



## Appendix 1: About the RACT

Formed in 1923, the RACT is an apolitical infrastructure and safe mobility advocate. We give our Members a voice on issues that concern them. We listen to them, inform them, speak up for them and try to find solutions to their problems. Total membership including RACT Roadside and RACT Access members is around 190,000 Tasmanians.

Our member magazine, *Journeys*, is distributed to around 115,000 households every two months; in addition, a full-view digital version is available through the RACT's website [www.ract.com.au](http://www.ract.com.au)

The RACT Community Fund provides several grants of up to \$2,000 to community not-for-profit groups to support worthy local community projects, in two funding rounds per annum. Since its inception in 2008, the RACT Community Fund has received hundreds of applications from across Tasmania.

RACT also maintains a range of support partnerships with a diverse collection of Tasmanian community groups and charities including RYDA in Tasmania; The Tasmanian Air Rescue Trust; the Sober Driver program; The Clown Doctors (Tasmania); The Save the Tasmanian Devil Appeal; The Smith Family literacy projects; Headway Rebuilding Lives; The Salvation Army; and The Choir of High Hopes (Hobart).

Around the State, the RACT maintains a significant local branch network; a structure which is unique in many ways across Tasmania's corporate sector and community groups. Nine city and town branches provide a local presence in the community, supplying important feedback on local attitudes and concerns and giving members and non-members alike a 'community hub' to voice their concerns about matters concerning their families, businesses or town.

The RACT relies on the support and advice provided to it by its members through our network. Our three Regional Advisory Committees meet regularly and are made up of locally-resident RACT financial members, who serve on these committees on a voluntary basis, many with current or previous road or traffic experience in their work, professional or family lives. The Committees report to a specific RACT Board Committee constituted to deal with the issues: the Road and Traffic Committee.

The Regional Advisory Committee Charter states, in part, that a Committee's role is to:

*"...consider road design and traffic management issues within the region and to liaise with and make recommendations to the relevant local authorities to improve road design, road safety and traffic management [and] ...consider and make recommendations to the RACT Board regarding road safety, public education and enforcement policy issues."*

The RACT also deploys dedicated resources to coordinate its policy making, public relations and advocacy and to liaise with key State and Federal stake holders. On a range of motoring-related matters such as mechanical safety, technical support, and the fitting of child restraints, the RACT retains a body of expertise within its own staff.



The RACT is represented by senior staff on stakeholder reference organisations in Tasmania and undertakes structured liaison with local government, business organisations, not-for-profit groups, educational bodies, political parties, service organisations, and professionals in the transport and road safety industries. The RACT's CEO is a member of the Road Safety Advisory Council. The RACT's officers also meet on a regular basis with relevant regulatory authorities in Tasmania including officers from the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER), Tasmania Police and other government agencies.

Nationally, the RACT is a constituent member of the Australian Automobile Association (AAA), <http://www.aaa.asn.au> which represents some 6.5 million Australian motorists and maintains a secretariat in Canberra. The President of RACT and the CEO are members of the Board of the AAA. The RACT's General Manager (Communications & Marketing) is a member of the AAA's public policy forum (PPF) and communications managers group (CMG). The RACT is a regular contributor to the committees and forums of the AAA and leverages these relationships to access a range of significant technical and policy expertise for the benefit of RACT members.

Internationally, the RACT has joined with the other Australian motoring organisations as a member of the *Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile* (FIA) to work on road safety and related issues at a global level – see <http://www.fiafoundation.org> This includes the *UN Decade of Action for Road Safety* and *Make Roads Safe* campaigns to put global road traffic injuries on the G8 and UN agenda.