

ARE WE THERE YET?

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists Newsletter

July 2023

iam
RoadSmart

Group Number 4178
Registered Charity Number 1053843





WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE



- Page 3** **Forthcoming Gatherings and Events**
- Page 3** **Spam Emails**
- Page 4** **From the Editor**
- Page 5-6** **Group Membership News**
5. Welcome, Congratulations
6. MYAM Online
- Page 7** **Directions to the Birkenshaw Liberal Club**
- Page 8** **June Meeting – MYAM AGM**
- Page 11** **IAM News Releases and Tips**
Sharing the road with cyclists
- Page 13** **Ultra Low Emission Zones**
- Page 14** **Is This The Future For Car Interiors?**
- Page 15** **And Finally.....**
This Month's Teaser and the Answer to Last Month's Teaser
- Page 16** **Your Committee Contact Details**

Cover Photo – Who is This?



The subject of this month's teaser on page 15. A famous TV character. But who is it?

Taken in Budapest by David Wevill

Forthcoming Gatherings and Events

Monday 3rd July 8pm	Chris Bishop from A-Plan Insurance talking about car and home insurance	Birkenshaw Liberal Club 10 Croft Street Birkenshaw, BD11 2HT
Monday 4th September 8pm	David Stringer Topic to be confirmed	Birkenshaw Liberal Club
Monday 2nd October 8pm	Tony Young Tramways in Yorkshire	Birkenshaw Liberal Club

Everyone is welcome at these events and they are an ideal opportunity to meet new people socially, find out about what is going on within the Group and listen to interesting talks on a variety of topics, sharing our skills with other serious drivers and keeping up-to-date on club and driving matters.

Please note there is no social meeting in August.

Spam Emails

The committee has received reports about emails which appear to have been sent to some members by members of the committee. We wish to make it clear that the only time we would send out mass emails is for the newsletter distribution or when we need to contact members regarding an event or matter that cannot wait for the next newsletter distribution and the subject is related to MYAM. Note that the newsletter is normally sent out about a week before the next social meeting usually on a Sunday morning.

Generally the only committee members who send out mass emails are myself, the newsletter editor, or Paul our secretary. Graham, our membership secretary, also sends emails but to specific members regarding their membership status. These emails are sent from the addresses listed on the committee page of the newsletter. If the sending email address is different to the address on the committee page it is almost certainly a spam email and should be ignored. You should not respond to it or open any attachments and should delete it. If you are uncertain you may contact the apparent originator to confirm whether an email has been sent using the contact details on the committee page.

From the Editor

Those of you who were at the February social meeting where I gave a talk on dashcams may have noticed that my voice was a little hoarse to the extent that I needed a microphone to continue.

It got worse over the next week or so and eventually I went to see the doctor. I was most surprised that I actually got an appointment on the same day although it was not at the local surgery of the group meaning I had to drive rather than walk to the appointment.

A course of antibiotics was prescribed which made no difference so an appointment was made for further investigation at BRI. This time a camera was inserted up my nose to view my vocal cords. (It wasn't as bad as I initially envisaged). This was followed by a CT scan which showed no abnormalities. It was suspected that it was a viral infection.

I was then referred to a speech therapist but while waiting for the phone call to arrange the appointment my voice started improving and by the time I had the phone call it was much better as commented by the therapist. Three weeks later I went to see the therapist, a week after a committee meeting where it was commented that my voice was much better. At the therapist session we both agreed that my voice was more or less back to normal. I also learned how the vocal cords work. So now it's see how things progress and if there are no adverse changes I'll be signed off in a couple of months time.

So all being well I'll be audible at the December meeting for the annual quiz which reminds me I'll have to check all the questions. Here's a thought, if my voice has deteriorated I could always get David to ask the questions. That might give the other teams a chance!!

Keith

Will any Member wishing to have an item, article or picture included in the newsletter please submit it to the editor no later than the 15th of the month. These may be edited to save space. Thank you.

Disclaimer

The items contained in this newsletter are the views of the Members who contribute and not necessarily the views of the Institute of Advanced Motorists (I.A.M.) or MYAM.

GROUP MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to the Group

No new associates this month

Congratulations

On passing the Advanced Test
Richard Hague - Observer Lesley Pollard

.....

You may not realise that we send a congratulations card to associates when we are informed of their test pass and it makes it all worthwhile when we receive thank you emails from the successful associates..

Hi Keith. Hi Chris

Simply to say a huge Thank You.
The Congrats card from Mid-Yorks IAM arrived today.

What a friendly touch that is!

May I say that I am so glad to have been schooled by the Mid Yorks bunch and this is why:-

In joining as an Associate my intention was to be able to enjoy driving again. Charles certainly achieved that with me by about run 6! He then encouraged/persuaded/made it easy for me to take the test.

My thanks to you, Chris and to Bob for 'checking me out' and bringing another perspective to my learning.

Now I have the Congrats card, all the learning can continue and be even more pleasure with the test under my belt.

Thanks again.

Lois (Bentley)

MYAM Online



WEB SITE Our website is packed full of information and is the go to place for everything you need to know about our events, courses, meetings and news about us as a Group. How about copies of the newsletter going back a few years.

Need to know who the Committee are or see our Observer team? We are all on there.

See us at www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/midyorkshire

We are adding to the content all the time so keep dropping in to see what we are doing.



FACEBOOK provides details of events and local news. Go and visit www.facebook.com/midyorkshireiam and like our page.

How about inviting a few of your Facebook friends to like our page too. It helps getting our name out there.



TWITTER We have our own Twitter account which can be found at twitter.com/MYAM4178

Group Telephone number is 0113 314 9969

Data Protection – Privacy Notice (GDPR)

Mid Yorkshire Advanced Motorists (MYAM) is committed to looking after the information that it holds on behalf of its members in a way that complies with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

MYAM has a legitimate interest in keeping sufficient personal information to communicate with its members and other local people with an interest in road safety, and to permit the renewal of subscriptions. A member can ask to see a copy of their personal information, correct any errors and ask for all or part of it to be deleted.

MYAM is affiliated to the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM) and will use a member's information to support them if and when they are assessed by IAM. MYAM will also ensure that any data shared with IAM is accurate. We will not share your details with anybody else.

Directions to the Birkenshaw Liberal Club

10 Croft Street, Birkenshaw, Bradford, BD11 2HT



From the M62 West leave at Junction 26 and take the A58 towards Leeds. At the second roundabout turn left into Bradford Road (A651) after about 700yds by the George pub, turn right into Town Street. Croft Street is approximately 60yds from the junction (top photo left) but to avoid the potholes carry on up Town Street and turn right into Old Lane. After approximately 100yds turn right into Croft Street (middle picture left between the car and the house next to it).



From Bradford follow the A650. Turn right onto the A651 at the traffic lights just before Tong Academy. Then just after the George pub turn left into Town Street and follow the previous directions.



From the M62 junction 27, take the A650. Turn left onto the A58. After approximately ½ mile turn right into Old Lane After approximately 550yds turn left into Croft Street (bottom picture left).

There is a large car park and the entrance is down the right hand side of the club as shown in the top picture.

Our meetings are held in the function room.

June Meeting - MYAM AGM

We held our first AGM at the new venue on June 5th and after confirming we were quorate (sufficient full members were in attendance) the meeting commenced with the chairman's report.

Janice thanked the committee for their help and support in running the group over the last year during her sabbatical due to health concerns. She is now on the road to recovery.

Janice also welcomed everyone to the new venue which is a little more central to the MYAM area now that our area now includes that covered by the former Skipton and Craven group.

As a result of not attending any promotional events since 2019 she said the committee had decided to sell the caravan used at these events. It had been offered to members first and if not sold would be advertised nationally.

Finally Janice thanked David Stringer for his role as our president although David will be standing down as President as from the AGM.

Paul Macro then gave the group secretary's report

The committee had met 10 times, 3 by video and 7 at a new location.
Sally Lawrence and Ken Newton had been co-opted onto the committee.

A new Driver Training Sub-Committee had been formed comprising Chris Marrison, Bob Rowles and David Stringer

There were no rule changes to the group.

There were changes to MYAM website and he stated we needed a WebMaster

As our treasure Rosie was unable to attend Paul read out the treasurer's report.

Compared to the previous year, 2021-2022, our income had reduced while our expenditure had increased meaning there was a loss for the year of just under £1000. However we have sufficient reserves to cover the difference between income and expenditure.

Should you require more information on the treasurers report please contact Rosie.

Membership Secretary Graham Crawshaw then presented his report.

There had been a reduction of 27 full members over the year to 31st March 2023 due to

- Deaths.
- Non-Renewal of MYAM Memberships.
- Embargo on allocation of new Associates to MYAM from IAMR, usually 2 to 3 new Associates allocated each month.
- 15 Associates passed their ADT in 2022/2023 all becoming Members of MYAM.
- 1 Associate decided not to take the ADT Test.
- 12 Associates decided not to start/recommence due to delays due to Covid.

Details of the membership by location.

	Fellow	Full Members	Associates	Total
Blackburn		2		2
Bradford (inc Keighley, Skipton and Settle)		49	17	66
Halifax		6	1	7
Harrogate	2	19	10	31
Huddersfield		9	2	11
Leeds	3	89	26	118
Sheffield		1		1
Wakefield (inc Dewsbury)	2	56	13	71
York		4		4
Dudley		1		1
Total	7	236	69	312

Chris Marrison then gave the Chief Observers report.

Key Milestones

- Full resumption of Associate guidance - July/August 2022.
- Observer Forum - September 2022.
- Group introduction of new Observer qualification structure - December 2022.
- National Observer Assessment training sessions to support the revised Observer qualification structure - Q1 2023.
- Introduction of Observer Skill Check sessions.
- All member email requesting trainee Observers.
- Removal of allocation block on new Associates.
- Introduction of Associate Triage system prior to commencing course.

Test Results

- Passes - 12 (5 F1RST & 2 re-tests).
- Fails – 3.
- Fellows 3 year re-assessments – 4.

Observers

- National Observers – 17.
- Local Observers - 5 (2 scheduled to undertake National Observer assessment June 2023).
- Trainee Observers – 4.

Associates

- In training – 12.
- Awaiting allocation – 19.
- On hold – 9.

Planned events

- Observer Forum/Strategy/Training meeting - September 2023.
- Meet the Examiners with Q&A.
- Introduction of digital platform.

Challenges

- Observer recruitment.
- Observer retention/Observer demographics.
- MYAM operational area.
- IAMR requirements.

The group officers, Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were then elected. The existing officers had offered themselves for re-election and were duly elected.

Committee members Graham Crawshaw and Alan Jones were then re-elected unopposed and Sally Lawrence and Ken Newton were elected to the committee.

The chairman then addressed the meeting followed by a vote on the authority to raise subscriptions if necessary. This was carried unopposed. The members present were told there was no intention to raise the subscription in the coming which would be remaining at £10 per annum.

The meeting was then closed.

Sharing the road with cyclists

As temperatures rise across the UK, many of us will start to see more people opting for the two-wheeled alternative to make their journeys. Whether it's the school run, commute, exercise, or for leisure IAM RoadSmart is sharing their top tips on sharing the road with cyclists.

The Department for Transport (Dft) reported that in 2022, 16,512 cyclists were involved in a road casualty – making up for 12% of all road casualties. Richard Gladman, Chief Examiner at IAM RoadSmart, is giving his expert advice on how we can all enjoy our hobbies whilst keeping all road users safe.

Keep your distance

When riding or driving, it's important to leave enough room between you and the cyclist. We never know when we may have to stop, so it's key to make sure there is enough space in the event of anything unexpected happening.

Look beyond the cyclist

Look beyond the cyclist to decide whether you can get past, and it's important to remember to keep 1.5 metres width when passing and a minimum of two or three car lengths when following a cyclist. The closer you are, the more nervous the cyclist(s) will be which may result in them becoming unbalanced. When a cyclist is coming towards you, they should also be treated with care, if necessary slow down for a moment and give them space.

Overtake with care

Be careful when overtaking groups of cyclists and ensure you can see well ahead before attempting an overtake. If cyclists are in single file, bear in mind how long you will need to overtake them, and how far ahead the road needs to be clear, as you may not be able to filter in and out. Remember a pothole or drain cover may cause a cyclist to move out so give as much space as you can.

Take your time

It's important to stay calm if you find yourself behind a cyclist, and if you find yourself acting irrationally, it's likely this will lead to unnecessary road rage and collisions that could be easily avoided.

Parking with care

After parking, check for other road users by opening your door using the Dutch reach method. Check your mirrors and reach across with your left hand as this encourages you to look over your shoulder and check your blind spot to see if it is safe to open the door.

Richard Gladman, Chief Examiner at IAM RoadSmart said:

“Sharing the road safely is key to ensuring we all get to enjoy the warmer weather. Unlike motorists, cyclists don't have a protective shell around them that's equipped with airbags and seatbelts so it's vital we all play our role in keeping each other safe.

“The 2022 Highway Code no longer asks for cyclists to stay on the left side of the road, or to use any provided cycle lanes. Instead, they are told to ride no less than half a metre from the kerb or verge. This change places greater responsibility on motorists to overtake cyclists safely, so it's never been more important to know the rules of the road. We're all told to be considerate and understand our responsibility for the safety of others, as advanced drivers and riders this should be on the top of our list.”

.....

Although the Highway Code places greater responsibility on motorists I believe that all road users must take responsibility for their own actions. A driver cannot be expected to know exactly what a cyclist or any other road user will do. This includes pedestrians who are often too engrossed with their mobile phones to notice what other road users are doing and often step into the road without looking. I've also seen cyclists wanting to turn left riding down the narrow gap between the curb and a car that is clearly indicating its intention to turn left at traffic lights. Can they not see the indicators of the car flashing? Could they not have just stopped behind the car?

Ultra Low Emission Zones

Many cities have introduced, or are planning to introduce, Ultra Low Emission Zones (ULEZ) or Clean Air Zones (CAZ) in an effort to improve the air quality. Non-compliant vehicles are charged when they enter the Zones However there is no consistency between the cities as to which vehicles charges actually apply to.

I have attempted to discover the requirements for each zone and have summarised my findings in the table below. Note that it has not been easy to find precise details for many of the cities. If you are planning to visit any of these cities and have, or suspect you have, a non-compliant vehicle you can check it's eligibility on <https://www.gov.uk/clean-air-zones>

Generally Euro 4 petrol vehicles (built from January 2006) and Euro 6 Diesel vehicles (built from September 2015) are exempt from charges.

Town	Charges ¹			Operational from
	Cars	HGV	Buses	
Bath	N/A ²	£100	£100	March 2021
Birmingham	£8	£50	£50	2021
Bradford	N/A ³	£50	£50	
Bristol	£9	£100	£100	November 2022
Edinburgh	£60			June 2024
Glasgow	£60 ⁴			June 2023
London	£12.50	£100	£100	Full zone from August 2023
Newcastle ⁵	N/A			July 2023
Oxford ⁶	£2 - £10			
Portsmouth	£10 ⁷	£50	£50	
Sheffield	N/A			

1 - Charges for non-compliant vehicles.

2 - Taxis pay £9 to enter the zone.

3 - Taxis pay £7 to enter the zone.

4 - Non-compliant vehicles effectively banned.

5 - Charges only apply to non-compliant taxis, vans, HGVs, buses and coaches.

6 - Oxford zone covers city centre all but electric cars pay the charge.

7 - Private cars not affected but taxis pay the charge.

Many other cities are considering ULEZs so it's worth occasionally checking if you are visiting a city you suspect may have introduced one.

If you do find any new ULEZs not mentioned here please let me know and I'll update the table.

For the London ULEZ there are some vehicles exempt from the ULEZ charge although they may not be exempt from the congestion charge. Vehicles built more than 40 years ago are eligible for a historic vehicle tax class and are exempt from ULEZ charges unless they are used commercially. Also vehicles constructed before 1st January 1973 are exempt irrespective of use.

Additionally several other vehicle types are exempt, these include

Specialist agricultural vehicles

Military vehicles

Non-road going vehicles which are allowed to drive on the highway (for example, excavators)

Certain types of mobile cranes

These are my findings based on searching the internet for information. It is by no means exhaustive so if you are intending to visit a city with a low emission zone, or you suspect it has a low emission zone, please check what are the conditions for entry to the ULEZ. As I said earlier there appears to be very little consistency between the zones in different cities.

.....

Is This The Future For Car Interiors?

I have just seen details of the latest Range Rover Evoque and there seems to be something missing - Switches to control the various systems in the car. These have been replaced by a touch screen on the central display screen.

There seem to be several cars with these screens and no switches but how well do they work? I have a touch screen in my car for the radio and sat nav which works reasonably well but it does not control and major systems such as the lights, air con or windows. I have to ask how easy is it to operate a touch screen while driving. I can turn the lights on and off without taking my eyes off the road and similarly with the windows. I know where the switches are and they are easy to operate. Would a touch screen be as easy to operate and how reliable is it? Voice control is another possibility but although my car has voice control of some functions it is not 100% reliable so rarely gets used.

Is this technology gone too far? Let me know what you think.

And Finally.....

Best Country Songs Titles Of All Time (these are actual song titles)

20. If The Phone Don't Ring, You'll Know It's Me
19. She's Actin' Single and I'm Drinkin' Doubles
18. How Can I Miss You If You Won't Go Away?
17. I Keep Forgettin' I Forgot About You
16. I Liked You Better Before I Knew You So Well
15. I Still Miss You, Baby, But My Aim's Getting' Better
14. I Wouldn't Take Her To A Dog Fight Cause I'm Afraid She'd Win
13. I'll Marry You Tomorrow, But Let's Honeymoon Tonight
12. I'm So Miserable Without You; It's like Having You Here
11. I've Got Tears In My Ears From Lyin' On My Back And Cryin' Over You
10. If I Had Shot You When I Wanted To, I'd Be Out By Now
09. My Head Hurts, My Feet Stink, And I Don't Love You
08. My Wife Ran Off With My Best Friend, And I Sure Do Miss Him
07. Please Bypass This Heart
06. She Got The Ring And I Got The Finger
05. You Done Tore Out My Heart And Stomped That Sucker Flat
04. You're The Reason Our Kids Are So Ugly
03. Her Teeth Was Stained, But Her Heart Was Pure
02. She's Lookin' Better After Every Beer

and the #1 song title is.....

01. I Haven't Gone To Bed With Ugly Women, But I've Sure Woke Up With A Few

.....

This Month's Teaser

Who is the famous TV character with his dog on the front cover?

Last Month's Teaser

Last month I asked "Which was the first Coronation to be televised?"

It was not the 1953 coronation but the Coronation of George VI in 1937. The coverage was not as extensive as it was in 1953 and it was only receivable in London by the few who had a TV set.

Your Committee

Chairman	Janice Haigh		myam.chairman(at)outlook.com
Secretary	Paul Macro		myam.secretary(at)outlook.com
Treasurer	Rosie Bricis	07579 965029	myam.treasurer(at)outlook.com
Membership Secretary	Graham Crawshaw	0113 314 9969	myam.membership(at)outlook.com
Youth Liaison	Position vacant		
Speaker Secretary	Sally Lawrence		myam.speakersecretary(at)outlook.com
Events Manager	Alan Jones	07714 444595	alan.j909(at)btinternet.com
Website	Position vacant		myam.webmaster(at)outlook.com
Newsletter Editor	Keith Wevill	01274 815281	myam.newsletter(at)outlook.com
Chief Observer	Chris Marrison	07798 822935	myam.chiefobserver(at)outlook.com
GDPR Manager	David Rockliff		
Committee member	Bob Rowles	01943 831976	bob.rowles(at)gmail.com

Due to computer hacking and high levels of spamming we have had to remove the hyperlinks to our e-mail addresses and have replaced the @ symbol with (at) so you will need to retype the address in the correct e-mail format, i.e. replace (at) with @, with no spaces.

URGENT REQUEST

We are in need of a Minutes secretary for our committee meetings and someone to look after the Website. Please contact any member of the committee if you are interested in any of these positions.