

ARE WE THERE YET?



THIS CLOCK WAS PRESENTED
TO THE CITY BY
EDWARD EVANS-LLOYD
CITIZEN & FREEMAN 1897

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

October 2017



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Cover Photo - The Eastgate Clock Chester

Built to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, the grade 1 listed clock on the Chester's Georgian Eastgate was unveiled on 27th May 1899, 3 days after Victoria's 80th birthday.

It is the second most photographed clock in the UK.

FORTHCOMING GATHERINGS

Date	Meetings	Location
Sunday 1st October 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 4th October 8 pm	MYAM Social Evening Phill Eaglen and his colleague will talk on behalf of AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)	The Manor Golf Club. Bradford Road, Drighlington, Bradford, BD11 1AB (See page 7 for directions)
Sunday 15th October 10 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Look for the caravan.	McDonalds car park On the roundabout with Oakwood Lane and Easterly Road LS8 2RB
Sunday 5th November 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 6th November 8 pm	MYAM Social Evening Whiteknight Yorkshire Blood Bikes	The Manor Golf Club
Saturday 25th November 10am – 6pm	Ossett Christmas Lights Switch On	Ossett Town Hall WF5 8BE

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

FROM THE EDITOR

I recently received a phone call from Jeffrey Long. You may recall the reports of his fundraising efforts in previous newsletters, the most recent being to walk the 127 mile length of the Leeds Liverpool canal to raise funds for Support our Paras, the Parachute Regiments charity. Jeffrey was a member of the Parachute Regiment until an accident cut short his military career. After being discharged he spent much of his working life in the textile industry, the local council and British Transport Police. In addition he was busy with many charitable activities.

Since retiring from the world of work Jeffrey has spent much of his time raising money for charity. I say retiring but he denies he has retired as he is busier now than ever. It would appear that remaining active, both physically and mentally, is one of the keys to a long and healthy retirement.

Having reached the official retirement age I am finding more and more things to keep me occupied, in addition to producing the newsletter. I definitely do not miss going to work and the traffic. Other people I know who have retired have all said the same. As Caroline is now in a similar position we are

taking the opportunity to explore more of the countryside and attractions in Yorkshire and further afield. We've even joined the National Trust, following the June meeting, and are starting to work our way through the handbook. One side effect of this could be greater variety of front cover pictures.

Did anyone notice the error in last month's newsletter? On page 2 the "July Meeting" should have read "August Meeting". It got through in spite of all the proof reading! It's a classic case of cut and paste strikes again.

Keith

*With acknowledgement to Freemasonry Today for the photo.



Jeffrey Long on Ilkley Moor*

GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the Group

New Associates

Simon Bilton, Nigel Halliday, Jo Robinson, David Speight

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Gary Coldwell - Observer Alan Jones

Happy Birthday this month goes to

Chris Beard, Paranjit Bharaj, Karl Chambers, Robert Clarkson,
Graham Crawshaw, John Fletcher, Anne Goodair,
Deborah Hewitt, Les Horsman, Clifford Jones,
Julie Langham, Jeffrey Long MBE, David Moon,
Gareth Pearson, Alistair Ratcliffe, Michelle Render,
David Rockliff, Kathy Sewell, Sheila Sharkey, Graham Smith,
Glenys Sowerby, Susan Sudall, Keith Wevill

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

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.

Social Meetings 2018

We are in the process of preparing the 2018 social meetings at the Manor Golf Club and would value your input. Do you have any suggestions for speakers or are there any previous speakers you've enjoyed and would like to hear again? Would you like the occasional visit to, for example, a motorway control centre? Contact the Secretary with any suggestions.

September Meeting

Aldene Woodward

I never realised how much is involved following a Road Traffic accident but Aldene Woodward from the Fire Service gave us a detailed description of the procedures involved at our September meeting. One of the main problems is removing people with injuries from the car. Modern cars make this more difficult with all the devices intended to help us survive an accident hindering and possibly injuring those trying to help us after an accident. In particular the steering wheel airbag, if it hasn't gone off, can cause serious injury to anyone in the vicinity should it be triggered. They have developed a special cover for the steering wheel to minimise the risk.



One of the first jobs on arriving is to stabilise the vehicle and to establish safety zones around the vehicle. This may involve closing the road. There is also the problem, which I'm sure we've all seen, on dual carriageways of "rubbernecking" on the opposite carriageway. This can lead to secondary accidents as the traffic slows down. To help counter this, screens can be erected or other vehicles used to shield the accident from the other carriageway.

Once a vehicle is stabilised the priority is to assess and remove any injured occupants. Removal of the glass and forcing doors open all help to gain access but removing the roof is a last resort as it affords protection from the weather. Through their training they have developed techniques to remove the occupants with the minimum risk of further injuries once the paramedics have assessed and stabilised the injured occupants.

After each incident the teams involved have a thorough debriefing to help improve the procedures.

So next time you get held up due to an accident just remember how hard the rescue teams are working to safely remove the injured, investigate the incident and clear the road and get the traffic moving again.

Aldene is also involved with the Motorcycle Safety Programme in collaboration with Biker Down, Ride Safe, IAM, ROSPA and Motorcycle social groups which develops and delivers training to promote road safety for bikers.

The Ride Safe Programme was mentioned in the July newsletter and if any member wishes to attend a Biker Down course or to find out more about the course please contact

Station Commander, Aldene Woodward, by email
Aldene.Woodward01@westyorksfire.gov.uk or telephone 07552 283481.

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Certificate Presentation



Last month we showed Ruth Watson with Steve Browett, her first associate to pass. At the September meeting Steve received his certificate from chairman Janice Haigh.

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Pathfinder Project

With regret, due to many different developments, the Pathfinder Project course will not be run in October as planned. (see the August newsletter)

Ian Goring (Yorkshire Coordinator) is determined to fetch this exciting opportunity for our future drivers to the North and plans are now under way for holding it at Easter on the 2nd - 6th April 2018.

More details will follow in the New Year but in the meantime I urge you to have a look at the Pathfinder Project website www.under17driver.co.uk to see what it is all about.

If you would like to be involved in the running of the event then please get in touch with Ian Goring on ian.goring@btinternet.com / [01904 700489](tel:01904700489) or John Buffoni on johnbuffoni@ryedalegroup.co.uk

Parking

Back in August, the RoadSmart Tips were about parking, so how do you park in a car park? Do you drive forward into a parking space or reverse into it? Or do you do what I like to do, find a parking bay where you can drive in on one side and cross to the empty parking bay on the other side, the best of both worlds drive in and drive out.

I guess it depends on the circumstances as to which way you park but my personal preference has always been to reverse into a space and drive out of it. In some respects it makes sense as you are manoeuvring the car with a warm engine and when leaving you can have a better view of any oncoming traffic. However in a supermarket car park driving forward into a space can make it easier to load the car with your shopping.

The same goes for parking in your drive or garage. On a busy road it can be difficult to reverse out of your drive so reversing in may make it easier to get out. Our garage is set up for reversing into, with the surrounding “junk” allowing the driver’s door to be easily opened. In fact virtually all places where I’ve lived with off road parking since owning a car I’ve reversed into the garage or parking space.

In July we gave details of the new driving test where driving into and reversing out of a parking space have been added. This is good news as I’m sure we’ve all seen drivers either struggling to get in or get out. Will they be adding reversing into a parking space in the future?

Several cars now have a “Park Assist” function to help either parallel parking or reversing into a parking bay. I assume this function will not be allowed on a driving test. My car has this feature so I felt obliged to try it out. Once activated you drive past a row of cars and it checks for a suitable sized space. It then tells you to select reverse and apply a few revs while the car does the steering. If necessary it will tell you to select first gear to aid the manoeuvring into the parking space. It’s very disconcerting watching the steering wheel spinning while you keep a close eye on the mirrors to see how close you’re getting to adjacent cars. Having tried it out, I can report that the system does work although it can take longer to park than manual parking.

Many years ago I went down to Newlyn in Cornwall with two colleagues from the Marine Science Labs in Menai Bridge, where I was working at the time. We were taking some equipment down in a Transit van to be used on an oceanographic survey cruise. To join the ship we had to take the van down to the end the breakwater to pick up the inflatable to take us to the ship. Having loaded the equipment onto the ship and set it up, my two colleagues stayed on the ship leaving me to take the Transit to Plymouth. We had driven the van down the breakwater which was about the width of a single carriageway road meaning there was no way of turning it round so I had to reverse it along the breakwater with a solid wall on one side of the “road” and the harbour on the other side, about 250 yards with a bend half way along. It took a few minutes to complete but I did manage it.

Ed

Back to School

The summer holidays have come to a close and for some parents not a moment too soon. Order and normality will resume along with the dreaded school run which starts again for another year. This week's tips offers advice to drivers and riders on how to survive the term time road rush from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards, Richard Gladman.

Make sure everyone is in the right seat. If you use child or booster seats, make sure they are still fit for purpose and correctly secured. Check out Good Egg for some top tips: <http://www.goodeggcarsafety.com/>

Pack for success. Dependent on the age of the little one pack some healthy treats to distract them and keep them engaged, even on a short journey.

Leave enough time. Setting off for school can be frustrating and rushed experience with the constant reminding you have to do about PE kit, and other important forgotten or last minute things. A half-eaten breakfast and badly combed hair can put both you and your child in the wrong frame of mind for the start of the day.

It's not a race. In many areas with local schools the motto is '20's plenty.' Remember that this is limit, not a target. Always help out the school crossing patrol, you will get a friendly wave and a smile.

Start them while they're young. Teach your children about road safety so they know how to behave around moving traffic. Setting a good example while in the driving seat will stay with them in preparation for when they learn to drive. Parking in a safe place and walking the last few metres will not just help with congestion; it will also allow you to teach them the right way to cross a road looking left and right (then right again for us Green Cross code users). Teaching children to use the road sensibly will save lives.

Richard said: "Traffic always picks up again after the school holidays so journeys will take longer and potentially be more stressful. Make sure the car is fuelled up and fit and ready for stop-start traffic so you have one less thing to worry about. Due to close supervision children are normally very safe around schools but you can help by taking care. Be aware that after school they are much more likely to be playing in and around the street and safety can be the last thing on their minds after a hard day in the classroom."

Higher Education Begins as you Leave

Fresher's week will start soon in full force; for many students they will be making their way off to university for the first time. For many this trip will be the furthest they have driven, and in an area they are not yet familiar with. This week's tips give advice to students packing their bags for the big drive or ride to university from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards, Richard Gladman.

Make sure you are covered. It goes without saying you should always ensure you have the correct level of insurance and breakdown cover. Tell your insurer about any change of address or you could invalidate your cover. If you are planning to buy a vehicle to travel up to your university, get it serviced or checked over before you go. If you need, ask either a parent or an experienced driver to sit with you on the journey.

Go green and share! You can save money on motoring costs and be kinder to the planet by buddying up with pals going to the same university. Another option is to sign up to a buddy up service such as StudentCarshare.com, which helps you match other university students making similar journeys to you up and down the country.

Turn off the distractions. Lower the music and try to keep the noise in the car to the minimum as you need to remain focused on the road – believe it or not music with a fast beat encourages you to drive faster.

Set off in the daytime. If you are unfamiliar with the route and do not feel confident driving at night, why not set off in the day time to avoid any hassles? Consider a few extra refresher lessons or a motorway module to help you gain more confidence when the evenings start drawing in.

Turn off your phone. If you are driving alone, caught up in traffic or whatever the scenario, the temptation to use Instagram, Snapchat or Candy Crush will always arise. Don't give it a chance turn it off and put it out of reach.

Richard said: "Moving away from home for the first time is always stressful, so make sure you know the route, where to stop for breaks and where you can park at your new home for the next few months. While you may get a broken heart at university don't start by breaking any of your hard earned belongings. Pack carefully ensuring you can see out of the car and don't overload it or have loose items rolling around inside. If you are unsure of anything have the confidence to ask; experienced drivers will always share their knowledge."

JJ and MJ. The Story of Three MG Cars.

In 1981, my husband and I each had a Mini Clubman Estate. My husband was a musician, and the estate was useful for his guitar, amplifier, music bag, etc. On the other hand, I had an office job, but taught exercise for the Women's League of Health & Beauty in the evening. As a result, my estate was also useful for carrying my large cassette machine, equipment, and various other things with me. At that time, I taught in Huddersfield, Shipley, Leeds, and Bradford, and, as I live near Wakefield, the Mini Clubman Estate (with a 1000 cc engine) was quite adequate.

Then, out of the blue, a class became available in Hull. The class was forty years old, and, as I was the nearest qualified teacher to Hull, I was left with a difficult decision. Did I let an old-established and thriving class close, or did I come to the rescue?

When I told my husband about the conundrum, he immediately said, "Well, we'll just have to get a bigger car!" The decision had been made for me!

After researching for a short time, he came up with the idea of buying an MGB GT. I thought he was mad, but, after driving a lovely old BGT belonging to a colleague at work, I was convinced!

Shortly after, my husband found an advertisement for a one year old MGB GT, and he went to see it. A young woman had bought the car new with her half of a divorce settlement, but she was planning to marry again, and so she had to sell it. After looking at the car, we agreed to buy it and proudly brought it home. However, just before we left, I asked the young lady whether she had a name for the car. (I always give my cars a name.) She smiled shyly and said his name was "JJ". When I asked what "JJ" meant, she said that her brother used to tease her for spending hours cleaning the car when it was "Just Junk"! Needless to say, "JJ" kept his name.

After a few months, we found that neither one of us wanted to "hog" the MG, and I got tired of saying, "You have the MG, darling". So, I decided to buy an MG of my own.

By this time, MG's were no longer being made, and so we looked round for a good second hand car. Soon, we saw an advertisement for an older BGT in a village not far away. When we went to see it, a young couple was already viewing it, and, on seeing our interest, they immediately said they would buy it. Of course, I was disappointed, but there was nothing we could do. However, I left the owner my business card - just in case. It worked!

A few days later, the owner telephoned to say that the young couple couldn't come up with the money, and so “Sally” came to join “JJ”.

Over time, I sold Alice when I got a new job which came with a company car, and Michael sold JJ when the car needed renovation. However, Michael continued to call his cars JJ.

Then, in 1999, after having had various other cars, Michael decided to buy me a renovated MG BGT as a silver anniversary present. When we brought him home, I asked Michael what he should be called, and, after very little thought, Michael said, “I know! We should call him MJ”.

When I looked at Michael enquiringly, he said, “Well, we already have Just Junk, and now we have More Junk!”

Unfortunately, Michael passed away ten years ago, but I still have JJ and MJ side by side in the garage.

Janice Haigh

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Petrol Retailing from the Past



How do you fancy buying your fuel in cans? 100 years ago this is how you'd buy petrol for your car. Petrol pumps didn't appear until the 1920s.

And Finally.....

What is Celibacy?

Celibacy can be a choice in life,
Or a condition imposed by circumstances.

While attending a 'Marriage Weekend',
my wife and I, listened to the instructor declare,

"It is essential - all husbands and wives should know the things which are important to each other."

He then addressed the men,

"Can you name and describe your wife's favourite flower?"

I leaned over, touched my wife's hand gently, and whispered,

"Self-raising, isn't it?"

... and thus began my life of celibacy.

Thanks to Phill Eaglen for this

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This Month's Teaser (an easy one this month)

Chester's Eastgate clock is the second most photographed clock in the UK but what is the most photographed clock in the UK?



Last Month's Teaser

Cast your mind back to 1966 when England won the World Cup.

The mascot for the England team was of course World Cup Willie

Your Committee

Chairman	Janice Haigh		Contact via the secretary
Secretary	Andrew Simpson-Laing	01132 299522 07743 306654	andrewasl@ntlworld.com
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	0113 2534528	rbricis@live.co.uk
Membership Secretary	David Rockliff		Membership.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk
Youth Contact	Position Vacant		
Speaker Secretary	Position Vacant		
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Chief Observer	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	myam.webmaster@outlook.com
Ex officio	Bob McDermott Julie Langham		

URGENT REQUEST

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