

ARE WE THERE YET?



Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

May 2025

iam
RoadSmart

Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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Cover Photo – Tian Tan Buddha Hong Kong

The Bronze statue of the Tian Tan Buddha, is located at Ngong Ping near Po Lin monastery on Lan Tau Island, Hong Kong. Surrounding it are six smaller bronze images known as "The Offering of the Six Devas" representing the Six Perfections of generosity, morality, patience, zeal, meditation, and wisdom, necessary for Enlightenment in life. Photo taken by David Wevill

Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

11th May 2025	Tadcaster Classic Car Show	John Smiths Brewery Car Park, Tadcaster LS24 9HD
Monday 12th May 2025 8pm	MYAM AGM	Birkenshaw Liberal Club 10 Croft Street Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT
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.

The AGM will also be available via Zoom. Click on the link or scan the QR code.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5851212145?pwd=SwXivDApcqSllvqackberqnH50ujGk.1&omn=81705361180>



MYAM AGM 12 May 2025
May 12, 2025 20:00
Meeting ID = 585 121 2145
Passcode = MYAM

Following our April meeting we are looking into the possibility of having one or two cars from the William Merritt available at our July social meeting so that members can see for themselves the modifications fitted to enable disabled drivers to continue driving.

From The Editor

I have just renewed my RAC membership, having been a member for nearly 50 years. It doesn't seem to be well known that IAM membership allows you to claim a discount on your RAC membership. That also goes for the RAC themselves as for several years since I discovered this fact I have had to contact the RAC to claim the discount. Often the person answering the phone is unaware of the discount and has to check with a more senior person before coming back to me to say yes there is a discount.

This year I was told to apply for the discount online but I insisted that they should check with a manager to confirm there is an IAM discount. Eventually I succeeded in getting the discount but what a palaver to claim it.

I also checked for the discount on the IAM website but it was incredibly difficult to find. I eventually resorted to entering 'IAM discount for RAC membership' into Google. This time it led me to an apparently obscure part of the IAM website, which I'd never have found by starting at the main page of the IAM website,

I'd like to know why it is so difficult to find out about the RAC discount for IAM members, let alone apply for it. Surely it should be mentioned in the list of benefits for IAM members and once you applied for it the discount should be applied automatically by the RAC or any other organisation that offers a discount for being an IAM member,

Has anyone else applied for this RAC discount and if so what has been your experience when contacting the RAC. Let me know via the email address on the committee page.

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

Daniel Kilburn, Jean Townley

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Leo Best - Observer Lesley Pollard

Christine Davidson - Observer Paul Everest

Kathleen Dosell - Observers Roger Illingworth and Ken Newton

Jane Lack - Observer Bev Bruce

All the above associates passed with F1rst. Congratulations to all.

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Becoming an Observer

Have you ever considered becoming an observer once you've passed your Advanced Driving Test? It's an ideal time to become an observer as all the training you undertook to prepare for the test is fresh in your mind. It's also a good way to keep your driving up to the standard you achieved during your test.

The group is always looking for new observers and full training will be given to anyone who wishes to make the transition to National Observer status.

Contact Ken Newton for more information on what is involved in becoming an observer.

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](https://www.x.com/MYAM4178)

The Group Telephone number has changed – see page ??

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.

April Meeting - The Older Driver

None of us are getting any younger and many of us want to continue driving as long as possible but what are the issues with driving as we get older? This was the subject of Jayne Sorrell's presentation to the group. Jayne is a Driving Instructor with the William Merritt Disabled Living Centre whose mission is to advise people with disabilities how to get the best from their lives and advise about appropriate "assistive technology". This also includes providing advice and assessment for older drivers.

As of February 2025 there are just under 6.3million drivers aged 70+ with the oldest person holding a driving licence being aged 110. Research has shown that drivers who drive less than 2000 miles a year have an increased risk of collision and drivers over 65 take 22% longer to identify a hazard and react to it. Older drivers are more likely to be involved in collisions having failed to look properly or judge another person's speed or their path but are less likely to speed.

Much emphasis has been given to younger drivers accident statistics but these are decreasing whereas those for drivers over 70 have been increasing in the last 10 years.

So what can be done to help older drivers. Jayne mentioned three different types of older Driver Assessments.

- **Light Touch Assessment** run by Councils, Motoring Organisations and Charities using a standardised procedure.
- **Medical/Driving Assessment.** A more clinical assessment undertaken by Driving Mobility centres recognised by the DVLA and Dft.
- **Fitness to Drive Assessment** as an alternative to prosecution, offered to road users who commit the offence of Careless Driving.



The William Merrit Centre have been involved in a trial to evaluate the assessment which is expected to be completed by mid 2026.



The course will:

Develop an ADI's understanding of:

- Common collisions experienced by older drivers
- How the ageing process may impact on:
 - Eyesight
 - Hazard perceptions skills
 - Strength and flexibility
- The need to promote self-assessment skills
- The role of diabetes
- How to prepare for driving retirement
- Professional boundaries.

Cost is £79 (plus VAT)

The course is delivered by:

- Two online evening 2.5-hour facilitator-led sessions
- Participants are required to complete two e-learning modules covering diabetes and how to develop an older driver's self-evaluation skills.

Another important factor is eyesight where you must be able to read a number plate at 20m and have a visual acuity of at least 0.5 as measured on the Snellen scale and also have an adequate field of vision.

When renewing your driving licence, every 3 years once you reach 70, you are required to self-certify your vision.

- **90% of driving is visual** and you need to be able to see a hazard to be able to react to it.
- Many drivers **sight deteriorates gradually** without them being aware and they compensate for this. Not often realising their sight is below the legal limit for driving
- Eyesight can be greatly affected between **daylight and dark conditions**
- Regular sight tests are an effective way on **detecting medical conditions early** so they can be treated, thus reducing long term health and social care costs
- You should have your eyesight tested **at least every two years**.
- It has been shown that up to **10% of drivers on the road at any one time** do not meet the required vision standards this represents over 3 million drivers. The number has been shown to increase in the summer when some drivers switch to wearing uncorrected sun spectacles

Driving at night

Older motorists often avoid driving at night as they say they can't see so clearly.

At the age of 15 your eyesight will recover from glare in 2 seconds, whereas at 65 this will increase to around 9 seconds.



33% of people over 40 are affected by:

Glaucoma



Macular Degeneration



Cataract



Blindness



As mentioned earlier driving relies heavily on good vision so it is important to ensure you have regular eye tests, these are free for those who have reached pension age or have specific medical conditions such as diabetes. If you need to wear glasses for driving you must wear them when driving. If stopped by the police to test your eyesight the test would have to be conducted using glasses found at the time of driving.

There is a dedicated website www.olderdriversforum.com which can give advice on many aspect of driving as we get older.

A very thought provoking meeting so thank you Jayne.

Keith Wevill

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Used Car Prices Set to Soar Due to Petrol and Diesel Car Ban

I recently read a report that it is possible that the price of used petrol and diesel cars could increase once the sale of new petrol and diesel cars is stopped, currently in 2030. People who do not want to buy an electric car intend to keep hold of their existing ICE cars for as long as possible or will try to buy a secondhand ICE car. It is possible that this could increase the demand for them and increase the cost of the remaining ICE cars. Could this potential increase in value mean it would reduce the number of older cars being written off as the cost of repair would be a lower percentage of the cars value?

Annual General Meeting

to be held at

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

Monday, 12th May, 2025, at 20.00 hrs

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2024 AGM, 13th May, 2024
3. Adoption of the 2024 AGM Minutes
Resolution: **That the Minutes of the 2024 AGM be approved as a true record**
4. Matters arising from the AGM, 13th May, 2024
5. Chairman's Report
6. Secretary's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Adoption of the Accounts for 2024/25
Resolution: **That the Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 2025, be approved**
9. Chief Observer's Report
10. Membership Secretary's Report
11. Election of Group Officers
12. Election of Group Committee Members
13. Address by the Chairman
14. Authority to Increase Subscriptions during the Current Financial Year
15. Any Other Business



Affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists

Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday, 13th May 2024

Time: 20:00 hrs.

Venue: Birkenshaw Liberal Club, Birkenshaw

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Group Members, Associates, and Guests to the AGM.

There being 21 full Members in attendance for the meeting, it was declared quorate.

Everyone was reminded that only Full Members of the Group were entitled to vote during the elections and for approvals and adoptions.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Graham Crawshaw (Membership Secretary) and Francis Lintott.

2. Minutes of the 2023 AGM

A copy of the 2023 minutes had been included in the May newsletter.

3. Adoption of the 2023 AGM Minutes

Proposed : Sally Lawrence Seconded : Charles Holland-Keen

The adoption of the minutes was approved unanimously.

4. Matters arising from the 2023 AGM Minutes

There were no matters arising from the 2023 minutes.

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman summarised her report which is attached to these minutes*.

6. Secretary's Report

The Secretary gave an update on the current position of the Group following a relatively quiet year.

No changes to the rules of the Group had been made in the previous year, and all Committee meetings had been held successfully.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024. Summary accounts are attached*:

- Our costs in 2023-24 were almost exactly the same as our income.
- Income
 - Income was up due to an increase in the number of new Associates following the removal of the 'ban' with IAMR referrals
- Costs
 - Costs were relatively steady compared with previous years.

There were no questions from the Members regarding the accounts.

8. Adoption of Accounts for 2023/24

Resolution: That the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024, be approved and adopted.

Proposed : Lesley Pollard Seconded : John Prior

The accounts were approved and adopted unanimously.

9. Membership Secretary's Report

The Secretary presented the Membership Secretary's report, and this is attached*.

10. Chief Observer's Report

The Chief Observer summarised his report, which is attached to these minutes.

11. Election of Group Officers

Bob Rowles conducted the election.

The Secretary confirmed that all nomination papers had been received and properly completed.

The nomination papers were read, and it was agreed that the Officers should be elected en bloc.

Chairman: Paul Macro
Secretary: Janice N. Haigh
Treasurer: Rosie Bricis

Officers were elected nem con.

12. Election of Group Committee Members

The Chairman read the following information:

Two Committee Members had offered themselves for re-election, one had been co-opted during the year, and we had one new nomination:

- a) Keith Wevill offered himself for re-election to the Committee as Newsletter Editor.
- b) Bob Rowles offered himself for re-election to the Committee ex-officio.
- c) Lewis Wetherill had been co-opted to the Committee during the year as Youth Liaison and was required to be ratified.
- d) John Prior had been nominated to the Committee.

There were no nominations from the floor for Committee appointments.

The nominated Members were elected to the Committee nem con.

It was also noted that Ken Newton has taken on the role of Associate Liaison since the last AGM.

13. Address by the new Chairman

The new Chairman's address is attached to these minutes*.

14. Authority to Increase Subscriptions during the Current Financial Year

The new Chairman explained that this is a standard item on the AGM agenda, and it is not the Committee's intention to make any further subscription increase for the foreseeable future.

The proposal was passed unanimously.

15. Any Other Business

There was no further business.

The meeting closed at 21.20 hrs.

*Please note that the reports were published in the June 2024 newsletter.

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Retiring Observers

Over the last month or so, we have had two of our most experienced Observers retire from the role, Bob Rowles and Roger Illingworth.

They have both been long-time members of MYAM and our legacy groups and have given tireless service and enormous support to the Group in various roles over many years. They were also both vitally important in helping the Group recover the impact of Covid-19.

I'd also like to acknowledge Francis Lintott, who has, in recent months, also stepped down as an Observer due to ill-health, again following many years of support for the Group.

I'd like to record my thanks to all three of them on behalf of the Committee and wider Group.

Paul Macro

Chairman

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Temporary Hold On New Associates

Due to the increasing number of Associates being allocated to MYAM by IAMR and the lack of Observers to cope with the demand, there has been a temporary hold on accepting new Associates until the current backlog has been reduced.

Change To Group Telephone Number

The 0113 phone number for the group is no longer working. We are investigating whether we can reinstate it but until that happens please use Graham's mobile number 07856 028710. If Graham cannot answer please leave a message as he will not return any calls unless a message has been left.

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April Presentations



Paul Macro presented certificates to two of our recent associate passes, Jonathan Scott and Elizabeth Tonner at the start of the meeting.

Majority Of Drivers Are Missing Out On Technology That Can Make Their Journeys Safer

Millions of drivers could be missing out on the benefits of potentially lifesaving in-vehicle assistance aids when they're behind the wheel with new research showing that a third (33%) of drivers never use them.

Out of six of the most prominent driving assistance aids in modern vehicles – including collision warnings and cruise control - and among those whose vehicles have these technologies, only a quarter (25%) say they regularly or often use them. In contrast, one-in-five (19%) rarely use these aids or have used them only once. A worrying third (33%) say they never use the technology. Just over a fifth of drivers (22%) state their vehicle doesn't have the technology, but this varies depending on individual assistance features. The findings were based on a survey of 2,008 drivers for road safety charity IAM RoadSmart's 2024 Road Safety Report.

Speed warnings on the dashboard is the most frequently enabled aid, with 28% regularly using this, followed by cruise control with 27% often using this technology. However, cruise control (as well as adaptive cruise control) also has the highest proportion of people never using them (34%) despite the vehicle having this system. Just 23% of drivers regularly use collision warning assistance, with more drivers (25%) saying their vehicle does not have it installed.

There are significant differences in frequency of use depending on age and gender. Drivers aged 17-34 are around twice as likely to use driver assistance systems compared to someone aged 70 or over, while their use is also higher among male drivers. Those travelling at least 10,000 miles or more a year are also far more likely to be engaged with this technology, primarily because they may use it for work journeys.

Driver assistance systems have become far more prevalent on newer vehicles over the last decade, with many now including adaptive cruise control, intelligent speed assist, lane departure warnings and emergency braking systems among many others. More advanced systems such as drowsy driver warnings and automated lane keeping systems are providing even greater protection for those on the road, but there is concern that many of these benefits are not being used by drivers, potentially endangering themselves and others in the process.

IAM RoadSmart Director of Policy and Standards Nicholas Lyes said: "It's ironic that so many rely on technology on a day-to-day basis, yet within their vehicles, drivers at best

seem ambivalent about using technology systems that could save their lives if these were engaged. Part of the issue is likely to be a lack of understanding of how each of these systems can benefit them. Many might switch off certain systems because the alarm might be irritating or because they don't like the feel of the steering wheel autocorrecting to keep the vehicle in a lane. Manufacturers are consistently improving the technology, but this will take time. There's potentially an exercise for both individuals and fleet managers to ensure drivers and colleagues learn more about these systems, as well as advisories being added into the next round of Highway Code changes."

"While we need more consumer awareness of how these aids work, it's important to remember that driver assistance systems should always compliment safe driving rather than be a replacement for it."

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Cars Owners Sell Quickest Revealed

The cars that drivers offload in the shortest amount of time after buying them have been revealed, and it's models from the world's most famous EV manufacturer that are ditched quickest

Teslas has the shortest ownership periods of any major brand, according to a study. Vehicle history checking service CarVertical says the average Tesla driver keeps their car for less than two and a half years, based on analysis of hundreds of thousands of background checks conducted on UK motors.

But while the until recently fashionable US car maker hasn't managed to translate that into long-term ownership, two old names that have fallen victim to car-making time have instilled long-term loyalty, the study reveals.

Rover and Saab are the blasts from the past that keep owners hanging on, with the longest ownership periods, knocking luxury brands down the list.

DITCHED AFTER SHORTEST OWNERSHIP

1. Tesla: 29.1 months, **2.** Dacia: 46.3 months, **3.** Kia: 51.1 months, **4.** Seat: 52.8 months, **5.** Hyundai: 55.9 months, **6.** Škoda: 56.1 months, **7.** Audi: 57.3 months, **8.** Mercedes-Benz: 59.7 months, **9.** Citroën: 59.9 months, **10.** Vauxhall: 61 months

KEPT FOR LONGEST OWNERSHIP PERIOD

1. Rover: 128.5 months, **2.** Saab: 93.5 months, **3.** Ferrari: 91 months, **4.** Porsche: 87.2 months, **5.** Jeep: 84.2 months, **6.** Subaru: 83.3 months, **7.** Honda: 80.3 months, **8.** Toyota: 80.3 months, **9.** Bentley: 79.4 months, **10.** Aston Martin: 76.9 months

And Finally....

Taking The Biscuit: For 100 Years We've Been Eating Chocolate Digestives Wrong.

How do you eat a chocolate digestive biscuit?

Whether dunking, nibbling or munching a chocolate digestive, it seems common sense to keep the biscuity side down.

But we are getting it all wrong, according to Anthony Coulson, general manager of the McVitie's factory in Stockport, Greater Manchester.

He insists that the chocolate should be on the bottom and the biscuit on top.

One of the very first things I learned when I got to join McVitie's was chocolate side down to eat the digestive," he told the BBC. "Up until then, I'd always eaten it the other way round."

The reasoning, he said, is obvious – the tongue gets the chocolate hit straight away. "It starts to melt, starts to get the flavour and away you go. It makes sense, right?"

(Found on the internet)

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This Month's Teaser

When was the separate licence for a car radio abolished?

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "What was the middle name of John Delorean, of the Delorean Motor Company, and what major US motor company did he previously work for? His name was John Zachary Delorean and he used to work for General Motors.

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
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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.