

Monday 17 February 2014

KEEP OUR ROADS SAFE

City of Ryde Mayor Roy Maggio is calling on motorists to be courteous and know the road rules in the lead up to Road Rules Awareness Week (February 24).

“It’s all about people working together to raise awareness about road safety and responsible driving,” he said.

“With more cyclists using our roads and an increase in senior pedestrians, it is vital that drivers understand the road rules and be considerate of all road users.

“Motorists must also be extra vigilant in School Zones and other areas where children regularly go such as around sportsfields now that the new season is underway.”

City of Ryde is partnering with Transport NSW, Roads & Maritimes Services and local Police in an education campaign to reduce road accidents and fatalities and is calling on senior pedestrians to be road safety savvy.

Walking Safety for Seniors

Seniors account for 30% of all pedestrian accidents in our local area and the City of Ryde Council is holding a series of tri-lingual ‘Walking Safely for Seniors’ workshops, in English, Mandarin and Korean, to push home the message about pedestrian safety.

- *Walking Safely for Seniors (English)* – Thursday 20 February, West Ryde Library, 2 Graf Avenue, West Ryde, 10.30am – 12.30pm
- *Walking Safely for Seniors (Korean)* – Wednesday 12 March, Eastwood Hall 159-161 Shaftsbury Rd, Eastwood, 10.30am – 12.30pm
- *Walking Safely for Seniors (Mandarin)* – Wednesday 9 April, Eastwood Hall, 159-161 Shaftsbury Rd, Eastwood, 10.30am – 12.30pm

In 2012, there were 11 pedestrian casualties over the age of 60 years, and one fatality in the City of Ryde. In fact, the City of Ryde has a higher percentage of pedestrian casualties than either the Sydney Region or NSW.

The presentations will provide information on what makes older pedestrians more vulnerable and how to identify and reduce risk as an older pedestrian around our local area.

Light refreshments will be serviced and each one attending will be provided with a Safety Gift Pack. Bookings are essential, so please call Customer Service on 9952 8222 to reserve your spot.

Road Rules Awareness Week (February 24)

Road rule courtesy between motorists and cyclists and clarification of misunderstood road rules are the focus of this year’s Road Rules Awareness Week (24 February).

According to Roads and Maritime Services figures, the Top Five Misunderstood Road Rules relate to:

- Roundabouts
- Giving way to pedestrians when turning

- Mobile phones
- Merging
- Keeping left

An animation video highlighting these misunderstood road rules will be launched on the Transport NSW YouTube channel and promoted throughout the community.

Last year there were 15 cycling fatalities in 2013, up from nine the previous year.

For more information go to www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/roadsafety

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