



Leicester Group Of Advanced Motorist Newsletter

Official Provider

April 2019 Edition

Editors Column

Editor: Kevin Hill

Hello and welcome to the April newsletter.

My Apologies for the late edition.

Please remember we will be holding the group meeting at **The Field Head Hotel in Markfield.**

If you wish to read previous newsletters they can now be downloaded from our local website which can be found with this link www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/leicesteram

If anybody has anything to add to the next newsletter please email me on kevinhill213@outlook.com

Committee News

After the AGM we have 2 new Committee Members.

I am sure you will all welcome Richard Bishuty and Felicity Greenfield to the committee.

Richard will also be taking over the role of Group Co-ordinator. Whilst I have enjoyed covering the role, my time commitments have meant I could not give this role my fullest attention. I therefore will be handing this role over to Richard over the coming month. I will still be on the committee and writing the newsletter going forward.

If you would like anything bringing up at the Committee meeting please contact me and I will report back to you.

(Kevin Hill)

A Warm Welcome

The Committee would like to offer a warm welcome to the following people who have enrolled in the Skills for Life course in the last 2 months.

- Paul Baines
- Jonathan Mott

We hope you enjoy the training. Remember you are all welcome at the group nights which are on the third Wednesday of the month. I will be in touch with you all in the coming weeks to explain the next steps and getting you paired with an observer.

Observer News

As mentioned in the opening column I will be passing on the role of group co-ordinator to Richard Bishuty. We will be in touch over the coming weeks with further information regarding this. In the meantime, if you use the coordinator.leicesteriam@gmail.com your email will be received by us both.

We are still looking for new Observers so if you are thinking about becoming an observer please contact me and I will discuss this further with you by email or phone.

Group Night (Wednesday April 17th)

Group night this month is being held at the Field Head Hotel (address below). Wednesday April 17th a Start time a little earlier of 19.45

All members are welcome.

This month we have We have Samantha Hancock who is a Police Officer from Headquarters. The subject is Cyber Awareness and Online Safety.

This is being held at the Field Head Hotel in the Charnwood suite.

Full address is
Field Head Hotel
Markfield Ln
Markfield
LE67 9PS

We will also be holding a prize raffle and presenting Skills for life awards. All members are welcome to the group nights and the AGM, so come along and get involved with your group.

Any questions or suggestions about group night events you can contact Fred Palmer (vice Chairman/ Events Co-Ordinator) palmerdec@btinternet.com

A message from the Treasurer.

IAM Membership – A Clarification

It seems there may be some confusion regarding membership of IAM RoadSmart, at a national and group level; hopefully this will clear matters up.

When an advanced driving course (previously called Skill for Life) is bought, the recipient becomes an Associate Member. The fee to IAM RoadSmart (£149) includes your first year's (national) membership, test fee, administration & insurance costs, and also a payment to the group to which you will be affiliated – in this case, the Leicester Group. That payment to the group covers their administrative costs and the first year's (local)

membership fee – in our case £7.50, but not all groups charge the same annual membership fee.

Once you pass your test, you become a Full Member and, to continue membership of IAM RoadSmart, you must pay an annual fee on the anniversary of your joining IAM. The amount will vary depending on your level of membership (Fellow or Member) and, if paid by Direct Debit or card, attracts a discount. You will receive an annual membership card; this does not mean that you have paid and normally states that it is valid WHEN the fee is paid. If you do not pass your test within a year of becoming an Associate, IAM will ask for a 2nd year's national membership fee from you.

To continue to be a member of the Leicester Group once you have passed your test, an annual fee is also due, as stated above, presently at £7.50, in addition to your national membership fee. This is due on 01 April each year and can be paid by Standing Order (*), Bank Transfer (*), Cheque (+) or cash. We previously also ran an "anniversary" system but changed to the annual system in 2018. Any Standing Orders should reflect the new date, 01 April. Reminders that membership payments are due will be sent out in the newsletter.

Should you have any queries or comments on the above, please contact the Group Treasurer, Tony Moore, on treasurerleicsiam@gmail.com or any member of the committee.

(*) Please contact the Treasurer for the Group's bank account details

(+) Cheques payable to Leicester Group of Advanced Motorists – please contact Treasurer for postal address

Associate News

To all associates out there currently being assessed.

Please be aware that if you have been assessed for a year or more without taking your test, you may have to renew your National IAM membership to carry on with your assessed runs. If you have not managed to complete your course within the year please contact myself to check if you are still valid for insurance purposes. We may be able to extend your membership if there are mitigating circumstances. I should be in contact with any associate that has expired their membership, but if you have not been contacted or think your membership has expired please get in touch.

If Anyone would like to have a piece included in this newsletter please contact me.

Kevin Hill (Group Co-ordinator)
kevinhill213@outlook.com

Police Update

Police Spring Update.

Vehicle Tax

Police have assisted the DVLA during their national March 'Vehicle Tax' campaign. In the last 12 month the LE postcode alone has had over 22,000 tax inquiries – it's a big problem and often includes other traffic offences.

Roadworks

Two major schemes are starting on the A5 between the M69 and the A4303 Cross in Hand. These are at Magna Park where a new island is being constructed and the other is between the M69 and the B678 just south of the Hinckley Island hotel. Both schemes will have narrow lanes and a temporary 40 mph speed limit will be in place. There will be some night closures.

Campaigns

During April the Force will participate in the NPCC Mobile Phone campaign. We have a real distraction problem on our hands which all forces are finding difficult to tackle. This is resulting in many injury accidents sometimes fatal.

During May we shall be concentrating on two wheelers. Regrettably Leicestershire and other forces in our region have dealt with several fatalities in 2019. Apart from publicity including the social media we will be patrolling key motorcycle routes in Leicestershire and Rutland during the next 6 months.

Safer Roads Team

Made up of officers from the Road Policing Unit and Special Constabulary. The team has conducted a number of operations since formation and has done sterling work at our speed complaint sites. Several arrests for various offences have been made.

Enjoy a safe summer on the roads.

Graham Compton (Leicestershire Police)