Australian DRIVER TRAINERS Association

DRIVE SMART

The Member Newsletter of the Australian Driver Trainers Association



Edition 22 | June 2026

A NOTE FROM YOUR GM

WELCOME!

Charles Wurf



I'd like to start with a sincere thanks for members engaging within the ADTA community through our recent campaigns with National Road Safety Week and Fatality Free Friday. Driving instructors play a foundational role in long term driving skills. It is a great positive that we can actively promote road safety messages with our students.

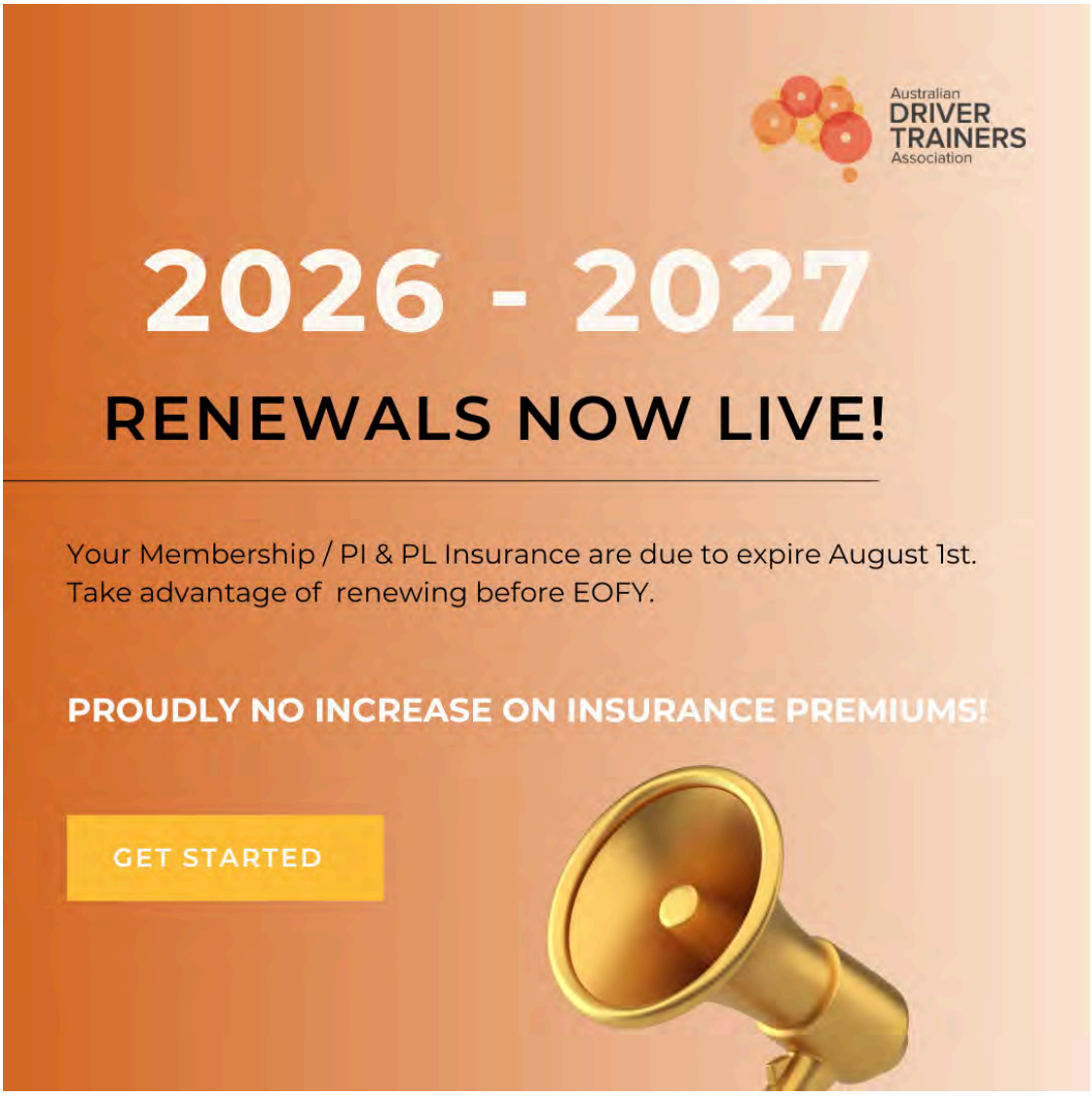
I'm also thrilled with the ongoing rollout of our structured Professional Development program. We now have a working model to integrate in person and online training and conferences to benefit members. Our second planned online seminar with Russell White is tonight, Wednesday 17 June 2026. We will now have a planned pause for the winter months, while we finalise our Conference programs for October, and schedule additional online content from September.

As you'll also see below, member renewals for 2026-2027 are now open. Please note your existing membership and insurance cover remains in effect until 31 July 2026. We have found through past practice that opening renewals early allows you to be in control of the timing of your renewal, which can be done any time from now until 31 July 2026.

In this challenging economic period, we have a terrific outcome for members with no changes to the pricing for the Public Liability and Professional Indemnity options.

Thanks for your support for ADTA, and we look forward to your continued membership.

Regards
Charles Wurf



Membership Renewals Live!

Another year has come around, and it's time for ADTA membership renewals once again. To help members who would like to renew before the end of the financial year, we have opened the renewal platform early.

If you're ready to renew, you can access your membership renewal through your online membership portal below:

🔗 **Renew Here**

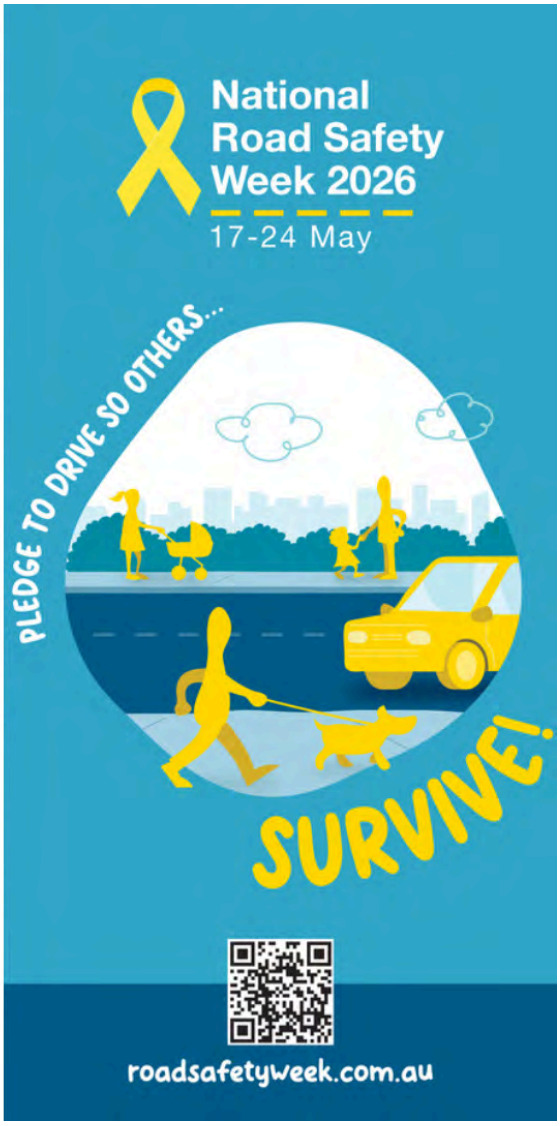
You may be required to reset your password before logging in. If so, please allow up to 10 minutes for the reset email to arrive, and be sure to check your spam or junk folder if you do not see it in your inbox.

🔗 **Reset Password Here**

Office Support
Due to current staffing limitations, phone support will be available on limited days and hours throughout the renewal period. If you require individual phone assistance, please email us with your preferred availability and we will do our best to contact you at a suitable time within our working hours.

If you are unable to reach us by phone straight away, we appreciate your patience. We are committed to ensuring all memberships and insurance policies are renewed on time, and that no member is disadvantaged during the renewal process.





That's a Wrap!

Fatality Free Friday & National Road Safety Week

That’s a wrap on Fatality Free Friday and National Road Safety Week 2026.

Throughout May, instructors, communities, workplaces, schools, and road users across Australia came together to reflect on the importance of safer roads and the role each of us plays in preventing road trauma. Both campaigns reinforced a simple yet powerful message: every life matters, and every journey deserves a safe arrival.

Together, we remembered the more than 1,300 lives lost on Australian roads each year. Behind every statistic is a person, and every loss has a lasting impact on families, friends, and communities. The reality is that road trauma is preventable.

While National Road Safety Week and Fatality Free Friday have come to an end for 2026, the commitment to making safer choices behind the wheel, on a bike, or as a pedestrian continues every day. As instructors, we also have an important role to

play in educating and coaching our students to develop safe driving habits that last a lifetime.

Thank you to everyone who participated, shared the message, and pledged to help create a future where no lives are lost on our roads.

Together, we can keep the momentum going and continue working towards safer roads for all.



ADTA Conference 2026

Bookings open soon!

We are full steam ahead with our conference plans, so save the dates as follows:

Thursday 15 October 2026: Heavy Vehicle Big Day Out

Friday 16 October 2026: ADTA National Conference 2026

Further information, including speaker announcements, venue details, and booking links, will be released in July 2026. We encourage you to keep an eye on our communications and website for updates.

We look forward to welcoming you to both events and sharing another outstanding conference experience with our members, sponsors, and industry colleagues.



NSW Review

Driving Instructors Regulation 2016

In June, the NSW Government called for feedback from driving instructors on the proposed remake of the **Driving Instructors Regulation 2016**. This a required process to review the Regulation every 10 years, and ADTA understands there is no intention to change any parts of the main legislation, the Driving Instructors Act 1992.

The Regulation is due to be remade before 1 September 2026.
The current Driving Instructors Regulation 2016 covers:

- types of driving instructor licences and relevant vehicle classes
- circumstances where a person providing driving instruction is not considered a driving instructor under the Driving Instructors Act 1992
- licence fees
- production, and improper use and care of driving instructor licences
- record keeping requirements for driving schools and instructors
- comprehensive motor vehicle insurance requirements, duplicate driving control requirements for instructor vehicles.

In calling for feedback, Transport for NSW indicated that
key proposed updates include:

- requiring the display of information about reporting instructor misconduct, and
- removing outdated provisions relating to instructor training.

ADTA provided a submission to the Review, and we will inform all members if there are any changes to the Regulation before 1 September 2026.



Men's Mental Health Week

Monday 15th - Sunday 21st June

This Men's Mental Health Week, we're reminded of the importance of checking in with the men in our lives and creating environments where it's okay to speak openly about mental health.

Many men face challenges in silence, often feeling pressure to appear strong or self-reliant. Taking the time to ask a simple question, listen without judgement, or offer support can make a meaningful difference.

Whether at home, in the workplace, or within our communities, fostering connection and encouraging honest conversations helps break down stigma and promotes better mental wellbeing for everyone.

This week, take a moment to reach out, start a conversation, and remind the people around you that support is available and that they don't have to face challenges alone.



TMR Test Booking Times Blowout

Over recent months, ADTA has put a detailed submission to Queensland Ministers and TMR to fix the unsustainable blowout in heavy vehicle test booking times in Queensland. There remains no improvement in a terrible situation since December/January.

ADTA believes the solution is to extend the testing system that currently applies to Class MC to Class HC in Queensland.

We have coordinated with the RTOs in Queensland over recent weeks in several meetings. The next step is to collate hard data from Queensland instructors recording the lengths of waiting time and limited testing spots that are available.

This is a systemic issue that TMR have proven unable to fix with their resources, and ADTA will continue to press for a new solution that involves existing accredited RTOs and instructors.



Join Our Facebook Community Group!

Exciting news we've just relaunched our ADTA Facebook Community Page!

It's a welcoming space where members can share insights, exchange experiences, ask questions, and support one another. We encourage everyone to join, get involved, and help grow our vibrant community.

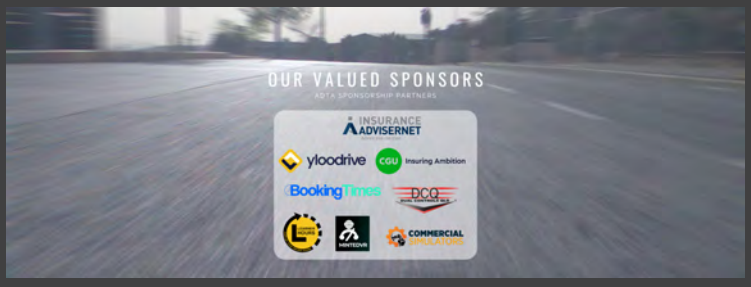
To join the group **click here.**



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Our Mission

Ensuring that those learning to drive receive the best possible tuition, by improving the methods, skills, resources, and professionalism of Driver Trainers.

Our Vision

A community that values and shares the responsibility of putting into practice every aspect of road safety.

Follow us today for more info, interesting facts and updates on our Facebook and Instagram pages!

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Acknowledgment of Country: We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live and pay our respects to Elders past, present, and emerging. We recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, and culture.