

CRW CONTRIBUTION TO HADDENHAM AUGUST 19 EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE

What's Happened to One of our SWARCO SIDs? Those of you who used Station Rd in June and July will have noticed that the SWARCO SID (Speed Indicated Device) #1 that Community Roadwatch moves about Station Rd for the Parish Council has been replaced by a Westcotec version that shows just 'YOUR SPEED' in large bright digits (with no gimmicks or messages) to drivers at or over 32 mph. So a big 'thank you' to those of you who reckon the SID in Station Rd is not working because actually you have not been detected speeding; however, the SID's inbuilt data recorder has still logged your speed and is one of those shown in its Stats on the CRW Web Portal www.roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/haddenham where Speedwatch can pick up Logger graphs that show them when the highest daylight speeds are being generated for sessions to moderate/deter speeding or the highest volumes experienced for Speedwatch to be seen (good PR).

It Has Been in Willingham. Your SID#1 has been loaned to Willingham to indicate Green or Red speeds to drivers in the newly extended 30 zone in Station Rd (on the Longstanton end) that changed a length of 40 limit to a 30. Willingham does have 2 Westcotec SIDs that show just speed but because some regular users of that road had not even noticed the limit change from 40 to 30 and with no extra CC Highways red temporary 'Change of Speed Limit Ahead' signs we have seen used elsewhere in the past to alert drivers, drivers in the new 30 zone when flashed 40 thought they were compliant. So it was left up to CRW to find a way to educate and inform users of this stretch of excessive speeds. That's when CRW – with an area overview of the SIDs being used and their functionality - approached your Parish Council for a **SID swap** with Willingham for 2-3 months to have your SWARCO show the speed continuously in large digits and indicate driver compliance in colour. Team effort.

What do SIDs Record? It is worth explaining that because SIDs record only the first speed of a vehicle as it passes, they don't track vehicles like a missile system, the data that SIDs produce is not a reflection of the immediate effect that they have on most responsible drivers, who do slow because most low-level speeding is inadvertent (if only some cameras could be programmed to understand that, I hear you say). The slowing effect can actually be observed with the Mk1 Eyeball, but can best be statistically empirically determined by a data logger positioned about 50m downstream of the SID (next lamppost, say) that will detect the same traffic so that over a given hour the SID data and the Logger data can be compared. CRW has carried out that service for a number of villages and is looking for an opportunity to include it in its schedule for Haddenham either along Station Rd or West End – the 2 worst speeding hotspots in Haddenham ... **unless you think otherwise**, in which case let me or the Parish Clerk know about it. As an important aside, the PCC has apparently just bought 10 **Data Loggers** to enable Speedwatch to **Reduce Casualties** on our Community Roads, so your newly resurrected Speedwatch Team may well be able to tap into that Police resource via the **Force Casualty Reduction Officer**, rather than have CRW take on that data-collection function leaving us free to do other just-as-vital things with our unpaid volunteers' time that will contribute positively towards Community Road Safety.

Speedwatch. Community Roadwatch supports Speedwatch 100% even though the PCC and Police hierarchy regrettably think (without ever auditing us) that we are a load of vigilantes **and treat us as such** without realising that neither CRW nor Speedwatch would need to exist if everyone was funded to do their job to the extent they are scoped to do and that no one does what we do as well as we do it and have done it lawfully to complement Speedwatch since 2015. That said, your village Speedwatch is picking up and, with 3 operators now mandated to be kerbside per session, more volunteers are needed to lighten the load for your new Coord: Cllr Stuart Smith.

So if anyone needs help from CRW or wishes to join Speedwatch please let your Parish Clerk know.

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The Photo shows Linda Powell of the village SID Support Team being trained on the alignment and battery change techniques for Westcotec SIDs.

