

Road Safety Round-Up

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Blessing of the Roads 2013























Blessing of the Roads 2013

Thank you to the Local Governments, organisations and members of the community road safety network who hosted and participated in this years Blessing of the Roads campaign.

Local Governments and organisations who hosted events included:

City of Armadale Serpentine Jarrahdale Shire Shire of Esperance City of Bayswater Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes Shire of Lake Grace Shire of Broome/Sandfire Roadhouse City of Canning Shire of Murray City of Joondalup Shire of Broomehill-Tambellup Shire of Norseman City of Mandurah Shire of Collie Shire of Plantagenet City of Rockingham Shire of Coolgardie Shire of Roebourne City of Stirling Shire of Cranbrook Shire of Victoria Plains Shire of Waroona City of Swan Shire of Dardanup Shire of Donnybrook-Ballingup Shire of Wiluna City of Wanneroo

North Albany Senior High School Shire of Dundas

Thanks also is extended to the Hon. Liza Harvey MLA Minister for Police; Road Safety; Small Business; Womens Interests, Professor Murray Lampard and members of the Road Safety Council, Road Safety Council member agencies which include Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Transport, RAC, Insurance Commission of WA, Main Roads WA, WA Police, Office of Road Safety and WALGA. Additionally thanks to Department of Fire and Emergency Services, Royal Flying Doctors, Salvation Army, SDERA, SES, St John Ambulance, various schools and WA Country Health Service among many who participated in events across the state.

A diversity of activities demonstrated the flexibility of the Blessing of the Roads campaign in spreading road safety messages. Road safety messages focused on fatigue, speed, safe vehicles, distraction, restraint use and impaired driving. It was excellent to see assorted cultural and religion groups involved in the ceremonies which spread these important messages.

Involvement during the campaign included: Blessing of the Roads ceremonies where religious leaders blessed the roads and prayed for safe travels over the holiday period as well as giving time to remember and reflect on those who have died or injured in road crashes, Human Spirit Awards, traditional smoking and cleansing ceremonies, exchange of message sticks, school assemblies, bike week breakfast, Blessing of the Highways fun run, caravan and trailer checks and Driver Reviver locations manned by volunteers to offer tea and coffee to tired drivers.

Congratulations to the following people who were Human Spirit Award recipients during the campaign period: Jan Backman, Peter Brown, Lynette Chester, Terry Coumbe, Julia Hodge, Ray McArthur, Peter Perich, Trevor Quick, Amanda Vanderputten, Caron Woodman.

■ Thank you to all who supported the campaign ▶























■ Volunteering in road safety

In Australia over 6 million people volunteer. Collectively, that is a contribution of more than 700 million hours of community service to various areas of society. Volunteering is a movement greater then the sum of its parts and making the choice to contribute allows an individual to have a positive impact on their community.

WALGA's RoadWise Program wants to recognise and thank the volunteers who have worked with the RoadWise Program for many years. We begin this new section to the Road Safety Round-Up by showcasing the City of Wanneroo Driver Reviver volunteers.

Through the commitment of an inspired Rudi Steffans, who saw a need to address driver fatigue, and who himself had been involved in a near fatal car crash years earlier, the Wanneroo Driver Reviver service began in April 1999 and has remained strong because of the dedication of its volunteers.

Councillor Rudi Steffens, along with Vern Andrew and Roy Kerr have been involved since day one, Bill Street began in 2005, Councillor Dot Newton in 2007 and Councillor Norm Hewer in 2009. Roy has recently retired while all other members continue to give their time and energy — a priceless contribution to the community.

In those 14 years, these reliable and committed volunteers have welcomed and served 10,317 motorists with tea, coffee and biscuits and share road safety information. Many drivers who stop comment about how tired they were feeling and that the caravan was a welcomed sight.

Tiss Wan to Wan

Cr Rudi Steffans, Bill Street, Vern Andrew and Cr Norm Hewer Councillor Rudi Steffens, Councillor Dot Newton, Councillor Norm Hewer and Bill Street also sit on the City of Wanneroo RoadWise Working Group.

Here's what Councillor Dot Newton JP had to say about her volunteering experience: "Many things stand out in my memories of the days at the caravan, one of the most poignant being a young women with several young children. She admitted to us that she has felt her head rolling and was close to falling asleep several times and how relieved she was to see our sign and caravan. She had not slept the night before. She drank several strong black coffees and stayed quite a while before travelling on. I guess our being there, possibly saved several lives that day. It is memories like this one, and the amount of patrons who thank us for the volunteering that makes it all worthwhile"

What motivated Vern Andrew? "Being a part of Neighborhood Watch and having lost two dear friends on Wanneroo Road after an afternoon game of bowls at the local RAAFA retirement village".



Bill Street believes "It's got to be done, plus we get to meet people from all over the world and everyone is so appreciative".





Roy Kerr, Bill Street, Cr Norm Hewer, Vern Andrew, Cr Anh Truong, Mayor Tracey Roberts JP, Shannon Horsley and Cr Stuart Mackenzie.













■ Committee news

Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Thank you and goodbye to Dave Grills from the Kalgoorlie-Boulder RoadWise Committee. Dave was on the Committee as a City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Councillor and Kalgoorlie Police representative. He has resigned from both positions to focus on his new role as the Member for the Mining and Pastoral Region.

Armadale

Graham Wallis was recently awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of service to the community as a member and also chair of the Armadale RoadWise Advisory Committee.

Wyndham-East Kimberley

The Shire of Wyndham-East Kimberley is a two town shire, which has in the past had two RoadWise committees. In 2013, these committees are merging to provide a more streamlined and consistent approach to road safety throughout the district. The committee has identified a number of issues it would like to work towards improving.

Plantagenet

This March the Plantagenet RoadWise Committee bids farewell to Mr Wesley Beck. Mr Beck has represented the Mt Barker Community College on the RoadWise committee for several years but has decided to step back to spend more time with his family. The Committee would like to thank him for his efforts and hard work and wish him all the best for the future. He will be replaced by Mr Roger Barrett.

RoadWise staff update

After 17 months with the WALGA RoadWise Program, in the role of Regional Road Safety Officer Metro North and Road Safety Project Officer, Natalie Pizzata has taken up another role, within WALGA's Planning & Community Development area, as Community Policy Officer. We congratulate her on her new appointment and wish her all the best in her new role!

Infrastructure road trip to **Toodyay**

In April the WALGA Infrastructure team came together from all corners of the state for their half yearly Infrastructure Planning and Development.

An important aspect of development is connecting with Local Governments and strengthening relationships. To enable this on 9 April 2013 the team went on a field trip to the Shire of Toodyay who very kind to open up their Shire and host the group.

A workshop on road condition surveys was delivered by Mark Bondietti, WALGA's Policy Manager Transport & Roads. Toodyay CEO Stan Scott and Engineer Les Vidovich, and neighbouring Shire of Victoria Plains' President Geoff Erickson also attended the workshop.

A discussion followed on the barriers and opportunities for Local Government. Issues discussed included road funding, heavy haulage, the maintenance of roads and safe system treatments, and how the WALGA Infrastructure unit can better support Local Government in helping to create a safe transport system for their communities.

Following the workshop the Infrastructure team visited several roads nominated by Toodyay, with recent or scheduled improvements. Here everyone had the opportunity to apply their new skills in identifying the different road conditions and treatments.

The Infrastructure team wishes to thank the Shire of Toodyay for its generosity in hosting the event, and we look forward to strengthening the partnership into the future.



























■ Local Government Road Safety Awards 2014

What infrastructure projects are you working on that are due for completion by October 2013?

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia (WA Division) and the Western Australian Local Government Association will once again be running the Local Government Road Safety Awards. These Awards are to be presented at the Transport and Roads Forum in March 2014. The awards seek to acknowledge outstanding achievements by Local Governments in contributing to the creation of a safe road transport system in WA

Award categories are aligned to *Towards Zero*, WA's Road Safety Strategy 2008-2020 and are based on the safe system cornerstones. The award categories are:

- · Safe Roads and Roadsides
- · Safe Travel Speeds
- · Safe Vehicles
- · Safe Road Use
- · Joe North Award (acknowledging an individual for their outstanding contribution to road safety).

For further information visit www.roadwise.asn.au or contact Road Safety Project Officer, Trish Strickland on phone 9213 2055 or by email pstrickland@walga.asn.au

Declaration for Road Safety

Local Governments wishing to demonstrate a commitment to work towards zero road fatalities and serious injuries might consider signing a Declaration for Road Safety.

A declaration provides an opportunity for local leaders to pledge to future generations that every road death is one too many. It doesn't commit Local Governments to actions beyond current resources, standards or means, but provides a statement of intent and acknowledges the moral and ethical role obligation to work towards eliminating road trauma.

WALGA, the City of Bayswater, the City of South Perth and most recently the City of Wanneroo have signed a Declaration for Road Safety.

On 21 March 2013, Mayor Tracey Roberts signed the Declaration for Road Safety at the annual City of Wanneroo Blessing of the Roads and Human Spirit Awards Ceremony. The Declaration for Road Safety demonstrates the City of Wanneroo's clear commitment to road safety and "working towards a future of zero road fatalities and serious injuries on the Western Australian road network".

For more information about how your Local Government can make a commitment to improving road safety in their community contact Louise Russell-Weisz, Safe System Coordinator, 9213 2008 or email Irussellweisz@walga.asn.au



Cr Hewer, Cr Rudi Steffens, Superintendent Carver, Mayor Tracey Roberts, Chair of the Road Safety Council Professor Murray Lampard and Cr Stuart Mckenzie with the City of Wanneroo Declaration for Road Safety.





















Regional Youth Road Safety **Project**

WALGA has received Road Trauma Trust Account funding to coordinate a collaborative Regional Youth Road Safety Project to be trialed in the Wheatbelt regions later this year. The project aims to contribute to the prevention of youth road deaths and serious injury in regional WA. The trial will utilise existing resources and new strategies to promote an increase in supervised driving hours and the uptake of safer vehicles among young novice drivers in regional WA.

For more information please contact Nina Hewson, 9213 2073 Or by email nhewson@walga.asn.au

Public debate needs to be based on fact

The RAC together with WA Police produced the Fatal and Serious Injuries on WA Roads 2012 publication. The data indicates that more than half of the 186 road deaths in 2012 were attributed to deliberate road user choices: alcohol, speed, drugs and reckless behavior. Western Australia has the worst fatality rate per 100,000 population of any Australian state.

Over representation in road fatalities continues to be evident in country Western Australia. Data indicates that one in three fatalities involved the non-use of restraints. With a fatality rate six times that of the average state rate, the Wheatbelt regions remains the poorest performing country region.

To view the Fatal and Serious Injuries on WA Roads document please visit http://rac.com.au/ Advocacy/Road-safety/Fatal-and-serious-road-

URBAN INTERSECTIONS

Going around to improve road safety

A roundabout has been constructed at the intersection of Frederick and Coghlan Streets within the Shire of Broome. This intersection is one of the main access points to and from Broome's busy airport making it hazardous for both residents and tourists alike. The intersection was previously identified as the most dangerous in Broome. The redevelopment was funded through the State Black Spots program.

Misunderstood road rule

WA's road rules are contained within the WA Road Traffic Code 2000. With more than 300 regulations and close to 1,000 individual rules here is one that might be misunderstood:

The yellow light means stop: Regulation 41 requires drivers approaching a traffic light that is yellow to stop—unless they are so close to the intersection that they can't stop safely.

Information courtesy of the RAC and Office of Road Safety. For more information about road rules and penalties please visit http://www.ors.wa.gov.au/ Demographic-Pages/I-Am-A-Driver/Road-Rules-And -Penalties.aspx

























(RUN-OFF ROAD CRASHES IN REGIONAL AREAS)

Educating the public as tourist season begins

The Shire of Halls Creek is working towards raising awareness of issues causing run off road crashes particularly in relation to speed, distraction and fatigue. The council will be offering a targeted brochure outlining ways to stay safe on its roads, with regional specific information.



◆ iSCOOT - Kalgoorlie

The iSCOOT program is a scooter/moped safety education program developed by the Esperance and Kalgoorlie-Boulder RoadWise committees in 2011. The program has been running at Esperance Senior High School for the last couple of years and the Goldfields Baptist College held its first safety session on 15 April 2013. Police Officer Kyran O'Donnell and RoadWise Regional Road Safety Officer Andrea Lambert talked about the dangers of riding a moped, licensing road rules and penalties and driver distraction. Ray from Ray Moore Motorcycles talked about the different type of protective clothing and gear that is available and brought some samples of clothing and helmets along for the students to have a look at. The Kalgoorlie-Boulder RoadWise Committee hopes to implement the program into other high schools in Kalgoorlie.

Alerts for country driving

Main Roads WA has launched regional Twitter alerts to instantly update regional road users 24 hours a day, seven days a week about WA's regional road network disruptions

To sign up visit: twitter.com wa roads





The Albany and Denmark RoadWise Committees joined forces with Great Southern police and a team of volunteers to target driver fatigue over Easter. In two separate locations Committee members and volunteers provided motorists with advice on the management of fatigue along with promotional material and a bottle of water supplied by the Water Corporation. These road stops provide the opportunity for local road safety partners to help increase the awareness of the fatigue danger signs, in the hope of reducing the level of fatigue related trauma on our roads.

Oriver Reviver

Congratulations and thank you to the Driver Reviver teams for their tireless work and commitment to reducing incident of fatigue on WA roads. Driver Reviver sites who operated over the Easter holiday period included: Plantagenet/Mt Barker, Pannawonica, Wool Wagon Kojonup, Williams Lions Park, Wanneroo, Waroona and Lake Grace.

Plantagenet/Mt Barker Driver Reviver

The Shire of Plantagenet RoadWise Committee held its inaugural Driver Reviver, located in the parking bay corner of Albany Highway and Sturdee Road. A total of 40 vehicles stopped and enjoyed the refreshments and chatted with the volunteers.

Pannawonica Driver Reviver

Members of the Pannawonica Fire and Emergency Service and their families, donated their time to man the fatigue trailer. Over 50 vehicles stopped to rest and revive with coffee or tea. As well as tourists, Rio Tinto staff and contractors from Karratha, Dampier and Wickham stopped for a lifesaving break.



Fatigue trailer at the corner of the NW Coastal Highway and Pannawonica turn off.











SPEEDING BEHAVIOUR

Autumn River Festival

The City of Bayswater RoadWise Committee raised awareness of road safety, especially the impact of speed, at the annual Autumn River Festival in Bayswater. Combining information banners with the police crash trailer, visitors to the display were able to relate to the impact that different speeds make on crash outcomes. Visitors were also able to test their knowledge of road rules and road safety by answering 12 road safety questions. Over 170 people answered the questions and were entered into the road safety competition run on the day.



Councillor Graham Pittaway OAM, Councillor Alan Radford and Jenny



Community members learning about road safety.

Requests about road rules

WA's road rules are contained within the WA Road Traffic Code 2000. With more than 300 regulations and close to 1,000 individual rules, as featured earlier some may cause confusion or be misunderstood.

Tell us which road rules you would like explanations for.

Please email your requests to your Regional Road Safety Officer or alternatively send them to roadwise@walga.asn.au

Slow down and enjoy the ride in Northam

The Northam RoadWise Committee is now in its third year of raising road safety awareness through a variety of campaigns and activities. The Easter campaign targeted speeding behaviour. Activities included radio advertisements, a display in the shopping centre and newspaper articles. Prior to Easter a competition was held for primary school students to design a bumper sticker for the year for drivers to display on their vehicles to show their support for driving at safe speeds. Avondale Primary School student Anthony Penny's entry " Slow Down Ya Clown in Northam" was chosen by the committee.



Road safety display trailer update

The road safety display trailer has featured at the following events recently:

- Blessing of the Roads, Bayswater
- North West Expo, Shire of Broome
- Towards Zero Race Day, Kalgoorlie
- Blessing of the Roads, Norseman
- Blessing of the Roads, Esperance
- Blessing of the Roads, Rockingham
- Joondalup Festival, Joondalup
- Cranbrook Show, Cranbrook
- Esperance Bike Week

























■ IMPAIRED DRIVING

◆ Towards Zero race day ▶

The annual Towards Zero Race Day 2013 was held on 6 April 2013 at the Kalgoorlie Boulder Race Club with 814 people in attendance. Road safety



messages were promoted and reinforced throughout the day through race names, race books, on-course televisions and through broadcaster Sky channel. The crash car trailer, green display trailer and emergency service vehicles were on display to the public, manned by the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Roadwise Committee, Main Roads WA, South Kalgoorlie Volunteer Fire Brigade and members of the local WA Police and ambulance. Izzy the Road Safety Lizard from SDERA also made an appearance.

Drug driving

There are a range of drugs other than alcohol that affect driving performance, increase crash risk and negatively impact on road safety. Studies have shown that drugs that are capable of impairing driver skills have been found in significant numbers of drivers who have been injured or killed on WA roads.

Under WA law, it's an offence to drive or attempt to drive a motor vehicle while impaired by drugs. The law makes no distinction between legal and illegal drugs this gives police the ability to identify and prosecute drivers who are impaired by any drugs, including prescribed medication.

Towards Zero has a priority focus on deterring and detecting drivers who place others at risk through drug (and drink) driving. The message is simple, don't drive after taking drugs.

For more information please visit http:// ors.wa.gov.au/Demographic-Pages/New-to-Driving/ **Drug-Driving**

OCCUPANT PROTECTION AND CRASH AVOIDANCE

Safe fleet vehicle trial

The Shire of Derby-West Kimberley, are trialing ANCAP 5 star rated fleet vehicles. The council did its homework regarding the safety ratings, trade-in value and a needs assessment to identify which vehicles it would use as fleet cars. They have identified Volkswagen Amarok's for their high trade in value, good reputation of quality and their five star ratings. The Shire staff using these vehicles are happy with their handling and the level of safety provided by having 5 star ANCAP rated fleet vehicles.

Bike week

Constable Care made a welcome visit to Mullewa to promote safe riding practices. The celebrations were part of an ongoing campaign that involves year round encouragement for children to wear bicycle helmets and to behave safely around roads. One of the popular demonstrations was the watermelon drop conducted by Constable Care to illustrate the need for wearing bicycle helmets whilst riding.



Safer cars for Northam

The Northam RoadWise Committee is building strong links with local business in an effort to raise the community participation by taking responsibility for the safety of their vehicles. Recently, the joint effort offered free tyre, battery and mechanical checks at five Northam businesses.





















COMMUNITY ROAD SAFETY GRANTS UPDATE

Applications for a Community Road Safety Grant should be submitted by the first Friday of every month. The June 2013 round closes Friday 7 June 2013.

TOWARDS ZERO



getting there together

The following grants were approved in March and April rounds:

Project Grants

- City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Kalgoorlie-Boulder Road Safety Community Awareness Campaign \$21,527.29
- Donnybrook-Balingup Road Safety Committee, Wheelie Bin Sticker Initiative \$3,013.50
- Shire of Chittering, Slow Down and Enjoy the Ride in Chittering \$20,452.00

Speed Display Trailer Grants

- City of Stirling, City of Stirling Speed Alert Mobile Program - \$20,000.00

Sponsorship Grants

- Avon Valley Arts Inc, Northam Art Prize Youth Arts Section \$300.00
- Avon Woodturners, Woodturners Shows & Community Events 2013 \$1,200.00
- Canoe & Cray Carnival Inc, Canoe & Cray Carnival \$1,000.00
- Derby Rodeo & Horse Riders Association, Derby Outback Rodeo Campdraft & Gymkhana \$1,000.00
- Mullewa Muster & Rodeo, The Mullewa Muster & Rodeo \$1,000.00
- Lions Club Gingin-Chittering, Heritage Festival Open Day at the Gingin Railway Station \$420.00
- Mullewa Saints Football Club Inc, 2013 Football Season \$1,400.00
- Northam Agricultural Society, Northam Show \$1,000.00
- Shire of Leonora, Leonora Golden Gift \$1,000.00
- Tanami Action Group, Tanami Road Promotion Trip \$1,000.00
- Toodyay Festivals Inc, Moondyne Festival \$1,000.00
- WACHS Midwest, Mullewa Community Fun Run \$420.00
- Wickepin Community Resource Centre, Dancing with Gangsters @ the Bootleggers Ball \$400.00
- York Football Club, York Football Club Home Games \$1,000.00

To view successful grants and example applications and evaluations please visit http://www.roadwise.asn.au/road safety grants























Child car restraint update

April saw the running of two accredited Type 1 Child Car Restraint Fitting courses, held in Floreat and Narrogin. Both courses saw the attendance of new Fitters and also experienced Fitters as either a refresher or to take the opportunity to become accredited. A total of 22 participants attended, with 15 new Fitters joining the state-wide network. Registration is currently open for the upcoming course to be held in Rockingham, and courses are currently being planned for the next financial year. Prospective participants can view course dates and registration details at www.childcarrestraints.com.au

The WALGA RoadWise Program, continues to offer a Child Car Restraint Fitting Information service. This service is operated by trained staff and is provided 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday, on 1300 780 713. This free information service is open to and utilised by both Type 1 Fitters and members of the community, with queries about aspects of child car restraints.

Lets keep working Towards Zero: **47 deaths** as at 29 April 2013, same time last year: 54 deaths (ORS)

Calendar

- Basic Geometric Road Design, 14-16 May 2013, Perth, www.arrb.com.au
- Road Safety on Four Continents, 15-17 May 2013, Beijing, China.
- IPWEA 2013 National Conference, 11-15 June 2013, Darwin, www.ipwea.asn.au
- AHPA 21st National Health Promotion Conference, 17-19 June 2013, Sydney. www.ahpa2013.com.au
- Traffic Control Devices, 25-26 July 2013, Perth, www.arrb.com.au
- The Bailey Method for Aggregate Grading Evaluation, 30 July 2013, Perth, www.arrb.com.au
- AITPM National Conference, 30 July –2 August 2013, Perth, www.aitpm.com.au
- Australian Institute of Traffic Planning & Management Incorporated (AITPM) National Conference, 30 July - 2 August 2013, Perth.
- International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety (ICADTS), 25-28 August 2013, Brisbane, www.t2013.com
- Australasian Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference, 28-30 August 2013, Brisbane, www.rsrpe2013.com.au
- 3rd International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention, 4-6 September 2013, Gothenburg, Sweden.
- Community Safety Month, October 2013, www.iccwa.org.au/community-safety-month
- ACRS Australasian Conference, 7-8 November 2013, Adelaide, www.acrs.org.au
- 11th Australasian Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Conference, 11-13 November 2013, Perth, for more information cat@loadedcommunications.com.au
- ACRS Australasian Conference, 7-8 November 2013, Adelaide, www.acrs.org.au



WALGA Contact the **RoadWise Program**

Phone:

9213 2066

Email:

roadwise@walga.asn.au

Website:

www.roadwise.asn.au

Child car restraints website:

www.childcarrestraints. com.au

Road Safety Round-Up submissions:

roadwise@walga.asn.au

Community Road Safety Grants:

pstrickland@walga. asn.au

Child Car Restraints:

tdeshon@walga.asn.au

Find your Regional Road Safety Officer:

www.roadwise.asn.au/ contact us









