



PETERBOROUGH & DISTRICT

ADVANCED MOTORISTS

Reg. Charity No. 1067966

Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists

Newsletter

April 2017



In this issue: New Legislation

CONGRATULATIONS

to those associates who passed their IAMS test since August 2016

<u>Name</u>	<u>Observed by</u>	
Emilia Convertino	Leon King	Pass
Mark Royal	Sandy Reid	F1RST
John Kelly	Bill Peck	F1RST
Ron Coleman	Stuart Earle	F1RST
David Gorman	Bill Peck	F1RST
Jonathan Wilson	Dave Fennell	F1RST
Pavlo Duma	Sandy Reid	Pass
Rob Taylor	Bill Peck	Pass
John Yeates	Bill Peck	F1RST
David Montgomery	Stuart Earle	Pass

What is the law on using your phone while driving?

It was already illegal to use your mobile phone while driving but tougher punishments were introduced from March 1 2017.



The penalty for using a mobile phone while driving has now been doubled to a £200 fine and six points on your licence.

The toughening of the law means that new drivers will lose their licence if they are caught with a hand-held device behind the wheel.

Drivers have their licences revoked if they clock up six penalty points in their first two years of driving, rather than the normal 12 points.

If your case goes to court, you could face disqualification and an up to a

£1,000 fine. HGV and bus drivers could get an up to £2,500 fine.

The RoSPA said that the instant ban for new drivers means that they will have to take their theory and practical driving tests all over again.

RoSPA road safety manager Nick Lloyd said: "Hopefully these new stricter penalties will mean drivers think twice."

Can you use a hands-free phone while driving?

You are allowed to use fully hands-free phones while driving but you are forbidden from touching or picking it up, even for a moment.

Police still have the power to stop drivers if they believe that they are distracted by their hands-free mobile phone.

Can you use your phone to follow a map?

The new law specifically states that it is illegal to hold a a mobile phone to follow a map and find out directions.

In order to use your phone as a sat nav, it must be mounted in a hands-free holder.

Can you text while driving?

It is illegal to read a text or check social media on your phone when you are behind the wheel.

Can you use your phone in an emergency?

You can only use a hand-held phone if you need to call 999 or 112 in an emergency and it is unsafe or unpractical to stop.

Can you use a mobile phone on a motorbike?

No, the law applies to people riding motorcycles as well as those driving cars, buses and other vehicles.

Can I pull over to check my phone?

Yes, as long as you are safely parked and your engine is switched off before you check your phone.

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The government has announced plans for a consultation aimed at improving moped and motorcycle training, the closing date for you view has gone (February 2017) but I though it would be interesting to read the draft proposals.

Mark Winn, Head of Motorcycling Policy at the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), has outlined a nine point plan, which includes:

- Allowing 21 years olds to ride unrestricted bikes (rather than at 24)
- A new assessment system for instructors
- Changing the CBT from five parts to four
- Increased focus on clothing and equipment
- Including filtering and steering in the syllabus for trainees
- Restrict learners to automatics if that's what they do their CBT on
- Loss of CBT entitlement for riders who collect six penalty points

- Theory test to be taken before CBT
- Recognition for training bodies

The plans would mark a complete overhaul of the current system, with riders required to take a theory test before their CBT (compulsory basic training).

The CBT would be given its first major overhaul since being introduced in 1990, with the current two-part onsite training and riding elements being combined. Trainees would also be required to wear appropriate training, while the plans would also see steering taught as a practical skill and filtering included in the theory element of the syllabus. Learners who pass the CBT on an automatic would also be restricted to riding that kind of bike on L plates, recognising the extra skills and complexity of riding a geared bike, while riders collecting six or more penalty points during the two year validity period of the CBT certificate will automatically lose the entitlement.

Winn hopes to introduce progressive training that will allow younger riders to achieve a full motorcycle licence by the age of 21, rather than being restricted to an A2 licence until the age of 24. He said: "Younger riders can progress in stages to the most powerful motorcycles. They take a test on a lower category motorcycle then, after two years, they can take another practical test on a higher category. This is called 'progressive access'.

"It allows riders to progress to the most powerful category of motorcycle by the age of 21, rather than 24.

"Under European legislation, we can introduce an option for motorcyclists to take extra training to ride larger motorcycles, without the need to take a further test. This training would need to cover the same elements as the practical test and last at least seven hours

"We're proposing to introduce this option, with training courses being provided by approved training bodies (ATBs). That's why it's important that we start to quality assure all road-based training, not just CBT.



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New Speeding Fines

Extract from TheTelegraph 24 April 2017 by Alex Robins

It's worth noting that fines for speeding change on April 24, 2017,— it's a complicated system, but here's a broad outline, starting with the three main 'bands' of speeding.

Band A –

This refers to the lowest level of speeding. For example, you could be driving at between 21mph and 30mph in a 20mph zone, 31mph to 40mph in a 30mph zone, or 71mph to 90mph on a 70mph road. You can expect 3 points on your licence, and a fine of around 50% of your weekly income

Band B –

This is for more serious cases of speeding. If you're in a 20mph zone and you drive at 31mph to 40mph, or in a 40mph zone at 56mph to 65mph, or up to 100mph in a 70mph, that'll be a Band B fine. That means 4 to 6 points on your licence, or disqualification for between 7 and 28 days, plus a fine of 100% of your weekly income.

Band C –

This is for the most egregious speeding. If you're doing 41mph or above in a 20mph zone, 51mph or above in a 30mph zone, or above 100mph in a 70mph zone, that's a Band C fine. That means 6 points on your licence or disqualification for

between 7 and 56 days, as well as a fine of 150% of your weekly income.

All of these fines are somewhat flexible. Mitigating circumstances (things that could reduce the penalty) include the establishment of a genuine emergency, a lack of previous convictions (or no relevant/recent convictions) and "good character". Aggravating factors (things that could increase the penalty) include certain previous convictions, speeding in bad weather, speeding in a lorry, bus or taxi, speeding while towing, speeding while driving for hire or reward, speeding with passengers, or speeding somewhere particularly inappropriate, like near a school or crowded shopping street.

Meetings for 2017

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.

May 4th – Chris Gilbert videos June 1st - Driving meeting

July 6th – Driving meeting (Treasure Hunt)

August 3rd – Associate Training

September 7th – Simon Bergin, IAM Examiner and Traffic Police on Crash Investigation

October 5th – Associate Training

November 2nd Return of Honest John (TBC)

December 7th – Annual buffet and quiz

Check out our website (address at bottom of page) up and running, with kind thanks to Robin Sutton

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

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

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

Chrissy Emery
Chrissy.mre@gmail.com

by 15 September 2017 latest.





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



Group contacts

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.



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Contact via secretary

Vacant positions

Offers invited.
Please contact the Hon secretary for more information.

Events Secretary

Young Driver Rep

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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.

and finally.....Motoring Mirth



You can't always believe what you see