



North Down Advanced Motorists 31st Annual General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Group Rules & Constitution that the 31st Annual General Meeting of **North Down Advanced Motorists** will be held at 7.30 for 8pm at the Boathouse Groomsport Harbour on Tuesday 12 October 2021 to enable the Trustees of the Group to present their Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021 for approval by the Group Members and to conduct an election.

Acting Secretary's Name: Leslie Ashe **Date:** 22 September 2021

Address: 24 Cleland Park Central **Group number:** 8199
Bangor
BT20 3EP

David Harcourt Chairman Offering to stand for re-election

Vacant Secretary Vacant

Gareth Hughes Treasurer Gareth is encouraging nominations for Treasurer as he has been in post over 10 years and wishes to stand down.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

One third of the committee (excluding Officers) must retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election. (Group Rule 3.4)

A. RETIRING BY ROTATION AND STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

Annie McFarland, John Seawright, Leslie Ashe

B. RETIRING AND NOT STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION

None

C. COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT RETIRING

Ronnie Brown, Lisa Carson, Kyle Thomson, Ivan Greenfield, Colin Hay, Frank Robertson, Simon Beckett

NOTE

The total number of Committee Members including the Officers must not exceed twenty.

Please see the enclosed nomination paper for further detail



Registered as a charity by the Northern Ireland Charity Commission

Registration number 101616

North Down Advanced Motorists 31st Annual General Meeting

Date: Tuesday 12 October 2021

Venue: The Boathouse, Groomsport

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 30th AGM held by ZOOM on Tuesday 12 January 2021
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Annual report and Chairperson's address (David Harcourt)
5. Membership report
6. Accounts and Honorary Treasurer's report (Gareth Hughes)
7. Election of Officers and Group Committee members for 2021/2022
8. Any other business

Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting of the North Down Advanced Motorists Group (Group 8199) held virtually using ZOOM on Tuesday 12 January 2021.

Present: Leslie Ashe, Angela Bell, Ronnie Brown, Llsa Carson, Raymond Clarke, Ivan Greenfield, Becky Harcourt, David Harcourt, Colin Hay, Gareth Hughes, Stephen Massey, Paul Muir, William McAteer, Annie McFarland, Peadar Murphy, Stephen Patterson, John Seawright, Guy Thomson, Kyle Thomson.

Apologies: Maureen Cromie, Sheila Palmer, Norah Reid, Frank Robertson, Matthew Tennis

Minutes of the previous AGM held on 8 October 2019 were accepted as true and accurate. Minutes proposed by Ronnie Brown and seconded by Ivan Greenfield.

Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising

Chairman's Address (David Harcourt)

Good evening, welcome everyone to the North Down Advanced Motorists AGM. It's been a challenging year. Where do I start?

Well, looking back at the last AGM in 2019, we normally hold it in October. We got to October 2020 with not much happening and no prospect of an on-site AGM at the Boathouse, so we deferred to see if things might improve. With no significant easing in restrictions for the next several weeks, we decided to hold our AGM now, in accordance with Group Handbook rules which require the interval between successive AGMs to be no greater than 18 months. These are exceptional times and there may have been scope for an extension from HQ, but I didn't have the time or energy to pursue that, so here we are. We have not changed our reporting period, so despite the delay, this AGM addresses the period from October 2019 to September 2020, and we hope to return to the October slot in the autumn.

I normally conduct the meeting from the front of the Boathouse with Angela in the front row prompting me through the agenda, so we'll see how it goes this evening over Zoom. There is a bit of the democratic process to be tried out this evening for the first time (for us) over Zoom, and I intend to accept the outcome more graciously than the other big election which we viewed recently. That's providing I get the desired result, of course.

So, at our last AGM, the speaker was Davey Mulligan. He is very heavily involved in an organisation which rehabilitates young offenders via an off-road motorbike school. These young guys get involved in building and maintaining bikes, and competing as a team, and come to take pride in their achievements, and become less delinquent and more functional members of society. We have a very strong bike section here at North Down, accounting for approximately half our membership, and I like to think we perform a similar role.

In November we had a talk from Susan Spratt of the British Horse Society. Even the best trained horses can be dangerous and unpredictable if startled, and the majority of us have not experienced the road from the horse rider's point of view, so she was able to give

some valuable insight into how to safely share the road with other road users of all types and abilities. I think she appreciated that our advanced training promotes giving space and consideration to vulnerable road users, and offering a bit of patience when another road user is having challenges.

One of the highlights of the year is our Christmas Dinner, which was held in December at Carnalea Golf Club. It's a friends and family event to compensate (or reward) spouses for the time we give up for advanced training and group events. As ever, it was a great evening, and we had the opportunity to host a few of the examiners as a thank you for their support throughout everything we do.

Our enrolment night in January was very sparsely attended, perhaps a preview of how the year would play out. We had planned a talk on electric cars for February as these are becoming much more common on our roads and may have features and performance characteristics we're probably not familiar with. Unfortunately, this fell through due to illness and we called Guy Thomson from the reserve bench to do a meet the examiner night. In other circumstances, Guy's hints and tips would have set us up for a good year of test passes, but I think you know 2020 went downhill shortly after that.

We had a great talk in March from Valerie Millington, an older lady with an even older car, and a former member of our group. She spoke very informally about her adventures with Miss Prim, a 1928 Austin Seven in primrose yellow. No Powerpoint presentations or audio visuals, just a very engaging talk. And that was effectively the end of our group activities for 2020 as COVID restrictions took hold.

Apologies if I have miscounted, but I believe we had four car and one motorcycle pass to this point, and nothing subsequent. As the initial lockdown was eased, motorcycles were permitted to resume training for a while, but subsequently suspended again. On the car side, we had three weeks in September when observed drives were permitted, with mitigation, but stronger restrictions returned and we had to shut down again. With no real activity, no expenditure, and no decisions to be made, we skipped a couple of committee meetings, but towards the end of the year when it became apparent this GroundHog Day situation will be with us for a while yet, we began to host Zoom calls. I have appeared on many a Tuesday evening, hosting as Simon Beckett, whom I would like to thank for offering near unlimited use of his Zoom account. On a normal STAC evening, we would have tea and biscuits, and a short classroom presentation, prior to the observed runs. Obviously a Zoom call is no substitute for an in-car observed run, so we allowed the presentations to run on a bit with Q&A, and got some pretty good associate and observer participation. On a couple of occasions the conversation ran to specific examples of difficult junctions or ambiguous signage and road markings, and we were able to use Google Street View to view and discuss. I look forward to a return to in-car observing, but in the meantime we intend to plan virtual STAC and Group Nights to keep our Tuesday calendar as normal as possible under these challenging circumstances.

You will have received notification that your group membership has been extended, and that remains under review with committee. We have negligible income at the moment, keeping pace with our negligible expenditure, so as a goodwill gesture we're able to extend membership until we are able to resume training. There is an option to extend membership with HQ, but that must be done by the individual and we are not permitted to make that request for all our members. We have had a couple of enquiries during this

period, and we will have a valuable role to fulfil as the country returns to normality (whatever that is) as there is ample evidence that people very easily forget how to drive in traffic. As such, I have acknowledged the enquiries but I am not actively promoting recruitment at present as we have very limited observer capacity and a backlog of associates, so we really don't have the capacity to take on new associates.

Membership Report

Simon Beckett had to stand down as membership Secretary for family reasons. As David already reported we suspended Group subscriptions during the pandemic as there is little activity and this will be kept under review by the Committee. According to the IAM RoadSmart database NDAM currently has 96 Full and Associate members.

NDAM Treasurer's Report for the year 2019/20

The finance figures provided within this report comprise all income and expenditure between 1 October 2019 and 30 September 2020.

The Group maintains a strong end-of-year balance sheet despite the difficulties due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

		£
Opening balance (carried from September 2019)	-	1858.20
Annual Income	-	938.50
Annual Expenditure	-	1192.87
Annual Deficit	-	254.37
Closing Balance	-	1603.83
Fixed Assets	-	0.00

Income and Expenditure (I&E) – Significant Elements

Due to the on-going restrictions, the Committee decided that as there were sufficient club funds, minimal expenditure & no club activity, requests for membership renewals would be suspended until club activities resumed. There was financial activity from October 2019 until February 2020, however this stopped by the time the March 2020 Bank Statement was issued.

Clubhouse rental invoices were received after this date, with the proviso that payment was not required for the foreseeable future, until pandemic restrictions were lifted.

Subsequently, payment has been requested, however this did not happen until October 2020, after the 2019/20 annual accounts were closed in September 2020. These costs will be recorded in the 2021 report.

Catering expenses encompass Tuesday night tea/coffee, Committee meeting & AGM catering all encountered prior to lockdown.

The Group Lap-top, I-Pad, Light-Pro & 1-way radios were purchased in 2015. All 4 assets have completed their straight line depreciation over 5 years and now have entirely spent value, but they and other group assets remain usable.

I now ask for a proposer and a seconder for these annual accounts

Gareth Hughes, Treasurer for North Down Advanced Motorists Group (8199)
Date 12/01/2021

Proposed: Kyle Thomson **Seconded:** Leslie Ashe

Election of Officers and Committee Members 202/21

All positions were declared vacant and Angela Bell conducted the election of Officers and Committee Members:

All Officers retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election.

One third of the committee (excluding Officers) must retire annually and may offer themselves for re-election. (Group Rule 3.4

Retiring by rotation and standing for re-election

Ronnie Brown, Lisa Carson, Frank Robertson

Committee Members retiring and not standing for re-election

Bruce Steele

Committee Members not retiring:

Leslie Ashe, Simon Beckett, Colin Hay, Annie McFarland, Kyle Thomson, John Seawright

Name	Position	Proposed by	Seconded by
David Harcourt	Chairman	Leslie Ashe	Lisa Carson
Gareth Hughes	Treasurer	Leslie Ashe	David Harcourt
No nominations	Secretary	No nominations	No Nominations
Ronnie Brown	Committee Member	Leslie Ashe	Colin Hay
Lisa Carson	Committee Member	David Harcourt	Leslie Ashe
Ivan Greenfield	Committee Member	Kyle Thomson	David Harcourt
Frank Robertson	Committee Member	John Seawright	Gareth Hughes

It was noted that in the absence of nominations for the office of Secretary Leslie Ashe will continue in the role of acting Secretary and that Associate Member Stephen Patterson is shadowing him with a view to taking over when he has passed his Advanced Test.

Presentations

The Committee agreed that with little Group activity the awards should be held over until the next AGM in October 2021.

There was no further business and the AGM was declared over.