

"The Bump In The Road"

One wet and windy autumn evening, Clive and Angela were driving to a dinner party being held in the village of Deddington, a few miles south of the town of Banbury, where they lived. As usual, they were running late, Angela telling Clive not to drive so fast, and Clive not wanting to arrive too late at his boss's house.

Then, just after a sharp bend, Clive ran over what seemed to be a bump in the road. The car lurched, Angela screamed, and he slammed on the brakes. "What was that?" asked Angela in a shaky voice, "We had better go back and find out".

Clive thought of arguing against that, but saw how upset his wife was, so turned the car around. With hazard lights flashing, he pulled up by what looked like a bundle of clothes on the edge of the road. Getting out of the car he approached the lump of clothing, and saw a blood soaked human foot protruding from the dark coat.

Unsurprisingly, he threw up, before gesturing to Angela to stay away.

It was obvious to him, theirs had not been the first vehicle to have hit the person. "We need to ring the police" he said weakly, returning to the car. It was the longest ten minutes they had ever known, before the patrol car arrived.

Clive told the officer what had happened, then the policeman went over to the bundle to check for himself.

"Excuse me sir" he said "Are you having a joke?"

"What do you mean, officer?" enquired Clive.

"Well, sir. This is just a package of clothes, bound for a charity shop from the label."

"I don't understand" said Clive, and looking up, in the gloom, he thought he saw a deer, limping, disappearing from view over the hill.