

ROAD SENSE AUSTRALIA

ROAD MATTERS
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

THIS MONTH: Heavy Vehicle Safety

Heavy vehicles are an essential part of everyday life in Australia, keeping the country moving with the goods and materials we rely on daily. Yet despite their presence on our roads, many Australians don't understand the risks of sharing the road with them.

This month, we explored the key things every driver should know, from blind spots and stopping distances to common myths and what the facts are that lead drivers to take dangerous risks around trucks.

The numbers are sobering. Heavy vehicles make up just 3 to 4% of registered vehicles on Australian roads, yet are involved in around 20% of all road fatalities. Further, in approximately 80% of fatal crashes involving heavy vehicles, the truck driver is not at fault. This means the way everyday drivers behave around heavy vehicles matters enormously.

A truck travelling at 100km/h needs up to 90m to stop. Give heavy vehicles the space they need, stay out of their blind spots, and never rush a manoeuvre around a truck. Patience on the road isn't just courtesy. It's survival.

Heavy Vehicle Safety

BLIND SPOTS: WHAT TRUCK DRIVERS CAN'T SEE

Heavy vehicles have 4 major blind spots:

- Directly in front of the cab
- Directly behind the trailer
- Along the left side (the largest blind spot)
- The right side of the cab to the mid-trailer



If you can't see the truck driver's mirrors, they can't see you.

Expression of Interest to be one of our presenters!

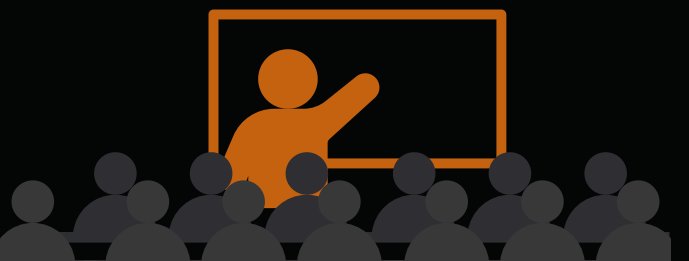
We're looking for Road Safety Presenters across New South Wales

Road Sense Australia is expanding its face-to-face education programs across NSW, and we're looking for passionate presenters to join our team.

Whether it's front-line experience or a direct story with road trauma, join us in delivering engaging road safety education presentations face-to-face and/or via Zoom class, and help reduce road trauma to save lives.

We're looking for someone based in NSW who is a strong communicator and comfortable with public speaking and confident doing so to a diverse audience.

Contact Lillian at lillian@roadsense.org.au to express your interest in becoming part of the Road Sense Australia Team.



WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

Our theme for July is the Fatal Five.

These are five factors that most commonly contribute to road fatalities that we can control as drivers. These factors are speed, driving under the influence, fatigue, distraction, and not properly wearing seatbelts or protective gear.



We will look at the data surrounding these factors and the things you can do to mitigate their risk.

MONTHLY ROAD FACT

DID YOU KNOW?

While visiting New York during the snow, Mary Anderson noticed that tram drivers often had to open their windows or stop and get out to wipe the windshield so that they could see. This led her to invent a device with a lever inside the vehicle connected to a rubber-bladed arm on the windshield so that it could be cleaned. This went on to become the windshield wiper we have on cars today.

What year did Mary Anderson get the patent for her windshield wiper?

A) 1895

B) 1903

C) 1908

D) 1912

ANSWER: B

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WHS PROGRAM FOR OCCUPATIONAL DRIVERS

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ROAD TIP OF THE MONTH

ARE YOUR WINDSCREEN WIPERS READY FOR THE RAIN?

As we are now in winter, it is a good time to double-check your windscreen wipers are in working order. Over time, the rubber in the blades can degrade, which is accelerated by exposure to the elements like sunlight and extreme temperatures. The two biggest issues with deteriorated wiper blades are that they smear rather than clear your windscreen, and they can even scratch the glass. You can check if your blades need to be replaced by gently lifting the blade and looking for signs of splitting or cracks in the rubber blade. If needed, you can find what wipers are compatible with your car in your user manual.

Next time you head out for a drive, remember to check the condition of your windshield wipers and replace them before they become dangerous.

JULY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

July: Fatal Five

KEY DATES • EVENTS TO REMEMBER

15th World Youth Skills Day



26th DonateLife Week



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