

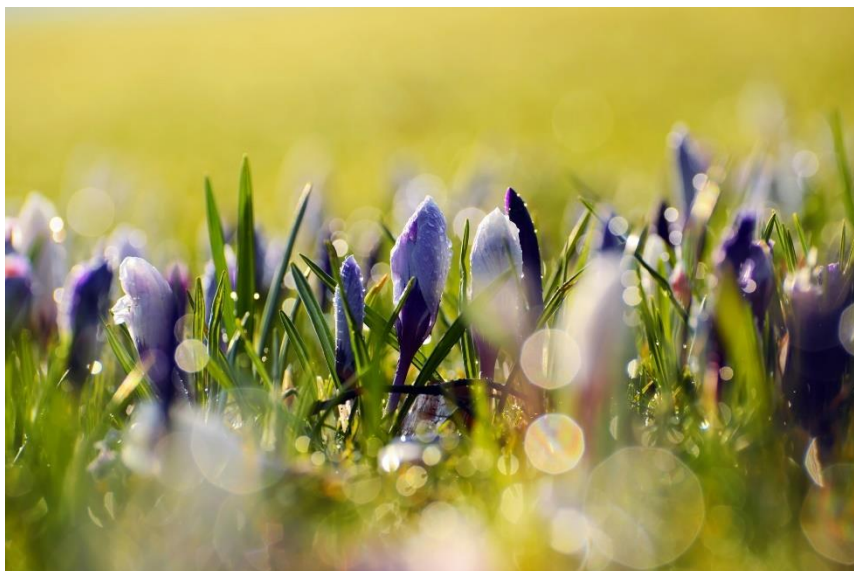
Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists

Group No 7080 Charity No. 1063139 Spring Edition

Full Members - 75; Associate Members - 7; Total - 82

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Welcome to the Spring edition of the SAGAM Newsletter

I hope you had a great Christmas and New Year and we're already into the third month of the year! Unbelievable how time flies!!

Our Social Night on the 27th February was a great night with the speaker talking to us about the role of the Blood Bikes. You can find a write up of the night further in the newsletter. For several years, we have used the Redbourne Club in Scunthorpe for our Social Nights but then were told it had been double booked for our February Social Night so we couldn't have it! However, our Vice Chairman, Paul Johnson, managed to find us another venue which was great, so a big thank you goes to Paul for sorting it out for us. The Helam Park Rugby Club on Ashby Road Scunthorpe was fabulous and I'm sure we will be grateful to them for allowing us to use one of their rooms. Watch this space to see if we will continue to meet at the new venue.

Spring is just around the corner and a time for the gardeners amongst us to start preparing the seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back the winter shrub, clearing out the weeds and generally tidying up. Spring Cleaning your garden and getting your garden shed in order. Sharpening blades and oiling hinges will make it a lot easier for you to dig – using the right tools for a specific job helps to get the work done quicker.

Well, I hope there are some articles you will find interesting in this edition but if there is anything you would like to see as a regular feature, please let me know and I'll do my best to accommodate. So read on and enjoy!

Chairman's Chatter

Hi everyone, before I launch into my chairman's article, can I be the last to wish you a Happy New Year! Which leads me nicely into last Christmas. I hope you all had a good Christmas and new year celebration, without too much suffering from a hangover.

So into the new year we go and our plans for a future at Redbourn club have been thrown into disarray. The place appears to be taken over by dance classes, and they pay. In the past we didn't. Never mind though after some searching and running around, we settled on The Rugby Club on Ashby Rd Scunthorpe. We will be having our first meeting there on Tuesday 27th Feb, which by now will already have taken place by the time this mag is out. It depends on a number of things before we can call it home. However, I remain hopeful!

We appear to have had quite a good year with tests generated, and indeed passed - I'm sure our Chief Observer will give the final update in this mag somewhere!

As usual we are constantly working on the regular things, like sorting social meetings, finding guest speakers etc, and the driving front, which is doing rather nicely. This shows to me that we've got a great team with the right people doing the right job; My grateful sincere thanks to you all. Right from the top, we have a brilliant treasurer in Malcolm Gothard, a brilliant Secretary in Jan Burditt and my V. Chairman Paul Johnson, who amongst other things found our new venue and sorted it for us. He's a top V C. We also have a conscientious hard-working committee, consisting of Mick Harris our President and his wife Sue who is a national observer, Chris Bilton our newly appointed Membership Secretary, and last but not least John Dicker. Paul Cassell is our Ch. Observer and does a first-class job too. John Wigmore is another one that just works quietly away allocating observers to associates and all related things that go with it. All these people give their time and effort without any pay and do it happily. Why you may ask? Well in my mind it's a simple answer, because they believe in what we do and they enjoy helping others. It really is rewarding in other ways. Now you know a little bit more about us, why not have a serious think about joining us. For more details, please email me.

A big thank you also, to all our members for continuing to support us because without members like you, our group would not exist.

Kind regards

Terry Heath.

Chairman & N. O.

SAGAM

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Chief Observer Report

Observer Team News. – March 2024

Hello SAGAM members and welcome to our first team news of 2024.

As at 14th February we can report a team of 9 x Observers with 5 x Associates at various stages of their ADC course. Within our team is one trainee who has taken their first associate; they are working well together with guidance as required.

As reported previously four of our team are working towards National Observer status, two of whom are test ready with test dates agreed. GOOD LUCK to you both.

The remaining two are progressing well with encouragement from the others. We congratulate those associates who have successfully taken their ADC course since our December news. Presentation of certificates will have been carried out at our social evening on 27th February 2024.

Our most recent Observer meeting was held on February 1st at The New Inn, Great Limber with our local examiner Mr. Tim Stanley in attendance as our guest speaker. It was a superb meeting, with Tim bringing us up to date with what is expected on test to get that coveted certificate our associates and our team work hard for. Questions and discussion were welcomed leading to a meeting enjoyed by all.

We are doing what we can to generate new Associates, showing our MDU, telling others about IAM RoadSmart, so if you or any one you know would like to join our group just get in touch for more information.

Meanwhile, Scunthorpe and Grimsby Advanced Motorists wish you Happy and Enjoyable driving for 2024 and if you see us out and about with our mobile display unit, come over for chat, we'll be pleased to see you.

On behalf of your Observer Team, take care and stay safe.

Paul Cassell,
Chief Observer,
SAGAM.

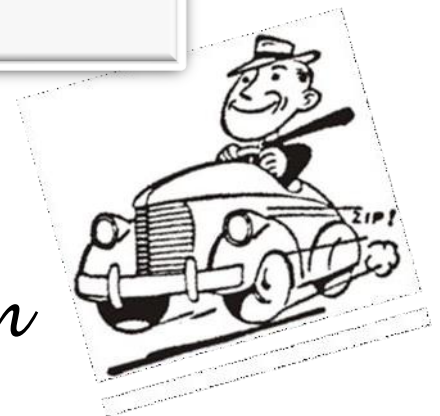


Welcome



to our new members

*Simon Battram
Reece Lake*



We make better riders
and drivers



Our Area Service Delivery Manager is Steve Ellis

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SOCIAL MEETINGS

The following are dates for our 2024 Social Meetings @ Heslam Park Rugby Club,

Ashby Road Scunthorpe DN16 2AG

April 24th (AGM), June 26th, August 28th,
October 23rd.

(all dates to be confirmed)

NEXT ISSUE

June 2024

If you have any articles, photographs or anything you feel may be of interest for the **June** edition,

please feel free to email me at

publicity@scunthorpegrimsbyadvancedmotorists.org

no later than

15th June please.

Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists

Find us here:



[WEBSITE](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/956009915305494/>



[@ANDGRIMSBY](#)

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of IAM RoadSmart, nor the Scunthorpe and Grimsby group.

Writing in italics is the personal view/s/thoughts of the editor.

Our MDU is out on the 23rd March 2024:

at Sainsburys in Scunthorpe 9.30 – 16.30

Committee Meeting Dates for 2024 are:

PLEASE NOTE: Meetings are to be held via Zoom until further notice/otherwise advised.

March, 10th April, 8th May, 12th June, 10th July, 14th August, 11th September, 9th October, 13th November and 11th December

Observer Team Meeting – 7TH May 2024 (tbc) 7.30pm at The New Inn, Great Limber Guest Speaker – TBA

We will warmly welcome nominations for anyone who would like to join our committee

A little bit of what you fancy..... Easter Mini Egg Cheesecake

Easter is certainly a delightful time for feasting and celebrating with family and friends and this mini egg cheesecake is topped with a lovely chocolate nest of mini Easter eggs. It's a no-bake recipe so really easy to make and only needs a few hours to set before it can be eaten. Go on.....indulge yourself

Ingredients

For the base

- 250g/9oz chocolate digestives
- 80g/2¾oz unsalted butter, melted, plus extra for greasing

For the filling

- 680g/1lb 8oz full-fat cream cheese, at room temperature
- 90g/3¼oz icing sugar
- 1½ tsp vanilla bean paste
- 320ml/11fl oz double cream
- 320g/11½oz sugar-coated chocolate mini eggs, roughly chopped, plus extra to decorate

For the chocolate nest

- 30g/1oz Shredded Wheat cereal
- 70g/2½oz dark chocolate, broken into small pieces
- 15g/½oz salted butter

Method

1. To make the base, line the bottom of a 20cm/8in springform or loose-bottomed cake tin with baking paper and lightly grease the sides. Add the biscuits to a food processor and blitz until fine. Alternatively, add them to a food bag, seal and bash with a rolling pin. Pour the biscuits into a bowl and stir in the melted butter. Tip the biscuit mixture into the tin and use the back of a spoon to press down firmly and evenly. Place the tin in the fridge to chill.
2. To make the filling, place the cream cheese, icing sugar, vanilla and half of the double cream in a large bowl and beat until smooth and thick. Stir in the chopped chocolate eggs. In a separate bowl, whip the rest of the double cream until it forms stiff peaks. Fold this into the cream cheese mixture. Pour the filling into the tin and level the top. Leave to chill in the fridge for at least 6 hours or overnight.
3. To make the chocolate nest, crush the wheat cereal in a bowl and set aside. Set a heatproof glass bowl over a saucepan of gently simmering water, making sure the water does not touch the bowl, and add the chocolate and butter. Stir occasionally until the chocolate is completely melted. Pour the chocolate onto the wheat cereal and stir until completely coated. Line a small bowl with cling film and spoon in the chocolate nest mixture, pressing firmly up the sides to create a nest shape. Place in the fridge to chill until solid.
4. When ready to serve, remove the cheesecake from the tin. Unmould the chocolate nest and place it on top. Fill the nest with mini chocolate eggs, letting some spill over onto the cheesecake before serving. Taken from the BBC website



HAPPY 
Easter

SCRUMMY yummy

SANDWICH SHOP

278, Pelham Road, Immingham, North East Lincolnshire

We are a small family run business, serving the whole of Immingham and surrounding areas including the Docks, Offices and Households. All our food is home cooked and freshly prepared daily, making for a very busy environment!

Our delicious, Scrummy Yummy Steak Pie is well known throughout the area and beyond and our Sunday dinners are so yummy and so in demand! Our staff and products were featured on Estuary TV and latterly noted by Compass FM in 2018 as one of the best.



Why not come and try us for yourself?

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Mmmmmmm....Have you been Scrummy'd yet?

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Official Insurance Provider



Get rewarded for your Advanced skills

As an IAM RoadSmart member, you already have advanced driving or riding skills, and Cornmarket wants to reward you for this. Enjoy lower insurance premiums and enhanced policy benefits – find out more today.

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Caught My Eye - Cupra Formentor



WHAT IS IT?

This is the Formentor SUV from Cupra. That doesn't really clear anything up, does it? Well, Cupra is a [sporty, standalone brand spun off Seat](#), having previously been the mere *performance arm* of its



Spanish parent. Confused? There's more: Cupra will shortly [become the main mass market sporty brand](#) for the entire Volkswagen Group, with Seat tucking in behind as a sort of mobility... thing.

Anyway, the Formentor is the first unique model from Cupra, so you won't be able to peg the car straight off as an awkwardly rebadged family runabout. It's a mildly confusing little car – it's an SUV, because those are fashionable and people want a high-riding slice

of comfort and security. Except it's a hunkered down, low running SUV because people always want something that's a bit dynamic. Hmm.

IT CAN'T BE COMPLETELY NEW THOUGH CAN IT?

Obviously, it's not a completely bespoke machine from the ground up. That's not how the Volkswagen Group works. Under its crisply creased skin, the Formentor is based on the same raw ingredients as the well-rounded [Seat Ateca](#), or for that matter the [VW Golf](#): same basic chassis, shared gearboxes, and the latest touchscreen infotainment centre from the excellent [Leon hatchback](#).

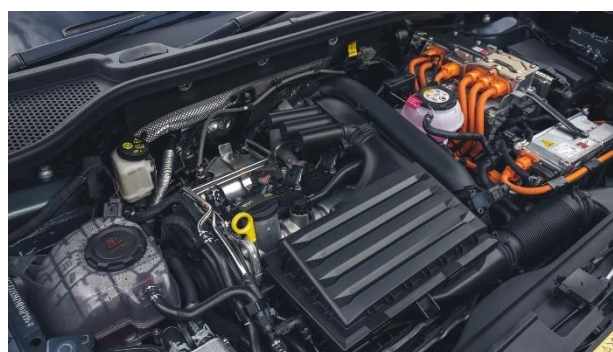
The Formentor is longer and lower than the school run-spec Ateca, though, giving it a more butch stance. In the metal it's a handsome beast, which is good because in this class looks sell.

ARE THE ENGINES ALL FAST ONES?

The Formentor engine selection isn't quite as spicy as you'd think from all the racy advertising. The range starts off with a 148bhp 1.5-litre four-cylinder that's familiar from other VW products, and manages the 0–62mph sprint in a glacial 8.7 secs. Next up there's a 2.0-litre unit developing 187bhp that knocks nearly two seconds off the 62mph dash.

If you're feeling vaguely eco-conscious there's a [plug-in hybrid](#) set-up in two states of tune, teaming a 1.4-litre turbo engine with an electric motor to develop either 201bhp or 242bhp (7.8 and 7.0s).

If you're feeling less eco-conscious, the range-topper is a 306bhp 2.0-litre four-cylinder turbo unit driving all four wheels and familiar from the likes of the VW [Golf R](#) and [Audi S3](#). That manages the 0–62mph run in 4.9 seconds.



WHAT WILL IT COST?

There are six trims available – V1 and V2 are the starter course, VZ1, VZ2 and VZ3 trims the tasty main and then there's the cherry for dessert, the VZN model. The car now starts at just over £31k for the V1, ranging to a slightly eye-watering £48,270 for the 306bhp VZN. That's quite some ground to cover.

The PHEV - or eHybrid as Cupra calls it - offers up to 36 miles of official range and a three-digit fuel economy figure: both will be significantly less in practice, but the car's 12 per cent BIK rating make it the default option for company car buyers here. The entry 1.5-litre petrol will sip along at around 40mpg while the spicier petrol's are rather closer to 30mpg.

The 1.5 TSI 150V1 5dr DSG starts from around £28,230 and will do 1 – 62 in around 8.9 seconds.

WHAT'S WITH THE NAME?

Apparently, it's nothing to do with the ghoulish soul-sucking villains of the Harry Potter universe, nor the yeasty properties of brewing your own beer. 'Formentor' is in fact a picturesque peninsula in Majorca – a nod to Cupra's Spanish roots. Remember that, when your mates ask you what your car's called, because weirdly, the word 'Formentor' doesn't appear anywhere on or indeed inside the car.



WHAT IS IT LIKE TO DRIVE?

The higher spec cars create a better sense of occasion: a button hung from the steering wheel starts the engine, which immediately sounds raucous and purposeful. Mainly because it's being amplified through the speakers. If that's getting tiring, you can tell it to shush by cycling through the many modes – use the Cupra steering wheel button for that. The quad tailpipes at least add to the theatrics.



There are Comfort, Normal, Sport, Cupra and Individual settings to choose from, with the latter letting you tailor the drivetrain's mood, steering weight, and endlessly fiddle with the ride comfort by altering a sliding scale. It feels terribly scientific.

IT'S STILL JUST AN SUV THOUGH ISN'T IT?

This isn't a high-riding road warrior. In fact, with the supportive bucket seat lowered electrically into its base position, you could be forgiven for imagining you were ensconced in a Leon hatchback, not a flagship SUV. There's a slightly diminished sense of occasion in the less powerful car, with fewer fancy buttons. The 1.5 offers a promising burble at idle, which is fine as long as you don't go anywhere because it's not quite as characterful on the move.

About town, the Formentor is easy going, as we're used to for a modern hot hatch. Obviously, it feels a bit bigger, but never cumbersome: the steering is quick and light at low speeds, and even on hulking 20in rims the ride isn't crashy in Cupra mode. It's better still if you slide it into Comfort, though. And better yet on the squishy 18-inch wheels of the V1 model, but you didn't come here for a limo-like ride. The Formentor does feel quite wide, mind – it's not a sleeky little thing like the Ateca.

Sometimes the twin-clutch gearbox gets caught in two minds slipping its clutches as it does its best softly softly impression of a true automatic, and it can be rather slow to switch between forward drive and reverse when parking, but the Cupra is far from the only DCT car so afflicted.

In short, this is a sporty crossover that will handle the daily grind without complaint. And on the motorway, it'll cruise at the national speed limit at a tickle over 2,000rpm. Wind noise is hushed up well for a taller car, but that fat rubber kicks up a fair bit of tyre roar.



AND IF I WANT TO TAKE IT FOR A PROPER DRIVE?

Normally, a decent job around town and on the motorway would be job done for a family faux-by-four – for a Seat. But since this is stubbornly a Cupra, it's supposed to also be an enthralling, thrilling performance car when it's let off the leash.

With everything dialled up the Formentor behaves like a slightly overgrown VW Golf R. It's not the first time we've seen these ingredients (remember the [VW T-Roc R?](#)) and the results are pretty similar. It's rapid point to point, with the advantages of seamless gearshifts, 4x4 traction, huge on-demand torque

and a slightly higher vantage point blending to create an undemanding overgrown hot hatch. It's easy to go fast in, though the overdubbed engine noise in Cupra mode might get on your wick after a while. The Formentor retains its composure even when you get properly aggressive with your inputs and ambitious in the corners, but it never feels anything other than FWD with lots of traction, rather than a properly balanced 4WD. Is it a sweaty palmed life-affirming invigorator? Well no, but neither are lower slung 'true' hot hatches like the [Audi S3](#) or [Octavia vRS](#), and this is never going to be as tactile or involving as, say, a [Honda Civic Type R](#). That said, if you want to dabble in the [Porsche Macan](#) experience for a heap less cash, the not-a-Seat ticks that box.

Predictably the entry version of the car doesn't feel remotely hot hatch-like, but it does at least feel promisingly un-SUV-like. The steering offers decent feel and it is reasonably satisfying to push on through a decent A-road. Motorway manners are respectable too, but nobody really wants to go sugar free unless the doctor tells them to, right?

WHAT IS IT LIKE ON THE INSIDE?

Who turned out the lights? It's dark inside the Formentor, despite the lashings of bronze trim. It's a bit of a pity the cabin is so obviously inherited from Seat, in contrast to the bespoke bodywork, but the bean counters clearly won the boardroom over.

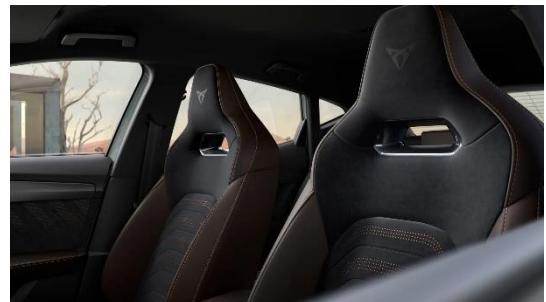


We question the logic of some of Cupra's flourishes: the engine stop and mode buttons amid the steering wheel are easily confused, and at least once you'll prod the ESP-off button next to the stubby gear selector, assuming that's the engine start button (it is in the Ateca, after all).

I'LL TRY TO GET USED TO IT. WHAT ELSE?

There's much to like, though: the bucket seats up front (standard in higher spec models) are fantastic, there's plenty of oddment storage and though the materials employed are sub-Audi, it's all tightly put together.

Front and centre is Seat's 12.3-inch touchscreen infotainment. The screen size and resolution is very impressive, but the cheery coloured menus will take some learning, especially as there's nowhere to brace your hand as you tap and swipe, so arriving at your chosen radio station can be a lottery.



MORE WOES FROM THE VW GROUP'S BUTTON ALLERGY?

Like the latest VW Golf and Skoda Octavia, heater controls are unilluminated touch-sensitive pads, which are an acquired taste we're not very partial to. Cupra counters the lack of tactile switches with voice control, but given the trigger word is 'Hola hola', you'll have to possess the embarrassment threshold of a Big Brother contestant to use it.

We've also had issues with the touch controls that Cupra uses for the panoramic roof and ceiling lights: they'll work for a while and then not work at all. To save you looking for the manual, if you need to close the sunroof, pull over and hold down the lock button on the key fob – it's set to close all open windows and it'll sort the roof for you while it's at it.

IS IT PRACTICAL?

The back seats offer enormous legroom, and because Cupra's interpretation of a 'coupe-SUV' doesn't have a particularly swoopy roof, there's plenty of headroom too. Eat your heart out, [BMW X4](#). That said, while adults will be pleasantly surprised just how roomy the Formentor is, children not perched on booster seats will moan they're missing out on a view of the countryside as it rushes past. The rear window is slim for style's sake too, but luckily the parking cameras are some of the best, in the business. If you live the outdoor adventure life of someone in an SUV advert, you'll be pleased to learn the boot

is fairly generous with a reasonably low loading sill and nets for lashing down errant items. It does depend greatly on what engine you go for, mind: the base petrol offers you 450 litres of boot-space,

but adding AWD nabs 30 litres of that and the PHEV version of the car has a less impressive 345 litres available.

WHAT SHOULD I BE PAYING?

The Formentor range is mildly confusing, starting out with the V1 entry model followed by the V2 (so far so good), then the VZ1, VZ2 and VZ3 (strange extra letter there, but fine) and the VZN range topper. It'll cost you £31,300 to get yourself an entry level V1 model with the 148bhp 1.5-litre petrol engine. It's about £1,600 extra for an auto gearbox, and upgrading to the 188bhp 2.0-litre will cost £36,110. There's also the option to go for the 201bhp PHEV (comes with a 1.4-litre petrol, that one) at £39,165. The Formentor price list tops out at £48,270 for the VZN and the spiciest engine set-up at 306bhp.

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT SPECS LIKE?

The entry V1 car doesn't feel too miserable, with its 18in alloys, auto wipers, wireless Apple CarPlay and phone charging, rear parking sensors and adaptive cruise control. The V2 nets you heated front bucket seats, 19in alloy wheels and a rear parking camera, while the VZ1 offers a sportier chassis set-up over the V1 (including sports suspension and dynamic chassis control), 19in alloys and rear parking camera. The VZ2 chucks in quad exhaust pipes, heated seats and steering wheel and some leather trim; the VZ3 lobs in black 19in alloys, Brembo brakes and matrix LED headlights. The top-spec VZN has more fancy wheel options, bespoke paint colours, a panoramic sunroof and a fancy Beats sound system.

WHICH ONE SHOULD I GO FOR?

We'd be tempted to keep the base car cheap and raid some of the options list – the Formentor would certainly benefit in the comfort department from the smaller wheels, even if that was to the detriment of the looks. To be fair, if you've bought into Cupra's schporty marketing then you'll probably prefer to go for VZ2 with its 19in alloys and quad exhaust pipes.

The car doesn't quite have the performance to match up to the aesthetics there, but it's a bit of visual theatre for the supermarket car park. If you're on a company car hunt then the PHEVs are the only ones worth considering thanks to their 33g/km CO2 emissions and 12 per cent BIK rates.

You'll have to shop carefully for first year VED rates, too: the PHEVs cost nothing but the range-topping petrol will set you back £1,565 in the first year.

If you really do want a performance family car with Volkswagen underpinnings though, why not go back to the source material and have a look at that eminently capable [Golf R estate](#) at £46,555



Did You Know? – Disneyland has an underground tunnel system?

There are lots of quirky things that some think, are underneath Disney parks, but these literally are! The tunnels were built in response to characters having to run through other lands to get to their posts, which spoiled the magic. Thanks to the tunnels, you won't see a Tomorrowland spaceman in the Old West-inspired Frontierland



For decades, Walt Disney's vast network of "utilidor" tunnels have allowed costumed employees to move throughout the Magic Kingdom without being detected by guests.

The visionary hired a retired U.S. Army General with 38 years of engineering experience to build Disney's underground tunnels.

The sights and sounds of Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom are familiar to millions around the world. From the iconic theme park rides to the costumed "cast members" welcoming kids throughout the different themed lands, the illusion of stepping into an imaginary place is almost seamless here. And the creator went to extraordinary lengths to maintain it — especially with Disney's underground tunnels hidden below the Magic Kingdom.

Disney shuddered at the thought of a young parkgoer spotting Mickey Mouse taking a lunch break and shattering their trust in his creations. In order not to reveal the man behind the curtain, Disney built the "utilidor" system to hide the everyday lives of workers from parkgoers.

Since 1971, the nine-acre tunnel complex beneath the Magic Kingdom in Orlando, Florida, has let costumed cast members shuttle from one area of the park to another without being detected by visitors. The hidden labyrinth connects locker rooms, dining halls, rehearsal spaces, and ATMs.

Over the years, people have tried to attach dark urban legends to Disney's tunnels, including rumours of child trafficking and kidnapped children. But the real story of Disney's tunnels is even more fascinating.

Constructing The Hidden Utilidor

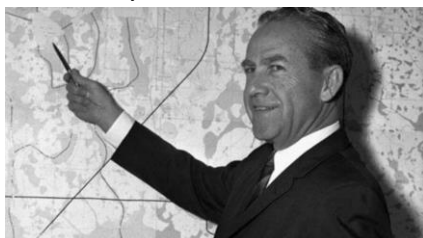
Before Disney's so-called "Florida Project" blossomed into the Magic Kingdom people know today, the visionary had already built the 1955 Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, California. There, Disney reportedly noticed his futuristic "Tomorrowland" and Old West-themed "Frontierland" areas clashing — and decided his next project would need a tunnel system.

Picture Left - The park under construction before the doors opened on October 1, 1971.

As legend has it, Disney was walking the grounds of his Anaheim Park when he spotted a cast member in cowboy regalia strolling through Tomorrowland. What some would dismiss as merely a curiosity was unacceptable to Disney, who wanted the Magic Kingdom's magic to remain seamless. He thus decided that his next venture in Florida would include a network of secret utility corridors (or, the utilidor) that separated visitors from employees. It soon became obvious that the water table in the Lake Buena Vista area and Florida in general, was too high to build anything underground, however.



So, Disney's tunnels aren't actually underground at all. Disney conquered the challenge Florida's swampy terrain provided, with yet another illusion: He built the utilidor at ground level and simply covered it with the park itself on the next.



It took retired Army Maj. Gen. William E. "Joe" Potter to solve that problem. He had spent 38 years in the Army Corps of Engineers and served as governor of the Panama Canal region.

He met Disney while helping build the New York World's Fair of 1964. Picture Right - General William Potter made Disney's dreams come true.

When Disney purchased about 25,000 acres of land in Florida in 1965, he asked Potter to help him. The former army official led construction of the 1967 project and oversaw bulldozers uprooting trees while he carried a gun to ward off snakes. He told Disney to keep his fountains running constantly to repel the mosquitos.

"One of his things that he learned from the Panama Canal, where people were dying of malaria, was [that] if you let water just sit there, you're going to have a problem," said Disney historian Christopher Lucas.

While Potter's diligence in turning snake and alligator-infested wetlands into pristinely organized grounds was itself an accomplishment, it was the tunnel system he devised for Disney that was truly ingenious.

Walt Disney's underground tunnel system beneath the Magic Kingdom took the combined genius of Disney and an Army Corps of Engineers veteran.



Potter first built Disney's tunnels, then constructed the rest of the park atop them. By adding an imperceptible incline leading onto the grounds, visitors wouldn't even realize they had climbed an extra 15 feet when they stepped into the Magic Kingdom, with the tunnels below.

The endeavour required workers to excavate seven million cubic yards of soil from the Seven Seas Lagoon to cover the Disney tunnels upon completion. So impressive was the utilidor that it must have been a shame to keep it a secret when the doors to the park finally opened on Oct. 1, 1971.

The Many Functions of Disney's Tunnels



With the Magic Kingdom fully operational, cast members were diligently instructed about the layout of and access to the Disney tunnels. While the entrances to this utilidor system aren't particularly hidden, they're relegated to key areas of the Magic Kingdom and exclusively used by employees

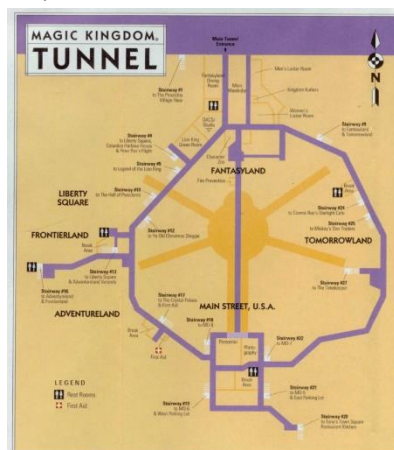
Picture Left - The utilidor covers nine acres and features a vacuum-assisted trash disposal system that does away with the need for garbage trucks.

It connects the park's themed lands in a circular route from Adventureland and Fantasyland to Liberty Square and Tomorrowland. At the center lies Main Street U.S.A., which leads to two offshoot tunnels that lead straight to Frontierland and Fantasyland.

Disney cast members, electricians, delivery people, and maintenance crews all travel the utilidor. It even has an Automated Vacuum-Assisted Collection garbage disposal system installed along the ceiling, doing away with the need for garbage trucks.

These pneumatic tubes whisk trash from the farthest reaches of the Magic Kingdom to a central processing station at 60 miles per hour. Any blockage in the system is solved by simply placing a rock in the AVAC to push whatever obstacle impeded the flow out of the way.

Picture Right - Nearly all seven themed lands are directly linked by the tunnels.



The utilidor is no basic set of tunnels, however. It includes the "Mouseketeria," where employees eat lunch, a "Kingdom Cutters" makeup and salon station, as well as locker rooms and a rehearsal space. The central operations room controlling the entire park's animatronics and lights is down there, too.

One could dub the Disney tunnels and their ingenious construction by Potter the beating heart of

operations at the Magic Kingdom. Transportation for cast members, garbage disposal, park operations, costume changes, lunch — it all happens there. Click on the link to watch a video about the tunnels. <https://youtu.be/zXyCB79gmKM>

The utilidor system went into use upon the park's 1971 opening and hasn't changed much in terms of function since then. For example, the park's "Character Zoo" housed 1.2 million of the Magic Kingdom's costumes in the tunnel system until 2005, when it was moved to an above-ground warehouse.



Picture Left - The utilidor is actually only underground because the park was built on top of it.

Nowadays, although the utilidor still functions as a way of keeping the Magic Kingdom's illusion alive, the theme park has pulled back the curtain for the curious. Guests who buy tickets for the "Keys to the Kingdom" tour are able to walk the tunnels themselves and witness Disney and Potter's underground vision

firsthand.

Meanwhile, for reasons that aren't entirely clear, the topic of child trafficking tends to be connected with the Disney tunnel system in some corners of the internet. Despite this interest — likely spurred by urban legends or general concern over human trafficking — there hasn't been a single case of the tunnels being connected to child trafficking or exploitation in any way.

Costume changes, haircuts, and lunch breaks all occur in the tunnels.

The real legacy of the Disney tunnels, and the Magic Kingdom itself, appears to be one of genuine care for the rose-tinted glasses with which children perceive the world. For the founder of this empire, nothing was more important than maintaining the illusion — whatever the cost.



Article taken from <https://allthatsinteresting.com>

New year, new changes.

Motorists across the country are facing several changes in 2024, and with new driving rules around safety and fuel, it is best to know about them ahead of time. Changes include the introduction of low-emission zones in Scotland, updates to DVLA (Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency) services, and possible changes to the driving test eyesight.

Car tax changes

Vehicle Excise Duty, sometimes also known as car tax, is set to rise on April 1, 2024. HM Revenue and Customs has previously confirmed the new VED charges will be based Retail Price Index inflation from the spring. How much motorists will pay will depend on how 'green' their vehicle is. The measures will affect motorists who drive a car, van, or motorcycle.

Low-emission zones

Three Scottish cities will see enforcement begin in 2024 in a bid to improve air quality. Under the rules, vehicles must meet certain emission standards or face a hefty penalty. In Aberdeen and Edinburgh, enforcement will kick off on June 1; in Dundee, it will be on May 30. Unlike England's Clean Air Zones where non-compliant vehicles pay a daily fee, Scotland's low emission zones prohibit non-compliant vehicles, and the fine is substantially more than a daily charge.

Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate (ZEV)

As of January 1, 2024, car manufacturers will need at least 22% of their car sales and 10% of their van sales to be fully electric. The UK government's planned ban on the sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles from 2030 has now been pushed back to 2035.

Eyesight Test Changes

The Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency is holding a consultation on possible changes to eyesight requirements for 2024. Currently, during the test, the driver must read a number plate from 20 metres to pass. The DVSA is currently consulting with a team of medical experts on how the procedure should look and asking drivers and experts for better ways to conduct the test.

Budget

The 2024 spring budget will take place on March 6, with drivers keeping a keen eye on what the Chancellor announces. There is expected to be an update on fuel duty. The 5p cut on the cost of fuel duty will run out at the end of March, and many drivers are calling on Chancellor Jeremy Hunt to extend the measures.

Policy and Standards Director Nick Lyes said,

"The new year will bring additional challenges for drivers and riders to be aware of. Most notably, motorists in Scotland heading into some cities must check their vehicle meets emission standards or they could face a hefty fine if their vehicle is non-compliant. All eyes turn to the Chancellor in March with the current 5p cut in duty possibly being re-added to the current 52.95p rate, which will increase costs for drivers at the pumps."

IAM RoadSmart responds to Government's MOT proposals

Responding to the Government's proposals to [maintain MOT testing frequency at its current level](#), IAM RoadSmart Director of Policy and Standards Nicholas Lyes said:

“An MOT gives drivers confidence their vehicle is conforming to minimum roadworthiness standards, and many see it as an essential technical health check. Well-maintained vehicles make our roads safer and reduce the chances of collisions caused by worn-out parts and more serious defects.

“We welcome the Government listening to drivers and prioritising both road safety and emissions as part of this package of announcements.”

Government release: <https://www.gov.uk/government/...>

Litter kills an estimated 3 million animals every year. 🐾



Discarded roadside rubbish and food attract wildlife to their death. Animals are attracted to discarded rubbish which brings the closer to the dangers of fast-moving traffic.



Food for thought.....Did you know that litter isn't just paper, plastic and glass?

Food and Food Packaging are dangerous to animals because.....

- they attract animals to the roadside, exposing them to traffic risks
- animals can choke or be poisoned by discarded food
- they can be trapped or injured by food packaging such as plastic bottles and metal cans

Litter not only poses a threat to animals, it looks unsightly, it puts our people at risk when they collect it and diverts time and money that's better spent on improving the road network.



Lend a paw Bin your litter



Save up to 33% on ferry crossings

DFDS has been voted the world's leading ferry company for the 13th year in a row, so why not experience this world-class customer service for yourself?

With multiple daily sailings from Dover to Calais and Dunkirk, plus a daily overnight service from Newcastle to Amsterdam, it's the hassle-free way to start your European holiday.

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[FIND YOUR POLICY](#)

SAGAM Social Night 27/02/2024

Guest Speaker Stuart Harrison from the Lincolnshire Blood Bikers

We had to move to a new venue as the Redbourne Club had been double booked. However, the new venue, The Heslam Rugby Club was perfect for the night. Although it was a smaller room, it looked full, with approximately the same number of members attending as have at previous social nights. I think in fact it was better because the microphone didn't need to be used and the room was more conducive to hearing what was said.

Anyway, the night was fabulous! Stuart told us all about how the service was formed in 1962 in an ordinary house in London. They started with just one bike with a credo box attached to keep the blood they were transporting cool. Now, they have progressed and have many groups all over the country with all riders and drivers having a DBS (Disclosure Barring Service) check before they can begin as a volunteer.



Formed in January 2012, Lincolnshire Emergency Blood Bikers Service (LEBBS) works across the whole of the Lincolnshire area and on occasions crosses over into other areas to meet up with other groups in order for samples or other items to be

exchanged and taken to a specific place or hospital.

In the critical moments when time is of the essence and medical professionals need vital supplies transported swiftly and securely, these unsung heroes spring into action. They are the silent saviours of our healthcare system, offering a lifeline that connects donors, hospitals and patients who are in need. LEBBS also provide an out-of-hours courier service transporting essential medical items such as blood, pathology & microbiology specimens, medical notes, pharmaceutical products, equipment and donor breast milk for babies, between hospitals and healthcare facilities.



They use several different types of vehicles including the recently acquired BMW F800 GT Frank W Motorbike which was named '**Frank W**' after one of their long-standing members. (see left) Also in use, is the Vauxhall Corsa BOB (Blood on Board) car (see right) This car is the one which 365 days a year, supplies Blood



and Plasma to the Lincs and Notts Air Ambulance from Lincoln County Hospital.

Stuart also told us about the Baby Blood Spot Testing which once the sample is taken, they transport it to Sheffield Childrens Hospital for testing. In the first moments of life, when a baby takes its very first breath and opens its eyes to the world, healthcare professionals perform an essential, yet often little-known, procedure that can have a profound impact on a child's future and plays a crucial role in safeguarding the health and well-being of infants worldwide. Baby blood spot testing, also known as newborn blood screening, neonatal screening, or heel prick testing (the latter of which we might be more familiar with), is a routine procedure performed within a few days of a baby's birth. A small blood sample is typically collected from a baby's heel, dried on a special filter paper, and sent to a laboratory for analysis. This test screens for a range of inherited and potentially life-threatening medical conditions, often before symptoms appear. The range of conditions that can be detected through baby blood spot testing is both diverse and extensive. The precise panel of conditions included in newborn screening can vary from one region or country to another, but it commonly includes: Metabolic Disorders such as phenylketonuria (PKU) or maple syrup

urine disease (MSUD). Endocrine Disorders such as Congenital Hypothyroidism and Hemoglobin Disorders such as Sickle Cell disease. Cystic Fibrosis is another test which the samples are screened for along with hearing loss in order to identify any hearing problems as early as possible.

To become a LEBBS rider, you must have had a full motorbike license for at least 2 years, be over 25, have no more than 6 points on your license and have an advanced qualification. Then you have to be registered with the LEBBS operational manager so you can begin volunteering. For the car drivers, you must be over 25, have a full driving license and be registered with the operational manager but you don't have to have the advanced qualification and for both bike and car, you are supplied with a vehicle so you don't have to use your own! If you do choose to become a volunteer, as well as being provided with a LEBBS polo shirt, a Hi-Viz vest will be provided for the duration of your shift. For the motorbike riders, all other clothing will be their own and although it's not stipulated, they are encouraged to wear an all-white helmet.

For me, the evening went very fast as it was so very interesting and before I knew it, it was time to leave but I'm sure everyone who was there enjoyed the night as much as I did.



Once the presentation was over, we saw Terry present two of our newer members who have recently passed their Advanced Driving Course with their certificates. Both Mike Day (left) and Kevin Hodgson (right)



both passed with a F1rst so very well done to them both and of course to their observers Paul Cassell and Chris Bilton respectively!



to

MIKE DAY

and

KEVIN HODGSON

IAM RoadSmart

Events, Celebrations and Special Days in March, April and May 2024

St. David's Day

1st Mar 2024

St. David is the patron saint of Wales, and celebrations include wearing daffodils and leeks, eating traditional Welsh food and wearing Welsh national costume.

World Wildlife Day

3rd Mar 2024

World Wildlife Day is an opportunity to celebrate the many beautiful and varied forms of wild fauna and flora and to raise awareness of the multitude of benefits that conservation provides to people.

International Women's Day

8th Mar 2024

A worldwide celebration of women's rights and celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

British Science Week

8th Mar to 17th Mar 2024

British Science Week is a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. The week aims to raise awareness, spark enthusiasm and celebrate science, engineering, technology and maths with people of all ages and from all walks of life

Mother's Day (UK)

10th Mar 2024

Also known as Mothering Sunday, this is the day where we show Mum just how much we love her in the UK. Mothering Sunday was traditionally the day when you returned to the "Mother Church" where you were baptized.

Red Nose Day

15th Mar 2024

The day when people across the land join forces to raise money for brilliant causes in the UK and around the world, by having a good laugh!

St. Patrick's Day

17th Mar 2024

Ireland's national day celebrates the Irish patron saint, Patrick. The day is celebrated all around the world with internationally famous parades, as well as by drinking Guinness and decorating everything in green.

Spring Equinox (Northern Hemisphere)

20th Mar 2024

Today is the first day of astronomical spring in the northern hemisphere (Spring or Vernal Equinox). From today the days will get longer.

Autumn Equinox (Southern Hemisphere)

20th Mar 2024

The first day of astronomical autumn in the southern hemisphere (Autumnal Equinox).

Good Friday

29th Mar 2024

A bank holiday in the UK, this Christian celebration commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary. Hot Cross Buns are traditionally eaten today.

Easter Day

31st Mar 2024

Easter is the Christian celebration of Christ's resurrection. It has been adopted across the world as a secular spring festival, celebrated by exchanging chocolate eggs and eating family meals and focusing on symbols such as eggs, rabbits and chicks.

British Summer Time Begins

31st Mar 2024

Daylight saving begins today, so remember that the clocks go forward 1 hour at 1am in the morning.

APRIL

April Fools' Day

1st Apr 2024

Celebrated all over the world as a morning of jokes and tricks. From national newspapers, websites and TV stations to school children, all sorts of people join in the fun. But don't play a trick after noon - or you are the fool!

Easter Monday

1st Apr 2024

Easter Monday, the day after Easter Day, is a Bank Holiday in the UK and is a national holiday in many countries around the world.

World Autism Awareness Day

2nd Apr 2024

Autism-friendly events and educational activities take place all through the month of April to increase understanding and acceptance and foster worldwide support.

Eid al-Fitr

9th Apr to 10th Apr 2024

A religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide that marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan. It is celebrated with prayer and different festivities and foods in different countries.

National Pet Day

11th Apr 2024

National Pet Day was created to celebrate the joy pets bring to our lives and to create public awareness about the plight of many different kinds of animals awaiting a forever home in shelters and rescues all around the globe.

Passover

22nd Apr to 30th Apr 2024

Passover, or Pesach is the major Jewish spring festival which commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from Egyptian slavery, lasting seven or eight days. It is also known as Chag HaMatzot, the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

National Shakespeare Day

23rd Apr 2024

23rd April was both Shakespeare's birthday and date of his death. Celebrations are held in his home town of Stratford-upon-Avon and around the UK.

St. George's Day

23rd Apr 2024

The annual celebration of England's patron saint is not a national holiday in England, however it is celebrated by flying the English flag and by taking part in traditional English activities such as morris dancing.

International Jazz Day

30th Apr 2024

International Jazz Day brings together communities, schools, artists, historians, academics, and jazz enthusiasts all over the world to celebrate and learn about jazz and its roots, future and impact.

MAY

May Day

1st May 2024

May Day is an ancient pagan spring festival, traditionally celebrated across Europe with maypole dancing and the crowning with a floral crown of a May Queen.

Star Wars Day

4th May 2024

A pun on the date 4th May inspired the phrase 'May the fourth be with you'. So, this day is now known as Star Wars Day, so fans have the perfect excuse to watch their favourite film or spin-off TV series today.

May Day Bank Holiday

6th May 2024

Held on the Monday closest to May Day, this day is a Bank Holiday in the UK and Ireland.

Eurovision Song Contest

7th May to 11th May 2024

Eurovision is an annual international celebration of music. The 68th Eurovision Song Contest will be held in Malmo, Sweden. It is the 7th time that Sweden has hosted the contest.

May Half Term

27th May to 31st May 2024

Schools break up for a week, but do check with your school for individual date variations.

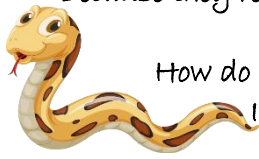
Late Spring Bank Holiday

27th May 2024

The late spring Bank Holiday, held on the last Monday in May, was originally known as Whit Monday. The Whitsun weekend was traditionally a time for fairs, Morris dancing and parades with brass bands.

Laughter is still the best medicine.....

Why should you never trust your stairs?
Because they're always up to something!



How do you measure a snake?
In inches because they don't have feet!!

What does a house wear?
Address!!!



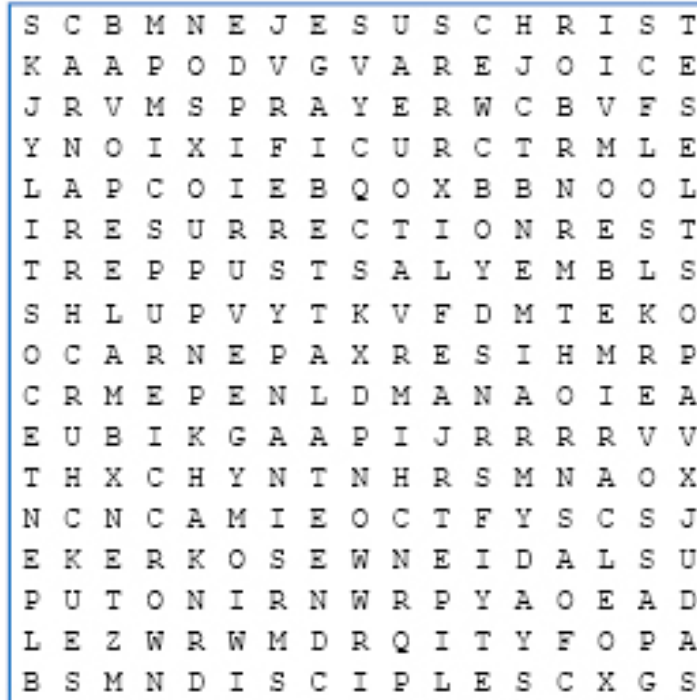
Name: _____ Date: _____



Easter Story

WORD SEARCH

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| APOSTLES | JESUS CHRIST | PRAYER |
| BETRAYAL | JUDAS | REDEMPTION |
| CAVE | LAMB | REJOICE |
| CHURCH | LAST SUPPER | RESURRECTION |
| CROSS | LENT | RISEN |
| CROWN | MARY | SAVIOR |
| CRUCIFIXION | MIRACLE | SON |
| DISCIPLES | PASSOVER | THORNS |
| FAITH | PENANCE | TOMB |
| GOOD FRIDAY | PENTECOST | |



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We Got Mail!

We Got Mail!

You can email, tweet or post a letter to the following addresses; Terry Heath, 48, Vicarage Ave, Wrawby, Brigg, North Lincs. DN20 8RY Email: terryheath@sky.com Twitter: @ANDGRIMSBY



20% Discount on Advanced Driver & Rider courses with:
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As a current member of any of the above groups, you will receive a 20% discount when you sign up to an Advanced Driver or Rider Course in Lincolnshire.

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A.R. Course, Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists: Tel: 01427 616864 or lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk

A.D. Course, Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists Tel: 01652 655601 or terryheath@sky.com

What am I?

Tool of thief, toy of queen. Always used to be unseen. Sign of joy, sign of sorrow. Giving all likeness borrowed. What am I?

December Answer; A Tooth

Who said car names don't have a meaning?.....

AUDI :

An unwanted debt invitation.

BMW:

Big Money Waste.

FIAT:

Failure in Italian Automotive Technology.

FORD:

For Only Rough Drivers

Many thanks to Terry Heath for supplying the above.

And last but not least.....don't forget to look us up on the links below



Group Website

<https://www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/scunthorpeandgrimsby>



SAGAM can be found on Facebook at: [@SGAMG1](https://www.facebook.com/SGAMG1)



You can Follow us on Twitter [@ANDGRIMSBY](https://twitter.com/ANDGRIMSBY)

