

I recently spent a day doing a speed Awareness Course with Matt Lee, Senior Trainer at Fleetmasters.

Completely aside from the driving and learning side, I found Matt very easy to get along with, and this is a definite advantage when you find yourself having to spend a day with a relative stranger in a car! He is also an exceptional teacher. I had wondered how on earth a day could be filled with "speed awareness" teaching, but amazingly the day passed quickly and I found it really interesting.

Matt is passionate about driving with skill, care and finesse. It was not all about avoiding speed cameras, but more about driving in an informed and responsible way.

I needed to keep driving if at all possible, but was facing a totting up ban as a result of getting 12 points. All of these were for speeding. I felt that even if I was able to plead special circumstances and keep my licence, I would soon be back in court if I did not change my attitude to speed on the road and improve my driver education and skills.

I have been driving for 30 years and had grown up with an aunt who was a driving instructor and examined instructors. She had my cousin and I behind the wheel at a very early age. I thought I knew it all. I could beat any man and any car off the lights.....My attitude stank. I was always running late for appointments and thought that speeding would get me there earlier.

I now understand and accept that this is simply not true - unless I was to speed for many hours over a few thousand miles.....But to save 5 minutes on a 20 minute journey, all I would manage was to lose my licence. And there could be far worse consequences of driving with a bad attitude.

I recommend this course to anyone wanting to improve and excel as a driver. The course most definitely holds sway with the magistrates if done with the right motives to avoid all further offending. I suggest every driver does it! And most definitely anyone who is accumulating points for speeding.

This was money really well spent.

Alice Hodges