

David Barton

motorists' lawyer



Kent motoring lawyer David Barton tells Cranbrook sixth formers: 'Lose your L-plates, not your license'

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A motoring lawyer who's seen first-hand the risks of driving dangerously has launched a campaign to bust myths held by Kent's learner drivers.

The campaign, 'Lose your L-plates, not your license', kicked off on Monday 8 October with a Q&A workshop to 16- and 17-year-old sixth formers at Bethany School, near Cranbrook.

Kent lawyer David Barton hopes that by touring Kent schools to talk to sixth formers who are learning to drive, he'll encourage youngsters to drive more responsibly when they pass their driving tests.

With 30 years experience of representing Kent motorists who've made bad choices behind the wheel, David is keen to get through to young people.

'It's vital that new drivers know how to keep safe', says the Maidstone-based lawyer. 'But there are also some alarming myths about legal responsibilities that we need to bust.'



'For example, few of the Bethany students knew that within two years of passing your test you can lose your license on just six penalty points – for everyone else it's 12 points.'

Other new driver myths that David's hoping to bust include:

- You can drink two pints and still legally drive – WRONG.
- Eat a big meal and it'll lower alcohol levels if you have a breath test – WRONG.

David also talked to Bethany students about the legal implications of drug-driving and using a mobile phone behind the wheel.

Bethany School teacher Tim Hart-Dyke says: 'Learning to drive is an exciting time for young people. But of course it comes with responsibility – and David's talk to students really gave them something to think about. Hopefully it's helped them wise up to how the law affects them when they get behind the wheel. I'd recommend other schools take David up on his offer – even experienced drivers like me learned something new too!'

Are you a teacher or school who'd like David to come and talk to students too? You can call him on 01622 695587 or email davidbarton@dblaw.co.uk.