

**ARE WE THERE  
YET?**

**Social Meetings to  
Resume. See Page 3**

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

October 2021



Group Number 4178  
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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### **Cover Photo – Old Police Phone box**

No sign of Doctor Who. Once a common sight, police boxes have now disappeared from our streets. This is one of the few remaining boxes at the Avoncroft building museum near Bromsgrove.

## Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

Following our last meeting the committee have confirmed that the AGM will go ahead at the Carlton Social Club on 4th October starting at 7:30pm. The AGM will be followed by the EGM to approve to amalgamation of the Skipton and Craven Group into MYAM (assuming the Skipton group EGM approves the move).

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Monday 4th<br/>October<br/>7:30pm</b> | <b>MYAM AGM*</b><br><br><b>MYAM EGM*</b>   | Carlton Social Club<br>Main Street<br>Carlton WF3 3RW<br>See page 7 |
| <b>Monday 1st<br/>November<br/>8pm</b>   | <b>MYAM Social Evening</b><br>Steve Ellis, our new<br>Area Service Delivery<br>Manager will introduce<br>himself | Carlton Social Club<br>Main Street<br>Carlton WF3 3RW               |
| <b>Monday 6th<br/>December<br/>8pm</b>   | <b>MYAM Social Evening</b><br>Christmas Quiz and<br>Buffet   | Carlton Social Club<br>Main Street<br>Carlton WF3 3RW               |

\*Please note that although visitors are always welcome at our social meetings only full MYAM members may vote at the AGM and EGM. There will be buffet provided after the EGM.

The AGM agenda and minutes of the 2020 AGM were published in the August newsletter.

We have been investigating using Teams to allow members who cannot get to the Carlton Social Club to participate in the AGM but there are still many technicalities to be overcome therefore we cannot guarantee that the Teams option will be available. If you would like to participate in the AGM via Teams can you let our group secretary Paul know by email at the address on page 16 and we will inform you should we decide to proceed with the Teams option nearer the date.

We will inform members of the resumption of the skill check meetings via the newsletter, and our Facebook and website pages.

## From the Editor

After 18 months we are finally ready to resume our social meetings at the Carlton Social club. At the last committee meeting it was confirmed that we would hold a face to face AGM plus the EGM to approve the amalgamation of the Skipton and Craven group into MYAM. Do not forget that because of the EGM the meeting will start half an hour earlier at 7:30pm. As is usual with our AGMs a buffet will be served after the EGM.

As you can see from the Events page we have social meetings planned for the remainder of 2021 but we need ideas for the 2022 social meetings. There are only 11 meetings as we do not have a meeting in January but as we do not have speakers at the AGM and December meetings we only need speakers for 9 meetings. If you have any suggestions for speakers or would like to volunteer as our Programme secretary please contact Paul, our Secretary or Janice, our Chairman by email at the address on page 16. Alternatively you can volunteer at the AGM.

As I mentioned a few months ago petrol has changed from E5 to E10. I recently filled up with what I assume to be E10 but have not noticed any difference... so far. I'll need to have several fillups and long journeys before I can decide if there is any significant difference. Have you noticed any difference if you've filled up with E10 petrol recently?

And speaking of long journeys we should soon be able to make one of the visits we had planned for last year, only 18 months late! This should be able to provide a few front cover pictures and an article or two as well as giving us some welcome relief from being stuck at home. Over the last 18 months I think we've only made a couple of long journeys. I only hope that the weather won't let us down. Then we can start planning a few more excursions and put a few more miles on the cars. The short journeys we've been doing since the start of the pandemic can't be doing them any good.

**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

Darren Crompton, Bill Hitchcock,  
Jonathan Schofield

# Congratulations

**On passing the Advanced Test**

**No test passes this month**

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## **Extension of Associate Membership of IAMR and MYAM**

As mentioned in the last newsletter IAM RoadSmart have extended Associate membership by 3 months for associates who receive their renewal before the end of September. This has now been amended so that membership of IAM Roadsmart has been extended until an associate has been allocated to an observer. The membership extension will also apply to membership of MYAM.

Our Membership Secretary, Graham Crawshaw, will be contacting all our associates who are affected by this delay in allocating an observer in due course.

## **Social Media**

Do you use social media on a regular basis? Are you familiar with setting up and running social media accounts? If so you could be just the person we are looking for. As you may know MYAM has a presence on Facebook and we are looking for someone to look after our account and to keep our website up to date. If you think you can help us please let either our chairman Janice or secretary Paul know at the addresses on page 16.

# 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](http://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](http://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.

**The Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969**

## **Data Protection – Privacy Notice (GDPR)**

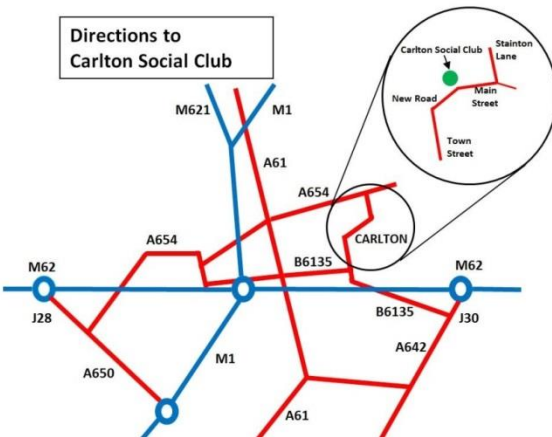
Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists (MYAM) is committed to looking after the information that it holds on behalf of its members in a way that complies with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

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.

# Directions to the Carlton Social Club

Main Street, Carlton, Wakefield WF3 3RW



From the M62 West leave at Junction 28 and take the A650 towards Wakefield. At the next set of traffic lights turn left onto the A654 toward Rothwell. Follow the A654, turning left in Thorpe on the Hill. Cross the A61 and continue into Carlton. Turn right into Stainton Lane then turn right into Main Street. The Social Club is on the right immediately after the Unicorn pub.

From the M62 East leave at junction 30 and take the A642 towards Wakefield. Take the next right, B6135, towards Lofthouse. Follow the B6135 under the M62 onto Ouzlewell Green towards Carlton and Rothwell. Follow the road past Carlton Primary School and the Social Club is on the left just before the Unicorn pub.

There is a car park with overspill parking available on the grass area opposite the club.

## **Blackout warning: Drivers must charge electric cars off-peak to avoid overstretching National Grid**

Electric cars could cause “blackouts” if drivers don’t charge them at night, MPs have warned as they recommended VAT cuts to help motorists switch over.

Ministers have been told the UK’s power grid will come under increasing strain as more drivers buy electric, unless they are convinced to plug-in at off-peak times.

The Government has also been urged by MPs to prevent rural areas becoming electric vehicle “not spots” due to a lack of public charging points, and to make public charging as cheap as plugging in at home by reducing VAT.

Huw Merriman MP, and the chairman of the transport committee, said: “Unless the National Grid gains more capacity, consumer behaviour will have to alter so that charging takes place when supply can meet the additional demand. The alternative will be blackouts in parts of the country.”

The calls come as the UK prepares to ban the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles from 2030.

However, a report by the parliamentary transport select committee questioned whether government efforts to expand the country’s charging network will be enough to cater for the millions of drivers expected to switch to electric in the coming years.

MPs warned the electric grid could need to be strengthened to cope with surging electric car use.

The National Grid has previously been bullish about the network’s ability to cope over the coming years, arguing the improving sources of renewable energy will help meet the additional demand.

Last year, Graeme Cooper, the National Grid’s transport decarbonisation director, said: “There is definitely enough energy and the grid can cope easily.”

The company also argued that the development of smart charging – internet-connected electric car plugs that wait for off-peak times to charge the vehicle – would also help ease the strain on the grid.

Ministers are currently drawing up rules to mandate that all public charge points have smart charging.



A government report on smart charging earlier this year warned of the need for drivers to adopt the technology en masse as most motorists are expected to charge their cars at peak times, such as between 5pm and 7pm when they get home from work.

The paper warned that if smart charging doesn't take off, the UK's electricity grid will "require significant levels of additional investment" and that "the costs [will be] borne ultimately by consumers".

However, MPs said ministers should not rely solely on the take-up of smart charging to avoid electricity shortages and that they had to directly encourage drivers to avoid charging at peak times with schemes such as flexible tariffs.

The MPs' report also highlighted that some drivers are unable to charge at home and are paying more to charge at public points due to VAT.

The tax is charged at 20 per cent at public charge points compared to just five per cent for domestic charging.

The report said ministers should "address the discrepancy" so charging costs the same wherever drivers plugged in.

The committee also voiced concerns about rural areas being left behind in the rollout of the charging network.

Earlier this year, Grant Shapps, the Transport Secretary, said he aims to make charging an electric car as easy as filling up at a petrol station.

The Government is currently spending £1.3 billion on increasing charge points along motorways and A-roads as well as at homes, workplaces and on-street parking bays.

Yet, a study by the Competition and Markets Authority earlier this month showed areas such as Yorkshire and the Humber have a quarter of the number of charge points per head compared with London.

MPs said the Government needed to work with the National Grid to identify "weak areas" that need their infrastructure improving to ensure drivers in the countryside have access to public chargers.

Mr Merriman, a Conservative, added: "We also cannot have a repeat of the broadband and mobile 'not spot' lottery which would mean those in remote parts cannot join the electric vehicle revolution."

## Pathfinder Yorkshire August 2021

We were lucky to get five good days of weather for Pathfinder Yorkshire at Tockwith in August when fourteen teenagers with their parents came on the course to start their future driving in a safe and responsible fashion for their future.

Monday starts very gently getting to know where the controls are, especially the brake! They get the feel of moving the vehicle using clutch control whilst practising steering around a large oval area marked out with cones. Before long they are into second gear and can do a good emergency stop. By lunchtime most are away from the oval and onto practising reverse parking into a garage, a short slalom area and a longer section of road area with a roundabout.

Apart from learning to handle a car they are drip fed throughout the course about being responsible for their own and others safety whilst in a vehicle. Talks about peer pressure, speeding consequences and drugs are done in a way that gets their attention. Highway Code theory tests are taken every evening which they need to do and get a certain percentage correct to progress. We have them under the bonnet, checking tyre pressures etc. and by Friday they can confidently talk about cockpit and powdery checks.



We, the instructors, are dipping in and out of the cars throughout the week, talking through for example how to tackle a parallel park or a new road section. The road layout is changed most days adding more scenarios into the mix, even a motorway section with slip road, albeit short but helps to give a flavour of what's ahead once on the road. Every day they have instruction and then the parents take over with the practise.

Throughout the week we are talking/showing IPSGA into the sessions, hopefully there will be future members, who knows.

The next Pathfinder course will be at Tockwith on October 25th-29th. If you know of any young teenagers approx. 15-17 age please do pass on information about this course <https://under17driver.co.uk>. Bursaries are available courtesy of MYAM.

Thank you

**Lesley Pollard**

## Jeffrey Longs Charity Dinner

I received a phone call from Jeffrey Long, one of our members who, through his activities, has raised a significant amount of money for various charities. To celebrate his 90th birthday he has organised a charity dinner. Please contact him for further details.

JEFFREY LONG MBE

*90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*



### CHARITY FUND RAISING DINNER



*in aid of*



to held on  
**Saturday 23rd October 2021**  
18.30 for 19.00 hours

at  
**THE MIDLAND HOTEL**  
Bradford

*Drinks reception : 3 Course Dinner*  
*Raffle and Auction : Fun : Good Company*

**£35.00 per person**

Dress: Lounge Suits

**PLEASE BOOK EARLY**

( Cheques will not be banked until the end of September )

ANY QUERIES PLEASE RING JEFFREY 01274 560780

MIDLAND HOTEL B & B: Special rates : SINGLE £55.00 : Double £65.00 Please ring 01274 735 735

## News in Brief

### Towing Test to be Abolished

Since 1997 new licence holders have had to take a separate test before towing. This test is now being abolished. Full details are on the following website.

[New rules for towing a trailer or caravan with a car from autumn 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-rules-for-towing-a-trailer-or-caravan-with-a-car-from-autumn-2021)

To check if your licence covers you for towing look on the back of your licence for group BE.

### Delays in Renewing Driving Licences

There are currently delays of up to 10 weeks for paper applications for driving licence applications and renewals. Online applications have not been affected. If you are renewing your licence by post and nothing has changed you should be OK to continue driving but it would be an idea to make a copy of your documents before sending them off and to carry them with you.

### E10 Petrol

Do you know if your petrol car can run on the new E10 petrol? Cars built since 2011 should be compatible with the new fuel and many cars built earlier are also compatible. The following website can be used to check if E10 petrol can be used or if you'll have to use E5 petrol.

[Check if your vehicle can run on E10 petrol - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/check-if-your-vehicle-can-run-on-e10-petrol)

### Road Tolls

The treasury is facing a £40 billion hole in its finances due to the loss of revenue from Vehicle Excise Duty and fuel duty as the country transitions to electric vehicles. To combat this road pricing, which was comprehensively rejected under the previous Labour government, is being considered.

### **Older Drivers fit, healthy and determined to keep driving for at least the next 12 years or more**

New research from IAM RoadSmart, the UK's largest independent road safety charity, reveals that motorists over the age of 60 intend to drive for as long as they are safe to do so, and that the average age they would consider giving up their licence is 82.

With a grant from the Department for Transport, IAM RoadSmart recruited Dr Carol Hawley from the University of Warwick to produce an update on Keeping Older Drivers Safe and Mobile: A Survey of Older Drivers, first published in 2015.

The new report details the findings from surveying over 3,000 respondents aged 60 plus from across the UK, and highlights that older drivers value their cars to maintain independence and want to stay mobile for as long as possible while they are safe and able to do so.

Neil Greig, Policy & Research Director from IAM RoadSmart, commented: "There are over 12.1 million drivers of 60+ according to the report. With many being healthy, fit and with over 40 years' experience and knowledge, why shouldn't they continue to drive?"

**Dr Carol Hawley**, Author of the report said: "We recommend the Government should conduct a comprehensive review of the driver licensing and testing system in relation to the ever-growing number of drivers over the age of 70 and beyond. We need to ensure that those who are healthy, fit, and capable remain safely on the roads. Currently in the UK, the only safety requirement for mature drivers is to renew their driving licence at the age of 70 by confirming to the DVLA that they have no medical issues."

Overall drivers, asked in the survey, expected to continue driving for an average of 12.3 years.

- Drivers aged 60 – 69 years expected to continue driving for an average of 15 years.
- Drivers aged 70 and over expected to continue driving for an average of 9 years.
- The average age at which people think they will give up driving was 82.
- For drivers aged under 70 the average age for giving up was 79.4 and for drivers aged 70 and over the age of giving up was 85.3.

Figures on the number of drivers aged 60+ show there are now over 12 million (12,151,845) DVLA information at September 2020 shows: -

| Age            | Male             | Female           | OVERALL TOTAL     |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>60-69</b>   | 3,668,171        | 3,052,996        | 6,721,167         |
| <b>70-79</b>   | 2,181,699        | 1,766,261        | 3,947,960         |
| <b>80-89</b>   | 803,487          | 555,630          | 1,359,117         |
| <b>90-99</b>   | 80,671           | 42,521           | 123,192           |
| <b>100-108</b> | 283              | 126              | 409               |
|                | <b>6,734,311</b> | <b>5,417,534</b> | <b>12,151,845</b> |

- The oldest valid licences are held by two men aged 107 and the oldest female is 106.
- There are 612,908 69-year-olds who will need to sign the self-declaration to say they are fit and healthy to continue the renewal of their driving licences next year.
- The over 70's make up 13% of all licence holders

80% of 70+ drivers have no plans to give up their licences yet according to our survey. Taking the statistics from the DVLA that could equal (4,344,542) individuals aged 70 or over with no plans to give up.

In our survey the majority (79%) felt they were excellent drivers and would not consider giving up for years. Only a doctor/GP or optician/optometrist, who are considered the most influential people to give advice on giving up driving, were likely to convince them to relinquish their licence for health or eyesight reasons.

Neil Greig continued: "We need a joint education campaign to help drivers start to plan for the retirement of their driving licences at an earlier age, working in partnership with the government, health professionals, pension advisors, financial advisors, and transportation experts."

"A wider range of easily accessible mature driver focused information is needed for consumers on accessible vehicle designs, mobility features, journey planning and mobility costs to help inform these campaigns. Mature driver reviews should be encouraged, and the government should consider the idea of offering them on prescription to encourage uptake and equal access."

For more information see the full article at

[Older Drivers fit, healthy and determined to keep driving for at least the next 12 years or more \(iamroadsmart.com\)](http://iamroadsmart.com)

# And Finally.....

## GCSE essays part 2

More metaphors from actual GCSE essays

Her hair glistened in the rain like nose hair after a sneeze.

John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds that had also never met.

He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck either, but a real duck that was actually lame. Maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

Even in his last years, Grandad had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long it had rusted shut.

It hurt the way your tongue hurts after you accidentally staple it to the wall.

The thunder was ominous sounding, much like the sound of a thin sheet of metal being shaken backstage during the storm scene in a play.

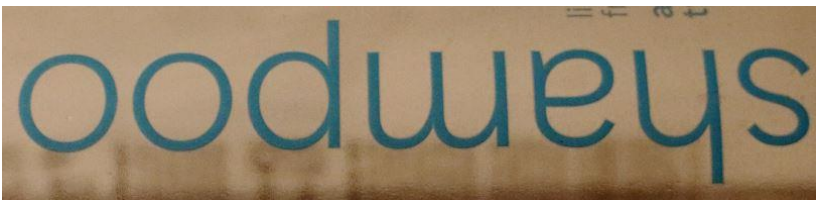
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### **This Month's Teaser**

What is a Vendace and where in the UK would you be most likely to find one?

### **Last Month's Teaser**

Last month I asked "What was it the bottle marked "oodways"? And here's the label on the bottle.



# Your Committee

|                      |                 |               |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chairman             | Janice Haigh    |               | myam.chairman(at)outlook.com      |
| Secretary            | Paul Macro      |               | 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    |
| Youth Liaison        | Position vacant |               |                                   |
| Speaker Secretary    | Position vacant |               |                                   |
| Events Manager       | Alan Jones      | 07714 444595  | alan.j909(at)btinternet.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 |
| GDPR Manager         | David Rockliff  |               |                                   |

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 Speaker secretary and 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.