

## **Chairman's Report 2019/2020**

May I welcome you all to the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the High Wycombe Group of Advanced Motorists and provide my report of activities through the year.

Once again, my thanks to our Honorary Vice President, Paddy Hopkirk, not only for his enthusiastic support but also for making very comfortable facilities available for our committee meetings. May I also thank the committee for their hard work and remind you who they are and their roles. Peter Gunn our Treasurer has also continued to act as Vice Chairman and will be standing for Chairman at our AGM as I am standing down after six years in the role. Matti Alderson our excellent Secretary has unfortunately in recent weeks been forced to give priority to medical treatment. Our good wishes to her and we look forward to welcoming her back. Valerie Brickell (Events and Asst. Observer Administrator) has been standing in as Secretary. Other members are Andrew True (Chief Observer), Jan Caddie (Membership Secretary), Sean Pearce (Website) and Viv Silverman. All the committee members, except myself, are willing to stand again and are joined by Tim Nicholson and Nigel Mason. We still need to enlarge the committee to help maintain succession so if you would like to stand, nomination papers are included in the AGM notification pack.

Under our Chief Observer there has been a further increase in observer numbers from 13 in 2018/2019 to 16 plus one in training for 2019/2020. We now have 7 National Observers and 9 Local Observers.

Congratulations to Viv Silverman in becoming a National Observer also to Steve Gledhill, Bob Hill, Ray Hall, Mark Hall, Martin Carpenter, Graham Smith and Nigel Mason in becoming Local Observers. If anyone is interested in becoming an observer please step forward.

During the year we had 19 passes including 7 firsts, congratulations to everyone on their success and to the observers who provided guidance through the Advanced Driving Course. Nigel Mason, one of our new Local Observers, identified a need for more support for new observers once they commence working with associates. As a result, Nigel and our Chief Observer have produced a new booklet entitled "Associate Mentoring Plan Observer Guide" which is available to all our observers.

As a group we take part in the Free Taster initiative set up by IAM. which has been successful in attracting new associates. We have continued to play our part in supporting other IAM initiatives and meetings.

There were two social events in the year, the first following the formal business of the 2018/2019 AGM. As those who attended the AGM know, our speaker Gary Baldwin - Senior Forensic Collision Investigator was redirected to an accident whilst on his way to our event. A question and answer session was hastily put into place and produced interesting discussions.

However, at our second social event Gary Baldwin was able to join us when he engaged the audience with an excellent thought-provoking presentation on all aspects relating to collisions. The occasion also provided the opportunity for presentations by Paddy Hopkirk to three young drivers who had excelled by gaining firsts in their advanced test.

Our next event will follow the official business of the evening when Dr Chris Tennant who is visiting Fellow in the Department of Psychological and Behavioral Science at LSE will be speaking. You will be invited to complete a survey ahead of the AGM and could I encourage you to respond to this as it is important to the success of the presentation.

Keith Chanter - Chairman