



# IAM LINCOLN

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## WINTER 2017

## THE LATEST FROM IAM IN LINCOLN



### *Happy New Year from all at Lincoln IAM*

On behalf of our Committee and Observer Team, I'd like to wish our readers a happy and prosperous 2018. We hope that you enjoy our newsletters throughout the year.

**Ashley Behan, Secretary**

### *In this edition*

#### **Page 1**

*Intro and contents*

#### **Page 2 & 3**

*Chairman's update*

#### **Page 4**

*Advanced Driving with IAMRS*

#### **Page 5**

*Advanced Driving with IAMRS &  
Group News*

#### **Page 6**

*Group News*

#### **Page 7**

*Mike Hill*

#### **Page 8**

*IAMRS's New Year's Tips*

#### **Page 9**

*Fordie's World*

#### **Page 10**

*Know Your Stuff - Smart  
Motorways*

#### **Page 11**

*2018 Events Calendar*

### *Change of email address*

Please note our new email address is [lincolniam@hotmail.com](mailto:lincolniam@hotmail.com)

If you want to be sure of receiving emails from us, please add this address to your contacts list and your safe senders list. If you are unsure how to do this, you can find out online. Following these steps will prevent our emails being automatically sent to your junk inbox or from being blocked altogether. If you do not wish to receive emails, please unsubscribe by way of reply. I would be grateful if you could not mark our emails as spam; marking as spam can 'blacklist' our emails more widely and present issues for those wishing to receive them in the future.

**Contact us...** something you'd like to share in the newsletter?

**By phone:**

0300 365 0152

**By email:**

[lincolniam@hotmail.com](mailto:lincolniam@hotmail.com)

**By post:**

Lincoln IAM, 21 Good Lane, LINCOLN, LN1 3EH

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## WINTER 2017

# CHAIR/CHIEF OBSERVER'S REPORT

*2017 a record year*

I am very pleased to report that 2017 was another record year for Lincoln Group.

We recruited 58 new associates, achieved 45 test passes and at the end of the year we still had 34 associates in training.

This great result could not have been achieved without a lot of hard work by the committee and observers. During the year we have strengthened the observer team and boosted the committee with two new members; Trevor Kerry and Kelvin Simmonds.

We continue with our policy of delivering the highest standard of advanced driver training and fundamental to this is ensuring that we, as observers, are also trained to the highest level. To this end Kelvin Simmonds has assumed the role of Training Officer and our ambition is to get every observer qualified to National Observer standard and those who wish to are being encouraged to qualify for their Masters.

It looks like 2018 is going to be another busy year as in the first month we have already had 8 new associates and 5 test passes.

We have put together another very interesting events programme for this year and we look forward to seeing as many members as possible throughout the year.

Thank you for your support, it is very much appreciated.

**Roger Hicks**

## 2018 ADVANCED DRIVER COURSES

Following our success in 2017, we're pleased to be off to a good start to the New Year!

We'd like to congratulate the first four associates to pass their Advanced Driver Course in 2018 along with their observers.

Well done all!

### Advanced Driver Course.

Increase your confidence and on the road knowledge by becoming an Advanced Driver – and be recognised for your skills.

- Improved skills and knowledge
- DVSA accredited
- Possible cheaper insurance
- Boost your confidence
- Greater awareness of other road users
- Increased anticipation of hazards
- Opportunities to make better progress in your journey

#### 2018 (4 passes to date)

Associate	Pass Date	Observer	Check Drive Observer
Victor Francis	29/01/2018	Mike Hill	Tony Lofts
Tony Bennison	15/01/2018	Alan Buckland	Roger Hicks
Ced Shurben	06/01/2018	Trevor Kerry	Roger Hicks
Pauline Fort	06/01/2018	Tony Lofts	Julia Vause

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## 2017 ADVANCED DRIVER COURSES

### *Our record year results*

A big congratulations to all our associates who passed their advanced driver course in 2017.

A record year for us, with 45 test passes. 11 of these were F1RST's.

In 2018, we'd like to encourage our members to think about developing their skills further.

One of the following options may suit you.

### *Take part in our Advanced Driver Development—Practical Driving Evening in July*

This is an opportunity for our current members to have a refresher drive with one of our qualified observers, or take part in a demo-drive by an observer displaying advanced techniques.

From this we can assess your development needs and look into options such as achieving an IAM F1RST or a Masters in driving.

### *F1RST register or Masters*

Throughout 2018, we'll be encouraging our members to take their skills to the next level by achieving a F1RST or taking the IAM Master Test. If you're interested in either of these, contact us for more details.

Associate	Pass Date	Observer	Check Drive Observer
David Jones	23/12/2017	Mike Hill	Ashley Behan
Richard Durance	18/12/2017	Kelvin Simmonds	Roger Hicks
Mick Curran	01/12/2017	Tony Lofts	Gary Hill
Shelley Newton	13/11/2017	Peta Steadman Bee	Ashley Behan
Geoff Noel	10/11/2017	Trevor Kerry	Roger Hicks
John Siddle	09/11/2017 F1RST	Ashley Behan	Kelvin Simmonds
Mike Lenny	07/11/2017 F1RST		Ashley Behan
John Cherry	07/11/2017	Kelvin Simmonds	Ashley Behan
Jannet Wright	07/11/2017	Roger Hicks	Ashley Behan
Neil Williams	21/10/2017	Tom Burton	Tony Lofts
Mike Grimwood	04/10/2017	Trevor Kerry	Tony Lofts
James Reader	16/09/2017	Mike Hill	Gary Hill
Charlotte Mulhall	12/09/2017	Trevor Kerry	Ashley Behan
Mike Lenny	11/09/2017	Ashley Behan	Kelvin Simmonds
Peter Griss	07/09/2017	Roger Hicks	Howard Balchin
Lorna Banks	23/08/2017	Tony Lofts	Gary Hill
Alan Thornton	08/08/2017	Simon Clayton	Ashley Behan
Bob Bates	04/08/2017	Alan Buckland	Ashley Behan
Sarah Tucker	03/08/2017 F1RST	Simon Clayton	Ashley Behan
Mike Money	01/08/2017	Howard Balchin	Roger Hicks
Nick Heard	01/08/2017	Trevor Kerry	Tony Lofts
Mike Winters	21/07/2017 F1RST	Howard Balchin	Roger Hicks
Ross Glover	20/07/2017 F1RST	Trevor Kerry	Gary Hill
Jason Wright	28/06/2017 F1RST	Tom Burton	Ashley Behan
Jill Wadsley	21/06/2017	Peta Steadman Bee	Ashley Behan
Morris Harris	21/06/2017	Gary Hill	Tony Lofts
Caitlin Walker	09/06/2017	Ashley Behan	Tony Lofts
Andy Sirrs	31/05/2017 F1RST	Howard Balchin	Roger Hicks
Carol Johns	31/05/2017 F1RST	Ashley Behan	Tony Lofts
Janice Sherlock	31/05/2017	Tony Lofts	Gary Hill
Gemma King	22/05/2017	Ashley Behan	Tony Lofts
David Kirkup	10/05/2017 F1RST	Ashley Behan	Tom Burton
David Bowdrey	20/04/2017	Howard Balchin/Roger Hicks	
Christine Johnson	07/04/2017	Tony Lofts	Ashley Behan
Darren Lane	03/04/2017 F1RST	Roger Hicks	Kelvin Simmonds
Adele Clapham	31/03/2017	Mike Hill	Julia Vause
Paul Seaward	16/03/2017	Tom Burton	Ashley Behan
Graham Ford	07/03/2017 F1RST		Trevor Kerry/Ashley Behan
Darren Lane	22/06/2017	Roger Hicks	Kelvin Simmonds
Rob Murray	18/02/2017	Kelvin Simmonds	Roger Hicks
Euan Sweeting	14/02/2017	Ashley Behan	Roger Hicks
Vera Asher	13/02/2017	Peta Steadman Bee	Ashley Behan
Caroline Woolsey	07/02/2017	Julia Vause	Peta Steadman Bee/Ashley Behan
Tom Sweeting	02/02/2017	Ashley Behan	Roger Hicks
Alison Russell	22/01/2017	Trevor Kerry	Ashley Behan

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# ADVANCED DRIVING WITH IAM ROADSMART

*Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership's Communications Manager, John Siddle, recounts his experience of IAM RoadSmart's Advanced Driver Course*

The next stage was to go online and sign up to the Advanced Driver Course, I got the feeling of 'what have I let myself in for'.

### The Book

Just a few days after subscribing the book arrived. It was easy to understand, logically set out with a few acronyms that I'd have to learn, but on the whole good common sense driving. Some discipline was needed around junctions and roundabouts: thinking about what I had taken for granted over the years and analysing a little more as to why, what if and how?

### Run 1

Luckily Ash works 5 minutes from me, so we have agreed that Monday lunchtimes are now given over to Advanced Driving! Starting with our cockpit drill, we move off through the city on to quite a mixture of roads: narrow, wide, single track (with an abandoned car left in the road) opposing traffic in conflict, speed limit changes coming thick and fast as Ash guides me around the chosen route. Towards the end of our drive Ash tells me the next step, the acronyms, spoken thoughts and some habits that 36 years of driving have embedded in me that need to change! Ash is the consummate professional and

commends me on the way I have driven; he is happy with what he has seen but adds where I need to make improvement.

### Run 2

A wet and dreary lunchtime (British Summer!) gets us out among the traffic. I have read the book and looked at the list of phrases for my spoken thoughts! We make our way to the upper part of the city, moving around larger vehicles giving them space as they need, very quickly into a narrow village road, onto back lanes where passing places are an option, looking ahead Ash encourages me to look and think further ahead than I have previously, bringing up relevant spoken thoughts clearly shows I am trying to anticipate anything and everything: what if, what if what if – options! Always more options than getting involved in someone else's mistake, or worse, collision. The rain tries to spoil the drive but fails, I mentioned the road surface: wet, greasy and then back to dry as I progressed. Good positive drive, Ash gives me more to think about for the next Monday lunchtime. I manage to drop my main bad habit of braking whilst changing down. Spoken thoughts as I drive... *continued on Page 2*



John (right) is presented his advanced driving certificate by IAM Lincoln Chief Observer, Roger Hicks

### Observation Drive

Last June I contacted IAM RoadSmart to take a free advanced taster drive. My observer, Ash, relaxed me straight away and explained there were no expectations I just had to drive how I do normally and he would assess how I had driven.

I have always prided myself on my driving, whether it is two wheels or four, having driven all over the world including through jungles, deserts open highway – if it had wheels and an engine I would give it a go! Don't get me wrong, I've had the odd mishap, but I was always able to look back and say why it had happened. One or two were my fault where I recognise I could have done things better and, potentially, avoided it.

We pulled back into the carpark after what seemed ten minutes but had been just under an hour, Ash commended my driving, picked up a couple of things where improvements could be made and thanked me for such a pleasant drive!

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*Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership's Communications Manager, John Siddle, recounts his experience of IAM RoadSmart's Advanced Driver Course*

### Run 3

Check drive with a Master Driver! Kelvin takes us out on rural roads in the south of the County. "IPSGA" is clearly taking over my driving, some minor habits are hard to break but I only applied the brakes once whilst changing down! The flow of driving is getting better, I often prided myself that I could almost see another driver was potentially going to become a conflict; it seems there shouldn't be any surprises if I use the system. My spoken thoughts are covering everything I see, the small, the slight, the insignificant and all of the bigger stuff too – information highway!

### Run 4

A new route today, with awkward junctions that will challenge any driver. Work load is going up. Finessing the drive, using all the lessons so far to smooth out the ride. Nothing is a surprise or difficult. Braking points identified, sometimes too early. Getting there!

### Run 5

Late September and everything is falling into line, a couple of hesitations, gear change timing. Possibly over thinking ahead of myself. Apply the system!

### Run 6

Everything seems to have fallen into place, practice this whilst

I'm driving every time. Whilst I would have found the level Ash expects of me hard in the early days, this is now with ease, feels natural and more relaxing!

### The Test

I met my examiner, Andy, in Morton and set off on what became the most enjoyable driving test I have encountered! Pointing out skid marks on the road, looking long, making progress, anticipating but not assuming. The one and a half hours flew by. Andy's words "Congratulations! Good verbal understanding of HTBaBD, HC & RC. Excellent commentary. Great observational links, e.g. noting skid marks prior to bends and farm entrances. Your easy joining of the A1 kept you in lane 1 when (to be fair a VERY early) change to lane 2 would have prevented a slight loss of progress when a stationary car emerged from n/s minor junction and you were baulked by 2 vans slowly approaching from behind in lane 2. And that is all I can say! You were consistently Safe, systematic, smooth and made progress where appropriate. You would make an excellent candidate for the Masters programme. Well done!"

### Summary

The whole experience was a pleasure. I thought I was a fairly good driver, without sounding arrogant given my experience and the work I do. That said, this has opened up a whole new driving style for me and cleaned out a couple of bad habits that I was not aware of. The only thing I question is, why did I not do this years ago? Thank you IAM RoadSmart, Ash, Kelvin and Andy for taking me through a better way to drive.

To find out more about the free advanced taster drive or Advanced Driver Course, visit [www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/lincolniam](http://www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/lincolniam)

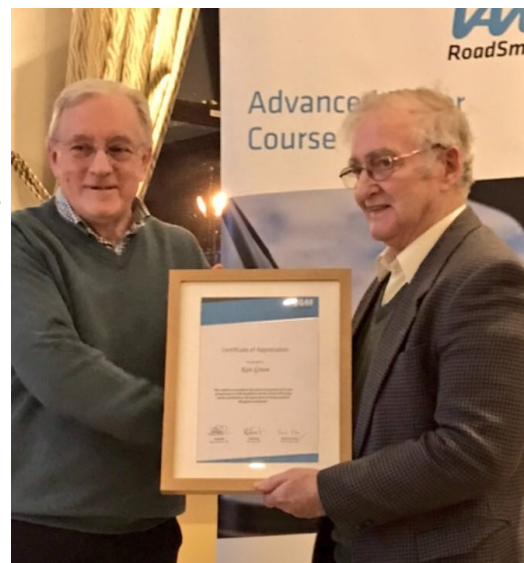
## GROUP NEWS

### *IAM thanks to Ken*

**December 2017** Ken Green has been an ever-present member of the Lincoln Advanced Motorists. Joining over 35 years ago, Ken has been an active observer for many of these. He has held many positions on the group committee, including most recently as chair, before standing down earlier in the year.

To thank him for his many years of loyal service and his contribution to the improvement of driving standards throughout Lincolnshire, Ken was presented with a certificate of appreciation at our last meeting. The committee would like to thank Ken for all his support and dedication and hope to continue seeing him at future meetings and events.

Ken (pictured right), is presented his certificate by IAM Lincoln Chief Observer, Roger Hicks.



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### GROUP NEWS

#### *Road Safety Summit success*

**November 2017**

We were pleased to join Marc Jones, Police and Crime Commissioner, for Lincolnshire's first Road Safety Summit. Around 100 delegates attended the summit, which was organised by the Police and Crime Commissioner Marc Jones and the Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership.

The summit highlighted a number of innovative road safety practices, including 'Operation Snap' which was launched two years ago in Wales. Operation Snap is an initiative which allows the public to share dashcam footage on a special secure website, so that police can investigate driving offences. Other innovations highlighted at the conference included a project run in Stockholm, which used fines from traffic offences to fund a prize draw for drivers identified as sticking to speed limits.

Deputy Chief Constable Craig Naylor, who is chair of the LRSP, told the delegates that it was crucial to focus on the four pillars of engineering, education, enforcement and evaluation: "evaluation is often forgotten but is critical to success. We have limited resources and must make sure we focus on the most effective solutions," he said.

The summit was also used to launch the new enhanced Community Speed Watch Scheme. Under the scheme, residents will be given appropriate training and radar guns to check the speed of passing motorists. Drivers caught speeding by the volunteers will be sent a warning letter and road safety advice, with repeat offenders getting a visit from police.



#### *Additional area for Lincoln*

**January 2018** IAM Lincoln is pleased to announce that, from Monday 15 January 2018, we will be covering postcode areas LN7, LN11, LN12 and LN13 which encompass the Lincolnshire Wolds along with Louth, Cadwell Park, Mablethorpe, Alford, Sutton on Sea and the surrounding areas. A map of the new areas can be viewed on our website.

This follows the proposed merger of the Scunthorpe and Grimsby IAM groups later this year.

We welcome all opportunities to work with drivers and groups in the area to make better drivers, reduce the number of killed and seriously injured on our roads and generally promote road safety.

We will be offering our full complement of services for the area including free advanced taster drives and Advanced Driver Courses.

Also available, our 'Confident Driving' presentation which covers various aspects of driving with examples of how you

can improve your driving skills and as a result increase your confidence and enjoyment. It has been enjoyed by groups such as U3A, WI, PROBUS and Cadets across the county.

Please pass the message on and ask people to get in touch with us if interested.

#### *Confident Driving the topic for Bailgate U3A*

**January 2018** Our first presentation of 2018 was at Bailgate U3A in early January.

The topic was "Confident Driving" and follows on from successful presentations throughout 2017.

We were joined by around 40 U3A members, 12 of these signed up for free taster drives and four for an Advanced Driver Course.

Around 30% of new Advanced Driver Course candidates in 2017 came from those at these events.

If you know or a group who would be interested in this, please ask them to get in touch.

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# ANATOMY OF AN ACCIDENT

*Mirror, mirror on the door, remind me please to look once more!*

Back in the mists of time (late '70s, Saxilby).... "I'll pop and get the fish & chips dear, mind if I borrow your car?" (A Hillman Imp worth about £250).

Driving back from the chip shop with said lunch, I had noticed a car some distance behind which had been gaining ground.

Rounding a right-hand curve with restricted view, the road widens on the nearside and straightens, at which point I interior mirror check 'Information' - and it's clear behind back to the bend. 'Position' - tracking the centre line. 'Signal' - for the approaching side road to the right, which had a large bush on the corner capable of hiding a car approaching from the right. So, on approach you tend to keep an eye on the swept area behind the bush - all clear, 'Speed' - ok, 'Gear' - good.....

At this same point in time, in a block of sheltered housing at a window facing the junction, an elderly gentleman in the middle of his lunch and looking out the window, said to his wife "I think there's going to be an (CRUNCH!) accident.

Also at this point in time, about 400yds away in a separate street, at home, my wife heard a loud bang which turned her stomach over as she was expecting me back any time soon and coincidentally had recently discovered she was expecting our first child.

..... 'Accelerating' (lightly) into the turn..... At THIS point in time, I discovered three things simultaneously:

- The sound of a car engine in my right ear.
- The presence of a car 1/2 way alongside.
- A load bang and the sudden re-direction of both vehicles now heading towards some public seating in front of the sheltered housing.

'Information' - Possible demolition of Public seating. 'Position' - mounting the kerb. 'Speed' - possibly excessive for driving onto the verge but reducing rapidly. 'Gear' - who cares! (I was clinging onto the steering wheel

out of a self-preservation instinct). The clutch pedal possibly making an impression in the floor! 'Acceleration' - negative/ not currently appropriate. Both cars stopping in parallel, just short of and facing the seating.

Pausing briefly to assess the situation I was thankful we weren't a few feet to the left else a sizeable tree trunk would have been involved. Not a lot of "crumple zone" to absorb it either, as EURO NCAP wasn't invented until 1997. From an aromatic point of view there was no smoke, no petrol, no hot oil or radiator water smells. Missing the tree was useful as the IMP is rear engine, meaning the petrol tank is at the front. It also means the petrol pipe and car heater pipes pass along the nearside sill, so at least they were safe.

This lack of invention mentioned above, would explain why I had been saved the effort of 'winding' (an old millennia thing) the window down for two reasons:

- Most of the offside bodywork had been stove-in pinning the window winder area against the side of my seat.
- The door glass had been completely shattered.

This did enable me to enquire through the now 'open' window if the lady, who's (car) body was pressing closely against mine, was OK? She nodded yes. I confess, at this juncture, I limited myself to a short expletive along the lines of WTF! before alighting via the nearside door.

Recalling advice heard over the years - Witnesses - are there any? Asking two guys propping up a garden wall .... "we heard a bang and came out to see ..." OK, thanks, cheers.

Ah! There's another, walking towards us, 100yds away ... excuse me sir did you see that accident? "Yes, I did, I saw you turn in front of that car" (me thinks ooerr, that's technically correct but doesn't put me in a very good light), took his details and returned to the incident scene. Only to find a police car pulling up. The village had a police office even then. Someone must have called them

"because there's been an accident" although not necessary, as no-one was injured.

Statements were taken, including my claim to have been indicating. The policeman said that's ok as his colleague had already checked they were working ok. This was relief on my part as the wiring loom runs through the offside sill that had been crushed.

I then noticed an elderly gentleman making his way towards us aided by his Zimmer frame and appeared to be hailing us. He explained he had seen the incident and pointed towards his dining room window along the front of the sheltered housing. He then said those magic words "I saw you indicating approaching the junction." Thankyou sir, would you kindly repeat that to the policeman in the car please.

On discovering the cars were still driveable we were able to return to our respective homes. The fish & chips having now gone cold. They weren't re-heated as I had managed to crush them on my earlier exit through the passenger door! It later transpired that the chap who said "I saw you turn in front of that car" was related to the driver!

I later made a social visit to the elderly gentleman to thank him for taking the trouble to come out and speak to us. Without his testimony I would not have been able to successfully claim on the other party's insurer for the write-off value of the car.

Using this money we were able to privately arrange for a full repair of the IMP to be carried out. This involved replacement of half the side of the car from a donor vehicle. Unfortunately, this was a different colour, so I ended up re-painting, by brush, the whole car in a unique fetching shade of dark blue Finnegan's Hammerite paint.

With apologies to my wife for the incident!

**Mike Hill, National Observer**

P.S. Mirror mirror on the door, I am reminded to look once more.







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### Happy New Year's Resolutions: Tips from IAM RoadSmart

Every year, our motivation increases after Christmas and we spend the New Year planning our goals, such as getting fitter or eating more healthily, but many gym memberships feels unloved by February. Richard Gladman, head of driving and riding standards, suggests a few New Year Resolutions that are easy to keep and will improve your driving and keep you safe throughout the year:

- **New year, new car.** Think about the effect your car can have on the environment. Those short trips have the biggest impact so look into alternatives. If you are looking to get a new car, make sure you research its emissions and road tax costs. Choose one with the latest safety kit such as autonomous emergency braking (AEB) because we all need a guardian angel at times.
- **Eyesight:** The NHS suggests having an eye test every two years. It is your responsibility to ensure you're fit to drive. Getting your eyes tested regularly will also show up any concerns at an early stage. You can check your vision yourself – can you read a number plate clearly from 20 metres?
- **Weather:** Heed weather warnings all year around. If the weather is really bad, consider postponing your journey until a more appropriate time, or plan another method of transport if possible.
- **Year-round maintenance:** Clean your windows, lights, mirrors and number plates regularly. You should spend around 10 minutes every week checking your vehicle's fluid levels, tyre pressure, lights, tread depth and windscreen wipers.
- **Eco-driving:** A planned drive is an economical drive. Having a good sense of your vehicle's power and gears will save fuel, and makes it safer to drive. There is no point in racing up to a red traffic light!
- **Anticipate:** Consider what the traffic and other people around you may do, especially at traffic lights, roundabouts and junctions. Observing, anticipating and planning should be at the heart of your driving.
- **Refuel:** Be sure to keep an eye on your tank, especially when embarking upon long journeys. Refuelling early saves you the stress of trying to find a petrol station in an area you don't know. Running out of fuel causes hundreds of motorway breakdowns every year.

Richard says: "The New year is a common time for people to reflect and evaluate their goals for the upcoming year. Why not begin by incorporating your driving behaviour into your list of resolutions for 2018? Why not resolve to make it better this year?"

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## FORDIE'S FESTIVE WORLD

First things first, I should add my congratulations to Ash on winning the Fred Welch Rose Bowl. It is quite an achievement for the group to win it two consecutive years (2016 to Roger) and Glenys Allerton won it some years ago. I may be wrong, but I can't recall a group winning the Rose Bowl three times.

With the dark nights upon us, a new hazard is beginning to emerge, vehicles parked by the kerb, facing oncoming traffic with their headlights full on! This is downright dangerous as it temporarily blinds the approaching driver and makes distance and stopping room very hard to judge. I'm sure, if challenged, the offending driver will say "I only stopped a minute to drop off/pick-up". Not much help if it causes an accident, so remember, "headlights off when stopped!"

I see a new sports car is being made, the TVR "Griffith", powered by a five litre engine, capable of 200mph (on a track I hope!) and takes off faster than a couple of scalded cats! Absolutely no good to me but thank heaven one British manufacturer is building a "proper" car with some serious "grunt". Wouldn't mind the price of insurance for a month's wage!

I also read that some company has fitted an ELECTRIC motor to an E type Jaguar: is nothing sacred? I've no idea of performance but substituting that silky 4.2 litre straight six or the glorious V12 for an electric motor— words fail me! It is also a painful truth that the last time I was invited to sit at the wheel of an E type (not drive it) I couldn't get my legs round the door, the only option being to sprawl halfway across the passenger seat to get in – all very undignified! Although it was a hardtop model, to get out, I would have had to reverse the procedure or drag myself out backwards on my hands and backside, trailing my legs after me. The cause of great embarrassment!

After having my right knee replaced in early August, I was confined to feet and crutches/walking stick or to be a passenger in my car for six weeks (in theory). After this, I had to attend a few "physio-terrorist" sessions at Barlborough Medical Centre where I had been "done". The journey I took was Lincoln, Dunham Bridge, Tuxford, Ollerton and the A616 to Sheffield. I reckon that is good driving country, not altogether straight roads, single carriageway, plenty of villages to negotiate with their speed limits and being largely in Nottinghamshire, the inevitable light-up speed indicators that remind you to watch your speed. The trip is about 40 miles each way and can be done in 65 minutes, using IAM techniques I got to quite enjoy the drive. I don't get many opportunities like that these days.

An idea I've been toying with for some time was to sell my motorbike and buy a motor scooter just to potter about on. Well, I've finally taken the plunge (mid Nov) and signed up to buy a brand new Piaggio "Liberty" scooter, 125cc twist and go job. I've had a good look at it, like the spec and set-up, paid my deposit and hope to take delivery in the New Year, subject to shifting the motorbike fairly quickly. Thinking back to all the motorbikes I've owned over the years, I hadn't envisaged myself opting for a scooter but "Anno Domini" comes upon you and I think the scooter will serve my needs well!

Now on a somewhat different note, the amount of traffic coming into or through Lincoln has built up tremendously over recent months. It is not unusual to see Broadgate at a standstill from the bottom of Lindum Hill to South Park. Yarborough Road from Long Leys Road to the Avenue and Carholme Road/Newland/Mint street all bunged up with vehicles. Are they all just passing through or going somewhere in the City? I wonder, if now St Mary's Street is open and the new car-park at the Transport Hub is open will it alleviate some of the traffic bottlenecks?

Recently, I put our car through its annual service and MOT. It passed just fine, but I was told it is due for a new cam-belt and remedial work is required on the sills with an estimated cost about £900! The garage hinting that maybe I should have a change with the cost of repairs being about the value of the car. I admit it is eleven years old (May 2006) but with only 44,000 miles on the clock the engine is certainly sound, it runs well, only just run – in and if the rest of the body, sills excepted, is sound. I think it will be less expensive to repair instead of replace. It still grieves me somewhat to favour a French built car over a British one but I can't think of a genuinely British built car that matches the practicality and room of my Citroen Picasso. No doubt someone will tell me differently, but would it match reliability and price?

Further to the tale of motorbike versus scooter, I have taken a couple of short trips on the "bike". I find (1) I have trouble mounting and dismounting (2) I cannot sit squarely on the saddle with my feet correctly on the footrests (3) I am not fully in control of the rear brake pedal. Not an ideal situation and therefore a potential danger to myself and others. Therefore, I feel fully justified in buying a scooter.

Depending on when you read these ramblings may you have/had a happy and peaceful Christmas and be anticipating/settling into a comfortable New Year.

*Fordie*



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# IAM LINCOLN

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## WINTER 2017

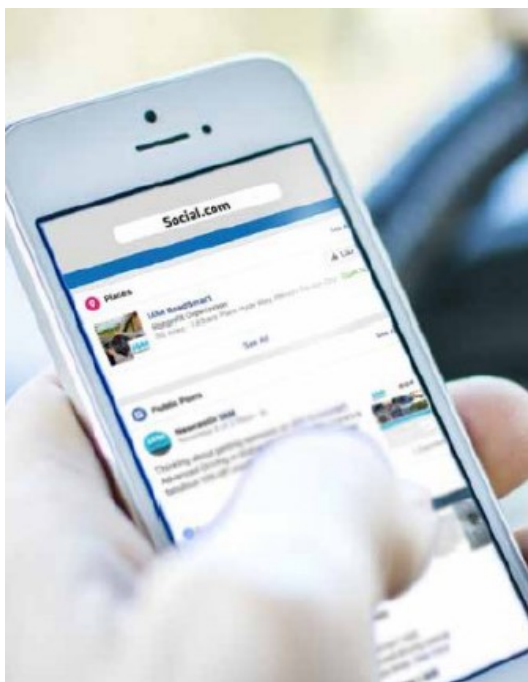
## KNOW YOUR STUFF

### *IAM's Driving Safety Culture Survey 2017*

IAM RoadSmart's third annual Safety Culture Survey which examines the attitudes and concerns of UK drivers, has found that for the third year running their biggest worries are people updating social media or sending text messages while driving, drink or drug driving and mobile phone use.

Drivers checking social media is the biggest single perceived threat that road users feel – slightly higher than those who text and email, and closely followed by drink and drug drivers.

The survey of more than 2,000 motorists found that more than 90% of those surveyed thought that the dangers caused by people accessing social media or email messages while driving was a significant threat to their personal safety and that the problem is increasing, with 80% believing the problem more significant than three years ago.



### *Survey Summary*

- ☐ Driver distraction linked to all forms of mobile phone use remains the biggest issue affecting drivers' perceptions of safety.
- ☐ Concerns on congestion have dropped slightly since last year but it remains in second place as an issue which has got worse in the last three years.
- ☐ Speeding in residential areas remains very unacceptable to most, but 40% felt it was acceptable to speed at 5mph above the urban limit.



- ☐ Only two types of behaviour were considered acceptable by the majority of drivers. These were driving up to 10 miles per hour over the limit on a motorway and talking on a hands-free mobile.
- ☐ Reflecting their worries about mobile phone use the vast majority of drivers still report that they themselves have not used a phone illegally or unsafely in the last month.
- ☐ Support remains strong at 79% for a lower drink drive limit in England and Wales in line with Scotland and most of Europe.
- ☐ Just under six out of ten drivers still want the police to treat drink and drug driving enforcement as their top priority. This is placed well ahead of enforcing mobile phone use, speeding, untaxed vehicles or driver aggression. Of the choices available seatbelt evasion was seen as the least important law to be enforced.
- ☐ Most drivers would still need to be convinced about the need for new laws to protect cyclists such as making the driver responsible for any collisions with a vulnerable road user in an urban area. Only 30% of those surveyed would support such a law.
- ☐ Drivers are evenly split on making 20mph the default speed limit in urban areas.
- ☐ The new law allowing learner drivers on motorways is supported by 72% of drivers.
- ☐ Year on year more drivers agree that all drivers should be encouraged to improve their driving skills by taking post-test training.

#### Sources:

IAM RoadSmart. (2017). Driving Safety Culture Survey 2017. Available: <https://www.iamroadsmart.com/media-and-policy/research-and-policy/research-details/driving-safety-culture-survey>. Last accessed January 2017.

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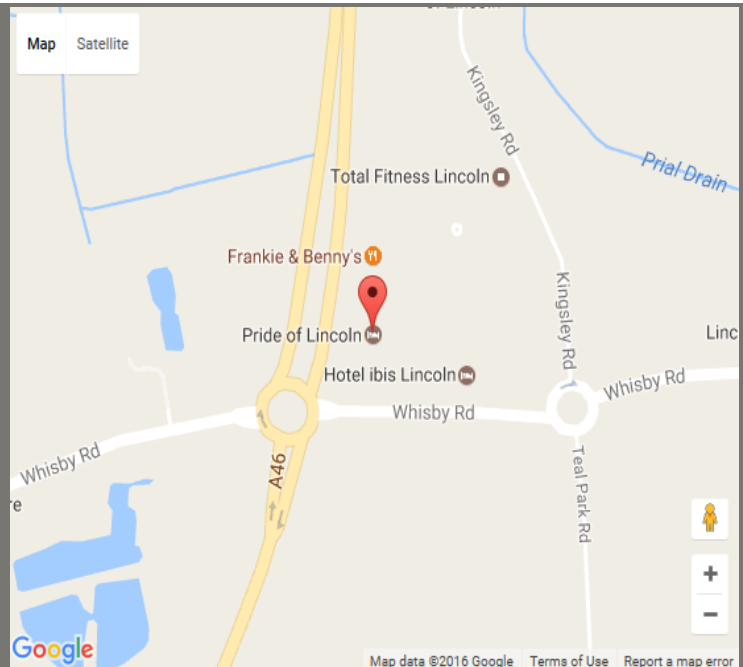
## WINTER 2017

### NEW VENUE

#### WHERE TO FIND US?

**Windmill Farm (formerly the Pride of Lincoln)**  
(Function Room) for a  
**7.30pm start** Kingsley Road  
off Whisby Road Lincoln LN6  
3QZ

Our events are subject to change, please visit the Events section of our website prior to attending and for further details about specific events



### 2018 EVENTS

#### January 2018

*No meeting*

#### Tuesday 12 February 2018

Continental Tyres—Vision Zero and Autonomous Cars

#### March 2018

*No Meeting*

#### Tuesday 10 April 2018

An Evening with Paddy Hopkirk and David Gallagher

#### Tuesday 8 May 2018

AGM and IAM Charity Operations Director, Pat Doughty

#### Tuesday 12 June 2018

Just Audi VW car maintenance practical (7pm at Just Audi VW, Outer Circle Road, Lincoln)

#### Tuesday 10 July 2018

Advanced Driving Refresher Event (7pm)

#### August 2018

*No meeting*

#### Tuesday 11 September 2018

Ambulance Driver Blue Light Training

#### October 2018

*No meeting*

#### Tuesday 13 November 2018

Advanced Driver Development - Rural Rides with Prof Trevor Kerry

#### Tuesday 11 December 2018

Christmas Social

### NEXT EDITION *Spring 2018*

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