

# Guildford Group of Advanced Motorists

## Secretary's Report to the 19th of November 2026

### AGM

#### Group Committee and Officers

Your Officers remained in post at the last AGM and under Gordon's leadership we have continued to hold online committee meetings, with ad-hoc discussions and meetings through the year.

At a recent committee meeting Paul Hadlow was co-opted on to the committee, acting in the important role of Training Manager. Paul offers himself for election to the committee at the AGM.

The committee still has vacancies for a Treasurer, a Vice-Chairman, a deputy Membership Secretary and News Editor.

#### Associates and tests

At the time of the September committee meeting GAM had 60 Associates at various stages of preparation for the test, including some who have not yet started the course. Thirty five new Associates have joined in 2026. Associates had so far achieved 14 passes of which 5 were F1rst, with 5 failures of which 2 passed at a second attempt.

#### Observers and Training

Currently GAM has sixteen National Observers and four Trainee Observers. It has been a busy year for the Observers, and we send our sincere thanks to all those who have given up a lot of their free time to train Associates for their test. As in previous years we operate a mix of monthly "Sunday Runday" meetings and Allocated Observer Runs (AOR).

David Clifton, your Chief Observer, organises regular Observer meetings. Our most recent meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> October with stimulating talks by Observers on advanced driving topics .

## IAM Region and HQ liaison

We maintain a good working relationship with the staff at IAM HQ who help us with Membership matters and Associate progress. GAM routinely sends representatives to attend Region 2 meetings, the most recent of which is scheduled for 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## Web Site, Social Media and IT

The GAM web site has been operating effectively. Clive Heavens keeps the web site updated and continues to make improvements along the way. At a recent committee meeting we agreed that a working group should be set up to assess the best way to proceed on content for social media. It was agreed that the first phase would focus on age group 25 to 55 using Facebook.

Last year I reported that GAM had been contacted by PAMedia, the copyright owner of the image we had used in one of our general interest articles. They requested payment of a significant sum, much higher than the normal licence fee. GAM took the position that there was no attribution on the original image, thus making purchase of a licence impossible. I am pleased to report that after protracted communications, led by our Chairman, PAMedia has accepted our offer in line with the original licence fee, a considerable cost saving to GAM.

As arranged by Alex Masters, our IT Support expert, your committee has successfully migrated to Microsoft Business Basic, which is also complimentary.

John Holcroft

Secretary, GAM