



E-Newsletter

April 2019



Registered Charity No. 1054403
IAM RoadSmart Group No. 1067

Coming Up...

2nd May 2019
19:30

Group Meeting

Open to members & public.

6th June 2019
19:30

Committee Meeting

15th June 2019
10:00 – 16:30

Introduction to Advanced Driving Seminar

Open to members & public

18th July 2019
19:30

Observers Meeting

Membership

Members:	128
Fellows:	04
Associates:	43
Friends:	02
Honorary members:	05
PCC Applications:	02

Total Membership: 217

National Observers:	14
Local Observers:	03
Trainee Observers:	01

Total Observers: 18

New Associates this year:	07
Test Passes this year:	06
F1RST passes this year:	02

Welcome New Members

Julian Moss
Michael O'Neill
Craig Edwards
Matthew Copas
Victoria Copas
Harry Harrison
Antony Draper
Braydon Burgess
Carlos Novoth
Tony Michael

Connect with Us

Catch us online

www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/gam

Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/GlosIAM

Follow us on Twitter

www.twitter.com/GlosIAM

Gentle Reminder:
Our subscriptions were due on the 1st January 2019. If you are still yet to pay, please contact membership@glosiam.org.uk 07801 716443

Next Group Meeting: Electric Cars

Our next meeting on 2nd May is about Electric Cars development. Matt Cleveley runs a specialist electric car showroom in Cheltenham and will be talking to us about the state of the art so far and future developments. Do come along and meet our regular attendees, enjoy a cuppa, chat about advanced driving and learn something new.

Group Meeting: Roundabouts of Britain

At the Group meeting on 7th March, Kevin Beresford, President of Roundabouts of Britain gave us an amusing account of Roundabouts around UK and the World. The organisation collects photographs of notable roundabouts and publishes a calendar each year. Roundabouts are classified by type and Kevin described each picture accordingly. A roundabout with gardens on it was called a 'Tichmarsh'; One with a brick kerb could be called a 'Redbrick'. The combinations became complex, but very funny. An enjoyable evening was had by all that attended.

Check out:

www.roundaboutsofbritain.com



Chairman's Chat

Greetings. Spring has definitely sprung early this year and my wife and I are off to drive around the Yorkshire Dales for a few days. I am looking forward to the route up through Buttertubs pass.

The show season kicks off on 23rd April at the Newent School Road Safety Day. Andrew Cook and Jean Sheraton will be officiating. On 12th May we shall be at the Prescott Hill Climb Classics where we will have prime position on the track side of the public footbridge. Do come and visit the stand if you are attending. At the end of June we will be at the Pied Piper Summer show at Highnam Court as usual. The organisers are promising that the show, formerly known as the Gloucester Motor Show, will be bigger and better this year. Make a diary note to visit.

I have just purchased an upgraded projector for the Group which will be much brighter and with better definition than our 2004 model. Do come along to our next meeting on 2nd May and see the difference.

This is the time of the year, with lighter evenings and better weather, where we can offer refresher training to our members. Would you like to see if you have retained the Advanced skills? Members' check drives are available with our Observers. Contact the Membership Secretary or Chief Observer if you would like to take advantage. Also, why not come along to Mike Addis's "Introduction to Advanced Driving Seminars" for a refresher. The next is on 15th June.

For those of you who do not regularly attend our Group meetings, we are very open to suggestions on what you would like from the Group. What about a social event or BBQ in the Summer?, or some drive outs to meet up at local places of interest? Please drop me a line or contact us via the website and social media. The Group exists for you, the members, as well as to attract drivers to take up the challenge of becoming better and safer on our roads.

Happy & Safe Driving,

Rod Harrison



From the Secretary

Somewhere along the line we have launched headlong into the year, the clocks have moved forwards (maybe for the last time), and show season is not far away.

Since buying the XJ back in 2010 slowly the rear end has gotten closer to the ground, initially it was just when the boot was loaded up that the rear mud flaps would scrape the road on cornering. This has transformed into with both fuel tanks full and no passengers the mud flaps will scrape the ground on cornering, so it's time to sort things out!

Now it sounds easy to check the part number and order what's needed, but alas like all classic car ownership things never quite go to plan.

Finally I have the parts all ready to go, but the Vehicle Maintenance Centre at work has been closed as the wiring has been condemned. So it looks like this will have to be done on the drive, with all the challenges that are associated.

Oh well, it should keep me out of trouble for a few days, at the same time restoring the XJ back to the luxury cruiser it should be.

Matt Budrey



Contact the Editor

Do you have any comments, suggestions, general feedback about this newsletter?

Would you like to submit content to be considered for the newsletter?

Please send your messages to Mel, our Editor, at: editor@glosiam.org.uk

Notes from the Chief Observer

Fixed Speed Cameras

The first speed camera – or safety camera, to use the official terminology – was installed on the A316 over Twickenham bridge in 1992. It was a Gatso device, & the trigger speed was set at 60mph: the A416 had a 40mph speed limit. 22 days after being turned on, it caught nearly 23,000 drivers speeding at over 65mph.

Figures from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) reveal inappropriate speed contributes to 12% of all injuries, 15% of serious injuries & 26% of deaths on the road.

The law states that you are liable for a speeding fine when you exceed the limit, so if you're doing 31mph in a 30 limit for example, you're breaking the law & could receive a fine.

The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) suggests giving drivers '10% plus 2' leeway, to aid police officers in using 'discretion', however, it is a recommendation, **not the law**. This is totally dependent on the officer who catches the speeder, & it is up to them whether to fine the offender or not. It can also depend on the area's policy AND the attitude of the driver!

Mobile Speed Cameras

The majority are run by local police forces & reside on accident blackspots where there is a history of road traffic incidents over a three year or more period. There are also mobile speed cameras used as part of safety camera partnership teams & speed safety campaigns. These cameras can take on a number of forms, working from marked or unmarked cars, as well as being manually operated by police officers using radar guns & laser guns.

FAQs

Q. How far away does a mobile speed camera work from?

A. On a straight section of road the typical range for a mobile speed camera is two miles. They can't, however, record around bends or over brows of hills.

Q. Can you get caught behind another car?

A. As long as the speed camera operator can see and target your vehicle they will be able to get a reading of your speed. This is because the laser beam emitted by a mobile speed camera when it hits your vehicle, can be as small as 10cm in diameter

Average Speed Cameras (SPECS Cameras)

Introduced in 1999, these are becoming an increasingly common on UK roads. They use Automatic Number Plate Reading (ANPR) digital technology to record a date/time stamp as you pass between two cameras, enabling the computer to calculate your average speed.

Figures suggest that 263 miles of the UK's roads are covered by permanent average speed cameras, including the 99-mile stretch on the A9! Plus those for long-term roadworks.

Robert Pepper
Chief Observer



Bank holiday getaway

Tips from IAM RoadSmart

If you're planning a bank holiday getaway then be sure to read our tips on how you can make your journey a safe and stress-free one. Here's IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards, Richard Gladman, to help you prepare for your trip.



A little preparation goes a long way.

- Take some time to check your vehicle inside and out before you set off. Check the tyre pressure and fluid levels are right and make sure your car ancillaries are working properly
- Secure your luggage in your boot so it's out of the way and doesn't obstruct your view
- Give yourself plenty of time for the journey and check the news for any traffic updates and roadworks nearby
- If you're travelling during the early hours of the day or late in the evening make sure you take some rest beforehand and eat something light so you don't feel sluggish before you leave
- If you plan on using a sat-nav don't forget to programme in the destination before you leave and check it. Leave plenty of time for the journey so you don't find yourself pushed for time.
- Make sure you take regular rest breaks to split up the journey when driving on a long, boring stretch of a motorway. It's good practise to stop at least every two hours

Richard said: "With so much planning involved in a holiday, many of us forget about the first bit – how we get to our destination.

"If your journey is a long one, take some time to plan where and when you will be taking a break – just so you can get a little rest and have some water to stay hydrated. Enjoy the journey and more importantly, enjoy the getaway."

Test Ready Associates

Phillip Smart
Evelyn Gyll
Tony Michael

Do Not Disturb!

Police forces across the UK will step up efforts to catch drivers using a mobile phone next week, as part of a nationwide campaign.

The week-long campaign, which launches on Monday (15 April), is being coordinated by the **National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC)** – with a warning that one moment of distraction can lead to 'devastating consequences'.

The NPCC says enforcement activity will be stepped up during the campaign, to ensure that motorists adhere to 'road safety rules'.

In Avon and Somerset, police officers will use the campaign to remind drivers of the penalties given to those who use their mobile phone at the wheel.

Drivers are also **being encouraged to turn off their phones**, lock them away in the glove box and switch on 'do not disturb' mode.

In the south east, Kent County Council's road safety team is running a month long campaign to remind drivers of the distraction that using a phone creates, straddling the enforcement focus from Kent Police.

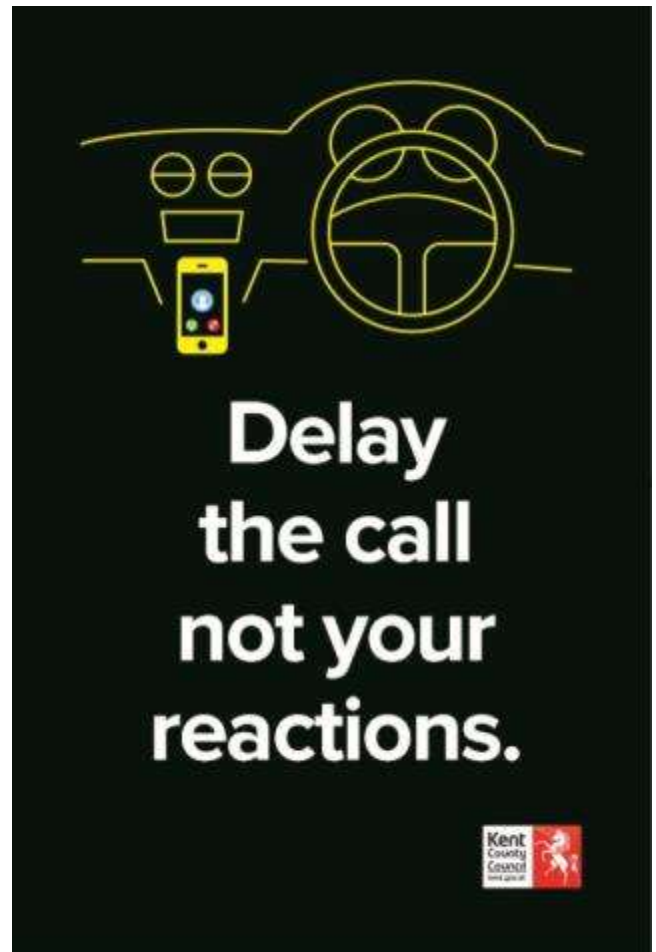
The Kent campaign, in support of their police partners, is using On Demand TV, social media and small road side posters (*pictured right*) to highlight the impact that phone use can have on reaction times.

Meanwhile in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, the message being shared by the police is '**don't be distracted, just drive**'.

Sgt Ian Manley from local roads policing unit, said: "There are serious and sometimes fatal consequences of using your phone whilst behind the wheel.

"I would ask all drivers: is it really worth it? The answer is of course no so please turn your phone off, on do not disturb or put it where you won't be distracted by it or be tempted to pick it up."

Since 2016, drivers caught using their mobile phone face being given six points on their licence, and a £200 fine.



CC Anthony Bangham, NPCC lead for roads policing, said: "Driving while distracted by a mobile phone is completely unacceptable and puts everyone on the roads at risk of serious harm, one moment of distraction can lead to devastating consequences.

"There are tougher penalties now in place to clamp down on this dangerous behaviour and police forces across the UK will step up enforcement activity during this mobile phone operation period.

"Forces already work all year round to ensure motorists adhere to roads safety rules, which are in place to protect the public."

DISCOUNT – In store at Chester Barrie

To all group members and families,

Enjoy a discount of 30% off the retail price on men's clothing with Chester Barrie (concession department within Cavendish house in the basement).

For all your clothing needs, each season, and Richard James designer clothing for the slimmer man! Both of these companies have shops in Savile Row in London.

We stock a wide range of Simon Carter of London, clothing famous for their colourful designer shirts, including vintage cars!

Just ask for Keith or Rory, department manager when calling in.

This offer is only with our concession and not with other departments or concessions within the store. Discount does not apply online.

FOR SALE: PROJECTOR



We are selling the group's old Group Projector: Epson SVGA, 2000 Lumens. Comes with case and power lead. Model EMP-54. Offers welcome.

We Have to Praise You, Like We Should!

Send us in your photos of your test pass!

Test Passes This Month Are:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Observer</u>
22/02	Derek Hewitson	Richard Lee
14/03	Carlos Novoth	Oakley Petts
29/03	Malintha Warahenage Don	Sylvia Martin FIRST

Awards Presented at the Latest Group Meeting


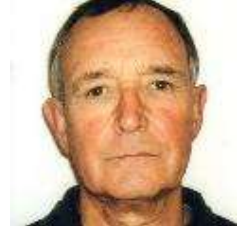




The latest awards to be presented to group members upon passing their tests are:



Susan Harries
Andrew Bowden



Heather Hobbs
Klim Seabright

<p>Rod Harrison Chairman</p>	<p>01451 821 605 chairman@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Matthew Budrey Secretary</p>	<p>07719 030 199 secretary@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Richard Lee Treasurer</p>	<p>treasurer@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Andrew Bowden Membership Secretary</p>	<p>07801 716443 membership@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Mel Higgins Editor</p>	<p>editor@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Andrew Cook Associate Coordinator</p>	<p>asco@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Robert Pepper Chief Observer</p>	<p>coc@glosiam.org.uk</p>	
<p>Michael Bennett Young Driver Ambassador</p>	<p>youngdriver@glosiam.org.uk</p>	