

# 12 Minutes Faster

*A Message from Auntie Karen*

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## Notice to reader :

Please find to follow one of many comments or stories that I've received. I will only publish stories or comments that I receive written/emailed authorization for. Further to that, I will never include full names or locations to protect the identities of those whom submit. Feel free to submit YOUR stories to me at any time!

Thank you – this website is only what YOU make it!

Auntie Karen

## Comment / Story :

Ah Karen, you have touched on one of my favourite complaints; drivers.

In the UK the traffic police have a saying that there is no such thing as a 'law abiding motorist'. However, if a motorist is stopped by police for committing an offence, they are usually asked 'Why are you wasting time with this rather than going out and dealing with real crime?' Worse than that, the feeling within many police forces now is that dealing with traffic offences is petty and better left to civil staff or local authorities, it isn't as fulfilling or effective as dealing with street crime for instance. I personally have always felt that being careless whilst in charge of around a ton of mobile metal and plastic is every bit as dangerous as any imagined assailant and whilst I appreciate that not every driver can be taught to the same level that we enjoy in the police service, a little common sense and a little more attention paid to the task of driving would be a huge benefit to us all.

As a motorcyclist of many years (as is my wife) I have been the recipient of more than one contact from a car that has caused me dismount unwillingly and left me in considerable discomfort. Motorcyclists have often pointed to the high comparative level of comfort in a car linked to the greater number of distractions inside the car as a cause for drivers to be so careless while driving. They cite the comfortable temperature and comfortable seats as well as the stereo/radio/CD along with conversation, mobile phones and children inside cars as the cause of drivers paying so little attention to the outside world. In addition to this there is the implied sense of safety and security provided by seatbelts, air-bags, side impact bars and crumple zones.

It has often been suggested that an 8" metal spike mounted on the center of the steering wheel instead of an air-bag might make a motorist pay as much attention to what they are doing as a motorcyclist does.

In answer to your question, no it is not worth your life or my life or anyone's health and comfort to get to a destination a few minutes earlier. Either set off in plenty of time to reach your destination in time or accept that you're going to be late, but whatever you do, do it safely and with due care and attention.

Thank you for adding your voice so eloquently to this subject

Michael ~ London, UK