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Autumn 2023



Driving

Quarterly newsletter of IAM Glasgow North Group

2023 AGM NOTICE

The Perfect Opportunity To Meet Your Committee And
Have Your Say On The Running Of The Group

GIFT AID

Forms Have Been Distributed To Members By Email;
Have You Received And Returned Your Form Yet?



Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists



Autumn 2023

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Driving

IAM Glasgow North Group

The Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists is a road safety charitable organisation registered with The Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) SC018356 and is affiliated with the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM).

The group was formed in 1978, is one of the oldest and largest in Scotland having in excess of 260 Members, is manned by volunteers who enthusiastically work to improve road safety by encouraging drivers and riders to improve their skills through coaching and critique.

At Glasgow North Group we recognise that our Members all have differing skills and that no matter how experienced a road user that we all have something to learn. We endeavour to make our Members safer drivers and riders in a fun and enjoyable way.

OFFICE BEARERS/TRUSTEES

Elaine Irvine *Chair*
<currently vacant> *Vice Chair*
Colin Cowan *Secretary*
Trevor Herrington *Treasurer*

CAR REPRESENTATIVES

Jim Bowles *Chief Car Observer*
Douglas Macallister

MOTORCYCLE REPRESENTATIVES

Colin Cowan *Chief Bike Observer*
David Coia
Tom Duncan
Tom Hatrick
Craig McCallum
Eric Ross
John Simpson

Driving EDITORIAL TEAM

Elaine Irvine
Jim Bowles
Colin Cowan
Tom Hatrick

CONTACT DETAILS

committee@iamglasgow.org

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NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE



Welcome. We hope you enjoy reading this, the latest edition of our group newsletter.

The season is almost over; there have been several events organised by Glasgow North that have taken place over the last couple of months or so, and we are delighted to report on some of them here.

Jim Bowles has successfully organised a further Road Safety Day in partnership with Police Scotland, following the successful event in Helensburgh earlier this season.

The event took place in Dumbar-ton on Saturday 9th September, and was a resounding success.

The bike section held their annual ride-out to Robin House, Balloch on Saturday 19th August.



This ride-out is held in memory of Calum Crawford, and raises funds for CHAS which was a charity close to Calum's heart.

The ride-out was well attended and a cheque for £1,150 was handed over on the day.

This total has since swollen by a further £100 thanks to the golf ball hunting skills of Simon Foy's dog!

Our AGM takes place in Bishop-

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

OFFICE BEARERS/TRUSTEES
Chair Elaine Irvine | 07979 370 904
Vice Chair <currently vacant>
Group Secretary Colin Cowan | 07766 530 346
Group Treasurer Trevor Herrington | 07874 110 360

CAR REPRESENTATIVES
 Jim Bowles | 07704 911 947 *Chief Car Observer*
 Douglas Macallister | 07434 694 991

MOTORCYCLE REPRESENTATIVES
 Colin Cowan | 07766 530 346 *Chief Bike Observer*
 David Coia | 07831 249 270
 Tom Duncan | 07887 835 321
 Tom Hatrick | 07931 959 307
 Craig McCallum | 07740 587 174
 Eric Ross | 07789 811 630
 John Simpson | 07974 961 350

ACCOUNT DETAILS
 Account name: GNIAM Group
 Sort code: 80-91-27 Account number: 00485454
 Reference should be membership number then initial & surname, eg
 123456 A SMITH

briggs Memorial Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th October.

Please come along and see how the group has performed over the last year, and see how you can help drive the group forward.

All that remains is for us to wish you safe driving and riding.

The Committee
committee@iamglasgow.org

How to get in touch



www.iamglasgow.org



Glasgow North I.A.M



committee@iamglasgow.org

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

ELAINE BRINGS US UP TO SPEED ON RECENT CHANGES, AND ISSUES A PLEA FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP PROMOTE AND BUILD THE EXCELLENCE OF THE GROUP.



ELAINE IRVINE
Chair

Hi and welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter!

Summer has been a mixed bag this year and our good weather seems to have been confined mostly to May rather than spread throughout the summer months.

I hope that you have all managed to get a break; whether that be a staycation, or travelling in this country, or even abroad.

It's good to take a break from the usual routines and we sometimes forget to take some time out for ourselves.

Although the committee takes a break over the summer, both car and bike sections have been busy preparing Associates for test as well as investing in peer-to-peer training for the Observers.

Congratulations to all who have sat and passed their car and bike advanced tests and to their Observers too!

There has been a significant change to the car section which took effect at the beginning of summer.

Last year we were left without a Chief Car Observer at short notice, and thankfully Jennie Lee, one of our National Observers in Oban, stepped forward to 'caretake' the role until someone else could take it on full time.

This was not an easy job given the physical distance between us all and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jennie for her

time and for keeping us all together over the past few months.

I have to say Jennie's newsletter articles have kept us all well informed and taken us down memory lane too!

At the beginning of summer, Jim Bowles stepped forward to take on the Chief Car Observer role for the full 3-year term. Jim has been with the group for many years, and has recently passed the National Observer test with flying colours.

With that qualification under his belt, he was able to take on the position of Chief Car Observer.

You will have noted from the last newsletter that Jim was the organiser for the Dumbarton Road Safety event and since then he has been building connections with Police Scotland and many other organisations.

As a result, Glasgow North will be in prime position for the next event which is a National Emergency Services Day on Saturday 9th September, at Levensgrove Park in Dumbarton.

I know Jim has many plans for the car section and I'm looking forward to seeing some new developments.

On a personal note, I've recently returned from another road trip – this time around the Outer Hebrides in my new Audi A3.

The weather could certainly have been better although I am well aware that high winds and rain are 'normal' for these islands – hence why there are very few trees!

Ferry crossings were a little bumpy and my car was certainly left very clean after the Berneray to Leverbrough crossing, as it was right at the front of the car deck and was washed frequently by bow waves and resulting spray!

Camping was an experience (one night was enough) but the redeeming factor for the holiday was the driving and scenery.

We drove 1,000 miles over the week, covering all of Harris, Lewis, Berneray, North Uist, South Uist and Eriskay on mostly single-track roads which were so straight and



smooth.

Passing places were observed and used correctly which made progress effortless and a pleasure.

I was challenged by some of the mountainous and cliff roads (vertigo not being my friend) but it was all worth it for the views and stunning scenery.

The Audi was an easy drive, although I found the Data Tag, which feeds information regarding my driving to an app on my phone, a bit annoying.

I was continually told to change gear below 2,000 revs which is fine when you are on a flat road and not needing any 'oomph', but when challenged by severe gradients and tight corners, I was constantly marked down as 'needs improvement'!

This is something I will bring up with Audi as such low gear changes are not even within the power band for each gear – the IAM view being that you should match your gear to your speed and for this car I found changing gear around 2,500-3,500 revs gave a smooth and progressive drive.

I did try many times to keep the

gear changes under 2,000 revs but the car was driving like a slug and I was using more fuel.

Dynamic driving was also more eco friendly than Comfort mode and gave me more miles to the gallon. It will be interesting to hear Audi's response!

Finally, our AGM is fast approaching and I'm putting out a plea for more members to join our committee. We particularly need a new Secretary and a Vice Chair.

We cannot continue to run the group effectively without a Secretary, so if you are retired and have some spare time, or if you want to give something back to the group but don't want to be an Observer, then these committee roles are ideal for you.

If you are interested in taking on either of these positions, please contact any committee member for more information.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on Thursday 12th October, and as always, I wish you safe driving and riding.

Elaine

Elaine Irvine | 07979 370 904

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a scheme that allows us to claim the tax you have already paid on your membership fee from HMRC.

Gift Aid essentially 'unlocks' an extra 25p for every £1 we receive.

This additional money will allow us to stretch your membership fee further and avoid the need for any increase in fees in the short-term future.

We can only claim Gift Aid if you are a UK tax payer, and we will need you to fill-in a short declaration form.

It must be stressed that our claiming Gift Aid will not cost you any extra money.

We are currently preparing the group to be able to recover Gift Aid.

The Gift Aid declaration forms are being distributed by email, and we urge you to complete and return the form as soon as possible so that we can initiate the claim.

If you haven't received your form, please check your 'spam' or 'junk' folder in case your ISP has swept your email in there by mistake.

If you cannot find your email at all, or believe you may not have received it because your email address has changed, please get in touch with us at committee@iamglasgow.org so that we can get a duplicate sent out.

Once we have everything in place we will make the claim and help you increase the value of your membership fee.

Look forward to seeing you at the AGM.

The Committee

committee@iamglasgow.org



The AGM takes place in Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall on Thursday 12th October

VIEW FROM THE DASHBOARD

JIM DISCUSSES THE ABUNDANCE OF TECHNOLOGY AND AUTOMATED FUNCTIONS IN CARS AND QUESTIONS WHETHER WE REALLY UNDERSTAND HOW TO USE IT EFFECTIVELY

Since becoming Chief Car Observer I have encountered many drivers of varying ages and experience via Drive ScotFree Taster Sessions and Introductory Drives.

What have I discovered on the many miles I have covered?

Drivers with automatics...

- not using the different drive modes, but staying mainly in eco mode
- not using the paddles to change gear
- not using the gear selector to change gears
- approaching roundabouts/junction/hazards too fast and with the auto in the wrong gear to negotiate the particular hazard

Electric cars with what appear to be minds of their own...

- stopping when passing parked vehicles
- braking in the outside lane of a motorway, thinking it was on the slip road three lanes over which had a tight bend on it with a recommended speed of 30mph.

Why would the car behave that way, you may ask?

The drive system was linked into the Sat Nav, and the Sat Nav had rerouted the car with no notification to the driver, nor the driver having any knowledge of the systems being linked or able to perform in that fashion at all!

It has also become apparent that 'electric car range anxiety' is a real thing, and that there is no G in IP-SGA with an electric car!

I have asked the obvious questions of the drivers:

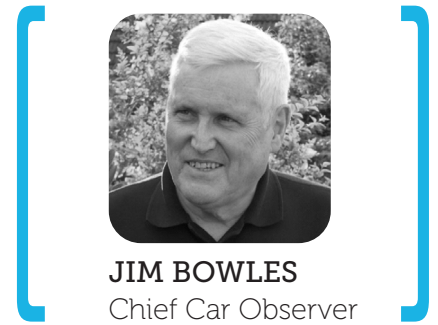
- why don't you use sport mode?
- why don't you use the paddles?
- why don't you use the gear selector to move between gears?
- why is your approach speed so fast?

Their answers vary:

- I didn't know I had other modes
- My car doesn't have a sport mode...oh! It does!
- I didn't know I could use the selector to move up and down gears
- I have never used paddles before
- To use my paddles I have to move from a ten-to-two position to a quarter-to-three position
- I've always approached at this speed, it's an automatic

The following comments apply equally to cars with manual gearboxes as well and to you, the driver, no matter what you drive.

Whilst Observers can assist in correcting most of the issues, the one aspect of my journey of discovery I found most perturbing is that manufacturers/garages appear not to be spending enough time on handovers of vehicles educating the driver on all aspects of the technology contained within the vehicle.



"That's not true!" I hear some of you cry. If you have had a full handover, great!

My question to you; do you *fully* understand the technology in your car and its functions?

Will your car slam on the brakes when another vehicle cuts in front of you after an overtake?

Will you be prepared for the actions of your car and the alarm noise, or will you just get the fright of your life?

I was talking with a very experienced driver who had taken delivery of a new Range Rover, and was travelling to Birmingham in his 'new toy' as he called it.

A vehicle looking to exit the motorway cut across him and the Range Rover hit the brakes, catching him unaware.

Decorum prevents me quoting his reaction about that event, however suffice to say he got the shock of his life as the seat belts tightened, the car stood on its nose, and gave off a startlingly loud audible warning.



Understanding the technology in your car and its functionality is very important to both your safety and that of your passengers.

Prior to launching new technology to the open market, Ford tested their technology in Police Traffic Cars in the 1980s and 1990s.

The cars, given their use, were a perfect 'real life' test bed for Ford's new technologies.

Electronic Stability Programme (ESP) was introduced to cars supplied to one of the Scottish Police Forces, no doubt with the instruction to test the new technology.

Initial problems were reported as the officers, trained to correct skids, were finding the cars in essence fighting them.

One Traffic Officer described to me that after the tail went out, he countered the skid as he'd been trained to do, and then had to counter what the car was trying to do and ended up leaving the road.

His colleague mentioned the same thing had happened to him.

At that time, you had professionally-trained drivers dealing with technology which probably no-one really understood or realised what its functionality was. They very soon learned from experience!

We all know now what assistance ESP gives us and how it works, don't we?

A haulage company I deal with in

business now requires a minimum 4-hour handover from the manufacturer for its drivers receiving a new tractor unit to fully explain and demonstrate the technology the unit is fitted with.

Likewise, any driver passing their unit onto another employee has to run through all the technology it has.

Both handovers include road sessions.

Only after the handovers are satisfactorily completed can the vehicles be allocated to the relevant drivers.

As I was writing this article I received a timeous notification from Project EDWARD (Every Day Without A Road Death).

At Glasgow North Group we can give you the skills to drive to an advanced standard and include pre-journey checks and starting drills.

You are the only one who fully understands the technology within your vehicle.

Know it; Own it.

If you would like us to run a session to assist you to understand vehicle technology, give me a call or drop me an [email](#).

Stay safe on the roads.

Jim

Jim Bowles | 07704 911 947
chiefcarobserver@iamglasgow.org

DID YOU KNOW..?

Did you know that the moon has moonquakes?

That's right, moonquakes! *I'm never going to get there to find out!*

Did you know you lose a large percentage of your taste buds while on an airplane flight?

Might explain a lot about those less-than-stellar meals while flying. *Or finding yourself craving the saltiest foods! Yuk!*

Did you know that snails take the longest naps?

One nap can last up to 3 years. *They never sleep when they are eating the lettuce in my garden!*

Did you know koalas have fingerprints the same as humans?

So instead of 'the butler with the axe in the billiard room', it was probably the koala the whole time. *Quote from Inspector Clouseau - "The facts don't bear it out!"*

Did you know that the average motorist spends two weeks of their life sitting at traffic lights?


And here I was thinking that everyone moved to the countryside after lockdown!

Did you know that Australia is wider than the moon?

The moon has a mean radius of just under 1,080 miles, and a mean diameter of 2,159.2 miles. The Australian mainland extends from west to east for nearly 2,500 miles, meaning that Australia is wider than the moon by almost 350 miles!

Spokes

editor@iamglasgow.org



Safe, sustainable journeys all year
message 235/365

What can your car do for you when you need it?

In-car technology, such as feedback from the speedometer and seatbelt reminders can help us use the roads more safely. It's important to know what safety systems you have on your car and how they work.

#Project EDWARD
Every Day Without A Road Death

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DETAILS OF UPCOMING GROUP ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS AND EVENTS. FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON THE GROUP WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE.



We have an exciting programme of online meetings and events planned for the remainder of this season. See below for a slice of activities over the next few months.

The Committee

committee@iamglasgow.org

Oct 2023

Thursday 12th

Glasgow North AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Glasgow North. All Members are invited to attend and have their say on the running of the group.
Bishopbriggs Memorial Hall
19.00 for 19.30 start

Nov 2023

Thursday 9th

Bowling Night

Our perennial end of season event brings Members and their families together for a couple of friendly games of ten pin bowling.
Venue tbc

Saturday 11th

Last Saturday Bike Meet

This is the scheduled end of Saturday morning bike meetings.
Robroyston Retail Park
09.15 for 09.30 start

Dec 2023

Saturday 9th

Winter Riding events commence

The start of Winter Riding meets.
Robroyston Retail Park
09.15 for 09.30 start

Feb 2024

Thursday 8th

Group night - tbc

This event is subject to confirmation. Details will be published once confirmed.
Venue tbc

Mar 2024

Thursday 14th

Group night - tbc

This event is subject to confirmation. Details will be published once confirmed.
Venue tbc

Wednesday 20th

Pre-season Bike Meeting

This is for all current and prospective Bike Observers.
Bishopbriggs Memorial Hall
19.00 for 19.30 start

Wednesday 27th

Bike Associate Meeting

This is for all current and prospective Bike Associate members.
Bishopbriggs Memorial Hall
19.00 for 19.30 start

Apr 2024

Saturday 6th

First Saturday Bike Meet

This is the scheduled start of Saturday morning bike meetings.
Robroyston Retail Park
09.15 for 09.30 start

Wednesday 10th

First Wednesday Bike Meet

This is the scheduled start of Wednesday evening bike meetings.
Crow Road Retail Park
18.15 for 18.30 start

Thursday 11th

Group night - tbc

This event is subject to confirmation. Details will be published once confirmed.
Venue tbc

May 2024

Thursday 9th

Group night - tbc

This event is subject to confirmation. Details will be published once confirmed.
Venue tbc

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

2023 AGM Notice

All Full and Associate Members of the Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists are cordially invited to attend the 2023 Annual General Meeting of the group.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by order of the Group Committee that the Annual General Meeting of the "Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists" will be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th October 2023 at Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall, Balmuildy Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 3BX to enable the Trustees of the Group (Registered Charity No. SC018356) to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st July 2023 for approval by the Group Full Members and to conduct an election.

Of which notice is hereby given by Colin Cowan (Group Secretary), 58 Spalehale Drive, Motherwell ML1 5JD on Tuesday 12th September 2023.

IAM Group Number: North 6150

While all Group Full Members, Associates and Friends are invited to attend, only Group Full Members may vote at the AGM.

A Member entitled to vote at the General Meeting may appoint a proxy to vote in his or her stead. A proxy need not be a Group Full Member. A [proxy form](#) is available below.

Current Officers and Trustees

All Officers retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election

Chair: Elaine Irvine *will stand for re-appointment*

Vice Chair: <vacant>

Secretary: Colin Cowan *will not stand*

Treasurer: Trevor Herrington *will stand for re-appointment*

Other committee members and Trustees of the Group are:

Jim Bowles *completing 3 year term, will stand for re-appointment*

David Coia *completing 3 year term, will stand for re-appointment*

Tom Duncan *continuing*

Tom Hatrick *continuing*

Douglas Macallister *will stand down*

Craig McCallum *continuing*

Eric Ross *completing 3 year term, will stand for re-appointment*

John Simpson *continuing*

Chief Observers

Jim Bowles is Chief Car Observer.

Colin Cowan is Chief Bike Observer.

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

Agenda

Agenda for the 2023 Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists AGM to be held on Thursday 12th October 2023 at Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall, Balmuirdy Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 3BX.

1. List of attendees
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes from the Previous Year: 2022
 - a. Resolution: That the Minutes of the 2022 AGM be approved as a true record
2022 AGM Minutes proposed by
 - 2022 AGM Minutes seconded by
 - 2022 AGM Minutes accepted by all: Yes / No
4. Matters arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes
5. Amendments or adjustments to this Agenda
6. Chair's Report
7. Secretary's Report
8. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Resolution: That the Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2023 be approved
 - b. Review of Honoraria
 - c. Subscriptions for 2024
9. Chief Car Observer's Report
10. Chief Bike Observer's Report
11. Election of Group Officers
12. Election of Committee
13. Address by New Chair
14. Any Other Business

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

Committee Nomination Form

Nominations are invited from Group Full Members to stand for Committee. The Nominee must be willing to stand for the Committee and sign the Nomination Form.

By signing the Nomination Form the Nominee is affirming his/her ability and intention, if elected, to attend Committee meetings regularly.

OFFICERS

Name of Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by	Signature of Nominee
..... Chair
..... Vice Chair
..... Secretary
..... Treasurer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Name of Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by	Signature of Nominee
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

NOTES

1. You may not stand for the Committee if the law debars you from being a Charity Trustee.
2. Only Group Full Members may nominate Committee Members or be nominated as Committee Members.
3. This Nomination Form must be returned to the Group Secretary before the AGM commences on Thursday 12th October 2023.
4. All Officers and one-third of all other Committee Members must retire annually by rotation and may offer themselves for re-election by Group Full Members.
5. Those elected become Charity Trustees of the Group.

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

Proxy Nomination Form

In relation to the Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists Charity No. SC018356 (The Group)

I (print your name)

Residing at (print your address)

Hereby appoint (print name of Proxy)

Residing at (print Proxy address)

To vote on my behalf as my Proxy at the Annual General Meeting of The Group to be held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12th October 2023 at Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall, Balmuildy Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 3BX, and at every adjournment thereof.

This appointment is in respect of any and all resolutions raised at the meeting and my Proxy shall vote as instructed by me or, in the absence of my specific instruction as set out below, may vote as my Proxy sees fit.

My specific voting instructions to my Proxy are:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Your signature

Your Membership No.

This form must be in the hands of the Group Secretary before the above meeting commences.

NOTES

1. This Proxy Nomination Form, once completed can be posted to Colin Cowan (Group Secretary), 58 Spalehale Drive, Motherwell ML1 5JD.
2. If you give specific instructions to your Proxy to vote in a particular manner at the AGM you must set that out in the section above on the Proxy Nomination Form. Otherwise your Proxy will be entitled to vote as he or she considers appropriate, which may include abstaining from a vote.



Glasgow North Group
of Advanced Motorists



Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

Annual General Meeting: 12th October 2022 at 19:30

Place of Meeting: War Memorial Hall, Bishopbriggs, & Online Zoom Meeting

1 List of Attendees

Colin Cowan	Bill Cairns
Elaine Irvine	Tommy Owens
Moray Finlay	Gordon Colligan
Eric Ross	Dario Guidi
Trevor Herrington	David Morrison
David Coia	John Simpson
Sandra Neillis	Stephen Harper
Andrew Dunnet	Alistair Whitelaw
Raymond Dickson	Dave Hutchens
Craig McCallum	Alex Cameron
Jim Kelly	Jennie Lee (Zoom)
Douglas Macallister	Tom Duncan (Zoom)
Bryan Johnston	
Iain Ellis	

2 Apologies

David Murphy	John Duncan
Lynne Hastie	Eddie McCann
Chris Munro	Stephen Hagenbuch
Margaret McNicol-Houston	Fraser Hunter
Debra Cassick	Jim Bowles
Carol Gilles	Thomas Hatrick
Susan Stuart	Martin Gorringe

3 Minutes from Previous Year

2021 AGM Minutes proposed by	: Craig McCallum
2021 AGM Minutes seconded by	: David Coia
2021 AGM Minutes accepted by all	: Yes

4 Matters arising from the 2021 AGM Minutes

None

5 Amendments or Adjustments to this Agenda

None

6 Chairs Report

We have had quite a busy season for both cars and bikes. The committee has met on many occasions mainly over zoom, but the last two occasions have been in person in the halls. The group social evenings have been changed to the second Wednesday of every month. This is due to another booking in the hall. This will clash with the Wednesday bike run but as that is on every Wednesday, we should be able to make it work.

The committee meets to discuss the following:

- Group Finances
- The obligations of the Committee as trustees of the charity e.g submitting the Office of Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) return
- Matters relating to the group – such as correspondence from the IAM RS
- Reports from the Chief Observers on performance of Car and Bike Section

There will be some changes to the current committee and we will go into that in more detail later in this meeting.

Recently Elaine and I attended the Scottish Forum in Crieff where it was announced that the Local Observer role will be terminated in 2025 and all observers will have to qualify at National Observer level.

Any Local Observer Assessors will revert back to National Observers and be retested every 5 years.

7 Secretary's Report

Report delivered by Moray Findlay who explained he had been extremely busy with work however his main focus this year has been the restructuring of the Secretary role as well as creating a new database. Due to work commitments, Moray has not been able to collate the membership information for 2022.

7.1 Membership Information

Number of Members	2021	2022
DTE/DARTS Records	385	-
Glasgow North Database	476	-

7.1.1 Associates Numbers

Number of Associates	2021	2022
Car	17	-
Motorcycle	33	-
Pending Car	8	-
Pending Motorcycle	0	-

7.2 Un-paid Fees

Active members with unpaid fees	2021	2022
Expired IAM HQ Fees	23	-
Expired Group Fees	3	-
Both Fees expired	2	-

Regarding the Secretary role, Moray's intention would be to restructure the Secretary role, dividing it into two posts. The first being Communications which would deal with emails and enquiries, and secondly Database Manager which would involve updating and maintaining the group records. Colin added that as a group we are needing more committee members and would welcome any volunteers from the membership. Attendance at the committee meetings does not need to be in person as we also have a zoom link for those unable to come to the hall. We are currently looking for a new Secretary and the main duty for that would be the updating of the database, as well taking care of hall bookings and enquiries.

Question from the floor - What roles are there within the committee? Moray responded using information from the IAM handbook which states that the following office bearing roles are mandatory – Chair, Treasurer, Secretary. Other roles are Chief Car and Chief Bike Observers, Associate Co-ordinators for both sections and Minute taker.

7.3 Group Nights

7.3.1 Group Bowling Night

Annual group bowling night will be held on Wednesday 9th November 2022. This will be held in Pro-Bowl in Kirkintilloch and all members are welcome. Please give your names to the Secretary or to any committee member if you are wishing to go.

No objections were made to the bowling night going ahead.

8 Treasurer's Report

8.1 Group Financial Position at 31st July

1. There are currently no known concerns regarding the Group's finances or financial matters. All expenditure and income items have been recorded and accounted for and reconciled monthly to the Groups bank account.
2. Audited Accounts for 2021/22 are presented at this AGM.

8.2 OSCAR annual inspection of accounts Charity No: SC01835

1. The Group Accounts were inspected, submitted to Office of the Scottish charity Regulator (OSCR) and registered without qualification for last year 2020/21.
2. The Group accounts for 2021/22 (ending 31st July 2021) have been independently inspected as required by OSCR. The audit was completed on the 6th October 2022 by a Group appointed Independent Auditor.
3. Our Annual Inspection of Accounts (our annual audit) requires to be carried out and the necessary documentation prepared for the OSCR return by the end of March 2023.

8.3 Managing the Groups Money

1. The Group's financial account is reconciled monthly with the money in the Group's bank account. These are submitted to the Committee as a standing item on the agenda of each Committee meeting where they are discussed and agreed.
2. Changes to the bank account signatories have been made to reflect changes in the Committee's membership.
3. Chairman and Secretary are authorized to access the account on-line. All payments are made by the Treasurer; except those to the Treasurer himself which are made by one of the other signatories.

8.4 Account Name Change

The name of the group's bank account has now been changed to "GNIAM Group" commensurate with the new financial year.

Sort Code: 80 91 27

Account No: 00485454

Existing Standing Orders remain unaffected

8.5 Income and Expenditure during 2021/22

1. Profit and Loss. Overall, our funds increased from £7286 to £8492 as at 31st July 2022. Actual net profit is £1206.03 compared to £245.90 from the previous year.
2. There has been no major expenditure this year and reserves to the previous year remain at an acceptable level above £7000.
3. Income was up on the previous year, due to the lifting of Covid19 restrictions: we did manage to hold the annual SloMo in May, and Capitation (received from IAM when we take on new associates) was up on last year by approx. 64%.
4. Expenditure was down by approx. 37% 2020/21
5. Zoom subscription under Web Hosting has remained at £143 (arranged by Elaine) which allows us to meet successfully in large numbers (like this AGM). It has also enabled us to provide online learning, guest speakers and host committee meetings

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists		Summary Accounts AGM 12 October 2022		
Income	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	
Subs	£1922	£2017	£1692	
Capitation	£651	£806	£1326	
Sales			£129	
Cyril Bitcom Income (donations)	£185	£95	£00	
Travel Expenses reimbursed by authority				
Total Income	£2758	£2,918	£3147	
Expenditure				
Hall Rental	£258			
Postage. (Mobile Phone)	£244	£87	£50	
Stationery and Printing	£623	£737		
Equipment		£156	£132	
Web Hosting/Domain Registration	£133	£277	£277	
National Conference and Travel			£316	
Observer Training	£32	£213	£41	
General Expenses	£338		£233	
Publicity/Recruitment	£233			
Test Fees				
Honoraria	£600	£600	£600.00	
Insurance	£145	£156		
Cashback Incentive (Motorcycle)		£41		
Cyril Bitcom Expenditure	£14		£186	
Total Expenditure	£2620	£2671	£1941	
Net change over period	£138	£247	£1206	
Group Account Year End Balance - 31st July 2022				
Bank of Scotland plc - Paisley the Cross	£7039	£7286	£8492	

IAM HQ "Roadsmart Fees" – £38.00 for Members, (more for Fellows) Payable to HQ directly by contacting them by either:

<https://www.iamroadsmart.com/renewals>

or by contacting IAM Support on 0300 303 1134

A direct debit can be set up which can save £4 per year.

Group Fees. £10 Due 5th November to the group account:

Account Name: GNIAM Group

Sort Code: 80-91-27

Account Number: 00485454

Please set-up a standing order for these fees. Direct Debit can't be used for this.

Bank reference should be as follows:

- **IAM Number FIRST**
- **Initial then Surname**

Reference Example: 123456 J Examplesu (Character limit of 18 for references)

We can't track back via account numbers. No evidence of paying = fees aren't paid!

Trevor then commented that we are currently not claiming Gift Aid from Inland Revenue on membership payments. This would require the database to be formatted to allow an annual submission to the Inland Revenue. Gift Aid is currently 20% and that would give us an extra income of £320 - £350 per year. We can also claim back up to 5 years but that would involve a considerable amount of work.

Question from the floor: Would a Gift Aid form be sent out to individuals when notice of the annual subscription is sent? Trevor said it would be sent separately once the database is sorted.

Question from the floor: When are the annual subscriptions due? Trevor stated they are due in November however some people still pay during the year. The subscription is £10.00.

Show of hands requested for resolution of the accounts.

This was agreed.

Show of hands requested for status of Honoraria to remain unchanged. This will be reviewed prior to the next AGM.

This was agreed.

9 Chief Car Observer's Report

Report presented by Elaine Irvine:

There have been many changes since I delivered last year's Car Report, the main one being that I am, yet again, delivering the Car Section report. You may remember that last year I intimated that Stuart Inglis would be taking over as Chief Car Observer. This was in place until early September of this year when Stuart had to make the difficult decision to step down both as Chief Car and also as National Observer for the car section, due to increased work and family commitments. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Stuart for his hard work during the earlier months of this year and for the many years he has been an integral part of the group, and hope that he will be able to return to the Car Section as an Observer sometime in the future. I have returned to the role for the interim, but am pleased to announce that we now have a new Chief Car Observer who will be taking over from me with immediate effect. Jenny Lee is one of our Satellite Observers who is currently based in Oban and has a wealth of experience coming from a National Observer role within the Birmingham group and also as a 'retired' ADI. Jenny has volunteered to help out and as such will assume the role of Chief Car Observer for now. I'm looking forward to working with Jenny during the next few months and hope that she will continue in the role for many more.

9.1 Associates

Since the AGM last year, we have had 10 associates sign up for the Roadsmart course. This is in addition to the 27 who were already on our books when we returned from lockdown. For the best part of this year, our observers have been working with two associates in an attempt to reduce the waiting list and I'm pleased to say we have had 10 test passes and gratifyingly 8 of them have been F1rst. Many thanks to the Observers and their Associates who worked hard to achieve all test passes.

Currently we have 9 associates in training, 8 on the waiting list and 12 who have returned to an **'on hold'** list by mutual agreement. These are associates who have either had work or life commitments which have taken precedence over their Roadsmart course, or maybe who have decided to do some practicing out with the structure of observed drives by agreement with their observers. I anticipate we will be looking to reduce this list over the next year.

During the early months of 2022 we continued our zoom sessions and you may be interested to know that since the last AGM we have hosted 10 Car Section Observer meetings which totalled in excess of 20 hours, and 10 Associate Theory meetings which came to another 22 hours on zoom, as well as many bike section meetings for theory and committee meetings. Although we prefer in-person meetings, we are aiming to develop hybrid meetings which will be both in person and over zoom, as we have tonight, in order to maximise our audience, and to include those who are unable to travel the distance to Glasgow.

The car theory sessions were opened to all group members and we had several meetings with over 30 in attendance. Many thanks to all who presented, contributed, or just came along!

Douglas Macallister has continued in the role of Associate Co-ordinator for the Car Section and has been a valued asset to the group in this role. He has been busy contacting all new associates and assigning them to their Observers, ensuring that all have signed the relevant declarations prior to commencing their training.

9.2 Observers

This year we have unfortunately seen a reduction in the number of observers active within the group. This is again down to personal commitments and we are actively looking to recruit new observers to assist. We currently have 11 active Observers, 8 of whom are based in the central Glasgow area and 3 in our Satellite group. 7 are National Observers, 4 are Local Observers with one still awaiting test for National Observer.

I have developed an Observer Training program which will give new Observers a good foundation and hopefully attract new observers to the group. We currently have 3 interested in becoming observers and I look forward to mentoring them during the next few months.

9.3 Events

On Sunday 7th August 2022, we hosted our first event for some time which was held in Dunoon Academy, and this was facilitated and organised by Jim Bowles and his partner Fiona. We worked in collaboration with Police Scotland and our Bike Section to provide Drive and Ride Scot Free assessments as well as giving presentations on IAM Roadsmart, and conducting observed manoeuvres course for both car and bike. This was extremely successful and the feedback has been very positive from all who attended. Overall, we conducted 29 Drive Scot Free sessions which included the manoeuvres course, and 2 Ride Scot Free sessions.

As you will have heard, we recently took ownership of the Mobile Display Unit which was towed by the coastguard unit from storage in Renfrew, to Dunoon Academy where it was situated in the car park of the Academy to promote the event.

Looking towards next year, we hope to replicate and improve on this with an event in Helensburgh during the summer.

10 Chief Bike Observer's Report

Report presented by Eric Ross:

This year again the bike section has been very busy and very successful, starting off in the winter period with some theory zoom sessions presented by David Morrison. The amount of work put into these presentations was colossal. The sessions covered the full System and although it was possible to view each session as a stand-alone, they were all interlinked and gave a really good understanding of we should be trying to achieve as advanced riders.

It was interesting for me to see some of the Car Section associates and observers join the meetings. They found it really useful and it enhanced their understanding of what advanced motorbike riders are doing especially when changing position. Several had suggested that the sessions be open to all group members and as far as I am concerned that is a good thing as the System is used by both car and bikes and although we may do certain things differently (gears and positioning for example) we are all working to the same principles.

At the start of the season, we arranged an Associate meeting and that was well attended. We then started our peer-to-peer training where observers go out with other observers for feedback on their own riding. This is something we started recently and has been a great success with all observers benefitting from it. It means we all hit the ground running at the start of the season when we take on associates.

In April we started the Saturday morning and Wednesday evening runs which have been well attended, in fact so well attended that on a couple of Wednesday evenings there have been too many associates so if anyone is interested in becoming an Observer, we'll be more than happy to sign you up and help you get to the standard.

The new directive concerning Local Observers and National Observers should not be of concern to anyone in our group. We have always worked to ensure our Local Observers are of the same standard as the National Observers. There has been comment from the IAM that we are over training our observers; however they forget that they are the ones who want everyone to be the same standard. So, anyone who is interested, speak to anyone on the committee who will point you in the right direction.

In addition to our normal sessions, we had the usual Slo-Mo Day again this year. This year it was on a Sunday so it wouldn't interfere with the Saturday morning observed runs. That seemed to work really well but it did result in the day being really busy, between organising the event and people arriving. On the Saturday after the observed runs, the course had to be set up before 7pm and then the gate opened on Sunday morning at 8am. 40 people attended, and many said they had benefited from it. We actually had two traffic police attend in cars and they commented that they thought it was very professional. So hopefully with the change of day, we might get the police bikes along next year and we can invite them to go through the course and see how they do! On the day we raised over £400 and half of that we decided to put with the funds from Callum's Ride to the charity Robin House.

Throughout the year we have had 21 active observers who, between them, carried out 230 observed rides. In addition to that we had peer-to-peer sessions, shadowing, check rides, mock tests, radio training, Ride Scot Free sessions, Local and National Observer training, which if we average that out was in excess of 1000 hours training and coaching provided this year.

We have also increased the number of members who have come out on the organised rides. This year was the first time we actually had an electric bike take part. It was interesting to see how it works and how to use IPSGA with it. As a result, we have managed to achieve 7 passes since the last AGM.

The final major bike section activity was a Charity commemorative ride to Robin House. Throughout the season we had a collection tin available on the Saturday and Wednesday sessions and those attending were asked to donate any change they had available.

The weather on the morning of the ride was quite bad and I was not expecting a great turnout however by the time we were ready to leave from Robroyston we had 41 bikes lined up. We asked for a £5 donation for each bike, however many of those contributing chose to contribute more. Police Scotland provided two motorcyclists to assist us leaving for the motorway and we were met by a police car to assist us leaving the Erskine Bridge and making our way to Balloch.x1sqz When we arrived at Robin House, we counted the money from the Slo-Mo day, collection tin and the donations on the day. We found we were just short of £1000. Our treasurer was not happy with this and found a bucket and went round explaining he would like to achieve £1000 and thanks to the generosity of those present, we were actually able to donate over £1150 to the hospice.

It may seem strange when talking about a Childrens Hospice but I can honestly say that there was an amazing 'feel-good' factor along with a sense of pride which seemed to affect everyone present. It is hoped to repeat this next season and I believe Colin has already been in contact with the Hospice.

We are now approaching the end of the normal season and will be turning to our winter programme.

The winter sessions are clearly weather dependant and we intend using the traffic light system on our web site along with Facebook to confirm if sessions are to take place.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who has been involved in providing another highly successful season for the bike group and wish Colin every success as he takes over the role of Chief Bike Observer.

11 Election of Group Officers

11.1 Committee Roles

11.1.1 Secretary Role

Moray stated that this has been his final year as group secretary. Therefore, someone is required to volunteer for this role. As explained earlier in his report, some of the existing tasks will be delegated further to make this role and other roles easier.

11.1.2 Current Group Committee

11.1.2.1 Committee Office Bearers

Chair = Colin Cowan
Vice Chair = Elaine Irvine
Secretary = Moray Finlay
Treasurer = Trevor Herrington

11.1.2.2 Committee Members

Eric Ross (Chief Bike Observer)
David Coia (Bike Sect Associate Co-ordinator)
Douglas Macalister (Car Sect Associate Co-ordinator)
Tom Hatrick (Newsletter Editor)
Jim Bowles
Fraser Hunter
Andrew Richardson

11.1.3 Current Bike Committee

Eric Ross
Colin Cowan
David Coia
Moray Finlay
Trevor Herrington
Raymond Dickson
David Morrison
Iain Ellis

12 Election of Committee

Office Role	Name of Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chair	Elaine Irvine	Colin Cowan	David Coia
Vice Chair			

Secretary	Colin Cowan	Elaine Irvine	Trevor Herrington
Treasurer	Trevor Herrington	Moray Finlay	David Coia
Chief Car Observer	Jennie Lee	Douglas Macallister	Elaine Irvine
Chief Bike Observer	Colin Cowan	Eric Ross	David Coia

Colin stepped forward to take on the role of Secretary in the absence of any other nominations. He is prepared to take this on for a year only, due to his other commitments to the group.

13 Address by New Chair

Elaine thanked Colin for his work as Chair and commented that his term had been extended due to Covid and acknowledged his dedication to keeping the group on track throughout that time. Elaine also thanked Moray for his time as Secretary and for the work he has put in on the database, as well as looking at the storage of information for the group, and dealing with all enquiries and communications on behalf of the group.

Elaine then thanked Fraser Hunter and Andrew Richardson, who are both stepping down due to work and personal commitments, for their time on the committee. Elaine asked for volunteers to join the committee as we need more people to contribute to the decisions regarding the group and help with the running of the group.

14 Any Other Business

Question raised from the floor:

Bryan Johnston asked – I believe they are stopping the Drive Scot Free and Ride Scot Free, as well as increasing the cost of the test and joining the IAM meeting to quite a high fee. Was that raised at the Crieff meeting or does the group have any ideas of how they can mitigate some of that cost for people who want to sit the test?

Colin Cowan answered - Yes in short that was the intention. So for the record, the Drive Scot Free and Ride Scot Free will still be continuing. What is now ending is IAM support of discounted membership following one of these sessions. That has now been scrapped. The joining fee has increased from £149 to £175 and IAM have long argued that it is still undervalued at that price. They will be reducing the use of further discounts for events. If we do look to have a specific event, and we want a discount code then we can apply to IAM to get one for that one event which would end very soon after that event. So cannot be used for long term use.

Bryan then asked – Could we do any kind of discount for example if someone passed within the same season that they joined, could they get 10% off?

Colin replied – We still have a group cashback offer of £50 for any test pass within 6 months of starting training.

Bryan asked – Is well known?

Colin replied - It is on our website.

Sandra Neillis asked if the fee for the group from HQ has increased along with the price rise from sign up.

Colin replied – Yes, the fee we used to get from a sign up for advanced rider or driver used to be £24, it is now £26.

Raymond Dickson asked – will this affect the bike show new sign-ups?

Colin replied – That is yet to be determined because it has still be decided if we will be attending. As was mentioned earlier, Glasgow North now have the MDU in its possession and over the winter we are looking to have it refurbished so we can use it for events next year and make it available to other groups. On receiving word that we had been successful in taking over the ownership of it, I offered it to Scott Tulip, the Area Service Delivery Manager, for use at the Bike Show but was informed that they have other plans.

Iain Ellis asked – Regarding the refurb of the MDU, will it be refurbished in Glasgow North style and not just IAM?

Colin replied - That's quite possible. At the moment we haven't really looked at the graphics as we're looking more at the mechanical side of it. We're currently looking at having the underside sandblasted and recoated, having the brakes inspected as well as the tyres changed.

Bill Cairns commented that when he had collected it from George Goldie, he had been informed that it had been recently serviced at a local caravan place and had the tyres changed. He also asked about maintenance records and was told it was serviced every year and had just been done. Bill asked if this might be in question?

Colin replied – Yes that was the case. We asked for the maintenance record and are still waiting on an answer. We were told that the various bills were submitted to HQ but still waiting on them. On inspection at the event in Dunoon, the tyres were found to be 11 years old. We have so far invested some funds for security devices which are now attached to the MDU, and security markings but will await the chassis being refurbished before putting these on.

Dave Hutchens asked if the maintenance costs would be met by the group or the IAM?

Colin replied – initially we are looking for the refurb to be done as a charitable contribution to our group by various companies but if this doesn't happen then it would come from our own funds. As other groups can use it we may charge them to recoup some of the costs. We are not looking to make a profit.

It was then asked if the refurb has been costed and have we spoken to other groups about being charged for its use?

Colin said it had been discussed with other groups at the Scottish forum and they would be quite keen to make use of it. There has been an agreement in principle that other groups using the MDU would contribute to the maintenance.

The meeting was then closed with thanks to everyone for their attendance.

GROUP REQUIRED CONTRACT STATEMENT TO MEMBERS

Here at Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists we would like to thank you for commencing/renewing your membership with us. As part of your membership contract with us, we will contact you with information on training, committee and social events, together with newsletters/magazines relating to the group and Road Safety.

Pictures, videos and written updates of Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists events such as training, committee and social events at which you may be in attendance or referred to, will also be regularly published on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc, in group newsletters/magazines and on group related websites.

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists also share your information with IAM RoadSmart in order to administer membership activities.

OPTION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE ABOVE

You have the right to withdraw from receiving and/or participating in any of the above, by contacting Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists.

- I do not wish to receive information on training, committee and social events, together with newsletters/magazines relating to the group and Road Safety.
- I do not wish to appear in or be referred to in or on any group social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, etc, group newsletters/magazines and group related websites.

Signature: _____

Name (in capitals): _____

Date: _____

Membership number: _____

Please notify the Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists by email to committee@iamglasgow.org or letter to:

Group Secretary
Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists
58 Spalehale Drive
Motherwell
ML1 5JD