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the September edition of our SAM magazine.

David and I have just returned from a glorious week of motorcycling. Although we left home in the pouring rain things soon brightened up. After an overnight stop just outside Hawes and a quick visit to the Wensleydale cheese factory we turned left at Gretna Green and headed over to Barr in South Ayrshire to see our dear friends Ruth and Bruff, here we were treated to a relaxing evening with scrumptious home cooked food and good wine. Next morning we all headed off, on our bikes, to catch the ferry from Ardrossan to Campbeltown and after negotiating the single track down to the lighthouse at the Mull of Kintyre, we headed up the very scenic A83 to Bellochantuy. Over the next couple of days we meandered as far north as Loch Leven then headed back south bound through Glen Coe and over Rannoch Moor winding our way back through narrow lanes and Loch side roads to Dunoon where we boarded a small ferry heading for Gourock. Fish and Chips in Troon tided us over nicely until we arrived safely back at Bruff and Ruth's house.

All too soon it was time to leave Scotland and we broke the homeward journey with a stop in Leyburn. We hadn't actually booked accommodation but were fortunate enough to discover The Grove House, a delightful little guest house that offered a very comfortable room. We were treated to complimentary tea and cakes on arrival and a delicious breakfast in the morning, but anyone who knows David will appreciate that the piece du résistance was the complimentary bowl of sweets that happened to include a Twirl, need I say more.

I do hope you have also enjoyed some good motorcycling recently and I look forward to catching up with you at group night soon.

With my very best wishes,

*Beverley*

# IAM TEST PASSES

Congratulations to the members who have passed their  
Advanced test this month.

Terry Johnson    his Observer was    Ruth Elmer  
Roger Payne    his Observer was    Nigel Chittock

When you pass your advanced test please let  
Derek Barker or Susan Smith know.

# NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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

Paul Stanley    Geoff Scott    Stephen Parker

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



The advertisement features the ACER Safety Services logo on the left, which includes the word 'acer' in a stylized font with 'Safety Services' underneath and the website 'www.acersafety.co.uk' at the bottom. To the right of the logo is a dark red circular area containing a list of services: Accredited Training Courses, Tailored Company Training, Compliance Reviews, Support Services, and Technical Support. A QR code is positioned to the right of this list. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text 'PRACTICAL BUSINESS ADVICE' is written in white capital letters on a black background.

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# NEW OBSERVERS ASSESSMENT DAY

Group Observers are a valuable asset to the club and give of their time freely, in the interests of improving Motorcycle Road Safety.

A number of you have expressed an interest to myself and various other Senior~National Observers about becoming a Group Observer. To ensure we continue with the fantastic work of the current team I am organising an assessment day for those members who are interested on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2013.

Before you grab the phone and call, let me give you some of the facts.

Being an Observer for SAM requires the following qualities, you need to be;

- 🏍️ Committed to improving the standard of riding for both yourself and others
- 🏍️ Have very good communication skills.
- 🏍️ Have a good knowledge of Roadcraft and be able to explain the concepts of it to people from all backgrounds.
- 🏍️ Be riding at least the standard of the IAM test.
- 🏍️ Be a fully paid up member of the IAM.
- 🏍️ Have loads of patience.
- 🏍️ Be able to give freely of your time to attend regular refresher training sessions with Senior~National Observers, support theory nights and Riding Dexterity days.

So the training process

Following successful selection on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2013 assessment day, you will need to commit to attending three evening classroom training sessions of around 2 hours each, one to include an exam on the highway code and Roadcraft, (between November and January). Pass 9 Scenarios in three on road sessions with a Senior~National Observer, and finally an Observer test.

If I have not put you off by now and you are now even keener give me a call on 01473 327555

Regards

SAM Chief Observer.

Derek Barker

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# COPDOCK BIKE SHOW MOTORCYCLE PARKING HELPERS NEEDED

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October

As you may be aware, for the last few years SAM has been organising motorcycle parking at the Copdock Bike Show and marshaling their fun runs for which SAM has received several generous donations (totaling £7250.00 to date) from the Copdock Classic Motorcycle Club. These donations have been used to promote the IAM's Skills For Life program, which in turn is helping to make Suffolk's motorcyclists safer on the road.

We could do with a few more helpers this year so if you would be willing to help on the day please contact David Rudland on 01473 401362 or email [rudland\\_d@hotmail.com](mailto:rudland_d@hotmail.com)

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# SAM RIDES & ROUTES

Having answered a few questions from different people I thought I'd explain in the magazine what is available online with regard to SAM Rides & Routes.

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

This is your starting place. Find an event in the Calendar, click on it. A pop-up will open with a 'Click Here' for more information. Do so, and you will be taken to the relevant topic on the SAM Forum.

*NB. If you have a smartphone you can subscribe to the SAM Calendar so that all of our events appear in your phone's Calendar. The links for this are on the Calendar page. How you do this will vary from phone to phone, but a quick Google with 'phone make, model, ICAL and subscribe' should find some instructions.*

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

All the SAM Rides are detailed in the Events section. They are displayed in the order of most recently updated, so it is often easier to use the Calendar as described above to find the event you are interested in.

Each event has the following:

Ride co-ordinator.

Start time.

Destination (usually with Phone Number and Postcode).

The text description of the route.

The route displayed on an interactive map (Google Maps).

A downloadable route card for your tank bag.

A photo of the destination.

Ride leaders.

Duty Observers.

Using the Google Maps version of the route you can zoom in/out to see the detail and using the StreetView option (click the little yellow man beside each of Google's directions) you can view each junction as a 360 degree rotatable photograph. So there's plenty of scope to familiarise yourself with the route before the day.

Within the Events section of the SAM Forum you will also find detailed instructions (by yours truly ☺ ) on how to convert the Google Maps route for use on your own GPS unit.

The Route Cards (produced by Vini Evans) are for those who don't like GPS units and/or text instructions and are a stylised version of the route using small diagrams for each junction. These can be downloaded/opened and printed for use with the map pocket on your tank bag or dedicated map holder.

If you register for the SAM Forum, you can also comment / review the rides and destinations, as well as join in the other discussions on the site.

## ONLINE MAGAZINE

Finally if you don't want to cut up your "Award Winning" magazine, or want a larger version of the text route, just open the SAM Magazine online from the 'Extras' menu at <http://www.suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com> (NB. This only works for the PDF version). Once open, scroll to the page with the route on it and click print. Select 'Scale to Fit' or 'Fit to Page' (or similar depending on your software) and 'Current Page' and by the magic of the print fairies in your PC you will have an A4 version in nice big type for your tank bag.

Any queries just drop me an email and I'll try to help.

Mike Roberts [mike.j.roberts@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.j.roberts@btinternet.com)

Website Administrator

# BREAKFAST RUN

13<sup>th</sup> October 2013

Temeraire Pub  
55 High St  
Safforn Walden  
CB10 1AA  
Tel: 01799 516975

Ride Coordinator, Vini Evans

Meet Tesco Copdock Ipswich (behind Currys) for briefing at 09:30

Exit Tesco car park **Turn Left** at **Roundabout** on to **A1214**

At traffic lights **Turn Left** on to **A1071** continue for approximately 11 miles.

**Turn Right** on to **A134** signposted Sudbury, at **Roundabout** take 2nd exit **A131** town centre, stay on **A131** through Sudbury, signposted Halstead.

Leaving Sudbury stay on **A131** for approx. 3.5 miles, **Turn Right** on to **B1058** stay on this through Castle Hedingham **Turn Left** on to **A1017**, after 100 yards **Turn Right** (Rectory Road) half a mile then **Turn Left**

At Weathersfield join the **B1053** continue through Finchingfield on to Saffron Walden then follow Radwinter Rd, East St, bare Left on to **B184** Audley Rd.

**Turn Right** at junction with High St, The Temeraire is 150 yards on left.

**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.

# 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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# SAM TRIP TO 'TAN HILL' – THE HIGHEST PUB IN BRITAIN

## 2<sup>ND</sup> ~ 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2013

We've been members of SAM for a few years, and thought we knew many of the members ... but a recent trip to Tan Hill, in the Yorkshire Dales, revealed we didn't know some of them as well as we thought!

The trip was organised by Paul Newman, with great attention to detail ... well he did, it's just that not everyone was able to follow his plan. Paul planned the route from Ipswich to Tan Hill, about 250 miles; including start times, group allocation – with leader and tail end Charlie. The route was circulated in several formats, to cope with every navigational device (except those which cannot be programmed; how did anyone – no names – think that Paul could overcome that?). Places to stop to refuel ourselves and bikes were also listed, nothing was left to chance.

Paul S and I joined our group, meeting in Ixworth, but as Karl was our leader, we may have slightly deviated from some of the instructions. Well, we stopped to eat at the places to eat ... followed some of the route ... we couldn't help the diversions, and I really did want to have a view of the Lake District, Thank you Karl.



We arrived at Tan Hill at 18.30 – 1 group ahead of us – seems Nick’s group didn’t need to stop for long, at any of the stops. Everyone checked in, in rooms, bunk-house or camping; and we all enjoyed our first evening in the Bar – with lots to discuss from the day.

Martin found he had a puncture when we arrived ... so Saturday morning, he was outside with his 2 new best friends (Paul N and Steve) – helping him with the repair.

We set off in 3 groups, after a full breakfast – going in different directions. Paul S & I were in a group (Tim, Sam, Paul –from the Harrogate IAM, Karl and Sara), who rode to the Ribblehead Viaduct (for the obligatory tourist



photos), Pen y Ghent Cafe, for tea and cake, pausing at Malham Cove then onto Kettlewell for a very late lunch. There were some great biking roads, fantastic views, lots of sheep – who seemed intent on being flattened ... on yes, and some mad bikers – not in our group. At one point there were a group of 6 bikers, who must have either had x-ray vision, or not wanted to live for long – overtaking us on blind hill summits/round blind corners – we just let them go!



Over dinner we heard about what the others had done during the day. Dave had been to buy some new bike boots (Altberg!) ... oh how proud is he of these?! He said that he was never going to take them off; Gill will have to let us know if this is the case! It also transpired that Dave and Paul N's comms were linked, and during the day, Gill wasn't sure who was talking to who – apparently, starting the sentence with 'Darling' didn't clarify who was being addressed!

Everyone appreciated what Paul had done, so we had a whip round which Paul was reluctant to accept, but when offered the chance to take it from Dave's new boots with his teeth, how could he decline! Being a top chap, Paul promptly bought a round of drinks with it!

We were woken early next morning – firstly by 2 Ducati's starting up (05.00), shortly after by some ducks and a cockerel! Thought we were in the middle of no-where!

Thank you Paul and those who led groups; it was a fantastic weekend, lots of laughter and fantastic roads!

Deirdre & Paul Siddaway





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£30



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£30

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ladies gloves –  
small, £5





Ixon Strada canvas jacket – ladies size 4 £20

Quilted linings for trousers small, £3



MEN'S



RST 2 piece leathers, red/black, size 46, (free bib) £40



Quilted lining for jacket – large, £3



Peter Storm wet weather trousers –XL, £10

White Lady's Small full face helmet with bag. £50

Caberg Justissimo flip front helmet – large £15



For more information contact the Editor on 07712649860



# SEPTEMBER'S EDITORIAL 2013



Blimmy, its September all ready, be that dreaded "C" word before we know it

I managed to get on the August breakfast run to Royston, which was interesting as we where on the biker's road so we got entangled in other chap enjoying the chosen mode of transport. We arrived at the pub? and we were ushered to our seats, 10 minutes later girls appeared with plates of breakfasts, coffee and orange juice. All very welcome. According to the Telegraph, Royston is the first place that no-one can enter or leave with out there number plate being recorded, and has become the most CCTV watched place in Britain.

Afterwards I had to go down to Welwyn Garden City to visit a client and measure up the oversite. Back home via the M1, A505, A14. A round trip of 200 miles.

Few days later back on the road again. This time in the car as we headed north to visit the Out-laws in Inverness, leaving at 7:00 and arriving 18:45. We stopped at Westmorelands services on the M6. I try to aim for that one as its half way and as services go is one of the nicest. Large coffee, Ice cream and a spot of lunch.

We spent a week here visiting places on the east and west coasts and all too soon it was back down the A9 and home. We stopped off at the Flodden battlefield, 1513, in Northumberland, as apparently Jean's distant relation was there fighting on the side of the Scots.

As for biking this month.... I dashed in to Bury to collect the auxiliary fan belt for the car, yes that broke down again, day after we got back from Inverness. Bearing had seized and drop a roller pulley, Jean said she heard a clunk somewhere near the gas works, Had to have the thing brought home on the back of a loader and dumped on the drive.

Safe Riding

**Felix..**

Editor

Bowman's Barn, Back Street, Gislingham, Suffolk. IP23 8JH.

Tel: 07712649860

[editor@suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com](mailto:editor@suffolk-advanced-motorcyclists.com)

## Thank you

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

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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



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# 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: Derek Barker

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

## CARING SAM

Our customer service & complaints procedures.

Contact: Karl Hale

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

## DISCOUNT SCHEME

Save your membership fee, and more, by using these retailers who give a discount to SAM members.

Contact: Bryan Duncan

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

## MOTORCYCLE DEXTERITY & CONTROL

Dates and details of our slow riding events.

Contact: Derek Barker

Sponsored by Southwold Pier 01502 722105

[www.southwoldpier.co.uk](http://www.southwoldpier.co.uk)

Before you attend one of SAM's Dexterity days, you must inform your Insurance Company that you intend to practise slow speed machine control in a school playground accessible to the public and ask them to confirm that you will have full cover for this activity.

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

## 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

## SEPTEMBER 2013

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup>**      **SAM Group Night.** Announcements at 19:30. followed by Guest Speaker from RealRider.com.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>**      **Theory Evening.** Come along and learn more about Roadcraft. 19:30. Topic: Planning & Positioning

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>**      **Dexterity & Control Morning,** 09:00 ~ 13:00 Sidegate Primary School, Ipswich

## OCTOBER 2013

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>**      **Copdock Motorcycle Show.** Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich. <http://www.copdock-cmc.co.uk/Events>, Help is needed for parking. See David Rudland.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>**      **Breakfast Run,** Saffron Walden CB10 1AA. Meet Tesco Copdock Ipswich (behind Currys) for briefing at 09:30.

**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>**      **SAM Group Night.** Announcements at 19:30. followed by Guest Speaker Chris Louis from the Ipswich Witches

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>**      **Theory Evening.** Come along and learn more about Roadcraft. 19:30. Topic: Cornering

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>**                    **Dexterity & Control Morning**, 09:00 ~ 13:00 Sidegate  
Primary School, Ipswich

**Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>**                **Saturday Jaunt**. TBA

## NOVEMBER 2013

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**                    **Breakfast Run**, TBA

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**                **SAM Group Night**. Announcements at 19:30. followed  
by Guest Speaker Edd Abbott on WWII motorcycles

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**                **Theory Evening**. Come along and learn more about  
Roadcraft. 19:30.    Topic: Gears & Acceleration

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>**                **Dexterity & Control Morning**, 09:00 ~ 13:00 Sidegate  
Primary School, Ipswich

## DECEMBER 2013

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>**                    **Breakfast Run**, TBA

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>**                **Christmas Meal**. Fynn Valley, Tickets and information  
to follow

## NORFOLK ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS

**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month**, 19:30, at Dunston Hall, A140,  
Norwich, NR14 8PQ

Chairman,	Rob Chandler,	01493 730409
Secretary,	Alex Mason,	01603 716735

## 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.

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