



Mid Wales Matters



Registered Charity Number 1109484

The Newsletter of Mid Wales Advanced Motorists

Web site: mwam.powys.org.uk

Volume 3, Issue 1



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Chairman's Comment

Welcome to the first Newsletter of 2006.

As you will see from the above new IAM Logo 2006 is the 50th anniversary of the organization. The IAM is organising many national events to celebrate this achievement and to raise the profile of the institute amongst the motoring public. Look out for details in the IAM's 'Advanced Driving' magazine and in future editions of our newsletter

Below you will see details of our AGM. I know that AGMs are not the most popular of events, but they are a vital part of every organisation's year. Please make every effort to attend – a good turnout would be much appreciated.

An important point on the agenda is the election of officers, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody on the committee for the contribution they have made to the running of the group during the past year. I am, incidentally, willing to stand as Chairman once again!

Our observers, who give so much of their time to the group, do a tremendous job, and without them there would, of course, be no MWAM. The high pass rate they achieve is the evidence of their skill. My sincere thanks to them all.

Annual General Meeting

Norman Wood.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by order of the Group Committee that the 2nd Annual General Meeting of **Mid Wales Advanced Motorists** will be held at 2:00pm on Saturday 11th March 2006 at Powys County Hall, Llandrindod Wells to enable the Trustees of the Group to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005 for approval by the Group Members and to conduct an election. This is your opportunity to find out how we have spent your money and to question the committee on their activities. We are nothing without our members and we need your support and guidance on what we should be doing for the groups' and your benefit. If you don't like what we are doing come along and say so, if you do, also please come and let us know. Your continued support is appreciated and we would encourage as many members as possible to become involved in the running of the group. We would welcome new committee members who are able to donate their time and energies to the future success of the group. We also need additional Observers who will be trained to assist new Associates. If you feel that you cannot play an active role please continue your financial support by renewing your membership of MWAM.

A Formal Notice for the AGM and Nomination forms are included with this newsletter

Geoff Smith

This Newsletter is a forum for tips, anecdotes and comment from our membership. It is your voice to each other as much as it is to inform you of what the group is doing.

The Editor welcomes articles and letters for publication in this newsletter. Please note that all such contributions must have the full identity of the writer (not necessarily for publication) and a contact telephone number. Articles are accepted on the condition that they may be edited.

Editor's Spot

You may have noticed in the press, that the IAM's new President is Nigel Mansell. Those of you who have reached a certain maturity will remember his formidable Formula 1 track record – 31 Grand Prix wins. What you may not know is that he passed his IAM test last August, some 19 years after scoring his first F1 success.

He is a well-respected public figure with immense driving experience who has consistently campaigned for road safety. He is particularly pleased to be taking on the Presidency in the IAM's 50th anniversary year and hopes that his period in office will see an ever-increasing number of drivers and riders coming forward for training.

If you have any comments or even an article of your own, which you would like to submit for Member's Corner in the next newsletter, do, please let me have them. Apart from your thoughts on matters of national importance, I would welcome views or items of news that are of relevance to the MWAM area in particular

Members' Corner

Members may be interested to know the performance of our local group since it was set up. The following table shows the status of associates who have joined each course. The pass rate for those taking the IAM Test is very good. Unfortunately, some associates for various reasons, decide to withdraw prior to reaching this stage. The group would like to reduce this drop out rate but as we operate an open admissions policy for associates it is difficult to know how to achieve this. Any suggestions from our membership on how this could be tackled would be appreciated.

MWAM Associate Record 2004 - 2005

Summary

☺ **Pass rate 93.3%**

⊖ **Drop out 13.2%**

Course	No.	Passed	Failed	Withdrawn	Deferred	Training
04/1	6	3	1	2		0
04/2	6	5		1		0
04/3	6	5	1			0
04/4	6	4		1	1	0
05/1	5	2				3
05/2	5	5				0
05/3	4	2		2		1
05/4	4	1				3
05/5	6	1				5
05/6	6					5
Totals >	54	25	2	6	1	16

☺ Pass rate based on number test passes / total test applications

⊖ Drop out rate based on non-test associates / total associates

Situations Vacant

Chief Observer	To organise the training and accreditation of Observers
Associate Co-ordinator	To organise the allocation of Associates to Observers.
Membership Secretary	To organise the Groups Membership Records

New Members

Congratulations and a warm welcome to the following Members on passing their IAM test.

Name	Location	Observer	Date
Ann Jones	Presteigne	Paul Wilson	Dec 05

Notes to Associates

- As you will see from the dates listed below we run an Associate course approximately every 8 weeks. The intention being that an Associate will have least made an application for their IAM Test, and may have taken this, within this period.
- Associates should be aware that once they have been allocated to an Observer it is their responsibility to keep in touch. It is in your interest to commence the on-road guidance as soon as possible after the initial course meeting to avoid overlap with the following course.
- If you find that you cannot make a previously agreed appointment please let your Observer know in good time. All our observers are volunteers and it is only courteous to keep them informed.
- If you do not keep in touch with your Observer it will be assumed that you are no longer active and the observer will be allocated to another Associate. Observers are a scarce resource and we have to utilize their time to the best advantage of the group.
- When you pass your test please let your Observer know the good news! Contrary to what you may assume the IAM do not inform the local group of the outcome, only the candidate.
- We are sure you will appreciate the expertise, time and effort that your Observer has given to you and you may to thank them personally.

Associate Course Dates

Course	Start Date	Day	Times		Location
06/2	29/03/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:30 PM	The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
06/3	31/05/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:30 PM	The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
06/4	02/08/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:30 PM	The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
06/5	04/10/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:30 PM	The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
06/6	06/12/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:30 PM	The Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells

Observer Training Dates

Date	Day	Times		Location
19/02/2006	Sunday	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Crossgates, Knill's Car Park
18/03/2006	Saturday	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
16/04/2006	Sunday	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Newtown, Morrisons Car Park
15/05/2006	Monday	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Builth Wells, Co-operative Car Park
13/06/2006	Tuesday	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Crossgates, Knill's Car Park
12/07/2006	Wednesday	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
10/08/2006	Thursday	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Newtown, Morrisons Car Park
17/09/2006	Sunday	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Builth Wells, Co-operative Car Park
14/10/2006	Saturday	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Crossgates, Knill's Car Park
12/11/2006	Sunday	10:00 AM	12:00 PM	Bracken Trust, Llandrindod Wells
09/12/2006	Saturday	2:00 PM	4:00 PM	Newtown, Morrisons Car Park

Please note that all the above published dates and venues may be subject to change due to circumstances beyond the committee's control. For the latest information visit our web site: mwam.powys.org.uk or contact the group secretary.

Please contact Huphrey Morgan (01597 822082) who will be co-ordinating observer training if you require any further details.

Your Committee

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ASSOCIATE CO-ORDINATOR	Vacant	

Mid Wales Advanced Motorists (MWAM) publish this Newsletter to provide a means of communication within the group to Members and Associates. The opinions are those of the Editor and individual contributors and do not necessarily represent the view of MWAM or the Institute of Advanced Motorists to which it is affiliated.