

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 August 2018

Motorists and heavy vehicles encouraged to pull over for a cuppa at Ban Ban Springs

Motorists and heavy vehicle drivers are being encouraged to stop for a cuppa at Ban Ban Springs today, as part of Queensland Road Safety Week.

Department of Transport and Main Roads Regional Director (Southern Region) Steve Beck said the state's fourth annual road safety week gave TMR staff and police an opportunity to talk with road users.

"We're encouraging all motorists and heavy vehicles, to stop, revive and grab a cuppa at the Ban Ban Springs rest area, on the Burnett Highway, from 9am to 2pm," Mr Beck said.

"They will have a chance to brush up on their road rules knowledge, grab a free coffee or tea and chat with road safety officers, particularly regarding the Burnett Highway.

"Some drivers don't fully understand how to drive around heavy vehicles, where a truck's blind spots are and how long it takes them to stop. This is a good opportunity to stop for a rest and have a chat about sharing the road."

Mr Beck said it was also a great opportunity to promote the pull-over areas for heavy vehicles between Nanango and Monto.

"Last month, special green reflectors were installed at 21 sites on the Burnett Highway to alert heavy vehicles to upcoming rest stop locations," he said.

"These reflectors provide advance warning to truck drivers and operators so they have enough time to slow down to find areas where they can stop, revive and survive.

"This initiative, which was a first for the Wide Bay Burnett district, is part of our efforts to drive the road toll down to zero and ensure a safer road network for all Queenslanders."

Last year, 47 people died on Southern Queensland Roads and 881 were hurt or seriously injured.

Mr Beck said all road users needed to take responsibility for their behaviour on the road, regardless of their choice of transport.

"A simple way to improve road safety and reduce deaths and injury on our roads starts with following the road rules," he said.

"We can all make a difference by refreshing our road rules knowledge and making a pledge to improve just one driving or riding behaviour.

"Queensland Road Safety Week is Australia's only state-wide initiative that encourages the community to get directly involved in making our roads safer. Each day of Queensland Road Safety Week focuses on road users and today we're highlighting road safety issues faced by motorists."

Queensland Road Safety Week is a State Government initiative, delivered in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the Queensland Police Service.

To find out more or to find a local community event, visit <https://jointhedrive.qld.gov.au/road-safety-week>. To make a pledge download a Speak Up for Road Safety Facebook filter and make your pledge using the #SpeakUpSelfie hashtag.

You can also share your stories or life-saving tips on social media by using #SpeakUpForRoadSafety or #QRSW2018 hashtags.

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