

ABOUT RoadPeace

RoadPeace is UK's charity dedicated to supporting people bereaved and injured as the result of a road crash. It offers them vital help and advice through the only helpline for road victims - open 7 days - and literature written from the victims' perspective. Long-term support and friendship are offered through local groups, annual events and common acts of remembrance.

RoadPeace continuously monitors and researches the position of road crash victims. The information gathered is used to educate and inform the public and all relevant agencies and Government departments, in order to improve the present treatment of those victims.

RoadPeace also works for road danger reduction to ensure the causes of road crashes are reduced to a minimum, and supports road victims in their expectation that lessons must be learnt from their tragedies.

RoadPeace is a member of the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims, an umbrella organisation of some 35 international organisations, many of which have followed RoadPeace in adopting the third Sunday of November as a universal Day of Remembrance, and cooperates with the World Health Organisation as UK's road victim advocacy organisation.

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WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS

3rd Sunday of November



RoadPeace

dedicated to supporting road crash victims



REMEMBER ME

*The third Sunday of
November is the day on
which people throughout
the world remember the
many millions killed and
injured in road crashes*

Member of the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR), with UN consultative status
Registered charity No 1087192, a charitable company limited by guarantee,
registered in England and Wales, No 4165519
Registered office: Unit 53, Designworks, Park Parade, London NW10 4HT

Worldwide, over 3,000 people are killed and 30,000 injured every day. The price in terms of human loss, grief and care is immeasurable.

REMEMBERING ROAD VICTIMS

Road deaths and injuries shatter lives'

The impact of such a traumatic event is long-term, often forever, and the scale of the problem means that each year many thousands of people who have suffered bereavement or injury through a road crash that year, are added to the existing huge group of people already affected.

Yet this needless loss of life and suffering does not receive proper attention or acknowledgement. Many of those killed and injured on the road are young, which is why the sense of loss and waste is all the greater.

The Day of Remembrance responds to the great need of road crash victims for public recognition, which is so readily given to victims of other types of disaster. It also acknowledges the work of all those involved in the aftermath of a crash – fire, police and ambulance personnel, doctors, nurses and counsellors.

Initiated by RoadPeace in 1993, this day, known for several years as European Day of Remembrance, is now being observed annually by an increasing number of people in an increasing number of countries and continents.

In the UK, RoadPeace continues to promote this day, encouraging churches and places of worship of all denominations and faiths, and schools and community groups, to remember the victims of this global disaster. Many cathedrals and churches have already made a special road victim service an annual event, as part of their pastoral care, and there has been growing support from local and national politicians and agencies.

In other countries, on this international Remembrance Day, both religious and secular events take place in memory of road crash victims and church leaders, notably the Pope, remember them in their prayers.

WAYS OF REMEMBERING

In religious gatherings of all kinds, the reading out of names of those killed and injured, the lighting of candles and offering of flowers or acorns as signs of hope, help the bereaved and injured to find expression for their sorrow and give them the courage to go forward. These meetings and ritual acts bring people together and make them appreciate that they are not alone.

As well as observing this special day with acts of remembrance and reflection in churches and other places of worship, many varied events may take place, such as the march through the City of Bath to an open-air gathering, the Critical Mass of cyclists through London to the sites where someone was killed, or a Remembrance Concert with many bands in Johannesburg, in years past. Schools may hold special assemblies, minutes of silence, or allow pupils to express their thoughts or feelings in essays and various art forms.

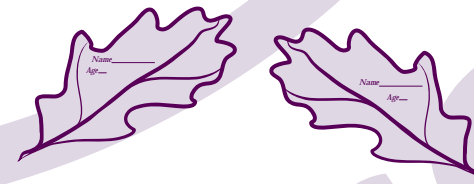
RAISING AWARENESS

The Day has had increasing media coverage on radio, television and in the press, which has helped to raise public awareness of the enormous scale of the disaster and the despair of road crash victims.

From April 2004, when the World Health Organisation published the World Report on Road Injury Prevention and the United Nations discussed 'the global road safety crisis' in a General Assembly in New York, this day will have even greater significance and international importance.

HOW RoadPeace CAN HELP

People are encouraged to create acts of remembrance in their own way, but a booklet of PRAYERS AND THOUGHTS published by RoadPeace is available with suggested material. Some of the prayers included in it have been specially written for RoadPeace. In addition, we can provide examples of complete services, paper Oak leaves on which to inscribe the names, posters and leaflets.



Names on these leaves are read out at services

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Please join and contribute to highlighting this World Day of Remembrance, to bring recognition and solace to many people and a change of attitude towards danger on the roads.