

## THE LATEST FROM IAM LINCOLNSHIRE

*We look forward to seeing you in 2020!*

We'd like to wish all our readers a Happy New Year, we hope you had a good festive period.

A new decade brings renewed enthusiasm as we look to the future. With over 200 full members and 70 members currently undertaking an advanced course, we hope to see as many of you as possible throughout the year.

Page 10 shares our great range of events which offer something for all. Why not add attending at least one of these to your New Year's Resolutions!

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*Prepared for Winter? Smooth and slow, ready for snow!*

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

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Join us on     @IAMLincolnshire

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### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 53 ADVANCED DRIVERS WHO PASSED THEIR TESTS IN 2019!

| Associate          | Pass Date        | Observer                    | Check Drive Observer     |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Barrie Butler      | 20/12/2019       | Tony Lofts                  | John Edwards             |
| Bryan Mander       | 20/12/2019 F1RST | David Hosegood              |                          |
| Tony Winn          | 20/12/2019       | Geoff Coughlin              | Mat Goddard              |
| Kevin Baker        | 15/12/2019 F1RST | Simon Clayton               | Bob Bates                |
| Jenny Currie       | 14/12/2019 F1RST |                             | Peta Steadman Bee        |
| Peter Bell         | 14/12/2019 F1RST | Martin Dodsworth            | Ashley Behan             |
| Miriam Reynolds    | 16/11/2019       | Richard Hardesty            |                          |
| Barbara Jackson    | 08/11/2019       | Tony Larvin                 | Howard Balchin           |
| Alison Flack       | 04/11/2019       | Tony Larvin                 | Tony Lofts               |
| Bronagh Doherty    | 04/11/2019       | Nigel Bean                  | Roger Hicks              |
| Carol Wells-Heaton | 03/11/2019       | Trevor Kerry                | Ashley Behan             |
| Judith Reynolds    | 01/11/2019       | Peta Steadman Bee           | Ashley Behan             |
| Sarah McKimm       | 01/11/2019 F1RST | Kate Foreman                | Roger Hicks              |
| Clare Crick        | 31/10/2019       | Simon Clayton               | Ashley Behan             |
| David Bolsover     | 19/10/2019 F1RST | Ray Whitaker                | Roger Hicks              |
| Claire Kinsley     | 14/10/2019       | Trevor Kerry                | Bob Bates                |
| Jean Salmon        | 27/09/2019       | Tony Larvin                 | Ashley Behan             |
| Ann Snowden        | 20/09/2019       | Tony Larvin                 | Ashley Behan             |
| Martyn Everett     | 04/09/2019 F1RST |                             | Simon Clayton            |
| Graham Hutton      | 04/09/2019       | Peta Steadman Bee           | Ashley Behan             |
| Kraig Needs        | 30/08/2019 F1RST | David Hosegood/Ashley Behan |                          |
| Bronwen McNaney    | 20/08/2019 F1RST | Richard Hardesty            | Ashley Behan             |
| Pauline Donner     | 18/08/2019       | Keith Lovering              | Ashley Behan             |
| Brian Wookey       | 10/08/2019       | Keith Lovering              | Ashley Behan             |
| John Peutrill      | 07/08/2019       | David Hosegood              | Ashley Behan             |
| Jenny Hutton       | 05/08/2019       | Peta Steadman Bee           | Ashley Behan             |
| Becky McConnell    | 03/08/2019       | Mat Goddard                 | Ashley Behan             |
| Stephen Rhodes     | 02/08/2019 F1RST |                             | Tony Larvin              |
| Les Robey          | 31/07/2019       | Mike Hill                   | Geoff Coughlin           |
| Sarah Tripp        | 31/07/2019 F1RST | Chrissie Larkin             | Simon Clayton            |
| Harry Daniels      | 09/07/2019       | Roger Hicks                 | Howard Balchin           |
| Michael Paige      | 04/07/2019       | Simon Clayton               | Ashley Behan             |
| Amanda Morrish     | 02/07/2019       | Keith Lovering              | Ashley Behan             |
| Sandra Maxfield    | 27/06/2019       | Mike Hill                   | Geoff Coughlin           |
| Mandy Haywood      | 23/06/2019       | Ross Glover                 | Trevor Kerry/Roger Hicks |
| Raymond Wisdom     | 23/06/2019       | Simon Clayton               | Ashley Behan             |
| Richard D'Arcy     | 23/06/2019       | Richard Hardesty            | Ashley Behan             |
| Joe Hodgson        | 10/06/2019 F1RST | Kelvin Simmonds             | Roger Hicks              |
| Tom Simpson        | 24/05/2019       | Ashley Behan                | Roger Hicks              |
| David Gray         | 21/05/2019       | Geoff Coughlin              | Ashley Behan             |
| Ken Williams-Ball  | 08/05/2019 F1RST | Ray Whitaker                | Roger Hicks              |
| Ken Argent         | 07/05/2019       | Simon Clayton               | Ashley Behan             |
| Marc Jones         | 30/04/2019 F1RST | Richard Hardesty            | Ashley Behan             |
| Elaine Whetton     | 10/04/2019       | Richard Hardesty            | Ashley Behan             |
| Lucy Rayner        | 27/03/2019 F1RST | Alison Shelton              | Roger Hicks              |
| Patrick White      | 20/03/2019       | Howard Balchin              | Roger Hicks              |
| Alex Myers         | 05/03/2019       | Howard Balchin              | Roger Hicks              |
| Brad Bavin         | 01/03/2019       | Tony Lofts                  | Ashley Behan             |
| Tom Bavin          | 01/03/2019 F1RST | Tony Lofts                  | Ashley Behan             |
| Michael Mackay     | 01/03/2019 F1RST | Tony Larvin                 | Ashley Behan             |
| Martin Dodsworth   | 19/02/2019       | Peta Steadman Bee           | Ashley Behan             |
| Geoff Coughlin     | 19/02/2019 F1RST | Kelvin Simmonds             | Roger Hicks              |
| Jo Rimmer          | 05/01/2019       | Trevor Kerry                | Ashley Behan             |



## GROUP NEWS

### *1000 followers achieved on Twitter!*

Social media is an important part of modern day life and communication. The most up to date information about what we do can be found here.

We worked hard to improve our social media presence in 2019 and were delighted to win the IAM RoadSmart group social media award for the year, an award which also came with a £250 winning prize!



The thanks goes to our Social Media Officer, Richard Hardesty, who continues to consistently deliver innovative content across all our social media platforms. We were particularly pleased to reach 1000 followers on Twitter before the end of the decade! We're present on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube, so why not sign up and give us a follow for the most up to date news along with hints and tips about advanced driving. Click on the links below to take you straight there:

**Twitter** - [www.twitter.com/iamlincolnshire](https://www.twitter.com/iamlincolnshire)

**Facebook** - [www.facebook.com/IAMLincolnshire](https://www.facebook.com/IAMLincolnshire)

**Instagram** - [www.instagram.com/IAMLincolnshire](https://www.instagram.com/IAMLincolnshire)

**YouTube** - [www.youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) search IAM Lincolnshire

### *RIP Derek*

We were sad to hear that former group member Derek Cook passed away on 23 November aged 88. Derek was a long standing member of IAM RoadSmart having joined in 1976. Derek served as Treasurer for Lincoln Advanced Motorists for 35 years and also organised the raffle at group events before retiring from the role in 2014. The group donated £35 to the British Heart Foundation in memory of Derek.



### *Plenty to shout about in 2019*

- Became IAM Lincolnshire
- Delivered 14 'Confident Driving' presentations to groups across the county
- Delivered 130 free taster drives
- Over 100 new associates
- Seven new Observers
- Winner of IAM RoadSmart social media award
- Launched 100 courses for 17-24 year olds with PCC
- 53 advanced test passes, 18 of these with a F1RST

### *We're looking for your testimonials*

We'd like to include more comments from you on our website and in our promotions sharing your experiences of our courses, events and presentations. Please share these with us to [iamlincolnshire@outlook.com](mailto:iamlincolnshire@outlook.com)

Join us on     @IAMLincolnshire

## PCC YOUNG DRIVER PROJECT UPDATE

Our volunteer Observers are out in force across the county as the first batch of young driver courses are now underway.

Following the announcement of the 50 funded IAM RoadSmart Advanced Driver Course in September 2019 by the Police and Crime Commissioner, Marc Jones, we received 186 applications within 48 hours! On hearing this news, the PCC for Lincolnshire was swift into action, extending the offer to 100 places.

From Lincoln to Louth, Spalding to Grantham, Boston to Skegness courses are progressing well with the first young drivers beginning to take their tests within the next couple of weeks.

Drivers are initially observed to ascertain their base level, before undertaking a range of competencies designed to improve driving skills, confidence and enjoyment. These are all framed around IPSGA, the advanced system of car control which becomes a key part of an advanced drivers approach.

The project will run until March 2021 in line with the Police and Crime Plan for Lincolnshire. There are still places available and applications can be made on our website under the 'Our Courses' section. We hope that everyone is enjoying their course so far and wish you the best of luck as you progress towards your test. We look forward to sharing success stories in the next edition.



### E-learning Modules

Improve your knowledge and learn to deal with common driving challenges with our e-learning modules

- Motorway driving
- Parking and manoeuvring
- Driving on country roads
- Driving in towns
- Managing distractions
- Managing speed
- Managing overtaking

**To access, visit:**

<https://www.iamroadsmart.com/courses/e-learning-modules>

**Our e-learning modules are now free for a limited time! Use the code 'freemodule' at checkout.**





## VOLUNTEER BIO:

*Geoff Coughlin, Observer and Committee Member for IAM Lincolnshire*

I never thought I'd passed - far from it when I took my driving test as I slammed on the brakes for what I thought was my emergency stop, only for my examiner to say - "wait, when I tell you... I was only *demonstrating* my signal, not actually doing it!". Gulp, and to cap it, I got cramp five minutes later in my right leg and ended up hobbling around on the pavement for 5 minutes in agony. Well, he must have seen enough because the rest of my drive was enjoyable and relaxing as I was sure that I'd failed. But no, I hadn't and he passed me! I learned an important lesson of not giving up when things go wrong - happy days indeed :) And that was my introduction to driving and from then on, I really began to enjoy the freedom and challenges driving has to offer.

Moving on until the early 1980s and I joined the Met Police (MPS) in London as a police officer and undertook many operational duties - everything from community policing in North London to armed protection for the then PM. My last 5 years was fantastic as I was accepted for an instructor's position at the Metropolitan Police Training Establishment, Hendon training new police officers and latterly responsible for staff training and development for some 400 training staff. I have always enjoyed the *doing*, training in this case and promotion never interested me at all as the *doing* would have to stop.

As a police driver we learned the IPSGA system of systematic advanced driving and this has stayed with me ever since and what a great package that is that we are all trying to promote and work with at IAM Lincolnshire - it works! What I gained most of all is the ability, most of the time to anticipate hazards and other drivers doing daft things that cause accidents, pain and suffering and that's why I decided to get involved in our group - to try and help other drivers enjoy their driving and stay away from accidents, pain and suffering.

When I'm not engaged in IAM activities I still work running my own learning and development consultancy Emphasis on Skills that I started when I left the MPS mid-career and I do a lot of business coaching and helping others as part of that to become the best they can be in whatever personal business skill areas they want help with.

Around 10 years ago I also started a new business with Sara my wife and occasionally Emily our daughter [www.scalemodellingsnow.com](http://www.scalemodellingsnow.com) an online only magazine, that's all about helping anyone interested in plastic scale



modelling get the best out of their hobby. Making and building model kits - you know the Airfix and Revell kits many of you will be aware of and did as kids? It can be an incredibly enjoyable and rewarding way to enjoy any spare time that you have.

On a closing note, for the past 10 years I have been an archer (having got sick of just watching Emily become very good at it!) and more recently a coach and the similarities between that and advanced driving are many. Not least that 50% of our success comes with sorting out our mental approach, the rest is technique and the easy bit for really. Work on both and you can have great fun and enjoy every minute you are behind the wheel.

**Geoff C.**

## LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

*IAM Lincolnshire member, Norman Jackson, updates us on his time down under!*

Do spiders cause road traffic collisions? Of course not I hear you mutter, when did you last swerve to avoid a spider crossing the road. However, in Australia where just about all the wildlife seems determined to kill you or do you serious harm, some things are a little different.

The roads are wider, often multi lane, designed and built with common sense, maintained and marked out in a usable manner. Potholes are a largely dead breed. Drivers know the rules and generally adhere to them. For example, if an emergency vehicle is on the road,

When organising random breath testing, the police block up the escape routes and remember, everyone should slow down when they "hear the blue lights". There is no escape and no carping from the general public. You obey, and they have guns just to enforce their will.

In addition, drivers are generally courteous although the dog eat dog attitude seen in parts of the UK can be seen in some, but not all, of the larger conurbations like Sydney.



they see it, they slow down and get out of the way. No relying on the sirens. Perhaps they are deaf, but we never consider that do we?

If an emergency vehicle is at the side of the road with its beacons flashing, passing is allowed but at 25kph, and they stick to it. That is 15mph to you and me.

The speed limit is 50kph, a little over 30mph, unless otherwise signed. The drivers seem to generally adhere to them. Similarly, they slow down for schools and school buses. Other speed limits are also almost always obeyed.

Why are they so observant. They seem to be trained that way and rather like the IAM, they have a paradigm and they all know it. Cruise control also helps. Yes they have the rebels and they are caught. No moaning and groaning like the general UK population. Done wrong, take the medicine. New drivers committing misdemeanors receive double penalties during their first two years. Yes that is both points and fine.

How they manage to fund road building and maintenance in a country larger than Europe is a lesson our politicians need to learn. And remember, there are only a little over 20 million people forming the tax base.

So where do the spiders fit in? Well they have kangaroos who cause collisions especially in the dark, things that bite just to keep you away and all sorts of insects, and the second most venomous snake in the world. But you are more likely to meet an arachnid, and they can give a nasty sometimes fatal bite. Just think, when a huntsman spider, about the size of your hand, finds a way into your motor trouble is likely to brew. Just imagine one falling from behind the sun visor. Oh what a real or potential hazard. Do you continue calmly driving along, seek an escape route or panic. That, I suspect, is the recipe for a potential RTC.

Forget the paradigm at your peril.

***Continued on Page 7...***



### Driving in Australia

It's easy, once you get used to it. Just like anything else really. A prep with an IAM observer in an automatic car would have been useful but not essential.

### Urban Areas

Driving in urban areas needs some preparation. Most of the advisory and warning signs are of the USA style, some are like the UK and some are distinctly Australian. The end result is a clutter of signs that the brain needs to sort out. Real and potential hazards abound as the driver tries to get familiar with which are side road access and those that are property entries and/or exits. Gets exciting in the dark. Speed limit signs are plentiful, and they seem to site them sensibly. At junctions they are a short distance



down the road so you cannot really have any excuse for missing them. None of the right on the junction like Lincolnshire. We could learn a thing or two about positioning road traffic compulsory and warning signs.

White line marking is well thought out and generally well maintained. Drivers usually make room for each other and either side overtaking means that they seem to use mirrors well. When practising spoken thoughts, 'mirrors' is in most common usage.

### Rural Areas

There is a lot of nothing. I am in South Australia which is the driest state in the driest country in the world. The roads are good and there is no need generally to use gravel roads. The deeper into the quiet areas we get, the less traffic we see and more dust. Where the irrigation water comes from I do not know.

The road trains are fun. Give them a wide birth. Trucks generally are big American monsters. Once underway they seem reluctant to stop and get going again. I wonder why!

Always carry drinking water as plenty of it. While the natives are friendly, more so when they discover we are from England, the UK is not a description they seem to use, they are few and far between. Yes there are highways for through routes but elsewhere finding a tea shop is a bonus. In other words, be prepared.

The weather can get hot, 40C plus's at times, higher in the outback. That is significantly higher than normal body temperature. Despite the potentially baking temperatures, if the car develops a problem, stay with it. They always find the car.

There are lots of wine areas and wineries. Approximately 90 in McLaren Vale alone. Tasting is widespread. Then there is the Barossa, Clare valley and



Adelaide hills. Plus other wine areas in NSW, Victoria not forgetting Tasmania and WA.

### Overall

Recognising that travel by car can be tedious and time consuming, aeroplanes abound. Both private and scheduled.

The time zone in SA is 10 and a half hours before the UK. That's nearly one half a day different. Distances are huge, Perth is nearer Singapore than Sydney.

There are some wonderful and different places to see and people to meet. It's an awful long way to get here and back but is it worth it? Well I have family here so yes and most people I have met who have been say yes. The Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mary and Queen Victoria call here. Need I say more.

### Norman Jackson

*In memory of Margaret Jackson 1942-2019.*

## FORDIE'S WORLD

Present circumstances mean I spend a fair amount of time in front of the "haunted fish tank" or TV. To that end, I have been watching "Train Truckers". This is a programme about moving railway locos and equipment by road, carried out by specialist hauliers Allelays from the Coventry area. The trailers are particularly specialised, multi-axle, steerable and fitted with hydraulic suspension which enables them to be raised or lowered to suit loading conditions. The trailers can be lengthened by inserting extra "beds" to make lengths of 30 metres plus and have carrying capacities of up to 125 tonnes (I hate metric!)

Loading/unloading is accomplished by parking the trailer along the rail lines, building a "ramp" of rails and winching the loco onto the trailer. More often than not, the locos are destined to or from "heritage railways" which all seem to be located down a narrow access road usually off a busy main road in the middle of town or big village. However, the lorries are operated by VERY skilled drivers and mates, usually accompanied by a 3rd "man in a van" who provides an escort to the loads and assists with loading/unloading.

I confess to being in awe of these drivers, I thought that, in my day, I was pretty good with a 7 axle drawbar outfit at 60 tonnes, compared to these lads, I was just a beginner! Another point I noticed whilst watching these programmes: the impatience and general lack of consideration of car drivers when encountering one of these large loads. Pushing past, sounding horns and making rude gestures, very often approaching or on roundabouts. Sad to say, these comedians are driving "German or Scandinavian" cars, no doubt they think they're very important and MUST NOT be impeded. A few lessons from the IAM might concentrate their minds!

A final word on "heavy haulage", in the heyday the likes of Pickfords, Wynnes, Suters Annis et al were to be seen moving huge "indivisible" loads all over the country. There is less done now, and much is put onto shipping and sailed to the nearest port, thus lessening the road miles of these awkward loads.

Now as if the foregoing wasn't proof enough that I am a lorry anorak or

nerd, I have also been watching a series of programmes called "TRUCKING HELL", I've written that in capitals so you cannot confuse it when reading! This programme concerns the heavy recovery firm of D. Crouch based in the Leicester area. Their job is to recover crashed or broken-down lorries from ditches, motorways, quarries, building sites or anywhere a lorry may come to grief. The fleet is a mixture of 4, 6 and 8 wheeled recovery trucks, capable singly or in partnership with another, of recovering just about anything from crashed cars, a 44 tonner on it's side in a ditch or an excavator that's fallen off a low-loader. The recovery equipment is hydraulically operated, the "tools" chains, heavy duty straps, winches etc is comprehensive BUT, it's not an easy job. Your life can be at risk at the side of a motorway, dual carriageway or country lane from passing traffic, unstable vehicles being recovered. However, these operators are well trained, enthusiastic and knowledgeable.

These programmes have led me to reflect on the time I was a "spotty-faced" apprentice at the local Vauxhall/Bedford dealers, our recovery lorry was an ex-WD Chevrolet 4x4 with a hand operated crane on the back. More often than not a suspended recovery was made, with just a short rigid bar between wrecker and victim to stop it swinging on the cables. Occasionally, we would deploy the "ambulance" which was in effect a two wheeled tow-bar with a pivoting cradle where the axle could be located and secured. This contraption was no lightweight and had to be lifted down manually from the wrecker, wheeled under the suspended vehicle and secured. Guess which poor mug was detailed to wind the crane mechanism! I suspect "health and safety" would have a bit to say about that "system" today!

Now to be a little more serious, reading articles in the latest IAM magazine regarding, firstly, "black boxes" fitted by insurance companies to monitor driving standards by mainly young drivers. It appears, though, that insurance companies are coming down rather heavily on indiscretions, for example, phoning the driver and accusing them of dangerous driving manoeuvres and promptly upping the premium. Their accuracy is not always guaranteed, I believe I read that one person was accused of driving

at 1100mph... all whilst the vehicle was parked! Though I'm in favour of road safety, I just wonder if these "black boxes" are such a good idea? Would not more intensive driver training be a better option? I accept you can't teach "experience", that comes with time and use. Should training methods be revised or modified? Of course, the insurance companies will object, take away the boxes as they lose a lucrative stream of income! The other article that took my eye concerned "driving aids" for example adaptive cruise control, automatic braking, lane assist etc. If you've read the magazine you'll know the article without me going over it. Personally, I feel all that is needed is "manual" cruise control to aid fuel consumption and a "sat-nav" to help find directions in a new location. Surely, any qualified driver can keep a safe distance from surrounding traffic. Are we placing too much emphasis on driving aids instead of enjoying the drive and taking pleasure in a vehicle well driven? Maybe it's time for cars to become more "retro" and not rely on electronic gadgets!

Now, this issues "grump", as I said at the start, I watch too much tele. Recently, I endured a session of "Strictly", whilst I appreciate the skill of the dancers, the music is appalling, it doesn't fit the dance in my book and why does every tune have to be sung? Liz maintains I have no sense of rhythm and it was a brave lady who would risk shins and toes trying to dance with me. I know from my own record collection there is a great deal of GOOD dance music available which would be better suited to "Strictly", no doubt, I shall now be castigated by all you who love "Strictly", so be it!

It was sad to lose Gary Hill but heartening to see so many IAM members at his funeral, a mark of respect for a much-valued member of the group. Also, to remember Derek Cook who I learn has passed on.

I suspect it will be the New Year when you read this, so I hope you survived the "festivities" without committing atrocities on the turkey, the granny, the cat or the kids. Happy New Year, stay safe!





## KNOW YOUR STUFF

*Drivers and parents need to play their part in protecting schoolkids with new smartphones, IAM RoadSmart warns*

IAM RoadSmart has warned that with many schools restarting this week, drivers need to be on full alert for distracted schoolchildren enjoying their new smartphones. The likelihood of a child being involved in a crash on the way home from school increases by 20% over the winter months.

Casualty rates rise between 3pm and 7pm as the days



Drivers need to have all their senses on alert and anticipate unpredictable behaviour near schools and on residential streets in the late afternoon.”



shorten from October. Youngsters aged 10-14 are most at risk, with road crashes accounting for over half of all unexpected causes of death in this age group. Neil Greig, IAM RoadSmart director of policy and research, said: “We urge all drivers to be aware that some youngsters will be more focused on using the new smartphone they got for Christmas and showing it off to their friends than on looking out for traffic.

“Their minds are often not on crossing the road safely.

IAM RoadSmart also reminds parents they need to play a part in their children’s road safety knowledge, including regular reminders that they need to pay attention to their journey home and not their smartphone screen.

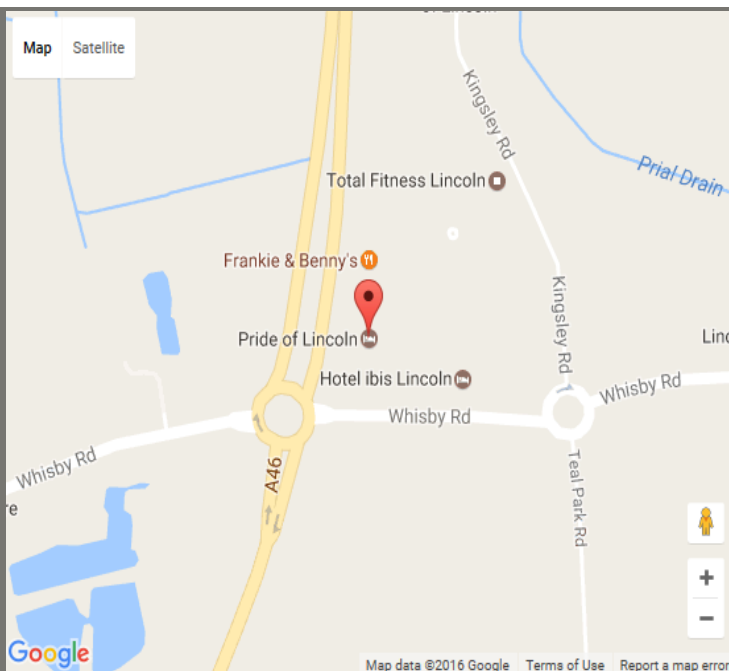
This is echoed in the DaCOTA report on child road safety, a project coordinated by the EU Commission. It says: “The behaviour of parents is critical since their attitudes and interactions influence the behaviour of their children.”

### OUR VENUE

#### WHERE TO FIND US?

**Windmill Farm** 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.



### 2020 EVENTS

**January 2020**

**Tuesday 11 February 2020**

**March 2020**

**Tuesday 14 April 2020**

**Wednesday 13 May 2020**

**Wednesday 10 June 2020**

**Tuesday 14 July 2020**

**August 2020**

**Wednesday 16 September 2020**

**October 2020**

**Wednesday 28 October 2020**

**Tuesday 10 November 2020**

**Tuesday 8 December 2020**

*No meeting*

Wing Commander David Bolsover - Retired, now Training Service Manager for HiG at RAF Cranwell

*No Meeting*

Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnership, John Siddle

AGM & IAM Marketing, Comms and Membership Director, Kate Tonge

IAM Examiner and former police driver trainer, Reg Local

Advanced Driving Refresher Event

*No meeting*

TBC

*No meeting*

Barrie Heath Quiz - annual intergroup quiz night (held at the Redbourn Club, Scunthorpe, DN16 1NU)

Advanced Driver Development Evening

Christmas Quiz and Social

**NEXT EDITION** *Spring2020*