



## Kellie Bishop

Zero road toll – Just think

Dear Little Brother,

My adorable, big hearted little brother, I still miss you every day, some days are harder than others but you are still thought of every single day.

I miss everything about you, your quirky sense of humour – you could always make me laugh – your big heart,  
your dreams and creative ideas,  
your get rich quick schemes.

I miss our chats,  
I miss you being there,  
I miss you being in my life.  
You were my best friend.

Nothing is the same anymore, every piece of my life shattered along with my heart that day.

I try not to focus on your death and think more of your life, your short 18 years on this earth, I try to think of the fun we had, we were a great team you and I.

We shared life, we shared a mum and we shared a Dad who we lost too young,  
We had our gorgeous puppy, Bessie  
We shared friends and we shared our dreams.  
I thought the world of you.

I spoke to you at 3.19am, you called and we chatted, nothing in particular, just 'how you going, how was your night' and then you were dead by 5.15am. The next time I saw you, you were a bloody mangled mess in a smashed up commodore with a white sheet covering some of you.

I wish you'd never gotten in that car but you did. You did because you wanted to get home, you were only minutes away and what could go wrong right? The road was dry and your mate didn't seem drunk or stoned, not too much anyway.



But he lost control of his car and you died. He was a bit stoned, he was over the limit, he went too fast. He killed you.

The accident was on the news; they showed the car with you still in it. A picture seen by many as they watched the news but a picture likely to only be remembered by me and our mum and no doubt the emergency service workers who were there to pull you out of the car.

So my life has carried on...as life does...I've walked down the aisle without you in my husbands' wedding party, I've turned 21 and 30 without you there, I've had children, they are awesome kids, you would love them, they love you without even meeting you. They know all about you and we make a chocolate cake every year on your birthday. My daughter hangs your special Christmas decoration on our tree every Christmas, you know the green one? I have matching in pink.

You never got to turn 21, never fell in love, never got to see the world, holiday with mates, attend your mates weddings, become a dad, none of it. Facebook shows me all that your mates, your age are doing and you are not here.

The flashbacks are relentless and debilitating – I see flashes in my mind of the wrecked car, your wrecked face, your eyes wide open, the blood, the smell, the morgue. I try so hard to push these flashes away, I've learnt some tactics over the years but still they come. And then there is the fear, the paralysing fear, it usually starts when my daughter is away from me and travelling in a car with someone other than me, or my husband is late home from work and I hear sirens...I start to panic, because I know that those accidents they report on the news are not just what happens to 'other people', they can happen to anyone. It happened to you, to us.

I know you didn't want to die. I know you would have achieved so much and given so much to people. I know you'd want others to think, think before they drive and think before getting in the car with someone, and think of your family, your sisters, your brothers, your parents, your kids, think of other road users, just think.

Miss you forever. Heartbroken forever.  
Your Sister.



## SHINE A LIGHT ON ROAD SAFETY

Road Trauma Support Services Victoria's **Shine a Light on Road Safety** campaign is to raise awareness, to stop deaths and injuries on our roads and to raise funds to support those impacted by road trauma: #shinealightonroadsafety.

**Friday 4 May motorists are asked to turn on headlights** to remember those impacted by road trauma and show your commitment to road safety.

**Sunday 6 May there is a community walk** at Albert Park Lake to enable community participation in advocating for safer roads.

## ILLUMINATIONS

Australian landmarks will be illuminated in yellow for road safety from Monday 30 April to Sunday 6 May; thanks to the support of key partners including the Victorian Government, the Transport Accident Commission (TAC), VicRoads, Victoria Police and campaign sponsors.

## KEY CAMPAIGN MESSAGES

- Road safety is everyone's responsibility
- Giving the community voice about road trauma
- Our counselling and support services are available free and unlimited to anyone impacted by road trauma.

## OUR ORGANISATION

Road Trauma Support Services Victoria is a not-for-profit organisation contributing to the safety and wellbeing of Victorian road users. We provide counselling and support to people impacted by road trauma, and address attitudes and behaviours of road users through education. We are committed to educating the community and raising public awareness about road trauma and how it affects people's lives; we do this in part by sharing personal stories about road trauma.