

Dumfries and Galloway Group of Advanced Motorists and Motorcyclists

AGM – Monday 11th May 2009

Minutes

1) Apologies

a) Graham McColm, Christine Donaldson, John Donaldson and Jim Hunter

2) Acceptance of Minutes of 2008 AGM

Proposed by Stewart Cameron and seconded by Peter Dodds.

Minutes Accepted.

3) Chairman's Report

In Graham's absence Jamie Wood gave the Chairman's report.

He thanked all 23 members for attending the AGM and also gave thanks to the committee and all observers for the hard work in keeping the group active. We are always looking to recruit new Observers. The group has a healthy number of Associates both car and motorcycle.

There are various advertising plans in the pipeline but we will be attending both Dumfries and Moffat Agricultural shows this summer and volunteers are required. Through the Nectar Points collected at the St Michael's Street Garage we are able to buy a gazebo to use for IAM promotion events such as the Agricultural shows.

This year we have been represented on the Road Safety Partnership Committee and have direct input into the strategy and planning in Dumfries and Galloway for road safety. We may be allocated money to fund drive and ride checks which in turn may lead to new Associate members.

Manoevrability Challenge. Jamie thanked everyone involved in making the event successful and said it was greatly appreciated by all who attended. A lot of organisation goes into make this type of event possible and there was disappointment in the turnout, especially the car side.

4) Secretary's Report

We have had a steady year with a continuous flow of car and Motorcycle tests. All successfully passed their IAM test.

We have not done any big promotions this year but we attended the Dumfries and Lockerbie show and the Moffat show, We are planning to attend both again this year in August so volunteers will be required to man the Display unit.

We successfully re gained the 10 pin bowling trophy but the quiz was won by Carlisle. Thank you to all who volunteered and took part, both events were most enjoyable evenings and it is good to hear others group's ideas. It has been suggested that we try a curling challenge at the beginning or end of the curling season, please let me know if you would be interested.

I would like to urge any member who would like to keep their driving and ridings skill up to our high standard to consider training as an observer and thus help your group. Peter will update you on the associate position.

Our monthly group meetings have all been very interesting but the attendance has been poor. We brought back the syllabus this year and email reminders to help boost our numbers at meetings but I think it would be good to see more attending.

As you may be aware, we have been involved with young drivers from Stewartry who have come to the attention of the police regarding driving matters and have been offered to take a drive check with the IAM. Initially we were funded for 40 places and some have been via the

police and some from the Procurator Fiscals Office. These places have almost been used up but it is hoped to get continued funding and for it to be available throughout D & G. It has been very successful with 2 young people going on to pass their full IAM test. Their certificates are being presented by the Chief Constable next Monday.

5) **Treasurer's Report**

Russell intimated that we were spending as much as we were bringing in. The group's accounts have been moved from the Bank of Scotland to the Royal bank of Scotland to allow the set up of Standing orders for our group fees. This has been taken up by about half the membership. Our Race night raised just over £600 for group funds.

Our auditor has said that we must tighten up the membership paperwork, therefore all fees must be accompanied by the correct forms. The group is at present on a sound financial footing. Copy of accounts attached.

6) **Associate Co-ordinator's Report**

Current status

129 Members			
16 Car Observers	24 Car Associates	9 Bike Observers	41 Bike Associates
39 Young Drivers	19 in the West		
36 assessment drives			
	Car passes - 31	M/C passes - 22	

7) **Car Chief Observer's Report- Graham Watson.**

This past year has been a bit non-discript. We have had a good pass rate- 100%.

Our Associates now get a written feed back from the examiner. We need more car observers but are about to train 3 new observers.

8) **Motorcycle Chief Observer's Report – Andrew Bird**

In the absence of the Chief Motorcycle Observer, Andrew Bird gave his report. It has been a steady year after a difficult summer, weather wise last year. This year has increased the numbers coming through and more Observers are required. There will be an email shot for nominees and a selection process will take place as there are more applications than positions.

There are a few associates who have appeared to drop out so this will be followed up.

Bike Safe is still a platform to encourage new associates and one has already been held this year with another in August 09. The annual egg and toy run are very popular and raises the IAM profile locally as IAM members act as escorts. The Motorcycle Forum is funded by SNIGA which has now been disbanded, it is hoped that the motorcycle forum will continue with funding from the groups.

The group was represented at the Moffat car club event and new car and motorcycle associates signed up for skills for life courses.

A motorcycle trip is being planned to the North of Scotland so watch the notice board at St Michael's Street Filling Station or the website and newsletters for more details.

Sadly a motorcycle associate was killed recently and motorcycle members formed an escort for his final journey. His widow has donated over £600 to the group to be used to further the work done by the group. It has been decided that a new trophy will be bought in Paul's memory and will be presented to the winner of the manoeuvrability challenge.

9) **Election of Office Bearers**

Graeme McColm proposed as Chair	Proposed by Helen Cameron	Seconded by Andrew Bird
Jamie Wood proposed as Vice Chair	Proposed by Peter Dodds	Seconded by Stewart Cameron
Helen Cameron proposed as Secretary	Proposed by Peter Dodds	Seconded by Stewart Cameron
Russell Wears as Treasurer	Proposed by Helen Cameron	Seconded by Andrew Bird

Proposed as members of Committee

Andrew Bird	Proposed by Peter Dodds	Seconded by Stewart Cameron
Christine Donaldson	Proposed by Graeme McColm	Seconded by Helen Cameron
Maureen Hewitt	Proposed by Andrew Bird	Seconded by Graeme McColm

10) AOCB

Manoeurability Challenge- Car won by Alan Jones

- Motorcycle won by John Pearson.

The issue of recognising the work that car and motorcycle observers do for the group has been raised at committee recently and the AGM was asked for approval to look into the payment of group or IAM fees to be paid by the group for active observers. A show of hands gave majority approval with 3 members voting against.

The group will take part in an online survey about the IAM in general with questions on local issues. This will be reported back to the group eventually.

Publicity- General discussion took part regarding raising the profile of the local group and the IAM. An article regarding the Stewartry scheme for young drivers drive check has been submitted to the IAM magazine as well as an article in the local press. It was also suggested that local MP's, MSP's and Councillors might be targeted to help raise road safety awareness. Strong feelings were raised regarding the suggestion of lowering the country road speed limit from 60 to 50 and suggestions were also made to lobby politicians on this issue as we have many such roads. This should also be raised at the Road Safety Partnership Forum.

A publicity person could be appointed on the committee to write up group meetings, passes etc.

All points were minuted and will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Mention was made regarding remarks made by a car member about motorcycle members which was published in the IAM magazine. AB stated that a response would be made in future editions and that

Charlie Allman stated that the motorcycle section in Northumberland had been disbanded.

11) Date and time of next committee meeting