

**From:** [belindacrisp@internode.on.net](mailto:belindacrisp@internode.on.net) [<mailto:belindacrisp@internode.on.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 December 2012 4:11 PM  
**To:** Tom Wise  
**Subject:** 'Rural Road Speed Limits'

Dear Mr Wise,

I am writing following a post on the Facebook site, Road Victims of Tasmania - The Faces.

I would prefer to see the speed limits reduced on both sealed and unsealed rural roads in Tasmania. My main reason is that Tasmanian roads are not in a good state in general and that we see so many dead animals who are obviously killed by cars.

I am also aware that a significant number of learner drivers like to get out on rural roads to learn and then have to combat impatient and fast travelling drivers. P-platers also like to 'go for drives in the country'. The results can be dreadful. With seven days trading people often feel there is little alternative for driver training. It might be worth considering allocating some rural and suburban roads as learner driver areas and have special speed limits and clear signage on them.

I know there will be resistance to any speed limit reduction. I think that could be ameliorated in two ways. First would be to simplify speed zones. I would suggest having 40kph for built up and work areas and schools, 50kph for light shopping/residential areas, unsealed rural roads and at dawn and dusk on small rural roads and 70kph for sealed single lane roads. I cannot really think of any roads or highways that justify 110kph in Tasmania. We are not that big. If you have to travel from one end of the state to the other it will not increase the duration of the journey that significantly to stay under either 80 or 100kph depending on the road. I have been driving for about two years now and I know how frustrating it is to have to keep checking the speed signs because there is no consistency. This is dangerous. I should be looking for other hazards.

Second, education!! Young people need to be educated about driving to conditions from an early age. They may even influence their parents. Older people (who are just as bad but harder to get at) should be required to undertake an education course when they are caught speeding. People's right to drive at a speed they feel comfortable should be respected. Not everyone wants to hare around right on the speed limit and they should not be made to feel they have to go faster (unless they are going really slowly and are a hazard).

yours sincerely

Belinda Crisp