



## The London Borough of Bromley, 2009 winners of 'Laurie Bunn Road Safety Award'

### Background

The London Accident Prevention Council (LAPC) was first established in 1916. It is the only forum in London where elected members and road safety professional's work together to develop plans and proposals to raise awareness of road safety issues.

Laurie Bunn was a member of Barking and Dagenham Council for many years and as a result of that became actively involved in the LAPC. He was a Vice President and had held the positions of both Chair of Council and Chair of Executive Committee. Laurie was always there to offer help, support and encouragement. Often, Laurie would make a point of talking one to one with a Road Safety Officer at events and congratulate them on what they had done. He always seemed to know exactly what was going on and which borough was doing what. Sadly Laurie died in February 2003 and is much missed today.

The Laurie Bunn award was initiated in 2003 as a way of marking the outstanding contribution he made to LAPC and road safety in London, and a way of continuing his distinctive style of saying 'well done'. The awards are presented to the winners during the LAPC Annual General Meeting in July.

### Laurie Bunn Award 2009



**Val Fuller, Road Safety Education Officer LB of Bromley with Nick Ross, President of LAPC**

The Laurie Bunn award for Outstanding Road Safety Achievement in London was presented to the London Borough of Bromley for their innovative work in developing a Borough wide Child Car Seat Project.

The Award was presented by TV presenter Nick Ross, LAPC President at the AGM on Wednesday 22nd July 2009 at the Bridewell Hall, St Bride Foundation, Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 8EQ.

Road Safety Education Officers Val Fuller and Peter Knowles commenced work on the project in 2007. They began by carrying out 'mystery shopper' surveys at stores selling Child Car Seats. Some retailers were not giving the correct advice, putting children at risk. Val and Peter soon developed an innovative training programme where retailers are trained to give specialist advice about child car seat fitting.

The programme includes an accreditation scheme with three distinct levels:- **Bronze:** those trained are able to give basic advice including weight groups, air bags, ISOFIX etc. **Silver:** staff are qualified to fit all seats the store sells, looking at 'buckle crunch', impact checks etc. and **Gold:** individuals are qualified to train colleagues to Bronze and Silver levels.

All stores in Bromley have been accredited, with 36 attaining Bronze level, 17 attaining Silver and 2 are working towards Gold.

Repeating the 'mystery shopper' method has shown an improvement in understanding by retailers.

Bromley is now working with the British Standards Institute to produce a Publicly Available Specification on the fitment of car seats.

The car seat education team have recently been featured on Channel 5 News demonstrating the correct fitment of child car seats.

'Which' magazine says, 'To improve the chance of all children in crashes, we would like to see schemes like Bromley's rolled out across the country'.

The Department for Transport asked Bromley Road Safety Education Officers to assist in the making of their recent advert showing the correct fitting of car seats.

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For further information on the London Borough of Bromley's In Car Safety Project contact Deputy Manager [Elaine.Beadle@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Elaine.Beadle@bromley.gov.uk)

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