

Sunshine Advocate

Another smash at death junction, toll is now a dozen

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ANOTHER SMASH AT DEATH JUNCTION: TOLL IS NOW A DOZEN

Two dead:
two injured

The two-car accident at the intersection of Boundary and Fitzgerald Rds., at 5 pm on Saturday, brought the total number of deaths at the intersection to 12 since 1965.

At least 24 people have been injured at the junction in that time.

The death toll since April, 1965, is as follows:

- April 19, 1965: five killed.
- December 31, 1967: one killed.
- August 15, 1968: one killed.
- October 13, 1968: three killed.
- October 25, 1970: two killed.

Ironically nearly everybody killed or injured has been a local person who should have been familiar with the intersection.

In nearly all cases the accident occurred at dusk and was a right-angle smash.

The Traffic Commission would not give The Advocate casualty figures on the junction on Monday because they wanted Sunshine Council to have the figures first.

"It's too controversial to give over the phone," said a spokesman for the commission.

Recently, Sunshine Council had lights erected at the intersection.

"But most or nearly all of the accidents appear to have occurred at dusk when it was neither light nor dark," the City Engineer, Mr Ken Gray, told The Advocate this week.

"We have money set aside for treatment of the intersection but we have been unable to carry out work yet because, last year, the Country Roads Board just could not see its way clear to allocate any money for it, due to increasing pressure for funds from other municipalities," Mr Gray said.

Killed on Saturday were Lillie Cocks, 53, of Parsons St., Sunshine, and Peter Dirk, 30, of Bladin St., Laverton.

Two other people in the smash were seriously injured according to Laverton police.

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