



The **BEDFORD** Group of RoSPA Advanced Drivers and Riders Members Newsletter

Visit the **BEDFORD** Group online at www.roda-bedford.org.uk **Nov 2007**

President **Dr Lisa Dom** BSc PhD CPsychol, AFBPS

Stan Jones (Chairman) 01234 782071, **Bill Brady** (Secretary and Senior Tutor) 01234 768408

Adrian Bailey (Treasurer) 01234 826466, **Melia Taylor** (Training Co-ordinator) 01234 312210,

Andrew McGrorey (Newsletter Producer) 01234 346907 andrew.mcgrorey1@btinternet.com

“ Advanced driving is about principals, and their proper application, rather than being a simple yes/no idiots guide ”

Congratulations to **Stan Jones** who is one of (if not the first) Rospa Advanced Tutor in the country, after passing his Advanced Tutor test. The test entailed an hour and a quarters drive to Gold standard during which he had to give an instructional commentary and demonstrate his ability to diagnose and analyse driving faults and devise a plan to correct them. But before all this he had to answer 25 questions on Roadcraft and the Highway code getting a minimum of 21 correct. So well done Stan. Two other members of the group will be taking the test very soon (May have already have taken them by the time you read this) I'll let you know how they get on. A big thank you must go to Steve Davy who gave up many hours to design and deliver the training course which we think is the first to be run by a group since the powers that be at RoSPA created the Advanced Tutor qualification

One of the most hazardous monovers

we do as drivers is overtaking a moving vehicle One of the hardest things to do is the estimation of the closing distance

between you and any oncoming traffic. You have to ask and be certain of the answer “**Can I complete the overtake safely without coming in to conflict with the vehicle I am overtaking or the traffic coming the other way?**” The

following technique is not a replacement for Chapter 9 in Roadcraft but you might like to consider it as an aid. First start to estimate the time in seconds and the place (tree, road sign or other fixed object) where you and any oncoming traffic will pass each other. Next you learn how long it takes (again by counting seconds and estimating the place where the manouevre will end) to pass another vehicle using

the appropriate gear for your initial speed. This should be practiced on dual carrageways or motorways initially. Once you have mastered this and consistently get the time and place correct you can use it to aid your overtaking on normal two lane roads but it needs to be regularly practiced to keep your perceptions true.

November Meeting

**At 8pm on the 20th
November 2007 at the
Training Centre of the
Bedfordshire and Luton
Fire and Rescue Service
Southfields Road
Kempston**

**We are extremely lucky to
have Eric Simpson the
Senior RoSPA Examiner
for this area speaking on
his experiences during his
time as an Examiner
A meeting NOT to be
missed**