

COWWARR CHRONICLE

Vol 7/5

September 2005.

Summary of VicRoads Traffic Analysis from 7th. June 2005 to 23rd. June 2005

Over the survey period a total of 22,613 vehicles passed through town. Of these **9,794** were over the speed limit ranging from over 60kph to over 120kph. In the 61 – 70 range there were 7860 vehicles alone. Extrapolated over an entire year, this means that close to **¼ million** vehicles exceed the speed limit in town. As Wellington Shire uses a convoluted vehicle classification system of length & weight these have been consolidated into more general classifications.

Vehicle Classes:

1. motorbikes
2. Standard Cars – light vans
3. 4WD, Utes, Cars with trailers etc.
4. 4WD with trailer/caravan heavy utes/bigger vans
- 5-6. Small Trucks – Agye delivery, stock truck, double horse float etc
- 7-9. Medium Trucks – empty log truck, stock/hay truck, tractor
- 10-12. Large Trucks – loaded log trucks, double tankers/ loaded low Loader/oversize truck.

Table 1. Numbers Under/Over Speed Limit.

Under Speed Limit	Over Speed Limit
1. 81	57
2. 11,039	8,201
3. 715	762
4. 666	465
5-6. 144	92
7-9. 91	89
10-12. 105	128

It is disturbing to note that the number of trucks over the speed limit is very close to the number on or under the speed limit. The only 2 very large trucks (class 12) recorded were over the speed limit.

Normal weekday peaks of 100-200 vehicles per hour were as per predicted, being from 7am to 11am due to school drop-offs, people going to work, mail/ general delivery etc., and 2pm to 7pm due to school pick-ups, people coming home from work etc.

Normal weekend peaks of 100 – 200 vehicles per hour were, Saturday, 9am to 7pm due to sporting events etc., and Sunday 10am to 5pm due to people visiting, out for the day etc.

Queen's Birthday Weekend Fri 10th to Mon 13th. peaks of 100 – 300 vehicles per hour.

Friday 10th. evening peaks went through to 9pm - Sat. 11 & Sun 12th. peak ran from 9am to 6pm

Mon 13th. peak ran from 10am to 6pm.

On all days during the Queen's Birthday weekend there were significantly more (80%) vehicles on the road at night and early morning. Pity this survey wasn't taken at Easter or during the Christmas holiday period! Wellington Shire was not keen to give this info to CCHA, but VicRoads passed it on – CCHA will follow up as Cowwarr should be at the front of the queue for work to make the Main Road SAFE for everyone.

Reduce Fuel Hazards NOW!

You all know how quickly a stubble burn and a wind change can turn nasty! So, homeowners, it's time to identify the build up of fuel like leaf-litter, dead shubbery and plan to have it cleared NOW!.

Your Fire Plan

It's time to update your fire plan. Who will stay and defend the property, who will leave and where will they go? What about pets; where can you take a horse at short notice? Will any of your neighbours have a special problem? What are you going to load in the car and have you got them READY?

If YOU have a plan, you'll be more likely to survive and reduce your losses.

CFA Members – Minimum Skills

The number of active Members will shrink as the deadline for minimum skills expires in December; effectively retiring a number of more senior Members. These Members will be recognised at an evening BBQ before Christmas – details to follow. IF you are not ready to retire just yet, book into the next training course.

More Volunteers Required.

The Brigade needs more people to volunteer who are likely to be about the town during work days. More Members means better sharing the call-outs; quicker turn-out and prompt attention to fire events BEFORE they get “**bigger than Ben Hur**”. Training is compulsory, as is wearing protective gear at fire events. All of which is provided in return for **YOUR** time and commitment.

Working Bee

The Brigade will be helping out at the Festival of Roses. This is a **FUNDRAISER** so if you have some time then get in touch with Andrew Iseppi.

Personal Protective Equipment

Is your gear up to scratch?

Do you need to replace gloves goggles smoke-masks etc.?

Are your trousers, jacket and boots a going concern?

If not, then get going and contact Andrew Iseppi

Christ Church News

Quotes for restumping have been received, the preferred option is to lift the church and replace the stumps as opposed to the other alternative of ripping up the floor boards – which in the long run would probably be more expensive.

The block at the back of the Church has been surveyed and the process of getting permission for subdivision is under way. The sale of the land may then go ahead and Christ Church hopes that the sale of this land will not only pay for the restumping and rewiring, but also leave some over for the roof and painting.

There is a real and sometimes desperate need for people who will assist in mowing and cleaning etc. Contact Helen on 5148 9233.

Festival of Roses at the Cowarr Public Hall on Saturday 5th. & Sunday 6th. November

We all know this Festival is on so please support it in any way you can. Entry forms are at the Shop.

The CFA is helping and the Pub will have lunch available on Saturday 5th. and Sunday 6th..

Cowarr Public Hall News.

The refurbishment of the Toilets is nearly completed. A special thanks to Stewart James for his exceptional powers of making less go a bit further and for all the Committee Members for their work over the last couple of months. Check them out during the Festival of Roses – looks just a bit OK!

The first person to spot the obvious mistake will win a CD – Call Judith on 5148 9364