



NOTTINGHAM ADVANCED DRIVERS

Summer 2017 Newsletter

Welcome to the second Nottingham Advanced Drivers Newsletter of 2017. Summer has arrived although you might not notice due to the amount of rain! Please enjoy the newsletter and give us your feedback.

In this Newsletter:

- Welcome
- NAD Ideas Meeting Feedback
- Nottingham Motor Show
- Your help needed
- Diesel—Good or Bad
- News and Tips from the IAM

We need Your Event Suggestions?

We are still looking for suggestions from NAD Group members? This could be a Skills Check Day, attendance at a local event, a visit or a treasure hunt. We are keen to arrange something but need to hear your ideas, and if this kind of event would interest you. Please get in touch with me. Mike Swift at mjd.swift@gmail.com

Nottingham Advanced Drivers – IDEAS MEETING REPORT: 3rd June 2017

Ivan Bilyk – Chair Nottingham Advanced Drivers

Find us on facebook: IAM Roadsmart Nottingham

******* Please “Like + share our page.” *******

The purpose of the Ideas Meeting was to trawl through some of our members experiences with a view to attract new members into the group. What we need are a few fresh ideas and we thought the best way to find them was to hold an informal get together of as many people as possible.

The meeting was well attended by 18 people who kindly gave up their time (no doubt drawn in by the promise of a free buffet!) which was very much appreciated and the whole event went well.

After a safety update presentation by Mike Swift, which included items such as driving law looking specifically at drink driving; mobile phone use whilst driving; Smart motorways; vehicle road tax changes and as if that wasn't enough Mike went on to give an interesting insight into improved car technology and automated systems!

Colin Davenport gave us an update regarding the RoadSmart Spring Drive Forum which we both attended on the 1st April '17 which included items on the IAM rebranding (we are now iAM RoadSmart, with a new logo and things), which was presented by our new Regional Service Manager Peter Serhatlic. Pete explained that this is “the year of the Observer” and outlined a program of events to be rolled out over the year, including an event for Observers at Silverstone on Saturday 5th August '17. Colin went on to explain that group “sign off” is an idea the IAM are currently trialling with few groups. The idea is that an Associate will be trained in the usual manner but rather than taking a test, they can be assessed by group officials and “passed or failed” as appropriate. There are no conclusions yet but we will keep you informed when we have more news.

The discussion about recruitment and ideas in general began after lunch with some really good thoughts put forward. Here are a few of them: Car dealership promotional events; IAM flyers at service/parts desks; a presence at local car shows and so on, and many more. We will endeavour to work our way through them over the next few months to find out the best way forward.

In May this year we achieved an outstanding result by presenting 8 observers for the National Observer (N.O.) test, all of whom passed, making a grand total of 13. There are 3 Local Observers who will require assessment, as It is a requirement from IAM RoadSmart that *all* observers qualify to National Observer or Local Observer by the end of 2017!

We are about to commence training with a new Observer with his eye on becoming a National Observer. Good luck with your training.

If any of you wish to become more involved with the group, then please let us know or simply turn up at the next get together.

That's all for now, please drive carefully and visit our Facebook page and share/like please.

NOTTINGHAM MOTOR SHOW 2018?

Did you go to this years motor show?

Are you interested in attending next years Nottingham Motor Show?

Would you go as part of a team to promote Advanced Driving for the group?

I have not run this past the committee yet, but I am the newsletter editor so I thought I would ask the question. I want to know if anyone is willing to help for half a day, one day or both days chatting about motoring to interested visitors. I have done this a few times in the past and have some kit which could be used to set-up a stand (and a gazebo).

You don't have to be a committee member or an observer to take part. It is open to all group members to take an active role. There might be a bit of setting up and taking down of the kit, but the main objective is to have an enjoyable time and hopefully gain a few associates as well as promote Advanced Driving to the public.

If I can get a team together, I will ask the committee for a budget and set up some interesting subjects that we can talk to prospective advanced drivers about. We can get a number of flyers from head office to hand out with contact details of Nottingham Advanced Motorists.

Get in contact if you are interested mjd.swift@gmail.com



Diesel is a bad word according to some sources

.....and we should all be using pedal bikes, but I have a slightly different view! It is true diesel is not the cleanest fuel around, and once burned the exhaust gas needs to be chemically altered to reduce damage to both the environment and people.

The issue I have is that the latest (euro 6 emission) diesel vehicles are nearly as clean as the equivalent petrol driven vehicle, in fact better on carbon dioxide when the engine is working at normal road speed (when cold or sitting in traffic, neither petrol or diesel is good at cleaning the exhaust gas, in fact when you first start either petrol or diesel, you may as well be driving a 1970 Cortina).

At the moment I believe fully electricity driven cars are the way forward but the technology is not currently advanced enough to provide a straight swap. The best fully electric vehicles just coming onto the market will give a range of around 330 miles (about half of my diesel engine vehicle) but are very expensive and take a long time to recharge. By 2040 when diesel and petrol should be history (according to the government) I expect the range, charging times and infrastructure to be much better.

I think Hybrids are currently the best option. These generally use electricity until the battery gets low then supplement the power required via an efficient diesel, petrol or gas engine. If you charge them at home and only complete short runs they have zero engine emissions whilst driving (even better if you have solar panels on the roof).

Did you know advanced driving can help dramatically reduce emissions? Good forward observation means you can back off the power early to save fuel. You can also keep a more constant speed through bends which also saves fuel and smooth your driving style meaning less braking which not only reduces the amount of power to get back to speed but also reduces brake dust. All these achieve reduced exhaust emissions so be happy you are doing your bit to save the planet and the human race!

Finally, some good news (for me at least). Last month I had a demonstration ride in a Tesla. The one I was in weighed around 2 tonnes, it had two electric motors driving all four wheels when required. Oh my goodness, what a car. The acceleration was enormous 0—60 in around 3 seconds (with no gear changes) and whisper quite, not even any wheel spinning. Everything is computer controlled and the dashboard is basically a touch screen computer monitor. The driver told me the range on this vehicle was around 200 miles if driven smoothly, but every time you put your foot down the range drops! It was that quick I was thinking about the amount of drivers who would be caught out with the approach speed of this machine.

I would love one of these, just get the range to about 500 miles, cut the price in half and make it sound like a V8 Ferrari. I will even cover the house roof with solar panels. Mike Swift



Your Help is still Needed.....

The success of our training courses is based on the skill and hard work of our volunteer Observers. All IAM Roadsmart Observers have recently received additional training to ensure they all meet the new and more rigorous IAM Roadsmart standards. To acknowledge the additional work and commitment to achieve this high level of training the committee agreed to pay the Group annual membership fee (£10) for all active Observers.

We are also looking for some help to run the short classroom sessions for associates, this will only require two or three evenings per year and we will supply all material, training and assistance. We never leave our colleagues on their own to run a session unless they are confident, competent and happy to run the session. Please get in touch with Ivan at ivanbilyk@hotmail.com or Colin at colin.davenport@ntlworld.com

NEWS FROM IAM HEAD OFFICE

IAM RoadSmart's full 12 point manifesto is as follows:

- IAM RoadSmart believes partnership is the best way to get our accident figures heading downwards again. With widespread support the 'Road Safety Industry Consortium' can help reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads
- IAM RoadSmart believes driver distraction is now a top priority safety issue. We want legislators, car makers, social media and smartphone companies to work with road users on practical solutions
- IAM RoadSmart supports more research on the transition to driverless cars and on the education and training challenges their introduction will bring
- AM RoadSmart supports raising the licence renewal age to 75 with a compulsory eye test. Family doctors should be encouraged to 'prescribe' driving reviews for older drivers
- IAM RoadSmart believes road safety at work is a critical health and safety issue that requires higher priority at the Health and Safety Executive and should be at the core of good corporate governance for every employer
- IAM RoadSmart wants Defra to implement cross-government procurement rules which accelerates the uptake of safe new vehicles with features such as autonomous braking. Public and private sector companies should only issue contracts to firms with driver risk management policies in place
- IAM RoadSmart will promote motorcycling as a safe mode of transport that can help solve congestion and pollution problems
- IAM RoadSmart knows that experience is the key to a safe driving career and supports a 12 month minimum learning period for new drivers
- IAM RoadSmart is convinced that a reduction in the drink-drive limit in England and Wales will save lives
- IAM RoadSmart encourages all highway authorities to aim towards a minimum 'three star' risk rating on their 'A' roads
- IAM RoadSmart wants local councils and central government to protect long-term funding that will eradicate the road maintenance backlog

Causality figures plateau says the IAM

Whilst the UK has seen massive reductions in the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads over the decades, that figure has plateaued at just over 1,700 in recent years (reported road fatalities were 1,732 in 2015, 1775 in 2014 and 1713 in 2013. Reported serious injuries were 22,137 in 2015, 22,801 in 2014 and 21,657 in 2013).

IAM's view on speed cameras

- IAM RoadSmart supports the use of safety camera systems at collision hot spots, on roads with a bad crash record and at areas of proven risk, such as motorway road works
- Speed cameras should remain highly visible to provide a deterrent to drivers
- IAM RoadSmart has no objection to the inclusion of speed camera information on sat navs and other databases

Road Rage: Tips from IAM RoadSmart

Summer is here in all its glory and with its arrival also comes the arrival of pressure cooker driving conditions. Many drivers will be taking to the road stressed by holiday deadlines, long traffic queues, overheated cars and hot tempered drivers.

Be considerate. You are not the only driver on the road. Swallow your pride and continue with your journey rather than getting caught up in an argument. If you are at fault admit it and apologise.

Call the police. If you do not feel safe and feel the situation is getting beyond your control, lock your doors and get in contact with the police or drive to a busy location. Stay calm. Most incidents on the roads can leave you shaken, especially after a road rage situation. Before continuing your journey, why don't you try looking for a quiet space to stop where you can breathe deeply and recollect yourself

Don't react. If you see someone acting in an intimidating or aggressive manner, don't make eye contact or behave in a manner that could aggravate the situation further. Resist the urge to retaliate as you can never predict how the other driver or rider will respond

Avoid it. Avoid tailgating and responding to rude gestures and remarks. Acknowledging your mistake with a cheery wave will often defuse a situation immediately

Richard said: "In the UK we have some of the busiest and most congested roads in Europe, so delays and frustration are inevitable as we head off on our holidays or simply try to get on with our daily journeys.

Give yourself extra time to catch flights, ferries or trains and always check before you set off for the latest traffic information. The worst delays on our main roads are caused by breakdowns, incidents and accidents. Make sure that you and your vehicle are prepared for anything that might happen out there.

Keep calm and motor on!"

IAM RoadSmart Policy on Smart Motorways

- IAM RoadSmart support smart motorways as Highways England studies show most drivers like them and they reduce congestion without jeopardising safety
- Most breakdowns and incidents on motorways are avoidable and the IAM will work closely with the Highways Agency to improve driver behaviour on our motorway network
- Intensive education campaigns are needed to explain the new road designs to drivers who often only use motorways on an occasional basis
- Compliance with lane control signals is key to the success of smart motorways and IAM RoadSmart support enforcement of Red X signs providing it is done consistently across the network
- IAM RoadSmart would like to work with Highways England to provide retraining and re-education options for drivers failing to comply with motorway regulations. IAM RoadSmart's own motorway module would be an excellent starting point
- The government should continue to have a long term plan to widen the most congested sections of the motorway network
- IAM RoadSmart's advice for driving on a managed motorway is: keep to the speed limit displayed, obey Red X signs, don't change lanes; don't join a motorway if your fuel is low or car faulty, if you believe your car is in trouble try to get into an emergency refuge where you will be safe, if you break down in a running lane wait for help in the car.

Nottingham Advanced Driver Group Information

As a local IAM affiliated group we provide all the mentoring and guidance you'll need as you develop your advanced skills with our team of friendly and skilled Observers. Each group provides this support in a number of different ways so please get in touch to find out more about the mentoring you will receive from us.

Group Contact Details:

Colin Davenport and David Crooks are on the Group website with more information about our training courses and other useful information. www.nottsiam.org.uk

National Contact Details:

Details of the national IAM Roadsmart and the range of training courses available nationally can be found at <https://www.iamroadsmart.com>