

# IPSWICH DISTRICT CRIME PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

September 2025  
Issue #09



## Child Protection Week 7-13 September

September focuses on child protection with National Child Protection Week running from 7-13 September. Numerous events are held around Ipswich to bring the issues of child abuse and neglect into the spotlight. The Ipswich Region Child Protection Week Awards are just one of many highlighting the safety and wellbeing of children. These awards acknowledge individuals, businesses, community members and volunteers that play a part every day to ensure the safety of every child. *Every Conversation, Matters* the theme promoted by the Ipswich District Child Protection Week Committee through the Child Protection Gala Dinner and Awards, and Symposium.

It is important to have age-appropriate conversations with children about personal safety and what might make them feel uncomfortable.

Conversations could cover:

- Being aware of your surroundings
- Having a personal safety plan
- Exercising your right to safety.
- What to do if they feel unsafe or uncomfortable
- A safety network of trusted people

Internet safety is equally important to discuss, conversations should include –

- Educate – make your kids aware of risks and how to avoid problems.
- Empower – encourage and support kids to feel confident and make the right choices online.
- Make devices safe – set up content filters and security software on your devices.
- Supervise – Know who your kids are talking to and what sites they visit. Place the computer in a family area.

If you have any concerns in relation to abuse or exploitation of children, you can report to Policelink on 131444, your local station or the Child Protection Unit based at Yamanto Police Complex.

For further information on Child Protection Week events please see [Child Protection Week](#)

RURAL ROAD  
SAFETY MONTH  
September 2025



## Rural Road Safety Month

Rural Road Safety Month is a national awareness campaign targeting regional and rural road safety throughout September. This national community-based road safety initiative is designed to highlight the additional risks when driving on rural and remote roads.

In the lead up to the school holidays, police are imploring local communities, councils, schools, and individuals to help save lives. Shockingly, almost two out of three road fatalities occur in regional areas.

All road-users play a role in reducing risks on rural roads.

**This September the Road Safety Committee will hold an event at Park St Boonah 18 September 2025 at 10:00am-1:00pm highlighting Rural Road Safety with a road safety simulation with QFES. All are welcome.**

Unsafe driving and being unprepared for rural driving conditions like wildlife and unsealed makes a lethal combination.

**When driving on rural and remote roads, remember:**

- Reduce your speed before nearing the edge of the road and prepare for surface changes – the edge may drop off or have loose stones.
- The morning or west afternoon sun can affect your vision. Consider this when planning your trip.
- Keep an eye out for livestock and wildlife on or at the side of the road, especially at night. Slow down and beep your horn if you see animals at the edge of the road about to cross.

Every hazard on our roads has an impact on how your car will behave. When the conditions outside the vehicle change, adjust the way you drive. Make road safety the priority for you and your fellow road users by:

- Ensuring your vehicle is properly maintained and safe to drive,
- Knowing and following the road rules every trip,
- Sharing the road by driving courteously and giving other road users the space, they need – especially trucks, bikes, and motorcycles.

For further information on rural road safety, visit the [ARSE](#) website. You can also visit Department of Transport and Main Roads [Street Smarts](#) website or the [Queensland Police website](#).



Saturday September 11 marks **R U OK? Day**, a day that aims to encourage conversations regarding psychological wellbeing.

**But you can ask R U OK? ANY DAY because life happens EVERY day.**

R U OK? is a harm prevention charity that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through challenging times in their lives.

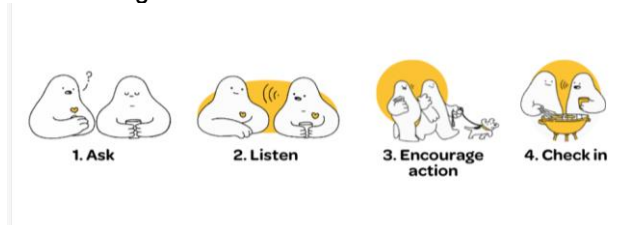
The charity contributes to saving lives by encouraging people to invest more time in their personal relationships, building support networks and to have conversations with friends, family, and colleagues if they identify signs of distress or difficulty and to connect them to appropriate support.

R U OK? Day encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through challenging times in their lives. A Conversation can change a life.

R U OK? Inspire and empower everyone to meaningfully connect with the people around them and start a conversation with those in their world who may be struggling with life.

You don't need to be an expert to reach out – just a good friend and a great listener.

Use these four steps and have a conversation that could change a life:



Resources to assist a R U OK? conversation can be located on the [R U OK? website](#). R U OK? [Resources for Educators](#) to help you share the message.



**27-28 September 2025**

**Every day is secure your home day building safe and resilient communities.**

National Secure Your Home Day, brought to you by Neighbourhood Watch Australasia, is a powerful way to turn the tide. You do not have to live with the fear and uncertainty of neighbourhood crime. Harden your security and reduce your risk of being a crime target.

Good home security can be achieved by following these key principles:

- **Make it difficult for an offender to gain entry to your home.** For example, install and use key-operated locks on doors and windows.
- **Make it difficult for an offender to exit your home with your property.**
- **Make it unlikely that an offender will want to steal your property.** For example, marking your valuable property with identification (microdot, engraving) will make it difficult for the offender to sell or otherwise pass on.

The NHWA National Secure Your Home Day Kit, includes:

- Home security checklist
- Evidence-based and proactive security measures
- Property target hardening techniques and tips.
- The latest information on National Secure Your Home Day community events and activities
- And more!

For further information about National Secure Your Home Day and how to get involved, [register now to participate](#).

**Your FREE National Secure Your Home Day Kit will be sent to participants in early September.**

For more information visit [National Secure Your Home](#) website

Visit the [Queensland Police Service Safety and Preventing Crime](#) website where you will find further information to secure your property and not become a victim of crime





## Winners of the Road Safety Awards

The Inaugural road safety awards were held on Wednesday 27 August at the Ipswich City Council building Nicholas St, acknowledging outstanding contribution in reducing road trauma raising awareness and highlighting the importance of road safety across the Ipswich Police District. The awards recognised the efforts of programs, initiatives, services and achievements of individuals, organisations or groups.

The Award Categories and Winners for the awards were:

### Non- Government Organisations

#### Winner: Gavin Heggs Twist- It-Moto

For the past two years, Gavin Heggs of Twist It Moto has organised the #Ridesafe Charity Ride Day to support *Youth Insearch*. This organisation aims to assist at-risk young people aged 12 to 25 who have previously been involved in crime, illegal dirt bike use, and theft. By providing education on safe and positive engagement in activities, *Youth Insearch* helps these individuals find a better path forward. The event features organised rides and coaching from experienced riders, who demonstrate the proper use of riding gear, the importance of mechanically sound bikes, and the right attitude for riding responsibly. The Twist It Moto team contributes their expertise at the Willowbank MX track. This program is a testament to encouraging riders to keep it on the track, not on the road



### Government Organisation

**Winner: A/Sergeant Kate Campbell** Kidsafe initiative created by A/Sergeant Kate Campbell is in its 5<sup>th</sup> year working in partnership with other agencies; Kidsafe Inc, DTMR, hosted by Orion Springfield shopping Centre. During Queensland Road Safety Week, Kidsafe Inc. focuses on addressing the over-representation of non-compliance with child restraint requirements among low socio-economic groups and immigrant drivers. The organisation aims to educate caregivers on how to transport children safely.

### Educational Program or Project **Joint Winners: Senior Constable Andrew Conway Project Anjeon Unjun (Drive Safe in Korean) and Senior Constable Lydon Anderson Learner Driver Program**

**Project Anjeon Unjun (Drive safe in Korean)** was developed and implemented to educate road safety targeting international labour workers driving on country roads in a foreign country S/C Conway observed a concerning rise in traffic crashes involving international farm labour workers (backpackers) who were unfamiliar with local road rules, signage, and vehicle maintenance.. In response, a culturally tailored program was developed to enhance road safety education, emphasising the "fatal five" factors, essential road rules, and the importance of addressing minor defects and vehicle maintenance. **The Learner Driver program** focuses on road users aged 17 to 23, who are disproportionately involved in road trauma in the Ipswich Police District. It offers participants a hands-on experience in road safety and vehicle control.

The project aims to educate learner drivers on awareness of road safety and proper car control techniques. The project is in collaboration with QFES and QAS, the Australian Road Safety Council, Super Cheap Auto and DTMR. The event is facilitated at Qld Raceway, which is a major partner in the program.



### Youth Engagement

**Winner: S/C Kerrin Sheedy.** In 2023, S/C Sheedy secured funding through the Gambling Community Benefit Fund to develop and produce Road Safety Educational Resources for children in the form of game cards, similar in size to a standard deck of cards. These cards feature engaging and educational content covering important topics such as the Fatal Five: Drink/Drug driving, Seatbelt use, Fatigue, Distraction, driver road rules, road safety travel games, as well as safe travel practices in cars and buses, riding bikes, scooters, and skateboards, and recognising road signs. This resource was specifically created for families with children

aged 15 and under, who are embarking on long journeys along Queensland roads, especially during holiday travel. Its purpose is to keep children entertained without distracting the drivers. A total of 10,000 cards have been distributed to children across the Ipswich Police District

### Community Engagement **Winner: Riverview Neighbourhood Watch Muscle in Maculata 2025**

**Muscle in Maculata** is a community initiative promoting road safety education and reducing road trauma in the Ipswich Police District. Now in its ninth year, this free annual event, established by Riverview, aims to decrease hooning and encourage responsible vehicle use. It brings together residents, car enthusiasts, community groups, and the Queensland Police Service (QPS) to promote safe driving practices in a family-friendly environment. Attendees can engage with QPS and Volunteers in Police, learning about road rules, the consequences of unsafe driving, and practical safety measures developed with local police and council representatives.



The Ipswich Road Safety committee would like to acknowledge our guest speaker Todd Hazelwood 2024 Bathurst Winner – Shell V – Power Racing Team, the winners and those dignitaries and road safety practitioners that attended.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Rural Road Safety Month**

**RURAL ROAD SAFETY MONTH**  
September 2025

**STEP UP FOR RURAL ROAD SAFETY**

### Rural Road Safety Event Boonah 2025

Step up for Rural Road Safety and visit the Rural Road Safety Event in Boonah. A National community-based road safety initiative designed to highlight the additional risks when driving on rural and remote roads throughout the month of September.

All road-users play a role in reducing risks on rural roads

In the lead up to the school holidays, police are imploring local communities, councils, schools, and individuals to help save lives. Shockingly, almost two out of three road fatalities occur in regional areas

**On: Thursday 18 September 2025**

**At: Park St, Boonah**

**Time: 10:00am until 1:00pm.**

Something for everyone with plenty of Road Safety Information

The visual display and community engagement will address dangerous driver behaviours.

- Visit QPS and Volunteers in Police, NHW, and SES.
- You'll have the opportunity to get your photo taken with the QFES Rig or the Police Fatal Five Vehicle or Motorbike.
- Come and watch a road safety demonstration at 12:30pm conducted by the Queensland Fire Emergency Services, with QAS and QPS.

**FREE Event All Welcome**

For more information contact Ipswich District Crime Prevention on 38171351 or email [DCPC.Ipswich@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:DCPC.Ipswich@police.qld.gov.au) or visit the [Australian Road Safety Foundation](http://www.AustralianRoadSafetyFoundation.org.au)





For further information please email [dcpc.ipswich@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:dcpc.ipswich@police.qld.gov.au)