

NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST



ANNUAL REPORT | 1999/2000

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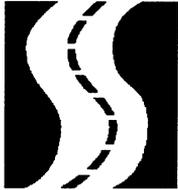


ANNUAL REPORT | **1999/2000**



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Mr Brendan Smyth, MLA
Minister for Urban Services
ACT Legislative Assembly
London Circuit
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Smyth

In accordance with the requirements of Part 9 of the Schedule to the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust Act 1992, we have pleasure in presenting to you the annual report and financial statements for the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

A copy of the report has also been sent to Mr Doug Pearce, General Manager Commercial Insurance and Financial Services, NRMA Insurance Limited, Sydney.

Yours sincerely

John Kirby
Chairman

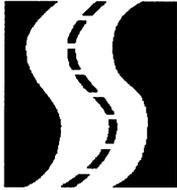
Mark McKenzie
Trustee

Ken Horsham
Trustee

Rear-Admiral Ian Crawford, AM (Rtd)
Trustee

Ms Sandi Peisley APM
Trustee

18 October 2000



NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST

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Mr Doug Pearce
General Manager Commercial Insurance
and Financial Services
NRMA Insurance Ltd
Level 19, NRMA Centre
388 George Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Pearcej

In accordance with the requirements of Part 9 of the Schedule to the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust Act 1992, we have pleasure in presenting to you the annual report and financial statements for the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000.

A copy of the report has also been sent to Mr Brendan Smyth, MLA, the ACT Minister for Urban Services.

Yours sincerely

John Kirby
Chairman

Mark McKenzie
Trustee

Ken Horsham
Trustee

Rear-Admiral Ian Crawford, AM (Rtd)
Trustee

Ms Sandi Peisley APM
Trustee

18 October 2000

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1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

It gives me pleasure to present this report on the Trust's activities for the year 1999/2000.

In reviewing the events of the past year, I was reminded of the range of diverse and innovative activities funded by the Trust and the period featured numerous highlights. One particular milestone was the launch of the *Road Ready* program on 25 February 2000 by the Minister for Urban Services Mr Brendan Smyth and Minister for Education and Community Services Mr Bill Stefaniak. This revolutionary novice driver program is specifically designed to promote improved road safety among drivers aged between 17 and 25 years – a category most vulnerable to serious crashes. By 30 June 2000 most ACT high schools had either implemented *Road Ready* or were finalising arrangements to do so. The potential this program has to reduce road trauma ensures the Trust investment of \$2 million will be money well spent.

Vulnerable road users featured in a number of Trust-funded projects launched during the year. The Council on the Ageing was the recipient of a substantial grant for a comprehensive road safety program for older drivers. The program is designed to minimise the risks older drivers face on the roads and has proven extremely popular.

Canberra has a high proportion of cyclists and our excellent network of bike paths encourages this healthy pursuit. However, cyclists are a vulnerable category of road users and cycle safety received high priority in funding – particularly in the area of conspicuity.

The delight in the eyes of children at Ngunnawal Primary at the launch of the *Winding Serpent* road safety video last April was heart warming in the extreme. Parents, grandparents, and teachers shared in the fun as one of the puppets featured in the video 'assisted' both Brendan Smyth and Bill Stefaniak in the launch. All ACT and regional primary schools have received a copy of this video and its accompanying teachers' manual and the project will make a major contribution to the safety of children, especially as they travel to and from school.

While the focus of the Trust is Canberra and the surrounding region, the safety of our motorists when travelling inter-state remains a concern. In this regard, the Trust commissioned a study into crashes involving ACT motorists in New South Wales and the results were sobering. The study indicated problems with the demands of Sydney traffic, highway speed and fatigue, and as a result, the ACT Government has commissioned further research to assist in the development of appropriate countermeasures.

Each of the above activities (and those detailed in the following pages) is an excellent example of community organisations, research bodies and government working in harmony with the Trust to deliver outcomes beneficial to the ACT community. These co-operative bonds will undoubtedly prove to be strong foundations for future road safety endeavours.

The twelve months just ended represent the first year's operation of an annual grant program by the Trust and the evidence indicates it has been very successful. The Trust has received an overwhelming response to its call for applications for next year's grant program and I am sure the final program approved by the Trust will be as beneficial to the ACT community as the current program is proving to be.

On behalf of the Trust, I would like to thank those organisations and individuals that have provided the Trust with advice and support during the year. In particular, I would like to mention KPMG, which provided its usual high quality accounting services and the National Australia Bank, which also continued its excellent banking service. In addition, Dr Michael Henderson provided the Trust with safety advice of the highest order.

Finally, I thank my fellow Trustees and the Secretariat for their dedication and teamwork in pursuing and achieving the Trust's objectives during the year.



John Kirby
Chairman

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

2.1 1999/2000 GRANT PROGRAM

The most significant event of the year was the announcement on 22 July 1999 of the 1999/2000 Grant Program by Trust Chairman Mr John Kirby. The Program comprised grants totalling \$580,334 for eighteen innovative projects across a wide spectrum of the community.

This was the first annual program approved by the Trust since the joint announcement by the ACT Government and NRMA Insurance that the Trust would be continuing its road safety role under new funding arrangements. These grants took total Trust funding for road safety initiatives in the ACT to almost \$13 million, since it was established in 1992. Details of the individual projects are provided in Section 4.4 of this Report.

2.2 OLDER DRIVER SAFETY INITIATIVES - COUNCIL ON THE AGEING

A particular highlight of the Grant Program was an allocation of \$150,000 to the Council on the Ageing ACT for the development of a comprehensive road safety program for older drivers. This project had particular significance given that 1999 was the International Year of Older Persons. The project was launched on 13 March 2000 by the Member for Ginninderra and Government Whip, Mr Harold Hird MLA and received widespread media coverage.

2.3 ROAD SAFETY RESEARCH, POLICING AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE - AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT SAFETY BUREAU

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (formerly the Federal Office of Road Safety) was the recipient of a grant for \$20,000 to assist with the costs of staging the 1999 Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference in Canberra between 28–30 November 1999. Part of the grant was earmarked for an award for *Best Paper Presented by a New Researcher*, and Mark McKenzie presented this award to Chief Inspector Chris Bult for a paper on 'Police Pursuits – A Safety Education Perspective' at the conference dinner on 29 November 1999, at Old Parliament House.

The conference was extremely successful with 300 national and international delegates attending. The Trust award will be presented again in 2000.

2.4 EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SPEED CAMERAS IN THE ACT

The Trust approved a grant of \$60,000 to ARRB Transport Research for an eighteen month study into the effectiveness of the ACT's speed camera program introduced into the Territory on 6 October 1999. The study involved collecting data on vehicle speeds and the proportion of motorists exceeding the posted speed limits, immediately prior to the introduction of the cameras, and at intervals of one, two, three, six, nine, twelve and eighteen months afterwards. This data will be used to analyse the benefits of speed cameras, as both a specific and generalised speed deterrent, and the reports made available to the ACT Government.

The evaluation reports after one and six months clearly indicated speed cameras were having a positive impact on motorists' attitudes and behaviour in relation to speeding. Both progress reports received significant and sustained positive media coverage.

2.5 CRASHES INVOLVING ACT VEHICLES OUTSIDE THE ACT (IN NSW)

A research report commissioned by the Trust on crashes involving ACT vehicles/motorists in NSW produced some worrying results and created considerable media interest. The study was undertaken by ARRB Transport Research, which examined crash records between 1992 and June 1999 relating to the State's main highways and the Sydney metropolitan area. The report was released on 8 June 2000 and some of its key findings indicated that speed, fatigue and big city driving were clearly areas requiring urgent attention. In recognition of the importance of the findings, the ACT Government commissioned further research to assist in the development of road safety countermeasures.

2.6 AUSTRALIA DAY DISPLAY - COMMONWEALTH PARK

The Trust mounted a static display in Commonwealth Park on Australia Day 26 January 2000, as part of an NRMA Expo covering a range of activities from early road service memorabilia to police pursuit vehicles and a display of the new speed cameras. The Trust display comprised a brief history, its objectives and details of some major projects, including photographs. The very popular Trust-funded *Winding Serpent* video (series 1) was shown continuously throughout the day and provided ongoing entertainment for children and adults alike.

2.7 WINSTON CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP - LUNCHTIME FORUM ON IDENTIFYING DRUGS IN DRIVERS.

A very successful Lunchtime Forum was held on 10 August 1999 at the Chifley-on-Northbourne at which Senior Constable Mick Guy spoke on the latest international methods of detecting drugs in drivers. Senior Constable Guy was awarded an NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust Churchill Fellowship in 1999 to undertake an international study aimed at identifying drugs in drivers and had just returned from studying the latest techniques in the USA, UK, Sweden and Germany. Some 55 people from a diverse range of interests attended the Forum, which attracted considerable media attention.

2.8 'LANDMARK' PROJECTS

The Trust has funded four 'Landmark' projects. These are projects involving grants over \$500,000 that will have long term benefits for the ACT road-using community. While two of these projects are completed, the following two remained active during the year:

- ***Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine.*** The Trust has provided a grant of \$3.5 million to the Canberra Clinical School for the establishment of this position 'in perpetuity'. Associate Professor Drew Richardson took up duty on 11 November 1998 and on 11 November 1999, ACT Chief Minister, Kate Carnell, officially opened a new office suite for Professor Richardson.
- ***Road Ready Program (formerly New Drivers: New Attitudes).*** The Trust has provided the ACT Department of Urban Services with a grant of almost \$2 million for a novice driver education program targeting road trauma reduction for drivers under 25. It involves a series of training packages aimed at improving the attitudes and behaviour of novice drivers.

On 22 September 1999, the ACT Urban Services Minister Brendan Smyth unveiled the logo and name for *Road Ready* and announced the preliminary results of the project's very successful pilot program involving 650 Year 10 students from ten government and private schools. The program was co-launched into ACT schools on 25 February 2000 by Brendan Smyth and Minister for Education and Community Services Bill Stefaniak.

These projects are covered in more detail in Section 4.4 of this report.

3. OBJECTIVES, MEMBERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS OF THE TRUST

3.1 ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TRUST

On 21 December 1991, the ACT Government and NRMA Insurance Ltd jointly announced the establishment of a trust fund into which \$10 million would be invested and from which expenditure on projects to enhance road safety for the benefit of the ACT road-using community would be drawn. NRMA Insurance Ltd made this amount available, as a result of surplus third party premiums arising from lower than expected compulsory third party injury insurance claims against NRMA Insurance during the 1980s. Investment income earned in advance of project expenditure increased this original sum to over \$12 million.

The Trust was formally established under the *NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust Act 1992*. It is a statutory public charitable trust and is administered by a Board of Trustees comprising five part-time honorary members.

The \$12 million in funding was fully committed to projects by 30 June 1998 and the Trust was expected to be wound up by the year's end. However, during that year the ACT Government and NRMA Insurance jointly announced the Trust would be able to continue its role as a result of a new funding source. Income would come from the \$1.50 Road Safety Contribution, which is raised in association with ACT motor vehicle registration fees and matched by NRMA Insurance. It is estimated this will raise some \$500,000 annually for road safety purposes.

3.2 FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE TRUST

The Trust's principal objective is to enhance road safety for the benefit of the ACT road-using community.

In giving effect to its objectives the Trust, without limiting the generality of the principal objective, has the following additional objectives and purposes:

- (a) to promote and stimulate research and investigation on road safety, and implementation of accident and injury countermeasures, especially in the area of accident prevention and injury minimisation;
- (b) to encourage and promote the education of the ACT road-using community;
- (c) to co-operate with other bodies or organisations both within Australia and overseas having some or all of their purposes similar to the purposes of the Trust;
- (d) to construct or facilitate the construction of any physical improvements to any land in the Territory to promote safe driving practice;
- (e) to assist in the care and rehabilitation of persons injured or traumatised as a result of road accidents.

3.3 MEMBERSHIP

The five Trustees comprise two Trustees appointed by NRMA Insurance Ltd, two Trustees appointed by the ACT Government and a further Trustee appointed by agreement between NRMA Insurance Ltd and the ACT Government as an independent Chairperson of Trustees.

The Trustees are appointed to hold office until a date determined by the relevant Appointor or Appointors or until the Trust is wound up.



CHAIRMAN
Mr John Kirby
NRMA Insurance Ltd and
ACT Government Joint Appointee
(18.6.96 to 30.6.00)



Rear-Admiral Ian Crawford AM
NRMA Insurance Ltd
Appointee
(Inception to 30.6.00)



Mr Mark McKenzie
NRMA Insurance Ltd
Appointee
(24.4.99 to 30.6.00)



Mr Ken Horsham
ACT Government Appointee
(8.12.1998 to 30.6.00)



Ms Sandi Peisley APM
ACT Government Appointee
(8.12.98 to 30.6.00)

3.4 MEETINGS

Between 1 July 1999 and 30 June 2000 the Trust held three meetings as follows:

88th Trust Meeting	6 July 1999
89th Trust Meeting	28 October 1999
90th Trust Meeting	25 May 2000

Attendance at these meetings were as follows:

J Kirby	3
I Crawford	3
K Horsham	3
S Peisley	2 (interstate for the 90th meeting)
M. McKenzie	2 (interstate for the 90th meeting)



Trustees and Secretary/Manager at a recent meeting.

4. GRANT PROPOSALS AND APPROVALS

4.1 PROPOSALS RECEIVED

The Trust received sixty five requests for application packages in respect of the 1999/2000 Grant Program advertised in January 1999. This resulted in forty eight applications for grants being received with a value of over \$2 million.

The 88th Trust meeting on 4 July 1999 finalised the 1999/2000 Grant Program, which was announced by the Chairman on 22 July 1999. The Program comprised eighteen projects to the value of \$580,344. Details of these projects are provided later in this Section with a summary table at Appendix A.

4.2 ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

When an application is received, it is first appraised by the Secretariat against the eligibility criteria and guidelines set down by the Trust. If the project proposal is within the criteria and guidelines, the submission may be forwarded to at least one specialist road safety consultant for further assessment and recommendation to the Trustees.

Once an application has been approved, a draft Agreement, setting out the terms and conditions on which the project will be funded is prepared and forwarded to the applicant. On the execution of the final formal Project Agreement, arrangements are made for payment of a grant. Where the grant is under \$50,000, the project may be implemented by a Letter of Agreement.

4.3 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES

Any organisation or individual, including associations, non-profit groups, private companies and Government organisations can apply for a grant from the Trust. The main criteria against which projects will be judged are:

- ◆ High priority will be given to projects that focus on addressing the causes of accidents and injuries, and/or effective types of countermeasures;
- ◆ Projects should preferably have an on-going effect on reducing accidents and injuries. However, funding should involve a time-scale of no more than two years;
- ◆ Projects may assist in the treatment and rehabilitation of road accident victims;
- ◆ Projects must be consistent with the objectives of the Trust (see Section 3.2);
- ◆ They must not conflict with NRMA or ACT Government policies or programs;
- ◆ Relevant copyright and intellectual property requirements must be met;
- ◆ Projects must represent good value for the ACT community;
- ◆ Funds are usually only provided to projects that would not normally be eligible for Government funding;
- ◆ Projects need to be effectively controlled and administered;
- ◆ Project plans should allow performance to be evaluated;
- ◆ Projects should not be illegal or likely to lead to illegal activities; and should not unduly expose the Trust to the risk of liability; and
- ◆ Projects should not be associated with products or activities that mitigate against good driving practice.

These criteria and guidelines, and the processes by which the Trust determines grants, are outlined in detail in the Trust's Application Package provided to prospective applicants.

At a more general level, the Trustees have been concerned that a number of otherwise meritorious proposals which have been submitted to them from Government departments, or Government-related agencies, might not qualify for Trust sponsorship, where it might be argued that they should be funded by Government as part of the Government's normal responsibilities.

The Trustees thus decided that, as a matter of policy, they would make grants to Government departments and agencies or authorities with substantial Government involvement in certain limited instances. Those limited circumstances meant that any 'Government' proposal had demonstrated 'outstanding merit', a proven urgent need, and strong community support. Thus, although support is given primarily to non-Government groups and individuals, it has been possible in some cases that Government agencies will benefit either directly or indirectly from Trust grants.

4.4 1999/2000 GRANT PROGRAM

(A) NEW COMMUNITY PROJECTS

1. Nova Web Site Topic: The Science of Road Safety (Australian Academy of Science) – Project No. 2/99

Funding of \$5,000 was provided to develop and post on the Academy's Nova Web Site, a road safety topic aimed at teachers and students in Years 11-12 covering issues in relation to alcohol and driving. The web site was launched on 12 October 1999 and created widespread media interest. The site recorded some 3,000 hits between October and February 2000 and complementary links have been established with the *Road Ready* web site. The grant included a component for maintenance of the site for twelve months.

2. Enhancement of the Skills of Learner Drivers (Transport Training ACT) – Project No. 4/99

A grant of \$28,000 was approved to meet the costs of full-day weekend workshops for learner drivers and parents/carers involving classroom tuition and practical demonstrations aimed at enhancing the skills of learner drivers. The workshops are to be conducted at the Sutton Road Driver Training Centre and will be run over two financial years.

Four workshops have already been held and plans for the remainder are being finalised. The content of the remaining workshops is being revised to make them complementary and supportive of the new *Road Ready* novice driver training program introduced into ACT schools in February 2000.

3. Safe Young Drivers Awards Scheme Incentives (ACT and Region Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety) Project No. 5/99

The Trust granted \$14,000 to the ACT and Region Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety for the 'Safe Young Drivers Awards Scheme' (SYDAS) to be conducted in ACT and Queanbeyan Colleges in 1999 and 2000. The program aims to improve driver behaviour in a high risk group at a time when their long term driving attitudes and skills are being formed. It uses positive behaviour reward and reinforcement and peer group involvement to influence young drivers. The grant of \$14,000 will be directed towards 'incentive' prizes as well as promotional costs. Belconnen Rotary is sponsoring the main prizes with informal support from the ACT Department of Education and Community Services.

The 1999 Awards scheme was a great success with eight colleges participating and Ben Kreukniet from Erindale College was the winner. Other major awards went to Scott Mashall of Hawker College and Carlos Grande of Marist College. The Scheme will expand in 2000 and ten colleges are already registered. The Trust funded the initial trial of SYDAS in three ACT Colleges in 1997.

4. Fatigue Management Seminars (Southern Area Health Service Road Injury Advisory Group) Project No. 6/99

The Trust granted \$18,000 to the Southern Area Health Service Road Injury Advisory Group in May 1999 to conduct two seminars for fleet managers to encourage them to adopt or upgrade fatigue management policies and plans for their drivers/employees. Fatigue has been identified as the second most common causal factor in serious non-urban crashes in the ACT region. The seminars were aimed at establishing driver fatigue management as part of fleet control programs and would include driving/rest strategies and health/nutrition aspects.

The first workshop was held in Queanbeyan on 24 September 1999 and was well attended by a wide cross section of delegates from the ACT and region. The second was also held in Queanbeyan on 30 March 2000 and was well attended by fleet operators and Government authorities (local and State). The Queanbeyan Age newspaper ran an extensive article and a Fatigue Handbook has been produced, which has created widespread interest. Copies are available from the Trust Secretariat or the Southern Area Health Service office in Goulburn.



Secretary/Manager (middle) flanked by Dr Paul Van Buynder, Director, Southern NSW Public Health Unit (left) and Rob Reynolds, RTA Road Safety Officer, Wollongong (right) at the first Fatigue Management Seminar.

5. Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference (Australian Transport Safety Bureau) Project No. 8/99

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau (formerly the Federal Office of Road Safety) was granted \$20,000 to assist with the costs of staging the 1999 Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference in Canberra between 28 and 30 November 1999. Part of the grant was to be directed towards sponsoring an award for 'best paper presented by a new researcher'.

The Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference is the main annual Australasian road safety forum and is attended by a wide range of road safety practitioners. The hosting and venue is rotated between road safety authorities and police services in all Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand. It provides a forum for sharing and the transfer of information between people involved in different types of road safety activity, as well as presentation of new research, with strong emphasis on practical application and evaluation.

The conference was held at the Australian National University and was a tremendous success with some 300 delegates attending. Trustee Mark McKenzie presented the award for the 'best paper for a new researcher' at the conference dinner at Old Parliament House on the evening of 29 November 1999. The award went to Chief Inspector Chris Bult for a paper on 'Police Pursuits – A Safety Education Perspective'. The Trust award will be made again at the 2000 conference.

6. Road Trauma Conferences (Canberra Clinical School) Project No. 10/99

A grant of \$20,000 was made to the Canberra Clinical School to assist with the basic organisational costs for three inter-related road trauma conferences to be held in Canberra between 19 and 25 November 2000. Known as *Injury 2000* these prestigious conferences will bring high profile national and international experts on road trauma, injury prevention and rehabilitation to the ACT. The Trust contribution helped secure this conference and has been instrumental in ensuring the organisation of the conference could proceed with certainty. The Secretary/Manager, Mr Eddie Wheeler, will be presenting a paper at the conference on *'The NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust: An Accident Prevention Success Story'*.

7. Bicycle Conspicuity Promotion and Project Evaluation (Planning and Land Management) Project No. 12/99

The Trust approved a grant of \$19,500 for the promotion and evaluation of a bicycle conspicuity program, including the purchase and distribution of 2,000 reflective armbands. The distribution of the arm bands would be undertaken by Pedal Power ACT with some distributed to schools and some to cyclists, through Pedal Power's 'Ride to Work' Program.

Surveys indicate that ACT cyclists have low levels of light ownership and usage and addressing this issue formed part of the project. The ACT Minister for Urban Services Brendan Smyth MLA and Rear-Admiral Ian Crawford AM jointly launched the *Winter 2000 Bicycle Lighting Campaign* at the Australian National University on 4 May 2000. The project is scheduled to be completed by September 2000.



Minister for Urban Services, Brendan Smyth MLA (left) and Rear Admiral Ian Crawford AM at the launch of the Winter 2000 Bicycle Lighting Campaign

8. **How to Retire from Driving (Council on the Ageing) Project No. 15/99**

A grant of \$77,500 was provided to the Council on the Ageing (COTA) for the development of an information handbook for older drivers on options and strategies for mobility without driving. The Trust grant will enable Monash University's Accident Research Centre to produce a world's best practice handbook on issues such as self-assessment and self-regulation, trip planning and alternative transport options. This project formed part of the comprehensive road safety package called *Overdrive* launched by Mr Harold Hird MLA, Member for Ginninderra and Government Whip on 13 March 2000 and reported on below.

A very successful workshop was held at COTA's office in Hughes on 1 December 1999 with the contributions from participants, particularly the older drivers, becoming a vital ingredient in the handbook's development. The handbook is expected to be completed by the end of August 2000 and some 8,000 copies will be distributed free, through the Council's extensive contact network.



Mr Harold Hird MLA, speaking at the Overdrive launch on 13 March 2000.

9. **Older Driver Safety Courses (Council on the Ageing) Project No. 48/99**

The Council on the Ageing (COTA) was approved for a grant of \$72,500 for a comprehensive road safety course comprising the potential effects of medication on driving, basic first aid and driving skill refreshment and evaluation. Known as *Overdrive* this program was launched by Mr Harold Hird MLA, Member for Ginninderra and Government Whip, on 13 March 2000 at COTA's headquarters at Hughes.

Mr Hird presented a cheque to Mr Ralph Cartwright, President of COTA while Rear-Admiral Crawford AM spoke on behalf of the Trust. The occasion received considerable media coverage and the course

was a feature article in the *Canberra Times* supplement “Senior Times” the following weekend. *Overdrive* comprises 15 courses covering thirteen hours of instruction/tuition and will be run over an eighteen month period. The program has proven to be very popular and courses held to date have all been oversubscribed.



Mr Ralph Cartwright, President COTA (left), Mr Harold Hird MLA (centre) and Mr Mark McKenzie, Regional Manager, NRMA ACT and Southern NSW hold the grant cheque for \$150,000.

10. **Capsule Replacement Program (Kidsafe ACT) Project No. 19/99**

The Trust approved a grant of \$50,000 to Kidsafe ACT to purchase some 420 child restraint capsules to allow the organisation to continue its very successful Infant Restraint Loan Service. The capsules used in this service need replacing after a certain number of hirings or if they have been involved in a crash. The Trust grant will allow the progressive replacement of up to 960 capsules over the next few years – thus ensuring continued access by ACT residents to this valuable service. Kidsafe advised that all capsules had been purchased at cost price from the manufacturer who also delivered them free of charge.

11. **Winding Serpent Series 2 Video (CreaTV Productions) Project No. 20/99**

A grant of \$70,360 was made to CreaTV for the production of five video stories plus teachers' notes for primary schools to promote road safety for children in the 5-8 year age range. The video stories utilise puppets, which represent Australian bush animals. This innovative method is a proven technique for engaging young children – having been used in an earlier video series funded by the Trust in 1994. The scope of the safety messages in the video was widened as a result of a generous contribution of \$20,000 from Healthpact.

The video was filmed ‘on location’ in Canberra’s bushland and former ACT Artist of the Year, Mr Peter Wilson was director of puppetry. The ‘home-grown’ nature of the project was further emphasised by the fact that CreaTV Production is a local company.

ACT Urban Services Minister Brendan Smyth and Minister for Education Bill Stefaniak jointly launched the video on 12 April 2000 at Ngunnawal Primary School. Mr Ken Horsham spoke on behalf of the Trust and Mr David Piper, National Manager, CTP Product, NRMA Insurance, Sydney was among the many guests. The launch attracted considerable media coverage. Distribution of the video commenced in May 2000 with all ACT and regional primary schools to receive a copy.



Mr Bill Stefaniak MLA Minister for Education speaking at the launch of the Winding Serpent video.

12. High School Bicycle Education Strategy (Pedal Power ACT) Project No. 24

A grant of \$15,500 was provided to Pedal Power Inc for the development of a high school bicycle education strategy for Year 7-9 students. The project involves a literature review and community consultation and the Department of Education and Community Services will be heavily involved.

A copy of the literature review was provided to the Trust by Pedal Power in September 1999 and a well attended stakeholder workshop was held on 7 March 2000 at the O'Connell Centre, Griffith. As a result of this workshop and other information gathered, an alternative to the proposed 'straight-forward' curriculum based bicycle education scheme for young teenagers may be necessary. An interim report on the project was received in May 2000.

13. Crashes Involving ACT Vehicles Outside the ACT (ARRB Transport Research) Project No. 28

ARRB Transport Research was approved for a grant of \$18,800 to undertake an analysis of crashes involving ACT motorists in New South Wales. The study involved an examination of NSW crash records between 1992 and June 1999 and included the Sydney metropolitan area as well as the Hume, Kings, Federal, Pacific, Princes and Monaro Highways.

The report was released in May 2000 and its key findings included the fact that speed, fatigue and big city driving were issues requiring further attention for ACT motorists. One particularly interesting finding was that approximately twice as many serious injury crashes involving ACT vehicles/drivers are occurring in NSW, as occur within the ACT. The release of the report created considerable media interest and was featured in the Sydney press.

The report has been passed onto the ACT Government, which recognises the importance of the findings and commissioned ARRB TR to undertake further research to assist in the development of appropriate countermeasures.

14. Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Speed Cameras in the ACT (ARRB Transport Research) Project No. 33/99.

A grant of \$60,000 was approved for ARRB Transport Research to undertake an eighteen months evaluation of the effectiveness of the ACT's speed camera program, which was introduced into the Territory on 6 October 1999. ARRB Transport Research, is a highly respected and internationally renowned research organisation, which specialises in this type of work.

A progress report after the first month of operation indicated significant speed reductions across the whole ACT road network. The six months progress report released in May 2000 indicated reductions in speed were being maintained. Before the introduction of speed cameras, the proportion of vehicles exceeding the speed limit at camera sites was approximately 38.5%. After six months, this figure had dropped by 10%. Nevertheless, there was evidence that drivers may be becoming complacent and action may be necessary to demonstrate that offences will not be tolerated. ARRB TR will take further progress reports at intervals of 9, 12 and 18 months.

15. Behavioural Strategies for Enhancing Road Safety Through Passengers (Monash University Accident Research Centre) Project No. 39/99

The Trust approved a grant of \$47,600 for the Accident Research Centre at Monash University to investigate the positive potential influences that passengers can play in enhancing the safety of drivers and themselves. Passengers comprise a substantial portion of the annual road toll in the ACT and Australia generally, and little is known about the potential positive influence passengers can have on the behaviour of drivers.

The project is progressing well and an extensive telephone survey of some one thousand ACT residents was held during April 2000. Three Focus Groups were held in Canberra during June and the results of these will be important in shaping the final report due for completion by the end of October 2000.

16. Driver Education (Melba High School) Project No. 40/99

Funding of \$14,084 was approved for Melba High school to run a pilot driver education program for 'at risk' students, which would follow the students into Copeland College during the following year.

The project commenced with nine students during October 1999 and the Secretary/Manager attended a 'meet and greet' morning tea at the school in November involving all participants. All nine students have returned to school and are continuing the program at Copeland College in Year 11. Progress reports indicate the program proving very successful and it will be fully evaluated at its conclusion in November 2000.

17. **TruckSafe Industry Accreditation Program (NatRoad Limited) Project No. 43/99**

The Trust awarded a grant of \$14,500 to NatRoad Limited to assist in the delivery of the TruckSafe Industry Accreditation Scheme to road freight operators in the ACT and surrounding region. TruckSafe is an industry developed quality management accreditation program that was developed to raise standards of safety and professionalism within the industry and to allow operators who are performing under best practice standards to be recognised.

TruckSafe requires operators to meet minimum industry standards in four key performance modules, viz:

- ◆ Maintenance;
- ◆ driver health;
- ◆ driver training; and
- ◆ management systems.

The Trust's grant will be directed towards three workshops for owner/drivers and small fleet operators, in the ACT and region and the Chairman presented the cheque at a meeting of the NatRoad Board in Canberra on 30 July 1999.

The first such workshop was held in November 1999 and of the eight regional companies attending five joined the program. NatRoad has advised that the Accreditation Scheme is being updated following feed back from the initial workshop and a new promotional kit will be finalised by the end of July 2000 for operators. The NatRoad target is to have 30 regional companies accredited and it is confident the remaining two workshops planned for the last half of 2000 will assist in achieving that goal.



Chairman of the Trust, Mr John Kirby presents Mr Ray Brooks, President of NatRoad with the Trust's cheque.

18. **Development of a Share the Road Campaign (Planning and Land Management)** **Project No.45/99**

Planning and Land Management (PALM) received a grant of \$15,000 for the development of a “share the road” strategy aimed at reducing bicycle casualties in the ACT. The project involves an evaluation of similar campaigns in other jurisdictions and an assessment of their relevance to the ACT. A steering committee including representatives from the Australian Federal Police, Department of Urban Services and Pedal Power is overseeing the project.

An independent researcher with extensive experience in road safety was appointed by PALM in May 2000 to undertake a telephone survey and to conduct two separate market research discussions with cyclists and motorists. The project is expected to be completed by the end of July 2000.

(B) PROJECTS CONTINUING FROM PREVIOUS YEARS 'LANDMARK' PROJECTS

1. **Road Ready (formerly New Drivers: New Attitudes) Department of Urban Services (P189)**

The Trust granted the Department of Urban Services (DUS) \$1,960,000 in June 1997 to develop and implement a novice driver education program. Young drivers aged between 17 and 25 years make up slightly more than 15% of the population, yet they represent about 32% of serious crash casualties. Of these crashes, 75% are drivers and 25% are passengers.

Road Ready is an innovative graduated licensing system, which commences even before young people are legally able to get behind the wheel. It continues beyond the Provisional licence period when new drivers first go solo.

The four stages in the *Road Ready* program are:

- ◆ Pre-Learner – involves young people as passengers learning about driving and the road environment;
- ◆ Pre-Licence – involves young people, usually in Year 10, who are learning about the complexities of driving. It culminates in them being eligible for a Learner Licence;
- ◆ Learner – for those young people who have their Learner Licence. It promotes the need for plenty of driving practice; and
- ◆ Solo Driver – this stage assists new solo drivers to continue learning about driving.

Nine ACT schools and the Community Unit of Youth Justice (Quamby) trialed the school based year 10 component of *Road Ready* between July and September 1999. This represented nineteen teachers and 650 students and on 22 September 1999 ACT Minister for Urban Services, Mr Brendan Smyth MLA unveiled the logo and official name, as well as the results of the successful trial. A web site for the program commenced operation in December 1999, which provides relevant information, including the new road rules.

The Minister joined with Mr Bill Stefaniak, Minister for Education to officially launch *Road Ready* in Garema Place, Civic Centre on 25 February 2000 and schools commenced the progressive introduction of the program into the Year 10 curriculum. The launch received wide spread media including an article in the *Sydney Sun Herald* the following weekend.



Minister for Urban Services, Brendan Smyth MLA holds up a Road Ready tee shirt at the unveiling of the official logo and name

2. 'Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine' (The Canberra Hospital) P87

In October 1996, the Trust approved a grant of \$3.5 million to The Canberra Hospital to establish a perpetual Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine at the Canberra Clinical School and fund establishment and support services for the first five years. This is the largest grant made by the Trust.

The Chair will be involved in research, teaching and providing hands-on medical services for trauma victims and will take an active role in community education and prevention.

Associate Professor Drew Richardson was appointed to the position in October 1998 and commenced duty on 11 November the same year. He was formerly Director of Emergency Medicine at the Princess Alexander Hospital, Brisbane.

A Road Safety Advisory Panel has been established to advise the Chair on road safety issues and evaluate and monitor the work program in terms of road trauma reduction. Membership includes a range of road safety experts, health professionals and community representatives and is chaired by Professor Paul Gatenby, Associate Dean, Canberra Clinical School. The Panel met three times during the last year.

The Chief Minister of the ACT, Mrs Kate Carnell, officially opened the newly refurbished office suite for Associate Professor Richardson on 11 November 1999 – coincidentally one year on from the day he commenced duty at the hospital.

One of Professor Richardson's many achievements during the year was the launch of the National Trauma Registry at Canberra Hospital on 10 November 1999 with the opening of the First National Trauma Registry Workshop. Professor Richardson has also been elected chairman of the ACT and Region Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety, as part of his community outreach activities.



Associate Professor Drew Richardson, Professor Paul Gatenby, Mrs Kate Carnell and Mr Mark McKenzie at the official opening.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

1. **Kidsafe (ACT) – ‘Road, Car and Home Safety Talks, Stage 4’ (P210)**

In April 1997, the Trust granted \$36,225 to Kidsafe (ACT) to subsidise continuation of their Road, Car and Home Safety Talks. This is a continuation of previous Trust support in this area.

The talks provide expert advice and help on child injury prevention and are presented to target groups, who have direct contact with children. These include parents-to-be, parents, child care workers, community nurses and other community health professionals. The aim of the talks is to:

- ◆ reduce the number and severity of accidental injury and deaths to children by creating a greater awareness and understanding of how accidental injury to children occurs; and
- ◆ provide knowledge and methods on how to prevent accidental injury to children.

These talks have proven to be very successful and will cease by the end of July 2000.

2. **Queanbeyan Road Safety Group ‘Funding for Road Safety Initiatives’ (P209)**

The Queanbeyan Road Safety Group (QRSG) was granted a total of \$18,000 in April 1997 to assist in the purchase and equipping of a trailer for road safety displays and core expenses over a five year period.

The Group used \$3,000 to fit out an information trailer to be used for distribution of road safety information to the community. Types of material to be made available include information on breathalyser machines and child restraints. The remaining \$15,000 is assisting QRSG with core expenses, to be spent at the rate of \$3,000 per annum over five years. The project is due for completion in June 2002.

During the year, the Group directed funding towards a range of activities including:

- ◆ A pre-school road safety puppet show;
- ◆ A headlights on campaign;
- ◆ A responsible drink/drive program for a football team; and
- ◆ Assistance to a school dance troupe performing a road safety dance.

3. St John Ambulance – ‘Staying Alive – Stage 3’ (P194)

The Trust granted \$157,500 in February 1997 to St John Ambulance Australia (ACT) to continue an existing program of motorists’ first aid classes in schools for three years. The project is aimed at making young people aware of road trauma and training them in injury prevention techniques and essential first aid skills. Students receive a six hour course based on ‘what to do at a road accident scene’. The courses are given mainly at schools by teachers trained by St John Ambulance as accredited first aid instructors and have proven to be very successful. The project will conclude by 30 June 2000.

4. Transport Training ACT ‘Learner Driver and Instructor Training, Stage 2’ (P206)

In April 1997, the Trust granted \$10,000 to Transport Training ACT to assist with advertising and promotion of the ‘Learner Driver and Instructor Training’ program in senior secondary schools.

The program is aimed at learner drivers and their (family) instructors. Funding would support ten workshops each year over three years. Each workshop caters for 20 students and their instructors. The program has proven popular and will cease by 30 June 2000.

5. NRMA – ACT Road Safety Churchill Fellowships (P29)

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust was given a grant of \$105,000 in April 1996 to establish a perpetual biennial road safety Fellowship. The inaugural Fellowship was awarded to Station Officer Peter Jeffs of the ACT Fire Brigade to study the management and transport of hazardous materials in the UK, USA and Canada.

On 1 July 1998, the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust announced that Senior Constable Mick Guy, Australian Federal Police, had been awarded the second NRMA – ACT Road Safety Churchill Fellowship to study the identification of drugs in drivers in the USA, UK, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands. Senior Constable Guy undertook a nine week investigative tour of these countries between April and June 1999 and reported on his findings at a *Lunchtime Forum* at the Chifley-on-Northbourne on 10 August 1999.

Representatives from a broad cross section of the Canberra community heard, first hand, how Australia’s detection methods compared with countries at the leading edge in detection methods. The detection of drugs is an important issue confronting police and the information Senior Constable Guy will have acquired overseas will assist Australian authorities develop effective strategies against this burgeoning problem.



Senior Constable Mick Guy addresses the Lunchtime Forum.

6. Barnardos (ACT) – Restraint and Helmet Loan Service, Stage 2 (P208)

In April 1997, the Trust granted \$15,000 to Barnardos (ACT), in association with Marymead, to assist with replacement of equipment provided by their car and bike safety equipment loan service for disadvantaged people. This program had been established in 1994 with the aid of a Trust grant. Equipment provided for loan by the service is often required for an extended period (for example, car seats). There is also a substantial accidental loss or damage factor to be catered for. Funding has thus been provided to replace necessary items progressively over the next four years.

This service is proving to be extremely successful and one of its virtues is the capacity to provide child restraints to disadvantaged people or people in crisis. The project will conclude in July 2002.

7. Alcohol and Drug Foundation of the ACT – Impact Assessment of Drink Driving Offenders Program (P214)

The Trust granted \$11,500 to the Alcohol and Drug Foundation of the ACT (ADFACT) in February 1998, to assess the impact of the Drink Driver Education Program (DDEP) on over 300 DUI offenders, who graduated since the course began in 1996. The Trust had previously funded the establishment of the ADFACT DDEP in 1995.

Under the terms of the project, two researchers would analyse client appraisals, tabulate changes in client tests on *readiness to change, level of drinking dependence and severity of drinking outcomes* and relate this data to demographic and re-offence information. The results of the projects would improve service provision, reduce recidivism and, therefore, lower risks to the ACT community.

The project was due to be completed by 30 September 1998, however, due to unforeseen circumstances the project was not completed until late October 1999. It confirmed the value of the DDEP with a significant number of client responses indicating reductions in alcohol dependence and improvements in motivation to change drinking behaviour. Copies of the Evaluation Report were circulated widely to stakeholders, including ACT Magistrates. The Director of Public Prosecutions was particularly impressed and commented that the report was a worthwhile addition to sentencing options in the ACT.

9. University of Canberra – Trust Sponsored Road Safety Scholarships (P161)

The University of Canberra was granted \$177,000 in November 1995 to fund two 'named' Ph.D. scholarships. In July 1996 Mr Jianto Pei was awarded one to the scholarships to carry out research into perception of braking and following distances and relevant driver training techniques. Mr Pei is completing his thesis this year on a part-time basis and should be completed his course of study by the end of 2000.

The second scholarship has been converted to a Masters scholarship and Mrs Kerry Smith is undertaking a comparative evaluation of DUI rehabilitation programs in the ACT. Her research is expected to be completed by the end of the year 2000.

10. National Brain Injury Foundation – Hydro-Therapy Facility (P197)

In December 1996, the Trust approved a grant of \$50,000 to the National Brain Injury Foundation (NBIF) towards the construction of hydro-therapy facilities to be built adjoining the Prolonged Care Cottage. The hydro-therapy facilities were expected to be completed by the end of June this year, however, unforeseen design complications delayed the construction of the pool, which should be completed shortly.

5. PROMOTION AND LIAISON ACTIVITIES

The objective of the Trust's Promotion and Liaison Strategy has been to inform the ACT community and relevant specialist groups of the role, objectives and work of the Trust and its achievements, and of the availability of Trust funding for road safety projects.

Improving road safety requires an integrated and co-operative effort between the public and private sectors and the community, including the following key groups:

- ◆ the community, especially road users;
- ◆ the motoring industry;
- ◆ all levels of Government;
- ◆ road safety authorities and regulators;
- ◆ police and the legal system;
- ◆ education authorities;
- ◆ business organisations; and
- ◆ health services and non-profit community groups.

While the Trust's main avenue for improving road safety is through its project grants, it also contributes to this goal by disseminating information about the results of the projects and by encouraging co-operation amongst the above groups.

ADVERTISING

The Trust advertised twice during the year for applications to be considered for funding for the 2000/2001 Grant Program. The initial advertisements appeared in the *Canberra Times* on 24 and 27 November 1999 and in the *Chronicle and Valley View* on 30 November 1999. These advertisements were supported by a Media Release of 3 December 1999, which received wide media exposure. A follow-up media release was issued on 4 February 2000, which also received good coverage. In addition, the *Canberra Times* motoring writer included a reminder in his weekly motoring article on 15 October 1999, alerting readers to the forthcoming press ads.

New Information Brochures on the Trust were printed and distributed to all ACT Shop Fronts and NRMA offices in February 2000.

PROJECT LAUNCHES AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND EXPOSURE

There were seven public launches of Trust sponsored projects during 1999/2000, details of which are contained in Appendix C. All these events were well attended and received very favourable press, radio and television coverage.

In addition, Mr Eddie Wheeler, Secretary/Manager of the Trust gave the opening address at two driver fatigue seminars held at Queanbeyan in September 1999 and March 2000. He also gave the opening address at the First National Trauma Registry Workshop at the Canberra Clinical School in November 1999 and attended a 'getting to know you' morning tea at Melba High School with students and staff involved with the Driver Education project also in November.

The Secretary/Manager participated in an older drivers' workshop on 1 December 1999 arranged by the Council on the Ageing, as part of the Trust-funded project on 'How to Retire from Driving'. This half-day workshop received wide publicity and was featured in several television items.

The Trust participated in the NRMA's Australia Day Expo in Commonwealth Park on 26 January 2000. A static display outlining the history, objectives and achievements of the Trust was set-up in a marquee, while a continuous showing of the Winding Serpent video entertained children and adults throughout the day.

MEDIA COVERAGE

The Trust released media statements on the following matters during the year and all received extensive coverage:

- ◆ Approval of the 1999/2000 Grant Program on 22 July 1999;
- ◆ Lunchtime Forum by Road Safety Churchill Fellowship winner, Senior Constable Mick Guy on detecting drugs in motorists, on 10 August 1999;
- ◆ Independent Evaluation of the Speed Camera program on 16 September 1999;
- ◆ Launch of a *Nova* web site at the Australian Academy of Science on the science of road safety covering driving and alcohol on 12 October 1999;
- ◆ Release of the 1998/99 Annual Report on 4 November 1999;
- ◆ Invitations for grants for the 2000/2001 Grant Program on 3 December 1999, plus a reminding release on 4 February 2000;
- ◆ Release of first progress report on effectiveness of speed camera program on 10 December 1999;
- ◆ Launch of the older driver road safety program *Overdrive* on 13 March 2000;
- ◆ Opening of the driver fatigue seminar in Queanbeyan on 30 March 2000;
- ◆ Launch of the *Winding Serpent* series 2 video at Ngunnawal Primary School on 12 April 2000;
- ◆ Launch of bicycle light up campaign on 4 May 2000; and
- ◆ Release of report into crashes involving ACT motorists on NSW roads on 8 June 2000.

Media Statements released by grantees on projects being funded by the Trust and numerous other related media items throughout the year, all served to reinforce the role of the Trust. Notable examples were:

- ◆ Launch of the *Road Ready* logo by the ACT Minister for Urban Services Brendan Smyth MLA on 22 September 1999;
- ◆ Opening of the refurbished offices for the Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine by the Chief Minister on 11 November 1999; and
- ◆ Launch of the Road Ready novice driver program into ACT high schools on 25 February 2000.

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIAISON

The Trust has worked hard to increase its profile with road safety, professional and community organisations in the ACT and other areas of Australia. The Trust continued to enjoy co-operative relationships with the NRMA, the ACT Department of Urban Services, the Australian Federal Police (ACT Region), the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and the Australian College of Road Safety. These contacts have been invaluable in disseminating the results of Trust-funded projects to a wider audience. In addition, these groups provided professional advice to the Trust from time to time.

A considerable number of educational and promotional materials produced in Trust-funded projects have been adopted (with the Trust's permission) in other jurisdictions, including the *Winding Serpent* video for primary schools.

In addition, the 'Wheels Within Wheels' a guide book for safe vehicle use by people with disabilities, continues to attract national interest, since it was published in 1995.

TRUST PUBLICATIONS

The Trust produces a Publications List, which provides details of all research reports, project evaluation reports, educational material and other documents relating to Trust-sponsored projects and activities of the Trust.

The Trust is keen to ensure that relevant information on projects it funds is available to anyone interested in road safety. Accordingly, it has commissioned the Australian College of Road Safety to distribute Trust publications up until the end of the year 2000.

To obtain a Publications List, or any items from it, please contact:

The Executive Officer
Australian College of Road Safety
P O Box 198
Mawson ACT 2607

Telephone: (02) 6290 2509
Facsimile: (02) 6290 0914
email: eo@acrs.org.au

The Publications List is also on the Internet at <http://www.austouch.gov.au/btml/NRMA>.

6. SECRETARIAT STAFF, SUPPORT SERVICES AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 SECRETARIAT

The Trust employs Mr Eddie Wheeler as its Secretary/Manager on a contractual basis, which is underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding.

The Trust Secretariat's accommodation, office equipment and communication facilities are generously provided by the Department of Urban Services, for which the Trust is grateful.

6.2 SPECIAL CONSULTANTS

Since the establishment of the Trust, the Trustees have recognised a need for detailed specialist professional advice and guidance on road safety matters associated with the consideration of applications for grants.

Since 1992, the Trust has engaged Dr Michael Henderson to act as a Special Consultant, to carry out assessments of projects and comment on proposals. Dr Henderson is an expert in the field of road safety, having been the Executive Director of the former NSW Traffic Accident Research Unit and is currently the Chairperson of the Australian Advisory Committee on Road Trauma.

The Trust has also sought specialist advice from other professional organisations and individuals. These have included members of the Australian College of Road Safety, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau and the Road Safety Department of the NRMA.

6.3 ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL ADVICE

The Trustees have been assisted in financial matters by the accounting firm of KPMG, which, in an honorary capacity, prepares monthly financial reports and provides general accounting advice. It provided valuable information and support in the lead-up to the introduction of the GST on 1 July 2000.

The Trustees appreciate the advice and support readily given by staff of KPMG – particularly that provided by Ms Cathryn Ingram and Messrs Hamish Palfryman, Craig Sloan and Paul Craik.

6.4 BANKING SERVICES

The Trust has used the National Australia Bank (NAB) Limited for its banking needs since it was established in 1992. It has always provided a range of banking and investment services with the necessary flexibility to suit the Trust's needs. The Trustees would like to thank Messrs Brett Little, Greg Evans and Bryan Dacey for their assistance over the last twelve months.

6.5 LEGAL ADVISERS

The firm of Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Solicitors and Attorneys, is retained by the Trust to act in matters requiring legal advice and in the preparation of legal documents on behalf of the Trust.

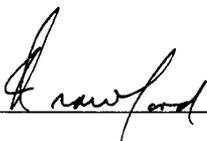
7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT REPORT

TRUSTEES' STATEMENT

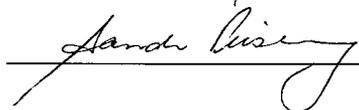
In the opinion of the Trustees of the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust the financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 2000 as set out on pages 2 to 9 are drawn up so as to present truly and fairly the financial position of the Trust at 30 June 2000 and the results and cash flows of its operations for the year ended 30 June 2000 are in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and comply with the provisions of the Trust Deed dated 17 July 1992.

Dated at Canberra on *12th October* 2000.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Trustees of the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust.



Ian Crawford (Trustee)



Sandi Peisley (Trustee)

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

	Note	2000 \$	1999 \$
Revenue	2	608,414	639,126
Operating profit before abnormal items and income tax	3	19,857	(4,323,431)
Abnormal items		—	—
Operating profit before income tax		19,857	(4,323,431)
Income tax attributable to operating profit		—	—
Operating profit after income tax		19,857	(4,323,431)
Outside equity interests in operating profit		—	—
Net profit		19,857	(4,323,431)
Retained profit at the beginning of the financial year		(9,731,059)	(5,407,628)
Total available for appropriation		(9,711,202)	(9,731,059)
Retained profits at the end of the Financial year		(9,711,202)	(9,731,059)

The Profit and Loss Statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 5 to 9.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2000**

	Note	2000 \$	1999 \$
Current Assets			
Cash	5	116,635	663,607
Investments	6	555,770	-
Accrued Interest		7,470	-
Total Current Assets		<u>679,875</u>	<u>63,607</u>
Total Assets		<u>679,875</u>	<u>63,607</u>
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	7	<u>6,200</u>	<u>9,789</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>6,200</u>	<u>9,789</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>6,200</u>	<u>9,789</u>
Net Assets		<u>673,675</u>	<u>53,818</u>
Trust Funds			
Settlement Account	8	10,384,877	10,384,877
Accumulated income account		<u>(9,711,202)</u>	<u>(9,731,059)</u>
Total Trust Funds		<u>673,675</u>	<u>653,818</u>

The Balance Sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 5 to 9.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

	Note	2000 \$	1999 \$
Cash Flows From Operating Activities			
Cash payments in the course of operations		(12,345)	(4,457,136)
Interest received		28,613	129,275
Profit on sale of fixed assets		-	-
Net cash provided by / (used by) operating activities	11 (ii)	16,268	(4,327,861)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities			
Proceeds from Investments		(555,770)	4,500,000
(Increase)/Decrease in Accrued Interest		(7,740)	13,615
Net Cash flows from Investing Activities		(563,240)	4,513,615
Net increase/(decrease) in cash		(546,972)	185,754
Cash at beginning of the financial year		663,607	477,853
Cash at the end of the financial year	11 (i)	116,635	663,607

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 5 to 9.

NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant policies which have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are:

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Trust have been drawn up in accordance with the terms of the NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust 1992, the "Trust". The terms of the Deed require that the Trust be reported upon as if the Trust were a company subject to the Corporations Law. As a result, the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus View, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Law.

They have been prepared on the basis of historical costs and except where stated, do not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets.

These accounting policies have been consistently applied and, except where there is a change in accounting policy, are consistent with those of the previous year.

An annual operating profit will be incurred by the Trust in the normal course of operations as the Trust distributes the income received from the driver safety levy and the NRMA contributions, through the payment of grants to approved applicants and payment of Trust expenses.

(b) Income Recognition

Registration Levy Income is recognised as it is received.

Interest Income is recognised as it accrues.

(c) Taxation

The Trust is exempt from income tax under section 50 - 5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

(d) Investments

Investments are carried at the lower of cost and recoverable amount. Interest is brought to the account as earned.

**NRMA-ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

(e) Accounts payable

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not billed to the Trust. Accounts payable are normally settled within 60 days.

(f) Business Segments

The Trust operates predominantly in the ACT by distributing grants to approved applicants for the purpose of enhancing road safety for the ACT road-using community.

(g) Project Funding

Project funding is made on the basis of an Agreement between the Trust and grant recipients that sets out the terms and conditions of each grant. Grant payments are generally dependent upon the performance of agreed objectives during the course of the project.

Project funding is recognised in the accounts when payments are made to grant recipients. Total approved project funding over the life of the individual project is generally not recognised in the accounts, as future or instalment payments are dependent upon the continuing performance of agreed objectives during the course of the project. Smaller projects can receive their grant funding in the first instalment. Approved project funding to be paid in the future is disclosed as 'Project Funding Commitments' at Note 10.

(h) Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net on the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

NRMA-ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000

2. Revenue

Revenue from operating activities	Note	2000	1999
		\$	\$
Registration Levy Income Received		579,801	509,851
Interest Received		28,613	129,275
Revenue from outside operating Activities		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total		<u>608,414</u>	<u>639,126</u>

3. Operating Profit

Operating profit before abnormal items
And income tax has been arrived at
Charging/(crediting) the following items:

Accountancy/Audit Fees	6,200	5,700
Advertising	734	796
Bank charges	66	-
FID bank charges	53	-
Consultancy fees	3,600	-
Legal Costs	120	520
Project Application Review	-	8,900
Project Funding	517,244	4,900,000
Printing	4,750	13,331
Superannuation contributions	-	40
Sundry Expenses	864	2,268
Training	-	1,565
Travelling Expenses	198	487
Wages	54,728	28,950
Total Expenses	<u>588,557</u>	<u>4,962,557</u>

4. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

Amounts received or due and receivable for:

Auditing the financial statements	5,700	5,700
Other Services	500	-
	<u>6,200</u>	<u>5,700</u>

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

5. Cash	Note	2000	1999
		\$	\$
Cash at Bank		116,175	663,107
Petty Cash		460	500
		<u>116,635</u>	<u>663,607</u>
6. Investments			
Current			
Short Term Money Market Deposits		<u>555,570</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Current Investments		<u>555,570</u>	<u>0</u>
7. Accounts Payable			
Accrued Audit Fees		4,200	5,700
Unrecorded Liabilities		-	137
Accrued salaries and wages		-	3,952
Creditors		<u>2,000</u>	<u>-</u>
		<u>6,200</u>	<u>9,789</u>

8. SETTLEMENT ACCOUNT

The balance of the Settlement Account represents the capital and accrued interest amount settled on the formation of the Trust. Interest accrued on the capital amount from the date of the Trustees first meeting prior to the formal settlement of the Trust on 17 July 1992.

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The names of each person holding the position of Trustee during the financial year were John Kirby, Mark McKenzie, Ms Sandi Peisley, Ken Horsham and Rear Admiral Ian Crawford.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2000**

10. Project Funding Commitments	Note	2000	1999
Future grant payments not provided for and payable:			
Not later than one year		449,953	580,344
Later than one year but not later than two years		-	-
		<u>449,953</u>	<u>580,344</u>

11. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(i) Reconciliation of Cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank and short term deposits that are available at call, net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

Cash	<u>116,635</u>	<u>663,607</u>
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(ii) Reconciliation of Operating Surplus / (Deficit) to Net Cash Provided By / (Used in) Operating Activities

Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	19,857	(4,323,431)
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	-	-
Increase / (decrease) in creditors and accruals	<u>(3,589)</u>	<u>(4,430)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating Activities	<u>16,268</u>	<u>(4,327,861)</u>



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE NRMA-ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust for the financial year ended 30 June 1999, consisting of the Statement of Income and Expenditure, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and accompanying notes, set out on pages 1 to 9. The Trustees are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the Trustees of the Trust.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide a reasonable level of assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other mandatory reporting requirements and the Trust Deed, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Trust's financial position and the results of its operations and cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements of the NRMA - ACT Road Safety Trust are properly drawn up:

- (a) so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Trust at 30 June 1999, and the results and cash flows of the Trust for the year ended 30 June 1999;
- (b) in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards; and
- (c) so as to comply with the provisions of the Trust Deed dated 17 July 1992.

KPMG
Chartered Accountants

CJ Ingram
Partner

CANBERRA
17 October 2000



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8. SECRETARIAT CONTACT DETAILS

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APPENDIX A. 1999/2000 GRANT PROGRAM

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
Nova Topic: The Science of Road Safety	Australian Academy of Science	\$5,000	Add a topic "The Science of Road Safety" to an existing web site. The topic relates to driving and alcohol and is directed to students/teachers at Years 11 and 12 level.
Enhancement of the Skills of learner Drivers	Transport Training ACT	\$14,000	Funding for full-day workshops for learner drivers and parents/carers involving classroom tuition and practical demonstrations aimed at enhancing the skills of learner drivers.
Safe Young Drivers Awards Schemes Incentives	ACT and Region Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety	\$14,000	Provision of financial assistance for the 'Safe Young Drivers Awards Scheme' to be run in participating colleges in the ACT and Queanbeyan.
Fatigue Management Seminars	Southern Area Health Service Road Injury Advisory Group	\$18,000	Funding to conduct two fatigue management seminars to encourage fleet managers to adopt or upgrade fatigue management policies and plans for their drivers/employees.
Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference	Federal Office of Road Safety	\$20,000	Contribution towards the '1999 Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference' including sponsorship of an award for best paper by a new researcher.
Road Trauma Conferences	Canberra Clinical School	\$20,000	Financial assistance for three inter-related conferences on trauma, injury prevention and emergency medicine in Canberra in November 2000.
Bicycle Conspicuity Promotion and Project Evaluation	Planning and Land Management	\$19,500	Fund a bicycle conspicuity program, which includes the distribution of 2,000 reflective armbands throughout the ACT, including schools.
How to Retire from Driving	Council on the Ageing	\$77,500	Develop an information package on options and strategies for mobility without driving.
Older Driver Safety Courses		\$72,500	Older driver road safety package (<i>Overdrive Program</i>) including refresher driving courses, first aid and potential implications of medication on driving.
Capsule Replacement Program	Kidsafe ACT	\$50,000	Funding to assist with the replacement of capsules used in the Infant Restraint Loan Service.
Behavioural Strategies for Enhancing Road Safety Through Passengers	Monash University Accident Research Centre	\$47,600	Investigate the positive potential influences that passengers can play in enhancing the safety of drivers and themselves.
TruckSafe Industry Accreditation Program	NatRoad Ltd	\$14,500	Delivery of the TruckSafe Industry Accreditation Scheme to road freight operators in the ACT and surrounding region.

APPENDIX B. COMMUNITY PROJECTS CONTINUING FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Date Approved</i>	<i>Amount of Grant</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
Road, Car and Home Safety Talks: Stage 4	Kidsafe (ACT)	22 April 1997	\$36,225	Talks to educate parents on child car restraints and bike and pedestrian safety.
Hydro-Therapy Facility	National Association for Loss and Grief	8 October 1996	\$50,000	Contribution towards a hydrotherapy pool associated with the Prolonged Care Cottage.
Learner Driver and Instructor Training, Stage 2	Transport Training ACT	22 April 1997	\$10,000	Assistance with advertising and promotion of the learner driver training program in senior secondary schools.
Financial Assistance for Queanbeyan Road Safety Group	Queanbeyan Road Safety Group	22 April 1997	\$18,000	Provide assistance for local road safety promotion activities.
Staying Alive: Stage 3	St John Ambulance	27 February 1997	\$157,500	Subsidise motorists' first aid classes in schools.
Winston Churchill Trust Road Safety Fellowship	Winston Churchill Memorial Trust	31 January 1996	\$105,000	A perpetual biennial Fellowship for road safety study.
Impact Assessment of Drink Driving Offenders Program	Alcohol and Drug Foundation of the ACT	February 1998	\$11,500	Develop a drink drive education program by research into DUI offenders' attitudes and behaviour.
Road Safety Scholarships	University of Canberra	14 May 1996	\$177,000	Funding of two 'named' post graduate scholarships involving road safety research for the benefit of the ACT community.
Restraint and Helmet Loan Service: Stage 2	Barnardos and Marymead	22 April 1997	\$15,000	Provide replacement equipment for a child car safety equipment loan program.

APPENDIX C. LAUNCHES OF TRUST-SPONSORED PROJECTS

<i>Project</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>
Road Ready Program – Name/Logo	22/9/99	Civic Centre
Chair of Emergency Medicine & Road Trauma – Opening of New Office Suite	11/11/99	Canberra Hospital
Road Safety Conference – Award For Best Paper by a New Researcher	29/11/99	Old Parliament House
Road Ready Program – Launch of Program into ACT Schools	25/2/00	Garema Place
Older Drivers’ Road Safety Program	13/3/00	Council on the Ageing, Hughes
Winding Serpent Road Safety Video	12/4/00	Ngunnawal Primary School
Bicycle Lighting Campaign	4/5/00	Australian National University

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