



Mid Yorkshire



**Advanced Motorists
Newsletter**



ARE WE THERE YET

July 2016

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



www.iamgroups.org.uk/midyorkshire

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FORTHCOMING GATHERINGS

Date	Meetings	Location
Monday 4th July 8pm	MYAM Social evening. Sgt James Farrar of Safer Roads & Neighbourhood Support School	The Manor Golf Club. Bradford Road, Drighlington, Bradford, BD11 1AB (See page 11 for directions)
Saturday 9th July	IAM 60th Birthday	British Motor Museum Gaydon
Sunday 10th July 9.30 am	Heath Common Bus Rally	Contact Alan Jones for more information
Sunday 17th July 10am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Free tea or coffee.	McDonalds car park On the roundabout with Oakwood Lane and Easterly Road LS8 2RB
Saturday 30th July	Elvington Skills Enhancement Day	Yorkshire Air Museum Elvington, York
Sunday 7th August	Harrogate MG Show	Contact Alan Jones for more information
Monday 8th August	MYAM Social evening.	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.

Advance notice of the visit of the IAM CEO

At our October meeting the IAM CEO Sarah Sillars will be addressing the group. We will also be inviting the York, Huddersfield, Skipton & Northallerton groups to the meeting.

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

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Isn't life strange? Just when you have settled into a new routine something comes along to upset everything. In my case, having retired last year, out of the blue I was contacted by my former employers asking if I was interested in doing some work for them because several new projects had all been started recently and they were struggling a little. So I started a 3 month contract on June 14th and all my new plans and routines have had to be put on hold until September.

It can be a similar situation when you are out driving. If you have a familiar route, such as going to work, visiting friends or family, it can sometimes be like driving on auto pilot. Then something comes along, such as a diversion, to upset your familiar route and take you out of your comfort zone. Often you'll have to quickly re-plan your route or do you rely on the satnav to do it for you. Then when you're back on your familiar route it's panic over.

I mention satnav because there must be many people who rely totally on one to guide them to their destination. I have always found it beneficial to check the proposed route on a map, either real paper or one of the online maps because the satnav doesn't always provide the optimum route and you can familiarise yourself with roads or landmarks along the route. On a recent trip to the Edinburgh area my satnav wanted to take us via the M62 to the M6. Not the best route on a Friday evening, getting to the M6 via the A65 was much shorter and probably quicker. The satnav was however useful for the last couple of miles down winding country lanes to our destination.

So plan ahead and be prepared for the unexpected and, as Corporal Jones would say, DON'T PANIC.

Keith

PS I've included a couple of "puzzles" this month to keep you entertained over the next month. There are no prizes just the satisfaction of having worked out the answers which I'll give next month.

Welcome to the Group

**Julie Langham
Bridget Page
Rachel Temple
Sophie Thompson**

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Brian Sherwood - Observer Alan Jones

And a correction to last month's passes

Diane Russell's observer was Douglas Green not Gerald Byrne

Happy Birthday this month goes to

I'm still unable to bring you this month's birthdays but we're working on it. So if it's your birthday in July have happy birthday.

Hopefully normal service will be resumed next month.

MYAM Online

MYAM COMMITTEE MINUTES NOW AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

The Committee has now agreed that in the interests of transparency the minutes from the MYAM Committee meetings will now be available to Members on the Group website once they have been accepted by the Committee. So please feel free to check them out. They can be found in the 'about us' Committee section on the right hand side.

FORUM is open 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.



FACEBOOK provides 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.

WEB SITE As part of the changes at IAM to introduce the new IAM RoadSmart branding, we now have an all new look website and a new address. If you use the old address you will be taken to the Local Groups page on the new IAM RoadSmart website. To go to our new page enter :-

www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

We are still working on transferring everything from our old website to the new one so please bear with us.

The Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969

GROUP NOTICES

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.

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.



Spotted at a Classic Car show at the Scottish Vintage Bus Museum is a fairly rare Ford Anglia estate but what is the even rarer car on its left? Answer next month.

A Bikers Perspective

Our June social saw Doug Masterton from Harrogate Advanced Bikes kindly come along to talk about a 'Bikers Perspective'

Doug spoke at first about why riders came to them for advanced training and how the Harrogate group delivers.

Associates come along to mainly to - Improve their own skills, especially slow riding. Want commercial trainers' credibility. Worried parents – though this can be a difficult one if the son/daughter aren't interested. Riders seeking camaraderie.

All pretty similar to us as a car group except maybe for the camaraderie point, which has more meaning for them with ride outs and leisure time.

The modern bike and the riders clothing has developed enormously these last years, all with safety in mind – but still they are 38 times more likely to be killed in a crash as a rider than as a driver. Around 30 bikers are killed or injured everyday especially at junctions.

The weather plays an important role for the rider as they are a part of the elements. Their jackets and trousers are waterproof, the modern Gore Tex fabric gives good scuff protection. Helmets have integral sun visors, better ventilation and noise reduction, built in communication systems and tailored interiors for fit. Rain shouldn't be feared as an advanced rider, ice and snow though is best to avoid.

Modern bikes have as much electronics as a modern car, throttles and suspension can be set to different modes. There's ABS, dynamic traction, heated seats, satnav, plasma/led lighting to name a few. A rider can expect to only get 5000 miles from a tyre.

Their observers give sessions on confidence building, braking techniques, positioning for visibility (much easier on a bike to get a nearside or offside view), riding in adverse weather conditions. Cornering and stability, is where Doug gave us a quick physics lesson on gravity, motion, friction and countersteering, centripetal and centrifugal forces. A bike is the most stable at speed in a straight line (sounds familiar?) the wheels are gyroscopes. On cornering, the handlebars are pushed downwards not turned as a steering wheel. The tyres are conical in shape, compressing force gives grip as the bike is angled over so long as the rider keeps a constant speed with no braking or accelerating.

That gives you a bit of an idea of what was discussed, Doug made it interesting and understandable. His final words were....Yes, filtering through built up traffic is allowed but an advanced rider will always question...Is it safe? Is it legal? Is it worth it?!

Avoiding car crash scammers

Motorists can often fall victim to intentionally staged road accidents, which force insurance companies to pay out high claims. With some useful tips from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards Richard Gladman, here's how you can try and stay clear of fraudulent scams.

Be sure to stay extra alert on busy roads. Try to identify hazards early, slow down and stay back until it's safe to pass through.

The best way to anticipate a hazard ahead is look beyond the vehicles in front of you and respond as opposed to react. Maintain a two second gap if traffic is flowing and at least one foot per mph in slow moving traffic.

Be wary of motorists tailgating you – they may be doing this intentionally to get your attention. Ignore any gestures they may be making, but if at any point you feel threatened, pull over where it is safe and legal to do so and let them pass you.

If you happen to be involved in a collision and don't think it's your fault, call the police immediately. If you can, canvass for witnesses and try to get contact details. Whatever you do, avoid getting into a confrontation.

Try to collect as much information as possible and take some photographs. If any images indicate a fewer number of passengers in the car you can reduce the potential of any fraudulent injury claims being made. Find out more about insurance fraud here: <https://www.insurancefraudbureau.org/>

Richard said: "Road rage is one of the reasons intentional collisions occur, but this can be avoided. Simply avoid reacting to another driver's bad behaviour because this will only make matters worse. If you have made a mistake a friendly wave of apology can often defuse the situation."

An in car video camera can also help in the case of an accident. Some insurance companies may offer discounts if one is fitted but don't forget to make sure it's switched on! *Ed*

Driving through roadworks on the motorway

Driving through roadworks can be nerve wracking. Narrower lanes, slow traffic and fraying tempers all add to the challenge. But as long as you drive carefully and at a steady speed your journey needn't be stressful. Here's some advice from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards, Richard Gladman, to ensure your motorway journey through roadworks is as safe and stress-free as possible.

Ideally, you should check the status of any roads you plan to use beforehand. If there are significant amounts of repair works and you think you might get caught up in traffic consider taking a different route, even if it means covering a few more miles.

If there's no alternative route, give yourself more time to travel and ensure you have plenty of fuel. Running out of fuel is one of the most common reasons for a breakdown on the motorway, so don't risk running on a low tank.

Maintain a safe following distance of at least 2 seconds and if other traffic moves into your gap adjust it by slowing very slightly. You won't add more than a couple of seconds to your journey.

Try and look as far ahead as possible. There may be a lane that's restricted and marked off by cones. If it is safe to do so, merge in turn if vehicles are travelling at low speed.

Keep an eye out for any roadwork signs that give you particular instructions. There may also be a temporary maximum speed limit that you will need to adhere to.

Average speed cameras are also common where long term roadworks are in force – be prepared to slow down throughout. They are there for your safety and the safety of the workforce.

Richard said: "If you can see traffic building up then avoid switching lanes too often. Changing lanes on extremely busy roads will increase your chances of being involved in a collision and also slows down traffic flow.

"So long as you stay alert and plan ahead, your journey should be a safe and stress free one."

Elvington Skills Enhancement Day

Details of this event.

Date: Saturday, 30th July 2016.
Venue: Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington, York
Times: 9.30 am to 5 pm

Activities: Half day observed driving at all levels for Novices, Current Associates, IAM Roadsmart Members, existing and potential IAM Roadsmart Master Drivers. Also half day of seminars (3, possibly 4) on interesting aspects of driving and driving techniques. Speakers include Amanda Smith, IAM Roadsmart Process Quality Manager and Staff Examiner, examiners and experienced Master Drivers. Parking and manoeuvring classes. Full access to the attractions of the Yorkshire Air Museum.

Cost: £25.

Booking: Call IAM Roadsmart on 0300 303 1134.

In addition, the MYAM caravan will be in attendance, and assessment drives will be available to the public. Non-members attending this event who buy the Advanced Driver Course will be offered a £25 discount on their purchase, offering them a really good day out plus a substantial discount on IAM Roadsmart training.

The Air Museum offers free parking and a full range of refreshment facilities. Bookings are already going well so early booking is advisable. Places are limited to 60.

30 years in the IAM

Friday 6th June 1986, the 42nd anniversary of D-Day, I was sat in my black Fiesta XR2 in Nelson Street near the railway station in Leicester waiting for the local IAM examiner. After we had completed the drive he asked me "Are you Harvey Wevill's son?" "Yes" I replied. It turned out he knew my father from the time when they were both in the Birmingham Police. Also my brother knew his daughter. In spite of these co-incidences I passed.

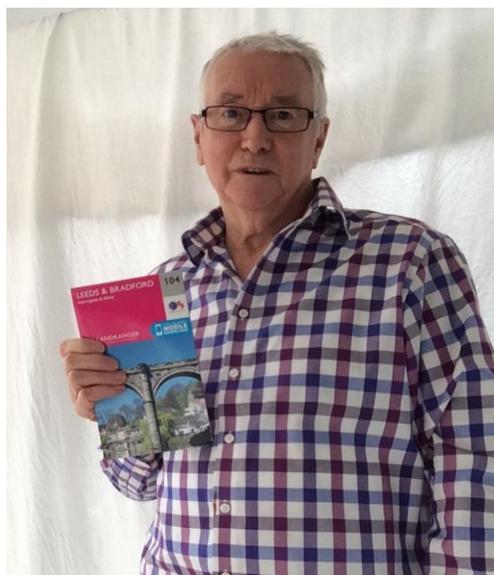
Roll on 30 years, Monday 6th June 2016 and I'm waiting in my black Yeti for MYAM Chief Observer David Stringer for an assessment drive. Have any bad habits crept back in since 1986? I was about to find out. We started off under test like conditions then stopped to discuss David's observations. Finally a more relaxed drive back to the starting point on roads I'd never driven on before. Had any bad habits crept in? Well yes, mainly concerning planning ahead and changing gear. So I have a little work to do before I accept David's offer of another assessment drive. It's something I can practice on my way to and from work over the next three months now I'm back at work.

MYAM Member wins Ordnance Survey competition

Les Plumb, 78 year old amateur photographer from Farsley, has been successful in a competition run by Ordnance Survey the national mapmaker. His photo of the railway viaduct over the River Nidd at Knaresborough is now used on the cover of the latest edition OS Landranger 104 which covers the Leeds, Bradford, Harrogate, and Ilkley area.

I retired after 32 years with British Rail in 1992, having started as a Signaller and finishing as a Freight Train Manager at Regional Control York. I now work for Leeds IKEA at Jn 27, Birstall.

I have always been interested in art and photography. I started with a Box Brownie handed down from my brother around 1950. I now use a Canon Digital SLR but am also getting good results from the camera on the iPhone 5. I have tried different media on the art front, and the latest venture is learning about Silk painting.



Well done Les. Perhaps this is an incentive for us to buy the latest OS map.

You're invited to our 60th birthday

iam
RoadSmart



Guest speakers, museum tours, picnic, driving events.

Where	British Motor Museum, Gaydon 11 Banbury Rd, Gaydon CV35 0BJ
When	Saturday 9 July, from 10am to 5pm
Entry	£10 per person
Book now	Call 0300 303 1134

Entry price includes a barbecue lunch, free parking and museum tour.



For more information:

Visit	https://www.iamroadsmart.com/carparty
Email	events@iam.org.uk
Facebook	IAMRoadSmart
Twitter	@IAMRoadSmart

And Finally.....

For anyone who ever tried or thought about cheating in an exam...

At Sydney University, there were four students taking Organic Chemistry.

They did so well on all the quizzes, midterms and labs, etc., that each had an “A” so far for the semester. These four friends were so confident with the finals approaching that the weekend before, they decided to go down to Canberra and party with some friends there. They had a great time. However, after all the hard partying, they slept all day Sunday and didn’t make it back to Sydney until early Monday morning – the morning of their final exam!

Rather than taking the final then, they decided to find their professor AFTER the exam and explain to him why they missed it. They explained that they had gone to Canberra to do some research in the ANU archives for the weekend with the plan to come back in time to study, but, unfortunately, they had a flat tyre on the way back, didn’t have a spare, and couldn’t get help for a long time. As a result, they only just arrived now!

The professor thought it over and then agreed they could make up their final exam the following day. The guys were elated and relieved. They studied hard that night - all night - and went in the next day at the time the professor had told them. He placed them in separate rooms and handed each of them a test booklet, and told them to begin. The first problem was worth five points. It was something simple about free radical formation.

“Cool,” they all thought in their separate rooms, “this is going to be easy”. Each finished the problem and then turned the page.

Question 2 (for 95 points):

Which tyre?

Here’s a little puzzle for you.

My two children were both born on the penultimate day of the same month. Yet their birthdays are on different days.

When are their birthdays?

Answer next month.



Your Committee

Chairman	Martin Fillingham	01274 584899	fillin_m@hotmail.com
Vice Chairman	Lesley Pollard	07752 881555	lesley.pollard173@gmail.com
Secretary	Position Vacant		
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	0113 2534528	rbricis@live.co.uk
Membership Secretary	David Rockliff		Membership.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk
Youth Contact	Vicky Croft	01924 404095	vickycroft@sky.com
Speaker Secretary	Position Vacant		
Events Manager	Alan Jones	07714444595	alan.j909@btinternet.com
Website	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	webmaster.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk.
Newsletter	Keith Wevill	01274 815281	kcw2hwc@tesco.net
Chief Observer	David Stringer	07768 620208 0113 350 8625	d_stringer@btconnect.com
Ex officio	Bob McDermott Andrew Simpson-Laing		

URGENT REQUEST

We still need someone suitable to stand for the post of Group Secretary, if you would like to find out more please ask the Chairman or Vice Chairman at the meeting. The Group will be in unusual position of not having a Group Secretary and the Committee and the Group needs someone competent to take on that role as soon as possible. All of the Group's integrated processes are now in place and a full guide is available. Everything these days is electronic which helps with the time management side.