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## Inform: Weekly News

### Issue 243: 24 April 2019

News for Group Chairs, Group Secretaries, Treasurers, Chief Observers, Group Committee Members, Examiners, National and Local Observers and all active Group Officials

## Business news



### **[Take a look at our social media guidelines](#)**

Using social media is a great way of sharing road safety messages and promoting all the exciting things we all do at IAM RoadSmart. Take a look at our social media guidelines which includes information about why and how you can use it - [click here](#) to read it. If you'd like help on setting up a social media page or would like to know how you can use it to support the charity, please email Junique Aujla at [junique.aujla@iam.org.uk](mailto:junique.aujla@iam.org.uk).

## Tips and blog



### **This week's blog: Adventure ride to Bonneville Salt Flats**

This week's blog is by Simon Parry, national observer and member of Northumbria Advanced Motorcyclists. He chats about his road trip through the Mojave Desert to the Bonneville Salt Flats. Read his blog [here](#)



### **This week's tips: wearing the right gear**

This week Richard Gladman, IAM RoadSmart head of driving and riding standards, shares with you some top tips for wearing the correct gear when riding your motorbike. You can read the tips by [clicking here](#).

## Group news



### **Motorcycle groups get together for training weekend**

Scottish advanced motorcycle groups came together to host a training weekend in

Aberfoyle on 12 and 13 April which brought together attendees from [Inverness](#), [Tayside](#), [Fife](#), [Forth Valley](#), [Edinburgh](#), [Borders group](#) as well as [Glasgow North](#) and [South](#) and [Dumfries and Galloway groups](#). After dinner on the Friday evening presentations were made to the guests, followed by a day on the roads. With 36 attendees, the event was well supported and the feedback was positive. A good start for the new motorcycling year with fine weather and some excellent riding. These events are an opportunity for groups to get together, learn from each other and ride together. ***Supplied by David McCutcheon***



### **Young women drivers pass with flying colours**

Elizabeth Olisa (*left*), 21, Katie Stacey, 18, and Jess Harridge (*right*), 19, all recently passed their advanced driving test with [Guildford Advanced Motorists](#). Elizabeth said: "I really enjoyed the course. I learnt lots of new ways to improve my driving, but also ways to enhance the skills I already had. The observers ran each session in a way that felt like I was a friend or colleague, rather than an instructor." Niki, Jess' mother, said: "It's wonderful to know that GAM exists. The volunteer observers have enabled our daughter to develop her driving beyond the basic skills required to pass her driving test. Thank you GAM. I can now relax in the passenger seat knowing Jess is a mature, aware and conscientious driver." ***Supplied by Jacqui Mesquita-Morris***

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### **Opportunity to advance your riding skills in France**

For the past 12 years [East London Advanced Motorcyclists](#) has held a training weekend in partnership with track day organisers Eurotrax at the Folembay circuit in Northern France. The dates for this year's event are Friday 16 August to Sunday 18 August with the training event on 17 August. The day consists of structured coaching throughout the morning in small groups, followed by free laps in the afternoon and the chance for more coaching. The theme for the day is to be able to practice on-road riding techniques in a safe environment with like minded people. All abilities are catered for, from the complete novice to the more experienced track rider. This year the group is staying in the traditional French Town of St Quentin in the heart of the Picardy region. If any IAM RoadSmart member or guest would care to join the group this year please contact Julie Ballam at [julie@eurotrax.co.uk](mailto:julie@eurotrax.co.uk) or Steve Silcocks [steve.silcocks@elam.org.uk](mailto:steve.silcocks@elam.org.uk). The event costs £299 which includes return ferry crossing, two nights accommodation with breakfast on a shared room basis and a full day on track. ***Supplied by Steven Silcocks***



### **The South West Penninsular Spring Rally 2019**

[Somerset Advanced Motorcyclists](#) ran its 11<sup>th</sup> annual South West Peninsula Spring Rally on 13 April. More than 200 riders from across the UK took part. It was a non-competitive navigational scatter rally - not like the Monte Carlo Rally but much more Geo Caching on a motorcycle. The rally was open to anyone, and a number of new faces joined the regular attendees this year. There was a significant proportion who were non-advanced riders - the group took the opportunity to promote IAM RoadSmart as a forward looking, fun group of motorcyclists who take great pleasure in their riding. Some 30 club volunteers undertook admin, check point and car park duties to help the event, supported by Dainese, run smoothly. Three riders from Dainese participated in the rally and five lucky entrants were invited to trial their kit for the day. Another great opportunity afforded by the rally is that of meeting and entertaining members from other IAM RoadSmart groups, strengthening ties and communications with colleagues, many of whom we hope to see at the rally again next

year on 4 April 2020. ***Supplied by Gina Bromage***

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### **Motorcycle group donates gifts to childrens ward**

Mid-April saw the [Kingdom of Fife Advanced Motorcyclists Group](#) attend the Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy children's ward for its inaugural Easter Egg Run. The group is delighted to report that it donated over £400. Every penny donated went on presents for the children unfortunate enough to spend Easter in hospital. The group bought a variety of gifts to cover all age ranges for those in the ward, such as Easter eggs, musical instruments, reading books, colouring books, pens, Lego, a wide variety of toys, DVD's, PlayStation games, dolls and many other items. ***Supplied by Mark Ellis***



### **Members advance their vehicle knowledge**

Huddersfield Advanced Motorists had a very interesting and informed guided tour of a private museum owned by John Myers, owner of Ready Mix Cement. This contains many commercial and military vehicles, tractors of all designs and uses, mowers and many motor/industrial accessories. One of the tank transporters and tank (*see photo*) are going on a long trip over the summer for the 75 anniversary of the Battle of Arnhem in September to help mark the event. The group donated £230 to the museum and John Myers, who then gives these donations to different charities throughout the year. ***Supplied by Roy Meakin***

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### **IAM RoadSmart holds Spring Forum in Scotland**

IAM RoadSmart held the annual Spring Forum in Stirling on Saturday 13 April. The meeting was led by Scott Tulip, the Scottish area service delivery manager with Mike Quinton, CEO and Neil Grieg, director of policy and research also contributing to the sessions. Some 50 attendees represented groups from across Scotland. A number of topics were covered such as strategic focus, high risk drivers, market awareness, market strategy, business targets and influencing Government policy. It was a very full day which gave a good overview of how IAM RoadSmart is going forward but it also gave the two Aberdeen representatives the chance to discuss new ideas for promoting the charity with the other Scottish groups' members. ***Supplied by Gary Macalister***

Stay in touch

#### **Let's connect**

Do you have something you want to include in a future *Inform: Weekly News*? Please

#### **Update your details**

In order to keep a consistent and up-to-date mailing list for *Inform: Weekly News*, if you

email it to Junique Aujla at the IAM RoadSmart Press Office at [junique.aujla@iam.org.uk](mailto:junique.aujla@iam.org.uk) or call her on 020 8996 9629. Please include an image with your article. Also if you have missed a previous edition, she will be happy to send it to you. **Please send your item by 5pm on Friday** to ensure its inclusion in the following Wednesday's edition. Please keep your submissions to under 150 words please, and we reserve the right to edit and condense all posts.

have amendments to your email address please send the information to [support@iam.org.uk](mailto:support@iam.org.uk), or you can change your entry into DTE directly. Or call customer services on 0300 303 1134



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