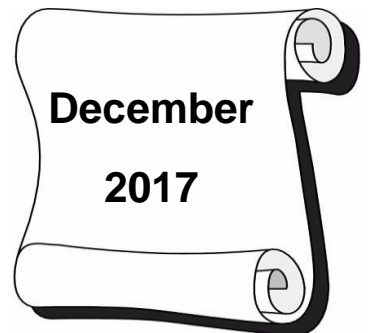
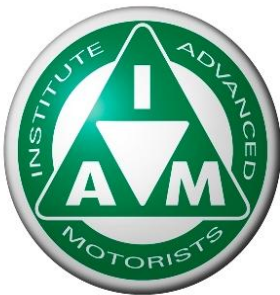


# ChainLincs

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



Who needs a Sleigh when you've got a bike?



# GROUP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The new Area Service Delivery Manager for our region is Peter Serhatlic. Peter can be contacted on [peter.serhatlic@iam.org.uk](mailto:peter.serhatlic@iam.org.uk) or via mobile on 07703 718907

Mick Smith <a href="mailto:mick.carron@btinternet.com">mick.carron@btinternet.com</a>	Chairman & Website	01673 860853 07979 912740
John Cheetham <a href="mailto:lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk">lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk</a>	Group Membership Secretary & Newsletter Mailing	01427 616864
Sam Kirwan <a href="mailto:Samng41@icloud.com">Samng41@icloud.com</a>	Treasurer	07745 774215
Roland Johns <a href="mailto:johns7@ntlworld.com">johns7@ntlworld.com</a>		01522 887829 07943 812324
Jerry Neale <a href="mailto:jerryneale@tiscali.co.uk">jerryneale@tiscali.co.uk</a>		01522 681613 0741935333
Kevin Turner <a href="mailto:kevtturner59@sky.com">kevtturner59@sky.com</a>	Website & Group Clothing	07796 954004
Kev Hewson <a href="mailto:kevrhewson@live.com">kevrhewson@live.com</a>		07554 629184

Group Web Site <http://www.l-a-m.co.uk>

Webmaster Mick Smith Email: [mick.carron@btinternet.com](mailto:mick.carron@btinternet.com)



Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/301610040008772/>

Follow us on twitter at :- @lincsbikers\_iam

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month starting at 8pm  
at the Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU

Middle Rasen is on the A631 about 1.5 miles west of Market Rasen

The next issue of ChainLincs will be in February 2018.

Please provide any copy to the editor, by **25 January 2018**  
at the latest, earlier is better. You can send any articles by email to  
any member of the committee.

## EDITORIAL



Well, Here it is, my last edition of ChainLincs. I have to say that I have enjoyed editing the newsletter. I've had some really good articles from members of the group and good support from the chair, Mick Smith, and the secretary, John Cheetham. Thanks guys.

We are looking for a new editor from January 2018. If you are interested and would like to discuss with me, or Mick Smith, a previous editor then feel free to contact us. Email or phone, whichever is easiest. It's a great way to meet and talk to the other members too.

If you are planning a ride out and its short notice, put it on our Facebook page, there may be others that are free and would like to join you. It's a great way to meet other members.

The social rides are open to anyone, not just LAM members, so invite your friends along as well. Sunday morning group rides are for members and those considering taking their advanced test.

If you have any recommendations for people or want to tell them about interesting roads and places contact a member of the Committee (details in committee information) by telephone or via email, or put onto Facebook and we'll put something together. As they say 'Every Little Counts'.

Whatever you do,  
Have fun,

*Lynne*

### **Contents in this newsletter:**

- Chairman's chatter
- Membership update
- November AGM & social
- November Sunday ride out
- Forthcoming Events
- Test Passes
- In a man's world
- Isle of Bute
- The 'Nimble' Girl
- Observer & Associate Information
- Group Clothing
- Diary of events

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Welcome to Decembers ChainLincs and thanks again to Lynne for editing. This may be the last time you receive ChainLincs because, as you know, Lynne is stepping down from the Editor's role and we have nobody to take over. If anybody out there feels they have time to produce a regular newsletter for the Group please contact me. If you want to know more about editing ChainLincs give myself or Lynne a call.

The Group is in a really good position at the moment with pushing 130 members, 14 Observers and 3 trainee Observers and although we have 7 members on the committee it is always good to get some fresh ideas from others so if you feel you could serve on the committee let me know. Committee meetings are held every 2 months. If anyone would like to help out at any of the events we put on that would be appreciated.

Membership is still on the up and we have 6 new associates this month and a returning full member. Welcome to Ann and Jonathan Cozens from Cleethorpes, Dorin Claici and Rob Walmsley, both from Scunthorpe, Nigel Kelsey from Upton and Matthew Marett from Scotton. Great to have you on board, enjoy your rides and hope to see you at a ride out or the monthly social meeting soon.

Only one test pass this month. Congratulations to Matt Haisman and your Observer Roland Johns. Hopefully there are some others almost test ready, it would be good to see some more passes over the winter.

Also, congratulations to Ian Firth and Phil Niner who both qualified as Local Observers this month. Well done guys and thanks.

If you fancy being an observer come along to an Observer meeting (details in Diary of Events) or give Jerry Neale a call on 07885 494607. Please note that Observer Meetings are now held at LK2, Studio 2, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Deepdale Lane, Nettleham, LN2 2LL. Many thanks to Andy Kitchen for letting us use his offices for the meetings.

If you want to prove that your riding or driving is still up to advanced standards then take the test (actually a reassessment for full members) again. The new membership tier, Fellow, is now open. The Fellow membership tier is open to all current full IAM members, It will offer you enhanced recognition and insurance benefits in return for your commitment to keep your advanced skills up to date by retesting every three years. If you are interested have a look at the IAM website [www.iamroadsmart.com/fellow](http://www.iamroadsmart.com/fellow) . Six members of the Group have already signed up including me.

For the new, and existing, members don't forget to find our Facebook page Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists [here](#) and ask to join so you can post and join in, and we are also on Twitter at IAM Lincolnshire (@lincsbikers\_iam).

Finally don't forget the second category offer we have going with the Lincoln Car Group and also the Scunthorpe Car Group! 20% off the second category price of £114 making the cost £91.20 so if you haven't done the advanced car test yet and fancy it give Ash Behan a call on 0300 365 0152 or for Scunthorpe, Terry Heath on 01652 655 601 or 07831 377 171.

Hope to see you all soon, stay safe

Mick

## **Membership Update etc.**

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

We have six new members to welcome to the group as follows:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Observer</b>
817 Nigel Kelsey from Upton	Full Member passed 1993
818 Dorin Claici from Scunthorpe	Will Field
819 Rob Walmsley from Scunthorpe	Full Member passed 2008
820 Ann Cozens from Cleethorpes	Alison Millington
821 Jonathan Cozens from Cleethorpes	Will Field
822 Matthew Marett from Scotton	TBA

There is one pass to report since the previous newsletter listing. Congratulations on your success and a big thank you to the Observers.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Pass Date</b>	<b>Observer</b>
Mathew Haisman	16 November	Roland Johns

The group membership is currently comprised as follows:

Full Members	105
Associate Members	24
<b>Total Group Membership</b>	<b>129</b>

That's all for this month, ride safely:

*John Cheetham*

## November's AGM & Social

The AGM of Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists took place at the November social. A very good turn out as well. Mick Smith discussed the past year and congratulated everyone on how successful the group had been.

He then went on to state that it had been a good year for new members and test passes. In the 12 months up to November 1<sup>st</sup>, 30 new members had joined. This is up from last year and is hopefully partly due to the open day we ran again in April, our presence at the BikeFest and the IAM's campaign to make themselves a household name!

23 test passes in past 12 months with 15 being Firsts! And only one fail. Overall Pass rate is up to 96% which is above the region average of 91%. We currently have 19 associates working towards the test although 2 do have tests booked for later in this month and 3 are on hold.

So far during this year, we have had little reason to be concerned about the group's finances and we are currently in line to finish this tax year with similar results to 2016/17. The group, of course, does not exist to make profits but as long as we can keep any deficits (or surpluses) as close to zero as possible, we should be ok financially for the foreseeable future. Of course, this relies on us continuing to attract new members but I have no doubts that we will continue to do just that.

Mick Smith confirmed that the annual subscription fee would be maintained at £8.00.

## November Sunday Ride Out

Mick Smith:



Thanks to the 14 members and guest that turned up to a chilly Brigg for this November's ride. We had a group chat and decided to go out in one big group for a change. Four then decided they didn't fancy that so they went off separately which left 11 of us to ride across NE Lincolnshire ending up at Cleethorpes for a bacon bap, cuppa and a warm. It was then back to Brigg. Many thanks to Malcolm Heaton for leading on a bright, windy and chilly day, great ride.

# Sheffield Peaks 5 November

Ian Morrison:

Good turnout for today's ride into the Sheffield peaks. Lost 4 bikes momentarily right at the end, but all made it together for the end of ride debrief. Good group, well ridden apart from my glaring faux pas. (We're not talking about traffic lights).

Thanks for your support gentlemen and lady.  
11 bikes, one was 2up.



## Forthcoming Events

### 4 December

At this month's social we will have a quiz, a raffle and a buffet. It's usually a very good night. The buffet provided by the Nag's Head is first class. If you can bring a raffle prize, please do. The more the merrier.

Although there is no official social in January if you have any ideas for a ride out or event then let us know, there's bound to be someone who needs a blast on their bike!

### 10 December

December's ride is on the 10th from the Willingham Woods. Please note the later start time, planning to leave at midday. Hope to see you there.



# Test Passes

Another F1rst for Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists.



**Graham Swanston** collecting his certificate from Mick Smith. Unfortunately, his observer Jerry Neale, was unable to attend.



**Neil Newnham** collecting his certificate from observer Alison Millington.



**Mark Gill** – collecting his certificate from his observer, Kev Smith

## Neal Newnham

My IAM RoadSmart story started when I returned to biking after a near 30 year absence from the riding scene.

I first passed my test when I was 17 years old but gave up motorbiking at the age of 19 when I joined the RAF. Over the last 30 years I considered returning to biking many times but never did, until one day I was invited by a colleague to rent a Harley with him and tour a little bit of California for the weekend. That experience re-ignited my passion and I started to rent bikes in the US and South Africa whenever my business trips allowed. These trips, to some of the most amazing places in the world, inspired me to want to own a bike again.

I finally took the plunge and bought a R1200GS, a bike I had learned to love whilst renting, and promised myself that I would seek expert tuition once my new bike arrived. I examined all of the available training options, had a few lessons with local instructors, but decided that I needed more. Ultimately, I wanted to be a safer rider and to me that meant passing my advanced motorcycle test. That's why I contacted LAM and that's where my IAM RoadSmart story began.



the modern-day river crossing at Rorke's Drift South Africa

On joining I was allocated Alison Millington as my observer. I cannot praise Alison enough for the way in which she conveyed to me the art of the advanced rider. I must admit that I was a slow learner and for me the light bulb moment



came when I followed Alison for the first time; there it was, a clear example as to what an advanced rider looked like. With Alison's patience and exceptional tuition (it felt so much more than observing) I finally managed that pass.

My thanks clearly go to Alison, and also to Ken Rose for his wise words and vast experience.

I would thoroughly recommended IAM and the LAM group to anyone interested in making themselves a safer rider.

For me, the journey continues and I look forward very much to continuing my mini-expeditions but also, and most importantly, to starting with LEBBS in the coming weeks.

## **In A Man's World**

Alison Millington

After passing my Advanced test in September 2016, it was suggested by an IAM examiner that I should consider becoming an Observer.

I dismissed the idea fairly quickly and it wasn't until some months later when it was mentioned again. With encouragement from Smiler, I plucked up courage to enquire. The thought of being a female in such a male dominated environment was extremely daunting and somewhat intimidating.

Shortly after I was contacted by John Cheetham to advise me that Ken Rose had been appointed as my National Observer/Mentor and told he would be in touch. What had I done? Did I really want to step into this Man's World, that is the IAM?

A check ride was arranged with Ken to confirm that my riding skills were still of the standard required for the role. Ken put me at ease and we had an enjoyable ride through the Lincolnshire Wolds, taking in the road through Wold Newton which I was to learn was a favourite route of his.

I joined Ken a few days later to follow him and his associate on their first ride out together. There seemed so much to learn and take on board.

A Sunday morning training session was arranged for all trainee Observers to attend. We met up at Middle Rasen for a briefing and to be paired with a qualified observer. When I arrived there was approximately 12 other bikes already there. Again all men, I started to doubt myself and the nerves crept in. Would I be accepted?

The ride went really well and we ended at Caistor Lakes for coffee and cake, which is always a bonus. My nerves and fears had totally disappeared. The observer team were a great mix of personalities and I was pleased and proud to be part of it.

During this time I was allocated my first associate, Neal Newnham. What a pleasure it was to see Neal improve his skills and take on board the suggestions and advice we discussed after each ride out. On 27<sup>th</sup> October Neal took his test and passed. Well done Neal.

Thank you to all the observer team for welcoming me into the fold. Let's hope more women come to join us and enjoy the experience as much as I have.

## Isle of Bute

Steve Watson



Myself and a friend, Mark, set off on a very sunny Friday morning 3 November to Arrochar, Scotland for a jolly. We arrived at a lovely B&B, the Arrochar Village Inn near Loch Lomond where we were made very welcome.

Saturday morning we set off from Arrochar to Bute but as it was quite close we decided to take the long way round. Talking to a local he suggested a trip to a little bay further north.

Spectacular scenery. Well worth the visit. We followed some very 'John Harrison' roads which the Scots label 'Argyle's Secret Coast Road'. We did over 70 miles before arriving at the ferry terminal. £4 return ticket, which we thought was very reasonable. The main road on Bute leads to Rothesay, the main town where we had pie, chips and a coffee at a little café on the front opposite the ferry terminal, before having a ride round.



The weather was brilliant and the scenery well worth stopping for photos. The wildlife wasn't as welcoming as the natives though as a very large bird flew out of the hedge bottom attacking Mark as he rode past. Large? It was enormous!



Rothesay promenade



Rothesay ferry terminal

From the ferry terminal we headed back to the B&B at Arrochar where we stopped another night before setting off home on the Sunday morning. Light drizzle on Saturday in Scotland meant that the roads were wet and the full sun gleaming off them made for an interesting ride home!

# The 'Nimble' Girl

Lynne Watson

Anyone remember the 'Nimble Girl' adverts? I do and I've always fancied going 'Up, up and away' so for Christmas last year my better half bought me a balloon ride! We tried various times to organise a date but life, and lots of bike trips, kept getting in the way. The voucher was getting near to its sell by date and so a last ditch effort was made. We booked on and booked a B&B in Kent for the night beforehand as the flight was for 0730hrs. Beautiful day travelling down and a lovely meal out and we were set for the morning. However, overnight the rain came. Hard! The balloon ride was cancelled. Bitterly disappointed we travelled home and I tried again. And again. Eventually, I got a booking on 30 October and it was looking good. We travelled to York and I'd been advised that the weather was suitable. When we arrived at the race course and the organisers turned up there was the chance it could still be cancelled as they were short on passengers. We managed to convince one of the spectators to come and things started happening. As everyone was partnered up and I was Billy No Mates I had a corner of the basket all to myself. We set to getting the balloon sorted and eventually we climbed in and set off. Wow! Talk about amazing. It was so quiet and peaceful and warm, which

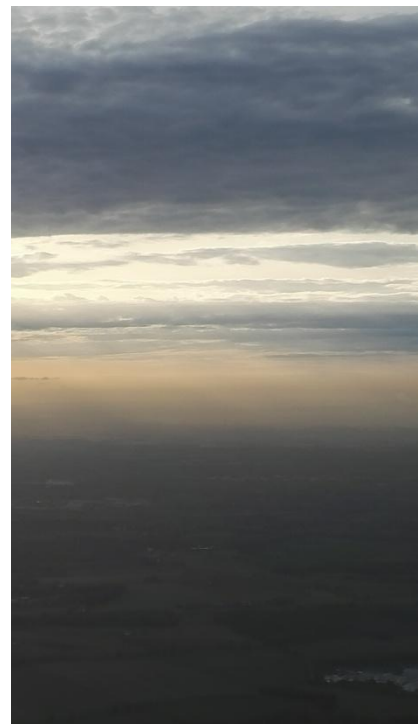


was a surprise as it had been quite chilly before we set off.

Because it was such a beautiful day the balloonist said we would just keep going, and so we did. I was hoping that we would go over York Minster but it was the opposite side to me and so difficult to see. The view I had more than made up for it though.

This was the last trip for 2017 and we couldn't have asked for better weather. The sun was shining, the sky was blue and the cold kept away by the burners. Absolutely fantastic!

Once the sun started going down we needed to land and the preferred site was a stubble field as we wouldn't cause any damage to crops or frighten farm animals. However, the field was delightfully muddy, the Range Rover got stuck and we had a glass of champagne! We got back to York Racecourse about 1800hrs. Just in time for tea.





# Observers and Associate Information

Jerry Neale

Fifteen Observers travelling from all over the county and over the border braved the minus temperatures to attend this months Observers meeting at LK2 in Nettleham. Many Items were discussed throughout the evening. Two Observers will be planning a subject of the month for the next meeting in February. Many of the team are still out on the road working with their associates. Valued skills and knowledge can still be gained when winter riding.

This month the Observer team would like to congratulate Ian Firth and Phil Niner with completing their IMI Local Observer qualification.

If you are planning any rides during the winter consider a look at the Lincs county council gritting routes to plan your ride. If heading out of the county consider looking for similar information from other county councils.

## Gritting routes

The county council grits 1,869 miles of priority roads in Lincolnshire when road temperatures drop to around 1°C. This includes:

- All A and B roads
- At least one road from each of the county's main villages to a major traffic route
- At least one road within 500m of all train and bus stations, hospitals and schools,
- where possible
- Additional roads depending on various risk factors, such as historic accident data

## VIEW MAP OF GRITTING ROUTES

For the latest news on the council's gritting operations, [follow @LincsCC\\_roads on Twitter](#). The link to see the map is: <https://lincs.locationcentre.co.uk/>

The Highways Agency is responsible for gritting all trunk roads in Lincolnshire, including on the A1, the A52 Grantham to Nottingham and the A46 west of Lincoln. No other roads will be treated, except during severe snow or prolonged icy spells. We do not routinely grit or salt footpaths. However, during severe weather, we work closely with local organisations to clear some steep and well-used pavements. There is no law preventing people from [clearing snow and ice from public spaces](#), when done carefully.

## When we grit

From October to April, we work with the Met Office to monitor weather conditions around the clock and our 43 gritting crews are on call 24/7. The decision to grit is based on forecasts for winter weather, road surface temperature, dampness of road surface, air temperature and humidity. When we grit, we try to do so either before ice has set or once snow has settled so that it has the best chance of working. Be aware that high-purity white salt is not always visible on the road.

## Why roads might still be icy

Even when we've gritted a road, it doesn't mean it won't be icy. This is because:

- It takes time for the salt to take effect
- High winds or sudden rain can take salt off the road
- If the road surface temperature drops to below -7°C, gritting becomes much less effective
- If the road surface temperature drops to below -15°C, gritting doesn't work at all

Information courtesy of Lincs County council

Wishing everyone a safe and very Happy Christmas from all in the Observer team.

## Group Clothing

There is a wide range of group clothing available to order, with our Lincolnshire Advanced Motorists logo on it, you can also add the IAM logo and a name if desired.

There are a number of colours available, for full details contact Kevin Turner via email. Details shown in the Committee Information.

Name						
ITEM	DESIGN	SIZE	QTY	Name to be embroidered (leave blank if not required)	PER ITEM	TOTAL
Polo Shirt with	Group Badge				£8.50	£
Polo Shirt with	Group Badge + IAM Logo				£10.50	£
Sweatshirt with	Group Badge				£10.00	£
Sweatshirt with	Group Badge + IAM Logo				£12.00	£
Fleece with	Group Badge				£14.00	£
Fleece with	Group Badge + IAM Logo				£16.00	£
T-shirt with	Group Badge				£7.00	£
Colour required:					TO PAY	£
<b>PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED WITH ORDER</b>						



# DIARY OF EVENTS

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. The runs last around 2 hours, usually with a mid-point refreshment stop, starting at the venues listed below.

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.

**Ancholme Leisure Centre, Scawby Brook, Brigg, DN20 9JH      South side of A18**

**Willingham Woods Picnic Site, LN8 3RQ      East of Market Rasen A631**

**Hartsholme Country Park Cafe, Lincoln, LN6 0EY      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 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.**

## DECEMBER

Monday 4th      Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm  
As is usual in December there will be a short quiz, raffle and buffet.  
Contributions of raffle prizes are most welcome.

Sunday 10th      Group Observed Run - Willingham Woods Picnic Area near kiosk  
Meet 11.30am for prompt 12.00am start

Monday 11th      Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm

**PLEASE NOTE** there is no Observers meeting this month

## 2018

## JANUARY

**PLEASE NOTE** there are no formal events during the month of January.  
However, that's not to say that nothing happens!  
If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

## FEBRUARY

Monday 5th      Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

Sunday 11th      Group Observed Run - Hartsholme Country Park café area  
Meet 11.30am for prompt 12.00am start

Monday 12th      Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm

Wednesday 28th Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers  
Venue, LK2 Offices, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Nettleham LN2 2LL at 7.45pm  
For information contact Jerry Neale (details on page 2)

## **MARCH**

Monday 5th Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

Sunday 11th Group Observed Run - Ancholme Leisure Centre car park, Scawby Brook, Brigg  
Meet 9.30am for prompt 10.00am start

Wednesday 28th Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers  
Venue, LK2 Offices, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Nettleham LN2 2LL at 7.45pm  
For information contact Jerry Neale (details on page 2)

## **APRIL**

Monday 2nd Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

Sunday 8th Group Observed Run - Willingham Woods Picnic Area near kiosk  
Meet 9.00am for prompt 9.30am start

Monday 9th Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm

Wednesday 25th Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers  
Venue, LK2 Offices, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Nettleham LN2 2LL at 7.45pm  
For information contact Jerry Neale (details on page 2)

## **MAY**

Monday 7th Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

Sunday 13th Group Observed Run - Hartsholme Country Park café area  
Meet 9.00am for 9.30am prompt start

Wednesday 30th Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers  
Venue, LK2 Offices, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Nettleham LN2 2LL at 7.45pm  
For information contact Jerry Neale (details on page 2)

## **JUNE**

Monday 4th Monthly evening meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen, LN8 3JU (A631) at 8.00pm

Sunday 10th Group Observed Run - Ancholme Leisure Centre car park, Scawby Brook, Brigg  
Meet 9.00am for prompt 9.30am start

Monday 11th Committee Meeting, Nags Head, Middle Rasen. Prompt start at 7.45pm

Wednesday 27th Meeting for Observers and those interested in becoming Observers  
Venue, LK2 Offices, Deepdale Enterprise Park, Nettleham LN2 2LL at 7.45pm  
For information contact Jerry Neale (details on page 2)

