



# FEMALES AND DRINK DRIVING

Following an increase in the number of young women charged with drink driving during random breath testing operations on the NSW Central Coast, Wyong and Gosford Councils joined forces to find out more about the trend.

**The 'Females and Drink Driving Project' focused on women aged 18-39. The project sought to identify drink driving messages likely to impact on this group and to identify factors influencing female drink driving behaviour in the region. Following extensive advertising and promotion seven discussion groups were held across the region involving 50 young women volunteers.**

While discussions reflected the view that drink driving was dangerous and unacceptable, participants indicated that women sometimes drink and drive in response to pressure from their male companions. A lack of understanding of standard drink measures and women's lower tolerances to alcohol often resulted in the assessment that because a woman had had fewer drinks, then she should drive, particularly if the journey was seen to be 'just up the road'.

Other factors noted to influence a woman's decision to drive after drinking included lack of public transport options, concern for personal security if left to travel home alone, and, lack of ready access to alcoholiser equipment to check on BAC.

In terms of deterrence some discussion group participants suggested that it is irresponsible to lose your licence while younger participants felt that the perceived likelihood of a serious accident would affect their drinking and driving decisions.

Discussion group participants did note the



*A group discusses issues relating to females and drink driving*

availability of designated driver campaigns and spoke enthusiastically about the local 'Night Owl' bus service piloted in the summer of 2000/01. A radio promotion from the Central Coast Health Service, 'Drink .....Think', featuring local personalities, was also noted to be memorable.

In addition to the discussion groups, a comprehensive literature review on drink driving, particularly as it relates to women was completed and is available as part of the project report. The information gathered will be used to guide the development of future Central Coast campaigns to reduce the incidence of female drink driving. More information about this project is available from Wyong Council RSO Annita Wenban (ph 4350 5232) or Gosford Council RSO Jacqui Clarke (ph 4325 8808).

This project was one of 39 completed during the 2000/01 financial year as part of the IPWEA/RTA Local Government Road Safety Project Grants Scheme, funded by the Motor Accidents Authority. It is notable that some 20% of these projects addressed aspects of alcohol affected road use.

The Central Coast and Hunter Regions combined to complete an evaluation of the designated driver program 'Drinks Without

Dramas', Campbelltown joined with Wollondilly and Camden Councils and other stakeholders to produce guidelines to assist schools with arrangements for safer end of year celebrations, and Marrickville Council coordinated a drink driving campaign for the local Portuguese community. South Sydney Council completed a further phase of their campaign addressing drink walking.

Projects funded by IPWEA/RTA Local Government Road Safety Project Grants Scheme for 2001/02, sponsored by the Motor Accidents Authority, are listed on page 2.

Further information on drink driving is available in the RTA publication 'Drink Driving Problem Definition and Countermeasure Summary'. As noted later in this newsletter the RTA is also currently preparing a drink driving action plan in support of Road Safety 2010.

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# IPWEA/RTA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROAD SAFETY PROJECT GRANTS

Thank you to those who prepared submissions for the IPWEA/RTA Local Government Road Safety Project Grants, funded by the Motor Accidents Authority and administered by the IPWEA. This round of grants, Grant Round 7, will operate over the 2001-2002 financial year.

COUNCIL	PROJECT	PROJECT COORDINATOR
Albury City Council	Cycling in Albury - Where to from here?	Kate Kohne
Baulkham Hills Council	Fatalities & Accidents on Rural Main Roads (FARM) Research Project*	Angela Vernicos
Bega Valley Council	Traffic Control Training	Phil Astbury
Blue Mountains City Council	WSROC Road Safety Strategic Plan*	Glenn Sherlock
Bourke Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan for Bourke Shire Council	Harry Hart
Brewarrina Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan for Brewarrina Shire Council	Harry Hart
Burwood Council	Sign Off Speed on Local Roads	Andrew Byers
Byron Shire Council	Bike Safe in Byron	John McAdam
Byron Shire Council	Drivers with Attitude	John McAdam
Canterbury City Council	"Look before you cross" - Pedestrian Safety in Town Centres	Angela Tocher
Cessnock City Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan	Jennifer Andrews
Coonabarabran Council	Road Safety at Flooded Causeways	Kevin Tighe
Dubbo City Council	Dubbo City Council Road Safety Strategic Plan	Kristine Long
Dungog Council	Review of Road Safety Strategic Plan	Allen Shrimpton
Evans Shire Council	One Hit -That's It*	Melissa Clark
Evans Shire Council	The Tablelands Area Road Safety Strategic Plan*	Melissa Clark
Gosford City Council	Helmet Use Project	Jacqui Clarke
Gosford City Council	Development of Council's Road Safety Strategic Plan	Jacqui Clarke
Goulburn City Council	Don't speed on local roads	Charmaine Cooper
Goulburn City Council	Strategic Plan Review	Charmaine Cooper
Grafton City Council	Providing safer conditions for soccer attendees	Bill Moffat
Greater Taree City Council	Update Greater Taree, Great Lakes & Gloucester Council's Plan*	Jennifer Kladis
Hurstville City Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan	Brett Foster
Kiama Council	Development of Road Safety Strategic Plan	Jenny Davies
Kogarah Council	Fatigue Project	Meg Cunningham
Kyogle Council	"Don't Risk It"	Suzie Coulston
Lake Macquarie City Council	Review of road safety strategic plan	Scott Pickering
Leichhardt Municipal Council	Walk to School	Vera Zaccari
Lismore City Council	Lismore Road Safety Park Planning	Wendy Johnson
Lismore City Council	RR-ISK Project*	Wendy Johnson
Marrickville Council	Safe speeding in Marrickville - there's no such thing	Kathrine Georgoulas
Marrickville Council	Marrickville Council Road Safety Strategic Plan	Kathrine Georgoulas
Mosman Council	Look before you cross - especially at a crossing	Rachel McConkey
Nambucca Council	Go-Pher Safety	Coral Hutchinson
Newcastle City Council	Review of Councils Road Safety Strategic Plan	Sue Alley
North Sydney Council	Strategic Plan Consultation and Development	Avril Armstrong
Orange City Council	Orange P Platers Club*	Tony Bowis
Rockdale Council	Buckle Up: Everyone, Everytime	Michael Bracken
Shellharbour Council	Development of Road Safety Strategic Plan	Jenny Davies
Snowy River Council	Jindabyne Snow Season Bus Project	Michelle Lindau
Sutherland Shire Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan	Mark Stuart
Sydney City Council	Think Before You Cross	Len Woodman
Tamworth City Council	TAFE/Council Youth Focus Program	Marg Hombsch
Tumbarumba Council	Think Don't Drink and Drive	Angela Keen
Tweed Shire Council	Drive to Suit the Conditions on Local Rural Roads*	Ray Clark
Warringah Council	"U Turn the Wheel" - Young Driver Community Awareness Program	James Wilson
Warringah Council	"Young People & Safe Celebrating" Peer Education Project	James Wilson
Wingecarribee Council	Seniors' Road Safety Calendar	Kim Davis
Wingecarribee Council	U-Turn the Wheel*	Kim Davis
Wollongong City Council	Road Safety Strategic Plan	Prue Dunstan
Wollongong City Council	Mobility Map for Wollongong Local Government Area	Fran Thompson

\* indicates joint council project

# IPWEA/RTA LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROAD SAFETY PROJECT

## IPWEA CONFERENCE: A REWARDING TRIP NORTH

With the theme of 'Beyond Boundaries' the IPWEA (NSW Division) is holding its Annual Conference and Excellence Awards presentation at Port Macquarie on the picturesque mid north coast of NSW from 28 October to 1 November 2001.

**A conference highlight is the Awards Gala Dinner to be held on Monday evening 29 October. The Dinner will feature the presentation of the inaugural Road Safety Engineering Awards, and, the Local Government Excellence in Road Safety Awards, as categories of the IPWEA Excellence Awards Scheme.**

On the day following the presentation of awards, Tuesday 30 October, the conference program includes a stream of papers devoted to transport, roads and road safety. Papers for this stream address topics including the facilitation of appropriate public transport, improvements to driver safety through safer fleet management and aspects of child and youth road safety.

For further information about the Conference or the Awards Dinner check the IPWEA web page [www.ipwea.org.au](http://www.ipwea.org.au).



## ROAD SAFETY: IT'S YOUR CALL

'Road Safety: It's Your Call' is a video message for councillors seeking to address road safety issues for their communities. It recognises the important role local councils have in regard to road safety and highlights a range of opportunities for councils and councillors to contribute to improved road safety.

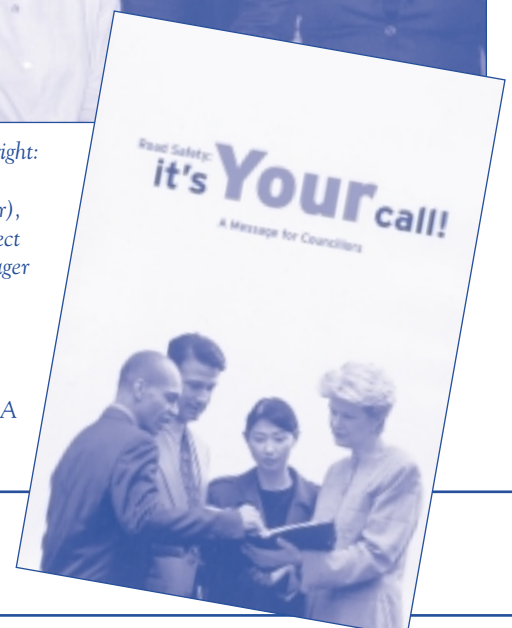
The 5 minute video is designed to spark road safety interest and provide a 'one stop' telephone number for further information.

'Road Safety: It's Your Call' was developed by the IPWEA with the assistance of the RTA and the LGSA. It was formally launched at the LGSA on Monday 30 July.

A copy of the video has been offered to all NSW councils. For further information please contact Urszula Wynd, IPWEA Road Safety Project Officer, on telephone 8267 3008.



*At the video launch standing from left to right: Brendan Hartnett (LGSA A/ Secretary), Robin Eldon (IPWEA Executive Manager), Julie Edwards (IPWEA Road Safety Project Manager), Catherine Parker (RTA Manager Community and Local Government Programs), Paul Stephenson (Mulwarree Shire Mayor) Sitting: Urszula Wynd (incoming IPWEA Road Safety Project Officer) and Carol Bunt (outgoing IPWEA Road Safety Project Officer)*



# COUNCIL ROAD SAFETY OFFICER PROGRAM

## MOREE AND YALLAROI COUNCILS

### Buckle Up Campaign

There was almost a 10% increase in people buckling up following the recent Moree and Yallaroi 'Buckle Up Every Time' campaign.

The need to encourage people to buckle up was highlighted by the fact that between 1996 and 1999 approximately 20% of people involved in recorded crashes on local roads in the Moree Yallaroi area were unrestrained.

Observational surveys conducted in early May, prior to the campaign, revealed that around 86% of people were using restraints. Surveys conducted at the end of June showed that this figure had jumped to almost 95%.



*A local driver supports the Moree Yallaroi Buckle Up Campaign*

The two month campaign involved a number of different activities including 3 weekly observational surveys at eight different locations across the two shires, regular media coverage by the radio and newspaper and the display of 'Buckle Up Every Time' banners at shows and around schools. There was also RTA radio and television advertising relating to seat belt use running throughout the campaign.

During the same period, an enhanced enforcement operation was conducted by Barwon Local Area Command Highway Patrol Police. 'Operation Harness' targeted non-compliance regarding restraint use. As part of 'Operation Harness', and in conjunction with the 'Buckle Up Every Time' campaign, a reward system was implemented and 170 people were rewarded for buckling up.

It is notable that by the completion of the campaigns more people had been rewarded than fined!

For more information call RSO for Moree Plains and Yallaroi Shire Councils Kylie Greening on telephone 6757 3284 or 0427709188.



*Tamworth Council RSO Marg Hombsch and Sgt Dennis Humphreys, Oxley Highway Patrol*

## TAMWORTH CITY COUNCIL

### Occupant Restraint Campaign

Nine fatal crashes caused the death of 12 people in the Oxley Local Area Police Command last year, 75% of those involved were local residents and almost 25% of these crashes involved someone not wearing a seat belt.

It was these alarming statistics that prompted Tamworth Highway Patrol Sergeant Dennis Humphreys and Tamworth City Council Road Safety Officer Marg Hombsch to set up a working group to look at the problem.

Observational surveys were undertaken at ten locations throughout the city and the results verified that failure to wear seat belts was a major problem.

A seat belt awareness and education campaign was developed to encourage greater compliance with wearing seat belts and to reinforce to both passengers and drivers the importance of wearing seat belts on every journey.

With the assistance of local television and radio stations, commercials were produced at cost. The stations ran the ads as a local community service. The ads featured local people, not actors, ranging from paramedics and crash investigators to hospital emergency room doctors and church ministers. One particular advertisement featured a local father who had lost his son in just such an accident.

It was important to keep the local focus because RTA data from 1996-1999 reveals that those drivers killed while not wearing a seat belt are most likely to have been on a routine journey in their local area.

Backing up the television and radio campaigns, the local paper ran a series of interviews with the people featured in the

radio and television ads.

The promotional campaign was followed by a period of enhanced enforcement by local police, as far as possible mirroring the original survey sites and times of day.

Although there were still a disturbing number of infringements, the percentages were well down on the original survey figures. During the first enforcement period of three days a total of 143 seat belt infringements were issued. The second enforcement period saw these figures drop to 76 infringements.

Another component to the campaign was a series of free child restraint workshops provided at the three local Community Health Centre Immunisation clinics.

For more information please contact Tamworth Council RSO Marg Hombsch on telephone 6755 4546.

## SYDNEY CITY COUNCIL

### Can You Stop in Time?

Excessive speed for the conditions is a contributor to the majority of accidents involving pedestrians in the City of Sydney and yet in the unique city environment it is often difficult to address speed through additional engineering or enforcement countermeasures.

The City of Sydney has launched a pedestrian safety education campaign addressing drivers with the question 'Can You Stop in Time?'



*Mark Wilson, Marketing Manager, Wilson Parking, Ken Kanagarajan, Manager, Parking Strategy City of Sydney, and Len Woodman, RSO City of Sydney*

Close liaison between City of Sydney, Wilson Parking and the RTA has recently resulted in the painting of a wall section at the Goulburn Street Parking Station with a mural depicting a pedestrian body outline together with reminders to drivers about speed in the City.

The mural is complemented by posters and the distribution of fliers and ATSB Impact Speed 'smart cards'.

The City of Sydney has around 20,000 off-street public parking spaces at a number of car parking stations. Advertising at these locations has the advantage of targeting road users at the time of transition from driver to pedestrian.

For more information please contact RSO for the City of Sydney, Len Woodman on telephone 9265 9212.

## **BLUE MOUNTAINS, BLACKTOWN, HAWKESBURY, BAULKHAM HILLS, CAMPBELLTOWN AND PENRITH COUNCILS**

### **FARM tackles Short Distance Driver Fatigue**

A forum was held recently in Penrith to draw attention to the issue of driver fatigue, particularly over short distances. The seminar involved police, ambulance service, RTA, IPWEA, health and heavy vehicle industry representatives.

Participants heard reports on sleep disorders and how they affect driving performance, driver fatigue from the perspective of a police accident investigator, and, a report on responsibilities with regard to fatigue from an occupational health and safety perspective.

The forum was held as part of the Fatalities and Accidents on Rural Main Roads Project (FARM) which was launched in Penrith in 1998 to target speeding and driver fatigue. The FARM project has now extended across a number of councils particularly on Sydney's urban rural fringe. FARM features road side storybook signs to 'drive home' speed and fatigue messages.

Penrith Police have completed some research regarding the storybook signs and fatigue with 78 drivers involved in local accidents likely to have involved fatigue.

Two surveys were conducted. One survey sought feedback on FARM Storybook Road Side signs and driver opinions regarding what constituted a short trip and canvassed the possibility of fatigue on short trips. The other survey attempted to discover what the driver was doing before and during the accident. It also sought information on the amount of sleep the driver had had before their journey.

Some trends emerging from the responses to date indicate that the majority had been travelling for less than an hour, some for less than 30 minutes, and many were travelling to or from work. Most drivers reported adequate sleep before the journey although there is no information to date about cumulative sleep debt.

Respondents could describe fatigue and noted



that the FARM storybook signs underline the dangers of not being alert while driving. Short trips were generally viewed as journeys of less than one hour.

To date much attention has centred on long distance driver fatigue however this research and the partnerships further developed through the forum will contribute to future local short distance fatigue campaigns. For more information please contact Penrith City Council RSO Cathy Edwards on telephone 4732 7735.

## **PARKES SHIRE COUNCIL**

### **A Walk in Parkes**

Parkes Shire Council recently completed a pedestrian safety campaign, 'Walk! with care.'

The campaign followed a local survey which confirmed walking as a favourite activity for older people but highlighted that pedestrian safety needed to be addressed. The survey revealed that in the recent two year period 55% of aged respondents had cause to feel at risk of being hit by a vehicle.

'Walk! with care.' was designed to promote walking while addressing the issues that placed the older pedestrian at risk. The campaign encouraged pedestrians to use a crossing, to look before stepping onto the road and to use a torch or wear light coloured clothing at night.

The campaign had a strong local flavour with the town's pharmacist, police constable and well known retirees featuring in radio and press ads.

Signage, reinforcing the campaign messages, was also installed about town. It is planned that 'Walk! with care.' will be a springboard

for other pedestrian initiatives within the Shire.

For further information contact Parkes Shire Council Design and Asset Manager Rob Staples on telephone 6861 2340.

## **BLACKTOWN, BLUE MOUNTAINS, HAWKESBURY AND PENRITH COUNCILS**

### **Chook Crosses Road to Success!**

The next exciting phase of the 'Lead By Example' child pedestrian program is about to take flight. Parents and carers of children in the 0-4 year age group in the Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury and Penrith Local Government Areas will soon be exposed to the sound advice of the 'Lead By Example' chook.

The chook encourages parents and carers to be good role models when in and around the road environment. The two previous phases of 'Lead By Example' have targeted the parents and carers of children aged 5 to 12. This latest phase concentrates on the importance of supervision and handholding, and also introduces parents to the concept of 'commentary walking,' where adults talk with their children about safety aspects of their shared pedestrian journey as it is happening.

The program provides the opportunity for parents and carers to hear critical messages in the early stages of their child's development and to be supported by the Kids & Traffic curriculum.

One of the outstanding aspects of this program is its ability to be transferred to other environments via what is referred to as the 'chookscape'. This involves replicating certain aspects of the program in places such as local hospitals in an effort to extend the messages to locations where parents and carers can be further exposed to the messages.

In May of this year, Hawkesbury District Health Service implemented 'Lead By Example' in its Children's Ward. The outdoor area now boasts a mini-crossing complete with footsteps stencil, foot and chook prints around the walls of the children's play area and a gateway sign on the main crossing in the hospital grounds. Nepean, Blue Mountains and Blacktown Hospitals are expected to adopt the program in the very near future.

The chook's fine feathered friends in this program include Kids & Traffic, Kidsafe, Wentworth and Western Sydney Area Health Services, Hawkesbury District Health, Children's Services within Council, Police, Playgroup Association and Family Day Care. For further information please contact Blue Mountains RSO Glenn Sherlock on 4780 5513.

# OTHER ROAD SAFETY HAPPENINGS

## RTA ACTION PLANS FOR ROAD SAFETY 2010

The RTA has started the development of five new Action Plans. These will fit under the strategic framework of Road Safety 2010, which was launched by the Minister for Roads in November, 1999. The Action Plans cover the period from the beginning of the current financial year to financial year 2003/04. They will be RTA plans developed with the input of key stakeholders.

**The first five Action Plans are on Speed Management, Drink Driving, Driver Fatigue, Pedestrians and Motorcyclist and Bicyclist Safety. Each is being developed in a four-step process.**

The first step is an early draft Plan put together for each topic from: Road Safety 2010, the recommendations of the recent Road Safety Task Force and Behavioural Study, a Problem Definition and Countermeasures Summary where one exists for the topic, and comments made by the community at last year's Road Safety Public

Forums held in Bathurst, Maitland and Campbelltown.

This early draft is then workshopped by an RTA group consisting of Road Safety Strategy Managers, Marketing specialists and the Client Services Managers responsible for the implementation of RTA programs in the Regions.

The draft arising from that workshop is then considered by a group of 15-25 external stakeholders from organisations with a special interest in the topic area. For example, for Drink Driving, the Australian Hotels Association and Clubs NSW attended the workshop, along with the Police Service, the Motor Accidents Authority and other key stakeholders. The IPWEA has been invited to the external workshops for all five Plans, and has provided valuable input. Council Road Safety Officers have also been invited

to each of the workshops, with the aim being to attract two, from different locations, for each Plan.

After the external workshop the draft Plan is then considered by the RTA managers who will be responsible for implementing it, and a final draft is developed which takes into account government priorities, the available resources and the areas of current greatest need with regard to the road toll.

It is intended to hold two more Road Safety Public Forums later this year, at which the final drafts of the Plans can be put to a broader cross-section of the community and final comments incorporated. Following the Minister's approval it is anticipated that the Plans will be published and placed on the Internet.

Plans to be produced early in 2002 include Heavy Vehicle Safety.



## ABORIGINAL ROAD SAFETY

The RTA will shortly appoint an Aboriginal Road Safety Policy & Strategy Coordinator for a 12-month period. The Coordinator will work with key staff across the Authority to develop strategies and policies including funding guidelines for RTA Regions to reduce the incidences of road trauma in Aboriginal Communities across the state.

The RTA completed a NSW Aboriginal Road Safety Profile in 1999. The profile was based on data from the NSW Department of Health and the Australian Bureau of Statistics deaths database. The report also noted that the Aboriginal road fatality rate is rising faster than the non-Aboriginal fatality rate. Aboriginal pedestrians and passengers were at a higher risk of being killed than similar non-Aboriginal road users. This is one of the most comprehensive reports produced on Indigenous Road Safety Issues in Australia. A summary of the report will be produced and made available to the wider community towards the end of this year.

Most Aboriginal road user fatalities occur in Western (37%) and Northern (37%) RTA Regions with a further 15% being killed in Sydney Region.

The RTA has been represented on the National Aboriginal Road Safety Working Group since late 1997. In August 2000 a NSW Aboriginal Road Safety Strategy Reference Group was established to assist the RTA to develop a state policy. The reference group consists of RTA Aboriginal Liaison Officers and representatives from NSW Premier's Department, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, Attorney Generals Department, Local Government and the NSW Health Department.

In May this year the RTA and the Department of Fair Trading jointly launched the 'Kooris & Cars' program. The program was developed by the RTA and the Department of Fair Trading and focuses on assisting Aboriginal consumers to understand their basic rights when purchasing or financing vehicles. RTA presenters conduct sessions on licensing, registration and selecting a safe and road worthy vehicle.

The 'Kooris & Cars' program is a free service. For more information please contact John Wall RTA Country Programs and Special Projects Manager on telephone 4221 2477.

## DRIVING CULTURES PROJECT

The University of Western Sydney, School of Cultural Inquiry, has recently completed a report of focus groups designed to explore the social and cultural dimensions of driving, particularly for young drivers.

**The report notes that our society views driving as a readily learned skill and as a right. The focus groups, as part of the Driving Cultures Project, aimed to broaden this outlook to encompass the social aspects of driving including attitudes, dealing with the traffic environment, peer influence, and, driving as a social activity.**

Focus group questions centred around the issue of control and the ways in which driving gives young people a sense of control. The issue of gaining greater control is often dealt with by acquiring greater external controls such as control of a car. The report recommends that there be a greater focus on subjective controls related to internal goals and motives, and the influence of significant others on these factors. The report thus notes the importance of focusing on broader community attitudes to driving and their influence on young drivers.

A copy of the Driving Cultures Project Focus Group Report is available from Project Director Sarah Redshaw email [driving.cultures@uws.edu.au](mailto:driving.cultures@uws.edu.au)



*Ian Turner, Paul Forward, Carl Scully, Karen Etheridge and Angela Tokic at the Award Ceremony*

## A REPORT FROM RTA SOUTHERN REGION

The RTA Southern Region recently won the RTA Road Safety Excellence Award for the implementation of the Safer Routes to School (SRTS) Program across the Region. The SRTS team was presented with the award by the Minister for Roads, the Hon Carl Scully.

While the SRTS program has been implemented statewide, the Southern Region team has been recognised for providing a cost effective and quality delivery of the program. It is notable that with 75% of the region's primary schools participating, the Region has amongst the highest participation rates in the State.

**This year the award winners were Angela Tokic, Karen Etheridge and Ian Turner who led the implementation of the program across Southern Region.**

In 1999, the RTA Excellence in Road Safety Award was won by Rob Reynolds and Donna Bins, also from Southern Region, for the implementation of the Summer Bus alternative transport program.

Southern Region RTA acknowledges the considerable contribution of Road Safety Officers to the success of both programs and the Region's Road User Safety Manager Kim Denyer notes that 'plans are currently underway to ensure the award trifecta'.



# PERSONNEL COMINGS AND GOINGS

**WITH THE RECENT EXPANSION OF THE ROAD SAFETY OFFICER PROGRAM WE WELCOME A NUMBER OF PEOPLE TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROAD SAFETY PROGRAM.**



Trudy Stewart has taken up the RSO position covering the council areas Tumut, Gundagai and Tumbarumba Shires. Trudy was previously the Gundagai Safe Communities Project Coordinator. Graham Crowden, with a background in law enforcement and local government is now the RSO for Yass and Gunning Shires and Belinda Ingold is the RSO for Wagga Wagga, Junee and Coolamon Councils. Belinda previously worked in the administration of funding programs.

Karen Thompson is the RSO for Bland, Temora and Cootamundra Councils, Brett Foster is the new RSO at Hurstville City Council, Charlene Zimmatore has taken up the RSO position at Ku-ring-gai and Claire Campbell is the new RSO at Wollondilly.

The RTA South Western Region welcomes Julie Foster to the position of Road User Safety Manager. Julie has a background in psychology and social welfare and has worked in positions across NSW for NSW Health. Lee Holmes is filling in for Ian Powell from RTA Hunter Region. Ian has taken a two year secondment.

Youthsafe welcomes new Project Coordinator Kristy Abbott, and, the Local Government and Shires Associations welcome Julie Ritsinias to the position of Roads and Transport Policy Officer.

We say farewell to Carol Bunt, IPWEA Road Safety Project Officer, who has moved with her family to Brisbane, and welcome Urszula Wynd to the position. Urszula has recent experience in local government, workplace training, and, adult and community education and is well qualified to continue the administration of the Certificate IV in Road Safety training program.

We also say farewell to Rob Lennon. Rob spent 4 years as RTA Manager Community and Intergency Programs. I am sure that over that period most have had reason to value his support, his humour and his 'turn of phrase'. 'At the end of the day' we would all like to thank Rob for his contribution and wish him every success with his future endeavours. We now welcome Stephen Waite to this position. Stephen was formerly RTA Manager School Education Programs.

## CONFERENCE CALENDAR

### 8TH WORLD CONGRESS ON INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS

30 September – 4 October, 2001, Sydney. For information see [www.itsworldcongress.org](http://www.itsworldcongress.org)

### IPWEA (NSW DIVISION) ANNUAL CONFERENCE – BEYOND BOUNDARIES

28 October – 1 November, 2001, Port Macquarie. For more information please contact Suzanna Barnes-Gillard on telephone 8267 3006 or see the web site [www.ipwea.org.au](http://www.ipwea.org.au)

### ROAD SAFETY POLICE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE – REGAIN THE MOMENTUM

Workshops on 18 November, Conference 19-20 November 2001. For more information please contact [irene.thavarajah@adm.monash.edu.au](mailto:irene.thavarajah@adm.monash.edu.au)

#### CALENDAR AMENDMENT

The MAA Pedestrian Seminar scheduled for Friday 19 October 2001 has been postponed to May 2002. Details including date and venue will be announced in a future edition of the newsletter so watch this space.

### ROAD SAFETY AUDIT COURSE

The next Road Safety Audit course is planned for 11-12 November 2001. For more information please contact Suzanna Barnes-Gillard on telephone 8267 3006.

## CONTRIBUTIONS FEEDBACK

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter, or for further information contact:

Julie Edwards, Road Safety Project Manager,  
Institute of Public Works Engineering  
Australia (IPWEA), NSW Division  
Level 12, 447 Kent St  
SYDNEY 2000

Phone 8267 3012 • Fax 9283 5255  
Mobile 0408 660 420  
email [jedwards@ipwea.org.au](mailto:jedwards@ipwea.org.au)

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*This newsletter is produced on behalf of the stakeholders of the Local Government Road Safety Program by the IPWEA, as part of the IPWEA/RTA Local Government Road Safety Project, funded by the RTA.*

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