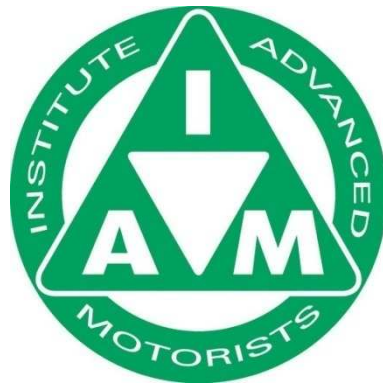
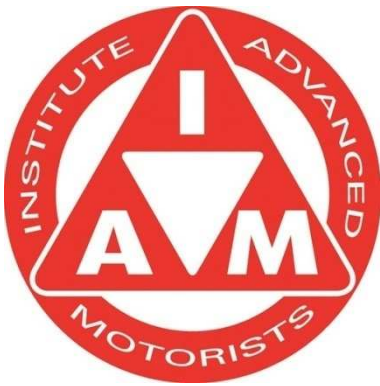


Warrington Group of Advanced Motorists



July 2010
Newsletter

WARRINGTON GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS

IAM Group Number 5075

Registered Charity Number 1048554

Website: www.warrington-advanced-motorists.org.uk

Email: contact@warrington-advanced-motorists.org.uk

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Vice Presidents Paul Griffiths & Christian Givvons

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DISCLAIMER - The contents of this newsletter are purely the opinions of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists or the Warrington Group.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



This month I'm going to set you folks a couple of logic puzzles, and as always the solutions are shown later in the newsletter.

The man with the hat:

There are four men standing in front of a firing-squad. Two of them (number 1 & 3) wear a black hat and two of them (number 2 & 4) wear a white hat. They are all facing the same direction and between number 3 and number 4 is a brick wall. This means that number 1 can see numbers 2 & 3; number 2 can see number 3; number 3 can only see the wall and number 4 doesn't see a thing. The men know that there are two white and two black hats amongst them.

The commander of the firing-squad is willing to let the men go if one of them can say what colour hat he is wearing. The men are not allowed to talk. The only thing they may say is "I'm wearing a white/black hat". If one of the men can say which hat he is wearing all men will be free. Which man knows 100% sure what colour hat he's wearing?

Farmer's problem:

A farmer is standing on one side of the river and with him are a wolf, a goat and a box with cabbages. In the river there is a small boat. The farmer wants to cross the river with all the three items that are with him. There are no bridges and in the boat there is only room for the farmer and one item. If he leaves the goat with the cabbages alone on one side of the river the goat will eat the cabbages. If he leaves the wolf and the goat on one side the wolf will eat the goat. Only the farmer can separate the wolf from the goat and the goat from the cabbage.

How can the farmer cross the river with all three items, without one eating the other?

Andrew Bloomer



THANK YOU

I joined the Group on 31st January during that very snowy, cold weather. I would like to say how much I enjoyed all the observed runs and send a heartfelt "Thank You" to the Group for helping me achieve membership status on 22nd May. Happy motoring!

Judith Hannan

AUGUST'S NEWSLETTER

Please note that, due to the holidays, there will be no newsletter in August.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME

Hi there,

Welcome to new members Alison Boyle and David Phillips to the motorcycle section. Good luck and, should you have any problems or queries, please ask and we will endeavour to resolve them.

Congratulations to Judith Hannon and Elerie Walker on passing the car test and to Robert Gregory on passing the motorcycle test.

When you pass the test and receive your membership information from Chiswick, please let me know so that the membership records can be updated with your IAM membership number and expiry date.

Ian Bell



Hi folks,

I am pleased to welcome David Phillips and Colin Howel to the group. David rides a Harley Davidson 1250 and Colin rides a Buell M2 Cyclone.

I am also pleased to announce that Robert Gregory passed his advanced motorcycle test - well done Rob!

Gordon Blackshaw

SEPTEMBER'S NEWSLETTER

Contributions to September's newsletter are more than welcome. Please send them to:

newsletter@warrington-advanced-motorists.org.uk
or pass them to any committee member.



The deadline for September's newsletter is 22nd August 2010.

DRIVING RE-ASSESSMENTS

Don't forget that holders of the Advanced Driving Certificate can have their driving analysed and brought up to date with one of our Observers. There is no fee and the result cannot affect your IAM status. Come down one Sunday morning - prior notice would be helpful to us. We can also do mid-week runs by arrangement.

DRIVER OF THE YEAR

As most of you know, every year we run a "Driver of the Year" competition whereby any member of the Group who has passed their car advanced test can enter and their driving is assessed by an Examiner who will decide who the best driver was and the winner is awarded his/her prize at the AGM in October.



This year, I'm delighted to announce that we've arranged for our Staff Examiner, Chris Givons to judge this years' competition. Chris will meet contestants at the Black Swan PH, Hollins Green, where he'll observe a 40 minute run over a route of his choosing and then give a detailed debrief at the end. This is an excellent and unique opportunity for you to have your driving assessed by our Staff Examiner and to pick up pointers on how you can improve your driving.

For those of you who want to take part, can you let either me or Roy Nelson know (contact details on the second page of this newsletter)? Closing date for this year's competition will be the end of July, and the actual competition will run during August and September.

Andrew Bloomer

NEW LIMIT MUST NOT DILUTE POLICE ENFORCEMENT OF DRINK DRIVING, SAYS IAM

The IAM, the UK's largest independent road safety charity, has welcomed the proposal of a new lower drink drive limit, but stresses that enforcement will be the key factor that determines its success.

Commenting on the findings of the North Report, IAM Director of Policy and Research Neil Greig said: "Authorities should be aware that, should it pass into law, a new limit will make little difference to casualty figures without proper enforcement. Already stretched front line police may end up pursuing lower risk drivers, leaving less time to catch those who blatantly ignore any limit."



Mr Greig continued: "A lower limit will hopefully make many more drivers think twice about taking any drink at all before getting behind the wheel. Drivers will also be more likely to get caught the morning after, but only if sufficient police are out there enforcing the law."

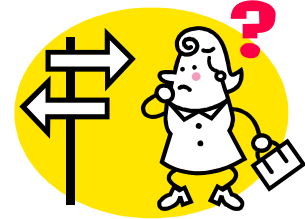
"Many repeat offenders think they're invincible, and ultimately it is fear of being caught that will eradicate drink driving rather than stronger penalties."

TRAINING NOTES: NAVIGATION

I remind all observers of the need to keep me informed of Associates' progress, so that I may properly advise Mike & Andy on Sunday mornings. This is to ensure that Associate assignments are appropriate to their level of experience. Thank you!

Some concern has been expressed that an undue delay has been occurring before Associate drives set off on a Sunday morning. Obviously, Associates' questions need to be addressed, but I urge Observers to get underway promptly and address queries etc. more en route.

Navigation



I quote from the Driving Standards Agency:

"Independent driving will become part of the practical driving test in Great Britain in October 2010. It's tasking the candidate to drive for about 10 minutes, either following a series of directions, following traffic signs, or a combination of both. To help the candidate be clear about where they're going, the examiner can show them a diagram too. It doesn't matter if candidates don't remember every direction, or if they go the wrong way - that can happen to the most experienced drivers."

It would seem appropriate that Observers take this on board on observed runs. Whilst the 2nd sentence is not entirely clear (to me, at any rate!), I would think it entirely appropriate for Observers to task Associates to navigate themselves to an appropriate point in an observed run, rather than simply "take the next left, right etc" which tends to hamper anticipation.

At an appropriate point when your Associate has settled, I suggest something along the lines of "at the next roundabout take the A49S and then head for Liverpool until I ask you to change"; or you could try "head out of Warrington on the A49N to Ashton".

This requires an Associate to take in a lot of information, commonly on the road itself and plan his/her approach to the various junctions (the latter example could be quite exciting!).

Roy Nelson

EMPTY JARS.....PLEASE



I would love to have your empty jars (jam, pickle, mustard, apple sauce, mint sauce etc.) Please don't throw them in the bin - bring them down to the caravan on a Sunday morning. I make chutney and jam (I'm also going to try my hand at rose-hip and apple jelly - in September). The profits are going to St Luke's Church in Widnes.

Carol



DIESEL AND LIQUID SPILLS



SOME OF THE SLIPPERIEST SURFACES YOU WILL ENCOUNTER ARE THOSE WHERE A LIQUID HAS LEAKED OR SPILT ONTO THE GROUND...



A LOT OF TIMES THE LIQUID SPILLS FROM AN OVERFLOW OR BECAUSE THE DRIVER HASN'T PUT THE FILLER CAP BACK ON...THE FUEL THEN TENDS TO BE SPILT IN BENDS...



IN THE VET, THE RAINBOW EFFECT IS EASY TO SPOT AND YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SHELL IT TOO, ON DRY ROADS AND AT NIGHT, IT'S A LOT HARDER TO SEE. THEREFORE TRY TO AVOID ANY LIQUID YOU NOTICE ON THE ROAD SURFACE...



DIESEL IS OFTEN LEAKED BY COMMERCIAL VEHICLES, SO WATCH OUT NEAR INDUSTRIAL ESTATES AND BUS DEPOTS, ON BUSY LORRY ROUTES AND NEAR FILLING STATIONS IN GENERAL...TRACTORS CAN ALSO LEAK DIESEL ON COUNTRY ROADS...

NORMAL PETROL IS JUST AS SLIPPERY AS DIESEL, BUT EVAPORATES FASTER...

OKAY, DON'T PANIC, BE GENTLE WITH THE BRAKES AND THROTTLE AND CROSS THE LIQUID UPRIGHT...



GREAT! AND DON'T FORGET: IF YOU SEE A SPILL ON ONE BEND...



IT'LL PROBABLY BE ON THE NEXT BEND AS WELL...



GIGGLES: MANAGEMENT SPEAK EXPLAINED

Management Speak	Translation
That's very interesting	I disagree
I don't totally disagree with you	You may be right, but I don't care
You have to show some flexibility	You have to do it whether you want to or not
We have an opportunity	You have a problem
You obviously put a lot of work into this	This is awful
In a perfect world	Just get it working and get it out the door
Help me to understand	I don't know what you're talking about and I don't think you do either
You need to see the big picture	My boss thinks it's a good idea
We're going to follow a strict methodology here	We're going to do it my way
I didn't understand the email you said you sent. Can you give me a quick summary?	I still can't figure out how to start the email programme
Cost of ownership has become a significant issue in desktop computing	We want all of the benefits and none of the costs
We have to leverage our resources	You're working weekends
Individual contributor	Employee who does real work
Your project is on hold	We've put a bullet in it
You needed to be more proactive	You should have protected me from myself
I'd like your buy-in on this	I want someone else to blame when this thing bombs
We want you to be the executive champion of this project	I want to be able to blame you for my mistakes
We need to syndicate this decision	We need to spread the blame if it backfires
We have to put out marketing hats on	We have to put ethics aside
It's not possible. It's impractical. It won't work	I don't know how to do it
It's a no-brainer	It's a perfect decision for me to handle
I'm glad you asked me that	Public relations has written a carefully phrased answer
I see you involved your peers in developing your proposal	One person couldn't possibly come up with something this stupid
Our business is going through a paradigm shift	We have no idea what we've been doing, but in the future we shall do something completely different
Value-added	Expensive
The upcoming reductions will benefit the vast majority of employees	The upcoming reductions will benefit me

NORTH WEST DISABILITY AWARENESS DAY

The group will be attending the above event again this year and will be looking for volunteers to talk to the general public about the group, and how to prepare for and take the advanced driving test.

There will be time to look round the event since there will be plenty to see e.g. dance groups, acrobatic displays and bands in the main arena (not all at same time!); over 250 exhibitors; a sports zone, family entertainment and an arts marquee; side shows of new cars and motorcycles, road safety displays, police ambulance and fire brigade exhibitions. Wire FM and Warrington Radio will be broadcasting from the event.

When and where? **Sunday 11th July 2010, 10:00 - 17:50hrs**

Walton Hall Gardens, Walton (off A56), Warrington



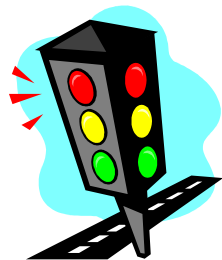
There is a free park and ride bus service to the event from various points in Warrington - please check in Warrington Guardian and Warrington World for further details.

Any volunteers would be more than welcome to help us with this event. Names with times (just an hour or so will be o.k.) please to me or any committee member. NB Observers will still be needed on Sunday morning at ALDI/Iceland.

Peter Marsland

DRIVERS 'UNCLEAR ABOUT TRAFFIC LIGHT SEQUENCES

British motorists are placing their fellow road users at risk by failing to know the correct sequence for traffic lights, a new report has warned. Research conducted by Autoquake.com found less than half (48 per cent) of those quizzed for a recent survey correctly said red was the colour of light that follows amber.



However, 39 per cent believed it to be green and the used car website's chief executive officer Dermot Halpin said: "We're surprised that so few drivers remember the traffic light sequence correctly."

A poll of 1,000 drivers was conducted by the company, which has warned motorists they must stop at an amber light unless doing so is unsafe, as they could harm pedestrians if they fail to obey signals correctly.

The highest proportion of people getting the sequence right was in the East Midlands (64 per cent) and the lowest in Wales (40 per cent).

Source: The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport, 28th May 2010.

FORMER PRESIDENT ALAN DOMVILLE CONTINUES HIS SERIES OF RECOLLECTIONS FROM 50 YEARS AS A MOTORING WRITER.....

I had arrived at the hotel which was to be my base for test driving a new car in Memphis, Tennessee and was just settling down for a quiet hour before the press conference. I switched on the television set which happened to be tuned to a local channel.



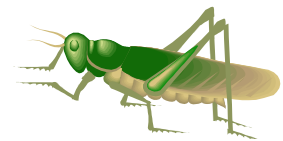
Simultaneously a small clock on top of the TV set started to slide slowly towards the left, came off and hit the floor. Then the room began to shake too - and with quite brilliant calmness, the announcer on the screen simply said "OK, you know what's happening, we have a reading of 4.5 (or some such number) on the Richter scale, stay where you are and there is no need to panic. If you are near a window and can open it shout to any passers-by to go to the middle of the street, away from the buildings." It was my first earthquake and, while it was minor compared with that in Haiti some months ago, it claimed a dozen lives and caused a trail of damage in the area.

Natural disasters seem to have followed me around over my years of test driving cars. On another trip to the southern United States I was flying westwards to Los Angeles when the pilot of the plane declared there was a tornado straight ahead and he would be diverting off-route and over Oklahoma.

Soon afterwards we could see the menacing, swirling dust storm high in the sky. Twenty minutes later he came on again. "Doggone it" he said "the twister won't go away so we are now heading towards Texas." Thankfully we eventually managed to fly clear.

Some years later in San Francisco, I had just driven across the Oakland Bridge when the structure suddenly collapsed - my second earthquake! And it was in California that I witnessed, thankfully from a distance, one of those terrifying fires that sweep through the state's forestation, destroying homes by the thousand.

For sheer personal terror, however, nothing could beat the plague of locusts that swept across part of the Sahara Desert where I was test driving a new Renault. "For they covered the face of the whole land so that it was darkened and they ate all the plants and all the fruit of the trees; not a green thing remained." With such words does Exodus tell us of one of the plagues visited on the Egyptians - but I never realised until this experience the devastation these flying creatures can cause when they set their minds to it.



In seconds my windscreen was completely blackened as the insects hit it at speed. One simply had to stop as quickly as possible and sit tight for almost an hour until the plague had passed over. Then we saw how all the vegetation had been mercilessly stripped. For Pharaoh there was even worse to come - for me, happily, a decent hotel room somewhere in the Atlas mountains.

IAM DRIVER SKILLS DAY: TEESIDE AUTOPARK

A driver skills day has been organised for Friday 3rd September at Teesside Autopark, Middlesborough.



Registration for the morning session will be between 8am and 8:30 am for a briefing session at 8:30 am. Driving will be from 9am to 12:30pm with one 30 minute break. The afternoon session will register between 1pm and 1:30 pm for briefing at 1:30 pm. Driving will be from 2:00 pm until 5:30 pm with a 30 minute break. The cost of the sessions, morning or afternoon, is £95.

IAM skills days are planned to attract drivers who wish to improve their road skills. The venue has been carefully chosen, not because it is a race circuit, but because it offers us a very controlled environment away from the usual two-way traffic, junctions, pedestrians and street furniture. There will be no racing, pace making or timing of any kind and only road legal cars will be allowed. Consequently, if you are looking to improve your road skills you will benefit from this type of training.

Should you decide to take part in the skills day, you can book and pay on-line by logging into the IAM website www.iam.org.uk and click onto car driver then onto car events diary. Entry is available to IAM members - full, associate and non-members.

FACEBOOK



You can now find us on Facebook - just look up Warrington Advanced Motorists.

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER: SOLUTIONS

The man with the hat:

Number 1 sees a white and a black hat in front of him. He cannot tell what hat he is wearing, so he keeps his mouth shut. If number 1 saw two black hats, he would know that he was wearing a white hat. Because number 1 does not say anything, number 2 knows that number 1 must see a black and a white hat. Number 2 sees a black hat and therefore he knows that he himself wears a white hat, or vice versa.



Farmer's problem:

First the farmer takes the goat across the river. He goes back to pick up the wolf. When he is across he leaves the wolf and takes back the goat. Back on the other side he leaves the goat and takes the cabbages with him. Then he picks up the goat and all three items are on the other side.

MID-WEEK OBSERVED RUNS

Don't forget - mid week observed runs can be organised on request. For more information, or to organise a mid-week run, please contact Roy Nelson (contact details on the second page of this newsletter).

NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL

It costs the group over £90 a month to print and send out the newsletters, not to mention the paper used each month for this task. To help minimise this cost, why not have the newsletter sent to you by email? It's easy to set up - just send an email to:
peter.fawcett@warrington-advanced-motorists.org.uk



Please include in your name and address in the email to help with the administration side of things. No more waiting for the postman - do it today.

ROADCRAFT DVDS

The group has six copies of the Roadcraft DVD available for use by associates and observers. A refundable deposit of £10.00 each is required. Please contact Carlo (contact details on the second page of this newsletter) if you would like to borrow one.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sundays at 10:15am 4 th , 11 th , 18 th , 25 th July 4 th , 11 th , 18 th , 25 th , 31 st Aug.	Observed Runs (car) Refresher Runs (car)	Near the ALDI car park, Crossfield Street, Warrington, WA1 1UP
On arrangement with your observer	Observed Runs (bikes) Refresher Runs (bikes)	On arrangement with your observer
Sunday 25 th July 10:00 Sunday 29 th August 10:00	Biker's end of month run	Poplar 2000 Services, Lymm
Every Thursday at 19:00 (weather permitting)	Chippy Run (bikes)	Poplar 2000 Services, Lymm
Sunday 11 th July 10:00-17:50	Disability Awareness Day	Walton Hall (off A54)
Saturday 7 th August 10:00- 15:00	Road safety event - see Peter Marsland for further details	Warrington Fire Station, Winwick Road, Warrington

Further details of all of these events can be found on our website:
www.warrington-advanced-motorists.org.uk or by asking any committee member.

FINISHED READING? PASS IT ON....



Personal recommendations from members are one of the main ways we recruit new associates, so please feel free to pass on this newsletter.