

# ChainLincs

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
**THE LINCOLNSHIRE ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS**  
IAM GROUP 7176, REGISTERED CHARITY 1049955, SUPPORTERS OF THE BMF



Lynne Watson and friends raised money for Spinal Research, from a “Little brew” event at the Congregational Church in Scunthorpe.



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Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month starting at 8pm  
in the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU  
Middle Rasen is on the A631 about 1.5 miles west of the Market Rasen

The next issue of ChainLincs will be in June 2015.

Please provide any copy to the editor, Ian Firth, by **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015** at  
the latest, earlier is better. You can send a copy by email to

[iancfirth@yahoo.com](mailto:iancfirth@yahoo.com)

# EDITORIAL

Welcome to the May edition of Chainlinks and while I write as the newsletter editor, many of you will be aware that I have recently taken over from Andy Bolton as the Regional Operations Manager for the Central England & Wales region. A quick thank you to a few who influenced me in applying for this role including Andy Kitchen, my observer when I was an associate, for giving me knowledge, skills and confidence that will come in very useful when I'm working with IAM members far and wide. Also to Mick Smith for doing what all good Chairmen should do and passing on IAM information that highlighted the vacancy.

So what is new since the last newsletter? Much is happening and I am pleased to see the Facebook page growing in usage to promote the group, events and safer riding. There's also a lot of good humour on there, so if you are able, feel free to sign up. Thanks to Kev for setting up an event in the Facebook Group, for a ride out to the National Motorcycle Museum for the IAM Motorcycle Homecoming day, more of which you will see in this newsletter.

Finally, now that the weather is improving and the days are getting lighter, don't miss out on the various rides planned over the coming weeks and months. If you have an event you would like to promote, let Dave Hall and me know, so that we can include it in the newsletter.

One of my first meetings in my new position of ROM, was the Central England East Forum meeting at Northamptonshire. I found the meeting to be very informative and those who missed it have missed key updates from Chiswick. The next East forum meeting is planned for the 26<sup>th</sup> September, so if any representatives would like to go along, check the Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/IAMCREWForum> and speak to the Chair or Secretary who will get details nearer the next forum date.

Safe riding.

*Ian*

## **Contents in this newsletter:**

- Chairman's chatter
- Membership update
- Rambling on
- Motorcycle homecoming
- From the top
- Observers meeting
- Little brew
- Diary of events

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

As I write this John has sent me through the names of two more new members so we are up to nine this year already. Welcome to Rob Bentley and John Laking, hope to meet you guys at a social or group ride out. Good luck with your advanced bike training and enjoy!

For the new, and existing, members don't forget to find our Facebook page Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/301610040008772/>) and ask to join so you can post and join in.

Great ride out in April from Willingham Woods. Dave Hall (thanks Dave) took us on some great roads with a good pace throughout and with a coffee (and Cake for Ian) in Spilsby midway through. Nine members turned out on a nice morning although the wind did pick up through the ride. Thanks to the 4 observers who came giving more of their time for the Group. As you can see from the picture Tony Waldron came on his Harley, good job it didn't rain as it would have taken him a week to clean it again. Nice to see you Tony and good luck with the rest of your training.



Next ride is Sunday 10 May at 0930hrs from Hartsholme Park, Lincoln. Hope to see you there.



Once again this month we also joined the Scunthorpe Car Group to promote advanced biking in North Lincs. Thanks to Garry Calladine and Dave Mather for giving up some of your weekend time.



Just a reminder about the Lincoln BikeFest this year. Those on FB will already have seen that it will take place on 7 Jun and is planned to be bigger and better than ever spanning both sides of Brayford Pool. We will need help from about 0830 to set up and

then through the day to man the stand and talk to the public. Please put the date in your diary and let me know if you can help out on the day.

Finally, we are planning a ride to the IAM Motorcycling Festival on the 11 July. More details of the event at <https://www.iam.org.uk/homecoming/category/20205> . Let Kev Turner know if you are planning to come either by clicking on the event on our Facebook page or drop him an email.

Also see the Diary of Events for a ride out that Dave Hall is organising on 21 June to the VMCC Banbury Run, Motor Heritage Centre, Gaydon.

Hope to see you all soon, stay safe

Mick

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Group Web Site: [www.l-a-m.co.uk](http://www.l-a-m.co.uk)

We have three new members to welcome to the group this month as follows:

Member	Observer
Andrew Kendall from Lincoln	Rob Gregg-Herrett
John Laking from Louth	Morris Howe
Rob Bentley from North Hykeham	TBA

The group membership is currently comprised as follows

Full Members	70
Associate Members	19
<b>Total Group Membership</b>	<b>89</b>

Don't forget that membership subs are now due – you should all (up to membership number 724) have already received the paperwork from me.

That's all for this month, ride safely:

*John Cheetam*

## RAMBLING ON

Well it looks as if we, as advanced riders, will be very hard pushed to achieve any better fuel consumption figures than we are already achieving, as we should be putting into practise all of the 8 tips put forward by the BMW training gentleman.

One thing I find that as a general rule if you ask a rider "What's it like on fuel", you don't get a precise answer, unlike with cars where it's quoted back to you sometimes down to decimal points. So it would seem that fuel consumption is not the main reason for owning a motorcycle. What a surprise, but I find that with some of my associates, they ride as if they have a big diesel motor with plenty of torque under them and consequently make poor adequate progress. When I mention about how many revs they are using, they usually confirm that they are only using the lower end of the rev range so as to save fuel. After we have a little chat about what I call the 'sweet spot' of the engine and they start to use the full mid-range of the engine; for some it's the first time they have used the engine's 'sweet spot'. They soon find it's easier to make progress and acceleration sense starts to takes over. No need to use the brakes all of time either and you see a smile begin to appear on their face. The next time we are out, I ask whether they are using any more fuel, the answer sometimes is no it's less.

On the planning ahead, when an associate is having a problem keeping the wheels rolling, I sometimes use the idea of them driving a fully loaded wagon. Slow down, let the traffic sort it's self out or the lights change to your favour, but check that nobody is trying to chance a red light and then just let it roll on through. I use it to keep the ride flowing, but I can see that works on the fuel saving as well. Though just remember that the touch of brake illuminating the brake light, as in the rather sturdy metal bar across the rear of a wagon, tends to focus the mind of following traffic if needed.

I noticed that in the latest edition of Advanced Driving there is a snippet on fuel, with two Honda's coming out on top, a 750 at 101 mpg and a 125 at 122 mpg. Just as a point of interest I rode a MZ 150 as a workday hack in the early eighties and it returned just over 100 mpg but on one weekend I rode it a little less enthusiastically and comfortably managed to make good progress and returned 126 mpg.

On another note, at the last Sunday morning run, it was nice to see an old face join us and it was a change for me to sit near the back, as Dave Hall led the ride. Nice to know that I'm not the only one to find some roads with gravel on them. As for being near the rear of the ride, it's once an observer always an observer I find it difficult not to notice certain points. I know it's not an observed ride as such, but the runs are intended to maintain the standard of riding, so just a few points that stood out.

Riding on the offside on single track roads, while I know the line of vision is improved. If, however, you need to ride over gravel and muck in the middle of the road to get back to the other side for oncoming traffic, it would be far better to extend the gap

between bikes and be safe, rather than finding yourself losing grip to regain position on the nearside (As a rider found out a few years ago when they luckily made it to the opposite verge and passed nearside to nearside with the oncoming car).

These are just a few general observations and should not put anybody off from coming to these runs, as they are good fun and nobody gets their riding pulled to pieces.

John Harrison

## **IAM Motorcycle Homecoming Day**



On Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>, the IAM are holding a festival of motorcycle at the National Motorcycle Museum near Solihull. The event is open to IAM members and their guests, so bring a biking friend along too. Planning for this event is still ongoing so if you have any suggestions then please feel free to email [support@iam.org.uk](mailto:support@iam.org.uk) or let Ian know and he can pass on ideas. Already suggestions have been received about having a campsite available for those from far away to use the night before and this is being looked into.

So far, plans include racing legends attending, such as John McGuinness, William Dunlop, Steve Plater and John Cooper (All to be confirmed). Entry fee is only £10 per person, which includes guided tours of the museum (Regular museum entry alone is £8.95 for adults), food & drink vouchers, an exclusive pin badge and the chance to have your photo taken with some of the legendary bikes on display that are in the museums new photo gallery online. These are some bikes that public cannot physically get close enough to have their photo taken.

To keep everyone entertained and informed, there will be a number of side events going on, including a free quiz, partners marketplace, slow riding challenge, best bike competition and taster sessions for IMI, Assessments and Masters.

IAM are looking at planning 5 "Ride in" starting points so groups can travel in together, so keep an eye out on the IAM website for details. Kev Turner has already created a Facebook event for a ride out to the museum on the day, so feel free to accept his invitation online or speak to him directly if you are not a social media fan.

All in all, the day looks like a great opportunity for a fun and informative day, where you can meet likeminded bikers from all over the country and all for a very small fee.

For further details and a link to book your place, go to:

<https://www.iam.org.uk/homecoming/category/20205>

## **FROM THE TOP**

The IAM remain highly focussed on rewarding those individuals and groups who perform very well throughout the year. With this in mind, there are a number of awards that Motorcyclists and Motorcycle groups can vie for. In the past, individual nominations have been minimal, so in order to increase nominations, a cash reward for groups has been included, so get nominating! Here are some details about the awards.

The Lord Strathcarron Award is a trophy in memory of the late, Lord Strathcarron. He was a very active motorcycle rider and was the first motorcyclist to take the IAM Motorcycle test in 1976. He continued riding his motorcycles until he was in to his 90s. He was also a member of the IAM Council from 1973 to 1992. The award is made annually to the Full Bike Group Member who, in the opinion of a panel of judges, has in the past and is currently most to the aims and objectives of the IAM.

The award is presented each year at the National Conference and to increase nominations this year, cash prizes are to be awarded to those groups who nominated the rider wins the trophy. The nomination process is now open and closes on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, so if there is anyone in this group that you think deserves to be nominated,

check out the IAM members pages for the nomination forms and the group could be in for a financial reward of £250 for the winner.

The national Motorcycle group awards will be based on a slightly update criteria. The criteria is to be based upon:

- Percentage increase in tests over the last 4 years
- Percentage of active observers and qualified IMI
- Tests per observer
- Number of runs
- Number of hours
- Waiting lists
- Newsletters
- Discounts offered
- Attendance at regional and national events
- Percentage of recruitment increase
- Website accuracy

Any of the top three in these groups based on evidence from the IAM DTE reports and a judging panel, will win substantial money towards their group. It is planned this year, to hold the award presentations early in the conference day, rather than the end of the day.

Another campaign that is being rolled out successfully throughout the country is free-taster days. From the areas who have held such events and where IAM have been provided with details, there is a 15% to 20% uptake in Skills For Life courses from such events. For more details regarding Free-Taster days, please check the IAM website or speak to Ian Firth who will be able to provide some further information.



**ALL CLASSES OF MOT  
1, 2, 4, 5 & 7**

From a Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists Member

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**CONTACT DAVE FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**07887 528623**

**WWW.MOTOTOURS.CO.UK**

## OBSERVERS MEETING

At the latest observers and potential observers meeting, 6 observers attended. The discussions included how Lincs AM could benefit from having a Training Officer to organise monthly training sessions and Garry Calladine has generously agreed to take on the post. If anyone would like to help Garry in this important role, could they please let John know or attend the next observers meeting. Garry gave all those who attended, an update on the IAM's plans for the use of radio's to aid training, plus a general discussion on other topics. Garry is planning to have a practical training session out on the road next month, this also includes any members that think they would like to become an observer, so please come along. If you would like to give something back and become an observer, please let John or any other committee member know.

## LITTLE BREW

On Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, S&S Bikers held a fund raising event called the Little Brew, which is based upon Guy Martin's Big Brew event. All proceeds raised go towards supporting people with Spinal injuries. S&S Riders held a one hour ride out from their home of the Mallard Public House on Burringham Road, Scunthorpe, arriving at the Congregational Church in Scunthorpe where they and many other visitors had a brew,



a burger and even cake, all in the name of Charity. There was a Charity raffle with many prizes, including a favoured Oleg toy and an auction to win an exclusive one-off signed portrait of Guy Martin. The event was staffed by our own Lynne Watson, Emma Barwell, Julie Butt and Nigel Underwood and resulted in a fantastic £905.50 raised. A great result for a very worthy cause. Well done Lynne and friends.

# DIARY OF EVENTS

Contact point: Dave Hall 01522 274989

The Sunday morning Group Observed and Social Runs are open to all members and also potential members who may be considering preparing for the IAM test. The prime purpose is to provide the opportunity for all to improve their skills through riding with fellow members. Potential members considering taking the IAM test may have an individual assessment ride. It should be noted that members are free to group up as they feel fit and embark on a purely social run of their choice without any "observing" etc., merely enjoying the opportunity to ride with fellow like-minded bikers. The runs last around 2 hours, usually with a mid-point refreshment stop, starting at the venues listed below.

Brigg Leisure Centre parking area	South side of A18
Willingham Woods picnic site	A631 east of Market Rasen
Hartsholme Country Park	South side of B1378, Skellingthorpe Road

Group Social Runs will incorporate café stops unless an alternative is specified. Please try to arrive at the meeting point in good time and with a full tank of fuel. Please note that Group Social Runs are principally for group members only. Please let the run organizer know if you want to invite a guest. If carrying a pillion passenger you should ensure that this is covered by your motorcycle insurance policy.

**It is you, as the rider who is deemed to be in control of your motorcycle at all times during an observed or social run.**

## MAY

**Mon 4th** - Monthly evening meeting at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

**Sun 10th** - Group Observed Run from Hartsholme Country Park. Meet 9.00am for 9.30am prompt start.

**Weds 27th** - Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers. Venue the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 7.45pm unless stated otherwise.

## JUNE

**Mon 1st** - Monthly evening meeting at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm.

**Sun 7th** - Group Observed Run from Brigg Leisure Centre. Meet 9.00am for 9.30am prompt start.

**Weds 17th** - Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm

**Weds 24th** - Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers. Venue the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 7.45pm unless stated otherwise.

## JULY

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup>** - Monthly evening meeting at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm.

**Sun 12<sup>th</sup>** - Group Observed Run from Willingham Woods. Meet 9.00am for 9.30am. prompt start.

**Weds 29<sup>th</sup>** - Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers. Venue the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 7.45pm unless stated otherwise.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE NOW HELD ON A MONDAY**