



Leicester Group Of Advanced Motorist Monthly Newsletter

Official Provider

October Edition

Editors Column

Hello and welcome to the October newsletter.

Where has the year gone! Summer's over once again and the nights are drawing in very quickly. It's time again to pay particular attention to the batteries and lights in your vehicles.

This month we are looking for potential new meeting venues. Please see the committee section for further details.

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

It is with sad news that I have to report the passing of Mac Stowe on the 18th September aged 70. His funeral took place on 5th October. Melvyn Smith attended the funeral on our behalf.

Another member that will be sadly missed.

If anyone has any comments or ideas please contact me and I will forward onto the Committee.

A Warm Welcome

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

Herby Borrell

Justine Goodwin

Lesley Chapman

We hope you enjoy the training. Remember you are all welcome at the group nights which are on the third Wednesday of every 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

I will be in touch with all observers within the next few weeks to invite you all for another training day.

If anyone would like to become an observer please contact me and I will discuss this further with you by email.

kevinhill213@outlook.com

Group Night

Group night this month will be Lord Bach. He is Leicestershire's Police and Crime Commissioner. Group nights start at 20.00. this month falls on Wednesday 18th September.

This is being held at the Police Headquarters. This is situated at Narborough rd. (B4114) near Fosse Park.

Full postal address is

Leicestershire police Headquarters

St Johns

Narborough Rd

Enderby

LE19 6BX

We will also be holding a prize raffle and presenting awards. All members are welcome to the group nights, so come along and get involved with your group. After all its free. Even the tea and coffee is free.

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

Membership

A message from the Treasurer.

.... I am sure you will, by now, be aware that the membership system has changed. From next April, annual subscriptions for every group member will fall due, not as has been the case, on the anniversary of their joining the group. This will mean that those of you who pay by Standing Order, or who have diary entries, will need to amend them so they are effective from 01 April 2018.

I must thank all of you who have not changed your Standing Order, or routine payments, which has meant significantly more income compared to the "worst case

scenario" the Committee had reviewed. Please note, however, this payment is deemed a donation and normal subscriptions will fall due next April.

Should you have any queries or concerns about the new system, please contact me, or a member of the Committee, to resolve them.

Associate News

We held an associate introduction day on Saturday 23rd September. Thank you to all of you that attended. I hope you all enjoyed the morning and I look forward to meeting you all in the future.

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 IAM membership to carry on 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

Leicestershire's Police report

A short report from Graham Compton of the Leicestershire Police:

We held a regional Traffic Management Officer/Road Safety meeting recently when casualty trends were discussed:

Deaths to 18th Sept 17.

Derbyshire	– 20
Northamptonshire	– 28
Lincolnshire	– 32
Nottinghamshire	– 18
Leicestershire	– 11.

Our total is very gratifying and bucking the regional trend which is basically flat-lining. I don't wish to speculate on the reasons for the Leicestershire and Rutland downturn only to say we all hope it continues.

Speed Cameras

Our Road Safety Unit is in the process of changing all its camera equipment from wet film to digitalization. The transition from wet film will be a lengthy process and will be completed site by site. In addition, Leicestershire CC is in the process of introducing speed and distance cameras into each of the district council areas – 7 in total. These will be evaluated prior to any decision being taken on additional sites.

Work to deliver the Smart system on the motorway between J23A (EMA) and J25 (Nottingham) is on programme. Once completed we will have the ability in cooperation with Highways England to enforce speed limits on this stretch of carriageway.

Drugs and Driving

The DFT has circulated an evaluation report covering the period since drug screening at the roadside was introduced in March 15. This makes interesting reading and it is clear from the statistics since this date indicating a large increase in positive checks that this is a road safety matter

that we must all address going forwards. Leicestershire Police will be training more officers to use the drug screening devices. The drug element will feature in our forthcoming Xmas NPCC Drink/Drug-Driving campaign.

Graham Compton

Calling all Full Members!

This item has been in the last couple of newsletters but we still need more observers so I have left it in.

Over the last few months our Observer numbers within Leicester Group have reduced to 9. We are looking to recruit more observers as we have a backlog of associates waiting to be trained to the standard for test.

If you are a full member and would like to give some of your time to pass your skills on to someone else, then please get in touch with myself or any committee member.

Becoming an observer is not as difficult as you may think. This can be very rewarding and doesn't have to take all of your spare time. Some observers have as little as one associate that has an assessed run just once a month. Training to be an Observer can take as little as three runs out with a Local Observer Assessor to which we have 4 LOA's within the group

The group will provide all of your training at no cost to you, other than some of your time. There are three levels of observers.

The first is a Local Observer which is the lower level of Observer. To gain this qualification you will be trained and tested within the group. You will also go through periodic training within the group usually two to three morning training sessions held every year with all the other Observers. Although it is not mandatory you attend every session.

The second level of Observer is a National Observer. This will see you being trained within the group but you will take a test outside of the group by an IAM examiner. This will need to be retaken every five years. There will also be periodic training sessions within the group. This is the same sessions as the Local Observers.

The third level is a Local Observer Assessor. If you wish to attain this level you will be trained in the same way as a National Observer with a test by an IAM Examiner. The only difference is you will have to retake the exam every three years.

If you, like me would like to pass on the skill you have obtained through IAM. There couldn't be another rewarding way to do it.

If anyone is interested please come and talk to us on the group evening or contact myself (Kevin Hill) on email using kevinhill213@outlook.com or call me on 07904 386250