



GO BETWEEN

Oxford IAM Group Newsletter

April 2010



GROUP NEWS

The monthly meetings have been going well, with Tony Chalkly arranging an interesting variety of talks. March was a visit from Jon Taylor, Motorcycle Staff Examiner at HQ & co-author of the Roadcraft Motorcycle Handbook. It was good to see members of other local groups attending- we had guests from the Aylesbury & Towcester groups. We have another bike-related talk coming up in October, when Lois Pryce is coming to entertain us with tales of her biking adventures around the world. Lois is a well-known & recommended speaker; it should be a great evening.

Next month is a talk from Professor John Stradling on sleep apnoea & driving, a subject that has had a lot of press coverage recently. Professor Stradling works in Respiratory Medicine based at the Churchill Hospital. It's a condition lots of people have heard but may not know much about- it's sure to be a fascinating visit.

Don't forget, the drive & ride-outs start from June- these are your opportunity to have a nice trundle round some Oxfordshire countryside, as a passenger with an Observer on a demonstration drive (for car drivers) or under your own steam for the bikers. Let's hope we have some lovely dry, bright evenings!

RECENT PASSES

Congratulations to Eric Brown & Janet Godfrey on their success with the Car Test recently- well done!

DRIVER TRAINING DAY

Saturday 20 March saw the first Petrolhead Nirvana 'Performance Club Day' event take place. The event, run by Roadcraft, was based at Millbrook Proving Ground, near Bedford. These excellent facilities gave the participants an opportunity to put their own cars through their paces in a controlled environment on 5 different circuits. Coaching was provided by experienced high performance instructors, with a maximum ratio of 4 to one instructor.

The cars included a Porsche, MX-5, Audi R8, BMW, Impreza and a Tazir. Despite the March weather being a little unpredictable, several of the cars were seen during the day with the roof down!

Circuits in use on the day were the 2 mile banked high-speed bowl, the mile straight (where braking was practiced, including threshold braking & emergency reaction/ brake & avoid ABS/ESP techniques), the outer handling circuit, steering pad & the tricky Alpine circuit which includes some very tight bends & pretty dramatic altitude changes. Each one provided opportunities to practice & hone different techniques & to see how far a cars and/or drivers could be pushed. This did result in a couple of 'offs' but fortunately only minor ones, with pride taking the biggest dents!

The final challenge of the day was a Gymkhana 'shoot-out' around a coned circuit in the Roadcraft track-prepared Mk II Golf GTI. This was won by Sam, who completed the course in the quickest time, displaying a lovely smooth style (& showing up the boys) The prize for most entertaining lap went to Seb, for his 'masterful' demonstration in redesigning the course we laid out!

AN INVITATION

ADUK (www.advanced-driving.co.uk) are running the second Cotswolds driving day on 15th May 2010, and I would like to extend an invitation to all Oxford IAM members. There is no fee, and registration with ADUK is free. The day will be based from the village of Lechlade.

It is an excellent opportunity to drive with members from other IAM and ROSPA groups, talk about driving with like-minded people, and generally enjoy a day of driving in the Cotswolds' excellent A and B class roads with some good company.

More details on the format of the day, as well as details of how to sign up, are available on the ADUK website.

Once you've registered and signed in to the forum area, you are looking for the topic "2nd ADUK Cotswolds Day - 15May2010 Lechlade" under the "Members Only: Driver Network" section.

Alternatively, contact Mark Reddin; mark_reddin@hotmail.com

BIKERS CORNER

The monthly ride-outs begin again! If you are a member please feel free to come along. If you are an associate & would also like to join the rides, please check with your Observer first.

Date	Meeting at	Leader	Expected Duration	Destination
Sunday 18th April	10am Bicester Services	David Bissell	2-3 Hours	Cotswold's
Sunday 16th May	Abingdon South Mc Donald's 9am	Chris Burras	150 ish Miles	Stone Henge via Marlborough, might call off at Museum of Army Flying for those that want to weather permitting.
Sunday 20th June	10am Bicester Services	John Lang	2-3 Hours	TBC
Sunday 18th July	10am H Cafe (Fox's Cafe)	Duncan Jones	3-4 Hours	Skins Cafe Scenic Route
Sunday 15th August	9.30am Peartree Services	Chris Burras	5-6 Hours	Great Malvern
Sunday 19th September	Milton Heights Service Area, Didcot OX14 4TX	Dave Gilogley	4-5 Hours	TBC

2010 DIARY

May 5	Professor John Stradling- Sleep Apnoea & Driving
June 2	Demonstration Drive & Motorcycle Ride-out
July 7	Demonstration Drive & Motorcycle Ride-out
August 4	Demonstration Drive & Motorcycle Ride-out
September 1	Ian Lewis- Thatcham Laboratory
October 6	Lois Pryce- One Woman, One Motorcycle, 20,000 Miles Across the Americas
November 3	AGM
December 1	Christmas Quiz

Committee Members

Mark McArthur-Christie - Chair
Clive Stayt -Vice Chair & Chief Car Observer
Tony Chalkly -Vice Chair & Secretary
Duncan Jones - Membership Secretary
Nick Morse - Treasurer
Chris Caspell - Car Associate Co-ordinator

Ian Jeffs - Events Manager
Mark Reddin
John Lang - Chief Motorcycle Observer & Co-ordinator
Peter Ingram
Helen Deeley - Newsletter Editor

All Contributions will be gratefully received, however Editors' decisions on content are final, & I reserve the right to edit articles. Any opinions stated are personal unless otherwise noted.

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