

THE LATEST FROM IAM LINCOLNSHIRE

Spring news!

Welcome to our Spring newsletter, we hope you enjoy it.

It's been a busy start to 2022 since our Winter newsletter. We've held our first face-to-face member event of the year, we've completed the current funded PCC funded Young Driver Courses and there are several new advanced drivers across the county already

Find out more in this edition of our newsletter.



In this edition

Page 2

Group Update

Page 3

Tyres - A distress purchase?

Page 4

Double Distinction for Masters pair

Page 5

Lowering your fuel consumption

Page 6

IAM Lincolnshire member spotlight

Page 7

IAM RoadSmart pre-drive checklist

Page 8

Fordie's World

Page 9

Know Your Stuff - Mobile Phone Law update

Page 10

Events Programme

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

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GROUP UPDATE

Observer/Associate update

We're making good progress on our Advanced Driver Courses so far in 2022.

We've had 19 test passes and over 40 associates undertaking courses at the present time.

Throughout the course of 2022, we're still offering free taster drives and will be starting our 2022 'Confident Driving' presentation programme shortly.

Congratulations to our 19 new Advanced Drivers in 2022 so far

Associate	Pass Date	Observer	Check Drive Observer
Porsha Sykes-Dixon	01/05/2022	Richard Hardesty	Paul Russell
Abbie Hall	29/04/2022	Mat Goddard	Ashley Behan
Gerald Abel	24/04/2022	Roger Hicks	Geoff Coughlin
Dawn Zalas	09/04/2022 F1RST	Roger Hicks	Roger Hicks
Jamie Nowell	09/04/2022	Tom Burton	Tony Lofts
Peter Davy	01/04/2022 F1RST	Ray Whitaker	Roger Hicks
Peter Thompson	20/03/2022 F1RST	Les Robey	Geoff Coughlin
Ryan Tittershill	12/03/2022	Ray Whitaker	Roger Hicks
John Leventhall	26/02/2022	Roger Hicks	Geoff Coughlin
Isabel Read	21/02/2022	Chrissie Larkin	Ashley Behan
Will Harrison	18/02/2022 F1RST	Keith Lovering	Ashley Behan
Joe Blackburn	30/01/2022	Tom Burton	Tony Lofts
Scott Jennings	23/01/2022 F1RST	Simon Clayton	Richard Hardesty
Steve Goodwin	23/01/2022	Mat Goddard	Ashley Behan
Linda Adams	23/01/2022	Ashley Behan	Richard Hardesty
Dawn Bibb	23/01/2022	Ashley Behan	Richard Hardesty
Hannah Broadbent	23/01/2022	Thomas Holm-Johansen	Ashley Behan
Max Haywood	19/01/2022	Geoff Coughlin	Ashley Behan
Sam Keyworth	06/01/2022	Keith Lovering	Ashley Behan

ADVANCED COURSE DOES THE TRICK FOR JOHN

'Confident Driving' talk by IAM Lincolnshire set John's sights on Advanced Driver qualification

In an IAM RoadSmart talk by Ashley Behan and Roger Hicks to my Probus Club, I wondered what skills had I forgotten or bad habits acquired since my test 52 years ago? To find out, I took the taster session.

Having discovered I was already reasonably proficient, I realised that seeking improvement through the IAM Advanced Driver course would consolidate my driving knowledge and competence.

The course was very positive and the skilled training by the observer awakened my understanding that there was much more to advanced driving, which the IAM method then helped me incorporate into better driving.

Now the enhanced anticipation and negotiation of hazards as a safer, smoother, more attentive advanced driver increases my confidence on the road and makes every journey more surefooted and less stressful. Thank you IAM RoadSmart.

John Leventhall, Vale of Belvoir PROBUS

Join us on     @IAMLincolnshire

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TYRES...

A distress purchase?

As arguably one of the primary safety features on your vehicle, why do so many people regard replacing tyres as a distress purchase?

Safety in braking, acceleration, steering and cornering all depend on a relatively small area of road contact. It is therefore essential that tyres should be maintained in good condition and when changed, that the correct replacements are fitted.

Modern tyres are a highly technical product that have evolved as the result of over 100 years of continuous development.

Your choice of tyres can have a considerable impact on your vehicles handling capabilities. It is essential that you do not mix tyres of different construction on your vehicle, by that I mean radial and cross ply; though as virtually all car tyres are now radial, this should not be an issue. It is highly recommended to fit tyres of the same make and tread pattern on each axle and ideally on all four-wheel positions.

I would recommend that, when possible, you replace your tyres on a like for like basis with those fitted by the vehicle manufacturer wherever possible. The original tyre fitment was determined by joint consultation between the vehicle and tyre manufacturers and takes into account all aspects of the vehicle's operation. Apart from the size of the tyre, there are other technical aspects designed into the tyre such as casing construction, rubber compounds and load/speed ratings which are calculated to match the vehicles intended use.

Your tyres should be examined frequently and if you see any sign of damage such as uneven wear, cuts or lumps have the tyre checked by a tyre specialist as a matter of urgency, as this could indicate possible internal damage.

Regularly check your tread depth. The legal minimum tread depth for a car in the UK is 1.6mm across a continuous band compromising the central three quarters of the tread width around its entire circumference. Tyre treads are designed to give good grip on both dry roads and wet roads where the tread must also disperse water. Whilst this is the minimum requirement it is highly recommended by various motoring industry bodies, including the IAM, that you should replace your tyres when tread is down to 3mm.

Correct inflation pressure is vital for optimum braking and cornering performance and to maximise tyre life. Prolonged under inflation causes excessive flexing, rapid wear of the tread shoulders and reduced mpg. Over inflation results in an uncomfortable ride, less contact with the road and increased wear on the tread centre. Ideally, pressures should be checked every two weeks, even if the vehicle has a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System. Pressure should be checked when cold.



Should your tyre require a repair of any kind, including a puncture, please ensure that you go to a tyre specialist and that the repair is carried out in accordance with British Standard AU159. Any such repair must be what is known as a 'Permanent Repair'. This means that the tyre must be removed from the wheel to allow a thorough examination internally as well as externally to ensure there is no hidden damage which could result in a catastrophic failure. If anyone carries out an external repair with an externally applied plug or use of sealant, where the tyre stays on the wheel, this is not a Permanent Repair and does not meet AU159 requirements.

Finally in these times of ever-increasing costs please, please don't be tempted to purchase a 'part worn' tyre. Neither you nor the seller has any idea how that tyre has been abused by its previous owner. Has it had a puncture and been run under inflated? How many potholes has it driven over and how many kerbs has it driven against or even worse over? As I said at the start of this article, the tyre is a highly technically constructed product and without some form of x ray or shearography it is impossible to tell if its integrity has been compromised by such abuse.

Having spent over 30 years in the tyre industry and having dealt with every type of tyre including car, truck, industrial, giant earthmover and aircraft, I have a great respect for the product. Hopefully this article will help you think of tyres in a slightly different way and whilst you may not actually look forward to purchasing new tyres, you will appreciate how important they are to your overall safety and comfort. Remember your car will feel and drive a lot better with new tyres, think of it like buying new shoes and how good that feels!

Roger Hicks
Chair & Chief Observer, IAM Lincolnshire

DOUBLE DISTINCTION FOR MASTERS PAIR

Roger and Ashley achieve Masters success

First passing their Masters with a Distinction in 2016, our Chair and Chief Observer, Roger Hicks, and Secretary, Ashley Behan, set their sights on re-taking the qualification in late 2021.

The IAM RoadSmart Masters standard offers the ultimate challenge for civilian drivers and is seen as the highest standard of civilian driving ability in the country. The test is carried out over a 2-hour period in an unfamiliar area by an IAM RoadSmart Regional Service Delivery Manager, who are former Police Class 1 drivers.

We can now reveal that Roger and Ashley, who are IAM Lincolnshire's only Masters Mentors, successfully passed their re-qualification just a few weeks apart - both achieving the Distinction standard. Ashley's pass came first in late-2021, followed by Roger's in early 2022.

In preparation, Roger and Ashley carried out several review drives with each other and refreshed their knowledge on RoadCraft, the police drivers handbook. Ashley said "We both wanted to make sure we continued to lead IAM Lincolnshire by example, so re-taking our Masters was high on our agenda. We did feel our skills had dropped a little after periods with less driving throughout COVID-19 but refresher drives with each other really helped. We're delighted with the result, especially to maintain the distinction standard."

The pair are now working to help others in Lincolnshire achieve Masters standard and have already started coaching sessions with two IAM Lincolnshire observers, with more to follow later in 2022.

Roger added "As a mature driver, I was particularly pleased to achieve another pass with Distinction. Our joint refresher drives proved useful in preparing us for the challenging Masters test and ensured that we were both able to deliver competent and skilled drives on the day. As Masters Mentors, we now look forward to helping other people to achieve the qualification. "

You can find out more about the IAM RoadSmart Masters programme [here](#).

Congratulations Roger and Ashley.



LOWERING YOUR FUEL CONSUMPTION

Tips from IAM RoadSmart as prices continue to hike

The ever-fluctuating (and often increasing) cost of fuel is something all motorists would've been noticing over the past year, and that's why IAM RoadSmart has put together their own top tips for driving and riding more eco-friendly, which in turn can help cut the amount of fuel you use.

With the cost of living rising, and the [average UK fuel prices](#) for petrol at 145.6 and diesel at 149.3, we're on hand to help drivers save money on filling up and to help avoid some of those unexpected costs when it comes to servicing and repairs. Here you'll find IAM RoadSmart's top hints and tips to travelling more economically. After all, *every little helps!*

Greener driving

Driving smoothly and anticipating situations and other road users as far ahead as possible will help to avoid unnecessary braking and acceleration. Maintain a greater distance from the vehicle in front so that you can regulate your speed, when necessary, utilising acceleration sense and without using the brakes.

When slowing down or driving downhill, remaining in gear but taking your foot off the accelerator as early as possible will reduce fuel flow to virtually zero, in most vehicles.

When accelerating, shift to a higher gear early, even in an auto you can try this where appropriate and always remember high speeds greatly increases fuel consumption too so avoid excessive speed.

Offload unnecessary weight

Removing racks, roof boxes and bike carriers when they aren't in use will significantly decrease air resistance and improve fuel consumption at higher speeds. Try to avoid carrying unnecessary weight on your travels as

this will increase fuel consumption – raising your carbon footprint.

Avoid busy periods

If possible, try to avoid driving during heavy traffic. Stopping and starting in traffic needs the use of the first gear and a lot of fuel is used to get the vehicle moving again. So, if you can plan that journey to avoid unnecessary then you could save not only your time, but that expensive fuel as well.

Check your tyres

Keep your tyres well maintained by checking the condition, pressure and tread depth. An underinflated tyre will use more fuel. When it comes to choosing new tyres, it's worth having a look at ones which are designed for extra economy. If you're unsure on how to check your pressures, then check out [Tyre Safe](#) who offer a range of resources for vehicle owners. However, it is always advisable to check the setting recommended by your vehicle manufacturer, and this can be found in your handbook. Consider changing to the high speed or load settings if you are on a long journey.

Avoid short journeys

During colder months, as your engine is trying to warm up it uses more fuel for the first four miles or so. Your engine stays cold when you drive less than two miles, and your car will produce 60% more pollution than a warm engine. The [National Travel Survey 2020](#) found 25% of trips were under 1 mile, and 71% under 5 miles, so could you consider leaving the keys at home and avoid those short journeys where possible?

Keep it low

By keeping your speed low, you can reduce fuel consumption by up to 25%. Try pressing more lightly on the accelerator, often you can maintain the same speed with less pressure on the

pedal. You'll soon see the mpg increasing.

Read the road ahead

Look to the road ahead and plan your next move. Instead of being in situations where you find yourself needing to be heavier footed on the brake, try slowing down as you approach the red light or junction, if you can keep the vehicle rolling slowly all the better. It's also recommended to avoid hard acceleration when moving your car from a complete stop, or climbing a hill as it will increase fuel consumption.

Limit your use of climate control

Air conditioning (AC) is the single largest contributor to lower fuel economy during the summer. Under very hot conditions, AC can reduce a vehicle's economy by a whopping 25%. Since air conditioning systems run off the engine, they often sap power and fuel efficiency in the process, so if you don't need it on then you may eke out a few extra mpg if you turn it off. If you do need it then it's worth using sparingly.

Richard Gladman, Head of Driving and Standards at IAM RoadSmart, said:

"Advanced driving techniques with sound observation and planning lend themselves well to helping with fuel economy. Smooth and gentle acceleration and early upward gear changes will also help you to save fuel. It's also worth making sure you are not carrying any excess baggage (do you really need your full toolbox in the boot?) or wind brakes such as roof boxes/bars or cycle racks, remove them when they are not needed, and this will also help to reduce fuel use. At low speeds an open window may work as well as air conditioning and will probably use less fuel, but this will change as speeds increase and drag rises. But of course, the biggest saving of 100% will be if we can cut out the short journeys – that few hundred yards to the shop may just be the start of my new fitness campaign."

FULL LICENCE THE GOAL FOR IZZY

Including an IAM advanced Commercial test

"People definitely don't expect a female driver to turn up in a lorry!" but behind the wheel of a HGV is exactly where IAM Lincolnshire member, Izzy Chetwynd, aged 24, feels at home.



Izzy pictured with Lincolnshire Police Det. Chief Superintendent Andy Cox presenting her advanced driving certificate

Izzy joined IAM Lincolnshire as part of the Advanced Driver Courses funded by Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Marc Jones and achieved the highest result possible on test - scores of all ones and a FIRST.

Having passed her driving test at 17, Izzy quickly turned her attention to what was next. First passing her PSV test to allow her to drive a bus then moving on to Class 1 and Class 2 HGV. As her livelihood is driving and involves transporting different vehicles all over Europe, when Izzy saw the opportunity to take an advanced course, she jumped at the chance.

Day-to-day Izzy drives an impressive 3.0 litre Audi S4 Avant and wanted to be sure she was as safe as she could be whilst being able to get the most out of the car

Her overall goal is to pass every driving test she can



and Izzy has already set her sights on her motorbike test next, to complete her full licence which she hopes to take in the next couple of years.

"I really enjoyed my advanced course and test and I'd love to go further - I'm thinking about taking the commercial vehicle advanced test in a HGV in the future."

Speaking about her role driving different vehicles Izzy said "Being a female driver, I get ignored a lot, especially when double-manning. It can make you feel invisible at times. I really enjoy the job, but would say the public toilets are the worst! It can be frustrating having to stick to driving hours, especially when home is close and you run out of time."

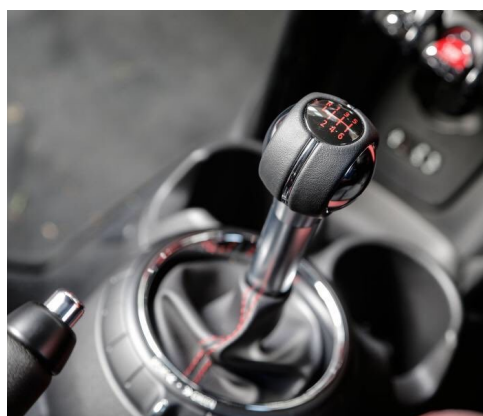
IAM ROADSMART CHECKLIST

Before you start the engine

Welcome to the first in IAM RoadSmart's new series of expert driving tips from Head of Driving & Riding Standards Richard Gladman. Over the coming weeks we'll cover everything from safe motorway driving to how to navigate a single-track road, a steep incline or preparing for driving abroad. This week Richard talks us through what we need to think about before we've even left home.

The most important consideration, and something not enough people think about before they jump into their car, is...is it actually fit for the road?

We advocate that you check your vehicle every time you go to drive it. Of course, realistically not everyone is going to do a full check every time, but you'll find that advanced drivers will have a walk around their car, each time before they get into it either at home, or if they've left it parked somewhere; there's no point driving off if you've got a flat tyre.



Some members might be familiar with the POWDERY Check:

Petrol – or diesel – and today, of course battery charge – check you have plenty for the journey.

Oil – also brake, gear box, clutch fluid and power-steering fluid all need regular checks

Water – including your screen wash reservoir, which if empty could cost you a penalty notice

Damage – is there any fresh body damage – is there anything hanging down below the vehicle?

Electrics – are all your lights – interior and exterior, working and don't forget the reversing light? Does your horn work?

Rubber – regularly check your tyres, pressures treads and make sure there are no cuts and bulges. Always include the spare and keep it at the highest pressure you may need. Also make sure your windscreen wiper blades are ok – not nicked or cracked.

Yourself – if you were drinking the day or night before, are you fit to drive now? Not only should you think about how much you have to drink, but also what time you stopped drinking. You may need more than just overnight for alcohol to be out of your system.

The reality is though that non-advanced motorists in particular are unlikely to do a full POWDERY Check, but at the very least you need to ensure you have enough fuel for your journey – important at the moment when prices are so high. You definitely don't want to get onto the motorway only to realise you've got 20 miles worth of fuel in your tank and need to fill up at a motorway services!

It's also increasingly understood that alongside these physical vehicle checks, it's also important to consider the human aspect of

driving. This relates to the [Goals for Driver Education Matrix](#), which examines driver psychology before and during a journey.

For instance, what is the rationale of your journey; if you're going for a drive across the Yorkshire Dales to take in the scenery and enjoy the sunshine, that's a very different rationale compared to driving to sales meeting, which you might already be late for – and you need fuel.

Time constraints will change the way you approach that drive; if you're in a hurry, you may take unnecessary risks. Your focus isn't on the drive, it is on getting to the meeting.

Equally, you might have plenty of time, but before leaving the house you've had a row with your partner or you're your child has forgotten their lunchbox. It's these wider world influences that we should recognise influence how we drive.

For motorbike riders your influence might be your friends. When you're riding on your own, you're not a reckless rider, but if you go out with a group of people who are lunatics, the peer pressure might mean you also ride like a lunatic.

So, alongside those important physical checks to ensure your car, bike or van is roadworthy, it's also important to be conscious of your state of mind before you begin your journey.

Richard Gladman
IAM RoadSmart, Head of Driving Standards

FORDIE'S WORLD

The thoughts of IAM Lincolnshire member, Graham Ford

Firstly, can I apologise for no "World" in the Christmas newsletter. It was written but due to an operator/keyboard interface malfunction it didn't send. Basically, I don't know what I'm doing on computers.



Now then, which cretin decided, in their wisdom, it would be a worthwhile exercise to restrict drivers over 70 years old to limited licences, limited travel. Especially after dark and maybe a retest every 3-5 years.

What a condescending bunch! Perhaps some of these critics should remember we "oldies" were driving long before they were a "twinkle" in their father's eyes. We learnt and passed our tests in cars with side valve engines, 3 speed gearboxes, no power steering or power assisted brakes. We didn't have cruise control (that depended on your shoe size), no heated rear screen or mirrors. If you were lucky, your car had a vestigial heater that got warm after 25/30 miles or so. We have probably FORGOTTEN more about safe and competent driving than some have ever learnt! And if all this comes about, who is going to police it?

I note the highways bods, in their wisdom, have re-opened Brayford Wharf East from St Marks to the crossings. Apparently, the closure was to see if it was feasible to pedestrianise the area. Considering the number of times the cones and barriers were knocked down, or moved proved the utter futility of the scheme. Maybe Highways will now accept this is a useful and well used thoroughfare, maybe their time and efforts

should be directed to teaching the students how to cross the road safely.

To hark back to December briefly, that became an expensive month. First, the central heating water pump failed that was a £350. Ouch! Then 10 days later, the car water pump failed, fortunately I was near home and was able to get it repaired next day, that was a £424. Double OUCH! NOT conducive to a happy Christmas.

Right! That's had "me grump". As you are, no doubt, aware, I was widowed last summer and to that end "Ford Towers" became too big for one person, so I decided to downsize and I have been able to purchase a flat in a modern complex on the edge of the city. Anyone who has moved house will readily appreciate the complexity of house purchase. If like me, you are a first time buyer, however, the process grinds along fairly smoothly and I hope to be installed end of April/beginning of May. The downside? After nearly 50 years at the present abode, you don't "alf" collect some "stuff". I shall soon qualify for executive membership of the waste disposal unit on Great Northern Terrace.

I shall keep you informed of "progress" and in the meantime drive safely and beware of mad cyclists and horses.

For die



KNOW YOUR STUFF

Changes to the rules on using mobile phones

From 25 March, rules in The Highway Code are coming into force to make any hand-held use of a mobile phone while driving illegal, except in limited circumstances.

The changes were supported by 80% of respondents in a public consultation in 2021.

This means you must not use a device in your hand for any reason, whether online or offline. The law applies to you if you're:

- supervising a learner driver
- stopped at traffic lights
- queuing in traffic
- driving a car that turns the engine off when you stop moving
- holding and using a device that's offline or in flight mode

There are exceptions, such as if you need to call 999 or 112 in an emergency or making a contactless payment in a vehicle that is not moving.

You can find the full rules on using a phone, sat nav or another device when driving on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

The government's award-winning THINK! team will launch an [awareness campaign](#) today to remind drivers not to use a hand-held phone at the wheel and the penalties of choosing to ignore this new law.

Why staying up to date is important

It's important that everyone – not just learner drivers – understand their responsibility for the safety of other road users.

Many of the rules in the code are legal requirements, and if you disobey these rules you're committing a criminal offence.

If you do not follow the other rules in the code, it can be used in evidence in court proceedings to establish liability.



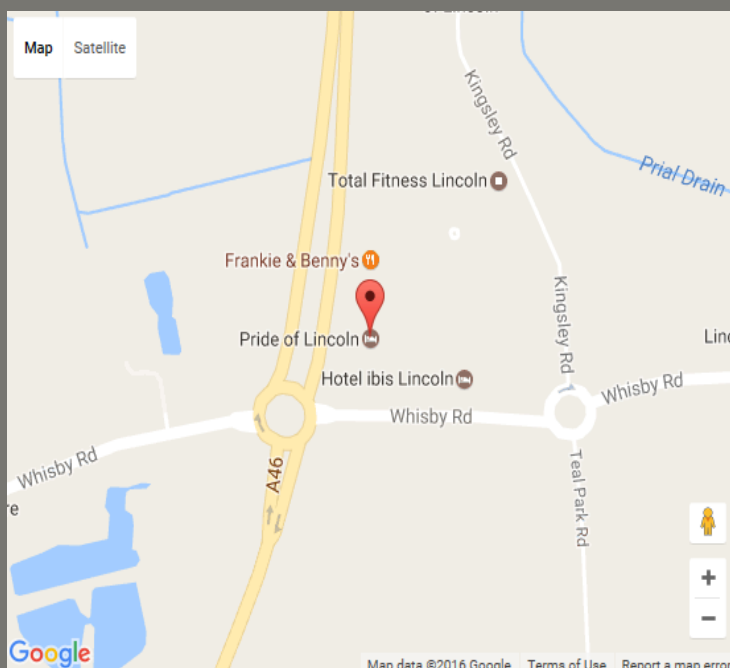
OUR VENUE

WHERE TO FIND US?

Windmill Farm Function Room for a **7pm 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.

2022 EVENTS



Tuesday 8 February 2022

*Detective Chief Superintendent Andy Cox,
Lincolnshire Police Head of Crime Intelligence.
National lead for fatal collision investigation
reporting*

Tuesday 14 June 2022

*Annual General Meeting (AGM), IAM RoadSmart
Head of Driving Standards
Richard Gladman*

Tuesday 16 August 2022

*Advanced Driver Course Refresher / Car
Maintenance Practical*

Tuesday 11 October 2022

Reg Local - Advanced and Performance Driving

Tuesday 13 December 2022

Christmas Quiz/Social Evening

NEXT EDITION *Summer22*