



## People for Proper Policing in North Wales

### Another attempt to pervert the course of justice by Arrive Alive, the North Wales speed camera operators ... fails.

Hidden sign: no fine by David Greenwood, Daily Post Mar 17 2007

**CAMPAIGNERS last night claimed police may have to repay fines and scrap penalty points after a motorist was cleared of speeding.** North Wales Pressure group **People for Proper Policing** took up the case of lorry driver Bernie Jones. He was clocked behind the wheel of a car doing 37mph on the A449 at Clynog Fawr, near Pwllheli, at around 7.30pm on Friday, June 9 last year. **The 59-year-old, who had a "clean licence",** pleaded not guilty. And this week the trucker, from Blackburn, Lancashire, was cleared by magistrates in Caernarfon. **Last night the pressure group urged police to contact other motorists illegally caught, by an Arrive Alive roadside camera van, breaking a 30mph speed limit on Lleyn over eight months ago.**

Mr Jones' defence was mounted by the PPP which brought in a London barrister.

**Central to the case was the claim two 30mph signs were obscured by foliage from overgrown hedges and trees.** Last night the PPP, which has won a number of other speeding cases, said Mr Jones' case should never have gone ahead. *"It was a waste of public money,"* said spokesman Ian Glass. *"My estimate is it could have cost in the region of £1,500. "Even before the case went to court we provided extensive photographic and video evidence to show the signs were obscured by foliage. "Our evidence was backed up by a police calibration check video. "This has serious implications as it means anyone who received points on their licence and a fine can now demand a refund and those points removed. "Furthermore should anyone have lost their licence and consequently suffered extra loss they can sue North Wales Police."*

He added: ***"The A449 is a main tourist route to and from Pwllheli and the PPP considers the camera van was deliberately placed to maximise revenue from unsuspecting motorists. As it was a Friday night in midsummer we suggest this was substantial. The camera van was hidden behind a wall, on a bend, only 65 metres from 30mph signs obscured by foliage from overgrown hedges and trees. The approach to the limit only had fields on either side giving no clue to a built up area ahead."*** Mr Glass said: ***"We will be writing to North Wales Police demanding they contact all drivers caught in this trap."***

**Arrive Alive project manager Inspector Essi Ahari** said: ***"I have not had a report back from the court but I will be studying the outcome. I am confident the case was handled according to the book."***

**The PPP comments.... We would very much like a copy of Ahari's 'BOOK' ....What happened in this case is happening right across North Wales. Arrive Alive deliberately break the letter of the law as in this case or the spirit of the law in MOST others. They take advantage of the many changes in speed limits in terms of speed and location. **They thus conspire with our councils and the other partnership members to persecute us and visitors to our area.** This has nothing to do with Road Safety and is dangerously distracting drivers and causing collisions. **Inspector Ahari and the CPS must have been aware for weeks that their own photographic evidence showed the AA operation to be illegal. They are thus either incompetent and/or dishonest & prepared to pervert the course of justice & waste our money.****