



NEWSLETTER

2016 - Issue 22

Newsletter Editor

The IAM will very soon relaunch under a new brand IAM RoadSmart (officially to take place on 18 April). So in all probability this edition of the newsletter will be the last in which the above logo is displayed. On reflection, I joined the IAM in May 2009, so I could well rack up a lot more years being a member of the new charity. It will be interesting to follow developments as IAM RoadSmart embarks on an ambitious, challenging and bold mission which will hopefully reap the rewards of attracting new and particularly younger members, and also fostering in long-standing members a renewed sense of passion to make a difference in local branches around the country; all in the name of striving for more improvement in road safety standards.

The IAM celebrates 60 years in business this year and you can read about the special anniversary events planned and how you can participate. Exciting times ahead indeed.

Happy reading and safe motoring!



Kenneth Grant
Newsletter Editor

GROUP NEWS

Dates for your Diary:-

Monthly meetings

AGM - 12 May 2016	Smith Museum, Dumbarton Road, Stirling, FK8 2RQ
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Congratulations to the following people who have passed their IAM Test:

Associate		Observer
David Morgan (car)	05/02/2016	Ernie Hogan
Gordon Craig (car)	10/02/2016	Angus Maciver
Brian Anderson (car)	08/03/2016	Neill Watt
Bill McLean (car)	10/03/2016	Angus Maciver

CAR / MOTORCYCLE SECTION

A DOUBLE WHAMMY IAM WEEKEND

It started off with the Spring Forum meeting in Stirling, attended by Angus Maciver and me. Spring had arrived, the sun was shining, the sky blue, which was a bit of a scunner, considering we all had to go to a meeting! At least I got the chance to ride Smoggy (my faithful motorbike) in decent temperature for a change.

The meeting was hosted by Gill McGregor, with a special visit from Sarah Sillars. If you've not met Sarah yet, you're in for a treat; she's a lovely lady, entertaining and articulate. She gave a very good insight into the future vision of the organisation, showing a video which will undoubtedly be shown at the launch of the new standards.

The main presenters were Dave Shenton and Mick Kinghorn. Both gave us a look at the new IAM brand, website and the plan for the new standards roll-out. Obviously this is an important time for all of us; time to embrace a consistent product for coaching our Associates. It's very apparent that a lot of hard work and debate has gone into it. I hope that everyone will see this as a positive step forward. I guess we'll know all about it very soon! The meeting was well attended and very informative.

It was a run in the sun back to Dunfermline to my friend's house, rather than going home. It meant on the Sunday I got to ride through Glen Devon, Crieff, home for fuel and a quick coffee. Carrying on to Inverary, it was clear that bikers were starting to come out of hibernation. I have to say, some were riding like they had been off their bikes for decades, not just a few months! There's a distinct advantage to riding all year round.... Catching up with the Harley rider in the twisties after being overtaken on the straights was a big highlight! He then blatted away again, speeding through the villages (naughty boy) only to be caught by me again. I could tell he was hacked off. Teehee! I enjoyed it.



When I got to Inverary, the town was heaving with bikes, it was great to see. The launch of the third edition of Scottish Biker magazine was supported by Biker Down, speed cameras available for a nosey, MotoScotland promoting their courses and the police on marked and unmarked bikes. The IAM MDU was in an ideal position and we got a bit of interest in RideScotFree sessions. Oddly, there was a lot of interest from people in the Forth Valley area, which will keep our group busy. I was regularly called over to meet people and explain what the taster sessions were all about and how our group carry them out.



Well done to the team that made the trip up to Inverary. You know who you are. It was a lovely day, great atmosphere and a good laugh. Oh, did I mention free bacon rolls (until they ran out) and free tea and coffee? Courtesy of the Inverary Inn.

My run home was superb. I got a good clear run, however, when I got to the crossroads at Tyndrum, there was a biker down and they were waiting for the air ambulance to arrive. Having misjudged the left hand bend he lost control, knocking his shoulder and collar bone. By all accounts he was a new rider, and got off lightly, considering he had a close encounter with the road sign. All the more reason for us to promote the IAM, keep pursuing our hobbies and continue to 'save lives'.

I have to say, it's great knowing such an enthusiastic bunch in the IAM, who work hard at road safety and give of their time. If only we could persuade more people to embrace learning. I guess it's like eating an elephant... Do it one bite at a time.

Fiona Robertson
Honorary President
Photographs courtesy of Scottish Biker Magazine

NATIONAL NEWS

IAM joins forces with Under 17 Car Club

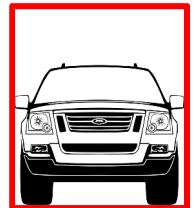
Driving charities the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) and the Under 17 Car Club (U17CC) have combined efforts, allowing young drivers a unique pathway to safe and enjoyable driving before even passing their test.

The partnership, which was launched this week, will make the Under 17 Car Club Charitable Trust an IAM approved training organisation.

<http://www.iam.org.uk/media-and-research/media-centre/news-archive/20762-iam-and-under-17-car-club-form-partnership>

Be part of the IAM's 60th anniversary parties!

Do you have a classic (or even modern classic) car or bike? Would you like it to be on display at the IAM's 60th anniversary celebrations on 2 or 9 July? Then visit the IAM's Facebook event pages and stake your claim for your vehicle's year of manufacture. The IAM is searching for one car and bike representing each of the past 60 years - and if your car or bike is chosen for display, your admission to the party is free. Visit our Facebook car event page [here](#) and bike event page [here](#). Or you can submit your entry to events@iam.org.uk or by calling Paul Woozley on 0303 303 1134.



Your Committee 2015/16

Chairman and Chief Observer IMI National observer	Alan Penman	07966 897354	chairman@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Secretary	David Legge		secretary@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Treasurer	Shazad Gul		
Membership/Liaison Secretary	Mark Elder	07973 217256	membership@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Kenneth Grant	01324 228126	newsletter@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Motorcycle Chief Observer	Lindsay Pyall		
Local Observer	Robbie Warner		
Committee Member	Denise Veitch		
Local Observer	Graeme Williamson		
Vice-President	Angus Maciver	07801 951508	angus.maciver@blueyonder.co.uk

Forth Valley Group website: www.forthvalleyiam.org.uk/

Enquiries to Membership tel: 07973217256

Notice is hereby given by order of the Group Committee that the

Annual General Meeting of Forth Valley Group of Advanced Motorists

**will be held
at
The Smith Museum,
Stirling on
Thursday, 12 May
2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

to enable the Trustees of the Group to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended March 2016 for approval by Group Members and to conduct an election.

**Dave Legge, Group
Secretary
Inveravon Manor, Polmont, Falkirk FK2
0YE**

All Members, Associates and Friends are invited to attend but only Fully Paid-up Members of the IAM and the Group may vote. A Member entitled to vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote in his or her stead.

A proxy need not be a Full Member of the Group. Nominations are invited from Full Members to stand for Committee. Any nomination must be on the form overleaf and must reach the Secretary at least seven days before the election.

CURRENT COMMITTEE

All Officers retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election. One third of the Committee (excluding Officers) must retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election.

OFFICERS

Chairman	Alan Penman	Vacant
Vice Chairman	Alan Penman	Vacant
Secretary	Dave Legge	Willing to stand for re-election
Treasurer	Shazad Gul	Willing to stand for re-election

MEMBERS

Membership/Liaison Secretary	Mark Elder	Willing to stand for re-election
Newsletter Editor	Kenneth Grant	Willing to stand for re-election
Chief Observer M/C	Lindsay Pyall	2 years remaining
Committee member	Robbie Warner	Vacant
Committee member	Denise Veitch	Vacant
Committee member	Graham Williamson	2 years remaining

