

THE RESPONSIBLE MOTORIST



CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

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Group 3081

Now March is upon us and I would like to remind you about your **Group Membership renewal** unless you are an Associate. We, as a Committee, have been asked by one Group Member about the upfront payment of multiple years. I would like to hear from any other Group members who would be happy to do this. If you are, please get in touch with me or drop in a note with your coming years renewal to **Tony Robson**, our Membership Secretary. We value your Membership and your contribution helps the running of our Group and is much appreciated and not taken for granted.

To keep costs down we are requesting those who are happy and able to **download your renewal form from our Website**, print and send the completed form off to **Tony Robson** along with your cheque. Can I also please remind you to complete all sections and if any details, such as your email address or mobile phone number, has changed in the last 12 months. These are highlighted on your form to ensure we keep accurate information for our mutual benefit. Equally keep IAM updated with any of these changes.

If you would like **newsletters by post and not email** tell our Editor (see page 7).

We remain one of the few Groups in the Region who hold **regular monthly meetings** to which Guest Speakers are invited, as well as **and occasional Group Trips**. We value this social element variation and the opportunity to mix.

This brings us to a recent visit we had instead of our Group Night to the **Regional Highway Traffic Control Centre** which was an excellent evening not just my opinion but that of everyone who attended. We were also given the actual facts behind a National newsworthy event that occurred earlier this year when the M6 was closed for almost 24hrs earlier and the distortion of the truth that the journals selectively publicised from a leaked internal document.

Talking of documents—in May it will be our AGM and copies of the Voting Forms, last year's AGM minutes and the Agenda for the evening can also be found on our website for downloading. Tell our Editor if you want copies of these sent with your Newsletter by post.

We are always in need of more people interested in becoming better drivers. We as a **Group offer free 'taster' sessions** for those people who aren't sure of what it would be like to have a constructive independent opinion about how they drive. Do you have any family members, friends or work colleagues who might benefit from this offer? Details are on our Website or contact a Committee Member (see page 7).

NOTE: DO MAKE A POINT OF LOOKING AT BOTH IAM/GROUP WEBSITES AFTER APRIL 4TH FOR COMING IAM CHANGES. ***

Safe driving!! **Paul Williamson.**

ANNUAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP 2016– 2017

Yes, folks, it is that time of year—again!!

We invite you to rejoin your Group for the year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017 for its many benefits and as your continuing support of Road Safety in all its varied forms. Your prompt and timely return of your forms together with the appropriate monies would be appreciated.

Group Application Forms—are always available to download from your Group Website documents section along with others. Your Group will also be sending them out via the email copies of this newsletter and by post for those without email facilities as asked for.

Observers (of whatever qualification level) - do remember that you must be a current IAM and Group Member to carry out your group role. (See page 7 also).



EVENTS & MEETINGS

13th April

8pm-'Examiners Evening' - our annual visit from Mark Wakelam. A chance to examine an examiner!!

8th May (Sunday)

Mini-cars Show, Himley Hall—volunteers required to staff our stand (Contact: Nigel Packer—see Page 7).

11th May

8pm-Group AGM—a presentation of your group—with updates from the IAM (Ian Firth(ROM)+ Peter Docherty(IAM)).

8th June

8pm-Talk by Nigel Power from the 'West Midlands Police Collision Investigation' Team, returning/updating his 2014 visit.

9th July (Saturday)

A day (10am) visit to Wolverhampton Civic Centre of the Traffic Network Management. 12 people max. Contact Nigel Packer (see page 7) if interested.

10th August

8pm-'Lake Como by Rail' - talk & photos by Nigel Packer—always an entertaining evening!!

14th September

8pm-Talk by Chris Mennell—Masterclass Driving School on 'teaching under 17's to drive'.

9th November (Wednesday)

A day (11am) visit to the Morgan Car Company (Malvern). 15-20 people. £20 each, (£5 down),

Balance 1 month before visit. Contact Nigel Packer (see page 7) if interested.

Observer Evenings

(Tuesday 7.30pm Friends Meeting House):

19th April & 19th July.

Associate Evenings

(Tuesday 7.30pm Friends Meeting House):

17th May & 14th June

Note: Attendance is 'required' on these evenings!!

****PLEASE NOTE****

Details in this section are correct "at the time of issue"—so DO check both your emails AND (wolvesiam.org) often for any changes!!.

Event Venues: - see map on page 8 & our website 'Events Diary' Google Map links.

MEMBERSHIP & TALKS/MEETINGS

• Your IAM and Group Membership Detail

Members are reminded that any change in their detail previously supplied to the Group via a Group Application Form on joining or renewal of memberships needs to be passed to your Group Secretary and the IAM in London as soon as they happen. **IAM and your Group cannot effectively contact you if your detail on our database is out of date.**

• Talks/Meetings

Rather than just waiting for things to be arranged, have you got any details of talks, visits, etc. that you may have experienced or from other interests in your lives that could be transferred to your WAM Group? Yes / No? If you have, please contact our Group Events / Talks officer, **Nigel Packer** (see page 7 of this newsletter) or any other listed committee member. All contributions will be welcomed! ****DO remember to check your Email & Group Website (www.wolvesiam.org) 'regularly' - as changes often do take place!**

ASSOCIATE OBSERVED & PRE-TEST

Full and Associate Members—please note - that a valid Group Membership card must be produced upon request. Failure to do so or that the card is invalid, that particular activity shall not take place.

IAM Documents Declaration Forms—must be completed by the Associate at the first run.

Attendance at 'Associate Evenings' by Associate Members—is required.

Do remember - When you have taken a 'pre-test' drive - and have been recommended to apply for your actual IAM Test. This recommendation will come from you having demonstrated the standard that we expect of you to pass - however - it will still depend on your driving on the actual day of your IAM test with an IAM Examiner. Your actual Test application will be done via the IAM DTE database and the group's database user. *Within 2-3 weeks* - an Examiner will contact you to arrange a date, time and location for your actual test.

After taking your test - please let your Observer and Chief Observer know of the result as soon as possible. This allows us to say well done — and to free your Observer for any waiting Associate.

Observers— tell your Chief Observer when your Associate passes—as we would much rather be told twice than not at all!

*"Advanced Driving
....?"*



FROM YOUR CHIEF OBSERVER

May I first introduce myself as **Roy Richards**, Chief Observer for our group?

This may come as a surprise to some of our members, expecting this column to have been written as usual, by our group stalwart, **Geoff Davis**.

Due to health reasons (hopefully of a temporary nature) Geoff has decided to step back from the positions of Chief Observer and Associate Controller, for the foreseeable future. **Paul Williamson** will also now be our Group Associate Controller.

I have been a member since 1993, when I joined as an Associate. After passing my test, I went on to become an Observer.

Over the years, whilst Observing, I have met some very interesting people, who like me when I started, shared the same ambition to become an IAM Advanced Driver.

The satisfaction that I have felt over the years has been enormous, when giving guidance to an associate.

It starts from the very first time that you meet and greet them, and you usually in general, observe someone who strikes you as being apprehensive of what is going to happen, nervous by their own negative thoughts as to whether or not they will ever be good enough to achieve their goal, and pass their test.? Several sessions later you start to see a noticeable improvement in their confidence, ability and self-belief ("you know what, I can and will do this, and I'm going to give it my best shot")

Finally the pre-test drive is carried out, and soon afterwards, the test date is set, the day looms, and before you know it, it's all over!

Pass! Pass! Pass! ("I knew I could do it") congratulations all round, well deserved, but don't forget your Observer, a note to the Newsletter editor would be most welcome, and suffice, as a form of thanks for all the help the Observer has given to you.

But does it have to stop there? If like me, your answer would be No.

Apart from attending our group nights, why not use your new found skills and qualify as a Local Observer for the group? Maybe aim to become a National Observer, entry on the F1rst Register (someone who achieves a (1) in every element of the test) and finally the Masters, all achievable. Details of these options and much more, can be found on the new group website www.wolvesiam.org

Anyone requiring more information about becoming a Local Observer, is most welcome to contact me at chiefobserver@wolvesiam.org

Till next time - Be vigilant-take care-drive safely!

Roy Richards, Chief Observer

OBSERVERS AND ASSOCIATES - PLEASE NOTE: Do read the Events and Meetings sections as there are evenings that you are required to attend. Equally do regularly check your email and Group Website (www.wolvesiam.org) for coming and changed dates/times! 'Ooops!' - is not a reasonable response to a missed attendance.

*Are you using
TPSGA' — gathering
and using available
information?*

ASSOCIATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Attendance at Associate Evenings—is required.

Keep in touch with your Observer—it is your responsibility to do so.

If you cannot keep an appointment—tell your observer. Observers work on a voluntary basis and have lives of their own to fit around their observing. It is only courteous to let them

know in a timely manner.

If you do not keep in touch with your observer—it will be assumed that you no longer wish to continue and your observer will be assigned to another associate. Our observers and their time are a scarce commodity so we have to make best use of them.

A successful pre-test

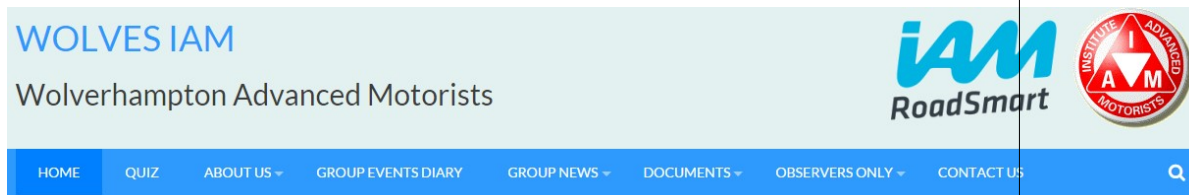
run—still means that you continue your observed runs right up to the actual test. Do not go off the boil!

When you pass your test—let us know via your observer so that all the group can celebrate your success.



WAM Group Website

Wolverhampton Group Web Site



The Group web site has been in place for nearly three months now and is proving to be very busy, not only with Group Members but also with other people who are finding us on Google and want to know more about road safety and better driving skills.

We hope you are finding the combined Twitter feed from all the local West Midlands Emergency Services useful; "friend" the Twitter Site shown, and you will get the feeds from all the services directly on your mobile device. We have now also included a Daily News Update at the top of the Home Page to keep you in the know about Group and general driving issues. Keep up to date by bookmarking us and making our site a regular place to visit.

We have done our best to make the site relevant to all Group Members by including information and articles about the activities undertaken by the Group as well as providing links through to the main London Site for documents and options to buy courses, both Skills for Life and also Masters. (Watch this space, there are going to be some significant changes within the next few months which will be of importance to us all). If you click on the "Documents" tab you will see not only driving-relevant documents and technical papers but also media files. These media items are not promotional videos but clips that are worth watching not only yourself but perhaps shared with other drivers in your family – the ones on texting whilst driving are particularly focussing. We intend to create a library of important videos in this area and hope you will make use of them. (Let us know if there are any aspects of driving you would like us to post videos about – if they are available we will find them and make them available)

The site is intended to be educational, informative and also your eyes on the IAM, this is your site and we would very much welcome your feedback and thoughts about what you would like to see, nothing is too silly and no criticism or thought will be dismissed without consideration; we need your input to make our site the best in the network; let's make Wolverhampton stand out amongst the many.

Send any ideas you have or things you would like to see done to webadmin@wolvesiam.org

Just in case you didn't realise, the little picture shown to the right here, which appears many times on the Events Page, is actually a link to Google Maps. If you click on the logo within the event, it will provide you with a map and directions of how to get from where you are to that location. Easy!!

In the meantime, have a go at the "Quarter 1 Quiz" which can be accessed from the menu bar at the top of every page – are you up to date and as familiar with the Highway Code as you should be?

Jonathan Hughes—Web Admin.

Each time every time?

WANT TO HELP YOUR GROUP?

YOUR GROUP—needs you to help run WAM by contributing in any way you can. The Group will function better if:

- You—could join the Committee either in a committee position, or as just a committee member.
- You—could become a

Local Observer (LO) putting something back in that you had out as an Associate, continuing to contribute to Road Safety.

- You—have details of Speakers, local Motoring Events, places to visit, etc.

- You—could be more 'Group active'.

IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY—contact any Committee Member— see Page 7.

Your New Group Website

Over the recent months you should now be aware of your new Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists Group website devoted to your Motoring Group, Group Activities and Events and information useful to you as a driver.

The web site will not only present up to date Group Event Information and News but also has direct feeds from the local Police Forces, Emergency Services and West Midlands Highways Agency in one place so that you can see all the breaking traffic information for the area in which you are driving. This information is updated every two minutes and is calling in information direct from the traffic officers as it is fed back onto their own systems so is even more current than radio news or gantry panels over the motorway. We want your new website to be a regular source of useful and important detail to you so please use the feedback and comment function to make suggestions and give us your thoughts about anything you would like to have included on the site. Your new Website address in its prototype evolving stage is:

<http://www.wolvesiam.org>

- **Do be aware this will not replace your Group Newsletter but compliment it.**
- **Also be aware that Events on page 2 are correct only at the time of issue and will be updated as they happen. Remember to check regularly and often!!!**

Are you always in the right place,



WOLVES IAM

wolverhampton advanced motorists



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Twitter p
Group.





IAM NEWS RELEASES / FACT SHEETS

THE ADVANCED DRIVING TEST

What the Examiner expects

The Test takes about 90 minutes, over all types of roads and using your own car. The four essential qualities are **Concentration**, **Observation**, **Anticipation** and **Planning**. The Examiner is the holder of a Police Advanced Driving Certificate. A full understanding of what is expected can be found in the IAM publication "Pass Your Advanced Driving Test" or "Pass Your Advanced Motorcycling Test" as appropriate. A number of important points are mentioned here:

THE PRINCIPLES OF ADVANCED DRIVING

- Do you concentrate properly and avoid distractions?
- Can you read the road and anticipate potential hazards in good time?
- Are hazards dealt with in a planned and systematic way?
- Do you use your mirrors before changing your speed or position and do you always give a signal to other road users if they will benefit or appreciate one?
- Can you drive with reasonable restraint, but not indecision?
- Is your judgement of speed and distance accurate?
- Do you drive with courtesy and consideration for other road users, including pedestrians?
- Are you always in the right place on the road, travelling at the right speed with the right gear engaged and able to stop safely in the distance you can see to be clear?

HANDLING SKILLS

- Are steering actions safe, smooth and accurate, and do you pass the wheel through your hands?
- Are gears smoothly and correctly selected?
- Do you make full use of automatic transmission, if your car is fitted with it?
- Is your braking smooth and progressive?
- Do you use "acceleration sense"?

*At the right speed, in
the right gear to apply
the right degree of
acceleration ...*

ADVANCED DRIVING SKILLS ON THE ROAD

- Do you keep up a reasonable pace and maintain good progress if conditions permit?
- Do you anticipate and react correctly to the situations developing ahead?
- Are the correct road position chosen and signals given in good time for the next manoeuvre?
- Are all signals, signs and road markings observed, obeyed and approached correctly?
- Are overtaking manoeuvres carried out smoothly, decisively and safely?
- Do you drive with proper restraint and proper sensitivity of control when the roads are slippery or visibility is reduced?
- Are manoeuvres such as parking, reversing, carried out smoothly and competently with effective all-round observations?

Advanced Drivers are expected to control the risks, despite the incorrect actions of others. Every journey can have its unexpected moments.

However, even successful candidates have made minor mistakes, which did not prevent them from passing the Advanced Driving Test.



FROM THE EDITOR

HELP REQUIRED!!

Please search your diaries for blank spaces and for things that are of low priority that can be deleted or put back. Your group needs help in order to keep going. Why not give something back against all that you have gained from becoming an advanced driver? How? Easy, become a committee member or an observer. **Well? Well - why not? Eh? Me? Yes, you!!**

Requirements for current Group and IAM membership.

Please keep a close eye on the status of both of these! Do ensure that you complete the Group form with each Group annual renewal - and/or - change in detail and send them together with the applicable monies in a timely fashion to our Membership Secretary. Also the IAM form from London HQ which you send

back to them.

Group renewal date is **April 1st** each year!

Current memberships are a mandatory requirement for all observers.

Timely renewals—are a must. Those not renewing will cease to be a group member, associate, observer, etc.

Please complete your membership renewal forms—with all relevant detail so that we can maintain our group and IAM files.

What is missing from your Newsletter?

To a great degree — contributions from you! We get little or nothing from you. Your newsletter does not appear like magic! (Doesn't this fellow ever shut up? No!). Do send your letters, articles, etc. to me preferably on a disc or as an attached file on an e-

mail in an MS Office program format but hard copy will do if you do not have a computer. My contact details are in the column to the right.

Should your input not be part of the next issue rest assured that it does go on file and will be used.

CLOSING DATE FOR YOUR NEXT ISSUE: 12th June 2016

Tony Robson - Editor.

Committee & Trustees

- **President**
Graham Foulkes
- **Vice Presidents**
Joe Brooks
Judith Rowley
- **Chairman**
Paul Williamson
chairman@wolvesiam.org
g 07475552258
- **Secretary**
Tony Robson
133 Elston Hall Lane
Wolverhampton
WV10 9HD
secretary@wolvesiam.org
07966.131778
- **Treasurer**
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01902.896492
- **Membership Sec.**
(see Group Secretary)
- **Chief Observer**
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chiefobserver@wolvesiam.org
07752.837881
- **Newsletter Editor**
(see Group Secretary)
- **Minutes Secretary**
(see—Chief Observer)
- **Associate Controller**
(see - Chairman)
- **Test Administrator**
(see - Group Secretary)
- **Events Coordinator**
(see Publicity Officer)
- **Publicity Officer**
Nigel Packer
events@wolvesiam.org
01902.897203
- **Web Admin.**
Jonathan Hughes
webadmin@wolvesiam.org
rg
- **Committee Member**
Jonathan Hughes
- **Additional Trustees**
(Vacant)

MEMBERSHIP

Data Protection

(Data Protection Act 1984) Details are kept on file for all of our Members, Associates, Region and IAM HQ contacts in order that we may print address labels and perform other necessary administration tasks. If you object to any of this information being kept on file please inform the Group Membership Secretary in writing. Such information held will only be used by the Group and will not be passed on to other bodies or organisations.

Group Membership Fees

Associate Membership Renewal - £12

Full Membership (effective each 1st April) - £12

Family / Joint Membership (2 Full members at the same address—effective each 1st April) - £18

Cheques - please forward

them (payable to 'W.A.M.' with your Group Membership number on the back) together with your completed form to:

Tony Robson
133 Elston Hall Lane
Bushbury
Wolverhampton
WV10 9HD

Associate Membership

Upon joining usually as part of the IAM Advanced Driving program. Within this program you get the cost of your Advanced Test and your 1st years IAM and group memberships (the latter being refunded should you not pass the test).

Literature - is part of this package and comprises 'How to Pass your Advanced Driving' Book.

Guidance - will be from the Group Local Observer

assigned to you up to the day of your advanced test. This also requires a successful pre-test run with a Group National Observer before the Group can apply for the IAM Advanced Test via the Group IAM DTE database access on the Associate's behalf.

New Members - are required to complete the Group Membership Form which will be sent to you upon when contact is first made by our Group.

Full Members - please note

London Membership - is required in addition to that of your Group.

• **If your are a Group Observer** - you must be a fully paid up member of both.



Group 3081

GROUP MAIN CONTACT:
Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists
Group Secretary
Phone: 07966.131778
Email: secretary@wolvesiam.org

'Advanced Driving'



Institute of Advanced Motorists

Registered Charity: 249002

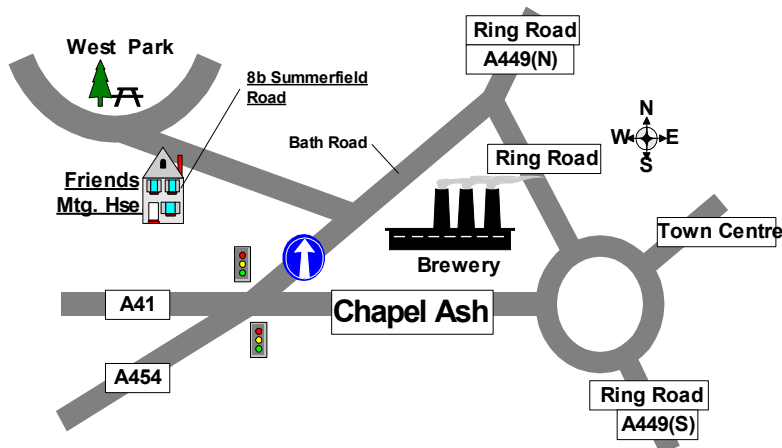
Wolverhampton Advanced Motorists

Group: 3081

Registered Charity: 1053330

Group Website:
www.wolvesiam.org

*"....Are you then a
'responsible motorist'
always planning your
drive and driving your
plan 24/7?"*



VENUE FOR OUR GROUP MEETINGS

- The Friends Meeting House
8b Summerfield Road
Wolverhampton WV1 4PR

At the gate—follow down the drive towards the back of this property and car park. The Meeting House is at the very back. The map shows Bath Road is a 'one way road' - albeit briefly—when approached from Chapel Ash. You cannot turn right into Bath Road when coming out of town. Taking the Ring Road (northbound) from the Chapel Ash roundabout turn first left into Bath Road then second right into Summerfield Road. For other approaches see your 'A-Z'. See website - www.wolvesiam.org for maps and SatNav details too.

NEW ASSOCIATES / IAM MEMBERS

Welcome to Associates:

- Tony Piggott
- Sohaib Razaq
- Karl Gallear
- Roger Denley
- Stewart Roper
- Adrian Gallagher

• Lee Evans

- David Treby
- Nigel Luckett
- Neil Skidmore

Welcome to IAM Member:

- Sue Jordan
- Peter Jordan
- Barry Sadler

TEST PASSES

- Roger Denley (Obs. Mike Leadbeater)
- Karl Gallagher (Obs. Kevin Conn)
- Stewart Roper—**F1rst** (Obs. Nigel Packer)

Well done and congratulations!

Hopefully your next move might be to become an observer yourself to put back in some of what you have received. Added to this you will continue to hone your 'skill for life' by this passing on and guidance.

Passed your test just

recently??

Have you shared your success by telling your Observer? If not please contact any Committee Member.

***Disclaimer**

Please note: The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Group, or that of the IAM-London, but are those of the individual contributors.