



AUTUMN news

WA Executive Officer's Report

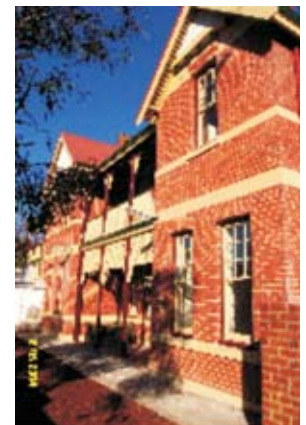
Moving house is traditionally a stressful experience. In the last six months the Kidsafe WA Resource Centre, offices and staff have moved twice: the first in December 2003 to the PMH Child Care Centre (the Child Care Centre temporarily relocated to the Megazone) so that much needed repairs could be made to Godfrey House and the second in April 2004, moving everything back again. Despite the upheaval, we are very pleased that the building has been repaired

and very grateful to the Women's and Children's Health Service for the interior spruce up before we moved back in.

Summer was a busy time for Kidsafe WA. We have attended and or presented at a number of events in WA and interstate. Kidsafe WA Centre based activity has still been high despite the temporary relocation. The Child Car Restraint Fitting and Checking Service has been fully booked, up to three weeks in advance at some times.

With all that has gone on for Kidsafe WA over the last six months, I would like to offer my thanks to my team for their dedication, support, resilience and positive outlook, without which we would not be able to keep going. Thanks are also due to the members of the Kidsafe WA Board for their support, with special thanks to the Board Chair, Philip King for his confidence in us and his staunch support - we are thinking of you.

Godfrey House



Move Back to Godfrey House

After operating from our temporary location in the Child Care Centre for the last five months, we have been able to move back to Godfrey House now that the renovation work has been completed (Location map page 4).

Demonstration House, thanks to IKEA and Tradelink (through Gerry MacBride of Reliance Worldwide) for their donation.

We hope to have our Safety Demonstration House up and running by early June with an official opening of the new Kidsafe WA Centre to coincide with National Kidsafe Day in October 2004.

All contact details remain the same and we are providing all the usual services.

We have taken the opportunity while relocating to update the Safety

Please bear with us while this transformation takes place.

Kidsafe WA Entrance



Sponsored by:



Department of Health
Government of Western Australia

Inside this issue:

Move Back to Godfrey House	1
Kidsafe WA Staff Out & About	2
World Health Day	2
Safety in Schools Week	3
18th International Conference on Health Promotion & Education	3
Autumn Safety Tips	4
Kidsafe WA Calendar of Events	4

Kidsafe WA – In the Community

Kidsafe WA has been out and about over the past six months.

The BankWest Every Home Expo was held on the 6th – 8th of February at the Fremantle Passenger Terminal with more than 1200 parents provided with safety information and advice. The event was a worthwhile opportunity to spread the Kidsafe message. A big thank you to BankWest, the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation and all the Volunteers.

Kidsafe WA, with the support Britax and SGIO have been conducting free Baby Safety Antenatal Seminars. The focus of the sessions is to discuss

BankWest Every Home Expo



considerations that should be made before purchasing Child Car Restraints, Nursery Furniture and an introduction on Safety considerations in the Home.

Kidsafe WA attended and presented at the Safety Play – Healthy Kids Forum in Albany in March. The Forum involved health professionals, local

government, childcare and community members from around the Great Southern and from Perth and looked at various aspects of injury prevention and the need to encourage physical activity in children.

Finally, Kidsafe WA in association with the Police Road Safety Section headed to the British Motor Car Show in Gingin. Kidsafe WA provided parents with Child Car Restraint safety information. The event was a good opportunity to showcase the effectiveness of the partnership between Kidsafe WA and the WA Police Service.

World Health Day

"Each year more children die from Injury than die from Cancer, Asthma & Infectious Diseases combined".

Car crashes are a leading cause of child death in Australia. While child restraints can be lifesavers, research shows that around 70% of these restraints are not being fitted or used correctly.

As part of this years World Health Day focus on Road Safety, Kidsafe WA with the support of SGIO conducted a free Child Car Restraint Checking Service at Lakeside Joondalup Shopping Centre.

Kidsafe WA staff checked the installation of child car restraints, showed parents how to use seats properly so

that children are better protected in crash situations and provided a written summary of the assessment.

Forty-five child car restraints in 36 cars were checked during the time at Joondalup. The majority of restraints checked were forward facing restraints (49%) followed by rear facing convertible restraints (38%). The majority of restraints were correctly fitted however the anchor bolt assembly, seat belt use and condition and correct use of the upper tether strap still remain issues where the fitting was incorrect. Of greater concern is the higher proportion of incorrectly used or adjusted restraint harness straps, where up to 20% were incorrectly fitted or adjusted for the child using the restraint.

Kidsafe National Round-up

Nationally, Kidsafe has undergone complete restructuring over the last twelve months. The state divisions have all become incorporated state associations, with greater independence and autonomy. A national presence and consistency is maintained through the state associations' membership of and participation in the Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Australia and its National Council.

Currently a new national portal website is being developed. The

purpose of this website is to be the focal site on the Internet for Kidsafe Australia, providing general information about Kidsafe, its aims and objectives. Access to the state association sites will be possible through this site. Phase 2 of the plan is to develop sites for the states that currently do not have an Internet presence and to modify the state based websites for consistent content and appearance.

Kidsafe NSW hosted the 3rd National Playground Conference -

Creating Future Play in Sydney, 21st - 24th March 2004. The conference brought together the many sectors involved in play spaces from play equipment manufacturers, play space designers, Standards Australia representatives, child development specialists, educators, Local Government representatives and health and injury prevention specialists from across Australia, with international speakers providing a view to current international experiences.



'Think Safety all Year Round' was the message that Kidsafe WA and other WA Injury Prevention Agencies, endeavoured to get across to young Western Australian school children during Safety in Schools Week from May 17th—21st 2004.

The theme for 2004 was 'Think Safety all Year Round' which aimed to encourage teachers and students to consider the differing safety concerns throughout the year.

The aim of Safety in Schools Week is to promote the prevention of injuries to children, develop partnerships between schools, health agencies, public health units and the community to focus on injury

prevention and to develop and promote injury prevention resources.

Safety in Schools Week 2004 was officially launched at Edgewater Primary School by the Hon Alan Carpenter, Minister for Education and Training and West Coast Eagles

footballer Glen Jakovich on Friday May 14.

The event also launched the 2004 "Safety for all Seasons" competition, proudly presented by SGIO. The competition promotes safety to school children and reinforces this year's theme of "Think Safety All year round". Competition prizes are donated by SGIO, St John Ambulance and the 2004 Safety in Schools Week coordinating agencies.

"Safety in Schools Week" is a joint initiative of Kidsafe WA, WorkSafe, Department of Consumer and Employment Protection, the Department of Education and the PMH Foundation.

Safety in Schools Week Launch



18th International Conference on Health Promotion & Education

The 18th International Conference on Health Promotion and Education was held from the 26th—30th of April 2004 at the Melbourne Convention Centre.

Kidsafe Western Australia was represented at this conference and presented two poster presentations on the Wednesday 28th April. These poster presentations were based on the Annual Safety in Schools Week and on the WA Child Injury Prevention Network.

The conference had more than 3,000 delegates from all over the world and there were some fantastic networking

opportunities and interesting presentations. There were very few presentations at the conference—both oral and poster that reflected issues around child injury prevention or safety in general.

Having Kidsafe represented at the conference assisted to raise our profile amongst professionals in Health Promotion and hopefully the next International Health Promotion conference will have Safety higher on the agenda.

Policy & Regulation News

New Regulation:

Curtain and blind cords can be a real danger to children. Children can get caught in curtain and blind cords and be strangled.

The new product and safety order regulation by the Department of Consumer and Employment Protection, Trading Standards Branch, requires that window coverings operated by exposed looped cords, bead chains and other flexible looped devices not have hazardous loops within 1500mm of the bottom of the window covering.

This may be achieved by either redesigning the method by which the window covering is raised, lowered or moved, or it may incorporate a safety device with the product to ensure that no hazardous looped cord exists. The regulation also requires information about the installation and functioning of safety devices and safety warning labels.

Current & Upcoming Reviews:

Baby bath support frames and seats are currently being reviewed by the

Department of Consumer and Employment Protection, Trading Standards Branch.

Product safety regulation depends on being able to demonstrate that a product is inherently unsafe by virtue of design or manufacture. The problem faced in the consideration of these products is not necessarily their design or manufacturer but that they enable an undesirable behaviour and may even give parents the false notion that they are a safety device.

Kidsafe WA Calendar of Events

May 2004

- 15th—16th May—British Motor Car Show
- 17th—21st May— Safety in Schools Week

June 2004

- SGIO & Kidsafe WA Driveway Run-overs Awareness Launch
- SGIO & Kidsafe WA Child Car

Restraint Awareness

- Safety 04, Vienna Austria

July 2004

August 2004

- 20th—22nd August Parent, Baby & Children's Expo

September 2004

- Injury Prevention Conference, Mackay Queensland

October 2004

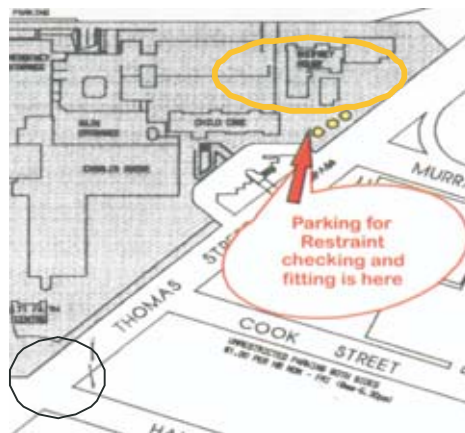
- 11th October Kidsafe WA Fundraising Golf Day
- National Kidsafe Day (*Date to be Confirmed*)
- 23rd—31st October Children's Week
- Child Injury Prevention Network Forum (*Date to be Confirmed*)

November 2004

- 2004 Road Safety Research Policing and Education Conference

December 2004

- Members & Supporters Christmas Party



Kidsafe WA is located in Godfrey House—circled in yellow. Please bear with us as we settle in.

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Autumn Safety Tips

Autumn is a good time to be planning for the winter:

Fire Alarms



Check & replace all batteries in your smoke alarms around the home.



If you do not have smoke alarms installed - install them in your home.

For further information contact "FESA"

Heater Guards

Many Children are burnt on heaters and open fires. Guards will prevent contact with hot surfaces & flames.



Install guards around all open fires, gas wall furnaces, electric radiators, fan heaters, pot-bellied & combustion stoves.



Ensure that guards are securely attached to the wall.



Guards should be a minimum of 700mm high.

To find out more information about what type of guard will suit you contact Kidsafe WA or:

*Barbeques Galore (Cannington)
(08) 9451 5015

Or Visit www.barbequesgalore.com.au

*Petticoat Lane (Subiaco)
(08) 9381 4976

child safety is no accident