

Motorcyclist, Make Yourself Visible

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Abstract

The Motorcycle Riders Association of Western Australia through their involvement with the Western Australian Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group recognized a rider hazard that we believed was not fully covered by any on line or hard copy publication that we could find. We therefore set about working with Main Roads Dept. of Western Australia on the dangerous position that some motorcycle riders find themselves in, with the intention of educating them to recognize and when possible avoid these situations. We therefore produced the booklet Make Yourself Visible.

Make Yourself Visible Booklet

As part of our commitment to motorcycle safety, members of the W.A. Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group review the motorcycle and scooter fatality and serious injury major crash investigation undertaken by Main Roads Department of W.A. this includes information from the W.A. Police, major crash investigation. We have been conducting these reviews over the past 3 years and it was apparent that in a large proportion of these fatal and serious injury crashes were as a result of bad decisions by riders in their road positioning, or not recognizing road hazards by the rider. After an extensive search we could not find any information to inform riders of the dangers and too educate them as to correct road positioning. Through collaboration by Main Roads Department of W.A. and the Motorcycle Riders Association of W.A. Inc. we were able to build a series of examples of dangerous road positioning by motorcycle riders based on actual fatal motorcycle crashes investigations. With this information the Motorcycle Riders Association of W.A. Inc. produced a series of simple graphic sketches and some photographs of dangerous situation that riders can encounter on our roads. We then employed a graphic artist to put the final touches to these sketches and produce a print and on line version of the finished booklet. We kept the text to a minimum in the booklet as we wanted the riders to simply look at the examples and quickly understand the danger without an unnecessary overload of text. We believed that we as motorcycle riders understand better than most what a rider will look at and absorb. We attempted to keep this booklet relatively simple to read and understand with just a few examples of the dangers in an attempt to raise their awareness of the dangers of not being seen by other road users. This booklet was launched in November 2015 during the W.A. Motorcycle Safety Week by the Minister for Road Safety. The booklet is available on our website www.mrawa.org