WATCH OUT FOR MOTORCYCLISTS HEADING TO THE GHOST TOWN RALLY

John Williams, Member for Murray-Darling is reminding motorists to look out for motorcyclists heading to the annual Ghost Town Motorcycle Rally in Broken Hill with increased traffic expected this weekend.

“With around 600 visitors attending the event many more motorcyclists are expected in the area for the rally,” Mr Williams said.

“It is important to be aware of motorcycles on the road by checking blind spots at intersections when changing lanes and expecting to see more motorcyclists in the traffic mix.”

Mr Williams said RTA statistics show 32 motorcycle related casualty crashes occurred on Broken Hill roads in the five year period 2006 to 2010, with 36 people injured.

“Drivers involved in crashes with motorcyclists often report they looked for but did not see a rider,” Mr Williams said.

“This can be due to the size of motorcycles and how they appear to drivers in the traffic.

“Motorcyclists are encouraged to set realistic targets, plan their breaks in their journey and keep to the speed limit.

“Riding a motorcycle is far more physically and mentally demanding than driving a car particularly on long trips.

“Exposure to the elements such as sun and wind can be devastating to a rider. By keeping hydrated, eating light snacks frequently, rather than heavy meals and making regular stops to walk around and stretch at least every hour and a half can be very beneficial.”

The rally, organised by members of the Broken Hill Branch of the Ulysses Club, will run from 9 to 11 September in Copi Hollow.