



*"A good advanced course will show you what you didn't know you needed to know, as well as covering the areas that you thought were weak. Whenever possible the training will fit around your existing style of riding."*

# Survival Skills Rider Training Course Information

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# ABOUT SURVIVAL SKILLS

Today, there's a huge choice of organisations, training schools and independent instructors offering post-test training, but when Survival Skills opened in 1997, there was little choice for riders who wanted to learn better skills without having to train for an advanced test.

Survival Skills was almost certainly the first school to move away from a conventional 'police roadcraft' based approach to a more modern, holistic approach that delivers what's now called 'insight' training. Rather than simply focus on 'more skills', our courses look at where crashes happen, how and why they happen, and how to avoid making our own mistakes as well as avoiding mistakes made by other road users. The ideas that make Survival Skills courses unique have contributed to the new 'No Surprise? No Accident!' rider safety campaign: [www.facebook.com/NoSurpriseUK](http://www.facebook.com/NoSurpriseUK)

# The NO SURPRISE campaign

There is an increasing awareness that training courses that focus on a 'more skills' approach to riding are not having the benefits they were thought to have. Although riders in the UK are less likely to be killed or injured, we are still having exactly the same crashes we had 60 years when the first rider training took place, and there's no compelling evidence that riders with advanced training are any better at dealing with emergencies than novice riders or even untrained riders in third world countries.

Why? Because neither novices nor highly-qualified riders are trained to deal with genuine emergencies. The key factor is surprise. Some panic, grab the brakes and crash but many freeze when they could have taken evasive action. 'No Surprise' argues that riders should be taught to predict the circumstance in which emergencies can arise.

# YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Your instructor is Kevin Williams MSc BTEC. Kevin is one of the most experienced instructors in the UK. After graduating with a higher degree in the sciences, he worked for sixteen years in the motorcycle courier industry, gaining hundreds of thousands of miles of practical riding experience in all conditions. From 1995 to 2007, Kevin was also a basic instructor, responsible for training approximately two thousand riders. Kevin opened Survival Skills in 1997, gained an EDEXCEL-moderated training qualification soon after, and has gone on to run over one thousand post-test and advanced courses.

Kevin's science background has allowed him to create carefully-researched courses that offer a completely fresh look at riding whilst delivering a standard of training significantly higher than the DVSA's Enhanced Rider Course or the IAM's Skills for Life package.

# YOUR INSTRUCTOR 2



Kevin's expertise has been recognised by outside bodies. He researched and storyboarded the 'Lucky 13' series of rider safety cartoons by the European Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (ACEM). He was an approved assessor for the Bucks CC 'Be a Better Biker' scheme and helped set up Somerset Road Safety Partnership's 'Better Biking' days where he delivered an innovative roadcraft module. Most recently, Kevin created and now presents the 'Science of Being Seen' module for the Kent Fire and Rescue 'Biker Down' initiative which was awarded an international road safety award in 2012. Kevin also delivers a roadcraft module for KFRS's 'Ride Skills' days at Brands Hatch.

Kevin had a regular safety column to 'The Road' magazine from 2002 to 2012, and contributed articles to BIKE, RiDE, Two Wheels Only, Superbike and the Daily Telegraph.

# SURVIVAL SKILLS COURSES

**Confidence: BUILDER** - a One Day course for newly qualified or returning riders, or riders who know they have a weakness that needs fixing

**Performance: BENDS** - a One Day course for recreational riders who wish to improve their corner skills

**Performance: SPORT** - a TWO DAY course covering the content of the above course plus a range of new techniques including braking into and mid-corner and body-weighting

**Survival: URBAN** - a One Day course suitable for commuters

**Survival: SKILLS** - a balanced Two Day course covering rural and urban riding skills

**Short Courses** - a range of inexpensive Two Hour courses to focus on particular issues

More details available by downloading the appropriate PDF.

# ABOUT THE COURSES

No previous knowledge (other than the Highway Code) is assumed or required. Progress-oriented 'police pursuit' style riding is not required. Rather, the aim is to give you the skills and knowledge to make your own decisions and pick your own pace. Neither are you tied to a particular style of riding needed to pass an advanced test. By recognising all riders are different, I can address your own skills and weaknesses as well as your own riding needs, and help you develop your own style.

One, two and three day courses utilise short, intensive 5 - 5½ hour-long sessions. Day-long courses begin at either 10 am or 12 noon over with a coffee so you get a break after riding to meet me. With a mid-course lunch break, we finish at 3 pm / 5 pm with a verbal debrief. A written debrief will follow via email. Ask about our evening training in summer.



# LOCATION

Scheduled training courses (except adventure training courses) run from **Oxford, NW London / Buckinghamshire** or **Kent**. By prior arrangement, courses can be run at a UK location of the customer's choosing with an extra charge to cover fuel / accommodation costs as necessary. More details on request.

All Kent dates can usually be taken in **Northern France** between mid-April and mid-October. More details on request.

Adventure training courses are run at intervals through the year in locations such as **mid-Wales** and **Devon**. More details on request.



# BOOKING

Survival Skills post-test and advanced training courses are available from MARCH to NOVEMBER (although it may be possible to run one-off courses outside of these dates. Training is available on weekdays, weekends, bank holidays and summer evenings.

Please note all open dates are available on a first come, first served basis, so I recommend you get back to me to RESERVE a date as quickly as possible. Remember, weekends and bank holidays book up particularly quickly.

Once you have reserved a date, I will hold it for SEVEN days pending receipt of your DEPOSIT of £100 PER DAY of the course. Payment details will be included with your reservation. For short 2 hour courses, full payment is required.

# CANCELLATION POLICY 1

If I do not receive your deposit within 7 days, I will assume you do not wish to take up your provisional booking, the date will be released and you may lose your first choice date.

**IMPORTANT:** A deposit of £100 PER DAY (or full payment for short courses) is required to confirm a booking. Under Consumer Contracts Regulations, you have a 14 day cooling off period beginning the day after the course was confirmed by email in which to claim a full refund. If you cancel the course more than 28 days before the first day, a full refund will be made, otherwise the deposit is NON-REFUNDABLE. However, if you give 48 HOURS NOTICE of a cancellation, I'll simply reschedule the course for a mutually convenient date with no charge. If you cancel the course with less than 48 hours notice, the deposit is non-refundable, and a new booking must be made.

# CANCELLATION POLICY 2

## **BAD WEATHER:**

Training is weather-dependent. If there are potential safety issues (eg, a Met Office weather warning has been issued), then I will postpone the session and rearrange it for a later mutually convenient date. Whilst I train in 'ordinary' bad weather, if the conditions deteriorate so that I feel you are no longer gaining anything from the training, I will recommend abandoning the session and rescheduling.

Survival Skills cannot accept any liability for reimbursement of any costs incurred whatsoever in relation to training courses or other events. Survival Skills reserves the right to amend or cancel any course, course times, dates or published prices. For details of current prices and offers please visit the Survival Skills website or email at:

[www.survivalskills.co.uk](http://www.survivalskills.co.uk) [info@survivalskills.co.uk](mailto:info@survivalskills.co.uk)

# FAQ 1

Q: What do I need to know to take Survival Skills training course?

A: Other than a working knowledge of the Highway Code, no prior knowledge is assumed or required. Survival Skills courses are suitable for all styles of rider, or all ages and on all machines 125 and up. I'll discuss your experience and needs and help you select the right course to match the kind of riding you do and the improvements you want to see.

If you're still not sure, you can book an inexpensive riding assessment to ensure you're on the right course.

## FAQ 2



Q: Will I have to make progress or ride faster than I'm comfortable when I'm training?

A: No. I can't emphasise this enough. Speed and 'making progress' in general should be a personal choice, and one made only after considering all the circumstances. It shouldn't be something that needs to be demonstrated to tick a box for an examiner.

Q: Isn't all advanced training the same?

A: It certainly shouldn't be. If it is, it's 'teacher-centric', not 'trainee-centric'. A teacher-centric course delivers what the organisation thinks the client should need, not what the client actually wants or even needs. With Survival Skills, you come first.