



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

---

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

---

**28 MARCH 2018**

### **DRIVE SMART ON NSW ROADS THIS EASTER HOLIDAY WEEKEND**

As people across NSW plan their upcoming Easter holiday weekend, Member for Albury, Greg Aplin, is urging motorists to take extra care on the road.

“Whether you’re heading to the rivers and lakes, going camping, having a barbecue with mates or catching up with family this Easter, if you’re out on the roads, please make sure safety is your absolute priority,” Mr Aplin said.

“During holiday periods, we see increased traffic volumes, people driving in unfamiliar environments, as well as motorists speeding, driving tired or under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

“During the past five Easter holiday periods in the Albury electorate, there have been 24 recorded casualties on our roads. This is 24 too many.”

Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, Melinda Pavey, said a continuing concern is that most crashes, including during the Easter period, happen on country roads.

“In the past five Easter periods, 69 per cent of fatalities and 52 per cent of serious injuries resulted from crashes on country roads. Last Easter, over two thirds of drivers involved in country crashes were locals, not city folk,” Mrs Pavey said.

“That is why the NSW Government recently launched the Saving Lives on Country Roads campaign across regional NSW, to show how everyday driving decisions can result in serious consequences.

“Road safety is a shared responsibility so when you’re on the road, think about how your actions can affect the safety of your family, friends and those around you.”

Minister for Police and Emergency Services Troy Grant said that the NSW Police will be cracking down on dangerous road behaviours by issuing fines and double demerit points in a state-wide enforcement operation called Operation Tortoise.

“Operation Tortoise is funded by the NSW Community Road Safety Fund to help save lives and prevent injuries through high police visibility,” Mr Grant said.

“Double demerits will apply from Thursday 29 March to Monday 2 April 2018 inclusive.

“Thursday 29 March is a school day, so extra demerit points will be issued on top of double demerits for some offences committed in school zones.”

**Contact: Greg Aplin 6021 3042 or 0428 600 343**