

ChainLincs

THE NEWSLETTER OF

Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists

IAM GROUP 7176, REGISTERED CHARITY 1049955, SUPPORTERS OF THE BMF



SEPTEMBER 2024



Social Gatherings

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 2000hrs at The Sun Inn, 20 Bridge St, Saxilby, LN1 2PZ
<https://w3w.co/struts.comforted.clashes>

Next Issue

The next issue of ChainLincs will be in October 2024

Please provide any copy to the Editor by **26th of the month**

Mick Smith
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Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists

Find us here :



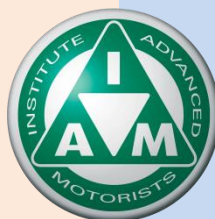
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Welcome to another edition of ChainLincs, mainly just the regular contributors this month although I have added an article from www.fliesonthevisor.com , thanks to Dave Ayres. It is great to have some items to include. If you can contribute, it doesn't matter how long or how short I can use them. Send them to me at lincs.am.editor@btinternet.com .

If you haven't found our Facebook page go to [\(1\) Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists | Facebook](#) and ask to join to see all the other exciting things that go on. It is a private page so not open to the public's prying eyes.

The good news this month is that we now have a new clothing member, thanks for joining the team Martin. If you want more T-shirts, polo shirts etc Martins details are on page 2 and page 20.

We also have another new committee member, Sarah Barwick, thanks also to Sarah for joining the team.

Those of you on Facebook will have seen that the Group were asked to provide a team to escort the National Coastwatch Institution's Memorial Flag for the Mablethorpe to Hornsea leg of The National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) 2,000-plus miles station-to-station relay as part of the charity's 30th anniversary celebrations. There were plenty of pictures and videos on Facebook and I have included some of that in the Facebook roundup.

The Chairman also received a letter of thanks and that is on page 13.

And we still need a new data manager. As notified previously Phil Niner is stepping down from the committee. Many thanks to Phil over the years especially when GDPR was introduced and he worked tirelessly to make sure we complied with the new legislation and have remained compliant since. If you feel you could take on this role give Phil a call, I am sure he would be happy to talk to you about it.

In ChainLincs this month we have:

Dave's 2 Day Trip – September

Chatter from the Chair

Membership update

Facebook roundup

Letter of thanks – National Coastwatch Institution

Atom Batteries – Long Term Winter Test

Events diary

Clothing

Short from me this month

Stay safe

Mick

DAVE'S 2-DAY TRIP - SEPTEMBER

Due to the success of the Lakes Trip & Wales Trip, I am arranging another trip for Sunday 8th September 2024 to Lancashire.

The Hotel Details are as follows:-

Best Western Lancaster Morcambe Lothersdale Hotel, Morcambe.LA4 5AA tel 01524 416404.
Price for a single room £69 to £79 (sea View) Double room £89 . There are a limited number of Single rooms but lots of doubles.

Travelling on Sunday 8th return home Monday 9th Sept.

If you wish to go please let me know ASAP, thanks.

Dave Hall – 07441 344308

CHATTER FROM THE CHAIR

Hello again everyone.

Firstly a warm welcome to some new members: Martin Smith, Andrea Griffiths and Paul Routledge.

Then a warm congratulations to existing members going through the mill of passing tests, well done to you all - David Plange, Robert Pursey and Kelly Brabbin.

There has been a trend of me reporting on current bike related events to which I was looking forward to a shift of perspective this month, ie, find something to cheer about. However, while not wanting to give unnecessary fuel to already harrowing family events, a very brief recap on events of Sunday 18th August is about to unfold. 5 bikers killed on the same morning in two separate bike tragedies within 35 minutes of each other.

Unprecedented news.

09:45 x3 Ducati bikes, x3 bikers (all males in their 50's) plus a car plus a van, then in a separate accident at 10:20 x2 bikers killed in a collision with a car.

This is one Biker location on one day.

The preceding Saturday, 11th Aug, at about 13:10 on the A57 Snake Pass, saw x2 bikers (x1 in 50's and x1 in 60's) each riding red Ducati's lose their lives.

This is not meant to be putting anyone off from riding, neither is it an accurate record of all that befalls bikers on our local roads

Whatever people are riding on x2 wheels on the road can be dangerous. Generally, logically, the faster you go, the more danger involved (if something doesn't go to plan). Try and remain a thinking rider with a plan and an 'alternative plan B'.

Overtaking has to be one of the more risk fuelled events. Just ask questions before committing and be prepared to decline, what is more important than getting home safely to your loved ones.

Memorial ride for Keith Smith.

Recently I had been alerting all (now Keith's trial is over) Keith's anniversary is coming up on Sunday Oct 6th and that I would like to put on a memorial ride in his honour. Who knows, it might become an annual event, that's not the point. Anyway, true to my normal standard of planning I'm out of the country that date until Wed 9th Oct. Some very generous committee members forgave me this faux pas, stating that it would be better to be a celebration rather than an overly sombre event and to have a day different to Keith's actual anniversary might be less dark? Anyway, Sat 19th October is a date I'm putting out for a suggestion. I'd like to run an 'all day' ride to somewhere (anywhere) like Rievaulx Abbey, North Yorkshire, 2hrs from my



front door, 10:00 set off, it's just a suggestion. Let me know who is interested, prefer to go somewhere else? Especially if someone has an urge to lead (I'll definitely do a dummy run, probably the Sat before.)

Anyway, that's enough for now,
Ride safe and look after each other.

Kind regards,

Ian (Chair)

There have been two new members join the group since the August newsletter

Member	Observer
1091 Martin Smith from Grantham	Phil Niner
1092 Andrea Griffiths from Humberston	Stuart Harrison
1093 Paul Routledge from Navenby	TBA

Three test passes to report making eight so far in 2024
 Congratulations on your success and a big thank you to your Observers.

Member	Pass Date	Observer
David Plange	9 August	Malcolm Heaton
Robert Pursey	9 August	Mark Gill
Kelly Brabbin	16 August	Mark Gill

The present composition of the group is as follows:

Full Members	138
Fellows	13
Associate Members	27
Total Group Membership	178

Finally, don't forget that the rules of our affiliation with IAM RoadSmart state that local group membership is dependent on current IAM RoadSmart membership being in place.

That's all for this month, ride safely:

John Cheetham

FACEBOOK ROUNDUP

9 Aug 24

Congratulations to Dave Plange, passed with a first. Malcolm

Rob Pursey passed his test today. Congratulations and well done 😊😊 - Mark



11 Aug 24

About 18 of us at Brigg today. A couple of small groups on 3 and 4 went off with an observer each and the remaining 11 of us were led on the ride of 2 airfields by the legend that is Geoff. First we headed to North Coates Airfield where we stopped for a quick coffee. We then headed off to Wickenby Airfield where some of us had more than a coffee (it was lunchtime). From there most of us went our separate ways. Many thanks to Geoff for a great ride and excellent venues for a stop. Thanks to all those that came for some excellent group riding, we all stayed together nicely. Will got a couple of pictures! 🙌🙌 - Mick



11 Aug 24

Three of us went for an observed ride around the delights of North Lincolnshire taking in Barton, Grimsby, Caistor and Brigg. Filtering in Grimsby was not the wisest idea given the weather but it certainly helped burn a few calories ! 😊😊. All in all a good day. Many thanks to Ian and Martin for being such willing participants. – Mark



16 Aug 24

Congratulations and well done to Kelly Brabbin who passed with a F1RST today. Many thanks to Alan Pugh for his assistance with the check ride. – Mark



16 Aug 24

A SPECIAL HONOUR FOR LINCOLN ADVANCED MOTORCYCLISTS.

We are honoured to have been asked by one of our members Vaughan Ravenscroft to be the escort for him to carry the Coastwatch Institution memorial flag on its journey from Mablethorpe Coast watch Station to Hornsea Coastwatch Station on Saturday 24th August 2024.

Vaughan is a volunteer with Coastwatch Institute and works at the Mablethorpe Station.

He asked us to be his escort for the journey. This is the only journey on its route to be done on motorcycles.

The National Coastwatch in Hornsea will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the National Coastwatch Institution at an event later this month.

On Saturday, August 24, at 2.30pm, Jim Dick, Lord-Lieutenant of the East Riding of Yorkshire, will be receiving the celebration anniversary flag on the NCI's behalf.

The flag will be delivered by Vaughan Ravenscroft and an escort of Lincoln Advanced Motorcyclists from the Mablethorpe Station NCI to the front of the Floral Hall in Marine Drive, Hornsea.

The escort team is comprised of

1st Escort Rider Will Field. (Ride Leader)

2nd Escort Rider John Bateman.

3rd Flag Carrier. Vaughan Ravenscroft

4th Escort Rider Julie Mendes

5th Escort Rider Steve Goodwin

6th Escort Rider Alan Pugh (Rear guard TEC)

The National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) is flying the flag for coastal safety with the start of a 2,000-plus miles station-to-station relay as part of the charity's 30th anniversary celebrations.

The relay set off from the NCI Fleetwood station in Lancashire on 3rd June also marking the start of Volunteers Week. The specially-commissioned anniversary flag will travel anti-clockwise to each of the charity's 60 coastal watch stations during the summer. It is due to end its journey by September at the most northerly station on the east coast in Filey, North Yorkshire.

Sirius Insight, a leading technology company using AI (artificial intelligence) to transform safety and security at sea, is sponsoring the flag relay and providing support for NCI's 30th anniversary.

At each station, the volunteer watchkeepers who help save lives around the coast have been coming up with innovative ways to pass the flag on to the waiting crews at their neighbouring station. The 5ft x 3ft flag will be electronically tagged and relayed using all different types of transport including boats and ferries, tractor and trailer, horse and cart, classic cars and by walking and running. - John

19 Aug 24

Will, Julie and myself have been out on the bikes doing a recce on the National CoastWatch ride that IAM are involved with this coming Saturday. A fantastic ride. Thanks for leading Will. - Alan 🙌



24 Aug 24

Today we carried out our escort of the National Coastwatch Memorial flag from Mablethorpe Coastwatch Station to Hornsea Coastwatch Station. The flag bearer was our group member Vaughn Ravenscroft who is also a Coastwatch Volunteer along with his wife Sherryn.

A great escort ride led by Will Field. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us as we left Mablethorpe but by the time we arrived in Hornsea it had at least stopped raining. The Coastwatch teams at both Mablethorpe and Hornsea made us extremely welcome. We did get a mention on Look North and got our two seconds of fame. – John



Editor's note – there are plenty more photos and posts on Facebook about his event so if you want to see more and aren't yet on our Facebook group then go to [\(1\) Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists | Facebook](#) and ask to join.

24 Aug 24

A big thanks to everyone who came along on my ride today and AI for Tail Ending it. We did second man drop off all the way to Ferneley's Ice Cream cafe and back without a problem. As far as I know. – Will



Thanks Will Field! The ride was as smooth as my head these days! Here's a pic of you inspecting the troops.... – John N.



LETTER OF THANKS – NATIONAL COASTWATCH INSTITUTION



EYES ALONG THE COAST



26th August 2024

Dear Ian

I am the Station Manager at Mablethorpe NCI, and this year it is the National Coastwatch Institution's 30th anniversary. To celebrate a special flag has been making its way around all our stations, starting in Fleetwood Lancashire on 3rd June. We received the flag on Wednesday 21st August and on Saturday it was taken to the next station north which is Hornsea.

One of our watchkeepers, Vaughan Ravenscroft, is also a member of the Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists, and together with 5 other members they took the flag on its onward journey.

I would like to convey our thanks and say what an honour it was to have some of your members involved in this event. It has created lots of publicity for us, featuring on local news and radio stations.

National Coastwatch Institution is a voluntary organisation keeping a visual watch over UK shores. The Mablethorpe station has to be financially self-sufficient and publicity like this helps spread the word and help with our fund-raising efforts.

Many thanks once again and if you are ever in Mablethorpe do call in and visit our station at Seaview Carpark.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'P. Panter'.

Paul Panter
Station Manager

Registered Charity Number 1159975

ATOM BATTERIES – LONG TERM WINTER TEST

This article is brought to you courtesy of Dave Ayres at www.fliesonthevisor.com. Thanks Dave.

Sitting on my desk this morning is an [Atom Battery](#). Accompanying this unexpected arrival is a note that reads, “Please test.” There are no suggestions on how I should conduct the test; it just needs to be completed.

Over a mug of tea, I came up with all sorts of stupid ideas for the test before realising that real-world performance is what matters. Everything else is “marketing”.

Consequently, this test will take some time, but any reason to ride motorcycles is always welcome.



Atom Batteries – Who and Why

Having decided how to test the Atom battery, I wondered why Atom decided to enter a market that Yuasa has dominated for years.

Competition is always a good thing, as it stops Yuasa from becoming complacent, but the electric car market shows us that there is nothing new in the world of batteries.

Batteries still run on the same chemical principle as they always have, and apart from lead-acid batteries being joined by Gel and AGM format batteries – more on them in a moment – there is nothing new.

So why get into a market that an established supplier already dominates?

Value For Money

Although battery technology hasn't changed much, manufacturing techniques are constantly evolving. With one dominant player in the market, the benefits of new production methods might not always result in improved prices for you and me.

But value for money rather than just cost is what matters. If they built the perfect battery, it would perhaps cost too much and outlast the motorcycle. We'd end up buying something we'll never get the full value from.

Then again, we could buy the cheapest piece of crap available, knowing it was good for six months, then SORN the bike and buy a new battery again next year. If it was cheap enough, this might be an acceptable answer.

[Atom](#) seems to be aiming for a battery that costs less than the market leader, takes advantage of global markets and modern manufacturing techniques, and aims to give us what we need rather than perfection.

Are Atom Batteries Any Good?

That is the big question. Atom batteries certainly win on price. A [Yuasa Gel YTZ14S](#) for my NT1100 from [SportsBikeShop](#) costs £85. The equivalent [Atom battery](#)—also called a YTZ14S—retails on their website for £33. After shipping, it would arrive at my door costing £41—less than half the price of the Yuasa.

The technical specification of the two batteries is very similar in all aspects except the cold cranking amps, where the Yuasa outstrips the Atom 2:1 (230 CCA Vs 140 CCA)

How rechargeable batteries work - https://youtu.be/3KX_KuS6FPI

Winter Test

I'll install the Atom battery in the NT1100 and do nothing to help it survive the colder months. With heated grips, Keis heated clothing, and the shorter trips that are more common in the cold months, I'll put the battery through real-world winter riding.

The battery won't receive any special treatment or benefit from downtime connected to an Optimate to keep it fresh and fully charged. I'll simply leave it in the bike and see if it gets through winter unaided.

For comparison, Roger will keep the seven-year-old Yuasa in his Africa Twin fighting fit by connecting it to his Optimate through the dark, damp and soggy months.

What could possibly go wrong? There is only one way to find out, and when it's all over, we'll let you know the outcome.

Lead Acid, AGM and Gel Batteries

The article on Electric Motorcycles and the [15-minute Recharge](#) discusses how batteries produce electricity. While this article concerns electric motorcycles, a battery is a battery, and they all work on the same principle.

The terms Lead Acid, AGM, and Gel refer to the separators and the electrolyte (the fluid) inside the battery. Changing the electrolyte does change the characteristics of the batteries, so they are not always cross-compatible, even though they are performing the same process.

The motorcycle journalists' version – and therefore incomplete – of the differences between the batteries is:

- **Lead Acid**, as you might imagine, is a battery that uses “lead”—actually, it is an alloy, but that is a whole different topic—and acid to produce a rechargeable battery. These were very common until the early 1980s when maintenance-free batteries started appearing. Until then, topping up the battery electrolyte was part of the maintenance routine for every motorcycle.
- **AGM** batteries use an Absorbent Glass Mat soaked in the electrolyte. This reduces the production of hydrogen, a byproduct of the electrolyte evaporating, and makes the battery maintenance-free. It also reduces the weight and allows the battery to be sealed, allowing it to be mounted at odd angles if necessary.
- **Gel** batteries mix silica with the electrolyte, turning the acid from a liquid to a paste. This gives them all the advantages of an AGM battery, plus a much wider operating temperature range, as the paste has a lower freezing point and higher boiling point than the electrolyte in liquid form.

Motorcycle Parts Warehouse decided to test the temperature range claims by freezing an [Atom Gel battery](#) into a block of ice. After breaking the battery out of the ice by throwing it on the floor, it was immediately installed in a Suzuki GSX, and the battery had enough charge to start the motorcycle.

It's unlikely that my battery would be frozen in ice; if it were, I'd stay indoors and hug a radiator. However, it shows that Atom Batteries have a wide operating temperature range and are durable in cold weather. But it is the real world that matters, and winter is coming.

How rechargeable batteries work

If the youtube link earlier in the article didn't work for you Dave provided this explanation.

All batteries work in the same fundamental way.

You need two chemical reactions, one that wants to shed electrons and one that wants to collect them.

The reaction that wants to shed them is called the anode and is the negative side of the battery. For the positive side – the cathode – we need a chemical reaction that wants to attract electrons.

Connect these two reactions together, and electrons flow from the anode (negative) to the cathode (positive). The rate at which the electrons flow is called the potential (voltage).

As the electrons pack their bags and leave the atoms they were attached to in search of a new home (anode to cathode), they leave behind positively charged ions.

Positively charged ions don't like being positively charged and want to return to the happy, neutral state they enjoyed when they had electrons attached. So they move through the electrolyte (the gooey stuff in batteries), searching for their departed electrons.

When the ions turn up, the electrons are having none of this getting back together, reconciliation *ballards*, and so we are left with the awkward situation of the electrons being happy in their new home (electrons in the cathode). In contrast, the ions keep turning up at the cathode, hoping they can get back together with their departed electrons.

When all the electrons have left the anode, and all the ions have gone in search of their ex-partners, the battery is flat.

Recharging

When we recharge a battery, it is easy to think of refilling it with electricity, in the same way as we replace the petrol we have used when we fill up. It works as a good parallel but it isn't quite what is happening.

We have all the electrons happily living the single life in their new home, the cathode. The ions are wandering about, hoping for a reconciliation with their lost partners, but that isn't happening.

No one is getting back together, and the battery is flatter than the proverbial pancake.

The ions and their electrons need to be forced back together to recharge the battery, which takes energy. You can trickle that energy in over a long period or take the shotgun approach and "fast-charge" the reconciliation.

This is what the EV Fast-Chargers are doing. They supply the energy required to force the happily single electrons back into a relationship with the sadly neutral ions and push the (un)happy couple back into their marital home, otherwise known as the anode.

Once back where they all started, the electrons still can't be trusted, and at the first opportunity, they are off again, looking for the single life in the cathode.

EVENTS DIARY

The Sunday morning Group Observed Rides 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 to hone/improve skills through riding with fellow members.

Potential members considering taking the IAM test may have an individual assessment ride.

Rides usually last around two hours: often with a mid-point refreshment stop.

Depending on numbers / balance etc., it is customary for different groupings to embark on a ride style of their choice as they feel fit.

The main purpose is to have the opportunity to ride with fellow like-minded bikers.

ANCHOLME LEISURE CENTRE	Scawby Brook, Brigg, DN20 9JH
WILLINGHAM WOODS.	Willingham Woods, LN8 3RQ.
THE HOMESTEAD	Canwick Avenue, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln, LN4 2RS
STARBUCKS	M180, Junc 5 Services, DN20 0PA, ///breakfast.slippers.alleges
SUN INN	20 Bridge Rd, Saxilby, LN1 2PZ (Social Venue)

Group social rides 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 ride organiser know if you want to invite a guest. If carrying a pillion you should ensure that this is covered by your motorcycle insurance policy.

MEETING TIMES

GROUP AND OBSERVED RIDES **0930hrs FOR PROMPT DEPARTURE AT 1000hrs**

SOCIAL MEETING **FIRST TUESDAY IN THE MONTH AT 2000hrs**

OBSERVER NOTE: for those wishing to become observers contact JERRY NEALE 07412 935333

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 3 rd	Social Meeting	Sun Inn, Saxilby
Sunday 8 th	Group Observed Ride	Willingham Woods
Sunday/Monday 8 th /9 th	Dave's Lancashire trip	See Page 4 for details
Sunday 22 nd	Group Social Rides	The Homestead and Starbucks
Wednesday 25 th	Observers Meeting	Details from Jerry nearer the date

OCTOBER

Tuesday 1st **Social Meeting** Sun Inn, Saxilby

First aid training session courtesy of Jayne Kirton. Jayne provides first aid training professionally and is the wife of one of our members.

Sunday 6 th	Group Observed Ride	The Homestead
Friday 11 th	Committee Meeting	Via Zoom. To Be Advised
Sunday 20 th	Group Social Rides	The Homestead and Starbucks
Wednesday 30 th	Observers Meeting	Details from Jerry nearer the date

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 5 th	Social Meeting	Sun Inn, Saxilby
Sunday 10 th	Group Observed Ride	Ancholme Leisure Centre
Sunday 24 th	Group Social Rides	The Homestead and Starbucks
Wednesday 27 th	Barrie Heath Quiz	2000hrs Heslam Park Rugby Club, 124 Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 2AG
Wednesday 27 th	Observers Meeting	Details from Jerry nearer the date

DECEMBER

Tuesday 3 rd	Social Meeting	Sun Inn, Saxilby
Sunday 8 th	Group Observed Ride	Willingham Woods
Friday 13 th	Committee Meeting	Via Zoom. To Be Advised
Sunday 22 nd	Group Social Rides	The Homestead and Starbucks

FEBRUARY 2025

Tuesday 4 th	Social Meeting	Sun Inn, Saxilby
Sunday 9 th	Group Observed Ride	The Homestead
Friday 14 th	Committee Meeting	Via Zoom. To Be Advised
Sunday 23 rd	Group Social Rides	The Homestead and Starbucks
Wednesday 26 th	Observers Meeting	Details from Jerry nearer the date

IMPORTANT NOTE

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.

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 several colours available, contact Martin Atkin, martin@funnelweb.org or 07795 443607.

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	£
Caps	Group Badge				£5.00	£
Beanies	Group Badge				£5.00	£
Colour required:					TO PAY	£
PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED WITH ORDER						

