



Approved project of District 9680

Helping young people become better drivers

The RYDA program aims to make roads safer for our whole community by training young people to think about driving issues that potentially impact on their driving practices.

Heather Butler, MP, Member for Lyons fully supports the initiative, which is making a big impact with over 100 students anticipated to go through the program in Lyons – including students from Triabunna District High School, Tasman District High School and Bridgewater High School, all of whom participated in the program in April.

RYDA is run with the support of local Rotarians and major sponsor BOC, Australia's leading industrial gases company.

"RYDA aims to ensure that when young people begin driving, they have already received the best driver safety education possible," said Butler. "The program is unique as it attempts to influence attitudes and behaviours of both drivers and passengers before they get their licence."

"Peer pressure from passengers has a major effect on the way young people behave behind the wheel," continued Butler. "By addressing students as both drivers and passengers, the program aims to change the environment in the car rather than focusing solely on the driver."

"The importance of this program cannot be underestimated as the RTA report that despite 17-25 year olds only making up just 12% of the population they account for 27% of motorists killed or seriously injured in accidents."

RYDA was developed in consultation with the NSW Department of Education and the Roads and Traffic Authority.

For more information on RYDA or to learn how your school can get involved, email info@ryda.org.au see www.ryda.org.au or phone Cathy Sherwood 0419 274 959