



THINK! Country roads campaign

Rob's story

In July 2014 Rob was making a 10 minute local journey from where he lives, in a village west of Taunton. It was 5.45pm on a summer's day, the weather was good. He was on a small A road, driving at about 40mph on a road approaching a bend in the road: "It's not a nice corner".

He has no memory of what happened after that, but had hit a coach head on. The coach, which was travelling at about 20mph, was driven by a local farmer taking workers home. The passengers in the coach sustained a few minor injuries.

Rob may have gone over the line on to the other side of the road, he just doesn't know.

Emergency services were called and it took them an hour and a half to cut Rob from the wreckage of his car (a sturdy Volvo, which apparently is the reason he survived).

His car was destroyed and he had to be cut out before being air-lifted to Southmead hospital in Bristol where he spent 4 weeks recovering. He had multiple broken bones on the right side of his body, including hand, collar bone, ribs, femur, pelvis, foot and torn ligaments in his knee. Luckily his organs were not damaged.

He had just finished his PGCE training to become a teacher when the crash happened and was due to start work in Sept 2014. He's at home recovering until January 2015, when he will make a delayed start to his new job. He is able to manage independently at home, though his wife is around to help and his family is nearby.

"One of the police officers at the scene reported that a doctor at the scene said 'Its a miracle he is alive'. If the coach been travelling faster than 20mph at that point, it could have been a very different story."

