

FORTH VALLEY GROUP
OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS



IAM Group 6168

Scottish Charity SC023512

NEWSLETTER 2023

Issue 43

GROUP NEWS

Proposed Member Meetings to be held as follows:

AGM – 18/05/23 – 7.30pm on Zoom (more info at end of newsletter)

Winter Meeting Dates - to be discussed and agreed by Committee in due course.

Further information on meeting topics / formats to follow. Members are welcome to give a talk on a subject of their interest, or suggest ideas for future meeting topics. Please contact any committee member if you can assist.

You can also follow our Facebook page “Forth Valley IAM”.

There are no test passes to report since the previous newsletter edition, but Car and Bike Associates are waiting in the wings.

Committee News:

Our current Chair Dave Allan has announced his decision to step down from his position; read on for Dave’s reflections and experiences throughout his time. On behalf of the whole committee and membership, huge thanks Dave for all your efforts in steering our local group through the significant challenges of recent years.

We are seeking Dave’s replacement to become the new Chair as soon as possible. It is not an onerous task, and we would particularly welcome expressions of interest from anyone who is not on the committee but wishes to be more involved. If you have leadership skills the role would be well-matched. Please contact Dave if you have any questions.

Chair's Chat

I joined the IAM to fulfil an aim I had from my early years of riding motorcycles and driving cars. At that time I was part of a large group of young lads on motorcycles who had a lot in common, we were all apprentices working in various companies and who had begun that journey in a training centre so we all knew each other well. The main problem was that we all liked to ride around town quite fast and we were a problem for the police as they couldn't always catch us but they knew where we congregated and got us all together and made an offer to help train us to be better riders if we worked with them to produce training videos and so the journey to sitting the IAM test began.

In later years I took the opportunity of doing the Bikesafe training and enjoyed my day out with police officers so on a trip to the bike show in Edinburgh and visit to the IAM stand the decision was made to do the IAM coaching and test.

I had concerns about my own ability half way through the coaching and wondered if I could do everything that was being asked of me to meet the standards required for the test but on the day I passed with a F1RST. Getting such a great result gave me a real 'buzz' on the way home and also made me want to give something back to the group and decided I wanted to become an observer and that decision led me to becoming more involved with the group. I enjoyed coaching associates and went on to do the national test and become a local observer assessor but at the same time I had also decided to join the committee as group secretary and then took on the role of group chair.

The group chair's role is all about ensuring the group runs smoothly and conforms to the guidelines set by the IAM and we are lucky that we have a core of members on the committee who give their time to make that happen. Lindsay as treasurer, Belinda as group secretary, Mark as membership secretary, and Kenneth who does fantastic work producing the newsletter. The group also wouldn't function without the time and effort given by the other committee members, chief observers, and observers.

The one thing that I have enjoyed is the feeling of respect within the group and its members, a respect for what we have done and what we do and we should all be proud of that as it's something I feel is lacking in some areas of society today. I still get that same 'buzz' I mentioned earlier when an associate passes the test as they too have made the effort to improve their driving or riding.

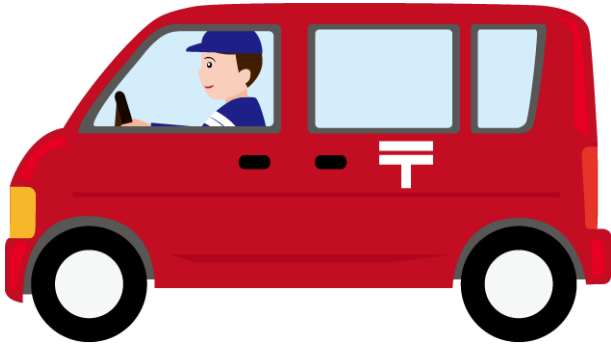
I've recently moved house and out of the Forth Valley area and although I've enjoyed my time in the role and got the car side of the group running again I've made the decision to stand down as group chair. I will continue, within reason, until we find somebody to take on the role. It's not a difficult task but the group needs somebody in the role to continue.

Dave Allan

NATIONAL NEWS

Managing risk in the work-place when work is a vehicle

Health & Safety Event 25-27 April 2023, NEC Birmingham. Around 120,000 HR and Health & Safety



professionals will be out in force in Birmingham at the Health and Safety Event. This is where the biggest work-place risk – driving for work - will be explored.

[RoadSafe: Managing risk in the work-place when work is a vehicle](#)

Changes to MOT legislation

New cars may not need an MOT test for four years under government plans to cut the cost of driving.

The Department for Transport has just closed a consultation which proposed changing the rules around the roadworthiness test, including extending the time before a car, van or motorbike has to be presented for its first MOT.

[How changes to the MOT could affect you \(iamroadsmart.com\)](#)

International Women's Day 2023

On the 8th March we supported International Women's Day, with this year's theme of **#EmbraceEquity**. Our staff and community were proud to represent our commitment to making the world a more equal place. In our latest blog, we shone a light on a few inspiring women working at our Head Office.

[International Women's Day 2023 \(iamroadsmart.com\)](#)

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 on Zoom on Thursday, 18 May 2023 at 7.30p.m.

to enable the Trustees of the Group to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended March 2023 for approval by Group Members.

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 below 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

Chair	Dave Allan	Stepping down
Secretary	Belinda Macdonald	Willing to stand for re-election
Treasurer	Lindsay Pyall	Willing to stand for re-election

OTHER POSITIONS AND COMMITTEE

Membership/Liaison Secretary	Mark Elder	Willing to stand for re-election
Newsletter Editor	Kenneth Grant	Willing to stand for re-election
Chief Observer Motorcycle	Lindsay Pyall	Willing to stand for re-election
Committee Member	Brian Hambly	Willing to stand for re-election
Chief Observer Car	Robin Mair	Willing to stand for re-election
Committee Member	William Rose	Willing to stand for re-election

Virtual Meeting Details:

Zoom login details will be emailed to members. The Zoom session will open at 7:25pm.

Your Current Committee

Chair	Dave Allan	07877279120	chair@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Secretary	Belinda Macdonald		secretary@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Treasurer	Lindsay Pyall		treasurer@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Membership/Liaison Secretary	Mark Elder	07973217256	membership@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	Kenneth Grant	01324228126	newsletter@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Motorcycle Chief Observer	Lindsay Pyall		chief_observer_bikes@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Committee Member	Brian Hambly		
Car Chief Observer	Robin Mair		chief_observer_cars@forthvalleyiam.org.uk
Committee Member	William Rose		

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

Enquiries to Membership tel: 07973217256