



NORTHERN PASSENGER TRANSPORT NETWORK VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2016 EDITION

Rain, wind, tornadoes, hail, flooding - we've seen it all during this past week. No power, phones, internet and even hot water has certainly been a challenge. We hope everyone's living conditions have returned to normal.

Fire Danger Season

Fire danger season is fast approaching. A reminder to all volunteer drivers that on days of Catastrophic Fire Rating as deemed by the CFS the cars **will not run** (as per policy No 4.36 Transport on Fire Risk Days).

Volunteer drivers and clients will be notified at 4.30pm the day prior to transport, if transport is cancelled. The office will endeavour to rearrange the appointments on behalf of the clients. All clients will be told of the possibility of no transport on a catastrophic fire day, when booking their transport.

On extreme or severe fire rating days volunteer drivers have the right to withdraw their services to protect their own welfare.



How to adjust your car seat correctly

Adjusting the car seat correctly has multiple benefits:

- Better control over the car
- Less fatigue while driving long distances
- Better blind spot visibility
- Less risk of injury from the airbag and steering column if you have an accident

Manual adjustments: The release lever for moving the seat forwards and backwards will either be a bar at the front of the seat which you pull up, or a small handle on the right hand side of the seat. Adjusting the seat pitch (i.e. how much it leans forwards or backwards) will be a lever where the seat back joins the seat forward base.

In the image to the right the handle on the left adjusts seat pitch while the larger handle on the right adjusts seat height.



This is the bar at the front of the front seats which allows you to slide it forwards or backwards

Setting the position: Sit back in the seat and hold your arms out straight. Now rest them on the top of the steering wheel. Your wrists should touch the top of the steering wheel. This means that when you hold the wheel at quarter-to-three, i.e. your hands grasp the sides of the wheel, your arms will be slightly bent. You don't want them straight because you have less control, and you don't want them too bent otherwise you'll be too close to the wheel.

Now check your knees: when you go for the brake your knee should not hit the steering wheel. If it does, move the steering wheel higher, or if your car doesn't have that feature, move the seat back a notch or two further and then make the back of the seat more upright.

If you can adjust the height of your seat, first set it in the middle. Setting it too high reduces your visibility through the rear view mirror, while setting it too low decreases your forward visibility and increases the blind spot caused by the A pillar (the front pillar of the car).

Northern Passenger Transport Network

Manager: Lyn Forster

PO Box 169 • 3 Stuart Street
MELROSE SA 5483

Ph: (08) 8666 2255
Fax: (08) 8666 2169
E-mail: nptn@mtr.sa.gov.au

“Volunteers don't get paid because their worthless, but because they're priceless.”

VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

Orroroo - 9am
21 October

Peterborough - 10:40am
21 October

Jamestown - 1pm
21 October

Gladstone - 2:40pm
21 October

Quorn - 10.30am
24 October

Melrose - 1.00pm
24 October

Donation to NPTN

In the August Newsletter we advised everyone that we had been lucky enough to receive a \$500 donation from the Federal Hotel Social Club in Peterborough

We have since received another \$500 from the Federal Hotel Social Club making their total donation:



Thank you once again to all of the people connected with the social club.

Driving on Dirt Roads

On a dirt road, when you see an approaching truck, pullover and stop. Trucks produce mini dust storms, so wait until the cloud has passed before heading off again.

If you cannot stop, then slow down to a walking pace to reduce the risk of stone chips in the windscreen.

Do not overtake on dusty roads when you cannot see what's coming.



Well the festive season is almost upon us and this year we will be holding the annual Volunteers Christmas Lunch at Gladstone on Friday 2 December 2016 in the Anglican Church Hall, 8 Gladstone Street, Gladstone.

An invitation will be sent to all volunteer drivers and their partners along with NPTN committee members.

No car bookings will be taken for this date, so all cars will be available to help transport everyone to Gladstone. Please save this date and await further information closer to the time.

FIGURES—AUGUST

Trips:	66
Kilometres:	18,440
Hours:	404

Labour Day Public Holiday

Labour Day in Australia celebrates workers' role in contributing towards the nation's economy.

It is an important annual event that remembers those who struggled and succeeded to ensure decent and fair working conditions in Australia. During the mid to late 1800s the working day was long and arduous, where some employees would work up to 12 hours a day, six days a week.

Many Australians saw the need for better working conditions and in the 1850s there was a strong push for this. On 21 April 1856, stonemasons at the University of Melbourne marched to Parliament House to push for an eight-hour working day.

An agreement with employers for a 48-hour week was eventually reached and Australian workers welcomed the new eight-hour day. A victory march was held on May 12 that year and each year after that.



SUPPORTING BODIES

Thank you to the following Councils and Government departments for the work and assistance throughout each year. We appreciate your support.



Funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Visit the Department of Social Services website (www.dss.gov.au) for more information. Although funding for this service has been provided by the Australian Government, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views or policies of the Australian Government