

Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of our newsletter – Are you ready for Christmas? Just in case you need a warning, it is nearly here!

Those of you on Facebook will notice an increasing number of articles showing video footage from camera's placed in people's cars, lorries, motorbikes and even on bicycles.

Whilst this serves as a mean to shock and amuse us all on social media, is this material of any use to prosecution of the drivers and riders behaving in such an anti-social manner?

I think time will tell, but my belief is that whilst the videos may serve to demonstrate someone's level of driving or riding leading to an incident it will be unlikely the Police will have the required amount of resources to investigate each video. After all they would need to establish who the driver is, what the circumstances were and what speed they were doing, amongst many other points.

Area's which have proved successful is video footage of car drivers on their mobile phones (see article from Bedfordshire Police for more information) and where an assault has taken place.

Indeed, an ex-colleague was subject to van reversing into him in the middle of Sheffield. The van driver then claimed he drove into the back to the van. A difficult argument had it not been for the camera in his car!

So for around £30 are they something we should consider? – I will leave that to you and, perhaps, Father Christmas!

Have a great Christmas and I look forward to
Seeing you in the new year.

Nigel Hobson
Editor



www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk

Facebook: IAM Scunthorpe

Twitter: @IAMScunthorpe



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Social meetings held on:

22nd February 2017

26th April 2017

28th June 2017

23rd August 2017

25th October 2017

We got Mail!

You can email, tweet or post a letter to the following addresses.

Email: nghobson@btinternet.com

Twitter: [@IAMScunthorpe](https://twitter.com/IAMScunthorpe)



Letters:
N Hobson
Phoenix Cottage
Old Lane
Reedness
DN14 8HE

SPECIAL OFFER

FOR A LIMITED TIME
ONLY

IAM Scunthorpe are delighted to introduce a brand new promotion for people living in the North Lincs Area.

The project will allow 18-24 year old's to receive a full refund once they have completed the 'Skills for Life' course. A big thank you to Richard Hall (who is the manager of the 'Roads Safety Team' working for the North Lincolnshire Council) for helping to fund this project.

T&C's apply, please see our website for more details.

Become an
advanced driver!

The price for the Skill for Life package is £149.00, but you can join for a one off payment of only £125.00.

**PLEASE NOTE THIS OFFER IS FOR A
LIMITED TIME ONLY**

To receive an application form please send your name and contact details along with payment to:

Mr. M Gothard
7 West Green
Messingham
North Lincs
DN17 3QT

**Cheques should be made payable to
'The Institute of Advanced Motorists.'**

Applications made through the Scunthorpe Group of Advanced Motorists will qualify for the discounted rate.

The discount is a local agreement only.

Any applications made through head office in London will pay the usual rate of £149.00.

For more information contact Terry Heath on 01652 655601 or visit our website on:

www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk

THE GROUP SHOP

FOR ALL YOUR ADVANCED MOTORING
NEEDS. [Ring IAN WALPOLE 01724-337547]

Anyone wishing to purchase a Scunthorpe Group polo shirt or fleece please contact Paul Johnson on:

01724 721156 or 07902 010420.

Polo Shirt red/black with logo a
£15

Anyone wishing to advertise in
the newsletters should contact
Geoff Tew.

The cost of advertising is: Full
Page £40.00 1/2 Page £20.00
per annum (four quarterly
issues).



JOB VACANCY- PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

- Commencement date - to start ASAP
- Salary, there isn't one - incurred expenses paid.
- Job satisfaction – Great!
- Hours - negotiable, but mainly to suit yourself.
- No experience necessary - just a willing worker

Job description, the successful applicant will be expected to and be required to promote the group and its functions in every way, through all the relevant mediums. He/she must be computer literate and be prepared to use their own PC. The candidate will need to be dynamic in the approach to helping to select and secure guest speakers and thanking speakers by letter or email. The group needs someone skilled in the ability to sell our product, i.e. "the skill for life" For more details, why not contact group chairman; Terry Heath on 01652 655601
email terryheath7080@btinternet.com

HUGO'S FOOT CARE

Hugo Golden-Betts SAC DIP RFHP

Foot Health Practitioner

For Your Foot Health Requirements

Visiting Your Home

01724 629838



The IAM Scunthorpe Team Members

PRESIDENT

Mick Harris
Hadfield House
Church Street
Goxhill
DN19 7HX
Tel:- 01469 531625

VICE-PRESIDENT

Roy Hindmarsh
C/O North Lincs. Council
Safer Road Team
Tel:- 01724 297478

CHAIRMAN and DRIVING COORDINATOR

Terry Heath
48 Vicarage Ave
Wrawby.
Tel:-01652 655601
Email:- terryheath@sky.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Paul Johnson
59 Wiltshire Ave
Burton Stather
Tel:- 01724 721156
Email:- pauljohnson156@yahoo.com

TREASURER

Malcolm Gothard
7 West Green
Messingham
Tel:- 01724 764237

SECRETARY

Kim Ward
Tel:- 07584 281717



ASSOCIATE COORDINATOR/GROUP SHOP

Ian Walpole
46 Chancel Road
Scunthorpe
Tel:- 01724 337547

MAGAZINE PUBLISHER

Jan Burditt
E-Mail - jan.burditt@gmail.com

WEBMASTER & P.R.O

Nigel Hobson
Phoenix Cottage
Reedness
DN14 8HE
Tel:- 01405 704750

Committee members

Sue Harris Tel: 01469 531625

Produced by Nigel Hobson

Printed by Jan Burditt

**The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter
are those of the individual writers and not
necessarily of the IAM, nor the Scunthorpe Group .**

TEST PASSES

Congratulations

Mr Mike Pearson and his
Observer Richard
Creaser.

(Picture Pending)

WELL DONE!

Congratulations

Miss Chloe Pattinson
and her observer Terry
Heath.
(Picture Pending)

WELL DONE!



THINK! Advice for Mobile Phones

Switch off before you drive off

Even if you're using a hands-free phone you should avoid making or answering calls when driving
All phone calls distract drivers' attention from the road.

Park safely before using your mobile phone

Do not park on the hard shoulder of the motorway.

Don't call other people when they're driving

If you call someone and they tell you they are driving, ask them to call you back when they have parked up safely.



Mobile Phones Q&A — Credit to Bedfordshire Police

Q. What does the law say about hand-held phones?

The use of a hand-held phone or similar hand-held device whilst driving is prohibited. A hand-held device is something that 'is or must be held at some point during the course of making or receiving a call or performing any other interactive communication function'. A device is 'similar' to a mobile phone if it performs an interactive communication function by transmitting and receiving data.

Examples of interactive communication functions are sending and receiving spoken or written messages, sending or receiving still or moving images and providing access to the internet. Two-way radios are subject to special treatment under the regulations.

See below regarding two-way radios for further information.

Q. Is hands-free phone equipment allowed?

Provided that a phone can be operated without holding it then hands-free equipment is not prohibited by the new regulation. And pushing buttons on a phone while it is in a cradle or on the steering wheel or handlebars of a motorbike for example is not covered by the new offence, provided you don't hold the phone. However, hands-free phones are also distracting and you still risk prosecution for failing to have proper control of a vehicle under Regulation 104 of the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 - if you use a hands-free phone when driving. If there is an incident the use of any phone or similar device might justify charges of careless or dangerous driving.

Q. What about texting/internet access/video phones?

The use of a mobile phone or similar device for any of these activities while driving is also prohibited if the phone (or other device) has to be held in order to operate it.

Q. Are drivers still able to use navigation equipment, personal digital assistants (PDAs) or other computer equipment that sends or receives data (which would include GPS transmissions)?

Yes - providing that it is not a hand-held device. Use of devices other than mobile phones is only prohibited if the device performs an interactive communication function by sending and receiving data. If the device does not perform this type of function you can use the device without breaching the regulations. But remember the warning in the Highway Code (Rule 128) that using in-vehicle systems can be distracting. You must exercise proper control of your vehicle at all times.

Q. Why has the Government banned the use of hands-free mobile phones while driving?

Using any type of phone while driving is distracting. Drivers should remember that the police can still use existing legislation (for failure to have proper control) if a driver is distracted by a call on a hands-free

phone. If there is an incident and the driver is using any phone (hand-held or hands-free) or similar device, then there is a risk of prosecution for careless or dangerous driving.

Q. Do mobile phones have to be switched off in vehicles?

No. Passengers may want to use them. And drivers can use them when they are safely parked.

Q. What if the phone rings when I'm driving?

Let it ring and return the call when safely parked. Better to switch to voicemail before starting.

Q. Who does the law apply to?

The law applies to the drivers of all motor vehicles on the road including cars, motorcycles, goods vehicles, buses, coaches and taxis. They also apply to anyone supervising a learner driver while the learner driver is driving. Anyone supervising a learner driver needs to be concentrating on what the driver is doing and should not be using a mobile phone.

Q. Do the mobile phone laws apply to cyclists?

No. However, the police have powers to deal with careless or dangerous cycling.

Q. Can I use a hand-held mobile phone when stopped in a traffic jam?

The prohibition applies when driving. Driving includes times when stopped at traffic lights or during other hold-ups that may occur during a typical journey when a vehicle can be expected to move off after a short while. In exceptional traffic jams, such as a lengthy stoppage on a motorway, it would be clear that someone wasn't driving if the engine was off.

Q. Are there any exemptions?

Yes. There is an exemption for calls to 999 or 112 in genuine emergencies where it is unsafe or impractical to stop. There is also an exemption for the use of two-way radios see below.

Q. Am I able to cradle a phone between my ear and shoulder?

No. The offence applies if a phone has to be 'held' while making or receiving a call. Therefore you should not hold a phone between your ear and shoulder - or anywhere else - when driving.

Q. Are employers guilty of an offence if their employees use a hand-held phone while driving?

The law applies to 'anyone who causes or permits any other person' to use a hand-held mobile phone while driving. Employers are not liable just because they supplied a telephone or because they phoned an employee who was driving. However, employers would probably be liable if they required their employees to use a hand-held phone while driving and might also be liable if they failed to forbid employees to use such phones on company business.

Q. Are two-way radios included in the offence?

The use of two-way radio equipment when driving is not included in the offence but remember there is still a risk of distraction and prosecution under other powers.

Q. Is the offence endorsable?

The Road Safety Act 2006 has made using a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving an endorsable offence, effective from 27 February 2007. The offence is subject to a £100 fixed penalty and three penalty points. If the police or the driver chooses to take a case to court rather than use a fixed penalty notice, the maximum fine is £1,000 (£2,500 for drivers of vans, lorries, buses and coaches.)

Remember, in some circumstances, for example if there has been a collision, a prosecution for careless or dangerous driving may be justified if a phone was in use at the time of the crash. The penalties for conviction for such offences include heavy fines, endorsement, disqualification and, in serious cases, imprisonment.

Q. Where can I go for more information?

You should seek independent legal advice if you are in doubt as to whether any particular action is prohibited by the regulations.

Remember windscreens and windows MUST be kept clean and free from obstructions to vision



A chill in the air...guess Jack Frost is near

The Indian summer was fun while it lasted but make way for the hats, scarves and wellies because winter is on its way. The temperature is gradually dropping reminding us that we have to make sure we have our de-icers ready. Here are some tips to prepare motor users for the winter from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards Richard Gladman.

- No bobble heads. Keep the windscreen clear. Try to get scratches, abrasions and chips fixed as colder temperatures can worsen the damage. Keep the windscreen washer topped up with a more concentrated screen wash mix to ensure it doesn't freeze in action. Lastly, search in the garage for last year's de-icing spray or better still invest in a new one
- Check your tyres. 1.6mm may be the legal limit but anything under 3mm will see a potential fall off in grip and braking performance. If long-term cold weather is forecast, and you can afford it, invest in a set of winter tyres approved by your car manufacturer. Don't follow urban driver myths of reducing the tyre pressure to get more grip – it simply doesn't work
- Set up a pre-winter check list. List things that need to be checked such as the car battery, bulbs, wiper blades and electrics. You don't want to be stranded in a cold car in the middle of night waiting for the recovery team to get you up and running again
- Dress appropriately for the weather. It may be surprising but too many drivers dress based on a working car heater. If it breaks or you are stranded you can easily be caught cold
- Start to plan for the really bad weather with a survival kit in the boot. Spare clothes, a torch, mobile phone charger, some emergency rations such as water and chocolate and a tow rope and shovel to help yourself and others.

Richard said: "winter is unpredictable but highway authorities are already planning for it by building up their salt stocks and getting the snow clearing equipment out of storage. If they are getting ready, then why shouldn't you? With a little bit of preparation, you can avoid getting stuck and adding to the problems that bad weather can bring"

Take extra care on the roads on Road Safety Week: tips from IAM RoadSmart

Road Safety Week is the UK's biggest road safety event, involving thousands of schools, organisations and communities each year. In the spirit of Road Safety Week this week's tips give advice on those often overlooked road safety issues and how to stay safe driving and riding on the road, from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards Richard Gladman.

- Slow down around schools and in residential areas. This may not be rocket science but it's easily forgotten whilst rat running on the morning commute. If you want to be on time simply leave earlier. Remember we have speed limits, not targets, and in busy traffic '20 is often plenty'.

- Seatbelts are a must. If you are the driver it's your duty to ensure all passengers are wearing their seatbelts. Passengers over 14 are responsible for their own seatbelts but it is you as the driver who will be stopped. Take charge and tell them all to 'belt up'. With that in mind loose items in a car can become projectiles in a crash as can an unrestrained passenger. Keep your car tidy and store bags or tools in the boot.
- Jumping red lights. We have all seen drivers, motorcyclists and cyclists do this but the traffic lights are there for all of our safety. If they have been green for some time, plan for them to change and be ready to stop.
- Keep to the speed limit. Rushing from junction to junction or hold up to hold up is often counterproductive. Why 'hurry up to wait'? A 50 mile journey at 80mph will save you at most six minutes compared to the same distance at 70mph. Is it worth the stress and the extra fuel?
- The dangers of hand-held mobile phones are well known but taking or making calls by Bluetooth can be just as distracting. Switching the phone off when you get behind the wheel allows you to concentrate fully on perfecting your driving skills.
- Dazzle from low sun is a factor in more crashes than dazzle from headlights. Keep your windscreen clean and don't put those sunglasses away just yet.
- It is legal for motorcyclists to filter through traffic so give them space and never try to deliberately block them. Check carefully before changing lanes.

Richard said: "Most delays on our main roads are caused by accidents and breakdowns. Prevention is so much easier than cure. Check the car over before your journey, keep your distance, manage your speed and we can all have an incident-free week, year and lifetime."



Do you use **Screen Wash** or **water**? Perhaps some washing up liquid in your water? Saving Money?

Think again! If the water freezes this will cost you substantially more than screen wash as it will damage the pipes and tank.

Water in a warm environment (i.e. near an engine!) is also a breeding ground for Legionnaires Disease. This is not good! Best add that screen wash to your Xmas List!

Brake Gear Overlap – still separating and confused?

A subject worthy of hours of discussion is the 'brake gear overlap.' It is often described as using both the brakes and changing gear at the same time. Whilst there are some who still condemn this, the average motorist might be staring blankly at you as you try and describe something to them that seems perfectly normal and a sensible operation of their cars controls. However, those of us who are aware know that this phenomenon is only to be used in 'certain circumstances' – right?

I went looking for advice, casting my eye over Roadcraft 1960. It makes absolutely no mention of 'brake gear overlap' but says: "With the exception of the combined use of the accelerator, clutch and gear lever during the operation of gear changing, it will be seen that a systematic driver may use different controls in quick succession but need never use two at any one time." There you have it, clarity. However, crash gearboxes, maybe some early synchromesh, cars with a mind boggling 40 brake horse power and puny drum brakes were on the roads. Interestingly there was no mention of automatic gearboxes. That modern trickery was yet to come across the pond.

Again searching for guidance I moved on to Roadcraft published 1983. On page two it only says that the "features of the system must always be in the correct sequence." This is interesting as I clearly remember it being discussed by my instructor on several occasions. "Heel and toe okay then Sergeant?" Okay I'll get my coat. Hurrah for the new Roadcraft dated 1994. Suddenly the publication grew in practical content and IPSGA appeared as the system of car control. No more 'features only to be considered in sequence by the driver at the approach to any hazard' any more. Driving by numbers was out and the thinking 'overlapping of phases' driver was in.

So the big revelation of 1994 edition was that brake gear overlap was now openly being discussed in print and no longer in hushed tones rather like an advert for Schweppes Tonic. It even proclaimed that: "Sometimes it is helpful to overlap braking with the gear change." Roadcraft went on to develop even further in later editions (2007 and 2013) stating that brake gear overlap was indeed acceptable. Other than a few suggestions It provided no definitive list of when and where allowing the thinking driver to decide. However, the overriding factor was that it must be "part of a planned approach to a hazard" and further that "applied carefully in certain circumstances, brake gear overlap takes less time." May I ask then why do people still tell me I must not overlap my brakes and gears even at low speed?

Moving on to 2016 and IAM RoadSmart released the updated training material for the advanced driver course. We now have cars on the road with modern synchromesh gearboxes, clutch systems that are light and leg friendly, remote gear linkages that are both smooth and precise and ABS braking systems that are simply superb. On the subject of brake gear overlap the course material says simply: "Understand when a planned overlap is appropriate. At slow speeds for simple junctions it will be safe to overlap brakes and gears. The gear change needs to be finished and the clutch engaged before steering."

Hopefully that is clear, applying all the principles in the evolution of Roadcraft and condensing it to a succinct statement. So no longer shall we speak of 'brake gear overlap' now we will talk of 'brake steer overlap.'

Enjoy the drive

Shaun Cronin, IAM RoadSmart regional service delivery team manager

What are the World's Safest Cars in 2016?



Alfa Romeo Giulia Saloon (98% in NCAP Adult Occupant Protection)

Volvo XC90 (97%)

Volkswagen Tiguan (96%)

Mercedes GLC (95%)

Audi Q7 (94%)

Toyota Avensis (93%)

Who would have thought that Alfa would beat a Volvo?!



GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR 2017

Jan 11th. Comm.....MDU 14th PRECINCT.NO SOCIAL
FEB 8th. Comm.....MDU 11th. PRECINCTFEB 22nd
MAR 8th. Comm.....MDU 11th PRECINCT.....NO SOCIAL
APR 12th. Comm.....MDU 15th. PRECINCT..... APR 26th
MAY 10th. Comm.....MDU 13th. PRECINCT.....NO SOCIAL
JUN 14th. Comm.....MDU. 17th PRECINCT.....JUN 28th
JULY 1st. WINTERTON SHOW
JUL 2nd WINTERTON SHOW
JUL 12th COMMITTEENO SOCIAL..
JUL 15th. MDU PRECINCT.....
AUG 9th. Comm. MDU 12th. PRECINCTAUG23rd
SEP 13th. Comm.....MDU 16th. PRICINCT.....NO MEETING
OCT 11th Comm.....MDU 14th. PRECINCT.....OCT 25th
NOV 8th Comm.....MDU. 11th PRECINCT.....NO SOCIAL
DEC 13th Comm.....NO MDU.....NO SOCIAL



Available now for **£1** is our new Group Badge. This is designed to stick to the inside of your windscreen. In fact, it makes a great replacement for your old tax disc! Another item for your Xmas List! (Please see Page3 for 'Group Shop' Contact Details)

Chairman's Chatter

Well it's Christmas time coming up again, and this year we're all just about ready for it in our house. It seems many people are ready for it just like me, but are they ready for the winter driving scene, I ask?? Well I could go on and on for ages so instead of babbling away, why not see it from the top IAM guys.

As we prepared to gain an hour of sleep the days are getting shorter as darkness is falling all over. Many of us will be off on the morning commute and it can be daunting driving in the dark for the first time in months. Here are some tips to prepare drivers and riders for driving in the twilight zone from IAM RoadSmart's head of driving and riding standards Richard Gladman.

- Familiar routes can pose totally different challenges in the dark so make sure you are wide awake and looking out for pedestrians and cyclists in the gloom
- Check your car lights. They are there for your safety and those around you. Do a daily walk around to check all lights are working and use a wall or garage door to check the rear lights if you are on your own. Changing a bulb on a modern car is often a garage - only job so get it done before the police stop you and issue a ticket or repair notice
- As well as being seen you need to see so get an eyesight check-up. It is vital to have your sight checked regularly as this may heavily affect your night vision. With age your eyes take in less light, no matter how fit you may feel, so be aware of your limitations
- Don't blind me! One of the biggest night-time hazards is the dazzle affect caused by the bright light from on-coming motors. Dip your headlight when you meet other vehicles
- Carry a basic emergency kit. Anything can happen at night and it is important to be prepared. Having a tool kit, torch, map and a first aid kit (if you don't have one already) can make a real difference
- A fully charged mobile with the details of your breakdown cover is another must.

Richard said: "Per mile driven the risk of a crash is actually higher at night despite the quieter roads. Getting used to night-time driving can take time so take it easy until the old skills come back and you can start to enjoy the new challenges."

On the local scene, I just wanted to mention a couple of things.

Firstly thanks to Mick Smith from the Lincs A M bikes group, who compiled and presented the questions for the Barrie Heath Quiz in October, and for everyone who helped us to have a great quiz night and as usual, a great buffet and all done in the light hearted spirit which we've become all accustomed to. We also had a special auction for our long standing member Gordon Leech. Gordon passed away a few months ago and his family gave me a rather old bottle of single malt Whisky to auction. We also doubled the price of the raffle ticket, and together with the raffle and the auction, we managed to raise £125.00 to go to the Lindsey lodge hospice, thanks to everybody for a really great event.

Last but by no means least, our local examiner Roy Hindmarsh has recently retired and there will be a presentation for him on the next social night which is Wednesday February 22nd as usual an 8.00 pm start. Speaker to be announced soon.

All that remains for me to do is to wish each and every one of you, a very happy and safe festive season, and I look forward to seeing you all in FEB at the meeting

Kind regards and Merry Christmas to one and all.

Terry Heath.

Chairman.

Ch. Observer.

National Observer/Assessor

Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists



Thank You to any one associated with IAM, Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists and any one working to support Road Safety!

