

# JANUARY 2012

ISSUE 1/12



## CHALLENGE

### ***CHESTERFIELD ADVANCED MOTORISTS*** **GROUP NEWSLETTER**



**Christmas Social – 15 December 2011**

**facebook**

**[iam.chesterfield@gmail.com](mailto:iam.chesterfield@gmail.com)**

**GROUP CONTACT: BOB STONE 01246 568894**

**GROUP WEB SITE: [www.chesterfield-iam.org.uk](http://www.chesterfield-iam.org.uk)**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1017471**

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CONTACTS

PRESIDENT	MIKE DICKERSON	01246 292144
CHAIRMAN	BILL HARRINGTON	01246 412696
HON. SECRETARY	BOB STONE	01246 568894
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GUIDANCE OFFICER	RAY PARKER	01246 206959
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WEB MASTER	CHRIS LAKE	-
SOCIAL SECRETARY	SUE WHEATCROFT	01246 274785
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EDITOR	<a href="mailto:ymstone@aol.com">ymstone@aol.com</a>

### DATA PROTECTION ACT

PLEASE NOTE - Details that members have supplied to the group are held a database for Groups use. If you object to your details being held this way, please inform the Secretary in writing.

**Our PRO, Alan Morgan, is currently unwell in hospital, and we miss Alan's informative articles and his cheery presence and support.**

We send our best wishes to Alan,  
and our thoughts are with Alan and his family.



SELF DRIVE HIRE  
**SERPENT MOTORS**

SMALL CARS ... FAMILY CARS ... MINI BUSES ... VANS  
ESTABLISHED FOR OVER 30 YEARS  
*10% DISCOUNT TO IAM MEMBERS*

**01246 279920**

**OLD ROAD, BRAMPTON,  
CHESTERFIELD S40 2QZ**

If you are out and about this winter, here are some useful websites where you can check out weather forecasts, traffic problems etc. etc. If you know of any more, please share them so we can put them in the Newsletter.

[WWW.TRAFFICENGLAND.COM](http://WWW.TRAFFICENGLAND.COM)

[WWW.BBC.CO.UK/TRAVELNEWS](http://WWW.BBC.CO.UK/TRAVELNEWS)

[WWW.HIGHWAYS.GOV.UK/TRAFFIC](http://WWW.HIGHWAYS.GOV.UK/TRAFFIC)

[WWW.TRAFFIC-UPDATE.CO.UK](http://WWW.TRAFFIC-UPDATE.CO.UK)

[WWW.THEAA.COM](http://WWW.THEAA.COM)

[WWW.RAC.CO.UK](http://WWW.RAC.CO.UK)

[WWW.SAFERMOTORWAYS.CO.UK](http://WWW.SAFERMOTORWAYS.CO.UK)

[WWW.FRIXO.COM](http://WWW.FRIXO.COM)

CROSSWORD ANSWERS FROM DECEMBER NEWSLETTER:



H	U	B	C	A	P		J	U	M	P	E	R	C	A	B	L	E					
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Merry Christmas and a  
Happy 2012 to everyone

# Thoughts, Reports and Retorts

## **From the Chairman.**

Sorry for the absence of my page for the last two months but here I am back in harness again and with renewed eyesight I can read and hopefully write with renewed vigour.

Since last writing we have fulfilled our committed programme of events and social evenings which culminated with the usual Christmas party and which was enjoyed by all those attending. Numbers were a little disappointing being somewhat below the level our ladies, namely Sue, Jan and Sheila, provided for, but perhaps next year will be better supported, it was an excellent spread and our thanks go to all involved – we shall eventually see. Bob and Yvonne along with Jan provided the various quizzes and prizes were widely distributed to the winning contestants, having been fed and watered we all departed happy with the evening and departed into a frost and snow free evening.

Mention of frost and snow leads straight in to a 16<sup>th</sup> of December communiqué from IAM house regarding “Driving tips in Snow and Ice”. These are publications issued periodically regarding current subjects and for those who are computerised can be viewed on the web site as they are issued. For others the advice is published elsewhere in this magazine and is well worth reading and acting upon. Of recent months the following have been issued and are indicative of the contents, namely, “IAM Response to Road Spending”, “Take it Easy in Snow”, and “Safety and Comfort for Motorists”, and don’t forget that whilst on the computer to look at Chesterfield IAM Group web site for other useful information, - you may even think it well worth while introducing your friends and relatives to view it and hence possibly come and join us, there is strength in numbers and the more members means Safer Driving on our Roads.

As we come to the end of the year we are already planning for 2012 and the calendar will be available in the New Year, it will itemise the coming events for which support is needed to get the Safe Driving message across to a wider audience, so if you are available for any of the activities listed please let us know via the usual channels and contacts listed in this magazine.

In closing I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and Safe and Happy Driving in 2012 and of course in many subsequent years.

Bill Harrington.

## Auction Night and a weighty problem      From the President

Would you believe it, but it's that time of year again. No, not the January sales, but one of the most important social events of the year..... our annual auction for charity. For all new members (older members, please bear with me) let me explain.

Each year at our February Social Night we raise money for the Ashgate Hospice by bringing and buying all those new and fairly new unwanted presents – anything from bottles of wine, “unused” toiletries, new electrical items, novelty items right through to leather jackets and new walking boots – yes the last two items raised quite an amount in recent events. So far we have raised nearly £1600 over the last six years, so wouldn't it be good to top the £2000 this year!



This is NOT a car boot sale, more of a Junior Sotheby's - come and see for yourselves. If you really have something more important to do on the night, why not send me a small (or large) donation to be added to the final total, with our thanks. It really is a night not to be missed and who knows, it could be YOU who walks away with the bargain of the night.

Now to more usual matters.

Like most of us, I have been following F1 this last season and one thing, amongst many, has intrigued me. That is the difference in lap time with “qualifying” fuel load and early race lap times with 200 miles worth of fuel on board.....I feel a few facts coming on!

Firstly, please excuse the “old money” units, as I can actually picture these and after all, we still work in gallons, don't we?

The density of petrol is about .73 of water and diesel about .9, so as a gallon

of water weighs 10 lbs, that makes a gallon of petrol 7.3lbs and diesel 9.0lbs. Let's say an average fuel tank contains 12 gallons, then a full tank of petrol weighs 87.6lbs and 108lbs for the diesel variety.( I prefer not to drop much below half of a tank before filling up, on the premise that you never know when you may have to do an unexpected journey when stopping to fill up may be an inconvenience. So I suppose that I am carrying an extra 50lbs or so by keeping well topped up )

Why all this rambling?

The F1 boys save about 6 seconds a lap, usually 3 miles or so, on almost empty tanks compared with full tanks for the race proper. So, in theory, they could finish the 200 mile race SIX minutes earlier if they could run on this fuel level. ( six minutes equals approx 4 laps).

Solid proof that carrying weight = higher fuel consumption. Now let's see what we can safely discard from our boots, back seats etc, to add to the already economical way we all drive, it may make your wallet feel heavier though. I can stand that!

Have you any comments you would like to share on this or a similar topic.....then we would be very pleased to hear from you.

Stay safe and happy Mike

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### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS –

**PLEASE** attend the forthcoming Sunday &/or Saturday guidance sessions at the **SAINSBURYS CAR PARK** as listed in 'What's On'.

If this causes any difficulty, please contact **Ray Parker** on **01246 206959** so that other arrangements can be made. New joiners are welcome to come along at anytime during the morning for a free assessment drive, or you can phone Ray to arrange a drive at any suitable time.

**It is a fundamental part of your on-going training that you attend at least one, if not both of the guidance sessions each month. So please try to attend.**

**WE THANK THE MANAGEMENT OF SAINSBURY'S SUPERMARKET FOR ALLOWING US TO USE THEIR CAR PARK FOR OUR GUIDANCE SESSIONS**

**JANUARY GUIDANCE SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> & SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup>**

# **TEST PASSES**

*Congratulations to Basil Biggin who passed his test on 2 December 2011, and his observer was Roger Bates.*



*JOHN ROBINSON PASSED HIS TEST 22 NOVEMBER 2011,  
OBSERVER WAS CHRIS LAKE, CONGRATULATIONS*



*Phil Buckley passed his test on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December and his observer was Reg Holmes. Congratulations.*

Yes it really is a continuation from October since I have been out of commission for a few weeks, not ill but having my cataracts “seen to” and unable to concentrate on writing, but now back in full swing, so here goes to pick up the threads.

We are all familiar with Paint On The Road in its various forms such as Centre and lane lines, Hazard and Double Whites along with Cross Hatchings but it may be a good idea to look them up as a memory refresher on pages 62 – 65 in the KNOW your TRAFFIC SIGNS book, particularly check what the rules are for cross hatchings bounded by a **broken** or a **solid** white line. No, I am not teaching grannies or grandpas how to suck eggs but relating my own observations to the antics of many drivers on the roads these days.

Sticking with paint on the road, I wish more paint would do just that since some areas locally are in need of urgently refreshing. In other areas there isn't sufficient particularly at laned junctions where standing traffic obscures the vital information and often results in unnecessary and sometimes dangerous lane changes. But I digress, so back to page 66 – 71 where one can read examples of these points along with other useful pointers to the use of box junctions, yellow bar markings (sometimes called rumble strips or bar markings), mini roundabouts, segregated left turn lane markings and its roadside signage and finally p71, reflecting road studs which include white, red, green and amber studs but not the blue ones, so if you haven't seen them or don't know what they signify the answer is elsewhere in the magazine.

Pages 72 – 76 covers a number of topics related to speed and calming measures most of which are in use locally and many examples can be found although the Home Zones and Quiet Lane is very evasive locally and I haven't seen one yet, or do you know otherwise, let me know if you do. Rumble strips as previously mentioned are here illustrated in Red but can be in yellow and are indicative of the need to reduce speed and are obviously there for a very good reason which is very often an accident black spot. The Village Gateways sign is being used more often than in the past and is obviously related to speed reduction and traffic calming so watch out for these and drive accordingly. Before leaving these pages what about the road narrows on **left** or **right** or **both sides** sign, on pretest drives I still find drivers neglecting to designate the left or right narrowing or even the both sides signage. Think about it, a marked deviation particularly to your right without a signal or mirror check and there happens to be a vehicle contemplating an overtake, it does happen, so read the signs correctly and act accordingly, in commentary driving it is essential to reads the signs and fully understand them for a good reason.

Next month we shall be going on the Motorway and then exiting on to some All Purpose roads so have your book handy, and if you don't have one and Santa hasn't brought you one, treat yourself to a New Year present to ensure you have a Safe and Happy New Year.

Bill Harrington.

Answer to blue reflector studs;-They indicate police slip roads and fire and ambulance exits.

## Membership Renewal by Standing Order

Some of you may recall that in my annual report earlier this year I said that I would be looking at offering members the option of renewing their membership of the group by standing order.

With the consent of the committee I am now in a position to offer this facility to members. This will offer the following advantages to both members and the group:-

- Secure. (i.e. membership dues not being sent through the post and committee members not having to physically take these to the bank)
- Safe (This is an arrangement between the member and their bank so you do not have to pass on your bank details to the group meaning there will be little chance of identity theft)
- Members will not have to remember when their membership is due for renewal. Your bank will automatically send your membership fee to the group. We will however still require an annual membership form to be completed to ensure that our records are kept up to date.

A standing order form is included with this newsletter and if you wish to take advantage of this method of renewal then please complete the form and then take it to your bank. You do not have to wait for your renewal to become due to set this up and if you require information regarding your renewal date please contact either Maynard or myself.

- If you require any more information regarding this method of renewal then please contact myself on 07885 746371.
- If you do decide to set up a standing order, could you please let me know when you have done so.
- Thanks,

- Jeff Snape, Treasurer

Bank Standing Order Mandate

To:

My Bank:

Postal Address:

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Please pay by banker's standing order, cancelling any previous instructions regarding this payee:

Pay To:

Bank Name: **CO-OPERATIVE BANK**    Sort Code: **08-92-99**

Account Number: **65427644**

Account Name: **CHESTERFIELD GROUP of ADVANCED MOTORISTS**

Amount (Figures):

Amount (Words):

Date of First Payment:

Reference: (Please enter your name and membership number)

And then every 12 MONTHS until further notice by me, and debit my account accordingly

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I hereby authorize you to set-up this standing order payment on my account.

My account:

Account Name:

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CHESTERFIELD  
ADVANCED MOTORISTS WHEN YOU SEARCH THE WEB OR  
PURCHASE ONLINE?

If so please read on

## **Shop Online and Raise Money!**

Have you heard about easyfundraising yet? It's the easiest way to help raise money for **Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists!** If you already shop online with retailers such as Amazon, M&S, Argos, John Lewis, Comet, Vodafone, eBay, Boden and Play.com, then we need you to sign up for free to raise money while you shop!

## **So how does it work?**

You shop directly with the retailer as you would normally, but if you sign up to <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chesterfieldiam> for free and use the links on the easyfundraising site to take you to the retailer, then a percentage of whatever you spend comes directly to us at no extra cost to yourself.

## **How much can you raise?**

Spend £100 with M&S online or Amazon and you raise £2.50 for us. £100 with WH Smith puts £2.00 in our pocket and so on. There are over 2,000 retailers on their site, and some of the donations can be as much as 15% of your purchase.

Some retailers will give away money away for nothing, by agreeing to have a broacher or agree to join up with Blockbuster and receive a free DVD rental for 2 weeks the group will receive £6.25.

## **Save money too!**

easyfundraising is FREE to use plus you'll get access to hundreds of exclusive discounts and voucher codes, so not only will you be helping us, you'll be saving money yourself.

So sign up at <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chesterfieldiam> and start making a difference...simply by shopping.

## **Raise Money As You Search!**

Are you one of the 6.4m people that use a search engine every day? Did you know you can raise money for **Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists** while you search?

<http://chesterfieldiam.easysearch.org.uk> combines the results of several search engines such as Yahoo!, Bing and Ask to ensure you can always find what you're looking for. But the fantastic thing is that **EVERY TIME** you search, half a penny is raised for **Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists**. Search just 15 times a day and you can raise around £25 a year for us.

So the next time you need to find something online, please use <http://chesterfieldiam.easysearch.org.uk> and raise money for **Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists** with every search you make.

Your friends and family can also use our unique web address's helping to raise even more funds for the group.

So remember to make purchases online the web address is:-

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/chesterfieldiam>

To search the web the web address is:-

<http://chesterfieldiam.easysearch.org.uk>

If you require any further information please contact myself on 07885 746371

Thanks!

Jeff Snape  
Treasurer  
Chesterfield Advanced Motorists

## **IAM - Sixty years of driving followed by: THE INSTITUTE ADVANCED MOTORIST EXPERIENCE**

In 1951 I joined the RAF and was posted to Swinderby in Lincolnshire. Only forty miles from Chesterfield I was able to return home for the weekends. To do this I bought a motorbike and within ten weeks' passed the basic driving test. Then about a month later passed the basic car test.

Any experienced driver knows that the first year is the most dangerous and like many young drivers I nearly became a victim of over confidence and could have joined those ever increasing numbers of young people killed on our roads.

In that first year I came off the motorbike three times and was fortunate to survive without injury. This experience made me a better car driver and as a sales rep., covered about 1.5 million miles overall in the last sixty years. In 1980 all employees with company cars had to take an advanced test in London and this made me a much safer driver.

This year I decided to take the IAM challenge. Since then I have completed many runs with an observer watching every move I made. With so many years without accident I must have been a safe driver, but now I am a better driver.

I recommend that all drivers young and old take the IAM challenge. No matter what your weaknesses are, the observers have the patience to bring you up to the IAM standard.

John Robinson.

***JOHN ROBINSON***



# MONTHLY PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



WINNER - NOVEMBER 2011

**MICHELE YOUNG**



Congratulations on an excellent shot. The image is very sharp with good focusing and exposure. Such detail and colour. The composition is excellent too!

NEXT MONTH:

December's competition on Light closes on December 30th and winners will be announced at the caravan and in the next newsletter.

Entries will open on 1<sup>st</sup> January for the January competition with the theme of:  
*Weather*

If you are unable to make the caravan, please email your wish to enter and you will receive the password.

[iam.chesterfield@yahoo.com](mailto:iam.chesterfield@yahoo.com)



Words of Wisdom from  
Sheilah Barber

If you aim to be a self made man don't forget the working parts  
Unguarded machines cause 5% of accidents; unguarded minds 95%  
It isn't the right of way that counts – it's the right way  
Success is getting what you want – happiness is wanting what you get  
The best way to get a head – use the one you have  
It is burdened people as a rule who take on extra loads  
The best things in life are the cheapest and last longest  
Goodwill is the mightiest practical force in the universe  
One way to keep fro losing your shirt is to keep your sleeves rolled up  
The surest way of remaining at odds with people is trying to get even  
You cannot turn back the clock but you can wind it up again  
10 important 2 letter words; if,it,is,to,be – it,is up, to, me  
If you're sitting on top of the world remember it turns every 24 hours  
The bigger a mans' head grows the easier it is to fill his shoes  
One way to stop people jumping down your throat is to keep your mouth shut  
If we don't get all we want, we should be thankful we don't get all we deserve  
Don't judge a man by his qualities but by the use he makes of them  
One of the first things you notice in a backward country is that children still obey  
their parents  
Worry is like a rocking chair, it gives you something to do but doesn't get you  
anywhere.

## Snippets

Has anyone been reading the IPSSGA articles in Advanced Driving?  
What did you think?

They are only at 'S' at the moment, so halfway, but I thought the articles were both interesting to read and quite clear and concise. Not too simplistic such that they were an insult to the experienced driver and yet with enough meat to take note of and inwardly digest.

Also in the latest issue is mention of the new IAM site – [drivingadvice.org.uk](http://drivingadvice.org.uk) – dedicated with driving through the winter period. Well worth a visit.

I am however unhappy at the Win a Track Day offer. In the opening comments from Alistair Cheyne he states that we need to get the message across to all road users that post test training is for the greater good. Alistair then asks 'will you take up the challenge and get the message across to at least two friends'? So I looked enviously at the 'Win' offer to see how many arms I needed to twist to get a chance of this prize. But the prize is for the new associates and for all our efforts to attract to new members we have to 'hope' they buy us a pint' (of non alcoholic beverage of course). I think this enticement is the wrong way round. Do you

In the article on the Evolution of Car Safety are some bits of trivia too for the quizaholics amongst you.

- Seat Belts were fitted by law since 1967 but only since 1 Jan 1983 was it mandatory to wear them.
- The 1987 Ferrari F40 was the first 200mph production road car.
- The theory test formed part of the driving test in 1996.

Bob Stone, Group Secretary

## **NOTICE of GROUP AGM**

**Notice is hereby given (Under Rule 2.2.1 section 4.12) by order of the Group Committee that the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists is to be held Club Chesterfield (also called the Chester Street Miners Welfare) at the junction of Ashgate Road and Chester Street, Chesterfield, S40 1DL on Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup> 2012, starting at 7.45pm.**

The AGM is to enable the trustees of the Group (Charity number 1017471) to present for approval the Annual Report and Accounts for the year 2011, and for election of the 2012 Committee.

All members and friends are invited to attend but only fully paid up members of the IAM and Group will be eligible for election at to vote.

### **Election of 2012 Committee**

In accordance with our past practice, all committee members will be retiring and therefore all posts are open for nomination.

#### **Committee Posts to be elected are**

**Chair / Vice Chair / Secretary / Treasurer / Membership Secretary / Social Secretary / Guidance Officer / Observer Training Officer / Public Relations Officer / Newsletter Distributor / Webmaster plus a number of additional committee members without specific portfolio.**

Should you be interested in standing for any post the Secretary holds outline Job Descriptions for all posts, please contact him for a copy.

Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. Please submit nominations to the Secretary before the start of the meeting.

Secretary,      Bob Stone, 5 Clifford Close, Chesterfield S40 3PP.  
Phone:            01246-568894  
Mobile:           0770-447-1083  
Email:             robjstone@aol.com.

## **NOTICE**

### **POST OF SOCIAL SECRETARY**

Nominations are invited for the post of Social Secretary with Chesterfield Group of Advanced Motorists for 2012.

Nominees are requested prior to the AGM on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 2012

For further details and a description of the post, please contact Bob Stone, Hon secretary or Susan Wheatcroft, Social secretary.

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Christmas Social 15 December 2011 –  
obviously they are all thinking hard for the answer !

## WHATS ON IN THE NEAR FUTURE



### December 2011

- ❖ December 20<sup>th</sup> – Committee Meeting, Chesterfield Library Café, 7.30 p.m

### January 2012

- ❖ Wednesday 4 January, Christmas Evening Meal, Teversal
- ❖ Saturday Guidance 7 January 2012, 9.30 Sainsbury's Car Park
- ❖ Sunday Guidance 8 January 2012, 9.30 Sainsbury's Car Park
- ❖ ***Thursday 19 January – A.G.M.  
Chester Street Club 7.45 pm prompt***
- ❖ Tuesday 31 January – Committee Meeting, Chesterfield Library 7.30 p.m.

### February 2012

- ❖ Sunday Guidance – 5 February - 9.30 am Sainsbury's Car Park
- ❖ Saturday Guidance – 11 February - 9.30 am Sainsbury's Car Park
- ❖ ***Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February - Charity Auction Night***
- ❖ Tuesday 28 February – Committee Meeting – Chesterfield Library 7.30 p.m