



RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders North Wiltshire Group

www.northwiltroadar.co.uk



Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

Newsletter

August 2010

Secretary:

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Dates for Your Diary

Monthly meetings are all held at
Liddington Village Hall opposite
the church.

Sunday 12th September
Emergency Services Show

Monday 13th September
Meeting: Julie Garbutt, British Horse
Society

Monday 27th September
Tutorial evening on the subject of
Observation for both bike riders and
car drivers

Monday 11th October
AGM. Dave Hooper will also be
speaking

Monday 8th November
Meeting: Speaker TBA

Monday 13th December
Meeting: Chris Ellis, RoSPA Car
Examiner

**Do you have a Topic you would
like discussed, or know of an
interesting speaker? Please
contact Monica!**

The Nights are Drawing in...

September is back to school month, heralding an increase in the traffic on our roads again, and increased risk to children travelling to and from school on foot. No better time to practice observation skills and forward planning. So we encourage everyone to come along to the first Technical Evening on September 27th at Liddington, where Observation will be the theme. We hope this will be the first of many, and that as many of you as possible will give your support. We will be evaluating the success of this evening, and canvassing opinion, to help us decide whether to make these presentations a regular feature of our meetings. Please do come along, and if you can't make it, but would like to express an opinion, please email me at chairman@northwiltroadar.co.uk. It's your group, and we aim to provide what our members want.

All is not doom and darkness however, because on Sunday the 12th of September we'll be attending the Emergency Services show at Hullavington airfield. This is a good day out for all the family, so why not come along. If you can spare some time to help out at the same time, talking to interested members of the public, about why you are a member of an advanced riding and driving organisation, that would be much appreciated. If you can help, please email Monica at secretary@northwiltroadar.co.uk.

Meanwhile, enjoy your summer driving and riding, have fun, and arrive safely!

Nick



Forthcoming Meetings

Monday 13th September, 7.15pm for 7.45pm: Julie Garbutt from the British Horse Society will be speaking about Horse Riders and the road. This promises to be an interesting talk so remember to come along!

Monday 11th October, 7.15pm for 7.45pm: Annual General Meeting. This is your chance to have your say on the running of the group so please make sure you attend. The business section of the meeting will be followed by a talk from Dave Hooper, a bike member, who will be speaking about his recent trip circumnavigating South Africa.

Monday 8th November, 7.15pm for 7.45pm: Speaker TBA

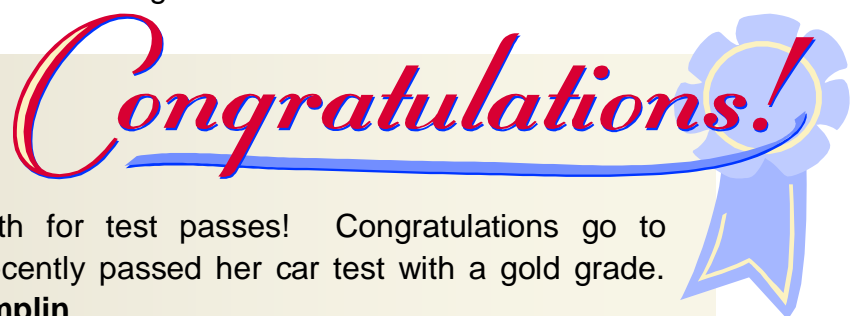
Monday 13th December, 7.15pm for 7.45pm: Chris Ellis, a RoSPA Car Examiner will be our speaker. This talk is likely to be of interest to all our members (both car drivers and bikers), particularly Associate members and those approaching their re-tests. Make sure you come along!

Events

Sunday 12th September: Emergency Services Show: We will be attending this show again this year following the success we had when we went last year. This promises to be a great day. **Please come along and help support us.** Contact Monica if you can help.

Monday 27th September: Tutorial Evening: This will be an evening presentation held at Liddington Village Hall. The theme will be Observation and the idea is to inform and generate healthy discussion. **This evening has been organised by the bike section but it is open to both bikers and car drivers – it will be of interest to all!** Tutors will be present to answer any questions.

Bike Ride-outs: Regular Bike Ride-outs take place on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Check the Motorcycle Discussion section on the Web Site Forum for more details.



It's been a good month for test passes! Congratulations go to **Elizabeth Owen** who recently passed her car test with a gold grade. Her tutor was **Roger Tamplin**.

Congratulations also to **Paul Clifton** and **Doug Clifton** who both passed their car tests recently. Paul attained a Silver grade whilst Doug attained a bronze. Both were tutored by **Peter Emmerson**.

Last but not least, **Julian Burton** recently passed his car re-test with a Silver grade. Well done Julian!

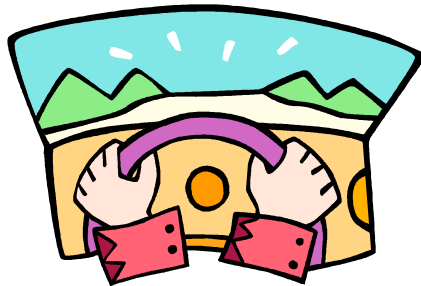
Welcome!

Welcome to the following new members who have joined the group recently:

Geraldine Banks (bike)

Ian Hart (car)

Robert Mulhall (bike)



The article by Monica in last month's newsletter was very interesting and appropriate regarding the amount of deer that we can encounter within our countryside. It was apparent that the vision scans carried out by Monica were to great advantage.

Don't forget though that the sign of a deer is a warning sign for all wild animals, so it is wise to expect anything from deer, badgers, pheasants, foxes (especially at dusk), ducks and ducklings, in fact almost anything. Remember your driving plan enables you to plan for "what can be seen, what cannot be seen and what might reasonably be expected to happen". Look for the "zones of visibility", unfenced fields, farm gateways, gaps in hedgerows and views through and over them, views across fields. Around the next bend there could be an animal, alive or dead in the road.

My experience was in a rural setting, approaching midnight and negotiating a bend. As I approached and negotiated the bend I noticed a white spot in front of me.....it was in fact a large black cow with a white spot either side of its rump, just trundling along the road in the darkness, quite unconcerned. Planning for that and driving generally within the scope of my headlights, I was able to take the appropriate course of action. We managed to coax the animal into a field but where it came from we do not know to this day.

Another experience was when I actually stopped for a duck and ducklings to cross during daylight hours. I put my hazard warning lights on and waited, I had a vehicle

behind so I tried to wave it down, but it still tried to overtake me as the duck and ducklings walked from in front of my car to in front of his. He did stop.....just....he did apologise. He had an “Advanced Driver” sticker in his rear window. Obviously he had not been re-tested for a while!

Like Monica implied be careful out there, don't forget, think about what **could** happen, “Alternative Courses” and “Escape Routes”.

Most of all.....100% Concentration

Any fool can drive fast...it is knowing when to go slow that matters!

Chris Glead (MAIRSO)
Advanced Tutor-North Wilts Group



Merchandise

Remember that we stock a selection of merchandise that is available to purchase through the group at discounted prices. Contact Monica if you would like to make a purchase.



*Don't forget... we are always looking for more articles, ideas and news for the newsletter. If you have anything to include please send your contribution to Monica.
Thanks!*