



Mid Yorkshire



**Advanced Motorists
Newsletter**



ARE WE THERE YET

October 2016

**Group Number 4178
Registered Charity No. 1053843**



www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

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FORTHCOMING GATHERINGS

Date	Meetings	Location
Sunday 2nd October 9.30 am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Look for the caravan.	B&Q Car Park, Aspen way, Glasshoughton, Castleford. WF10 4TA
Monday 3rd October 8 pm	MYAM Social evening*. Richard Gladman (Head of Driving & Riding Standards)	The Manor Golf Club. Bradford Road, Drighlington, Bradford, BD11 1AB (See page 7 for directions)
Sunday 16th October 10am	Sunday Driving Sessions Assessment runs for all Associates & Members. Free tea or coffee.	McDonalds car park On the roundabout with Oakwood Lane and Easterly Road LS8 2RB
Monday 3rd November 8 pm	MYAM Social evening.	The Manor Golf Club.

Everyone is welcome at these events and they are an ideal opportunity to meet new people socially, find out about what is going on within the Group and listen to an interesting talk on a variety of topics, sharing our skills with other serious drivers and keeping up-to-date on club and driving matters.

Will any Member wishing to have an item, article or picture included in the newsletter please submit it to the editor no later than the 15th of the month, these may be edited to save space. Thank you.

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*Sarah Sillars telephoned the group personally about her visit to us on the 3rd October. She has been invited to take part in a Road Safety Forum meeting with the Road Safety Minister in Parliament which unfortunately clashes with her visit to us.

Sarah would have honoured her arrangement to visit us if we'd insisted but we agreed to her sending Richard Gladman (Head of Driving & Riding Standards) to come and talk on the 3rd.

Disappointing I know, but Sarah will be visiting us on the 6th February 2017.

ISSUES OF 'ARE WE THERE YET' ARE ON THE GROUP WEB SITE

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR

We are now getting into autumn and it will soon be winter so is your car ready for the longer nights and lower temperatures? How often do you check your lights are all working and the lenses are all clean? It's also important to check the wiper blades, both front and rear, and the washer fluid to ensure the screens can be cleared without smearing. Adding screenwash to the washer bottle also helps to prevent the washer fluid from freezing.

It's also important to check your tyres. If the tread is approaching the legal limit of 1.6mm consider changing them as their performance will be significantly compromised in the winter weather. It may be worth considering fitting winter tyres as the performance of summer tyres drops off as the temperature falls. In some countries it is compulsory to fit winter tyres typically between November and March but we don't have the weather here to justify compulsory fitting. It's often said that a 2WD car with winter tyres can outperform a 4WD car on summer tyres. However this may be true on flat roads but I believe 4WD has advantages on hills, says he speaking from experience!

As a compromise consider fitting all season tyres which can be used all year round and get over the problem of storing the summer tyres during the winter and vice versa.

Whatever you do to prepare for winter it's worth thinking about it now so you are prepared for whatever the winter brings.

Back in June I mentioned I had temporarily returned to work, well I've now completed my 3 month stint so it's now back to my retirement routine. I'll now have more time to work on, amongst other things, the newsletter. I'm working on some ideas for the newsletter which I hope to introduce next year. More on that in the December issue.

In the meantime do you have any views on what you'd like to see in the newsletter? Or do you have anything that could be included. Have you visited anywhere this summer and can share your experiences with the newsletter readers. I'd welcome any stories, photos etc. Send them to the email address on the committee page or hand them to me at the social meeting.

Keith

Welcome to the Group

Gemma Holroyd
Helen Eves
Jay Rutter
Matthew Beck
Scott Baker
Spencer Greenwood
Gaddafi Kajjumbi
Stephanie Stringer
Karen Lodge
Karl Shaw
Paranjit Bharaj
Hannah Gooch

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Richard Edge - with a First pass
Craig Jones - Observer Christian Pithers

Happy Birthday this month goes to

Normal service has been resumed, fingers uncrossed and wood untouched!

Robert Clarkson, Jeffrey Long, Chris Beard, Graham Smith, David Moon,
Sheila Sharkey, Glenys Sowerby, Les Horsman, Keith Wevill, Graham
Crawshaw, David Rockliff, Susan Sudall, Kim Clark, Kathy Sewell, Anne
Goodair, Clifford Jones, Julie Langham, Paranjit Bharaj, Michelle Render, Karl
Chambers, Alistair Ratcliffe, Gareth Pearson

MYAM Online

MYAM COMMITTEE MINUTES NOW AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

The Committee has now agreed that in the interests of transparency the minutes from the MYAM Committee meetings will now be available to Members on the Group website once they have been accepted as a true record by the Committee. So please feel free to check them out. They can be found on the Committee Members page under Our Team. The minutes are located at the bottom of the page.

FORUM is open up to all MYAM members at myam.icyboards.net. Just register, answering a few easy questions and David Rushfirth will get you up and running in no time. Soon you can be exchanging comments and ideas with other members and keeping up to date with what's going on.



FACEBOOK provides details of events and local news. Go and visit www.facebook.com/midyorkshireiam and like our page. How about inviting a few of your Facebook friends to like our page too. It helps getting our name out there.

WEB SITE As part of the changes at IAM to introduce the new IAM RoadSmart branding, we now have an all new look website and a new website address. If you use the old address you will be redirected to the Local Groups page on the new IAM RoadSmart website. To go to our new page enter:-

www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

The new site is taking shape nicely but we still have plenty to do.



TWITTER We now have our own Twitter account which can be found at twitter.com/MYAM4178.

The Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969

GROUP NOTICES

Directions to the Manor Golf Club, Bradford Road, Drighlington, Bradford, BD11 1AB

The carpark is well lit and for those who find walking difficult please park to the right hand side of the entrance where there is a ramp up to the doors.

Directions

The Manor Golf Club is situated on the B6135, half a mile off the A650. If travelling from M62, M621 exit at Junction 27 onto the A650 to Bradford. At the second roundabout take the third exit onto the B6135, the entrance is on the left, immediately after the change in speed limit to 40.

From the A58 Leeds turn right at the traffic lights in Drighlington towards Bradford and the entrance is on the right immediately before the national speed limit sign.

From A58 Halifax turn left at the traffic lights in Drighlington towards Bradford and the entrance is on the right immediately before the national speed limit sign.

Disclaimer

The items contained in this newsletter are the views of the Members who contribute and not necessarily the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (I.A.M) or MYAM.

DATA PROTECTION ACT

MYAM holds Membership detail records on computer, these are confidential and for club use ONLY. The information is used to run the Group and consists of various details such as class of Membership, date of joining & subscription expiry dates. It is also used for the production of address labels for the distribution of the newsletter and recording training for Observers.

MYAM Group Trophy

Have you got your nomination for the group trophy in yet? There's still time as the trophy will be presented at the Christmas Social meeting to the member 'who has gone above and beyond' for their commitment to our group.

This year the award is by nomination but we are investigating a points system based on attendance at meetings, writing for the newsletter, introducing new members etc. We had a similar system when I was a member of the Leicester group which seemed to work well leading to some fierce competition towards the end of the year.

What to do if you break down on a smart motorway



If you are unlucky enough to break down or be involved in an accident while on a smart motorway, you should follow these steps:

- Use an emergency refuge area (ERA) if you are able to reach one safely. These are marked with blue signs featuring an orange SOS telephone symbol on them. Different types of smart motorways have different ERA spacing, but the furthest you will be away from one is around 1.5 miles.
- If you cannot get to an emergency refuge area, you should try to move on to the verge if there is no safety barrier and it is safe to do so.
- In all cases, switch on your hazard warning lights.
- If you stop in the nearside lane, leave your vehicle via the nearside (left hand) door if it is safe to do so and wait behind the safety barrier, if there is one. If you are unable to move over to the nearside lane, remain in the vehicle with your seat belt on.
- If you can leave your vehicle safely, contact Highways England via the roadside emergency telephone provided in all emergency refuge areas. If it is not possible to get out of your vehicle safely, then you should stay in your vehicle with your seat belt on and dial '999' if you have access to a working mobile phone.

With acknowledgement to the RAC

Highway Code Quiz

Social meeting 5th September

Well who'd of thought that a quiz on the Highway Code could be so entertaining and enlightening! Thanks to David Rushfirth we had a fun evening rattling our brain cells as he romped through the questions with lots of interesting snippets thrown in for good measure.

No one got full marks, a few were close but it just goes to show there's always something to learn.



Martin checks the answers – just to be sure



The winning team

During the quiz David mentioned that the Highway Code was regularly updated, just like my PC! The last update, at the time of writing was on 16th September.

The Highway Code is available online at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code>

And the updates are at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/updates>

Don't blow it – good planets are hard to find

Driving style has a huge impact on fuel consumption and is key to reducing your impact on the environment. You can buy the greenest car on the market but if you drive it badly or use it too much, you simply undermine all the benefits. There are however some things you can do to save money and reduce CO2 emissions and pollution. Here are some environmental driving tips from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards, Richard Gladman.

- Get your car serviced regularly. A well-maintained car is safer and greener
- Make sure you are using the right engine oil; if you have any doubts check your handbook. Make sure your oil is checked regularly and if you need to top it up ensure you use the correct grade
- Avoid unnecessary loading. Putting too much weight on your vehicle can burn more fuel. Take off any unused roof racks, roof boxes or cycle racks as they will also waste fuel
- Check your tyre pressures – underinflated tyres waste fuel. Check your handbook as some vehicles now have an economy option in their settings for tyre pressures
- If possible choose a parking space you can drive out of quickly. Time spent manoeuvring out of a space with a cold engine wastes fuel. Try to reverse park so you can drive away quicker

Richard said: “The key to green driving is to take a gentle approach when braking and accelerating combined with looking as far ahead as possible to plan a smooth path through traffic. There isn't any point in rushing to the next traffic light just to have to wait. These are just the sort of skills that advanced drivers take for granted but can make a big difference to your wallet and to air quality around you. Consider investing in the IAM RoadSmart eco-driving course as it could pay for itself very quickly in fuel savings.”

Richard is our speaker at the October meeting.

Avoiding dangers on your doorstep

This is a busy week in the calendar for many parents and carers as the new school year gets into full swing.

As the busy mornings and tight schedules take over, basic safety measures and considerations can be unintentionally overlooked. Although we often hear about accidents involving children as pedestrians or passengers in cars that crash, we are less likely to hear about those incidents that take place within our own driveways or close to home. Yet these events can be just as severe and are often easily avoided.

If you are a parent or responsible for looking after small children, I do not need to offend you by telling you what you already know...toddlers move fast, are unpredictable and can achieve things you thought unimaginable in the space of a mere ten seconds (when did you learn to unlock my iPhone and ask Siri for Maltesers?!).

Sometimes it can be hard to apply the same mentality to every single scenario, particularly when the concept of a child strapped into a car seat seems far less daunting than one crawling across an obstacle ridden hardwood floor. However child casualties involving 'in-car' or 'driveway' accidents amount to over 4000 UK hospital admissions a year, so what we may have previously considered to be low risk can actually be more dangerous than we think.

As the school and nursey term recommences, it is not unusual for us to try and cut a few seconds off the morning run at any opportunity that presents itself. If that means returning quickly to retrieve a forgotten mobile while the kids are still in the car, then it is not uncommon. 95% per cent of parents surveyed in a recent 'Children In and Around Cars' report by ROSPA, revealed that there had been an occasion where they had left their child unattended in the car on the driveway. Let's make a conscience effort to change old habits!

Whether you are a parent, carer, relative or neighbour, it's worth taking a look at some pointers to help you towards avoiding dangers on your doorstep this autumn.

- Always keep your keys on you. Never leave them in the ignition or on the seat - even if you think that they are far out of reach – we all know how children can surprise us.
- Always take your children with you – even if you are only popping into the house or wheeling the bins out. Adding 2 more minutes to the journey or having to entertain stropky madams are nothing in comparison to an unwanted injury.
- Keep your window wound down so you can have a better sense of what's going on around you, as opposed to just relying on rear-view and wing mirrors or reversing cameras and sensors.
- Always be aware of blind spots, children could be hidden from view.

- Always reverse very slowly out of your drive, so you can keep an eye out and are able to stop suddenly should you need to.
- Always double check the car before remote locking your vehicle...the little monkeys may have just snuck back in for no logical reason whatsoever...

The best way to avoid additional stress is through keeping on top of everything that you have the power to control. Tantrums and tears may not be as easily averted, but driveway incidents are. Follow the above tips and stay safe this school run.

Thenuka Mahendrarasa, IAM RoadSmart social media executive

I have one comment on this. Do you drive forwards into your drive/garage or reverse into it? We've always reversed into our drive and garage. It makes getting out easier and you're doing all the maneuvering with a warm engine. Wherever possible I reverse into a parking space for the same reasons. In our present garage and the one at our last house the "junk" that inevitably builds up around the cars was arranged to favour reversing into the garage.

To aid reversing into the garage and to ensure I can stop before I hit the shelves at the back I have a marker on the wall, well it's one of the holders for the roof cross bar storage, and once this is visible past the B pillar I stop. By this point the rear parking sensors have stopped beeping and are on continuously.

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Phillip Thompson and Sally Emmerson receiving their certificates from Martin



Support our Heroes in Need

Join us at a

REMEMBRANCE DINNER

'For an Evening to Remember'

SATURDAY 22nd OCTOBER 2016

at The Midland Hotel : Bradford, BD1 4HU

18.45 for 19.15 hours



Guests include:-

The Lord Mayor & Lady Mayoress
of Bradford

Ben Parkinson M.B.E.

Raffle & Auction

(for which Donations most Welcome)

Wine Reception : 3 Course Dinner

TICKETS £30.00

Lounge Suits



RAISING FUNDS for

"Support Our PARAS" : "The Royal British Legion" : "The GURKHA Welfare Trust"

Tickets now available from:-

JEFFREY LONG MBE

19 Heather Court, Park Road, Bingley, BD16 4BA

Telephone: 01274 560780 : Mobile: 0791 356 9914 : jeffreymbe@hotmail.co.uk

Cheques payable to J. Long (Dinner)

21/08/16

Gurkha photo: With kind permission of "The Gurkha Welfare Trust"

OBSERVERS

You deserve a really huge thankyou

At the time of writing we have 34 active Associates allocated to our Observers with a further 5 waiting to be paired up.

With just 22 fully qualified Observers we have a few who have taken on more than one Associate, which has helped the group immensely and the hard work has not gone unnoticed.

We are currently working with 6 trainee observers to get them qualified as soon as possible, which will ease the situation a little.



As you can see we really do appreciate the effort all our observers put in for the associates but could you join them?

WE URGENTLY NEED MORE OBSERVERS - DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

You must have the ability to pass on knowledge in a patient and professional manner and have a real interest in raising the standard of driving in others.

The post of observer is a very rewarding one. All it requires is a few hours of your time. It is also a very good way of maintaining your standard, because whilst advising, you are constantly aware of both your own driving techniques and those in others. There is no financial cost to observers, but it enables you to give something back to your group in return for what has been done for you.

Becoming an Observer is not for the faint-hearted. It is not something that everyone is able to do, but, if you are at all interested, contact our chief observer David Stringer.

And Finally.....

I have a spelling checker.
It came with my pea sea.
It plane lee marks four my revue
Miss steaks aye can knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it to say
Weather eye am wrong oar write;
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long,
And eye can put the error rite;
It's rare lea ever wrong.

Eye ran this poem wright threw it,
Your sure reel glad two no.
Its vary polished in it's weigh.
My checker tolled me sew.

Sow ewe can sea why aye dew prays
Such soft wear four pea seas,
And why eye mussed brake in two
verse
Buy which eye hope too pleas.

A checker is a bless sing,
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.
It helps me right awl stiles two reed,
And aides me when I rime.

Each frays come posed up on my screen
Eye trussed too bee a joule.
The checker pours o'er every word
To cheque sum spelling rule.

And now bee cause my spelling
Is checked with such grate flair,
Their are no fault's with in my cite,
Of nun eye am a ware.

Beecuz uv yoosing chequers
Hour spelling mite decline,
And if we're lacks oar have a laps,
We wood bee maid too wine.

To rite with care is quite a feet
Of witch won should be proud,
And wee mussed dew the best wee can,
Sew flaw's are knot aloud.

I ran this through the spellchecker on my PC. Although it did pick up a few of the "errors" it didn't pick up every mistake proving that the technology is not infallible. The good old Mk1 eyeball and brain can often do a much better job!

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Answer to last months teaser. Although my 2012 Yeti is well equipped one thing it doesn't have is an oil pressure gauge which the 1974 Mini 1000 did have.

No teaser this month but I'll find a new one next month.

Your Committee

Chairman	Martin Fillingham	01274 584899	fillin_m@hotmail.com
Vice Chairman	Lesley Pollard	07752 881555	lesley.pollard173@gmail.com
Secretary	Position Vacant		
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	0113 2534528	rbricis@live.co.uk
Membership Secretary	David Rockliff		Membership.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk
Youth Contact	Vicky Croft	01924 404095	vickycroft@sky.com
Speaker Secretary	Position Vacant		
Events Manager	Alan Jones	07714444595	alan.j909@btinternet.com
Website	David Rushfirth	01924 211510 07966 134045	webmaster.myamcar@iamGroups.org.uk.
Newsletter	Keith Wevill	01274 815281	kcw2hwc@tesco.net
Chief Observer	David Stringer	07768 620208 0113 350 8625	d_stringer@btconnect.com
Ex officio	Bob McDermott Andrew Simpson-Laing		

URGENT REQUEST

We still need someone suitable to stand for the post of Group Secretary, if you would like to find out more please ask the Chairman or Vice Chairman at the meeting. The Group will be in unusual position of not having a Group Secretary and the Committee and the Group needs someone competent to take on that role as soon as possible. All of the Group's integrated processes are now in place and a full guide is available. Everything these days is electronic which helps with the time management side.

We also need a Speaker Secretary to organise the social meetings at the Manor Golf Club. To find out more contact the Chairman or Vice Chairman.