



# Eastern Region Groups' Newsletter

October 2020  
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# View from the East

## October 2020

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### Hello and welcome.

Here we are again heading into what I hope will be the last lock down.

Policing has a new set of rules to unpick and enforce but we are maintaining our 'Engage, Educate and last resort Enforce' mantra.

For the first time in all the years I have been involved in Road Safety 'Road Safety GB's' (RSGB) annual conference only exists on-line. It is very good with industry leaders and Road Safety experts bring new ideas and discussing current trends, but I miss the opportunity to talk face to face with colleagues in the field. I often pick up little snip-its that later become big news, it's good to stay ahead of the game.

### In the news:

**More Cops = Less Collisions (update):** A big feature of the RSGB was a discussion and debate around enforcement, or lack of it. There is consensus on more visibility reduces KSi's but how to achieve it is an ongoing battle.

**Me myself and I:** In the end of October two of my own investigations have been in court for sentencing.

The first was for a drug driver who orphaned two young children on the A141 at Chatteris receiving a 13 year and 3 months conviction for Death by Dangerous Driving whilst over the prescribed limit on Drugs. The brief circumstances are that he fell asleep at the wheel and crossed into the opposing carriageway in his Iveco van, and went head on into a Ford Focus, which lead to the death of the parents of the two children, who were also in the car.

The second was another Death by Dangerous Driving whilst over the prescribed limit on Drugs and whilst un-insured. The circumstances are the same as above, with excess speed as another factor, she drove onto the wrong side of the road and struck a Mercedes Sprinter van coming the other way, her rear seat passenger died. She received a 13 year and 6 months sentence.



The maximum sentence is currently 14 years for causing Death by Dangerous Driving, and whilst I'd prefer that the collisions did not happen at all, it does serve as a small deterrent to some when these lengthy sentences are handed down.

**Testing times:** October was a busy month for tests, mostly motorcycles. Not surprising when you think about the current risks around Covid and that the bikers want to get them in before the winter arrives.

## What's Next?

Again, as soon as restrictions lift I will get around and see you all. Remember, please include me in your skype (others are available) meeting invites. If I am off duty, I will do my best to link in with you.

Please take care of yourselves, stay safe and keep in touch with one another.

Simon.

Simon Burgin  
Eastern Region Co-Ordinator

## Resources

Please remember the free RoSPA e-newsletter covering all safety matters including road-safety for all RoADAR members.

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