

# ARE WE THERE YET?



Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

October 2024



Group Number 4178  
Registered Charity Number 1053843





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### **Cover Photo – Diggerland near Castleford**

Converted from a standard digger, the Spindizzy ride at Diggerland spins you round and up and down at the same time. This is one of the many rides and digger experiences at the site.

## Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

<b>Monday 7th October 2024 8pm</b>	<b>MYAM Social Meeting</b> Neil Simpson – Rally Driver and Head of Simpson Skoda	Birkenshaw Liberal Club 10 Croft Street Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT
<b>Monday 4th November 2024 8pm</b>	<b>MYAM Social Meeting</b> Stuart Lovatt Chair of Tyre Safe	Birkenshaw Liberal Club
<b>Monday 2nd December 2024 8pm</b>	<b>MYAM Social Evening</b> Christmas Quiz, Raffle and Buffet	Birkenshaw Liberal Club

Everyone is welcome at these events and they are an ideal opportunity to meet new people socially, find out about what is going on within the Group and listen to interesting talks on a variety of topics, sharing our skills with other serious drivers and keeping up-to-date on club and driving matters.

Our speaker for October is Neil Simpson - Rally Driver and instigator of their young rally driver scheme, also head of Simpson Skoda in Skipton. Member Bob Rowles very kindly helped to arrange and facilitate this presentation of Neil's. I know you will want to wish Bob good health after his operation and to join with me in also wishing him a speedy recovery.

For our November meeting our speaker will be Stuart Lovatt Chair of 'TyreSafe' - Tyres being a very pertinent subject for this time of year. As a first for us, this is likely to also be available as an online Zoom presentation - an extension of our trial into the online community (enabling easier meeting 'attendance' over the Winter months). This also furthers our successful trial last Winter, when we started holding some committee meetings online.

If this goes well we may be able to use the system at regular social meetings to allow more members to "attend" the meetings.

If we were able to offer this for our social meetings would you be interested in attending this way? Let me know and if there is sufficient interest we will look into setting it up.

## From The Editor

This newsletter marks another milestone as it's the 100th issue I've edited since I took over from Kim Clark following the AGM in 2016.

Over the years the format of the newsletter has evolved into its current layout. The most significant change was probably the front cover although finding a new picture every month can occasionally be a little difficult. Thank you to all members who have provided pictures for the front cover and items for inclusion in the newsletter. If you have any pictures that could be suitable for the front cover or any photos or items for inclusion in the newsletter please send them to me at the email address on page 16.

You may also notice this month I've added a QR code as an alternative means of accessing our website bringing us well and truly into the 21st century!

As newsletter editor I am also on the committee and looking back at earlier newsletters it appears that only Rosie, our treasurer, and Alan, our events manager, have served longer than me. I've only done the job for just over 8 years but is it a job for life? (I think the chairman believes it is! At the Leicester group leaving the area appeared to be the only way to leave the committee!)

We recently took our daughter and grandchildren to Diggerland in Castleford. Our younger grandson is mad about tractors and any similar types of vehicle and I had him sat on my lap directing me where to dump the soil as I had a go on a digger and driving a dumper truck around a course. Great fun for all ages although there is a minimum height for some of the rides. It's also significantly cheaper to book tickets on line as we saved about £30 compared to buying tickets at the gate.

Those of you who receive a printed copy may not have received your newsletter last month due to holidays at the printers. If this is the case you should receive last month's newsletter with this newsletter.

**Keith**

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Will any Member wishing to have an item, article or picture included in the newsletter please submit it to the editor no later than the 15th of the month. These may be edited to save space. Thank you.

### Disclaimer

The items contained in this newsletter are the views of the Members who contribute and not necessarily the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (I.A.M.) or MYAM.

## GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

# Welcome to the Group

No new associates this month

# Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test

Tom James - Observer Lesley Pollard  
Joanne Wulf - Observer Peter Kennedy

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### **A Reminder About Your Annual MYAM Subscription**

MYAM's preference is for annual subscription renewals to be paid by direct debit. If you already pay by direct debit, then thank you. If you don't then please consider doing so, as it greatly reduces the administration requirements for our Treasurer and Membership Secretary compared with Standing Orders or paying in cash/bank transfer. Setting up a direct debit is easy to do and doesn't cost you anything. It also means that you don't have to remember to pay your subscription each year (although you'll receive a reminder before each payment is made, from the Membership Secretary). If you would like to set up a direct debit, then please contact us at [myam.membership@outlook.com](mailto:myam.membership@outlook.com).

If you are a tax-payer, then (regardless of how you pay your subscription) would you also please consider Gift Aiding your payment? Again, this costs you nothing but can make a big difference to MYAM, as we can claim £2.50 from HMRC for every £10 we receive. If you'd like to Gift Aid your subscription then please complete the form here - [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/3D8FKD/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/3D8FKD/)

If you do change from a standing order to a direct debit do not forget to cancel the standing order once the direct debit has been set up.

# 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) 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.



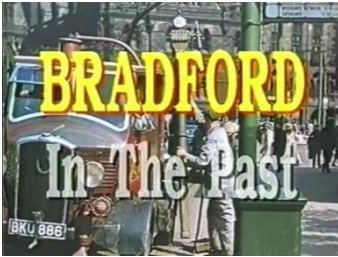
From the M62 junction 27, take the A650. Turn left onto the A58. After approximately ½ mile turn right into Old Lane. After approximately 550yds turn left into Croft Street (bottom picture left).

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.

# September Meeting - Bradford In The Past

The speaker at our September social meeting was to have been from the road safety charity BRAKE but, in spite of them saying they could provide a speaker for the meeting, our speaker secretary, Sally, had great difficulty in contacting them to confirm that they would be attending the meeting. It was only after the newsletter was sent out that we had to assume that they would not be sending a speaker but by that time it was too late to inform the membership.



It was therefore necessary find an alternative speaker. We try to have a backup speaker for such eventualities so for this meeting we had a film that had been made to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Bradford becoming a city.

Some time ago I had been handed a VHS tape (remember them?) made for the occasion of the anniversary and was asked if I could transfer it to an alternative digital medium. Having a working VHS player and the appropriate video capture card and software I transferred it to my PC and made a DVD copy plus digital copies of the film.

The film showed Bradford folk celebrating with carnivals in and around the city, royal visits from King George V and Queen Mary in 1935, King George VI and Queen Elizabeth following the coronation in 1937 and Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip in 1954 following the 1953 coronation. For each visit the centre of the city was decorated.

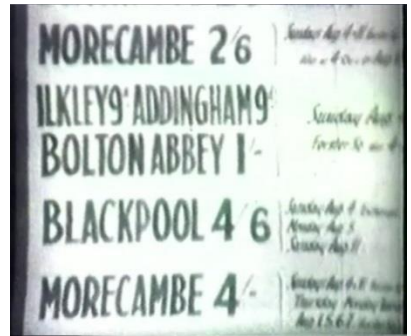
Following the end of the Second World War there was a visit from Winston Churchill in a rare colour film. Each of these events showed massive crowds in the centre of the city.

The cities industry was not neglected showing scenes from a wool processing factory with little regard to Health and Safety. There were many textile mills in Bradford at the time. However the textile industry in Bradford died out in the 1970s.



There were scenes from sports days showing how the high jump was done before the Fosbury Flop came along and the stadium at Odsal Top was packed with spectators for the rugby matches.

Bradford had, and still does have, two railway stations with more people travelling by rail, especially during the summer holiday season, in the days before car ownership became commonplace. The fares look incredibly cheap by comparison with today's prices but it has to be remembered that wages were significantly lower in the 1930s.



In many of the city centre scenes there were trams and trolley buses but not that many private cars in the early years of the century. The trolley buses had replaced the trams but by the 1970s the trolley buses were being withdrawn from service. One scene showed the last trolley bus on its final day, 26th March 1972, with the Lord Mayor of Bradford, a former trolley bus driver, at the wheel.



**The last trolley bus in Bradford**

There were many scenes showing large crowds in the various parks enjoying their leisure time, boating on the lake, riding on model steam trains or just sitting soaking up the sun.

There were also scenes of the council workers cleaning the streets and bin collections where the metal bins were individually emptied into the bin lorries which were then emptied by hand at the depot.

The city centre shown in the film bears very little relation to the modern city centre especially with all the work currently in progress.

This makes me wonder is anyone documenting the changes in the city centre or in other areas of the city? There must be many hours recorded on people's phones and other devices but would these be available to someone, in say 50 years time, who wanted to make a film of Bradford, or any other city, as it was in the 2020s? It has to be remembered that today is tomorrow's history.

# Thank You!!

We have now reached the end of the 2024 season of classic car rallies, having attended a total of eight events during the course of the Spring and Summer.

Thanks to the purchase of the new, modern MYAM gazebo, it has been easier than in the past, as the old gazebo was heavy, awkward, and difficult to erect and take down. In spite of this, it still takes a minimum of three people to load and unload the new one into cars and to erect and dismantle it.

I am therefore penning this article to express my thanks to those members of the MYAM Group, who have attended some of the events and helped with setting up, dismantling, and manning the stand.

However, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to two particular members of the MYAM Committee, Alan Jones and John Prior. Alan stores all the equipment (including the gazebo, pegs, weights, tables, chairs, boxes of leaflets, etc.), which takes up considerable space in his shed at home. John helps in loading and unloading all the equipment, and erection and dismantling. In addition, Alan's and John's cars are both used to transport everything to the venues, and they, alongside me, have attended every event this year.

We have been there cold, rain, or shine, and just managed to avoid being picked up and blown away in the gale at Heath Common. It should also be borne in mind that we are all three over seventy years old and we all have health problems – Alan is waiting for a knee replacement, John is on the list for a shoulder replacement, and I need an ankle replacement. As you can imagine, all these cause problems lifting and moving all the equipment, and there has never been a single complaint!

You can therefore understand my expression of thanks to both Alan and John for all their help.

These events may not seem important, but I can assure you (after over forty years in sales and marketing) that maintaining a public presence and an image at such events is vital if MYAM and the IAM is to survive in the future. As the late Queen used to say, "I have to be seen to be believed!"

We now have a means of logging and tracking any serious enquiries we receive at the events, and, thanks to Graham Crawshaw's prompt follow-up of the enquiries, we are able to measure the effectiveness of each event. We even had a firm enquiry from the Mayor of Wakefield at the Heath Common Rally!!!

Once again, my grateful thanks to Alan, John, and the other members who have attended and assisted at the events, and I do hope this will encourage other members to come forward next season.

**Janice Haigh**



**At the Heath Common Rally the Mayor of Wakefield paid a visit to the MYAM stand with Janice ready to sign him up**

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## **Associates and Observers**

Graham, our membership secretary, has been emailing Associates who are still awaiting an observer to let them know the current situation. To save time we will publish the current situation regarding Associates and Observers in the newsletter.

<b>Number of new Associates in August 2024</b>	3
<b>Number of current Associates under training</b>	15
<b>Number of Associates awaiting allocation to an Observer</b>	20
<b>Number of Associates on hold awaiting restart</b>	7

As you can see we have a number of associates still waiting for an observer. If you are waiting please be patient as we are aware you are waiting and will allocate an observer as soon as one becomes available. We try to allocate an observer who is close to your location but if you are prepared to travel further we may be able to allocate you to an observer sooner. Please let us know if you are willing to travel and if so how far could you travel to meet an observer.

# Soaring Motor Premiums Fuelling Spike In Uninsured Younger Drivers

The number of young motorists aged 17-20 punished for driving without insurance has increased by more than a quarter (28%) between 2022 and 2023 and by almost 200% since 2021 according to new statistics analysed by the UK's leading road safety charity IAM RoadSmart.

Data gathered through a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to the DVLA reveals that in 2021, there were 2,902 IN10 endorsements added to licence holders of this age grouping. This increased to 5,486 in 2022 and reached 6,316 for 2023 (+118% vs 2021). For those aged 21-24, the picture is more mixed. While IN10 endorsements rose from 12,309 in 2021 to 13,138 in 2022 (29% increase), they fell to 11,103 in 2023 (a decrease of 8% compared to 2021).

An IN10 endorsement – the code used by the police for ‘using a vehicle uninsured against third party risks on a licence’ - will typically be added to a driver’s licence following an investigation by police forces, either after a camera detects an uninsured vehicle on the road or a driver is stopped by a police officer and reported. IN10s must stay on a driving record for four years from the date of offence. This research relates to the number of new IN10 endorsements added to driver records by age and calendar year.

These hugely concerning endorsement figures coincide with a period of rapidly rising annual car insurance premiums with drivers of all ages feeling the pinch. Average annual premiums increased by a quarter (25%) between 2022 and 2023. Thankfully, more recent indicators suggest motor insurance costs for 2024 appear to be topping out from the eye-watering increases of the past 18 months.

Additional research conducted by IAM RoadSmart of 2,437 members in February 2024 reveals that almost half (49%) say their most recent car insurance renewal price is ‘significantly more expensive’ compared to the previous year. More than two-thirds (69%) of members now identify the cost of insurance as the biggest challenge for young drivers. A pragmatic 60% of members believe a young driver advanced

qualification should be recognised by insurers as a method to reduce costs while improving driving standards.

Given these findings, IAM RoadSmart is today warning of an uninsured driver epidemic which threatens to spiral out of control unless action is taken by the UK Government. Today we launch three calls to action as part of our campaign to help young drivers:

- 1) The Treasury should **halve the current standard 12% rate of insurance premium tax (IPT)** on motoring policies of those aged under 25 to 6%.
- 2) The Treasury should zero-rate IPT on policies where licence holders under the age of 25 have completed an 'approved driving or riding course' which would encourage take-up of a skills-based assessment.
- 3) **Update the current UK Government road safety strategy** with a focus on skills development and training (including a form of graduated driver licensing) and create a Young Drivers Taskforce within the Department for Transport which focuses on issues specifically impacting younger drivers.

Driving a vehicle without insurance will result in a £300 fixed penalty and six points on a licence. However, should the case go to court, punishments could be more severe including an unlimited fine. Even if the vehicle itself is insured, drivers can still be punished without the correct insurance policy to drive it and police may even invoke section 165 of the 1988 Road Traffic Act giving them powers to seize an uninsured vehicle. Rising numbers of uninsured drivers often leads to an increase in everyone's premiums because those involved in a collision with an uninsured driver will need to claim from the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB) which levies any company that underwrites motor insurance premiums.

**IAM RoadSmart Director of Policy and Standards Nicholas Lyes said:** "It is legal requirement to have the correct insurance to drive, so it is deeply concerning to see a surge in young drivers breaking the law in this way. Unless there is intervention, we risk an epidemic of uninsured younger motorists taking to the roads.

"Sadly, this is likely a consequence of the soaring costs of insurance premiums over the last 18 months. For young drivers who have recently passed their test, the cost of learning to drive, getting a vehicle, taxing it and then insuring it is becoming an extremely costly process. While the insurance sector believes we may now be over the

worst of price increases, falling premiums will feel like a lifetime away for newly qualified drivers. Perversely, young drivers are also disproportionately paying more tax when insuring their vehicle because insurance premium tax is levied at a standard 12% rate on already costlier premiums, meaning something of a windfall for the Treasury.

“This is why we are launching a three-point action plan for Government to give young motorists some respite. Moreover, it’s time the Government, the road safety sector and the insurance industry got around the table to thrash out some longer-term solutions which should include a form of graduated driver licensing. Making sure we upskill young drivers of today will ensure we have better drivers for tomorrow.”

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## **Do Council Departments Talk To Each Other?**

Just after the schools closed down for the summer holiday all the road markings on a road outside a school near us were renewed. Shortly afterwards another notice appeared stating the road would be closed to renew the road surface. Excellent planning from the council! But within a week another notice appeared saying the road surface renewal would be delayed until 2025. It has to be said that the road does need resurfacing as it’s full of potholes and temporary repairs.

However all the new road markings haven’t stopped parents parking right next to the school entrance on the yellow zig-zags so their little darlings don’t have to walk too far to the school.

The council have also just resurfaced the road our cul-de-sac leads onto. It took four days to complete but it was a long stretch of road. Part of the road that ran alongside the houses was full of potholes with temporary repairs but is now perfectly smooth. It was interesting to see the processes involved in removing the old surface and how the manhole covers in the road were left but had temporary tarmac around them to minimise any damage to vehicles. Then the new tarmac was laid in sections over the next two days.

I’m just waiting to see how long it will be before someone needs to dig up the road to fix a future problem.

# And Finally.....



Pensioners fly to France to bin their passports and return to England illegally in a dingy to get heating and be looked after in a nice warm hotel this winter

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## This Month's Teaser

When was the Forth Road Bridge opened and when were tolls on the bridge abolished?

## Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "Can you spot an omission on the front cover picture?" There is an 'S' missing from the end of Motorist on the gazebo.

## Your Committee

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Paul Macro</b> 07960 410046		myam.chairman(at)outlook.com
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Janice Haigh</b>		myam.secretary(at)outlook.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Rosie Bricis</b> 07579 965029		myam.treasurer(at)outlook.com
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	<b>Graham Crawshaw</b> 0113 314 9969		myam.membership(at)outlook.com
<b>Younger Members</b>	<b>Lewis Wetherill</b> 07359 630705		myam.youngermembers(at)outlook.com
<b>Speaker Secretary</b>	<b>Sally Lawrence</b>		myam.speakersecretary(at)outlook.com
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<b>Committee Member</b>	<b>John Prior</b>		

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.