

# YOUR ENVIRONMENT

We support a cleaner, greener WA to protect our natural heritage for future generations. Initiatives currently underway include carbon emission reduction and community investments through Bush Heritage Australia and the Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association.

## Bush Heritage Australia

The RAC is a proud partner of Bush Heritage Australia, a national, not-for-profit organisation committed to protecting our unique land, water and wildlife.

Our support is directed toward the Charles Darwin Reserve, located north east of Perth, and ensures endemic plants and animals are given the best chance of survival for future generations.

## RAC Head Office - Environmental Design

The RAC head office building is based on environmentally sustainable design principles and has been awarded a four-star safety rating by the Australian Building Greenhouse Rating scheme.

Some environmentally friendly design features include:

- Light sensors
- Recycling bins
- An open plan office design with windows on the southern and eastern sides of the building to allow for natural light to permeate into the building

## Reducing Emissions

In 2008, the RAC conducted a greenhouse gas emissions audit to identify the carbon footprint of the organisation.

This resulted in the appointment of a Senior Manager of Environment & Sustainability to give greater focus to environmental performance and implement recommendations of the audit.

We're taking action to reduce our environmental impact by:

- Enhancing the RAC internal environmental policy
- Engaging staff through an environmental education program
- Measuring our environmental performance
- Targeting reductions in energy, fuel, water, paper and waste

The RAC has also endorsed the Australian Automobile Association's environment policy *On the Road to Greener Motoring* which aims to reduce vehicle emissions and provide practical, proactive solutions to climate change.

## RAC Patrol Fleet

The RAC is offsetting the emissions produced by our fleet of more than 200 vehicles. This is done through BP Global Choice who is certified by the Commonwealth Government's Australian Greenhouse Office as 'Greenhouse Friendly'.

## WorkSafe Gold Accreditation

We're committed to maintaining a healthy and safe work environment for our people. This was recognised in 2008 when the RAC was awarded WorkSafe Gold Accreditation for demonstrating good progress toward a best practice approach to health and safety management.

## Sustainable Energy Technology

The RAC is concerned about reducing the impact of motoring on the environment and we applaud any technology that aims to reduce emissions.

The RAC is committed to reducing energy use by encouraging the development of sustainable energy technologies and is working with the Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association.



Reserve Managers Kurt and Andrea Tschirner on Charles Darwin Reserve, Bush Heritage Australia.

## OUR COMMITMENT TO THE WA COMMUNITY

At the RAC, we believe that making a positive contribution to the community requires the same high standards and dedication we apply across all areas of our organisation.

We're proud of our investment in the community, and our staff and community partners will continue to serve the people of WA and explore ways to improve the effectiveness and impact of our community-based initiatives.

For more information on RAC activities in the community, please contact Corporate Communications on 9436 4109 or visit [www.rac.com.au](http://www.rac.com.au)



RAC members are happier

[www.rac.com.au](http://www.rac.com.au)

# RAC IN THE COMMUNITY

2008/2009

For more than a century the RAC has been an integral part of life in WA and now serves more than 650,000 members.

As WA's leading member organisation we aim to make a difference to the people of WA. We're committed to investing our time, resources and experience to make WA a safer place to live, contribute to building a vibrant community and help to preserve our unique natural environment.

We will continue to respond to the needs of the WA community and invest in a broad range of community initiatives to protect and enhance the lifestyle of our members.



RAC members are happier





# YOUR VOICE

We speak on behalf of our members and the WA community on a broad range of community and road safety issues. We are actively engaged in a number of community programs to create safer roads, safer vehicles and safer communities.

We encourage and support initiatives that help to create a safer, stronger and more vibrant community for all Western Australians. We strive to make a positive contribution through our growing partnership program and commitment to community education.

# YOUR COMMUNITY

### RAC Rescue 1

Since 2003 the RAC has sponsored the State Emergency Service Helicopter RAC Rescue 1.

The RAC Rescue 1 Helicopter is a vital service for the WA community and runs an average of 30 rescue missions every month, including emergency hospital transfers and beacon searches.

The RAC Rescue 1 Helicopter will continue to provide assistance to the people of WA in addition to State and national emergency services in the coming years.

### Fire Fighter of the Year Awards

At the RAC, we value not only the services provided to our community, but also the many dedicated people behind these important initiatives. Since 2001, we have recognised the hundreds of career and volunteer fire fighters who protect the WA community by supporting the Fire Fighter of the Year Awards.

### RAC Channel Seven Christmas Pageant with the City of Perth

For over 10 years the RAC has proudly sponsored the Christmas Pageant. The Christmas Pageant is one of the most popular family events held in Perth and attracts more than 350,000 people each year.

In 2008, a revised pageant format was announced to breathe new life into the event. A number of exciting changes will see the pageant take place on a Sunday morning at Langley Park, where members of the community can enjoy free entertainment all morning.

### WA Football Commission Volunteer and Club Development program

The recent partnership with the West Australian Football Commission demonstrates our long term commitment to broad reaching, grass roots community programs.

The partnership supports the RAC Football Volunteer of the Year Award and ensures the provision of essential resources, professional development clinics and face

to face support for volunteers at all levels of the football community.

### The Australia Day Council

In 2008 the RAC formed a partnership with the Australia Day Council of Western Australia to sponsor the Aussie of the Month Award.

The Aussie of the Month Award is a primary school award program that encourages students to understand the responsibilities and rewards of community participation by recognising personal endeavour, personal achievement and contribution to the community.

### Community Patrol

We care about the communities where we live and work and encourage our employees to play an active role in our corporate volunteering program, Community Patrol.

RAC people are entitled to one day of leave per year to attend RAC endorsed and coordinated events that comply with our operational policies.



The Community Ed team interact with more than 57,000 people every year.

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

The RAC Community Ed team provide a range of educational information to a wide cross section of the community, including school aged children and senior citizens.

Every year, team members interact with approximately 57,000 people to raise awareness of community issues through high impact presentations to WA schools on topics which include road safety, getting a driver's licence and buying a car.

### Creating Safer Roads

At the RAC, we believe in the safe system approach where the combination of safer drivers, safer cars and safer roads will drastically reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on our roads.

The RAC is involved in the following road safety programs;

- Australian Roads Assessment Program (AusRAP)
- Red Spot Traffic Congestion campaign
- Safer Roads campaign
- Infrastructure Australia Submission

We use the information provided through these campaigns to lobby State and Federal Governments for additional funding to improve the quality of the road network and reduce the number of crashes on WA roads.

### Promoting Safer Vehicles

The RAC is a founding member of the Australasian New Car Assessment Program (ANCAP).

ANCAP assigns a star rating based on the safety features implemented by manufacturers to reduce the risk of death and injury in an accident.

The RAC partners with the Office of Road Safety in the Stars on Cars and Safer Cars Save Lives programs to encourage the manufacture and purchase of four and five star rated cars.

We also invest in a program called The Used Car Safety Ratings to determine the safest used cars based on comprehensive research conducted by Monash University.

### Reducing Risks on the Roads

In 2008, the RAC conducted the Risky Roads campaign to identify WA roads that did not meet acceptable safety standards. We are continuing to use the results of this campaign to work with WA road authorities to address the issues raised and establish safer roads.

### Federal and State Government Policy Development

The RAC strives to make a difference to the WA community by presenting submissions to Federal and State Governments for government programs to improve the following areas:

- Road safety
- Mobility
- Security
- The environment
- Reducing the cost of motoring

We meet with ministers and senior government officials to improve outcomes and serve the needs of the community. Discussions with government officials include addressing election commitments, annual budgets and proposed policy changes.

### Road Safety

In 2008, the RAC supported a new road safety strategy to secure State Government funding for road safety education, road improvements, safer speeds and safer vehicles. The strategy could save an estimated 11,000 people from being killed or seriously injured on WA roads.

### Fuel Consumption and Traffic Congestion

The RAC supports the WA FuelWatch program which allows consumers to make an informed choice about where and at what price they purchase fuel.

The RAC Red Spots campaign aims to identify the worst and most dangerous areas of traffic congestion in Perth and bring these to the attention of relevant road authorities.



The 2008 HotBed Ensemble with the RAC Happy Man.

# THE HOTBED ENSEMBLE

The RAC is the principal sponsor of the HotBed Ensemble, a professional development program for emerging Western Australian theatre artists, initiated by the Black Swan State Theatre Company.

The program provides exclusive training and mentoring opportunities and aims to keep local talent in Western Australia to ensure a thriving theatre scene for all Western Australians to enjoy in the future.

### keys2drive

The RAC is a leader in community development and was the first club in Australia to offer the keys2drive program which provides learner drivers and supervisors with detailed advice on a range of relevant topics including:

- Getting a driver's licence
- Choosing a driving instructor
- Changes to road rules
- Tips for learning to drive

The success of the program has led to the Federal Government committing \$17 million over five years to roll the program out nationally.

### free2go

Developed for 17 to 19 year olds, the free2go program offers young drivers a free membership over three years including free roadside assistance in the first year and a number of other benefits.

While providing peace of mind for the parents of young drivers, free2go aims to educate young members on a number of issues that they are likely to face at this stage in their lives; including getting a driver's licence, buying a car and road safety.

### Red Cross

At the RAC we provide an infrastructure back-up plan for the Red Cross State Inquiry Centre. If the Red Cross call centre in East Perth experienced difficulties during a disaster or emergency, the RAC would provide a back-up location.

Our support means the Red Cross can focus their resources on providing valuable community services, rather than spending time and money relocating and setting up an alternative call centre during a disaster.

### Paraplegic Benefit Fund (PBF)

The RAC is a proud partner of the Paraplegic Benefit Fund (PBF). PBF develop and deliver award-winning injury prevention programs targeted at Year 10, 11 and 12 students.

These programs encourage young people to make safer choices about road use and therefore reduce the number of new spinal cord injuries.

### Indigenous Driver Training Program

The RAC is proud to support the Kensington PCYC with its Indigenous Driver Training Program. The program aims to lower the road toll and reduce antisocial behaviour on the road by providing easy access to quality driver training to 'at-risk' indigenous youth.

### horizons

With a mandate to entertain, inspire and inform members of our community, the RAC member magazine, horizons, is distributed to more than 500,000 WA households six times a year.

horizons reflects our motoring heritage through car reviews and advice pages and also addresses broader issues that affect the WA community.

### RAC People Development

We invest in the knowledge and skills of our people through a broad range of professional development programs:

- Executive Development Program *Leading On*
- Frontline Management Program
- Graduate Program
- International Secondment and Study Opportunities
- Automotive Apprentice Program (Winner of the 2008 Federal Minister's Award for Excellence for Employers of Australian Apprentices).