



## RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders North Wiltshire Group

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



Patron: Her Majesty the Queen

# Newsletter

February 2009

### Secretary:

Mrs. Monica Graham  
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### Dates for Your Diary

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

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March,**  
**9.00am to 3.30pm**  
Promotional stall at the Outlet  
Centre, Swindon. **Help Required!**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March,**  
**7.15pm for 7.45pm**  
Meeting: Mike Horn RoSPA  
Examiner, and Class 1 Police Car  
Driver

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March,**  
**10.30am to 3.30pm**  
RoADAR South Central Group GAP  
meeting

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**  
Driving Day

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April,**  
**8.45am to 5.00pm**  
First Aid Course

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May,**  
**7.15pm for 7.45pm**  
Meeting: Dave Jones, author of "Not  
the Blue Book"

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June,**  
**7.15pm for 7.45pm**  
Meeting: Colin Reeves, Bike Safe

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



**Hope you've all made it through the recent  
bad weather safely!**



With the snow fresh in our minds, it is probably a good time to remind you that we still have spaces available for another session at the Actiondrome Skid Car in Wroughton. The date is still to be arranged but please contact Monica if interested.

## Forthcoming Meetings

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 7.15pm for 7.45pm:** Mike Horn, RoSPA Examiner, and Class 1 Police Car Driver from Banbury. He is also president of Banbury IAM. He is known to be quite controversial so this promises to be an interesting evening!!

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 2009:** RoADAR South Central Area Group Meeting. Liddington Village Hall, 10.30 – 3.0pm. See panel, opposite.

**Note there is no meeting in April as it falls on Easter Monday.**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009 7.15pm for 7.45pm:** Dave Jones, author of “Not the Blue Book”

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2009 7.15pm for 7.45pm:** Colin Reeves from Bike Safe



Welcome to the following new members who have joined the group recently...

**Doug Smith** (Bike)

**Martin Purnell** (Car)

**Jonathan Veasey** (Car)

## RoADAR South Central Groups' Advisory Panel Meeting

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009 10.30am - 3.00pm, Liddington Village Hall**

Once a year representatives from all the RoADAR groups in our area, along with representatives from RoSPA Head Office, meet up to discuss plans and exchange ideas. This year this meeting is being hosted by us, the North Wilts Group, and it will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009.

This is an opportunity to meet members of other groups and to find out what they do. It is also an opportunity to raise questions with the staff from Head Office.

Since we are hosting this event this year it would be good to see as many members from our group in attendance as possible.

If you would like to come please let Monica know so we know how many we are catering for.

If you are not able to come, but have an issue, question or concern that you feel should be discussed, please pass this onto a Committee member.

The agenda for the meeting, together with a covering email are attached to the end of this newsletter for your information.

## Events

### **Outlet Centre 7<sup>th</sup> March, 9.00am-3.30pm**

Once again, we will be holding a promotional stall at the Outlet Centre in Swindon. We would like offers of help during the day. **Can you spare a couple of hours?** If so please contact Monica. It would be hugely appreciated!

### **Driving Day Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

Our first driving day will take place on the 28th March 2009, providing an opportunity to drive with others, compare notes, and have some fun!

There will be a selection of routes available to choose from, and members will be paired together, with different partners for morning and afternoon sessions. Each session will involve two drives, each partner driving their own car. Lunch will be arranged at a convenient pub.

The routes chosen will include some nice driving roads, together with some more technical sections for drivers to practise their technique in slightly busier conditions, or on more challenging roads.

You need to bring nothing except your car, money for lunch and a sense of adventure and desire to improve. Everyone pays for their own fuel.

Expressions of interest to any committee member please, or via the web forum if you prefer. Please state your current driving level when you put your name down.

### **First Aid Course Saturday 18th April, 8.45am – 5.00pm**

First Aid Course relating to car accidents. To be held at Liddington Village Hall. Weather permitting some training will be done outside. Cost £60 to include tea and coffee breaks, lunch and a contribution to the cost of the hall. This is excellent value and well worth doing. We have space for 20 people. **We still have places available for this, but places must be booked before the 17<sup>th</sup> March by sending your cheque to Monica.**

### **Bike Ride-outs**

Don't forget that 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.

The responses from the Questionnaire last year indicated that members wanted more activities to be arranged. However, having arranged several activities during the last few months, the take up is not as good as we had hoped for. It would be useful to know why they are not being supported so that alternatives can be organised. You can either email me, or add your comments on the web site forum.

**Monica**

## Christmas Meal

We hope that everyone enjoyed the Christmas meal on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January. I'm sure you'll all be delighted to hear that Monica is already busy planning next year's event!



Going to the Village Inn on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January for the Christmas Meal turned out to be a very enjoyable evening.

I was feeling quite apprehensive as I hadn't been before and knew only a few people; my wife was not keen as she didn't know anybody. It wasn't long before we were chatting easily as people were so friendly and put us at ease. It was a very good meal in a nice friendly atmosphere.

So a very big thank you to all involved in organizing this very pleasant occasion.

**Michael Dance**

Having not met anyone from the group except Monica and my instructor Gerry, I thought it a good idea to attend the Christmas meal. So, in a bit of last minute flurry, we chose our meals and put the date on the calendar.

As we live in Oxford, we set off early to pick up Gerry and Jenny from Faringdon. The pub seemed small, but we found ourselves in a large reserved area, sitting at the round table, at a table for 10. Monica had prepared place-cards with menu details as a gentle reminder. The service was efficient, the staff very friendly. The food was hot and plentiful. The melon and prawn starter was quite large!

There was a mix of riders and drivers and conversation flowed around the table. Everyone was friendly and although I am having car instruction, I was invited to join a ride-out for pleasure. We belong to the Under 17 car club and it was nice to see a familiar face in Paul Silverwood (president of the club) who also attended the meal. After dinner and coffee, came the raffle. Lots of great prizes available and our table struck lucky a couple of times, but not us unfortunately!

After scraping the ice off the car, we headed for home reflecting on a pleasant evening. Many thanks to the organisers.

**Paul and Bernadette Bennett**

### **Motorcycle tutoring anyone?**

Have you passed the RoSPA advanced motorcycle test with a Silver or Gold grade? If you have then would you like to become a RoSPA Approved Tutor? Approved tutors are registered by RoSPA and are qualified to give assistance new associates to reach test standard. We are intending to hold training sessions this Spring. Training is expected to be over one or two days and will consist of theoretical and practical training as well as an examination of the understanding of Roadcraft. It will also include an assessment of your capabilities to recognise the riding faults of others and the ability to tactfully suggest methods of curing those faults. Further training will be available if necessary to build your confidence to do this.

If interested please contact myself or Monica.

**Geoff Sumerling**

### **Input Required!**

We are always looking for more articles, ideas and news for the newsletter. If you attend any group events then please remember to take a camera and send us your pictures!

Contributions can be sent to Monica ([secretary.nwg.roadar@googlemail.com](mailto:secretary.nwg.roadar@googlemail.com)) or Kevin ([kevin@kevinhugo.co.uk](mailto:kevin@kevinhugo.co.uk))

**From: Gerry Griffin**

**Subject: Re: South Central GAP Meeting**

Dear Colleagues,

Attached is a revised agenda for the South Central GAP meeting on the 14th March 2009.

As you will see you may exhibit any items you produce to publicise your Group. Naturally newsletters, clothing, banners, etc. may fall in this category.

You may also address the meeting if you so desire. This could be to outline any events or procedures that you feel will be of interest to other groups. Please do let me know if you wish to make a presentation. I need to know how much time you desire and what facilities you will need (ie projectors, whiteboard, etc).

Please do let me know how many delegates will be coming from your Group. This is needed to ensure that the catering and room layout can be organised.

This year both Liz Wragg and Jayne Bartlett from HQ will be joining us. Hopefully, we can have a convivial and positive meeting.

Sincere regards,

Gerry Griffin

GAP Representative, South Central Region

**GAP Meeting**  
**South Central Area**  
**14<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

The meeting will be held at the:-

**Liddington Village Hall, Swindon, Wiltshire.**

**Provisional Agenda (v03)**

1030 – 1100	Coffee, Registration and Welcome	Geoff Sumerling and Gerry Griffin
1100 – 1200	Questions to the panel	Jayne Bartlett, Liz Wragg (Both from RoADAR) and Gerry Griffin
1200 – 1230	Group Presentations Points of interest that groups wish to share	Group representatives
1230 – 1315	Lunch and informal discussions	
1315 – 1415	Group Presentations Points of interest that groups wish to share	Group representatives
1415 – 1500	Pre-licence driver training - The Under 17 Car Club	Paul Silverwood (U17CC Founder)
1500	Close of meeting	

The meeting has two main objectives:-

- (i) To enable the Groups in the South Central Area to get better acquainted
- (ii) To enable the Groups and HQ to better understand each other
  - Please let me know if you wish to give a presentation. Please indicate how much time you require and any facilities you will need (eg projector, whiteboard, etc.).
  - If you have any branded merchandise (eg banners, etc) please bring samples with you
  - If you wish to submit any points in advance of the meeting please send them to me.

Gerry Griffin