



HASTINGS COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE SERVICES  
MEDIA RELEASE

**NIGHT RIDER RETURNS!**

Thursday 2 December, 2004

The Night Rider bus, a road safety and crime prevention initiative to provide alternative transport over the holiday period, is set to commence service again this weekend.

The hourly Night Rider service will run between 12am and 4am and follow a route from the CBD to major residential areas in Port Macquarie. It will operate on Friday and Saturday nights throughout December with an additional service this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December to cater for the NSW State Touch players.

2003 was the first time the service has operated in the Hastings and it proved very popular.

“Last year we had an average of 48 people use the service each night, with the majority of the users aged between 18 and 21 years old. This is the age group most at risk for road accidents or and alcohol related incidents so its really positive that they are using the service,” said Hastings Council Road Safety Officer Karen Thompson.

All passengers surveyed in 2003 responded positively to the service and wanted it to continue in 2004.

Mid-North Coast traffic supervisor Sergeant John Carerro said that drink driving is a major contributing factor in fatal road accidents and drivers are reminded that they need to consider the alternative transport options available to them such as getting a lift with a designated driver, catch a taxi or take the Night Rider.

The Night Rider is a joint initiative between Hastings Council, Port Macquarie Police, Roads and Traffic Authority and supported by 2MC/Star FM and Busways.

**- ENDS -**

**For more information contact Karen Thompson, Road Safety Officer on phone 6581 8735, Mobile 0438 818 090.**

**Executive Services, Hastings Council**

**If you do not receive the complete message telephone ☎ (02) 6581 8111**