

Sefton Advanced Motorists

Issue: 276

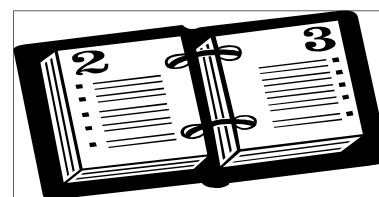
Registered Charity No. 517780

September 2007

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Forthcoming Attractions



Monday 10th September; we welcome **New Associates** to the start of a new course.

Monday, 17th September; Ian McPhail (a Liverpool policeman, who sounds every bit as humorous as Alan Jones!!!) will be talking about **The International Rescue Corp.**

The IRC is a professional and highly trained Group of volunteers "United to Save Lives", which was formed following the Italian earthquake in 1981, when its founders saw the chaos and devastation portrayed by the media. The IRC founders were determined that a co-ordinated search and rescue team should be available to attend all future catastrophes any where in the world. It should prove to be an interesting insight into the terrific work done by these Volunteers.

Monday, 15th October; History of flight in **Southport** by pilot **John Mulliner.**

Please make a note of these events in your diary and try to come along and support our guest speakers who give up their free time to come and speak to us. All meetings are at the Royal Clifton Hotel, Southport, unless otherwise stated, and start at 8 pm.

From the Chair

I have just returned from a holiday in the Isles of Scilly. It is a regular haunt for Dennis and me and one of the few places that you can't take a car. It makes a peaceful change. We drive to Penzance and take the helicopter to St Mary's (the main island). Residents can ship cars to St Mary's and over the last few years we have noticed a big increase in traffic. When we first went there 16 years ago vehicles were a rare sight. Apart from a very old bus, one taxi, a few rusty cars and farm vehicles it was largely bicycles and walking. This time a vehicle was passing about every 30 seconds! They have even got double yellow lines now and occasionally a traffic warden arrives from the mainland to issue a few tickets.



I hope that members and associates are enjoying a good Summer holiday and that you are all managing to be unaffected by the floods. With no August meeting, I look forward to seeing you in September, if I didn't see you at Woodvale.

Stella Owen
(Chair)
Sefton Advanced Motorists

Where Did it Go?

A lot of people have been asking that about the Summer that seems to have disappeared, for the most part, under a constant blanket of grey clouds and rain. If you managed to take your British holiday with some half decent weather I think you will have been very fortunate!



Something else members of Sefton Group may have been asking is **"When will my copy of the August Newsletter arrive?"**

Well, the answer is; the editor, in his infinite (ahem!) wisdom decided to hold it back so that news of Woodvale Rally could be featured. As there are no meetings of the group in August timing of production is not so critical. However, the timescale stretched still further, so it has been decided to make August the new September.

Maybe, the weather will improved by then!.



Sefton Advanced Motorists put on a show at Woodvale Rally

The first weekend of August is the traditional timing of the Woodvale Rally and this year was no exception. Crowds flocked to the show and a great many of them found their way to our stand to talk to us about Advanced Driving.

A great many of our members were on hand to show them around the extremely well-equipped mobile display unit and answer their questions. Whilst visiting us they could take a close look at the Fire Service motor bike and see presentations on the TV screen. Tim Starkey is in the picture (below) but thanks must be given to all members who devoted their weekend to promoting our group and the IAM. Well done!



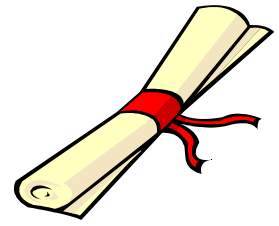
In talking to our Associates Secretary, Ray Woods, it is clear that the weekend's event has been one of the most successful rally's Sefton Group has ever attended.

The recorded statistics bear out this claim. Ten visitors actually committed themselves to the IAM on the day with all but one of them joining Sefton Group. The one that "got away" only escaped as far as Merseyside Group. Included in these figures are two new motorcycle members.

Additionally, thirty-seven other people left their names, and a proportion of them may well join at a later date.

Test Passes

Hearty congratulations go to



Christine West

observed by
Kathleen Tattersall

New IAM Chairman Elected

A former Chief Constable has been elected as the new Chairman of the IAM (Institute of Advanced Motorists).

David Kenworthy, 59, succeeds John Maxwell, who has been the IAM's Chairman for the last five years.

Mr Kenworthy's appointment, confirmed at the IAM Council meeting on 12 July, means that the IAM is able to continue and build on its long relationship with UK police forces.

David Kenworthy from Easingwold in North Yorkshire was awarded the Queen's Police Medal (QPM) in 1997 and was appointed Deputy Lieutenant of North Yorkshire in 2004. He started his career with the Metropolitan Police, also serving with Surrey Police and Avon and Somerset Constabulary before his appointment as Chief Constable of North Yorkshire in 1998.

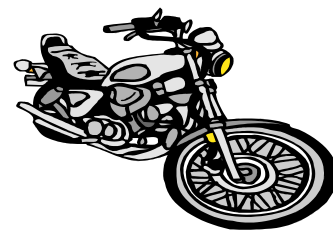
As Chairman of the Road Policing Committee of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) in 2002, Mr Kenworthy wrote the National Road Policing Strategy.

Mr Kenworthy will be supported by a new role, that of **Vice Chairman. Alistair Cheyne**, formerly Deputy Managing Director at the AA, was elected to this position.

Did you Know?

1. The **IAM is now delivering cycle training** to employers and employees in association with Cycle Training UK. There are three levels of training (CycleCheck, CycleRide, CycleRide Plus) that also give trainees the benefits of Associate Membership of the IAM.
2. You can **see how environmentally friendly your new car will be** by visiting www.dft.gov.uk/ActOnCO2. Search for the type you're looking for by What Car? category, transmission & fuel type and get a list of lowest CO2 emitting models.

News from the Motor Cycle Section



Congratulations go to

Mark Allsopp and Guy Keen
on recently passing the IAM Riding Test.

The Motorcycle Section is currently running a **10 week "Skill for Life" course** and is pleased to welcome the 13 associates who are on the first of these "Group Courses".

Ian Robinson
Dave Miller
Derek Bibby
Barry Phillips

Stephen Bass
Kevin Rigby
Graham Lunt
Frank Williams
Bill Shepherd

Reg Prescott
Amanda Knowles
Ian Kerr
John Rowland

We look forward to seeing their names again in a forthcoming newsletter edition when we congratulate them on passing the IAM Riding Test.

The **next Group Riding Course** is planned to start at the **end of September 2007**.

A Big Thank You, from the bottom of his soles?

Dear All,

Many thanks for sponsoring me on my walk in aid of the Southport Kidney Fund and for your generous donations, many of you for the third year in succession.

I completed the walk at about 2.30 p.m. on Sunday 29th July, arriving at Birkdale Labour Club to rapturous applause (mainly from my family) after setting off from the Dialysis Centre in Park Road, Waterloo at 9.00 a.m. (I had to give up my usual lie-in on a Sunday morning)

I arrived in joint seventh place after my five-and-a-half hour marathon; not bad out of 30 or 31 walkers!

Thanks again, and here's to next year's walk.

Regards,
David Williams



A lot of money is tainted: 'Taint yours, and 'taint mine.

The Pleasures of Island Driving.

All of us drive on an island or, at least within the British Isles, but I guess not all of us would describe the experience as a pleasure. Perhaps we are more likely to gain a sense of satisfaction from negotiating the multitude of hazards (fixed and variable) in a safe and skilful manner.

Stella Owen, in her message "From the Chair" this month, spoke about the relatively low volume of traffic on the Scilly Isles even though she has seen a marked increase over the past 16 years. Now, with a vehicle passing by, on average, once every thirty seconds it must appear totally grid-locked to the residents. (*It won't be the same vehicle circulating all the time, will it?*)

In a similar way I have noticed a vast increase in the traffic on the island of Jersey where my wife and I have been holidaying, on and off, for the past 30 plus years. Despite the undeniable congestion and parking problems you can experience in the main town of St Helier, we still find it so much more relaxing to get around by car than on the mainland.

I think this can be put down to an overall high level of courtesy and consideration given by all road users to their fellow travelers. Courtesy and consideration are qualities we as IAM members should always be trying to display but over there we were very pleasantly surprised by the number of occasions we were the recipients.

At one particularly busy junction on the island where three roads meet the local rule is "filter in turn". There is nobody there to police this code of practice because it is recognized that it works to everyone's advantage. Over here, the 50cc twist-and-go scooters are often seen as a scourge to safety and courtesy but we, as pedestrians, were given the honour of free passage across a road when it could have been much quicker for the rider to buzz past without a second look. Similarly, whilst out on our bicycles we were often invited to exit a side road or cross from one minor road to another. These frequent acts of courtesy, initially, took us by surprise but always put a smile on our faces as we waved our thanks.

I'm sure another factor in the equation is the fact that you can not go very far, or very quickly, so there is not the same need to rush. Perhaps we should leave ourselves more time for journeys over here and, so, take more opportunity to be courteous.

However, rather like the Isle of Man, the islanders do enjoy speed when they put on their annual Festival of Motoring. This happens every June and attracts some very attractive motors from the mainland like Healy 3000's, Jaguar XK's, Daimler Dart, etc, etc. They compete in sprints and hill climbs at various locations and attract a lot of interest.

I would recommend a visit just to enjoy driving without being pressured. But the island has a lot going for it apart from that! Or am I just not impartial enough?

(Editor)



Poultry in Motion!

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