

In and around the South West

Issue 02 • November 2009

A message from the Regional Director

Welcome to the latest edition of *In and around the South West*.

This newsletter is designed to keep you informed of upcoming projects and also provide some additional information about how the Department of Transport and Main Roads connects south-west Queenslanders.



In this edition you will find updates on a number of projects that are occurring around the region and information on how they affect you as a road user.

Also, we have taken this opportunity to provide important information to help you drive safely on Queensland roads and keep you up-to-date on the latest road rule changes.

Following the recent upgrading of intersections on the Warrego and Carnarvon Highways in Roma we have also included some practical information to help Roma road users adjust to these changes.

**Please Drive safely — Peter Evans
Regional Director – South West**



Photo: intersection of Bowen and Quintin streets, Roma

Road Rules Update

Giving way from a slip lane

When you drive onto a road from a slip lane with or without a **TURN LEFT AT ANYTIME WITH CARE** sign on it, you must give way to all bicycles and pedestrians on the slip lane.

You must also give way to all vehicles on the road you are entering. Therefore, in the example below **VEHICLE B** using the slip lane must give way to **VEHICLE A**.

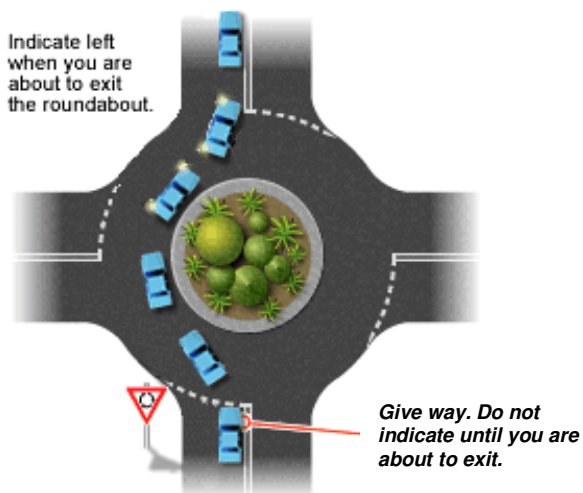
Need to know more about your road rules?

Pick up the 'Your Keys to Driving in Queensland' publication, available from most newsagents and the Transport and Main Roads offices in Charleville and Roma at a recommended retail price of \$11.50.



Using roundabouts:

1. Give way to all vehicles, including bicycles, already on the roundabout and only enter when there is a safe gap
2. Turning Left - signal left as you approach and continue to indicate left as you exit the roundabout
3. Turning Right - If you are turning right, motorist signals right when approaching the roundabout and indicates left just before reaching your exit
4. Going Straight Ahead – If going straight ahead, you do not need to indicate on approach, but as you come to your exit, you must indicate left to leave the roundabout
5. Turn off your indicator after you have left the roundabout.



Community Service Announcement

ROAD RULE CHANGES AHEAD

**From 12 October 2009,
all passengers must wear a
seatbelt or be secured in
a child restraint**

Fine **\$300**

Demerit points **3**

**For more information
contact us on 13 23 80**

www.transport.qld.gov.au/roadrules

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Road Projects Update

Woleebee Creek: Jackson-Wandoan Road

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has now completed construction work to protect the Jackson–Wandoan Road.

The work included constructing 300 metres of gabion (rock-filled, wire basket) wall and earthworks to protect the embankment from erosion at Woleebee Creek about 40km north of Jackson.



Before

After



Photos: Rehabilitation work has now been completed at Woleebee Creek.

2009/10 Reseal program

The department will shortly commence a major reseal program to increase the useful life of key roads around the South West Region.

Resealing involves spraying bitumen over existing sealed roads, and then applying a surfacing layer of evenly sized stone (screenings).

This process helps to prevent cracking, maintain a watertight seal over the roads and provide a suitable surface for tyres to grip the road.



Photo: Contractors resealing roads in south west Queensland

The department has joined forces with four of the local governments in the region to invite these tenders, to take advantage of “bulking up” and reduced establishment costs.

This will result in a considerable cost reduction for all parties involved, as well as improved safety for motorists, as the stone for reseals will be applied using controlled spreaders.

This new process results in a great reduction in loose screenings, with considerably less windscreen damage.

Bridge Work: Warrego Highway

The department has recently upgraded key bridges on the Warrego Highway between Roma and Miles to improve safety on the national land transport network.



In and around the South West

The project, funded by the Australian Governments' Nation Building Program, will improve safety on these bridges by providing:

- a new asphalt overlay on each bridge deck and approaches;
- audible tactile line-marking to alert drivers to the changed conditions;
- minor improvements to bridge guardrails; and road shoulders and
- improved reflectors on the road surface.

\$4.85m Carnarvon Highway upgrade: (Injune to Rolleston)

The department has commenced a project to continue widening the Carnarvon Highway about 21 kilometres north of Injune.

The project undertaken by RoadTek, involves improving the intersection of Fairview Road and the Carnarvon Highway and replacing 14 culverts to improve drainage.



Photo: Widening of the Carnarvon Highway

\$30m Roma–Taroom Road upgrade

The Roma–Taroom Road project is progressing well with Maranoa Regional Council continuing to widen the road at the southern end.

Banana Shire Council has now completed a \$1.3 million project to construct a 4km section at "Dangarfield" approximately 81km north-west from the Taroom turn-off.

Maranoa Regional Council is nearing completion on a 5km section of widening, about 30km north of the Taroom turn-off from the Carnarvon Highway.

\$1.8m Mitchell Highway: (Barrington–Cunnamulla)

The department is widening and improving a 5km section of the Mitchell Highway near Barrington on the Queensland-New South Wales border.

This project is now underway with construction undertaken by the Paroo Shire Council.



\$40m Warrego Highway: (Roma-Mitchell)

\$40m has been allocated to widening and strengthening works between Roma and Mitchell. We are awaiting federal approval, to call tenders for the first project.

Bungeworgarai Creek Bridge

The Department is undertaking strengthening works on the Bungeworgarai Creek Bridge. The bridge is located about 8km south of Roma on the Roma—Southern Road.

Works are expected to commence in late November 2009. Changed traffic conditions apply.

Community Service Announcement



From 12 October 2009, the following road rules will apply:

Fog lights

Must be turned off in clear weather

Fine **\$40**

Single centre lines

Don't u-turn

Fine **\$180**
Demerit points **3**

Seatbelts

All passengers must wear them or be secured in a child restraint

Fine **\$300**
Demerit points **3**

For more information on Queensland road rules contact us on 13 23 80 or visit www.transport.qld.gov.au/roadrules

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School Crossing Supervisors

Do you want to be a school crossing supervisor in the south west?

The School Crossing Supervisor Scheme enhances the safety of school children in the school traffic environment and also provides a friendly and helping hand to all our children.

School crossing supervisors in the area usually operate between 7.45am and 9am and 2.45pm and 3.30pm.

School crossing supervisors earn \$23.31/hour, up to 7.5hours/week with all training provided and uniform issued before they begin.

For more information contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads Road Safety Officer on 4622 9541.



Photo: A crossing supervisor helping school children.

For more information about the Department of Transport and Main Roads projects or services please contact:

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