



Newsletter ~ June 2024

St Helens Group of Advanced Motorists
Working to make our roads safer every day...

Welcome

Hello everyone and welcome to the June edition of the newsletter.

A special welcome to Roy Minshall, Richard Nicholson, John Rigby and Susan Herman who have joined our Spring Advanced Driver Course.

Our Spring Course is now extremely busy with nine new Associates. We have been organising ourselves to deal with this fantastic number. I'd like to offer a particular thanks to Observers Andrew Appleton, Chris Bradley and Val Cunningham who have risen to the challenge by each providing observed runs to several Associates during the week rather than on Sunday mornings. This has helped greatly. Our new Associates are very keen and some have even attended on Sunday

mornings at the St. Helens Fire Station, not for observed runs, but to listen to short presentations provided by our Lead Observer Mark Hemans.

As our Group Year ends with our AGM on the 6th June I'm very optimistic about its future. We have great teams of Observers and Committee members who have been and continue to develop what we do to ensure our Associates have the best possible experience. This is what we are about as a Group, our Associate focus. We take the view that even an Advanced Test failure can be turned into something positive. If our Associates leave the Group as more confident and skilful drivers than when they first came to the Group then that is a

success. A good experience will spread the word about what we do and help us to reach even more people.

We fully understand that not everyone wants to do an Advanced Driver course. They may just want to improve in some areas of their driving. Drivers often give their cars an MOT. I think of drivers receiving an MOT of their driving. To this end we are very happy to give any of our members an opportunity to have an annual review of their driving, provided by members of our Observer team. This is completely confidential. We are here to help you become the driver you want to be.

Mark Farnworth
Group Chairman



St. Helens Group website

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More Information (click links)

[SHGAM News](#)

[IAM News Releases](#)

[SHGAM Driving Tips](#)

[IAM RoadSmart Advice](#)

[Our Courses](#)

[Course dates](#)

Safer roads for all: IAM RoadSmart manifesto calls on political parties to prioritise road safety

Manifesto calls for all parties to commit to an updated road safety strategy and a national roads renewal programme. Focus should be on skills, infrastructure, and enforcement.

IAM RoadSmart has published its manifesto "safer roads for all" calling on all political parties to bring forward plans to reduce the numbers of killed and seriously injured (KSIs) on our roads following last week's announcement that a general election will be held on the 4th July.

More than 16,000 lives* have been lost on Britain's roads since 2013, far more than from the rail or aviation sectors during the same period. In 2022 alone, there were 1,766 fatalities** in the UK (1,711 in Great Britain and 55 in Northern Ireland), the equivalent of around three Airbus A380 super jumbo jet incidents resulting in total loss of life.

- An expansion of driver rehabilitation courses for drink-driving and rolling out a programme for drug-drivers
- A commitment to intro-

- duce a form of graduated driver licensing (GDL) for new drivers
- Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) breaks for better skilled drivers
- A review of enforcement of illegal mobile phone use at the wheel
- Ringfencing some tax receipts to fix our pothole-riddled roads
- Decommissioning all lane running (ALR) smart motorways
- Improving major A-road infrastructure
- Reviewing speed limits on rural country roads
- Supporting 20mph speed limited areas with

- high-quality infrastructure for motorists and cyclists
- Introducing regulation of private e-scooter use which includes training
- Reducing the cost and simplifying motorcycle licensing
- Reviewing driving for work standards

The manifesto also calls on policymakers to support the take-up of zero-tailpipe emission vehicles and driving assistance aids by putting a greater emphasis on improving consumer knowledge of technological advances in the sector to support a safe systems approach.



Roundabouts - what the Highway Code says

Rule 186 Signals and position

When taking the first exit to the left, unless signs or markings indicate otherwise signal left and approach in the left-hand lane keep to the left on the roundabout and continue signalling left to leave.

When taking an exit to the right or going full circle, unless signs or markings indicate otherwise signal right and approach in the right-hand lane keep to the right on the roundabout until you need to change lanes to exit the roundabout

When taking any intermediate exit,

unless signs or markings indicate otherwise select the appropriate lane on approach to the roundabout you should not normally need to signal on approach stay in this lane until you need to alter course to exit the roundabout signal left after you have passed the exit before the one you want.

When there are more than three lanes at the entrance to a roundabout, use the most appropriate lane on approach and through it. You should give priority to cyclists on the roundabout. They will be travelling more slowly than motorised traffic. Give them plenty of room and **do not attempt to overtake them within their lane.**

Allow them to move across your path as they travel around the roundabout.

Cyclists, horse riders and horse drawn vehicles may stay in the left-hand lane when they intend to continue across or around the roundabout and should signal right to show you they are not leaving the roundabout. Drivers should take extra care when entering a roundabout to ensure that they do not cut across cyclists, horse riders or horse drawn vehicles in the left-hand lane, who are continuing around the roundabout.

Submitted by Alan Douglas

Notice Board

Upcoming events

World of Glass

10.30am Saturday 29th June

Visit to the World of Glass, St. Helens. Free entry but £4.50 to see the glass blowing demonstrations.

Annual Go-Karting Event

1pm Saturday 30th June

Annual Go-Karting event
TeamSport Go Karting, Liverpool
£52 per person

Winter Hill Walk

11am Saturday 10th Aug

Jodrell Bank

11am Saturday 31st August

Visit the Jodrell Bank space science museum. £14 entry.

Family members and friends welcome for all our events. Dogs are welcome on the Winter Hill walk
[eventsshgam@gmail.com](mailto:eventssshgam@gmail.com)

Welcome

Welcome to Roy Minshall, Richard Nicholson, John Rigby and Susan Herman who have joined our Spring Advanced Driver Course and to Alan Douglas and Graham Roberts who have joined our team.

Best wishes to you all. I'm sure you'll enjoy the experience.

Congratulations

Jacqueline Parkes

for recently passing the Advanced Driving Test. Well done Jacqueline, all your hard work has paid off.

Mark Farnworth
Chairman

Spring Course Introduction 9th May



New Associates and Committee members / Observers gathered at the Town Hall for the Spring Course Introduction. Group Chairman Mark Farnworth congratulated Carla Hay for her Advanced Driving Test pass early this year.

Lancashire Mining Museum visit 11th May



Members enjoyed a beautiful sunny afternoon at the museum as they learned about the local mining industry of long ago. Pictured: Mark Farnworth, Anita Clift and Kay Heppenstall in front of a mine shaft winding wheel.



**You are cordially invited to the
St Helens Group of Advanced Motorists
Annual General Meeting**

**to be held at 7.45pm on Thursday 6th June 2024
St. Helens Town Hall, Victoria Square. Prompt start**

**Guest Speaker: Andy Blythe, Merseyside Fire and
Rescue Service (MFRS)**

Station Manager Andy Blyth will talk about how MFRS respond to road traffic collisions and their training (see page 4 for more information). The Mayor of St. Helens Councillor Jeanette Banks and our President Lady Kirsty Pilkington will also be attending. Due to these special guests we are looking for a good turnout and encourage you to make every effort to attend.

Wives, husbands, partners etc are welcome.

Guest Speaker

Station Manager Andy Blythe, Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (MFRS) will be attending the AGM to give a presentation on Road Safety. Andy is the day to day service lead for delivering Road & Water Safety education and awareness across Merseyside.

The presentation will cover how MFRS respond to Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) within Merseyside and beyond its borders, including how our Firefighters are trained for these incidents and what techniques and equipment are used. The presentation will also look at how MFRS interacts with its schools and communities to reduce the number of persons killed or seriously injured on our roads, this will include a demonstration of how we use Virtual Reality (VR) to help get the safety message across.



St. Helens Group Annual General Meeting
Town Hall, Victoria Square, St. Helens, WA10 1HP

