



## **Gordon View Issue 125 – September 2025**

### **The Newsletter of Gordon Advanced Motorists (GAM)**

#### **Introduction:**

Welcome to the re-introduction of the newsletter for our Drivers, Riders and Families. For various reasons, the newsletter has not been available since July 2023. Just to note most of us Drive who are Riders so I never forget this fact and use transferrable skills learnt from both.

I'm Paul Manson, your new Newsletter Editor.

Like many in the Group I volunteer for a few Charities which are important to me Blood Bikes Scotland and support the other Blood Bikes Groups Aberdeenshire and the Highlands. I'm a fundraiser for the RNLI.

I've been a member of IAM RoadSmart (IAMRS) for quite a few years and started as a car observer and latterly as a Rider. First/Masters.

We are excited to share with you the recent updates, upcoming events, and important information from our community though not all in this newsletter. In this edition, you'll find details about recent enquiries and feedback, upcoming meetings, financial updates, membership data, website updates, observer training, and new technology initiatives. We hope you find this information valuable and engaging. Thank you for being a part of our community.

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#### **Upcoming Events and Meetings:**

- The AGM for 2025 is scheduled for 30 September 2025
  - You will by this time have received details about the AGM, and please note the change of venue. The location and access arrangements will be circulated nearer the time.
- The next annual IAMRS Autumn Forum, renamed Network & Knowledge 2025, takes place on Saturday 27 September 2025, in Perth, for all Scottish Groups. GAM will be represented by two members of our committee.
- The next Scottish Groups meeting, an informal gathering for Scottish groups takes place on Saturday, 26 March 2026 in Kinross.

#### **Membership Data:**

- Current membership is 90, comprising 66 Full members, 7 Fellow members, 16 Associate members, and 1 Expired member.

#### **Website Updates:**



- Recent updates to the website include the addition of Committee Minutes from 13/05/2025, amendment to the Discount page for 2024-2025, and the addition of GAM Accounts for 2023-2024.

### **Observer Training:**

With the demise of the Local Observer qualification from 1 April 2025, all Observers need to be trained to National Observer (NO) level. All Local/Trainee Observers registered for the NO qualification are eligible to carry out observing during the transition period. For further information please contact our GAM Chief Observers.

### **Updates and news from IAMRS newsroom.**

I spoke with the news and press team.

There is a move by the IAMRS towards the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) having a disclosure as often we are with and meet a broad range of the public, from vulnerable groups, young persons, school visits, public events and more. I know some of you have this through work as I do already.

IAMRS current hold up is drink driving for work and the time between your last drink and an early drive to work regardless of the amount there should be (suggested) twelve hours or more to completely get any alcohol from your system. One other section to this is; would you allow your family or friends to drive to work knowing they were over the limit, or they may still have a level of alcohol in their system? There was a study carried out and the results were surprising the link is below and other links to updates.

[Millions of drivers could be over the legal drink drive limit in the morning | IAM RoadSmart Media Centre](#)

[IAM RoadSmart | UK Road Safety Charity | Advanced Driver & Rider Courses](#)

[https://www.mynewsdesk.com/uk/iam-roadsmarts-media-centre/news/reaction-iam-roadsmart-responds-to-reported-road-safety-measures-being-considered-by-uk-government-499903?utm\\_campaign=widget&utm\\_medium=widget](https://www.mynewsdesk.com/uk/iam-roadsmarts-media-centre/news/reaction-iam-roadsmart-responds-to-reported-road-safety-measures-being-considered-by-uk-government-499903?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget)

The IAMRS Advanced Driver/Rider Logbooks were updated earlier this year. While these are intended primarily for Associates, members may see digital versions of the updated Logbooks by visiting the IAMRS website under Associate's resources → Resources library.

You may not have visited the IAMRS website recently, but there is lots of information for Drivers and riders.



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### **Driver and Rider Passes.**

Congratulations to the following and a big thank you to the Observers and Examiners From 2024-2025

Douglas Rintoul on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2024, Examiner Neil Warden, Observer Gordon Duncan.

Lindsay Murray on passing the advanced Rider Test on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October 2024, Examiner Graham Allan, Observer Scott Wells.

Karen Lawrie on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2024, Examiner Stewart Mackie, Observer Peter D Kellas.

Peter Baron on passing the Advanced Rider test on 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2024, Examiner Graham Allan, Observer Nigel Brown.

William Henderson on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November 2024, Examiner Simon Carter, Observer Gordon Duncan.

Clifford Eastmond on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2024, Examiner Stewart Mackie, Observer Peter D Kellas.

Ross Cuthill on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2025, Examiner Simon Carter, Observer Richard Barclay.

Bill Rawles on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2025, Examiner Alan Gray, Observer Richard Pratt.

Heather Charles on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2025, Examiner Neil Warden, Observer Peter D Kellas.

Simon Ovenden on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2025, Examiner Simon Carter, Observer Gordon Duncan.

Cailean Hamilton on passing the Advanced Driver test on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August 2025.

Examiner Simon Carter, Observer Peter Kellas.



**Skill with Responsibility**

Ciaran Lawford on passing the Advanced Rider test on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2025 with a **F1rst**, Examiner Graham Allan, Observer Nigel Brown.

Judy Minty on passing the Advanced Rider test on the 30<sup>th</sup> of August 2025 with a **F1rst**, Examiner Graham Allan, Observer Martin Shakespeare

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### **Training Days and Training General including refresher Training.**

Recently, IAMRS introduced the Members Advanced Refresher Course for exiting IAMRS members who wish to brush up on their skill level. GAM members who wish to take advantage of this should contact the relevant GAM Chief Observer in the first instance as it would normally be given free of charge.

IAM Skills day, possibilities for motorcycle slow manoeuvring and other skills for GAM members TBA.

For comments, suggestions and to submit articles, please contact me at:

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