

AUSTRALIAN INJURY PREVENTION NETWORK

INJURY INCIDENCE

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Autumn 2011

The AIPN is a professional organisation bringing together all Australians and New Zealanders concerned with injury issues. Please feel free to contact us for more information.

AIPN undertakes to collate information from contributors, and has not been responsible for the research reported in this newsletter

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Dear AIPN members,

We have had a busy few months drafting some new position papers for the network. At present we have draft versions of position papers on Aboriginal injury, mobility scooter safety, falls from windows and safety of quad bikes. Once these have been signed off by the executive committee they will be uploaded onto the AIPN website and we will be able to begin some active advocacy on these issues for the network. If members have any other ideas for position papers please feel free to put these forward.

The AIPN has also been busy in the past month advocating against proposed cuts to the National Health and Medical Research Council Budget. These cuts were under serious consideration by the Australian Government for the upcoming budget due in May, but sustained and noisy advocacy by medical researchers, community members and other concerned parties appears to have been successful – the Government has now backed away from the threatened cuts. Details of the advocacy campaign can be found at <http://www.discoveriesneeddollars.org/home/>; the AIPN wrote letters to multiple politicians on behalf of members asking that the cuts be reconsidered. Many members and supporters also wrote letters, and in particular we would like to thank Safe Communities Mt Isa who wrote some very compelling letters to protest against the budget cuts.

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Australian Injury Prevention Network

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Presidents report continued...

The Launch of the Global Decade of Road Safety will also occur on May 11, 2011. Announced by the UN General Assembly in March 2010, the Decade provides a framework to countries and communities to increase action to prevent road injury and death. You can see details about the decade at http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action, including a calendar of events.

Many of you will know that Pam Albany, stalwart of injury prevention in Australia, is very sick and will not be returning to work. Ian Scott wrote to me recently saying that he, along with some good friends and Pam's family, has "been trying to work out a way for people to be in contact... to send good wishes, photos and stories.. in a way that works for Pam. She can't answer phone or email, but the familiar smile and twinkle in the eye is there when we show her photos and pass on people's messages". He has set up a Facebook page for Pam so that you can post messages and photos and send your wishes to Pam and her family. Simply login to Facebook (you will need to sign up first if you don't already have a page), look for the Facebook page for Pam Albany and submit a friend request.

Meanwhile, plans for the conference are fast progressing and the conference is shaping up to be another exciting Australian Injury Prevention Network Conference. Abstracts are due in very soon so please make sure you have submitted your most exciting new work, either as a practitioner, researcher or policymaker.

All the best,

Rebecca Ivers, President (rivers@georgeinstitute.org.au)

SAFEWAY2SCHOOL Presentation

This presentation summarised the European Union funded SAFEWAY2SCHOOL project, the aim of which is to design, develop, integrate and evaluate technologies for providing a holistic and safe transportation service for children, from their home door to their school.

The presenter was Dr Anna Anund from the Road and Transport Research Institute (VTI) Sweden

Presented at Curtin - Monash Accident Research Centre WA on March 25, 2011.

Please visit the following website to see the presentation.

<http://c-marc.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/resources/DrAnnaAnundSAFEWAY2SCHOOL110330.pdf>

The North West Playground Project

Playgrounds are a common location in which children sustain injuries. They are also places in which children can develop physical, social and cognitive skills and competencies through play. Improving safety and thereby reducing injuries in playgrounds is a fine balance between the elimination of hazards and allowing sufficient risk (challenge) in playgrounds for healthy development in children. Playgrounds and the opportunities for play in public spaces can vary greatly around Australia.



The North West Playground Project aims to investigate play space provision and opportunities in North Western Australia as well as the specific problems that may relate to the harsher environment.

Members of the Kidsafe WA Playground Advisory Service visited the Pilbara and Kimberley regions of Western Australia to find out what local governments, children's services, parents and children in NW communities thought about their local playgrounds; identify specific issues related to providing playgrounds in harsh climates; and to share the team's knowledge and expertise about playground risks and safety.



Two trips were conducted: one in February to the Pilbara and the second in March to the Kimberley. The Pilbara trip included the towns of Karratha, Roebourne, South Hedland, Newman and Tom Price, while the Kimberley trip included Broome, Derby, Kununurra and Wyndham.

Despite adverse weather and flooded roads, forums and workshops were held with representatives from Local Governments, parents, community groups and children's services teams in the locations visited.

Perhaps not surprisingly, shade and amenities were high on parents' lists of concern. The installation of self-cleaning toilets in a number of playgrounds in Port Hedland was the envy of other communities. While progress towards the provision of shade in playgrounds varied between towns.



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The North West Playground Project Continued....

In addition to the forums and workshops conducted, a number of playground inspections were conducted during both trips, including a comprehensive post-installation audit of the new \$1M Miners Promise Playground in Newman.



Safety issues across the playgrounds visited were varied but the common issue was lack of adequate impact attenuating under-surfacing. The solutions for local government authorities and

other playground providers are not easy. Local sand can have a high clay content and become as hard as concrete in the wet climate; rubber can become hot enough to melt in the summer heat; and locals fear that mulch would invite deadly snakes into the playground.

In terms of safe practices, the Shire of Broome was a stand-out. The Parks team maintained a playground asset registry and recorded all inspections and any repairs; had an excellent safety management system in place; and used a systematic approach to check, maintain, repair and replace playground equipment.

The insights gained from visiting these communities, meeting the people who manage the playgrounds and the families who use them have been invaluable in understanding the unique context of each community which it is anticipated will assist with the development of strategies to improve play options and the safety and wellbeing of children in those regions.

Sue Wicks,

Kidsafe WA

Playground Advisory Service –

www.kidsafewa.com.au/playgrounds



AIPN Student Writing Competition

The AIPN is running an exciting new writing competition in 2011, open to postgraduate students in the injury prevention field. The winner will have the opportunity to gain important recognition in the injury field that will greatly assist in their career development through conference presentation and possible publication in *Injury Prevention*.

First prize includes:

- Publication in *Injury Prevention*, an international, peer-reviewed journal (subject to editorial and peer review).
- A student bursary to attend the AIPN National Conference in November 2011 in Brisbane
- Opportunity to present the paper at a plenary session of the AIPN National Conference
- Complimentary 12 month student membership to the AIPN

In addition, ALL entrants to the competition will receive a complimentary 12 months student membership to the AIPN (providing entry is of an acceptable standard).

Students are asked to submit an article focusing on aspects of injury policy affecting any country or countries. Articles or commentaries may discuss, for example, policy formulation, advocacy, enactment, implementation, or enforcement. You may wish to focus on one specific area of injury prevention or write more generally. Entries should be 1800 words or less.

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**10th National Conference on
Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion**

2-4 November 2011 | Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre



AIPN Student Writing Competition Continued...

Some topic examples:

A. The role of advocacy in the enactment of effective injury prevention policy.

You may wish to discuss:

- whether advocacy can influence the success of an injury prevention policy
- opportunities that exist for injury researchers to engage in advocacy or how to create opportunities
- challenges that injury researchers face for advocacy
- effective strategies for injury prevention advocacy

B. Translating injury research into policy: opportunities for researchers

You may wish to discuss:

- how injury researchers may identify or create opportunities for translation of research
- barriers to translating research into policy
- effective strategies for translation

C. Choose an area of injury prevention or interest to you:

- what opportunities exist for policy development that may reduce the burden of injury in this area?
- are there barriers to the implementation of effective injury prevention policy in this area?
- what strategies may be successful in overcoming these barriers?
- what role does advocacy play in policy making in this area?

The AIPN student writing competition is currently OPEN. Please submit your article to the AIPN Secretariat by email secretariat@aipn.com.au by 5.00pm Australian Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the 31st of August, 2011.

A group of injury experts from AIPN will read all submitted articles and determine a shortlist. An editor from *Injury Prevention* will contribute to judging of the winner.

Please visit the AIPN website <http://www.aipn.com.au> for the competition details and guidelines.



Aboriginal Road Safety Review — Can you help?

Researchers at The George Institute for Global Health are conducting a review of Aboriginal road safety programs in Australia on behalf of the National Road Safety Council. We are seeking details of any Aboriginal road safety program delivered by Government, community, NGOs or other organisations.

If you are involved with such programs or know of any, please contact A/Prof Rebecca Ivers on rivers@georgeinstitute.org.au or call on (02) 9657 0341.

Injury Prevention Publication News

New Paper:

The association between four citation metrics and peer ranking of research influence of Australian researchers in six fields of public health.

Derrick, G., Haynes, A., Chapman, S., Hall, W.

Website: [PLoS ONE 6\(4\): e18521. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0018521](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0018521)



New ABS Publication

3303.0 Causes of Death, Australia, 2009

Website: <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/3303.0?OpenDocument>



CAUSES OF DEATH	2009
ALL CAUSES	100,000
Heart disease	25,000
Cancer	20,000
Stroke	15,000
Respiratory diseases	10,000
Diabetes	8,000
Accidents	7,000
Alcohol-related	6,000
Drug-related	5,000
Other	4,000

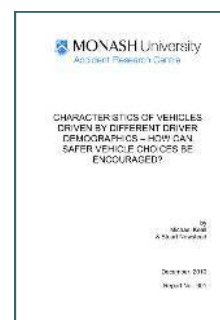
New Report:

Characteristics of vehicles driven by different driver demographics—how can safer vehicle choices be encouraged?

Keall, MD and Newstead, SV.

Monash University Accident Research Centre-Report # 301

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/reports/muarc301.pdf>



Decade of Road Safety Events

Decade of Action for Road Safety - 11 May 2011

Website: http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action

Australian Decade of Action for Road Safety Events

Australian Road Safety Awards Launch

11 May 2011

Fatality Free Friday Foundation

Decade of Action for Road Safety 2010-2020 Forum

11 May 2011

Office of Road Safety, Perth, WA

UN Decade of Action for Road Safety Launch Breakfast

11 May 2011

Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety, Queensland

Australian Government Launch—Decade of Action for Road Safety 2010-2010

11 May 2011

Department of Infrastructure and Transport, Canberra

NSW Launch of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2010-2020

11 May 2011

Australasian College of Road Safety, NSW

Victorian Decade of Action for Road Safety Launch

11 May 2011

The Atrium @ Federation Square, Melbourne, VIC

Launch of the Journey Beyond Road Trauma classroom resources

11 May 2011

Journey Beyond Road Trauma

Website: <http://journeybeyondroadtrauma.org/cms/journey-beyond-road-trauma---education/>

Launch of Decade of Action for Road Safety

12th May 2011

Royal Automobile Association of South Australia, SA

Decade of Action for Road Safety Events

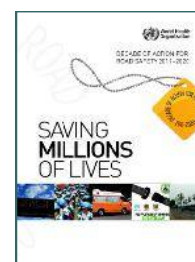
Please visit the following website for information regarding the location of other events being held for the Decade of Action for Road Safety.

http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/launch/national/en/index.html

Brochure for Decade of Action for Road Safety

This brochure *Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020: saving millions of lives* offers key data and information about road traffic injuries, the Decade and WHO's role.

Please go to http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/road_traffic/decade_booklet/en/index.html to download the brochure.



Upcoming Events

Profession Workshop as an adjunct to the 2011 ATCA Conference

Working therapeutically with women with complex trauma and alcohol and other drug (AOD) issues

3 June 2011

Fremantle, WA, Australia

Website: www.atca.com.au

9th Road Safety Forum International Congress

30 June 2011

London, UK

Website: <http://www.roadsafetyforum.org/events/annualconference.aspx>

Australasian College of Road Safety Conference

1-2 September 2011

Melbourne, VIC, Australia

Website: <http://www.acrs.org.au/activitesandevents/2011conference/>

20th International Safe Communities Conference

6-9 September 2011

Falun Municipality, Darlarna, Sweden

Website: www.falun.se/safecom2011

Public Health Association of Australia (PHAA) Annual Conference

26-28 September 2011

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Website: <http://www.phaa.net.au/41stPHAAAnnualConference.php>

10th National Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion

2-4 November 2011

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Website: <http://www.icebergevents.com/injuryprevention2011/>

Australasian Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference

6-9 November 2011

Perth, WA, Australia

Website: <http://www.roadsafetyconference2011.com.au/>

1st International Conference on Human Factors in Transportation

21-25 July 2012

San Francisco, California, USA

Website: www.ahfe2012.org

World Injury and Safety Promotion Conference

1-5 October 2012

Wellington, New Zealand

Website: <http://www.conference.co.nz/worldsafety2012>



AUSTRALIAN INJURY PREVENTION NETWORK

The National peak body for all age and all cause injury prevention and control in Australia

AIPN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011

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JOIN AIPN

The Australian Injury Prevention Network welcomes people from a wide range of backgrounds who have an interest in injury prevention and safety promotion.

The AIPN offers 5 membership types covering most individual and corporate needs.

To apply for or renew your membership, please go to the website to download a membership form or complete your application online.

www.aipn.com.au

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*If unattended please leave a voice message so that the part-time Secretariat can respond to your enquiry, Thankyou.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Do you have any articles, news, stories or information on injury prevention research, publications or activities?

For inclusion in the July edition of the newsletter, please submit any articles, news or stories to the newsletter editor on newsletter@aipn.com.au by **30 June 2011**.

This edition of Injury Incidence has been edited by Jessica Killian, with acknowledgment to Jan Shield