

CRW CONTRIBUTION TO HADDENHAM JULY 19 EDITION OF VILLAGE VOICE

Village Speed Indicating Devices (SIDs). Community Roadwatch (CRW) continues to move, maintain and download/report the volume-speed data from your two SWARCO SIDs. These have large full-face continuous-display digits that change colour from Green to Red to reflect excessive speed. CRW reckons this 'grown-up' method of indicating compliance/infringements to drivers - rather than judgemental 'Thank you'/'Slow Down' or a gimmick like a Smiley Face that interrupts the speed display - is the quickest and most effective way of communicating acceptance of their speed to drivers and especially to those visitors who do not speak English. A drawback to 'message/graphic' SIDs was illustrated recently in St Ives Town when the SIDs there in a 40 zone - that pander to drivers who need a reward of 'Thank You' for obeying the law - stopped working when the batteries went flat. Then, approaching local drivers, normally compliant, accelerated to well over 50 mph in a 40 zone in order to get their daily dose of 'Thank You' that never showed. So the lesson learnt there, if you have them is, never let the batteries go flat or if you do, put a 'NOT IN USE' cover over it or even remove the SID, rather than leave it there to initiate / encourage speeding. Some SIDs even have a 'stealth' mode to switch off the display to just record data and those in that state could result in much the same sort of speeding effect to then provide wholly inaccurate data. Recommendation: a Speed Indicating Device should continuously Indicate ONLY Speed to drivers and certainly gimmicky / judgemental ones should not be used for Speedwatch reporting.

SID Battery Changes. CRW has trained Linda and Richard Powell to change SWARCO SID batteries. They do that every 2 weeks and assist CRW to move the SIDs every 4 or so. CRW downloads data from these devices once or twice a month, collates and processes them into reports that are then uploaded for you to see at www.Roadwatch.org.uk/cambs/Haddenham . If you can help your village by sharing this workload of battery changing or even data downloading to a Bluetooth Windows Laptop to use XL charts once or twice a month, please inform your Parish Clerk and CRW will be only too pleased to help Haddenham become SID-autonomous.



Community Roadwatch Operations Director Colin Silvester instructing and supervising the Haddenham village husband and wife Team, Richard and Linda Powell, on how to install and change the batteries of their village's SIDs.

Village Speedwatch Needs You – CRW has quantified and identified your speeding hotspots and has sent its 'observations of excessive speeds' to executive owners of speeding commercial vehicles with significant effect. Unfortunately, the same cannot be claimed for private cars accurately recorded at 50+ mph using calibrated radar devices in your 30 zones because the Police will not accept any reports of speeding by private vehicles from the general public – irrespective of the soundness of the evidence - unless they are wearing a hi-vis vest marked Speedwatch and using an uncalibrated but pre-set SID. However, that's still better than the alternative of nothing at all. So if you would like to join the village Speedwatch Team, again let your Parish Clerk know. Reassuringly, CRW has checked your SIDs for accuracy against a calibrated radar device and they are spot on (+- 1mph).

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