



HGV Damage

Many of you will be aware of the recent damage caused at the Brenchley memorial site by an HGV attempting to use Holly Bank.

This has not been a one-off event.

Very often these HGVs are lost or diversions have not been clear enough. Their SAT NAVS direct them onto unsuitable roads and the HGVs carry on regardless!

Similar events have also happened turning right from Blind Lane onto Brenchley Road, again causing damage.

Should you manage to get a photo of the vehicle registration and the company name, I am more than happy to contact the company involved. I have found in the past that many companies do take any communication about this matter very seriously. As do the companies that these HGVs are trying to find.

Cllr Christine Churchill

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Brenchley and Matfield residents SPEEDWATCH NEEDS YOU!

Many residents are quite rightly very concerned at the speeds some vehicles are travelling so please consider giving up an hour of your time to support the Speedwatch Team. Currently Speedwatch is not operating as there are not enough volunteers.

From the data we have collected from the Speed Indicator Devices we have noted that the worst time for speeding is 7am–10am and 4–6pm. We would aim to operate Speedwatch sessions around these times.

What would be required of you?

- To take a Police online training session followed by an online test (all very self-explanatory).
- Attend a session with the local Speedwatch Team.

Please feel free to contact me for further details.

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TRAFFIC MATTERS

Reporting a Near Miss (driver, cyclist, horse rider or pedestrian)

TWBC now has a reporting tool for residents to report near-misses on our roads.

<https://tunbridgewells.gov.uk/parking/near-miss> or scan the QR code opposite.



If you have a close call, either as a driver, a cyclist, a horse rider or as a pedestrian, or if you simply witness a near-miss, please let us know about it. Examples of near-misses are if you had to perform an emergency stop while driving or swerve to avoid an oncoming car or pedestrian. Near-misses for pedestrians include if you have had to step back on the pavement while trying to cross the road or saw someone else have to do so. This is particularly relevant where people and vehicles intersect, such as junctions and crossings.

Community Safety Manager Terry Hughes said: 'Minor incidents, and near-misses, often go unreported. The new reporting tool will give residents the ability to quickly and easily inform the Community Safety Unit of any close calls on our roads. This may subsequently generate awareness-raising opportunities in repeat locations which could contribute to safer roads in Tunbridge Wells.'

The reporting tool is available online from 1 April for a period not less than 12-months, and we will report quarterly findings to Kent County Council as they are the Highways Authority. At the end of the 12-month pilot an assessment of the scheme will be carried out to determine if it should remain in use.

Currently, the statutory requirement for Kent County Council is to review and validate injury-only collisions and so use of the near-miss tool does not guarantee that road or footway improvements will come about because of a near-miss report.

If you don't have internet access you may make near-miss reports via the Council's contact centre on 01892 526121.