



SCUNTHORPE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2017

Issue 12



www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk

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Welcome to the Winter 2017 issue.

Hi folks, Well Autumn passed rather quickly and the winter / Xmas frenzy has begun. Although we don't seem to have "seasons" anymore there has still been a few frosty

Mornings. Hopefully being Advanced drivers you are of course all prepared for the winter driving.



We are still looking for someone else to take over the editing of the mag, (although secretly Carol is kind of enjoying it, but don't tell anyone!) so if you think you might be inclined to have a go, please get in touch as soon as you can. This job isn't too pressured as it's "a once every three months" job !

Although when previous editors have been surfing the web, they see something and save it and make it ready for the next edition..

If anyone has any contributions for the mag, they can be sent to me at terryheath@sky.com and even if someone else takes over the editor job, I can simply forward any items on by email.

Thank you Terry.



To new Member:
Louise Burrows

DATES FOR THE DIARY

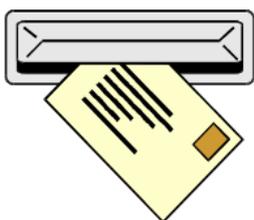
Social Meetings Held On;
2018

Wed Feb 28th
Wed April 25th (AGM)
Wed June 27th
Wed Aug 22nd
Wed Oct 24th

We got Mail!

You can email, tweet or post a letter to the following addresses.

Terry Heath
48 Vicarage Ave;
Wrawby, Brigg
Nth; Lincs. DN20 8RY



Email: terryheath@sky.com

Twitter: [@IAMScunthorpe](https://twitter.com/IAMScunthorpe)

SPECIAL OFFER

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

IAM Scunthorpe are delighted to introduce a brand new promotion for people living in the North Lincs Area. The project will allow 18-24 year old's to receive a full refund once they have completed the 'Skills for Life' course. A big thank you to Richard Hall (who is the manager of the 'Roads Safety Team' working for the North Lincolnshire Council) for helping to fund this project. T&C's apply, please see our website for more details.

IAM
DRIVING ROAD SAFETY

SKILL FOR LIFE

SPECIAL OFFER FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

The Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists, together with the North Lincs Road Safety Partnerships are pleased to announce that 17 to 24 year old drivers can now receive a full refund when successfully completing the 'Skill For Life' package.

SPECIAL OFFER

- * Improve your driving
- * Help to avoid crashes*
- * Greater awareness of other road users*
- * Improve your driving confidence
- * One year's RAC Roadside and Recovery breakdown cover RAC
- * Your chance to become a better driver than your friends and your dad by taking advanced driving

For more details go to www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk

Apply now

Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists and North Lincolnshire Road Safety Partnerships

SCUNTHORPE GROUP
Established 1977
Advanced Motorists - 1980

ADVANCE LINCOLNSHIRE

17-24 YEARS OLDS
FULL REFUND AVAILABLE

*Proof required, full terms and conditions will be published shortly on the groups website. See www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk for more details, or Tel: 01652 655601 for details.

Become an Advanced Driver

The price for the Skill For Life package is
£149.00,

To receive your application form please
send your name and contact details along
with your payment to:

Mr M. Gothard
7 West Green
Messingham
North Lincs
DN17 3QT

**Cheques should be made payable to
"The Institute of Advanced Motorists".**

For more information contact Terry Heath on
01652 655601 or visit our website
www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk



The Group Shop

For all your Advanced Motoring needs
please contact Ian Walpole on:
01724 337547



Advertising in our Newsletter

If anyone would like to
advertise in our newsletters please
contact Terry Heath:
01652 655601 or email;
terryheath@sky.com

The cost of advertising is
Full page £40.00
Half page £20.00
Costs are per annum and will be
four quarterly issues.



20% Discount on Advanced Driver & Rider courses with: Lincoln IAM, Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists & Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists.

As a current member of any of the above groups, you will receive a 20% discount when you sign up to a Advanced Driver or Rider Course in Lincolnshire.

HOW TO CLAIM

Contact us on the details below, quoting the group name of your choice and we'll sign you up.

A.D. Course with Lincoln IAM Tel:0300 365 0152
or lincolniam@gmx.com

A.R. Course with Lincolnshire Advanced motorcyclists Tel : 01427 616864 or
lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk

A.D. Course with Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists Tel : 01652 655601 or
terryheath@sky.com



Attention all

The Lincs Advanced Motorcyclists have teamed up with the Lincoln Car Group to offer existing members a 20% discount on taking a 2nd Category advanced course.

The cost of that course is now £114 ,so with a 20% discount you will be refunded £22.80 from the car group making the cost £91.20.

If you are interested the best way to apply is online through the IAM website and the car group will refund you the 20%.

The Scunthorpe Advanced Motorists have also teamed up with the above two groups and are offering the same package to any member wishing to take a 2nd category course.

Contact any of the above groups for more details.

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The views and opinions expressed in this news-
letter are those of the individual writers and
not necessarily of the IAM, nor the Scunthorpe
Group .





TEST PASSES



Available now for just £1, our new Group Badge. It is designed to stick inside your car windscreen, and makes a great replacement for your old tax disc.

Contact Terry Heath on 01652 655601 to purchase, or see him at a social event.



I can see clearly now.

Inside job

Months of air conditioning and dust builds up a grimy layer on the inside of the windscreen, so spend a couple of minutes getting it really clean. Use a window cleaning fluid, newspaper or a microfibre cloth. A squeaky clean surface will eliminate glare from the low autumn sun and greatly reduce the likelihood of the screen misting up. Carefully clean the rear screen so that you don't damage the heater elements and you'll save having to put the heated rear window on so much, which can cost two or three mpg while it's on, says Tim Shallcross, IAM RoadSmart head of technical policy.

Wipers If you get that horrible squeaking noise, it's time to change the wiper blades. When the new blades sweep the screen in efficient, rain clearing silence, you'll be grateful you did. On icy days always check that your wipers are not frozen to the glass. Attempting to get them moving can blow a fuse or damage the motors, just adding to your woes. The same problem can sometimes affect electric wing mirrors. If really low temperatures are forecast don't fold them in the night before.

Washer bottle. Ready-mixed washer fluid can be an expensive convenience; it's typically £5 or so for five litres – more at motorway service areas – and most of it is just tap water. Many supermarkets sell concentrated fluid which will dilute to make at least 20 litres for less cost, even more when the weather's mild and there's no risk of the washers freezing. Alternatively shop online, but don't be tempted by hi-tech sounding premium priced products or the very expensive "specially developed for X make of car." On cold days, don't use the washers until you feel warm air coming out of the heater, otherwise the spray may freeze on your windscreen leaving you driving blind.

Frost and ice. Many cars now have heated windscreens and don't the rest of us envy them on frosty mornings! If there's no magic windscreen defrost switch in your car, buy a custom made ice blanket or just cover the screen the night before with a sheet. Do not use newspapers for this as they tend to disintegrate into a soggy mush. Invest in a good quality ice scraper and a few tins of de-icing spray and, most importantly give yourself that extra ten minutes to get the car ready to go. Clear the whole screen, not just a letter box area in front of the driver. A badly cleared screen is dangerous and is an offence. Three points and a hefty fine can be the reward for skimping.

While you scrape and spray you can have the engine running with the heater set to maximum demist. But cars are at their most polluting and wasteful when cold, so you won't be doing the environment or your wallet any good. As soon as the windows are clear, drive off. It is illegal to leave a car running unattended as well as being a huge temptation for the casual thief. Most insurance companies may not pay out if you make it easy for someone to steal your vehicle.

Damp. Clear damp or snowy boots and coats out of the car when you get home – if you leave them in overnight the water will evaporate and condense on the inside of all the windows. It'll take ages to clear and the car will feel damp and miserable for your morning commute. Even leaving them in the boot will make the windows wet and foggy, so get them indoors where they'll dry out properly.



My Ultimate Challenge.

It was at one of our social meetings about 4 years ago, we had a presentation about the then new IAM Masters qualification.

The speaker told us what it was about and showed videos of various driving situations and how to deal with them efficiently. I thought to myself "I can do that".

I decided eventually to have a chat with Terry Heath about this. It turned out that he was about to start training for his National Observer qualification and we agreed we could both mutually benefit, he would get his experience and I some driver training at a higher level.

Here started what was to become a regular drive every few weeks.

The first thing I began to realise was that after 40 or so years of driving I was to learn to take criticism again.

As these sessions became regular I would think that was a good one and then some other issue would crop up. So it was something else to deal with.

Drive after drive we soldiered on striving for a standard I never thought was possible but we were getting there.

A couple of years later, other events took over and the sessions were to fall by the wayside.

Importantly one major event was that Terry successfully passed his National Observer test.

A year later or so we spoke again and set about getting to the stage where I would apply for the Masters test.

Earlier this year I paid my fee and enrolled for the IAM Roadsmart Masters Test. Terry and I had agreed that I should take the mentored route.

I met with Malcolm my mentor in April for the first of 6 x 2 hourly sessions.

After an initial assessment I realized I had got my work cut out here.

To begin with, I needed to know the Roadcraft police driving manual and Highway Code, cover to cover.

Firstly from Roadcraft, The Goals for Driver Education, the underlying being to assess each journey, what you did well what you did not do so well, learn from it and practice over and over again.

Some of the elements are Attitude and human factors, IPSGA. Cornering principles (limit points play a great part), overtaking, Taking every opportunity to make progress. A fluent and relevant commentary (spoken thoughts) is mandatory.

Planning and anticipation, scanning as far ahead as possible and working back, plan and act on developing hazards until they are past.

The learning curve is such that the level you are at takes a dip for a while at which you begin to relearn, then get back to where you were and then upwards until the new standard becomes your default driving style.

There were times when I honestly thought I could get nothing right!!!.

About midterm of training I came home frustrated, disappointed and close to tears, I don't mind admitting. I talked it through with my wife Denise and with Terry and with their support and encouragement I decided I was not to be beaten and got my head down to putting into practice what I had been taught.

At my next session with my mentor, he noticed that I was in a better frame of mind than when we last met and from that point on the only way was up.

I would learn as much as I could, then a week or so later I would have a drive accompanied by Terry and put it all into practice.

Mentored time over, it was time to put my money where my mouth is and ask for the Masters test to be arranged.

Tuesday September 19th, I met with my examiner at a venue in Mexborough, South Yorkshire.

Part of the challenge is to be tested on unfamiliar roads and unfamiliar they were!!!.

To the point of being caught out by an uphill, left hand hairpin bend within the first few miles which caused me to stop mid bend and restart. There was nothing I could do but decide that what is done is done and get on with it.

After this shaky start I began to settle into the drive and do the best I could, I would make good decisions and not so good ones but I was enjoying it.

Before I knew it 90 minutes and 40 miles or so had passed and we returned to our start point, goodness knows what route we had been on.

The examiner asked what I thought and I told him I was ok once I had got going.

He told me I was about right, shook my hand and told me I had passed the test.

During the debrief, It became apparent that although I had reached the standard there was still an awful lot to learn.

Strangely habit forming I am still trying improve.

My IAM Roadsmart Masters certificate has arrived now and I am delighted with it.

I would recommend the IAM Roadsmart course to anyone who fancies a challenge, you will find it is so rewarding and a fantastic skill to learn.

I would like to say a big thank you to Terry for all of the hours and miles he has travelled with me, all the constructive criticism, encouragement, and the friendship without which this journey would have be so much harder.

To Malcolm my mentor in East Yorkshire thank you so much for your help and support.

A massive thank you to Denise and Tricia (my daughter) who were always there when it mattered, when I was really struggling and kept telling me I could do it.

I would like to dedicate this to my Mum, who passed away earlier this year, she was member of our group and would have been so proud.

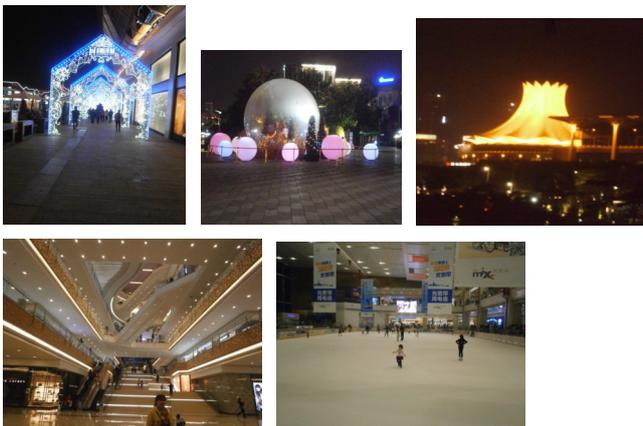
Paul Cassell.



Part 4 of Richard Creaser's Journey. Nanning Culture, customs and how the Chinese enjoy life.

I booked back in to the Wanxing hotel and noticed that I was put on the fourth floor. In the UK it seems to be universally known that thirteen is an unlucky number, in China four is the unlucky number and Chinese people refuse to have rooms on the fourth floor so they stick us foreigners on that floor. Shinfong told me that many hotels floors have the fourth floor numbered 3A. Shinfong went home for a sleep so I ventured out on my own. I needed to buy some bottles of drinking water. Throughout China tap water is not safe to drink. The little shop that I had been using before we went to Guilin was closed so I went back to the hotel to get one of their business cards (it is still in my wallet today), if I lost my way I could get in a taxi and show them the card and hope that they would bring me back to my hotel. I didn't need to use the card and felt quite happy with myself that I didn't get lost. Nowhere seemed to sell bottled water and I didn't know the Mandarin for water so I made my way back to the hotel to find that they sold it behind the reception desk!!

The next evening Shinfong took me out to see Nanning. It really is a remarkable place. City centre gardens that were like something out of a story book. Nanning, like most Chinese cities are built with a river running through them. Nanning's river is called the Yongjiang river, they really seem to make the best of using the river's features to form a beautiful place to walk or relax. Blackpool is famous for it's lights at certain times of the year - Nanning's light's are year round and a sight to behold. She took me to a department store - it was magnificent, breathtaking, big, bright and sparkingly clean. Escalators and travelators carry you around the multitude of floors. The top floor is an ice skating rink, it's 8pm, children are skating and thoroughly enjoying themselves. This is something that seems to go on everywhere, not just ice skating but pastimes for children of all ages.



There is no graffiti, litter, vandalism or gangs of kids up to no good. There are all sorts of things for them to do.. Early evening they go to the parks with their parents and exercise to music. Family unity is very important to them. They have festivals for every occasion. Excuse me for being coarse but if the cat farts they will create a festival to celebrate it! Their new year is called 'Spring Festival', all family members travel from all over the world to be together for the Spring Festival.

. My friend was appalled that Chinese people living in England are not allowed to have the day off on 'Labour Day'. I explained that we don't have 'labour day' here so therefore it is not celebrated. No, they can't understand. Back to Nanning, that one evening was like being taken to Disneyland and these people live that way all their lives.

Shinfong took me to a karaoke hall one afternoon. It is so different to karaoke in the UK. Some karaoke halls in China are dens of ill repute but there was no sign of this in the hall that Shinfong took me to. From what I have seen karaoke in the UK is a bunch of drunks singing to a karaoke machine in a pub. Ok maybe I over simplified things a little there. The karaoke hall is sort of laid out like a lot of apartments or hotel rooms. You hire a room and place your order for refreshments. Inside the room is black with a huge TV screen on one wall. Opposite are built in seats with a coffee table in front of them. When it is all switched on you can select flashing lights, disco balls on the ceiling and probably much more that I missed. She invited me to sing, I gracefully, yet determinedly declined. If I try to sing it is one of the most offensive things that you will ever hear. Because I couldn't sing for her, she was determined to sing songs that would please me. Singing is an important part of Chinese custom/culture. Her voice when singing has to be heard to be appreciated, it would win Britain's got talent - no question, it was comparable to Sarah Brightman . Later a friend of hers arrived and she was an equally adept singer but at a much lower tone than Shinfong. They sang man/woman duets, the very different tones complimented the parts that they sang perfectly. They sang popular songs from the West, they didn't sing any songs in their own language or in the Chinese style. I had an incredibly enjoyable afternoon listening to these two ladies. Like every Chinese person that I met, Shinfong's friend treated me as if I was her friend too. They asked me which type of song that I liked and would leave no stone unturned until they found every song that I mentioned. It is part of their custom to please their guest. The more I enjoyed it, the more they enjoyed it - Ladies, it was unforgettable, thank you or in your language, xie xie ni (shea shea nee). Communication is a wonderful thing!!

A place called 'Bama'.

Xinfeng (Shinfong) persuaded me to go to a place called Bama. It was a 9 1/2 hour bus journey and some of the 'roads' were a bit, well road's is paying them a compliment that they don't deserve, they were rough. A Chinese guy sitting in front of me reclined his seat as far as he could and trapped me in my seat. Shinfong wanted to give him a piece of her mind and make him sit elsewhere but I stopped her. I had seen my way of revenge; I pressed my knee into his back and with the help of the rough road my knee hammered into his back. He turned and glared at me several times, I simply smiled at him. Getting into a discussion of manners was useless, he speaking Chinese and me speaking English. He got the message and moved. Long before we even got there one wrong word out of anyone would have earned a verbal violence that could not be imagined! When we arrived I looked at a street covered in blather and mud and uttered 'what sort of damned hick town have you brought me to'? My sense of humour had long gone and faced with this - well patience was no longer a word in my vocabulary!!!

Today, long after going to Bama - which by the way, I came to actually like - I did a youtube search out of idle curiosity. Shinfong hadn't actually told me much about the place. I do remember her saying "you come live here. Hotel only 500 Yuan each month. Food cheap." 500 Yuan is about £48. The food is basic but tastes amazing and is astonishingly cheap. The proprietor of a cafe asked me "Good; you like?". I replied with honesty "hen hao", which means "very good". He reacted as if I had just given him a gold bar. "wo de hen hao pengyou" he told the whole street in a loud voice. 'wo de' means 'my' & 'pengyou' means 'friend'. Steady on old boy.....!!!! The veg tasted awesome but I couldn't take my eyes off that last spare rib!



Thanks Richard, the final part of his amazing adventure will be in the next edition.

Christmas cracker Jokes

(Sorry it had to be done!!!)



How will [Christmas dinner](#) be different after Brexit? **No Brussels.**

How do you recognise a Christmas tree from BHS? **All the branches have gone.**

I can't get to the chocolates in my advent calendar. **Foiled again.**

How do snowmen leave the EU? **They trigger Icicle 50.**

What kind of motorbike does Santa ride? **A Holly Davidson.**

Why was the turkey in the rock group? **Because he was the only one with drumsticks.**

What do snowmen wear on their heads? **Ice caps.**

Why was the snowman looking through the carrots? **He was picking his nose.**

Merry Christmas Everyone!





IAM RoadSmart backs calls for £220 million investment on high risk roads around the UK to cut deaths and injuries.

21/11/2017

The UK's biggest road safety charity IAM RoadSmart is giving its backing to a campaign by the Road Safety Foundation for the government to inject £220 million in improving the most high risk 'A' roads across the country.

Last year the Government allocated a £175 million Safer Roads Fund to tackle the 50 most dangerous local A roads in England. These roads have been inspected, solutions designed and the first findings will be reported in 2018, but funding is needed to improve a further 6,000 kms of high risk routes.

IAM RoadSmart believes the investment is a relatively low-cost way of making an immediate difference to roads that are a risk to high numbers of road users.

Neil Greig, IAM RoadSmart director of policy and research, said: "A lot of research has gone into identifying which roads could be improved at a modest cost, delivering fewer serious injury and fatal crashes, as well as less disruption on our already overburdened roads."

For the first time, the Road Safety Foundation/Ageas UK partnership has launched an interactive Road Crash Index which shows the level of road safety improvement (or declining performance) in each county between 2010-12 and 2013-15. That information can be found at www.roadcrashindex.org

IAM RoadSmart's own Safety Culture Survey (to be launched later this week) found that 83% of drivers support the publishing of annual maps that show the locations of motor vehicle accidents in which people were seriously injured or killed.

The road at the top of this year's list is the A537 between Macclesfield and Buxton, known as the Cat and Fiddle, in the Peak District. This short section of road has been listed in the persistently higher risk list six times in the last 10 years. At its peak in around 2006 to 2009 there were around 10 fatal and serious crashes on average every year.

With high risk roads spread all over the UK it is more important than ever that drivers ensure they are at the top of their game on rural roads. For just £49 a 'Driving on Country Roads' module can equip you to avoid the largest single cause of death on the network - run-off crashes, or the largest single cause of serious injury - crashes at junctions.

The on-road modules are delivered by an IAM RoadSmart expert in your own car at a time to suit you. He/she will give you in-depth 1-2-1 coaching during your course and hopefully leave you feeling able to tackle the road ahead with confidence and enjoyment. For more information click here: <https://www.iamroadsmart.com/on-road-offer>





Chairmans Chatter

Hi folks, this is my last ramble of the year ! As we come to the end of the year, it's time to take a quick look back and put you in the picture. The Local Observer training is steadily coming to a close. By the time this mag is out, I expect that the training and accreditation will be complete. This will leave us with 8 observers, of which 3 are National Observers. We are sadly loosing Richard Creaser, who's moving on to pastures new, where as far as we know, advanced driving is as yet totally undiscovered.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you to Richard who has been a good observer and always reliable for behind the scenes work from helping Lug equipment about at social meetings, to regularly delivering our magazines. We'll be sorry to see him go, because he's one of life's nice guys.

I'm sure when he gets settled, we will probably get the odd article for the mag !

All the best to you and yours Rich.

By now most of you, if not all of you, should be aware that we're in discussions with Grimsby group. In fact by now it may well be all sorted, and Grimsby could well be integrated in with our group. The question of a new name may still be a bit of an issue if it does go ahead, but my personal favourite is simply "Scunthorpe and Grimsby Advanced Motorists". Using the acronym S A G A M Well that's about if for now folks, all that remains to say is, to each and every one of you, I wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas, and a prosperous new year.

Kind regards Terry Heath





High profile policing and consistent sentencing needed to back up life jail sentences for drivers who kill says IAM RoadSmart

15/10/2017

New legislation that could put drivers behind bars for life for causing death by speeding, street racing or while on a mobile phone has been welcomed by leading road safety charity IAM RoadSmart – but it warned that the threat of jail alone is unlikely to make people drive in a less dangerous way.

The Government launched a consultation on the issue last December, with thousands supporting tougher penalties for the most serious road offences.

IAM RoadSmart's own survey in February this year (reference 1) found nearly 80% agreed there should be a new offence of causing serious injury by careless driving – which is now part of the Government's plans.

Many respondents in the IAM RoadSmart survey also felt the current maximum penalty of 14 years in jail for causing death by dangerous driving wasn't nearly high enough; with almost 50% saying the penalty was not set at the right level.

The Government will now proceed with the measures, which will see life sentences introduced for those convicted of causing death by dangerous driving and causing death by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs.

The issue was brought into sharp focus with the jailing of Tomasz Kroker for 10 years in October 2016. Kroker killed a mother and three children when he was distracted by changing music on his smartphone and ploughed into a line of stationary traffic in his lorry.

Neil Greig, IAM RoadSmart director of policy and research, said: "The public has been calling for stricter penalties for those who cause death by driving recklessly, and the moves today by the Government are wholeheartedly welcomed.

"However we feel that visible policing, and a high likelihood of being caught, is the surest way of making people drive better. If people don't think they will be caught, they simply won't drive in a safer way."

Neil added: "It is also vital that courts reflect society's view on the impact of dangerous driving and use the maximum available sentences – something they have so far not demonstrated on a consistent basis. While a toughening of the law might make people feel better, on its own it is sadly unlikely to reduce the number of cases of really selfish driving which end in tragic results."





Annual Barrie Heath Quiz

In October several of us had a great night out for the annual Barrie Heath quiz, which this time was held at The Pride of Lincoln, which is just outside of Lincoln.

It was a really good night, with plenty of banter and hilarity.

The quiz itself was very good with a really broad spectrum of questions. The trouble is, some of our answers weren't perhaps as good as the questions. All the way through the first half, we were all very close. After a lovely buffet, we got our heads down and really dug in deep, but sadly nobody noticed any difference from the first half. By the end of the evening, the Lincs Advanced motorcycles just snook ahead, leaving us in second place and Grimsby bringing up the rear. Lincoln were of course playing hosts, so they aren't allowed to compete in the quiz. After the trophy was handed over to the bikers we all shook hands and bid a fond farewell and made our way home. At this point, I would just like to say thank you very much to the guys n galls in the Lincoln group for their wonderful hospitality and great food and lasting friendship and camaraderie.. Thanks to Ashley Behan for compiling and delivering the quiz. It's not easy reaching a balance where you know some of the answers but not all of them, but yet still keeping it interesting. Thanks so much Ash, to you and your lovely lady Gemma, for everything on the night. Thanks also to all at Lincoln for a fantastic night... looking forward to next year !!

The Winners



2017 Winners with Trophy

Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists

Scunthorpe

Grimsby



SCUNTHORPE



GRIMSBY



Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

www.scunthorpeadvancedmotorists.co.uk

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