

Local action to support County-wide Road Safety Campaigns

January 2016 heralded the Gloucestershire County Council and Road Safety Partnership's Country Roads Campaign. One of the identified Hot Routes was the A46 through Painswick. With only a few day's notice of this county-wide campaign, the Painswick Community Speed Watch volunteers leapt into action and completed a full week of checks from Monday 25th to Friday 29th January (number of registrations collected and provided to the police not available at time of writing).

This same group of volunteers has also been present around the community with the mobile Vehicle Activated Signs, focusing on notorious hot spots including the A46 near the Pullens Road junction where drivers feel the need to race away from the one-way system. We have also been present on Churchill Way at school drop-off and pick-up times to reinforce the road safety message after the dangerous incident outside the school just before Christmas (as reported in January's Beacon).

January also brought the long-awaited arrival of the permanent Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) at the entrances to Painswick, within the 30mph zones. These locations have been chosen to meet both the parameters within the associated Gloucestershire County Council policy document, but also it was strongly felt that drivers should be made aware of their speed before they enter the centre in hope that they will remain vigilant as they progress through our community.

Whilst our mixture of permanent measures including the VAS and recent repainting of red and white speed gateways and our extensive volunteer action has had an impact for the good, unfortunately one cannot completely mitigate for the selfish drivers who stubbornly exceed the limits. It can only be hoped that they get "stuck" behind a Pace Car keeping to the legal speed limit and who will not be intimidated by their impatience!

And on that note, I end by asking every driver who reads this to be a Pace Car - by simply keeping to the legal speed limits you can help manage the speed of those behind you. Thank-you.