



## RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders North Wiltshire Group

[www.northwiltroadar.co.uk](http://www.northwiltroadar.co.uk)



Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

**November 2009**

# Newsletter

### Secretary:

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### Dates for Your Diary

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

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November,  
10am – 4pm**

Road Safety Day, Corsham  
Martingale Centre

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December,  
7.15pm for 7.45pm**

Meeting: Wiltshire Ambulance

**Friday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010  
Christmas Meal**

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February,  
7.15pm for 7.45pm**

Meeting: John Brown, author of  
"Driving is more about Psychology  
than Systems".

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March,  
7.15pm for 7.45pm**

Meeting: Julie Garbutt from the  
British Horse Society.

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



# Welcome!

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

**Mike Ainsworth (bike)**

**Richard Bolter (car)**

**Gary Fossey (car)**

**Darren Newbury (car)**



## Forthcoming Meetings

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 7.15pm for 7.45pm:**

A representative from Wiltshire Ambulance will be speaking. More details to follow.

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010, 7.15pm for 7.45pm:**

John Brown, author of "Driving is more about Psychology than Systems" will be speaking.

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2010, 7.15pm for 7.45pm:**

Julie Garbutt from the British Horse Society will be giving a talk.

### First Aid anyone?

We have a few members who would be interested in attending a First Aid course. However, at the moment we do not have sufficient numbers to run a course, and the last time we tried to organise one it had to be cancelled due to a lack of interest. Would you be interested? Or do you know others that would like to join us? The likely cost would be around £60 each. Let Monica know if you are interested.



## Events

**Saturday 28th November, 10am – 4pm: Road Safety Day, Corsham Martingale Shopping Centre.** There is a Road Safety Day in Corsham on the 28<sup>th</sup> November and we have been invited to attend. Please contact Monica if you are able to come along and help promote the group.



**Friday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010: Christmas/New Year Meal.**

The North Wilts RoADAR annual Christmas/New Year meal will take place during the evening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> January at the Village Inn in Liddington. The Menu is at the end of this newsletter. To reserve your place send your cheque made payable to RoADAR North Wilts Group to Monica, including your Menu choices please. This is very popular and numbers are limited so book quickly! Husbands/wives, partners and friends are all welcome. **Payment and menu choices must be received by the 5<sup>th</sup> January as we need to confirm numbers with the Village Inn.**



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

**November Meeting Report:**  
**Stephen Haley,**  
**Author of “Mind Driving”**



Having taught his children to drive Stephen Haley realised that the skills they had developed as new drivers were very different to those he held as an experienced driver. This triggered an investigation which culminated in “Mind Driving” and a passion for repositioning the approach to teaching people to drive in order that they begin solo driving from a different base point than test passers do now.

Stephen retired from a large multinational in 2004 after a career which covered many interesting and varied business areas. A common feature of Stephen’s job roles were the need to be able to approach problems, break them down into component parts and analyse the cause and effect. Stephen approached driving in this methodical manner.

Stephen embarked on the project in 1998 by researching information and came up with a set of components that comprise the driving skill. The vast majority of these components were mental, i.e. knowledge and thinking. The resulting physical activity that controls the car is just a small part of the process. This result conflicted with the DSA approach to the driving test which has a strong emphasis on physical control.

In 2004 Stephen walked these ideas around various motoring organisations and got a very positive response. He was then encouraged to publish his work, but this stalled the project!

Question - How do you write a book? – Stephen is not an author.

Answer – go on a writing course – simple?

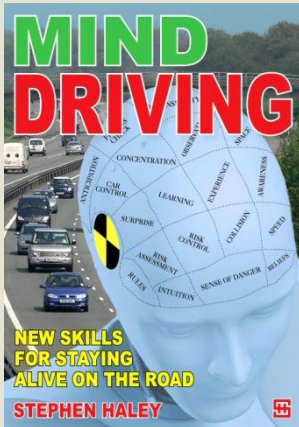
Not so – 80% of the course was about the publishing process not the writing process. Doh! So Stephen published his work on-line using the internet, aided by his son. Once the Driving Instructors Association (DIA) had seen his internet content they assisted Stephen to get the material into print. “Mind Driving” was the result.

The book is well written with loads of diagrams to illustrate the concepts and ideas.

Stephen has been working for a significant period to get the DSA to review the material, however the DSA has no mechanism to receive information of this kind and initiate a review. Stephen continues to try to influence the DSA. Evidence suggests that their initiatives over the recent past do not appear to be having any reduction on the accident rate for new drivers; in fact the trend may even be a rising rate.

Stephen gave a very interesting talk. It was thought provoking to the point that when he concluded, there was silence – everybody was clearly absorbing this very different perspective.

**Mark Sealey**



## Mind Driving

We have managed to acquire several copies of Stephen's book "Mind Driving" which are available to purchase through the group. These are available at the reduced price of £7.00 (published price £12.99). For further details visit the Merchandise page of the web site

[www.northwiltsroadar.co.uk](http://www.northwiltsroadar.co.uk)

## Bike Warning Triangles

We have recently been given the opportunity to purchase a batch of Bike Warning Triangles at a reduced price. These are designed to fit over a helmet and are normally priced at £19.90. However, if at least ten members would like to purchase one, we can sell them for just £13.80 each. A deposit of £6.00 is required in order to reserve one. Contact Monica to purchase yours.



We also have a stock of other merchandise available. For more information visit the Merchandise page of the web site

[www.northwiltsroadar.co.uk](http://www.northwiltsroadar.co.uk)

## A warning...

Motorists have been warned to be wary of a new carjacking ruse in the run-up to Christmas. Thieves are reportedly leaving notes or leaflets on the rear windows of parked cars. Drivers don't spot the piece of paper until they start the engine and look over their shoulder to manoeuvre. When they get out to retrieve the note carjackers are reportedly pouncing into the driver's seat and making off with the car.



## **Christmas/New Year Meal Menu 2010**

**Village Inn, Liddington**

**Friday January 22nd**

Soup of the day

Melon and Prawn Cocktail

Pate with Melba Toast

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Homemade Beef Bourguignon

Beef Cooked in Red Wine with Bacon, Mushrooms and Onion

Roast Lamb

With Mint Sauce

Homemade Steak and Ale Pie

Chunks of Beef Cooked with our Local Beer.

Homemade Game Keepers Chicken

Chicken Breast Cooked with Mushrooms and Onion in Red Wine

Fish Cakes

With Creamy Parsley Sauce

Homemade Wild Mushroom Goulash

Wild Mushrooms with Walnuts in Creamy Sauce.

Lasagne Verdi

Served with a Crisp Salad Garnish and Garlic Bread

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Sweet Board and Coffee

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**Three Courses £15.95**

