

Sefton Advanced Motorists

Issue: 283

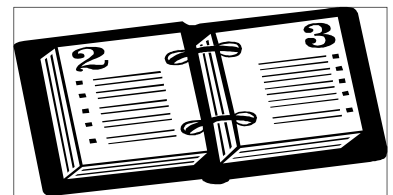
Registered Charity No. 517780

April 2008

Inside this issue:

From The Chair	Page 2
Welcome and Congratulations.....	Page 2
Notice of Annual General Meeting	Page 3
Minutes of 24th AGM, held 19th May 2008	Pages 4 - 6
Your Group Needs YOU!	Back Cover.

Forthcoming Attractions



Monday, 21st April; tonight PC Rachael Fiddler is coming along to talk about **Police Driver Experiences - Road Death Investigation and Motorway Patrol.**

Monday, 12th May; encourage your friends and relations to come along to the **New Associates Meeting** and enrol for the May course. Learn a "Skill for Life".

Monday, 19th May; **Annual General Meeting of Sefton Advanced Motorists.**

Monday, 16th June; tonight Mervyn Thomas of the HSE will speak on **Level Crossing Safety.**

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



Our April meeting at the Royal Clifton will be held in the Balmoral Suite. Plenty of space then to hear our speak Rachel Fidler. Rachel is a class 1 police driver who has recently joined the Institute and our Group. She also lives locally in Hightown. We welcome her to the Group.

I am pleased to report that our main examiner, Terry Martin, is back in action again after a spell in hospital.

My thanks go to Tom O'Malley for taking over the editing and production of the Newsletter this month. Gil is away in New Zealand celebrating a "big" birthday. We hope to hear about his travels in the next edition. He was hoping to meet up with Mark Revill Johnson, a senior observer in the Group some while back.

Stella Owen (Chair)
Sefton Advanced Motorists

New Associates

Sefton Motor Cycle Section would like to welcome



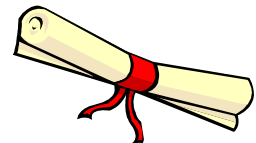
Phil Lang	-	Formby	Matthew Hall	-	Burscough
Chris Turner	-	Burscough	Ian Long	-	Formby
Mark Dean	-	Ormskirk	Dave Hender	-	Southport

All of which are currently taking the Skill for Life Course being run each week over an 8 week period.

We wish them well.

Test Passes

Hearty congratulations go to ***Daniel Cavanagh Maddock*** observed by Tim Starkey.



More Pass Certificates awarded.

Paul Looker

Ian Duff



Mike Brown Observer.



Observer Phil Kelly.

SEFTON ADVANCED MOTORISTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Sefton Advanced Motorists will be held at the Royal Clifton Hotel, Southport on Monday 19th May 2008 at 8pm to enable the Trustees of the Group (Registered charity no. 517780) to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008 for approval by its members. All members, Associates and friends are cordially invited to attend. Only fully paid up Members of the Institute of Advanced Motorists and Sefton Group may vote.

By order of the Group Council: Jan West, Hon Secretary

All Council Officers retire annually: present Officers are:

Chair: Stella Owen: not seeking re- election as Chair

Vice- Chairman: Tim Starkey, seeking election as Chairman

Secretary: Jan West, seeking re-election as Secretary

Treasurer: Paulette Haigh, seeking re-election as Treasurer

Council Member retiring by rotation and seeking re-election: Stella Owen and Tom O'Malley

Council Member retiring by rotation and not seeking re-election: Jackie Crompton

Council Members not due for re-election, still to serve: Alan Filson, Stewart Gaukroger, David Paton, David Roscoe, Gil Taylor and Ray Woods.

Nominations are invited for Council vacancies. Nominees must agree to serve if elected. Only FULLY Paid up Members of the Institute and Group may be nominated. Nominees must be proposed and seconded by FULLY paid up Members of the Institute and Group, in writing to the secretary. All Council members are Charity Trustees in law and must not be barred from holding such position. Nominations should reach the Secretary at least 14 days before the A.G.M. Proxy votes (but not postal votes) are allowed. Nomination forms can be obtained from the Secretary.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. MINUTES OF THE 23rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
3. MATTERS ARISING
4. ANNUAL REPORT: Chair
5. ACCOUNTS: Treasurers Report. Accounts to be approved by Full Members.
6. MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Subscriptions; Gift Aid.
7. MOTORCYCLE SECTION REPORT
8. ASSOCIATE SCHEME REPORT
9. OBSERVER TRAINING TEAM REPORT
10. ELECTION OF GROUP COUNCIL MEMBERS
11. ELECTION OF GROUP COUNCIL OFFICERS
12. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT CHECKER (of accounts)
13. SPEAKER: Pauline Smith (Regional Organiser)
14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. Members are requested to inform the Secretary, in advance, of any matters they wish to raise.

MINUTES OF THE 23rd A.G.M. OF SEFTON GROUP, I.A.M. on 21st May 2007

PRESENT : 28 Members, Associates and friends, including Bob Rowles (DCM), Ron Clare (president), Audrey Clare and Ian Marginson (M/C Coordinator). The chairman (Alan Filson) welcomed everyone.

Paul Walsh was presented with his certificate.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE : Received from Paulette Haigh, Dave Roscoe, Ray Carr and Phil Kelly.

MINUTES OF THE LAST A.G.M.: Proposed by Dave Paton and seconded by Malcolm Towler were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING: A member suggested that the Group Council consider a mail shot of members who did not gift aid.

ANNUAL REPORT: (Chairman)

Alan Filson reported that once again Sefton Group had had a successful and busy year. The highlight of the year had been being awarded a group achievement award at the recent region 5 annual meeting, for work over the last couple of years. Thanks were expressed to Bob Rowles who must have had an influence.

Monthly meetings at the Royal Clifton Hotel averaged an attendance of 37, with an excellent range of speakers. The Royal Clifton was also used for Observer meetings and training meetings for associates. Our sixth Xmas dinner at the Bold Hotel was again a great success.

There had been 11 council meetings throughout the year with an average attendance of 10. Council members attended many meetings on the Group's behalf in places such as Birmingham, Birchfield and Chorley.

Special thanks were given to Jan West who completed her fifth year as Secretary. Thanks were expressed to all the members of the training scheme and Observers. Their work to ensure our standard of training was second to none and was appreciated by all the members of Sefton Group. Vice chair, Stella, had been a mountain of strength. Mention was also made of Paulette Haigh who has as well as being Treasurer has managed yet again to deliver an outstanding year of guest speakers. Dave Paton deserved special thanks as he had evolved into the membership secretary's role and was now doing a fantastic job.

During the last year we had said goodbye to a three council members. Frank Bennett and Ann Thomas were present and received a presentation. During the year we welcomed Tom O'Malley and Dave Roscoe to the Council and at the AGM we welcomed Richard and Stewart. Whilst it was sad to see people leave it was at seen as vital to refresh and rethink ideas at council level.

All members of the Group Council had provided an endless amount of time and hard work to ensure the year was as good as it was. Due to their assistance Alan enjoyed his time as Chairman.

The year ahead looked very promising with the training scheme under the guidance of Dave going from strength to strength. A couple of days had been booked with the M.D.U. for the Woodvale Rally.

Alan said that it had been a privilege to serve as Chairman and was in no doubt that Stella would enjoy the next year as Chair.

ACCOUNTS: Paulette Haigh

The accounts were discussed in Paulette's absence and accepted. Proposer - Gil Taylor Seconder - Ron Clare.

MEMBERSHIP: Dave Paton

Total Membership was 197 made up as follows :- Car Associate 20 Car Members 130 Dual Members 6 Group Friends 8 Honorary Member 3 Motorcycle Associate 18 Motorcycle Members 12. This was six up on last year. 42 names had been deleted for various reasons during the year. Some reasons for deletions were, people moving, Associates failing and not wishing to retake the test,

some associates left before taking their test and some people did not renew. 104 members gift aid, 23 new from last year. Whilst it was only an increase of 4 the difference was because of deletions. Once again after a steady start, renewal of membership had slowed up dramatically. 53 people had yet to renew.

MOTORCYCLES: Alan Filson

It had been a busy social year including a trip to Scotland, barbecues and the T.T. Short term course had started with ten Associates. The plan was for three short term courses per year.

CAR ASSOCIATES: Stella Owen

The Group had had a successful year. The pass rate was 95% (including second attempts). Since the last AGM 18 had passed, including 2 on a second attempt. 4 associates had dropped out of the course before trying the test. Reasons included, other commitments / new priorities and recognition that the standard would not be reached. We had several different examiners during the year, which had presented challenges. There were 22 Associates, some had just started the new course but most were waiting for a test date or working for their test or retest.

ASSOCIATES SECRETARY: Ray Woods

1/3rd of our associates lived from Formby. The other main areas were the centre of Southport, Waterloo/Crosby. 1/3rd of new associates joined because of word of mouth, some due to local papers, two joined from the internet and one from Woodvale. The rest of the people from Woodvale were for other groups in the country. We were there to promote the I.A.M. not just to increase our membership.

OBSERVER TRAINING : Dave Paton

The Training Team had been strengthened by the addition of two Senior Observers, Richard Hardie and Jon Taylor, and one Qualified Observer, Tom O'Malley. They took the place of two former members of the Team, Ian DeLooze and Ann Thomas, who had retired. Dave thanked them both for their much appreciated contribution to training over the years.

The Team had met 4 times during the year. Its main function was the training of Qualified Observers. There had been an ever-increasing demand for Observers' services and experience, especially in January of 2007 when the number of new Associates joined exceeded the number of available Observers. Some Observers agreed to take 2 Associates.

Observer training had been greatly enhanced by the National Observer Training Scheme, or NOTS, which aimed to co-ordinate and standardise training of Observers within Groups. The Training Team carried out a trial in accordance with NOTS requirements, and a report was sent to the IAM. The training method which we had used in Sefton for the last 3 years conformed well to NOTS, and very little change was necessary. There were 3 potential Observers undergoing training, and a list of other people who had volunteered and had agreed to take the course later in the year.

The Team continued to carry out new Associates briefing in January, May and September and had also carried out 3 mid-course sessions with Associates and their Observers. The one held in February was the best attended and most successful. The input and discussion from those present was very valuable. Plans and dates for similar meetings for the rest of 2007 and into 2008 are in place.

The qualification, and required re-qualification of Senior and Qualified Observers had been strictly monitored by the Team throughout the year, and took place with only a few exceptions, mainly due to business commitments away from the area. Importance was being given by the Team to improve communication with Observers, and a letter from the Training Team, and signed by Dave had recently been sent to all Observers, thanking them and explaining their important role in helping Associates achieve advanced driver status.

Senior Observers in the Team had continued to carry out Check Runs with Associates when required, and had also carried out IAM Drive Checks, with applications received through IAM Head Office.

ELECTION OF GROUP COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Nominations for Chair - Stella Owen, Vice Chairman - Tim Starkey, Secretary - Jan West, Treasurer - Paulette Haigh. There being only one nomination for each Office all were elected to Office. Stella Owen took the Chair at this point.

ELECTION OF GROUP COUNCIL MEMBERS:

As there were fewer nominations than places vacant, all were elected. These were proposed by Frank Bennett and seconded by Alan Filson.

INCOMING CHAIR'S COMMENTS: Stella Owen

Stella stated that she was pleased to take the Chair of such a successful group. This was indeed the second time that she had been Chair of Sefton Group having had the privilege of being the first Chair of the Sefton Group in 1984 when Sefton split from the Merseyside Group due to its large geographical area and growing numbers. As a founder member she shared this status with Ron (president), Alan, Jan and David Paton who were still Council members.

She thanked past Chairman Alan Filson. He had made the job of vice-chair very easy as she only had to chair one council meeting and one meeting at the Royal Clifton during the year. Alan had, as usual been very active in the Group. In addition to being Chair, he had, until recently been membership secretary of the motorcycle section. Also, he was our representative at regional level: Region 5 North holding the position of secretary.

APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

The accounts require checking not auditing. Malcolm had attended the last council meeting to present and discuss the accounts. Acceptance was proposed by Dave Paton and seconded by Ray Woods. Stella thanked Malcolm for his work and his agreement to continue as our independent examiner.

SPEAKER Bob Rowles (DCM)

Bob congratulated Stella for being a 'born again' Chair and he thanked Alan for inviting him. DCM looks after local groups. The opportunity for the job of DCM had come up 6 months before he was due to retire. He was elected and proposed by his group. He was interviewed by the National Group's Chairman and Christopher Bullock. In November 2006 he took over from Mike Lyne spending most of his time driving round the North of England and North Wales. His patch was from the Scottish border down to Derbyshire and along the Welsh border. Two Regional Co-ordinators and two motorcycle Co-ordinators assisted him. He lives in Yorkshire. He stated that we needed more IAM members as the bigger the organization the more benefits would be available e.g. insurance. Malcolm Towler asked about the Max Power magazine. He also asked if members were getting value from Nigel Mansell? Bob replied that he was keen and promoted the I.A.M. wherever he went. Bob would find out whether he had an I.A.M. badge on his Racing car!

Stella thanked Bob for coming and looked forward to his help throughout the year.

A.O.B:

The secretary read out a recent Head Office memorandum re a phone survey and hidden road signs and left information for members to take away.

Alan read out information on quad biking.

Peter Comfort had organized a trip to a car factory and had a space if anyone would like to go.

There being no other business the Chair thanked everyone for attending, mentioned the next month's meeting and speaker, wished everyone a safe journey home and closed the meeting.

NOTICEBOARD

Accucolour Printing

Northern Buildings
141 Shakespeare Street
Southport
PR8 5AN

All Colour Printing
Business Cards
Duplicate/Triplicate Forms
Colour Laser Photocopying
Computer Printers & Inks
Graphic Design & Print Management

Mr Nolan

01704 547222
E-mail: nipd.ltd@tiscali.co.uk

JMT Training^{.co.uk} You're Will, My Determination

JMT TRAINING

Injury rehabilitation

Personal Training

Cycle Coaching

Chair based exercise

**10% discount on
production of this advert**

JON TAYLOR

**T: +44(0)7746127683
E: jon@jmttraining.co.uk**

Your Group Needs YOU!

Can you spare a half day to man Sefton Group's recruitment stand at Southport Plant, Food & Country Fair, on either the 12th or 13th of April. The event is new for this year at Stanley Sports College, Fleetwood Road, Southport PR9 9TF.

The IAM are supplying a Mobile Display Unit and we hope to drum up interest in the same way we do at the Woodvale Rally.

Help spread the word on Advanced driving and what our group is all about to the public.

Call Tom O'Malley on **01704 228715** or email on tom_om@tiscali.co.uk

Would you like to receive this newsletter by email in full colour each month? Get the newsletter early, save the group postage and save some trees. Email samnews@tiscali.co.uk

Disclaimer

The Editor and the Group Council wish to make it clear, that the views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter, are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Group or the Institute.

Data Protection Act 1984

Sefton Group will hold details of members and associates names and addresses on computer and paper files, in order to assist with administration. If you do not wish your details to be held, please make your objection known to the Membership Secretary.