

CHAIRMAN'S Intro

Hi Everyone

At the recent AGM, I was very honoured to be voted in as Chairman of the group.

Ed Feldmanis has been voted in to my previous role as Training Officer, and I wish him all the best and my full support in the role.

With a new membership joining system in place, the committee and I are all looking to the future success and prosperity of the group. We have a new website up and running at www.sussexadvanceddrivers.co.uk please all take a look and let me have any suggestions for improving the site and making it more interesting to members and potential new associates. I have been working on a Treasure Hunt to be held on 27th July, this will start in Lewes at the Car Park at County Hall BN7 1UE. The clues should lead you to a suitable hostelry where we will name the winners. Please try and support

this event if you can. As a committee we try to offer a varied range of speakers and events and further details will be on the Future Events page on the website and in the Newsletter.

If you have any ideas for events that you would like to see us try to arrange, or speakers you would like us to try to get to come to one of our meetings, do please let me know, we are always looking for new ideas. This is your group so please support it and your committee as much as you can.

I hope you have all been enjoying the recent sunshine, and hot weather. Its the perfect time for the Air Conditioning to pack up on both of my cars.

Have a good summer and I hope to see you all shortly.

Pete Hodd
Chairman

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Car Horns could be replaced by the sound of Ducks Quacking

The world's roads could one day come alive with the sound of quacking ducks – as the unorthodox sound was found to be a more agreeable car horn noise.

A study by a research team at Soongsil University in Seoul, Korea analysed the car horn from its inception in 1908, finding a duck-like beep to be far more friendly to pedestrians and less distracting to drivers.

Driving with your pets can land you with £5000 fines

Drivers are at risk of invalidating their insurance and landing huge fines while travelling in their cars with their pets. 69% of drivers surveyed travelled with their pets in the car with them. Over a fifth of these drivers admitted to not securing their pets in the vehicle. They also admitted to being distracted by their pets. This is a breach of the Highway Code which can

potentially invalidate their car insurance. In the Highway Code it states that any animals travelling in a moving vehicle must be suitably restrained. If you are distracted by your pet, it carries an on the spot fine of £100 + 3 penalty points. This can be increased to £5,000 and 9 penalty points if your case goes to court. Rod Jones, insurance expert at uswitch.com said, "Its surprising to see so many drivers taking such a relaxed attitude to their pet's wellbeing, never mind their own safety when behind the wheel."

RoSPA Centenary Royal Garden Party

A Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace was held on the 25th May 2017 to celebrate RoSPA's centenary.

The Garden Party was held in the presence of HRH The Duke of York, accompanied by his younger daughter, HRH Princess Eugenie of York, who met many of the staff, volunteers and supporters representing RoSPA countrywide.

Our local RoSPA group was represented by Chairman, David Bradley and Committee Member, Malcolm Taylor with their wives.

The weather could not have been better with a bright blue, cloudless sky and a temperature of 26c. The palace gardens were looking magnificent and there was an opportunity to stroll amongst this 42 acre oasis in the heart of

London or alternatively sit under the enormous trees and admire the lake.

Afternoon tea was enjoyed whilst listening to the military bands and watching the pageantry of the occasion. The Garden Party concluded with the playing of the National Anthem.

It was a great privilege to attend this important milestone in RoSPA's history. It is gratifying



*Chairman David Bradley (right)
and
Committee Member Malcolm Taylor
with their wives at the Garden Party*

that the work of all the staff, volunteers and supporters has been recognised by the honour of a Royal Garden Party granted by our Patron, Her Majesty the Queen.

*Malcolm Taylor
22nd June, 2017*



Sussex Rospa Group Visit to Kingstanding Saturday 10th June 2017



Sussex RoSPA Group at the Bunker entrance

crowd control issues. Other police forces also use the

facility .

The area is being improved to include more realistic road systems and pavements.

The whole tour took 2 1/2 hours. The feeling was that it was a very useful and interesting visit .

A number of us went to Kingstanding in the Ashdown Forest which is now used by the Sussex Police and others for training in crowd control and other police activities. There were 11 members and 2 guests. We were met at 10am at the gates by David Lewis who works in the Estates Department at Police HQ in Lewes. He escorted us around starting with the bunker where he explained that the original bunker was built for World War 2 activities one of which involved sending broadcasts to the German people by way of music programmes to give the German people false security that everything was safe. After the Second World War the bunker was extended to house essential staff in the event of a Nuclear Attack.

Today the bunkers house offices and lecture rooms for Police Training .

After the tour of the bunkers we then were guided around the outside training areas where there were mock streets, houses and flats for the Police to train in terrorist attacks and other



Inside the Bunker

4X4 ASSIST Presentation

Paul Gibson and Colin Mitchell of 4X4 Assist made a presentation to the RoSPA Sussex Group on the 25th May.

Paul told us how the group had been formed in response to a number of incidents that demonstrated that more support for community resilience was needed. So after the Shoreham Disaster and the Hailsham Water Crisis, the Brand and Website was created and the Group was launched in November 2015.

All vehicles are checked for roadworthiness at

least every three months, and all responders are encouraged to fit dash cameras. So far, 4x4 Assist has 50 active members; has systems, software and insurance in place; has achieved charity status, and has Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with a number of organisations including the NHS and the RSPCA. It is also a member of the Sussex Resilience Forum.

urgent logistic equipment transportation in adverse weather; and to help to keep local major road links clear during bad weather to allow the movement of emergency vehicles. In doing all this they hope to enhance members' key experiences and skills.



Some Members of the Team



4X4 Driver Training

A wide range of other training is offered. Such as RoSPA Driver Training, Map Reading, Radio Communication, Conflict



Typical kit carried in the vehicle

Being a charity 4x4 Assist are supported by the public and need to be seen at events around the area. This year they have so far attended the 999 show; Bexhill MotoFest;

All members are chosen for their skills and experiences rather than just owning a 4x4. On joining, everyone is driver assessed, and off-road, first aid and driver training is offered free of charge. A basic kit of tow rope, first aid kit, torch, hi-viz jacket, and other equipment are required.

Management, Planning and Team Building. The aims of 4x4 Assist are; to provide highly trained responders with a variety of 4x4 vehicles; to integrate services into the resilience plans for businesses, local authorities, utility companies and emergency services; to help preserve life and limb of the community by offering medical staff and



Biker Down Course with the Fire and Rescue Service

Heathfield Show; Bexhill 100; and the Eastbourne Air Balloon Festival.



RoSPA Driver Training

Programme for Meetings 2017/18

Date	Speaker	Confirmed/TBC
27 July 2017	Out and about on a Treasure Hunt Pete Hodd	Confirmed
28 September 2017	“Fancy a Cuppa?” David Robins	Confirmed
30 November 2017	Talk followed by Out and About Night Driv- ing Ed Feldmanis	Confirmed
25 January 2018	The Advanced Driving Test Dave Taylor	Confirmed

Group Secretary's notes:

All meetings are held at:

St John Ambulance, 16 Crowhurst Road, Hollingbury, Brighton, BN1 8AP

Start time: 7.30 for 8pm

To ensure you are kept informed of news and extra activities arranged for the group, please could all members and associate members let us know of any changes to your contact details so that we can update the group's database.

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Sussex RoSPA

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