

ARE WE THERE YET?

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

April 2023

iam
RoadSmart

Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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Cover Photo – Halifax Minster

The minster church in Halifax is dedicated to St John the Baptist. It was built in the 15th century on the site of an earlier 12th century Norman church. It features a medieval font cover, Jacobean box pews and also the tombstone of the diarist Anne Lister.

Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

**Monday 3rd
April
8pm**

**Beijing to Cononley by
Train
Paul Haywood**

Birkenshaw Liberal Club
10 Croft Street
Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT

**Monday 5th
June
8pm**

**MYAM AGM
and buffet**

Birkenshaw Liberal 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 interesting talks on a variety of topics, sharing our skills with other serious drivers and keeping up-to-date on club and driving matters.

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New Official Highway Code App Launched



Today, 17th March, DVSA's official publisher, The Stationery Office, is launching a new Highway Code app.

The app is for all road users and makes it even easier - and more fun - to keep up to date with the rules of the road.

What's new?

Instant access to the very latest version of the Official Highway Code while on the move, on tablets and mobile devices.

Quizzes and timed challenge features, that help users check their knowledge of the Highway Code and track their progress.

A voice over option enabling users to listen as well as read.

The app costs £3.99 and is available to download on both Android and iOS platforms. Find it [here](#).

From the Editor

I recently drove from Bradford to Bangor in North Wales. On the way I stopped at the National Trust Bodnant Gardens to meet up with one of my university colleagues for a quick lunch before we went on to Bangor for an engineering talk and dinner and meeting up with other friends who also studied at the university. The whole journey was just under 300 miles taking roughly 2½ hours each way finally arriving home just after midnight. The trip computer in the car showed about 150 miles left in the tank the following morning so plenty for the daily trips to take my grandson to school for the rest of the week.

It set me thinking what would the same journey be like in an electric car? If we say a typical range of an electric car is 300 miles (on a good day!) It would seem that my journey would be possible... but would it? Assume I start with a fully charged car i.e. charged to 100% although it is not recommended to regularly charge to that level in order to preserve the battery life. It's also not recommended to drop below 20%, again to preserve the battery life. So I'd only have a range of around 240 miles. Also most of the journey would be on motorways or dual carriageways meaning little chance of topping up the charge through regeneration. So I'd have to charge up somewhere en route.

At Bodnant I spotted two charge points, fine but both were occupied and we didn't want to stay long there, just time for a quick snack as we wanted to get to Bangor for an exhibition starting at 1pm. There would have been no problem getting to Bangor but I would then have to have found a charge point. No problem leaving it to charge up as the intention was to leave the car at the dinner venue and walk to the exhibition which was in another part of the university. Where we parked there were a couple of charge points but once again they were occupied. I think the university has a number of electric vehicles so these may not have been available to visitors. So the problem would have been to find a charge point, leave the car and collect it after an hour or so or leave it occupying the charger until late evening. Or I could have set off and found a charger on the way back home but that would have meant probably arriving home well after 1am.

The charging infrastructure has a long way to go so I'll be sticking with my petrol car as long as I can.

Keith

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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.

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.

GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the Group

No new members this month

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Liam Burton - Observer Ed Nash
Lewis Wetherill- Observer Ken Sykes

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It is with sadness that I have to report the recent death of one of our longstanding Observers & Group Members, Les Horsman, who died on 8th February.

Les was a member of the old Leeds Group from 1998 through until the MYAM merger in 2014 where he continued as an Observer until the end of last year with his last Associate passing her test on 20th February this year.

Condolences have been passed onto Les' sister. His funeral took place on Tuesday 7th March at Rawdon Crematorium.

Chris Marrison

Twitter

MYAM members support Twitter, please take time to "follow" MYAM. If you miss reading the IAM E-Newsletter catch up on Twitter.

Also if any of the members have something interesting they have attended (driver days??) or even speakers at the meetings, could they send me copies of photos and I will put them on Twitter. We currently have 16 followers, none of whom I recognise?

Regards Bev

MYAM Online



WEB SITE Our website is packed full of information and is the go to place for everything you need to know about our events, courses, meetings and news about us as a Group. How about copies of the newsletter going back a few years.

Need to know who the Committee are or see our Observer team? We are all on there.

See us at www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

We are adding to the content all the time so keep dropping in to see what we are doing.



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.



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

Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969

Data Protection – Privacy Notice (GDPR)

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists (MYAM) is committed to looking after the information that it holds on behalf of its members in a way that complies with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

MYAM has a legitimate interest in keeping sufficient personal information to communicate with its members and other local people with an interest in road safety, and to permit the renewal of subscriptions. A member can ask to see a copy of their personal information, correct any errors and ask for all or part of it to be deleted.

MYAM is affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) and will use a member's information to support them if and when they are assessed by IAM. MYAM will also ensure that any data shared with IAM is accurate. We will not share your details with anybody else.

Directions to the Birkenshaw Liberal Club

10 Croft Street, Birkenshaw, Bradford, BD11 2HT



From the M62 West leave at Junction 26 and take the A58 towards Leeds. At the second roundabout turn left into Bradford Road (A651) after about 700yds by the George pub, turn right into Town Street. Croft Street is approximately 60yds from the junction (top photo left) but to avoid the potholes carry on up Town Street and turn right into Old Lane. After approximately 100yds turn right into Croft Street (middle picture left between the car and the house next to it).



From Bradford follow the A650. Turn right onto the A651 at the traffic lights just before Tong Academy. Then just after the George pub turn left into Town Street and follow the previous directions.



From the M62 junction 27, take the A650. Turn left onto the A58. After approximately ½ mile turn right into Old Lane After approximately 550yds turn left into Croft Street (bottom picture left).

There is a large car park and the entrance is down the right hand side of the club as shown in the top picture.

Our meetings are held in the function room.

March Meeting - The Wright Will Company

For our March social meeting we welcomed back Alison Wright who runs The Wright Will Company after having worked in a law firm for several years.

Alison first covered what happens if you die without making a will and are declared intestate. You may have assumed that your estate would go to your partner but this is not always the case. The law dictates who can inherit your estate which can often be difficult. If you have ever watched any of the Heir Hunters programmes on TV you will see how specialist firms will trace, or try to trace, anyone who is legally entitled to inherit your estate. If no one can be found, your estate will go to the government. Therefore it is important to make a will.

Alison also covered making preparations in case you have to go into care and how to set up a Discretionary Trust to ensure your estate will benefit the people you want it to benefit. She mentioned several cases where people had been advised to set up a trust will by various companies who had appointed themselves as one of the Trustees. When these companies had sold their businesses to other companies these other companies became trustees and in many cases were difficult to deal with when people had died, making it very difficult, for example, to sell a house. Her advice was to be careful about who you appoint as trustees, your spouse and possibly your children were suggested. (Caroline and I have made our wills appointing each other and our children as trustees)

Finally Alison explained what Lasting Powers of Attorney (LPA) were and why you should set one up. There are two types covering Health and Finance. While you are healthy you are able to deal with all aspects of your health and financial affairs but should you lose the mental capacity decisions on your health and finance would be made by “professionals” which may not be in accordance with your wishes. Having an LPA means that decisions would be made by people you have appointed who would enact your wishes which may be different to the decisions professionals would make.

Alison gave us several useful pieces of advice.

1. Never appoint a legal professional as an Executor as they will charge for their services and can take a percentage of your estate.

2. They will also offer to look after your will but will charge for looking after it. You are perfectly entitled to store your own will and any LPAs but let your executors know where they are stored.
3. Talk to your relatives about how you would like them to act should an LPA have to be used.

I also have a few notes to add based on dealing with my mother’s estate 10 years ago. She had been a probate clerk in a firm of solicitors and had written her own will appointing myself and my brother as executors. (Here’s an interesting fact, your will needs to be witnessed but anyone who acts as a witness cannot be a beneficiary of your will). We found that the various authorities we had to deal with were most helpful and guided us through the whole process along with the notes my mother had written. The only thing her notes didn’t cover was transferring her house into our names but a call to the Land Registry explained which forms needed to be filled in and after a visit to the local Land Registry office we were owners of the house for a cost of £62 (2013 prices). My brother reckoned that we probably saved around £5,000 by doing it all ourselves.

It’s also worth drawing up a list of your bank accounts and other financial institutions to help your executors.

Alison handed out a set of notes covering the topics in her talk. If anyone would like a copy let me know and I’ll email you a copy.

Keith

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Record Price for a Ford Sierra



You don’t happen to have Ford Sierra sitting in your garage doing nothing? One sold recently at auction for a record price. OK it wasn’t your average run of the mill Sierra but one of only 500 Sierra Cosworth RS500s built.

Back in 1987 it cost £19,950 new but this rare example, with only 5192 miles on the clock, sold for a record price of £596,250 at a recent auction. It came with a number of rare spares including a set of RS500 wheels.

Of the 500 produced 392 were in black, including the one sold at auction, with 52 in blue and 56 in white.

Caravan for Sale

You are probably aware that MYAM has a caravan that we used to promote the Group and the IAM at the various events we attended. Since the pandemic we have not been able to attend any of these events and the caravan has been in storage since our last event in September 2019.

Because we have been unable to attend events coupled with difficulties with finding someone to tow the caravan to events, the committee have decided to sell the caravan and use the money raised to benefit the group.

The caravan is a 5 berth 2004 Bailey Pageant Auvergne with a full service history. There is a video on Youtube ([2004 Bailey Pageant Auvergne - YouTube](#)) showing the features of this model. Note that this video is not of the specific MYAM caravan.



The caravan is equipped with a shower & toilet, fridge and cooker, which have not been used since it was bought by MYAM in 2015. All invoices and service information are available.

It is sold as seen, complete with the MYAM lettering, and comes with a gas bottle but the buyer will have to arrange to collect it from the storage area.

We are asking £3995 for the caravan. If you require more information, or wish to make an offer, please contact Janice or Paul.

IAM RoadSmart Membership Price Update 2023

We have received the following notification from IAM RoadSmart.

2022 was a challenging year for us as a charity. With a COVID-19 legacy, soaring inflation and an ongoing economic downturn, we, like other charities and businesses, faced tough choices and decisions. Now made, these important, strategic decisions will help us maintain our delivery and commitment to existing and future members and invest in new products. This means we will continue to sustain our charity mission, expanding the reach of our community, partners and supporters across the UK with our key focus continuing to be improving road safety for all.

In order to sustain all the great work that groups, volunteers and IAM RoadSmart staff deliver, we need to more accurately reflect the premium products, services and benefits that we have within our pricing, and at last year's AGM, members voted in favour of an annual membership increase, with the agreed increase below taking effect from the 1st April 2023.

We will share information on any additional price updates in due course via Headlight.

	2023/24 pricing (£)
Membership	
Direct debit	£43.00
Cheque, bank transfer or debit/ credit card	£48.00
Fellows subscription (includes 3 yearly test)	
Direct debit	£61.00
Cheque, bank transfer or debit/ credit card	£66.00

We would like to remind MYAM members that the MYAM annual subscription is £10 and is likely to remain at that level for at least the forthcoming year. We would also remind you that you have to be a member of IAM RoadSmart to be a member of MYAM.

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Do you know that if it wasn't for the railway timetables we wouldn't know that the trains were running late!

5 ways to get more out of your time on the road in 2023

As we head into 2023, new year's resolutions are often at the forefront of our minds. We might want to cut down on junk food, exercise more, spend more time with the family or finally kick that bad habit. But how about a new adventure?

We've launched our New Year, New Adventure campaign where we are encouraging everyone to make time with their vehicles more rewarding. Whether it be finally completing their dream road trip or boosting their confidence, there are many ways to enjoy the roads in 2023.

Expand your horizons

What's your dream road trip? A tour of Scotland's stunning North Coast? A pootle through the picturesque Yorkshire Dales? How about a journey through the epic Black Mountain Pass in Wales? There's so much drama and beauty in the UK, so why not experience it yourself? As an added incentive, IAM RoadSmart members get 50% off [North Coast 500 Traveller membership](#).

This gives you an exclusive guide eBook and themed tour itineraries for Scotland's ultimate North Coast road trip! You can access this via the [member benefits platform](#).

Boost your confidence

Are you over 65 and feeling less confident on the roads, or know someone to who this applies to? With more traffic on the roads these days and all the recent changes to the Highway Code, getting an expert to assess your skills and offer handy advice can boost your confidence. It can also lead to a more enjoyable driving experience in 2023 and for years to come. [Check out our resources](#) for older drivers to feel safer and more confident behind the wheel.

Polish your skills

It's often the case that the better we are at something, the more enjoyable it becomes. And while a tennis coach can fine-tune your game to achieve your best performance, an experienced driving or riding expert will help you hone your skills and make your time on the road more rewarding. Whether you're on four wheels or two, our [Advanced Driver](#) and [Advanced Rider](#) courses will help you raise your game.

Help the planet (and your bank balance!)

Saving the planet and saving money might seem like different things, but they often go hand in hand. Just like using less energy at home, both reduce your bills and your carbon footprint. Things like adapting your driving style and keeping your vehicle well maintained [can lower your fuel consumption](#), meaning you spend less on petrol and reduce emissions. This of course is a win-win!

Share your passion

Another way to get more out of something you're passionate about is by sharing your enthusiasm with like-minded people. So why not meet up with fellow enthusiasts to swap stories, compare experiences and debate the latest hot topics with [IAM RoadSmart Membership?](#) It's open to any driver or rider who passes our Advanced tests. It also comes with a host of fantastic benefits and opportunities for adventure!

Rebecca Ashton, IAM RoadSmart Product Development Manager, said:

"We're encouraging everyone to enjoy being in their vehicles again! After the variety of challenges, we have faced over the past few years, many people fell out of love with driving and riding, some may have lost their confidence and stopped making those long road trips which they once enjoyed! But now it's time to start that new adventure and continue to do what we love."

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Air Quality

It would appear that a new source of vehicle pollution has been "discovered" which affects all vehicles both ICE and electric. In fact electric vehicles can produce a greater level of this pollution than ICE vehicles.

If we look back at the various efforts to reduce air pollution over the last 70 or so years the air we breathe has improved immeasurably. The days of smog lingering over towns and cities from the many coal fires are long gone due to the various Clean Air acts. Once this source had been reduced other sources came to light but as each of these has been reduced through the various Acts of Parliament other sources at an even lower level have been discovered. Of course it doesn't help that many of our towns and cities were not built with air quality in mind. They were built where it was convenient such as crossing points over rivers.

Many towns and cities have Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ) but now they are finding another source of air pollution - particles from tyres. As your tyres wear down the rubber compound is released into the air as very small particles. Electric cars can be worse for this form of air pollution as they are heavier and can wear out their tyres faster than petrol or diesel cars. They can also wear out the road surface faster.

You may also be aware that the London ULEZ has recently been extended to cover most of London. This has, to say the least, annoyed many owners of small businesses who have to cross the ULEZ boundary as part of their work. One small business owner who lives near the border of the expanded zone and who changed from working in central London to working in his local area when the ULEZ first came in, has started walking around near the ULEZ cameras with a number plate on his back in order to trip the cameras and cause more work for TfL by triggering a fine which would then have to be rescinded on review!

There are also several instances of the cameras having their cables cut or hoods placed over them.

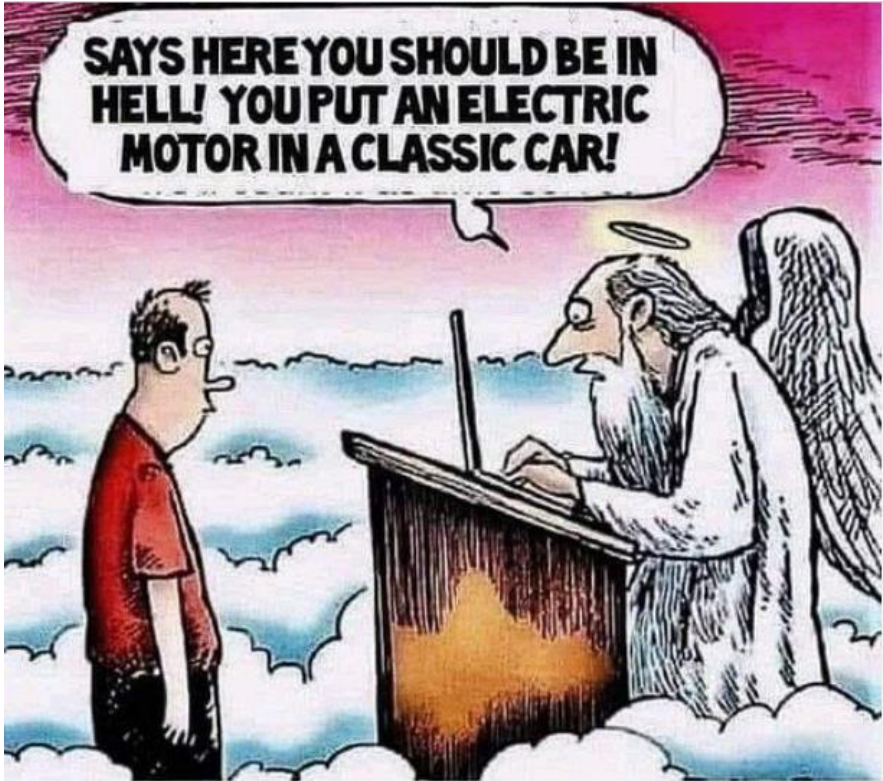
Air Quality - 2

Much recent legislation has been aimed at improving the quality of the air we breathe but until now little has been done to improve the air quality inside cars and other vehicles. Following studies by several leading universities, the EU is introducing legislation aimed at improving the air quality inside cars, busses and other forms of public transport.

The proposals will require the air inside a vehicle to be passed through a **Fume and Aromatics ReTention System** which will remove any pollutants in the air. These will be stored in a filter in the system and in a petrol or diesel vehicle the fumes will be drawn into the air intake to the engine to be burnt. In an electric vehicle the filter containing the stored pollutants will need to be periodically replaced.

The legislation is currently going through its final stages and the **Fume and Aromatics ReTention System** is expected to be made compulsory on cars manufactured after 1st April 2026 and on busses and trains from 1st April 2028.

And Finally.....



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This Month's Teaser

Following on from last month's teaser, in which year was the first Motor Show held at the NEC?

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "In which year was the first Motor Show held at Earls Court?"

And the answer is 1937

Your Committee

Chairman	Janice Haigh		myam.chairman(at)outlook.com
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GDPR Manager	David Rockliff		
Committee member	Bob Rowles	01943 831976	bob.rowles(at)gmail.com

Due to computer hacking and high levels of spamming we have had to remove the hyperlinks to our e-mail addresses and have replaced the @ symbol with (at) so you will need to retype the address in the correct e-mail format, i.e. replace (at) with @, with no spaces.

URGENT REQUEST

We are in need of a Minutes secretary for our committee meetings and someone to look after the Website. Please contact any member of the committee if you are interested in any of these positions.