

**NRMA — ACT**  
**ROAD SAFETY TRUST**

---



ANNUAL REPORT **2003/2004**



**ISSN 1320-8799**

Printed by National Capital Printing, Fyshwick ACT



## NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST

ABN 43 348 311 547

GPO Box 2890  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Tel. (02) 6207 7151  
Fax. (02) 6207 7160

---

Mr Bill Wood, MLA  
Minister for Urban Services  
ACT Legislative Assembly  
London Circuit  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Wood

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 2003 to 30 June 2004.

A copy of the report has also been sent to Mr Doug Pearce, Group Executive, Insurance Strategy, NRMA Insurance Limited, Sydney.

Yours sincerely

Don Aitkin AO  
Chairman

Phil Newton  
Trustee

Dr Angus McIntosh  
Trustee

Ms Anna Lennon  
Trustee

Ms Kerry Smith  
Trustee

15 October 2004



## NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST

ABN 43 348 311 547

GPO Box 2890  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Tel. (02) 6207 7151  
Fax. (02) 6207 7160

---

Mr Doug Pearce  
Group Executive, Insurance Strategy  
NRMA Insurance Ltd  
Level 5  
65 Pirrama Road  
PYRMONT NSW 2009

Dear Mr Pearce

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 2002 to 30 June 2003.

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

Yours sincerely

Don Aitkin AO  
Chairman

Phil Newton  
Trustee

Dr Angus McIntosh  
Trustee

Ms Anna Lennon  
Trustee

Ms Kerry Smith  
Trustee

15 October 2004

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
<b>1. Chairperson's Report</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2. Highlights of the Year</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 2003/2004 Grant Program	9
2.2 Cycle Lane Awareness Campaign	9
2.3 Road Safety Workshop on Speed	9
2.4 MASTER Motor Cycle Course for Mature Riders Launch	9
2.5 Gravel Road Awareness Campaign	9
2.6 Cheque Presentation to Trust	10
2.7 World Road Safety Day	10
2.8 Release of Report on Risk Taking Behaviour by Young Male Drivers	10
<b>3. Objectives, Membership and Functions of the Trust</b>	<b>11</b>
3.1 Establishment of the Trust	11
3.2 Functions and Objectives of the Trust	11
3.3 Membership	11
3.4 Meetings	13
<b>4. Grant Proposals and Approvals</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1 Proposals Received	14
4.2 Assessment of Applications	14
4.3 Eligibility Criteria and Guidelines	14
4.4 2003/2004 Grant Program	16
a) New Community Projects	16-24
b) Projects Continuing From Previous Years – Landmark and Community	25-35
<b>5. Promotion and Liaison Activities</b>	<b>36-38</b>
<b>6. Secretariat Staff, Support Services and Financial Arrangements</b>	<b>39</b>
6.1 Secretariat	39
6.2 Special Consultants	39
6.3 Accounting and Financial Advice	39
6.4 Banking Services	39
6.5 Legal Advisers	39
<b>7. Financial Statements and Audit Report</b>	<b>40-51</b>
<b>8. Secretariat Contact Details</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Appendices</b>	<b>53</b>
A : 2003/2004 Grant Program	53-55
B : Community Projects Continuing From Previous Years	56-58
C : Launches of Trust-Sponsored Projects	59



## 1. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It is my privilege as Chairman to present this report on the Trust's activities for the year 2003/2004. The annual grant program underpins the work of the Trust, and this year the Trust approved funding to the value of some \$380,000 for seventeen innovative road safety initiatives. The Trust has identified two research areas where it believes it has the potential to make a difference: (1) better understanding the risk-taking behaviour of young male drivers and (2) how early childhood learning can influence road safety. The Trust has funded a number of research initiatives in these areas that promise to increase our current depth of knowledge and assist in the development of productive strategies.

The Trust has become an integral part of the road safety community in the ACT since it was established in 1992. In that time it has contributed \$14.9 million to over two hundred projects and that investment is paying dividends.

The number of people killed or seriously injured in the ACT has been halved in the last five years. The ACT has Australia's best road safety record and its fatality rate of 3 per 100,000 head of population is some one third of the next nearest State. In the last five years, the rate of death and serious injury on ACT roads has been halved. While the ACT Government and ACT Policing can claim much of the credit for this spectacular result the Trust believes that it too has made a significant contribution.

This impressive record needs to be balanced against the fact that the ACT 'exports' many serious crashes. A study commissioned by the Trust in 2000 found that ACT residents are involved in twice the number of serious crashes outside the ACT annually as occur within the Territory. That is a sobering statistic.

An unrelenting challenge for road safety practitioners is to keep the population attentive to safety messages. It is a natural human trait to think that crashes happen to other people. Noted road safety researcher Dr Soames Job speaks of the notion of "driver optimism" – particularly with male drivers in relation to fatigue. In a survey he conducted most participants believed fatigue only happened to other drivers and 80% believed that winding the window and/or turning up the radio would help combat any fatigue. It doesn't.

Canberrans are noted travellers and our closeness to the snow, surf and Sydney lures many of the 240,000 licensed drivers beyond our borders regularly. The Trust commissioned study mentioned above found that almost one third of fatal crashes occur close to home – within 100km of the border. Clearly, fatigue is a factor in many of these crashes and we need to be particularly vigilant on our return trips.

Drink driving, speed and a failure to wear seat belts continue to be three major contributors to death and morbidity on Australia's roads. For its part, the Trust has developed partnerships with the Transport Accident Commission and the Roads and Traffic Authority in New South Wales that will allow the Trust to screen relevant and effective road safety messages our partners have developed. This strategy maximises our funds and provides us access to the latest and most innovative countermeasures in Australia. The Trust is exploring further links with other jurisdictions.

---

On behalf of the Trust, I would like to thank the individuals and organisations 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.

I look forward to continuing to work with my fellow Trustees and the Secretariat in the quest to meet the road safety challenges ahead. In that regard, the Trust is particularly keen to pursue partnerships with a number of ACT organisations, and I hope that my next report will outline our progress here.



Professor Don Aitkin AO

Chairman



---

## 2. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

---

### 2.1 2003/2004 GRANT PROGRAM

The announcement of the Trust's 2003/2004 Grant Program on 30 July 2003 by Trust Chairman Professor Don Aitkin was one of the main highlights of the year. The Program comprised grants totalling some \$377,000 for sixteen innovative projects across a wide spectrum of the community. A further project was subsequently approved making a total commitment of \$380,000.

These grants took total Trust funding for road safety initiatives in the ACT to some \$14.9 million, since it was established in 1992. Details of the individual projects in 2003/2004 are provided in Section 4.4 of this Report.

### 2.2 CYCLE LANE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Trust provided a grant of \$19,250 to the Department of Urban Services and Pedal Power ACT Inc as a fifty percent contribution to a public awareness campaign on green pavement treatments on selected cycle lanes. The primary message was *'where cycle lanes cross exit and entry lanes and they are marked with dashed tramlines motorists must give way.'* Secondary messages included *'at places where there is higher potential for accidents, the lanes are marked green.'*

The bulk of the funds were put towards a TV campaign on WIN television, which ran at selected times during the period August 2003 to January 2004. The campaign also included news features in the *Sunday Canberra Times*, *Valley View* and *Chronicle*. One particularly notable feature of the campaign was the showing of the television message on the big screen during rugby league games at Canberra Stadium and also during the World Cup Rugby games hosted at the Stadium during the six weeks of the World Cup.

The campaign was runner up in the ACT WorkCover Occupational Health and Safety Awards for 2003 in the Community Education Category.

### 2.3 ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOP ON SPEED

The Trust provided the ACT Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety with a grant of \$10,000 to assist it organise a Workshop on Speed. Around 120 delegates attended this Workshop at the National Museum of Australia on 3 September 2003 and it received considerable media coverage.

### 2.4 MASTER MOTOR CYCLE COURSE FOR MATURE RIDERS LAUNCH

While the popularity of motorcycling is increasing significantly among the forty years and over age group so too is their fatality rate. As the result of a Trust grant of \$9,295 the Motor Cycle Riders Association of the ACT, in association with Stay Upright Motorcycle Techniques, developed a refresher course aimed at enhancing the safety of mature aged riders. The Mature Aged Skills Training for Experienced Riders (MASTER) course was launched by Robert De Castella in Civic Square on 22 October 2003.

### 2.5 GRAVEL ROAD AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

An awareness campaign highlighting the range of potential hazards motorists may encounter on unsealed roads in the Yass, Gunning and Crookwell Shires was launched in Yass on 12 November 2003. The Trust contributed \$11,000 to this awareness campaign given that one third of crashes in these Shires involved ACT motorists. The campaign comprised a series of radio ads on ACT and regional radio stations supplemented by brochures. The key themes included *slowing down and driving to the conditions* and *being alert particularly for wandering stock, school buses and farm machinery*. This project was an excellent example of the Trust working with the Yass Shire and the RTA of NSW to improve road safety in the region.

## 2.6 CHEQUE PRESENTATION TO THE TRUST

At an official event at the Canberra Hospital on 24 February 2004, NRMA Insurance and the ACT Government presented a 'ceremonial' cheque for \$800,000 to the Trust – an amount representing their joint annual contribution to the work of the Trust. Mr Doug Pearce, Group Executive, Insurance Strategy, NRMA Insurance and Mr Bill Wood MLA Minister for Urban Service presented the cheque to Trustee Dr Angus McIntosh OAM. While the Trust receives its funds on a regular monthly basis, this handover ceremony was significant as it highlighted the partnership between NRMA Insurance and the ACT Government in terms of their commitment to the Trust and the role it plays in reducing road trauma on our roads.



*Doug Pearce (left), Bill Wood, Professor Drew Richardson and Dr Angus McIntosh (right) with "the cheque".*

## 2.7 WORLD ROAD SAFETY DAY

For the first time in fifty seven years the United Nations World Health Day was nominated as Road Safety Day. The declared day was 7 April 2004 and countries throughout the world observed the day in a variety of ways. The Trust combined with the Department of Urban Services in staging an event that featured a gathering of 400 people outside Macarthur House who represented the number of serious crashes on ACT road annually. In addition, the Trust ran a series of television road safety messages and newspaper articles in that week to focus attention on the need to treat every day as road safety day.



*Some of the 400 people assembled outside Macarthur House on World Road Safety Day.*

## 2.8 RELEASE OF REPORT ON RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR BY YOUNG MALE DRIVERS

Young drivers, particularly male, are over-represented in serious crash statistics. Research into understanding the risk taking behaviour of this category of driver is of high priority to the Trust and it commissioned ARRB Transport Research to undertake a study in the ACT. A report into the risk taking behaviour of forty eight Provisional drivers was released in May 2004, which found, inter alia, that increased self-confidence and the development of bad habits contributed to their increased risk of crashing. The report created considerable media interest.

## **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 a \$1.50 Road Safety Fee to be raised in association with ACT motor vehicle registration fees and matched by NRMA Insurance. The ACT Government increased the Road Safety Fee by fifty cents to \$2 as from 1 July 2001 and a total amount of \$892,150 was raised during 2003/2004.

### **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; and
- (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  
Professor Don Aitkin AO  
NRMA Insurance Ltd and  
ACT Government Joint Appointee  
(22.6.01 and ongoing)



Ms Anna Lennon  
ACT Government Appointee  
(26.8.03 and ongoing)



Dr Angus McIntosh OAM  
NRMA Insurance Appointee  
(6.7.01 and ongoing)



Ms Kerry Smith  
ACT Government Appointee  
(26.8.03 and ongoing)



Mr Phil Newton  
NRMA Insurance Appointee  
(12.2.01 and ongoing)

---

### **3.4 MEETINGS**

Between 1 July 2003 and 30 June 2004 the Trust held three meetings as follows:

100th Trust Meeting	3 July 2003
101st Trust Meeting	29 October 2003
102nd Trust Meeting	29 April 2004

Attendance by Trustees at these meetings was as follows:

Professor Don Aitkin	3
Mr Phil Newton	3
Dr Angus McIntosh	3
Ms Anna Lennon	3
Ms Kerry Smith	3

## 4. GRANT PROPOSALS AND APPROVALS

### 4.1 PROPOSALS RECEIVED

The Trust operates an annual grant program with advertisements prominently placed in the Canberra Times and Chronicle in December and the following February. The Trust usually meets in April/May and June/July to finalise the grant program for the following financial year. Approved proposals may run up to two years.

The Trust received forty applications for funding in respect of the 2003/2004 Grant Program with a total value of some \$1.2 million.

The 100th Trust meeting on 3 July 2003 finalised the 2003/2004 Grant Program, which was announced by the Chairman on 30 July 2003. The Program comprised sixteen projects to the value of \$377,000. A later project was approved bringing the total value of approvals to \$380,000. 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 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 is usually implemented by a Letter of Agreement. Depending on the level of funds approved, projects with a value in excess of \$50,000 may be implemented via a more comprehensive Grant 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 Insurance 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;
- Projects should not expose the Trust to the risk of liability; and
- Projects should not be associated with products or activities that militate against good driving practice.

---

These criteria and guidelines, and the processes by which the Trust determines grants, are outlined in detail in the Guidelines for Applicants.

At a more general level, Trustees have been concerned that meritorious proposals from Government departments/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 would be where a '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 2003/2004 – GRANT PROGRAM

##### (A) NEW COMMUNITY PROJECTS

### 1 **Determining the Optimal Time For and Type of Road Safety Education in ACT Schools. (GDP Consultancy/Dynamic Outcomes Pty Ltd) Project No. 1/03**

Funding of \$66,220 was provided to GDP Consultancy/Dynamic Outcomes Pty Ltd to conduct research into the optimal developmental period for supporting or intervening in the road use behaviours of young people as they negotiate their way through childhood, adolescence and finally to adulthood.

The Project will involve (1) a literature review (2) an audit of ACT schools curricula to determine the extent of road safety education and related courses (3) student surveys in Years 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 in thirty two ACT schools (4) parent and teacher surveys (5) focus groups in 4 primary and 4 secondary schools to elicit information on road use behaviour and road safety education.

The project is continuing and is expected to be completed by the end of 2004.

### 2 **Bike Helmets for Schools (Queanbeyan Road Safety Group) Project No. 6/03**

The Trust provided a grant of \$3,586 to the Queanbeyan Road Safety Group for a competition for up to ten primary schools in the Queanbeyan and Yarrowlumla Shires to design a road safety sign to promote the wearing of bicycle helmets. The RTA of NSW is also involved in the campaign – providing the funding for helmets being used as prizes for the winning entries. The winning design would be made into permanent signs to be placed in prominent areas of the school e.g. bike racks or exit gates. Each school would receive two permanent signs.

This project has proven to be very popular and the Secretary/Manager attended two presentation days at Queanbeyan Public



*Eddie Wheeler Secretary/Manager of the Trust speaks to pupils at Queanbeyan Public School.*



*The winning entry by Jessica Heaton from Queanbeyan Public School.*





School and Queanbeyan South Primary Schools. Clever and catchy messages were a feature of the many entries at both schools and a career in advertising beckons many of the students.

A random study of bicycle and scooter users at one school showed the percentage of using helmets had increased. The project is continuing into the new financial year. An example of some of the students' entries in the competition are on the previous page.

### **3 The Mentoring Road Safety Kit: A Resource for Teachers – The Way Forward (Department of Education, Youth and Family Services) Project No. 7/03**

The Trust provided a grant of \$22,500 to the Department of Education, Youth and Family Services for the wider expansion of the Mentoring Road Safety Kit into ACT schools.

The project will involve schools within a cluster, which will include one college, its feeder high schools and their feeder primary schools. A coordinator from each sector will be appointed and trained in mentoring and in subsequently applying and adapting the kit to the needs of each school.

Under the project, College P Plate students will be trained to mentor and deliver elements of the *Road Ready* program to Year 10 students. They will be trained as mentors to deliver a road safety program to Year 6 students and they will deliver a road safety program to Year 3.

A small pilot group will start in Term 2 2003 involving Lake Tuggeranong College, Year 10 at Calwell High and Year 6 at Calwell Primary. At the completion of the pilot, it is proposed the implementation phase commence on a larger scale. The project is expected to continue into 2005.

### **4 Advanced Motorcycle Skills Program for Mature Age (40 and over) Riders (Motorcycle Riders Association ACT) Project No. 8/03**

The Trust approved a grant of \$9,295 for the Motorcycle Riders Association of the ACT for the development and promotion of an education and skills based safety program for mature, licensed riders who are returning to riding after a lengthy break. The Association would develop the course in conjunction with Stay Upright Motorcycle Techniques.

The project consists of a series of courses involving classroom and practical instruction. Each course will consist of one half-day equivalent classroom session and one full day practical session. It was expected that 65 riders would undertake the course over a two year period.

The Mature Aged Skills Training for Experienced Riders or MASTER course was launched on 22 October 2003 in Civic Square by noted Australian athlete Robert De Castella. Other participants in the launch, which attracted a significant crowd, were the Minister for Urban Services Mr Bill Wood MLA and the Chairman of the Trust, Professor Don Aitkin AO.

The MASTER course has proven to be extremely popular in its first year and it is anticipated the remaining courses will be fully subscribed. Interest in this unique course has been significant from interstate.



*Robert De Castella, launching the MASTER Course in Civic Square.*

## 5 Kangaroos Cross Roads – Community Service Announcements (Environment ACT) Project No 10/03

Environment ACT was approved for a grant of \$13,200 to assist it raise community awareness of the dangers of kangaroos at the roadside through (1) radio and television messages (2) targeted distribution of a leaflet to new drivers and visitors to the ACT (3) advertising on the back of ACTION buses. The Project is an extension of a similar one approved in the 2002/2003 Grant Program, which also included displaying messages on the rear of 27 ACTION buses for extended periods.

The campaign featured 15 and 30 second ads on WIN TV for a twelve week period between June and August 2003. The radio campaign ran for a five week period over July and August on stations 2CA and 2CC with many additional complementary ads provided by the stations. The brochure was widely distributed via Canberra Connect ACT Government Shopfronts, libraries, major car companies in the ACT and the Environment ACT Information Centre. Research conducted in November 2003 by Market Attitude Research Services indicated that half the people surveyed could recall the campaign.

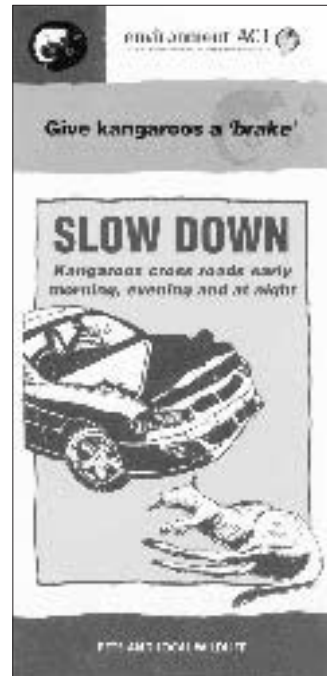
## 6 An Additional Kidsafe Car (Kidsafe ACT) Project No. 11/03

A grant of \$20,000 was approved for the Kidsafe ACT to provide funding towards the purchase of a second vehicle to support Kidsafe Centres, Infant Restraint Loan Service and Talks Program. The current vehicle was purchased as the result of a Trust grant over ten years ago and it had travelled some 200,000 kms.

The Trust grant made it possible for Kidsafe to negotiate the purchase of a Mercedes-Benz van from Canberra Star Motors. The Chairman of the Trust Professor Don Aitkin AO presented the keys of this roomy and robust vehicle to Mr Eric Chalmers, Chief Executive of Kidsafe at Canberra Star

Motors showroom in Fyshwick on 17 March 2004.

Kidsafe has opened new shopfronts at Canberra and Queanbeyan Hospitals and has permanent displays at Calvary and John James Hospitals. In addition, it visits a range of early childhood centres, day care centres and other mid-aged facilities.



*Professor Don Aitkin alongside the new Kidsafe van.*

The Kidsafe Safety Talks program reaches over 1,500 families annually and this vehicle will be of immeasurable assistance to Kidsafe's range of safety activities.

### **7 Development of a System for Effective Vehicle Restraints for Disabled People Especially Children (Kidsafe ACT) Project No. 12/03**

Kidsafe ACT was approved for a grant of \$20,735 to develop and implement a process for supporting the use of effective vehicle restraints for disabled people, particularly children.

Currently disabled people can obtain exemption from the normal rules requiring the use of appropriate standards approved restraints in vehicles. This often results in people not obtaining some form of restraint appropriate to their circumstances.

The project will research practices in other jurisdictions especially NSW; raise awareness of the need for appropriate seating and transport for disabled people and the availability of support; conduct a workshop for parents of disabled children to launch the process.

The project will focus on car seats and in-seat restraints. It will not address motorised scooters. A committee of interested groups set up by Disability ACT will oversee the project.

The project is proceeding well and a system will soon be in place that will see doctors encouraging parents to consult an occupational therapist in selecting a suitable restraint. Kidsafe will have a range of restraints for hire or purchase.

### **8 Television Campaign (CreaTV Productions Pty Ltd) Project No 13/03**

A grant of \$12,842 was approved for CreaTV Productions to show previously developed road safety messages on local television over a twelve month period. The existing ads that would be used again were to be the quirky and well-remembered *Wear a Seat Belt* and the *Speeding in the Wet* and *Tailgating* ones. The last two were re-worked to produce an ad on the hazards of speeding and being too close – given that 46% of all ACT crashes are rear-enders.

The messages were shown on Prime and Southern Cross Ten over the Christmas, Easter and June holiday periods.

### **9 Road Ready Recurrent Funding (Department of Urban Services) Project No.16/03**

The Trust approved a grant of \$110,000 to the Department of Urban Services as a contribution towards the recurrent costs of the *Road Ready* program for 2003/2004. Estimated recurrent costs for the financial year will be \$372,000.

The *Road Ready* novice driver program has the potential to reduce the risk of death and serious injury in the under twenty five age group.



An ACT Government initiative  
sponsored by the  
HRMA - ACT Road Safety Trust



## **10** *Learning to Take Risks: Understanding Risk Taking by Young Male Drivers in the ACT (ARRB Transport Research) Project No. 18/03*

The Trust approved a grant of \$27,231 to ARRB Transport Research to conduct research into the risk taking behaviour of young male drivers in the ACT. The project would involve conducting Focus Groups involving young male Provisional Licence drivers to discover the extent of risk taking behaviour and to identify the influences that contribute to that behaviour and any increase in the behaviour.

The main study would be held in Canberra with focus groups being held at venues near Civic, Belconnen, Woden and Tuggeranong. Two groups would be held at each venue, making a total of 8 groups with about 6 participants in each. Participants would be aged around 18-19 and ideally have held their P licence for about one year.

The report was released on 26 May 2004 and its key findings were that speeding and using a mobile phone while driving were the two most prevalent behaviours. The report found such behaviour increased in the first year of being licensed for a variety of reasons including:

- safe driving practices developed while learning now considered unnecessary; and
- increased self-confidence in driving ability and habit formation, e.g. regular speeding.

The report also found that despite enforcement consequences being an acknowledged deterrent, most study participants were confident they could avoid detection. Furthermore, there was a suspicious attitude towards police and enforcement countermeasures such as speed cameras and stop signs.

The report created considerable media interest and ARRB TR intends to present a paper on its findings at the 2004 Road Safety Conference in Perth in November. The report can be viewed on the Trust website at [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)

## **11** *The Potential for Early Childhood Learning to Influence Road Safety (ARRB Transport Research) Project No. No. 20/03*

ARRB Transport Research was approved for a grant of \$23,000 to review current relevant research that focuses on the potential for influencing the road safety behaviour of children from birth to the end of pre-school and of influencing their carers to engage in appropriate protective behaviour. A series of age-and-stage appropriate road safety interventions will be developed and trailed. The children, parents and caregivers before and after the implementation of the interventions will be compared and findings and recommendations developed.

The project comprises:

- (1) conduct a review of road safety education within an early childhood developmental framework (via a literature review and audit of current programs in the ACT for children from birth to the end of pre-school);
- (2) development of age and stage interventions based on best practice in road safety for children at different ages (eg toddlers: message on driveway safety; new born babies: message on child restraints);
- (3) intervention implementation and trialing in a variety of early childhood sites; and
- (4) review of interventions and report writing.

The project duration is approximately one year.

ARRB TR produced a report in May 2004, which found that:

- There is still much scope for increasing appropriate use of child restraints and that children should be included by parents in the correct restraint fitting procedure.
- Children can be taught some road safety skills before they reach school age. Thus while children young children should always be supervised when near roadways, the supervising carer should use the time to model safe road use behaviours and teach simple pedestrian skills.
- Parents are influential role models for their children and can best equip their children as safe road users by modelling appropriate road use behaviours and actively involving the child in constructing their own knowledge of the road environment.

A copy of the ARRB report has been forwarded to key stakeholders and further research in this area by ARRB has been approved by the Trust. A copy of the report can be downloaded from the Trust website at [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)

## 12 **The John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award (Australian Transport Safety Bureau) Project No. 25/03**

A grant of \$5,000 was approved for the Australian Transport Safety Bureau for the provision of a \$1,000 annual award for the 'Best Paper by a New Researcher' to be presented at the annual Australasian Road Safety Conference over the five year period 2004 2008 inclusive. The award for 'Best Paper by a New Researcher' was first approved in 1999 and was renamed 'the John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award' in 2001 in memory of the late John Kirby who was Trust Chairman between 1996 and 2001.

## 13 **Cycle Lane Awareness Campaign (Department of Urban Services/Pedal Power ACT Inc) Project No 26/03**

The Trust approved a grant of \$19,250 to the Department of Urban Services and Pedal Power ACT Inc representing a contribution to a public awareness campaign utilising television, newspaper, websites, posters, variable message boards in relation to the new on-road cycle lanes and the road rules regarding them. This grant represented a half share of the estimated cost of the awareness campaign.

A number of new on-road cycle lanes have been constructed or existing ones enhanced particularly on Belconnen Way-City and the Woden-Dickson cycle lane projects. Treatments include tramlines cycle lanes continuing across exit ramps and green coloured lanes. While used in other States they are unfamiliar in the ACT - hence many drivers and cyclists are unclear of the road rules regarding them.

The primary message of the campaign was *where cycle lanes cross exit and entry lanes and they are marked with dashed tramlines motorists must give way*. Secondary messages included *at places where there is higher potential for accidents, the lanes are marked green*.



**Eddie Wheeler Secretary/Manager of the Trust (right) and Steve Jiggins Manager Road Safety Urban Services, sample a green cycle lane.**

The bulk of the funds were put towards a TV campaign on WIN television, which ran at selected times during the period August 2003 to January 2004. The campaign also included news features in the *Sunday Canberra Times*, *Valley View* and *Chronicle*. One particularly notable feature of the campaign was the showing of the TV message on the big screen during rugby league games at Canberra Stadium and also during the World Cup Rugby games hosted at the Stadium during the six weeks of the World Cup.

The Department of Urban Services conducts ongoing community attitude surveys on various issues affecting the Territory. Its survey on the awareness campaign found that three quarters of respondents felt the markings would make motorists more aware of cyclists and two thirds felt they would the treatments would improve the overall level of safety for cyclists.

The campaign was runner up in the ACT WorkCover Occupational Health and Safety Awards for 2003 in the Community Education Category.

#### **14 Nova: Science in the News Website Topic on "4WD's and Road Safety" (Australian Academy of Science) Project No. 28/03**

A grant of \$6,050 was approved for the Australian Academy of Science to create a new topic on "4 Wheel Drive vehicles and road safety" for the popular *Nova: Science in the News*, website. This would provide reliable and useful curriculum material that is relevant to school science, health and driver education. The project would take some eight months to develop and launch and the Academy would maintain it indefinitely.

The Chairman of the Trust Professor Don Aitkin AO launched the Internet topic at the Shine Dome on 12 December 2003. Entitled *'Bogged Down in the Four Wheel Drive Debate'* the topic provided information on the virtues or otherwise of the four wheel drive debate – drawing on a range of research.

Their increasing popularity, particularly in urban areas, is an area of concern for their opponents, due to the risks they pose for other road users in the event of a collision.

Research by the Monash University Accident Research Centre (MUARC) has found four-wheel drive vehicles have a higher injury risk rating than many other vehicles due to the risk they pose for other road users particularly pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists. On the other hand, their size usually means they are likely to come off best in a collision.



*Professor Don Aitkin launches the web topic on 4 wheel drives.*

In terms of crashworthiness, four wheel drive vehicles rated highly in a recent study by MUARC on crash data involving injuries to over a million drivers involved in serious crashes Australia wide during the 1990's. However, they are more likely than passenger cars to roll over.

The full topic can be accessed on the Academy's website [www.science.org.au/nova](http://www.science.org.au/nova).

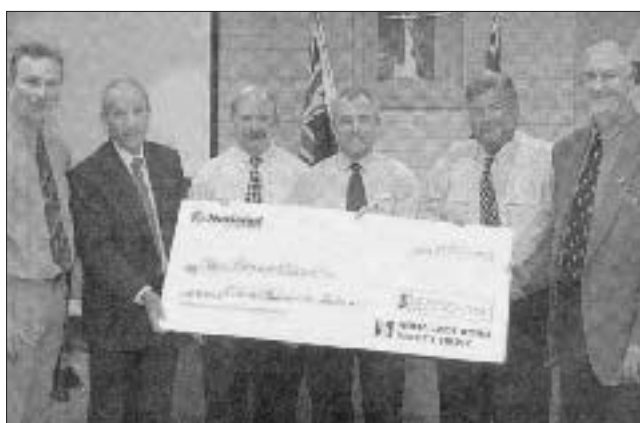


## 15 **Unsealed Rural Roads – Take Me Home Country Road (Yass Shire Council) Project No. 30/03**

Funding of \$11,000 was approved for the Yass Shire Council as a contribution towards an awareness campaign highlighting the range of potential hazards motorists may encounter on unsealed road in the Yass, Gunning and Crookwell Shires. One third of crashes in those Shires involves ACT motorists.

The campaign comprised a series of radio ads on ACT and regional radio stations supplemented by an informative brochure. The key themes included *slowing down and driving to the conditions* and *being alert particularly for wandering stock, school buses and farm machinery*.

The awareness campaign was officially launched at the Yass Shire Council Chambers on 12 November 2003. The occasion was an appropriate opportunity for the Secretary/Manager Mr Eddie Wheeler to present the Trust grant to the Mayor of Yass Mr Nic Carmody. A marketplace survey conducted in March 2004 found that some 42% of the survey participants were aware of the gravel road awareness campaign and could recall the key takeout message of drive to the conditions.



*A cheque for \$11,000 from NRMA ACT Road Safety Trust was presented to Yass, Gunning and Crookwell Shire Councils' Gravel Roads Awareness Campaign at the Yass Shire Chambers following the campaign launch. Pictured are: Road Safety Officer Mark Foran, NRMA ACT Road Safety Trust Secretary/Manager Eddie Wheeler, Yass Shire Mayor Nic Carmody, Yass Shire General Manager Greg Smith, Crookwell Shire Mayor Brian McCormack, and Gunning Shire General Manager John Bell.*

## 16 **The RADD (Recording Artists, Actors and Athletes Against Drink Driving) Anti-Drink Driving Campaign (Department of Urban Services) Project No. 32/03**

The Trust awarded a grant of \$33,000 to the Department of Urban Services (DUS) representing a contribution towards an awareness campaign involving drink drive messages to be broadcast on radio and delivered by relevant popular celebrities. The Trust funding would match a contribution of \$10,000 by DUS to a 'booster campaign' in the ACT and region.

The national campaign targets 17-25 year olds and is based on a very successful anti drink drive campaign being conducted in the USA. The national campaign is being co-ordinated by Radiowise and with the bulk of funding being provided by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation. State and Territory road safety authorities have all been invited to participate.

The four key messages relate to (1) Designated drivers (2) passenger power – saying its cool to say no to getting into a car where the driver has been drinking (3) looking after your mates and (4) planning ahead, e.g. plan to take a taxi if going out drinking. While national celebrities such as Jimmy Barnes and Ian Thorpe have recorded messages local heroes such as Lauren Jackson have also recorded messages for local radio stations such as FM 104.7 and MIX 106.3. The national campaign was launched in Melbourne on 28 May 2004.

## 17 **Team Nursing (Research Centre for Nursing Practice, the Canberra Hospital and University of Canberra) Project No. 33/03**

The Trust approved a grant of \$2,750 to the Research Centre for Nursing Practice at the Canberra Hospital for it to conduct a six months trial of a Team Nursing approach to care in the Orthopaedic Ward as a system of care as opposed to the current system of patient allocation. Some 20% of the patients in the Orthopaedic Ward are usually from road crashes.

The project commenced in May 2004 and is expected to be concluded by October. The Research Centre has posted information about the project on its website. It advises there has been considerable national and international interest in the project.

## 18 **Road Safety Workshop on Speed – National Museum of Australia**

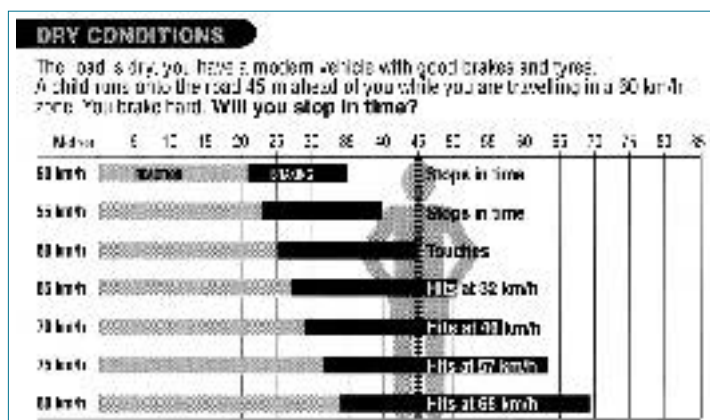
The Trust provided the ACT Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety with a grant of \$10,000 to assist it organise a Workshop on Speed at the National Museum of Australia, on 3 September 2003.

The goals of the Workshop were to:

- inform the community about the contribution of speed to road crashes;
- examine current approaches to combating the speeding driver;
- outline the cost of speeding to the community; and
- explore more effective strategies to deter the speeding driver.

Speakers were drawn from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, the AFP, Canberra Hospital, the Traffic Camera Office and NRMA Insurance. Special guest speaker was Professor Ian Johnston, Director of the Monash University Road Accident Research Centre. The Workshop created considerable media interest.

A CD of the proceedings is available from the ACT Chapter of the College or the Trust.



*Example of braking consequences from the Workshop.*



## (B) PROJECTS CONTINUING FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

### 'LANDMARK' PROJECTS

#### 1 **Road Ready (Department of Urban Services) (P189)**

The Trust provided a grant of \$1.96 million to the Department of Urban Services in June 1997 to develop and implement a novice driver education program known as *Road Ready*. Young drivers aged between 17 and 25 years comprise some 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.

The Pre-Licence element of the *Road Ready* program has been in operation since February 2000 and the provisional driver course, "*Road Ready Plus*" since February 2001.

The Pre-Learner Course is now delivered to a very high proportion of the 4,500 Year 10 students in ACT high schools each year. Learner Driver applicants who have left school, can do the course at a *Road Ready* Center at various locations in Canberra. These courses are conducted during the day, in the evenings and at weekends depending on demand and cost \$128 including the road rules test. Bookings can be made on (02) 6162 5152 or (02) 6282 8990.

The Canberra Institute of Technology also delivers the course for special needs and NESB groups.

A voluntary '*Road Ready Plus*' course is available for drivers who have held their Provisional Licence for at least six months. The course comprises a three-hour workshop focussing on the unexpected hazards that drivers are likely to encounter on the roads. Before attending the course, participants are required to complete two activities of about one hour each in preparation for the workshop. Drivers who have undertaken *Road Ready Plus* are permitted to remove their "P" plates after six months and have their demerit points allowance increased by four points. The cost of the course is \$68 and bookings can be made by ringing (02) 6162 5152 or (02) 6282 8990.



Some of the *Road Ready* resources.

A recent evaluation of the *Road Ready* program found that those people who do the course are likely to practice more, undertake more commentary driving (where the driver explains strategies for recognising potential hazards) and receive fewer infringements compared to people who haven't done the course. Due to the small number of crashes, in absolute terms, involving young drivers in the ACT, it is difficult to determine whether participants have a reduced crash risk at this stage.

A recently completed evaluation of the *Road Ready* Program has found that is of high value to the community. It was also lauded by ARRB Transport Research in its study into the risk taking behaviour of young male drivers in the ACT. Initiatives are being developed including television ads to encourage P Plate drivers to undertake the Program as currently only 25% of the target group are participating.

The *Road Ready* website continues to attract significant visits which is gratifying. Daily visits are around 336. The website is [www.roadready.gov.au](http://www.roadready.gov.au)

## **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 David Ellwood, Associate Dean, Canberra Clinical School.

Development of the National Trauma Registry continues to be a major priority for Professor Richardson, as is the integration of local trauma databases. Part of his community outreach has seen Drew continue to be a very active Chairman of the ACT and Region Chapter of the Australian College of Road Safety.



*Associate Professor Drew Richardson Chair of Road Trauma and Emergency Medicine speaks at the Canberra Hospital.*

## **COMMUNITY PROJECTS**

### **3 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 Churchill Trust announced that Ms Kerry Smith had

been awarded the Road Safety Fellowship on 6 July 2002. Kerry would travel to North America and Europe in August 2003 to study the latest advances in drink driving deterrence particularly in relation to repeat drink drivers. Kerry is finalising her report on the trip.

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. Other Fellowship winners have been:

- Senior Constable Mick Guy, Australian Federal Police, to study the identification of drugs in drivers in the USA, UK, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands; and
- Mr John Wilson, station officer at the Chisholm Fire Station to study urgent duty driving training in Germany, Sweden, Britain and the United States.

No Road Safety Fellowship was awarded in 2004 as the potential nominee moved interstate – thus being no longer eligible for the ACT award. The Fellowship will be re-advertised in 2005.

#### **4 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 completed his thesis on a part-time basis and was awarded his doctorate in December 2002.

The second scholarship was converted to a Masters scholarship and Ms Kerry Smith undertook a comparative evaluation of DUI rehabilitation programs in the ACT. She graduated with her Masters Degree in July 2003.

The Trust is currently finalising a new post graduate scholarship arrangement with the University of Canberra – given the success of the original scheme. The Australian National University has also indicated its willingness to accept a post graduate scholarship.



*Ms Kerry Smith at her graduation.*

#### **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. Part of the grant was to be directed towards sponsoring an award for ‘best paper presented by a new researcher’ for a period of five years. In 2002 Trustees agreed to re-name the award the ‘John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award in memory of the late Chairman of the Trust.

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 forces 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 2003 Conference was held in Sydney in September 2003 and the winner of the “John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award” was Ms Elissa Corlett, a Master of Psychology at the University of Adelaide for a paper on “Now You See It Now You Don’t: Preliminary Investigation of Age Related Decrements in Peripheral Vision.” Secretary/Manager of the Trust Eddie Wheeler presented Ms Corlett with the award.

Previous awards winners have been:

- Chief Inspector Chris Bult from the NSW School of Traffic and Mobile Policing in Goulburn for his paper ‘Police Pursuits – A Safety Education Perspective’ (1999);
- Ms Eve Mitsopoulous, Monash University for her work (in association with Dr Mike Regan) on ‘Behavioural Strategies for Enhancing Road Safety Through Passengers’ (2000);
- Mr Adrian Derbyshire, Queensland Department of Main Roads for a paper on “Results of a full scale crash test into an energy absorbing light pole on a sloped roadside” (2001); and
- Ms Sharon Newnam, CARRS-Q in Queensland for a paper on “A Comparison of the Factors Influencing the Safety of Work Related Drivers in Work and Personal Vehicles.”

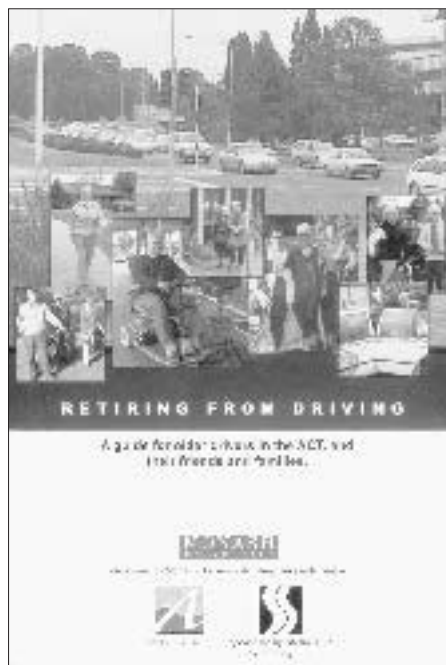
## 6 **How to Retire from Driving (Council on the Ageing) Project No. 15/99**

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 would enable Monash University’s Accident Research Centre produce a world’s best practice handbook on issues such as self-assessment and self-regulation, trip planning and alternative transport options.

The booklet was launched on 17 January 2001 by the Minister for Urban Services Brendan Smyth at the ACT House of Assembly Reception Room and created widespread interest. The booklet provides information and advice on a comprehensive range of issues, including:

- A checklist for recognising health issues, which may impair driving ability;
- Strategies for continuing safe driving, such as minimising night driving;
- Transport alternatives to driving;
- A comparison of the costs of running a car versus using taxis; and
- A comprehensive list of contacts for further information.

Copies of the booklet are available from the Council on the Ageing, Road User Services (Motor Registry) at Dickson or from the Trust.



A recently completed evaluation of the booklet has confirmed its value and some minor modifications have been recommended for inclusion in a revised addition. National and international interest in the booklet remains strong.

## 7 **Juvenile Justice Driver Education (Quamby Youth Detention Centre) Project No. 30/00**

Quamby Youth Detention Centre was approved for a grant of \$2,200 for a twelve month driver education program for 'at risk' youth at the Centre.

The program has been very useful with eligible residents being able to access the *Road Ready* program and have some driving lessons. Seventeen have completed the *Road Ready* course while many others are at varying stages within the program – acquiring their learners test and/or having driving lessons.

Trustees have agreed to an extension of the program as the movement of clients in and out of the Centre restricts the continuity of the program. Most of the funds have now been allocated.

## 8 **Road Ready Teachers' Association (Department of Education, Youth and Family Services) Project No. 6/01**

The Trust provided a grant of \$9,900 to the Department of Education, Youth and Family Services for the establishment of a Teachers' Association for teachers implementing the Year 10 *Road Ready* novice driver education program in ACT schools. The aims of the Association include (1) sharing ideas on the program including student feedback (2) providing regular feedback on the effectiveness of the program and (3) providing new *Road Ready* teachers with support and direction from experienced teachers.



The Association has proven to be an effective way for *Road Ready* teachers to communicate. Unfortunately, meetings have not been well attended but the quarterly newsletter has been well received and will continue even though Trust funding is now exhausted. The Department of Education will continue to produce the newsletter. A recent newsletter ran an article on the physics and limitations of a car – hence the picture from that article.

## 9 **Evaluation of Road Ready Program (Department of Urban Services) Project No. 8/01**

The Department of Urban Services was approved for a grant of \$82,500 for an evaluation of (1) the *Road Ready Plus* course (Stage 4 of the *Road Ready* Program) and (2) the external providers of the

Program. The *Road Ready Plus* Program is a voluntary facilitated discussion group activity, which was developed by the University of Canberra and introduced in February 2001. All new drivers and motorcycle riders under the age of 26 are eligible for the program provided they have held their Provisional Licence for at least six months.

The *Road Ready* evaluation found that those people who do the course are likely to practice more, undertake more commentary driving (where the driver explains strategies for recognising potential hazards) and receive fewer infringements compared to people who haven't done the course. It is estimated that around 6,000 new drivers obtain their license annually.

The *Road Ready Plus* evaluation found that the program is of high value to the community. Only some twenty five percent of new drivers undertake the *Road Ready Plus* program. The Department of Urban Services is liaising with the provider on strategies to increase the numbers and television commercials are being planned.

## **10 Additional Infant Restraints and Brochure Production (Kidsafe ACT) Project No. 11/01**

The Trust approved a grant of \$10,560 to Kidsafe ACT as a fifty per cent contribution of the cost of 100 new infant restraints for the loan service and an update of the organisation's brochure. Demand for infant restraints is increasing – particularly with Kidsafe now expanding into Queanbeyan. The restraints have been purchased and the brochures updated.

## **11 Developing a Policy for Managing Aggressive Behaviour in Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury (Canberra Hospital and the Research Centre for Nursing Practice) Project No. 12/01**

A grant of \$8,960 was approved for the Canberra Hospital and the Research Centre for Nursing Practice to develop a best practice policy for the management of aggressive behaviour in patients with Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Road crashes are one of the primary causes of TBI and recovery is a long, demanding and frustrating process for the patient, family and the health professionals involved. Aggressive behaviour is one of the manifestations of TBI and its management has always been one of the particular challenges of this condition. If not properly managed, aggressive behaviour can seriously impede a patient's recovery.

The best practice policy was launched at the Canberra Hospital on 30 May 2002 by Trustees Dr Angus McIntosh and it created considerable media attention. The development of a specific policy for the management of aggressive behaviour in patients with TBI has put the Canberra Hospital in the vanguard of neuroscience best practice. The policy is creating interest from both within Australia and overseas with inquiries coming from New Zealand and Ireland.

Residual grant funds of some \$652 will be utilised by the Research Centre for a seminar towards the end of 2004 further promoting the benefits of the best practice policy.

## **12 Wheelchair Accessible Transport (National Brain Injury Foundation) Project No. 16/01**

A grant of \$20,000 was approved for the National Brain Injury Foundation as a contribution towards the purchase and modification of a vehicle to transport people rehabilitating from acquired brain injury. The current vehicle was purchased with a Trust grant in 1994, but the vehicle is showing signs of wear after some 180,000 kilometres.

The van provides a safe mode of transport for people who have suffered acquired brain injury,



especially for those with severe disabilities who are confined to wheelchairs. It also reduces the pressure and expenditure placed on volunteers to provide transport in their private vehicles. The Foundation has purchased a van using the Trust funds to supplement its own resources, as it was unable to find another funding partner. The Trust approved an additional \$400 for signage costs on the van, which is expected to be officially handed over in the next month or so.

### **13 Cycling Safely School Education Program (Australian Federal Police) Project No. 32/01**

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) was approved for a grant of \$18,590 to subsidise transport costs for all ACT primary school students to attend the Children's Demonstration Centre, Belconnen for a twelve-month period. The AFP has been conducting a highly regarded bicycle education program at the Centre for some twenty years. Conducted over two hours, the course targets Year 4 students particularly and comprises:

- A short classroom presentation on basic road rules and safe riding instructions; and
- On road activities on the Centre's road network.

At the beginning of each year, schools are invited to attend the Centre and to participate in school holiday programs.



*School children navigating a part of the road network at the Demonstration Centre, Belconnen.*

The subsidy program was launched at the Demonstration Centre on 14 November 2001 by Trustee Phil Newton and created considerable media interest. The program continued into 2003/2004 and an estimated some 4847 children utilised the program – a figure that underscores its popularity. The Trust is currently considering a further extension of this program.

### **14 Livedrive – Older Drivers Web Site (Council on the Ageing) Project No. 37/01**

A grant of \$9,900 was approved for the Council on the Ageing to develop a website to assist access to a comprehensive range of road safety information of relevance to older drivers, pedestrians and scooter users. The ACT has an increasing number of publications and other forms of information about older drivers and providing it in a single website will make it available at a one-stop shop. The project is being finalised and is expected to be launched in August 2004.

### **15 Road Safety Media Initiative for Secondary Schools in the ACT (Australian Teachers of Media ACT Inc) Project No. 39/01**

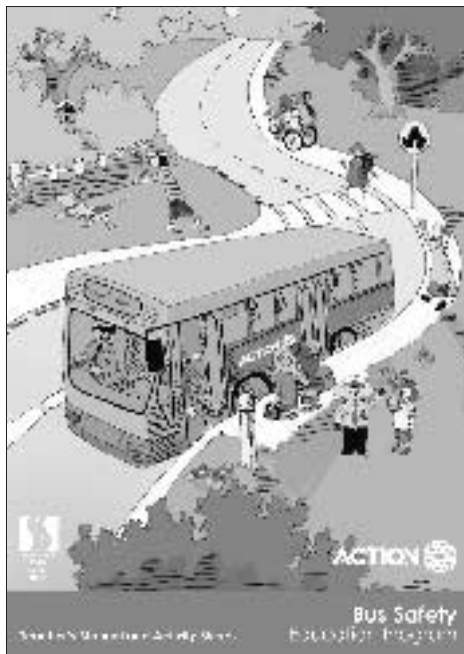
Funding of \$12,309 was approved for the Australian Teachers of Media ACT (ATOM) to produce an educational road safety video by senior high school and college students that draws upon their own driving experiences. The project would involve the purchase of a digital video camera for use on a rotational basis by four schools/colleges, with the resultant video to be shown in shopping malls and be made available with discussion notes to ACT schools/colleges.

The project has not quite worked out and it has been varied. The revised project will see a media student film the 2004 Young Driver Challenge Program with the video becoming an educational resource.

## 16 **ACTION School Bus Safety Education Program (ACTION) Project No. 41/01**

The Trust awarded a grant of \$50,358 to ACTION as a contribution towards the development and delivery of a bus and road safety education program targeting primary school children at the Year 3-4 level. The key elements of the education program comprise a Teacher's Manual and Activity Sheets supported by a video. Three rules for safe behaviour outside the bus (eg cross the road when the bus has gone) and three rules of safe behaviour inside the bus (eg keep aisles clear) underpin the program.

ACTION transports over 20,000 students daily and operates some 330 dedicated school services five days a week. Educating primary school students about bus and road safety will significantly minimise the risk of an accident and help maintain ACTION's excellent safety record in relation to that daily transportation task. The program officially launched by the Minister for Education Simon Corbell on 31 July 2002 at Gold Creek and Holy Spirit Primary Schools Nicholls – with Dr Colin Adrian representing the Trust.



The education package includes a Teacher's Manual, Bus Safety Education Video, posters and student activities as well as a visit from a representative from ACTION. The program has been distributed to all primary schools in the ACT and posted on the ACTION website at [www.action.act.gov.au](http://www.action.act.gov.au)

ACTION reports that take-up has been better on the north side than the south side, but strategies are being put into place to address the imbalance. The project won the ACT Workcover Safety Award in 2003.

## 17 **Safe Behaviour – Road Ready in Youth Centres (Community and Youth Sector Council) Project No. 3/02**

The Trust provided a grant of \$15,994 to the Community and Youth Sector Council for the provision of the *Road Ready* novice driver education program to disadvantaged, low income young people (16-25 years) in various youth centres.

The project involves teaching young disadvantaged people *Road Ready* in small groups. Many of these young people have had very negative experiences of school and often have significant literacy and learning difficulties. For this reason, the classes are being held in youth centres, which will provide a non-threatening and friendly environment. The project is progressing well with twenty five young people successfully completing the *Road Ready* Program and acquiring their Learners Licence. It is due for completion by July 2004.



## **18 Investigation of Older Women's Road Safety in the ACT (Accident Research Centre, Monash) Project No 7/02**

The Trust approved a grant of \$48,620 to the Accident Research Centre, Monash University to undertake research into older women's road safety in the ACT, including (1) an analysis of their crash rates (2) a survey of their driving and travel patterns and (3) the development of an educational handbook. A specific aim of the project is to examine the consequences when women, after years of being predominantly a passenger, become the principal driver and the impact this may have on their safety.

This project is a new and unique initiative as no study to date has addressed older women's road safety. The Council on the Ageing is assisting with the mail out of survey forms. The project is nearing completion and the final draft report has been cleared.

## **19 Kidsafe Talks Program (Kidsafe ACT) Project No. 14/02**

Kidsafe ACT was approved for a grant of \$16,500 to allow for the continuation and expansion of its safety talk program to parents and carers of young children with a strong emphasis on road safety. The talks are given at a range of locations including antenatal centres, day care organisations and hospitals.

As a further expansion of the program, Kidsafe presented lectures to CIT's Child Studies Department. These lectures to about 100 students support both the Child Studies Certificate and Canberra University courses that use the CIT program. The project is now completed.

## **20 Older Person Road Safety Needs Analysis for the ACT (Council on the Ageing) Project No 16/02**

A grant of \$39,292 was approved for the Council on the Ageing ACT to undertake a comprehensive survey to determine the road safety needs of older persons in the ACT. The survey would be used to assist in developing recommendations to form part of an older persons driving and transport strategy for the ACT. A Steering Committee would assist COTA with this project.

The ACT's population is ageing faster than any other city in Australia, which makes the need to address issues of older drivers in Canberra vital. Over the past five years a range of initiatives in relation to older people and road safety have been undertaken – several funded by the Trust and COTA. The approved project will consider the effectiveness of these various initiatives. The project is now underway and is expected to be completed in fifteen months.

## **21 Seminar Series Emerging Road Safety Issues for Older People (Council on the Ageing) Project No.17/02**

The Council on the Ageing was approved for a grant of \$25,905 to develop and conduct a seminar series around road user and pedestrian safety specifically targeted at older members of the community. The objective of the seminar series is to increase awareness of developing issues and areas of high risk for older road users and pedestrians. Some thirty seminars are planned for existing clubs and organisations that cater for older people. The project is expected to be launched in August 2004.

## 22 **Kangaroos Cross Roads (Environment ACT) Project No. 19/02**

Environment ACT was approved for a grant of \$11,550 to assist with a community awareness campaign on the theme 'Kangaroos Cross Roads' that would involve:

- Radio and television messages;
- Advertising on the rear of ACTION buses; and
- Production and distribution of leaflets.

Kangaroos have become a particular problem in Canberra as a result of both the drought and the recent bushfires. Apart from the potential for a serious injury crash by colliding with a kangaroo, the average claim for vehicle repairs has been estimated at \$3,000. Consequently, the need for a public awareness campaign on the need to be alert for kangaroos has never been higher.



*Message on an ACTION bus.*

The awareness campaign commenced on 14 August 2002 when Minister for Urban Services Bill Wood MLA launched the messages on the rear of ACTION buses near the Mount Ainslie turnoff.

The television campaign was launched at the Legislative Assembly by Bill Wood on 4 June 2003 when he unveiled the first of two messages to be shown on WIN television over a five-month period. Dr Colin Adrian represented the Trust at the launch.

## 23 **Defensive Driving Course (Hartley Lifecare Inc) No. 24/02**

The Trust approved a grant of \$14,300 to Hartley Lifecare Inc for defensive driving courses for sixty five Disability Support Workers employed by Hartley Lifecare Inc, Sharing Places Inc, Woden Community Services Inc and Community Programs Inc, all of who transport people with disabilities. These courses are being provided by CIT Solutions (Rod Giles and Associates) and are proving popular with the agencies. The program is nearing completion.

## 24 **SafeDrive Medical Seminars (Monash Ageing Research Centre) Project No. 25/02**

Funding of \$18,700 was approved for the Monash Ageing Research Centre to conduct three SafeDrive Medical Seminars in the ACT. Dr Peteris Darzins, Associate Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the Centre would conduct the seminars, which are designed to promote safe road use by older drivers. This is achieved by assisting doctors and other health professionals deal more effectively with issues relating to older and impaired drivers (such as medications, licensing and legal obligations).

The SafeDrive Medical Program was developed by Dr Darzins for VicRoads – Victoria's State road authority. It is an interactive two hour workshop that addresses a range of older driver issues and relies on the Austroads 'Assessing Fitness to Drive' guide.

The seminar series was launched at the Canberra Hospital on 15 May 2003 by Mr John Hargreaves the ACT Government Whip. The Trust Chairman Professor Don Aitkin AO also spoke at the launch. This seminar and a follow-up one at Calvary Hospital on 21 May were well attended and the feedback from some eighty doctors and other health professionals was extremely positive. The final seminar was held on 6 August 2003 at the Canberra Hospital.

Some 123 health professionals attended the three seminars – the majority of whom were general practitioners. Prior to the seminars the percentage of doctors who said they felt comfortable discussing driving with older patients was some 47%. Following the seminar that figure had risen to 84%. It is expected the series will be repeated again in 2004–2005 with Trust funding.



*Dr Darzins (left) and Eddie Wheeler, Secretary/Manager of the Trust at the completion of the final seminar on 6 August 2003.*

## 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 2003/2004 Grant Program. The initial advertisements appeared in the Canberra Times on 6 and 10 December 2003 and in the Chronicle on 9 December 2003. These advertisements were supported by a Media Release of 5 December 2003. A follow-up media release was issued on 12 February 2004, which received widespread coverage.

### PROJECT LAUNCHES AND PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND EXPOSURE

There were 9 public launches of Trust sponsored projects during 2003/2004, including the Workshop on Speed – sponsored by the Trust but organised by the Australasian College of Road Safety. Details of these launches are contained in Appendix C. All these events were well attended and received widespread press, radio and television coverage.

The Trust commissioned report on Risk Taking by Young Male Drivers that was released in May 2004 created significant media interest. Other Trust initiatives that attracted media interest during the year included the 'wear a bike helmet' campaign involving a number of regional primary schools and the release of the annual report in November 2003.

The Trust ran a number of articles in both the Canberra Times and Chronicle on tips to stay safe during the holiday period. The articles particularly focussed on speed, drink driving, seat belt wearing and fatigue. Trust articles also featured in the Canberra Times as part of the United Nations World Road Safety Day focus on 7 April 2004.

The Trust's contribution to older persons road safety was acknowledged when the video "There's something about scooters" won a Highly Commended Award in the Australasian Video Awards 2003.

The Secretary/Manager represented the Trust at the 2003 Australasian Road Safety Conference in Sydney between 24-26 September at Darling Harbour. This is Australasia's most prestigious road safety conference and has regularly provided a forum to showcase Trust funded initiatives such as the 'Retiring from Driving Guide.'

The Secretary/Manager met with the Manager of Road Safety in the Northern Territory Department of Infrastructure Planning and Environment in August 2003. The Retiring from Driving Guide and the Deadly Mix booklet on drug and drink driving – publications funded by the Trust were of considerable interest to the Department.

On 3 October 2003, the Secretary/Manager and the Manager Road Safety Department of Urban Services were both interviewed by senior WorkCover personnel in relation to the joint DUS/Trust nomination of the green cycle-lane awareness TV campaign for a safety award. The TV ad was runner-up in the awards.

Other activities in which the Secretary/Manager represented the Trust were:

- The Graduation of Ms Kerry Smith on 31 July 2003 at Parliament House on the occasion of her being awarded her Masters Degree – study made possible under the Trust sponsored Post graduate scholarship scheme at the University of Canberra;
- Launch of the gravel road awareness campaign by Yass Shire Council at the Council Chambers on 12 November 2003;
- Presentation of awards at Queanbeyan Public School on 24 October and Queanbeyan South Primary School on 5 December 2003 in relation to the campaign promoting the wearing of bike helmets;
- A Kidsafe Safety Talk at Dickson Health Centre on 16 February 2004; and
- The World Road Safety Day at the Department of Urban Services Macarthur House on 7 April 2004.

### **MEDIA COVERAGE**

The Trust released 11 media statements on the following matters during the year and all received extensive coverage:

- Release of the 2003/2004 Grant Program on 30 July 2003;
- Launch of the MASTER motorcycle safety awareness course in Civic Square, on 22 October 2003;
- Launch of the gravel road awareness campaign in Yass on 12 November 2003;
- Release of the Trust's 2002/2003 Annual Report;
- Invitations to submit applications for the 2004-2004 Grant Program;
- Road safety awareness campaign targeting seat belts and tailgating;
- Launch of the Australian Academy of Science website on the pros and cons of 4 Wheel Drive vehicles;
- Handover of the new Kidsafe van on 17 March 2004;
- Reminder of the closing date for applications for the 2004–2005 Grant Program;
- Road safety awareness campaign on speeding and mobile phones; and
- Report on risk taking by young male drivers in the ACT.

### **TRUST WEBSITE**

Information on the Trust, including a copy of the application form and guidelines for potential applicants, can be found at [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)

### **COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL LIAISON**

The Trust continues to enjoy co-operative and fruitful relationships with NRMA Insurance, 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 when requested.

Over the course of the last twelve months the Trust has developed a partnership with the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) in Melbourne for the use of road safety material it has developed. TAC has an established reputation for producing quality and innovative material particularly television advertisements and the so called 'Slo Mo' ad on speed and braking distances has been shown by the Trust on ACT television. The Trust is working with TAC to use other material. The partnership arrangement allows the Trust to use selected material at minimal cost.

A similar arrangement has also established with the Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW for some of its material particularly the drink drive advertisement known as 'the Brain.'

### **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 assist in the distribution of Trust publications. To obtain a Publications List, or any items from it, please contact:

The Executive Officer  
Australasian College of Road Safety  
PO Box 198  
Mawson ACT 2607  
Telephone: (02) 6290 2509  
Facsimile: (02) 6290 0914  
email: eo@acrs.org.au

The Publications List is also now available on the Trust's website [www.transport.act.gov.au](http://www.transport.act.gov.au)

---

## **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.

The Trust has engaged Dr Peter Vulcan, former Foundation Director of the Monash University Accident Research Centre to provide specialist road safety advice. He is widely regarded as one of Australia's most eminent road safety experts and the Trust is fortunate to have access to his experience and wisdom.

The Trust has also sought specialist advice from other professional organisations particularly the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, the Department of Urban Services and NRMA Insurance.

### **6.3 ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL ADVICE**

The Trustees have been assisted in financial matters by the accounting firm of KPMG, which prepares monthly financial reports, quarterly BAS statements and provides general accounting advice.

The Trustees appreciate the advice and support readily given by staff of KPMG – particularly that provided by Cathryn Ingram and Rhiana Di Paoli.

### **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.

### **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.



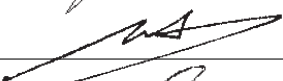
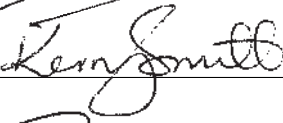
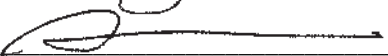
## 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT REPORT

### 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 2004 as set out on pages 41 to 49 are drawn up so as to present truly and fairly the financial position of the Trust at 30 June 2004 and the results and cash flows of its operations for the year ended 30 June 2004 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 28 September 2004.

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

	Don Aitkin (Chairman)
	Phil Newton (Trustee)
	Angus McIntosh (Trustee)
	Kerry Smith (Trustee)
	Anna Lennon (Trustee)



**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 30 JUNE 2004**

	Note	2004 \$	2003 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash	2	598,929	562,351
Investments	3	1,043,914	698,190
GST Receivable		8,859	13,595
Accrued Interest		<u>2,274</u>	<u>924</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>1,653,976</u>	<u>1,275,277</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>1,653,976</u>	<u>1,275,277</u>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors	4	<u>127,026</u>	<u>134,881</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>127,026</u>	<u>134,881</u>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<u>127,026</u>	<u>134,881</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>1,526,950</u>	<u>1,140,396</u>
<b>Trust Funds</b>			
Settlement Account	5	10,384,877	10,384,877
Accumulated Funds	12	<u>(8,857,927)</u>	<u>(9,244,481)</u>
<b>Total Trust Funds</b>		<u>1,526,950</u>	<u>1,140,396</u>

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 44 to 49.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

	Note	2004	2003
Revenue from Ordinary Activities	6	<u>936,344</u>	<u>889,451</u>
Total Revenue		<u>936,344</u>	<u>889,451</u>
Grant Funding Expense	7	392,009	522,538
Wages	7	97,684	89,394
Other Expenses from Ordinary Activities	7	<u>60,097</u>	<u>24,366</u>
<b>Profit from Ordinary Activities before related Income Tax Expense</b>		<u>386,554</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Income Tax Expense relating to Ordinary Activities		-	-
<b>Profit from Ordinary Activities after related Income Tax Expense</b>		386,554	253,153
Profit/(Loss) from Extraordinary Items after related Income Tax Expense		-	-
<b>Net Profit</b>		<u>386,554</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Total changes in Accumulated Funds other than those resulting from transactions with owner as owners	12	<u>386,554</u>	<u>253,153</u>

The Statement of Financial Performance is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 44 to 49.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

	Note	2004 \$	2003 \$
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>			
Cash receipts in the course of operations		918,134	887,407
Cash payments in the course of operations		(597,364)	(704,633)
Interest received		<u>61,315</u>	<u>43,885</u>
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	11(ii)	<u>382,085</u>	<u>226,659</u>
<b>Net cash increase / (decrease) in cash held</b>		382,085	226,659
<b>Cash at the beginning of the financial year</b>		<u>1,260,758</u>	<u>1,034,099</u>
<b>Cash at the end of the financial year</b>	11(i)	<u>1,642,843</u>	<u>1,260,758</u>

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 44 to 49.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

(a) BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial report of the NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust, the (Trust), has been prepared in accordance with the terms of the NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust Deed 1992, (the Deed). The terms of the Deed require that the Trust be reported upon as if the Trust were a company subject to the Corporations Act. 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 Act 2001.

It has been prepared on the basis of historical costs and except, where stated, do not take into account changing money values or fair values 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 Road Safety Fee and the matching NRMA Insurance contributions, through the payment of grants to approved applicants and the 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 account as earned.

(e) ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received. Accounts payable are normally settled within 60 days.

---

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

(f) BUSINESS SEGMENT

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) GRANT FUNDING

Grant 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.

Grant funding has been recognised in the financial statements as a liability, when an agreement is established between the Trust and the grant recipients. Approved funding to be paid in future financial years, where there is no agreement in place, is disclosed as 'Grant Funding Commitments' at Note 10.

(h) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of 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 Statement of Financial Position.

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.

(i) ADOPTION OF AUSTRALIAN EQUIVALENTS TO INTERNATIONAL  
FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

Australia is currently preparing for the introduction of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) effective for financial years commencing 1 January 2005. This requires the production of accounting data for future comparative purposes at the end of the current financial year.

The Trustees will assess the significance of these changes and prepare for their implementation.

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

2. CASH		<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
		\$	\$
	Cash at Bank	598,730	562,351
	Petty Cash	199	217
		<u>598,929</u>	<u>562,568</u>
3. INVESTMENTS			
	<b>Current</b>		
	Short Term Money Market Deposits	1,043,914	698,190
	<b>Total Current Investments</b>	<u>1,043,914</u>	<u>698,190</u>
4. PAYABLES			
	Grants Payable	94,504	119,294
	Accrued Audit / Accounting Fees	7,150	6,545
	Accrued Wages	9,472	7,700
	Creditors	15,900	1,342
		<u>127,026</u>	<u>134,881</u>
5. 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.		
6. OPERATING REVENUE		<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
		\$	\$
	<b>Revenue from Ordinary Activities</b>		
	Registration Levy Income Received	873,255	845,147
	Interest Received	62,665	44,304
	Sundry Income	424	-
	<b>Total Revenue from Ordinary Activities</b>	<u>936,344</u>	<u>889,451</u>

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

7. PROFIT/(LOSS) FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

Profit/(loss) from ordinary activities before income tax and extraordinary items has been arrived at after charging / (crediting) the following items:

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
	\$	\$
Accountancy/Audit Fees	7,000	7,690
Advertising	890	2,036
Bank Charges	104	56
Consultancy Fees	12,860	-
Legal Costs	15,050	1,576
Grant Funding	392,009	522,538
Printing	5,038	8,684
Sundry Expenses	16,713	2,173
Travel	2,442	2,151
Wages	<u>97,684</u>	<u>89,394</u>
Total Expenses	<u>549,790</u>	<u>636,298</u>

8. AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Amounts received or due and receivable for:

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
	\$	\$
Auditing the financial statements	6,000	5,950
Other Services	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,740</u>
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,690</u>

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The names of each person holding the position of Trustee during the financial year were:

- Professor Don Aitkin (Chairman);
- Mr Phil Newton;
- Dr Angus McIntosh;
- Dr Colin Adrian (retired 14 July 2003);
- Ms Sandi Piesley (retired 14 July 2003);
- Ms Kerry Smith (appointed 14 July 2003); and
- Ms Anna Lennon (appointed 14 July 2003).

**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

10. GRANT FUNDING COMMITMENTS	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
	\$	\$
Future grant payments not provided for and payable:		
Not later than one year	538,476	376,872
Later than one year but not later than two years	—	—
	<u>538,476</u>	<u>376,872</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 Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	598,730	562,351
Petty Cash	199	217
Short Term Money Market Deposits	<u>1,043,914</u>	<u>698,190</u>
	<u>1,642,843</u>	<u>1,260,758</u>

(ii) Reconciliation of operating surplus to net cash provided by operating activities

Operating surplus	386,554	253,153
Add / (deduct) the effects of accruals		
(Decrease) / increase in creditors / accruals	(7,855)	(20,824)
Decrease / (increase) in GST receivable	4,737	(5,251)
Decrease / (increase) in accrued interest	<u>(1,351)</u>	<u>(419)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>382,085</u>	<u>226,659</u>



**NRMA - ACT ROAD SAFETY TRUST  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004**

12. TOTAL ACCUMULATED FUNDS RECONCILIATION

	<b>2004</b>	<b>2003</b>
Total Accumulated Funds at beginning of year	(9,244,481)	(9,497,634)
Total changes in Accumulated Funds other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners	<u>386,554</u>	<u>253,153</u>
Total Accumulated Funds at end of year	<u>(8,857,927)</u>	<u>(9,244,481)</u>



## **Independent audit report to the trustees of NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust**

### ***Scope***

#### *The financial report and trustees' responsibility*

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the trustees' statement for NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust (the "Trust"), for the year ended 30 June 2004.

The trustees are responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

#### *Audit approach*

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the trustees of the Trust. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Trust's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

### ***Independence***

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

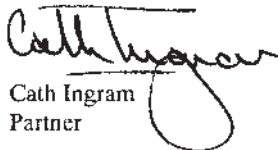
***Audit opinion***

In our opinion, the financial report of NRMA – ACT Road Safety Trust is in accordance with:

- a) the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - i. giving a true and fair view of the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2004 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
  - ii. complying with Accounting Standards in Australia and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- b) other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.

KPMG

KPMG

  
Cath Ingram  
Partner

Canberra  
10 October 2004

## 8. SECRETARIAT CONTACT DETAILS

---

**Postal Address:** GPO Box 2890  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

**Business Address:** 4th Floor, Macarthur House,  
12 Wattle Street,  
LYNEHAM ACT 2602.

**Secretariat :** Mr Eddie Wheeler    Tel: (02) 6207 7151  
Secretary/Manager    Fax: (02) 6207 7160  
email [eddie.wheeler@act.gov.au](mailto:eddie.wheeler@act.gov.au)

## APPENDIX A. 2003/2004 GRANT PROGRAM

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>Determining the Optimal Time For and Type of Road Safety Education in ACT Schools</b>	GDP Consultancy/ Dynamic Outcomes Pty Ltd	66,220	Research into the optimal developmental period for supporting or intervening in the road use behaviours of young people as they negotiate their way through childhood, adolescence and finally to adulthood.
<b>Bike Helmets for Schools</b>	Queanbeyan Road Safety Group	3,586	Competition for up to ten primary schools in Queanbeyan and Yarrowlunla Shires to design a road safety message on the theme 'wear your bicycle helmet'.
<b>The Mentoring Road Safety Kit: A Resource for Teachers – The Road Forward</b>	Dept. Education, Youth and Family Services	22,500	Provide assistance for the wider expansion of the Mentoring Road Safety Kit into ACT schools.  The project will involve schools within a cluster, which will include one college, its feeder high schools and their feeder primary schools. A coordinator from each sector will be appointed and trained in mentoring and in subsequently applying and adapting the kit to the needs of each school.
<b>Advanced Motorcycle Skills Program for Mature Age (about 40 and over) Riders</b>	Motorcycle Riders Association ACT	9,295	Development and promotion of an education and skills based safety program for mature, licensed riders who are returning to riding after a lengthy break. The Association will develop the course in conjunction with Stay Upright.
<b>Kangaroos Cross Roads Community Service</b>	Environment ACT	13,200	Raise community awareness of the dangers of kangaroos at the roadside through (1) radio and television messages (2) targeted distribution of a leaflet to new drivers and visitors to the ACT (3) advertising on the back of ACTION buses.
<b>Additional Kidsafe Car</b>	Kidsafe ACT	20,000	Contribution towards the cost of a second vehicle to support Kidsafe's services including the Infant Restraint Loan Service and Talks Program.
<b>Development of a System for Providing Effective Vehicle Restraints for Disabled People Especially Children</b>	Kidsafe ACT	20,735	To develop and implement a process for supporting the use of effective vehicle restraints for disabled people, particularly children. (Disability ACT will be guiding the project).

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>Television Campaign – Road Safety Messages</b>	CreaTV Productions Pty Ltd	12,842	Road safety campaign on Southern Cross Ten television featuring messages on key issues such as drink driving, speeding in the wet, tailgating and seat belts.
<b>Road Ready Recurrent Funding</b>	Department of Urban Services	110,000	Contribution towards the ongoing costs associated with the ACT's innovative graduated licensing program <i>Road Ready</i> .
<b>Learning to Take Risks: Understanding Risk Taking by Young Male Drivers in the ACT</b>	ARRB Transport Research	27,231	Investigate the risk taking behaviour of young male drivers to better understand the influences that contribute to that behaviour. Project will focus on Provisional Licensees.
<b>The Potential of Early Childhood Learning to Influence Road Safety</b>	ARRB Transport Research	23,000	Undertake research into the potential for early childhood learning to influence road safety. Project involves (1) a literature review of current road safety principles for children in their early years (2) research into early childhood development and (3) an audit of programs and/or resources currently offered in the ACT for children from birth to the end of pre-school.
<b>The John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award</b>	Australian Transport Safety Bureau/ Department of Urban Services	5,000	Provision of an annual award for the best paper by a new researcher, which will be presented at the annual Australasian Road Safety Conference. The award will be known as the <i>John Kirby Memorial Road Safety Award</i> .
<b>Cycle Lane Awareness Campaign</b>	Pedal Power/Dept. of Urban Services	19,250	Contribution towards a public awareness campaign utilising television, newspaper, websites, posters, variable message boards in relation to the new on-road cycle lanes and the road rules regarding them.
<b>Nova: Science in the News Website Topic: 4WDs and Road Safety</b>	Australian Academy of Science	6,050	Develop a website topic on “ <i>4 wheel drive vehicles and road safety</i> ” to be posted on the Academy's Internet site <i>Nova: Science in the News</i> .
<b>Gravel Road Awareness Campaign</b>	Yass Shire Council	11,000	Contribution towards the costs associated with a radio campaign aimed at educating ACT motorists on all aspects of safe travel on unsealed rural roads in the southern NSW/Canberra region. Project will form part of an overall awareness campaign the Yass Shire has developed for the area.

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>RADD Anti-Drink Drive Campaign</b>	Department of Urban Services	33,000	Contribution towards a national radio awareness campaign on the dangers of drink driving. The campaign will target people in the 17-25-age range and involves messages delivered by relevant popular celebrities.
<b>Team Nursing</b>	Research Centre for Nursing Practice	2,750	Contribution towards a six months trial of a Team Nursing approach to care in the Orthopaedic Ward as a system of care as opposed to the current system of patient allocation. Some 20% of the patients in the Orthopaedic Ward are usually from road crashes.

## APPENDIX B. COMMUNITY PROJECTS CONTINUING FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>NRMA – ACT Road Safety Churchill Fellowships</b>	Winston Churchill Memorial Trust	105,000	A perpetual biennial Fellowship for road safety study. Four Fellowships have been awarded with Ms Kerry Smith the latest Awardee. Fellowship will be offered during 2005.
<b>Road Safety Scholarships</b>	University of Canberra	177,000	Funding of two 'named' postgraduate scholarships involving road safety research. Dr Jiantao awarded his doctorate in December 2002 having undertaken research into perception and braking and following distances. Ms Kerry Smith awarded her Masters degree in July 2003 for research into the comparative evaluation of DUI rehabilitation programs in the ACT.
<b>Road Safety Research, Policy and Education Conference</b>	Australian Transport Safety Bureau	\$5,00	Sponsorship of an award for five years for 'best paper by a new researcher' of \$1,000 annually up to and including 2003. Ms Elissa Corlett awarded the prize at the 2003 Australasian Road Safety Conference.
<b>How to Retire from Driving Booklet</b>	Council on the Ageing	77,500	Development of an information booklet for older drivers on options and strategies for mobility without driving. Booklet launched in January 2001 and recent evaluation has confirmed its value. Likely to be revised in the near future.
<b>Juvenile Justice Driver Education</b>	Quamby Youth Detention Centre	2,200	Driver education program for 'at risk' youth at the centre. Project drawing to a close with most of the funds allocated.
<b>Road Ready Teachers Association</b>	Department of Education	9,900	Establishment of a Teachers' Association for teachers implementing the Year 10 <i>Road Ready</i> novice driver education program.
<b>Evaluation of Road Ready</b>	Department of Urban Services	82,5000	Funding for an evaluation of (1) the <i>Road Ready Plus</i> course (Stage 4 of the <i>Road Ready</i> novice driver education program) and (2) the external providers of the program.
<b>Developing a Policy for Managing Aggressive Behaviour in Patients with Traumatic Brain Injury.</b>	Canberra Hospital and the Research Centre for Nursing Practice	8,960	Assistance in the staging of a workshop aimed at the development of best practice in the management of aggressive behaviour in patients with traumatic brain injury.



<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>Wheelchair Accessible Transport</b>	National Brain Injury Foundation	20,000	Contribution towards the purchase and modification of a vehicle to transport people rehabilitating from acquired brain injury. Vehicle expected to be handed over in August 2004.
<b>Cycling Safely School Education Program</b>	Australian Federal Police	18,590	Assistance towards the subsidising of transport costs for all ACT primary school students to assist with attendance at the Children's Demonstration Centre, Belconnen. Project now completed.
<b>Livedrive – Older Drivers Website</b>	Council on the Ageing	9,900	Develop a website to improve access to a comprehensive range of road safety information of relevance to older drivers, pedestrians and scooter users. Project expected to be launched in August 2004.
<b>Road Safety Media Initiative for Secondary School in the ACT</b>	Australian Teachers of Media	12,309	Production of an educational road safety video by senior high school and college students that draws upon their own experiences. Project did not quite work out and has been revised to allow a College media student film the 2004 Young Driver Challenge.
<b>ACTION School Bus Safety Education Program</b>	ACTION	50,358	Contribution towards the development and delivery of a bus and road safety education program targeting primary school children. Program still being rolled out to ACT schools by ACTION.
<b>Safe Behaviour – Road Ready in Youth Centres</b>	Community and Youth Sector Council	15,994	Provision of <i>Road Ready</i> classes for disadvantaged, low income young people (16-25 years) in various youth centres. Sixty places will be catered for with this funding.
<b>Investigation of Older Women's Road Safety in the ACT</b>	Monash Accident Research Centre	48,260	Undertake research into older women's road safety in the ACT, including an analysis of their crash rates, a survey of their driving and travel patterns and the development of an educational handbook.
<b>Kidsafe Talks Program</b>	Kidsafe ACT	16,500	Continuation and expansion of a successful safety talk program to parents and carers of young children with a strong emphasis on road safety. The talks are given at a range of locations including antenatal centres, day care organisations and hospitals.

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Amount of Grant \$</i>	<i>Project Description</i>
<b>Older Person Road Safety Needs Analysis for the ACT</b>	Council on the Ageing ACT Inc	39,292	Comprehensive survey to determine the road safety needs of older persons in the ACT, which will assist in the development of a driving and transport strategy for consideration by government.
<b>Seminar Series Emerging Road Safety Issues for Older People</b>	Council on the Ageing ACT Inc	25,905	Develop and conduct a seminar series around road user and pedestrian safety specifically targeted at older members of the community.
<b>Kangaroos Cross Roads</b>	Environment ACT	11,550	Contribution towards a community awareness campaign on the theme 'Kangaroos Cross Roads' that will use radio, television and bus advertising to better inform the community of the potential road safety hazards of kangaroos.
<b>Defensive Driving Course</b>	Hartley Lifecare Inc	14,300	Defensive driving course for sixty-five Disability Support Workers employed by Hartley Lifecare Inc, Sharing Places Inc, Woden Community Services Inc and Community Programs Association Inc, who transport people with disabilities.
<b>SafeDrive Medical Seminars</b>	Monash Ageing Research Centre	18,700	Conduct a series of workshops for doctors and other health professionals to increase their awareness of safety issues relevant to older drivers and pedestrians.

## APPENDIX C. LAUNCHES OF TRUST-SPONSORED PROJECTS

<i>Project</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Venue</i>
<b>Cycle Lane Awareness Campaign</b>	25 August 03	Canberra
<b>Speed Workshop</b>	3 September 03	Australian National Museum
<b>MASTER Motor Cycle Course</b>	22 October 03	Civic Square
<b>Bike Helmet Campaign</b>	24 October 03	Queanbeyan Public School
<b>Gravel Road Awareness Campaign</b>	12 November 03	Yass Shire Council Chambers
<b>4 Wheel Drive Web Topic</b>	12 December 03	Australian Academy of Science
<b>Cheque Presentation to Trust</b>	24 February 04	The Canberra Hospital, Woden
<b>Handover of New Van to Kidsafe</b>	17 March 04	Canberra Star Motors Fyshwick
<b>RADD Anti-Drink Drive Campaign</b>	26 May 04	Melbourne (national campaign launch)

