

## Education

bargain used pre-owned  
 worn given away new free  
 hand me down free  
 passed-on wanted  
**Second hand**  
 pre-owned used pre-loved  
 cheap worn wanted  
 free bargain broken  
**Second hand** cheap new  
 pre-loved free  
 wanted passed-on



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# Injury prevention in Budapest

**RoSPA was well represented at the third European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion in Budapest.**

Jenny McWhirter, risk education adviser, delivered a paper on youth and risk taking behaviour to a plenary session. She delved into neuroscience and described the latest thinking on how the brain develops through adolescence and the various factors which may impact on young people's behaviour.

There are competing views on the development of risk decision making. Jenny also wondered if there are neurological barriers which make risky decision making inevitable.

One questioner asked why it is always referred to as risk taking when in fact it was simply pleasure seeking whether it was speeding, sex or adventurous activity.

Jenny also moderated a workshop on adolescents and injury risks with contribu-



The picturesque Godollo Palace hosted the conference



Enjoying the warmth of the Hungarian sunshine, from left, Sheila Merrill, Errol Taylor, Jenny McWhirter and Tom Mullarkey, from the RoSPA delegation

tors from Hungary and Canada. Elizabeth Knight from Hounslow Council talked about using RoSPA's Evaluate evaluation tool to help her campaigns. Jenny discussed a series of workshops she had run for the Transport

Research Laboratory with learner drivers.

The aim was to see if their behaviour could be changed. Significant short term changes towards safer attitudes were observed.

Joanne Vincenten, director of the European Child Safety Alliance, now hosted by RoSPA, moderated a session on child safety. Her colleague, Morag MacKay described the child safety report cards developed for many countries. This EU funded project has promoted much child safety activity across the continent.

The conference, held in the Godollo Palace outside Budapest was attended by around 200 delegates. It was part of the Hungarian EU presidency activities.

Another recurring theme throughout the conference was the need for risk education for the young and its inclusion in the curriculum from an early age.

Conclusions from the conference will be sent to the European Commission and Parliamentarians for consideration for the next health programme.

## Children can't judge speed

**A study by researchers at Royal Holloway, University of London reveals that primary school children cannot accurately judge the speed of vehicles travelling faster than 20 mph.**

The researchers measured the perceptual acuity of more than 100 children in primary schools, and calculated the speed of approach that they could reliably detect. The results suggest that while adult pedestrians can make accurate judgments for vehicles travelling up to 50mph, children of primary school age become unreliable once the approach speed goes above 20mph, if the car is five seconds away.

Professor John Wann, from

the Department of Psychology at Royal Holloway, who led the research, says: "This is not a matter of children not paying attention, but a problem related to low-level visual detection mechanisms, so even when children are paying very close attention they may fail to detect a fast approaching vehicle."

The researchers are now looking at the potential for using virtual reality systems to make children more aware of the errors that may occur, but Professor Wann stresses that the simplest solution lies in traffic regulation: "These findings provide strong evidence that children may make risky crossing judgments when vehicles are

travelling at 30 or 40mph and in addition the vehicles that they are more likely to step in front of are the faster vehicles that are more likely to result in a fatality.

"Travelling one mile through a residential area at 20mph versus 30mph will only add 60 seconds to your journey time - we encourage drivers to take a minute and save a child's life."

The study, which is published in the international journal *Psychological Science*, is part of a larger project sponsored by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), in order to understand the perceptual factors than can lead to pedestrian accidents.

## Emily blazes a trail for cyclists

**A University of Brighton student has developed a safety device which projects a bright green laser image of a bike onto the road ahead – alerting motorists to their presence.**

Emily Brooke's invention is being hailed as a potential life saver and has won her a place at a prestigious college in the USA, on an Entrepreneurship Programme.

The final-year product design student said: "I wanted to tackle the issue of safety of cyclists on city streets by increasing the visibility, footprint, and ultimately the awareness of the bicycle."

BLAZE is a small, battery-powered device which is attached to the handlebars of bicycles, motorcycles or scooters, and which projects a laser image ahead onto the road. A bright green bicycle symbol travels ahead of the cyclist, alerting others to its presence. It has the option to be flashing, maximising perception, and the image is visible even in daylight.

Emily said: "Eighty per cent of cycle accidents occur when bicycles travel straight ahead

and a vehicle manoeuvres into them. The most common contributory factor is 'failed to look properly' on the part of a vehicle driver. The evidence shows the bike simply is not seen on city streets."

She said: "Even when lit up like a Christmas tree a bicycle in a bus's blind-spot is still invisible.

"With BLAZE, you see the bike before the cyclist and I believe this could really make a difference in the key scenarios threatening cyclists' lives on the roads."

Emily worked with road safety experts, Brighton and Hove City Council, the Brighton and Hove Bus Company and driving psychologists in developing BLAZE, an idea which has won her international recognition.

Emily has been shortlisted for an Enterprise Award, and is one of only three UK students to attend a paid-for course at Babson College in Massachusetts where she will work on developing the product. She was nominated by Beepurple, the University of Brighton's enterprise network.



BLAZE in action warning drivers of the presence of a bike



Emily Brooke's invention is a winner

## School policy

**The Health and Safety Executive published a policy statement on school visits in July. The policy statement clarifies how health and safety law applies to school visits and is designed to reassure schools and teachers that where sensible and proportionate precautions are taken in planning and running school visits, then teaching staff should not fear prosecution by HSE.**

The statement also encourages school employers and dutyholders to remove wasteful bureaucracy often imposed on schools in organising visits and activities.

Health and safety is often cited as a barrier which discourages teaching staff from planning and organising school visits. HSE recognises the benefit of school visits and encourages schools to strike the right balance between protecting pupils from risk and ensuring that they can learn from the stimulating challenges which school visits provide.

A copy of the policy statement can be downloaded from the education pages of the HSE website at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/services/education/school-trips.pdf>

# Car Safety Technology Comparison Chart

Manufacturer	Technology Name	Common Name																		
		Brake Assist (BA)	Electronic Stability Control (ESC)	Active Cruise Control (ACC)	Low Speed Safety System	Pre-sense (SA)	Lane Departure Warning (LDW)	Blind-Spot Information System (BSIS)	Automatic parking system	Camera-based parking system	Parking camera system	Parking sensor system	ISOFIX	Seatbelt Reminder System (SBR)	Adaptive lighting system	Manual Adaptive lighting system	Automatic Emergency Calling (eCall)	Manual eCall	Weather	Traffic
Audi	Audi Parking System Advanced																			
	Lane Assist																			
	Side Assist																			
	Speed Limit Display																			
BMW	BMW Assist																			
	Dynamic Stability Control (DSC)																			
	Park Assist																			
	Park Distance Control (PDC)																			
	Speed Limit Display																			
	Surround View																			
Citroen	Citroen eTouch Emergency and Assistance System																			
	NavDrive																			
Ford	Active City Stop																			
	Lane Keeping Aid																			
	Traffic Sign Recognition																			
Mercedes-Benz	Active Blind Spot Assist																			
	Advanced Parking Guidance System																			
	COMMAND system with Traffic Message Channel (TMC)																			
	DISTRONIC Plus																			
	Parktronic																			
	Rear Seat Belt Status Indicator																			
Peugeot	Connect SOS																			
	Electronic Brake Assist (EBA)																			
	NavDrive																			
	Parking Assist																			
	Rear Parking Aid																			
Renault	Internally Height Adjustable Headlights																			
	Parking Slot Measurement																			
	Traffic Info LIVE																			
Toyota	Automatic Collision Notification																			
	Intelligent Parking Assist System (IPAS)																			
	LATCH																			
	Vehicle Stability Control																			
	XM NavTraffic																			
Vauxhall	Adaptive Forward Lighting (AFL)																			
Volvo	Adaptive Cruise Control																			
	City Safety																			
	Dynamic Stability and Traction Control (DSTC)																			
	Rear Park Assist																			
	Volvo On Call																			
VW	Automatic Distance Control																			
	Lane Assist																			
	Park Assist																			
	Side Scan																			
	Static Cornering																			

# Car safety buyers' guide

The charity Rathbone recently claimed that a lack of workplace skills is jeopardising young people's chances of getting a job. According to its research two-thirds of the teenagers surveyed have never used a landline or sent an email. Instead of using the landline phones and emails the young people are more used to using mobile phones and social networking sites.

The research highlighted in Children and Young People Now re-emphasises the importance of good quality work experience opportunities for young people. For two-weeks in July, Ajinkya Bhalerao joined RoSPA's road safety department supervised by Duncan Vernon and Lindsey Simkins to work on a project entitled 'Car Safety Technology: A Buyer's Guide'.

Ajinkya from Camp Hill Boys' School in Birmingham is a keen musician, but the project was designed to make the most of skills in his favourite subject of design technology: systems and control and his aspiration to study engineering at university.

Following the placement Ajinkya said, "I plan to make my peers more aware of the risks in activities they undertake. I will use my improved knowledge of car technology in helping me purchase my own car, and will perhaps include the guide as a reference on my placement in a university application.

The placement [at RoSPA] is tailored to individual requirements, so that it can benefit those of varying skills. It offers a comprehensive in-



Duncan Vernon, right, talks car safety with Ajinkya

sight into working life, including employee interview, staff meetings, task-planning, management and evaluation, and employee teamwork/social skills."

sured there is no need to worry! This guide is designed to provide brief, simple explanations of some of the major car safety technologies available on the market."

**'I will use my improved knowledge of car technology in helping me purchase my own car'**

With regard to his project the brief was to produce a car safety buyers' guide which:

- Explains what the safety technology is
- Describes how the technology functions (not too technical)
- Outlines the safety benefits to prospective buyers
- Discusses how the technology may develop in the future

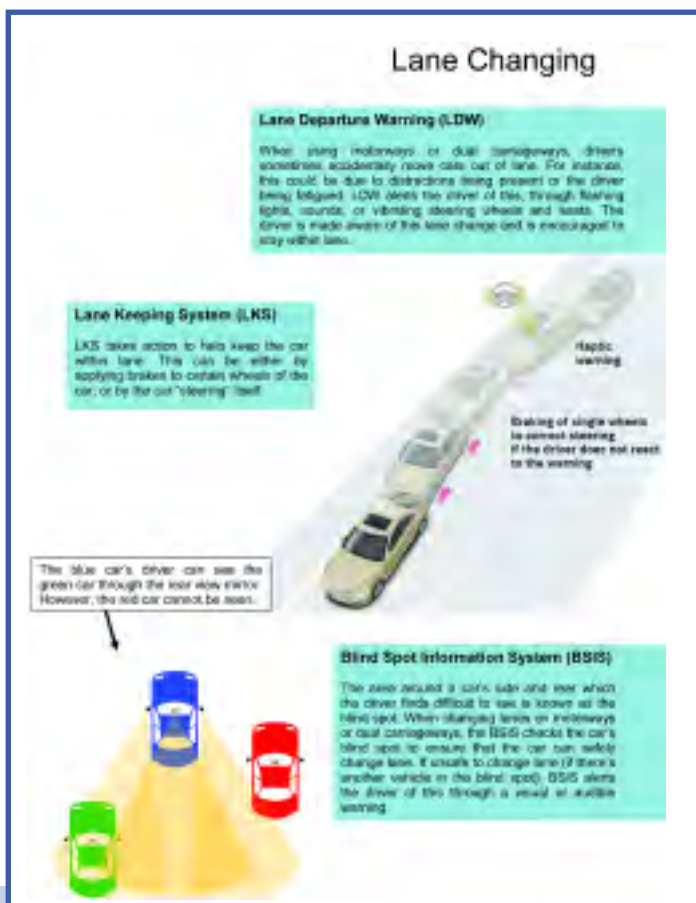
Ajinkya explained, "Car safety is a major issue people need to consider when choosing cars – your health and wellbeing are ultimately more important than anything else. Because of complicated names and acronyms, car safety technology may appear to be a daunting topic, yet rest as-

His guide includes a "car safety technology comparison chart" and equates some manufacturer-named technologies to their more common names, and explains what such manufacturer jargon actually means.

Tom Mullarkey, RoSPA's chief executive, commented, "Really well done – this is great info, which will be very helpful to many people. 10 out of 10."

After the summer, RoSPA will be welcoming three students on placement from Ninestiles School who will be supervised in our marketing, press and occupational safety departments.

Ajinkya's full guide will be available via the website [www.rospa.com](http://www.rospa.com)



# Young consumers a

**Young people may not think of themselves as consumers or of the need for wariness over product safety. Two news stories show how they need to be alert.**

"A trend for wearing coloured contact lenses inspired by the pop singer Lady Gaga could damage people's eyes, opticians warn. Problems range from allergic reactions to corneal ulcers or corneal scarring"

"In April 2007, six Oxford University students narrowly escaped death as a potentially deadly carbon monoxide leak was discovered in their student digs. Had it not been for their parent's encouragement to fit an audible carbon monoxide alarm in the house, these students could have lost their lives."

The most obvious effect of the economic downturn among young people is a growing dependence on second-hand goods. Pawn shops,

charity shops, car boot sales and second hand retailers on and off-line have thrived in the last few years as consumers (especially the young) choose to buy from them.

Often young consumers see buying and selling second hand goods as contributing to a good cause, or a form of recycling, helping to save the planet as well as their pocket. Our concern is that many second hand goods are unsafe and there is no statutory testing which needs to occur before they can be sold.

Electrical appliances are among the most popular products for young consumers to buy and sell, especially on line via sites like eBay or Gumtree.

Second hand electrical equipment must be as safe as that purchased new from shops. Examples of appliances to which the regulations apply include hair dry-

**The product safety arena has changed significantly having a direct impact on young people. It is possibly putting many at risk of injury. At the moment product safety enforcement by authorities is weak. Here Philip le Shirley and Jenny McWhirter**

ers and straighteners, computers and computer game consoles and televisions as well as white goods such as cookers, fridges, washing machines, electric fires and lamps.

All electrical equipment should have adequate insulation and/or earthing, no access to live parts and adequate guarding against moving parts. In addition they should have an approved three pin plug fitted (marked with BEAB, ASTA or BSI), no worn cables or flexes and necessary instructions for safe use and maintenance.

The biggest problem with electrical goods is "wear and

tear". Products such as irons and hair dryers can be purchased in a perfectly safe condition new, and then suffer frayed cords as time passes. By the time that they are sold second-hand these once-safe products are unsafe and the law does not expressly require an electrician to test the goods before they are re-sold (although this is best practice).

Another problem with second hand electrical goods is that the manufacturer's instructions and packaging may be missing. This is where important safety information can be found. If you buy something electrical without safety information, try checking the manufacturer's website for information.

Students and young people setting up their first home-away-from-home need to be aware that some second hand furniture can be a fire risk.

Second hand upholstered furniture must comply with certain flammability requirements. The only exception is for furniture made before 1950. The requirements apply to certain items of domestic furniture including sofas, beds, cushions, and children's furniture. All furniture which meets the requirements of the Regulations is required to be labelled, when new, with a permanent fire label. Checks should be made for the labels, which are usually under the main cushion or on the base of the furniture.



You never know if a crash helmet has been damaged in an accident



# t risk

significantly over the past few years and this is affecting what they buy - and how - and at the same time focus is shifting away from safety as budgets are cut and priorities change. We'll now look at some of the issues in detail.

The problem with upholstered furniture is that many people cut out these permanent labels when they buy the furniture new because they think they spoil the look of the item. When the furniture is then resold second-hand there is no way of telling whether the unlabelled product is safe or not.

Second hand domestic gas cookers must be safe and should ideally be checked thoroughly by a competent person prior to supply. They must have clear markings on the controls, suitable pan supports and tap handles which are easy to use but cannot be turned on accidentally. In addition they must ig-

## Toys should be as safe second hand as they are new

The danger then is that consumers purchase unsafe furniture which is unlabelled, as these will sit alongside other unlabelled (but safe) products. Once again the manufacturer, if known, should be able to provide information about when it was made and how safe it is.

nite quickly, have oven doors which seal in hot gases, instructions for how to use them safely, flames which are stable and a shut off device which turns off the gas if the flame is accidentally extinguished.

Most second hand cookers are liable to fall short of these



Electrical goods may come without instructions



Bikes need a thorough check

requirements (most likely through missing instructions for safe use). Of even more concern is that gas appliances must be fitted by a "Gas Safe" registered engineer and when money is tight the danger is that young consumers may either try to install the product themselves, or use an unsafe, unregistered fitter. To find a registered gas fitter go to: <http://www.gassaferegister.co.uk/> Registered gas fitters can be identified by a Gas Safe Register ID Card.

Young parents are under particular pressure economically and may well buy toys and other goods for their children second hand. The rule here is that toys should be as safe second hand as they are new. In general terms they must not be flammable and have no loose physical or mechanical parts, e.g. loose eyes or buttons, sharp edges or finger trapping hazards. In addition they must contain no toxic substances or paint, be hygienic, and be marked with any appropriate instructions and warnings for use.

There are two obvious hazards with second hand toys. The first is that toys are used

so much that they break or become unsafe and then are sold on. The second is that the original packaging is usually long since discarded. Packaging will normally bear not only the CE mark (indicating that the product is safe) but also instructions and warnings. The most important of these warnings is suitability for children under 36 months (choking hazards). Once again, manufacturer's websites may prove useful.

Many other products can be safe when purchased new, but become unsafe by the time they are sold second hand. Examples include bicycles, pushchairs and sports equipment. In addition there are some products which should never be purchased second hand unless the full history of the product can be ascertained.

These include children's car seats and protective headwear (including crash helmets). The reason that these should never be purchased second hand is that the purchaser - and often the seller - has no way of knowing whether the product has been involved in an accident and is now structurally unsound. Unfortunately, due to the economic climate many young people simply do not

# Second hand risk

have any other choice but to purchase these products second hand, hence the risk posed to them.

A separate, but equally concerning area is counterfeit goods which are sold as brand new. Products which pose particular risks to young people include counterfeit electrical chargers, toys and cosmetics. These will often be found at market stalls and car boot sales and many have been found to be dangerously unsafe when tested.

Of course, for young people with less money in their pocket these products can present a much more appealing alternative to second hand goods. They are cheap, but look exactly like the real thing. Often young people will not be concerned whether the goods have "fallen off the back of a lorry" or are counterfeit as long as they are cheap.

In the health arena counterfeit cigarettes and alcohol pose a serious problem for young people. They often contain dangerous levels of harmful chemicals. Again,

these look identical to the real products and taste similar. Young people often think that these are non-duty paid items (smuggled!) and welcome the opportunity to buy them (especially as the prices can be as low as half the price of the genuine products).

Young people may not always be aware what they are consuming. This is where enforcement comes in.

Trading standards officers enforce the Regulations applicable to all of these products. However, the Comprehensive Spending Review of 2010 led to many local authorities cutting the budgets of trading standards services, often leading to less staff on the ground. In 2007 the Rogers Review examined 60 policy areas for local authorities. The Rogers Review recommended that Government should specify five priorities for local authority trading standards and environmental health services.

Conspicuous by its absence from the Roger's review was product safety and this has contributed to a decreased

focus on product safety enforcement by local authorities. The work is still done well and is taken very seriously - it just is not given enough resource to be carried out truly effectively at a local level.

At a national level the key area of concern is the scant border controls at our ports. There is simply not enough resource available to test all consignments of goods coming into the country and as such many counterfeit and unsafe goods pass straight through to our market places.

Work is being done in this area by regional trading standards groups with Government funding.

The economic downturn and shift in focus away from product safety enforcement affects us all. It affects the young especially though as they are more naive about the risks posed by unsafe goods and when starting out in life they often have to compromise between cost and quality. It is through these compromises that young people may be putting themselves at risk.

## Top tips for buying second hand goods

- Check the packaging and any product information for safety advice. If there is no packaging and you can identify the product clearly, check the manufacturer's website.
- Check furniture for labels which indicate the flammability
- Make sure all electrical goods have fitted plugs and that cables are not frayed.
- Employ a qualified electrician or gas fitter to install cookers.
- Check toys for CE marks which means they are safe. Remember loose or small items can be a choking hazard for babies and young children.
- Don't buy safety equipment such as car seats and cycle helmets second hand. Get bikes and buggies checked by someone who knows what to look for.
- New goods for sale cheaply may be stolen, smuggled or counterfeit. There is often no way to tell the difference, but counterfeit cigarettes and alcohol may be even more harmful than the real thing.
- Make safety a priority when giving feedback about sellers on internet sites. If the seller provided all the packaging and safety information give them an extra big thank you!
- If in doubt ask. If you are not happy with the answer, don't buy.

## Selling items second hand

- Try to provide all the original packaging and leaflets that come with the product.
- Check for worn or loose parts and get them repaired before you sell.
- If it's an electrical item get it checked before you put it up for sale.
- If in doubt, don't sell or give away, take it to your local recycling centre.
- If you suspect goods you have bought cheaply are counterfeit, or are in any way unsafe, inform your local trading standards officer - you may be helping to save a life!



Car seats may be unsound after a crash

# Youngsters told ‘Speak up’

**Kent Highways Services road safety team have launched their ‘Speak Up’ campaign. The campaign wants to raise the awareness of passengers in cars to find their voice and ‘speak up’ if the driver is driving recklessly or without paying proper attention to the road.**

Young people are especially at risk of death and injury on the road. In the last three years 229 young people (aged 17 - 24) were killed or seriously injured in Kent (drivers and passengers). It’s difficult to directly influence the behaviour of young drivers, so this campaign seeks to remind passengers of the risks others take on their behalf and asks the direct question ‘are you happy to entrust your safety with this driver?’

Casualty figures show that 17 to 24 year old car passengers make up 36 per cent of the total number of all car passenger casualties. The reason for this increased risk is that many young passengers are driven by young drivers. Young drivers are vulnerable to peer pressure and to taking risks, which often leads to them driving too quickly, over-estimating their driving ability and often being tempted to use their mobile phones when driving.

Young drivers often consider themselves as invincible, meaning they take a range of unnecessary risks without appreciating the danger they place themselves and their passengers in. This leads to an increased likelihood of being involved in a road crash, tragically often leading to them cutting short lives, sometimes their own or their passengers, or other road users.

A new website (<http://www.kentroadsafety.info/stay-safe-speak-up/home>) has been launched to coincide with the campaign along with a new three minute film ‘Speak Up’ which was spe-

cially commissioned to illustrate some of the issues faced by passengers. The campaign will also use bus-back adverts, posters in pub and club washrooms, social networking and radio adverts.

Many car occupant victims are the close friend of the driver who crashes. They may drive themselves or at least they will have a good appreciation for what is safe and what is risky driving behaviour. However, for whatever reason they do not manage to ask the driver to drive sensibly, or even stop and let them out because they feel unsafe.

Steve Horton, KHS road safety team leader said “Of

course it’s hard to speak out when it’s someone close to you who’s driving poorly, and it’s particularly difficult for young people who may feel it could make them look stupid or ‘wimpy’; but if you don’t, then who will?”

“The one thing I would encourage all passengers, whatever their age, to do when they get into a car is to look closely at the driver and ask themselves ‘do I want to give my safety to you?’, because once that door slams, that is what you are doing. You are entrusting your safe-

ly totally to the driver, you are in their control. You rely on their choice of how they control that tonne-and-a-half of metal and unless you speak up they are unlikely to change their behaviour.”

Steve also went on to say “If you find it just too difficult

to let the driver know you don’t like the way they are behaving, maybe it is time to make an excuse and get out.

“One sure way to get their attention could be to say you’re going to be sick in their car and you need to get out; perhaps it is because of what you ate the night before, or the hangover you have, or maybe the motion sickness caused by the driving.

“Another way could be to say you need to make a call but have to speak privately or in a quiet place. Whatever the reason you can find, the

walk back or bus fare home would be small price to pay for getting you out of that bad situation.”

“The ‘Speak Up’ campaign is designed to show passengers, especially young people, that it is OK to speak up if they feel unsafe in a car. We know peer pressure and over confidence can lead to drivers behaving in a way they wouldn’t normally and it can be difficult for passengers to find the strength to either criticise the driver or get them to stop.

“But the bottom line is most drivers would be horrified if they really knew what their passengers thought of them when they behaved inappropriately on the road.”

Steve further commented “I also know that there are times when the driver needs to ‘speak up’ if they are being pressured into driving erratically by their passengers. All car occupants have a role in ensuring they make their journey safely; one slip, one error or one too many stupid actions by a driver could prove fatal for the passenger.”



**Casualty figures show that 17 to 24 year old car passengers make up 36 per cent of the total number of all car passenger casualties**

# Giveaway lifesavers

**Four companies have teamed up to help save the lives of young people, through a unique free giveaway of life-saving equipment.**

Every week, 12 young people die from a sudden cardiac arrest, and now, 24 schools are being offered free defibrillators, which can help save lives. Four firms – Imperative Training, Defibshop, Laerdal and Philips – aim to train 700 children and 144 teachers on how to use the kit, as part of their Hand on Heart campaign.

David Howarth, from Imperative Training, said: "We believe the Hand on Heart campaign is a very powerful way of raising awareness of the problem of cardiac arrest

in the young, but also a way of doing something positive about it by providing life saving solutions into schools."

For every minute that someone is in cardiac arrest, their chance of survival drops by about 10 per cent. Using a defibrillator increases the chances of a victim's survival rises to approximately 78 per cent.

Under the scheme, schools can apply for a grant for a free defibrillator, or they can partner with a local business to sponsor the school. Schools can be nominated, through people submitting a 400 words or less explanation as to why the school



**Gina Harris with the equipment**

should have a defibrillator via the website [www.handonheart.org](http://www.handonheart.org). Two winning schools will be selected from the nominations each month.

Debbie Woodcock, first aider from Cheadle Hulme School, which won a defibrillator in May, said: "Cheadle Hulme School has 1,400

pupils, ranging from the age of four to 18-years-old. We also have almost 250 staff plus a large number of visitors, particularly at our regular sports fixtures, which made me feel there is a valid case for having this equipment on site.

"I believe having a defibrillator could greatly improve a person's chance of survival should they be unfortunate to suffer with a cardiac problem, and it will be reassuring to know we can react positively should anyone need it", she added.

For more information about the Hand on Heart campaign contact Gina Harris on 0845 071 0830 or visit the website [www.handonheart.org](http://www.handonheart.org)



## New course:

## Supervising Safely in Education and Work Based Learning

Offered exclusively via dtd training ltd this new IOSH approved course is designed and delivered as a direct response to real needs in the Education and Work Based Learning Sectors.

This interactive course is aimed at those who supervise learners whether at school, college or private training provider, assessors of health and safety units within NVQ programmes and those who supervise learners in the workplace.

### Courses commencing September 2011:

Manchester • Birmingham • S. Wales • London

Availability is limited so contact:

Email: [training@dtdtraining.co.uk](mailto:training@dtdtraining.co.uk)

Phone: 01443 866344

Address: dtd training ltd, Tredomen Business & Technology Centre, Tredomen Business Park, Ystrad Mynach, Caerphilly. CF82 7FN

# Community programme

**UPS has launched Road Code, a UK community programme designed to promote road safety among young people, in partnership with the charity UK Youth.**

Through the partnership, UPS volunteers will conduct monthly road safety seminars at UK Youth-affiliated centres across the country, providing young people with classroom-based instruction and time behind the wheel of a driving simulator. The seminars will highlight the benefits of safe driving and road awareness.

Unveiling the programme at the Motorexpo at Canary Wharf, Clive Preston, employee relations director, UPS UK, Ireland and Nordics, presented UK Youth chairman Bill Crothers with a cheque for \$200,000 from The UPS Foundation.

Nigel Mansell, the former motor racing World Champion and current UK Youth president, also attended the launch of the programme. He saw first-hand how the simulator sessions help young

people better understand the dangers of the road.

Road incidents are a major cause of injury and death for young people in Great Britain with more than 13,000 road casualties a year among 12-16 year olds, according to the most recent government statistic.

"UK Youth is all about supporting young people to learn and succeed in life. This programme is a great example of that work. It's vitally important that young people understand the hazards of being a road user. I've been delighted to see such a positive response from the groups here at the sessions today," commented Mansell.

"Road Code teaches young people many of the same

skills we teach our own drivers at UPS, such as identifying hazards on the road early and the importance of being aware of surrounding dangers," added Roger Mays, HR director, UPS UK, Ireland and Nordics. "The programme has already proved success-

ful in the USA, and our hope is that it will help young people around the country to use our roads as safely as possible."

The initial roll-out of the programme will take place at youth centres in Cardiff, Southampton and Carlisle, following a successful trial earlier this year in Beckton, London. The UPS Foundation also supports a similar Road Code programme in the USA which first launched in 2009.

"Our focus is on helping young people all around the UK to develop vital life skills. Hands-on experience is often the best way to learn these. Thanks to UPS Road Code, young people will get a real feel for the dangers of being a driver in the safety of one of these great simulators," added Charlotte Hill, chief executive of UK Youth.

UK Youth is a leading national youth development charity supporting more than 750,000 young people in helping them to raise their aspirations, realise their potential and have their achievements recognised via non-formal, accredited education programmes and activities.



**Nigel Mansell receiving instruction from UPS volunteer Lindo Parsloe during the Road Code driving simulation test**



**UPS volunteers Lindo Parsloe and Matthew Gale helping Gabriel Braithwaite from Westminster House youth club**

# Hundreds write poems

The annual illustrated poem competition, jointly organised by the road safety team of Capita Symonds and Heddlu Gwent Police on behalf of the Gwent Road Safety Forum, has been a resounding success this year, with 679 entries received.

Pupils in schools across Gwent were asked to write and illustrate a poem outlining the importance and correct use of seatbelts. The entries showed that they had thoroughly researched the subject before commencing work. Guests at the event commented that some of the themes investigated were very poignant, and that the poems showed great maturity and empathy.

The winning entries were awarded cash prizes by Chief Superintendent Paul Symes at a special ceremony at Newport Civic Centre during Child Safety Week.

Thanking the young people for taking part and also their teachers for encouragement, Chief Superintendent Symes said, "The police and our partner agencies believe that taking part in competitions like this fosters a better understanding and recognition of the importance of wearing a seatbelt."

"My colleagues and I know from experience that many lives have been saved and injury severity reduced by the use of a seatbelt. I hope the young people here will pass on this message to their friends and families."

Penny Thorpe, principal road safety officer with Capita Symonds said, "There were even more poems submitted for the competition this year than for last year's bumper entry. Yet again the standard is very high with the young people coming up with original ideas to promote the use of seatbelts."



Aimee Hill junior winner with Chief Superintendent Paul Symes





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