

ARE WE THERE YET?

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

March 2018

iAM
RoadSmart

Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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Cover Photo - ???

No information on this month's cover picture as it's the subject of the teaser on page 15.

All I can say is that it's in the UK and it's somewhere I've visited in the last 18 months, not that that helps you much!



FORTHCOMING GATHERINGS

Date	Meetings	Location
Sunday 4th 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. WF10 4TA
Monday 5th March 8 pm	MYAM Social Evening West Yorkshire 4x4 Volunteers	Carlton Social Club Main Street Carlton WF3 3RW See page 7
Sunday 18th March 10 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members.	McDonalds car park On the roundabout with Oakwood Lane and Easterly Road LS8 2RB
Sunday 8th April 9:30 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members.	B&Q Car Park, Aspen way, Glasshoughton, Castleford. WF10 4TA
Monday 9th April 8 pm	MYAM Social Evening	Carlton Social Club See page 7

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.

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

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.

FROM THE EDITOR

I was pleased to see so many people at the February social meeting at the Carlton Social Club. Please let us know what you thought of the venue, the facilities offered, the location and the ease of getting there. It has always been a problem finding a suitable venue for the meetings and we moved away from the Manor Golf club for the reasons explained by Janice at the last meeting. The new location is also closer to the geographic centre of our coverage area.

The committee held its first meeting at the club the following week and one of the topics that came up was the perennial one of finding speakers for the meetings. At present this job is shared out amongst the committee members as we currently do not have a dedicated speaker secretary. The AGM is coming up in a couple of months and it would be nice to have the vacant position filled. It's not that arduous a job as there are no more than ten speakers to be arranged in a year.

At the committee meeting I offered to look over the newsletters from my time as a member of the Leicester group, before we moved up north, to see what speakers had been arranged by them. By the time you read this a list of those speakers should be with the committee, which brings me to another point. What sort of speakers would you like to see at our monthly meetings?

At the Leicester group we had a variety of speakers, predominantly motoring related but quite a few on non-motoring subjects. Ones that spring to mind from the non-motoring category were the local Town Cryer, the local newspaper, the Ordnance Survey and local museums. Would you like to see any similar speakers at our meetings? Please send any comments or suggestions for speakers to me and I'll pass them on to the committee.

In a similar vein are there any topics you'd like to see in the newsletter? Although I've a few ideas, I'm always looking for ideas for articles or photos and any contributions from the membership. As I've mentioned in previous newsletters all contributions are eligible for the MYAM trophy. Let me know by email or at one of the meetings.

On page 14 we have items of MYAM regalia available to members. If you wish to buy any of the items print out the form, fill out details of the items and hand it to Janice at one of our meetings.

Keith

Welcome to the Group

New Associates

Hilary Krause, Tom Mcleish, Chris Parker, Ashleigh Weller

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

No passes to report this month

Happy Birthday this month goes to

Alison Barron, Matthew Beck, Rob Blackshaw,
Richard Brankin, Sandra Brockie, Helen Brown,
Thomas Clayton, Victoria Croft, Richard Dewhurst,
Chris Fairclough, Richard Hook, Angela Horsfall,
Mark Ikin, John Kelly, John Moore,
Keith Morgan, Matthew Nixon, Joshua Sharpe,
Patrick Snowden, Sheila Southam, Luke Steenson,
Ken Sykes, Stuart Symons, Mick Wood

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 as a true record by the Committee. So please feel free to check them out. They can be found on the Committee Members page under Our Team. The minutes are located at the bottom of the page.



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 website address. If you use the old address you will be redirected to the Local Groups page on the new IAM RoadSmart website. To go to our new page enter:-

www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

or use the QR code.



On the website you'll find details of our events, courses, the latest news from the group and copies of previous newsletters.

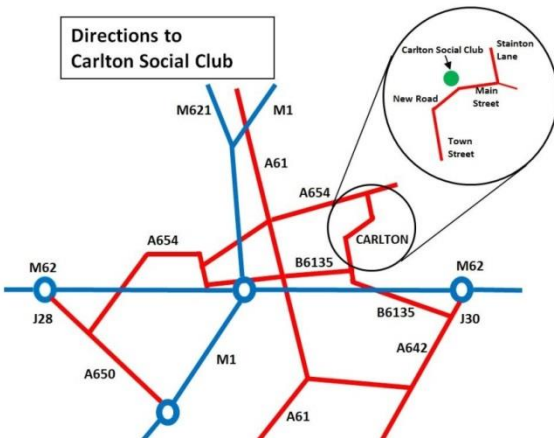


TWITTER We now have our own Twitter account which can be found at twitter.com/MYAM4178.

The Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969

Directions to the Carlton Social Club

Main Street, Carlton, Wakefield WF3 3RW



From the M62 West leave at Junction 28 and take the A650 towards Wakefield. At the next set of traffic lights turn left onto the A654 towards Rothwell. Follow the A654, turning left in Thorpe on the Hill. Cross the A61 and continue into Carlton. Turn right into Stainton Lane then turn right into Main Street. The Social Club is on the right immediately after the Unicorn pub.

From the M62 East leave at junction 30 and take the A642 towards Wakefield.

Take the next right, B6135, towards Lofthouse. Follow the B6135 under the M62 onto Ouzlewell Green towards Carlton and Rothwell. Follow the road past Carlton Primary School and the Social Club is on the left just before the Unicorn pub.

There is a car park with overspill parking available on the grass area opposite the club.

Tea and Coffee

The bar of the club provides a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks but should you prefer it, tea and coffee can be provided. Please let us know if you'd like this option to be available.

February Meeting

Street Angels

Street Angels was launched in November 2005, this was really a response to the night time economy in Halifax town centre, with the many associated incidents and issues it was having. At this time the town was known as the Wild West of West Yorkshire.

On the weekend evenings, there would be anything between 8 and 12 thousand people who would go out for a night on the town. The many incidents and issues which were associated with this 'out on the town' were violence, sexual assaults, binge drinking and general mayhem. It was common place for under-age drinking and it was reaching serious proportions and had to stop.

Paul and Jean Blakey believed, as Christians, that the town deserved much better and needed to be cleaned up. There were plans made to open a safe place drop in, at a café owned by Churches Together and the YMCA.

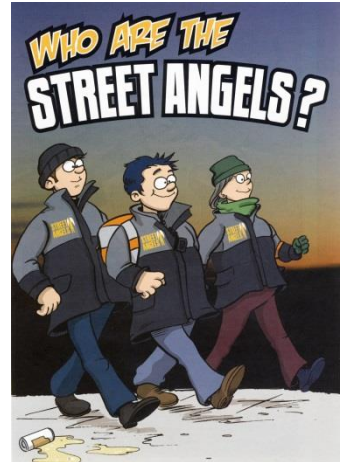
The local church offered its support, the Police then stepped in and the local authority and town centre management got involved. On Friday 25th November 2005, 50 people arrived to volunteer, so as there were far too many people to wait in a café, it was arranged to set up teams to go out on patrol, this was when the Street Angels was born.

The in-depth information and what really happens with the Street Angels is far more, than what can be explained in a mere article, such as this, about their noble and generous activities. Suffice to say that in the first 12 months in Halifax town centre the figures spoke for themselves. Violent crime reduced by 42%.

The Street Angels were now kitted out with an identity, fluorescent jackets, a sort of uniform and identity which gave them an air of authority and gathered an air of respect, without being a threat or intimidation to anyone, this really took off and has remained to this very day.

Armed with first aid kits, lollipops, bottles of water, flip flop sandals and kindness, they were a proven solution to a far better night time economy with much reduced incidents and issues.

CNI or Christian Nightlife Initiatives is the umbrella organisation of which Street Angels operates under. This success has spread throughout the UK and over 130 communities have a group of



volunteers who are all with appropriately suitable names for their local communities, like Town Pastors, Street Chaplains, Beacons, Nightlight and Street Lights.

This success has attracted a very wide range of guests who join them on their patrols including: MP's, celebrities, Bishops, High Sheriff's and Crime Commissioners.

There are also many different activities and Festivals where the Street Angels volunteer to help, like the Christmas Lights switch-on, sporting events and pop festivals.

So many different people, in many age groups, benefit from the support and assistance of these volunteers it shows in so many ways. Not just helping someone who is drunk in a gutter, just had a bit too much to drink or let themselves go too quickly, but the vulnerable who just want some help getting home, or to feel protected in a potentially threatening situation. These are volunteers who are rather aptly named Street Angels, they really are, long may they continue to do their good works.

I was fortunate to attend the social evening where Stuart Robertshaw the guest speaker who is, not only a volunteer of Street Angels but a Trustee also, gave a very interesting and informative talk on the work done by the Street Angels and I found it an eye-opening experience.

Andrew Simpson-Laing

PATHFINDER PROJECT YORKSHIRE UPDATE

The Yorkshire Pathfinder Project is now confirmed to run from the 2nd – 6th April 2018.

The 5 day course will be held at the MOD Training Centre, Kellythorpe, Driffield YO25 9HD.

The Pathfinder Project is a great initiative for 15-17 year olds who will learn about and practice some of the core driving skills required to become safer drivers, covering observational skills, theory, manoeuvring, Highway Code and management of peer pressure. The Police's Roadcraft is at the core of all learning.

Please do have a look at the Pathfinder Project website www.under17driver.co.uk to find out more **or** contact the Yorkshire Co-ordinator, Ian Goring ian.goring@btinternet.com tel 01904 700489 **or** John Buffoni johnbuffoni@ryedalegroup.co.uk **or** pass this information on to family or friends which you think it may be of interest to.

Volunteers will be needed for marshalling, cone setting, admin etc, if you feel you could help with this do please contact Ian, you would be most welcome.

Thank you

Lesley Pollard

Presentations



At the February meeting Janice presented certificates to

Above Left

Chris Makin (Observer Ruth Watson)

Above Right

Frank Milner (Observer Alan Jones)

Left

Keith James (Observer John Convey)

Congratulations to Chris, Frank and Keith.

Too tired to drive?

Richard Gladman, head of driving and riding standards, shares some tips on how to avoid the dangers of falling asleep at the wheel.

Extreme tiredness can lead to micro-sleeps. This is a short episode of drowsiness or sleep that could last a fraction of a second or up to 30 seconds. A car driving at 70 mph will travel 31 metres per second, giving plenty of time to cause a serious crash during a micro sleep.

The effects of losing one or two hours of sleep a night on a regular basis can lead to chronic sleepiness over time. So ensure you are well rested and feeling fit and healthy before you set off.

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 and it's essential to take a break before the drowsiness sets in.

If necessary, plan an overnight stop. If you feel too fatigued to carry on driving, then book yourself into a hotel at the next service station and sleep it off. Wake up fresh with a good breakfast, and carry on your journey. It's good to note that a caffeine high may be a quick fix, but it is not a long term solution and certainly no substitute for proper sleep.

You're bound to be tired after a full day at work, so avoid setting out on a long drive after you have finished for the day. It's best to start your journey earlier on, and when you're more alert.

If possible, avoid driving between the two peak times for sleepiness. These are between 3am and 5am and also between 2pm and 4pm.

If you have taken prescribed medication, then seek advice from your GP as to whether you should be driving or not. If bought over the counter, then read the instructions on the pack or speak to a pharmacist.

Richard says: "Even the fittest of us need regular sleep to perform at our highest standards. Driving requires full concentration at all times and if you are tired, your ability to concentrate is reduced. Our internal body clock (circadian rhythm) is usually set to deal with our normal lifestyle, extra care needs to be taken when driving during a time we would normally be at rest. Stop, rehydrate and rest if you need to."

STOP START

Many cars these days are fitted with a Stop Start system where the engine is shut down when the vehicle comes to a halt, restarting when the vehicle is ready to move off. It's intended to reduce emissions especially in towns where traffic is often slow moving or stationary especially during the rush hour.



Both our cars are fitted with the system so how does it affect the way we drive? There are certain conditions for the system to be operational, the engine has to be up to normal running temperature and the battery and electrical system have to be in good condition. Once these conditions are met when you stop the car and, with a manual gearbox, take it out of gear the engine will stop leaving the car systems, radio, instruments, indicators etc. still running. Depressing the clutch will restart the engine ready to move off. With an automatic gearbox the engine will stop as long as you have your foot on the brake pedal. Of course if you leave it in gear with the clutch depressed the engine won't stop. If you are stopped for any length of time and the system detects the battery voltage is dropping it will restart the engine to ensure the battery is not damaged. There is also a button to press to disable the system but this only works for the current journey. Once you switch off the ignition the system resets to its default on setting.

In practice I've found that if, for example, you stop at traffic lights behind a queue of traffic the engine will stop and almost immediately the lights will change so the engine is stopped for a second or two. It works best at traffic lights if you are at the head of the queue. In slow moving traffic the engine is almost constantly stopping and starting although there are times when you would expect the engine to stop but it doesn't and vice versa. I've also found that when reversing into our garage it will stop while I press the remote to open the door but when I go to restart occasionally a message is displayed to manually restart the engine.

One downside is that the battery and starter motor must be upgraded to cope with more start cycles, so potentially more expensive when they need replacing.

Is the system worth having? I had no choice when I bought the car but I'm getting used to it. As far as I can see it's a legal way for reducing the emissions and hence the VED tax band. Although how much it reduces emissions in normal everyday motoring, such as on a free running motorway, is debatable. But if it reduces my motoring costs I'll have it.

Does your car have a similar system and how do you get on with it? Let me know.

Keith

From The Past

While searching my old Leicester Group Newsletters for ideas for speakers I found several interesting newsletter items which I think will interest and amuse you. The first is from the February/March 2000 issue and shows that speeding motorists have existed from the dawn of motoring. More to follow in future issues.

2 August 1903

EARL FINED FOR SPEEDING AT MORE THAN 13 MPH



The Earl of Ilchester appeared before the Guildford County Bench yesterday on an adjourned summons charging him with furious motoring on 12 July. Sergeant Jarrett said the car travelled over a measured distance of 176 yards at a rate of more than 13 miles per hour. Cross examined, witnesses said defendant's chauffeur tried to rush the police. Defendant did not give his name when asked, but the chauffeur subsequently wrote the defendant's address and gave it as Islington instead of Kensington. Lord Ilchester said he cautioned his driver to go slowly from Ripley to Guildford because of police traps, and he was not proceeding more than six miles an hour when he was stopped. He gave his name to the sergeant, but refused his chauffeur's because he thought the owner should take the responsibility.

In answer to Jarrett, Lord Ilchester denied that when he was returning in the evening through Ripley he took off his goggles and made grimaces at the sergeant (loud laughter). Miss Roche, who was on the car, deposed that they were travelling well under the 12 miles an hour. She and Lord Ilchester gave their names immediately they stopped, and no attempt was made to rush the police. Mr Acland Hood, who appeared for the defendant, contended that 176 yards was not a fair distance for making a speed trial, especially where there was a slight dip in the road.

The chairman, Sir William Chance, said the Bench had no doubt that the driver was exceeding 12 miles an hour and there would be the usual fine of £3. Without saying Lord Ilchester tried to rush the police, they still thought he endeavoured to get away, and for that he would also be fined £3.

MYAM Regalia

We have the following items of regalia available for purchase by our members.



K100 Poly Cotton Short Sleeved Shirt **£17.40**

K140 Poly Cotton Long Sleeved Shirt **£19.08**

SS29 100% Cotton Polo Shirt **£12.00**

The short sleeved shirts and the polo shirts include the MYAM badge on the right sleeve, the IAM RoadSmart logo and the members name on the left breast.

The long sleeved shirts include the MYAM badge on the right breast, the IAM RoadSmart logo and the members name on the left breast.



Also available is a MYAM sew on badge to allow you to customise your own clothing for **£4.00**.

MYAM Regalia Order Form

Name		Tel or Email	
Product Code		Item	
Bust/Chest (Inches)		Gents Collar (Inches)	
Waist Size (Inches)		Price	

Please hand this form to Janice Haigh at the social meeting.
(Cheques made out to Mrs J.N.Haigh)

And Finally.....

More mistranslations for you amusement.

Tokyo hotel: It is forbidden to steal hotel towels please. If you are not person to do such thing is please not to read notis.

Another Tokyo hotel: You are invited to take advantage of the chambermaid.

In a Copenhagen airline ticket office: We take your bags and send them in all directions.

On the door of a Moscow hotel room: If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it.

In a Norwegian cocktail lounge: Ladies are requested not to have children in the bar.

At a Budapest zoo: Please do not feed the animals. If you have any suitable food, give it to the guard on duty.

In the office of a Roman doctor: Specialist in women and other diseases.

Bucharest: The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time, we regret that you will be unbearable.

Do you have any mistranslations suitable for publication?

This Month's Teaser

Where was the subject of the cover photo taken? It was taken somewhere in the UK in November 2016. It's located on an iconic structure that underwent a major change in the 1970s.

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "When was the BBC's Top Gear programme first broadcast and who were the first presenters?"

It may surprise you to know it was first broadcast on 22 April 1977, on BBC 1 Midlands, and the presenters were Angela Rippon and Tom Coyne (one of the Midlands Today presenters).

Your Committee

Chairman	Janice Haigh		Contact via the secretary
Secretary	Andrew Simpson-Laing	01132 299522 07743 306654	andrewasl(at)ntlworld.com
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	0113 2534528	rbricis(at)live.co.uk
Membership Secretary	David Rockliff		Membership.myamcar(at)jamGroups.org.uk
Youth Contact	Position Vacant		
Speaker Secretary	Position Vacant		
Events Manager	Alan Jones	07714 444595	alan.j909(at)btinternet.com
Website	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	myam.webmaster(at)outlook.com
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Chief Observer	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	myam.webmaster(at)outlook.com
Ex officio	Bill Jackson Julie Langham Bob McDermott		

Due to computer hacking and high levels of spamming we have had to remove the hyperlinks to our e-mail addresses and have replaced the @ symbol with (at) so you will need to retype the address in the correct e-mail format, i.e. replace (at) with @, with no spaces.

URGENT REQUEST

We now have a Group Secretary however we also need a Speaker Secretary to organise the social meetings. To find out more contact the Secretary.