

A lot of people have asked me lately what has inspired me to push forward with my ideas this year despite all that seems to be going wrong with the world at the moment. Those who know me will be aware that I have been talking about doing things for a long time, I have spent years building up connections. I am so grateful to have spoken with people who think like me, want to make a difference, and who have now contacted me because they want to be part of the change.

In late February this year I had a crazy experience. I was driving back from Slough after a meeting, in my son's car (not that that's particularly relevant), the eternal road works on the M4 meant that there was 50mph speed restriction on the road. In the slow lane an HGV pulled up beside me penning me in between the body of the truck and the temporary steel barrier in my left. As I dropped back to allow him to overtake me, the driver pulled into the slow lane a fraction too early and clipped the front of my car.

In the slow motion moment that I lost control and my car swerved out into the two lanes of traffic next to me is a blur- but as I hard steered back to the left, lining myself up to crash head first into the steel barrier I can remember thinking; 'shit this isn't fair' just as I prepared my body for the impact. Weirdly it didn't hurt immediately apart from my legs hitting the dashboard but as the car turned on its side and shattered the drivers widow scraping my arm along the floor, I was pretty sure my number was up!

Turns out it wasn't. As the little Punto I was driving righted itself and I jumped out of the door, my ears couldn't hear anything (probably because of the sound of scraping metal). The concern on the faces of the two guys in the vans behind me was touchingly genuine, getting me off the road and waiting with me for the emergency services. Paul who let me use his phone on the scene contacted me afterwards through the number I called to check in with me and help with the details of what happened.

That powerful feeling of humanity and connection right there is what I find so profound. The whole incident traumatic as it was reaffirmed to me that no matter how clean a lifestyle you live, or how successful you are, tomorrow is not a given. It made me have a word with myself and remember that life is short, and we only have as long as we have to live our dreams. The time came in that experience for me to join up the dots, chase up the connections and make my vision a reality (the secondary lesson in this story being don't diss Puntos). Welcome to the Aurora family- let's build together, learn together and welcome a new dawn... One love x