

# Dorset Road Safe

Summer 2016 - Issue 1



## In This Issue:

Dorset Driver Gold

Community Speed Watch



# Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of the Dorset Road Safe newsletter. The newsletter seeks to raise general awareness of examples of fantastic partnership working, geared towards improving road safety across the county, whilst encouraging Dorset residents to take advantage of the many schemes available for all road user groups that can increase your personal safety and that of others when using the road network. Issues will be published on a quarterly basis. Stay safe on our roads!

## Message from... ACC Mark Cooper, Chair of Dorset Strategic Road Safety Partnership

Dorset Road Safe is an organisation made up of police and partner agencies who come together for the shared purpose of reducing the number of casualties on our roads.

Our efforts are informed by statistical data, best practice and lessons learned to ensure we have a sound evidence base for our work. We focus on targeting the most vulnerable groups on our roads and overcoming the greatest risks to road safety through collaborative initiatives. We are committed to making strides towards our shared target of bringing about a 40 per cent reduction in those killed and seriously injured on Dorset roads by 2020.

Working together is integral to developing innovative solutions that directly address the causal factors behind road fatalities. Our six strategic priorities are at the heart of all education, enforcement and engineering efforts carried out to improve safety on the roads.

## Message from... Martin Baker, Chair of Dorset Road Safe Tactical Group

Around 200 people are injured on our local roads each month. Across Dorset, road casualties cost the local economy around £160 million a year, at least £5 million of which directly impacts on NHS resources. Crashes can have enormous consequences for those involved, their friends and families. The majority are almost entirely preventable.

Dorset Road Safe's vision is "to improve road safety" across the Partnership area. Road deaths should not be an acceptable or inevitable consequence of travel on the local network and all road users must work together to address the problem.

## 6 Strategic Priorities

- Better road safety education and training for children, learner and young drivers
- Careless or dangerous road user behaviour
- Rural road KSIs
- Motorcycle casualties
- Pedestrian and cyclist casualties
- Illegal and inappropriate speed





# DORSET DRIVER GOLD IS RE-LAUNCHED

SafeWise, the award winning interactive safety education charity, is delighted to re-launch Dorset Driver Gold, a course dedicated to updating driver skills and confidence for older people.

Dorset Driver Gold is aimed at drivers aged 65 years and over who have an interest in updating their skills and knowledge, want help in familiarising themselves with a new vehicle or simply want to gain confidence.

Alison Shelton BEM, Chief Executive of SafeWise, said: "We are delighted to have the opportunity to run Dorset Driver Gold as driving is potentially the most dangerous activity that most people take part in.

"A slight increase in skills or awareness is all it takes to prevent the heartbreak of lives lost or devastated in accidents that could have been prevented.

"It is a well-known fact that experienced drivers generally have fewer accidents than younger drivers. However, as people grow older gradual changes take place which mean their ability to deal safely with some situations diminishes.

"Our sessions are delivered by specially selected and trained Driving Standards Agency (DSA) Approved Driving Instructors (ADIs). All our ADIs have a good understanding of the needs of mature and experienced drivers."

**Dorset Driver Gold offers both a practical and a theory element:**

- **The theory sessions** are designed to cover a variety of aspects of driving safety, including judging speed and distance, making sure drivers have the right car for their needs and negotiating roundabouts, traffic lights and junctions. The three hour sessions are held for up to 20 attendees.
- **The practical sessions** are held on a one-to-one basis using the driver's own car and last up to one and a half hours. Sessions are informal with the aim of enhancing current skills. They are not a test and there is no pass or fail element. The ADI looks at the way a driver deals with various traffic situations on the road and will make recommendations to help ensure ongoing safety.



## Upcoming theory sessions:

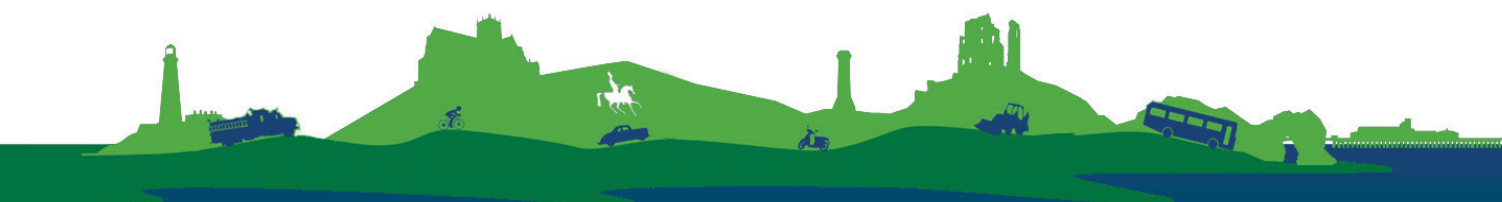
- Weds 7th Sept: 1.30pm at SafeWise Weymouth
- Tues 20th Sept: 10am at SafeWise Bournemouth
- Mon 3rd Oct: 10am at SafeWise Weymouth
- Mon 17th Oct: 1.30pm at SafeWise Bournemouth

## Dorset Driver Gold



Book online at [safewise.org](https://safewise.org) or email [ddg@safewise.org](mailto:ddg@safewise.org).

Call/text 07713 499 777 for a call back or leave a message with Head Office on 01202 591330.



# A SPECIAL ROAD SAFETY VISIT



On 23 June, Dorset Police's 'No Excuse' team accompanied by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Martyn Underhill visited nine year old Scarlet Fontana at her home in Corfe Castle, following a speed complaint.

Dorset Police's Road Safety Camera Van team recently received a hand written letter from Scarlet, aged 'nine and three quarters', in which she detailed her experience of motorists disobeying the 30 miles per hour speed limit outside her home.

Scarlet wrote: "The majority of drivers speed past my bedroom window extremely fast. I think it is just lucky nobody has been killed on this road before.

"In October 2015, a horrible crash happened outside my bedroom window at night after a speeding car hit a parked car. There were ambulances and

police outside my house and I sat in my bedroom and prayed everyone would be ok and not die."

As a result of Scarlet's letter, Dorset Police's dedicated road safety enforcement team and the PCC visited the Fontana family home. Sergeant Stu Pitman, who leads the 'No Excuse' team and PCC Martyn Underhill provided vital road safety advice.

Luminous 'No Excuse' road safety backpacks and assorted merchandise were given to the four Fontana children, who welcomed the opportunity to ask road safety questions and play in the marked 'No Excuse' police vehicle.

Scarlet's letter will have a lasting impact in her local area. With the encouragement of 'No Excuse' and the PCC, Simone Montana, Scarlet's mother, plans to set up a Community Speed Watch (CSW) team with neighbours. Dorset Police welcome this endeavour and will fully support "Scarlet's Speed Watch" in its efforts to make Dorset roads safer.

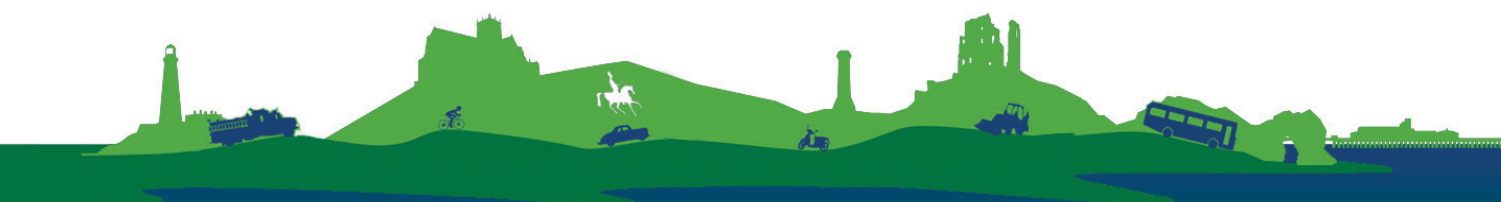
On the day of the visit to the Fontana family home, stop checks were conducted which acted as a powerful deterrent, with one offender being caught.

Dorset Police's Road Safety Operations Manager, Brian Austin, said: "Whilst we receive many letters from the public highlighting areas of road safety concern, it is very rare that we receive letters from young children of 'nine and three quarters'.

"We commend Scarlet for her maturity in writing to us in regards to an issue that Dorset Police takes extremely seriously."

The PCC, Martyn Underhill, said: "It is great to see Scarlet taking an active interest in road safety issues at such a young age. During 2015, a person died on a Dorset road every two weeks so it is vital we make road policing a priority. We have stepped up patrols in the area and encouraged residents to set up a CSW, to be the eyes and ears on the ground to report back on poor driving behaviour."

**If you have road safety concerns, email [dorsetroadsafe@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:dorsetroadsafe@dorset.pnn.police.uk) with the details.**





# COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Dorset Police recently took over the running of Community Speed Watch (CSW). Set up in 2013, the initiative encourages speed reduction. Speed is a major factor in a third of all traffic collisions and CSW teams help make our roads safer and improve quality of life for residents.

To date, there are 68 teams across Dorset that have monitored 550,000 vehicles, of which 12,500 were detected speeding and received a letter. 24 offenders have been detected three times or more and received a visit from their Neighbourhood Police Team (NPT) to discuss driving behaviour.

Dorset Road Safe, chaired by Dorset Police, is committed to reducing numbers killed and seriously injured through road collisions.

Dorset County Council manage the deployment of Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) across the county and on Wednesday 6 July, with support from Dorset Police, arranged for a SID to be installed to help the very active Alderholt CSW team with traffic issues. 'No Excuse' signs were put up around the site, showing any dissenters that Dorset Police fully supports the CSW and SID initiatives.

Dorset Road Safe is keen to promote CSW and to welcome dedicated volunteers as our colleagues, assisting us in a shared goal. Dorset Police is encouraging all officers to show CSW volunteers support by stopping to greet them. More dedicated volunteers wanting to reduce harm on the roads are always welcome, and their work appreciated by all Dorset Road Safe partners.

## How does Community Speed Watch work?

1. Each neighbourhood policing team (NPT) area has a CSW Liaison Officer.
2. This officer can pro-actively recruit members of the community to take part and they will receive requests from the public to initiate a CSW in a given area.
3. Details of volunteers are passed to the Vetting Department for Police Assurance Checks.
4. Once the checks are complete, the Liaison Officer can provide training and advice to volunteers using speed checking equipment.
5. When the CSW team carry out speed checks, they record how many vehicles were checked and how many exceeded the speed limit thresholds.
6. A warning letter is sent by Dorset Police to the registered keeper on the first two occasions that their vehicle is seen exceeding the speed limit. If the vehicle is observed for a third time, an action will be sent to the local NPT for further attention.



For further information or to set up your own CSW, get in touch with your local NPT or visit [www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/crime-prevention-help-advice/watch-schemes/community-speed-watch/](http://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/crime-prevention-help-advice/watch-schemes/community-speed-watch/)



# COMMUNITY ROAD SAFE EVEINGS

In conjunction with SafeWise, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service and Kwik Fit, Dorset Police will be providing free Community Road Safe evenings for the public. The sessions are funded directly from fines generated when motorists break the law and compromise road safety in Dorset.

Educating those who have broken the law is important, but when the first bad mistake a road user makes could result in a fatality, it is essential that we interact with the wider driving population before tragedies happen.

The initiative is derived from the Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner's manifesto promise to work with charities to target and educate the general driving population, not just offenders, and also the Dorset Police priority to 'reduce the number of people seriously harmed in Dorset'.

The sessions will run from 6pm to 8.30pm. Kwik Fit representatives will be on hand to demonstrate and assist with basic car safety checks, including tyre treads, spotting damages, checking wiper blades, lights and topping up fluid levels. They will also be handing out car goody bags!



The workshop will cover general road user information, the 'Fatal 5' causes of collisions and what you can do to prevent them from happening to you.

There will also be an opportunity to speak with staff and your local Neighbourhood Policing Team about what is available to keep you and your family safe on Dorset's Roads.



## Upcoming theory sessions:

- Thurs 29th Sept: 6-8pm at SafeWise Bournemouth
- Tues 4th Oct: 6-8pm at SafeWise Weymouth
- Wed 12th Oct: 6-8pm at Blandford Fire Station
- Thurs 20th Oct: 6-8pm at Bridport Fire Station
- Tues 1st Nov: 6-8pm at Shaftesbury Fire Station

**If you are interested in attending please book by visiting [www.safewise.org/bookings/community-road-safe/](http://www.safewise.org/bookings/community-road-safe/).**

**Advanced booking is essential. Please note: the sessions are not suitable for children to attend.**





# SUMMER DRINK AND DRUG

## DRIVE CAMPAIGN

This year's summer drink drive campaign, which coincided with the UEFA Euro 2016 football tournament, saw a total of 43 people charged with a drink or drug driving-related offence.

The campaign ran from Friday 10 June 2016 to Sunday 10 July 2016 throughout the county's road network. A total of 43 people aged between 19 and 72 were charged with a drink or drug driving-related offence. Of these, 37 were men and 6 were women.

During the campaign Dorset Police carried out increased traffic patrols and roadside checks, with every driver involved in a collision throughout June and July being breath tested, irrespective of whether they were suspected of drink driving.

Chief Inspector Adrian Leisk, Head of the Alliance Road Policing team across Devon & Cornwall Police

and Dorset Police, said: "This year we were keen to advise people enjoying the Euro's not to be tempted to drink and drive home after watching a game."

Anyone caught drink driving will face a minimum 12 month driving ban, a criminal record, up to six months in prison and a fine of up to £5,000.

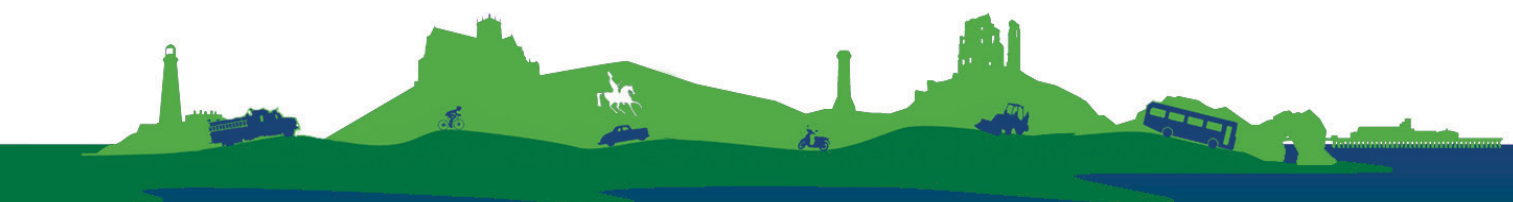
Inspector Matt Butler from the Alliance Road Policing team, said: "Too many people have lost their lives because of motorists who disregard the law and put themselves and others at risk by driving after consuming alcohol or taking drugs.

"As in previous years, I would like to thank those members of the public who called us to report a drink driver. Intelligence from the public is invaluable in keeping Dorset's roads safe."

The recently re-elected

Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner, Martyn Underhill pledged to increase the availability of drug drive kits within 100 days of taking office. This was achieved on 6 August, with all special constables that work with the 'No Excuse' team now fully trained to carry out roadside drugwipes. Newly trained Special Constable, Simon Miller has already completed his first positive roadside drug drive test during a recent operation. Dorset Police's ability to crack down on drug drivers is now stronger than ever!

**If you suspect someone of drink or drug driving, dial 999 immediately so we can intercept.**



# NEW OPERATION

## TO SUPPORT MOTORCYCLISTS



Dorset Police launched Operation Wheels, which will run throughout the summer period. The operation is a preventative campaign to reduce motorcycle casualties.

Riders are recognised as being the most at risk road user group. Whilst motorcycles account for only one per cent of the total road miles travelled, motorcyclists accounted for nearly 25 per cent of those seriously injured or killed on our roads during 2010-2014.

Officers from the Alliance Road Policing team will be

attending various motorcycle events offering advice to riders, and educating those who are caught speeding or driving in a careless or dangerous manner.

To understand the circumstances in which riders are being killed or critically injured, police data was combined with medical data.

The data analysed showed that 78 per cent of those killed or seriously injured were riding a motorcycle of 500cc and above. 52 per cent were aged between 40 and 59 years old.

In 74 per cent of cases, the collision was caused by rider error. Over a quarter of those killed or critically injured were riding in convoy with friends and the riders were nearly always male.

Dorset roads that have statistically seen the most collisions have been identified as 'red routes'. Officers from the Alliance Road Policing team will be patrolling these routes with the intention of encouraging riders to ride

safely.

Inspector Matt Butler from the Alliance Road Policing Team, said: "The warm weather means more bikes on the road. Throughout the summer, Operation Wheels will be encouraging bikers to ride safe and drivers to 'Think Bike'.

"Bikers – please have a look at the BikeSafe website. Some small changes can make bikers safer, more aware and more obvious to other road users. Even the most experienced riders can benefit from refresher sessions to improve their bike skills."

On 30 August, bikers from the police, doctor, ambulance and fire service will attend Poole Bike Night. Come with any questions! Operation Wheels aims to ensure that riding remains a great pleasure.

**For more information about courses run with BikeSafe, please go to [www.bikesafe.co.uk/locate-a-force/dorset/about-dorset-bikesafe/](http://www.bikesafe.co.uk/locate-a-force/dorset/about-dorset-bikesafe/)**





# LIFE DRIVE PILOT LAUNCHED!

Young drivers in Dorset can now access one of the UK's best driver training courses thanks to the Life Drive Programme.

In Dorset, under 25s make up just 12 per cent of road users, but they are involved in just over a quarter of all accidents. Life Drive was designed to try and reduce the disproportionate rates of accidents experienced by this cohort.

Over 116 young drivers so far have been on the free driver experience course which gives young people the knowledge to stay safe on the road. Running throughout the year, Life Drive is available for 17 to 25 year olds wanting to build their confidence on the road.

Aimed at young people who have passed their test in the last four years, the course combines a 90 minute practical driving course with a short interactive session led by a qualified driving instructor.

Josh Reeves-Cooper from Bournemouth took part in the Life Drive course. Speaking about his experience, he said: "The course couldn't have been better - the instructors were all welcoming. It was very informative and I've told a lot of people about some of the things I've learned, a lot of which

weren't necessarily obvious to the new driver. The drive out was even better, the instructor was able to help with all my questions".

The Life Drive programme recently scooped a national award at this year's Firstcar Young Driver Road Safety Awards.

## Course results

- Participants reported a decrease in performing certain risky behaviours after partaking in Life Drive.
- Before the course, 63% would 'eat and drink'. After, only 39% would.
- Before, 35% would 'set a sat nav' while driving. After, only 15% would.
- We also saw important decreases in behaviours such as using a phone, driving too fast for the conditions and driving in a certain way as a result of peer pressure.
- Before the course, 67% claimed to be confident drivers. After the course, 85% were confident.
- Before Life Drive, 20% felt they were a bit more skilful than the average driver. After the course this had increased to 45%.
- 98% were satisfied with the theory course, 94% satisfied with the drive out.

## Life Drive Evenings at SafeWise, Bournemouth:

- 22nd September
- 18th October
- 14th November
- 8th December

For further information on Life Drive and to register please visit [www.bournemouth.gov.uk/lifedrive](http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/lifedrive)



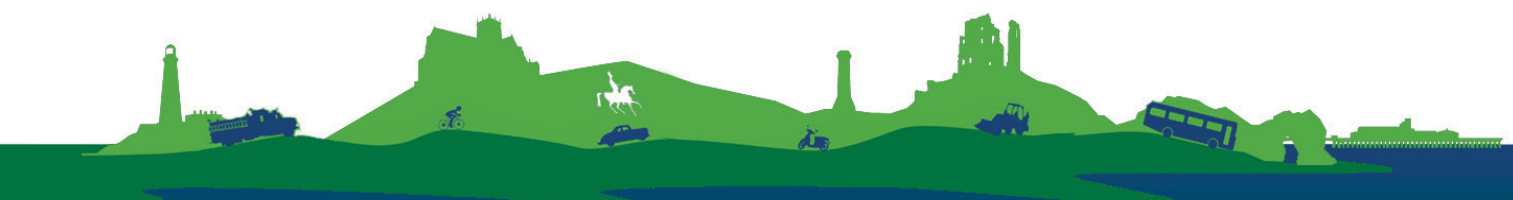
# WINNER

**FIRSTCAR YOUNG DRIVER  
ROAD SAFETY AWARDS 2016**

NEW SCHEME OF  
THE YEAR 2016

**FIRST  
CAR**

YOUNG DRIVER ROAD  
SAFETY AWARDS 2016  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH  
**ROAD  
SAFETY  
SUPPORT**  
Partners  
RoadSafe  
RoadSafe



# ENFORCEMENT UPDATE



*"The 'No Excuse' team is in operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We are dedicated to reducing numbers killed and seriously injured on our roads, and recently won the prestigious Prince Michael International Road Safety Award." - T/Inspector Stu Pitman*

## Op Dragoon, coming soon...

Operation Dragoon will greatly enhance the Roads Policing Team's ability to deal with road users who pose the greatest risk to all of us. The team currently deploys to areas where the public have expressed concerns, to areas of high collisions and to areas identified through analysis as being of particular risk.

Dragoon recognises that some individuals refuse to modify their driving behaviour and fail to foresee the potential consequences of their actions. Dragoon will ensure these offenders are identified as early as possible, with positive, persistent and proportionate action taken against them. The emphasis will be on preventing them from escalating their behaviour through positive engagement with the individual, their family and their friends to ensure offences do not reoccur.

## RESULTS

Between April and June, the 'No Excuse' team has been rather busy...

- **108** new requests for "help" from concerned local residents
- **84** due care tickets issued
- **53** vehicles seized for no insurance
- **22** tickets issued for no MOT
- **40** high speeders and drivers with excessive points sent to court.
- **5** arrests for drink or drug driving, drugs possession and driving whilst revoked.

## HIGHLIGHTS

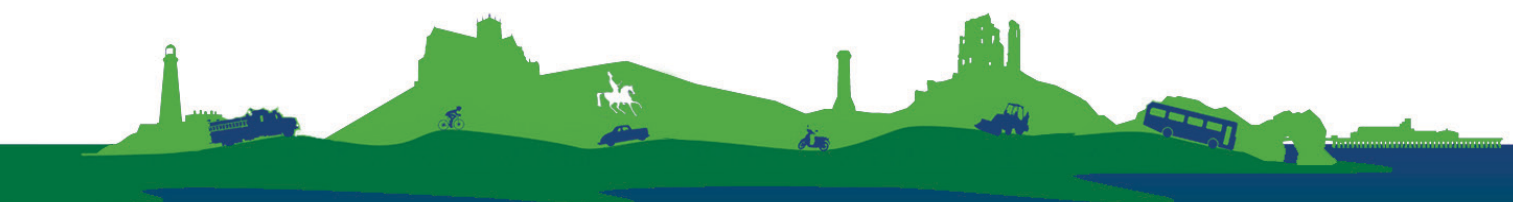
On 13 June, a prolific driving offender was handed a four-week suspended prison sentence and two-year driving ban.



Liam Brown, 19 and of Poole, pleaded guilty to driving while disqualified and driving without insurance.

Over the last six months, he had three cars seized, was arrested for disqualified driving, for holding no insurance and for careless driving. Reports had also been received that he was continuing to drive with children in the car around Poole.

The 'No Excuse' team continue to engage with Brown, his family and friends in an attempt to stop his offending.





# EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION!

## 'NO EXCUSE' PRIMARY SCHOOL VISIT

The team made an educational visit to a primary school. Year one pupils were given an interactive talk on the topic of 'stop, look, listen'. Afterwards, the children got to demo the equipment that 'No Excuse' use in marked and unmarked vehicles. They did ask to take the police car for a spin, but the answer was unfortunately no.



Meanwhile, year five were treated to a Speed Road Enforcement briefing, before being given a live roadside demonstration in a safe location. They even got to use the laser equipment themselves! The team looks forward to welcoming their new fans to the 'No Excuse' team in a decade or so.



## THE BIKER'S BIBLE!

Bikers, we know all too well how being a rider on our roads makes us vulnerable. Dorset Police have produced a BikeSafe rider handout to help make bikers aware of how to protect themselves from risks. Watch out for it on the Dorset Police website.

Whilst some collisions are due to rider error, many can be avoided by making some small changes to make you safer, more aware and more obvious to others. As riders we don't have the added protection of a car body around us, so we have to rely on our own judgement to keep us safe.

Even the most experienced riders can benefit from refresher sessions to improve their bike skills. Sign up for a BikeSafe course or enrol on an advanced riding course through one of the local advanced riding groups. Riding is a great pleasure, so please ride long, safe and enjoy.

## DRIVING SAFELY FOR LIFE

Driving Safely for Life is a comprehensive guide by RICA for more mature drivers giving advice on keeping safe and driving for as long as possible.

Dorset Road Safe and its partners decided to promote the guide locally as it gives unbiased advice covering all aspects of driving which need consideration as we get older. At the back of the publication Dorset Road Safe has adapted the guide to make it a useful one stop shop covering local resources.



The Driving Safely for Life brochure can be collected from the SafeWise centres in Bournemouth and Weymouth or viewed on [www.safewise.org/dorset-driver-gold](http://www.safewise.org/dorset-driver-gold)



# OUT AND ABOUT



The Safety Camera Team & 50/50 car were thrilled to attend the Wheels Festival in Bournemouth at the start of June, along with Traffic colleagues.

Inspector Matt Butler of the Alliance Roads Policing Team, said: "Wheels Festival provided a fantastic opportunity to engage with the public and spread road safety messages far and wide. Our presence was extremely well received and we were pleased to be able to visually demonstrate to drivers, riders and pedestrians alike what to do and what not to do out there. Stay safe on our roads!"

Wheels Festival was also attended by Bournemouth Borough Council, where the profile of initiatives including car seat checking days was raised.



## Is your child's car seat fitted correctly?

80% of the 66 car seats checked by Bournemouth Council in May 2016 were incorrectly fitted! If a seat is incorrectly fitted, it may prove useless should you be involved in a collision.

Get your car seat checked for **FREE**. Car seat clinics at the Littledown Centre between 1100-1600:

6th July 2016

8th September 2016

7th November 2016

More useful info can be found here: <http://www.goodeggsafety.com/>





# Contact Us



**Dorset Police:**

[dorsetroadsafe@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:dorsetroadsafe@dorset.pnn.police.uk)

**Website:** [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk)

**Non Emergency Telephone:** 101 calling from Dorset



**Website:** [www.safewise.org](http://www.safewise.org)

**SafeWise Bournemouth (formerly LV=Streetwise):** [bournemouth@safewise.org](mailto:bournemouth@safewise.org)  
**Telephone:** 01202 591330

**SafeWise Weymouth:** [weymouth@safewise.org](mailto:weymouth@safewise.org)  
**Telephone:** 01722 691507



**Dorset County Council:**

[dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.dorsetforyou.com/travel-dorset/roads-and-driving/road-information](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/travel-dorset/roads-and-driving/road-information)

**Telephone:** 01305 221000



**Bournemouth Borough Council:**

[Road.Safety@bournemouth.gov.uk](mailto:Road.Safety@bournemouth.gov.uk)

**Website:** <http://bournemouth.gov.uk/travelandtransport/RoadSafety/RoadSafetyInBournemouth.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01202 454654



**Borough of Poole:** [transportation@poole.gov.uk](mailto:transportation@poole.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.poole.gov.uk/roadsafety](http://www.poole.gov.uk/roadsafety)  
**Telephone:** 01202 262000



**DORSET & WILTSHIRE  
FIRE AND RESCUE**

**Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue**

**Service:** [enquiries@dwfire.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dwfire.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.dwfire.org.uk/road-safety](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/road-safety)  
**Telephone:** 01722 691000



**Highways Agency:** [ha\\_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 08457 504030



**South Western Ambulance Service:**

**Website:** [www.swast.nhs.uk/](http://www.swast.nhs.uk/)

Keep up with the latest online Dorset Road Safe content via:

 [facebook.com/dorsetroadsafe](https://facebook.com/dorsetroadsafe)  [@dorsetroadsafe](https://twitter.com/dorsetroadsafe)

 [@dorsetroadsafe](https://www.instagram.com/dorsetroadsafe)

For more information, download the Guide to Safe Roads booklet [here](#).

