

# West Sussex Advanced Motorcyclists Newsletter - June 2017



## Do you go with the Flow?

One of the main hallmarks of Advanced Riding is the term 'Quiet Efficiency'.

Everything gets done in the right order at the right time with an effortless grace. One of the major goals to achieving 'Quiet Efficiency' is to work on your flow, or more precisely the flow of the ride.



When you follow an advanced rider, nothing seems to surprise them or catch them out, nothing is done in a hurry and they gracefully link all the hazards and at the same time make safe progress. So the question is, how do we mere mortals get there?

The first element to concentrate on is to minimise your stopping and putting your feet down. On the Advanced Rider test sheet, there is no box for number of times you put your feet down, but I bet the Examiner is making a mental note. Why? Because minimising how many times you

stop demonstrates your slow riding skills, shows a deep understanding of traffic dynamics, but more importantly also lets the Examiner know how far up the road you are looking and planning.



Take Give Way junctions. The Highway code states that we must Give Way to the traffic on the main road

before emerging. When we approach such a junction we should be prepared to stop, but at the same time anticipate to go. This way, by combining our observation, planning, and slow riding skills we can significantly reduce the number of times we put our feet down.

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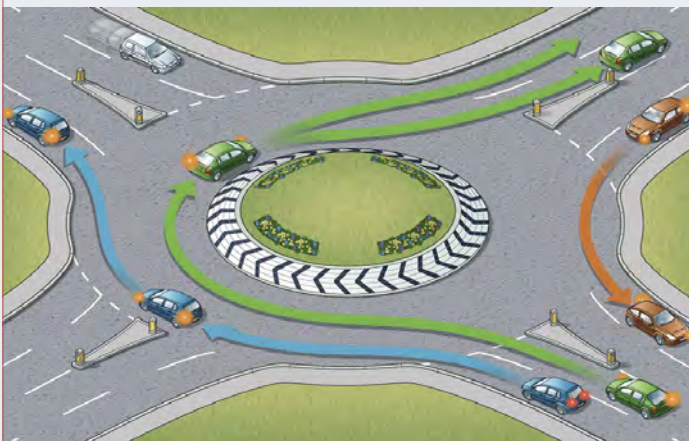
Yamaha Recall

And finally.....

**Editor** Max Webber

There could even be an opportunity to slightly adjust the time of our arrival at the junction so we can keep riding and seamlessly arrive at the junction just when there is a bike sized gap in the traffic for us to pull in to. Some will say “That was lucky”, but as the saying goes..... ‘The more I practice, the luckier I get’.

This timing of your arrival is probably best demonstrated and used when approaching a roundabout.



By watching all the traffic approaching from all the junctions, judging the traffic on the roundabout and also monitoring the exits, an Advanced rider will rarely have to stop at the majority of roundabouts.

The same with urban environments and town work. By looking as far ahead as possible and as well as other vehicles, monitoring people as they approach pedestrian crossings, again you can minimise the amount of time you stop, especially using your slow riding skills. In this scenario it is good to refresh your mind to the Riding Plan..... ‘What you can see, What you can’t see and What you might reasonably expect to happen’.

It’s all about feel and flow. If it feels right and your ride is flowing, then you’ve probably accomplished Quiet Efficiency

## Renewing your MOT, are you aware of the law?

Drivers & riders who fail an early MoT and continue to drive their vehicle thinking their old pass certificate still protects them, risk heavy fines.

An Mot specialist has warned drivers of a loophole that may land them a heavy fine and penalty points. According to scrap-carcomparison.co.uk, drivers are being caught by the police across the UK after putting their vehicle through an early MoT to see if any faults need repairing.



If the vehicle fails the early MoT test, many drivers still believe they can continue to drive the vehicle until their old pass

certificate runs out. However, any fail on an MoT test is recorded as a failure on a national database that’s accessed by police with ANPR cameras. According to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), motorists can take their MoT up to a month before their existing certificate expires, but any failure recorded on the database will include details of what the vehicle failed on. If you then continue to use the vehicle without having the faults rectified, you risk being prosecuted for knowingly using an unroadworthy vehicle.

A current valid certificate doesn’t make a vehicle ‘road safe’. Serious faults flagged up by an MoT inspector, and these not being addressed, could leave you seriously liable.”

## Welcome to WSAM

A warm welcome to the following new members.

Terry Wood — Worthing  
Ian Nuttall — Storrington  
Andrew (Shippy) Shipp — Bramber  
Tony Kneale — Horsham  
Mark Kelly — Felpham  
Colin Milward — Yapton  
Clive Carrington-Wood— Emsworth

## WSAM Test Passes

Congratulations to the following Associates and their Observers for another good set of Test Passes. Well done everyone.

Graham Gray Obs A Cuthell  
Kevin Burt Obs R Bright  
Bruce Hollobone Obs C Powles  
Alain Saunders Obs D Sparrow

## Busy, busy, busy

It's at this time of year that we see a large influx of new Associates, and this year is no exception. If you are a new Associate and have yet to be assigned an Observer, please be patient as we currently have a waiting time of about 8 weeks. Rest assured that as soon as an Observer does become available, you will be assigned and they will be in contact. Thanks in advance for your patience and understanding.

## WSAM Committee

Are any of you able to help out on the WSAM Committee? We are very fortunate with having more and more people signing up to WSAM, and the Advanced Riding Course, however we could do with just a little bit more help at the top organising things. We are quite a flexible and adaptive bunch, so if you have either time, skills, or

both, we would love to hear from you and we can work together to see how you can assist with the running of the group.

If you are able to help, please contact our secretary Andy Piper to register your interest and then we will take it from there. Andy's email is [andy.28gf@gmail.com](mailto:andy.28gf@gmail.com)

## Diary for June 2017

### Sunday 11th June 2017

#### WSAM Monthly Meeting

Today would normally be our monthly meeting, but because of our group presence at Bike Fest South, there will be no meeting this month, but will resume again on Sunday the 9th July.

### Sunday 11th June 2017

#### Bike Fest South. Goodwood

Some of you may already aware that the IAM RoadSmart are supporting BikeFest South being held at Goodwood Circuit on 11th June 2017. See website [here](#)

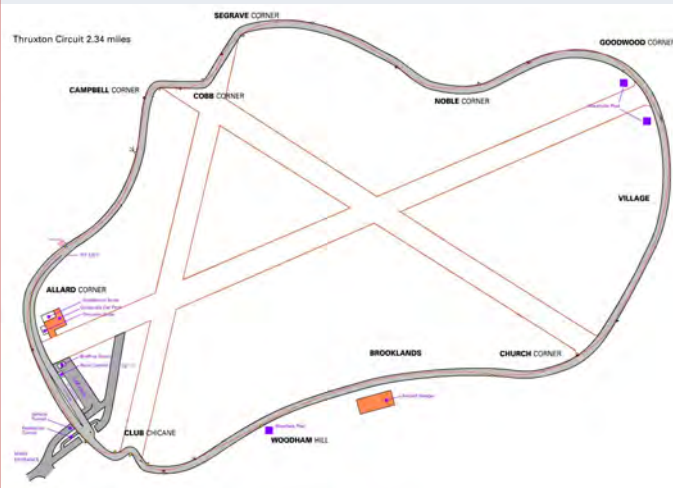


As part of the day we will be offering free taster rides to riders and they need to be booked through the following link [here](#)

## Monday 19th June 2017

### Ladies Day at Thruxton.

Are you a lady rider? Have you always fancied having a go at a Track Day? Well now could be your chance. The IAM have secured Thruxton Race Circuit for a Ladies only Skills day. These days are excellent fun and are based around using IPSGA and road based skills on the track.



As the name suggests these are only open to Ladies and you don't even have to be an IAM member to attend. There are still a few places left, so if you fancy going (who wouldn't) get on to the booking office now. Tel 0300 303 1134 and the places are £135.00 each.

## 19th—25th June 2017

### Ride to Work Week

With riders saving an average of 300hrs commuting each year, Ride to Work week is where motorbike and scooter riders around the world show just how enjoyable their daily commute is. By riding to work we demonstrate that it would be better if more people rode motorcycles and scooters every day, with time savings, less congestion and reduced travel costs. See their website [here](#).

## Yamaha Recall.

Yamaha have recalled a number of their triples to address a production fault that could make the handlebars come loose.

The recall affects the MT-09 based models and includes both the XSR 900 and MT-09 Tracer variants of the machine.



A statement on the government recall website reads, "The lower handlebar holder may have been manufactured with improper painting instruction and thread locking agent may not have been adequately applied to the stud bolt thread of the lower handlebar holder. Due to this, the stud bolt may loosen and fall off from engine vibration resulting in loss of control."

Contact your local Yamaha dealer to find out if you have one of the bikes affected.

## And finally.....

For the first video we have the Transatlantic David vs Goliath battle, but the question is who will win. See it [here](#).

The second video is a little taster for those going to Bike Fest South and trying their hand at Motorcycle Gymkhana. This is something that I definitely want to try and have a go at. If you are at Bike Fest South, you must try this out. See [here](#).