

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter



ARE WE THERE YET

February 2016

**Group Number 4178
Registered Charity No. 1053843**



www.iamgroups.org.uk/midyorkshire

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

- Page 3** **All about the forthcoming gatherings.**
- Page 4-6** **Group Membership News.**
4. Welcome, Congratulations & Get well
5. Members' Birthdays & Attendance award continues.
- Page 6** **MYAM On Line. Forum, Website and Facebook**
- Page 7** **Theory Session 2 for all Associates**
- Page 8** **Observers' page**
- Page 9** **Group Notices Inc. Directions to the Manor**
- Page 10** **Winter Tyres by Peter Doyle IAM Examiner**
- Page 11**
- Page 11-13** **IAM News Releases.**
- IAMs Peter Roger becomes Honorary life member of AIRSO.
 - Four of the five worst driving licence penalty point holders not banned
- Page 14-15** **Driving tips from the IAM. Mark Lewis IAM director of Standards**
- Don't be gone with the wind Don't
- Page 16** **And Finally.....**
- Page 17** **Your Committee contact details.**

FORTHCOMING GATHERINGS

Date	Meetings	Location
Monday 1st February 8pm	MYAM Social evening. Speaker is our very own Ken Sykes who is giving us a first aid talk including demonstrating how to give the 'Kiss of Life'.	The Manor Golf Club. (See page 11 for directions)
Sunday 7th February 9.30 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Look for the caravan.	B&Q Car Park, Aspen way, Glasshoughton, Castleford.
Wednesday 17th February 7.30pm	Theory Session 2 For all Associates and any members who have not so far attended	The Manor Golf Club (see page 9)
Sunday 21st February 10am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Free tea or coffee.	McDonalds on the roundabout with Oakwood Lane and Easterly Road LS8 2RB
Sunday 6th March 9.30 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Look for the caravan.	B&Q Car Park, Aspen way, Glasshoughton, Castleford.
Monday 7th March 8pm	MYAM Social evening. Speaker to be confirmed	The Manor Golf Club

Everyone is welcome at these events and they are an ideal opportunity to meet new people socially, find out about what is going on within the Group and listen to an interesting talk on a variety of topics, sharing our skills with other serious drivers and keeping up-to-date on club and driving matters.

Will any Member wishing to have an item, article or picture included in the newsletter please submit it to the editor no later than the 15th of the month, these may be edited to save space. Thank you.

ALL ISSUES OF 'ARE WE THERE YET' ARE ON THE GROUP WEB SITE

Welcome to the Group

Ayesha Cantrell
William Dobbins
Musherraf Asghar
Keith Norton

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Hazel Pike Observed by Rob Blackshaw

David Moon Observed by David Jackson

Nigel Butterfield gaining a F1rst pass

Observed by Chris Brown

Get well soon

Two of our members to my knowledge have been in hospital this last month, **Cyndy Walker Firth** and **Graham James**. We hope that you are both on the road to recovery and hope that you are up and about soon.

Newsletter Editor required

If you would like to take on the mantle of the MYAM newsletter editor please let any of Committee know. If no one comes forward it may well be that we lose this vital means of communication

GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Happy Birthday this month goes to

Peter Duffy, Reg Melton, Stephen Callaghan, Gary Skyrme, Mike Bell, Andrea Siviter, Jay Patel, Stephen Furness, Richard Hawkes, Elsie Howes, Stephen Kettlewell, Brian Laycock, Marcia Martell, Paul Midgley, Ronald Mooney, David Parry, David Roberts, Debbie Rosen, Paul Taylor, Alan Walker, Terence Paul, Gary Taylor, Stuart Robertshaw, Christian Pithers & Richard Brook.

Attendance award to continue.

I am pleased to confirm that the Committee has approved the continuation of the Annual Attendance Award.

This award is given to any member (other than the committee) who attends 10 or more of the monthly social evenings at the Manor Golf club. In order to qualify, the member must sign in the attendance book at every meeting making the signature clear to read. The awards of £10 will be presented at the December and January Socials.

Carr Gate visit Wednesday 14th September

We have booked a visit to the West Yorkshire Police's brand new world class training facility at Carr Gate near Wakefield. The Helicopter, Driver Training, Firearms and the Stables are just a few of the departments located there. The visit will be between 1pm & 3pm and we are limited to 20 people. If you are interested please contact Francis Lintott with your email and telephone details. More details of the guided tour to follow nearer the date.



GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

MYAM Online

MYAM now has an extensive 'on line' communication set up. This is for the benefit of you, our members and the web site is our window for potential customers.

MYAM launches its own Forum for all members

Following the January meeting the MYAM forum was opened up to all MYAM members at myam.icyboards.net. Just register, answering a few easy questions and David Rushfirth will get you up and running in no time. Soon you can be exchanging comments and ideas with other members and keeping up to date with what's going on.



We have a Facebook page providing details of events and local news. Go and visit www.facebook.com/midyorkshireiam and like our page. How about inviting a few of your Facebook friends to like our page too. It helps getting our name out there.



MYAM web site for all your information go to www.iamGroups.org.uk/midyorkshire

Diary date correction. The August Social is the 1st of August and not the 8th as shown in last month's newsletter.

GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

ASSOCIATES AND MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE

2ND THEORY TRAINING EVENING AT THE MANOR.

WEDNESDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2016

As you are all aware we offer classroom theory session which we strongly suggest all Associates should attend as part of their course.



This session covers different topics from the first one held in January and it is to your advantage that you attend both.

These evenings are **open to all members** and especially to those who have completed their courses in between the classroom sessions. We have had several comments about the first session saying how much they enjoyed and learnt from the evening.

February's meeting. Vital skills will be taught

A not to miss opportunity to get some hands on first aid and lifesaving skills. Ken will be teaching us how to do mouth to mouth amongst other vital techniques. Also special thanks to Francis who will be bringing some mannequins for us to use.

Group Secretary Required

If you have good organisation and communication skills and would like to be more involved in your charity this could be for you. If would like to know about what's involved please ask any of the group's officers for more details.

Observers' Page

TEST PASSES

When your Associate is successful on the test please will you send a quick email to the Membership Secretary and copy in the Newsletter Editor and Web Master so that the relevant publications can be updated as soon as possible. Thank you.

Testimonials

Please ask your Associates that have just passed the test to consider giving a testimonial for the web site as this is useful to our prospective members.

SUNDAYS PROVING POPULAR

The Sunday skills sessions are proving very popular, so Observers please, if you can spare a few hours, your company would be appreciated. Try to encourage your Associates to attend as part of their training and especially if their 6th drive assessment is due. If you are training as an Observer this is a good opportunity to see how different people do it. Also if you want to take the National Observer test or find out more about Masters then there should be someone there to help. So Sundays caters for all of your needs and we look forward to seeing you soon.

ALLOCATION OF OBSERVERS

Please remember that no matter how close you are to a new Associate it is the function of the Membership Secretary to do the allocations. By all means register a willingness to take on a new Associate with him/her but do not promise as it may well be that an Observer who hasn't had one for a while is waiting for the opportunity.

GROUP NOTICES

MYAM Polo shirts

MYAM embroidered Polo Shirts are available for you to purchase at the Group Socials. They are black and available in various men's and ladies sizes, embroidered with the IAM logo and Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists. They are proving very popular. COST £5 for a limited period only.

(Note from editor: "they don't need ironing which is a bonus")

Speaker Secretary required

Can you help out booking and arranging for the Speakers at the Monthly Socials? We only need 10 speakers a year but we need a volunteer to arrange it. If you can help please let any of Committee know.

Directions to the Manor Golf Club,

Bradford Road, Drighlington, Bradford, BD11 1AB

The carpark is well lit and for those who find walking difficult please park to the right hand side of the entrance where there is a ramp up to the doors.

Directions.

The Manor Golf Club is situated on the B6135, half a mile off the A650. If travelling from M62, M621 exit at Junction 27 onto the A650 to Bradford. At the second roundabout take the third exit onto the B6135, the entrance is on the left, immediately after the change in speed limit to 40.

From the A58 Leeds turn right at the traffic lights in Drighlington towards Bradford and the entrance is on the right immediately before the national speed limit sign.

From A58 Halifax turn left at the traffic lights in Drighlington towards Bradford and the entrance is on the right immediately before the national speed limit sign.

Winter Tyres



A few years ago Peter Dole IAM examiner wrote this us and I thought it would be timely to include it again.

I have fitted snow Tyres for as long as I can remember now. Mainly because I have always lived at the top of a hill and wouldn't have got out otherwise! They really do make a difference both in the snow and when the temperature drops below 7 degrees. The tread pattern is different and there are more blocks to grip in the snow and slush.

A warning though. There are a number of tyre places which sell winter Tyres which have been imported from the continent. These may seem a bargain but there is a reason they are exported from the likes of Germany. They have passed their best and are illegal over there! They have often had puncture repairs and are difficult to match. On the sidewall there is a series of four numbers which identify when they were manufactured. For example 0402 would mean they were made in the fourth week of 2002 making them 9 yrs old. The rubber has by this time lost it's flexibility and does not work as well.

At the moment Costco have an offer on Tyres if anyone has a card to get in. If you buy 4 Tyres you get 20% off. This includes snow tyres. You could get 2 Tyres of one size and 2 of another size for the deal so 2 people could share.

They are Michelin Tyres and are a little expensive but are one of the best and would last a few years. After all what price is safety and I can assure you that it will bring a smile to your face when you drive past a 4x4 which is stuck! It really makes a difference and if you have been stuck before you will wonder how you managed without.

Example of price when I last visited was for a 205/55 16 Michelin Alpin £100 before the 20% discount making them £80.

Hope this wasn't too boring but I like to share my experiences for the benefit of others.

IAM News releases

IAMs Peter Roger becomes Honorary life member of AIRSO 21.1.16

The Institute of Advanced Motorists' (IAM) head of driving advice, Peter Rodger, has been presented with an Honorary Life Membership from the Association of Industrial Road Safety Officers (AIRSO).

AIRSO, a charity that has been dedicated to the delivery of road safety education and training for over 50 years, held the ceremony during its Annual General Meeting at The Oxford Hotel in Oxford on 20 January to present a number of awards to individuals who have contributed to road safety. Peter was recognised as only the 12th individual to become an Honorary Life Member in the last 25 years.

Peter was rewarded for his long-standing contribution to road safety during his time at the Metropolitan Police and at the IAM. His career in the police force spanned 30 years, where he served as an inspector in traffic patrol and driver and rider training for lorries, buses and motorcycles, as well as in training to fellow police officers involved in collision investigation and traffic laws.

Peter joined the IAM in 2005 as chief examiner and regularly spoke at conferences and in the media on road safety issues surrounding driving and riding.

Alongside being a member of the IAM, Peter is also a member of the Motor Schools Association.

On presenting the certificate the chair of AIRSO, Dr Lucy Rackliff, said: "We are proud to honour Peter Rodger with Honorary Life Membership. His contribution to road safety has played a key role in raising the standards of driving and riding for over 30 years. And his continuous efforts to making our roads safer must not go unnoticed."

AIRSO continues to play an influential role in reducing the number of road casualty incidents on busy and often congested roads by providing support to practitioners from the voluntary, statutory and private sectors.

Ken Keir, IAM's chairman, said: "We are delighted that Peter's ongoing commitment to improving road safety has been recognised by AIRSO. We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Peter on becoming an Honorary Life Member of AIRSO – he truly deserves it."

Four of the five worst driving licence penalty point holders not banned 8.1.16

Three drivers with more than 40 points on their driving licences are still allowed on the road, according to a Freedom of Information request to the DVLA by the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM). The enquiry also found that 13 people in Britain currently have 28 or more points on their driving licence, the worst of those amassing 51 points.

In addition, the numbers of drivers with 12 or more points has gone up by 9% in just seven months between March and October 2015 – from 6,884 to 7,517 (reference 1).

While the DVLA does not hold details as to whether all of those individuals were still on the road, it did state that individual courts have the powers to choose not to disqualify a driver.

In its reply to the IAM's request, the DVLA said: "In a small percentage of cases where the driver has accumulated 12 or more penalty points, the agency understands that a court can exercise its discretion and not disqualify the driver.

"In the majority of these cases, magistrates may have decided to allow drivers to retain their entitlement to drive where it is considered that disqualification would cause exceptional hardship," it added.

The location of drivers with 28 points or more across Britain by postcode district is as follows:

Points/Location

51/Oxford, 42/Liverpool, 42/Basildon, 39/Wigan, 38/Burnley

33/Northampton, 33/SW London, 30/Sheffield, 30/Southend-on-Sea

30/Slough, 30/Cambridge, 29/Peterborough, 28/Stevenage

Separately the IAM has looked into the 'top five' and has discovered the following:

- 51 points holder (Oxford): provisional licence holder, three speeding offences in 30mph zone, seven offences of not providing driver details. Not disqualified

- 42 points holder (Basildon): seven offences, all of which were for failing to report driver details. Previously held points for speeding including one at 109mph. Not disqualified from driving as magistrates accepted mitigating circumstances including 'extreme hardship' through loss of income. Not disqualified
- 42 points holder (Liverpool): currently seven counts on record, including two of speeding in 30mph areas and five of not reporting driver of vehicle. Not disqualified
- 39 points holder (Wigan): 13 counts of exceeding the speed limit for a goods vehicle. Not known if this driver has been disqualified
- 38 points holder (Burnley): 10 counts of speeding in 30mph areas. Not disqualified

DVLA data shows that of the 45 million driving licence holders in Britain, three million have points on their licence. Some 100,000 have been disqualified over the past four years for reaching 12 points and four per cent got all their points in one go (reference 2).

The DVLA also says their evidence suggests 90% of drivers not disqualified are due to 'judicial discretion' (reference 2).

Sarah Sillars, IAM chief executive officer, said: "The IAM has been highlighting this issue for several years now and we appreciate that the flow of information between the DVLA and the courts is slowly improving, which will allow the courts to make better decisions while armed with the full facts.

"However these improvements cannot come quickly enough to deliver a truly joined-up approach to the judicial process. Individual courts making decision on prosecutions can lead to inconsistency in how the law is applied which risks devaluing the simple '12 points and you're out' road safety message. If the public sees that persistent offenders are getting away with it, they may believe that road traffic rules – which let not us not forget, are designed for their safety – are ineffective or unimportant."

Tommy Cooper joke

Our ice cream man was found lying on the floor of his van covered with hundreds and thousands. Police say that he topped himself.

Mark Lewis IAM's Director of Standards.

Don't be gone with the wind 6.1.15

This week's tips, from the IAM's director of standards, Mark Lewis are advising motorists on how to cope with driving in high winds. Keep up-to-date with our latest tips and ensure your winter drive is a smooth one.

- Plan your journey beforehand and check for any travel disruptions that may affect you. If you can, avoid driving through country roads which are more likely to be exposed to fallen branches and debris.
- Gusts of wind can unsettle vehicles – grip your steering wheel firmly with both hands. This is particularly important when planning an overtake.
- Remember to give vulnerable road users including, cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians more room than usual. They are more likely to be blown around by side winds – always keep a safe distance.
- As you approach a bend ensure you are able to stop on your own side of the road in the distance you can see to be clear - you never know what's around the corner. If large debris is obstructing the road ahead, be prepared to make a U-turn and use another route.
- Keep an eye out for gaps between trees, buildings or bridges over a river or railway – these are some of the places you are more likely to be exposed to side winds. Ensure that you maintain enough room either side of your vehicle so you can account for it being blown sideways.

Mark said: "Driving in windy conditions can be quite challenging, so it's important that you concentrate on the road at all times and take particular care when driving through narrow roads or over bridges. Also, keep an eye out for where you will suddenly go from a windy section of the road to a sheltered one – sudden loss of strong winds can be just as unbalancing, so be prepared."

You're as cold as ice 20.1.16

This week's tips from the IAM's director of standards, Mark Lewis, are about driving safely in frost and ice. With temperatures near freezing, here's how you can ensure your journey is a safe one for the road.

- Make sure you have cleared your windows and side mirrors before starting your journey and use the heater settings to remove mist and condensation. Avoid using hot water to pour over your windscreen as it's more than likely that it will freeze up again. Never apply heat to a door lock as most modern locks now have plastic components.

- Keep an eye on your tyres. The legal minimum tread depth should be at 1.6mm – but for safe travel you should not let the depth go below 3mm. Whatever you do, avoid travelling with worn tyres at all costs as this will increase the likelihood of your car skidding. If you can afford them, winter tyres do offer a real grip advantage.
- If you're driving a manual vehicle, avoid using high revs and set off gently in second gear. This will improve control and reduce the risk of wheel spin. If you're driving an automatic vehicle, select the 'winter' mode, (if there is one), which will automatically lock out first gear and reduce the risk of wheel spin – if unsure, refer to your handbook for more advice.
- If your car loses grip you should take your foot off the accelerator and point the front wheels in the direction you want them to go. All steering and braking inputs must be as gentle as possible in icy conditions. Front-wheel-drive vehicles are generally better in icy conditions, but if your car is a rear-wheel-drive always take it extra slow and steady when changing direction.
- Increase the distance between you and the vehicle in front, especially in slippery conditions. The same applies for when you're approaching a junction or a sharp bend – drive at a steady speed that allows you to stop well within the available distance.

Mark said: "Even when frost thaws, ice will stay around areas that are often shaded or near bridges that are exposed to wind-chill. Consider how you drive through these micro-climates and be prepared to slow down if you need to.

"If road conditions are too slippery, simply avoid starting your journey."

Tommy Cooper joke

'Doc I can't stop singing *The Green, Green Grass of Home*' "That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome. 'Is it common?' "It's not unusual."

Disclaimer

The items contained in this newsletter are the views of the Members who contribute and not necessarily the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (I.A.M) or MYAM.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

MYAM holds Membership detail records on computer, these are confidential and for club use ONLY.

The information is used to run the Group and consists of various details such as class of Membership, date of joining & subscription expiry dates. It is also used for the production of address labels for the distribution of the newsletter and recording training for Observers.

And Finally.....

Thanks to David Robinson for this gem

Young people forget that we old people had a career before we retired.

Charley, a new retiree-greeter at Wal-Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time.

Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really tidy, clean-shaven, sharp-minded and a real credit to the company and obviously demonstrating their "Older Person Friendly" policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk.

"Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a bang-up job when you finally get here; but your being late so often is quite bothersome."

"Yes, I know boss, and I am working on it."

"Well good, you are a team player. That's what I like to hear.

Yes sir, I understand your concern and I'll try harder.

Seeming puzzled, the manager went on to comment, It's odd though you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say to you there if you showed up in the morning so late and so often?"



© Ron Leishman * www.ClipartOf.com/439705

The old man looked down at the floor, then smiled.

He chuckled quietly, then said with a grin, "They usually saluted and said, Good morning, Admiral, can I get your coffee, sir?"

Your Committee

Chairman	Martin Fillingham	01274 584899	fillin_m@hotmail.com
Vice Chairman	Lesley Pollard	07752 881555	lesley.pollard173@gmail.com
Secretary	Kim Clark	0113 2852731 0776 123 5846	kim.clark7@btinternet.com 31, Moorside Drive Drighlington, BD11 1HE.
Assistant Secretary	Francis Lintott	0113 2685354	francis.lintott@btinternet.com
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	0113 2534528	rbricis@live.co.uk
Group Contact	Bob Farish	0113 314 9969	bob.farish@btinternet.com
Membership Secretary	Bob Farish	01937 558958	Membership.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk
Youth Contact	Vicky Croft	01924 404095	vickycroft@sky.com
Speaker Secretary	Francis Lintott	01132 685354	francis.lintott@btinternet.com
Events Manager	Alan Jones	07714444595	alan.j909@btinternet.com
Website	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	webmaster.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk.
Newsletter	Kim Clark	0113 2852731	kim.clark7@btinternet.com
Chief Observer	David Stringer	07768 620208 0113 350 8625	d_stringer@btconnect.com
Training Team	David Rushfirth	As above	
Ex officio	Andrew Simpson-Laing Steve Duree Bob McDermott	0113 2299522 07747488030 07885606760	andrewasl@ntlworld.com sduree@plandstainless.co.uk bob.mcdermott@reichenbacher.co.uk

The Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969