

**Message from the Chair**  
Elaine reflects on a busy series of events this year

**View from the Dashboard**  
Jim offers his thoughts on improving road safety

**Dates for your Diary**  
Details of upcoming events, activities, and meetings

**News from the Committee**  
All the latest news from your committee members

2024 Issue 3



# Driving

Triannual newsletter of IAM Glasgow North Group

## 2024 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?





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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*  
Kevin Miller *Secretary*  
Trevor Herrington *Treasurer*

### CAR REPRESENTATIVES

Jim Bowles *Chief Car Observer*  
Alan Catto

### MOTORCYCLE REPRESENTATIVES

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

### Driving EDITORIAL TEAM

Elaine Irvine  
Jim Bowles  
Colin Cowan  
Tom Hatrick

### CONTACT DETAILS

[committee@iamglasgow.org](mailto: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.

There have been 3 road safety events run in partnership with Police Scotland and the Fire and Rescue services, which Elaine mentions in her [Message from the Chair](#).

The bike section ran two annual events; the perennial favourite Slo-Mo Day which was held in June, and the August charity ride out in aid of CHAS, in memory of Calum Crawford.

The CHAS ride out was very well attended this year, with 53 bikes taking part and raising over £1,800 to help support the charity.

The committee extends its grateful thanks to all who organised, contributed, or participated in these immensely worthwhile events.

Our group [website](#) has been re-launched following the digital 'handover' from our long-term provider Brian Watson.

Brian has cared for the group's digital needs for more years than we care to remember, and we are extremely grateful for the time, energy, and expertise that he has donated to Glasgow North throughout.

Our thanks also go to our IT team, led by Craig McCallum, who helped facilitate the smooth transition to our new provider.

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* Kevin Miller | 07887 606 727

*Group Treasurer* Trevor Herrington | 07874 110 360

### CAR REPRESENTATIVES

Jim Bowles | 07704 911 947 *Chief Car Observer*

Alan Catto | 07803 435 660

### 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

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> October this year.

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](mailto:committee@iamglasgow.org)

### How to get in touch



[www.iamglasgow.org](http://www.iamglasgow.org)



Glasgow North I.A.M



[committee@iamglasgow.org](mailto:committee@iamglasgow.org)

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

ELAINE REFLECTS ON A BUSY AND SUCCESSFUL SERIES OF EVENTS THIS SEASON, AND THANKS ALL VOLUNTEERS WHO HELPED BUILD THE EXCELLENCE OF THE GROUP.

Hello again and welcome to the autumn edition of our newsletter.

What a summer we've had! I'm not necessarily referring to the weather, which has been particularly poor this year, but I refer more to the activities of Glasgow North Group.

This year we have had more sign ups for the Advanced Driving and Riding courses than ever before, more events than ever before, and between the car and bike sections we've had a record number of new Observers coming onboard.

As you will know from previous newsletters, we are working closely with Police Scotland and also the Fire and Rescue Services to highlight road safety and reduce the number of accidents, particularly in outlying areas.

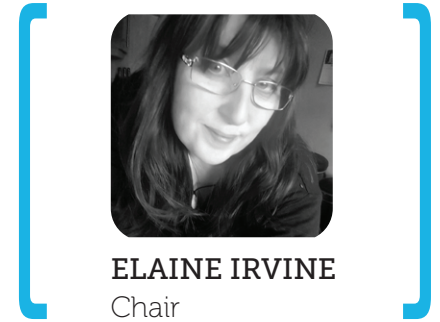
This partnership has created 3 events so far this year with much more still in the planning!

The first was a car and bike event in Helensburgh on 21<sup>st</sup> April. Last year's event was a success, but this year we increased both the turnout and subsequent course sign ups. Keep an eye on this one as it looks like becoming an annual event!

The second event was a bike event in Inveraray on 19<sup>th</sup> May, which was a beautiful sunny day, and we had lots of interaction with many of the bikers passing through who stopped and went out for a check drive with our bike Observers.

Our third event was held at the West Dunbartonshire council offices on 25<sup>th</sup> August, and again both car and bike observers were kept busy doing taster sessions for the public.

These events have taken a mammoth amount of organisation; so earlier this year we welcomed Fiona Gardner on to the committee as



our events co-ordinator.

Having this dedicated post has taken the pressure off our Observers who are then able to do what we do best, which is engaging with the public, conducting check drives and rides, and showing them the advantages of taking the advance course whether for car or bike.

My thanks to Fiona for her dedication, time, energy and meticulous planning which has ensured each event has been better than the last.

I know I have said this before in previous newsletters, but I really cannot thank our Observers and volunteers enough.

When I attend these events and look around and see everyone working so hard, I am so very proud to be part of this wonderful organisation.

Every single one of us plays a part in the success of these events.



WHEN I ... LOOK AROUND  
AND SEE EVERYONE WORK-  
ING SO HARD, I AM SO VERY  
PROUD TO BE A PART OF THIS  
WONDERFUL ORGANISATION

ELAINE IRVINE | CHAIR

We have a team of Observers who all give freely of their time and energy to help make the roads a safer place.

We also have a team of volunteers, some of whom are not even group Members, who come along to support our group by manning reception desks, making teas and coffees, chatting to the public and making everyone feel welcome.

We will never know the true impact of what we do through giving drivers and riders advanced skills on the roads and who knows how many lives we save, but even one makes it all worthwhile.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Brian Watson who has, for many many years, been the provider of our group web domain, website, email and data systems.

Brian has maintained the site, put up with our many queries, requests for change, and generally been our digital go-to person, but has now decided to step back and retire.

We put together an IT team to transition us from Brian's care to another provider and the team,

headed by Craig McCallum, led us through the minefield of change and created the group website as you see it today.

There is still some work to be done to update information and make it more user friendly – click on the link here to go directly to the site: [www.iamglasgow.org](http://www.iamglasgow.org)

If there is something you would like to see on the website, or maybe you find a glitch or information that's out of date, then please let us know.

Our warmest thanks go to Brian, and we wish him a very long and happy retirement!

Our AGM takes place in Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October this year.

This is an ideal opportunity for you to meet the office bearers and committee members that have been working so hard on your behalf.

I look forward to seeing you all at the AGM on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 have been 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](mailto: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](mailto:committee@iamglasgow.org)



The AGM takes place in Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October

# VIEW FROM THE DASHBOARD

JIM QUESTIONS HOW MUCH IMPACT THE “HIERARCHY OF ROAD USERS” HAS HAD ON DRIVER BEHAVIOUR, AND OFFERS HIS THOUGHTS ON IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY.



As I reflect on my tenure so far as Chief Car Observer, I realise that I have presented many Driver Road Safety classroom sessions over the past two years.

Although always with a focus on road safety, the subjects have been quite varied and include:

- Highway Code
- Speed Awareness
- Distraction
- Frustration
- Fatigue

When I ask the audience “when did you last read the Highway Code?” I get blank stares, or some kind of answer revolving around “I know it’s changed recently...”

The attendees rarely know what the Hierarchy of Road Users is and if they do, they rarely have a full understanding of the subject matter.

So, if the Highway Code isn’t improving road safety, what can?

You may say it’s about training drivers in Observation, Planning, and Anticipation, or indeed IPSCA.

Our reach, however, will never create a situation where every driver is trained.

The vital question still remains; “what can make a difference?”

Some say ‘give further training and that will change driver behaviour.’

Drivers can be trained on the road, and in classrooms, to give them more skills and knowledge and yet they still use handheld mobile phones, fully knowing that it’s wrong.

They falsely believe that a 2-second distraction will not result in a life changing disaster for them, or anyone else.

“Arriving two minutes late is better than not arriving at all.” We’ve all heard this advice, yet far too many incidents still occur due to excessive speed.

Despite knowing full well the dangers of excess speed and its rightful place in the Fatal Five; drivers are still caught speeding.

I believe the solution and challenge lies in driver attitude, otherwise known as their mindset.

This is a driver’s biggest challenge, and the hardest to master.

Have you ever been annoyed at the actions of another driver? Did it impact your ability to rationally drive the next part of your journey?

I’m sure all of us have succumbed to a bit of annoyance at one time or another due to the selfish, inconsiderate, or downright dangerous actions of another driver.

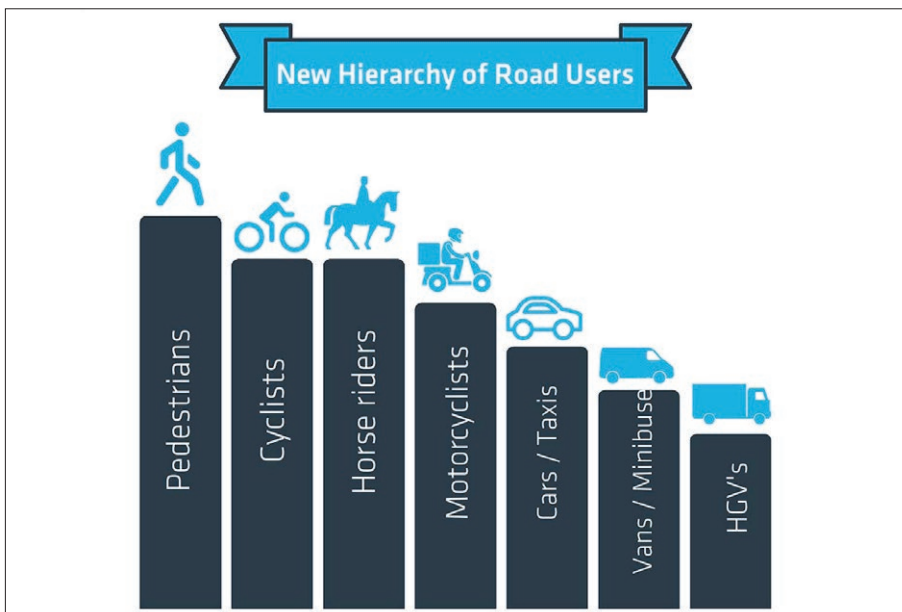
Maintaining a balanced attitude and mindset is the key element to safer driving, so you remain in complete mental control of your actions and reactions, irrespective of any provocations.

A good journey always starts with a good mindset. My question to you is, do you do it?

Stay safe on the roads

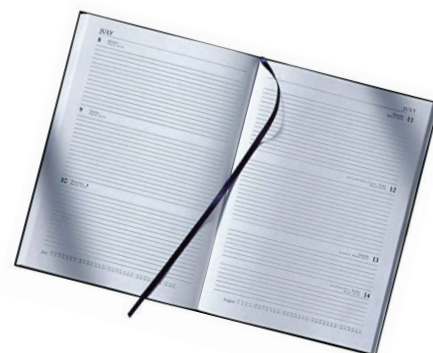
*Jim*

Jim Bowles | 07704 911 947  
[chiefcarobserver@iamglasgow.org](mailto:chiefcarobserver@iamglasgow.org)



# 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](mailto:committee@iamglasgow.org)

## Oct 2024

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **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 2024

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

### **Last Saturday Bike Meet**

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

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>

### **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*

## Dec 2024

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Winter Riding events commence**

The start of Winter Riding meets.  
*Robroyston Retail Park*  
10.00 for 10.30 start

## Feb 2025

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

### **Group night - tbc**

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

## Mar 2025

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>

### **Group night - tbc**

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

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>

### **Pre-season Bike Meeting**

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

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>

### **Bike Associate Meeting**

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

## Apr 2025

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>

### **First Saturday Bike Meet**

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

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>

### **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 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Group night - tbc**

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

## May 2025

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>

### **Group night - tbc**

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

# Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

## 2024 AGM Notice

All Full and Associate Members of the Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists are cordially invited to attend the 2024 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 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 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 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024 for approval by the Group Full Members and to conduct an election.

Of which notice is hereby given by Kevin Miller (Group Secretary), 3 Braidfield Grove, Glasgow G81 5NF on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

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: Kevin Miller *will stand for re-appointment*

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

### Other committee members and Trustees of the Group are:

Jim Bowles *continuing*

Alan Catto *continuing*

David Coia *continuing*

Colin Cowan *continuing*

Tom Duncan *continuing*

Tom Hatrick *completing 3 year term, will stand for re-appointment*

Craig McCallum *continuing*

Eric Ross *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 2024 Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists AGM to be held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 at Bishopbriggs War Memorial Hall, Balmuildy Rd, Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 3BX.

1. List of attendees
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes from the Previous Year: 2023
  - a. Resolution: That the Minutes of the 2023 AGM be approved as a true record  
2023 AGM Minutes proposed by .....
  - 2023 AGM Minutes seconded by .....
  - 2023 AGM Minutes accepted by all: Yes / No
4. Matters arising from the 2023 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 2024 be approved
  - b. Review of Honoraria
  - c. Subscriptions for 2025
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 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024.
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 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 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 Kevin Miller (Group Secretary), 3 Braidfield Grove, Glasgow G81 5NF.
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: 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 19:30

Place of Meeting: War Memorial Hall, Bishopbriggs

## 1 List of Attendees

---

Elaine Irvine	Matthew Brownell
Colin Cowan	Wallis Wier
Trevor Herrington	Ian Kennedy
Jim Bowles	Craig McCallum
David Coia	Moray Finlay
John Simpson	Tom Hatrick
Bryan Johnston	Katie Hatrick
Dave Hutchens	Douglas Macallister
Alan McArthur	Tom Duncan
Eddie McCann	Raymond Dickson
Alistair Whitelaw	Tommy Owens
Iain Morrison	Edward McKnight
Ron Thomson	Kevin Miller
W. Greenwood	

## 2 Apologies

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Fraser Hunter	Andy Dunnet
Fiona Gardner	Alan Catto
Iain Campbell	Margaret McNicol-Houston
Eric Ross	Arthur Nicholas

## 3 Minutes from Previous Year

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2022 AGM Minutes proposed by	: David Coia
2022 AGM Minutes seconded by	: Craig McCallum
2022 AGM Minutes accepted by all	: Yes

## 4 Matters arising from the 2022 AGM Minutes

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None

## 5 Amendments or Adjustments to this Agenda

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None

## 6 Chairs Report

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Report delivered by Elaine Irvine:

Since the AGM last year, the group committee has met every month with the exception of January and July. All meetings were well attended. As a committee we have a standard agenda for discussion each month, which includes:

- 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 Sections

As well as this we discuss and agree on how to support various group activities such as Charity and Road Safety events. I'm sure you'll hear more about these from the Chief Car and Chief Bike Observers in their reports.

At present in Glasgow North, we have 294 full members, 41 associate members and 3 Fellows members. Across both car and bike sections we have 23 National Observers, 11 Local Observers and 12 Trainee Observers (most of these are bike section). All Local Observers will be working towards the National Observer test as the LO qualification will be phased out next year, and all new Observers will be trained accordingly.

Over the past year the bike and car sections have been very busy, and the quality of test passes for both sections are testimony to the skill and dedication of the observers and the hard work put in by their associates.

The Car Section now has a new Chief Car Observer. I take this opportunity to thank Jennie Lee (our National Observer in Oban) who was caretaker of the role until someone could take it on for the full 3-year tenure. Jim Bowles took the role on after passing the National Observer test earlier this year and we look forward to seeing the changes and developments that Jim will bring to the car section.

The quarterly newsletter is edited and published by our Editor, Thomas Hatrick, and I want to thank Tom for the huge amount of work he puts in for every edition...which includes chasing us all up for our articles. This is an excellent platform for keeping in touch with our membership but we would appreciate some more input regarding the content, whether that be articles or suggestions. It is only as good as the content, so if you want more then let us know how we can improve it.

More than a few years ago, Glasgow North merged with Helensburgh and Dumbarton group, as well taking on some of the Argyll and Bute area which led to the formation of our Satellite observer group covering from Campbeltown to Oban. We have always had limited observer cover in those areas but especially since Covid when our observer numbers dropped. During 2023 the group has been actively trying to re-engage with our members in Helensburgh and Dumbarton through some road safety events and our aim is to establish a group of observers within that area. You'll hear more about this from our Chief Observers. There are plans to engage more with these members through meetings and events, some of which will be throughout the winter months, and some planned for next year. Any updates or information will be given in the newsletter and on the Facebook page. If you are from those areas and have suggestions as to meeting places or topics you would like covered, then let us know.

You will be pleased to note that our monthly group meetings have returned to the second Thursday of each month. Last year we had to change to a Wednesday due to other hall bookings, but this year we managed to secure our normal evenings and no longer clash with the Wednesday evening bike runs. These group meetings have been reasonably attended and we have had a variety of Speakers or Guests who have given of their time to come along. We have had talks by Scott Tulip our Area Service Delivery Manager, Motorcycle Law Scotland, Ali from Mojo-in-Mind and also a Meet the Examiner night as well as the occasional quiz night with prizes! We do have some interesting speakers lined up for some future meetings (again keep an eye on the Facebook page for info) and we also have our annual bowling night coming up which will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at the Pro-Bowl in Kirkintilloch. Last year we had a great night out and I'm looking forward to doing it all again next month. There was some pretty mean bowling happening last time!

Last year you will remember that Glasgow North took ownership of the Mobile Display Unit which has since been fully serviced with new tyres fitted, fire extinguisher replaced, electrics checked and generator checked. Thank you to Simon Foy for enabling all of this. The MDU has been used several times by the group over the year at various events and has been an important part of our public profile. At the most recent Blue Light Awareness Day the Glasgow North stand was one of the busiest there!

All in all, Glasgow North has had a good year and we are confidently looking forward to the next year and the challenges it will bring. That concludes the Chair report.

## 7 Secretary's Report

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Report delivered by Colin Cowan:

### 7.1 Membership Information

Number of Members	2023
DTE/DARTS Records	297

#### 7.1.1 Observer Numbers

Number of Observers	2023
Car	17
Motorcycle	27
Trainee	
Pending Motorcycle	
Total	42

### 7.2 Group Nights

#### 7.2.1 Group Bowling Night

Annual group bowling night will be held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023. 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.**

### 7.2.2 Hall Bookings

Throughout the year we have had various meetings and this year we managed to re-secure the hall bookings for the Thursday evening. Because of the clash last year with the bike runs the group meetings had been poorly attended last year with some meetings only having one or two attendees. However, since the return to Thursday evenings there has been a notable increase in the number of attendees.

### 7.2.3 Test Passes

There have been a number of test passes in the past year including several F1rst, giving a total of 13 passes between car and bike sections. More on this in the Chief Observer reports.

### 7.2.4 Other Events

We also attend Forums, e.g. the Scottish Bike Forum and the Annual Scottish IAM Forum which Elaine will be attending this coming Saturday.

Question from the floor – Sandra Neillis asked if the group meetings would be held in the main hall or small hall? Colin advised that we would be using the small hall for all meetings as it can hold up to 30 people, but the AGM would remain in the large hall. Colin also stated here would be some guest speakers/visits for some of the meetings next year.

## 8 Treasurer's Report

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### 8.1 Group Financial Position at 31<sup>st</sup> 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 2022/23 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 2021/22.
2. The Group accounts for 2022/23 (ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023) have been independently inspected as required by OSCR. The audit was completed on the 30th September 2023 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 2024.

### 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

1. The name of the group's bank account was changed to "GNIAM Group" commensurate with the new financial year and has continued to function without interruption.  
Sort Code: 80 91 27, Account No: 00485454

## 8.5 Income and Expenditure during 2022/23

- Profit and Loss!** Overall, our funds decreased from £8492, (21/22) to £6393, as of 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023. Net loss of £2099 compared to the previous year.
- Major expenditure** for the year increased with new Communications equipment subsidised by the group for Observers Bike section, however this subsidy was derived from the Cyril Bitcom Charity account which had been mostly untouched for several years and is expressly for such purpose. The accounts reserves have fallen below £7000 for the first time since 2018/19.  
As an aside – Trevor noted that when he took on the role of Treasurer the group had in his opinion) too much money. The point of having an account for the group is not to amass funds which do nothing, but to make the money work for the benefit of the group which has been achieved this year. As we go forward, the Chief Car Observer has plans for the group which require investment but will bring a good return for the group.
- Income** was up on the previous year by £1080 due to major contributions by Bike Observers purchasing the Cardo Edge Communications units through the Group at a discount. All members in the group were offered the opportunity to purchase a Cardo Edge system at a discounted price. For observers this was subsidised from the Cyril Bitcom account, however non observers only qualified for the discounted price and not the subsidy. Our annual SloMo Day was held in May, but Capitation (received from IAM when we take on new associates) was below that of the previous 4 years.
- Expenditure** increased by 256% on 2021/22 due to Communications equipment and General Expenses.
- Zoom subscription under Web Hosting has remained at £143 (arranged by Elaine) which has allowed us to meet successfully in large numbers (like this AGM). It has also enabled us to provided online learning, guest speakers and host committee meetings.

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists		Summary Accounts AGM 12 October 2023		
Income	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	
Subs	£2,017	£1,692	£2,041	
Capitation	806	£1326	£548	
Sales		129	£170	
Cyril Bitcom Income (donations)	£95	£00	£4,220	
Travel Expenses reimbursed by authority				
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>£2,918</b>	<b>£2,3147</b>	<b>£6,979</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Hall Rental		£32	£343	
Postage. (Mobile Phone)	£87	£50	89	
Stationery and Printing	£737	£00	£704	
Equipment	£156	£132	£5,004	
Web Hosting/Domain Registration	£277	£277	£299	
National Conference and Travel		£316	£139	
Observer Training	£213	£41	£454	
General Expenses	£404	£233	£1,320	
Publicity/Recruitment				



Test Fees			
Honoraria	£600	£600	£600
Insurance	£156	£152	£177
Cashback Incentive (Motorcycle)	£41		
Cyril Bitcom Expenditure	£00	£186	£4,462
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£2671</b>	<b>£1,941</b>	<b>£4,981</b>
Net change over period	<b>£247</b>	<b>£1206</b>	<b>£1,998</b>
<b>Group Account Year End Balance - 31st July 2021</b>			
Bank of Scotland plc - Paisley the Cross	£7,286	£8,492	£6,393

**See Appendix for OSCR Report.**

We are planning on spending money during the current financial year as our website and database will no longer be hosted by Brian Watson due to his imminent retiral. We will then need to look at securing our domain name and finding an alternative website host/server which will require funds to purchase. There will be a cost incurred for the group but we are looking to keep it minimal i.e. hundreds not thousands of pounds. Craig has agreed to look into this for the committee.

Trevor intends to continue as Treasurer for the next year.

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 Jim Bowles:

Having been appointed as Chief Car Observer in July, the first task was to review the waiting list. This has since been cleansed by removing those who's subs have expired or who have not responded to contact attempts. Contents of the welcome pack were reviewed and updated, and sent to all remaining on the waiting list.

As part of my role, I now do all Introductory and Taster Sessions. This helps me to assess each new associate and match them up with their observer, hoping that synergy will help them get through test quicker. I can also identify those who may be interested in becoming an Observer once through the Advanced test.

Since last year we have had 6 test passes, all were F1rst. The waiting list was 8 but we now have another 2, totalling 10. There are another 12 associates coming on from the Oban Mountain Rescue Team and these will be dealt with by our Satellite group in Argyll who have been under-used in past years. 3 of the Rescue Team will be trained as Observers and they can then train their colleagues. They have also agreed that once through that process they will be able to train members of the public to pass the advanced test.

Current active observers - 3 in Argyll, and 6 observers covering the main area of Glasgow North most doubling up with 2 associates. We also have 2 observers who have recently joined us from EDGAM who will keep up with their own associates in Edinburgh but have also committed to taking on work from us. They will travel through from Edinburgh and will be based in Falkirk football stadium for conducting observed drives for associates in the north and east of Glasgow.

We also have one police response driver going through observer training and is based in Dumbarton and can also cover Bearsden.

We held a joint car and bike event in Helensburgh which consisted of drive assessments, audio visual presentations on road safety as per our remit with Police Scotland, and some slow manoeuvring. We conducted 26 drives/rides and acquired 3 associates with another 9 to be contacted after the event. We had assistance from Glasgow South and Edinburgh groups on the day.

We have since been invited to the Blue Light Awareness Day and due to the success of our Helensburgh event and our continuing support of Police Scotland, we were given the main spot on the site. This objective was to promote road safety to all ages, so we targeted our pitch for children. Simon Foy of Galt transport provided a brand new 24-ton lorry with crane on the back and kids were invited into the cab. This showed them what they could see and also the blind spots e.g. the motorbike parked in front disappeared. We also gave out hi-vis vests for children and adults, and fluorescent/reflective keyrings and bike spoke reflectors. Adults were able to discuss POWDERY checks and we had a car with the bonnet open to show where to check. We had one new car sign up on the day, and 2 taster session requests. 3 police response drivers have signed up with the group through the exemption scheme and the truck driver intends to sign up for the bike course.

Contact was made with the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service personnel responsible for the new partnerships in road safety. We have been introduced to the wider Police Scotland Community teams in the divisions within our area. There will be a meeting shortly with the community police in Kirkintilloch in East Dunbartonshire, and we are seeking to have a similar meeting with Cumbernauld and Kilsyth community police. They are the ones who will be driving road safety as there are less police traffic officers. We are developing a three-year plan with Police Scotland to support events such as the Robin House run, and an Inveraray bike event.

We have some major roadblocks in lack of advertising and partnerships. The partnership with police Scotland in Dumbarton is pulling us away from our main area of Kirkintilloch, Kilsyth and Cumbernauld. We also have a lack of sponsors and observers.

In the next 12 months we will be working with Police Scotland and Helensburgh will become an annual event on the last Saturday in April. Dumbarton will also be an annual event. Also looking to have another bike event in Inveraray. Part of the Oban Mountain Rescue team remit is that to gain funds they must give back to the community – this can be done by Observing. The Satellite group has been tasked to find resources themselves and have been approaching local companies to provide funding for our expense and group resources.

We are trying to get in front of council decision makers for funding which would be shared across both car and bike sections.

I am appealing to you all to think about becoming an observer to assist your group. If not yourself then maybe you know someone who would be interested. What we do saves lives and you can do the same by committing 2 hours of your time a week.

## 10 Chief Bike Observer's Report

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Report presented by Colin Cowan:

The Bike Section recently supported the Blue Light Awareness Day in Dumbarton and several bikes attended which was a major draw for the Glasgow North stand with every bike going home covered in sticky fingerprints from the children who had been allowed to sit on the bikes at the stand.

There will be more events this coming year, with one potentially in Inveraray with a proposed date of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

There have been 9 passes which include Passes and F1rst. This is a drop on previous years but there has been a drop in Associates coming for the ride-outs which has impacted the test pass results. 6 Observers have been registered to do their National Observer tests. All new and current Local Observers must now train to National Observer standard as the LO grade is being discontinued in April 2025. Colin is only aware of one Examiner doing the NO testing at present so there may be some delays for tests.

There will be more winter theory sessions starting in March, which will be condensed to weekly instead of fortnightly and will be run over one month instead of two (as done last year). These will be delivered by David Morrison and are open to all bike and car members as the topics are relevant to both cars and bikes.

The Blue Light Awareness Day has highlighted the need for more Observers to counter the increase in Associates due to these events. The Chief Car Observer has requested for Bike Observer volunteers to help train some new Car Observers. The driving will not be in question as they already have these skills, however bike observers will be able to pass on some observing skills such as delivering a course, picking up faults, giving critique/feedback without lowering morale. This will free up some of the car observers to continue training car associates.

Regarding the communication units which are vital pieces of kit. A cheaper version was previously used to check it was viable to use, which it is. A lot of Observers have invested their own money to purchase these units. We have a trading account with the supplier so if anyone is looking to purchase a new unit, then it can be used to get a lower price. The discount is still in place however the price may change.

Question from the floor: Tom Duncan asked if there had been uptake from other groups to use the discount? Colin stated that he had approached all groups within Scotland and to groups further afield who he had contact with but had very few replies and none went on to purchase.

Question from the floor: John Simpson asked about the offer made to other groups? Colin replied that he had given all other groups the same discounted offer that was being given to Glasgow North so that they could purchase and benefit from the discount (but would not get the group subsidy).

Colin stated that a lot of research had been done prior to selecting the Cardo Unit particularly with regard to clarity, reliability and waterproofness. Several group members already had this make.

Question from the floor: Raymond Dickson asked if Colin could elaborate on the website? Colin said the plan would be to move to an independent website/host after Brian's retirement. Craig then said that we are still looking at various options. Raymond asked if we could build one? Craig said we would look at all options. Raymond asked about the cost? Craig said that we would be looking at the costs involved for cloud-based sites as opposed to other options, also looking at bigger companies such as Amazon or Google.

Question from the floor: Raymond asked if the inactive Bike Observers may be able to assist the Car Section instead of using the active observers? Colin said that they may be inactive due to lack of time instead of having lost interest in bike observing, however he would be putting out an email to all bike observers asking for anyone interested in helping to contact him. Jim Bowles said that the issue is that some of the new car observers are coming from the police force and have never been through the IAM process so the experience of the bike observers could help them and we can then fast track them. Jim said that we have identified several potential observers within the waiting lists however they need to be fast-tracked to get them through the Advanced test first. We have assistance from EDGAM group and they can help with training.

## 11 Election of Group Officers

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### 11.1 Committee Roles

#### 11.1.1 Current Group Committee

##### 11.1.1.1 Committee Office Bearers

Chair	Elaine Irvine
Vice Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Secretary	Colin Cowan
Treasurer	Trevor Herrington

##### 11.1.1.2 Committee Members

Eric Ross	
David Coia	(Bike Sect Associate Co-ordinator)
Douglas Macalister	(Car Sect Associate Co-ordinator)
Tom Hatrick	(Newsletter Editor)
Jim Bowles	
Craig McCallum	
John Simpson	
Tom Duncan	

## 12 Election of Committee

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Office Role	Name of Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
<b>Chair</b>	Elaine Irvine	Colin Cowan	David Coia
<b>Vice Chair</b>			
<b>Secretary</b>	Kevin Miller	Colin Cowan	Craig McCallum
<b>Treasurer</b>	Trevor Herrington	Elaine Irvine	David Coia
<b>Committee</b>	Colin Cowan	Tom Hatrick	Trevor Herrington
<b>Committee</b>	David Coia	Craig McCallum	Tom Duncan
<b>Committee</b>	Jim Bowles	Tom Duncan	Tom Hatrick
<b>Committee</b>	Eric Ross	Elaine Irvine	Bryan Johnston
<b>Committee</b>	Alan Catto	Craig McCallum	David Coia
<b>Continuing committee members:</b>	Tom Duncan Tom Hatrick Craig McCallum		
<b>Chief Car Observer</b>	Jim Bowles		
<b>Chief Bike Observer</b>	Colin Cowan		

Colin stood down as Secretary after caretaking the role for the past year.

John Simpson stood down from the committee after 1 year

Douglas MacAllister stood down from the committee after 2 years.

Colin Cowan was elected onto the committee

Alan Catto was elected onto the committee.

David Coia, Jim Bowles and Eric Ross all stood for re-appointment to the committee after completing their 3-year terms.

Question from the floor: Moray Findlay asked if the Secretary role was to be split as per his recommendation at the last AGM? Colin replied that the workload would be managed by the new

Secretary and any tasks can then be split as he sees fit. Colin did not want to impose any new ideas as he was leaving the role but will leave it for Kevin to decide.

## 13 Address by New Chair

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Address by Elaine Irvine:

I'd like to thank everyone for allowing me to continue as Chair for the next year. We have gained a new Secretary and I'd like to welcome Kevin to the committee and look forward to working with him over the next year. I'd also like to thank Colin for taking on that role over the last year. I know how much of a commitment Colin has to the group having been Chair for many years, but last year he took on Chief Bike Observer and also took on the role of Secretary until we could find someone else to take it on, which was no mean feat. Our thanks to Colin for the work, time, and effort he has put in over the past year.

We also have two committee members stepping down this year, and my thanks go to Douglas Macallister who has been active on the committee for the past 2 years, and also to John Simpson who joined the committee just after last year's AGM.

We are short of committee members and in particular we need a Vice Chair as well as the general committee positions. If there is anyone who would like to join the committee and contribute to the running of the group, please contact any of the committee members as there is no requirement to wait for the next AGM.

## 14 Any Other Business

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None

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

N.B. Appendix on next page for OSCR submissions.

APPENDIX 3



**Independent examiner's report on the accounts** v2

<b>Report to the trustees/members of</b>	Charity name Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists																								
<b>Registered charity number</b>	SC018356																								
<b>On the accounts of the charity for the period</b>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">Period start date</th> <th colspan="4">Period end date</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Day</th> <th>Month</th> <th>Year</th> <th></th> <th>Day</th> <th>Month</th> <th>Year</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>01</td> <td>August</td> <td>2022</td> <td>to</td> <td>31</td> <td>July</td> <td>2023</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Period start date				Period end date				Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year		01	August	2022	to	31	July	2023	
Period start date				Period end date																					
Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year																			
01	August	2022	to	31	July	2023																			
<b>Set out on pages</b>	1 <small>(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>																								
<b>Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner</b>	The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) 2005 Act and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.																								
<b>Basis of independent examiner's statement</b>	My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.																								
<b>Independent examiner's statement</b>	In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention [other than that disclosed on the attached page*]  1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and</li> <li>to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations</li> </ul> have not been met, or  2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.																								
<b>Signed:</b>	<i>Lee Cairns</i>																								
<b>Name:</b>	Lee Cairns																								
<b>Date:</b>	30/09/2023																								
<b>Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):</b>	ACCA																								
<b>Address:</b>	12 Windermere East Kilbride G75 8BS																								

\*Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply. If the words do apply, set out those matters which have come to your attention on the following page.

Scottish Charity Number : SC018356

Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists

Income & Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	2023	2022
Income		
Subscriptions	<u>2,589</u>	<u>3,147</u>
	2,589	3,147
Expenditure		
Observer training	454	41
Hall Rental	343	32
Postage	0	4
Stationary and Printing	704	0
Publicity/Recruitment	0	0
Insurance	177	0
Honoraria	600	600
Test Fees	0	0
General expenses	1,848	826
Equipment	<u>504</u>	<u>132</u>
	4,629	1,635
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	<u>(2,041)</u>	<u>1,512</u>
Brought forward	<u>3,433</u>	<u>1,921</u>
Carried forward	<u><u>1,393</u></u>	<u><u>3,433</u></u>

Cyril Bitcom Memorial Fund

Brought forward	2,022	2,208
Donations	4,490	0
Presentations	<u>(4,548)</u>	<u>(186)</u>
Carried forward	<u><u>1,964</u></u>	<u><u>2,022</u></u>

Total Funds Invested

Bank of Scotland	<u>6,393</u>	<u>8,492</u>
	<u><u>6,393</u></u>	<u><u>8,492</u></u>

LCairns ACCA

## 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, X (formerly 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, X (formerly 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](mailto:committee@iamglasgow.org) or letter to:

Group Secretary  
Glasgow North Group of Advanced Motorists  
3 Braidfield Grove  
Glasgow G81 5NF