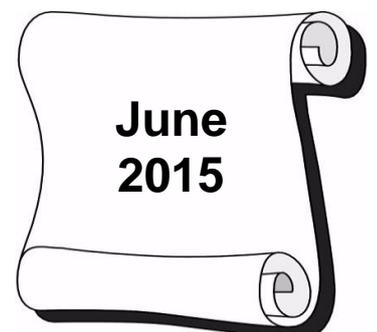


ChainLincs

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



On a recent trip to Barcelona, Andy Kitchen was impressed to see local bikers using radio communications devices.



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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 July 2015.

Please provide any copy to the editor, Ian Firth, by **Thursday 30th June 2015** at
the latest, earlier is better. You can send a copy by email to

iancfirth@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

The summer equinox isn't far away but for a little while, the days continue to get longer. If only, they would get warmer! There are a number of special events coming up with the IAM ROAR and a trip to a historic aerodrome, so look out for details in the newsletter.

I am looking forward to the Lincoln Bikefest, which I have mentioned before, is where I had my first interaction face to face with IAM people. Amazingly, I wasn't scared off! I remember being given a leaflet about the IAM and 3 newsletters to have a read of and which contained some useful contact details if I wished to join. Little did I know that one year on, I would be the one writing the newsletters and trying to get enough substance for the newsletters. With that in mind, I must thank our regular contributors over the months including John, Lynne, Mick and others. Without your input, this would just be a short booklet with little useful information.

I hope that the heatwave forecast for the coming days will see more of us out and about on our bikes, especially to events, meetings and observed rides. I keep meaning to get to another ride soon, but something seems to get in the way most times, such as the Bikefest this next weekend or even dare I say it; work! I am keen to see if I still have the skills taught to me by Andy Kitchen last year. I hope so, as my advanced driving skills for life sessions seem to be going better than expected, which must mean that something is still in my brain from last year. There's only one way to find out and that will be on the next ride I get to do with the group. I want to improve and become the best rider I can be. Don't we all?

Finally, a correction to last month's emailed version of ChainLincs. It is of course Jerry Neale who took over the role of Training Officer, not Garry. Good luck Jerry!

Ian

Contents in this newsletter:

- Chairman's chatter
- Membership update
- Rambling on
- Charity Ride for LEBBS
- LIVES Medics
- Observers meeting
- Wickenby Ride
- IAM RAOR
- Help Find Harry
- Driving Licence Changes
- Diary of events

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Well, I don't know about you but is summer here or not? It was absolutely chucking it down yesterday morning (Saturday) and then we had showers for the rest of the day. Today, it was dry but not exactly summer! Still, I got the grass cut and more importantly, I got out on the bike for a couple of hours. It constantly amazes me, the speed that other bikers feel it is good to travel at and watching their road positioning is frightening. I was following one biker for a short stretch of the A46 and his positioning was almost the opposite of mine on the bends, but there again he was going for the knee down approach as well! I am surprised there are not more accidents on Lincolnshire's roads. Remember, stay safe out there and don't get dragged into a race with these guys that give bikers a bad name.

The membership continues to creep up, welcome to Simon Battram from Grimsby and John Frow from Scunthorpe. Hope you enjoy your training and look forward to seeing you at one of the Group's social events or ride outs. 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.



A great turn out on 10 May from Hartsholme Park. Thirteen members turned up so we split into 2 group; one heading for the Wolds led by Ken Rose, the other headed south to Bourne led by Chris Tait. Thanks guys. We had great weather and roads. Nice to see new member Andy Kendall and 'test ready' Steve Wivall there and I hope you both had a good run. Plenty

of observers turned out again so thanks for all those who came along and kept us on our toes.

Next ride is Sunday 7 June at 0930hrs from Brigg Leisure Centre. I won't see you there as plan to be at the Lincoln BikeFest (see next para). If your ride out takes you south to Lincoln perhaps I'll see you there instead.

Those on Facebook will already have seen that Lincoln BikeFest will take place on 7 June and is planned to be bigger and better than ever spanning both sides of Brayford Pool. We will be there promoting advanced biking. We have had a few offers of help but if you can spare an hour feel free to come and join us. We will be setting up from about 08.30 and then convincing the non-believers in the value of advanced training.

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. The event gets underway at 10am and will see 500 vintage bikes including unusually steam powered cars, all running, plus 100 stalls - a good day out. Admission fee applies £8 on the day-- £6 advanced booking.

Hope to see you all soon, stay safe

Mick

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Group Web Site: www.l-a-m.co.uk

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

Member	Observer
Rob Bentley from North Hykeham	Donald Ford
John Frow from Scunthorpe	Garry Calladine
Simon Battram from Grimsby	John Harrison

The group membership is currently comprised as follows

Full Members	78
Associate Members	21
Total Group Membership	99

Don't forget that outstanding membership subs are now well overdue – you should all (up to membership number 724) have already received the paperwork from me. I will email a further form to those still yet to renew unless you have contacted me to inform of the intention not to re-join the group.

To those not intending renewing group membership, I take the opportunity to thank you for your previous support of the group.

That's all for this month, ride safely:

John Cheetham

RAMBLING ON

I have just received the Scunthorpe car group's newsletter, it's gone to A4 format with a single staple in the corner, not as nice as ours, no front cover page, just the word "newsletter" at the top and then into to the editorial. It's not as easy to hold and read like ours, but still makes an interesting read now and then.

One such article is THINK! - Country Roads. Brake before a bend, not on it. As cars are more affordable now and school leaving age has risen, the need for a motor cycle to get you to work is somewhat less these days. Therefore, understanding the necessity of braking whilst upright and before going into the bend is not often learned these days before younger people take to four wheels. It goes on to say, that 60% of all fatalities occur on country roads and that the number of people are killed on country roads is nearly 11 times higher than on motorways. That is like comparing chalk with cheese, they are two different animals. Motorways are two or more carriageways running parallel to each other akin to railway lines, never to two shall meet. Most country roads are single carriageway, in some cases not even wide enough for two cars to pass each other comfortably. This picks up on another survey saying that Lincolnshire has the most dangerous roads in the land. It's not rocket science to work this out, as Lincolnshire is lacking in motorway miles. In the Lincolnshire countryside we have all sorts of roads and lanes; some wide, others narrow and some, where history has left us just a single track. They vary from long gentle curves that follow the contours of the land from the time it was all common land, the long straight roads left by the Romans, the tight sharp bends and corners that the land enclosure acts made. This is why our roads are sought out by motorcyclists because we have some of the most interesting and challenging roads around.

On the way to this month's observer meeting, Ian Morrison and myself were riding on a single track as per last month's advice, when we met a car. It passed the signed passing place and continued towards us, it was not until Ian moved over and the driver saw two bikes that the car slowed and then drove onto the grass verge and we passed. It would not be the first time I have been forced off the road and thankfully the verges were wide and reasonably open and flat by drivers who just keep ploughing on. I have said before that roads are not dangerous, not one has been brought to court for harming anybody, it's the people that use them that need educating on how to use them. At the last Observers meeting Ian picked up on the point that before taking his IAM test he chose main roads to get from A to B, but now he actively seeks out the back roads like myself, because they are much more enjoyable to ride on. This brings me to say that as his riding skills advanced by been given a system of motorcycle control to ride with, his safety increased and Ian found his pleasure from riding increased. This is where we need as a group more members to become missionaries and go out and convert riders to our way of riding. We need to risk being thrown into the cooking pot and not be preachers who only see those already converted. Until we do this, our roads will be deemed dangerous and will make the wrong headlines. They will have more restrictions put on them because nobody is going to replace them with motorways (Boring things that just wear the centre out of the rear tyre anyway).

Another topic in the Scunthorpe newsletter was “Would I pass the IAM test now”, the chap broaching the point was an observer and writes, that he is fortunate that his driving has been continually updated by the observer training, but are the old habits in your riding creeping back, if you think this may be so, why not come to a Sunday morning run and have a ride and check yourself out.

John Harrison

CHARITY RIDE FOR LEBBS

A charity ride for LEBBS is planned for July from John O'Groats to Lands' End. The ride will be over two days so it's still quite a challenge. The aim is to leave here on Friday 24 July and travel to John O'Groats by the shortest route. After a good night's kip an early start will see folks heading down through Inverness, Sterling, Carlisle, Lancaster then Shrewsbury. You'll probably be wanting a break by then so the plan is to stop in this area. The next day's riding will be through Chepstow, Bristol, Taunton, Bodmin to Land End. Finished! You'll then get the chance to crash out for a well-deserved night's sleep before heading home (by the shortest possible route) the next day.

So, is anyone up for this challenge? Do you want to do some long distance riding avoiding motorways as much as possible and riding some of the best roads in Britain? And seeing some of the best countryside. If you're up to it then please join Steve and friends and also help a very worthy cause.

To let us know you are interested or to discuss please contact Steve Watson on 07772189311 or via email at watto56@live.co.uk. If you're not able to take up the challenge then all donations for the charity will be gratefully received.

Definite numbers are required by 1 July so rest stops and accommodation can be organised.

LIVES MEDICS

Guest speakers at this month's meeting are LIVES Medics. They recently held a BBQ and ride out around Lincolnshire which raised £400. Come and support them on Monday at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen. See meeting in events pages



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OBSERVERS MEETING

This month's Observer meeting was held on bike training night and despite the heavy rain it did not dampen the enthusiasm of the Observers who attended. Many Items were also discussed during the evening and some radio skills training work was done. We would like to welcome Kev Hewson to the Observers team. Kev attended this month's meeting and is looking forward to training towards the IMI accredited Local observer qualification. Thank you to the host at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, for great facilities and always mighty fine coffee.

Become an IAM group observer

Your first question might be 'what is an observer?'

An '**observer**' is a person who has already passed the Advanced Test and is prepared to help other people prepare for passing the test through what we call '**observed runs**'. The **observer** advises and assists a rider (known as an '**associate**') in preparing for the IAM test by following behind an associate and offering advice and support to the rider to improve their riding standard to the level you will need to reach to pass your test.

LAM will welcome you if you want to become an observer and will provide guidance and assistance to ensure your current riding is still up to the IAM Advanced Test Standard. Once confirmed, they will then give you lots of support, encouragement, and guidance to help you become a '**Local Observer**' with the Group.

All current/active observers must be current members of the IAM and LAM Group. By becoming a '**Local Observer**', you will learn a lot more, not just about helping other riders reach the standard you have achieved, but through a greater understanding of the principles and application of advanced riding techniques. This will also help you improve your own standard of riding.

There is another reason to become an observer - the satisfaction of one of 'your' associates passing the IAM Advanced Test and the part you played in that process. So, if you would like to find out more, contact one of the Observer team or committee members or come to the next Observers training night on Wed 24 June.

Jerry

WICKENBY RIDE

Ken Rose is looking at having a ride starting and ending at Wickenby Aerodrome. It is intended to have a 2 to 2.5 hour ride taking in the Lincolnshire Wolds and if enough interest is shown, there would be a BBQ to round the day off. There is a small and interesting museum at Wickenby and the curators would be happy to give the group a

presentation with slides about the aerodrome and its role in WW2. The event is free, but as with any museum, a contribution would be very gratefully received from those attending. If numbers attending do not warrant a BBQ, there is a small café at the venue we could use.

Ken is looking at holding the event on either the 19th or the 26th July. Please let Ken know if you are interested so we can see if numbers would support the BBQ, by email at merseysecretary@live.co.uk. Hopefully, we can have a good turn out and make it a great social event for the group.

IAM ROAR



In last month's newsletter, we introduced the IAM Motorcycle homecoming event on the 11th July, which Kev is organising a ride out to, for anyone interested in attending. Further details are coming out each week so here are the latest updates. The event is now known as the IAM Ride Out And Rally (ROAR).

If you are interested in attending you really should book in advance so that numbers can be confirmed. Remember, it's only £10 and pillions are FREE!!! To book, use the link below or call 0300 303 1134

The "Ride in" starting points are confirmed as:

Lyn's Raven Café - A41/A49 junction, Prees Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 2AF

Jack's Café - A5, Watling Street, Towcester, Northamptonshire NN12 8ET

Donington Park services - M1, Castle Donington Derby, East Midlands, DE74 2TN

H-Café - Oxford Road, Dorchester, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 7LY

(For times, see the ROAR Web pages at <https://www.iam.org.uk/homecoming>)

Steve Plater and John Cooper are now confirmed as attending with negotiations with John McGuinness and William Dunlop ongoing, however, I predict that they may be a little bit busy for the next 12 days.

Events will include a horseshoe slow riding challenge, best bike competition and assessments, Masters and IMI taster sessions.

HELP FIND HARRY

Harry is the beloved pet of group member, Carli Smith. Harry went missing around the Brigg area on Friday 22nd May and is a lovely Brindle/Grey mongrel. If anyone sees the dog pictured below, Carli is desperate to hear from you. You can find her on twitter under @CarliR6



DRIVING LICENCE CHANGES

From the 8th June, you will no longer need to keep the paper counterpart of your driving licence. Be warned, however, it may cause issues to you if you need to hire a vehicle. IAM have raised concerns as the photocard alone is not sufficient for car hire or if you are employed by a company who uses fleet lease hire. You will be expected to access the details yourself and print those off for submission to a car hire firm or employer. Or you can call the DVLA and give a third party permission to check your driving record verbally. For full details, check out the IAM website research and media pages.

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.

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
- Sun 21st** – Motor Heritage Museum, Gaydon. Meet Newark McDonalds for 8.00am prompt start
- 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 6th** - Monthly evening meeting at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm.
- Sun 12th** - Group Observed Run from Willingham Woods. Meet 9.00am for 9.30am prompt start.
- Weds 29th** - Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers. Venue the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 7.45pm unless stated otherwise.

AUGUST

- Mon 3rd** - Monthly evening meeting at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm.
- Sun 9th** - Group Observed Run from Hartsholme Park. Meet 9.00am for 9.30am prompt start.
- Weds 19th** - Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm
- Weds 26th** - 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