

Radha rises to challenge



AUSSIE star Radha Mitchell, who lands in Melbourne today to promote her new flick, *The Waiting City*, admits filming was anything but glamorous, with the entire shoot in Kolkata. "It is one of the more challenging places," she said.

Mum and dad's education the key

Smart parents have nicer kids

WELL-educated parents tend to have better-behaved children, an Australian study reveals.

Children with less-educated parents are more likely to suffer from behavioural difficulties such as hyperactivity and social interaction problems, and are as vulnerable now as they were a generation ago.

The study compared children's early developmental outcomes and parents' socio-economic status in the 1980s with now.

"What we find is that, in a nutshell, children's outcomes have strong relationships to parents' socio-economic status in both periods," said Gerry Redmond from the University of NSW's Social Policy Research Centre.

"In other words, things haven't got more equal since the 1980s."

There is even some evidence a parent's education has become an even stronger influence on their children's development.

Lucie van den Berg

It appears that the more educated the parents, the fewer behaviour problems children will have as they grow up.

Temperament also appears to have a strong influence on children's development difficulties.

Researchers discovered a trend whereby parents with middle levels of education appear to be better at

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— DENISE HALL

managing children with difficult temperaments than previously.

This could be because of the wealth of information about parenting now available.

Entrepreneurial mother Denise

Hall has a degree in trading and development and a 12-year-old daughter.

She said the findings did not surprise her because better educated parents were often more aware of options available to them.

"(But) just because you might have left in year 10 does not mean you are not smart. What it means is that the school environment did not work for you," she said.

Jackie Hall from Self Help for Mums said what dictated the way children behaved was what they were taught to believe about life, not how the parent was educated.

"Perhaps the reason that uneducated parents are more likely to have misbehaving children is because they are passing down limiting and 'missing out' beliefs based on their own experiences of life."

The study, by the Social Policy Research Centre and the Australian Institute of Family Studies, compared children aged three and 11 in the 1980s with those aged four and nine in the 2000s.

Riders protest against hoon label

MOTORBIKE riders will descend on the city today to protest against hoon comments made by the state's top traffic cop, Ken Lay.

The Motorcycle Riders Association has been angered by comments made by Deputy Commissioner Lay on radio about

hoon riders who have added to this year's road toll — which is 33 motorcyclists, up by 16 fatalities compared to last year.

In response, the MRA has called for hundreds of riders to turn out for the 4pm ride to halt the "smear campaign", which is likely to dis-

rupt peak-hour traffic. "We need to send a message that we're not hoons," he said. "We're tired of being singled out."

Mr Lay said yesterday that most motorcyclists did the right thing, but there was a rogue element. He is due to meet the MRA.



The New Victorian Community Road Safety Alliance

A CALL FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS TO REGISTER

The Chairperson of the Victorian Community Road Safety Alliance, David Healy, is calling for expressions of interest from community groups to register as Local Community Road Safety Groups as part of the new Victorian Community Road Safety Partnership Model.

On 1 July 2011, VicRoads will introduce the new Victorian Community Road Safety Partnership Model. It has two key parts: a new Victorian Community Road Safety Alliance, an independently chaired advisory group, to provide leadership, advice and guidance on community road safety initiatives; and Local Community Road Safety Groups that will identify local road safety needs and develop and implement effective programs for their communities.

Local Community Road Safety Groups

Community groups with an interest or experience in local road safety can now apply to be registered as a Local Community Road Safety Group. A registered Local Community Road Safety Group is expected to prepare and implement a three year road safety plan. The plan will identify and prioritise local road safety issues and be accompanied by a budget. VicRoads will provide advice and guidance to assist local community groups to participate in the new model. Expressions of interest are now being sought from local, regional and statewide community organisations who wish to work in partnership with the Victorian Community Road Safety Alliance to improve the safety of road users.

Information sessions for community groups and organisations

VicRoads will be hosting information sessions on the requirements for community groups and organisations to register as Local Community Road Safety Groups. The following information sessions are planned. To register for a session call the number listed:

Benalla - Mon 12 July 2010, 10am - 12pm VicRoads Office, 50-52 Clarke Street	(03) 5761 1865
Kew - Mon 12 July 2010, 4:30pm - 6:30pm VicRoads Office, 60 Denmark Street <i>(This session is for community groups seeking statewide registration)</i>	(03) 9854 2663
Wendouree - Tues 13 July 2010, 11am - 1pm VicRoads Office, 88 Learmonth Road	(03) 5381 9441
South Geelong - Tues 13 July 2010, 3:30pm-5:30pm VicRoads Office, 180 Fyans Street	(03) 5225 2534
Bendigo - Wed 14 July 2010, 10am - 12pm VicRoads Office, 57 Lansell Street	(03) 5434 5048
Wantirna - Wed 14 July 2010, 6pm - 8pm Quest Knox, 137 Mountain Highway	(03) 9881 8050
Traralgon - Thurs 15 July 2010, 1pm - 3pm LaTrobe Convention Centre, Princes Highway	(03) 5172 2651
Sunshine - Fri 16 July, 10:30am - 12:30pm VUT Sunshine Convention Centre, Ballarat Road	(03) 9313 1367

Community involvement in local road safety programs can make a substantial contribution to improving road safety.

To view the 'Statement of requirements for local community groups' and the application form, visit vicroads.vic.gov.au/communityroadsafety

arrive
alive

Applications for registration as a Local Community Road Safety Group must be submitted by **30 September 2010**.



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