

MEET THE COMMITTEE

IAM SOUTHEASTERN GROUP



JOHN BOREHAM - TREASURER

John is a Chartered Accountant having qualified in 1960. Like his father, who taught him to drive, he has always been very keen cars and driving.

Following National Service John was in professional practice in London and later worked in commerce. He drove into London daily and had read about the IAM, then in its infancy; having been caught speeding he decided that his driving must be improved. So he bought and studied Roadcraft and other necessary books and applied to take the IAM driving test; he passed second time and became a member in 1965.

Over the ensuing years he retook the IAM test a few times and guided three young men to take the test and join the IAM too. Then in 2017 he read in the Institute magazine that more observers were needed and in January 2018 he joined the South Eastern Group and took the course to qualify as an observer which he did in April 2019.

During his training period the Group treasurer asked to stand down and in the Spring of 2019 he was appointed treasurer in her place.

John's interests are his family – wife, two children and four grandchildren – and vintage cars; he has two Austin Sevens.

STUART DEY – CHAIR



Stuart joined the IAM as a motorcyclist in 2004. After passing his IAM car test he joined our observer team and is currently a National Observer and has been the Group's Chair since early in 2015.

He enjoys honing his driving and riding skills, whether on an interesting road, in challenging conditions, on a skid pan, motor racing circuit (he's a big advocate of IAM skills days) or off road course. He has difficulty keeping away from older cars that need (at least in his opinion) saving or improvement, and currently runs a 1970s BMW and a 1989 VW Scirocco. There's another 70s BMW in a barn, patiently awaiting its turn and new orange paint!

Stuart also enjoys the social side of motoring – attending classic meets and motoring attractions from the Bromley Pageant to the Porsche Factory and Museum in Stuttgart.

He is keen that our Group should offer both training and a social experience. Embracing modern ways of doing things should enable us to run efficiently (we are all unpaid volunteers), offering something valuable to the current members and also attracting new members from all sections of society.



JONATHAN EATON – GROUP CONTACT

Jonathan passed his DVLA test at 17; his driving instructor was an IAM member who encouraged him to take the Advanced Test as soon as the opportunity came along.

After a mere 34 years of safe motoring in the UK and Europe, wanting to take his skills to the next level, he joined IAM RoadSmart and South Eastern Advanced Motorists, passing 2015 to fulfil that long-held ambition, thanks to the excellent SE Group coaching and support he experienced.

Rather than leave behind all the good new friends he'd made amongst Observers and Group members, he quickly wanted to volunteer to give back something to them.

Invited to join the Committee, he now acts as Group Contact, manages our Welcome Sessions for new Associates, and provides technical support for Group Nights, guest speakers and our AGMs



STEVE EWING – CENTRE MANAGER & ASSOCIATE MANAGER

Steve joined the Group as an Associate aged 18 in 1976. After passing his IAM test in early 1978, he immediately trained and became an Observer and a Committee Member, as well as becoming heavily involved in the Associate Scheme. He has continued with this throughout his many years of membership.

He is a National Observer and a National Observer Assessor. He passed his IAM Masters test five years ago, and is also a mentor for this test.

Outside of the Group, Steve very much enjoys driving, travel, and car ownership and has owned 50 plus cars so far! He is a Competitive Ballroom Dancer, and collects toy cars, and car automobilia from the 1960s, 70s and 80s.



DUNCAN GARRETT – MEMBERSHIP & WEBSITE

Duncan has had a passion for cars and driving for as far back as he can remember, but it wasn't until 2013 that he decided to join the South Eastern Group of IAM Roadsmart, passing his test in August of that year. His father joined the IAM some 50 odd years ago, so the red badge has always been part of his driving life.

He joined the Committee soon after, taking responsibility for the website and the membership database.

He lives in Orpington with his wife. His son married just before the first lockdown, and his daughter is in her last year at Brunel University. Along with one Cockapoo, he keeps busy and is never happier than when tinkering with a car.

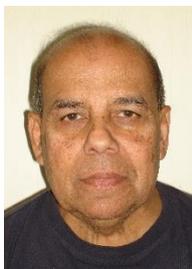
He enjoys long distance walks when possible and has trekked along recognised tracks like Hadrian's Wall, Saxon Shore Way [Gravesend to Hastings], North Downs Way [Farnham to Dover & Canterbury] and a few other smaller ones. The last one, following old smuggling tracks & pubs, was from the Bo Peep in Chelsfield to a pub in St Leonards, Hastings – also called the Bo Peep.



PETER GRAY - SECRETARY

Peter had some interesting sports cars in his youth and passed his IAM test in 1972 in a Triumph TR6. In those days you had to do a hill start on the steepest hill the examiner could find and an accompanying three-point turn. It was not easy with a heavy clutch and no power steering.

On reaching the age of maturity Peter felt it was time to reassess his skills and, learning of the Masters qualification, took the test and passed in 2016. He joined the SE Group that year, qualified as a Local Observer under the watchful eye of John Biggs and, shortly after, volunteered to be Secretary as the then incumbent moved on. He has enjoyed his time as a Local Observer together with assisting the Welcoming Team with the introductory talk and demo drives. In 2020 in the gap between lockdowns he achieved the qualification as a National Observer.



SABY GHOSH - EVENTS & WELCOMING NEW ASSOCIATES

Saby had always wanted to join the IAM but due to work and family commitments, he couldn't do so until after his retirement 2016, when he and his daughter, Tamar, both joined the Group as Associates. He enjoyed the training and passed his test. Soon after completing his course, he joined the Welcoming Group which he finds very rewarding.

Subsequently, he joined the Committee as Events Coordinator, responsible for organising two IAM CEOs, Sarah Sillars in 2018 and Mike Quinton in 2019, to speak at the March AGMs, as well as arranging for Paddy Hopkirk to speak at Group Night in June 2019 as guest speaker.

Saby is very proud to be associated with the Group, which attracts like-minded people, whose sole interest is in improving their driving skills.



MICHAELA HALSE – COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Michaela has always enjoyed driving, and joined the South Eastern Group in December 2017 as a trainee Observer, two months after re-taking her test to qualify for the IAM's Fellowship Scheme; she first passed the IAM test in 2002. Her father was in the Traffic Division of the Met Police and taught her to drive when she was 17, so she has only ever driven the "IAM" way. In October of 2020, she retook her test to requalify as a Fellow of the IAM for a further three years.

As a fully qualified Observer, she really enjoys coaching people to enhance their existing skills and helping them to prepare to take their advanced driving test.

Michaela joined the Committee in March 2018 and says it's interesting and fulfilling, and great to be more involved.

She works full-time for the HQ of a global tea company. She has one daughter and in August last year she became a grandmother to a beautiful baby boy in New Zealand.