



SUFFOLK CENTRE

TIPS AND IDEAS



(Researched and written by Chris Sanderson)

Off Road



Off-road! Driving off the beaten track is not usually about speed, particularly if you don't know the area. Take your time, and assess obstacles before attempting them - even if this means getting out of the vehicle and walking ahead. Make sure you select the right gear/range for the terrain. Your hands should be in the ten-past ten position on the steering wheel, thumbs outside. If you hit something which causes the steering wheel to turn suddenly, your thumbs will thank you for thinking of them. Use the pull-push steering method. Try to straddle ruts in the terrain rather than driving in them. If your vehicle skids, don't panic, and don't use your brakes - just turn the wheel in the direction of the skid, without overcorrecting, and without letting off the accelerator. When negotiating slopes, avoid changing gears. Descend a slope in the same gear you would use to climb it. If your wheels start spinning, ease off the accelerator.