

ROAD SENSE AUSTRALIA

ROAD MATTERS
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

THIS MONTH: Youth Road Safety Education

Looking at youth road safety statistics this month has shown that there is a clear pattern of young people being over-represented in casualties. Young male drivers (16-24 years old) made up, on average, from 2016 to 2025, 6.32% of all licence holders, but 14.54% of all driver fatalities. Further, 15-24-year-olds have the highest rate of hospitalisation due to transport-related injuries, so much so that they have 57% more hospitalisations than the second-highest cohort of 25-to 44-year-olds.

We believe that education can be key to helping correct statistics like this. It is never too early to begin teaching children about road safety. You don't have to start with fear tactics and the worst possible situations, but something as simple as always reminding your child that we wear seatbelts to stay safe, even if we don't enjoy wearing them.

On top of this, some of these lessons can help develop an important understanding of topics for when they begin driving themselves. For example, teaching kids that distractions like loud noises make it hard for the driver to focus on their task of keeping everyone safe, and it means that the driver can't always talk to them. As this kid becomes older and takes the driver's seat, they already know that talking to their friends or listening to the radio can be a distraction.

Being a safe road user isn't always innate or common sense, and helping those who are still growing up to understand what it means is important to keeping us all safe.





Hit and Run Driver Charged

On Monday, August 24th 2026, a 29-year-old male was charged following an alleged hit-and-run the day prior in Carlingford, about 30 minutes north-east of Sydney. He was refused bail and scheduled to appear before Parramatta Local Court on the same day.

Officers from the Hills Police Area Command attended to reports that came in around midday on Sunday, August 23rd 2026, that a pedestrian had been hit by a vehicle. When they arrived on scene, they found a 34-year-old man stuck under a Nissan Van, and the driver had allegedly left the scene on foot.

After being freed from under the vehicle, the man was taken to hospital, with reports that he is in a critical condition.

The 29-year-old was found in a search of Bushland and allegedly returned a positive result on a roadside breath test. He was taken to Castle Hills Police Station, where he refused to provide further breath testing and was subsequently taken to hospital for mandatory testing under police guard before being brought back to the station.

There he was charged with drive motor vehicle during disqualification period, refuse or fail to submit to breath analysis and not give particulars to police.

WHAT'S ON NEXT MONTH?

Next month we'll be looking at Stress in September.

We all know that there are five behavioural factors on the road that contribute to road crashes, but our daily lives and the circumstances in them can also effect our emotions and wellbeing, increasing the chances of something going wrong on the road.

Keep an eye out for next months theme to discover how stress can play a role on the road and your safety behind the wheel.



MONTHLY ROAD FACT

DID YOU KNOW?

It should come as no shock to any of us here that Australia is big. Like really big. In fact, we are the sixth biggest country and account for 5% of the total land area worldwide. Combine that with the fact that we're not even in the top 50 by population, and it leads to many of us needing to travel regularly.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts has estimated how many kilometres our vehicles travelled in the 2024-2025 year, how many do you think it was?

A) 264 billion

B) 322 billion

C) 152 billion

D) 183 billion

ANSWER: A

TRAFFIC OFFENDER INTERVENTION PROGRAM

ONE-DAY \$190 BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE PROGRAM

LEARN MORE & SIGN UP FOR YOUR TOIP TODAY

CHECK OUT THE TOIP VIDEO!

DRIVE IT HOME

WHS PROGRAM FOR OCCUPATIONAL DRIVERS

REGISTER TO BE THE FIRST NOTIFIED WHEN OUR NEW DRIVE IT HOME IS AVAILABLE AUSTRALIA WIDE

ROAD TIP OF THE MONTH

A PLAN B ISN'T ONLY FOR WHEN YOU'RE OVER THE LIMIT

When we talk about having a Plan B, we are often referring to ensuring that you have a way to get home safely if you have been drinking. However, having an alternative way home doesn't need to be limited to times when you're under the influence. If you know that you won't be in the best shape mentally or physically to be driving, it's important that you arrange another form of transport. Whether you're fatigued from physically running a marathon, or mentally distracted due to something like pre-presentation nerves, then you shouldn't be the one driving.

Being a safe road user is your responsibility, even if that means using alternative transport.



KEY DATES • EVENTS TO REMEMBER

6th Father's Day

10th World Suicide Prevention Day

12th R U OK?Day

22nd World Car Free Day