

gave Toppesfield £11m-worth of work on that network, which rose to £22m the following year.

Toppesfield's success is down to its modern take on customer service, according to Pryor, who founded Toppesfield with £10,000 borrowed on a credit card after 20 years working in the asphalt and quarrying industries. "This sector had a pretty poor reputation and I was confident I could do better," he says.

Toppesfield sources its asphalt, which is essential for building roads, from local suppliers, while most rivals prefer to source from a single factory. "We're independent so we can use up to four suppliers for one project, which helps when you're working within tight time constraints," says Pryor. The company buys in 1m tonnes of asphalt a year.



A 3D drawing of a giant pothole, in Trafalgar Square, central London

It is an approved sub-contractor, with the likes of Balfour Beatty and Skanska and these "tier one" companies now including the firm in long-term maintenance contracts, ensuring a steady revenue stream.

This has prevented Pryor from seeking government contracts directly, although he is aware that the public sector [has a target to devolve 25pc of its procurement spend to small and medium-sized firms.](#) "We know our place," he says. "We have good relationships with the tier ones that we wouldn't want to put at risk."

[The greatest challenge the company faces at present is hiring skilled staff.](#)

Road building has issues with an ageing workforce, Pryor explains, so Toppesfield has been actively recruiting young people into the business. The company spends around £500,000 a year on training programmes and recoups none of this overhead from the Government. Toppesfield currently employs 150 staff.

When Pryor launched Toppesfield 11 years ago, the company started out building car parks and playgrounds for local authorities and retail clients.

Over the past decade the business has diversified into maintaining large sections of the UK's motorway network, as well as signing contracts with airports and even the Olympic Park.

While much of the company's growth is tied to the Government's pledge to fix roads, Pryor claims that Toppesfield is agile enough to adapt. "We managed to grow throughout the recession by spotting opportunities," he says.

"If the Government wasn't spending money on roads, we'd find the people who were spending money, whether it was in retail, housing, or industrial parks.

"Wherever the work is, that's where we'll be focused."

Remainder of IAMS Group Meetings for 2016

Words from the Editor

Meetings are usually held on the first Thursday of each month at Peterborough Milton Golf Club starting at 8pm, unless otherwise stated.

- January No Meeting
- Feb 5th Guest speaker Richard Bulkeley on Psychological causes of road accidents
- March 3rd AGM followed by guest speaker, John Lyon, ex Hendon Police Driving School instructor
- April 7th Sandy Reid, "The Fatal Four"
- May 5th TBC
- June 9th Taster drives Open to public

- July 7th Treasure Hunt
 - August 4th Ball in the Plate (Slow manoeuvring competition)
 - Sept 12th Meeting at Premier Inn, Norman Cross, with other groups. Guest speaker IAM Chief Executive, Sarah Sillars
 - Oct 6th TBC – Winter Tyres
 - Nov 4th News from National Conference
 - Dec 1st Buffet and quiz
- Check out our website (address at bottom of page) is now up and running, with kind thanks to Robin Sutton

Visit the IAMs web site for some winter night reading <http://iam.org.uk>

Enter weekly news or the item you are searching for into the search bar:

Marian Cross has stepped down as Editor due to other commitments and I am sure you will join me in thanking her for her contributions over the past year.

Please forward contributions, articles with photos please, news clippings, for the next newsletter to:

Chrissy Emery
Chrissy.mre@gmail.com

by 10 May 2016 latest.



Notice is hereby given by order of the Group Committee that the Annual General Meeting of **Peterborough and District Advanced Motorists** will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at the Milton Golf Club, Milton Ferry, Peterborough, PE6 7AG to enable the Trustees of the Group (*Registered Charity No. 1067966*) to present their annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st January 2016 for approval by the Group members and to conduct an election. The AGM will be followed at approximately 8.00pm by a presentation by advanced driving expert John Lyon.

Leon King
Hon. Secretary
118 Huntly Grove
Peterborough
PE1 2QN

January 17th 2016
Group No. 7101

email: peterboroughiamsec@live.co.uk

phone: 07727 073064

All Members, Associates and Friends are invited to attend but only fully paid up Members of the IAM and of the Group may vote.

A Member entitled to vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote in his stead. A proxy need not be a Full Member of the Group.

Nominations for all posts on the committee are welcomed.

CURRENT OFFICERS

All Officers retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election (Group rule 3.4)

Stuart Earle	Chairman	Offering to stand for re-election
Leon King	Secretary	Offering to stand for re-election
Bill Peck	Treasurer	Offering to stand for re-election

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

One third of the Committee (excluding Officers) must retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election (Group rule 3.4)

A. RETIRING AND NOT STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

None

B. RETIRING BY ROTATION AND STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

Dave Fennell

C. COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT RETIRING & NUMBER OF YEARS REMAINING

Committee members not retiring

Sandy Reid	one year remaining
Prue Lester	two years remaining



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3rd March 2016 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes of the last AGM held on the 5th March 2015**
(Resolution 1: That the minutes of the 2015 AGM be adopted as a true record)
3. **Matters arising from those minutes.**
4. **Chairman's Report.**
5. **Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Annual Accounts.**
(Resolution 2: That the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st January 2016 be approved)
6. **Election of Officers**
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Honorary Secretary
 - c) Honorary Treasurer(Officers to retire annually)
7. **Election of Committee Members**
(One third to retire annually)
8. **Any Other Business**
(Secretary should be pre-informed of any items)

- Note:
1. Questions from members are invited after each report.
 2. Voting is by FULL MEMBERS only

The AGM will be followed by a presentation at about 8pm by John Lyon, driving expert.



**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Peterborough Milton
Golf Club on the 5th March 2015**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm. In attendance were the Chairman (Stuart Earle), the Hon. Secretary (Leon King), Treasurer (Bill Peck), President (Trevor Dickenson) and 5 members. A talk by local IAM examiner Lew Whittaker on "Red Mist" followed the AGM.

1. Apologies for Absence –

Claire Shelbourne, Chrissy Emery, Robin Sutton, Dave Fennell, Sue Pocock

2. Minutes of the last AGM held on the 6th March 2014

Had been published to members and were also available at the meeting.

(Resolution 1: That the minutes of the 2014 AGM be adopted as a true record)

Proposed: Trevor Dickenson
Seconded: Sandy Reid Agreed unanimously

The minutes were duly accepted and signed by the Chairman Stuart Earle (SE).

3. Matters arising from those minutes.

None raised.

4. Chairman's Report.

Attached below.

5. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of the Annual Accounts.

Had been published to members and were also available at the meeting.

The balance at January 31st 2015 stands at £1294.86.

(Resolution 2: That the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31st January 2015 be approved).

Proposed: Leon King Seconded Prue Lester - Agreed unanimously

6. Election of Officers (Officers to retire annually)

a) Chairman Stuart Earle
Nominated: Bill Peck
Seconded: Sandy Reid

b) Honorary Secretary Leon King
Nominated: Trevor Dickenson
Seconded: Prue Lester

c) Honorary Treasurer Bill Peck
Nominated: Trevor Dickenson
Seconded: Prue Lester

Stuart Earle (Chairman), Bill Peck (Treasurer) and Leon King (Secretary) were all duly re-elected there being no other nominees.

7. Election of Committee Members (One third to retire annually)

Two current committee members retiring and standing again:

Sandy Reid Nominated: Stuart Earle
Seconded: Prue Lester

Prue Lester Nominated: Sandy Reid
Seconded: Trevor Dickenson

and were duly re-elected there being no other nominees.

8. Any Other Business

There being no other business, the meeting was declared closed at 7.50pm.

The AGM was followed by a presentation from Lew Whittaker, IAM Local Examiner.



**PETERBOROUGH & DISTRICT
ADVANCED MOTORISTS**

Reg. Charity No. 1067966

Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists



NOMINATION FORM

Nominations are invited from full members to stand for the committee.

The nominee must be willing to stand for the committee and sign the nomination form. By signing the nomination form, the nominee is affirming his/her ability and intention, if elected, to attend committee meetings regularly.

Please note – You may not stand for the Committee if the law debar you from being a Charity Trustee.

- Only fully paid up members of the IAM and of the Group may nominate Committee Members or be nominated as Committee Members.
- This Nomination Paper must be returned to the Group Secretary at least seven days before the election – i.e. by 28/2/15. (Rule 3.5)
- All Officers and one third of all other Committee Members must retire annually by rotation and may offer themselves for re-election by Group Full Members. (Rule 3.4)
- Nominations may be accepted from the floor of the meeting if a written nomination has not been received and the person nominated from the floor is present and agrees to be so nominated. (Rule 3.5)
- The number of Committee Members including the Officers must not exceed twenty.

OFFICERS

Name	Position	Nominated by	Seconded by	Signature of Nominee
	Chairman			
	Secretary			
	Treasurer			

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name	Nominated By	Seconded By	Signature of Nominee

Here are a few essential contacts and information about group meetings to help you get the most out of your local group.

JOIN US FOR AN EVENT

Date: Meetings take place on the first Thursday of every month (excluding January) at Peterborough Milton Golf Club and start at 8pm unless otherwise stated in the newsletter.

Directions Milton Ferry, Peterborough PE6 7AG (just off the A47)

➔ From east, exit A47 via slip road to Castor (the first junction to the west of the Nene Parkway interchange at junction 15). Turn right at the T junction. After 150 yards turn left towards Marholm (signposted Golf Club). Entrance is immediately on right.

➔ From west, leave A47 at the third exit of the roundabout (signposted Castor) where the single carriageway becomes dual. Go through Ailsworth and Castor. Just over the bridge crossing the A47 turn towards Marholm (signposted Golf Club). Entrance is immediately on right.



Group contacts

President

Trevor Dickenson

trevor.dickenson@btinternet.com

Chairman

Stuart Earle

07941 450885

stuart.earle@lineone.net

Secretary

Leon King

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Treasurer

Bill Peck

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Training co-ordinator

Sandy Reid

01945 464822

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Membership secretary

Dave Fennell

01780 481925

d.fennell@btinternet.com

Registered Group No 7101 • Charity No 1067966 • Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists

The Group keeps records of the membership on a database. This database is not available to outside parties and no details are passed to other organisations or persons. However, if you do not wish your name and address to be kept on this database you should contact the Membership Secretary.

Events Secretary

Prue Lester

01945 772234

pruelester@hotmail.com

Website Administrator

Robin Sutton

robin55@btinternet.com

Vacant positions

Offers invited.
Please contact the secretary for more information.

Public Relations

IAM Regional Operations

Manager

Ian Firth

ian.firth@iam.org.uk

and finally.....Motoring Mirth



VorSprung **Doh** Technik