

# UK MOTORCYCLING

Val Newman

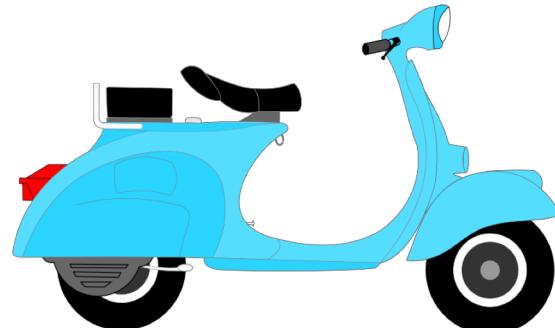
President WIMA GB



# UK MOTORCYCLING

By end of 2017 there were 37.7 million vehicles registered in the UK of which 12.4 million are motorcycles, scooters and mopeds.

**That's just 4% of all road users, but 20% of road fatalities**



# UK MOTORCYCLING CULTURE

Most motorcycles are used for pleasure riding, with many social meetings of groups like WIMA.



# UK MOTORCYCLING CULTURE

Throughout the spring and summer, there are BIKE NIGHTS. These began in Lincolnshire in the 1980's, and are, in general, hosted by pubs.

They are divided into Sport & Cruiser, although everyone is welcome at any event.



# UK MOTORCYCLING CULTURE

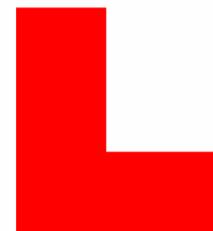
The biggest bike night is held in July at Barton-upon-Humber, attended by about 20,000 bikes – some very original!



# STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE IN THE UK

At 16 years old – a moped below 50 cc & below 4 kW

You must pass a CBT – Compulsory Basic Training and display L plates if you haven't passed the full test. You cannot take a pillion  
Over 16 - If you have passed a car test before February 2001 you do not need to take a CBT or display L plates.



# STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE IN THE UK

At 17 years old – a motorcycle up to 125cc and less than 11kW

You must pass a CBT – Compulsory Basic Training, and a motorcycle theory test.

You must display L plates if you haven't passed the 2 practical tests. You cannot take a pillion until you pass the full test.



# STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE IN THE UK

At 19 or over a motorcycle not exceeding 35kW

You must pass a CBT – Compulsory Basic Training, and a motorcycle theory test.

You must pass a 2 part practical test on motorcycle at least 395 cc and between 20kW – 35kW

This is an A2 licence



# STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE IN THE UK

At 20 – 23 years providing you have held an A2 licence for over 2 years if you pass a 2 part practical test on motorcycle at least 595 cc and at least 40kW you can ride any motorcycle.

At age 24 or over, providing you pass a CBT, theory test and the 2 part practical test (both parts taken within 6 months), you can ride any motorcycle. This is known as Direct Access.



# STEPS TO RIDING A BIKE IN THE UK

Until you pass all parts of your test, you may only ride on the road accompanied by an instructor, with intercom communication.

Your motorbike must pass a Ministry or Transport test known as MoT if it is over 3 years old. This test inspects roadworthiness

You must have insurance for the bike you are riding

It must have road tax

# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- **Helmet**
- You must wear a safety helmet when riding a motorcycle on the road. All helmets sold in the UK must comply with at least 1 of these:
  - British Standard BS 6658:1985 and carry the BSI (British Standards Institution) Kitemark
  - UNECE Regulation 22.05
  - any standard accepted by a member of the European Economic Area which offers a level of safety and protection equivalent to BS 6658:1985 and carry a mark equivalent to the BSI Kitemark
- You must wear glasses or contact lenses when you ride if you need them to read a number plate at the prescribed distance.



# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- **Visors and goggles**
- Your visors or goggles must comply with either:
  - a British Standard and displays a BSI Kitemark
  - a European standard which offers a level of safety and protection at least equivalent to the British Standard and carries a mark equivalent to the BSI Kitemark (ECE 22-05)

# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Most riders in the UK wear protective clothing.

This may be made of leather or textiles, with or without armour fitted. It is readily available in shops or on-line.



# MOTORCYCLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Reflective and/or fluorescent clothing helps you to be seen!



# MOTORCYCLE TRAINING

- Enhanced Rider Scheme
- Bike Safe
- BMF –Rider Plus & Blue Riband
- IAM – Advanced Rider course
- RSPA – Advanced Riding
- Motorcycle Safety Foundation
- Local courses and skill days

# BIKE SAFE

Run by 30 Police Forces across the UK to promote safer riding, and help prevent accidents.



# SHINY SIDE UP PROJECT

Started 15 years ago to promote safer riding and raise awareness of motorcycles and for motorcyclists.



# RIDING IN THE UK



We ride on the **LEFT HAND SIDE** of the road!

Speed limits in **MILES PER HOUR**

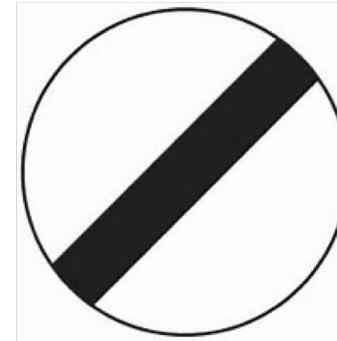
Road signs in **MILES**



**SPEED  
LIMIT**



# SPEED LIMITS



This sign means  
National Speed  
Limit

The MINIMUM speeding fine is £100, the maximum is £1000 or £2500 if on a motorway. There is no tolerance – even 1 mile an hour over the speed limit will result in a fine if you are caught.

# FILTERING...

Is legal when traffic is queuing, or moving VERY slowly.



# FILTERING... BE CAREFUL

one

**! FILTERING** may save you time but can be dangerous even for experienced riders

- Filtering is when a rider passes alongside queuing or slow moving traffic.
- Be especially careful as you filter past queuing traffic - watch for traffic pulling out through the queue from junctions and driveways. Pedestrians may also step out.
- Other vehicles will block your view of vehicles pulling out across the queue.
- Golden rule: Never filter at more than 10mph faster than slow/stationary traffic.

[www.bare-bones.org](http://www.bare-bones.org) 60% of motorcycle crashes occur at junctions [www.shinysideup.co.uk](http://www.shinysideup.co.uk)

# FILTERING... BE CAREFUL

The diagram shows a road junction from an overhead perspective. A red sign on the left reads "FILTERING" in large yellow letters, with a warning triangle icon and the word "two" above it. To the right of the sign, the text "vehicles turning out of queuing traffic" is displayed. The road has dashed white lines. On the left, three cars are shown: a yellow one, a blue one, and a black one that has just turned right, indicated by a red dashed arrow and a small explosion icon. On the right, two more cars are shown: a white one and a blue one. Below the road, two dark grey boxes contain safety tips:

- Drivers waiting in queuing traffic often lose patience and u-turn out of the queue without warning.
- Drivers indicating a right turn into a side road may be hidden by other vehicles.

- Filter with care, reduce your speed and make sure you can be seen. Use dipped headlights and bright/reflective clothing.
- Golden rule: Never filter at more than 10mph faster than slow/stationary traffic.

[www.bare-bones.org](http://www.bare-bones.org)   60% of motorcycle crashes occur at junctions   [www.shinysideup.co.uk](http://www.shinysideup.co.uk)

# FILTERING – BE CAREFUL

[www.shinysideup.co.uk/2015/content/filteringt  
hebigrisk](http://www.shinysideup.co.uk/2015/content/filteringt<br/>hebigrisk)

# Who Campaigns for Motorcycling?

- The Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) is a volunteer led riders' rights organisation that has been building in strength and diversity since it began in 1973.
- MAG campaigns to protect and promote motorcycling and the interests and rights of all riders, from learner to advanced. We celebrate biking and the freedoms and independence it provides, through our support of parties and rallies, sport and competition, touring and travel.
- MAG is the representative voice of riders in Local and National government and passionately defends all that is good about biking, mobilising riders through a local and regional branch structure.



# Who Campaigns for Motorcycling?

The British Motorcycle Federation's objective is to safeguard the rights of motorcyclists from the unnecessary interference by European, National, Local Government and anti-motorcycling campaign groups.



# GROUP RIDING

UK roads are often winding and narrow.

There WILL be hazards –  
pedestrians, cyclist, horse riders,  
tractors...

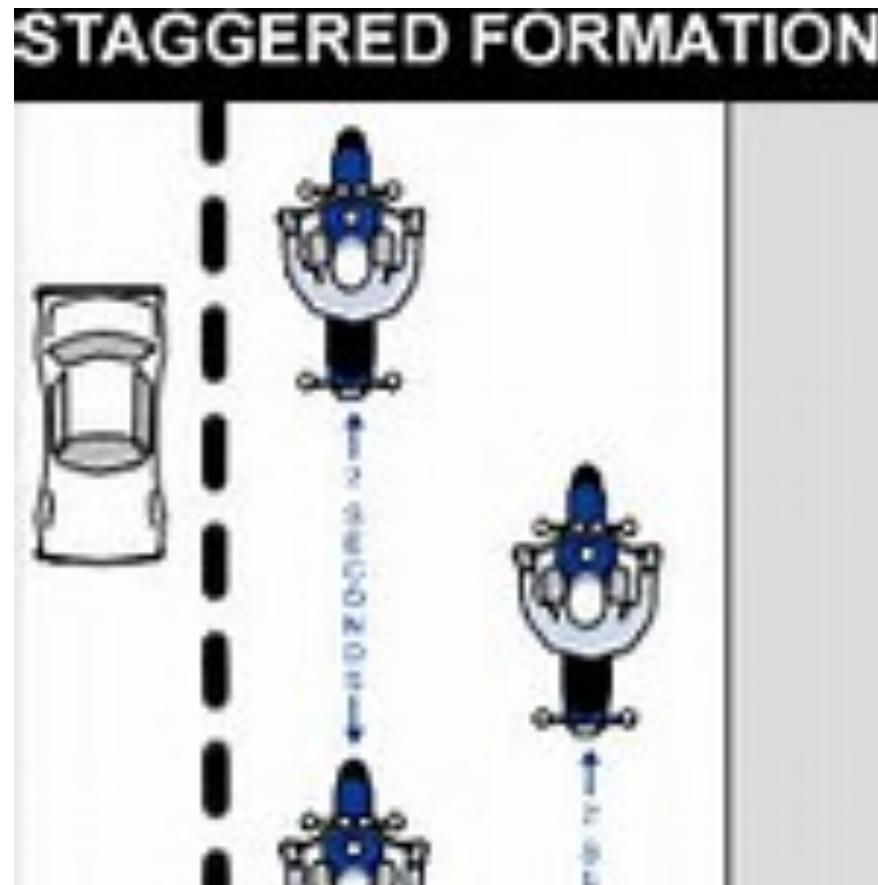
Your group only progresses at the speed and ability of the slowest rider.

We generally don't ride in groups bigger than 7. If there is more, we split into 2, and arrange a meeting point.



# GROUP RIDING

When riding on motorways and wider “A” roads, it is better to ride in a staggered formation.



# UK MOTORCYCLING

Riding in the UK is fun, but like riding in any country, you need to be aware of the law.

If you are involved in an accident, and the Police attend the scene, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE A BREATH TEST to see if you are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. If the breath test is positive, you will be taken to the police station for a blood and/or urine test.

# DRINK DRIVING LIMIT UK

The legal limit is:

35 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath

80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood

107 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of urine

If you are above these limits YOU WILL LOSE  
YOUR LICENCE AND BE HEAVILY FINED

# UK MOTORCYCLING

It rains a lot in the UK – carry waterproof clothing!



# UK MOTORCYCLING

It's never too early  
to test ride your  
next set of wheels!



# THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

My thanks to the following websites for permission to use their data, text & pictures:

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

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

[www.mag-uk.org](http://www.mag-uk.org)

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

[www.gov.uk/ride-motorcycle](http://www.gov.uk/ride-motorcycle)

[www.ons.gov.uk](http://www.ons.gov.uk)

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