

“ PPP ”

People for Proper Policing in North Wales

DCC Wolfendale's on litter on the A55. 05/10/2006

Regular users of the A55 will be very much aware of the disgraceful state of the roadside verges and lay-byes as the result of rubbish discarded from cars by day trippers. This is a repugnant spectacle in itself but, for those in the know, something a little more sinister lurks in the undergrowth. Amongst the KFC and McDonalds cartons you may find plastic bottles half full of a yellowish, slightly effervescent liquid. At first sight these may appear to be unwanted remnants of Lucozade or Tango drinks, but do not be tempted to slake your thirst, for the contents may well have a less refreshing origin. It is quite possible that the bottle is a little souvenir left by a long-distance lorry driver on his non-stop trip from Dublin to Dubrovnik. Such is the urgency of his mission (as widely reported last week) that he is unable to stop even to answer the call of nature. The solution is a 60mph comfort break with the result being tossed out of the cab along the way (a hitherto unrecognised advantage of left hand drive vehicles). Not even Stanley Baker or Patrick McGoochan stooped to this tactic in “Hell Drivers”. The phenomenon is one of the more distasteful manifestations of the wayward European haulage industry. We intend to do something about it. The bottles and their contents present all sorts of forensic opportunities (remember the less glamorous side of the job next time you watch CSI Miami). Given the growing threat to road users by rogue lorry drivers, **we are duty bound to apply some resources to tackling this peculiar problem as part of the overall safety campaign.(see below)** Analysis of the fluid may also give a clue as to how *routiers* manage to stay awake for 60 hours at a time. So if you see some apparently heavy handed litter prosecutions in the future - now you know the reason why..

The PPP comments..... We are aware of a police officer who is so dedicated to his task of abusing motorists that he relieves himself similarly in his Arrive Alive Van (albeit stationary!). **There are no real secure service areas for HGVs on the A55!**

The Patrol car below is ‘permanently’ parked in the Little Chef car park on the A55 near Northop. Surely, it should be facilitating the ‘heavy handed litter prosecutions’ mentioned above. We want to see regular 24/7 patrols on the A55 to go to the aid of motorists from wherever in the event of collisions or breakdowns and as a REAL (not virtual!) deterrence to all categories of crime.

