

I.A.M. group York

In March 1982 Bernard Smith chairman of the Dronfield group in Sheffield and North East organiser advertised in the local paper for any advanced drivers to meet him at the Buckles inn on Tadcaster Rd to see if a sub group could be formed in York. A second meeting there in April invited anyone who wished to come along and have a drive with an observer from Sheffield. From that the sub group was formed with the following people appointed to run the group. Chairman Tom Robertson, Secretary Oona Flynn, Treasurer Robert Senior, Vice Chair & training Alan Greenheld.

Committee, Margaret Ponton(daughter of Doug Petty) Ann Walker, Connie Warley, Flora Cooper, Carole Packer, Philip Burrage, Bernard Horton, Len Hutchinson, Robert Marshall, Albert Murcutt & Trevor Jackson (who was also the first examiner)

The first meeting was held at the Ainsty Hotel on the 5th of May. The first mass guidance was held on the 9th May when 34 associates turned up to be taken out. On Sunday the 16th of May the first meeting of observers was held at the Fox & Hounds at Copmanthorpe.. Permission was given to use the car park at the technical college for the Sunday mass guidance

The second meeting was held on the 1st of June at the Ainsty Hotel where I(Doug Petty) gave a talk on car maintenance.

I had by this time been taken out on a number of occasions and had taken my test with Trevor Jackson and became a full member on the 5th of June. I was then presented with a leather licence holder engraved to show that I was the first person to take the test in York under the York group. This means that on the 6th June this year I will have been an advanced driver and a member of the York group for 25 years. During that time I have been a committee member, editor of the news letter Technical writer, Chairman, Observer & news letter distributor and I am now proud and pleased to be a life member.

In July motor cyclist Graham Hatch embarked on a sponsored ride from Lands End to John O! Groats to raise money to start a motor cycle group in York.

In August there were 104 associates on the books 91 of which had been allocated to observers 5 to be allocated and 8 at that time not active. Jan 1983 saw a total of 251 members and May 19 83 saw this rise to 362.

On the 26th September we held a mass guidance at Tadcaster at the request of Councillor Frith and on the 3rd of Oct we held one at Kirbymoore side.

In Oct the group had grown to a total of 106 full members, 106 associates, 2 L drivers & 5 non drivers.

The groups first birthday on the 31st of March 1983 was celebrated by holding a birthday party at the Viking hotel on the 14th of April

On the 24th November 1982 a party went to Scarborough to help form a sub group there and on the 5th Dec again a number of observers went to help with their first mass guidance.

Two of the important things that the group took part in for a number of years was first the York Lord Mayors parade when we would decorate a loaned lorry and take part handing out leaflets etc .

The other was the John Smiths driver of the year competition held annually and the York group devised the tests and test route and carried out the testing In Nov 1983 John Miller became the second examiner.

Now a list of the Chairmen of the group from its formation.

Tom Robertson , Jeff Vanham , Doug Petty , Peter Jackson , Terina Hurley , Alec Dobinson , John Potter , Shiela Broxup , Steve Plunton , & Johnathan Drinkwater.

Secretaries . Oonagh Flynn , Margaret Mardell , Linda Tindall , Paul Dodds , Terina Hurley , Janet Light , Steven Cave , Di Haughton , Derek Steele , Valerie Waller & Margaret Williamson

Presidents Frank Morritt & Jim Boam.

In 1984 we also bought our first caravan ,this we bought from Len Hutchinson ,one of the committee members and used it for many years at all the mass guidances and driver of the year competitions..

,these were always supported by a number of suppliers and manufacturers .and held for many years at the Rowntree car park opposite the factory.

Also of course we must not forget the great contribution made to all of these events by the police and in particular by Jim Boam.