

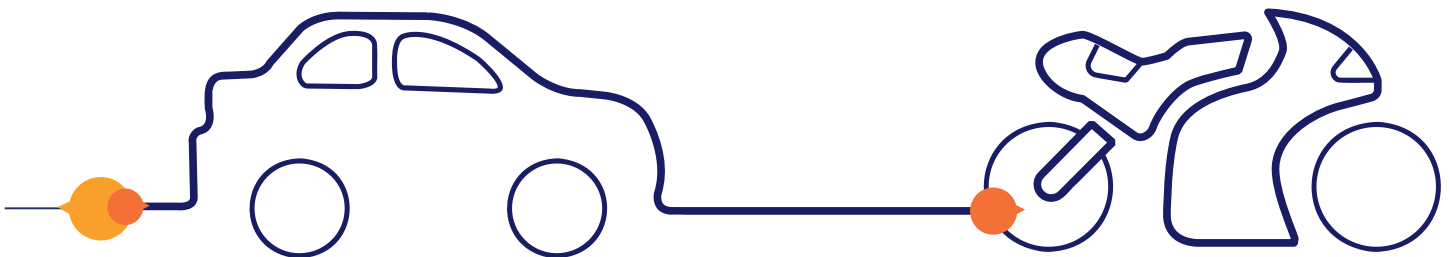


Regional Coordinator Newsletter April 2025



Allan Mauchline –Regions-
Scotland & Ireland

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Welcome to my April 2025 newsletter. Before I forget, I have been asked to alert all readers that if they know of any motorcyclists hailing from the Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and Moray areas, who may be interested in advanced rider training, that the Grampian Advanced Motorcyclists group are now fully RoSPA accredited and happy to assist. They can be contacted by email at Rospa.gam@hotmail.com or through their Secretary, John McAdoo, by phone on 07730911463.

I was shocked and disheartened to learn that Dr Karen MacDonnell is leaving RoSPA. Dr. MacDonnell has been a highly effective and leading part of RoSPA Scotland for the past 17 years and the ScORSA Project. For those of you who have not been involved with ScORSA, you may have witnessed her confident chairing the RoADAR Inaugural Webinar on the 25th of March. I am disheartened, as there is, as yet, no mention of replacing her position as Head of RoSPA Scotland.

Caitlin Taylor's (RoSPA Road Safety Manager) article 'Motorcycle Safety: addressing the urgent need for action' in the recent Care on the Road, highlights a real world issue constantly hitting the headlines everywhere. Namely, the vulnerability of motorcyclists on our roads. In the article, Caitlin mentions a couple of Scottish road safety events with particular mention of the involvement of IAM Roadsmart, when there were equally important road safety events with RoADAR involvement. However, the point made by the article on reducing motorcycle fatalities is extremely important.

This month's discussion Topic.

A driver survey report by Brake and AXA UK to find out about drivers' attitudes towards seat belts and safety systems in cars

Seat belts are one of the simplest and most effective ways to protect ourselves when travelling by car, yet many drivers and passengers are compromising their own safety – and the safety of those travelling with them – by choosing not to belt up on every journey.

Brake surveyed 2,016 car drivers about seat belts and other passive safety systems to prevent injury in a road crash. The survey was carried out in February 2024 by independent market research company, SurveyGoo.

This report highlights concern for the small but significant proportion of drivers who don't wear a seat belt on every journey, risking the safety of themselves, their passengers and other road users

It's worrying to see that young and male drivers are less likely to always wear a seat belt, both when driving and travelling as a passenger.

Young and newly qualified drivers are high-risk road users and often over-represented in collision data. In Britain, drivers aged 17–24 make up only 6% of total licence holders yet represent 18% of all car drivers killed and seriously injured. In 2022, 30% of young people aged 17–29 who died on roads weren't wearing a seat belt.

https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/reports/seat-belts-and-passive-safety-systems?mc_cid=44fab8a254&mc_eid=fa3cf4a4e0



Unfortunately, one year on from Brake's 2024 campaign, the message has not made any difference. New analysis published this year by The AA Charitable Trust shows almost half (43%) of young passengers (17-29 years) who are killed in car crashes are not belted. Wearing a seatbelt reduces the risk of death by around 50%, meaning up to around one quarter of all young car passenger deaths could be avoided if all young passengers put their belts on.

One simple strategy which may impact on this issue, is to develop technology to prevent the vehicle from starting if all required seatbelts are not fastened.

Additional RoADAR topics



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- 🗨️ RoSPA Testing: Fourteen RoSPA tests were taken in March in Scotland. There were four tests taken during March in the Republic of Ireland. While there was one test taken in North Cumbria and South West Scotland and also one taken in Northern Ireland.
- 🗨️ ScORSA –The April Road Safety Hour is entitled 'Speed and its Management'. This online event will be at 11am on Tuesday the 29th of April. Register for this event at <http://click.info.rosipa.com/click/gflt-5p0c0-mh0rx-b76q50/>
- 🗨️ I would like to ask all motorcycle members to remember if you have recently purchased new PPE, please consider donating your unused but useable PPE to a young rider who may not have the finances to purchase proper PPE.

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