

Chairman's Letter

Dear readers

In a couple of weeks time, I will be travelling down the motorway in the direction of South Devon. The time seemed to be right for me to remind myself of what has been written about motorway driving both from within the group and in Advanced Motoring publications.

'Pass Your Advanced Driving Test' (Institute of Advanced Motorists) dedicates 10 pages to advice on Motorway Driving. It covers

- Joining and leaving the Motorway
- Driving on the Motorway
- Bad Weather
- Roadworks and Breakdowns

There are Advanced checklists on each page covering all these matters and it is a recommended read. Further information on Motorway Driving can be found in "Roadcraft" (HMSO) chapter 10 and in chapter 12 of "A Guide to Advanced Motoring" written for the West Pennine Group and available from Norma Scholes each Sunday morning at £2.50. Advice in all these publications will not take too long to read and might save a life.

Question

On Motorways, advanced direction signs for a junction are usually at what distance before the junction?

- A. 1/2 mile and 1/4 mile
- B. 3/4 mile and 1/2 mile
- C. 1 mile and 1/2 mile

Answer in PYADT Chapter 5

What have we been doing since the last Newsletter?

Well we've given some advice and guidance to numerous volunteer drivers who work for Age Concern and driver awareness courses continue for those who volunteer to drive the "Royal Rover" around the extensive Royal Oldham Hospital site.

We have had awareness raising and recruitment days at Oldham Spindles and Ashton Police HQ, both ably supported by Oldham and Thameside Road Safety Officers respectively, and of course, our Sunday morning scheme continues to see the steady flow of drivers arriving who are new to the Group and those leaving following success at the Test.

More next time
Happy Motoring
Beryl

NEXT ISSUE

Last copy date	16th July 2000
Publication date	6th Aug 2000

If you wish to submit an article, please send it to any committee member.

News Release

DRIVER AND RIDER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION FOR 2001

Region 5 is holding a competition to find the driver, rider, and Alpha 5 driver of the year for 2001.

This competition is open to every member of every group in the region and for anyone wishing to enter, your group will be holding a competition to find 4 drivers or 2 riders to enter, between now and December, look in the Newsletter for forthcoming details.

The competition will consist of three parts, Road Safety Rally, Manoeuvrability and Theory.

You will need knowledge of PYADT for drivers and PYAMT for riders, the I.A.M., and the Highway Code, so get swatting!

For more information about this event please contact your group secretary.

FOR SALE

Elddis Tornado Caravan 4 berth, double glazed, 3 way fridge, cooker, heater, mains hook-up, toilet. Good condition, ready to go for the holiday season, includes all extras needed to start caravanning including awnings, spare wheel, stabiliser and much more. £1575 ono.

Phil Gee, tel: 0161-620 8405

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*Discounts are
available to I.A.M.
members displaying
A badge on there
vehicle.*

DID YOU KNOW?

DAVY JONES LOCKER

According to legend, Davy Jones is the fiend who presides over the evil spirits of the deep and is seen in various shapes... warning the devoted wretch of death and woe..... It has been conjectured that Jones is a corruption of Jonah, the prophet who was thrown into the sea.

MAY QUEEN

The old custom of electing May Queens can be traced to the very earliest times and is a survival of the old nature worship and worship of trees. The May Day festivities probably originated in the Roman Floralia , the festival in honour of Flora, goddess of flowers.

QUESTION TIME

Question time in the House of Commons finds its origin in the distant days of Magna Carta, when the individual's right of petitioning the Crown and Parliament for the redress of a grievance was recognised as a principle of the Constitution.

WHY ICE FLOATS

Although ice is nothing but water in a solid state, it is always less heavy bulk for bulk, than the water from which it is made. This is explained by the peculiar fact that water invariably expands just before it freezes, so that a pint of water always makes rather more than a pint of ice; and this ice, being greater in bulk than the water itself, is therefore less dense, and so floats at the surface instead of sinking down below.

SCAPEGOAT

According to the Jewish ritual, on the great Day of Atonement the sins of the people were symbolically laid on the head of a goat, which was afterwards sent into the wilderness. Thus the goat became endowed with mythical virtues as the carrier away of what was evil.

QUIZ PAGE

Can you answer these driving-related questions?

- 1 What is the term used to describe the situation where a wedge of water builds up between the front tyres and the road surface?
- 2 What is the stopping distance for a car travelling at 70 MPH?
- 3 In some skid situations, the best way to regain control of the vehicle is by rhythm braking. (Vehicles with ABS do this automatically). Give the correct name for this kind of braking
- 4 What shape are most warning signs?
- 5 What is the limit point?
- 6 During which times must you not sound your horn in a built up area?
- 7 Give one occasion when you might give a courtesy signal.
- 8 How are Toucan and Puffin crossings different from Pelican crossings?
- 9 Give four of the range of signals available to the other driver.
- 10 What colour studs mark the edge of the main carriageway at lay-bys, side roads, and slip roads?

Answers Page 17

RRG Rochdale

Supporting West Pennine Group

Corolla SE



TOYOTA

Avensis SE

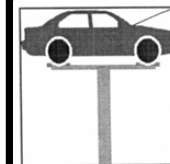


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MOTORING and the law

GETTING LIT UP

by PETER N. WALKER

SOME motorists fear that the use of lights will damage the battery of their vehicle, but experts tell us that this is not the case. So long as the engine is running, the lights will not be a drain upon the battery and for that reason there should be no worries about switching on during a journey.

In recent years, however, there has developed a requirement to switch on one's *headlights* during the daytime. Commonsense would suggest that we make full use of all our lighting capabilities during the day when conditions are such that we cannot see and cannot be seen. But because so many of us did not use that commonsense, a law came into operation in 1975 which says we must use lights in adverse weather conditions.

In fact, the respective law extends this provision to include *poor visibility conditions*, some of which might have nothing to do with our climate. When they made us of this phrase, our legislators had in mind the effects of snow, fog, smoke, heavy rain or spray, dense cloud or any other similar condition. In other words, any situation is catered for if it creates poor visibility for a motorist, and restricts his ability to see other vehicles or persons using the road, or of course, if it restricts the ability of other persons to see his vehicle.

In such conditions, the law now says that we must switch on our headlights even if these conditions occur during the daylight hours. It is not stated whether we should use dipped headlights or full beam, but I'm sure that most of us will use dipped lights, having consideration for other road users. Those of us who drive along our main roads will know the experience of driving through spray, and the value of the lights of any approaching vehicle, and even smoke can create hazards when oncoming cars are not visible. The message is therefore very clear — make sure others can *see you* in conditions of poor visibility.

On the subject of lights, it is illegal to fail to maintain *all* the lighting equipment, which is fitted to a motor vehicle, and this includes reflectors. They must always be maintained so that they will comply with the laws governing lights when the vehicle is used on a road. During the winter months, it is customary for many police forces to carry out spot checks on vehicle lights and these usually commence when the hour goes back, *i.e.* in late October.

You might be pulled into a lay-by by a police vehicle, and subjected to a rigorous check of all the vehicle's lighting equipment. Sidelights, headlights and reflectors, plus any other lights fitted by yourself, will be thoroughly examined and the defects, if any, will be pointed out to you. It is not usually the policy to prosecute motorists for minor breaches of the lighting regulations, although a serious defect, which causes danger to anyone, might well result in an appearance in court.

With the dark nights upon us, it is very sensible to give all your lights a thorough examination at home, and indeed, many drivers examine their lights before setting out on every journey during the winter months. A set of good lights could make all the difference between life and death, either your life, the life of another driver, or the life of a pedestrian.

ALPHA 5

CALLING ALL UNDER 30 MEMBERS OF THE IAM

If you are a member of a local group and are 30 or under then you are cordially invited to the quarterly gathering of Alpha 5. This, our second gathering of the year, is to be slightly different to those of the past.

Subject to confirmation and operational commitments this event may be supported by Lancashire Motorway Police. This will allow Alpha 5 members to gain a unique insight into the life of Motorway Police. During the day there will be a promotional display for members of the public stopping off at the services.

It also gives you the chance to meet and greet your Alpha 5 members and find out more about what we do and what we can offer to you as an Alpha 5 member. Membership of Alpha 5 is free to all IAM members under the age of 30, all you need to do is tell us where you are. We are involved in a range of promotional events throughout the region and would really appreciate any help and support from you, please feel free to pop along and find out more.

The meeting will be held on Sunday July 9th at Lancaster Services off the M6 Northbound. We will be there from 12 until 4 and would really like to see you.

If you are going to attend or would like more information you must R.S.V.P. on the slip provided below.

.....
NAME:

GROUP:

TEL NO:

I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND/ LIKE MORE DETAILS OF YOUR EVENT AT LANCASTER SERVICES. (Delete as applicable.)

Send to Iain Grayson, 27 Syston Aye, St. Helens, Merseyside, WAI 1 9JJ.

ALPHA 5

It is widely acknowledged that drivers under the age of 30 are at a higher risk of being involved in road traffic accidents than older drivers. To combat this, region 5 decided to form Alpha 5. The main aim of Alpha 5 is to promote advanced driving to this high risk age group.

Basic driver training gives them the skills needed to take to the roads.

Advanced driver training gives them the skills needed to stay there.

Alpha 5 needs the help of local groups if we are to succeed!

Young drivers need our help if they are to survive!!!

Alpha 5 and the IAM working TOGETHER we can make our roads safer.

**CONTACT DEBORAH COLLIS FOR MORE
INFORMATION
TEL. 01942 746487**

REGIONAL EVENTS

Alpha 5 Glossop Carnival



*Come and support your Alpha 5
section
Saturday 1st July 2000
10am onwards
Manor Park
Manor Park Road
Glossop
Derbyshire
Contact: Jonathon Priest
Manchester Advanced Motorists
Jonathon@priest.com
01457 861068 / 07976 438557
14 Heath Park Road, Glossop, Derbyshire.
SK13 7AY*

Alpha 5 Guinness Brewery Visitors Centre Tour & Dublin Trip

The date for the Alpha 5 visit to the Guinness Brewery and Visitors Centre has been set for Saturday August 19th 2000. The cost is £38.00 per person

For further details and application form please contact the group secretary or Alpha 5 representative

THE NORTH WEST SHOW Heaton Park Manchester 26/27/28 August 2000 10.00am—6.00pm

A leisure event for all the family - organised by Morecambe Bay Advanced Motorists in conjunction with Manchester Leisure
A three day event combining various exhibits and events (trade, voluntary and otherwise) in a country park environment. A wide-ranging theme to include car dealerships, the leisure sector, various retail traders, public services and other charity groups, plus a national police dog championship Running throughout the day there will be various entertainments taking place, local and media celebrities, parachuting, helicopter rides and flying displays.
A show with interests for everybody, from the old to the young. From the enthusiast to the 'browser'. A show that will have visitors pleased that they came to see what was happening!

Show Co-Ordinator Stephen Horrocks Tel 07961 324560
Further details at www.ukonline.co.uk/northwest.show

What happened in July???

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1st	1916	The Battle of the Somme began and over 21000 men died that day.
2nd	1644	Cromwell defeated the Royalist, Prince Rupert, at Marston Moor.
3rd	1954	Food rationing in Britain ended.
4th	1845	Thomas John Barnado, founder of the children's homes was born.
5th	1810	Phineas Taylor Barnum, the American showman, was born.
6th	1685	James, Duke of Monmouth, was defeated by James II at Sedgemoor.
	1939	Irish athlete, Mary Peters, was born.
7th	1927	Christopher Stone became the first British 'disc jockey'.
	1940	Ringo Starr (real name Richard Starkey) was born.
8th	1822	Percy Bysshe Shelley drowned in the Bay of Spezia.
	1553	Lady Jane Grey was proclaimed Queen of England.
10th	1945	British tennis player, Virginia Wade was born.
	1962	Telstar was launched, bringing live television from the USA to Europe.
11th	1274	Robert the Bruce was born.
	1804	US vice-president, Aaron Burr fought a duel with Alexander Hamilton.
12th	1703	Josiah Wedgwood, founder of the pottery works at Etruria, was born.
	1794	Nelson lost his right eye at the siege of Calvi in Corsica.
13th	1779	William Hedley, who designed the 'Puffing Billy' steam engine, was born.
	1793	Charlotte Corday stabbed French revolutionary, Marat, in his bath.
14th	1789	In Paris, the Bastille was stormed, and the French Revolution began.
	1858	English suffragette, Emmeline Pankhurst, was born.
15th	1573	Architect, Inigo Jones, was born.
	1685	The Duke of Monmouth was executed following his defeat at Sedgemoor.
16th	1723	English portrait painter, Sir Joshua Reynolds, was born.
	1918	Tsar Nicholas II and his family were murdered by Bolsheviks~
17th	1453	The Hundred Years' War ended at the Battle of Castillon.
	1899	American film star, James Cagney, was born.
18th	1936	The Spanish Civil War began.
19th	1545	Henry VIII watched the Mary Rose sink in the Solent.
	1814	American inventor of the first practical revolver, Samuel Colt was born
20th	1969	Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin landed on the moon.
21st	1960	Mrs Bandaranaike became the first woman prime minister.
22nd	1910	Wireless telegraphy was first used to apprehend a criminal - Crippen.
23rd	1865	'General' William Booth founded what later became the Salvation Army~
24th	1704	Admiral Sir George Rooke took Gibraltar from the Spaniards.
25th	1978	Louise Brown, the first 'test-tube' baby, was born in Oldham
26th	1847	Liberia became the first African colony to become independent.
27th	1882	British aircraft designer, Sir Geoffrey de Havilland, was born.
	1953	The Korean War ended with the signing of an armistice at Panmunjon.
28th	1866	Beatrix Potter, author and illustrator of children's books, was born.
	1914	World War I began with Austria-Hungary declaring war on Serbia.
29th	1588	The Spanish Armada was first sighted off the coast of Cornwall.
	1883	Italian dictator, Benito Mussolini, was born
30th	1818	Author of 'Wuthering Heights', Emily Bronte was born
	1958	British Olympic decathlon gold medallist, Daley Thompson, was born
31st	1917	'The third battle of Ypres began and fourteen VCs were won.

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March 06

What's Your Driving I.Q.

GOOD driving can increase self-confidence, passengers' comfort and safety. See how your driving skills and knowledge measure up by taking this test.

- Since many accidents happen because drivers "didn't even see the other car," you've decided to buy a highly visible car. You choose one that is:
 - White, with a black-vinyl top
 - Red
 - Bright yellow
- You're in city traffic when, some distance ahead in your lane, a few cars come to an abrupt halt. Though you can't immediately see why they've stopped, you:
 - Slow down gradually, to adjust to the situation
 - Move into the adjacent lane
 - Keep driving at about the same speed and prepare to brake or change lanes if necessary.
- The best way to avoid being in a rear-end collision is to:
 - Follow the next car at no less than one car length for every 10 mph of speed
 - Maintain at least a two-second following-distance
 - Keep an eye on the car ahead of the one you're following
- You're approaching a junction where cross traffic is controlled by stop signs, and your view is partially blocked by a lorry waiting to turn right from the lane next to yours. What to do?
 - Maintain your speed, since you have the right of way
 - Slow down in case vehicles or pedestrians unexpectedly emerge from the hidden area
 - Keep up with other traffic, but be especially alert
- You're about to change lanes. You glance in your rear-view mirrors and carefully check your blind spot (the area to your right and rear which the mirrors don't show). For maximum safety, though, you should also:
 - Signal about four seconds before moving over, then change lanes gradually
 - Move into the new lane without delay, as soon as there's space

6. Out for a drive, you decide to pass a slow farm tractor. As you pass, your speed ought to exceed the tractor's by about:

- (a) 5 mph
- (b) 15 mph
- (c) 25 mph

7. While driving at about 50 mph, you spot a board lying across the road, directly in your path. Since you've no time to avoid it by slowing down and changing direction gradually, it's best to:

- (a) Try to hit it as squarely as possible
- (b) Brake and steer sharply to miss the obstruction
- (c) Try to steer round it, but don't brake

8. If you can't help driving when you're overtired, the safest course is to:

- (a) Drive a bit more slowly than usual, roll down your window and tune in to a radio chat show
- (b) Drive at your usual speed, keep the temperature comfortable and listen to music
- (c) Eat something to give you energy—a chocolate bar or piece of cake—and have coffee before starting out

9. The best way to avoid getting, stuck in a traffic jam is to:

- (a) Watch the car in front of the one you're following
- (b) Look about four cars ahead
- (c) Keep an eye on what's happening as far ahead as you can see clearly

10. When stopping for a red light behind another car, you should always leave:

- (a) About one yard between you and the car in front
- (b) About one and a half yards
- (c) Approximately one car length

11. Your car is first in line at a junction where the light is about to turn green, so you:

- (a) Make sure you're ready to move out as soon as the light changes (b) Take about a second to move your foot from brake to accelerator after the light changes, then move out smoothly
- (c) Watch for the cross traffic's green light to turn, then begin to move at the end of the amber

12. General, the safest speed on a dual carriageway is:

- (a) The same as other traffic
- (b) Slower than other traffic
- (c) The speed limit

NEW ASSOCIATES

Welcome to the following visitors who have recently joined the group as Associate Members. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday mornings for advisory runs, in preparation for the Advanced Driving Test. Good Luck to you all.

Mandy Saxon

Pervize Naziri

Phillip Scarr

Stephanie Gregory

Ann Reygan

Ann Bennett

John Griffiths

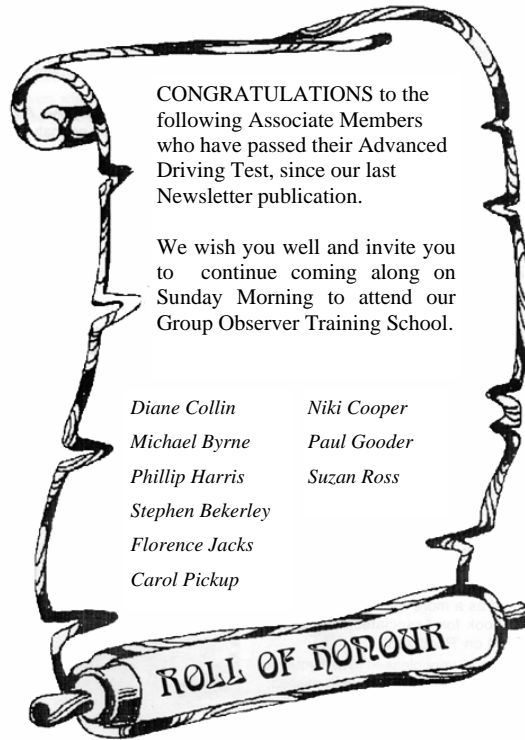
Diane Kimbush

John Lemonofides

OBSERVER TRAINING

Welcome to the following recently qualified members who have joined our Group Observer Training School. We wish you every success.

TEST PASSES



CONGRATULATIONS to the following Associate Members who have passed their Advanced Driving Test, since our last Newsletter publication.

We wish you well and invite you to continue coming along on Sunday Morning to attend our Group Observer Training School.

<i>Diane Collin</i>	<i>Niki Cooper</i>
<i>Michael Byrne</i>	<i>Paul Gooder</i>
<i>Phillip Harris</i>	<i>Suzan Ross</i>
<i>Stephen Bekerley</i>	
<i>Florence Jacks</i>	
<i>Carol Pickup</i>	

We are always at the Bank Top Tavern both before and after the morning's activities. Please come and talk to us if you are experiencing any difficulties and wish to discuss any problems relating to your driving.

David Mellor – Beryl Schofield – Peter Smithies – Allan Thorne
Associate Scheme Co-Ordinators

REGALIA

The following items are in stock and available for sale to members:-

Circular radiator badges	@ £6.50
Square radiator badges	@ £6.50
Lapel badges	@ £2.00
Tax disc holders	@ £0.50
Key rings	@ £2.50
Rear window stickers	@ £1.00
T' shirts	@ £5.00
Ties	@ £5.80
Stick pins	@ £2.00
Ball pens	@ £2.00
Sew-on-badges	@ £2.00



The following items, each bearing the West Pennine logo, are available on order:-

Sweatshirt	@ £21.00
Polo shirt	@ £17.00
T' shirt	@ £14.00
Baseball cap	@ £9.00
Woolly hat	@ £9.00
Embroidery on own item	@ £8.50
Additional words to IAM logo	@ £3.00
Surcharge for XXL sweatshirt	@ £2.50

Sweatshirt colours:- black, bottle green, bright red, burgundy, light grey, navy blue, royal blue.

Woolly hat colours are as above except that light grey is replaced by marled grey.

BOOKS IN STOCK FOR SALE TO MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES:-

Motorway Driving Explained	@ £0.95
Know Your Traffic Signs	@ £2.50
A Guide To Advanced Motoring	@ £2.50

All of these items are either on sale or can be ordered from Norma Scholes on Sunday mornings.

GROUP VIDEO/CD ROM LIBRARY

You may borrow any of the following videos for one week from Peter Smithies.

A returnable deposit of £5 is payable.

Video's are limited to one per person per week.

<i>HMSO The Driving Video</i>	<i>Roadcraft IAM</i>
<i>HMSO Highway Code</i>	<i>Safe Motorway Driving IAM</i>
<i>IAM Maybe Too Late</i>	<i>Advanced Driving IAM</i>
<i>FORD Aggressive Driving</i>	<i>Test Drive IAM</i>
<i>FORD Driving Without Fear</i>	<i>"Crash" Channel 4 Video</i>
<i>Steps to Safe Minibus Driving</i>	<i>CD ROM Advanced Driving</i>

Answers to "What's Your Driving IQ?"

GIVE yourself one point for each correct answer.

1. c. Except against snow, red has proved hard to see on the road, and two-toned cars tend to "disappear" into their surroundings.
2. a. You should slow down when nearing a hazard—and cars stopping suddenly ahead of you are a hazard.
3. b. Although a is not incorrect, you can estimate following-distance most accurately in seconds. Pick a stationary object near the road and, as the car ahead passes it, begin to count until you reach the object.
4. h. Always prepare for the unexpected; if no problems materialize, you can always speed up again—smoothly.
5. a. The object is to alert other drivers, allowing them as much time as possible to adjust to the new situation.
6. b. At five mph faster, you would take too long; at 25 mph you'd find it nearly impossible to avoid a collision if the tractor suddenly turned right or drifted across the center line.
7. a. Better to get a hard jolt or flat tyre than to lose control of the car—a definite possibility if you swerve and/or brake hard at a high speed.
8. a. While high-energy foods would raise your blood-sugar level, the effect is only temporary.
9. c. This gives you the earliest clues to potential problems.
10. c. With a car length, you can see around the vehicle in front, or, if a car should come up too quickly from behind, you can move off to one side or go forward a bit.
11. b. If you move out too fast, you may meet someone trying to beat the red light on the cross street.
12. a. The greater the difference in speed between vehicles moving in the same direction, the greater the risk of accident.

Ratings

11 to 12: Expert. Congratulations. You should seldom even have a close call.

8 to 10: Responsible Citizen. Your driving is usually smooth and safe.

4 to 7: Road Hazard. Getting there fast tends to be more important to you than getting there safely. Make a conscious effort to adjust earlier to potentially hazardous situations.

Less than 4: Highway Terror. Ever wonder why, when you offer to take your car, friends begin extolling the virtues of the bus? Now you know.

QUIZ PAGE ANSWERS

Driving related questions

- 1 Aquaplaning.
- 2 96m or 315 feet.
- 3 Cadence braking.
- 4 Triangular.
- 5 The furthest point along a road, to which you have uninterrupted view of the road surface.
- 6 Between 11:30pm and 7:00am.
- 7 Either to thank another driver, or to apologise if you have unintentionally caused inconvenience.
- 8 There is no flashing amber phase.
- 9 Any four of:

Indicators	Horn
Hazard Lights	Brake Lights
Head Lights	Arm Signals
Courtesy Signals	
- 10 Green.

The Other Side of Majorca (last Paragraph, for those that spotted that the ending was missing)...

Well that's all for now folks so if you are looking for a typical British resort, with English bars offering full English breakfast and Roast beef and 2 veg, busy beaches, hectic nightlife, sleepless nights from the noise, then I'm sorry, but Cala 'D'Or and the surrounding area is not the place for you. Allan Thorne