



The Under 17 Car Club Charitable Trust announces £25,000 National Bursary Scheme for Pathfinder Driving Initiative in pursuit of Saving Young Lives

The Under 17 Car Club Charitable Trust has announced a £25k national bursary scheme to enable young people to take part in its innovative 'Pathfinder Initiative' pre-licence driving and road safety programme. Participation in Pathfinder reduces the 1st year of driving accident risk to 5% compared with more than 20% nationally (DfT). Our survey, validated by Loughborough University, shows that graduates of the Pathfinder initiative are significantly less likely to be involved in accidents or to be injured than the general population of young drivers.

Evidence here: www.u17ccctrust.org/research/

The bursary scheme funding has been provided by the Police and Crime Commissioners for West Mercia and Gloucestershire, Gloucestershire Fire & Rescue Service, Safer Roads Humber each supporting young people from their respective areas and The Under 17 Car Club Charitable Trust providing funding for young people from across the country. One particular aspect of the funding is enabling young people living in care to participate with their cars being loaned to the scheme by West Mercia Police.

The value of each bursary is not less than £120, sometimes more, enabling over 200 young people to benefit from a bursary each year. The focus of eligibility of these bursaries is typically low income, single parent families, or for young people with learning or health challenges.

Background

The Pathfinder initiative is for rising 17s (15-17). It takes the Under 17 Car Club philosophy and methodology and compresses these into an intensive, exciting and high impact four or five-day programme blending learning with fun to deliver key messages about road safety, risk awareness and safe attitudes.

In 2022 Pathfinder will be running events coinciding with local school holidays at venues in:

Malvern, Worcestershire; Seighford, Staffordshire; South Cerney, Gloucestershire; and Tockwith, Yorkshire. Full information is available at www.under17driver.co.uk

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Interviewees are available by arrangement. Pathfinder is running from 21st-25th February at Three Counties Showground, Malvern. We invite you to join us at this event to experience the course and speak with participants directly.
