



Exeter & Torbay Advanced Motorists

Autumn 2017

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The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor, the Exeter and Torbay Advanced Motorists or the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

The Editor reserves the right to edit articles for publication.

Chairman's Chat

Greetings all:

Perhaps our main item of News, which you may not be aware of is the closure of the Barnstaple and North Devon Group. As a result of this we have taken over some of the areas adjacent to ours to maintain coverage of the North and West Devon area. The Taunton Group – now re-named as the Wessex Group - have also taken on adjacent areas in North Devon and West Somerset that were originally covered by Barnstaple. The Barnstaple Group decided that their remaining Group funds would be split between Wessex and ourselves, and this is in the throes of happening as I write, as the Wessex Group have re-badged and will be actively engaged in promoting IAMRoadSmart in their extended area we agreed that their share would be larger than ours.

Our September meeting will be an 'in-house' session - the exact format of this is yet to be decided. October is, of course, our AGM month, and we have arranged for our 'Area Service Delivery Manager' - Shaun Cronin – to attend, and update us on what is happening with IAMRoadsmart in the future, and also answer any queries you may have, so do attend to find out what is going on 'straight from the horses' mouth'! In November we will have the Road Casualty Reduction Officer for the Exeter Area – MPC Richard Juniper, from Devon & Cornwall Police - giving a presentation. December will be our Christmas Social event, this will be at the Kenn Centre, more details on this in due course

And finally:

What do you call a boomerang that doesn't come back? - A stick

Dentist: 'You need a crown'. Patient: 'Finally, someone who understands me'

Want to hear a truly delicious tofu recipe? Chuck the tofu, fry a juicy steak!

Man with a beard 100 years ago: 'OK, I'll go and chop down some trees.

Man with a beard now: 'I found a great face mask that's gluten-free'

With acknowledgements to SPA News.

Safe Driving

John Tibbs

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to the following Associates who have joined the Group since the last newsletter

Ciara Norris	Exeter
Anita Cleverley	Tiverton
Dan Regan	Cullompton
William Stewart	Exeter
Manoj Chitnavis	Exeter
Leslie Christiansen	Cullompton

We also welcome full member **Raymond Smith** from Liskeard who is joining our group to do his Masters.

Claire Chilcott,
Membership Secretary

Congratulations

Exeter & Torbay Advanced Motorists

Observers and Associates August 2017

Observer	Mentor[s]	Local/National
Wendy Richards Wood	Rob Adams/ Dennis LeWorthy	Local

Congratulations to the following who are now Full Members of the IAM, having passed the advanced test since the last newsletter. Our thanks, as usual, to their Observers.

Associate	Observer	Comment
Jake Lomax	Meg Privett	
Leszek Pabjan	Tony Spiers	
Iam Clark	Barry Smith	

John Tibbs
Associate Co-ordinator

Greetings from the ETAM Skills Co-ordinator

Greetings all:

The Driveout from Cara's Diner – now the Pit stop Cafe at the Greendale Industrial Park, was somewhat later than I hoped, at the beginning of August. Two Observers and three members had a useful drive, with one of the members considering training to be an Observer. I hope to arrange a further run towards the end of next month, an evening session from the Passage House Inn at Kingsteignton, on the outskirts of Newton Abbot – handy for Torbay and Exeter?

The GymCarNa at Poltimore in June was well supported, and hopefully proved useful to those who 'had a go'? It was also interesting to see how the 'self parking' facility worked on two of the newer vehicles. The tractor manoeuvring with Claire as 'test pilot' and hints from Rob on reverse manoeuvring was entertaining. Well done to Pete Smith and Pete Privett for coming joint first with minimum points accrued. Thanks also to Rob Adams for the use of the facility at Poltimore, and use of the refreshment facilities afterwards.

In July we had 'Meg's Mystery Tour' - a brief meander around the locality, with a sheet of local questions to complete, both road and general related.

In August the 'Spot the Fault' drive was well attended and a good level of deliberate non-hazardous faults were spotted!

Regarding Associates, I have four awaiting allocation, and we have gained some further candidates from the recent Assessment Drives that our Observers have carried out, my thanks to them.

Safe Driving

John Tibbs

Monthly Meeting Reports

June

Our Gymcarna took place at Poltimore House on the 7th June.

The event appeared to be enjoyed by all who attended, and John was pleased with the good turnout, especially new members. Some of whom tried the course and did well. It was interesting to observe the 'auto parking manoeuvres' by Gordon and Dennis, and Claire enjoyed manoeuvring the ride on lawn mower round the course.

Well done to Pete Smith and Pete Privett for gaining the minimum points. They were duly awarded prizes, both of which could be eaten!

Rob Adams kindly arranged for us to use Poltimore House and refreshments were ably provided by Gloria and Kim, thank you. Those of us who arrived early were also treated to a tour of part of the grounds with Rob sharing his knowledge of the trees, most of which have a tree preservation order on them.

Claire Chilcott

July

Meg's Mystery Tour

For our July monthly meeting Meg had kindly organised a Mystery Tour as the theme of one of our regular summer drive-out sessions. The well attended meeting was divided into teams of twos & threes, each issued with a set of the clues to follow.

Teams then set off at intervals with a promise of refreshments including cake for all those who managed to find their way back.

The clues took us on a route from the Kenn Centre to the Matford Hotel roundabout up Deepway Lane to Exminster, through the village & back on the A379, pass the Swans Nest Pub to Powderham Church.

From there following the coastal railway to Cockwood before turning inland & climbing up through Haldon Forrest to join the A380 at the top of Telegraph Hill then dropping down to cross the A38 into Kennford & return to base. Along the way many cryptic & intriguing clues led us from one point to the next.

Some of us have lived all our lives in the area & consider we know the locality well, this evening many of us found ourselves discovering for the first time curiously named cottages, poignant reminders of past conflicts & areas designated for husky dog training we have previously never noticed.

The evening was also intended to allow us to develop our driving skills whilst following direction & with distraction, some of us realised how easy it is to stray [just] over the 20mph speed limit or other misdemeanour whilst trying to look for clues or discussing the questions.

Next time perhaps I will not take such a vigilant Observer as a passenger or maybe better to take on board the valuable lesson learned.

Return to base at the Kenn Centre & the marking of the answers revealed a three way tie for First so the prize was divided between the winning teams.

A most welcome cup of tea & slice of cake completed a very enjoyable evening, with special thanks to Meg for the time & effort taken in putting the clues together.

Martin Edworthy
Secretary

Forthcoming Events

The Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month (except January). Meetings start at 7.30pm.

**Kenn Centre
Exeter Road
Kennford, Exeter
EX6 7UE**

The Kenn Centre is situated off the A38 (Exeter to Plymouth road) in the village of Kennford. The Centre is clearly signposted once you arrive in the village and free parking for 40 cars is available close to the main entrance.

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|----------------------------|---|
| 6th Sept | In-house training session (tbc) |
| 4th Oct | AGM, which are Area Manager Shaun Cronin is attending, to give an update on how IAMRoadSmart is progressing. |
| 1st Nov | Presentation by Road Casualty Reduction Officer for the Exeter Area – MPC Richard Juniper, from Devon & Cornwall Police |
| 6th Dec | Christmas social at the Kenn Centre |

As the Social Secretary role is currently vacant the committee are trying to arrange talks for 2017/18. If you have any suggestions please contact us and if you can help with approaching possible speakers.

Please do come to the monthly meetings, we hope to have something of interest for you and it is good to keep in touch with other members and to hear what is happening in the driving world.

Notice of Annual General Meeting 2017

Notice is hereby given, by order of the Group Committee, that the Annual General Meeting of Exeter and Torbay Advanced Motorists will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th October 2017 at

**Kenn Centre
Exeter Road
Kennford, Exeter
EX6 7UE**

Martin Edworthy
Secretary
71 Summerhill Rd
Liverton
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ12 6HF

22nd August 2017

All members and friends are invited to attend, but only fully paid-up members of both the IAM and of the group may vote.

A member entitled to vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote in his/her stead. A proxy need not be a full member of the group.

Nomination Form

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 4th October 2017 at **Kenn Centre**
Exeter Road, Kennford, Exeter. EX6 7UE
7.30pm

I wish to nominate

For the position of

Signed

Group No.

Signature of Nominee

Group No.

Please return forms no later than Wednesday 20th
September 2017 to Martin Edworthy, Secretary,
71 Summerhill Rd, Liverton, Newton Abbot,
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Powderham Classic Car Rally

The morning of 8th July dawned reasonably sunny after a mixed week of weather. I was up promptly Saturday and Sunday, and arrived at Powderham in good time, windscreen sticker deployed and wristband on. The queues were moderate and I was soon at the front, being told where to find our IAM pitch on Saturday.

Before long Dennis and then Derek and John arrived – which was just as well, since they had all the assorted bits and pieces that we needed. With the shelter set up, and leaflets set out we were ready for all comers.



View from the Shelter!

This is a really easy weekend, since all we have to do is sit around not looking too over enthusiastic (don't want to frighten folk away!) but sign them up for assessment drives if they seem willing to take the plunge. Of course, life is made vastly easier by having the two Mazda MX5 cars parked on the front of the pitch, since they always attract some interest, and this year Saturday had the addition of Graham's Mercedes as well as Derek's new Ford.

A few members showed up over the course of the weekend – it was a particular treat for me to welcome Tim with his wife and child, but not many of the rest of you came.



The Vacant Seating!! (Were we all busy?)

I chose to go both days but that is not necessary – you can do one or the other of the days, or even come over for a half day to offer chance for the existing 'staff' to have some time to wander round the show.

All of us managed sometime this year to look around, and snatch any bargains that were on offer, and take the business cards of such enterprises as we may have thought could be useful at some point in the future.

If we elect to put a stand out next year I fully recommend it. This is a really relaxing weekend, with not too much to do, but provides access to an interesting Rally that attracts an enormous number of people. Do try it!!

Meg Privett

Invitation to a Wedding!

Peter Smith (a group member) is marrying his fiancée Michelle and we are all invited to celebrate their marriage with them.

Peter and Michelle will be getting married at 12 noon at St David's Church Exeter on Saturday 21st October 2017. A cream tea will follow at the church, to which we are invited.

Please RSVP to Michelle email: mlcockell@gmail.com or by post: 15 Rolleston Crescent, Exeter EX4 5EB by 30th September 2017.

UK Driverless Truck Plan Stalls After Manufacturers Pull Out

The aim was to test convoys on M6 but none of the big European truckmakers signed up



Volvo's semi-automated trucks 'platooning'. The company has not yet decided if it will participate in the government's plans

Plans to test driverless trucks on UK motorways have stalled after several major European manufacturers snubbed the project. The government announced in March that it wanted to test “platooning” convoys of driverless trucks on British roads. The plan would see chains of trucks linking up electronically in “road trains” on motorways, synchronising their braking and steering. George Osborne, who was chancellor at the time, said developing driverless technology would “put Britain in the fast lane”.

But none of the six large European truckmakers has yet agreed to take part, forcing ministers to delay plans. Scania and Daimler will not participate, while Iveco, MAN and Volvo have not yet decided, according to people familiar with their plans. The government invited groups to tender for the project in April, with the hope of testing platoons on the road this year. DAF did not respond to a request for comment.

The Department for Transport said truck platooning would take place in the UK “in due course” and one person close to the process said tenders were still being assessed. Trucks that drive themselves on the motorway use less fuel and produce lower emissions. Because the vehicles have synchronised breaking, they can drive as close as 4m apart, cutting air resistance and saving on fuel. These “road trains” travel together on motorways before separating at junctions to let other drivers through. When one of the lorries leaves the motorway to make its delivery, the driver sitting in the cabin retakes control of the wheel.



A man sits at a Volvo autonomous driver concept displayed during the Los Angeles Auto Show last year.

There have been concerns over the suitability of UK motorways for the project as junctions are closer together, requiring lorries to split from their formation more regularly. A stretch of the M6 near the Lake District had been earmarked for the testing, as its junctions are further apart.

DfT officials commissioned a feasibility report on the technology during 2015 and had planned to issue tenders to gauge interest among truck groups during April this year, according to correspondence seen by the Financial Times. “It has nothing to do with the UK,” said a person from one of the truckmakers. “It’s a practicality issue and a cost issue.” Several lorry manufacturers are carrying out further testing in their own countries, and do not have the resources to send a separate team of trucks to Britain for further assessments.

Platooning is the first step towards fully self-driving lorries, which proponents say will save lives and cut fuel emissions. Delivery times could also be reduced, as goods being transported across Europe will not be required to stop for drivers to sleep or rest. A project co-ordinated by the EU earlier in the year saw fleets of lorries platooning across Europe, ending in a grande finale in Rotterdam. One of the challenges facing truckmakers is getting their lorries to work with rival models, as haulage groups will often have several brands in their fleet and require them to work seamlessly for platooning technology to be effective.

Digital Driving Licences Coming To Smartphones

Mobile phones and driving can make awkward bedfellows, but the Driver and Vehicle Licencing Agency (DVLA) is planning to bring the two closer together with the introduction of digital driving licences.

It's thought digital licences would be stored in phones' virtual 'wallets', just as credit and debit cards can already be saved. When asked to present their driving licence by a police officer or official, a quick finger or thumbprint would release the licence to the phone's display.

Oliver Morley, the DVLA's CEO, said the organisation was making "good progress" with the prototype digital licence back in December 2016, while in March 2017 he confirmed the idea was "included in the government digital strategy." When asked on social media whether there was a timeframe for the introduction of digital licences, Morley said there was, but he wouldn't be drawn on precisely when this would be.

Security will be a key priority for the digital licence, but given the development and success Apple and Android Pay have enjoyed, it's thought some of the DVLA's work has already been done for it. Speaking to our sister publication, Auto Express, mobile device and service analyst Ben Wood of CCS Insight said "security has taken a significant step forward to support digital payments on phones, so the framework is in place for other secure applications, such as a digital driving licence."

Even with established and rigorous security paradigms in place, however, there will still be people who don't like the idea of storing their driving licence on their phone, as well as those who don't even own a smartphone capable of doing so. For those individuals, reassurance will be found in the fact that when it arrives, the digital driving licence will act as an "add-on."

The very first traffic lights were a manually operated and gas-lit. They were installed in 1868 outside the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. The European patent office holds more than 5 000 listed inventions relating to traffic lights

Sharing the Road in Autumn

Autumn can be a lovely season but it also marks a change in our weather as we stride on towards winter. Wind, rain and fog will all increase in the run up to Christmas and this, combined with shorter days, means that more factors are at play on our roads. The RAC and Cycling UK have joined forces to create this helpful weather-related advice piece for drivers and cyclists sharing the road.

- If you're cycling or driving in the earliest part of the day, or in the late afternoon and evening, it is worth considering the impact of the low autumn sun. Its effects can be dazzling for both driver and cyclist and can lead to tragic consequences if people are not careful. Our advice for all road users is that if you cannot see the road ahead clearly, then please slow down and pull into a safe location and wait for the visibility to improve - a life should be worth more than the saving of a few minutes of your journey.
- It can be difficult for eyes to adjust to differing light intensity, such as going from dense woodland to open fields or vice versa. Slow your speed and be particularly aware when turning across traffic. In these conditions lights can help with visibility.
- Days are getting shorter and the darker nights are creeping in. Cyclists should not be caught unawares of the failing daylight and pack a white front and red rear light. It's not just to help you see and be seen, but is also a legal requirement for cycling in the dark. As many drivers have not experienced driving in the dark for several months, it is crucial all drivers check their bulbs and headlight brightness before driving in the dark. This is the time of year when we all see many cars driving around with badly adjusted headlights or only one headlight working.

- Cyclists remember to ride away from the kerb or gutter. As darker nights draw in you'll not only be able to avoid debris, drains and so on but it also makes you more visible to drivers.
- It is always important that drivers leave plenty of space when overtaking a cyclist. Motorists should leave at least a car's width when overtaking at lower speeds (20-30 mph), and allow even more space when travelling at higher speeds or in bad weather. It might feel a lot in a car, but when you're cycling that extra space is really appreciated and also gives the cyclist the flexibility to make an emergency manoeuvre in case of a puddle or road defect in their path - autumn rain can make it harder for cyclists to see, whilst strong wind gusts can cause them to wobble making it even more important for drivers to give a wide berth.
- All road users should pay more attention and slow down when the road is wet, particularly after a heavy downpour. Whilst cyclists need to try to avoid puddles that could be hiding potholes, drivers need to be more aware of cyclists who need to pull out to avoid obstacles and also be aware of cyclists and pedestrians who could get soaked by their spray.
- Fog presents a problem for all road users. Be extra cautious, remember that you may not be as visible as you think, and if you have lights make sure you use them. It might be advisable to put off travelling until the fog clears.
- Autumn weather can be quite changeable, so if you're cycling it's often advisable to pack breathable waterproofs in case the sunny day which you began your ride on turns for the worse. Similarly, if you can, consider fitting mudguards to your bike. These will not only help keep you dryer from water spraying up from the road, but it will help

protect your bike and any companions cycling behind you!

- The first blustery days of autumn can result in fallen branches and leaves on the road that block drains and cause slippery surfaces. Cyclists may need to hold a more central road position and be prepared to avoid debris whilst drivers need to proceed with caution, giving good clearance to cyclists.

Our best advice for the more changeable autumn weather is for all road users to be prepared and keep an eye on our accurate forecasts.

Road Traffic Accidents Revealed to be the Biggest Killer of Teenagers Globally

Road traffic injuries are the biggest killer of teenagers globally, data released by the World Health Organization reveals. The WHO report found that over 3,000 adolescents die every day, totalling 1.2 million deaths a year from largely preventable causes.

Road traffic injuries, lower respiratory infections, and suicide are the biggest causes of death among adolescents with road injury fatalities disproportionately affecting young males.

In 2015, road injuries were the leading cause of adolescent death globally among 10–19-year-olds, resulting in approximately 115,000 adolescent deaths with older males aged 15 to 19 the worst affected.

Most young people killed in road crashes were vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.

Over two-thirds of the 3,000 deaths that occur daily happen in low- and middle-income countries in Africa and South East Asia. However, the WHO report states that road injuries are still the leading cause of adolescent death in high income countries such as the UK, followed by suicide, interpersonal violence, congenital anomalies and leukaemia.

The report states that globally, most of the deaths could be prevented with good health services, education and social support. But in many cases, adolescents who suffer from mental health disorders, substance use, or poor nutrition cannot obtain critical prevention and care services – either because the services do not exist, or because they do not know about them.

Dr. Flavia Bustreo, Assistant Director-General, WHO, said: “Adolescents have been entirely absent from national health plans for decades.”

He added: “Relatively small investments focused on adolescents now will not only result in healthy and empowered adults who thrive and contribute positively to their communities, but it will also result in healthier future generations, yielding enormous returns.”

The Global Accelerated Action for the Health of Adolescents report was produced by the WHO in collaboration with UNAids, Unesco, UNFPA, Unicef, UN Women, World Bank, the Every Woman, Every Child initiative and The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, Child & Adolescent Health.

The first automotive product Motorola tried to develop was a record player for automobiles. Eventually they produced the first car radio

Motor + ola
(as in motorcar) (as in sound)

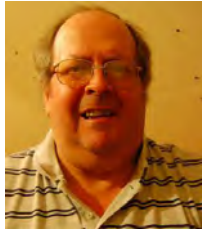
Contacts

Chairman	chairman@iam-exeter.org.uk
Skills Co-ordinator	skills@iam-exeter.org.uk
John Tibbs	Tel: 01626 832881
Deputy Chairman	deputy@iam-exeter.org.uk
Newsletter Editor	editor@iam-exeter.org.uk
Membership Secretary	membership@iam-exeter.org.uk
Claire Chilcott	Tel: 07580907755
Treasurer	treasurer@iam-exeter.org.uk
Andrew Cleare	Tel: 01297 33461
Secretary	secretary@iam-exeter.org.uk
Martin Edworthy	01626 821268
Social Secretary	social@iam-exeter.org.uk
Vacant role	(currently redirected to our Secretary)
Chief Observer	chiefobserver@iam-exeter.org.uk
Dennis Leworthy	01837 658511
Webmaster	charlespegman@aol.com
Charles Pegman	
Committee Members	
Gloria McGinty	Rob Adams
Tony Spiers	Brian Palmer
IAM Website	http://www.iam.org.uk
Our group website	http://www.iam-exeter.org.uk
Information	info@iam-exeter.org.uk

Your Committee



John Tibbs
Chairman
Skills Co-ordinator



Martin Edworthy
Secretary



Andrew Cleare
Treasurer



Claire Chilcott
Deputy Chair
Membership
Editor



Dennis Leworthy
Chief Observer



Gloria McGinty
Committee Member



Brian Palmer
Committee Member



Rob Adams
Committee Member



Tony Spiers
Committee Member

**Deadline for contributions for the next newsletter:
18th November 2017**