

## Chairman's Letter

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Dear Readers

Oldham Metropolitan Borough's Principal Road Safety Officer, Dion Etheridge, has been doing his bit for seat belt awareness in schools for years. The awareness programmes are excellent and children are left in no doubt about the importance of fastening a seatbelt.

Slogans like "Hug your child at home, belt them in the car" and more recently, "SEATBELT-live with it" are publicised in schools, on buses and in the libraries, aimed at children who by law must wear a seatbelt if one is available.

I don't know of one child who thinks that wearing a seatbelt is a silly idea.

### However,

There is an amazing number of drivers who do **not** fasten seatbelts when out and about. This group of drivers seems to be mostly under 25's but not exclusively. I have seen older men and women driving without a seatbelt fastened too. These drivers can't all be holders of medical exemption certificates or making local deliveries in a vehicle designed for that purpose.

What can be done about it??

West Pennine Group's Newsletters are often left in Dentists' and Doctors' waiting areas, local libraries, works staffrooms etc. Maybe, just maybe it might strike a chord with the casual reader. Just raising the issue through this Newsletter might generate further thought on the matter, might encourage a driver to reverse the trend and make fastening seatbelts fashionable again.

Drive safely

Until the next time

*Beryl Schofield*

Beryl Schofield

## Membership Renewals

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I am taking this opportunity to thank all of you for renewing your membership with the Group for a further year.

When I look down the list of renewals I often notice the names of members who I remember but haven't seen for some time. However, it is nevertheless gratifying to know that you value your continued membership. If members who have chosen not to become Observers ever want to call in to see us on Sunday mornings at the Bank Top they would be very welcome. Furthermore, if any member would like to have confirmation that the Advanced standard of driving achieved at the time of Test has been maintained then we would be very pleased to help.

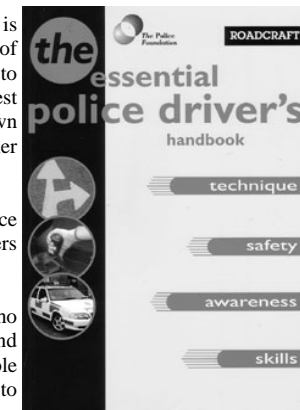
Thanks again,  
Beryl Schofield

## Save Yourself £2 !!

Now in its sixth reprint, Roadcraft is available at a £2 saving on the RRP of £13.99. If you order this superb guide to "Advanced" Driving through the West Pennine group you can have your own copy for only £12. Please contact either Steven Slater or Norma Scholes.

"Roadcraft is the handbook for police driver training and other advanced drivers concerned about safety."

"Roadcraft is essential for any driver who wishes to improve their driving skills and safety record. It also provides a valuable resource for driving instructors who wish to raise driving standards. This new edition includes: a chapter on how attitudes affect driving and full colour illustrations and diagrams which help to explain complex ideas."



## Obituary for Chris Slater

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It is with deep sadness that I report the sudden death of Chris Slater whilst on a golfing holiday in Scotland.

Chris was an IAM Examiner and Examiner Liaison Officer for many years and conducted Advanced Tests on behalf of the Institute for numerous West Pennine Associates, just under 200 in fact. Quite a number of those Associates who were successful at Test are still Group members today.

When we first became acquainted with Chris, he was a serving officer with Greater Manchester Police and very involved with the Police Driving School. He retired as Inspector at the Driving School only a couple of years ago. Members of West Pennine Group visited the Police Driving School as guests of Chris on several occasions and Chris came to speak to Group members and friends at Associates' and Observers' meetings and AGM's. The last time Chris came over to the Group was as guest speaker at the February 2001 AGM when he spoke on "Traffic Management in the Oldham Area". I remember Chris being challenged over Traffic Calming Measures that night because we agreed that driver education had to come first before road modifications such as mini-roundabouts, humps and chicanes.

It was always a pleasure to welcome Chris. He was an easy-going, straight forward man who always had time for people.

The Group was represented at a Service of Remembrance, Celebration and Commendation for Chris in his home town of Leigh where Chris' family was supported by a massive network of friends and acquaintances.

Our thought are with Susan, Victoria and Nicholas at this sad time.

*Beryl Schofield*

## Great News for the Group

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*We are absolutely delighted to report that the  
**1000th Test pass**  
has been achieved since the last Newsletter.*

*On Tuesday 18th March, Noel Davies  
took his Commercial Advanced Driving Test  
with Examiner Danny Ewington.  
Who was very satisfied that Noel had reached  
the required standard for a successful result.*

*The Group's Committee is planning to make  
a special presentation to Noel  
but in the meantime, Noel has started  
Observer Training with West Pennine.*

*It won't belong before he is out  
on the road in the front seat.*

**Congratulations and well done!**

## 3 Little Teasers

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1. You are walking through a field when you find something to eat. It doesn't have bones, and it doesn't have meat. You pick it up and put it into your pocket. You take it home and put it on a shelf, but three days later it walks away. What is it?
2. I have many feathers to help me fly. I have a body and head, but I'm not alive. It is your strength which determines how far I go. You can hold me in your hand, but I'm never thrown. What am I?
3. An old man wanted to leave all of his money to one of his three sons, but he didn't know which one he should give it to. He gave each of them a few coins and told them to buy something that would be able to fill their living room. The first son bought straw, but there was not enough to fill the room. The second bought some sticks, but they still did not fill the room. The third son bought two things that filled the room, so he obtained his father's fortune. Which two things did the third son buy?

*Mensa Northwest 2003*

We need your contributions.  
This newsletter is published for you by you, and we welcome any contributions from the readership. We cannot guarantee that submissions will appear in the next newsletter, .  
But we will try! Thank you.

## <sup>7</sup> Thirsty ?

March 06

### **WATER**

1. In 37% of Americans, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger.
2. Even mild dehydration will slow down one's metabolism by as much as 3%.
3. Lack of water is the number one trigger of daytime fatigue.
4. Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day could significantly ease back and joint pain for UP to 80% Of sufferers.
5. A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic maths, and difficulty focusing or) a computer screen Or printed Page.
6. Drinking five glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%, plus it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%, and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer.

### **COKE**

1. You can put a T-bone steak in a bowl of Coke and it will be gone in two days.
2. To clean a toilet: pour a can of Coca-Cola into the toilet bowl and let the "real thing", sit for one hour, then flush clean. The citric acid in Coke removes stains from vitreous china.
3. To remove rust spots from chrome car bumpers, rub the bumper with a crumpled up piece of aluminium foil dipped in Coca-Cola.
4. To clean corrosion from car battery terminals, pour a can of Coca-Cola over the terminals to bubble away the corrosion.
5. To loosen a rusted bolt: apply a cloth soaked in Coca-Cola to the rusted bolt for several minutes.
6. The active ingredient in Coke is phosphoric acid, pH 2.8. It will dissolve a nail in about four days.

Now the question is, would **YOU** like a glass of water or Coke?

*Mensa Northwest 2003*

## Guide to Strange Expressions

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### Dogsbody

This is one of the many hundreds of slang words in our language with nautical origins. During the Napoleonic wars, the crown provided a notoriously poor diet for its sailors. Worst of all was a type of boiled pease pudding, referred to by sailors as dogsbody, because it was thought nothing short of rotten dog meat could taste so vile. In time the name was transferred from the dish to the people who had to eat it, usually the lowest of the low, who were also given all the worst jobs to do aboard ship. Around the 1930s the word entered common parlance, - meaning someone who's given all the dirty jobs to do, and so it has remained -ever since.

### Loose Cannon

Arming ships with heavy guns was a hazardous business, even before the vessel entered battle. The weight of the cannons would affect the steering of a ship and make it difficult to control. But even worse, if the ship hit a severe storm, and the cannons were not properly secured, they would slide around, knocking holes in the hull. Of course the guns also needed to be secured during use, otherwise, when they were fired, the recoil would send them shooting backwards, causing more damage.

### No room to swing a cat

Popular etymology says that the cat in question was the cat o'nine tails - a whip for flogging prisoners, which got its name because the scars its nine lashes left on a sailor's back looked like a cat's scratches. Punishment whippings were usually carried out on deck, because below deck there was, physically, no room to swing a cat.

Another, less cat-friendly, theory is that the phrase refers literally to swinging a cat around by its tail, as a primitive measurement of space. Alarming though it may be for cats everywhere, this version seems to have quite a bit of evidence in its favour, including a passage from David Copperfield, in which Mr Dick discusses the idea of cat Trotwood.

### 3 Little Teasers—Answers

1. An egg
2. An arrow
3. A candle and a box of matches—after lighting the candle, light filled the entire room

## New Associates

March 06

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.

John Gleeson	Stephen Brett
Mohammed Najeeb	Steven Johnson
Mohamed Shakeel	David Faulkner
Philip Stevenson	Wayne Allison
Liam Guest	David Laycock
Paul Arnold	
Michael Arran	We are also pleased to have
David Arran	Pervise Naziri back with us to
Peter Dixon	prepare for the Institute's Driving

Assessment.

### ***OBSERVER TRAINING***

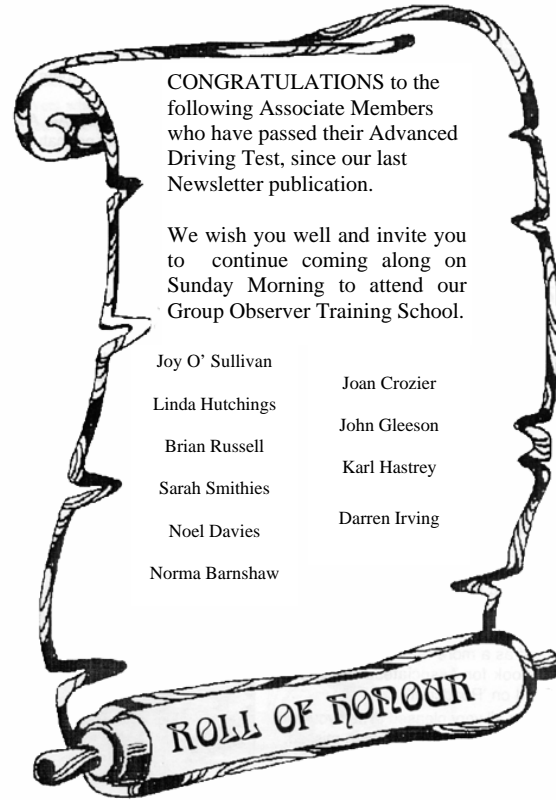
Welcome to the following recently qualified members who have joined our Group Observer Training School.

Janet Bottomley	Helen Znideric
John Gleeson	Noel Davies

Congratulations to John Prince who has recently completed Group Observer Training. Welcome to the Observer Team!

## Test Passes

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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.

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

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March 06

# Stuck for a present?

## Not sure what to buy?

Can't think of anything unusual?



Why not buy a course of  
Advanced Driving  
from your local  
Group of Advanced Motorists.



**For more information  
call Pete on 01706 843127**

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If you have any articles that you wish to submit, please post them to any member of the committee

OR Fax to 01706 299 682

OR E-mail to nickfurnell@netscape.net

## Guide to Advanced Motoring

The very helpful **"Guide to Advanced Motoring"**, written by our very own Chairman, Beryl Schofield. Is now available again in a revised and updated format.

Covering subjects from System to Skidding and Economy to Winter Motoring. This booklet is available for just £2.50 from Norma Scholes on a Sunday morning, or by post from Nick Furnell (subject to a small p&p charge)

## 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:-**

Road Craft	@ £12.00
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.

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