

FEBRUARY 2014

ISSUE 2/14



CHALLENGE  
*CHESTERFIELD ADVANCED MOTORISTS  
AND MOTORCYCLISTS*  
GROUP NEWSLETTER



The Carnarvon, Teversal, 9 January 2014



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## COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CONTACTS

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MOTORCYCLE REPRESENTATIVE	PAUL LEICESTER	

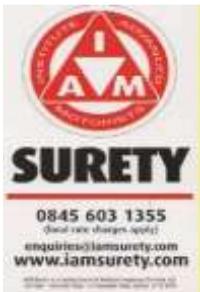
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### DATA PROTECTION ACT

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.

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1017471**



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

**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**

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**MANY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRESIDENT, MIKE DICKERSON, WHO PASSED HIS IMI NATIONAL OBSERVER TEST ON 3 JANUARY 2014.**

Don't know about you, but this cold and damp weather does nothing for me, the only slight consolation is that it could be much worse.....thinking of the bad floods in some parts of the country...if we in Derbyshire ever get flooded, it would be a poor lookout for the rest of the counties!

So far this new year (early January) we have had no snow locally – it may look very pretty on Christmas cards and photos to the weatherman, but on the roads it is not welcome. When, or if, we do get some, please take even greater care as this is the time of year the body shops make most of their money!

Have any of you experiences of winter tyres you can share with the rest of us? Are they really as good as they are claimed to be , what about the cost, is there any sacrifice of grip etc? Please put “pen to paper” and tell us. Thank you in advance.

This is the last advert before the February Auction – I have already had a few, new, unwanted Christmas presents handed to me...”one man's poison, etc” So even if you can only bring the one donation, the most important thing is that YOU present yourself on the 20<sup>th</sup> ...it is not the same without you!

Recently I took (and was successful) the IMI qualification assessment – formerly known as the “senior observer “test. There are now four of us in the group with this national qualification – a “badge” which is recognised by the motor industry and all over the country. The reason I mention this is because if any other members of our group want any information on a personal level, concerning this step forward – please do not hesitate to ask any of us.

It is not an easy test, but with assistance from someone who has been through it... helps. I am indebted to Ray, Jan and Bob for the help they offered me , mainly on the “paperwork” before the observed run begins. With a short break for lunch in the middle, the test started at 11 o'clock and I left the car park just before 4 o'clock. (A very long time to be on your best behaviour!!). Do not let this deter you , the feeling at the end of the day is a buzz!

Stay safe and happy,  
Mike

## The New Committee for 2014

The AGM was held on Thursday 16 January 2014 at Club Chesterfield.

Some Committee posts have changed and details of who's who for 2014 are on page 2 of this Newsletter.

We have a new Chairman, new Social Secretary, new Webmaster, and new Motorcycle Representative, but we cannot separate Jeff Snape from the group cheque book, nor Bob or Ray from all of their Secretarial and Guidance paperwork! Additional committee members are John North, Barbara Shillaker and Stewart Yeowart.

Chris Lake picked up two awards – Observer of the Year, and the President's Rosebowl, so well done Chris.

Don't forget that the Committee is here for YOU, so if you have any thoughts or comments, please share them.

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### **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

**John Watson, his Observer will be Bob Stone**

**Shirley Clark, her Observer will be Selwyn Gough.**



Kevin Hawkins, who passed his test on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013, receiving his certificate from Bob Stone, his Observer

## **What are we worth?**

No I don't mean how much you have in the bank, or how much you earn, or even how many cars you have. How much you earn and have in the bank does not make for nicer people, how many cars you have does not make a better driver and more to the point, you can only drive one at once.

'A persons worth should not be judged on the size of their wallet or purse.'

### **I mean how much are we worth to the group, and to IAM?**

There are many who contribute a great deal, both to IAM and to the group, without being recognised at all. At some time during the year we are all guilty of not saying thank you. So trying to put this right yet again, I will say thank you to you all.

Thank you to all the members who have helped at events we have attended during 2013, such as local shows and Chesterfield Market days. Some of you stood out in terrible conditions doing the usual of giving out leaflets and the IAM message to all who were interested and sometimes to those who were not interested. Thank you to those of you who tow the caravan, making going to evens and Guidance possible, because if you didn't tow we would not be there. I must not forget those who bring the supplies; the sugar, coffee, and water for our cuppa; and the lady who has made us endless cups of coffee, to sooth our frozen fingers at Guidance, and then gone on to do the cleaning and washing up as well. Thank you to those who put out and collect in the signs when we stand on Sainsbury's car park, it all helps us to give out the IAM message. One person I must not forget is the lady who makes reading this magazine possible and isn't even an IAM member; she does do a magnificent job. The group committee and the Observers also play a significant role within the group; more to the point everyone gives their time for free.

You all know who you are and what you have contributed to the group and to the wider IAM; without you we would fail. So I hope that we will see you all again sometime during 2014, don't forget you only have to put a little into the group to ensure that the group goes from strength to strength. It doesn't seem much to say THANK YOU, two words; but it is a heart-felt thank you to you all. Anyone new, who has a little time to give to the group, would always be made welcome: come along and try it.

Thank you again, and I wish you all health and happiness.

Jan

(And thanks must go to Jan as well for all her work for the group and Region 4) Ed.

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## Young driver penalty points record shows need for reform.

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The current way we train new drivers is clearly failing to produce safe and law abiding motorists, particularly men, according to road safety charity, the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM).

Thirty-thousand, eight hundred and fifty male drivers aged 20 or under have up to six points on their license, according to data released by the DVLA.<sup>1</sup> This compares with only 9, 758 young female drivers with up to six points on their license.

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The breakdown by age is:

	3 points	4 points	5 points	6 points
Male 17	837	8	7	358
Female 17	36	0	0	0
Male 18	3,280	78	130	986
Female 18	705	15	25	70
Male 19	7,717	176	296	1,904
Female 19	2,542	47	73	230
Male 20	12,236	166	558	3,113
Female 20	5,229	82	117	587

During 2012, young drivers were involved in a fifth of all collisions where someone was killed or seriously injured. Yet younger drivers only account for eight per cent of all full driving licence holders in Great Britain, they also drive, on average, about half the distance of older drivers each year.

IAM chief executive Simon Best said: “Such high numbers committing a wide range of offences demonstrates the inability of our current system to deal with the attitudes and lack of experience which put new drivers at such high risk on the roads today. The government is currently working on a Green Paper for young drivers and this must better address the content and process of learning to drive so that our roads are safer for all road users.”

Submitted by Ray Parker

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**MIKE'S CHARITY AUCTION – 20 FEBRUARY 2014,  
7.30 PM - CLUB CHESTERFIELD  
Everyone Welcome**



As you can see, it is a fun night, with lots of bargains to be had and funds going to a good cause, so come along and do some bidding – forget online auctions – it's all here!

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## More photos from the Carnarvon, Teversal – 9 January



Ray being 'crowned'  
By Clare



A good night with great food and company and thanks again to Sue Wheatcroft for organising.

# A BIG THANK YOU .....

The Committee would like to pass on many thanks to Sue Wheatcroft for organising social events over the past few years (she continued to do so, even 'though she 'resigned' a couple of years ago as Social Secretary!). Sue is also taking a step back from acting as a Senior Observer, and her dedication to the group will be missed. Sue reassures us that she will "still be around" but we wish her and David well in their future 'travels'.



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## ***Driving Dynamics Skid Car Experience, Only £40*** ***Croft Circuit - Wednesday 7th May 2014***

**The team from Driving Dynamics with their Skid Car will be attending this Driver Skills Day event**

Their skid awareness and avoidance packages are fun events and hugely enjoyable. Yet the skills you learn could help you to avoid or at least reduce the impact of a serious road traffic accident.

### **An exciting skid driving package**

Imagine taking the wheel of a computerised 'skid car'. You'll be driving along in what appears to be a normal road vehicle. Yet, at the touch of a button the car converts into an amazing skid car.

You'll feel like you're in the movies when the car suddenly careers into a front wheel or rear wheel spin. It will be up to you to apply the skills you've learned, along with split second thinking, to regain control.

Please note this experience cannot be taken on the same session as the Driver Skills Day. A morning Skills Day session means you must take the Skid Car experience in the afternoon, or vice versa as the case may be.

To book the Skid Car experience call

**Mike Ward** - 07762 283579, or e-mail [michaelward21@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelward21@hotmail.com)

**IAM Rider Skills Days**  
**Croft Circuit - Thursday 8th May 2014**

Croft Circuit in North Yorkshire is a new circuit for IAM Rider Skills Days. Set in beautiful countryside a few miles south of Darlington this 2.1 mile track has some challenging corners and extensive straights which give a really broad spectrum of experiences to help riders develop their skills.

This full day event offers sessions of circuit riding under the guidance of an experienced IAM instructor interspersed with theoretical input to help you enhance your riding. The instructor will develop your observations and your techniques of bike control so that you are able to make rapid and smooth laps of the circuit. You will work on positioning, braking, gear choice and acceleration technique. Repeated laps of the same circuit allow you to experiment with different variations of approach, and demonstrate how critical the right choice is to making the ride feel absolutely right. It doesn't have to be done at fearsome speeds. You can enjoy the Skills Day at your own pace and your instructor will work with you in whatever way suits you best. After booking, we shall ask to you for details of your previous experience so that we can ensure you get instruction at a level most beneficial to you. The circuit environment allows you to experience the subtleties of your bikes handling. You are in a controlled space. The usual hazards associated with the public roads are entirely absent. The setting for Skills Day training is unique.

***The experience is invaluable!***

Croft is ideal for us to help you to learn so much more about your bike and yourself. No matter what they have been riding, IAM members have enjoyed this unique experience and been surprised by what they have learnt in the just a few hours.

..... ***You should be next!***

***Croft has all the facilities you could ask for!***

***Refreshments are available throughout the day, with a free coffee or tea on arrival once you have signed in.***

***An IAM photographer will be present and a full set of shots is sent to every rider after the event***

***Guests are welcome and can enjoy the freedom of the pit lane and watch the action from the pit lane wall. Make a real day out of it!***

***All this for an exceptionally low cost!***

**IAM Rider Skills Day only £129**

**Book now by calling David Stringer on 0113 350 8625  
or 07768 620208**

**or e-mail [david.stringerrgc@iam.org.uk](mailto:david.stringerrgc@iam.org.uk)**

**booking form available from Bob Stone**

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***IAM Driver Skills Days only £129***  
***Croft Circuit - Wednesday 7th May 2014***

Croft Circuit in North Yorkshire is by far the longest circuit used for IAM Driver Skills Days. Set in beautiful countryside a few miles south of Darlington this 2.1 mile track has some challenging corners and extensive straights which give a really broad spectrum of experiences to help drivers develop their skills.



You have the choice of a morning or afternoon session. Both offer seven 15 minute outings on the circuit with your dedicated IAM instructor from the Region 4 Training Team. The instructor will develop your observations and your techniques of car control so that you are able to make rapid and smooth laps of the circuit. You will work on positioning, braking, gear choice and acceleration technique. Repeated laps of the same circuit allow you to experiment with different variations of approach, and demonstrate how critical the right choice is to making the drive feel absolutely right. It doesn't have to be done at fearsome speeds. You can enjoy the Skills Day at your own pace and your instructor will work with you in whatever way suits you best. The circuit environment allows you to experience the subtleties of your car's handling. You are in a controlled space. The usual hazards associated with the public roads are entirely absent. The setting for Skills Day training is unique.

***The experience is invaluable!***

Croft is ideal for us to help you to learn so much more about your car and yourself. No matter what they have driven, from runabout to supercar, IAM members have enjoyed this unique experience and been surprised by what they have learnt in the just a few hours.

.....***You should be next!***

### ***Try an Alfa Romeo***

A selection of Fiat and Alfa Romeo cars are usually available at all IAM Driver Skills Days for you to try.

### **IAM Driver Skills Day**

**Book now by calling David Stringer on 0113 350 8625 or 07768 620208  
or e-mail [david.stringerrqc@iam.org.uk](mailto:david.stringerrqc@iam.org.uk)**

**Booking form available from Bob Stone  
*It couldn't be easier!***

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### **Derbyshire Blood Bikes Riders Assisting the Medical Services**

Derbyshire Blood Bikes was formed at a meeting of members of the Derby Advanced Motorcyclists (IAM) on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011. We obtained charity status in July 2011. The aim is to help by offering a transport service to the NHS completely funded by voluntary contributions, using volunteer riders.

Since this date the volunteer riders and helpers have been carrying out various fundraising activities, such as collections in and around numerous supermarkets, fetes and shows around Derbyshire. Last year we hosted a charity 'rock night' at a venue in the south of the county and are looking to have more such events in Chesterfield in the not too distant future.

As a result we now have 4 dedicated motorcycles that are signed up in reflective decals of Derbyshire Blood Bikes. We have carried out interviews with local radio stations and have had a number of items in the local press.



In February 2012, we had a meeting with the Milk Bank at Birmingham Women's Hospital. Mother's milk is collected and stored here for use by premature baby units throughout the Midlands. They only collect donations from mothers within a 40 mile radius of the hospital. This excludes most of Derbyshire. We offered to collect the milk from the nursing mothers and deliver it to the Milk Bank. This is now a regular part of our activities and allows nursing mothers in Derbyshire to make their contribution. Since we offered this service the hospital at Birmingham has seen a great increase in the number of mothers donating breast milk to the unit.

On 27<sup>th</sup> April 2013 we started to collect blood and urine samples from Derby Walk in Centre and deliver to Derby Royal Hospital. To date we have completed over 150 runs, with regular deliveries twice daily every Saturday and Sunday.

We have completed 10 out of hours runs, 7 Bank Holiday and 3 URGENT night time runs, where we transported Reagent chemicals from Sheffield General Hospital to Derby Royal, transported blood from Derby Royal to Nottingham City Hospital and finally transported Bone Marrow from Derby Royal to St James University Hospital, Leeds.

At the time of compiling these figures (Jan 2014) Derbyshire Blood Bikes have completed 204 operational runs all at NO COST to the NHS. Prior to the formation of our group the NHS was spending millions of pounds a year on out of hours transport costs, such as taxis and couriers.

So, are you ready to help? Now is the time to get involved! We need people to help with everything from Fund Raising to Bike riding, Logistics to Phone answering.

We are a friendly bunch from all sorts of backgrounds, with an interest in motorcycling and also helping the NHS and our community.



Volunteers with 'stars' of Chesterfield FC fundraising at a family fun day.

All riders must have one of the following qualifications:

- Police Class 1 Motorcycle
- RoSPA Gold or Silver
- IAM

The qualification needs to be updated every three years.

We desperately need volunteers, riders or otherwise particularly from the north of the county so that we can offer our services to the hospitals in the area.

If you can help out in any way, please contact:  
Stuart Yeowart, Committee member,

Tel. 01246 220450 or Mob. 07771 638655,

E-mail [stuyog@gmail.com](mailto:stuyog@gmail.com)

# Diary Dates

## **FEBRUARY 2014**

|                                            |                                              |                                        |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Guidance                                   | Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February              | Sainsbury's Car Park 9.30 am           |
| Guidance                                   | Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> February            | Sainsbury's Car Park 9.30 am           |
| <b>Social –<br/>Mike's Charity Auction</b> | <b>Thursday<br/>20<sup>th</sup> February</b> | <b>Club Chesterfield<br/>7.30 p.m.</b> |
| Committee Meeting                          | Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February            | Chesterfield Library Café 7.30 pm      |

## **Future Dates – March 2014**

|                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Guidance          | Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| Guidance          | Saturday 8th           |
| Social Night      | Thursday 20th          |
| Committee Meeting | Tuesday 25th           |