

# Brighton Bypass and Transport Hub Underway

Construction is underway on the \$243 million Brighton Bypass and Transport Hub. The investment in these projects will provide a significant stimulus to the Tasmanian construction industry and the Tasmanian economy – especially in the current economic climate. The bypass will make significant improvements to local communities by cutting travelling time on the Midland Highway and improving safety in the built-up areas at its southern end.

The project is part of a nation building plan to support local economies during the current global economic recession and with the Hub, is expected to provide up

to 380 direct jobs with additional flow on effects to local businesses.

The Brighton Transport Hub will provide a modern road-rail interchange and freight distribution hub to improve the efficiency of freight movement into and out of Southern Tasmania. They are of critical importance for the Brighton community, and the State Government has been working closely with the Brighton Council, transport operators, local business, land owners and the general community. The \$79 million Hub is expected to be operational by September 2011 and the \$164 million Bypass is scheduled for completion by June 2012. ♥



## Youth get Crash Course in Safety

**A dramatic mock crash event highlighted life-saving safety messages to young drivers at a Road Safety Expo at Rosny College earlier this year. The event raised awareness about the risks and consequences of road crashes for young drivers and encouraged new drivers from Rosny and surrounding schools to drive to survive on the roads.**

The event, coordinated by the Youth Network Advisory Group, promoted safety messages to new drivers, particularly the consequences of dangerous/inattentive driving including speeding, drink/drugs driving,

overloading with passengers and inattentiveness through mobile phone use.

Operation Bounce Back launched its 2009 campaign at the expo, to encourage car owners to protect their vehicles from theft by keeping an eye on their car keys and through installing engine immobilisers. Messages and advice on registration and insurance, car maintenance and driving to avoid road kill was also available.

Clarence's Youth Network Advisory Group was supported through the Clarence Road Safety Partnership, in collaboration with the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources and Clarence City Council. ♥

# KiSS Produces Positive Results

**Results from Australia's first rural safer speeds demonstration, in the Kingborough municipality, have shown that reduced speed limits have had a positive and substantial impact upon the local community. The new speed limits used for the demonstration were a reduction from 100km/h to 90km/h on sealed rural roads and a reduction from 100km/h to 80km/h on gravel roads.**

The State Government and the Kingborough Council received a report earlier this year from the Monash University Accident Research Centre on the findings from the 12-month report on the Kingborough Safer Speeds (KiSS) Demonstration.

The aim of the KiSS Demonstration is to implement and evaluate a revised system of rural speed limits in the Kingborough municipality. The findings centred on the community's acceptance of lowered speed limits, compliance with the new speed limits, and possible road safety benefits based on observed reduction of speed and crash data.

The report describes the impact of the new speeds approximately 12-months after the commencement of the demonstration. Further data and analysis will be required to make any definitive statements about the impact of the demonstration and likely road safety benefits. ♥

**To obtain a copy of the report, email [kissdemonstration@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:kissdemonstration@dier.tas.gov.au), or phone (03) 6233 5630.**

## Ready Set Go

**Clarence Council's learner driver mentor program, Ready Set Go, has received \$5,000 in funding by the ANZ Staff Foundation. The program, launched in August 2007, is designed to cater for those in the community who, for various reasons, would find it difficult to gain their mandatory 50 hours of on-road driving experience before applying for a provisional licence.**

Not having a licence can restrict opportunities for gaining employment, access to education and training and community participation generally, especially in parts of Clarence where public transport is limited. Since the program began, 41 participants have gained their 50 hours of driving experience, at least 15 have gained their licence and of these, 11 have been able to access education and employment as a result.

Young drivers are among our most vulnerable road users and the 50-hour requirement is designed to help make them safer drivers and also reduce the number of unlicensed drivers who place themselves and other road users at risk. Programs such as Ready Set Go form an important element of initiatives put in place by the Clarence City Council and the Clarence Community Road Safety Partnership to apply grassroots solutions to local road safety issues. ♥

**For more information about the Ready Set Go program visit [www.ccc.tas.gov.au](http://www.ccc.tas.gov.au).**



*(Front) Mary-anne Clarke of Ready Set Go and Kate Wagner of ANZ*

*(Centre) Participants, Heather Everett and Shane Bradford, Gavin Evans (former working committee member), and participant Tammy Sheppard*

*(Rear) Mentors – Paul Wilson, Anthony Stoyles and Deidre Ayers*

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## Community Road Safety Partnerships Update

The Community Road Safety Partnerships (CRSP) program now involves 25 Local Government authorities across Tasmania, with the West Coast Council signing of a CRSP memorandum of understanding to work with the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER) to address local road safety issues.

Congratulations to the Hobart, Kingborough and Huon Valley Councils for the development of a Road Safety South website which provides information on local road safety initiatives occurring within and across the three municipal regions. Another successful outcome of the Road Safety South Partnership has been Crash Reduction Fortnight, an awareness and education program aimed at encouraging drivers to slow down, pay attention, avoid alcohol when driving and to drive to the conditions.

*(L-R) Hobart City Council Deputy Mayor Eva Ruzicka, Minister for Infrastructure Graeme Sturges, Huon Valley Council General Manager Geoff Cockerill and Kingborough Mayor Dr Graham Bury at the launch of the Road Safety South Partnership*

Recently, DIER circulated an updated CRSP Progress Report to all councils throughout Tasmania. This report is a compilation of all the activities being conducted by participating Local Government communities. ♥

Local Government personnel may access the CRSP Progress Report from [www.transport.tas.gov.au/safety/community\\_road\\_safety\\_partnerships](http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/safety/community_road_safety_partnerships), or by contacting Geoff Frier on (03) 6233 4861, or at [geoff.frier@dier.tas.gov.au](mailto:geoff.frier@dier.tas.gov.au).

## Crash Reduction Fortnight

A major initiative to reduce the road toll in Southern Tasmania was launched earlier this year by Road Safety South. Crash Reduction fortnight was in operation from the 18 to 31 May, to target motorists in the Huon Valley, Hobart and Kingborough areas.

The Tasmanian Police provided an increased presence on roads in the area during the fortnight to enforce road regulations. In the last five years, 36 people died on roads in the Huon Valley, Hobart and Kingborough areas and there were 211 serious crashes over the same period. During the fortnight, motorists were urged to pay more attention when driving, to look for and obey speed limit signs, to drive to the weather conditions, to not drink and drive, and to slow down.

Crash reduction fortnight was the first time local council's undertook a dedicated road safety project on a district wide approach. The initiative was supported by the Huon Valley Council, Kingborough Council, Hobart City Council, DIER, RACT, MAIB, SeaFM, Heart 107.3 and Tasmania Police. ♥

For further information on Crash Reduction fortnight, visit [www.roadsafetysouth.com.au/crash-reduction](http://www.roadsafetysouth.com.au/crash-reduction).

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# How Many Crashes can your Council Afford?

GARY MYORS, PROGRAM MANAGER  
Motor Safe Tasmania



**All Tasmanian councils operate a fleet of heavy and light vehicles. After a recent examination of one council's costs of operating their light vehicle fleet for a year, Motor Safe Tasmania (MST) noted that operating the 25 vehicles cost the council approximately \$200,000, and some of that cost was attributed to insurance access from six crashes in four vehicles.**

## Did you know?

- 50% of workplace accidents happen in vehicles
- The average cost (excluding physical and emotional cost) of each crash is \$18,500
- These crashes cost Australian industry a total of approximately \$425 million each year
- The emotional and physical cost to employees, colleagues and family members is immeasurable

## Permanently shifting road user behaviour

Organisations that seek to permanently shift road user behaviour so that their employees are safer, are much more likely to achieve their aims if they do more than just provide people with training. The best way to do this is to become a crash free organisation. In the last decades, engine technology and performance of passenger cars, trucks and buses have improved rapidly; however, most drivers have not adapted their driving style to keep pace with the technological advances. Research has shown that adopting simple changes in driving techniques will substantially impact on driving behaviour, on safety and on fuel consumption without increasing travel time.

## Responsive Driving Program

Drawn from the latest road safety research and conducted in a controlled, supportive and professional environment, the MST Responsive Driving Program



*ABOVE: Motor Safe Tasmania trainer, Mark Curran, assessing a student during the Advanced Program at the new Baskerville 4WD Training Range*

*MAIN PHOTO: A student undertaking practical crash avoidance training at the Baskerville training facility*

will give drivers the tools to better identify and manage risk exposure, irrespective of age, experience and skill. The course will benefit people who drive for work, irrespective of frequency and distance travelled and anyone wanting to update or refresh their driving practices. By the end of the course, drivers will have the skills to minimise their chances of crashing, recognise when they aren't doing enough to minimise their chances of crashing, lower the cost of operating the vehicles, and meet OH&S requirements. ♥

**Motor Safe Tasmania offers responsive driver training programs as well as four wheel drive training on a statewide basis. For further information, contact Gary Myors on (03) 6224 4134, or email [marketing@motorsafetas.com.au](mailto:marketing@motorsafetas.com.au).**