



NEWSLETTER 2021

Issue 36

GROUP NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

DUE TO THE CONTINUING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS & SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS, OUR PROGRAMME OF MEMBERS' MEETINGS IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. MEMBERS ARE ADVISED TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE BY FREQUENTLY FOLLOWING NATIONAL & LOCAL NEWS BULLETINS, AND FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR GROUP UPDATES.

One of our good friends, Mick Kinghorn, is hoping to be able to run a motorcycle Skills Day at Croft, North Yorkshire in 2021, provided of course it can be run within whatever Government guidelines are applicable at the time. Whilst this event is not connected in any way with the IAM, it operates in a very similar way to the IAM Skills Days, and as such is fully aimed at improving on-road riding skills. It emphatically is *not* a track day. Those who have attended before (either an IAM day or one of Mick's) will know how much fun they are, and how much you can learn in a short time by being able to repeat the same corners (on well-maintained tarmac with no oncoming traffic!) multiple times in a session.

Further details on website [Advanced driver training: MK Driver & Rider Development \(mkdrrd.co.uk\)](http://mkdrrd.co.uk), and if you're interested please contact either Edinburgh and District Advanced Motorcyclists (EDAM), who are co-ordinating a collective response from all interested IAM members in Scotland, or ping a note to me (Lindsay Pyall) at Linzandcarol@gmail.com and I'll pass your details on. No deposit is needed at this stage, but Mick is looking for people to make a firm commitment to attending before firming up arrangements with the circuit towards the end of February.

The IAM is also hoping to be able to run a number of Skills Days this year, for both drivers and riders, and details should be available soon on the IAM website.

CAR / MOTORCYCLE SECTION

Newsletter Editor's New Year Message

I wish to take this opportunity to say a Happy New Year to all group members; I hope despite the strange turn of events wiping out “normality” for the most part of 2020 you could appreciate the little things in life and spend time with those you hold close either within household bubbles or in a virtual sense. We'll continue to live our lives in much the same fashion for some time to come.

And so, our group activities and committee business remain on hold. This will result in a reduction of new Associates with no driving / riding courses able to take place. However our Facebook page is seeing a growth in subscribers; no matter how the Covid-19 virus situation develops social media will play a central part in engaging with our online community. Hopefully you can spread the word to your family and friends about IAM Roadsmart's purpose of driving improvements in our nation's road safety; and in doing so we gain increased members in the future.

I make an urgent appeal on behalf of our committee for volunteers to join the group committee for the next session following the 2021 AGM (as yet no scheduled date is set for this). Some of our existing committee members have made the decision to step down, but we hope there is a smooth transition going forward in recruiting fresh blood to participate in our meetings and influence the future pathway of our own branch as the principal voluntary local road safety body. We are currently seeking a new Chair, Secretary and a Committee Member. Being a Committee Member does not take up much time if you have work commitments etc. and in terms of skills you have, again no particular requirements other than willingness to speak and contribute at meetings. The Secretary role does involve additional responsibilities so you may wish to obtain more information to consider if this is suitable for you – if so you can email the address on the previous page to contact the group Secretary. The most responsibility lies with the Chair who ultimately leads and directs the committee business matters.

Please give this some thought as to whether you can offer your services – oh, and when face-to-face meetings can resume you can have biscuits and a choice of beverages (non-alcoholic of course!)

I wish everyone a safe and healthy year ahead.

Kenneth Grant
Newsletter Editor

NATIONAL NEWS

European Commission announces major package of transport safety initiatives

Updated rules on cross-border enforcement of traffic offences, vehicle roadworthiness, automated vehicles, and driving licenses and a proposal to add eCall automated emergency calling devices to motorcycles, trucks and buses are among a major package of new legislative measures for the transport sector have been announced by the European Commission.

[RoadSafe: European Commission announces major package of transport safety initiatives](#)

Constituency Road Safety Dashboard

The All-Party Parliamentary Group for Transport Safety has met with Roads Minister Baroness Vere to discuss the government's policy on road safety and to coincide with this, PACTS and Agilysis have launched the Constituency Road Safety Dashboard.

[RoadSafe: Constituency Road Safety Dashboard](#)



Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards 2020 Winners

Since 1987, the Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards have recognised outstanding achievement and innovation world-wide. Each year the most outstanding examples of international road safety initiatives are given public recognition through the scheme.

[RoadSafe: Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards 2020 Winners](#)

Your Committee 2020/21

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