



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

'Driving course could have saved my son,' says North Wales Father
Oct 22 2009 By Carl Butler, Daily Post

THE father of a teenager killed in a crash is backing a new road safety campaign that he says could have saved his son.

Lee Palmer, 19, of Ffordd Dwyfor, Greenfield, suffered multiple injuries when his car left the B5121 Greenfield Road, Holywell, and hit a wall and telegraph post near his home on December 10 last year.

Lee, who wanted to be a police officer, **had previously had crashes in two other cars.** Yesterday his father Alan said a new police initiative, offering extra training to young drivers who have been involved in crashes, could be the difference between life and death.

He said: *"If our son had been able to have this opportunity following his first collision he might never have been killed. "Anything which can be done to make young drivers more aware of dangers on the road has to be a good thing and I sincerely hope that any young driver offered this chance takes it."*

Working with the six local authorities, North Wales Police are offering young drivers who have been in a crash the chance to take part in a free Institute for Advanced Motorists (IAM) Skills for Life Package.

All drivers aged between 17 and 25 involved in a collision which did NOT result in serious injury or prosecution, will be given the chance to have nine hours road training, the IAM book Advanced Driving – The Essential Guide, entry into the Advanced Driving Test and 12 months IAM membership if successful.

Acting Chief Constable Ian Shannon said: *"This new IAM opportunity will address some of the shortcomings of people who have already had a collision and the hope is that this will reduce the likelihood of that person being involved in future collisions. **National figures show that a high proportion of young drivers killed in collisions had previously been in either a less serious collision or had committed a road traffic offence.**"*

He said the scheme would give young drivers a better understanding of danger.

The PPP comments ... Finally NWPF are being positive AND proactive about the most at risk group of drivers on our roads. They have claimed for years that EDUCATION was part of their road safety policy when in reality it was dominated by ineffective and abusive and badly targetted ENFORCEMENT.

We commend ACC Shannon on this strategy and hope he keeps us informed about it's progress. We strongly recommend Stephen Haley's book 'Mind Driving' as a guide to drivers, young and old and however experienced they are. For more information on this driving philosophy use the [links](#) to [road safety](#) on our website.