



Sefton Advanced Motorists

In Association with

iAM
RoadSmart



Charity number 517780

October 2023

Welcome to the October 2023 edition of the SAM flyer.

Hello and welcome back to the SAM Flyer. Well where do I start, so much to tell you so much to say. As I'm typing this I'll go first and say a big THANK YOU for all the people who responded to my moans and groans of the Formby By Pass. It's great when I get some feedback and I have been given permission to enclose one person's experience during this very trying time in Merseyside motoring.

"I fully agree with comments made by Alison Filson in the September Newsletter about the recent confusing speed restriction signage on the Northbound carriageway of the A565 Formby Bypass by RAF Woodvale. (For those unfamiliar with the issue, contractors were building a cycle lane adjacent to the dual carriageway for several months. The dual carriageway was signed as 20mph at all times for protection of workers, but at evenings and weekends when the carriageway was clear and there was no work, the speed restrictions remained in place at the annoyance of most drivers.)

I have spoken directly to local Merseyside Police officers on more than one occasion to raise my concerns about this issue and the potential dangers to road users. I assume that Sefton Council as clients for the work and the contractors would also have a role to play in ensuring that the carriageway is correctly signed.

The 20 mph limits were clearly posted at the start of roadworks with periodic repeater signs on posts, so at the time, there could be no doubt about what the legal speed limit was. As advanced motorists we should always drive in accordance with the law but quite frankly it doesn't make sense to do 20 mph in Lane 1 on a clear dual carriage way, causing delays and frustration for drivers behind wanting to overtake when large black SUV's mostly made in Germany are passing in Lane 2 passing at 70 - 80 mph. In this case there is a simple answer to avoid the danger and stress by taking an alternative route using the back road past the Sparrowhawk pub, which I did on most occasions.

As an example of the frustration these works have caused, in a separate incident on the same stretch, I reported an incident of dangerous driving to Merseyside Police supported by dashcam footage. I was in Lane 2 driving at 20 mph, the car behind was tailgating then swerved into the coned off construction area in safety Lane 1, undertook my vehicle, swerved back into Lane 2 and sped off!

I'm glad that I'm not the only one to feel aggrieved by this issue!"
Many thanks David

CHAIR

Brian and the team would like to say a big THANK YOU for the great turnout on Monday 16th October to listen to Keith Dennison give his talk. As Keith delivered his life's story and that of the development Flight from Biplanes to Eurofighters, it became obvious that this was not just a career choice but a labour of love. From being a very young boy knowing what he wanted to do at an early age to achieving his life's dream. As his story unfolded it was clear by the opportunities he was given and tasks asked he was to do that he was held in high regard by his peers in the world of flying. Now if anyone knows me they will know I am not a lover of flying and will avoid it if at all possible. I need to do a bit of CBT (cognitive Behavioural Therapy) if I have to fly anywhere, however after listening to Keith and his calm, competent, intuitive manner I know I would confidently travel in any plane he flew.

Car Section

The car section and all the team would like to
Say well done and congratulations to
Adam McClean for his F1RST Test Pass. 🙌



Motorcycle Section

Congratulations go to John Nickeas and Mike Ainscough →
(pictured), who also gained their Advance Riders Pass this month
Well Done 🙌 🙌



A group of our Riders decided to go in search of history
excitement in the Isle of Man. Not sure October is the best
month to go, so they braved the Irish Sea and went.

Braving the Irish Sea was the least of our problems on the way out to the Isle of Man. Five minutes before it was due to land in Heysham the Manxman (the brand new Steampacket ferry) was turned back to Douglas much to the frustration of the waiting passengers but more so those on board who had to go back to Douglas. There was a problem with one of the thrust engines on the ship and Heysham has no maintenance facilities. Our 14,15 sailing was then amended to 02.15 the next morning which meant us all returning home for tea and returning, leaving just before midnight to arrive in Douglas at 06.00.

The Irish Sea was akin to a mill pond with a very smooth crossing. Luckily for us one of

our party Wayne, had travelled there on the Saturday ahead of us so was our "man on the ground" to liaise with the hotel that would like an early check of 6.30am. Wayne did a sterling job and were in our rooms and down five minutes later for breakfast: out on the road before 8am to ride the TT course, respecting the local speed limits of course.

On the island a national speed limit sign simply means you can go as fast as you feel safe, for the conditions. We met some foggy weather on the mountain road so our overall time was about 1hr 20mins. In this year's TT the outright lap records was broken by Peter Hickman taken only 16 minutes and 36.115 seconds at an average of 136.358mph. Mind you he doesn't have to stop for red lights and has no traffic coming the other way. Although we were welcomed by the TT office staff who allowed us the climb the podium platform at the Grandstand, which was very kind of them.

We then spent the next two days touring the beautiful roads and views around the rest of the island, using the best cafes as our landmark stopping points and had a thoroughly great trip.



← The Hopefuls.

The very Hopefuls →



? No Comment →



(Only, joking love you guys)

CHAIR

Our Chair, Brian, has been contacted by Bury and Rochdale Advanced Motorist with a request for help with an event they are hosting. The following is the information and contact details if any of our members would like to be involved.

Ring of Red (M60) Manchester / 12th November 2023

Good afternoon

The link for anyone to take a look is:- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/414246058708355>

This year Bury & Rochdale Advanced Motorists (BRAM) have received permission from MOTO Hospitality at Birch Services to erect a Gazebo on the Westbound Area Lorry Park where the majority of the Bikes park up waiting for the start of the ride, although there will also be a number parked at the Eastbound Services.

Ring of Red Volunteer Staff will be available from 8am to organise the bike parking and the ride will set off promptly at 1pm. The rides are led off in Groups by a Ride Marshall and we believe they are looking for more people with Marshalling experience to assist.

BRAM have contributed a raffle prize of an Advanced Driver or Rider Course to the Ring of Red and the raffle is held to raise more funds for their chosen charity.

We will have our credit card machine with us on the day and therefore will be able to sign up any interested Drivers / Bikers on the day.

Last year over 6,000 bikers attended this event and our small team of c. 8 Observers were overwhelmed and the organisers are hoping that c.10,000 bikes will turn up this year, so any help that we can get from other IAM Groups would be most welcome and of course, you are free to join the ride if you wish.

Here's an extract of the relevant info:-

We would just like to let you all know how the ride works. Firstly as this is a free ride we get all services donated to us this includes Birch services, highways, police and photographers.

If we were to start charging people to attend we would have to start paying for these services.

We pride ourselves on all monies going to our chosen charity NOT TO PAY FOR THE EVENT. It is up to the individual if they would like to donate or not as we will not ask for a single penny for the ride itself.

The ride is to show respect for our fallen heroes and those still fighting. This year there will be donation bins on the car park if you wish to donate and as always merchandise is available both for ordering and on the day purchase.

The charity being supported this year is Veterans In Communities

<https://veteransincommunities.org/index.html?fbclid=IwAR3uUQ3q44qoRLsnVTRlx8AEpddd6Y3WyikEB1EW60U0wyDZfmL08XEBrGU#>

After the ride on 12th November we are staying at the Services, as it's the 10th Anniversary ride this year we thought it only fitting that we celebrate it with the staff and colleagues of the services. All this will take place on the Westbound side.

Parking will be both sides of the services after the ride, & we can use the back road after the ride BUT NOT BEFORE.

We will have our very own resident DJ [Danny Lee Covell](#), Covering the music side of things,

There is the policy of **NO** Alcohol to be consumed on the services

Kind regards

Mike Gillett

[BRAM Group Chairman](#)

[Bury & Rochdale Advanced Motorists](#)

chair@bramgroup.co.uk 07836 758872

If you are interested in attending please email enquiries@samadvanced.co.uk

Dates for the Diary

SAM Meeting Monday 13th November at 7pm.

This month's SAM meeting will be a tour of Southport Lifeboat Station.



Location:

The new Southport Lifeboat Station is located on Marine Drive, Southport, on the seaward side of Victoria Park.

The Trust:

Southport Lifeboat is run by the Southport Offshore Rescue Trust. The Trust is independent of the RNLI and receives no government or regular external funding. Being independent means that the Trust is responsible for all of its own financing and fundraising.

The crew commit their time and effort freely, they receive no payment at all. The new lifeboat station was funded by public donations after years of fundraising and was opened in 2022.

The Visit:

The tour of the lifeboat station will start at 7pm. Members of the lifeboat crew will give a presentation about the lifeboat history and current role, followed by a guided tour of the station including its boats and equipment.



Parking:

There is limited parking on site but members can park on the Esplanade, near the old lifeboat house, or in the nearby swimming pool car park, which is free after 5.30pm. Those with a disability can be accommodated on site.

It would be most helpful if members could please indicate their intention to attend this event, so that numbers can be advised to the crew: secretary@samadvanced.co.uk or John Dickens on 07980 684746.

Wednesday 8th November 2023 Committee meeting 19.30 hrs Southport & Birkdale Social Club, Trafalgar Road.

Membership & Social Media Following

The group now has a membership of 126.

Facebook 908

Twitter 899

Please send to enquiries@samadvanced.co.uk

For more info visit

SAM Website www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/seftonam



find us at: twitter.com/SeftonIAM



find us at: facebook.com/SeftonAdvancedMotorists

Group Contact: John Dickens – 07980 684746

secretary@samadvanced.co.uk