



# **LEICESTER GROUP**

**of**

**Advanced  
Motorists**

***NEWSLETTER***

*February 2011 – March 2011*

# Leicester Group Of Advanced Motorists

Registered Charity No 1055744

**President: Steph Morgan**

ACC, Operations



## Officers and Committee 2011

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
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| <b>Observer Co-ordinator</b><br>Steve Heggs<br>Tel 0116 3322021<br><a href="mailto:steve@dheggs.orangehome.co.uk">steve@dheggs.orangehome.co.uk</a>  | <b>Minutes Secretary</b><br>Julia Malkin<br>Tel: 0116 2235652<br><a href="mailto:exceldia@ntlworld.com">exceldia@ntlworld.com</a>  | <b>Newsletter Editor</b><br>Julie Hage<br>Tel: 0116 2848918<br><a href="mailto:juliehage44@hotmail.com">juliehage44@hotmail.com</a>       |
| <b>Programme Secretary</b><br>Vacant   | <b>Publicity Officer</b><br>Ted Parton<br>Tel 01509 215842<br><a href="mailto:eijparton@yahoo.co.uk">eijparton@yahoo.co.uk</a>   | <b>Committee Member</b><br>Peter French<br>Tel 01664 424331<br><a href="mailto:pefrench@btconnect.com">pefrench@btconnect.com</a>         |
| <b>Committee Member</b><br>Neil Snow<br><a href="mailto:neilsnow@hotmail.co.uk">neilsnow@hotmail.co.uk</a>   | <b>Committee Member</b><br>Fred Palmer<br><a href="mailto:palmerdec@btinternet.com">palmerdec@btinternet.com</a>   |   |
| <b>EX OFFICIO MEMBERS</b>  |  |   |
| <b>IAM Examiner:</b><br>Peter Phillips   | <b>IAM Regional Group Co-ordinator,</b><br>Terry Towler,<br>Tel 0115 8465870<br>Mobile 07713882854<br><a href="mailto:terry.towlerRGC@iam.org.uk">terry.towlerRGC@iam.org.uk</a> |   |

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS AND NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE GROUP OF THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS (IAM)

## **MEET THE PRESIDENT**



Steph Morgan was born in Newport, Gwent. She joined the Hampshire Constabulary in 1983 where she has had a varied career which has included a period on the Fraud Squad where she led a team dealing with complex 'white collar' crime and was the first officer from the West to undertake investigative work in Russia. It was during this period that she obtained an MSc in Policy and Professional Studies (Crime and Policing) from Portsmouth University.

From August 2008 until June 2009 she was Temporary ACC Personnel and Operational Support, a portfolio that covered Training, Criminal Justice, Control Room and Call Handling. Prior to this, in February 2008, she was the Chief Superintendent leading the Community Safety Department, before which she had been temporary Assistant Chief Constable, Territorial Operations, a position she had held since November 2007. As part of this role she oversaw the six Operational Command Units which cover the Force area and was responsible for the delivery of local policing.

Following promotion to Superintendent in August 2004 she became the Commander of policing on the Isle of Wight. Here she led a team that achieved three financial and performance years as a top performer in relation to crime figures (reduction and detection) in a league table composed of the most similar areas in the Country. Following a Force Restructure Steph was promoted to Chief Superintendent in April 2006 remaining on the Isle of Wight. She oversaw the change management required to deliver the governmental vision of Neighbourhood Policing.

As a Detective Inspector Steph worked in Child Protection, was Gosport's Detective Inspector and became Head of the Fingerprint Bureau, Chemical Treatment Unit and a Crime Scene Co-ordinator. As Chief Inspector in Operations she undertook a scoping study of Policing in Gambia on behalf of the Foreign office before joining the Force's Professional Standard's Department.

(Taken from Leicestershire Police Website)

*Steph gave us a very interesting talk following the AGM (see also page 5). She says her driving is dreadful! Don't worry Steph, we can help you!*

## Diary Dates

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup></b><br>February 7.30 pm | Invitation to Nottingham No 1 Group for a talk by Peter Rodger (IAM Chief Examiner)<br>Bramcote Village Hall, Nottingham.<br>Contact David Hage for details |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup><br>February              | Guest Speaker: Caroline Roberts,<br>Leicestershire Magistrates  |
| Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup><br>March                 | Speaker to be advised   |
| Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> April                       | President's Cup   |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April                    | Terry Towler, Regional Co-ordinator,<br>talking about "Customer Services and<br>the IAM"  |

## Observer Nights

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup><br>February, 8 <sup>th</sup> June<br>and 12 <sup>th</sup> October | Observer evenings are held in the conference room off the main reception at Police HQ in Enderby |
|---|--|

**Note: Club Nights are normally held in the amenities building, Leicestershire Police HA, Enderby, commencing at 8.00 pm on the third Wednesday of every month (unless otherwise indicated).**

**The venue is wheelchair accessible. Club nights are open to members of the public, group members and associates. Attendance is free – however, raffle prizes are always welcome!**

**Articles for inclusion in the April/May newsletter should be sent to Julie Hage ([juliehage44@hotmail.com](mailto:juliehage44@hotmail.com)) no later than 15<sup>th</sup> March.**

## **FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Later on in the Newsletter you will see reports of the Group's Annual General Meeting, which took place at Leicestershire Police Headquarters on 19<sup>th</sup> January – so I don't propose to go into all of the details here. However, I'd just like to thank all of the Members who came along, together with our new Group President (Leicestershire Police Assistant Chief Constable Steph Morgan) and IAM's Regional Co-Ordinator Terry Towler.

After the formal session, Steph Morgan gave a short talk about the way she felt policing in our area was likely to go in 2011 – and, although not directly from a police traffic background, she was able to include a few amusing anecdotes about some of her experiences when using a police vehicle herself. Altogether, it was a very interesting evening; and Steph has indicated that she would like to take an active interest in the Group – or at least as much as her police duties permit in the current financial climate!

On to a few Group matters, then. In 2010 we realised that we needed to do a bit more on the Group publicity and events front, so you will be reading some bits and pieces in coming months about things we are hoping to take part in or attend. We also plan to become much more organised when it comes to Observer training and the organisation of the coaching which we are able to offer to our Associate Members. To this end, Julie made a good start last year by getting Observer teams arranged, each under the guidance of a Senior Observer as the team leader, and with another Senior as a deputy. In this way, we should be able to keep up – and indeed improve – our coaching standard as the year goes on. We've already started, by encouraging members of the Observer team to attend some of the regional training days which Terry Towler has organised at West Bridgeford – and it's hoped we will be able to run at least one practical observing session of our own during the summer.

Leicester Group has a policy of encouraging as many of the Observers as possible to become Qualified Observers, and to go on to take the Senior Observer Test (at no cost to them personally). But there is another test which is available to all IAM Full Members – though its definitely one which is great for Observers and Senior Observers to go for as well. It's the Special Driving Assessment; and I thought I'd pass on a few points about it for anyone who is interested, having just had a go myself.

For a start, the Special Assessment – at the moment – isn't a pass-or-fail like the standard IAM test. It is much the same length at around 90 minutes; but its one of the Staff Examiners who takes the run, not a local Examiner, and you're expected to travel a bit to meet him! I was actually contacted by Chris Tatlow from Sheffield about my drive (so it wasn't even our area's Staff Examiner!); and met up with him at a local service area just off M1 Junction 30 near Chesterfield. We certainly covered a lot of territory and a wide range of driving conditions, on a route which included Bolsover, Worksop, Rotherham and some of the M18 and M1. I already knew that giving a commentary was a required element; and I chose to do so for the whole of the drive, as I'm pretty used to commentary driving for IAM Drive & Survive (but if you do this run, make sure you have a drink or some sweets available!).

The Special Assessment was a really informative and useful morning. Chris likes the idea of sustained, block gear-changes, greatly extended forward vision, defensive driving positioning and for improved views, and straightening country bends where it is safe to do so. Looking for clues and information from signs, reflections, and use of the limit point – both horizontally AND VERTICALLY – were all considered; and, something many drivers neglect (even Observers), the condition of the road surface was thought to be very significant.

As I'm writing this for the magazine, I don't have Chris's comments in front of me – because you're sent a written report giving a percentage score for the Special Assessment, plus a certificate, and I've not yet had mine from IAM House. However, I think Chris was quite impressed with the run from his comments; and I came back from Chesterfield with some useful points to pass on to the other Observers.

**David Hage**

## **MEMBER NEWS**



### **Leicestershire Driving Instructor given MBE for special needs services**

Leicester driving instructor and IAM Senior Observer, Julia Malkin, has been awarded the MBE in the New Year 2011 Honours List. The award has been granted for her dedicated services as an approved driving instructor (ADI) for services to people with special needs.

**Welcome to the following new Group Associates ...**

Bijal Bhagwan of Leicester  
George Grimley of Fleckney  
Mary Wolley of Shepshed  
John Sutton of Leicester  
Samantha Snape of Hinckley

**Congratulations to the following who have recently  
passed the Advanced Test ...**

Tommy Porter, assisted by Peter Radcliffe  
Rizwan Caratella, assisted by Fred Palmer



Tommy Porter



Rizwan Caratella

Congratulations to Steve Heggs, who passed his Senior  
Observer Test on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

See our website at [www.leicesteradvancedmotorist.net](http://www.leicesteradvancedmotorist.net)

## **The Leicester Group Christmas Party – A Most Quizzing Time!**

Last year all things ghosts, this December it was time for the members' knowledge of a range of subjects to be pushed to the near limit!

David and Julie Hage, acting as host crowd control, manoeuvred the antipant members into four teams. Freedom was given to the groups as to the choice of team name – in fact; the titles were so obscure that they escape the memory! So, the now (for ease) named teams One, Two, Three and Four, with eyes down and grey matters focussed, tackled Round One – The 2010 Challenge.

Groans aplenty were then heard once the second paper was handed out - a thirty question grilling on the Nation's favourite topic of 2010 – Politics! With minds tiring of the mental strain, a more relaxed round on Sport was the prelude to the lovely buffet.

After the members' palates were satisfied by the delicious selection of all foods festive, the teams settled down for 'the final push.' Round Four was not a case of 'save the best for last,' rather 'save the hardest for last.' The paper was: The General Knowledge Round. The sense of anticipation was palpable as the final scores were calculated.

Team Four, although in last position, had gathered a respectable score. Team Two had finished a close score to the runners up. But WHO would the winner be?!

After a double check of the score, the team who had previously trail blazed the entire evening, had LOST the quiz by a single point! BUT WAIT! Team One complained that one of their answers had been wrongly marked! Upon a third check of their paper, SHOCK! They were right! Thus a tie ensued – One and three were neck and neck with rounds left.

Now, as all members will probably know and all committee members can testify to, our branch has often been at the debt of David and Julie Hage. And so it proved again, Mrs 'H' put on a short team game during the food break. Who won that round? Team Three – and so a winner was at last crowned! Each member collected a winner's medal – or as it was in this case, either a box of chocolates or a bottle of wine!

Will there be a quiz at this year's event? Let us know your views! Finally, thank you to all the members who attended the party, both providing the sumptuous feast and working so hard at the quiz.

**Ted 'Mastermind' Parton**

(Publicity Officer, Group Contact and 'Le Grand Quiz Compère')

**Christmas Meeting Photographs**



**The eventual winners  
(we think!)**



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 19<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2010/11**

As we come to the end of 2010 and the start of 2011, its time for some reflection – as usual – on what’s taken place during the Group’s year.

As sometimes happens in all organisations, 2010 has seen us lose several Committee Members and Officers for various reasons, as I have mentioned in the Newsletter. Ann and Colin Ashby resigned during the year; whilst Alan Smart, Rob Garner, Mac Stowe and Bill Holland are retiring and are not seeking re-election. All deserve a sincere vote of thanks from the Group for their work (both public and behind the scenes).

### **Publicity and Events**

Thanks must also go to everyone who has done their bit on the publicity and events front. Peter French and Rob Garner arranged to re-run the President’s Cup (the manoeuvring event which always used to be an annual item) at County Hall, using some of the rear carpark space; and, as everyone taking part thoroughly enjoyed the day, they’re up for it again in 2011. Look out for details in the Newsletter. Peter also arranged some space for us at Beaumanor Hall’s historic vehicles day; whilst Colin and Ann Ashby, and Mac Stowe organised some useful publicity for us at Snibston Discovery Park. Ted Parton has worked hard to design, produce and distribute posters and leaflets in various outlets around the county; whilst Fred Palmer and I gave out information about the IAM and our Group at the uninsured drivers’ day arranged by Leicester Magistrates Association, held earlier in the year in Humberstone Gate. Initiatives like these are important for us, as a way of helping to generate interest in road safety generally, and Leicester Group of Advanced Motorists in particular; and it is in this area in that your Committee for 2011/12 must do its best to make headway. Well done, everyone, for your efforts during 2010; and “thank you”, too, to those of you who helped us as ordinary Members of the Group.

There has been a modest improvement in the number of new IAM Associates contacting us during the latter part of the year – but it **is** very modest, and we desperately need to recruit as many new (and younger) members as possible in order to ensure our future and our survival as an organisation. Hence the importance I have attached to recruitment and publicity as key areas for the incoming Committee to address.

## **Website**

Other work which we need to make more progress with, is in our communication with the public and with **you**, our Members. Alan Smart put together an interesting and informative website for the Group; but unfortunately we have not been able to supply him with general items (or the Newsletter) in a format which could be attached or accessed readily. Hopefully, someone will be able to take this on board in 2011 – it is, after all, a fact of life that most people now use the internet as their prime means of researching and distributing information, in view of its speed and very low cost. It can only be detrimental to Leicester Group if we ignore the importance of technology when it comes to our local publicity.

## **Training**

Also to be regarded as “work in progress” is the organisation of the Group’s Associates and Observers. Julie has worked hard to establish a comprehensive record of this area of our work, and has started to organise the Observers and Trainee Observers in teams under the leadership of a Senior Observer and a deputy for each district. The Senior Observers will be handling the team’s training needs, and will liaise regularly with the Group’s Observer Co-Ordinator. Steve Heggs was co-opted to serve on the Committee until the end of the Group’s year, having volunteered to take over the role from Julie in December. In this way, we will be able to ensure that Leicester Group’s high standards of training are maintained in 2011.

Throughout the year, points are awarded to Observers for undertaking observed runs, check drives with Senior Observers, or assessments for members of the public, and for attending Observer meetings and events. 1 point is awarded per run/event with 3 given for a test pass. An award (the **Frank Gamble Award**, formerly the Abbey Award) is then presented to the Observer gaining the most points during the year (1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December).

Although it has been a difficult year, some Observers deserve a particular mention at this point – Roger Ewens, for achieving his 100<sup>th</sup> test pass; Peter Radcliffe, who lives out in Market Harborough but is always willing to travel to help out Associates; and Fred Palmer who won the President’s Cup, and has shown an interest in becoming a Senior Observer himself. Steve Heggs started as a trainee earlier in the year, but has achieved Qualified Observer Status, and will be taking his Senior Observer Test shortly. However, every Observer is important to us and any help they give is much appreciated by the Committee.

Figures for the Frank Gamble Award are as follows (remember these are points, not the number of hours of observing undertaken).

|                 |    |  |    |
|-----------------|----|--|----|
| 1. David Hage   | 39 | 4. Fred Palmer                         | 28 |
| 2. Roger Ewens  | 34 | 5. Steve Heggs                         | 24 |
| 3. Peter French | 30 | 6= Peter Radcliffe and<br>Ian Robinson | 22 |

### **Vincent Brooksbank**

One person we will unfortunately not have on board is Vince. Vince had been seriously ill for several months, and as a result was only able to attend a small number of Group events and meetings in 2010. It is with great sadness that we learned of his death on 15<sup>th</sup> November, whilst in hospital at Glenfield. Vince had been a keen and active supporter of Leicester Group for many years; and, for almost as many, he also served as a Committee Member and Officer, including terms as Newsletter Editor and Group Treasurer. Whatever the role, he carried out the duties associated with it, with enthusiasm and common-sense, as well as a dry sense of humour!

**David Hage Chairman, January 2011**

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT 2010**

Due to the resignation of Ann Ashby as secretary I have taken on the role.

This has been an interesting year with a good variety of speakers during the year. Not only has Rob Garner done an excellent job of organizing the speakers but also gave us a talk on the holidays he has had working on National Trust properties.

We were given an insight into prison life by Richard Pabworth. A speaker I found very interesting was Chris Hall who told us about being a race marshal complete with pictures.

We also had a chance to examine the examiners as three local IAM examiners showed us they were just as human as the rest of us and what they looked for on a test.

The Presidents cup was relaunched at County Hall car park, a good event enjoyed by many as could be seen by the pictures in the newsletter in the summer, together with pictures from an event at Beaumanor Hall. The quiz night against Nottingham was also restarted.

**Alan Griffin**

**LEICESTER GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS (7032)**  
**49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Minutes of the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at Police Headquarters, Enderby, commencing at 8.00 pm.**

**1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS**

The Chairman, David Hage, opened the meeting at 2010hrs/8pm. He thanked everyone for attending, and reminded those present that only full members of the IAM Nationally, and fully-paid up members of the Leicester Group were allowed to vote on any matters that arose during the meeting. The Chairman also welcomed our new President Steph Morgan (ACC Leicestershire Police), who would be talking to the Group following the AGM, and Terry Towler, Regional Groups Co-ordinator, Eastern England (North).

**2. PRESENT**

23 members, associates and guests were present.

**3. APOLOGIES**

Apologies received from:

Alan Griffin (Co-opted Secretary), Fred Palmer, Jane Lant and Dave Scott.

**4. MINUTES OF THE 48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2010, AT LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE HEADQUARTERS, ENDERBY. (Circulated at meeting)**

**a) Amendments**

There were no amendments.

**b) Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**c) Acceptance**

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by Peter French and seconded by Mac Stowe. The majority were in favour.

**5. OFFICER REPORTS**

**a) Chairman**

The Chairman's report was circulated prior to the start of the meeting – copy filed with the minutes.

**b) Secretary**

The Secretary's report was circulated prior to the start of the meeting – copy filed with the minutes.

**6. TREASURER'S REPORT (INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP);  
PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEET**

The Treasurer's report and the 2010 accounts and balance sheet were circulated prior to the start of the meeting - copy filed with minutes.

Comments from the floor: Mac Stowe asked for the reason there was a difference in the expenditure of the Secretary; Deborah Brooksbank (Treasurer) replied that it was difficult to make it all balance out and had to guess which listing some expenses went on.

Elizabeth Grimsley enquired as to how the Programme Secretary, Rob Garner, was able to do the job without expenses incurred; Rob replied that most contact he made with future speakers at the meetings was done by email, which meant no costs as regards to postage.

Proposal that the accounts be accepted:

Proposed: Rob Garner

Seconded: Jeremy Macafee. The majority were in favour.

**7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 2011**

The Chairman again reminded those present that only fully paid-up members of both the IAM Nationally and Leicester Group were able to stand for election or vote on any of the nominations.

Under the terms of the IAM constitution, "Nominations for Committee Members shall be made in writing to the Secretary and received not less than seven days prior to an AGM. Nominations must be proposed and seconded by Group Full Members and have the signed approval of the nominee. Nominations will only be accepted from the floor of the Meeting if a written nomination for that Committee position has not been received and the person nominated from the floor is present and agrees to be so nominated".

All officers and one third of the remaining committee must stand down each year; however, they can offer themselves for re-election.

During the year, the following resignations have been noted, and are not standing for re-election; Ann Ashby (Secretary); Colin Ashby; Mac Stowe; Bill Holland; Allan Smart; Rob Garner.

**8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

At this point, Deborah Brooksbank took over the proceedings, whilst the Chair was elected.

**a) Chairman**

Only one nomination had been received.

Proposed: David Hage

Proposer: Rachel Hooke

Seconded: Elizabeth Grimsley

The majority were in favour.

**b) Secretary**

During the year, Alan Griffin had been co-opted as Secretary, following Ann Ashby's resignation. Alan had expressed an interest to continue in the role of Secretary.

Proposed: Alan Griffin

Proposer: Rachel Hooke

Seconded: Fred Palmer

The majority were in favour.

**c) Treasurer**

One nomination had been received.

Proposed: Deborah Brooksbank

Proposer: Julie Hage

Seconded: David Hage

**COMMITTEE 2011**

The following were continuing as committee members:

Julie Hage; Peter French; Ted Parton; Julia Malkin

One member had been co-opted during the year, and had expressed an interest in continuing

Proposed: Steve Heggs

Proposer: Peter French

Seconded: David Hage

Two further members had expressed an interest in becoming committee members:

Proposed: Fred Palmer

Proposer: Peter French

Seconded: Rachel Hooke

Proposed: Neil Snow

Proposer: Julia Malkin

Seconded: David Hage

The Chairman asked the Meeting if there were any further nominations. There were none.

The committee for 2011 will therefore stand at 10 for the coming year.

**9. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR**

Deborah Brooksbank proposed Julia Malkin as Honorary Auditor. This was seconded by Jeremy Macafee.

**10. AGREEMENT OF THE MEMBERSHIP FEE FOR 2011**

In view of the current financial situation, and the loss of members over the year, it was agreed in general that the membership fee remain at £7.50.

Mac Stowe asked whether there would be any major expenses on the Group's part during 2011 which would need budgeting for. Deborah Brooksbank replied that nothing major was needed apart from some more copies of *Roadcraft*. She said she would stand by the decision for the membership fee to remain at £7.50, since the Group had cash available.

It was proposed by Jeremy Macafee and seconded by Mac Stowe that the membership fee should continue to be £7.50 for the coming year. This was accepted by the majority of the membership.

**11. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS AND BADGES OF OFFICE**

Badges of Office were presented to David Hage (Chairman), Alan Griffin (Secretary) and Deborah Brooksbank (Treasurer).

The Frank Gamble Award, for the most successful observer, was presented to David Hage.

The Bradgate Award, for services to the Group, was presented to Peter French.

An IAM Certificate was presented to Tommy Porter.

**12. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting closed at 2043hrs/8.43pm.

Following a short break, Leicestershire Police's ACC **Steph Morgan** addressed the meeting. An article on her presentation will appear in a future issue of the Newsletter.

All reports and the accounts will appear in the February 2011 newsletter.

Julia Malkin

20.01.11.

**SNIPETS**

The "Skill for Life" package costs £139.

An IAM test in a second category (ie if you are already a member) costs £93.

A special assessment is £60.

**LEICESTER GROUP OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2010**

|                             | <b>2010</b>     |                 | <b>2009</b>     |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Income</b>               |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Subscriptions</b>        |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Full Members                | 1,282.50        |                 | 1,372.00        |                 |
| Associates                  | <u>1,052.00</u> |                 | <u>1,103.50</u> |                 |
|                             |                 | <u>2,334.50</u> |                 | <u>2,475.50</u> |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>        |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Raffle Proceeds             | 103.50          |                 | 196.50          |                 |
| Bank Interest               | 5.27            |                 | 8.00            |                 |
| Donations/Refunds           | <u>159.40</u>   |                 | <u>105.00</u>   |                 |
|                             |                 | <u>268.17</u>   |                 | <u>309.50</u>   |
|                             |                 | <u>2,602.67</u> |                 | <u>2,785.00</u> |
| <b>Expenditure</b>          |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| <b>Newsletter</b>           |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Printing                    | 498.08          |                 | 565.62          |                 |
| Postage                     | 516.40          |                 | 404.11          |                 |
| Expenses                    | <u>43.55</u>    |                 | <u>78.36</u>    |                 |
|                             |                 | <u>1,058.03</u> |                 | <u>1,048.09</u> |
| <b>Administration</b>       |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Chair                       | 33.42           |                 | 40.70           |                 |
| Secretary                   | 62.18           |                 | 145.72          |                 |
| Auditor                     | 20.00           |                 | 20.00           |                 |
| Manuals                     | 89.60           |                 | 99.00           |                 |
| Committee Expenses          | 12.00           |                 | 24.00           |                 |
| Programme Sec               | 0.00            |                 | 0.00            |                 |
| GA Secretary                | 126.49          |                 | 97.95           |                 |
| Publicity/Events            | 131.33          |                 | 104.63          |                 |
| Engraving/Badges            | <u>47.50</u>    |                 | <u>37.50</u>    |                 |
|                             |                 | <u>522.52</u>   |                 | <u>569.50</u>   |
| <b>General Admin</b>        |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Room                        | 147.45          |                 | 409.44          |                 |
| Hire/Refreshments           |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Obs                         | 230.66          |                 | 327.85          |                 |
| Training/Theory/Obs         |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Expenses                    |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Equipment                   | 0.00            |                 | 136.45          |                 |
| Donations/Refunds           | 0.00            |                 | 116.50          |                 |
| Raffles/event prizes        | 62.85           |                 | 46.24           |                 |
| Insurance                   | 60.00           |                 | 55.00           |                 |
| Misc printing and photocopy | 384.29          |                 | 32.15           |                 |
| Stationery/photoframe       | 155.14          |                 | 111.64          |                 |
| Other Expenses/Gift         | 20.00           |                 | 34.95           |                 |
|                             |                 | <u>1,060.39</u> |                 | <u>1,270.22</u> |

*Leicester Group of Advanced Motorists Newsletter*

|  | <b>2010</b>     | <b>2009</b>     |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Events</b>                              |                 |                 |
| Xmas Party                                 | 62.98           | 49.70           |
| Speakers                                   | 220.00          | 220.00          |
| Webmaster                                  | 0.00            | 62.86           |
|  | <u>282.98</u>   | <u>332.56</u>   |
|  | <u>2,923.92</u> | <u>3,220.37</u> |
| Excess of Expenditure over Income for Year | <u>-321.25</u>  | <u>-435.47</u>  |

**BALANCE SHEET**

|                            | Opening balance 2010 | Closing balance 2010 |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>              |                      |                      |
| Lloyds TSB Savings account | 3172.27              | 3175.42              |
| Cash in hand               | 54.33                | 18.81                |
| Current account            | <u>2351.82</u>       | <u>2062.94</u>       |
|                            | <u>5578.42</u>       | <u>5,257.17</u>      |

**TOTAL ASSETS REPRESENTED BY ACCUMULATED FUNDS**

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance at 31 December 2009        | 5,578.42        |
| Balance of expenditure over income | -321.25         |
| <b>Balance at 31 December 2010</b> | <b>5,257.17</b> |

I certify that the above statement of accounts are in accordance with the books and documents supplied, and that the information given to me, and that the guidelines given by the Council of the Institute of Advanced Motorists Ltd, have been followed. Section 2.24 of the group handbook refers.

Signed ..... Date .....

Treasurers Report 18/1/11

*As most of you will know, these last two years have been very difficult for everyone. Rising costs and increasing expenses have taken their toll on the Groups resources. However, after being in a deficit of just over £435 in 2009, it was a welcome surprise to be only £320 in deficit in 2010, especially as we have spent quite a lot of money on some items. Training of new observers has been a priority and due to the hard work of certain people is now paying dividends. The newsletter costing is still roughly the same as it was in 2009. It is my belief in the individual newsletter that is still high on my list as a must. Direct contact with each and every member every two months has made it a small price in time and effort to retain members. We have lost some members during the last year but some new blood has filled the gaps.*

*Some expenses are up and down as we use up stationary, forms and replaced old manuals, but overall we have a good year considering the economic situation. With the new expanded observer team I really think that we now have a solid base to turn the books around during 2011.*

*Deborah Brooksbank, Treasurer  
January 18<sup>th</sup> 2011.*

## **AN EXAMINER SPEAKS**

Just around Christmas with snow on the ground, I had an idea. Almost every newspaper and magazine you read these days has a regular feature amongst its pages. The idea I conceived was for the Leicester Group Newsletter to have just that – a regular feature written from an examiner's perspective. I set myself a target of six features, one for each of the Newsletters over the coming twelve months.

I don't intend to prophesy what will happen in the world, the Institute, the Group, or anything like that. Just a few notes and thoughts that I hope will be of interest and help to anyone involved with advanced driving. Obviously, the majority of Newsletter readers are already involved and I hope, attempt to promote the Institute. Remember the motto – *Skill with Responsibility*.

It seemed a good idea at the time but after only two paragraphs I am already struggling for a title. Perhaps not too original, but the title you see at the top is the best I could come up with, so I hope you like it.

The theme of this first article is to be a potted history of 'Peter Phillips – the Examiner'. A brief history of myself, my Police career and my involvement with advanced driving.

I have been interested in cars and driving from a very early age and I remember sitting behind the wheel of my father's (stationary) Austin A40 of 1955 ish vintage, pretending to be Stirling Moss or some other racing driver of the time. At the age of 16 I had a Lambretta scooter and passed my driving test at the first attempt on that. At 17 I was taught to drive a car by my father and also passed that test first time. I then left two wheels but later returned purely as a means of transport. I continued on two wheels for something like 25 years until I retired from the police but never progressed above an engine capacity of 150cc – not really a true motorcyclist am I?

All Institute examiners are the holders of a Police Advanced Driving Certificate. It was my ambition, having joined the Police force, to reach the dizzy heights of the department then known as Motor Patrol (later to become the Traffic Division and latterly the Road Policing Unit). Having successfully undergone a 'local' driving course (in a Jaguar 3.8 no less) I eventually made the move I had yearned for. After a short period of time I attended the Headquarters of the then Derby County and Borough Constabulary for a 'proper' advanced driving course. In those days officers from Leicestershire attended these courses at either Derbyshire or Nottinghamshire and there was always been rivalry between the two (the manoeuvre known as the 'Derby Dive' was frowned upon by

Nottinghamshire!). I ended my month's course with a much coveted Class 1 pass, having achieved an average mark in excess of 90% (averaged over three disciplines – driving ability, theory knowledge and skidding control). It was at this point that I joined the Institute – partly because I was proud of my achievement and partly because the Class 1 certificate ensured automatic membership! At the time of joining I had no idea about the workings of the Institute or local Groups – that was to come later. That was in 1972 and from then until I retired, apart from a twelve month period after I was promoted, I remained on traffic patrol duties throughout the County, but mainly on the motorway network.

Throughout my Police career I attended numerous driving related courses - HGV 1, Land Rover, JCB and vehicle recovery, to name but a few, along with almost as many theory courses. These were in addition to the annual 'in house' driving refresher course to ensure the required standard was maintained. I have also carried out traffic related training courses to a variety of people including senior police officers, magistrates, the media and other emergency service personnel.

Several years ago there was an annual Motorway Safety Campaign that was run on a national basis with sponsorship from large commercial companies such as Shell, Esso and Fina (remember that petrol?). The campaigns ran for a week and each Force would have a static display at a motorway service area. Having run the first one in Leicestershire, guess who was in line for future ones. These campaigns were good for public relations and got the safety message across to the motoring public. There was always a display of some kind and I remember on one occasion we managed to borrow a Formula 1 racing car (unfortunately there was no engine in it so a spin up the motorway was out of the question). It was at one of these campaigns that I first came into contact with the Leicester Group through David and Julie Hage. My recollection is that they appeared one day as volunteers and then almost became part of the furniture. I'm not sure that's how it really was, and Julie will probably correct me, but it was a long time ago.

From there David Hage approached me in his role as Regional Co-ordinator asking if I knew anyone who may be interested in becoming an Institute examiner. My first thoughts went to the Force Driving School staff but as I pondered the question, I thought to myself 'I can fulfil the requirements and it will give me another interest'. After all, I thought, there can't be that many people taking the test, I won't need to spend much time conducting tests. How wrong could I have been! I went through the process of interview to be an examiner (remember Trevor Dickinson's description from a recent meeting, well mine was much the same) and I was then 'on the books' as the Leicester Examiner.

Test applications were slow at first but soon began to drop through my letterbox like confetti. So here I am, more than 20 years on and with approximately 1500 tests under my belt. Whilst I was in the Force examining was quite easy as I could complete a test before a 'late' shift but now I'm a pensioner (Police, not old age I hasten to add), most of my Saturday mornings are spent conducting tests. Initially I was on my own as examiner for Leicestershire but now there are two others things have slowed down a little.

I retired from the Force some time ago now but still have fingers in a few road safety orientated pies, more of those in future issues perhaps. After all these years, road safety is in my blood and I'm a firm believer that everyone has a responsibility and a part to play, but no one person or organisation has a monopoly.

I sense that I am coming to the end of my allotted pages so perhaps it's as well that I'm coming to the end of my potted history.

Suffice to say that I have made many friends over the years, have seen many people come but only a few stay. I would like to see more members stay with the Group after they have taken the test, not only to swell the Group numbers (and coffers) but for new ideas to be introduced.

That's it for now, folks. Remember IPSGA, and you won't go far wrong!

**Peter Phillips – your friendly examiner.**



Peter French was awarded the Bradgate Award, for services to the group.



David Hage was awarded the "Frank Gamble Award" for the most successful observer.

## **MJU 2F A Classic's Tale**

In September of 1967, I was a nineteen year old, motorcycle riding youngster when my father purchased a new saloon car, registration MJU 2F, from Browetts of Granby Street. It was a Triumph Vitesse Mk 1, finished in conifer green and powered by a 2 Litre straight six engine, for which he paid the princely sum of £862 2s 3d.

The invoice lists a sun roof, radio aerial and under seal amongst the 'extras'. Power is transferred to the road via the rear wheels, and it has four forward gears with synchromesh plus reverse gear. Brakes are discs to the front wheels and drums to the rear, and so for it's time it was bang up to date.

During the thirty one years father owned the car, it was put to various uses, including towing a small two berth caravan for holidays, and carrying goods for his work as a master plumber. I was rarely given the opportunity to drive his car during this period, and following one rare occasion when I was allowed at the controls, the clutch failed the next day, so no prizes for guessing who got the blame!

Dad was still driving MJU 2F up until he died in 1998, by which time it was only being used for short trips and on average only once per week. When I took over ownership, the car had covered 97,000 miles, and it was in a pretty sorry state of repair with both the coachwork and the chassis badly corroded.

In the intervening twelve years, various repairs and renewals have been carried out and it is now in sound condition having been driven a further 15,000 miles by me. However the car has never been extensively restored, and therefore most parts, including engine and transmission are as originally supplied.

So what is a classic car like the Triumph like to own, and to drive on modern roads?

Firstly, the good news is that as a 'Historic Vehicle' the road fund licence is free, and it is fairly inexpensive to comprehensively insure through specialist brokers. Also most spares are still available even as new parts, and the 'Triumph Sports Six Club' based in Lubbenham is a good place to obtain both spare parts and technical information. The bad news is that it is thirsty on petrol, and only drives well on expensive 97 Octane fuel. Repairs and maintenance can also seem expensive when judged on a cost per mile basis. However it is a joy to drive, with a 2 litre engine powering a fairly light vehicle. It is a lively package, and great care has to be exercised especially when cornering on wet roads, as it is easy to provoke the rear end into stepping out of line. However the

Triumph gives plenty of feedback to the driver through the controls, something that is lacking in many modern vehicles. Cars built in the sixties were not designed to cope with speed cushions, and I have slow almost to a stop when negotiating them if damage to steering and suspension are to be avoided. This can be tricky, as following drivers do not always anticipate what you are going to do!

Driving a classic car certainly makes you concentrate, as you realise how vulnerable you are without crumple zones, airbags, cabin padding, ABS, traction control, etc, etc, which we all now take for granted. Personally, it is the sight of the steering column pointing straight at my chest that is all that is needed to ensure that I am on my best **IAM** behaviour when driving MJU 2F.

I now drive the Triumph Vitesse mainly for recreational purposes, and whenever I get the opportunity. On occasions I take it to classic car shows to display, and the most common reaction from people (of a certain age) when they see the car at shows, is they either say "I used to own one like that," or "I learnt to drive in one of those," and most have a tale of their own to tell.

Sadly as I get nearer to retirement, I realise that one day I may have to part company with MJU 2F, and I hope that I can find someone to take good care of it for me.

After all it is one of the family!



**Peter French**



**MESOTHELIOMA UK**

Freephone Helpline 0800 169 2409

13<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Dear Deborah

**Donation to Mesothelioma UK Charitable Trust  
In Memory of Mr Vincent Brooksbank**

I am writing to acknowledge receipt and thank you for the donation cheques totalling £650 you sent to Mesothelioma UK Charitable Trust in memory of your dear husband Vincent.

Your kindness and generosity at this very sad time is so very much appreciated, and of course, I will acknowledge this very generous donation on our website. I would also like to acknowledge and thank your family, friends, neighbours, Leicester Group of Advance Motorists and workmates from the Leicester University.

Mesothelioma UK Charitable Trust will continue to raise our profile and awareness about the dangers of asbestos so that an early diagnosis for everyone we hope will be available in the very near future. We will continue to hold our mesothelioma educational days for the healthcare professionals for the specialist care and guidance that mesothelioma patients so desperately need.

Mesothelioma UK Charitable Trust rely totally on donations to be able to fund and support the vital work that Mesothelioma UK do and provide to patients, their carers, healthcare professional and to anyone who is or has been affected by Mesothelioma.

The Charitable Trust exists to raise funds and provide financial support to the National Macmillan Mesothelioma Resource Centre (known as Mesothelioma UK) and to other initiatives to promote and protect the health of suffers of mesothelioma.

(Signed)

Jill Lemon

Mesothelioma Fundraising Manager

*Mesothelioma UK Charitable Trust, registered charity number 1126083. Registered office: c/o Glenfield Hospital, Hospital Management Officer, Groby Road, Leicester LE3 9QP*