

ARE WE THERE YET?

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

April 2024



Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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Cover Photo – Thornton Viaduct



Now part of the Great Northern Trail the grade 2 listed Thornton Viaduct was part of the GNR Queensbury to Keighley railway line. Opened in 1878 it crosses the Pinch Beck valley at a height of 120ft and was built on a curve to allow smooth access to Thornton Station, now the site of a primary school.

Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

<p>Sunday 7th April 2024 9:30am – 11:30am</p>	<p>Sunday Skill Check Session</p>	<p>Skelton Lakes Services M1 Junction 45 See page 9</p>
<p>Monday 8th April 2024 8pm</p>	<p>MYAM Social Meeting A Miscellany of Dashcam and other video and audio clips</p>	<p>Birkenshaw Liberal Club 10 Croft Street Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT</p>
<p>Saturday 20th April 2024 9am – 5pm</p>	<p>In conjunction with the York group we have a stand at The Motorist</p>	<p>The Motorist New Lennerton Lane Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds LS25 6JE</p>
<p>Sunday 28th April 2024 10am – 4pm</p>	<p>Wakefield City Classic Car Show</p>	<p>Cathedral Precinct, Wakefield</p>
<p>Saturday 4th May 2024 9am – 5pm</p>	<p>In conjunction with the York group we have a stand at The Motorist</p>	<p>The Motorist New Lennerton Lane Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds LS25 6JE</p>
<p>Saturday 11th May 2024 10am – 4pm</p>	<p>Harrogate Motor Show & Family Fun Day</p>	<p>Harrogate Rugby Club, Rudding Lane, Harrogate HG3 1DQ</p>
<p>Sunday 12th May 2024 10am – 3pm</p>	<p>Tadcaster Classic Car Show</p>	<p>John Smiths Brewery Car Park, Tadcaster LS24 9HD</p>
<p>Monday 13th May 2024 8pm</p>	<p>MYAM AGM</p>	<p>Birkenshaw Liberal Club</p>

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.

Our planned speaker for the April meeting has had to pull out at short notice therefore we are resorting to a back up plan with a selection of dashcam and other video clips plus a couple of audio clips which I think you will find amusing.

As you can see we are attending Car shows in the region but we urgently need people to help set up and man the stand. You don't have to attend for the full length of the event but any help you can give will be appreciated. If you can help let me know by email and I will pass on your details.

From the Editor

It's that time of year again. No not Easter but time for the MYAM AGM at our May meeting. The notification is included in this newsletter and you should have received a committee nomination form with this newsletter. The minutes from last year's AGM will be published in next month's newsletter. You will notice that there are changes to the committee as we have one new member, Lewis Wetherill, to elect and Janice is stepping down as chairman but is willing to stand for election as a "member without portfolio". Paul Macro has offered to stand for election as chairman and will continue to act as secretary until someone volunteers to take over the position of the secretary. If you wish to join the committee please complete the form and send it to Paul. As I've said before it's not a difficult job and probably only needs your commitment for a few hours a month. It's also an excellent way to find out how the group is run especially as we are viewed as an exemplary group and one of the most successful groups in the country.

As is usual a buffet will be provided after the AGM but to ensure we can cater for everyone can you let us know if you intend to attend the AGM and have any specific dietary requirements.

On a different note I recently visited North Wales and apart from the delays caused by the sheer volume of traffic on the M62 (I had no choice but to travel during the rush hour) I experienced the 20mph speed limit through Bangor. Fortunately the cruise control on the car works down to 20mph so as I entered the zone I was able to stay within the limit. I also noticed a section of the A55 which has average speed system. Once again cruise control helped.

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

**John Biddle, Kathleen Dosell
Plus full IAM members
Jenifer Hallam and Peter Jeffrey**

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

**Kirill Gordeenko - Observer Ed Nash
Jackie Lind - Observer Bev Bruce
Derek Saunders (F1rst) - Observer Alan Peel**

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Let Us Know If You Change Your Address

I often get rejected email notifications when sending out the newsletter. Sometimes this is due to an error in the email address list I use but it can also be due to changes of email address. This can affect not only the newsletter distribution but any other communication to our members from the committee.

Therefore if you do change your email address, postal address, telephone number or any other contact details can you please let our membership secretary Graham know. Send him an email at myam.membership@outlook.com

If do not receive a newsletter, or any other communication from MYAM for a month or two, please check your contact details and let us know if anything has changed.

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.



X We have our own X account which can be found at X.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.

David Rockliff is our GDPR Manager. Please contact him if you have any GDPR related issues.

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 -

Richard Gladman IAMR Chief Examiner

Back in October 2016 Richard Gladman, the IAM chief examiner, was our speaker when he gave us an update on what was happening at IAM headquarters. This time he told us more about himself and his role within the IAM.

Starting his driving career as an Advanced Police Driver and motorcyclist he progressed to a Roads Policing Senior Investigating officer and an instructor at the Metropolitan Police driving school.

He became an IAM examiner and eventually Head of Driving Standards at the IAM and he revealed that he was really a go-kart racing petrol head!

An Austin Allegro was his first police car and by the time he became a “proper” advanced driver he was driving an SD1 Rover. However the most popular police vehicle was the humble Ford Transit.

As a traffic sergeant he investigated accidents involving police vehicles and to improve his knowledge became an ADI which was a steep learning curve.

Then to the issue of Smart motorways. His personal view was that he liked the hard shoulder as if you break down on a smart motorway the technology that is supposed to detect your break down will only detect you if it is working correctly and there have been several instances where this technology has failed.

The IAM is lobbying for additional safe areas to be introduced nearer to the original spacing of 500 – 800 metres on the original trial on the M42.

Then to safer driving stating that when driving or riding we need a plan of action to ensure we remain safe on the road. His slide showed OAP, not a pensioner but Observe, Anticipate, Plan.



Richard with Bob just before the meeting

He then showed an interesting video of a road junction in India. There were no traffic signals and it looked chaotic with traffic turning into a side road in front of approaching vehicles and pedestrians crossing through the traffic but there were no incidents, the traffic approaching the junction seemed to anticipate the vehicles turning in front of them and pedestrians were safe as long as they kept moving. If they stopped then they were in danger! Would this way of traffic management work in this country?

There was then a short question and answer session after which Richard offered to meet the observers at a dedicated meeting. I'm sure we will be taking up his offer.

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Calling all Associates - Sunday Skill Check Sessions to Resume

As an additional part of our Advanced Driving Courses, we are re-starting "Skill Check Sessions". These events allow Associates to have a drive with an Observer other than the one they have been assigned to. They can also give them a different perspective on certain aspects of their driving, and potentially to drive on unfamiliar roads.

The sessions will also provide a chance to meet other Associates and Observers to discuss general progress and share any tips etc.

For those Associates who are yet to start their Course, it will be a good chance to experience what Advanced Driving is about.

Our first session for 2024 is as follows:

Sunday 7th April @ 09:30 – 11:30 (last runs will commence at 10:30)

Skelton Lakes Services – Junction 45 of M1

Far side of the car park near the Electric Car charging points

○ what3words = ants.moving.length

If you are an Associate and would like to come along, can we ask that you confirm back to Paul Macro (myam.secretary@outlook.com or 07960 410046) so that we can ensure that we have the right balance between Observers and Associates?

We aim to arrange further sessions over the coming months, and hope to be able to extend the invitation out to Full Members who would like a 'refresher' assessment.

We look forward to seeing you there.



Mid Yorkshire Group of Advanced Motorists (MYAM)
Registered Charity Number: 1053843



Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given by order of the Group Committee that the
Annual General Meeting of
Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists
will be held on

Monday, 13th May 2024, at 20:00 hrs.

Venue: Birkenshaw Liberal Club, 10 Croft Street, Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT

The Trustees of the Group (Registered Charity No.1053843) will present the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024, for approval by the Group Full Members and conduct an election.

All Group Full Members, Associates, and Friends are invited to attend, but only Group Full Members may vote.

A Member entitled to vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote in his/her stead. A proxy need not be a Group Full Member.

Current Officers:

All Officers retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election. The current Officers are:

Chairman	Janice N. Haigh
Secretary	Paul Macro
Treasurer	Rosemary Bricis

Janice Haigh will not be standing for Chairman at this AGM, but will stand for election to the Committee (ex-officio).

Paul Macro will offer himself for election as Chairman. Paul Macro is also willing to continue to act as Secretary, if there are no other nominations.

Rosie Bricis is standing for re-election as Treasurer.

Please do attend the AGM, show your support to your Committee, and let us know your views.

We do need new and additional Members to join the Committee to support the Group. If you are interested and wish to be nominated for the Committee or any position, please use the Committee Nomination Form.

Please remember you can also offer yourself to join the Committee at the AGM.

N.B. All Committee Nomination Forms must reach the Group Secretary at least 7 days prior to the AGM (preferably by Friday, 3rd May 2024).

Only paid-up Members of IAM RoadSmart and of MYAM may either nominate Committee Members, be nominated to the Committee, or as an Officer, or vote at the AGM. **You may not stand if the law debar you from being a Charity Trustee.**

Members who receive the newsletter via the post: –

You will have been sent a Committee Nomination Form with the newsletter.

Please complete and return to the Group Secretary.

Members who receive the newsletter via e-mail: –

Attached to the e-mail containing your newsletter will be a Committee Nomination Form.

Please print, fill in, complete, and return to the Group Secretary.

Address details for the Group Secretary are on the Nomination Form.

If you have not received your Committee Nomination Form, please inform the Group Secretary, Paul Macro E-mail: myam.secretary@outlook.com

The other members of the Committee are as follows: -

Position	Currently held by	Status
Events Co-ordinator	Alan Jones	Continuing
Newsletter Editor	Keith Wevill	Standing for re-election
Membership Secretary	Graham Crawshaw	Continuing
Speaker Secretary	Sally Lawrence	Continuing
Ex-officio	Bob Rowles	Standing for re-election
Ex-officio	Janice Haigh	Standing for election
Associate Liaison	Ken Newton	Continuing
Youth Liaison	Lewis Wetherill (Co-opted during 2023)	Lewis Wetherill is willing to stand

N.B. In addition to the Officers, at least one-third of the remaining Committee must be offered for re-election.

Copies of the minutes from the previous year's AGM and the Group accounts will be published in the May newsletter.

A light buffet will be provided and everyone is invited to stay.

Meet The Committee

Janice Haigh, Chairman



I always wanted to learn to drive and passed my DVSA driving test in May, 1966, (when I was very young!!!)

In 1971, following a furious argument with my father about our standards of driving, I decided to take the IAM test – just to prove a point. I didn't know anything about local IAM Groups at that time, and so I contacted the ADI who had originally taught me to drive. As I didn't have a car of my own at the time, I had to use my instructor's vehicle for the runs and wasn't able to get a great of practice. However, I succeeded in passing the IAM test in October, 1971 – first time!

Following this, I joined the Leeds Group of the IAM, but, owing to the nature of my job (which involved considerable overseas travel), I was not able to attend regular meetings. I therefore let my Group membership lapse, but always remained a Member of the IAM. This served me very well, as in those days I drove approximately 40,000 miles per year in the U.K. and all over the world.

In the summer of 2000, I was in Wakefield and saw that the Wakefield Advanced Motorists (WAM) Group had a stand at an event in the city centre. Early that year, I had been forced to give up my job in export, as my husband had suffered a major stroke and was in hospital for 18 months. As a result, I had some time on my hands in the evenings (after hospital visiting hours), and so I joined the Group and volunteered for the Committee as Minutes Secretary. In approximately 2008, I was elected Chairman of WAM, and remained in that post until MYAM was formed in approximately 2014. As I was by now on my own and enjoying travelling, I resigned from the Group, but still remained a Member of the IAM.

Between 2012 and 2016, I travelled the world, driving in many countries and in a variety of vehicles. I drove cars in Australia, New Zealand, and even the Bahamas - and then I drove a camper most of the way across Canada. I loved every minute!!

Then, in 2017, several members of the MYAM Committee contacted me. The Chairman, Secretary, and Chief Observer were standing down, and I was asked to re-join the Group and stand for the post of Chairman. I agreed – and the rest (as they say) is history!!!

Since then, I am proud to say that the Group has flourished, thanks to a very hard-working and loyal committee, which continued to operate during the pandemic. As my personal background was in export sales and marketing, I have thoroughly enjoyed being the “front man” for the Group, encouraging people of all ages to improve their driving skills and join IAMR.

Alan Jones, Events Co-ordinator



Hi! My name is Alan Jones, and I am the Events Co-ordinator on the MYAM committee.

I have always loved driving and riding, and started out by passing my motorbike test in 1967. Following that, I took my car driving test (at Heckmondwike) in 1969, and, again, passed first time!

Sometime later, in 1980, I took my PSV (Public Service Vehicle) test, and started working as a driver for a local coach company. I also worked part time for Wallace Arnold, and these jobs took me all over the U.K. and onto the Continent.

In 1987, I took my HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicle) test and started driving for British Gas delivering LPG in a tanker. This work also took me all over the U.K. until I was forced to retire in 2007 owing to ill health.

Early in my driving career, I had heard about the IAM and had always wanted to take the test. But I was unable to find anything about it. (There were no computers in those days.)

Then, in September 2003, whilst working as an HGV driver, I was shopping in Wakefield one Saturday. As I walked round a corner, I saw a caravan with "IAM" painted on the side. It was owned by Wakefield Advanced Motorists, so I went and asked about joining and signed up to do the course straightaway. I had twelve lessons with an Observer, and passed my test first time on the 4th January, 2004.

When I went to tell the Wakefield Group Membership Secretary, Derek Duffield, that I had passed my test, he replied: "Oh, good! You can be an Observer, and there's your new Associate"! I was really thrown in at the deep end! I remained an Observer until 2023, when I retired.

Shortly after passing the test, I joined the committee of the Wakefield Group and became the Observer/Associate Liaison. My job was to allocate Associates to the Observers.

I remained on the Group committee when MYAM was formed, and I am now the Events Co-ordinator. My job is to liaise and co-ordinate with the various car shows we attend during the summer months. As I also keep the attendance book and ensure that everyone signs in at the meetings, I am one of the first people you see when you arrive.

IAM RoadSmart responds to today's report by the AIA (Asphalt Industry Alliance)

IAM RoadSmart responds to today's (19th March 2024) report by the AIA (Asphalt Industry Alliance)

IAM RoadSmart Director of Policy and Standards Nicholas Lyes said: "The AIA's report lays bare the crumbling state of our road network as well as the effort and money now needed to fix it. Notwithstanding the financial headache pothole-related damage does to the vehicle's owner, our crater-laden roads are posing a serious road safety hazard. In 2022 alone, nearly 500 collisions were caused by poor or defective surfaces, resulting in four fatalities. Recent IAM RoadSmart research shows that 82% of motorists have steered away or had to brake hard to try and avoid damage from a pothole in the last 12 months. This worrying finding suggests drivers are being forced to spend a great deal of their time focused on spotting holes in the tarmac rather than monitoring all hazards around them."

Source on collisions fatalities: Contributory factors RAS0701: Collisions, casualties and road user type.

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End Of The Manual? Young Drivers Opt For Automatics In Tests

Learner drivers are opting for automatic cars during their driving tests in greater numbers than ever before, heralding the demise of the manual gearbox.

Driving tests in automatic vehicles have risen to a record high, with 324,000 automatic-only tests being taken last year, according to official figures.

This is an increase of a third since 2022 and is the highest figure on record for the number of automatic transmission driving tests.

Tests taken in automatic cars made up more than a third of all the 865,000 driver qualification checks carried out last year, figures from the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) revealed.

More drivers failed their tests in automatic cars than in manuals, however, with 48 per cent of learners in manual cars passing versus 43 per cent of candidates in automatics.

And Finally.....









This Month's Teaser

Who is the biggest tyre manufacturer in the world? The answer may surprise you!

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "Why couldn't I reset the date on my computer after changing the CMOS battery" The date had to be in the US format Month, Day, Year and I was trying to set it using the UK Day, Month, Year format. Once I'd realised this it was easy to reset it.

Your Committee

Chairman	Janice Haigh		myam.chairman(at)outlook.com
Secretary & Vice Chairman	Paul Macro 07960 410046		myam.secretary(at)outlook.com
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis 07579 965029		myam.treasurer(at)outlook.com
Membership Secretary	Graham Crawshaw 0113 314 9969		myam.membership(at)outlook.com
Younger Members	Lewis Wetherill 07359 630705		myam.youngermembers(at)outlook.com
Speaker Secretary	Sally Lawrence		myam.speakersecretary(at)outlook.com
Events Manager	Alan Jones 07714 444595		myam.events(at)outlook.com
Website	Position vacant		myam.webmaster(at)outlook.com
Newsletter Editor	Keith Wevill 01274 815281		myam.newsletter(at)outlook.com
Chief Observer	Chris Marrison 07798 822935		myam.chiefobserver(at)outlook.com
Associate Coordinator	Ken Newton		myam.associatecoord(at)outlook.com
Committee members	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.