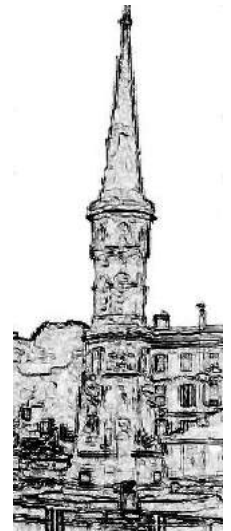


BYWAY

The not so major communication from

Banbury Advanced Motorists

Registered Charity Number 1088338



March 2017

Dear All,

This edition of Byway contains the notification of the AGM. I do hope as many of you as possible will attend. It really is an important event as it is the opportunity for questions to the committee and for new people to come onto the committee. This is important. As a committee, we have been stable for some time now. Several of us are getting older and perhaps reluctant to put in as many hours as we may have done previously. In addition, IAM is becoming a much more technology oriented operation, and some of us – self included – are reluctant to get up to speed. We need some young blood that understands technology and can deal with the changes. Please think about joining us. It's not too arduous, one meeting a month, presently Friday evening, but this could change if desirable. There are individual roles within the committee that require input outside of the meetings, but there is also the 'non officer' role which just requires an interest in the group, and a certain amount of wisdom.

There are two proposals on the agenda for this year's AGM. This is unusual but we do need the input of the members to decide these points.

The first one concerns the renewal date for membership of BAM. I am sure you are aware, following the last Byway, that due to some personal difficulties, our membership database had become a little muddled. We are on the way now to rectifying this and should have it under control shortly and certainly before the AGM. One of the difficulties experienced in maintaining the list, is that we have members due to pay at variable times during the year, and we have associates who for good reason are awarded an extension to their training. This makes for a complex juggling operation by the treasurer and the membership secretary, not helped by some fees being paid by standing order and some by cheque. The committee is proposing that the membership year be moved and fixed at January 1st – the beginning of our financial year. The system would work on the basis that, if a member joined in – say- April, he would be charged 8/12ths of the membership and would start at the full price on January 1st. If an associate is awarded an extension from IAM Head office, this would not affect his BAM membership, as, we consider that during the extension period, he would still be receiving Byway and support from the group, and still receiving support from his Observer. We are working on the system as to how to shift the payment dates presently in place and hope to have this ready to present to the members at the AGM. We would also like to suggest that if possible, all membership is paid by standing order. I hope you will all consider this proposal seriously and be prepared to discuss and approve it at the AGM.

The other proposal is not quite so radical. We now only tend to have two or three social events each year. Christmas dinner is one of them. For a number of years we have been to Wroxton House where we have received excellent service and food. Unfortunately, they require a booking for 20 or more to qualify for a private room. Last year we were aware that we could not achieve that number. We opted for another location. The room was good, but we experienced some difficulties with service. I believe this was due to the booking of several parties on the same evening and the staff being a little stretched. This caused me to wonder whether we should move the date for



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the 'Festive' dinner to January. This would mean it was at a less busy time for both members and food premises. I also wondered if there would be more support if the event was at lunch time rather than in the evening. Please be prepared to think about this and to discuss at the AGM.

Finally from me, a call to arms. We have booked a stall at the Banbury Show on 11th June. It would be really good if we had some support to share out the work on the day. It usually falls to about four of us regulars. If you are able to help on that day, I am sure Michael, as publicity officer, would be delighted to hear from you.

The AGM notification follows on separate sheets. Please do come along, there will be tea and coffee after the event and a chance to gossip with other members.

Regards

Peta Simmons
Chairman BAM

A message from Kromer

Peta has described the need for new blood on our committee. The same goes for our team of ten Observers. Six of that ten will be 75 or more during 2017. This very often leads, for one reason or another, to not being able to contribute as much as was possible in the past. This is at a time when demands are increasing and we are into an era of a permanent waiting list. Having a good core of mature Observers is always valuable as long as there is a sensible balance. The ratio at the moment does I believe make us vulnerable and with the ever present need to recruit younger drivers, we would, I am sure, benefit from having more, younger Observers. If you feel that you could spare a few hours to contribute to what is a very rewarding hobby then you will be most welcome. Just get in touch with any Observer or committee member. All training and observing, as always, will be geared up to whatever each person is able to contribute. I know there are a number of members who have expressed an interest and some who have been flagged up on test by their examiner as having the appropriate skills. We would love to hear from you. Your input now could help ensure that Banbury Advanced Motorists remains a flourishing independent group.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

Best regards,

Kromer

Important Information:

Social meetings are held at: St Hugh's Church Hall, Ruskin Road, Banbury OX16 9HU, unless otherwise stated. Start at 7:30.

A few committee posts:

Chairman: Peta Simmons 01608 643377, simmons@cnorton.eclipse.co.uk

Chief Observers: Kromer Rogers, 01295 720804 cmkromer@outlook.com, Chris Milner, 01329 876342 chris42milner@gmail.com

Treasurer: Karen Liddle, 01295 711685 karenliddle@fsmail.net

Secretary: Ken Merry 01295 660720 ken@themerrys.net

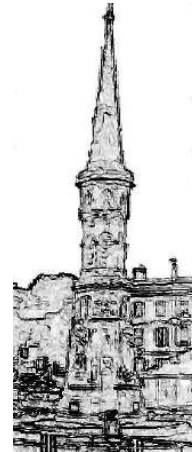
Membership Secretary: Aaron Lilley, 07882 664068 aaron.lilley@hotmail.com

Associates Officer: George Findlay, 01295 811682 geofin1@tiscali.co.uk

Banbury Advanced Motorists

Group Number 2126
Charity Number 1088338

I give notice of the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday 7th April 2017 at St Hugh's Church Hall commencing promptly at 19:30 hours.



Agenda

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Minutes of previous 2016 AGM
- 3 Matters Arising from 2016 AGM
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Treasurer's report, adoption of accounts and appointment of Auditors
- 6 Chief Observer's award
- 7 Chief Observer's report
- 8 Election of Officers
- 9 Election of General Committee
- 10 Any Other Business (previously notified to the Secretary)
 - a) Should Membership fees and change of date to coincide with the Groups financial year 1st January?
 - b) Should we move our annual dinner into January and perhaps hold it at lunchtime?

Copies of the minutes can be obtained from the Secretary in advance, either by post or email and few copies will be available on the night.

Ken Merry
Secretary



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