



email newsletter

February 2002

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Introduction

This email newsletter is produced for AITPM members. Members are encouraged to provide material for future editions. Members who have not received this edition electronically should advise the secretariat of their email address.

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The following companies/organisations are National Sponsors:



President's Message

Welcome back to another New Year, I hope this message finds you and your family in good health and vigour to tackle the challenges that lay ahead for 2002.

At any point in time we can be as pessimistic or optimistic, as the weather, lunar and financial influences permit. Life does, at times, expose us to both opportunities and unwanted burdens. It is the strength of our character that enables many of us to "roll with the punches" and grow from the experiences whether pleasant or otherwise.

Optimism and success is more than sheer luck. Success in most instances is persistence, pre-planning and most importantly commitment.

A part of our individual growth and development comes from our being able to extend some care and time to issues that lie outside our immediate domestic domain.

Our society places great emphasis upon the role of volunteers who support our community in nearly every facet of life. Many people work tirelessly behind the scenes to provide a broad range of support activities to our immediate and broader community.

Do you ever pause to wonder why? Because they enjoy seeing benefits to the whole community and they get a wide range of experience and enjoyment themselves.

Within our own professional Institute many people give tirelessly of their time.

My own experience was, initially, being dobbed in for a job and then exposed to a team of volunteers, to whom my first unanswered question of AITPM elders was "why". My personal learning curve quickly provided its own answer.

If you haven't yet experienced all of life's fulfilling experiences, you too may have the privilege of joining the AITPM team and together we may nurture, grow and take control of a path that more likely assures success and fulfilment.

AITPM's strategy to provide more mentoring and more educational opportunities to our professionals is one of the areas in which you might be able to participate.

If you seek more information on how to increase your activity within this Institute, please give me a call on (03) 9735-0255 or e-mail:

jareid@austraffic.com.au

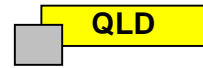
I look forward to your participation in ensuring a successful 2002.

John Reid

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- Dept of Transport
- Dept of Main Roads



- Transport SA
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Features

Christmas Road Safety – Is It As Bad as We Think?

The Road toll over the Christmas/New Year period is often described as “carnage”, “slaughter” or a “massacre”. While any death on the road is a tragedy, the most accurate and revealing expression could be “Better than the rest of the year”.

For 2001/2002, the number of deaths in Australia per day during the Christmas/New Year period was lower than the average for the rest of the year, including all non-holiday periods.

“The figures are in stark contrast to the images that are shaping public opinion. Erroneous images such as these could be undermining the public’s attitude and actions toward road safety throughout the year,” said AITPM member David Brown who is currently doing some work for the Warren Centre for Advanced Engineering at Sydney University.

[Link](#) for more details

Christmas Road Safety Campaigns – What’s Happening

Typically each State runs a Christmas road safety campaign. Some of the campaigns are as follows:

TAC Ads in Victoria

The Age newspaper reported that Victoria is to review the graphic road safety television campaigns it pioneered after the number killed last year jumped to the highest in a decade. The value of “Shock-Horror” ads has been questioned by many road safety experts.

The Transport Accident Commission (TAC) in Victoria, who produces these ads, said that there would be no special review at this time although the campaigns are regularly assessed for their effectiveness.

NRMA “Drink Like A Fish” Campaign

The NRMA ran a campaign in NSW with the slogan “*Drink Like a Fish? Fish Don’t Drive; Enjoy the Summer – Catch a ride and Survive*”.

This campaign reflects the NRMA’s shift from a focus primarily on driving to one which addresses total mobility including pedestrians and boating.

Road Safety Boost For Queensland During The Holiday Period

The Queensland Government is running a trial program including extending the speed management program, providing additional on-road police enforcement and education, and delivering more public education about holiday road safety. The speed camera program was extended with cameras operating for longer hours and over a greater number of locations.

Cont.



Unusual Road Safety Messages

Road safety approaches don't always have to follow traditional paths as the following examples indicate.

- The Swaziland's government is targeting drivers who cause accidents by kissing their partners while at the wheel.
- A Wisconsin undertaker offered to bury people free of charge if they drink and drive on New Year's Eve and die as a result. He says he's trying to make people think twice.
- A newspaper report says that Japanese scientists claim that 80% of front-seat deaths in car accidents could be prevented if those in the back wore seat-belts. Passengers in the back become dangerous projectiles if they are not held in place with a seatbelt.

Parking

AITPM member David Knox made a presentation at a technical forum recently regarding angle parking.

[Link](#) to a summary of his presentation

David's presentation raises a number of questions on which members may wish to comment, for example:

- Is parking that causes delays to traffic a good means of traffic calming in the main street environment?
- Does angle parking deter jay-walking when compared with parallel parking?
- Is crash severity or frequency really any different between front-in and reverse-in parking?

Comments can be sent to the [editor](mailto:aitpm@bigpond.com) (aitpm@bigpond.com)

News

School Transport Safety a Priority for Queensland Government

The Queensland Minister for Transport and Main Roads, The Hon. Steve Bredhauer announced a \$1.375m initiative to further improve school transport.

Mr Bredhauer said the initiative would include funds for an extensive public education campaign, a trial of lower school zone speed limits and a community engagement project trial.

The lower speed limit (30 kph) in school zones in 15 communities will be trialled in the New Year to determine the effectiveness of slower school zones.

[Link](#) to School Transport Task Force Website

Cont.



VicRoads Releases New Traffic Engineering Manual

VicRoads has released a new version of the Traffic Engineering Manual, Volume 2, "Signs and Markings". The new manual provides a comprehensive guide to road signing, including the development of schemes, and the appropriate use, location and design of particular signs.

The manual provides additional information to that provided in the Australian Standard, along with the inclusion of additional signs and devices, and variations in the design of some standard signs and devices to suit Victorian conditions.

The Manual has been produced in black and white, however, a CD containing a colour version will soon be produced.

The manual is now available from the VicRoads bookshop at a cost of \$143 (including GST); Telephone (03) 9854 2049 or (03) 9854 2782.

Overseas News

FHWA Report Suggests Ways To Improve Lighting on Roads

A new report by the US Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) provides several recommendations to improve lighting on roads based on observations of practices in several European countries.

The report, "European Road Lighting Technologies," is the product of an April 2000 study tour to Belgium, Finland, France, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

The report covers areas such as visibility design technique, dynamic road lighting, pavement reflection factors, master lighting plans, and lighting techniques for roundabouts, crosswalks and pedestrian areas.

In addition, the team provided recommendations on signs and on equipment quality level and maintenance.

[Link](#) to the report:

Child Road Safety Projects

The UK Government has allocated an extra £3.5 million for road safety projects designed to improve safety for children on local roads.

Projects from 28 councils have been approved to introduce 20 mph zone traffic calming schemes and other measures around schools and in residential areas, where children are in danger from traffic.

Every year around 200 children - the equivalent of a medium-sized primary school - are killed in road accidents, many of them close to their homes.

The Government's Road Safety Strategy [Tomorrow's Roads - Safer for Everyone](#) sets a target to halve the number of children killed or seriously injured by 2010.

Funny Photos

(click on image for link to larger version)



Cont.



Canadian City Bans Roadside Tributes

Officials in Edmonton are banning roadside tributes to traffic accident victims. The council has decided the memorials - usually flowers, toys or pictures - distract drivers. The memorials currently in place will be taken down and given to the families of the victims.

[Link](#)

Media Coverage

Radio

AITPM has contributed to several discussions on ABC radio during January.

David Brown was invited to be part of a road safety discussion on Melbourne ABC regarding a tragic accident where two young people were killed as passengers in a car that was driven by a drunk driver.

Three young adults were in the studio as well.

David was invited back on two further occasions to discuss other traffic issues including road rage. David was introduced as a representative of the AITPM.

David has also mentioned AITPM's strategy to enhance the educational opportunities for traffic practitioners on one of his regular broadcasts on ABC News Radio (syndicated to all capital cities, Canberra and Newcastle).

Recent Events

Integration of Land Use and Transport From a Walking and Cycling Perspective

International expert Rodney Tolley conducted a workshop in Sydney in December, 2001 on integrating walking and cycling with landuse planning.

Some of his more insightful comments concerned the following:

- The link between the amount of walking in a city and its financial success;
- Programs, such as the "walking bus" which reduce the number of children being driven to school;
- "We have bred a whole generation of engineers who are very good at building highways and shiny infrastructure and so forth, but are rather less well versed in actually providing for simple everyday movement";
- "There was not a single international (walking) conference in the whole of the 20th century. So far we have had two already in the 21st century.

[Link](#) to more detailed quotes



Cont.



Report of the ITS World Congress Seminar – Victoria

The Victorian Branch of AITPM held a Technical Forum to review the 8th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), which was held in Sydney in the first week in October 2001.

Some of the issues raised at the forum included:

- Data privacy and driver distraction are big issues with ITS;
- Providing information to individual travellers is one of the most important areas of ITS e.g. pedestrian and personal information systems, floating car data and communications and location referencing;
- New ITS technologies include Japan's guided vehicle operation, France's video incident detection; and tunnel safety and proactive incident detection in the Netherlands;
- The importance of complete journey planning information - successful systems appear to offer "seamless" planning, regardless of mode;
- More effort should go into predicting future travel times, rather than reporting current travel times;
- Some developments are unlikely to have a real world application;

[Link](#) to Summary of AITPM forum

NZ Cycling Conference

The recent Cycling Conference in Christchurch NZ has now had all the papers and presentations placed on their [web site](#):

You will also find a connection to the proceedings of the previous conference held in Palmerston North in July 2000.

Austrroads/PIARC Seminar — Road Management within an Integrated Transport System Proceedings

An Austrad/PIARC seminar was held in November 2001 entitled “**Road Management Within An Integrated Transport System**”.

Sessions included “views of the future” by keynote speakers from Europe, Africa and Australia and sessions that dealt with Road Management, Road Bridges and other Structures, Economic and Financial Evaluation and Performance of Road Administrations. Each section included a summary of PIARC working group activities.

In a session entitled “The Queensland approach to road management in the future” it was noted that the Department of Main Roads uses a scenario planning approach to explore answers to the question “how will we be connecting people, goods and services in 25 years and what will that mean for transport?” The transport portfolio scenarios are SuperCity, Coastal Bloom, Carbon Crunch and Global Bust.

[Link](#) to a conference summary

[Link](#) to presenter's presentations



Upcoming Events

Functional Design of Roads – Vic - 12 Feb

The Victorian Branch of AITPM will be holding a technical forum to look at how the safe and efficient operation of roads depends on the adoption of appropriate functional layouts.

Presentations will be given by:

- Richard Yeoman, Project Design Services, VicRoads Design, on the analysis and functional design of freeways and freeway interchanges;
- Gary Veith, VicRoads Traffic & Road Use Management Department, on arterial road cross sections, choice of intersection type and intersection design;
- Kate Partenio, GTA Consultants, on the Victorian Planning Schemes and ResCode, and the objectives and standards that relate to the movement network and street design.

Date: Tuesday 12th February 2002
Venue: VicRoads Theatre, 60 Denmark Street, Kew, Victoria
Time: Refreshments from 5:00pm for 5:30-7:30pm
RSVP: Gary Veith - Fax (03) 9854 2918, email
gary.veith@roads.vic.gov.au

ICRASH Conference – Melbourne – 24-28 February

The Society of Automotive Engineers of Australia is holding the 3rd International Crashworthiness Conference in Melbourne.

Subjects will include new advanced crashworthy structures and impact energy management, roadside safety systems, new concepts in restraint systems and new test approval procedures based on world wide data.

[Link](#)

ITS Bus Tour – QLD - 26 February

Queensland DMR is organising a bus tour of Intelligent Transport System applications implemented in South East Queensland. ITS experts will give comments on various locations such as the Pacific Motorway, the South East Busway, Houghton Highway and the the Bus Operations Centre at Woolloongabba. The tour will finish with dinner at Redcliffe.

For more information, please refer to the attached link.

Date: Tuesday 26 February 2002
Start/Finish: 1:00pm to 9:30pm
Pick Up/Drop Off: Main Roads, 477 Boundary Road, Spring Hill
Seminar Cost: \$100 (including GST)

[Link to register](#)

Cont.



Dates for South Australian AITPM Meetings

While not all the topics have been finalised, the dates for South Australian AITPM Branch meetings for 2002 are as follows:

6 February	Adelaide Hills Speed Limits
20 March	Public Transport
May	Annual Seminar
12 June	
31 July	AGM
11 September	
16 October	
4 December	

All Technical Meetings are held at Transport SA Walkerville commencing at 5.30pm with light snack and meeting starting at 6.00pm

Job Spot

Jim Stevenson

Jim Stevenson has left his role as General Manager, Planning Policy and Programs in the Office of the Director of Public Transport within the Department of Infrastructure, to take up a special assignment at VicRoads as Manager Special Projects (Road Based Public Transport).

Jim, who took up his new role on 7 January, 2002, will be assisting VicRoads in providing effective road and traffic management systems for public transport.

Graphic Design

Based on his work for this newsletter (which he does for the AITPM at well below market rates), the university student who designed the layout and graphically puts together each edition, has also done some great work for transport professionals. If you need some graphic design, web site work or other computing based activities you can contact Matthew via email (mdbrown@optushome.com.au) or phone 02-9871-8264.

Useful Links

Online Traffic Demand Management (TDM) Encyclopaedia

The Victoria Transport Policy Institute has published a useful Online Traffic Demand Management (TDM) Encyclopaedia.

The Encyclopedia is a comprehensive source of information about innovative management solutions to transportation problems.

[Link](#)

Cont.



Public Transportation: Wherever Life Takes You

The Public Transportation Partnership for Tomorrow (PT)², has created a new web site as part of a national education and outreach campaign to increase awareness, support and investment in public transportation.

The site provides general information on the value of public transport, but as yet they have not developed detailed information. It is a site to keep your eye on.

[Link](#)

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I know we should read the Newsletter for the articles not just the pictures, but the Funny Photos lose their impact when they appear as blobs. Are they available to access as jpg or other formats?

Doug Welshe
Transport Planning Engineer

(All photos will now have a link to a larger, clearer copy on our web site)

Odd Spot

Driving Diseases

The Elastic Orphan. A driver who can't keep a constant speed without a car in front of them. When you pass them, they match your speed and sit too close to your tail, like they are attached with elastic.

Do you recognise this type of disease that regularly affects holiday drivers? The Overdrive web site, with help from readers, is compiling a list of the serious driver diseases they have come across.

[Link to story](#)

Awards

Harold Scruby, who started the Pedestrian Council of Australia has told us that he won a silver and bronze medal in the Australasia's Writers and Art Directors "Most Uncompromising Bastards in Marketing" awards.

Is driving on the right ~ right or wrong?

Why does half the world drive on the left and the other half on the right? [Gwynne Dyer](#) gives an answer.



Deadlines

AITPM will publish an email newsletter at the beginning of each month (with the exception of January). In the month prior to a newsletter, the deadlines for receiving information are as follows:

- Major articles – the end of the first week of the month;
- Features, news stories, event reports etc – the end of the second week of the month;
- Job advertisements (free for corporate members) - up until the end of the third week of the month.

Material can be submitted through the contact details above but the AITPM offers no guarantee of publication.

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