



Winter Newsletter 2018

Up to Speed – Committee News



I am very pleased to report that as a result of a very successful, AGM, we now foresee a much more sustainable future for our Group because we now have 4 additional members to help with Committee matters. The Aberdeen Group's Committee now comprises:

- Joff Christie was elected as Chairman, having previously been 3 years as Treasurer.
- Loren Kelly was re-elected as Group Secretary for a 3rd term.
- Ken London was elected as Treasurer but additionally officially takes on the responsibility for the Newsletter and administration of the Website.
- Neil Warden, stood down as Chairman, having been in the role for many years on 3 separate occasions but was elected as an additional Office Committee member responsible for Observer Liaison but may stand in as Vice Chair, if needed.
- Kenny Hair was re-elected to the Committee as a non-office member with responsibility for driving and riding social events.
- Douglas London was elected as a non-office member.
- Chris Noble was elected as a non-office member with responsibility for Associate Liaison.
- Gary Macalister was elected as a non-office member.

With our enlarged committee, and strength of our Observer team, I feel confident that we will be much better placed to meet our performance targets and keep growing our Group. Our strong Observer team continues to manage Associates in a timely manner so that we can all look forward to a productive and stress free 2019, hopefully.

Finally, I would like to wish all of the Aberdeen Advanced Motorist and Motorcyclist community my best wishes for Christmas and the holiday period to the New Year as well as hoping you all have a prosperous 2019.

Joff Christie

Chairman

Up to Speed – AGM News

Wow, we're on the up. With 4 new members adding to the Committee and a high degree of participation at the AGM, it gives me great pleasure to summarise what was discussed by the 11 members and 2 guest attendees.



After election of the Committee, Joff, our new Chairman thanked Neil for his long service as Chairman and presented him with a bottle of fine "Scottish wine" from the Oldmeldrum distillery.

We were also joined by 2 members of COTAG, the Community Off-road Transport Action Group because we wanted to pick their brains on retaining members. It seems that COTAG have been very successful keeping their members, who provide 4 x 4 vehicle response to



the emergency services or other authorities for gaining access to remote regions. Les Forbes (COTAG Chairman) and Stuart Taylor gave some useful pointers for creating a

unique social event rather than just making visits that are no different to what the general public could do. The Committee will explore this aspect further next year.

Another matter for the Committee to address is how we manage Associates' Run sheets because all personal data must comply with GDPR going forward. More about how we will do this in our Spring 2019 Newsletter.

Finally, I would just like to add my festive greetings to all our members for Christmas and the New Year.

Loren Kelly

Group Secretary

Membership Matters – Diary

The Christmas social event has now been booked at **Cosmo in Union Square** for **18:30** on **18th December**.

It's not often we all get together so we'd be delighted if you could join us with your partners. Cost is a very reasonable £16 per person plus drinks.

To book your places, **please RSVP** Loren Kelly by emailing her at:

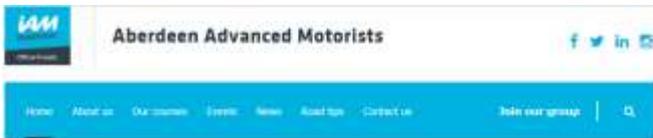
info@aberdennadvancedmotorists.org by 11th Dec latest.

AberdeeninAction - Website



I am pleased to report that our website, as one part of the local groups on the IAM RoadSmart website, is now up to date with our Group's current events as well as featuring a host of suggested outings and road safety articles.

The home page will now feature different views of Aberdeen (rather than an image of a motorway), a list of our future events and suggested visits in our "Oot an' Aboot" series, which I'm hoping will entice other IAM members to our beautiful region as well as giving suggestions to our own members for family days out.



Under the "About us" tab, viewers can see and learn a little bit of background about each member of the Committee and our team of Observers. In "News" you will find all our new Newsletters and features about safer driving, particularly relevant to our Aberdeen region.

Note that PDF copies of the 2018 newsletters and all future newsletters from spring 2019 will only be published to the website under this "News" tab. We will continue to let you know by email that a new edition of the newsletter has been published there, though.

I hope you enjoy exploring our site and you like the content changes but I would appreciate your feedback about any aspect or things that you would like to be included. Feel free to contact me via my email:

kenneth.london56@yahoo.co.uk

Ken London Newsletter & Website Editor



AberdeeninAction – Successes

The following Aberdeen folk successfully graduated from Associate to Member by passing their Advanced Driver (C) or Rider (B) Test in 2018. Congratulations to:

- | | | |
|-----------|--------------------------|-----|
| January: | Ken London | (C) |
| February: | Christian Franklin | (C) |
| | Douglas London | (C) |
| March: | John Goldsworthy | (C) |
| April: | David Marschall | (C) |
| May: | Brenda Armstrong-Haines | (C) |
| June: | Graham Orr | (B) |
| | Kevin Leiper | (C) |
| August: | Rachael Armstrong Haines | (C) |
| | Raymond Lawson | (B) |
| October: | Kirstie Murray | (B) |
| | John Mcadoo | (B) |
| | Tony Ash | (B) |
| | Brian Innes | (B) |
| | Dala Walker | (B) |
| November | Charley Nichol | (C) |

Congratulations also to 4 of our Observers who successfully passed the IMI National Observer qualification this year: Neil Warden (C), Chris Noble (B), Karen Kirkwood (C) and Loren Kelly (C).

Neil Warden and Gary Macalister were also appointed as a Local Observer Assessors by IAM.

Noble Causes

Chris Noble, passed his National Observer qualification in September having passed the IAM Advanced Motorcyclist test just over 1 year ago. He adds to our group of enthusiastic volunteers and when we asked "Why do observing?" he is very positive:

"The thing I love about this," Chris says, *"we are helping people from all walks of life who share the same desire to improve their knowledge and ability to ride a motorbike safely."*



Chris is a veteran of the Royal Airforce Regiment (Rockapes) and divides his time not only by helping Aberdeen motorcyclists but with being an active supporter of the British Legion Riders Branch, which takes him on fundraising events all over the UK.

This included attending the *Ride to the Wall* event at the National Memorial Arboretum at Tamworth with some 9000 bikes and 15,000 other people to pay respects to service men and women who have fallen and to raise money for the charity.

Chris, for your dedication to the British Legion and IAM RoadSmart causes, we salute you.