



News

TVGAM

September 2023

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Letter from the Chair

Nick Room



Dear Friends

I write this and the weather is blisteringly hot – by the time you read this I reckon autumn will be well underway. It's been great to have the long evenings of summer, but the days are distinctly shortening now. What a shame. Only seven or eight months until the sun rises early....

In the run up to Christmas we have some great member's meetings for you. We've been very lucky to get a Director from the TRL in Crowthorne to talk to us in September, we've a fascinating talk about driving and coping with disabilities in October, and in November we have our fabled Christmas Quiz hosted by our very own Joe Ashworth. Please come and support these events to respect speakers and the work that goes into securing and preparing our sessions.

Thanks also to those members who suggest speakers to your committee. We kick off 2024 with a talk by the National Police Air Service, which came about directly as a result of an idea from one of our members. 2024 is starting to fill up but keep ideas flowing.

We are sorry to lose John Willis from the editorial team, and, in his absence, we thank Alex Beeston for threading this Newsletter together. Again, we are looking as we wish to strengthen our outreach. We can manage, but it would

be great to share the load – the Events Manager is a role that we would like to fill as well.

It's great to see contributions to your Newsletter from members, and this month be sure to read Derek and Tony's article about bend management. We have been active in promoting our partnerships, there's lots going on in the Observer space as well, and then, if you were lucky enough, you might have stayed dry during the British Motor Show – that seems like a long time ago now.

We said farewell to Katrina, but hello and déjà vu to Stuart Haythorn, donning the gloves of region 2 for a second bout. A familiar face will be good news to those who, like me, need a bit of continuity in these fast-changing times.

Happy motoring!

Best wishes,

Nick.

A special THANK YOU to John Willis our Editor who has produced the TVGAM Newsletter over the past year. John has stepped down from his position to follow an exciting career opportunity. Great job John, we all appreciate the work you have done.

Applications to fill this important role to comms@tvgam.org.uk please.



[Our Autumn/Winter programme](#)

(dates for your diary)

More details on our website at [tvgam.org.uk/events](https://www.tvgam.org.uk/events)



September 26th

Richard Cuerden

Director, TRL Academy



October 24th

Hadyn Jenkins

ADI Specialist Driving Consultant

" Do you need Two arms and
Two legs to drive? "



November 28th

A Quiz with a Difference...

With Joe Ashworth

[IAM RoadSmart Region ASDM 2 changes](#)



KATRINA LOWE

Sadly we said goodbye to ASDM Katrina Lowe at the end of August . Family issues dictated that Katrina had to relinquish her ASDM role. A great fan of TVGAM, she considered us as her 'go to group'. Katrina will continue with IAM as a Masters and NOA examiner.

We wish Katrina all the best together with our thanks for her excellent leadership over the past year.



STUART HAYTHORN

The loss of Katrina has been made easier by the welcome return of Stuart after a years sabbatical. A great supporter of TVGAM, Stuart was highly influential in enabling the Group to implement many of the

ideas and processes we have today.
Welcome back Stuart, we look
forward to working with you again.



A warm welcome to 9 new Members who have recently joined Thames
Valley group.

Associate Members

Gillian Jennings from Wargrave
Gareth Mellin from Reading
Jonathan Brown from Maidenhead
Deeble Tonkin from Wokingham
Nigel Ware from Ascot
Joseph Qualtrough from Reading

We wish you all every success with your Advanced Driving Course.

Full Members

We also welcome the following Full Members who have joined us:

Charley Keegan from Reading (rejoined)
James Cooper from Maidenhead
Victor Mansell from Yateley

The total number of New Members joining TVGAM in 2023 is: 21

Test Passes and Memberships by Portfolio

Many congratulations to the following associates who have recently passed their Advanced Driving Tests or become Members by Portfolio, and to their respective observers.

Associate

Jason Tisdale

Catherine Lamb *

Observer

Derek Wilson

Des Mcdermott

* IAM Membership by Portfolio

The total number of Test Passes in 2023 is: 9

TVGAM Annual Membership fees

Associates

1st year is included in your course fee.

2nd and subsequent years is £36.50* payable to TVGAM depending on Committee approval to continue your course.

Full and Fellows £12 for all members receiving newsletters and bulletins via email.

£22 only for members who depend on newsletters and bulletins by mail.

Email reminders are sent a month before your subscription becomes due.

Payment methods

Bank transfers: Lloyds Bank, Maidenhead

Sort Code 30-95-36 Account No. 07015567

Reference: Please enter your Group Member ID(e.g. nn/nnn)

Cheques should be sent to the Membership Secretary at the address on the reminder.



Membership Records

Please help keep the Group records in order by sending any changes of address, email address or contact telephone numbers to:

membership@tvgam.org.uk

Nicki Kitching
Membership Secretary



Two way Communication.

Rosemary Mayne thought that a talk by NPAS (National Police Air Service) would make an interesting topic for members.

Many thanks for a great suggestion Rosemary.

We're delighted to announce that Lucy Creed, of NPAS will be the guest speaker at our meeting on January 23rd.

We are always seeking new ideas, suggestions and the views of *all* our members, so follow Rosemary's example and get involved.

Just email comms@tvgam.org.uk



Two items of note with our TVGAM partners during our Summer recess:

IAAPS (University of Bath). Alex Beeston recently took part in an online Research study session on Road User Vulnerability being undertaken by Catherine Naughtie, a student at the Department of Psychology.

Thames Valley PCC Road Safety Strategy. Having hosted two Summit meetings to investigate ways to improve Road Safety in the Thames Valley, Police and Crime Commissioner Matt Barber's Department have produced a draft strategy for consideration by participating partners—including TVGAM.

If members have any ideas on possible partners that TVGAM might engage with, please email Nick Room on Chair@tvgam.org.uk.

British Motor Show



Three TVGAM members provided volunteer support on the IAM RoadSmart stand at the British Motor Show event held at the Farnborough Exhibition Centre in August. All agreed it was a great experience working under the guidance of IAM's Pete Doherty.

This show in particular was a great opportunity to break the stereotype views that some people may have of IAM RoadSmart and a chance to educate new audiences about who we are and what we strive for - the advancement of road safety for all users.

Chief's Observations

Des McDermott.



In this edition, Des has opted to include a contribution by National Observers Tony Browne and Derek Wilson. Our thanks to both for an interesting contribution for the benefit of all group members.



Bends are just another hazard but one that gives many drivers difficulty and is a major factor in many RTI's (Road Traffic Incidents). As many will tell you, it isn't the bend that causes the problem but the driver.

To download Tony and Derek's article in full. [click here](#)



What's New!



New Improvements from

Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA)

MOT reminders service – if you're signed up to the reminders service, when you receive your reminder that your MOT is due, you will also get a notification that you have a safety recall on your vehicle.

MOT history service – when checking your MOT history, a prompt to inform you that your vehicle has a safety recall will appear once the car registration has been entered.

Sign up for MOT reminders at: <https://ow.ly/ysiG50PAJFE>



E-Scooters

TRL and researchers at the University of Warwick are carrying out a project to establish what the future technical requirements for e-scooters should be to ensure that they are as safe as possible for riders and other road users.

Acknowledgement to Road Safety UK

Richard Cuerden, Director of TRL is speaking at our September meeting so the perfect opportunity to ask questions.

Next meeting

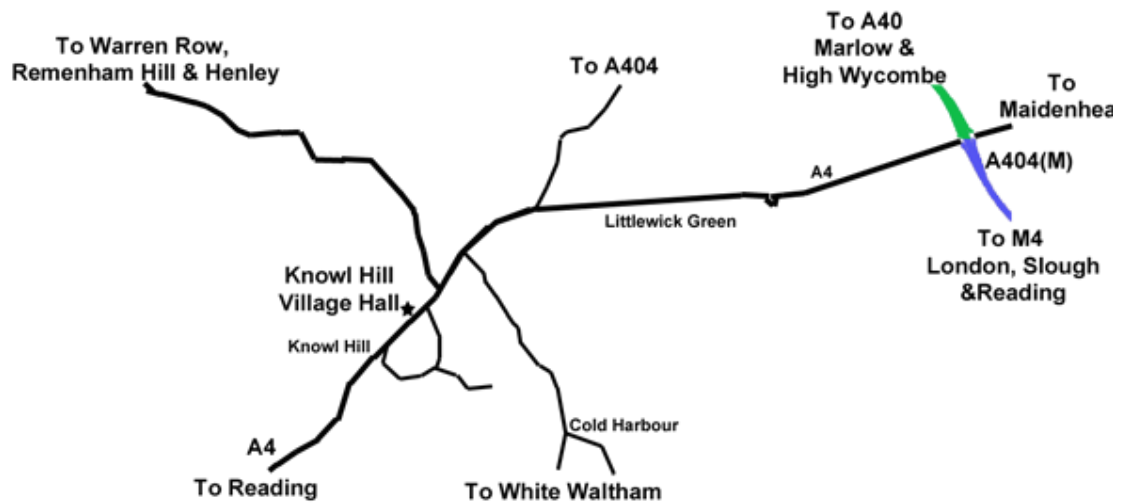
Tuesday September 26th

Richard Cuerden - TRL

For details see our website at tvgam.org.uk/events

KNOWL HILL - Village Hall RG10 9XB at 8.00 p.m.

Venue Map



ADDRESS: Knowl Hill Village Hall
Knowl Hill
Berkshire
RG10 9XB

GPS:51.508778, -0.814432



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