



☞ CITIZEN OF NOVEMBER ☞

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**November – Vote Now for your Fave Mo**

Congratulations to our Gentlemen of Benedict. Their efforts raised \$3 602, placing them as a team in 727<sup>th</sup> Nationally (out of 128 554 global registrations).

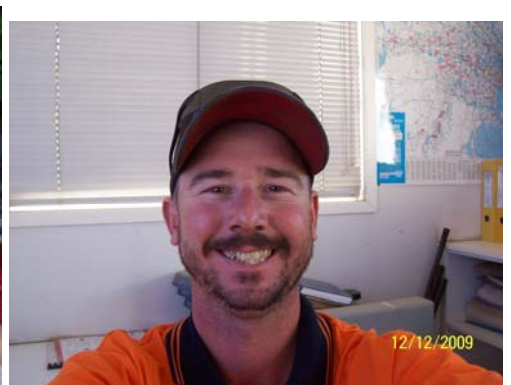
But who's our winner, check out their efforts below and vote at your site by 16/12/09. The Winner is to be announced at the End of Year Celebration next Saturday!



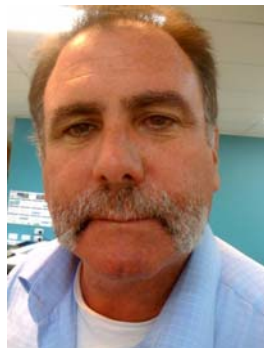
Brett Jarvis



Bruce Smith



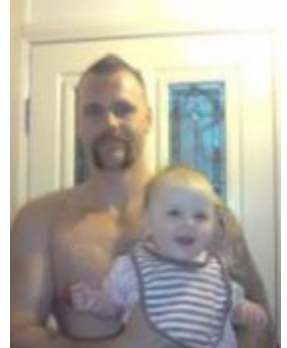
Damon Pointing



Ern 'our fearless leader' Dupere



Bob Lyon Mick Williams Dave Connor



Luke Miller



Paul Thomson

# Quality News

## Floyde Gilbert

I would like to thank everyone for putting in a great effort this year in regards to the quality of our product going out the gate. It is satisfying to see as we go forward to see Benedict getting closer to have all the boxes ticked to gain accreditation through ISO if we choose to go down that path. Thanks again for all your hard work and making my job that much easier.

## Editors Note

A big thank you to everyone involved in making the BeneBulletin the regular occurrence it is.

Brett Jarvis  
Darin Anderson  
David Connor  
David White  
Deborah Martins  
Floyde Gilbert  
Hunter Mayer  
Josie Sheen  
Mick Williams  
Nicole Pearce  
Paul Thompson  
And the most recent addition Brett Carlton

To the readers, your ongoing feedback is much appreciated as it shows these people that you do actually read it!

Thank you too to those Managers who have included their own snippets. This is **our** newsletter so if you'd like to make a suggestion for the Bulletins in the coming year please email [elke@benedict.com.au](mailto:elke@benedict.com.au) your ideas.

Happy Holidays!

# Safety News

## Nicole Pearce

### SAFETY IN YOUR CAR

There has been a dramatic increase in road accidents and deaths this year compared to last year. Particularly during holiday periods, with increased numbers of travellers on the roads, please be aware of not only your own driving and conditions but of others on the road. The RTA has some statistics as well as recommendations for travel safety.

#### Speeding - The size of the problem

In NSW speeding is a factor in about 40 per cent of road deaths. This means around 200 people die each year from speeding in NSW. Speeding was a factor in the deaths of 1049 people over the five years 2002–2006. In addition to those killed, more than 4700 people are injured in speed-related crashes each year. The cost of speeding is not only a human one. Speed-related crashes cost the community around \$780 million each year.

#### Stop Revive Survive

Do you know you're four times more likely to have a fatal fatigue crash if you're driving between 10pm and dawn? That's because your body's circadian rhythms are programming you to sleep.

Driving while sleep deprived, especially late at night and at dawn, increases the risk of having a 'micro sleep' and losing control of your vehicle.

If you fall into a micro sleep and nod off at 100 km/h, you'll travel 100 metres in just four seconds, unconscious.

Don't ignore the early warning signs of fatigue: Yawning, Poor concentration, tired eyes, Restlessness, Drowsiness, Slow reactions, Boredom, Oversteering

#### Mobile phones and driving

**It is illegal to drive or ride a vehicle while using a hand-held mobile phone. The penalty is a significant fine and three demerit points.**

This means that talking, sending or receiving text messages, playing games or taking photos are illegal when using a hand-held phone. It is also illegal to perform these activities when your vehicle is stopped but not parked, for example when you are waiting at traffic lights.

A hands-free device can reduce the physical effort to make and receive calls but it doesn't necessarily make it safe to use a phone while driving. It is illegal to use a hands-free phone while driving if it causes you to lose proper control of your vehicle. The penalty is a significant fine and demerit points.

#### If you must talk on a hands-free phone while driving:

Make sure it is a hands-free phone that is set up and working before you start driving.

Keep the conversation short. Don't engage in complex or emotional conversations.

Tell the person on the other end that you are driving and may have to end the call.

Never text message (SMS) while driving.

End the call if it is distracting you from driving.

**Remember, if you don't have proper control of your vehicle because you are talking on a hands-free mobile phone you are guilty of an offence.**

#### Alcohol and drugs

There's a belief - particularly among young men - that driving drunk is unacceptable, but having a few drinks and driving is OK.

Alcohol is a drug which affects your skills, mood and behaviour. Just a few drinks increases your Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) and as your BAC increases, so does your risk of being involved in a crash:

0.05 - double the risk

0.08 - 7 times the risk

0.15 - 25 times the risk

Other drugs also impair your driving and mixing one drug with another, or mixing alcohol with other drugs, dramatically increases your risk of crashing if you're stupid enough to try driving.

The RTA's drink driving campaign, 'Brain', shows the affect just a few beers can have on your brain's ability to respond to emergencies.

#### Seatbelts laws in NSW

The driver of a car is responsible for ensuring that where restraints are available, children who are passengers use them at all times.

Except when no seatbelt is fitted to a vehicle (only very old cars), all occupants 16 years and older must wear seatbelt.

Babies under 12 months must be in an approved child restraint.

Children between 1 and 15 years must wear a child restraint or a seatbelt if one is available. There is nothing as good as an approved child safety seat for children weighing between about 9kg and about 18kg. Children should continue to use one for as long as possible.

If no restraint is available, children under 16 must travel on the back seat.

## Benedict Haulage News

Here we are with some good news about Benedict Haulage, We have undertaken our introduction into the Mass Management program which will enable our rigid fleet and trailers to increase the allowable pay load. After completing our Fatigue Management Scheme entry we have passed our RTA audits with flying colours thanks to our drivers completing all necessary requirements and training.

We are currently expanding the versatility of our fleet with 2 new vehicles arriving early January 2010 and a third soon after, one of the new vehicles is a 10 wheel configuration allowing 20 tonne pay load this vehicle has already turned heads and created some interest in our fleet and will be on display at the Gilbert & Roach (Kenworth) xmas party Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December. Look forward to some photos next issue.

Big thanks to all our drivers and sub-contractors in moving forward in 2009, yet do not forget your docket book procedures.

From all the staff at Benedict Haulage we would like to thank everybody involved at BS&G for their continued support and co-operation this last year in helping us succeed.

## Up and Coming Projects

### Sales Spot

Hello everyone out there just a quick word to thank everyone for their hard work throughout the year!

Our collective efforts are obviously making a huge difference by not only putting us in a very strong position coming into the new year and also allowing BENEDICT recently picking up the award for “**Excellence in Customer Service**” at the Landscape Contractors Awards night.

The first half of this financial year is almost over and with the Christmas break sneaking up on us I thought it was a good time to offer our sincere thanks to our hard working Sales, Office & Quarry Staff and a big thanks to the team at Aymshen. The start of this year has not been without challenges and although we were off to a slow start we have managed to keep the jobs coming in, wheels turning and product flowing in an extremely competitive market.

The outlook for next year is promising with tenders submitted for a number of key projects and a continuous stream of customer enquiries and requests for quotations being processed each week, we must be doing something right! Or maybe we are just pricing too cheap oops!

So on behalf of the BENEDICT sales team **THANK YOU** again and if we don't have the chance to catch up in person before the end of the year, please take it easy, stay safe and have a merry Christmas and a Happy NEW YEAR!

### Ops is On the Go

Breaking away from the usual BS, who would have thought 2009 would have panned out the way it has.

Big thanks must go out to each & every one of you for the way you have all adapted to the turbulent Year. One day we are flat out & the next day we are scratching for things to do & missing out on O/T. This is not a criticism of our sales team rather the way we have had to adapt to the changing market.

Having said that in the worst financial crisis of all time we are lucky to still all have employment & work for such a great company moving into 2010.

Thank you all  
Merry Xmas Happy New Year!

See you all next year

## Who's New & Who's Who?

### Welcome to:

- Natalie Peterson – HO Admin Assistant
- Melanie Dunn – BEL Weighbridge Clek
- Erica Costs – RYD Plant Operator

### Random Who's

#### Who:

- Jan Olson – HO Admin Assistant
- David White – HO Resource & Development Manager
- Mark Arnold – APP Production Manager
- Brane Milenkovich – CN Fitter

## Family News

### CONGRATULATIONS

Steve Brown and wife Leisha brought he gorgeous little Matilda into the world late November.

Brett and Danielle Carlton are expecting their third child

