

OPEN ROAD

LOOK INSIDE
1000 SHOPPING VOUCHERS TO BE WON INSTANTLY

The coast with the most

DISCOVER THE BEST-KEPT SECRETS OF THE CENTRAL COAST



ULTIMATE SNOW ADVENTURE FOR ALL THE FAMILY

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A grieving father fights for safer roads

MATCH of the SUPER HATCHES

SUZUKI SWIFT SPORT VS HYUNDAI VELOSTER



WHY YOU SHOULD TEST YOUR BATTERY BEFORE WINTER

THE HIGH PRICE OF SYDNEY'S TRAFFIC CONGESTION

NEWS

MAY/JUNE NEWS, VIEWS, EVENTS AND MORE FROM NRMA MOTORING & SERVICES

BUSINESSES STUCK IN A JAM

STORY BY CIE'JAI LEGGETT

IMAGINE STARTING WORK AT 4AM, sitting in heavy traffic for a good four hours of your 12-hour day and not arriving home until 8pm.

That's business as usual for small business owner and NRMA BusinessWise Member Danny Westwood from Frog Furniture Removals in inner-west Sydney, who often finds himself stuck in traffic on Sydney's major arterial roads.

"Traffic congestion is a nightmare and it's getting worse - making it increasingly hard for me to do business in Sydney," said Danny.

"It's costing me a lot more in wages because my staff spend longer on the road, and more in fuel. It also means my staff start earlier and finish later, to work around peak hours."

Danny's removal business is just one of 600 businesses surveyed in NRMA's annual BusinessWise Congestion survey, who are feeling the effects of doing business in Sydney. Of those surveyed almost half said they had been forced to make changes to their business because of traffic congestion.

The BusinessWise survey showed almost two-thirds changed the employees' start and finish times to avoid traffic congestion, while another third had no choice but to extended delivery times to meet deadlines.



The survey also found half spend up to \$5000 in operational costs due to congestion.

NRMA President Wendy Machin said the survey highlighted that businesses had no choice but to make changes if they were to continue working in Sydney.

"There's no doubt that the task of keeping Sydney moving is enormous, but our city needs action," said Ms Machin. "We need to remove the roadblocks and get on with the task of delivering Sydney's missing links."

Frog Furniture Removals is an NRMA BusinessWise Member based in Homebush, and offers highly skilled removalists with a touch of good old fashioned service. For more information go to www.frogremovals.com.au

SUPPORTING HEARING-IMPAIRED DRIVERS

The Deaf Society of NSW has recently launched a set of web-based, road safety videos in Australian sign language (Auslan) to give deaf and hard-of-hearing drivers throughout NSW instant online access to road safety info.

The 'Hands On Road Safety Access' videos were produced over a span of two years, with the help of a \$10,000 NRMA Safer Driving School Road Safety Grant.

NRMA Director Coral Taylor said they gave the deaf community wider access to road safety information and helped overcome the literacy challenges many deaf people face.

"Not many people are aware of the challenges deaf and hearing-impaired drivers face. The NRMA is conscious of the need to address those concerns," Ms Taylor said.

To view these videos online visit www.mynrma.com.au/grants



Director Coral Taylor (left) with video presenter Kym Daley.

DID YOU KNOW? Australia's third Prime Minister, John Christian Watson, became the first NRMA President in 1920.

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