



## WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN

### Adrian Barlow

Since the retirement of Mike Warnock, we have been unable to find a replacement for one of his important roles which was to produce a newsletter, arranging for the writing of the contents, its production and distribution to our members. Three members, Martin Thomas, Linda Harding and Anne Harling-Bowen have now offered to produce the Newsletter for which we are extremely grateful and this is the first edition.

Our Chief Observer, Nigel Jenkins emphasises in his article the urgent need for more Observers as they are fundamental in determining the amount of coaching that we can undertake for Driver Refresher Days and for those taking the Advanced Driving Course. Both activities are critical towards achieving our key objective of improving safe driving throughout Herefordshire and I do hope all members will consider becoming an Observer.

Stella Boyd-Carpenter, our Group Contact, summarises the results of Driver Refresher Days and our programme for the remainder of this year. We ask all attendees to complete a post event questionnaire and almost all participants comment that they have found the Days invaluable and that they have become better drivers and more confident.

We have two vacancies for roles that are important for our operation, **Young Driver Ambassador** and **Technical Manager** to organise our email accounts and our website. If any member feels they could help us in either of these roles please let me or a Committee Member know.

I wish you all a happy and successful 2025 and safe driving. *Adrian Barlow*

### Remembering Iain Aird

*Iain, who very sadly died last December, was a long-standing member of HAD and an Observer who gave great support at Driver Refresher Days and other events. He will be greatly missed and we send our sympathy and condolences to his family and friends.*

## 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The next AGM will be on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 6.30 to 9.30pm, at the Kindle Centre, Hereford. We look forward to seeing you there.

## COULD YOU BE AN OBSERVER?

### YES, YOU COULD!

All our Observers are advanced drivers, just like you, but they have taken the next step into one of the most fulfilling roles available to members of the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

Every advanced driver will have trained with an Observer during their advanced driver's course and will have experienced the satisfaction of knowing they are among the best drivers on the road. Well, Observers also gain a great deal of satisfaction, not from any payment, but from seeing their Associates pass the IAM test by developing their skills, awareness and confidence.

We are an enthusiastic and dedicated team of men and women who range in age from 19-89, but unfortunately, we are a finite resource! Due to retirements and busy lifestyles, we constantly need new Observers to enable us to continue to fulfil our goal of training new Associates, educating drivers and promoting safer driving throughout Herefordshire.

You do not need any special qualifications or be of a certain age, just have a current driving licence, already be an advanced driver and have a small amount of free time available. At the end of a short training period, you receive a qualification which is recognised by the motor industry as one of the best in the UK.

So how do you get involved or find out more about this incredibly rewarding role? Simply call or email me using the details below and I will be happy to meet you, do a short demonstration of what we do, and discuss the next step over a coffee. There is absolutely no obligation and, if you decide it's not for you, we will respect your decision.

### Nigel Jenkins, Chief observer

Email: [chief-observer@advanced-drivers.org.uk](mailto:chief-observer@advanced-drivers.org.uk)

Tel: 07554 397395

### We asked our Observers what they like about their role. They said:

*"Knowing that the work I do is of real value and that it has the potential to prevent injury and death on the roads."*

*"It maintains and enhances my own advanced driving standards, and I meet some lovely people by helping them to do the same."*

## ASSOCIATE/OBSERVER RESULTS

January 2024 to date:

Observer	Associate	Result
Stella Boyd-Carpenter	Peter Strevens	Pass
	Joy Tomlin	Pass
	Daphne Head	Pass
	Lucy Smith	First
	Lesley Wilson	Pass
Geoff Cotter	Paul Harris	Pass
Peter Hodge	Caroline Grundy	Pass
	Gary Whitehead	First
Ted Hayward	Chris Paliobeis	First
Nigel Jenkins	Robert Williams	First
	Chris Targett	Pass
Megan Thompson	Anne Jones	Pass
Anne Harling-Bowen	Peter King	Pass
	Leon Manwaring	First
	Margaret Munday	First
Martin Thomas	Max Lavey	First



One of our youngest associates, Leon enrolled on his IAM Advanced Driving Course on returning home from University. He passed his driving test before entering university but did very little driving for 3 years. On leaving he felt he lacked both experience and confidence so enrolled on the Advanced Driving Course. After coaching by one of our HAD National

Observers he passed with a F1RST! He is certain his qualification helped him to achieve his long held career ambition by successfully being accepted for Officer training in the RAF. Well done Leon!

**Congratulations everyone on your achievements!**

### FEEDBACK PLEASE!

If you found this Newsletter to be of interest, we would welcome your feedback as well as ideas for items to include in future Newsletters. If your contact details have changed, please keep us up-to-date by emailing us at: [group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk](mailto:group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk)

## DRIVER REFRESHER DAYS 2025

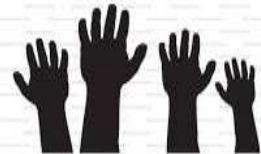
Group Contact: Stella Boyd-Carpenter

Last year we ran seven Driver Refresher Days throughout Herefordshire and helped over 100 people to update their knowledge of safer driving techniques. Attendees also went on a drive in their own car with one of our friendly qualified observers who could give help and advice. This year's Driver Refresher Days are:

15<sup>th</sup> March St Michael's Hospice, Bartestree  
5<sup>th</sup> April Weobley Village Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> May Clehonger Village Hall  
14<sup>th</sup> June Bodenham Parish Hall  
19<sup>th</sup> July Bishops Frome Village Centre  
13<sup>th</sup> September Larruperz Centre, Ross on Wye  
11<sup>th</sup> October St Michael's Hospice, Bartestree

### CAN YOU LEND US A HAND?

Driver Refresher Days take a tremendous amount of organising beforehand and on the day itself, if you would like to be involved in helping us, we would love you to join the team. It's fun and you get to meet your fellow members. We need help with:



- ✓ Publicising events
- ✓ Setting Up the Venue
- ✓ Meeting and Greeting
- ✓ Refreshments
- ✓ Event Administration

If you or anyone you know would like to attend a Driver Refresher Day, or if you can help us run one, please call Stella Boyd-Carpenter on 01432-840835 or email [group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk](mailto:group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk)

### YOUR COMMITTEE & CONTACT INFO

President Ted Willmott  
Chairman Adrian Barlow  
Group Contact Stella Boyd-Carpenter  
Chief Observer Nigel Jenkins  
Secretary Ray Papworth  
Treasurer Kieran Lappin  
Membership Secretary Chris Walden  
Technical Manager Alan Eastough  
Minute Secretary Ted Hayward  
Member Barbara Travers  
Member Anne Harling-Bowen

ALL ENQUIRIES please send to:

[group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk](mailto:group-contact@advanced-drivers.org.uk)

