

Northampton Advanced Motorists

Newsletter

Issue 90

Spring 2011

From the Chair

John Hodges
Group Chairman



Some sad news to convey to you all as I start my "From the Chair" for the last time as NAM Chairman. Long standing NAM member, and a key person in the county's road safety casualty reduction programme, **Nicole Short**, sadly died in December after her long fight against cancer. All our condolences go to her family, friends and many local road safety colleagues. A great loss.

As we run up to the Annual General Meeting, you'll find in this newsletter all necessary AGM notices and information. I'm delighted that we have already

received nominations for the three vacant posts of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. If you are interested in one of these posts or in becoming a committee member there is a nomination form within this newsletter. Full details on page 11. The AGM is a very important meeting, so please arrange to attend on the evening of **Wednesday 13th April** at the Northampton & County Club. After all, it is for the benefit and information of all our NAM membership, so please attend. As I write now, I cannot yet confirm our guest speaker. This will be published on our web site as soon as we possibly can. Change is, of course, inevitable so I'm very happy that we have some really good people within both the group and local committee who are prepared to continue the excellent work that has been done over the last few years. More of that in my final address at the AGM!! Just a final reminder that if you haven't yet renewed your 2011 NAM group membership - please do that **immediately!** Last chance I'm afraid. Since I last wrote, I know of at least six test passes (see page 2) and also that **Wayne St. John** has completed his training as a qualified group observer. Well done one and all and I know we'll have at least a few certificates to present at the AGM!!

Before I go on, let me tell you all about some interesting events coming up. A visit to the Desborough Skid-Pan on **Saturday 21st May**. £85 per head for six lucky participants driving and experiencing both front-wheel and rear-wheel drive cars. No more details available as I write this, but contact **Brian Johnson** if you're interested, his number is 01604 716045. Also a trip to the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage airfield on Bank Holiday **Monday 30th May**, by a classic vintage *charabanc* at £12 per head. This venue features an

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operational (but non-flying) wartime RAF Lancaster bomber taxi-ing for all to admire, as well as other exhibits and flying displays, including a Spitfire and Hurricane fly-past. We'll leave Police HQ at 09:00 hrs and be back home about 19:00. Again contact **Brian** to book your place as soon as possible. Cost includes transport and discounted entry fee. You'll also note inside that our annual dinner will be on **Saturday 7th May** again at the Northampton & County Club. To keep the cost down to £20, there will be a SET MENU this year. Full details including booking form on page 23. Yummy, yummy, I can't wait!!

As I stand down as Group Chairman after six years, I'm delighted the way things have gone within NAM. I've recently attended two road safety seminars and much professional concern has been expressed about the way things will go over the next few years because of the huge cutbacks in central funding. Somerset's road safety budget has been cut by **80%** for example! This spring we should finally see published the new UK Government's "Strategic Framework for Road Safety" covering the next 10-20 years. I hope it's not just a smokescreen of words to hide cuts in both budgets and services. Only time will tell.

On our local level, however, **we** plan to not only continue our activities, but also increase them!! Already we are looking to assist local businesses raise their road safety awareness and also assist the WI run a driver skills competition - perhaps along the lines of "Strictly Come Driving". Keep reading your NAM newsletter for details!!

Finally, can I bring to your attention what our recent test passer **Giles Kibble** has been doing these last few weeks? He's been in New Zealand since the new year and is currently supporting local Long Buckby girl **Emma Cullen** in her marathon bike-ride to raise funds for cancer research. Sadly, both Emma's parents died of cancer and friend Giles agreed to drive her support vehicle (**not** ride alongside, I note) when she went. Emma's 12-week bike ride will be taking her over 4,000 miles around the coastline of New Zealand. As I write, she's about ½ way round hilly North Island!! She hopes to raise over £10,000 to share between three UK cancer charities.

More details about her and her mission can be found on the Daventry Express web site. Please note her web-site address for all voluntary donations is: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/emmacullen>. Please support this worthwhile cause. I'm delighted that thanks especially to **Trevor Dickenson**, test-ready Giles was able to take and pass a promptly-arranged test before he departed our snowy shores in late December. Well done the IAM.

It has been my honour to serve as NAM Chairman since 2005. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM. Thank you all for your support.

John Hodges

Chairman, Northampton Advanced Motorists

Test Passes

The following associates have passed their Advanced Motoring test since the last newsletter. Many congratulations to all of you.

Anna Chalk
Ann-Louise Doidge
Ken Harris
Greg Houghton
Giles Kibble
Ted McKay
Sarah Reading
Tahir Zubair

Apologies

Many apologies to Ann-Louise Doidge who passed her test in August. I completely misspelled both your forename and surname. Humble apologies.

Important Diary Dates

Chris Gilbert Talk – 20th April 2011, 20:00 hours **Lecture Theatre, Police Headquarters, Wootton Hall, Northampton**

See elsewhere in the newsletter for details about Chris Gilbert and this talk. It is a combined event between 5 groups (Milton Keynes, Corby, Banbury and Northampton IAM Groups, and Northampton Roadar Group).

Places are limited so you will need to book with the Chairman, John Hodges.

Hollowell Steam Rally – Saturday and Sunday 2nd and 3rd July 2011

This year we intend to have the MOC at the Hollowell Steam rally. We will have a “pitch” for the weekend and hope it will result in quite a lot of exposure to a large number of people. We need members to man the unit throughout the weekend – in shifts of 2 to 2 ½ hours. Those volunteering will have badges allowing free entry to the rally, so you can have a good look around before or after your shift (or both if steam rallies are your thing). The Hollowell rally celebrates its silver anniversary this year and has grown into one of the larger rallies in the country. All the money made after costs are covered goes to local causes and charities.

The unit will need to be operational between 09.00 and 16.00 on both days. We will also need someone to tow it up there on Friday evening (or early on Saturday), and to bring it back on Sunday afternoon. If you are able to help, can you please contact John Norrie who is co-ordinating the slots. The suggestion is 09.00 until 11.30, 11.30 until 14.00 and 14.00 until the close. John.norrie@hotmail.co.uk – 01604 506603

Annual General Meeting – 13th April 2011 **Northampton and County Club, George Row, Northampton**

The Annual General meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th April 2011, at the County Club, Angel Street, Northampton. Due to the atrocious weather we have had for the past two AGMs, we have moved the date to April in the hope of having less snow and ice on the roads! The AGMs are always good evenings, and 2011 is no exception. As well as having an entertaining guest speaker lined up, this is an opportunity to question the Group in open Forum, and, for the brave, to join the committee!

Annual Dinner – 7th May 2011 (19:30 for 20:00 hours) **Northampton and County Club, George Row, Northampton**

Following the success of last year, this year’s Northampton Advanced Motorists’ Annual Dinner is being held at the Northampton and County Club, George Row, Northampton on Saturday 7th May (7.30 pm for 8 pm). The cost for the three course meal plus coffee and mints will be £20 per head. Below are just a few of the comments following previous events:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
|) “the beef melted in my mouth” |) “it was excellent value for money” |
|) “the service was spot-on” |) “the venue was excellent” |

See booking form on page 23.

Skid-pan day – 21st May 2011

Northants Skid Control Centre, Desborough Airfield, Desborough

The Group have booked the skid-pan for 21st May 2011 at a cost of £85 per person (max 6 people). It is a wet surface skid-pan on a custom built half acre driving facility on Desborough Airfield in Northamptonshire. The surface reacts like ice when wet creating road conditions which are as unpredictable as the real thing. The Centre find this more realistic than using additional 'jockey wheels' which are attached to the side of cars on dry skid pans.

The site is located away from public roads and dangerous obstacles. The Skid Pan has a figure of eight road layout with junctions and road signs surrounded with a safe rubber tyre border.

For further information and to book your place, please contact Brian Johnson on 01604 716045

Vintage Bus trip to Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre – 30th May 2011

(Bank Holiday Monday)

Starting from Police Headquarters, Wootton Hall drive, Northampton at 09:00 hrs

Back by popular demand! This time Brian Johnson (on behalf of the 154 Preservation Society) has arranged for a vintage bus to take us to the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, which is the largest Bomber Command museum in the country. Relive A World War Two Bomber Airfield , Experience The Sights And Sounds, Smells and Atmosphere of a bomber airfield. The Lincolnshire Aviation Centre is the only place in the country to see a Lancaster Bomber on an original wartime airfield. In addition day will include some flying displays including a Spitfire and Hurricane fly-past and possibly a Dakota. Including, original Control Tower, welcoming NAAFI and an emotionally evocative Memorial Chapel containing the 848 names of personnel who gave their lives from this airfield.

The trip in the vintage bus alone is worth it, but when you add on an exciting and interesting destination, then this trip is a real must do. Booking essential, for further information and to book your place, please contact Brian Johnson on 01604 716045

Check and Assessment Drives

These normally take place on the **first Sunday** of each month at **Midsummer Meadow Car Park**, Bedford Road, Northampton (Near Avon Cosmetics and Becketts Park). Note: alternative venue in exceptional circumstances is the Borough Council offices front car park, Cliftonville. The sessions are **09:30** and **11:00** hours.

6th February 2011

8th May 2011

7th August 2011

6th November 2011

6th March 2011

5th June 2011

4th September 2011

4th December 2011

3rd April 2011

10th July 2011

2nd October 2011

Appointments for check and assessment drives can be arranged through the Associates Officer, Ian Phillips (nam_secretary@yahoo.co.uk or 07967 651820).

5 Minute Interview



John is a stalwart of the Group, having been an observer for over 15 years. He has a well earned reputation on the Group for winning our Treasure Hunts!

John Josphehs
Observer

When did you pass your IAM Test?

May 1986. I took the test as I had always enjoyed driving and wanted to improve my standard of driving.

What is your occupation?

I am a solicitor specialising in family law and motoring cases such as drink/driving and speed cameras. I recently won a test case in the High Court over the late service of a Notice of Intended Prosecution (NIP). These have to be served within 14 days and the police have always argued that so long as they post the notice in good time, it matters not that it is delivered late. The High Court held that the police view was wrong.

I also sit as a Deputy District Judge in the County Court dealing with civil cases, such as housing, family matters and small claims, but not criminal cases.

What do you currently drive?

Jaguar XF. It is a dream to drive but being rear wheel drive it is terrible in snow because it comes with sport tyres rather than winter tyres. I have recently bought some snow chains but haven't tried fitting them yet. My dream car would probably be an Aston Martin but also something like a Range Rover, for the winter.

Where do you like to holiday?

Cyprus, because there is good weather, nice friendly people and good food. It is not too far away either. I also like Thailand where again people are very friendly. I love Thai food

What is your scariest observing moment?

I can think of two really scary moments from over the years. The first was when an Associate drove straight

past a Stop sign at the Holcot cross roads, which is a virtually blind junction. She didn't stop at all but just kept going to the road on the other side of the cross roads towards Pitsford Reservoir. Fortunately nothing was coming on the main road.

The second is probably the shortest observed run in history. Within 2 minutes of leaving the car park the Associate drove through a red light at the Cliftonville Road Junction, just missing a car. I tried to stay calm and when we got to the Barnes Meadow roundabout and told him to go all the way round before directing him back to the car park, where I aborted the drive. The drive had been about 5 minutes in total.

When not observing, how do you relax?

I play a lot of bridge both at tournament level and online. I enjoy working out at the Gym, swimming and Aqua Aerobics. I also enjoy watching football and, being a Geordie I still support Newcastle United despite their lack of success over the years

If you won the lottery, what would you spend it on?

Probably a new house – still in the same area though. I would also buy a property abroad, probably in Cyprus. I wouldn't squander the money but I would also buy a season ticket for Newcastle!

What one tip would you pass on to an associate?

If somebody is tailgating you, the worst thing you can do is to speed up as the "fastard" will simply speed up as well. He will still be close behind you but you will both be travelling at a faster speed. Unless you can let him by, you should slow down. He will have no choice but to slow down as well. You can then increase speed slightly to create a gap. If he closes up again, just repeat the exercise.

A Talk by Chris Gilbert, 20th April

**** Places Limited ****

20th April 2011 (20:00)
Northamptonshire Police HQ (Lecture Theatre)

Chris Gilbert taught high performance advanced driving at the Metropolitan Police Service for 22 years. In addition he has provided driver training to a number of high profile royals including Prince William, Prince Harry, The Duchess of York and the Earl of Ulster. In the police service, he has taught at all levels of advanced driving up to the coveted Advanced Class 1 level, including pursuit driving, 999 driving, high speed night driving, convoy driving, towing, PCV, LGV, skid pan instruction and training new driving instructors. He also taught tactical vehicle deployment for riot situations, anti surveillance training for government ministerial and EEC Brussels drivers. He is a former Police Advanced Driving Examiner, a former DSA Delegated PCV & LGV Driving Examiner and a former RoSPA Driving Examiner.

Chris was a member of the Home Office working party that produced the 1994 edition of 'Roadcraft', the UK Police Driver Training Manual which has a worldwide reputation for excellence. Recently he acted as 'critical friend' to the Police Foundation production team for the newest 2008 edition of Roadcraft, which has been widely acclaimed. Chris is one of the instructors featured in the Roadcraft DVD made at Hendon in 1996.

Chris will be giving a talk to the combined audience of four IAM Groups (Banbury, Northampton, Corby & District, Milton Keynes) and the Northants RoADAR group.

Places are very limited, and will be issued on a first come first served basis. Please contact the Chairman, John Hodges to reserve your place.

Cartoon by our very own Peter Davey



Fuel price increases are no new thing

27 January 2011

The increase in motoring costs between 2008-2009 – when vehicle purchase expenditure has been falling since 2005 – is the key finding of *How much we spend on motoring and travel*, published today by the IAM as the latest in its series of IAM Motoring Facts 2010/2011.

Even before the recent hike, fuel prices have been on the rise, with an increase of nearly two thirds since 1990. Insurance has also risen by a similar amount over this time. Since 1990 total motoring costs have fallen by around eight per cent. Overall spending on motoring increased by six per cent between 2007 and 2008.

Neil Greig, IAM director of policy and research, said: "With fuel prices rising at the fastest rates for ten years*, motorists will be wondering when these increases will stop. Competitive car manufacturers and a more efficient garage trade have delivered lower overall motoring costs but these gains are being all but erased by higher fuel and insurance costs. Travel accounts for one sixth of the average family's spending, and motoring accounts for more than 80 per cent of this amount."

One way of reducing insurance costs is to invest in advanced driver training, which leads to discounts in 93%* of cases. Fuel use is also possible to reduce, especially in winter when cars will become less fuel-efficient. A cold engine uses much more fuel than it does once it's fully warmed up and both the heated rear windscreen and air conditioning significantly increase fuel consumption. The following tips can help keep fuel-consumption down at this time of year:

- De-icing the windows with a spray or scraper before starting the engine will get them cleared much more quickly, meaning less time wasting fuel with the engine running and the car stationary
- Keep the inside of the front and rear windscreens squeaky clean. Traffic fumes form a film on the glass which attracts moisture and makes them mist up easily - a clean screen will rarely mist up at all meaning less use of the heater and air-conditioning
- It will take most cars at least a couple of miles to warm up and run efficiently. Could you walk or get public transport? If not think about linking short trips together to avoid driving with a cold engine all the time
- For more eco-driving tips visit www.iam.org.uk/fuelsavingtips

Spending on motoring has doubled in real terms since 1970, even though during the same period the cost of vehicle purchase has fallen by a quarter and servicing and repairs by a fifth. Over the same period rail fares have increased by a quarter.

Mr Greig continued: "The increase in rail fares means that driving is still a good option for many. Costs are unlikely to go down so we recommend drivers look seriously at ways to control their motoring bills."

Good driving part of Pollution Solution

4 February 2011

Research by the IAM shows that toxins in exhaust fumes other have fallen by 80 per cent since their peak in 1990 and that today's new lorries are quieter than 1970's cars.

The findings in 'Toxic emissions and noise', published today by the IAM, show that the noise made by the average family car is now 74 decibels – normal conversation is between 60 and 70 decibels. Bus

levels are 78 decibels and heavy lorries 80 decibels. In 1972 the level for a passenger car was 82 decibels.

IAM director of policy and research Neil Greig said: "Long-term exposure to road noise has been linked to increased levels of stress and high blood pressure, so it's good news that we are turning down the volume on Britain's vehicles. But drivers can reduce noise further by fitting low rolling resistance tyres and keeping to the speed limit. Starting up and moving off quickly in your diesel also helps and keeps the neighbours happy."

Toxic exhaust emissions are also falling. In particular lead emissions are now close to zero and carbon monoxide emissions are a quarter of their 1990s levels. While this is largely due to catalytic converters cleaning exhaust fumes and the introduction of lead-free petrol, drivers can also take action to reduce levels of toxic fumes.

Greig said: "Driving at a constant speed is far more fuel efficient than accelerating and braking. Anything that makes traffic slow down and speed up is bad for both fuel consumption and air quality emissions - particulates such as brake dust and toxic gases. It is also safer as stopping increases the risk of being hit from behind."

Next year, new tyre labelling will make eco-driving even easier. By November 2012 all new tyres will carry a label indicating how much the tyre affects the car's fuel efficiency, about its performance in wet conditions and its external rolling noise in decibels.

Stay safe down lovers lane this Valentines Day

9 February 2011

The IAM is urging young men to take special care of their girlfriends this Valentine's Day. More young women aged 17-19 years are killed or seriously injured as passengers in cars than as drivers.*

Only five per cent of licence holders are men under 25, yet they make up 14 per cent of all drivers involved in injury crashes.*¹ These accidents are also more likely to occur at weekends and on rural roads: something to remember if you're thinking of a romantic weekend drive in the country.

IAM chief examiner Peter Rodger said: "Taking care on unfamiliar roads, especially on bends, and planning ahead to spot hazards early, will make your drive much safer. And if you're using a satnav on unfamiliar roads, don't follow it blindly; this can lead to unromantic diversions into fields, and sadly, serious crashes. Impress her by driving smoothly and well instead of fast, and try sticking to the speed limit: this will save fuel — and leave you more money to spend on roses and chocolates."

While not yet mandatory in the UK, post-test driver training in Austria has shown reductions in young driver fatalities of up to a third. To help young drivers in the UK improve their skills and safety on the road post-test, the IAM has recently launched *Momentum*.² Designed for 17-25 year olds, it consists of an interactive online assessment, and an on-road session with an IAM examiner. *At only £40*, it offers a quick, low-cost option for improving safety.

Young drivers run over more than a third of pedestrian casualties

6 January 2011

The massive reduction in fatalities within our two most vulnerable age groups is the key finding of *Younger and older road users*, published today by the IAM as the latest in its series of IAM Motoring Facts 2010/2011.

Fatalities have fallen 33 per cent in the 16-19 year old bracket, 25 per cent for drivers in their 70s, and 22 per cent for drivers aged 80 and over since 2008.

Neil Greig, IAM Director of Policy and Research, said: "While these reductions are really positive, we must continue to support these drivers, who are among the most vulnerable on our roads. The fatality rate continues to be highest for 16-19-year olds, followed by the over 80s, but for very different reasons."

"The greatest risk to the oldest age group on the road is as a pedestrian. In comparison, younger people are much more at risk as a driver or as a passenger in a car driven by a young driver. Pedestrian risk increases from two per cent of those injured aged between 20 and 50, to around nine per cent aged 80 and over. The greatest risk to pedestrians is car drivers under 30 who are involved in more than a third of pedestrian fatalities."

During their teens and twenties, the risk of young drivers being killed halves every five years as they gain more driving experience. Mr Greig continued: "This lends weight to the IAM's call for post-test training to be made compulsory in a form similar to that of the system in countries like Austria¹, where reductions of up to 30 per cent in young male driver fatalities have been achieved. If new drivers can be kept alive during this most dangerous stage of their driving career, the risk of them becoming another killed or seriously injured statistic reduces significantly."

Despite widespread beliefs to the contrary, older drivers are no more likely to be involved in an injury crash than middle aged drivers, and are much less at risk than drivers aged under 30. However, the risk of being killed as a car occupant increases from about 0.6 per cent of those injured aged between 30 and 50, to over three per cent aged 80 and over. This is generally a result of age-related frailty; older people are more likely to be injured in a crash and are less likely to recover. Between 20 and 50 years of age, the rate of deaths declines for all road users except for motorcyclists which remains almost constant over this period.

"Young male drivers continue to be the most high-risk group, and are more than twice as likely to be involved in a fatal or serious injury crash as young female drivers. A renewed focus on young drivers, which provides them with opportunities to gain further experience in a controlled and safe environment is of utmost importance", said Mr Greig.

Group Matters

Membership Renewal 2011

The Treasurer would like to remind all members that group subscriptions are payable on 1st February each year. Members are invited to renew their NAM membership for 2011 and a renewal form is provided in the newsletter. You may wish to pay by annual SO. Please ask our Membership Secretary for details. Completed forms should be sent by post to Pam Durrant with the appropriate subscription (cheque made payable to "Northampton Advanced Motorists")

Pam Durrant
Wedge Cottages
East Street
STANWICK
Northamptonshire, NN9 6PX

Nominations for Officers and Committee 2011

According to Group rules, each year the group **Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer** resign and stand for re-election when appropriate. Other committee members are elected for three years, after which they must stand for re-election.

Officers resigning:

John Hodges (Chairman)
Ian Phillips (Secretary)
Pam Durrant (Treasurer)

The above officers are stepping down and not seeking re-election, although they wish to remain as NAM committee members.

Committee Members resigning (3 year rotation):

Maggie Lloyd

The above committee member is prepared to stand for re-election.

Committee Nominations

Members are invited to nominate other **full** members for vacancies on the committee for the year 2011/12. This may be done **in writing** using the form below as indicated, or from the floor on the evening of the AGM. **Please ensure nominees are willing to stand for all posts nominated** and are proposed and seconded by, at least, two different **full** members of the Northampton Advanced Motorists group.



Group 7100

Northampton Advanced Motorists

Affiliated to: The Institute of Advanced Motorists

Committee Nominations Form

Members are invited to nominate other full members for vacancies on the committee during 2011/2012. Please use the form provided and return to the address below no later than **Tuesday 5th April, 2011.**

Please ensure that nominees are willing to stand for the posts nominated.

NAME		
ADDRESS		
	POSTCODE
MEMBERSHIP NO	TELEPHONE
EMAIL		

ROLE *	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
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Forms should be returned to: **Ian Phillips, Secretary,**
Northampton Advanced Motorists
65 Peck Way, RUSHDEN, Northamptonshire
NN10 6BD

* e.g. (e.g. Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, committee member)



Group 7100

Northampton Advanced Motorists

Affiliated to The Institute of Advanced Motorists

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the **Northampton Advanced Motorists** group will be held on **Wednesday, 13th April 2011** commencing at 20:00 hours, at the Northampton and County Club, George Row, Northampton NN1 1DF.

Ian Phillips, Secretary

AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 2010 Annual General Meeting*
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Address
6. Treasurer's Address
 - a) Presentation of Accounts
 - b) Proposal for transferral of funds (if required)
7. Election of Officers and Committee Members
 - a) Members standing down after 3 years
 - b) New Nominations
 - c) Nominations from the floor for committee vacancies
8. Any Other Business
9. Closure of Formal Business
10. Presentations
 - a) Certificates
 - b) President's Award
 - c) Caithness Trophy
11. Guest Speaker – *To be confirmed*

**copies of the 2010 Northampton Advanced Motorists AGM minutes will be available for perusal by members on the evening of the 2011 NAM AGM.*

Associates Spotlight

When you join the Northampton Advanced Motorist Group as an Associate Member (i.e. a driver that wishes to prepare for and take their test), your training will normally follow the format below.

1. You will have an initial assessment drive, normally at the monthly Sunday checkdrives (1st Sunday in the month, Midsummer Meadows car park, Northampton, 09:30-12:00). An assessment can be arranged outside of the Sunday if necessary.
2. Once you have joined the Group, your observer will invite you to a classroom session including a demonstration drive. Both of these are normally conducted by Steve Smith, a member of Northamptonshire Police's Driving School, who is also our Chief Observer. The classroom session is designed to cover the fundamentals of advanced driving and the demonstration drive will give you an opportunity to see advanced driving in practice. The sessions are held at Police HQ in Northampton (Wootton Hall), and will last approximately 3½ hours. This is completely free and has proved to be of great benefit to new Associates as they develop their new skills.
3. The classroom/demonstration session can be completed at anytime within your training but it is suggested that, where practicable, it is done sooner rather than later to receive maximum benefit to fit in with training module of: – Explain, Demonstrate, Imitate, Practice.
4. You will continue your preparation for the Advanced test, either attending the Sunday morning sessions or using the 1-2-1 scheme, whichever is preferable.
5. Once you are ready for your test, you will be taken on a mock test by one of the senior observers, after which you can apply for the Test.

(Note: the above is also open to existing IAM Group members who would like to refresh their skills and/or see how training is now carried for new Associates)

Sunday Morning Check-drive and Assessment Sessions

These normally take place on the **first Sunday** of each month at **Midsummer Meadow Car Park**, Bedford Road, Northampton (Near Avon Cosmetics and Becketts Park). Note: alternative venue in exceptional circumstances is the Borough Council offices, Cliftonville. On checking in you will be allocated an observer who will then take you out on your observed drive. You will receive a series of these sessions, usually one each month, until your driving has reached the required standard in order for you to pass the IAM driving test

The sessions are **09:30** and **11:00** hours on these following dates: **6th March, 3rd April, 8th May, 5th June, 10th July, 7th August, 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November and 4th December**. Appointments for check and assessment drives can be arranged through the Associates Officer, Ian Phillips (nam_secretary@yahoo.co.uk or 07967 651820).

1-2-1 Scheme

The Group also offers a one-to-one scheme, where an associate member is paired with an observer. Checkdrives can then take place at mutually convenient times, for example on a Friday evening or Saturday morning. This scheme provides consistency as your observer will take you for all your checkdrives until you reach test standard. It also offers the opportunity to consolidate your training into a shorter timespan. For further information please contact Peter Davey on 01604 753405 or nn5pete@virginmedia.com.

The IAM Advanced Driving Test

I'm happy to up-date and re-submit my original article for publication concerning the IAM Advanced Car Driving test that was originally printed in our Spring 2006 NAM newsletter. What the examiner is looking for on test hasn't changed since then. So what really are the most important factors? In essence the 5 "S's". **Safety** is clearly paramount. So the candidate's driving style must be **safe, systematic, smooth** with **speed** where and when safe and reasonable – and all with that little dash of **sparkle!**

So in a nutshell it is safety, common sense and competence that he is looking for during that test drive. Does the driver have "credibility" that they are truly an advanced driver by the way they drive? The examiner genuinely does not only want to say "You'll do" to the candidate when they've finished their test. He really is looking for that bit more from them. Before the test actually gets under way, he wants to see good starting drills. He likes candidates to **offer** to do a full cockpit check, without being prompted. This includes turning on the ignition and really checking that all the warning lights are activated as expected; pressure on the brake pedal is released when the engine fires to prove that the brake servo functions. Likewise a similar steering wheel response to show that the power steering's working correctly. Tell him what the correct tyre pressures are for the test vehicle and when and how you last checked them! And what about a **moving brake test** please? Yes, please!!

If a candidate can give him some brief bullet-point commentary; say 2 minutes in town; 2 minutes in the country and a few salient point comments here and there – then that's great! A candidate cannot **fail** if he/she does **not** give a commentary and the examiner may even ask a candidate to stop talking if it adversely affects his or her driving – but the "added value" of commentating when and where appropriate is really appreciated by the examiner. He wants to see manoeuvres carried out safely, under full control. He is more interested in seeing effective all round vision techniques used (not just mirrors) rather than a driver hugging the kerb when reversing, for example, but failing to be fully aware of other road users. The turn in the road test does not *necessarily* mean a "3 or more-point" turn. Using forward and reverse gears *could* mean reversing into a suitable side road then simply driving out in the opposite direction if safe and appropriate. Does this advanced driver use "advanced" observation, anticipation and application (planning) skills in this way, he wonders? Does the driver display a good understanding of the "system"? How about a good "working" knowledge of the Highway Code? He may well ask you! Clearly he also wants to see good levels of **concentration, observation, anticipation** and **planning** with good **positioning** and **cornering**. A drive that's at all times **legal** and when/where appropriate **progressive!** Oh yes!!

What the examiner **does not** want to see during your 90 minute drive, over all types of roads using your own vehicle, is braking on bends (should have done that before you got to the bend!), "comfort" braking (unnecessary and may cause frustration to following vehicles); elbows on arm rests, doors or window frames; hands wandering about to rest on gear lever, head, nose, ears, giving descriptive gestures, fiddling with controls, etc., etc., except only when changing gear, indicating, turning on/off lights, for example. Even when stationary in traffic or at traffic lights, etc., keep those blinking hands on the wheel! If someone does not meet the standard required during the test then they haven't really "failed" - but the examiner is unable to recommend them for full membership of the Institute on that occasion. Interestingly the actual IAM Test/Assessment Report sheet highlights about 30 areas of driver competence. Obvious things such as *Safety, System, Observation, Hazard Management, Planning and Anticipation. Use of Gearbox, Acceleration Sense, Braking, Steering, Signals, Mirrors/Rear Observation* as well as *Cornering and Overtaking* techniques. Interestingly *Eco-Driving* simply means good timing of up gear changes (not too early) and planning to stop at a roundabout but looking to go (i.e., avoiding coming to a halt where/when possible) by timing that approach to coincide with that gap as you enter the hazard. He'll **love** that! Areas of *Restraint, Courtesy, Legality* and *Knowledge of the Highway Code*, etc., will also be marked. In each category the examiner will place a mark, as follows: **1=Excellent, 2=Good, 3=Satisfactory, 4=Poor** with **5=Unsatisfactory**. You need to score as **low** a score as possible!! 1's and 2's with the occasional 3 will be a good pass, 2's and 3's with the odd 4 is probably borderline. A final tip or two. Ensure you have all your documents available for the examiner's perusal when you meet him; have a tidy and clean car and don't be too nervous or concerned about minor errors over the first 5 to 10 minutes. He will make up his mind only after the whole drive and his judgement will be based on what you showed

him on the day - not on a wadge of old training sheets that you just happened to bring with you!

Here are some extra tips published by IAM HQ:

The Principles of Advanced Driving

- Does the driver concentrate properly and are distractions avoided?
- Is the road read so as to anticipate potential hazards in good time?
- Are hazards dealt with in a planned and systematic way?
- Are mirrors used before changing speed or position and are signals always given to other road users if they will benefit or appreciate one?
- Is the vehicle driven with reasonable restraint, but not indecision?
- Is judgement of speed and distance accurate?
- Is the vehicle driven with courtesy and consideration for other road users, including pedestrians?
- Is the vehicle always in the right place on the road, travelling at the right speed with the right gear engaged and able to stop in the distance seen to be clear?

Handling skills

- Are steering actions safe, smooth and accurate and is the wheel passed through the driver's hands?
- Are gears smoothly and correctly selected?
- Is full and correct use made of automatic transmission, if fitted?
- Is braking smooth and progressive?
- Is "acceleration sense" used?

Advanced Driving Skills on the Road

- Is a reasonable pace and is good progress maintained if conditions permit?
- Are situations developing ahead anticipated and reacted to correctly?
- Is the correct road position chosen and signals given in good time for the next manoeuvre?
- Are all signals, signs and road markings observed, obeyed and approached correctly?
- Are overtaking manoeuvres carried out smoothly, decisively and safely?
- Is proper restraint exercised and is there proper sensitivity of control when the roads are slippery or visibility is reduced?
- Are manoeuvres such as parking, reversing etc., carried out smoothly and competently with effective all-round observations?

Advanced drivers are expected to control the risks, despite the incorrect actions of others. Every journey can have its unexpected moments. However, even successful candidates will have made some minor mistakes which will not have prevented them from passing the Advanced Driving Test. If you have listened to and applied the training you've received over the previous weeks and months, then you shouldn't really go too far wrong.

You can't say that nobody ever told you what you needed to do to pass!!!!

John Hodges

Chairman and Senior Observer,
Northampton Advanced Motorists

From Octavia to T11 Winter Tank!

Nathan Doyle

Thought I'd knock up a 'Winter additions' list for my Octavia 4x4 Estate with parts No's and all the relevant info which may prove useful to other drivers.

First off, was locating a decent set steels that didn't look like something off a Lorry, I started looking around Volkswagen forums to see if I could find a set and thankfully within a few moments I found a chap in Peterborough that was selling four at a bargain and in absolute pristine condition a real bargain! I highly recommend UKMKIVS.net forum as they are constantly selling VAG bits and bobs off their car; okay so I'm a Vulture then!

Next was to start shopping around for a set of budget Winter tyres, I had several quotes for a set of four Infinity tyres and *Tyres Northampton* came up with the best price, plus they have always looked after me matched prices and in most cases better any prices that I have gone to them with. Oh, did I forget to mention excellent coffee, wireless Internet and a swish reception room? So I removed the standard Alloys and they are currently hibernating until April. On they went adding a very *WWII Skoda T11* tank look to the Octavia- not a pretty sight.

After an expensive and tedious accident with the headlamp on my aforementioned Golf (*please see SDS/ B465 article*) involving a stone flying smack bang into my headlamp, I realized that there was a whole new world of pain involving replacing bulbs in Golfs. Unlike the Golf, the Skoda had new Philips Extreme H7 bulbs fitted in a jiffy- really big difference. Somewhere on UKMKIVS.net there is a photo that I took of both bulbs side by side and you can really see a lot of difference in power.



A close up inspection of my windscreen wiper blades revealed splits and tears so I opted for a standard Halfords rear wiper blade which was an easy fit and went straight on (saving £5 on fitting charges!) and after rummaging around on the internet I found that the Bosch Aero wipers were what I was looking for on the front but a tad

expensive so I thought I'd give the WB5-19 Aero Wiper blades a try on ebay at around £15 cheaper – the reviews looked really good including a five star from Auto Mart. I give this brand of Aero Wipers a 10/10 for quality, performance and price. Worth saying how much quieter they are, around a third of the wiper sound and no more 'clank.'



Santa visited very early this year with the new Garmin 3760T Sat Nav, super slim line and has some really neat features such as gesture-controlled screen, Traffic Trends, Photo Real Lane Assist,

nu route Navigation, Park Position recall and at 8.77mm its hassle-free to stick in your pocket, am having great results and its been my best sat nav to date,

A few years ago I had a Halfords type safety car mirror attached to wing mirror but I was never convinced by the safety aspect with just one small Philips head screw attaching it, so I started searching online and the Hercules Auxiliary mirror seemed to have some pretty good reviews, not easy to get hold of at all- this one came from Israel.

Talking of Glass, my windscreen suffered a good many chips over Autumn and finally a rather substantially and ill placed crack so I decided it was time to change my front windscreen. Autoglass charged me £75.00 and a gold star has to go to the Technician that managed to remove my Silverstone circuit sticker (Nurburgring style) and fit it back on the new windscreen without breaking a single strand of the 5mm width circuit sticker- excellent!

I find the idea of Number plate alarming to say the least so for piece of mind and £5.99 from Halfords I can now relax knowing that even the strongest Yeti could not remove my Number Plate without the Allen wrench and the clever little head that fits on to the bolts. Whilst fitting the bolts, I realised that one of the bulbs above my registration plate was dead, a closer inspection revealed that the screw heads holding the light fascia on were rotten and had to be drilled out (not an easy manoeuvre in -5 conditions with gloves on I can tell you!) I managed to replace the bulb, but the inner boot door fascia had to be removed, an operation carried out on my Golf plenty of times, a whack and tug with my custom VAG tool (rounded off flat head screwdriver) and I had the back off in a few minutes no end!

To keep my tyre pressure consistent I bought my first twin tyre pump from Halfords, so no more Petrol Stations on a Sunday rummaging for twenty pence pieces or jostling with people fighting for air!

So she's all ready for winter, (he says checking the Met office). Have to say, I took the T11, I mean Skoda, out very early one morning last week when we had our first instalment of snow and the grip was unbelievable, first time I've driven a 4x4 in Snow as well.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.

Photo Gallery



From the Publicity in Abington Street, Northampton (December 2010)

(Photos courtesy of John Norrie (via mobile phone))



(below/below right) pictures of the recent Group display mounted by Peter Turner in the Rushden Library (taken through glass)

IAM

The IAM Difference

- Distinctly, IAM Advanced Drivers are safer
- 12 month, state-of-the-art, free, personal, driver-training programme, safer drivers & lower accident/maintenance costs
- 100% roadworthy, 100% roadworthy, 100% roadworthy
- Driving and Parking are free (strictly 2002 rules, plus in your driving, driving, driving & 100% roadworthy)
- The IAM Commercial Division provides a 40% reduction in company car taxation

Do you want to be a Better motorist?

- Call Ian on 07967 451620 for a Free assessment drive
- Drive takes place in your car with an Observer
- Starts from Public Car Park, at Mid Summer Meadow, Bedford Road, Northampton
- You will receive a written report
- You will have an opportunity to talk to the observer about road craft and the IAM

You may then like to join "Skill for Life"

Signing up to the Advanced programme includes:

- The IAM's official manual
- Membership of the IAM for 12 months
- Membership of the local IAM Group
- All preparation for the test
- The fee for the IAM Test
- 3 Member's magazines per year
- Access to dozens of exclusive Member discounts

For more information call Peter 01933 314425

To book a Free Assessment Drive Call Ian 07967 451620



Observer Focus

Current Observers

Chief Observer:	Steve Smith	Deputy Chief Observer:	Peter Davey
Senior Observers:	Alan Brown John Hodges Graham Ward	Brian Johnson Derek Lobb	John Norrie Mike Saunders
Observers:			
John Church	Ian Hancox	Bill Nickson	Wayne St John
Rene Crevel	John Josephs	Mark Osbourne	Dusan Torbica
Pam Durrant	Alan Joynes	Alan Picketts	Peter Turner
Roy Franklin	Roger Loomes	Gillian Simons	Graham Wallace
Mike Habieb	Sanjay Mehta	David Smith	

If you are interested in becoming an observer, contact Steve Smith.

Observer Meeting – Monday 7th March 2011 (19:30)

The next Observer meeting will be held at **Driving School, Wootton Hall Park**, on 7th March at 19:30. These meetings are aimed at keeping observers abreast of changes to the test, techniques etc and are a forum to discuss all things related to motoring/observing.

The following Observer Meeting has been arranged for 4th July 2011.

Membership Issues

Fees

New members ‘Skill for Life’ - £139

Includes:

- initial associate membership to the Northampton Advanced Motorists local IAM Group;
- a copy of the IAM publication “How to be an Advanced Driver”
- the Advanced Driving Test fee
- guidance from the Group observers to reach test standard
- First year’s membership to the IAM (on passing the advanced test)
- First year’s membership to a local Group, including all observed drives

Group Membership

Annual subscription renewable on 1st February each year by both Associate and Full members of the group (where Associates have joined via the *Skill for Life* package, this will become payable after one year’s membership).

Individual - £10

Joint (two people living at same address) - £17

Enquiries and membership renewals should be addressed to the Membership Secretary, **Pam Durrant**. All cheques made payable to ‘Northampton Advanced Motorists Group’.

IAM Products

The following edited article was published in the Winter 2010 edition of the IAM's Advanced Driving and shows the wide range of products that are now available.

The IAM has made all its most popular products available as attractive gift vouchers. Prices start at just £15 for the cycle membership gift voucher and go up to £150 for a place on one of the track-based skills days. In addition, car and motorcycle Skill for Life courses are available for just £139.

Skill For Life (car or Bike)

These are the most popular courses that will take you to the advanced standard and a test pass. Only £139, the Skill for Life pack includes the relevant correct manual.

Cycle Membership

This is a one-year IAM Cycle membership, plus Be a Better Cyclist book, cycle insurance and other benefits for £15.

Momentum

This is a new young driver assessment for drivers under 26 years old. Includes online and on-road modules for only £40.

Ridecheckplus

Non-members can assess their riding skills with an IAM Examiner on an enjoyable ride for only £40.

Drivecheck55

Look after parents and grandparents with a confidence boosting session, only £35.

Roadriderplus

The new half-day programme for scooter, moped and sub-125 riders who are post-CBT and pre-test. This costs only £75.

Skills Day Place

A track-based skills day for cars or bikes for only £189 with a wide choice of top venues.

For further information contact the IAM on www.iam.uk/gift or 020 8996 9600.

Biker dog



Seen and photographed by Alan Joynes

If you look closely the dog has its own jacket and helmet and is secured by an ingenious solid seat belt.

Quiz Page

The Spring Coffee Time Quiz – ‘Cars of Yesteryear’

Who produced the following:

1. Princess
2. Minx
3. Steamer Model 63 (1910s)
4. Oxford
5. Metropolitan
6. Bora
7. Firefly
8. Rapier Granville Grenfell (1930s)
9. Samba
10. Mulliner Saloon
11. Cambridge
12. Pantera
13. Anglia
14. Midget
15. B12 Torpedo
16. Type 43 Grand Sport
17. Chummy (1930s)
18. Super Snipe
19. 25/30 Gurney Nutting Sedanca Coupe (1930s)
20. Ace

The Winter Coffee Time Quiz (no 89) answers

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mercedes-Benz 770K | 11. Alfa Romeo Duetto Spider |
| 2. Mini 1275 GT | 12. Porsche 550 Spyder |
| 3. Solar electric minibus (1992) | 13. Little Red Corvette |
| 4. Bristol 410 | 14. Mazda MX5 Platinum |
| 5. Ferrari Testerosa | 15. Aston martin DB5 |
| 6. Lincoln Continental | 16. Jaguar Mk II |
| 7. Ford Cortina Mk3 | 17. Rover 3500S |
| 8. BMW M1 | 18. Rolls Royce Silver Shadow |
| 9. Peugeot 403 cabriolet | 19. Mustang (sally) |
| 10. Darracq | 20. Lotus Esprit |

Annual Dinner (7th May 2011) – Booking Form

To: Group Secretary, Northampton Advanced Motorists,
65 Peck Way, Rushden, Northamptonshire, NN10 6BD

From (print name): _____

Please reserve _____ place(s) at the annual dinner on my behalf. Enclosed is payment of £_____ (£20-00 per person). Cheques made payable to 'Northampton Advanced Motorists'.

Please note, reservations must be received by 10th April

	Guest 1	Guest 2	Guest 3	Guest 4
Starter				
Leek and Potato Soup				
Main Course				
Chicken Chasseur <i>Chicken in a tomato/mushroom/onion/wine sauce, roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables</i>				
Roasted Vegetable Tart (vegetarian)				
Dessert				
Cheese & Biscuits				
Fresh Fruit Pavlova				

The names of my guests are (including myself):

Guest 1:

Guest 2:

Guest 3:

Guest 4:

Northamptonshire WI Driver of the Year 2011

The Northamptonshire Women's Institute have asked the Northampton Advanced Motorists Group (NAM) to run their Northamptonshire Driver of the Year competition, in conjunction with Northamptonshire Police Driver Training Unit.

The competition will comprise three parts. The precise detail will depend on the number of entries. It starts with a presentation from NAM, followed by a multiple choice driving quiz. These sessions will take place at Police HQ starting at 7.00pm. Three dates have been booked – 12, 18 and 24 May.

Those most successful in the quiz will progress to the second stage. This will be a series of driving and manoeuvrability tests designed by the Police Driver Training Unit and NAM, and conducted in a safe location at Police HQ. These will be conducted, probably, around June/July.

The final phase is a full driving assessment over a pre-determined route. This phase is likely to happen between July and September. The entrant with the highest overall score will be the winner. The presentation will take place at the Northamptonshire WI October AGM meeting.

The Group will need all the support it can get for the first two stages, therefore please let John Norrie know if you would be able to help.



News Snippets

Had you noticed

A new report by the RAC Foundation has identified the number of traffic lights in the UK has increased by around 30% between 2000 and 2008. It is estimated there are over 25,000 sets of traffic lights, with over 6,000 of those being in London.

Potential motorway speed increase

The Transport Secretary, Phillip Hammond, has announced that he is looking into the suggestion of raising the motorway speed limit to 80 mph. At the moment the UK has one of the lowest speed limits in Europe (France and Italy are 81 mph, Spain, Portugal and Ireland all 75 mph). Mr Hammond suggests that the criteria for determining speed limits should not just be based on safety, but should take into account other issues such as economic reasons. "We need to do this on a pretty rigorous cost-benefit basis. At the moment there are a clear set of criteria for making these decisions. Perhaps we ought to ask if we are using the right set of criteria."

Caption Competition - Winner



Winner : **John Hodges**

"Roger says that his new car is the only solution to ever-increasing petrol prices at the pumps (or is he Just winding us up?)"

Northampton Advanced Motorists

www.iamnpton.org.uk

Affiliated to **The Institute of Advanced Motorists**

President : Inspector Nigel Rickaby, Roads Policing Unit, Operations Dept, Northamptonshire Police

Officers and Committee

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	David Smith		01604 845965
	Colin Tarry	cjt@cjv.org.uk	01604 518108
Regional Groups Coordinator, Eastern England (North)	Terry Towler	terry.towlerrgc@iam.org.uk	0115 8465870 0771 3882854

Highway Codes for Sale : £2-00

Got the new Highway Code yet? No? Well the Group is selling the new Highway Codes at just £2-00 (RRP £2-50). Available at the checkdrives.

Videos, CDs and DVDs available for Loan

The group holds a number of motoring titles available for loan, including

- 9 **Ultimate Driving Craft.** An excellent DVD by Chris Gilbert, ex Metropolitan Police driving instructor, and instructor to the Royal Family. It includes how to build up a commentary, observation skills and many advanced driving tips – *100 mins*
- 9 **Roadcraft:** Complements the police Roadcraft driving manual. Follows candidates on an advanced driving course at the Metropolitan Police driving school (Hendon). – *90 mins*
- 9 **Advanced Driving – What's Involved** (IAM Video). Explanation of how advanced driving techniques involve concentration, observation, anticipation, planning and the system of car control – *10 mins*
- 9 **Safe Motorway driving.** Covers all aspects of motorway driving from planning, observation, breakdowns and personal safety to correct overtaking procedures and driving in adverse weather conditions. By following the advice given drivers will be better able to respond to incidents and conditions that may confront them on the motorway – *35 mins*
- 9 **Advanced Driving.** The system of car control. A video made by the Herefordshire Group of the IAM to assist in advanced driver training.
- 9 **Test Drive.** Some good examples of situations met while taking the advanced driving test together with some useful advice and demonstration by David Ovenden, ex-Deputy Chief Examiner – *30 mins*
- 9 **You can save lives too.** A practical guide to emergency first aid, and what can and should be done at the scene of an accident.
- 9 **You only live once** (IAM). Promotes the idea of raising driving standards to the IAM's level without losing the enjoyment that motoring can still provide.
- 9 **Your licence to drive** (CDROM – computer software). An interactive test of driving knowledge and hazard awareness.

A returnable deposit of £10 is required. See Maggie Lloyd at the checkdrives.

Northampton Advanced Motorists

Affiliated to The Institute of Advanced Motorists

Membership Renewal Form

Membership expires on 31st January

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

Address

.....

..... Postcode

Telephone

e-Mail

Membership Subscriptions

Individual **£10**

Joint **£17**

Joint membership is intended for two members living at the same address, only requiring one copy of the Group's newsletter. Full membership is only available to those who have passed the IAM Driving Test. Please indicate clearly below either Full or Associate.

Membership required	Associate / Full Individual / Joint
Subscription enclosed	£

Please make cheques payable to:

Northampton Advanced Motorists

Forms should be returned to:

**Pam Durrant,
Wedge Cottages,
East Street
STANWICK,
Northamptonshire NN9 6PX**

I/We agree to abide by Northampton Advanced Motorists rules and constitution and have no objection to membership details being held on computer.

Signature Date

Signature Date

Miscellaneous Matters

The Group

The Institute of Advanced Motorists was formed in 1956 and exists to encourage higher driving standards by offering an advanced driving test. This test can be taken in a car, motorcycle or in various commercial vehicles.

As well as being a charity, Northampton Advanced Motorists is affiliated to the Institute as a local IAM Group and offers guidance and advice to help candidates prepare for the IAM's advanced driving test – guidance which normally takes the form of observed drives in a candidate's own vehicle.

The group is pleased to arrange assessment drives for those interested in having an impartial appraisal of their driving skills with a view to taking the advanced driving test. Assessment drives are available without charge or further obligation.

Information about the IAM advanced driving test and local group activities is obtainable from the Group Secretary, Ian Phillips.

Newsletter

The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Northampton Advanced Motorists or The Institute of Advanced Motorists unless so stated.

Data Protection

Members are advised that membership details are held on computer for the sole purpose of producing labels for distributing the group's newsletter and preparing the membership list. Any member not wishing to have individual details held in this way should advise the Group Secretary in writing.

Newsletter Articles

Contributions are always welcome. The subject matter does not need to be motoring related, and can be humorous, serious etc.

The deadline for the next newsletter is **14th May 2011** (publish date 1st June 2011), but don't worry, any articles received after that date will be held over to the next newsletter.

For Hire: Red Gazebo - £20 per day

The Group has a red gazebo for hire. Less than 12 months old, it was used briefly at Checkdrives while the Group was waiting delivery of the new MOC. It is in very good condition, and is available for a very reasonable £20 per day. Further details, contact Ian Phillips.