



ROAD MATTERS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

PROVIDING COMMUNITY EDUCATION THAT CREATES RESPONSIBLE ROAD USERS AND SAFER COMMUNITIES.



THIS MONTH: Alternative Transport

While car travel continues to be the most popular mode of transport across Australia, alternative transport continues to play an important role in how people move around every day. In 2023 alone, it was recorded that an upward of 90% of Australians walked for transport or leisure each week; a number we're sure has remained steady until now. At the same time, cycling also continues to be a part of everyday travel and recreation, with 36.7% of Australians reporting having ridden a bike in 2025. Throw the public transport system and e-rideables into the mix, and you have an array of road users and alternative transport types, resulting in the need to be extra mindful of how to best share the road.

Whether you're driving the car, or simply sharing the road with one, remember, road safety is a shared responsibility. Protect yourself and those you share the road with by avoiding distractions, speeding, intoxicated driving and fatigued driving, as well as always remembering to wear and have the appropriate protective gear and restraints for your chosen mode of transport, whether that's a seatbelt, helmet, hi-vis reflective clothing or the like.

NSW Police Charged with Negligent Driving

A 32-year-old male NSW Police Officer has been charged with negligent driving following a collision with a bike on Friday, the 3rd of October 2025, in Casuarina.

The senior constable was patrolling the area, approximately 800 km north of Sydney, around 4 pm, when he attempted to stop a 14-year-old male bike rider on Grand Parade. It is alleged that the police vehicle he was driving went onto the footpath, after which there was a collision with the teenage rider and the vehicle.

NSW paramedics treated the rider for non-life-threatening injuries.

Following an investigation, the senior constable was issued with a notice for attendance on Wednesday, the 18th of March, 2026, for negligent driving.

He is expected to appear in Byron Bay Local Court on Monday, the 11th of 2026.



He is currently on restricted duties with his employment status currently under review.

WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

Next month is **Distracted Driving**.

Distraction is one of the Fatal Five Factors that contribute to the majority of collisions that result in death. It can be obvious things like looking at your phone instead of the road, or it can be more subtle, like listening to the radio.



In April, we will look at what distractions are, how to limit them, and why they're so dangerous. We'd also love to hear from you about what unexpected distractions you've faced and how you prepare to prevent them.

MONTHLY ROAD FACT

DID YOU KNOW?

This month, we saw one of Australia's biggest annual racing events, the F1 Australian Grand Prix. Over three days, drivers from all over the world drive on the track at Albert Park to get a feel for it before qualifying for the final race on the Sunday, consisting of 58 laps.

There is a regulated minimum distance that must be covered, that determines the number of laps required at each track, but do you know what the minimum distance is?

- A) 300km
- B) 315m
- C) 305km
- D) 350km

ANSWER: C

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ROAD TIP OF THE MONTH

It's not uncommon for people to have some kind of knick-knack in their car, air fresheners, or just general life clutter. This can seem harmless, but in no time, one loose shopping bag can turn into a couple loose bags, a jacket, an empty drink bottle, and your old phone charger that you keep forgetting to throw out, and this is when it can become dangerous. Not only can these move around while driving and become a distraction, but they can be hazardous if they get in the way of the controls of the car, like rolling under your brake pedal. Further, in the event of a collision, heavier objects (remember the drink bottle?) can become projectiles and cause additional injuries.

Ensuring that loose items are secured can reduce distractions and prevent hazards.



KEY DATES • EVENTS TO REMEMBER

3rd Good Friday

21st World Creativity and Innovation Day

4th Easter Long Weekend

28th Workers Memorial Day

7th World Health Day

28th World Day for Safety and Health at Work



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