



# Lincolnshire July 2007



Well what a glorious month it's been! I think I would have been drier if I'd traded the bike in for a jet ski. But we seem to be a hardy bunch and as a result we have still clocked up a few journeys. Since the June meetings we've had the Camping weekend at John and Rosie's which was brilliant as you can tell from the reports. Thanks for being great hosts. That Saturday we also had EJ's charity ride for St Barnabus Hospice, which raised about £250. Thanks to all who took part or contributed. Then at the end of June it was the Shindig. Plenty of reports on that, suffice it to say we had a great time. On 5<sup>th</sup> July it was Boston Bike night. Due to the distance for me to travel Steve, John and Rosie had volunteered to get things set up. The day started out fine but 5pm when I left work it had started to drizzle. I was meeting Rachel at the Mill Lodge just outside Lincoln. When I got there I phoned and she asked what the weather was like, "Just a few spots and it looks clearer heading South" I said. So she agreed to join me. My forecast was ok till Sleaford and then we hit the rain. Undaunted we carried on and arrived to find Steve, Cath, Shan, Rod, John, Rosie and Gegsy sharing two umbrellas behind an impressive number of bikes. Despite the rain it was a good night and Rosie's trike elicited quite a few admiring looks. Our Sunday meet on 8th July was Gegsy's ride out to the Admiral Benbow at Chapel St Leonards. We met up at Coningsby with a good turnout of ten people on seven bikes. Terry has put a good write up on the website so I'll just add a bit to that. The ride up to Chapel was great, Gegsy seemed to try his best to catch up with the only rain cloud (he must have enjoyed Boston too much!) and although we came close it went out to sea before we could get to it! While we were in the Admiral Paul turned up. He'd got stuck in traffic so had missed us at Conningsby, we now numbered eleven and eight bikes. After our drinks and relaxation Rod headed off home and the rest of us we went up the coast for an ice cream. On arrival we found the ice cream van was about half way down the car park. Gegsy headed straight for it followed by Axle, Paul and Rachel. John and Terry stopped at the top of the car park. Understandably really, cos the car park was covered in about six inches of sand. Rachel saw sense and stopped after a few feet. Me I like trying new things so I got Chris to get off and gave it a go, never having ridden on sand before. It was ok as long as you kept it steady and stuck to the hard areas. Too much throttle on the soft bits and it gets wobbly though. Ice cream over and John and Terry and Jane head for home. The rest of us carry on into Mablethorpe, not much to say about it just your typical seaside resort. Having seen the whole of the street (yes there's only one) and walked along half the seafront we return to the bikes to head home. Gegsy and Axle head South through Horncastle leaving me and Rachel to take Paul over the Wolds back to Lincoln. Another great ride with a great bunch of people. Thanks Gegsy for suggesting and planning it. Our next event was Barton Bike night on Wed 11 Jul. This replaced our usual Weds meeting at Conningsby. Following phone calls and e-mails it was arranged to meet up at Caistor top between 18:00 and 18:15. I got home from work at 17:20 and managed to get away by 18:00. I've never had so many phone calls in 40 minutes! Anyway I eventually got to the meeting point at 18:30. John Stones was waiting patiently and just as I stopped Gegsy, Steve and John Burdall arrived down the Horncastle road. After a couple of minutes discussion we found out that John Stones knew how to get from there to Barton. He set off at a cracking pace down some country lanes that resembled roller coaster tracks in places. The back roads paid off though and we avoided the jams getting into Barton. The place was packed as usual, we managed to find somewhere to park up and headed off to look round. There was plenty to see as we wandered up the streets. As we got to the top end of one street I spotted Rachel arriving, she had been at a work conference and so made her own way there. I caught up with her and took her down to where we had parked. Thanks to mobile phones we managed to find everyone again and spent a few hours wandering round, chatting and eating the obligatory burgers, donuts and sweets. If you've never been Barton is a well worth the experience. Well that's the lot for this newsletter, I'm away for most of August so I hope the weather improves here and you all get to clock up a few miles. One last thing can somebody e-mail me a meeting place for the Sep Sunday meet before 1<sup>st</sup> August so that I can publicise it.

Date	Day	Lincoln event
29-Jul-07	Sunday	Lincoln Big Bike Fest - Brayford Wharf
08-Aug-07	Wednesday	Lincolnshire meeting cancelled
09-Sep-07	Sunday	Sunday meet - venue TBA. Somebody needs to organise this one
12-Sep-07	Wednesday	Lincolnshire meeting 20:00 Castle Inn, Coningsby
10-Oct-07	Wednesday	Lincolnshire meeting 20:00 Castle Inn, Coningsby
14-Oct-07	Sunday	Sunday meet - venue TBA