

KENDAL & SOUTH LAKES

Advanced Motorists

Information Bulletin No 2

Welcome to our 2nd information sheet,

For those of you that receive this by post please consider letting us have an e-mail contact if you have one, it will be a lot cheaper / quicker to forward information to you

Please note that all contact details on hand will **only** be used for group matters and **will not** be passed on to anyone else.

Future Drive Dates

May 25th,

June 8th, 22nd,

July 6th, 20th

August 3rd, 17th

All these sessions will continue to meet at Castle Park School Sedbergh Drive Kendal LA9 6BJ. At 9:30am or 10:30am (candidates will be advised on times when arrangements are made)

All our observers give up their time voluntarily; therefore it is essential that any Pre-booked drives are attended on time.

Depending on the availability of observers it may well be possible to arrange other days or times that may be more suitable to candidates and observers, however the initial meet will continue to be on the dates mentioned.

Group News

We warmly welcome Terry Simpkin to the group, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of treasurer & membership secretary,

Terry can be contacted on **015242 71276** or terry.simpkin@btopenworld.com

A meet the examiner evening was held, mainly for new associates and observers to get to know Paul Derham who carries out the majority of our tests. The evening proved successful and several tips were picked up.

Hopefully we can do another evening on a similar basis.

A similar evening was held for new and old observers, this was a success and since that meeting we now welcome Simon Fox, David Jackson, Bill Boyce, David Labbe Terry Simpkin & Barry Edwards who have or are in the process of joining the group as observers.

Test Passes

Sorry Sorry Sorry

In the last information sheet the test passes listed were from January this year, clearly a mistake as we missed some people off. This time hopefully everyone since the Groups` Launch is listed

Congratulations

Congratulations go to the following for successfully passing their IAM test through Kendal & South Lakes Group since Oct 07

Nick Boardman, Richard Solomon, Rosalie Swidenbank, Richard Glenister, Bill Donnelly Mike Denton, Brenda Buckley, Alan James, Chris Wilson, Dot Slater, Fiona Hanson, Guy Varty, Martin Scragg

Meet the team

Last time our examiner told us all his life history (well nearly all) so we thought it a good idea to meet some of the team in Kendal & South Lakes. Here`s the first batch hopefully more will come next issue.

Jan Dawson (Committee, Observer, & Observer Training)

I couldn't wait until I was old enough to learn to drive and was probably an absolute pest (old habits die hard) where vehicles were involved. Remember, these were the days before age limits were set regarding the age of children riding on tractors!!

I passed my initial driving test before going to college in Liverpool but having no car of my own had to rely on permission to drive the family car in the holidays.

Predictably enough the first set of wheels was far from glamorous – but hey, 'Gloria' and I got on really well, until she let me down rather dramatically and terminally somewhere around Nottingham resulting in a taxi ride to Spalding in Lincolnshire where I lived at the time (expensive) and not being able to find the garage the following weekend (embarrassing). First love.....you never forget do you?

One can become quite paranoid about reliability after such an experience!! It didn't help that it had been my birthday and everyone had forgotten!!

I first became involved with IAM after I attended a series of, 'Be a Better Driver', sessions held at Kendal College in late 1989. I decided to join the local group – then Cumberland and Westmorland, as I was not driving the miles I had previously and I was beginning to feel I was getting complacent and losing interest in driving. I passed my advanced test in July 1990 and agreed to be an observer with the group and have continued ever since.

I really appreciate the years of continued involvement with IAM as it has kept up my interest in driving, helped me to maintain a good standard (hopefully), and allowed me to meet lots of really interesting people. There are all sorts of reasons, circumstances and motivations why associates come along and put themselves in a situation where a complete stranger jumps into their car, says, 'drive' and then discusses their driving 'performance' with them at the end of a run. We aim to make this process worthwhile, beneficial and not too traumatic!

Despite a dread and loathing of committees generally I confess to being a member of your local IAM group committee. With a background as a teacher and currently working as a trainer/lecturer for local colleges and also the Red Cross I try and assist those members who wish to become observers themselves. Training is minimal but IAM nationally does try very hard to keep a consistent standard so that all associates can gain maximum benefit from the IAM local experience. I hope you agree!!

Terry Simpkin, (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)

I passed the IAM test in 2000 with the Chelmsford Group. And since retiring as a chartered accountant, I moved with my wife to Casterton, near Kirkby Lonsdale.

I have been involved with a Car Club in Chelmsford that focuses on young driver training since 1993.

Eddie Harrison Secretary Co coordinator & senior observer

My first experience of riding was on the good old Bantam 125cc. Motorcycle. If you lent it far enough on corners the faring joining bar would produce sparks by scraping the road on corners.

(No that's not the way to ride a bike)

I'm going back now to the 60s and telegram boys (ring any bells?)

I then went onto passing my test with The Post Office (as it was then) in a Morris 1000 van, which I drove for many years; the only problem then was the front wheels often collapsed

Since moving from the New Forest to the Lake District I have enjoyed many driving courses of different types, in many vehicles & no matter how different they may all are it all comes back to The System of Car Control: **Information, Position, Speed, Gear, & Acceleration.**

I now drive a variety of vehicles from Limousines & Hearse's on funerals to the other end of the scale rescue vehicles on blues & twos (It's easy not to mix them up, one has blue lights on the roof)

My involvement with IAM locally is as secretary / coordinator and senior observer all roles are enjoyable, I would like to see one or two more people joining us to spread the workload, and make the group even more successful than it is now.

Wait to hear from you!!!

Eddie Harrison

Information

Please encourage friends and family with the following

Drive Check

Why not take advantage of a drive check assessment, no test, just a run out with an observer to see what bad habits you have gained (*and we all do have some*) Could be useful and maybe you will enjoy it enough to go on to advanced driving.

The cost of drive check is £25

Skill for Life

The fee is now £99 but can be paid in 2 instalments if wished,

This includes the test, 1st years membership, Demonstration Drive and all drives out in your own vehicle

Contact Eddie for further information or if preferred go on line at www.iam.org.uk

Adelaid Insurance Services Ltd

Register your insurance renewal date and they will contact you with a quote 0845 603 1355 or www.iamsurety.com

Lots of extras and maybe cheaper insurance

Events

The event at Sedbergh school in March was very poorly attended lets see if we can do better on the next event.

Friday 11th July 7pm

Guided Walk in Kendal followed by refreshments, you will definitely find this interesting, and numbers limited to 25 so let Eddie know as soon as possible

Did you know?

- *Drivers over the age of 70 are significantly safer than drivers under 30 and are no greater risk to other road users than middle-aged drivers*
- *72% killed in traffic accidents are in cars*
- *All motor vehicle traffic could grow by up to 82% by 2025*
- *Most deaths happen on rural roads, particularly on rural A roads*

Details taken from IAM motoring facts 2008 want to know more go to www.iamtrust.org.uk

Interested/ Bored / Time to Spare

Have you any skills like computing, writing, event organising, if so we could do with some help to make the workload easier. Please contact any Group official
(Contact details at the end of this information sheet)

What do you expect from your IAM Group?

Having joined the Kendal & South Lakes Advanced Motorists what are your expectations of what the Group should do and provide for you.

Please answer the questions below so that your Committee can review and implement, were practical, any suggestions.

Would you like to see periodic Group Meetings **Yes No?**

If **yes**, please indicate:

Frequency Monthly Quarterly
Content Speakers
Purely social
Driving related video/DVD
Quiz night
Other (please suggest)

Would you like to have driving Group competitions, or track days? **Yes No**

Could also include off road driving, go-karting, quad biking etc

Organised trips and outings **yes No**

If **Yes** suggestions please: _____

An idea could be a coach trip to the Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon

Any other suggestion:

Please send you reply to Terry Simpkin:

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Who's Who

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