



# Leicester Group Of Advanced Motorist Newsletter

Official Provider

November 2020 Edition

## Editors Column

Editor: Kevin Hill

Hello and welcome to the November newsletter.

It's still a very troubling time with the Covid 19 outbreak and as I type this newsletter, we are in Lockdown in England again. These are very trying times for us all. It goes without saying that during this period we should be taking extreme care with our driving and riding. With weather and road conditions worsening we should be trying more than ever to keep accidents and incident's down to an absolute minimum. I would like to remind all of you to check your car before travelling especially screen wash, light's and tyre's. We can all play our part in keeping the emergency services protected.

I would also like to inform you all, that the group is now on Facebook. You can find us by searching "Leicester IAM"

If you wish to read previous newsletters, they can now be downloaded from our local website which can be found with this link [www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/leicesteriam](http://www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/leicesteriam)

If anybody has anything to add to the next newsletter please email me on [news.leicesteriam@gmail.com](mailto:news.leicesteriam@gmail.com)

## Chairman's Article

I should start by hoping everyone is well as the second wave sweeps across the country. The various Covid-19 tiers across the city and county made operations difficult for a while – in some ways, the imposition of lockdown has simplified matters: all operations – training and testing – are

suspended until at least 02 December. Who knows whether that will be the start of a new normal, or further restrictions will be applied?

I report – with sadness – that Peter Phillips has retired from being an IAM Examiner; further, he has stood down from the Committee - which will leave a massive hole! Raffles (when we have them) will never be the same, with neither Fred nor Peter to cajole you into buying the tickets and then preparing them for the draw. Thank you, Peter, for your wise counsel and common sense -you were always able to identify the heart of an issue and suggest a solution. We wish you all the best in your well-earned retirement. The Group can rest assured an appropriate way of rewarding Peter for his long and distinguished service will be found.

Peter has been replaced as an Examiner by Alex Hathaway who, has recently retired from Leicester Constabulary. The Committee met Alex at our next Zoom meeting, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, but he will NOT be joining the Committee, meaning for the first time in living memory, we will be without an Ex Officio member. See his pen picture later in the Newsletter.

We also discussed future events, difficult under the circumstances, but see elsewhere for details of a Zoom meeting in December and look out for a Zoom invite. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible for this pre-Christmas meeting – sadly, no cheese, chocolate, or even a buffet!!

In April, some of the Committee met by Zoom with Peter Serhatlic, another ASDM (Area Service Delivery Manager), to review the Group Audit submission we had made. I have previously reported how positive that meeting was and, in the hope that we would be meeting physically again, a follow-up was scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> November. That obviously did not happen, but it has been re-scheduled until the New Year. Roll on a return to something like normality!

Changes to the Masters programme are afoot and I will be briefed later in the month by Peter Serhatlic on those changes and look forward to being able to report to you in the next Newsletter. Until then, best wishes and stay safe.

## Group Night

Group night this month has again been cancelled due to corona virus outbreak. We are planning on holding a zoom meeting in December and would welcome your ideas for content with this meeting. I will be in touch with everyone with details in the next month.

[News.leicesteriam@gmail.com](mailto:News.leicesteriam@gmail.com)

## Observer News

Currently we have 6 associates waiting allocation to our volunteer Observers all of whom are occupied with either one or two even three associates of their own putting them through the driver training.

Our Observers have 16 associates under their wings. Rest assured if you are in that que, we will get to you ASAP.

During the lockdown and even after or during your training please consider joining our Facebook page where you will find some good discussion points and videos that will assist you in becoming better drivers. You can find us under "Leicester IAM"

If you are concerned that your membership will run out whilst you are either training or waiting for an Observer due to Covid, please don't worry. When your renewal

comes from IAM HQ just phone them up and explain the situation and you should have your membership extended.

Richard Bishuty

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## Treasurer's Update

I am available at the email address [treasurerleicsiam@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerleicsiam@gmail.com) for queries on the account number for transfer, postal address for cheques, if you want to know when you last paid, etc. Looking forwards seeing you all when we can meet - until then, stay safe. Thanks

Carl Taylor-Beeby

## Associate News

May I take this opportunity to welcome all new members that have recently joined. As I am sure you are aware, we are in unprecedented times and at present are not holding group nights at the moment. If you can, you are welcome to join the Zoom meetings that will be held. I will be in touch with the details in due course.

To all associates out there currently being assessed.

Please be aware that if you have been assessed for a year or more without taking your test, you may have to renew your National IAM membership to carry on with your assessed runs. If you have not managed to complete your course within the year please contact myself to check if you are still valid for insurance purposes. We may be able to extend your membership if there are mitigating circumstances. I should be in contact with any associate that has expired their membership, but if you have not been contacted or think your membership has expired please get in touch.

Richard Bishuty

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