

Cycling safety program funding

24 March 2005

ACT Policing and the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust will again join forces to ensure Canberra's students attend the Children's Traffic Demonstration Centre in Belconnen for hands-on road rules and road safety classes.

A grant of \$26 000 from the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust Fund today will ensure transport is provided to the centre for primary school students from across the ACT as well as update equipment the children use.

"This grant enables more equitable access to all students to attend the traffic centre," ACT's Chief Police Officer, Mr John Davies said today. "The centre is a very popular activity with almost 3 500 participants attending in the last nine months. It caters for schools from throughout the Territory.

"The centre offers children a hands-on education about the Australian road rules, how to ride a bicycle safely, and instructions on the correct use of helmets when riding bicycles," Mr Davies said.

The program has been operating for more than 22 years in ACT schools and the current stock of bicycles and helmets was provided through an earlier Trust grant more than a decade ago. The grant will also cover the cost of replacing 50 bicycles, and acquiring new safety equipment.

"Children are our future, and ensuring they have a solid foundation in road rules and bicycle safety is a key element of the Trust's program," said Trust Chairman, Professor Don Aitkin. "ACT Policing is a valuable collaborator with the Trust, and an important partner to the Canberra community overall. We are pleased to again be working with the police."





Detective Senior Constable Rab Albertson and Senior Constable Alison Craft ensure Macquarie Primary School students have their helmets on tight before being put through road safety paces.



Chief Police Officer John Davies is presented with the \$26 000 cheque by NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust chairman Professor Don Aitkin at the Children's Traffic Demonstration Centre in Belconnen.