

Your membership

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Your thoughts on the issues facing today's road users



How times change!

I found the following 'chief requirements of a car driver' entertaining. They come from *A Catechism of the Motor Car*, written by

John Henry Knight in 1914:

"He must be courteous and civil to anyone he may meet on the road. He must have some knowledge of the construction of the motor car, not afraid of hard work or getting the car ready for the morning. He must have some knowledge of the law and regulations respecting cars. He must ascertain what towns have a reduced speed limit, and look out for notice boards on reaching those towns."

Colin Muddimer

Speed limits lack credibility

I have been a motorcyclist for over 53 years and wallow in the joy of riding for riding's sake. This is being eroded by aggressive speed management that is difficult to justify. I've always argued that it is not speed *per se* that is the problem but speed in relation to other factors. Nigel Bean (*Advanced Driving - Spring*) sums it up admirably: "Drivers are faced with so many speed limits in questionable areas that they have diluted the effectiveness and credibility of speed limits where they are needed."

Roy Buchanan

Fined for helping the police

Several years ago, while heading up a traffic light queue, I moved forward into the yellow box in order to assist the progress of a police van. A few days later, I received a fine - and I got nowhere when trying to explain my

reasons. Today, I again saw an unmarked police car causing traffic to move into a yellow box. This situation must be sorted out by the police, it's not fair to fine motorists when they're trying to assist.

Kelvin Carter

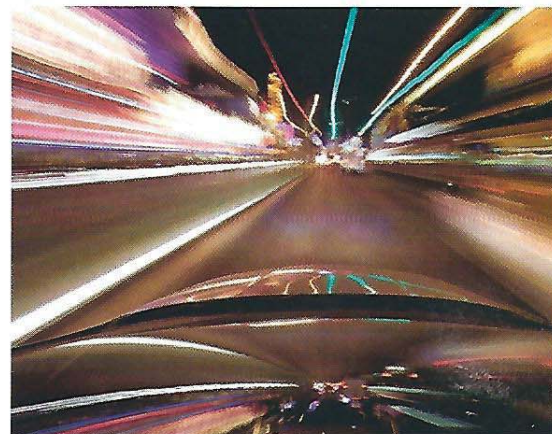
Matrix sign muddle

On the inside lane of a deserted M4 early on a Sunday morning, I passed a matrix sign indicating that my lane was closed ahead. I pulled into the middle lane and soon passed a further, similar sign. A police motorcyclist then pulled me over, rightly informing me that driving in the middle lane unless overtaking is not legal. In obeying the instruction to change lanes, I was in breach of the law. Who is responsible for operating matrix signs, and are they mandatory or for information only?

Howard Brayton

Assessment sharpens you up

With my 70th birthday approaching, I became aware that my driving was not what it used to be. Concerned to ensure I remain safe, I booked a



"I'VE ALWAYS ARGUED THAT IT IS NOT SPEED *PER SE* THAT IS THE PROBLEM BUT SPEED IN RELATION TO OTHER FACTORS" Roy Buchanan

Member's Assessment. To my astonishment, I gained a FIRST - clearly the prospect of the assessment had concentrated my mind. I've recovered my enthusiasm and am now planning an assault on the Masters. I commend the Member's Assessment to anyone to sharpen skills and nip decline in the bud.

Michael Forster

» SOCIAL MEDIA

Q: We asked Twitter: What are your opinions on #driverless cars?

Clarky: Potential is there but tech isn't, too many variables

Martin Boniface: Outrageous. This plan has more flaws than a multi-storey car park. Driving should be active and not passive

Richard Fallis: Potential game-changer for shared, not individual use. Goal should be fewer cars

Gwilym Thomas: I believe #driverless cars will be safer than

the vast majority of human drivers
Des Howlett: They work fine in closed systems, but would be dangerous in a mixed environment
Rtd RTO: Can they adapt quickly enough to the multitude of situations on all types of roads?
Nick: There are many of us who enjoy the pleasure and skill of driving; #driverless vehicles hold no attraction for us



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