

RoadPeace, the national charity for road traffic victims

Press Release

12 October 2003

World Day of Remembrance and Hope for Road Traffic Victims

On 16 November 2003 – the third Sunday in November

'Remember Me' **10th Anniversary of Special Day to Remember Road Victims**

Commemorated for the first time as World Day of Remembrance and Hope this November, this special day was initiated by RoadPeace and observed for the past 10 years in Britain and Europe as the day on which all those killed and injured in road crashes are remembered, together with their families and all others affected or involved in the aftermath.

Acts of remembrance and special services in places of worship will be held throughout the UK, in many other European countries and continents. Schools have been asked to remember road victims during lessons or assemblies in the week leading up to Remembrance Day and to highlight the risks from road danger.

Road death and injury a Global Disaster

Road crashes are *the* leading cause of violent deaths and injuries worldwide and World Day of Remembrance is drawing attention to the scale – 1.2 million killed and 30 million injured annually at present, and these figures are predicted to grow.

Need to remember

Road death and injury are not treated as seriously as other disasters, nor are road victims treated with the same respect and compassion as other victims of violence.

RoadPeace will remind victims on Remembrance Day of the other opportunities for public recognition and paying tributes to loved ones, offered to them by RoadPeace:

- * **The internet memorial site**, which was launched on Remembrance Day last year
- * **Tree planting in the RoadPeace Wood**, part of the National Memorial Arboretum
- * **The 'Remember Me' roadside memorial plaque**, which was launched on 31 August and will be publicised further and the campaign extended on 16 November.

Brigitte Chaudhry, National Secretary, said:

"We welcome the growing support for this Road Victim Remembrance Day, which has an important role to play in highlighting personal and communal impact and loss. The RoadPeace Wood, Internet Memorial Site and the 'Remember Me' Roadside memorial campaign offer an additional opportunity for commemoration in a personal and individual way.

The red flower on the 'Remember Me' sign symbolises love and loss, a fitting symbol for the lives lost on the road - prematurely, suddenly and violently."

Contd. - pto

Contacts: **RoadPeace office** 020 8838 5102 **Zoe Stow** 01491 642 857
 Brigitte Chaudhry 020 8964 1800 **Rita Taylor** 01963 359 044

Notes to Editors:

* A list of special remembrance services in the UK, is below and on the RoadPeace website www.roadpeace.org

* The London Service at St James', Piccadilly, will besides victims, be attended by many local dignitaries and representatives of emergency services.

Services in the UK:

Aberdeen, North Church of St Andrew, Queen St, 3pm, Contact Rev. Graeme Muckart, Tel 01224 646429/643567

Ashburton, Devon, St Andrew's Church, 3pm, Contact: Ken Williams Tel 01837 531111

Bolton, Lancs, St Peter's Church, Belmont, 3pm, Contact: Revd David Jones Tel 01204 811221

Castle Cary, All Saints Church (A 'Churches Together' Service), 5pm, Contact: Rita Taylor Tel 01963 359044

Derby Cathedral, 3.00pm, Contact: Canon Nicholas Henshaw Tel 01332 341201

Dymchurch, Kent, St Peter & St Paul's Church, 5.30pm, Contact: Revd Roger Ellis Tel 01303 872150

Eastbourne, Christchurch, 3pm, Contact: Deena Spencer Tel 01323 849453

Gloucester Cathedral, on **Saturday 1st November**, 4.30pm, Contact: Revd Bury Tel 0145 2524167

Grantham, Lincoln, St Wulfrum's Church, 3pm, Speaker-Bishop of Grantham, Contact: Alison Tel 01522 520984 or Greville Burgess Tel 01522 805804

Guildford, Holy Trinity Church, 6.30pm Contact: Revd Cotton/Parish Secretary Tel 01483 567716

Hereford Cathedral, 3.30pm, Preacher Archbishop of Cardiff, the Most Revd Peter Smith. Contact: Jackie Boys Tel 01432 373311

Kidderminster St Ambrose R.C. Church, Birmingham Rd, 6.30pm, Contact: Rosemary Dalley Tel 01299 266059

Leeds Parish Church (St Peter's), 3pm, Contact: Carole Whittingham Tel 01484 384702

Liverpool Parish Church of Our Lady and St Nicholas, Old Church Yard, 3pm Contact: Pauline Fielding Tel 0151-3426381 or Revd David Emmott Tel 0151 2365287

London St James's Church, Piccadilly, 2.30pm Contact RoadPeace Office Tel 020 8838 5102

Manchester Cross Street Unitarian Chapel, 2.30pm, Contact Sandra Dutson Tel 0161 7073546

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Brunswick Methodist Church, 10.45am, Contact: Revd Hurst Tel 0191 285 3041

Norwich Cathedral, 3.30pm, Contact: Alison Howard Tel 01603 881385/Simon Wilson Tel 01603 483790

Ripon Cathedral, 3pm, Contact Revd. Methuen Tel 01765 603615

Skelmersdale, Lancs. St Paul's Church, 11am, Contact: Margaret Highton Tel 01695 727804

Sheffield Upper Chapel, Unitarian Church, co-hosted by Sheffield Interfaith and Churches Together, 6.30pm, Contact: Revd. Geoff Usher Tel 0114 2767114

Slough Kingsway United Reformed Church, 6.30pm, Contact: Revd Philip Gray Tel 01753 823822

Swindon St Augustine's Church, Rodbourne, 3pm, Preacher: Rt Revd Mike Hill, Bishop of Wiltshire. Contact: Revd Tony Attwood Tel: 01793 491454

Winchester Cathedral, 3.30pm, Contact: Canon Charles Stewart Tel 01962 857211