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TVGAM News

January 2025



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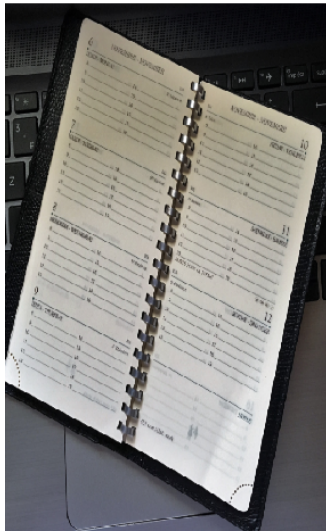
Letter from the Chair

Nick Room



- Our next meeting and in particular our guest speaker, Matthew Barber
- The conversion process to National Observers
- TVGAM performance last year
- Our longstanding vacancy for an Events Manager

To read Nick's letter in full. [Click here](#)



[Our Winter/Spring programme](#) (dates for your diary)

Meeting: Tuesday 28th January - Mathew Barber, Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner

Meeting: Tuesday 25th February - Craig Porley, Race Engineer

Spring Drive Out: Sunday 23rd March

AGM: Tuesday 29th April

More details on our website at tvgam.org.uk/events



[Chief's Observations](#)

Des McDermott.

In this months edition Des reflects on his motivation to learn to drive. To see the article please [Click here](#)



A warm welcome to 4 new Members who have recently joined the Thames Valley group.

Paul Digby from Maidenhead
Chris Melton from Henley-on-Thames

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

Full Members

Guy Dakin from Reading

The total number of New Members joining TVGAM in 2024 was : 37
The total number of New Members joining TVGAM in 2025 is : 1

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Test Passes and Memberships by Portfolio

Many congratulations to the following associates who recently passed their Advanced Driving Test, and to their respective observers.

Associate

Grace Skinner (F1RST)

Matthew Carpenter

Millie Catchpole (MBP)

Paul Strickland

Observer

Nicki Kitching

Derek Wilson

Des McDermott

Joe Ashworth

**The total number of successful associates gaining
an Advanced Test Pass or Memberships by Portfolio in 2024 was: 14**

**The total number of successful associates gaining
an Advanced Test Pass or Memberships by Portfolio in 2025 is: 2**

££ Membership fees ££

- All Members pay **both** a yearly IAM Membership subscription **and** a TVGAM one.
- If you do not pay, you cease to become a Member until payment is received.
- IAM Subscriptions can be made either by Direct Debit (it's cheaper) or by Card and both can be done via your IAM website Dashboard at www.iamroadsmart.com/renewals, or by phoning 0300 303 1134 and select option 2.

For the current TVGAM membership fees and payment methods: [Click here](#)



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



Read the [small print](#)

We often click to accept terms and conditions without reading them. These T&Cs are contracts outlining our rights and responsibilities. Would we sign them physically without checking if asked?

IAM RoadSmart have recently issued revised Terms and Conditions to simplify and clarify Members rights and responsibilities. [Click Here](#) to read them.

Video Corner

with grateful acknowledgement to [Reg Local \(Reglocal.com\)](#)

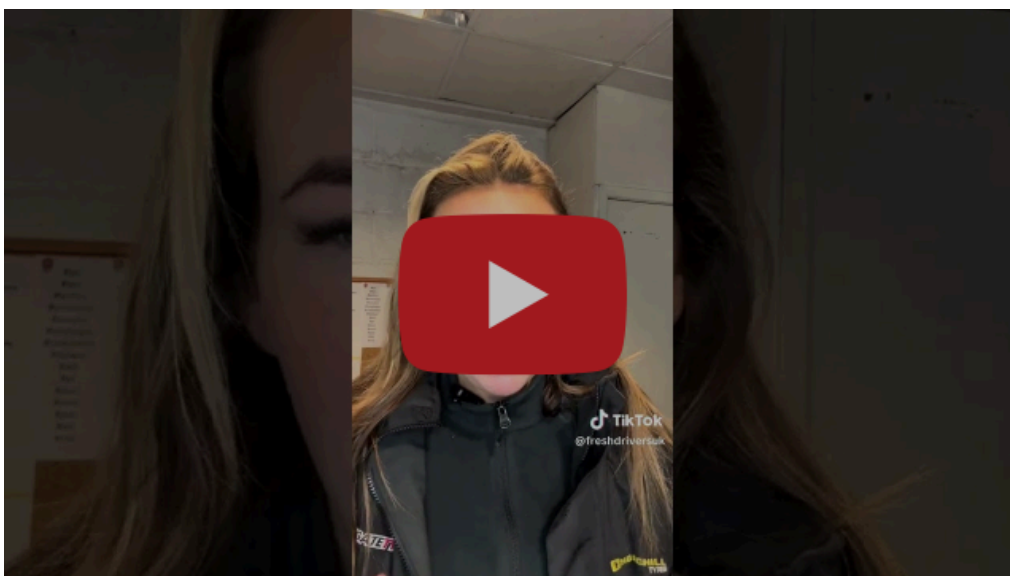


To play: Click on the right mouse button and select open link in new window.

In this video, Reg demonstrates the system of car control called IPSGA.



We're delighted to welcome a new contributor to TVGAM's video corner. **Sophie Lyden** aka '**The Tyre Lady**' is a multi-award-winning Tyre and Vehicle Safety Advocate, Depot Manager at Westgate Tyres in Morecambe, Lancs, founder of Fresh Drives UK and an IAM Ambassador.



To play: Click on the right mouse button and select open link in new window.
In this video, an introduction to Sophie.



Update!



End of the Road

Have you a plan for the day you stop driving or had a conversation with a relative or acquaintance suggesting they should no longer drive.

To read this article [Click Here](#)

Progress without restraint!



According to an RAC survey 72% of drivers view motorway speed limits as targets.

- 81% said they saw drivers 'excessively speeding'
- 58% admitted speeding.

When will they ever learn!



During a two-week trial last year in Humber, AI speed cameras caught 849 drivers breaking road rules. Deployed by Safer Roads Humber for one week each in March and June, the cameras detected various violations. They recorded 533 drivers not wearing seat belts, including two children under 14 in the front seats. Additionally, 301 motorists were using mobile phones while driving, and 13 drivers were not in proper control of their vehicles.

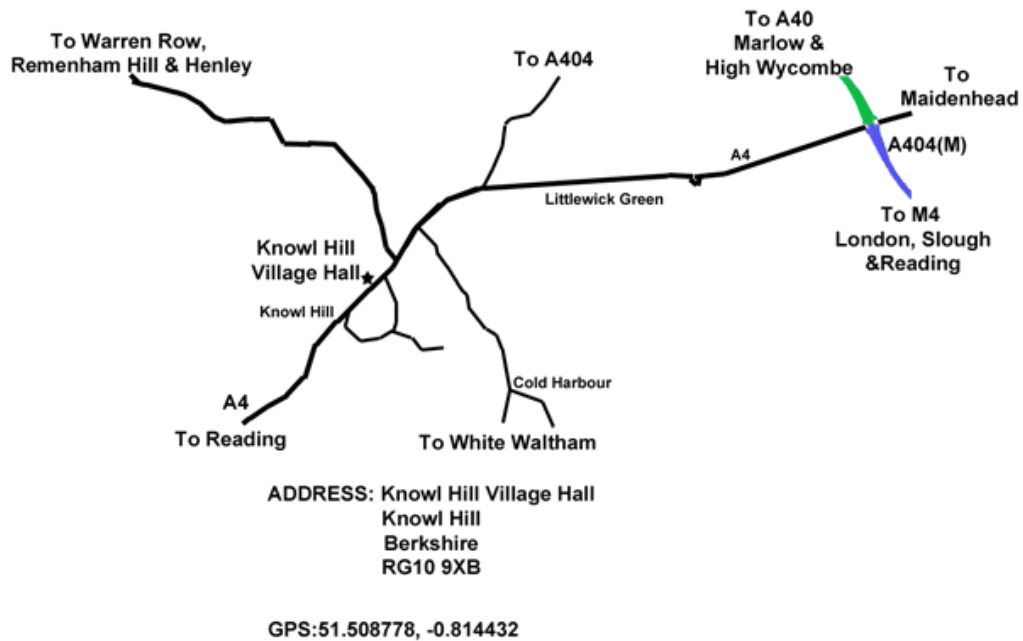
Next meeting

Tuesday 28 January, 8pm



Matthew Barber, Thames Valley Police & Crime Commissioner who will be talking predominantly about his Road Safety Strategy.

Venue Map



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