

**A229 road traffic REPORTS** for comparisons

**STREETWISE** 14/11/18 – 20/11/18 - upper rows of data (and in brackets)

and **TRANSPORT TRAFFIC SYSTEMS (TTS)** 24/11/21 – 30/11/21 - lower rows of data

and **TTS Cranbrook Road** 17/11/21 – 23/11/21 - lower rows of data (KCC funded)

Comments from *Malcolm Buller* – Staplehurst Community Speedwatch Team Leader since 2006 and Road Safety Group Member

There are four sites on the A229 with their individual 'Excel' reports. There is a huge amount of detailed data on several tabs for each site - analysis of the variety of vehicles from bicycles to juggernauts, the 15-minute intervals when each passes etc.

In 30mph areas - Speedwatch volunteers record 35 – 44mph as reportable and 45+ which warrants an immediate police letter.

In 40mph areas - Speedwatch volunteers record 46 – 59mph as reportable and 60+ which warrants an immediate police letter.

Speedwatch can only operate in daylight at Police Approved Sites (20, 30 and 40mph) which are governed by safety criteria. Each Team Leader can request suitable sites to be assessed. Where volunteers can park away from the road is also a factor.

Police Officers use the same speed criteria and also have to have a safe area if they wish to stop any vehicle.

*There appear to be minor addition errors in the figures supplied which have minimum effect on the percentages due to the high volumes of traffic recorded.*

*The following tables are my analysis of the full **speed report** for each full day. (Figures without the slower rush-hours would show a greater proportion of speeders.) Most 71+ offenders are during the hours of darkness.*

*The 2018 details are given first, above in tables, and in brackets in comments. The 2021 details follow for direct comparison.*

*Percentages have been rounded to two decimal places.*

## Cranbrook Road (near repeater sign) slightly further north

40mph

Northbound towards Maidstone

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	181	824	2184	1557	494	352	28	12	5,532
	1106	2561	1447	339	90	40	6	3	5,592
<b>Thur</b>	301	1042	2176	1211	444	201	28	14	5,417
	1532	2320	1284	309	74	31	10	1	5,561
<b>Fri</b>	260	1023	2228	1268	442	193	29	5	5,448
	1371	2320	1355	296	87	43	6	2	5,480
<b>Sat</b>	109	521	1636	1327	551	244	43	11	4,442
	2390	1357	382	123	36	26	2	0	4,316
<b>Sun</b>	96	376	1345	1019	462	210	28	12	3,548
	340	1510	1271	301	106	56	13	2	3,599
<b>Mon</b>	260	847	2195	1299	411	196	29	9	5,246
	1196	2311	1253	319	83	39	4	0	5,205
<b>Tue</b>	238	1031	2310	1360	433	208	27	6	5,613
	1706	2083	1217	316	80	28	5	3	5,438
<b>2018</b>	<b>1,445</b>	<b>5,664</b>	<b>14,074</b>	<b>9,041</b>	<b>3,237</b>	<b>1,604</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>35,246</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>7,816</b>	<b>14,930</b>	<b>9,184</b>	<b>2,262</b>	<b>643</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>35,191</b>
<b>% of total</b>	4.10	16.07	39.93	25.65	9.18	4.55	0.60	0.20	
	22.21	42.43	26.10	6.43	1.83	0.84	0.14	0.03	

The two surveys show comparable numbers of vehicles, just 55 different in total.

(14,163 = 39.90%) **3,261 = 9.27%** are speeding. (5,122 = 14.53%) **999 = 2.84%** were recorded at 46mph and above in the week including the (281 = 0.80) **61 = 0.17** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.

**The reduction in speeding here is dramatic**, as is the number of vehicles travelling below the legal limit. This is probably due to the KCC traffic calming measures that were constructed in 2021 on both sides of this site.

## Cranbrook Road (near repeater sign) slightly further north

40mph

Southbound towards Cranbrook

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	496	1607	2241	831	230	92	19	3	5,519
	359	1415	2283	961	263	113	15	5	5,414
<b>Thur</b>	1068	2324	1555	343	102	71	13	0	5,476
	549	1526	2075	974	259	120	17	2	5,522
<b>Fri</b>	1250	2196	1475	317	94	47	15	2	5,426
	571	1586	2121	862	243	133	22	9	5,547
<b>Sat</b>	583	1799	1496	345	103	57	12	3	4,398
	1320	1810	770	281	102	57	16	2	4,358
<b>Sun</b>	160	829	1503	678	242	94	13	8	3,527
	149	626	1455	808	268	169	45	9	3,484
<b>Mon</b>	544	1681	2097	644	196	89	20	5	5,276
	492	1380	1985	835	233	107	17	3	5,052
<b>Tue</b>	597	1848	2172	705	207	91	17	5	5,642
	497	1552	2095	836	233	90	22	6	5,331
<b>2018</b>	<b>4,678</b>	<b>12,284</b>	<b>12,539</b>	<b>3,863</b>	<b>1,174</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>35,264</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>2,863</b>	<b>9,159</b>	<b>13,824</b>	<b>6,046</b>	<b>1,780</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>34,708</b>
<b>% of total</b>	13.27	34.83	35.56	10.96	3.33	1.53	0.31	0.07	
	8.25	26.39	39.83	17.42	5.13	2.44	0.42	0.12	

The two surveys show comparable numbers of vehicles, just 556 less in total.

(5,713 = 16.2%) **8,862 = 25.53%** are speeding. (1,850 = 5.25%) **2,816 = 8.11%** were recorded at 46mph and above in the week including the (135 = 0.38%) **188 = 0.54%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold of 60mph.

In 2018 we were surprised that the percentage of speeding vehicles was lower than expected. Sadly, the figures do show an increase despite the KCC road markings which have had such a dramatic effect northbound.

## Church Hill near Church Green (uphill) with flashing reminder sign

30mph

Northbound towards Maidstone

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	1432	2884	1494	335	96	34	4	0	6,289
	3881	1406	364	105	26	10	0		5,792
<b>Thur</b>	1453	2775	1454	335	71	30	4	0	6,122
	4151	1553	383	96	26	10	2		6,221
<b>Fri</b>	1547	2748	1457	275	73	27	4	0	6,131
	4062	1426	333	87	10	5	1		5,924
<b>Sat</b>	1471	1686	1246	379	105	35	5	0	4,935
	2751	1302	351	70	26	5	1		4,506
<b>Sun</b>	1355	1535	832	235	57	19	5	0	4,038
	2076	1128	410	102	17	11	0		3,744
<b>Mon</b>	1891	2584	1043	233	54	14	3	1	5,823
	3592	1465	401	98	18	8	1		5,583
<b>Tue</b>	1709	3000	1274	276	82	31	4	0	6,376
	3905	1390	369	86	12	7	1		5,770
<b>2018</b>	<b>10,858</b>	<b>15,212</b>	<b>8,800</b>	<b>2,168</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>39,714</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>24,418</b>	<b>9,670</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>37,540</b>
<b>% of total</b>	27.34	38.30	22.16	5.46	1.35	0.48	0.07	0	
	65.05	25.76	6.96	1.72	0.36	0.15	0.02		

Traffic flows have reduced by 2,174 which is 5.47%.

**Most significantly** are the increased numbers of vehicles keeping to the speed limits and the **reductions in ALL of the speed groupings** that would be of concern to both Speedwatch and the police. This is probably due to **the KCC traffic calming measures** that were constructed in 2021 on the approaches to this site.

(72.66%) **34.95%** are still speeding uphill. (11,726 = 34.4%) **3,452 = 9.21%** were recorded at 36mph and above in the week including the (758 = 1.91%) **197 = 0.53%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.

## Church Hill near Church Green (downhill)

30mph

Southbound towards Cranbrook

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	2348	2696	830	209	54	30	3	0	6,170
	2388	2427	703	135	40	7	2	0	5,702
<b>Thur</b>	2942	2247	652	216	69	42	7	1	6,180
	2484	2635	675	150	35	9	3	0	5,991
<b>Fri</b>	2753	2339	688	168	54	22	10	1	6,035
	2746	2327	598	136	35	11	2	0	5,855
<b>Sat</b>	1882	2022	669	182	70	35	2	4	4,866
	1863	1922	637	124	28	8	1	0	4,583
<b>Sun</b>	1432	1567	701	180	56	13	7	3	3,959
	1032	1791	671	154	51	9	3	0	3,711
<b>Mon</b>	2510	2334	703	179	55	21	12	2	5,817
	2513	2177	572	95	24	11	1	0	5,393
<b>Tue</b>	2532	2511	863	213	66	24	7	0	6,210
	2722	2251	559	110	25	8	1	0	5,676
<i>2018</i>	<b>16,399</b>	<b>15,716</b>	<b>5,106</b>	<b>1,347</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>39,238</b>
<i>2021</i>	<b>15,748</b>	<b>15,530</b>	<b>4,415</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36,911</b>
<b>% of total</b>	41.79	40.05	13.01	3.43	1.08	0.48	0.12	0.03	
	42.66	42.07	11.96	2.45	0.64	0.17	0.04	0	

Traffic flows have reduced by 2,327 which is 6.30%.

(58.21%) **57.34%** are still speeding. (7,123 = 18.15%) **7,123 = 15.26%** were recorded at 36mph and above in the week including the (670 = 1.71%) **314 = 0.85%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.

At this site... There are often parked cars outside the Parish Room which does slow traffic, especially southbound. (Speedwatch would not be allowed to operate here as it is too close to the 30/40 boundary and narrow paths.)

Station Road (near Free Church) Ashdown's Walk

30mph

Northbound towards Maidstone

*TTS placed the monitoring equipment within a few metres of the new pedestrian crossing and close to the new roundabout because there were traffic-light controlled road works in the vicinity of the Free Church. The following speed data therefore has little relevant comparison value.*

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	3410	1755	465	85	42	17	4	2	5,780
	4571	850	216	56	16	5	0	0	5,724
<b>Thur</b>	3431	1655	439	110	26	13	3	1	5,678
	5363	657	163	44	9	10	2	0	6,248
<b>Fri</b>	3500	1623	418	92	26	9	2	0	5,670
	5069	1039	248	64	14	2	0	0	6,436
<b>Sat</b>	2382	1423	419	119	37	18	4	0	4,408
	3363	1209	333	61	12	3	0	0	4,981
<b>Sun</b>	1914	1287	393	110	46	18	2	2	3,772
	2181	1215	395	99	26	5	0	0	3,922
<b>Mon</b>	3463	1389	334	97	25	20	3	1	5,332
	4321	1335	337	74	10	1	0	0	6,088
<b>Tue</b>	3680	1574	381	119	27	20	1	1	5,803
	4323	1343	313	65	14	2	1	0	6,051
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21,780</b>	<b>10,706</b>	<b>2,849</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>36,443</b>
	<b>29,202</b>	<b>7,648</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>39,450</b>
<b>% of total</b>	59.76	29.38	7.82	2.01	0.63	0.32	0.05	0.02	
	74.02	19.39	7.22	1.17	0.26	0.07	0.01	0	

*(14,663 = 40.24%) 10,248 = 25.76% are speeding after negotiating the road works. (3,951 = 10.84%) 2,600 = 6.59% were recorded at 36mph and above in the week including the (370 = 1.02%) 132 = 0.33% vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.*

**Most significant is the increase of 3,007 = 8.25% vehicle movements despite the reduction of Station usage. This is most probably due to the Sainsbury's supermarket as well as a growing population in this village and surrounding area.**

Station Road (near Free Church) Ashdown's Walk

30mph

Southbound towards Cranbrook

*TTS placed the monitoring equipment within a few metres of the new pedestrian crossing and close to the new roundabout because there were traffic-light controlled road works in the vicinity of the Free Church. The following data therefore has little relevant comparison value.*

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	2548	2215	755	213	57	36	5	3	5,832
	4693	873	223	55	16	5	0	0	5,865
<b>Thur</b>	2549	2172	736	212	86	39	6	2	5,802
	5293	645	158	37	7	6	2	0	6,148
<b>Fri</b>	2810	2015	690	167	49	26	7	0	5,764
	5022	996	222	68	20	5	2	0	6,335
<b>Sat</b>	2123	1494	580	191	56	30	9	0	4,483
	3515	1182	292	69	15	9	1	0	5,083
<b>Sun</b>	1244	1678	672	196	49	26	4	4	3,873
	2299	1185	331	94	38	10	5	0	3,962
<b>Mon</b>	2764	1938	626	157	54	28	10	0	5,577
	4225	1314	293	66	18	6	0	0	5,922
<b>Tue</b>	2962	2010	649	143	45	30	8	2	5,851
	4495	1103	251	70	10	4	1	0	5,934
<i>2018</i>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>13,522</b>	<b>4,708</b>	<b>1,279</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>37,182</b>
<i>2021</i>	<b>29,500</b>	<b>7,298</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>39,249</b>
<b>% of total</b>	45.72	36.37	12.66	3.44	1.07	0.58	0.13	0.03	
	75.16	18.59	4.51	1.17	0.32	0.11	0.02	0.01	

There is an **increase of 2,067 = 5.27%** in number of vehicle movements.

(20,182 = 54.28%) **9,749 = 24.72%** are speeding. (6,658 = 17.91%) **2,409 = 6.14%** were recorded at 36mph and above in the week including the (671 = 1.80%) **180 = 0.46%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.

## Maidstone Road near Tower House

40mph

Northbound towards Maidstone

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	190	624	2009	1380	423	187	11	3	4,827
	147	573	1753	1382	566	248	33	8	4,650
<b>Thur</b>	103	463	1912	1485	478	203	20	4	4,668
	200	679	2048	1382	577	226	28	5	5,145
<b>Fri</b>	100	558	1843	1421	514	154	14	5	4,609
	147	680	2132	1488	565	196	16	4	5,228
<b>Sat</b>	64	316	1366	1301	527	190	22	4	3,790
	65	276	1481	1326	464	215	12	2	3,841
<b>Sun</b>	26	224	1189	1088	457	212	17	3	3,216
	50	256	1002	1076	520	242	26	4	3,176
<b>Mon</b>	165	507	1796	1286	426	167	20	2	4,369
	167	614	1846	1453	502	198	26	0	4,806
<b>Tue</b>	92	571	2088	1440	434	161	18	6	4,810
	150	681	1902	1408	460	209	20	1	4,831
<i>errors</i>	831	1902	1408	460	165	58	7	0	
<b>2018</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>3,263</b>	<b>12,203</b>	<b>9,401</b>	<b>3,259</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30,289</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>3,699</b>	<b>12,164</b>	<b>9,515</b>	<b>3,654</b>	<b>1,534</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31,677</b>
<b>% of total</b>	2.44	10.77	40.29	31.04	10.76	4.21	0.40	0.09	
	2.92	11.68	38.40	30.04	11.54	4.84	0.51	0.08	

The data for Tuesday (shown as reduced font) has included a rogue figure, shifting data one column along.

Despite the station attracting a lot less commuters, vehicle movements have increased by 1,388 = 4.38%. This is most probably due to the Sainsbury's supermarket.

(16,206 = 46.50%) **14,888 = 47.00%** are speeding. (4,682 = 15.46%) **5,373 = 16.96%** were recorded at 46mph and above in the week including the (149 = 0.49%) **185 = 0.58%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold. The continued increase in higher-end speeding suggests further road markings would benefit this area.



## Maidstone Road near Tower House

40mph

Southbound towards Cranbrook

	0-30	31-35	36-40	41-45	46-50	51-60	61-70	71-100	TOTAL
<b>Wed</b>	115	547	1863	1442	554	281	19	0	4,821
	153	900	2065	1145	376	152	9	5	4,805
<b>Thur</b>	82	507	1780	1429	658	250	19	2	4,727
	179	879	2204	1466	459	150	9	3	5,349
<b>Fri</b>	121	577	1818	1357	530	222	19	1	4,645
	141	1090	2333	1343	365	138	10	3	5,423
<b>Sat</b>	62	390	1418	1183	524	230	24	3	3,834
	69	591	1789	1133	379	144	14	8	4,127
<b>Sun</b>	36	328	1228	1023	421	205	25	3	3,269
	59	282	1169	1099	481	176	20	2	3,288
<b>Mon</b>	215	645	1683	1252	485	229	16	0	4,525
	208	877	2136	1318	391	139	10	2	5,081
<b>Tue</b>	127	727	1932	1340	492	190	18	1	4,827
	269	1060	1970	1034	376	136	8	0	4,853
<i>2018</i>	<b>758</b>	<b>3,721</b>	<b>11,522</b>	<b>9,026</b>	<b>3,664</b>	<b>1,607</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>30,648</b>
<i>2021</i>	<b>1,078</b>	<b>5,679</b>	<b>13,666</b>	<b>8,538</b>	<b>2,827</b>	<b>1,035</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32,926</b>
<b>% of total</b>	2.47	12.14	37.59	29.45	11.96	5.24	0.46	0.03	
	3.27	17.25	41.51	25.93	8.59	3.14	0.24	0.07	

Despite the station attracting a lot less commuters, vehicle movements have increased by 2,278 = 6.95%. This is most probably due to the Sainsbury's supermarket.

(16,001 = 47.14%) **12,503 = 37.97%** are speeding. (5,421 = 17.69%) **3,965 = 12.04%** were recorded at 46mph and above in the week including the (150 = %) **103 = 0.31%** vehicles exceeding the 50% threshold.

(37) **47** vehicles were recorded at 71mph and above at this site in the week.