

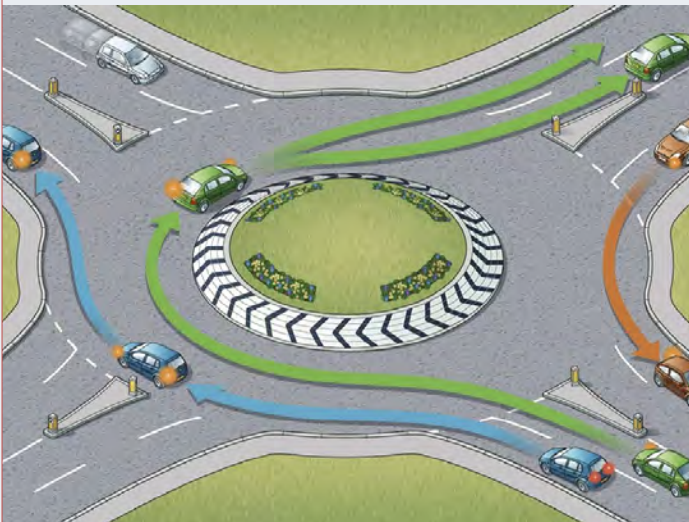
West Sussex Advanced Motorcyclists Newsletter - November 2019



The System

Let me ask you. When you come across a hazard, let's say like a roundabout, how many times do you apply the system and start again? Once, twice, three times, four times, never? I ask because although we do things automatically, sometimes it is good to go back to basics and think about how we conduct ourselves and why. And although the roundabout question above might seem quite harmless, it's not. It tells me loads and loads about how deep your understanding of the system is, and how you're think about your riding. Let me explain (and in the process, give away a secret or two).

I want you to imagine your favourite roundabout where you intend to turn right. Just close your eyes and hopefully you're there. As Advanced Riders, when we approach a roundabout we run through the System IPSSGA, Information, Position, Speed, Gear and Acceleration (or as I quite often say for 'A', Apply Accelerator to maintain a speed).



So if we've done all that correctly, and it's all safe we have just got on to the roundabout; and as we're intending on turning right, (so that's $\frac{3}{4}$'s of the way round) we're riding around it quite close to the centre.

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Diary for November 2019

Sunday 17th November 2019

11.00am WSAM Monthly Meeting

Today is our monthly gathering at Dial Post Village Hall, RH13 8NJ. Now the clocks have gone back the committee meet at 10.00am for an hour, and then after 11.00am everyone is welcome for tea, coffee, biscuits and a natter.

Monday 25th November 2019

WSAM Christmas get-together at a Curry House. Details on **Page 2**

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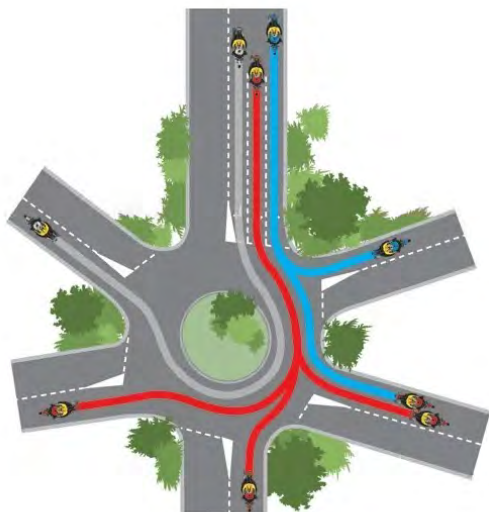
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As we continue around the roundabout, we pass the straight ahead exit and we can now see the exit that we want. As we now have more Information, we must start the System again. Information consists of Take, Use & Give, so we must cancel our right indicator and put on our nearside indicator to let other road users know we intend to leave at the next exit. Our Position also needs to be altered and we should now move away from a position closer to the centre of the roundabout, and more towards the outside, ready to exit. We then must consider changing our Speed, Gear & Accelerator, but as long as you have considered them, and are happy, then there is no need to alter any or all of them.



So in the example above we have already applied the system twice. Now imagine the above but this time envisage a car encroaching into your lane as you go around the roundabout. More Information means you must restart the system and to maintain your safety bubble you might again change your Position, but possibly leave the Speed Gear and Accelerator as they were. We have now applied the System three times. Throw in a drain cover, or a motorist who suddenly changes their mind and it could be up to four times or more.

As you can now see, the rider who says they only apply the System once on a roundabout, doesn't really, deeply, and fully understand the System and how it works.

Welcome to WSAM

A warm welcome to the following new member this month.

James Clover - Horsham

Test Passes at WSAM

Congratulations to the following people for passing their test.

Phil Mendes Da Costa - Obs Alan Cuthell

Chris Maynard - Obs Peter Oakley

New Observer at WSAM

A very big well done to Gary Proctor for completing his Local Observer training and joining the band of Observers here at WSAM. There are quite a few hoops to jump through both for the IAM and also for the IMI (who are the external accreditors), so full marks to Gary for passing and for Peter Oakley in getting him there.

Christmas Curry Monday 25th November at 7.30pm

All WSAM members are warmly invited to the Darchini Indian Restaurant, 24 London Road, Horsham. RH12 1AY. See map [here](#).

We have chosen the date, 25th November before the busy December time, and exactly one month before Christmas.

Please let us know if you are coming so we can book enough places. They offer a deal on Mondays for around £14 per person.

If you are able to join us you can either let us know by visiting the Events Section of the WSAM page on Facebook and click on 'Going'. Alternatively if you don't do Facebook, please email John Moore at johnroom@hotmail.com

If you would like to see their menu, then click [here](#) to go to their website.

Are there too few Police?

The number of drivers fined for using mobile phones has fallen to a record low, amid fears there are not enough police patrols to catch offenders.



Some 39,000 fixed penalty notices were issued by police in 2018 compared with 53,000 during the previous 12 months, according to Home Office data. This is the lowest number since records began. Edmund King, president of the AA, suggested more offenders would be deterred and caught if there were more patrols. "We must not be complacent as often drivers are still spotted using phones at the wheel" he said.

"Only a fifth of drivers say there is a visible police presence on their local roads, so a more prominent presence would help to

deter the use of hand held mobile phones and texting at the wheel."

Since March 2017, motorists caught using a hand-held phone have faced incurring six points on their licence and a £200 fine – up from the previous penalty of three points and £100.

The data also shows that the numbers of fines issued for not wearing a seat belt rose by 17 per cent last year, with a five per cent rise in speeding tickets.

Eco-riding.

Eco-riding is one of the criteria on the IAM Advanced Test, but did any of you realise it's actually illegal to leave your engine running unnecessarily?

Drivers who don't cut their engines when waiting aren't just wasting fuel: they're breaking the law and risk being fined.

An idling engine can produce up to twice the emissions of a car that's in motion. These include chemicals such as sulphur dioxide, particulate matter and nitrogen oxide to name a few.



All of these contribute to asthma, heart disease and even lung cancer, according to Transport for London. With this in mind, the government introduced laws to discourage drivers from idling.

Now, leaving your engine on could land you with fine of £20. This can go up as far as £80 in certain areas of London where extra measures to cut road emissions are being undertaken. The aim of the fine is to encourage drivers to reduce their emissions by turning off their engines if they're parked up in a public space.

"Stationary idling is an offence under section 42 of the Road Traffic Act 1988," says Jeanette Miller, managing director of Geoffrey Miller Solicitors. The Act enforces rule 123 of the Highway Code, which states: "You must not leave a vehicle's engine running unnecessarily while that vehicle is stationary on a public road."



Doing this can incur a £20 fixed-penalty fine under the Road Traffic (Vehicle Emissions) Regulations 2002. This goes up to £40 if unpaid within a given time frame.

Public transport will also face a fine if they're caught idling. For example, if your bus is parked at the roadside with its engine running this would be seen as idling, and could be fined if the engine isn't turned off.



Along with the laws on idling, the government have also introduced other measures in an effort to improve the air quality in the UK.

A higher tax on diesel cars was introduced this year in an attempt to reduce nitrogen oxide (NOx). And in 2040 sales of new petrol and diesel cars will be banned. It's thought that speed humps also contribute to emissions, so new forms of traffic calming are now being considered.

If it looks like you're going to be waiting for more than a minute then it's best to switch the engine off.

The only exception to the rule is if you need to defrost your windscreen.....not a valid excuse for a motorcycle.

Silverstone celebrate rich heritage with new Experience Centre

After a seven-year-project to restore a WW2 RAF hangar into an interactive museum, the all-new Silverstone Experience centre will open its doors to the public on 25th October

Celebrating the esteemed motorsport heritage of the Northamptonshire based circuit, the project is a result of the Silverstone Heritage Ltd charity receiving a £9.1 million investment from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Billed as a 2½ hour immersive experience into the world of two and four-wheeled motorsport, attractions include a number of legendary racing vehicles, which have been curated with help from the likes of Suzuki GB and the National Motorcycle Museum, amongst others.



Machines on display include Maverick Viñales's 2016 Silverstone race-winning Suzuki GSX-RR MotoGP bike, alongside Barry Sheene's 1979 XR27, which finished that year's British grand prix just 0.03 seconds off the win behind Yamaha's 'King' Kenny Roberts.

Away from this, visitors can also enjoy a lap of the track in a 4D cinema, complete with commentary supplied by motorsport broadcasting legend Murray Walker.

"The bikes and cars are on loan and we will change them over time. Hopefully we can get the winning bike from next year's MotoGP race on display, too!" She added.

Alongside celebrating the great racing that has taken place at Silverstone, the new experience also aims to encourage the next generation of engineers, with individual interactive exhibits explaining things like tyre wear, suspension, braking and the inner workings of a combustion engine. What's more, the project also aims to encourage

more women in motorsport, with Reynolds adding: "There are not enough women working in motorsport, so it's our opportunity to inspire more women in motorsport."

Based close to Luffield corner, the 4000 metre-squared venue will be open every day of the year bar Christmas Day, with advanced adult tickets costing £20, £16 for concessions and £10 for children aged five to 15. Children aged four and under go free. Parking is also free, with food and drink also available.

It's not all about racing either, with the museum also exploring the reasons behind Silverstone's corner names, which stem from centuries of history long before the circuit was built. There's also a section exploring the wildlife found at the track, as well as a tribute to the pre-WW2 racers killed in the war effort.

Observers Expenses

Just a quick reminder to all the WSAM Observers to submit your expenses claim into our Treasurer, Rob Bright via email at rob.bright@btinternet.com

And Finally.....

The first video this month takes motorcycle skill to another level, see it [here](#). Total respect.

The second video is from a favourite of mine, Danny MacAskill. Pause it at 54 secs, there's no CGI there. See it [here](#).

That's all folks.

Max