**Worksheet Activity**

Transport Scotland has installed a number of Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) across Scotland, including at various locations on the A9. The graph below shows the average number of vehicles on the A9 each day in each month of 2010 to the north of Pitlochry. The **Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)** flow is the average number of vehicles using the A9 each day in 2010.

1. **In which month is the A9 busiest?**
   Hint: This is the tallest bar on the graph.
2. **Can you give reasons as to why this is the busiest month of the year?**
   Hint: Think about what you might do at this time of year or where you might go and how you would get there.
3. **During which months did the A9 carry more traffic than the Annual Average?**
   Hint: This is the months for which the number of vehicles on the A9 each day is greater than the AADT.
4. **In which month is the A9 least busy?**
   Hint: This is the shortest bar on the graph.
5. **Approximately how much busier is the A9 in the busiest month compared to the least busy month?**
   Hint: Divide the daily traffic flow in the busiest month by the traffic flow in the least busy month.

**Answers**

1. **The busiest month is <u>August</u>**

2. **August is the busiest month because this when the largest number of people <u>go on holiday</u> and tourists (people who are on holiday in the area) are particularly important to many communities along the A9. During the summer, and particularly during school holidays, families are more likely to <u>go on day trips</u> when the weather is warmer than average**

3. **Between <u>April</u> and <u>October</u>, traffic levels on the A9 are higher than the Annual Average**

4. **The least busy month is <u>December</u>**

5. **The A9 is more than twice as busy in August compared to December**
   The average daily flow in August 2010 was 13,231 vehicles per day and the average daily flow in December 2010 was 5,661 vehicles per day. August was therefore 2.3 times busier than December (13,231 / 5,661).