

## Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists

Group No 7080 Charity No. 1063139 Summer Edition

Full Members - 77; Associate Members - 8; Total - 83

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## **Welcome to the Summer edition of the SAGAM Newsletter**



*And we've welcomed Summer with a deluge of rain! What more could we ask for? Ermmmmm – well a bit more sunshine please boss! Although recently to be fair, there has been a couple of days of sunshine but come on, that's not nearly enough.*

*According to the Met Office, we can expect warmer and wetter winters, hotter and drier summers and more frequent and intense weather extremes. Climate change will make these conditions more likely. The UK's weather will continue to be variable, but we will see more of this type of weather. In the future, we will still see a lot of the weather we experience today. The difference, though, is that the intensity of some weather types will change. You may have heard of [Spanish plumes](#), which bring hot conditions in the summer. We could see these become more intense, creating even hotter summer weather. But Spanish plumes could also bring more intense downpours during summer thunderstorms. More rainfall could happen in winter storms, too. While the temperatures may be milder, winters will tend to be wetter, with more potential for flooding.*

*We came back from Spain just over two weeks ago where the weather was blue skies and sunshine and an average temperature of 25°C. Now, we're wearing thick jumpers just to keep warm....brrrrrrrrr.*

*Moving on, there's a very interesting article on car parts and car theft which you might find to be a good read. Following a minor accident whereby our car was deemed a write-off we have just got another car which has keyless entry and have taken the advice to get a Faraday Bag. It does work as I'm sure if you have one, you already know but if not, it's worth investing a few quid (we paid £4.99 for 2 of them from Amazon) Anyway, I'll leave you to it – Enjoy!*

### **Chairman's Chatter**

Well, hi again folks. It doesn't seem five minutes since I was clattering the keys to update you on the recent weeks' happenings.

In my opinion the main thing I have to tell you about, is that we have now secured a room at Scunthorpe Rugby Club, on Ashby Rd Scunthorpe DN16 2AG.

Our next social should be a good one, but I daren't tell you what it is, because it's not confirmed yet. It really should be a good one so I really hope you'll come along!

If we don't get the confirmation in time, I'll be asking who can do a song and dance routine for the night!

I won't bother mentioning the driving scene as Paul Cassell will take care of that.

We've been working on a number of things, but the above is the biggest mountain we've had to climb! We have a couple more ideas floating about but we really need ideas from you. Which speakers would YOU like to see, not speakers that we think you might want to see. Other ideas we have are the Police and Crime commissioner, Lincs Notts Air Ambulance, Humber Coast Guard and of course we'll have to factor in the Barrie Heath Quiz which is usually in October. So, in essence, if you have any ideas/opinions, please let me know!

One more bit of news, we will be taking the MDU to 7 Lakes Country Park, Nr Crowle DN17 4BQ, to the Mini owners' day on June 16th, 10am to 4pm. If anyone wants more details re that event, please email me.

That's all folks.

Terry Heath Chairman

[terryheath@sky.com](mailto:terryheath@sky.com)

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## Chief Observer Report

Hello SAGAM members, and welcome to our update for June 2024.

Our eight strong Observer team are working away, happily passing on their Advanced Driving knowledge and skills to our keen group of associates: At time of writing I can count six associates, all at differing stages. The team has our own challenge at the moment, adjusting to the IAM RoadSmart requested marking and making use of the ADC handbooks and stages of competency as they (associates) improve. Three ticks in a specific competency indicating competency achieved. There are varying numbers of competencies per section for which we are encouraging our associates to mark-up themselves, this, in itself, allows them to assess and become self-critical of their driving. Being self-critical in itself leading to learning.

Moving on, Congratulations to Chris and Ken who have recently successfully passed their National Observer assessments, well done.

We have two other team members, doing well and rapidly moving towards their assessments, watch this space!!!

Our next quarterly team meeting is planned for Tuesday 6th August. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Steve Ellis, our ASDM, whose last visit in August 2023, was to introduce the new competency for learning and this time to discuss our progress since then.

As usual, the MDU team have been busy, mainly at Sainsbury's car park at Scunthorpe. Our next MDU outing though will be at the MINI & Classic car show at 7 Lakes Country Park on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024. For now though, on behalf of your Observer Team.

Best wishes and safe driving,

Paul Cassell,  
Chief Observer.

SAGAM.

On behalf of your Observer Team, take care and stay safe.

Paul Cassell,  
Chief Observer,

Welcome



**iAM**  
RoadSmart

*to our new members*

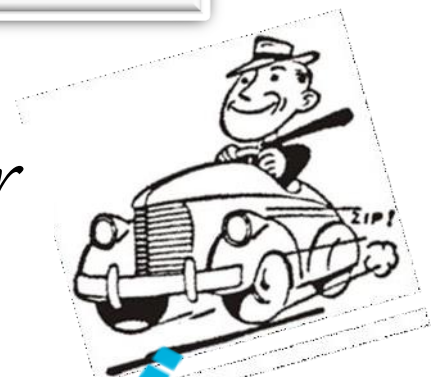
*Jennifer Parker*

*Steph Adams*

*Reece Lake*

*Paul Thompson*

*Luis Gatto*



**iAM**  
RoadSmart

Our Area Service Delivery Manager is Steve Ellis

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## SOCIAL MEETINGS

The following are dates for our 2024 Social Meetings @ Heslam Park Rugby Club, Ashby Road Scunthorpe DN16 2AG  
June 26th, August 28th, October 23rd.  
(all dates to be confirmed)

## NEXT ISSUE

September 2024

If you have any articles, photographs or anything you feel may be of interest for the **September** edition, please feel free to email me at [publicity@scunthorpegrimsbyadvancedmotorists.org](mailto:publicity@scunthorpegrimsbyadvancedmotorists.org) no later than **15<sup>th</sup> August please.**

## Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists

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The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual writers and not necessarily of IAM RoadSmart, nor the Scunthorpe and Grimsby group.  
***Writing in italics is the personal view/s/thoughts of the editor.***

**Our MDU is out on the 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024:**

7 Lakes Country Park, Nr Crowle DN17 4BQ - 10 till 4

## Committee Meeting Dates for 2024 are:

**PLEASE NOTE:** Meetings are to be held via Zoom until further notice/otherwise advised.  
12<sup>th</sup> June, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 14<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> September, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 13<sup>th</sup> November and 11<sup>th</sup> December

**Observer Team Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024 7.30pm at The New Inn, Great Limber  
Guest Speaker Steve Ellis**

***We will warmly welcome nominations for anyone who would like to join our committee***

## *A little bit of what you fancy..... Summer Pudding*

Summer pudding is much easier to make than you think and is also vegetarian!

Equipment and preparation: You'll need a 1 litre or 2pint pudding basin.

Preparation time

**overnight**

Cooking time

**less than 10 mins**

Serves

**Serves 6**

Dietary

### Ingredients

- 750g/1lb 14oz mixed summer fruit (such as raspberries, red, white and [blackcurrants](#), tayberries, loganberries, blackberries, cherries and blueberries)
- 185g/6½oz [caster sugar](#)
- 1 medium loaf good-quality [white bread](#), slightly stale

### Method

1. Place the fruit in a pan. Remove the stems from the redcurrants (if using) with a fork, pour the sugar over the fruit and stir gently to mix together.
2. If you have time, cover the pan with a tea towel or cling film and leave for 3-5 hours (or overnight) to get the juices running. Place the pan over a moderate heat and bring gently up to the boil.
3. While the fruit is simmering, cut the bread into thin slices and remove the crusts.
4. When the juices are beginning to flow, raise the heat slightly and simmer for about 2-3 minutes. Then turn off the heat and stir in the cassis or blackcurrant cordial.
5. Cut a round out of one slice of bread to fit the bottom of the bowl, then cut the remaining slices into triangular wedges.
6. Dip one side of the bread circle into the juices in the pan containing the fruit, then place the circle in the bottom of the pudding basin, juice-side down. Do the same with the bread triangles, dipping one side of the bread into the juices before placing them around the edge of the bowl, with the dipped side facing outwards. The tips of the bread triangles will be sticking up from the top of the bowl at this stage.
7. Once the bowl is completely lined with the juice-soaked bread (be sure to plug any gaps with small pieces of bread if necessary), spoon all of the fruit and its juices into the pudding basin. Trim the tips of bread from around the edge. Cover the top of the fruit with more wedges of bread. Place the pudding basin on a plate to collect any juices.
8. Find a saucer that fits neatly inside the bowl. Place it on top to cover the upper layer of bread, then weigh the saucer down with weights - bags of rice, tins of baked beans, or whatever comes to hand. Let it cool, then place in the fridge overnight.
9. The next day, remove the weights and the saucer. Run a thin blade around the edges, then invert the basin onto a shallow serving plate.
10. Turn the pudding out, cut into thick slices and serve the summer pudding with cream.



# Is the move to electric cars running out of power?

Buoyant electric car sales are a must if we're to hit our climate targets. But EV sales in the West are down and if governments want them to recover it may have to be at the expense of their own economies.

## The numbers

Any motorway driver will know the feeling: you're cruising along, miles of open road seemingly ahead and then from nowhere, a slowdown.

Something similar has hit the electric vehicle market in 2024. After years of soaring sales, growth appears to be stalling.

Replacing fossil-fuel-powered cars with EVs is central to the UK government's plan to meet its climate goals - road transport accounting for 12% of planetary emissions.

The question is whether this is a blip that will soon disappear into the rear-view mirror, or is this going to prove more enduring? And if it lasts, will governments have the stomach to do what it takes to keep the net zero show on the road?

We need to buy a lot more EVs to hit climate targets

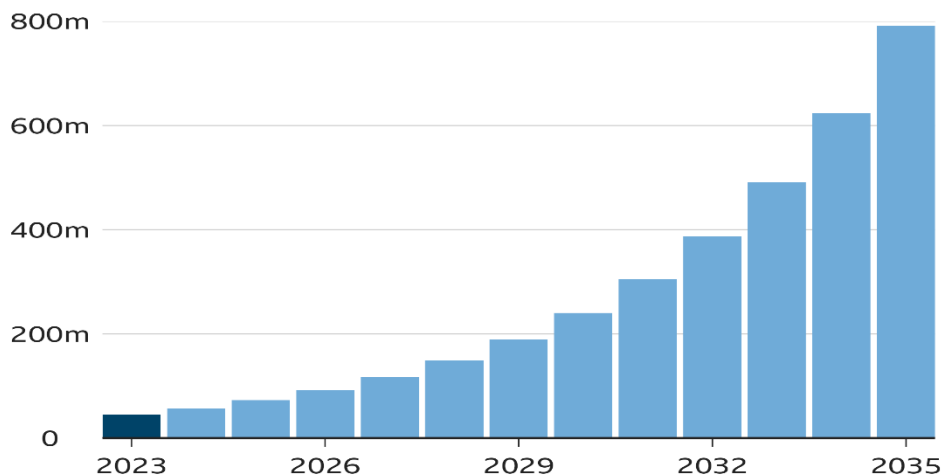
The growth in EV sales has been remarkable. In 2020, there were 10 million EVs on the road, in 2023 there were 45 million. But sales need to stay remarkable, and the chart left shows just how.

By 2035, the International Energy Agency (IEA) says there will need to be **790 million, external** EVs if we're to hit net zero by the middle of the century. That implies growth in sales of **27% every single year, external**.

That's why the fact that global sales of the world's largest EV maker, Tesla, were actually lower in the first quarter of 2024 than in the same period in 2023 has raised eyebrows.

## The road to net zero motoring

Global number of electric vehicles the IEA says would be required between 2023 and 2035

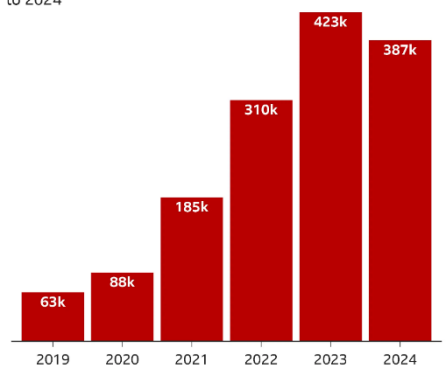


Note: IEA's scenario for net zero emissions by 2050  
Figures exclude two and three-wheelers

Source: BBC analysis of International Energy Agency projections on net zero **BBC**

## Tesla's sales troubles

Tesla's global deliveries between January and March, 2019 to 2024



Source: Tesla company statements **BBC**

China's largest EV manufacturer BYD has been vying with Tesla for the number-one spot. BYD also saw a slowdown between January and March.

And EV sales in Europe fell, external more than 10% year-on-year in the final quarter of last year - although in the UK total sales are running up on last year.

## People just aren't sure they're worth it

In the UK, analysts say strong EV sales in recent years were fuelled by company car purchases, external, thanks to generous tax breaks. But the household market is proving a tougher nut to crack, with people saying they are mostly put off by the high cost.

The average price of a new EV in the US is over \$60,000, external (£47,433). Prices are similarly high in Europe, external and the UK, external.

Large state subsidies and greater production efficiencies mean the average cost to a Chinese consumer is just \$30,000. And BYD's Seagull hatchback sells for less than \$10,000, external.

China is also making massively more EVs than its domestic market needs - it could easily flood the US and European markets with cheap cars if they weren't held back by tariffs.

### **Hard choices at a fork in the road**

Here is the dilemma for European and US politicians. They want cheaper EVs to facilitate the climate transition, but not at the cost of undermining their own car manufacturers - the likes of Ford and Volkswagen - and local jobs.

In fact, the talk is actually of raising tariffs and other trade barriers on imports to keep out ultra-competitive Chinese EVs.



*Now here's something a bit Special*

### **Chairman's wife's chatter.**

*Hi* everyone - not often I send anything in for the mag but just wanted to mention two things.

On the 1st June 1974 our Chairman Terry Heath went off to Lincoln and took and passed his advanced driving test. His brother Barrie had been a big influence in getting Terry interested and helping prepare him for test.

As I'm sure a lot of you already know Barrie was one of the founder members of what was then the Scunthorpe group.

Some 50 years later Terry is still very much involved with the group of today. Over the years he has trained many people to help them pass their own test.

Chairing meetings, booking speakers for the socials, towing and manning the MDU to various shows and events and a whole host of other things too many to mention.

**I would just like to say Congratulations Terry and I know Barrie would be proud of you as am I. Keep up the good work, long may you continue.**

Sadly, the second event on that day 50 years ago was not so joyous. As many of you will be aware, the Nypro explosion happened sadly killing 29 people. Terry's brother Barrie was an ambulance man and attended that day.

Remembering all that lost their lives that day and those that continue to be affected by it.

Carol.

*I'm sure everyone is shouting "hear hear" Carol – Terry does a wonderful job looking after us all.*

***In recognition of his dedication and commitment to the IAM, Terry has just received his Honorary Certificate for 50 years! Congrats from us all!!***





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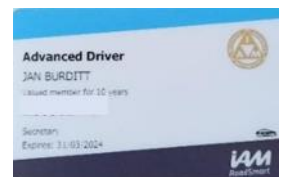


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## Caught My Eye – Honda E



### WHAT IS IT?

It's the Urban EV Concept that became a legend, the legend that became a prototype and the prototype that became the dinkiest, most desirable car since the Suzuki Jimny. It's the Honda e, Honda's first mass-market, pure-electric car (yes, Honda dabbled with the EV Plus in 1997, but only around 350 of those were ever built), and we want one.

### SPLENDID. PAINT ME A PICTURE.



Honda clearly isn't going Tesla chasing with this one, the dimensions are Fiat 500-plus-a-bit, wider than a Jazz but actually narrower when you take into account it has no wing mirrors. This is very much an urban runaround. A range of 137-miles means you won't want to stray too far from town, but a choice of 134bhp and 152bhp versions, both with decent performance especially up to 30mph, a chassis that's been shown some of Honda's handling

love and a configurable driving experience mean it's not out of its depth if you fancy a 'proper' drive... and have the battery to spare.

### IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A BARGAIN BIN EV. IS IT?

Cheap the Honda e is not. While Honda has kept the dimensions in check and battery to a compact 35.5kWh, the price starts at a notably juicy £26,160 for the base car, rising to £28,660 for the higher-powered, higher-spec Advance model. And those both include the £3,500 government grant. So, to justify prices that eclipse the much larger VW ID3, Honda hasn't held back with the technology.

### LET ME GUESS, AUTONOMOUS DRIVING AND LASER BEAMS?

If only. As standard you get cameras for wing mirrors and the rearview mirror, 100kw DC rapid charging capability in 30 mins, an app to pre-condition the car and babysit it while it charges, many crash avoidance systems (including auto braking, adaptive cruise, lane keep assist, auto high-beam headlights) and several acres of screen. And all this wrapped in a subtly retro colour and material pallet designed to chime with the cheeky exterior – available in white, black, grey, blue and highlighter yellow paint.



The Honda e arrives riding a wave of new small, affordable EVs, at last broadening the choice beyond the longer-range, but more premium and pricey stuff like Teslas, the Jaguar I-Pace and Audi e-tron. Honda is up against the new Peugeot e-208 (and its sister car the Corsa-e), the Mini Electric, Fiat 500 Electric and the Renault Zoe and banking on customers seeing past its chunky price and skinny range, and buying with their hearts not their heads.

## WHAT'S THE VERDICT?



“Honda’s first electric car is impossibly cute, beautifully engineered and crammed with tech... but you’ll pay for it”

Far be it for Top Gear not to recommend the most powerful model available, but here we’d be inclined to go for the entry level car. Not only are the performance gains negligible, but so much of the kit – the interior screens, the wing mirrors, the seat trim – is standard that we’d save the £2.5k, do without the rear-view display, parking assist (honestly, how crap is your parking if you can’t safely navigate a car this size into a gap?) and sound system upgrade.

Whichever version you pick, the Honda e has two rather glaring drawbacks – the limited range and chunky price tag. Honda is rolling the dice here, that customers will get what I’m going to call ‘Suzuki Jimny Syndrome’ and fall so deeply in love with the car that they’ll see past its pitfalls. In fairness, Honda isn’t shying away from the 137-mile range – calling it a conscious decision to spend money on the tech and only fitting it with a battery suited to a car of this size. As one engineer eloquently put it: “If you want to make an iPhone, why would you design an iPad just to get a bigger battery in there?”

Truth is, we all want greater range from our EVs but let’s be realistic, do we need it? Would we rather pay the same money for a car that’s less exciting, less well equipped, but with another 50 miles of range? No, I probably wouldn’t. It’s an urban car, you need to plan to use it as such, and if you did need to get somewhere 300 miles away in a hurry then you either need to rent something suitable or treat that journey like the anomaly it is and plan a two-stop rapid-charge strategy.

## WHAT IS IT LIKE TO DRIVE?



Let’s tackle your choices first – 134bhp or 152bhp, but both have the same 137-mile range and the same amount of torque – 232lb ft (more than a BAC Mono fellow nerds), so the 0-62mph difference isn’t stark: 9.0 seconds vs 8.3. But seeing as most of these will spend their lives shuttling around built-up areas, 62mph could be a distant dream. More useful is 0-30mph for which I have no official numbers, so I shall describe as ‘pleasingly nippy’.

It really zips away from a standstill, and hats off to Honda for the throttle tuning because it never lurches or jerks, just smooth urgent progress however binary your right foot is. The fact that it's rear wheel drive (key to its 50:50 weight distribution and driving dynamics says Honda) will please the Ari Vatanens among you, and I can confirm a prod of the throttle on a very wet cobbled roundabout in Valencia will result in lurid oversteer and lightly soiled underpants. And that’s with the traction control on.

Back to what the Honda e was designed to do, carve effortlessly and peacefully through city traffic, and it nails that too. The variable ratio steering (3.1 turns lock to lock) is light and direct with just a hint of feedback, not nearly as twirly and disconnected as a Fiat 500. Its party trick is ludicrous amounts of lock and a 8.6m turning circle - just a smidgen wider than a London black cab – which is endlessly useful for sliding through impossible gaps or pulling audacious u-turns when Waze changes its mind.

For such a compact package it’s a heavy car – over 1,500kg – but you’d never guess it. All that torque provides instant momentum and the low centre of gravity means it doesn’t roll comically in corners, merely leans gently side to side. There’s a sense of agility and enthusiasm that, let’s be honest, we were expecting, but a refinement and maturity that perhaps we weren’t.

The fully-independent suspension smothers the road like something a lot bigger, and the silence in the cabin, even when you get up to and beyond 60mph is remarkable. There's a sense that, like in all cars that really lodge in your memory, it's been properly over-engineered, that Honda knew it had a clean sheet of paper and the world was watching.

In the name of good road-testing, we found some decent B-roads outside Valencia and deployed an unsympathetic right foot... and the e refused to feel out of its depth, clinging on in corners, offering that addictive instant thrust. It even coped admirably on the motorway. So admirably that we managed to drain 80 per cent of the battery in around 100km. In a little over an hour. But that's an extreme case – we do the risky range-sapping honing so you don't have to – our gentler morning stint suggests a real-world range of 100 miles is easily achievable, more if you are prepared to switch-off the air-con. We did and our range instantly jumped by 25 per cent.

There are some buttons to play with – notable a choice of Normal or Sport driving modes. The latter simply sharpens the throttle and is largely redundant. More useful is a one pedal mode that dials up the regen when you lift off to make it possible to stop without touching the brake. You can pick from three levels of increasingly aggressive regen using the plus and minus paddles behind the wheel.

But it's not all champagne and back-slaps, the cameras instead of wing mirrors are a great idea on paper – decreasing the car's width, reducing overall drag by nearly four per cent, stretching the range and delivering all-weather visibility – but in practice they're a bit pants. For starters they're mounted low and angled too far down (we couldn't find any way to adjust them) so you get a wonderful view of the rear wheel arch, but not necessarily of the traffic following behind.



You can switch between normal and wide view, the latter distorting the outer-third of the screen to give you a wider field of vision, but it doesn't improve things much.

Our other gripe is a screen and camera instead of a rearview mirror. To be fair, you can flip a switch, switch off the screen and use it as a normal reflective surface, but it's not a proper mirror. Keep it as a screen and it takes your eyes precious seconds to adjust from looking twenty metres down the road to a digital display 12-inches from your face. Plus, every car looks like its aggressively tailgating you. Beware, buying a Honda e may increase your road rage.

Actually, I refuse to accept anyone could be angry within a 100m radius of this car. We drove it through the narrow lanes of Valencia's old town, mostly legally, and all we got were smiles, waves and camera lenses. It's quiet, cute, clean and unimposing – the friendly face of modern motoring.

## WHAT IS IT LIKE ON THE INSIDE?

Prepare yourself, this is where it all gets a bit mad, where you'll either find yourself putting down an £800 deposit immediately, or branding it distracting and dangerous. Approach the car and it senses the key, pops the door handles out and the headlights put on a display. But that's just the beginning...



Honda calls it a lounge-style interior, I agree, if my lounge had much nice furniture and six TVs. We'll come to the screens in a minute, first let's focus on the overall vibe, because with the squishy fabric seats in the front, the bench seat in the back and slabs of fake wood trim (nicer than it sounds, trust me) Honda has pulled off a modern, retro-infused,

architect-designed atmosphere that just feels different to anything else it makes, different to anything anyone else makes for that matter.

The screens then – two six-inch angled displays for the wing mirrors, an 8.8-inch instrument cluster behind the wheel, the rear-view display and then two, side-by-side 12.3-inch screens as the centrepiece – one for the driver, one for the passenger. Each features six shortcuts on the outer edge, can run separate apps at the same time, and those apps can be swapped over at the touch of a button.

For example, enable wireless CarPlay on your iPhone and that can be running on one screen, while Honda's navigation, or the radio, or information on the range and regen is running on the other. Say "OK Honda" and a poorly-sketched face bounces onto the screen to answer your commands – fun for the first five minutes, until you realise those commands have to be so specific that you might as well prod the screen to get what you want. Whether it learns your voice and improves over time as Honda claims, remains to be seen. And there's more - park up and you can turn both screens into an aquarium, poke it and food appears for the fish. Eat your heart out Elon...

You'll find USB sockets everywhere – two in the front, two in the rear – a 12V socket, a 230V AC power outlet and an HDMI input. In theory, this means you power up and plug in your Xbox, and play it on the central screen. Connect it to the onboard Wi-Fi hotspot (free for the first year, subscription required after that) and online gaming is yours while you wait for the kids to emerge from the school gates.



When it comes to space you need to be realistic about how it's going to be used and who's going to be using it. The rear is big enough for me to sit behind me, but me is 5ft 8in. The boot is small – 171-litres with the rear seats up (about the same as a Fiat 500) – but 861-litres with them down, which is a decent amount if you can occasionally use it as a two-seater. Basically, it's a second car that you can use to cart the kids around in the back, or modestly sized adults at a push. In other words, it's just useful enough to justify if you really, really want one.

## WHAT SHOULD I BE PAYING?

Owning an electric car is something we're all still figuring out - how we charge it, where we charge it, whether it has enough range to rarely inconvenience us. Every case study is different, so let's stick to the facts. Plug into a normal three-pin domestic socket and the Honda e will take around 19 hours to charge up. Not great. Better to get a 7.4kW charging box installed at your house (assuming you have off-street parking) in which case a full charge-up takes around four hours. However, find a 50kW or 100kW DC public rapid charger and it can charge up to 80 per cent in just 30 minutes. The choice is yours.

One thing to bear in mind is that the higher-grade 'Advance' model fitted with 17-inch wheels (you can stick with the lower-grade 16s at no extra cost) has a lower WLTP range of 125-miles. Apart from the 18bhp boost and option of 17-inch wheels, the higher-spec model adds automated parking assist, the digital rear-view mirror and an upgraded sound system.

Although not ready for us to have a play with on the launch, the My Honda+ app became available when first deliveries started in summer 2020. It has all the usual stuff – keeping tabs on your charging status, working out a route on your phone then sending it to your car, pre conditioning the car on a freezing cold/unbearably sweaty day – but it can also be used as a key to open the car and lets you send said key digitally so someone else can pop the locks when you're not around.

The tax-breaks, lower running costs, congestion charge exemption (if you live in London) with an electric car are all well documented, but if you run a company car it's worth noting that from April 2021, you'll only pay 1% BIK tax on a pure EV. Considering fleet sales make up more than 50 per cent of all new car sales in the UK, EV popularity is about to boom.

## SPECS AND PRICES

### E HATCHBACK SPECIAL EDITIONS (2022)

#### E Hatchback Special Editions (2022) specifications for each derivative

Title	0-62	kWh	BHP	Range (Comb.)	Price
<a href="#">Honda Honda E 113KW Special Edition 36KWH 5DR Auto</a>	8.3s	35.5 kWh	154		£38,065



Above article taken from Top Gear first test reviews 2024



Looking on the Internet, I found this Honda E for sale at Marshalls in Hull.



**PRICE - £25.990**

**35.5kWh ADVANCED AUTO 5dr – 17” ALLOYS  
– SAT NAV – PARKING SENSORS**

**2024 – (24 REG) – HATCHBACK – 152BHP –  
AUTOMATIC – ELECTRIC – 1 OWNER**

*Reading the article Is the Move to Electric Cars Running Out, it does seem that more and more people are returning to the conventional car rather than the electric ones – there were several in Marshalls with one owner and others I have seen whilst researching.*

## Did You Know? – Drivers given 'act now' warning to stop car parts and car thefts

Motorists have been issued a stark warning about 'car cannibals' who are increasingly stripping vehicles of their parts - even in broad daylight.



The surge in thefts has been attributed to the rising cost of car parts, which have seen an approximate increase of 35 percent, leading criminals to steal rather than purchase replacements.

Shockingly, police data from 2021 revealed a 72 percent increase in chop shops compared to 2022.

Clive Wain, a vehicle theft expert and head of police liaison at Tracker, explained that the production of new parts has been impacted by various global factors. He said this parts shortage has increased demand for black-market spares.

Clive said: "This, coupled with the cost-of-living crisis, has seen demand grow for quality second-hand parts leading to this latest car crime spate. Even basic car parts prices like discs, brake pads and wiper blades have shot up, so car cannibalisation can be a very lucrative market for criminals!"

With the rise in such cases and the proliferation of chop shops, Mr Wain emphasised the "urgent need to ramp up vehicle security"

The thefts occur either in illegal chop shops or brazenly at the roadside, he warned. Criminals are stealing items such as headlights and steering wheels, which are then sold for cash or on the black market, both domestically and internationally.

He implored drivers to "do all they can to deter criminals from targeting their car" regardless of its location. Mr Wain recommended that motorists should consider investing in a dashcam or visible CCTV, and make a point of parking in well-lit areas or on secure driveways or garages.

According to Sky News, the pandemic led to the closure of factories that produce car computer chips, as well as other common vehicle parts, and supply is still lagging behind. **UK car production has fallen by more than 40% as a result.**

A Superintendent from West Midlands Police said:

"What we've seen over the pandemic is there are some issues around parts supply coming into the motor industry and delays with builds and the West Midlands is likewise what we've seen across the piece nationally - there is a desire for certain vehicle parts, and this is fuelling the theft of motor vehicle crimes and the more common car models tend to be targeted the most.

In the year to 7 March 2022, there were 88,915 vehicle thefts recorded by 34 police forces, which provided figures to the PA news agency and it suggests an average of 244 thefts per day.

Six of the forces saw an increase on the same period two years ago. Other areas recorded a fall.

- South Yorkshire had 4,003 thefts - up from 3,135 (28% rise);
- City of London 45 - up from 36 (25%);
- West Midlands 10,812 - up from 9,091 (19%);
- Surrey 1,313 - up from 1,173 (12%);
- Merseyside 2,471 - up from 2,366 (4%);
- Greater Manchester 7,737 - up from 7,661 (1%).

A West Midlands Police special operation arrested more than 2,000 suspects and recovered 1,000 stolen cars in the last year. Some "chop shops" were also closed down.



The Superintendent warned drivers to stay vigilant saying

"They're [thieves] using devices in order to block signals where people are trying to lock their cars with their fobs, so when you're locking your vehicle, make sure that vehicle is locked, that the signal is not being blocked, no matter how long you're leaving the vehicle for. Whether it's just to pop into the shop, make sure your car is always secure"

Above article taken from Daily Mail & Sky News

**Following on from the above, here is some advice to keep the whole of your car safe:**

**Preventing car theft** - Don't let thieves get an easy ride. Follow these simple rules to protect your vehicle/s from thieves.

### **1. Lock your vehicle**

Locking your vehicle, even when filling up or parked on your drive, greatly reduces the possibility of it being targeted by an opportunist thief. Even if you have locked your vehicle, check you haven't left any windows or the sunroof open.

It is actually illegal to leave your vehicle running unattended while you de-ice it or warm it up in cold weather. If someone takes it while it's left like this, your insurer won't pay out because you won't be covered and if your vehicle has wing mirrors that fold in automatically when locked, make sure you lock it properly. Criminal gangs are looking for vehicles like these where the wing mirrors are still out because it is clear to them that the vehicle has been left unlocked.

### **2. Keep the keys safe**

Vehicles today are by and large more difficult to steal than ever, unless the thief can access your key or fob to clone them. Keep your keys safe, out of view when at home, and away from your front door. It's not uncommon for car keys to be stolen from inside your home by thieves fishing for them with a stick and hook through the letterbox. If you're selling your car and you meet up with a potential buyer, do not allow the keys out of your sight. Your keys may be cloned by thieves and used later to steal your vehicle.

#### **Keyless entry**

Cars with keyless entry unlock automatically when the key comes within a short distance of the car. This can be from inside a pocket or bag. If you have to push a button on your car key to open your car, you don't have keyless entry. Keyless car theft or 'relay theft' is when a device is used to fool the car into thinking the key is close by. This unlocks the car and starts the ignition.

Thieves only need to be within a few metres of your car key to capture the signal, even if it's inside your home. This means that even if your car and home are secure, thieves can still unlock, start and steal your car.

#### **How to protect your keyless entry car**

When at home keep your car key (and the spare) well away from the car.

Put the keys in a screened or signal-blocking pouch, such as a **Faraday Bag** and check if the bag or pouch is still working every few months.

Reprogramme your keys if you buy a second-hand car and turn off wireless signals on your fob when it's not being used.

Additional physical security such as locks and immobilisers are still highly recommended.



### 3. Be aware of carjackers

The fact that you're in the car isn't always a deterrent to someone trying to steal it.

In traffic, drive with the doors locked and when queuing leave enough space in front of your vehicle to enable you to get out of a tight spot. If your vehicle is bumped from behind, wait to pull over – somewhere safe and preferably where there are people. After all, you don't know the person who has collided with you; they could well be hijackers. If you're at all suspicious, consider calling the police.

If someone threatens you, it's better to hand over the keys to the vehicle than become a victim of assault. Then call 999 as soon as possible, and ask for the police.

If your car is stolen, some modern vehicle alarm and tracker systems have the facility to isolate or shut down fuel systems, bringing the vehicle to a halt and leaving the thief high and dry.

### 4. Park responsibly

It's always advisable to avoid parking in dark and secluded areas. It's worth an extra five or ten-minute walk if it means your vehicle is left in a well-lit and busier street.

And if possible, always try to park in illuminated and staffed car parks or those with a Park Mark safer parking award. To find one, simply check out [Park Mark](#).

### 5. Watch for illegal tow trucks

Thieves often attempt to lift vehicles from the street, literally. So, if you see a towaway crew acting suspiciously – especially if their vehicle isn't branded or if they're not in uniform – then please report it immediately. As with every report of suspicious behaviour made in good faith, we'll never blame anyone for calling us if it proves unfounded.

Car parks with height-restricted entrances help prevent illegal tow trucks and removal vehicles. And fitting a [Thatcham rated](#) category 1 or 2 alarm system with tracking, immobilisation, anti-grab and movement sensors can help protect and trace your vehicle.

### 6. Fit good in-car security locks

Additional physical security can help to prevent your vehicle being driven away even if a thief gains entry. There are a range of security rated products tested by Sold Secure that can help, such as steering wheel locks, pedal boxes and gear stick locks.

Some of these products, tested to Sold Secure Diamond, can even resist a small hand-held angle grinder. It's also worth speaking to your vehicle dealership about installing an aftermarket immobiliser approved by the manufacturer.

Immobilisers prevent a vehicle from starting unless the correct fob, key or activation process is used. They can be personalised so that you're the only one who knows how to unset it via a number of dashboard controls.

### 7. Double-check electronic locking

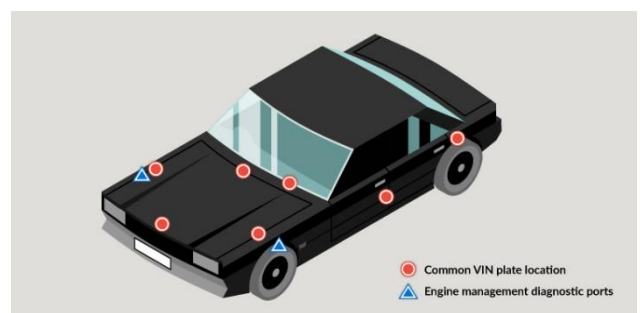
Electronic devices can be used to jam the electronic signal from your key fob to lock your vehicle. Always manually check your vehicle has locked before walking away. If unsure, lock it manually, then scan the immediate area for anyone hanging around. If a potential thief who's watching feels they've been spotted, they'll probably move off.

### 8. Before owning, check for cloning

Changing the identity of a vehicle, known as vehicle cloning, can be as simple as adding stolen number plates. When buying a vehicle, always check the DVLA V5 document and make sure the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the vehicle is the same as on the document.

Make sure you check more than one of the VINs as well as the engine numbers on the vehicle

(see diagram). Use this link to [Check a used vehicle you're buying](#).



## 9. Secure your port

Many modern vehicles are fitted with engine management diagnostic ports, which can unlock and start your vehicle.

If your vehicle has this type of port, consider fitting a lockable cover.

### Useful links

For more information about police preferred specification products that help to reduce the chances of vehicle crime please visit:

[Secured by Design \(SBD\)](#)

[Sold Secure](#)

[Thatcham Research](#)

Above article taken from the Humberside Police Site

## Messing about on the River.....



I watched this video last week shared by **Proactive Driving** on their Facebook page and think it's so appropriate at the moment. It's taken at Scartho Top in Grimsby on the day of the torrential downpours we had recently and from the information from the Met Office in my intro, its only going to get worse

To watch, hover your cursor over the following link and following the instructions;

[1493713a-719d-4324-b25d-04b9188f1166.MP4](#)

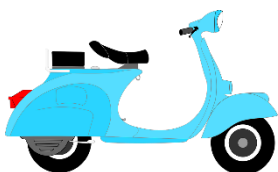
I think it sums up our weather forecast for the foreseeable future and the original **Proactive Driving** post had the well-known song Messing about on the River, written by Tony Hatch and sung by Josh Mcrae in 1961 to accompany it, which suited it perfectly.

If you want to listen to the song as well, then the link is here; [Messing About on the River - YouTube](#)

Many thanks to Lee from **Proactive Driving** for allowing me to share this video.

## *Laughter is the best ever medicine.....*

**How many times do you have to tickle an octopus to make it laugh?** Ten-tickles. Of course, it only has 8 of those. So, the first two were test-tickles!



**What do you call a laughing motorcycle?**

A Yamahahaha.

**When my wife caught me standing on the bathroom scale, sucking in my stomach, she laughed, "Ha! That's not going to help!"**

**"Sure, it does." I said. "It's the only way I can see the numbers."**



## Join us for a Skills Day – Blyton Park

IAM RoadSmart Skills Days allow drivers and riders, using their own car or motorcycle, the chance to develop their skills with qualified instructors, using iconic racing circuits as a classroom. The sessions are open to both IAM RoadSmart members and the general public, allowing attendees a rare chance to learn precision driving and riding techniques on a racing circuit, and to develop new skills that they can use when back on public roads.

Drivers and riders will work one-to-one with an instructor, or as part of a small group and will be given the opportunity to put their new knowledge into practice on a track.

**Spaces sell out quickly, but there are a few left for Blyton Park on 1st August (Car Skills) and 2nd August (Bike Skills).**

# Book now



### WHAT WILL I LEARN?

 <b>INFORMATION</b> <i>How to correctly use vision and lines in all conditions.</i>	 <b>POSITION</b> <i>How your positioning and steering affects control.</i>	 <b>SPEED</b> <i>How to use speed and braking effectively at all times.</i>	 <b>GEAR</b> <i>How to select a responsive gear for the conditions.</i>	 <b>ACCELERATION</b> <i>How to use perfect throttle control for bends.</i>
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**THE SYSTEM OF CAR/MOTORCYCLE CONTROL**  
*Bringing it all together for the perfect ride or drive.*

## Dreaming of summer...

May 2024

With the summer months just around the corner, we've highlighted some offers to help you get the most out of the season. From trips away with Brittany Ferries and Ambassador Cruise Line to stylish new prescription sunglasses with Vision Express, use your [Benefits](#) to make this your best summer yet.

### The right kit for your European holiday

**With the summer break on the horizon, you may be heading to Europe for the holidays.**

**But did you know there are some items you must have in the vehicle?**

#### **Warning triangle**

Most European countries require motorists to have a warning triangle in their kit in case of breakdown or accident.

#### **Reflective vest**

In many European countries, wearing a reflective vest is compulsory if the driver and/or passengers get out of the vehicle on the carriageway.

#### **First aid kit**

A legal requirement in many European countries.

#### **UK sticker**

To drive in the EU, you need either a number plate with a UK flag on it or a UK sticker that's clearly displayed on the rear of the vehicle. If you have a GB sticker on your vehicle you must cover it or remove it. In Spain, Malta or Cyprus, you must display a UK sticker no matter what's on your number plate.

#### **Headlamp converters**

These are compulsory in France and most other European countries that drive on the right.

# 2024

JANUARY 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
4	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
5	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

FEBRUARY 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9	25	26	27	28	29	1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

MARCH 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
9	25	26	27	28	29	1	2
10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
13	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14	31	1	2	3	4	5	6

APRIL 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
14	31	1	2	3	4	5	6
15	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
18	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

MAY 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
18	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

JUNE 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
27	30	1	2	3	4	5	6

JULY 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
27	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
28	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
29	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
31	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
32	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

AUGUST 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
31	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
32	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
33	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
34	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
35	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

SEPTEMBER 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

OCTOBER 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
40	29	30	1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

NOVEMBER 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
44	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

DECEMBER 2024							
No.	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11

- 1 Jan New Year's Day
- 15 Jan Martin Luther King Day
- 24 Jan Belly Laugh Day
- 2 Feb Groundhog Day
- 12 Feb Lincoln's Birthday
- 13 Feb Mardi Gras Carnival
- 14 Feb Valentine's Day
- 19 Feb Presidents Day
- 10 Mar Daylight Saving

- 17 Mar St. Patrick's Day
- 29 Mar Good Friday
- 31 Mar Easter
- 1 Apr April Fool's Day
- 1 Apr Easter Monday
- 22 Apr Earth Day
- 5 May Cinco de Mayo
- 12 May Mother's Day
- 18 May Armed Forces Day

- 19 May Pentecost
- 20 May Pentecost Monday
- 27 May Memorial Day
- 14 Jun Flag Day
- 16 Jun Father's Day
- 4 Jul Independence Day
- 28 Jul Parents' Day
- 2 Sep Labor Day
- 8 Sep Grandparents' Day

- 11 Sep Patriot Day or September 11th
- 16 Sep Stepfamily Day
- 17 Sep Citizenship Day
- 27 Sep Native American Day
- 14 Oct Columbus Day
- 16 Oct Boss's Day
- 19 Oct Sweetest Day
- 31 Oct Halloween

- 3 Nov Daylight Saving
- 11 Nov Veterans' Day
- 28 Nov Thanksgiving
- 29 Nov Black Friday
- 2 Dec Cyber Monday
- 7 Dec Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 25 Dec Christmas Day
- 31 Dec New Year's Eve

**As you know, we held our annual AGM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April this year.  
It was a great meeting with some good discussions.  
Below, you will find the Reports from our Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.**

## **CHAIRMAN**

Greetings one and all, I hope that this last round up before the AGM finds you as well as possible.

Well, it's been a fairly busy year for me, and not without its problems. If we didn't have any problems, we wouldn't need to find solutions, would we?

So, let's have a quick look back over the last 12 months. At this point, I won't bother going over everything, but perhaps some of the things that we're proud of. We've had in place for some months now, a new observer training regime. The IAM, have decided to make every observer into a national

observer. I think this is a good thing. It creates just one standard, for all observers. Paul Cassell is the Chief Observer and heads up a good team of guys and gals, making sure that they are all singing from the same hymn sheet. Thanks Paul, you're doing a great job.

We're currently looking for new venues in the area for our social meetings, as it seems inevitable that we'll have to pay for venues now. This is why we really need you all to attend our socials because we can't afford to pay for a venue if nobody comes to them. So, if you have any ideas of venues, please let me know. Thank you. We now have a gentleman helping us to find new speakers, so watch this space.

I'd like to finish by saying a massive thank you to all our hard-working committee, who all individually put a lot of work into the running of the group. Especially to Mick Harris our President, Jan Burditt our Secretary, Malcolm Gothard our Treasurer and also my Vice Chairman Paul Johnson who works tirelessly on securing venues for the MDU.

Last but not least, I would sincerely like to thank you, all our members for staying with us and helping to keep this group rolling along.

Thank you all very much.

Hope you all drive safe and to the system.

## **SECRETARY**

Many thanks Terry. I think I might repeat some of what Terry's said so please bear with me!

Well, I can't believe that this is my third year and group secretary and I'm still enjoying it as much as day one.

Firstly, I would like to say a huge thankyou to all our members because without you we wouldn't be able to function. With that in mind, recruiting new members is always a priority although it's at the minute, proving to be quite challenging but we do need more members, so if you know of anyone who might be interested, please give them our details and of course encourage them to make contact.

Since the last AGM, we've had quite a few ADC passes and also, as local observers have

had to train up as National Observers, we're very proud to say that two of our local observers are now fully qualified as National Observers so on behalf of all the committee, I would like to say a huge congratulations everyone.

I'd like to say very many thanks to all committee members for their hard work and effort throughout the last twelve months. Everyone has continued to meet each month, discussing various things such as where we could take the Mobile Display Unit to hopefully encourage new members: deciding on a new venue for our social meetings and various other topics appertaining to our group. A particularly important topic has always been speaker for social nights and because we seem to have hit a brick wall, we would very much appreciate and suggestions or leads anyone might have, however remote they may be. So please, if you do have any ideas, let us know so we can follow them up. Our last meeting saw Stuart Harrison from Lincs Blood Bikes and it was a very good turnout for a brilliant night!

We're always on the lookout for more committee members so if you feel you would like to give us a go, please let us know! We meet every second Wednesday in the month for about half an hour via zoom.

I believe all IAM groups have a duty to support and encourage members of the public both young and old to be the best they can when driving. Road Safety is the pinnacle of IAM RoadSmart's' ethos and as such, it's important to remember the charities aims and objectives of reducing road deaths and injuries by assisting others to improve their driving (and riding) skills.

Our group is proud to support and be part of the IAM and I definitely believe that collectively we're helping to achieve those objectives in the Scunthorpe and Grimsby areas whilst enjoying our individual roles, which I think is extremely important, so again, thank you for your continued commitment.

Finally, I would like to say a very big thankyou to someone who goes above and beyond for this group. This person works tirelessly, with great effort and unwavering support, is always on hand for advice, will help out when needed and the dedication shown is inspiring, all of which has a positive impact on the rest of us. Their enthusiasm stands out and they are the glue that holds us all together. Please join me in thanking our chairman, Terry Heath.

## **TREASURER**

We now have £3200 in the bank compared with £3400 last year which is still a healthy amount and allows us to carry on with our plans without raising subscriptions.

This is made possible thanks to our members who continue to support us, so again my thanks go to them.

I would also like to thank our new membership secretary for accepting the role and making such a smooth transition from it being part of my treasurer's position. I'm sure he will make a better job than I did.



## We Got Mail!

## We Got Mail!

You can email, tweet or post a letter to the following addresses; Terry Heath, 48, Vicarage Ave, Wrawby, Brigg, North Lincs. DN20 8RY Email: [terryheath@sky.com](mailto:terryheath@sky.com) Twitter: @ANDGRIMSBY



Sign up on Advanced Driver & Rider courses with: Lincoln IAM, Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists & Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorist



As a current member of any of the above groups, you will receive a 20% discount when you sign up to an 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, Lincoln IAM: Tel:0300 365 0152 or [lincolniam@gmx.com](mailto:lincolniam@gmx.com)

A.R. Course, Lincolnshire Advanced Motorcyclists: Tel: 01427 616864 or [lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk](mailto:lincs-am-sec@pobroadband.co.uk)

A.D. Course, Scunthorpe & Grimsby Advanced Motorists Tel: 01652 655601 or [terryheath@sky.com](mailto:terryheath@sky.com)

### What am I?

You go at red, but stop at green.

January Answer; A Mask

**And last but not least.....don't forget to look us up on the links below**



Group Website

<https://www.iamroadsmart.com/groups/scunthorpeandgrimsby>



SAGAM can be found on Facebook at: [@SGAMG1](https://www.facebook.com/SGAMG1)



You can Follow us on Twitter [@ANDGRIMSBY](https://twitter.com/ANDGRIMSBY)

***Our next social meeting will be on Wednesday 26th June, at 7.45 for an 8.00 pm start.***

***The venue is Scunthorpe Rugby Club, 124 Ashby Rd Scunthorpe, DN16 2AG***

***The guest speaker will be Richard Hunter, from East Midlands Ambulance Training Department.***

***Rich will hopefully be explaining how they train their emergency ambulance drivers.***

***Obviously, there's many facets to this and I'm sure it will be a brilliant presentation***

***Looking forward to seeing you all on the night.***