



**Devon & Cornwall Police**

Building safer communities together



# Ashford, Marwood, Georgeham and Croyde

## Jan 2019 Newsletter

*Welcome to Braunton Rural Police's monthly news letter.*

### **Driving on country roads**

Brake before the bend, not on it.

"59% of all fatalities occur on country roads. These roads often have sharp bends, blind bends and unexpected hazards so brake before the bend to give yourself time to react and stay in control."

- 59% of all fatalities occur on country roads
- Three people die each day on average on country roads
- The number of people killed on country roads is nearly 10 times higher than on motorways
- In 2015, 10,307 people were killed or seriously injured on country roads in Great Britain

## The law

You must not drive faster than the speed limit for the type of road and your type of vehicle. The speed limit is the absolute maximum and it doesn't mean it's safe to drive at this speed in all conditions.

### THINK! Advice

The best drivers read the road ahead and anticipate potential hazards. Look out for upcoming bends, hidden dips, blind summits and concealed entrances.

Country roads often have sharp bends. To stay in control and give yourself time to react to unexpected hazards, brake before the bend, not in it.

Overgrown verges, bushes and trees on country roads can block your view and potentially obscure an oncoming hazard. Always drive at a speed which will allow you to stop in the distance you can see to be clear (double that on a single track road). Allow more time to stop on wet or slippery surfaces.

The speed limit is a limit not a target. The national speed limit on single carriage roads is 60mph, but there will be times you need to drive under that in order to drive correctly for the conditions. In fact most people do on these roads – the average free flow speed is 48mph.

If you get stuck behind a slow moving vehicle be patient. Dips in roads, bends and other junctions joining your road often hide oncoming vehicles, so unless it's absolutely essential, don't overtake.

If passing more vulnerable road users such as horse riders, cyclists and walkers, pass wide and slow.

## Crimes reported December 2018

### Croyde and Georgeham

No crimes to report

### Ashford

No crimes to report

### Marwood

2 x Criminal damage

1 x common assault



Ask NED is a Non-Emergency Directory. It is a new service that combines the questions that members of the public have asked with contact details of those that can help.

Ask NED includes the **Ask the Police** database and common questions asked of our partner organisations.

[www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/askned](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/askned)



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Contact us [Braunton@DC.police.uk](mailto:Braunton@DC.police.uk)

Emergency 999

Non emergency 101 or email [101@DC.Police.UK](mailto:101@DC.Police.UK)