



Newsletter ~ October 2022

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



Welcome

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

Our Autumn Advanced Driver Course has started well with a few new Associates alongside existing Associates. On Thursday evening, 1st September, we had an Observer meeting at the Mercure Hotel followed by the Course Introduction presentation - good value for money to keep costs down.

The last few years have been difficult for the Group due to the COVID-19 pandemic which has, in varying degrees over time affected in-car observing and Observer availability. I feel increasingly optimistic that the Group is back on track. We are now meeting regularly at the Mercure Hotel on Sunday mornings and some

Observers are taking Associates out on mid-week observed runs. In addition, over the last two months more Observers have returned to the Group, we have two trainee Observers and our Committee is back to full strength. In the last 12 months we have also changed Secretary, Treasurerand Chairman!

There is certainly a sense that the Group is moving forward. We have a great committee and observer team who work well together to help each other and our Associates. Our focus is to deliver the Advanced Driver Course as professionally as possible with competent and engaged Observers and a Committee that runs the Group well and looks to spread the better and

safer driving message across our community. Indeed, we have plans to engage more with our community (e.g. the Pilkington and St. Helens College events described on page two) and to develop our social media presence.

As members, you can help the Group. Are you a member of another club / society etc? Would they like to hear a talk from us? Would you like some customised IAM / St. Helens Group leaflets for your local hairdressers, barbers, doctors surgery, library etc.? If yes, then let me know.

That's it from me. Safe driving and good observing.

Mark Farnworth
Group Chairman

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More Information (click links)

[SHGAM News](#)

[IAM News Releases](#)

[SHGAM Driving Tips](#)

[IAM RoadSmart Advice](#)

[Our Courses](#)

[Course dates](#)

Fuel Consumption - IAMRS Driving Tip 6th October 2022

We are all aware of the cost-of-living crisis and know that, now more than ever, every saving helps.

Keep the revs low

To increase your miles per gallon, you should drive in the highest gear possible, for the speed you are driving at. This will reduce the engine revving and excessive speed which are both big factors in using up fuel.

Keep your load light

When travelling, try not to travel with any excess items you don't need, as the heavier the vehicle is,

the more fuel it will use. This includes roof bars or any storage on top of your car.

Anticipate Your Drive

Stop-start driving uses more fuel than steady driving. By anticipating what lies ahead on the road, slowing earlier or keeping your car rolling slowly for longer will help you conserve fuel. Good forward planning and anticipation will help you keep the vehicle rolling.

Air conditioning

Air conditioning can use engine power and therefore be burning through

fuel. At low speeds you can open the window for air, using less fuel.

Check your Tyres

Regularly checking your tyres is part of being a responsible motorist. If your tyres are worn down, you are putting yourself and other road users at increased danger when driving or riding.

Tyre pressure can also affect your fuel consumption, both underinflated and overinflated.

Underinflated tyres cause increased rolling resistance which requires more fuel to maintain

speed. As well as affecting fuel consumption, the wrong tyre pressures can affect the safe handling of your vehicle, therefore they may become unstable or unpredictable.

Of course, the biggest way to cut down fuel consumption is to drive or ride less. However, we know this is not always an achievable outcome for most, so why not try to combine lots of small trips you've got planned for the week into one longer trip?

Richard Gladman, Head of Driving and Riding Standards at IAMRS



'E-scooter carnage must stop' urges IAM RoadSmart

News Release
29th September 2022

IAM RoadSmart is urging the Government to do much more to drive down the number of death and injuries on Britain's roads.

This comes in the wake of the Department for Transport's (DfT) latest findings in: *Reported Road casualties Great Britain, annual report: 2021* revealed that there 1,434 casualties involving e-scooters, of which 10 people were killed, 421 were seriously injured and 1,003 were slightly injured.

This is in stark contrast to the DfT's 2020 statistics, which recorded 484 casualties involving e-scooters, including one death, 128 serious injuries and 355 slight injuries. Shockingly, this means there has been a 900 per cent

increase in deaths in just 12 months.

Neil Greig, Director of Policy and Research at IAM RoadSmart, commented: "The e-scooter carnage must stop. A tenfold increase in deaths related to e-scooters in just one year is utterly unacceptable and the continued delay in regulating these machines is costing lives and causing misery on our city roads every day.

"IAM RoadSmart calls on the new Transport Secretary, Anne-Marie Trevelyan MP, to make road safety the number one deliverable for her department in the coming months by introducing the long-awaited Transport Bill to regulate e-scooters for the first time."

The report also revealed that although there was an 11% decrease in casualties in 2021 compared to 2019, overall road casualties have returned to the stagnation trend of the past decade after a sharp decrease in casualties in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Neil added: "The latest crash statistics make for depressing reading and the DfT now needs to show leadership in road safety and publish its long-awaited strategy for England and the Road Policing Review. Once we have a clear government vision for road safety, we can all start working together to deliver it and keep Britain's roads as safe as they can possibly be."

Advanced Driver Course starts on Thu 5th January

100% cashback to any driver

(T&Cs apply)

Tell your family and friends

Notice Board

Welcome to

Paul Friar and Jean Goldstone
Who have joined the Group as an Associate members

NSG-Pilkington Safety Day

Observers from St. Helens and Sefton Group's are supporting the 'Pilkington' Safety Day on Thursday 13th October. Presentations to company employees and employee driving checks will be provided.

Student Health and Wellbeing Events

at the St. Helens College STEM Technology and Town Centre campuses, 16th and 23rd November.

Observers from the Group will again be supporting these events by having a promotional stand and talking to students and staff about IAM RoadSmart and the St. Helens Group.

Thank you to our Observers for supporting these high profile events.

Mark Farnworth, Group Chairman

Visit to the Northern Approaches Museum

11 to 2pm Saturday 29th October
1-3 Rumford Street, Exchange Flags, Liverpool, L2 8SZ

The price is £13.50 or £11.50 for concessions. The ticket lasts for 12 months.

Walk through hidden rooms and discover the stories locked in the WWII bunker that protected the tactics of the British Armed Forces plotting to bulwark the Western Approaches and aid the Allied victory. Glimpse the documents and tools the Forces used to monitor enemy convoys and inform the British government of their findings, whilst keeping their intelligence secret from the enemy, including one of only two surviving wartime phones which had a direct connection to the London War Cabinet.

Contact Kay Heppenstall, Events Co-ordinator, if you plan to attend.

Welcome



I'm delighted to welcome stalwart Observer Andrew Farrimond (left) onto the Committee and also welcome member Garry Maddocks onto the Observer Team as a Trainee Observer.

Both Andrew and Garry have passed the Master Driver Test with Distinction.

Thank you to you both for supporting the Group and best wishes as you take on your new roles. I look forward to working with you.

**Mark Farnworth,
Group Chairman and Chief Observer**