

Friday, 2 March, 2012

## **OPERATION HALO FINAL RESULTS: 6000 INFRINGEMENTS**

In what can only be described as a pursuit of a different kind, Victoria Police Bike Squad members successfully chased down a vehicle with no number plates which ran three lights in North Melbourne this week as part of Operation Halo.

Bike Squad members spotted the black Ford Falcon travelling north on Elizabeth Street, near Therry Street, just before 3pm on Wednesday.

When the car failed to pull over after directed by police, the bike patrol members clicked it up a gear and pursued the vehicle along Elizabeth Street. Police observed the vehicle travel through three red lights and on the wrong side of the road.

The Bike Patrol officers lost site of the vehicle at the intersection of Peel Street, but later relocated and managed to intercept the vehicle at Flemington Road and Harker Street.

It was also found that the man had stolen goods in the vehicle.

The driver, a 38-year-old Thornbury man, was arrested by police and has been charged with drive in manner dangerous, evade police, resist arrest and handle stolen goods. His vehicle has been impounded under hoon laws.

As part of Operation Halo, which ran throughout February, police detected 6365 offences which could have contributed to pedestrian, cyclist and motorcycle road trauma.

The operation saw about 100 police a day working across the Melbourne, Port Phillip, Yarra, Boroondara and Stonnington Police Service Areas (PSAs) in peak commuter times at high-collision locations.

As part of the operation, police detected:

### **607 pedestrian offences**

- 555 disobey traffic light or sign

### **613 bicycle offences**

- 351 fail to wear helmet
- 40 ride on footpath
- 184 disobey traffic lights or signs

### **429 motorcycle offences**

- 165 ride in bicycle lane
- 31 disobey traffic lights or signs
- 15 fail to give signal

### **4716 car/truck offences**

- 650 disobey traffic lights or signs
- 1509 use mobile phone
- 61 drive in bicycle lane

# MEDIA RELEASE

Intelligent, Confident, Community & Partnership Policing



- 21 diverge when unsafe
- 26 fail to give way

Operation coordinator Senior Sergeant Dale Johnstone said police would now evaluate the impact of the operation by looking at road trauma in inner Melbourne throughout February.

“Operation Halo is the first operation ran by Victoria Police to this large scale targeting road trauma involving our vulnerable road users such as cyclists, motorcycle riders and pedestrians,” Sen Sgt Johnstone said.

“That didn’t mean that we are targeting these road users – what our police were targeting were the factors behind road trauma involving vulnerable road users.

“For example pedestrians crossing against a red light, cyclists not wearing a helmet, motorcycle riders travelling in bicycle lanes and cars and trucks driving while using a mobile phone.

“Overall, most road users were doing the right thing, but the fact that we issued more than 6000 infringements shows that there is still a large number of people putting themselves and other at risk.

“Of particular concern was the fact we caught more than 350 cyclists not wearing a helmet – despite the fact 50 per cent of cyclists killed last year were not wearing a helmet.

“Similarly we detected over 600 pedestrian offences. We had a 26 per cent rise in pedestrian fatalities in 2011 and that the majority of those killed were at fault in the collision.

“We are hoping this operation helped to raise awareness of these issues.”

Sen Sgt Johnstone said that one third of those killed on Victorian roads last year were vulnerable road users, including pedestrians (49), cyclists (8) and motorcycle riders and passengers (49).

The operation, involved police from State Highway Patrol, Operations Response Unit, Bicycle Patrol Unit and local uniform members.

Anna Erbrederis  
Victoria Police Media Unit  
VP17503/2012

## Additional information – results by Police Service Area

PSA	Pedestrian Offences
Boroondara	66
Melbourne	260
Port Phillip	85
Stonnington	29
Yarra	4
Operation Support Department – all	163

VICTORIA POLICE MEDIA UNIT 637 FLINDERS STREET MELBOURNE 3005

Ph: 03 9247 5205 Fax: 03 9247 5210 [www.police.vic.gov.au](http://www.police.vic.gov.au)

# MEDIA RELEASE

Intelligent, Confident, Community & Partnership Policing



areas	
<b>Total</b>	<b>607</b>

<b>PSA</b>	<b>Bicycle Offences</b>
Boroondara	13
Melbourne	121
Port Phillip	107
Stonnington	36
Yarra	27
Operation Support Department – all areas	309
<b>Total</b>	<b>613</b>

<b>PSA</b>	<b>Motorcycle Offences</b>
Boroondara	8
Melbourne	31
Port Phillip	9
Stonnington	17
Yarra	6
Operation Support Department – all areas	358
<b>Total</b>	<b>429</b>

## Road toll statistics:

<http://www.tac.vic.gov.au/jsp/statistics/roadtollcurrent.do?areaID=25&tierID=2&navID=8&globalNavID=66A76E077F000001013C750C0ECECCC8&secondaryNavID=8>