

ARE WE THERE YET?

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

April 2025

iam
RoadSmart

Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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Cover Photo – Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway



Built originally in 1875 as a 3ft gauge railway to transport iron ore to the mainline station at Ravenglass. It was rebuilt as a 15" gauge in 1915. Its ownership changed hands until it was taken over by the Ravenglass and Eskdale Preservation Society and now operates as a visitor attraction running between Ravenglass and Dalgarth.

Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

Monday 7th April 2025 8pm	MYAM Social Evening Older Drivers	Birkenshaw Liberal Club 10 Croft Street Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT
Monday 12th May 2025 8pm	MYAM AGM	Birkenshaw Liberal Club
Monday 2nd June 2025 8pm	Neil Simpson Rally Driver	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.

Our May meeting is our AGM and as usual there will be a buffet once the AGM matters have been concluded. If you intend attending the AGM can you let Sally our speaker secretary know if you, or any guests, have any special dietary requirements.

We are also hoping to be able to allow members who cannot attend in person to attend via Zoom. We also hope to be able to allow members to vote on the various motions via Zoom although we still are still learning the finer details of the software including methods of voting so please bear with us. Details of the Zoom meeting will be included in the next newsletter.

If any member has experience of using Zoom in this way we would appreciate any advice you could offer. Please contact either Paul Macro or myself if you can help in any way.

From The Editor

A friend of mine writes a monthly column for a technical magazine, of which I am a subscriber. In the latest issue he starts by saying the deadline for submitting his copy is fast approaching and he has no idea what to write. I know the feeling! When I start putting the newsletter together I often have very little idea of exactly what will go in it apart from the contents, events, directions and committee member pages. If I'm lucky I'll have contributions from the members otherwise it's a trawl of the internet for suitable content. It's quite surprising when, from initially having nothing to put in it, the newsletter finally emerges and I have a great sense of relief. It's then down to checking for errors. No matter how careful you are with your typing, errors always seem to creep in. There's always one more error, often discovered after I've sent it out. No prizes for spotting that one!

It's AGM time soon and in the accompanying email you will find a committee nomination form. We are always looking for new committee members so if you wish to get involved with the running of your group please fill in the form and send it off. Joining the committee is an excellent way to find out more about the group and possibly influence its future direction. I have been a member of the committee in two IAM groups, 13 years in the Leicester group and 9 in MYAM, more than half my time as an IAM member

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

Simon Boyce, Tina Moorhouse,
William Shaw

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Jonathan Scott - Observer Dawn Leggett

MYAM Events for 2025

Here is a list of events that we are planning to attend this year with our gazebo. I'll give more details of the events in future newsletters.

If you can help us at any of the events, even for an hour or two, please let us know.

Date	Show
11th May	Tadcaster Classic Car Show
31st May	Harrogate Motor Show & Family Fun Day
4th July	Walton Classic Car Show
3rd August	MG Classic Car Show – Pateley Bridge
17th August	Burley in Wharfedale Classic Car Show
24th August	Heath Common Classic Car Show
31st August	Wetherby Classic Car Show

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 or scan the QR code.

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

The 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 $\frac{1}{2}$ 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 - Phill Shaw IAM Examiner

This is a first for me, speaking to a group, so I'm not sure how long I can talk for. So said IAM examiner Phill Shaw at the start of our March meeting.

Many people are nervous at the start of their test, quite understandable, so he allows time for them to settle down. He also gave us a few tips which may help associates prepare for their test which are not necessarily directly to do with their driving. One example being having a clean and tidy car for the test which shows you care about your car and, hopefully your driving.

Knowing your car is also important and how any driver aids fitted work although you are not obliged to use them on a test. He is in favour of, and does use, driver aids but it is important to know when is best to use them and any limitations they have. One aid which can help with "seeing" the road ahead is Sat nav as it can show upcoming bends even if it isn't being used for directions.

He also suggested that if you are stationary for more than 3 seconds you should apply the handbrake (How often have you been dazzled by the brake lights of the stationary car in front of you?)

On motorways many people struggle entering and exiting and understanding the speed limits applicable to some vehicles such as HGVs.

He also said that West Yorkshire Police were "allowing" 10% on speed limits rather than the often quoted 10% +2mph.

In spite of saying he wasn't sure how long he could talk for the meeting closed after an hour and a half. Thank you Phill for an informative talk.





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, 12th May, 2025, at 20.00 hrs.

at

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, 2025, for approval by the Group Full Members and conduct an election.

All Group Full Members, Associate Members, 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	Paul Macro
Secretary	Janice N. Haigh
Treasurer	Rosemary Bricis

Paul Macro will offer himself for re-election as Chairman.

Janice Haigh will offer herself for re-election as Secretary.

Rosie Bricis will offer herself 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 in order to support the Group. If you are interested and wish to be nominated for the Committee or for 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, 2nd May 2025).

Only paid-up Members of IAM RoadSmart and of MYAM may nominate Committee Members, be nominated to the Committee, be nominated as an Officer, or vote at the AGM. **You may not stand if the law debars 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 it 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, complete, and return it 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, Janice Haigh at e-mail: myam.secretary@outlook.com or at tel: 01924 825454.

The other members of the Committee are as follows: -

Position	Currently held by	Status
Events Co-ordinator	Alan Jones	Standing for re-election
Newsletter Editor	Keith Wevill	Continuing
Membership Secretary	Graham Crawshaw	Standing for re-election
Speaker Secretary	Sally Lawrence	Standing for re-election
Ex-officio	Bob Rowles	Continuing
Ex-officio	John Prior	Continuing
Associate Liaison	Ken Newton	Continuing
Youth Liaison	Lewis Wetherall	Continuing

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. Please inform Sally Lawrence, Speaker Secretary, if you are planning to attend the AGM and whether you have any special dietary requirements.

New Rules Could Be Introduced To Reduce Roadworks Delays

New road rules could be launched to crack down on delays for motorists following a Transport Committee hearing in which experts called for urgent changes to be made.

Support has been growing in recent years for greater fines for utility companies to fix roads more quickly to keep traffic flowing, with calls for harsher consequences if streetworks cause prolonged disruption to roads.

Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander confirmed in January that the Government would strengthen rules for utility companies who "dig up roads without a permit or run well over time".

At present, gas, water, electricity and telecoms companies are slapped with fines worth £10,000 for every weekday that planned roadworks overrun, but this could soon be extended to include the same fines for weekends and bank holidays.

Research suggests that digging holes for utility works can leave a road damaged and vulnerable, and shortening the time it needs to be resurfaced by 17 per cent.

Speaking to the Transport Committee, AA head of roads policy Jack Cousens highlighted how a beer advert from the 1990s could help inform road policy moving forward.

The Heineken advert showed workers in a hole in the road, when gas workers drive past and ask to install a new pipe at the same time to prevent the hole from being patched and dug up again.

A second worker then drives past, asking to install a cable in the hole at the same time, followed by a telephone worker.

A Heineken van drives past with the "how refreshing" tagline, before multiple workers standing in the hole look in horror as a hearse drives past.

Cousens pointed out that the slapstick advert could actually offer a "glimmer of utopia" if all utility companies came together for the sake of motorists and road delays.

He said: "If we got the utility companies or indeed anybody who needs to get in that hole at that particular time to show that coordination and joined up thinking would improve the position for everyone.

"Be they road users, pedestrians, however they use our road network. That joined-up thinking is what's desperately needed."

There are also plans outlined by Heidi Alexander to give England's largest local authorities more autonomy over when roadworks can take place.

At present, local authorities need to apply to the Department for Transport to give the green light for a "lane rental" scheme, which charges utility firms up to £2,500 per day to set up roadworks.

However, under new proposals included in the Devolution Bill, England's 13 larger local authorities will be allowed to set up the "lane rental" schemes without input from the DfT.

The 2024 Autumn Budget outlined a nearly 50 per cent increase in funding for local roads maintenance.

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Our Experience Of Owning An Electric Car

Last month I asked if anyone could write about their experiences with an electric car. Sally sent me this from one of her relatives.

Before buying an EV you should decide what you want from it and how you are going to charge the battery, public charging is very expensive, you may as well buy a petrol car!

We have 2 cars, a diesel Lexus and a second hand Nissan Leaf (Sparky) . He was 7 years old when we bought him with 4800 miles on the clock, and cost £8,000! The Lexus is handy for longer journeys and towing the caravan but 90% of our motoring is local and we argue about who drives Sparky! The Leaf is a joy to drive, responsive, quiet and has amazing acceleration up to and probably beyond the legal limit.

We do have solar panels but they were fitted by a cowboy company (now gone bust) and not much good, when the sun is shining in midsummer we get about half the power taken by the charger. I charge from a 3 pin plug, not a fast charger. I have to plan charging but didn't have to pay megabucks for a fast charger (which in my opinion doesn't do the battery any good) also I put a heavy duty switch in the system.

We get 3.8 miles per kilowatt hour, more in warmer weather, (about 6 pence per mile on standard electricity rates). We are looking into off peak electricity when we can get a smart meter fitted, then the cost could come down to about 2p per mile. Sparky is reliable, the garage complains there is nothing to do on the service so that's cheaper, we use an ordinary garage, mileage comes down in cold weather, and the down side is that we can only do about 100 miles on a charge, newer models are better but we did only pay £8,000. Great for local running and we simply charge overnight. We do 7,000 miles per annum on electric and 3,000 on diesel. Happy motoring.

IAM RoadSmart recredited with prestigious international ISO standard

Reaccreditation is a sign of the delivery of high-quality training to reduce serious injuries on our roads.

One of the UK's leading providers of driver, rider and fleet training has successfully been reaccredited with the ISO 9001 international standard for quality management systems in recognition for its continuing high standards.

IAM RoadSmart delivered more than 2,000 advanced driver and rider courses in 2024 and is one of the leading providers of drink-drive rehabilitation courses. In addition to this, commercial and fleet operators entrusted the organisation with the delivery of 2,300 high-quality driver training courses last year through its Driving-for-Work scheme.

In 2023, there were more than 1,600 fatalities on UK roads, and more than 15,000 collisions where the purpose of the journey was work-related. In addition to the devastation that road traffic collisions can bring to families, they are estimated to cost the UK economy up to £42bn a year.

The ISO 9001 framework ensures that organisations meet customer and regulatory requirements and enhances customer satisfaction. It is also recognition that IAM RoadSmart consistently delivers high-quality products and services.

IAM RoadSmart Chief Executive Antony Kildare said:

“We’re delighted the BSI has again given such an endorsement to all of those involved in delivering training at IAM RoadSmart. From our colleagues and partners to our wonderful volunteers and groups who dedicate their time freely for their passion of making our roads safer, this is a real acknowledgement of their efforts, and I thank everyone for all their hard work. Despite this achievement, the data shows there is plenty still to do. With the UK Government’s plans to update its road safety strategy and given driving error remains one of the biggest contributory factors in relation to collisions on our network, the importance of high-quality training has never been higher.”

IAM RoadSmart Goes Digital

You may, or may not, be aware that IAM RoadSmart membership is going digital. Those of you who receive the Headlight monthly updates should have received the following via email.

Introducing digital member packs

From April, we're going digital with our member packs. This means that all membership materials will be delivered instantly and securely online, including:

- > Membership renewal notifications
- > Membership cards (downloadable to digital wallets)
- > Welcome packs with certificates for Full Members and Fellow Members
- > Digital badges to showcase skills on social media

Benefits of going digital:

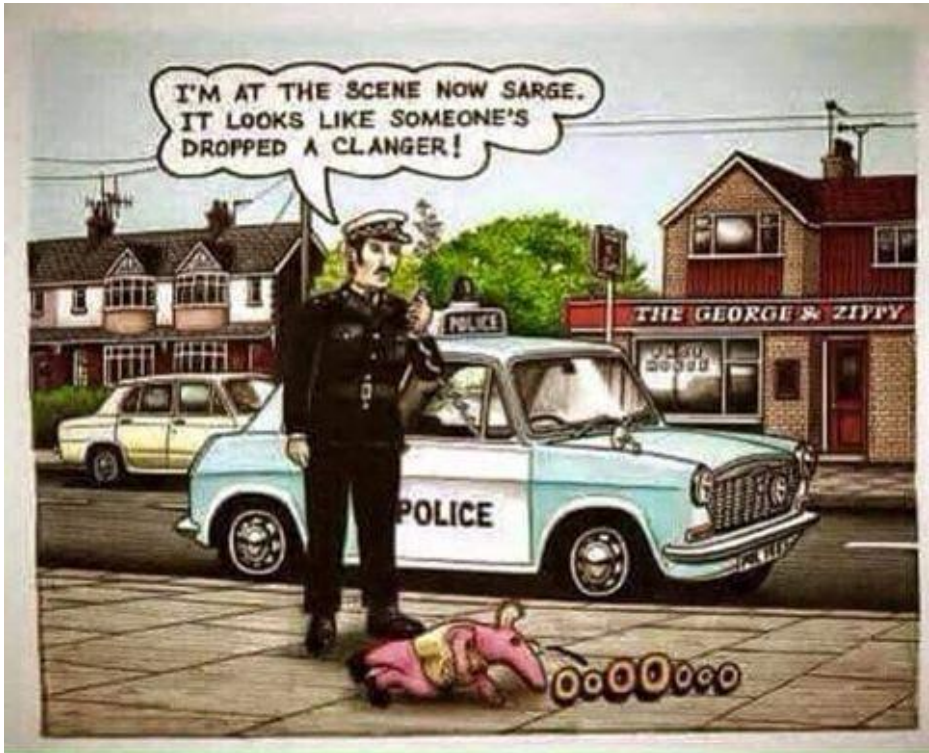
- > Instant access: No more waiting for the post!
- > Always available: The online portal is accessible 24/7.
- > Environmentally friendly: We're reducing paper waste to support a greener future.
 - > Convenient and secure: All documents are stored safely in one place.
 - > Supports the IAM RoadSmart strategic pillar of being 'Digital to the core'
- > Helps membership fees go further in support of our mission to put more Advanced drivers and riders on road.

For those who prefer a paper certificate:

We understand the value of a physical certificate, so we are working on a solution to order online a personalised certificate which will be delivered by post.

If you have any feedback or queries please contact us at membership@iam.org.uk

And Finally.....












This Month's Teaser

What was the middle name of John Delorean, of the Delorean Motor Company, and what major US motor company did he previously work for?

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "What was the most stolen car in the UK in 2024?". The answer is the Ford Fiesta with over 4000 being stolen last year.

Your Committee

Chairman	Paul Macro 07960 410046		myam.chairman(at)outlook.com
Secretary	Janice Haigh		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
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Chief Observer	Chris Marrison 07798 822935		myam.chiefobserver(at)outlook.com
Associate Coordinator	Ken Newton		myam.associatecoord(at)outlook.com
Committee Member	Bob Rowles 01943 831976		bob.rowles(at)gmail.com
Committee Member	John Prior		

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.