

One way to stop the ice-cream man's van

AN ELDERLY couple was taken to hospital following a three-car accident at Raceview yesterday.

Police said the main impact was between a small hatchback and a four-wheel-drive at South Station Road about 8am.

A mix of firefighters, police officers and local residents mingled around the accident scene as both vehicles sat badly damaged, with airbags deployed, opposite each other just down from the Cascade Road intersection.

It was thought the vehicles were travelling in opposite directions and that one of the cars may have crossed to the wrong side of the road.

The third vehicle – a small ice-cream truck – sustained only minor damage.

A Queensland Ambulance spokeswoman said a man and woman, both aged in their late 70s, had been stuck in their car for a short period after the smash.

Both were treated for seat belt



ROAD BLOCK: The two-vehicle crash on south Station Road, Raceview.

Photo: Damian Dunlop JL0209GH

injuries and taken to Ipswich Hospital.

A small section of South Station Road was blocked for two-and-a-half hours as the police

Forensic Crash Unit investigated.

Although the cause of the accident was unknown, a nearby resident, who did not witness the smash, said speed was a big

problem on her street.

"We're waiting for the day they put a 100kmh sign up along here because that's how fast a lot of people go," she said.

IN BRIEF



INJURED: A patient is taken to hospital after an accident on Warwick Road.

Photo: Rob Williams JL0209WL

Car crash and grass fire stops traffic

A CAR accident and fallen powerlines caused headaches for afternoon commuters on the Cunningham Highway and Warwick Road yesterday afternoon.

Five people were taken to hospital following a two-car smash near the Cunningham Highway overpass on Warwick Road about 3pm.

An ambulance spokeswoman said all five people received minor injuries and were taken to QE2 Hospital.

Further up the road at Purga, powerlines fell across the highway and started a grass fire on adjacent land at the intersection of Middle Road about 3.30pm.

Firefighters from the Royal Australian Air Force Base at Amberley kept the flames under control.

Police diverted traffic down Middle Road and through Walloon until firefighters removed the lines.

Man charged with pharmacy break-in

A 31-YEAR-OLD man appeared in Ipswich Magistrates Court yesterday for allegedly breaking into an Ipswich pharmacy.

Donovan Muller appeared on two charges of entering premises to commit an indictable offence, three of driving while on a licence disqualified by the court, one of breaching bail and one of possession of property used in a crime.

A police spokesman said Muller allegedly broke into a Churchill Street pharmacy between June 30 and July 1 and stole medication from a safe.

No application for bail was made and the case was adjourned until July 23.

Teens warned after reports of rock attack

TWO 14-year-old youths were cautioned after they allegedly threw rocks at cars on the Springfield Greenbank Arterial Road yesterday afternoon.

The incident was reported at Springfield about 4.30pm.

Friends say mum was devoted to her family

PETER FOLEY
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FRIENDS of young mum Sherri Buchanan yesterday remembered her as kind, compassionate and devoted to her children and family.

Ms Buchanan, 25, was killed on Tuesday after her car overturned on the Warrego Highway, five kilometres east of Miles.

She was travelling from Gatton to Charleville to visit her sick mother with her six-year-old daughter Amber and son Jacob, 4.

They were taken to Miles Hospital with minor injuries.

Katherine Plint said she and her husband Andrew were friends with Ms Buchanan before their daughter Hannah drowned in October 2007.

Hannah's drowning in her family's backyard pool prompted her parents to set up Hannah's Foundation to raise water safety awareness and support families of drowning victims.

'Hannah's tragedy really touched her and now we're really touched by her tragedy.'

– Katherine Plint

Mrs Plint said Ms Buchanan became the first general member of Hannah's Foundation.

"When Hannah died, she was there for me every time. Every day I had a bad day, she was on the phone," Mrs Plint said yesterday.

"I don't know why the good die young. It's a mystery of life.

"I'm just trying to comprehend it. I was in absolute shock when her employer rang to tell me.

"Hannah's tragedy really touched her and now we're really touched by her tragedy."

She said Ms Buchanan donated every fortnight to the foundation through her workplace program at Pohlman's Nursery and raised a further \$3000.

"She was just a lovely person," Mrs Plint said. "Child safety was

one of her biggest passions. She loved her kids; and the kids were saved because they were in proper car seats. That's the one really positive message I'd like to see come out of this – the importance of the five-point safety harness."

Mrs and Mr Plint have started an appeal for Amber and Jacob and to support Ms Buchanan's partner Allan Pierpoint.

"Allan won't be able to work. We know what grieving's like. It's hard to rebuild your life," she said.

"We hope the community digs deep. We'd like to put the kids through school because that's what Sherri would have wanted."

■ Donations can be made at: BSB: 704052. Account 1035885.

Account Name: Hannah's Foundation. Reference: Sherri Ann.



MISSED: Sherri Buchanan.

Photo: Toowoomba Chronicle

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