

# NPiS

New Plymouth  
Injury Safe

# COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

# 14, Dec 2005

New Plymouth's Injury Prevention projects are supported by ACC Thinksafe

***New Plymouth is a WHO safe community working towards being injury free***

## Celebrating Safe Communities Accreditation

New Plymouth District was designated the 95<sup>th</sup> World Health Organisation Safe Community at a ceremony at Puke Ariki on 27 October. Leaders of the partner organisations constituting NPiS signed the agreement with Dr Carolyn Coggan, Director of the Safe Communities Foundation of New Zealand, representing the World Health Organisation. The WHO flag is now proudly flying outside the civic centre.

The achievement of accreditation is a real tribute to the efforts of the many groups, agencies and workplaces who have been involved in safety initiatives in our community. It marks a new phase for us and provides an opportunity to increase action on injury prevention and safety promotion

New Plymouth is the third district in New Zealand to gain WHO accreditation as a Safe Community. During the ceremony, 95 helium-filled balloons were released to symbolise the 95 WHO Safe Communities in the world.



A review of the accreditation site visit, held on 12 and 13 September and the full community safety report can be found at the Safe Communities Foundation website: [www.safecommunities.org.nz](http://www.safecommunities.org.nz)

**The members of NPiS wish you all a  
happy and safe Christmas!**

## Annual Highlights

Gaining WHO accreditation is the undoubted highlight of 2005, a year that saw several other wonderful achievements in our community:

- The Taranaki HSE Centre, a first for New Zealand, was opened by the Prime Minister in March.
- The Thinksmart Sports Club Accreditation programme, launched in 2004 to assist licensed clubs with responsible management of alcohol enrolled 92% of clubs. The inaugural Thinksmart Club of the year trophy was awarded to Inglewood Rugby and Sports Club in May.
- Taranaki led the country at the first national Safety Awards presented in Wellington in August. Our four nominees, Kidsafe Taranaki Trust, New Plymouth Positive Ageing Trust, Centre of Applied Engineering NZ and the Fire Service were commended or highly commended.
- Councillor Barry Finch joined NPiS as the elected representative of New Plymouth District Council.

In terms of safety programme delivery, much has also been achieved. Since 1 July 2004:

- 378 older adults have enrolled in modified tai chi classes for falls prevention and 107 aged over 80 have embarked on prescribed strength and balance exercises to prevent falls.
- 569 caregivers of pre-school children and babies have participated in falls prevention education sessions and safety devices, including stair gates, have been installed in 107 lower income homes.
- Approximately 2,500 teen-agers attended performances by Mothers in Support of Safe Driving as part of the "It's All About Choice" road safety programme.
- 800 drivers travelling in and out of Taranaki participated in driver reviver stops to raise awareness of the dangers of driver fatigue.
- 425 child restraints have been checked at clinics and checkpoints and installation faults corrected.

## Further information about NPiS:

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