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Otago Daily Times - Sunday, October 27, 2013

DRINK-DRIVE CAMPAIGN

Country drivers still need attitude change: police

RURAL communities still need to address the issue of drink-driving, with the law being a constant reminder that it is not a socially acceptable activity.

Police think police about they are not doing enough to deter drivers from drinking alcohol in the rural communities of the South Island.

Active Measures district rural police officers, including Sgt Steve and Sgt David, said that the rural police force is not doing enough to deter drivers from drinking alcohol in the rural communities of the South Island.

"In any rural area there can be a problem with people drinking in isolated areas and then making a bad decision," he said.

The police officers said that while many rural police officers understand and look out for the rural drink-driving issue, there is still a long way to go in terms of rural police officers being able to deter drivers from drinking alcohol in the rural communities of the South Island.

"It is not for any drink-driving issue but because of the behaviour and choices that rural drivers make when they are drinking," he said.

The number of people on the road is not the issue, it is the attitude of people on the road that is the problem. In July 2012, 1000 drivers were stopped for drink-driving offences, with 1000 of those drivers being stopped for drink-driving offences.

"I think drink-driving is a social issue, it is not a legal issue," he said.

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Rural policing team is on a road near you

The Alexandra-based rural drink-drive team, which travels across the Otago region, will be out in force this long weekend, carrying out checks on drivers and their vehicles and assisting local police. Backhills reporter Helena de Haan joined the four-man police unit in Dunstan last weekend to see how the team operates.



John checking... Corvallis Police Constable, of the Alexandra-based rural drink-drive team, operates as a check-up on Sowers St, Dunstan, last weekend.

The vehicle was made out of the way of the road and the team was able to check the driver's licence and the vehicle's registration. The team was also able to check the driver's eyesight and the vehicle's brakes.

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LEGAL LIMITS

Legal limits for drink-driving are 50mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood, 250mg in 100ml of urine, and 0.05g of alcohol in 100ml of breath.

AVOIDING PROBLEMS

Police officers advise drivers to avoid drinking alcohol before driving. If a driver is drinking alcohol, they should not drive. If a driver is driving, they should not drink alcohol.

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Pursuit shows alcohol abuse just a part of road safety issues

A POLICE pursuit early on Saturday morning in Dunstan showed that drink-driving is just one of the many road safety issues that police are dealing with.

The pursuit was between a silver hatchback and a black sedan. The silver hatchback was driving at 100km/h when the black sedan pulled out in front of it. The silver hatchback then tried to overtake the black sedan, but the black sedan refused to move over. The silver hatchback then tried to pass the black sedan, but the black sedan refused to move over. The silver hatchback then tried to pass the black sedan, but the black sedan refused to move over.

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