

MARCH 2013

ISSUE 3/13



CHALLENGE  
***CHESTERFIELD ADVANCED MOTORISTS***  
**CHESTERFIELD ADVANCED MOTORISTS**  
**GROUP NEWSLETTER**



**Mike's Charity Auction Night**



**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	CHRIS LAKE	01246 855508
HON. SECRETARY	BOB STONE	01246 568894
TREASURER	JEFF SNAPE	01246 567058
GUIDANCE OFFICER	RAY PARKER	01246 206959
OBSERVER TRAINING OFFICER	JAN CRESWELL	07895 038538
PRO	TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE ACTION GROUP	-
WEB MASTER	CHRIS LAKE	01246 855508
SOCIAL SECRETARY	<b>VACANT</b>	-
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	MAYNARD STEPHENS	01246 235074
ASSOCIATE LIAISON PERSON (ALP)	CLARE PALMER	07973 695310

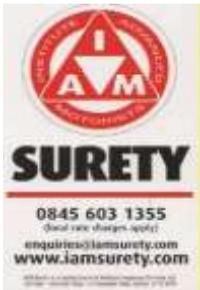
### **E-Mail Contacts**

OBSERVER TRAINING OFFICER	<a href="mailto:jaygee.176@gmail.com">jaygee.176@gmail.com</a>
HON.SECRETARY	<a href="mailto:robjstone@aol.com">robjstone@aol.com</a>
GUIDANCE OFFICER	<a href="mailto:rayparker744@btinternet.com">rayparker744@btinternet.com</a>
GROUP	<a href="mailto:iamchesterfield@gmail.com">iamchesterfield@gmail.com</a>
ALP	<a href="mailto:iam.chesterfield@yahoo.co.uk">iam.chesterfield@yahoo.co.uk</a>
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.

**Apologies to Jan for previously spelling her surname incorrectly. Ed**



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**

+++++



**Welcome to New Members:**

**Helen Jessop, and her observer is Chris Lake**  
**Mathew Clarke, His observer is Selwyn Gough**

## An enlightening experience?.....and more from the President

A great idea?.... a new "Smart Highway" which glows in the dark and can also warn drivers of icy conditions, will open in the Netherlands this year. The effect is achieved using a special photo luminescent paint which like a solar powered light, charges up during the day and can "glow" for up to 10 hours, thus removing the need for street lighting, Also directions, speed limits and other information could be included in the head up display. Could this be a forward step in Road Safety? Any thoughts?

May I wish our new Chairman, Chris Lake, a successful and pleasurable year (at least), I am sure he will be a confident leader of our Group. All the best Chris.

Also many thanks go to Bill Harrington who has held the post for the past two years and has done a sterling job, we wish him a well deserved "rest", but not for too long, Bill!

Did you know (yes, I realise it has been a long time since the last one!) that a 50% mix of antifreeze and water when pressurised to 15psi, will reach 129 degrees C before vaporisation occurs and will protect down to -37 degrees as opposed to 0 to 100 C for plain water. It also has an all year anti corrosion element and lubricates the water pump bearings, so it is really important to change every 2 or 3 years to keep up the strength.

Did you know 2 ....Rowan Atkinson has just taken delivery of his repaired McLaren F1 supercar after a prang in August 2011. The total insurance claim?.....£910,000 yes nine hundred and ten THOUSAND pounds. His future insurance annual premiums?....£60,000!! Mind how you go.

Stay safe and happy

Mike

**NB:**

## **Made it!!**

At February's auction evening we passed the £2,000 mark for Ashgate Hospice. I'm not sure who had the best bargain of the night ,was it the £70 wine rack that went for £7, or the Irish liqueur also for £7, or was it the Tom Tom sat-nav for a few pounds, or the super duper chocolate cake (thanks to Mrs Dom)..... whoever it was everyone came away with some really good stuff.

The quality of the donations this year was excellent, reflected in the amount raised, which was £235, bringing the total to £2161. May I thank everyone who donated and everyone who bought, it really turned out to be a very successful evening. Mike.



**Mike models the latest in designer jewellery .....**



Hello everybody, I am your new chairman for 2013.

It took me by surprise actually at the AGM being nominated and it seemed we were running a bit thin on the ground with candidates hence probably my nomination by the group. I didn't have to do anything; it seemed it was all planned out for me; anyway this makes me realise that we will now need to rota committee roles around every year now to ensure continuity until we get more committee members and more interest in how the group is run.

Some of the roles haven't been filled this year and there are only a few committee members doing a lot of work to keep the group going. I know there have been plenty of people who have done their bit in the past but we are now seeing some of our roles being shared out and also more than one role being covered. Two roles are currently still outstanding so if you do want to be involved with how the group is run, please see any members of the committee. We all do have to understand 'though that this is only a voluntary group.

So here is to 2013, looking forward to another good year with the group and a reminder to visit our new website (still under construction) but it has a great events calendar on it so you can keep up to date more than just the newsletter with our activities.

Chris Lake



## MATLOCK I.A.M QUIZ NIGHT



Matlock group are having a quiz night on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm at the Duke William.** They hope that teams from neighbouring IAM and RoSPA groups, will be able to join them for this event. **Duke William is at 91, Church St., Matlock DE4 3BZ**



### Another price hike ☹️

(from the Editor's viewpoint)

Reports today of yet another hike in the price of fuel. The report says that fuel prices are due to set record levels by Easter – (but doubtless only in the UK)! Apparently the cost of filling up a family sized car has already gone up by £3.12 this year. Petrol prices are expected to rise by another 3p per litre before Easter. The radio reported that the rise is due to “exchange rate fluctuations” and “the cost of barrels of oil”. It also reported that 70% of people have changed their driving habits – i.e. not using the car so much. Well, that is hardly news – I am sure a lot of us have been cutting down on unnecessary trips for a few years now.

The Treasury claims that the Government has eased the plight of motorists and that fuel duty is now 7% lower in real terms than in May 2010. Que? I hadn't noticed! However the Govt HAS increased fuel VAT which of course gets passed on to us, the consumer.

Oh well, roll on a few weeks when Bob and I will be heading across the 'big pond' where the cost of 'gas' is roughly half what it is here!

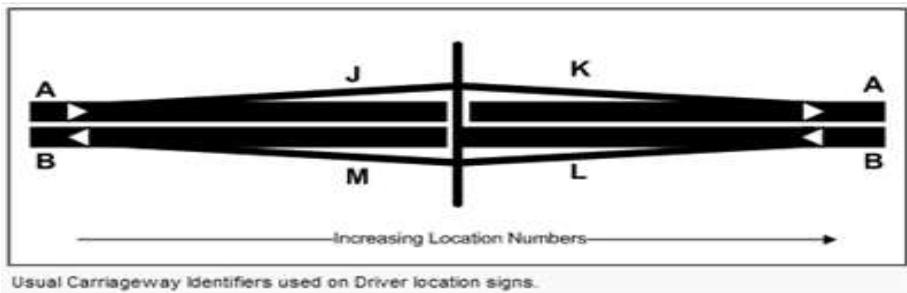
## 'J', 'K', 'L' and 'M', not forgetting 'C' and 'D'.

I read with interest Jan Creswell's article in the February issue of "Challenge" on the subject of 'Driver Location Signs', accompanied by an appropriate photograph. It was Jan who first brought them to my attention, so having become acquainted with their use I was keen to seek further information. As Jan pointed out, 'A' and 'B' occasionally offers a little uncertainty as to the direction of travel, however a further explanation suggested on the AA web site states that the letter 'A' normally denotes the carriageways leaving London and 'B' is used for the opposite carriageway.

As Jan also mentioned, directions are not always clear. In addition, if you are driving on the M25 then 'A' represents clockwise and 'B' anticlockwise.

The letters 'C' and 'D' have been allocated for service roads adjacent to the 'A' and 'B'.

With further research I became aware of letters on junction slip roads best illustrated by the diagram.



'J' and 'K' indicate getting off or on the 'A' carriageway, whilst 'L' and 'M' denote getting off or on the 'B' carriageway.

More details can be found on the AA website.

Graham Richards



## Joke Corner

A truck driver was driving along a country road.

A sign came up that read 'Low Bridge Ahead'.

Before he realised it, the bridge was directly ahead and he got stuck under it.

Cars are backed up for miles.  
Finally, a police car comes up.

The policeman got out of his car and walked to the truck's cabin, and said to the driver, 'Got stuck, eh?'

The truck driver said, 'No, I was delivering this bridge and ran out of petrol!'

.....

## Motoring History – Correction.

Mike Dickerson pointed out that there was an error in 'Dates in Motoring History' last month in that the first Highway Code was published in 1931, not 1955 as stated. Apologies, but I was going on information I was given and didn't check it out first! I have slapped my own wrist!



**Deadline for articles for the April Newsletter will  
be noon on Monday 25 March  
Thanks. Ed**

**WE REALLY NEED MORE ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER.  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS SUPPLY MANY ARTICLES  
BUT MORE WOULD BE GREAT – IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY,  
THE NEWSLETTER IS THE PLACE TO AIR YOUR VIEWS!**

## Reversing

First thing is the Highway Code Rule 20 states You MUST NOT reverse your vehicle further than necessary.

So lets look at reversing, first, choose an appropriate place to manoeuvre. If you need to turn your vehicle around, wait until you find a safe place. Try not to reverse or turn around in a busy road; find a quiet side road or drive round a block of side streets.

If you decide to reverse round a corner then look carefully before you start reversing. You should;

- use all your mirrors
- check any 'blind spot' behind you (the part of the road you cannot see easily in the mirrors)
- check there are no pedestrians (particularly children), cyclists, other road users or obstructions in the road behind you.

Reverse slowly while:

- checking all around
- looking mainly through the rear window
- being aware that the front of your vehicle will swing out as you turn

Get someone to guide you if you cannot see clearly. Also do the reverse slowly and under control.

When in car parks I see drivers who drive into a parking bay forwards. There's nothing wrong with that, as long as it's a nice wide bay. Reason is that when you start to reverse out the front of your vehicle is going to swing wide. I find it so much easier to reverse into a bay and drive out. So much easier. Whichever way you do it make sure you look carefully all around you, especially if you reverse out. The other point I want to make is please make sure you park within the lines of the parking bay.

There is nothing worse than seeing someone park their car in two bays or even just the back end of a car in the next bay.

Bad parking often will and does cause many arguments and raises tempers.

Parallel parking is a skill all on its own, I'm not even going to try to put it into words. Talk to your observer about this and he/she will help you out.

Safe Driving (and parking)

Ray

+++++



**Forthcoming Talks – (Socials)**

**March 23rd**

Talk by David Lowe titled 'The joys of lorry driving.'

David is currently the Chair of IAM Barnsley Group and the Chair of Region 4 South Forum; both positions which he currently holds and has held for a considerable time.

**April 18th**

Talk by Mark Hallam, on what is required by the examiner, on taking the IAM Advanced Driving Test.

He is one of the IAM Examiners in our area.

**All Associates should attend this evening,  
as it will be an invaluable aid to passing the test.**



## WHATS ON IN THE NEAR FUTURE

### MARCH

Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Guidance	9.30 am Sainsbury's Car Park
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Matlock Group Quiz Night 7.30 p.m. start	Duke William 91, Church St., Matlock DE4 3BZ
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Guidance	9.30 a.m. Sainsbury's car park
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Social – David Lowe – “The joys of lorry driving”</b>	Club Chesterfield 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Committee Meeting	7.30 p.m. Chesterfield Library Cafe

### **Future Dates:**

#### **April:**

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>                      Guidance

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>                      Guidance

Thursday 18 April                      **Social - Mark Hallam – “What is required by the Examiner when taking the IAM Driving Test”**

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>                      Committee Meeting.