

**“ PPP ”**

**People for Proper Policing in North Wales**

## **Police crashes are up again.**

Figures released by the Independent Police Complaints Commission indicate a further worrying rise in death involving Police vehicles.

**Paul Smith, founder of the Safe Speed road safety campaign ([www.safespeed.org.uk](http://www.safespeed.org.uk))** said: "There will be calls for further restrictions on Police activity, but that is entirely the wrong solution. This is a training issue. We learned the lesson over 60 years ago when the Police Driver training establishment at Hendon demonstrated early success. It worked. Accidents involving Police went down and down and stayed down. We have cut back training and accidents are going up. No one who knows anything about road safety should be surprised, but those responsible for the blunder must be held to account."

The Police driver training establishment at Hendon was founded in the 1930s to deal with worrying trends in Police road crashes. Hendon became the envy of the world and Hendon developed driving techniques have been exported to over 100 countries. Hendon methods also spawned the IAM and RoSPA advanced drivers association. Without the strong cultural influence of Hendon we would not have earned the safest roads in the world.

In the early 1990s, the earlier system of Police driver grading was abandoned. 'Class 1' standard was replaced with 'Police Advanced'. Pass rates for Class 1 drivers used to sometimes fall as low as 20%, ensuring selection of appropriate ability and especially those individuals who could best remain composed and professional under extremes of pressure. **'Police Advanced' aims for a 100% pass rate which does not allow for deselection of those trainees exhibiting less appropriate attitudes.**

Loss of training standards apply across driver levels and across Police forces. But since training courses are defined on a 'by force' basis it is difficult to make specific comments.

**The PPP comments.....We have studied the early and later versions of the Police Driver training manual and video; the politically correct brainwashing of trainees is obvious & to the detriment of their performance and Judgement. Wherever we look, the dumbing down of educational and training standards continues apace with appalling consequences for our culture and the country.**