

FEBRUARY 2015

ISSUE 2/15



CHALLENGE
CHESTERFIELD ADVANCED MOTORISTS
GROUP NEWSLETTER



facebook

iam.chesterfield@gmail.com

GROUP CONTACT: BOB STONE 01246 568894

GROUP WEB SITE: www.chesterfield-iam.org.uk

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1017471
COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CONTACTS**

PRESIDENT	MIKE DICKERSON	01246 292144
CHAIRMAN	DOMINIC BOOTH	0782 1464483
HON. SECRETARY	BOB STONE	01246 568894
TREASURER	JEFF SNAPE	01246 567058
GUIDANCE OFFICER	BOB STONE	01246 568894
OBSERVER TRAINING OFFICER	JAN CRESWELL	07895 038538
PRO (Publicity)	JAN CRESWELL	07895 038538
WEB MASTER	DOMINIC BOOTH	0782 1464483
SOCIAL SECRETARY	VACANT	VACANT
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	MAYNARD STEPHENS	01246 235074
ASSOCIATE LIAISON PERSON (ALP)	CLARE WEBSTER	07973 695310

E-Mail Contacts

OBSERVER TRAINING OFFICER	jaygee.176@gmail.com
HON.SECRETARY	robjstone@aol.com
GUIDANCE OFFICER	robjstone@aol.com
GROUP	iamchesterfield@gmail.com
ALP	iam.chesterfield@yahoo.co.uk
EDITOR	ymstone@aol.com

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.



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 **Bob Stone** on **01246 568894** 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

+++++

Front cover photo taken at the Carnarvon Teversal, on 18th January 2015. Thanks to Chris Lake for organising and for supplying the photo.



A story and more from the President.

Let me tell you a story. (Please bear with me as there is a point to it). Coming home from a family Christmas in Southern parts, it happened to be on the Saturday.. yes the day after the snowfall, but all the travel news was telling me was some people had been stranded in Sheffield.....not a lot of help. On reaching Nottingham, the view from the M1 did show a light sprinkling on the hills, but it was not until we reached Horn's Bridge that the "fun" started.

It had taken a shade over 3 hours to cover 210 miles and the next 6 miles took almost as long until we pulled onto our drive. Yes, we did get to within half a mile of home but as we live at "Hilltop Road" – there's the clue! Abandoned at the side of the road on a 1 in 5 (20%), I did not want to leave it there long as cars were moving as much sideways as straight ahead! A long wheel based vehicle, front wheel drive, wide tyres is not the best for driving on compacted ice.

Now the interesting bit! A neighbour agreed to tow me out with his 4x4 low ratio, diff locked Range Rover, so we prepared for the procedure. Locating the towing eye and removing the front bumper cover – no problem, but would the thing screw in.....NO! After a few abortive attempts, a close engineering inspection showed the thread to be LEFT HANDED!!! Who in their right mind designed it this way? WHY? As there is no circular motion in towing to unscrew it there is simply no logic for this.

Here is the moral to this verbal meandering. Check your towing eye at your leisure, do not wait till you are in an unfriendly situation and find out you may have to spend longer than you think fathoming it out – at least it was daylight for me, you may not be so lucky!

Has anyone any similar stories to share with us?

2014 best car sales. No1 spot goes to Ford Fiesta with 131,254 sales, 2nd is the Ford Focus with 85,140 units, and 3rd, the Corsa with 81,783.

All round, an excellent year for our car manufacturers.

Stay safe and happy

Mike.

.....
Notes from the AGM on 22 January 2015.

There were not many changes as regards Committee Members. Those voted in are in Dom's news,

There is currently a vacancy for a Social Secretary. If nobody comes forward to offer their services, then social nights will cease to be organised on a regular basis.

Jan Creswell is happy to continue as PRO in the form of supplying publicity but there is a vacancy for someone to take on the role of Events Organiser.

Thanks were expressed to Diip for auditing the accounts.

There have been several test passes this year, including two 'Firsts'. Congratulations were expressed, with the added comment that perhaps they could like to consider becoming Observers!

The President's Rosebowl was awarded this year to Dom Booth. Observer of the Year was awarded to Claire Webster.

Congratulations to both.

From the Chairman

Has everyone been enjoying the snow we've had? What's everyone been doing lately? Please do write in to the editor.

The first meeting of 2015 was the AGM, where each and every year we as a committee stand for re-election.

Your committee for 2015 is:

Chairman:	Dom Booth
Treasurer:	Jeff Snape
Secretary:	Bob Stone
Observer Training Officer:	Jan Creswell
Guidance Officer:	Bob Stone
Public Relations:	Jan Creswell
Webmaster:	Dom Booth
Membership Secretary:	Maynard Stephens
Associate Liaison:	Claire Webster
Social Secretary:	Situation Vacant
Newsletter Editor:	Yvonne Stone
Others without specific portfolio:	John North and Roger Bates

Late November I bought a project to do over the winter, in the form of a Fiat 126, rear engine and rear wheel drive, with 26BHP and four drum brakes, it's a handful to drive! It was also first registered at Woodleigh Fiat in Chesterfield, still with the original number plates!

The restoration is underway now, and as of yesterday (25/1/15) the engine is out! A couple of photos of before and now appear on the next page.



Safe Driving
Dom

Speed Limiters?

I saw an article in the paper very recently suggesting that cars will be fitted with speed limiters and suggesting that the TRRL had undertaken some research and concluded this was safe as it reduced the speed at which accidents occur.

But what if it generates more, but lower speed, accidents? Is that a good idea?

I went to an IAM HQ event recently and got talking to some other members about speed and what they would define as SPEEDING. A sustained speed above the indicated limit IS speeding. But what about slowing into or accelerating out of a limit. If the car is in the process of changing speed then are we not talking here about a miscalculation and not hitting the change point precisely? Some thought anything over the limit at the signs was speeding whilst others thought the intention to achieve was the important aspect and missing the markers by a short distance not a major transgression.

Similarly the highly contentious subject of "can the limit be exceeded temporarily" in an overtake. The obvious answer is no as this is speeding, but not everyone agrees.

So this leads neatly into limiters.

To overtake a vehicle safely we need to minimise the risk - that is minimise the time spent on the 'wrong' side. So if we assume a 30ft bus travelling at 50mph (app 75fps) and we want to overtake at the maximum 60mph (app 90fps). Our margin is 15fps so we take two seconds to pass the bus. But we would not start at the rae of the bus and certainly not want to cut in tight in front. Let us assume we start one bus length back and give a 1 second clearance (for the bus that equates to 150ft) before pulling in.

To achieve an overtake we need to travel a total distance of 210ft longer than the bus, and it will take us 14 seconds (and we cover a quarter of a mile). That is a long time to spend on the other side of the road.

So, no more crisp overtaking then. Thoughts please?

Bob Stone



Do you have your 'ICE' number saved on your mobile phone? If you don't know what ICE is, (in this context) it means 'In Case of Emergency' and the idea is that you put your emergency contact number in your phone so that in the event of an emergency (we hope not), the emergency services can quickly access the contact details.

From David Stringer:

Dear Group Secretary

I was very taken aback at the Regional Training Teams' annual Christmas get together last Saturday evening to be presented with a very generous gift that the groups had subscribed to mark my departure as the car RGC for the old Region 4. The Heritage Railway vouchers were very much appreciated and I felt quite humbled that the groups had supported this effort. Rest assured that Pauline and I will select a suitable and spectacular railway trip somewhere behind a steam locomotive later this year. Thank you all for this gift.

I would be grateful if you would convey my thanks to your group committee if you group was involved in this presentation, and perhaps also record my thanks briefly in your newsletters for your wider membership. Should my records of the present group secretary now be wrong, because like me you have now moved on, please forward this e-mail to the new secretary.

Once again, my thanks to you all and I look forward to seeing a good number of you at the Groups Forum in a couple of weeks.

Kind regards , David Stringer



'Ring Ring' - it's a bicycle bell.

We have all seen the posters, and had stickers on our wing-mirrors, telling us as drivers to look for bikes; in this instance they are motor bikes, but what about bicycles?

It seems as though Jaguar has become concerned by the growing number of deaths, caused by collisions between cars and cycles. It has taken on board that most drivers do not see the cycle as well as the bike and is attempting to address this situation. Within a span of about two years we should see developments, so watch out.

Jaguar are at the moment working on a new and ground-breaking system, 'Bike Sense' which should be fitted into all new Land Rovers, Range Rovers and Jaguars within two years. This system will alert the driver if a cyclist is getting too close; not that AD drivers would not have seen him. It's said to help the motorists be more alert to the situation of a cyclist getting too close to danger.

The alerts:-

1. The door handles on the car will 'buzz' to stop the doors being opened into the path of a cycle.
2. The accelerator pedal will vibrate.
3. There will be a 'ring ring' warning bell sound, giving the direction of the approaching cycle and the driver will be tapped on the shoulder by using a system of inflating the seat cushion for contact. The 'ring ring' sound is very familiar and instinctively associated with bicycles. Therefore it is thought that the brain will process this sound more quickly.
My thought; possible by older drivers who have had a bicycle.

On our roads in the UK there are about 19,000 cyclists killed or hurt each year. Some incidents are caused when turning right or left at junctions; others caused when turning left into a side-road. Official statistics, June 2013 to June 2014, show that there has been a rise of 10% in the number of cyclists killed or seriously injured. The British Cycling Campaign comment was that they would be in support of anything to improve the cyclists safety.

So let us as Advanced Drivers do our bit and not just 'Think Bike', this being the motorbike, but as well 'Think Cycle'. Remember the cyclist is not easily seen, so look left when exiting a roundabout and look for the cycle when at a junction.

Happy motoring
Jan

+++++

Lunch Club



Hi
The first meeting will be on the 11th February 2015 at the 'Woodside Inn' Ashgate Road, Chesterfield. Time - 12.30 for dinner at 1.00pm.
Please get in touch with me if you are interested in coming along.
Hope to see you there.

Jan

Diary Dates

FEBRUARY 2015

Sunday 1 st February	Guidance	Sainsbury's Car Park, 9.30 am
Saturday 7 th February	Guidance	Sainsbury's Car Park, 9.30 am
Wednesday 11 th	Lunch Club	The Woodside Pub, Ashgate Road, 12.30 for 1 p.m.
Thursday 19 th February	Social – Talk by Peter Gamblin, Associate, on Motor Racing	St Thomas's Centre, Chatsworth Rd, Brampton
Tuesday 24 th February	Committee Meeting	Chesterfield Library Café, 7.30 p.m.

Future Dates: March

Guidance	Sunday 1st
Guidance	Saturday 7 th
Social	Thursday 19th
Committee Meeting:	Tuesday 31st