

Road action too late for family

□ Marcus Priaulx

marcus.priaulx@southburnettimes.com.au

Jane Thompson and her four grand children crashed their four-wheel drive on J Hunters road one week after Morrie Davey warned such an accident would occur.

Mr Davey urged South Burnett Regional Council to fix the Ballogie stretch or face a law suit when he complained about its state to the *South Burnett Times* last Friday.

Mayor David Carter had the road inspected straight away.

Work was pencilled in to be done within the fortnight.

But Mrs Thompson's vehicle hit corrugation at 8.10am yesterday, blew two passenger side tyres and she lost control.

She and the four youngsters aged six-16 suffered bumps and bruises and their mother.

The children's mother, Paula Harper, was not happy.

She said council should have fixed the

road ages ago.

"It needs bitumen or to be cut off to prevent people driving through," Mrs Harper said.

"It's a main thoroughfare used by speed demons, semis and about 80 residents.

"It's the back road from Ballogie to Kingaroy and 13km shorter than going along the bitumen road."

Mrs Harper believes council needs to make the corrections quick smart before someone is seriously hurt.

"I don't know how my mum and kids got out of their accident with just bumps and bangs," she said.

Mayor David Carter said inspectors looked at the road on Monday and found it needed grading and erosion work.

He said he was sorry about the accident and people needed to drive to the road's conditions.

"Some of our roads aren't up to scratch but we're having difficulty because of the large amount of rural roads ones we have," Cr Carter said.

"If we could get State government to put in additional funds to have the work done we'd be more than happy."



RIGHT: J Hunters Road claimed two tyres and a panel yesterday but the occupants of this vehicle believe it could have been much worse.

Puppy farmer still free to breed dogs

Charges against Mondure puppy farmer Ruth Schloss have not been laid and she is still allowed to breed and keep dogs.

"The fact that another agency has taken action against her does not mean she would have automatically had her license suspended," South Burnett Regional Council manager of environmental health Craig Patch said.

But RSPCA representative Michael Beatty was frustrated no prohibition order had been made after 244 dogs were seized from Mrs Schloss's property in September and taken to his organisation's headquarters in Fairfield.

He said there was nothing to stop people accused of animal neglect keeping and breeding animals up until their trial.

"Temporary prohibition would certainly be a help," he said.

"The rights of the owner are always upheld pending charges but in an ideal world the rights of the animals might be prioritised."

Dog breeders in the Wondai area need a town planning permit to keep a large amount of dogs.

According to South Burnett Regional Council records Mrs Schloss has held such a permit to keep 60 dogs at her Mondure property since 1998.

That permit still remains active.

"We would encourage all councils to enforce regulations and if she was legally only allowed to have 60 dogs and she ended up having 244 you would think that would be grounds to not renew her permit," Mr Beatty said.

"You'd hope so."

But Mr Patch said council had no legal ability to stop her from keeping animals.

"Animal cruelty cases are outside the scope and ability of council staff," he said.

Billions of dollars on ground

• From page 1

created.

Billions of dollars could be injected in the economy if a refinery is allowed to be built.

"Australia exports about a third of the world's aluminium and it's a major source of income for us," Mrs Feldman said.

"We'll be contributing very significantly to Australia's leading the world in aluminium production.

"That has to be of great value to the people involved.

"The price of aluminium is going up all the time.

"Countries like China are looking to get what they can.

"The world needs aluminium to use in anything from Coca Cola cans and tin foil, to cars and planes."

Volcan Holdings has taken 28 leases around the region and Darling Downs and Mrs Feldman said towns were vying for it to build a smelter worth billions of dollars.

The mother of 11 children said her

company had found the mineral where others had failed to do so because of new technology and the work of independent geologists Drs Robert Conraads and Simon Pecover.

They found rocks that looked like clay but were very low in silica, gibbsitised and hosted alumina.

While bauxite can be found all over the world it needs to be low in silica to be processed.

Mrs Feldman said the quality of the South Burnett's deposits meant little electricity would be needed to convert the ore.

She said if people did not want a refinery the rocks could be picked up and shipped to China or whoever wanted it.

"We've had approaches from all over the world," Mrs Feldman said.

"The jobs that are created and the economics of it all will win out in the end.

"We're going to see where we have the least trouble with landowners and will need to go through the environmental processes.

"When we've done that, where ever is easiest is where we'll be."

No decent bauxite to be found...Metallica

□ Marcus Priaulx

marcus.priaulx@southburnettimes.com.au

Kingaroy's red soil is a red herring that contains little worthwhile bauxite deposits according to Metallica managing director Andrew Gillies.

His company drilled about 20 holes and explored the Kingaroy region five years ago but found the ore to be unviable.

It was quoted by media this week as having obtained significant findings but Mr Gillies said that was wrong.

"They should have checked our reports," Mr Gillies said.

"We were excited because of our research into government findings in the 1950s.

"They were based on hand samples but you need to have extensive areas that are at least two-metres deep with commercial grade bauxite to be worthwhile.

"We thought a lot of red soil areas might have bauxite but we got no bauxite that was significant."

He said recent media speculation had gone too far and people needed to do their research before talking about bauxite refineries.

"We thought Kingaroy would be a great place to have a bauxite mine, we really did, but it was hypothetical," Mr Gillies said.

"(Volcan Holdings) haven't even started drilling yet, so unless they know something we don't it's a little optimistic to be talking about (mining and refineries).

"There is bauxite in the region and maybe they've something we don't have but I'll be watching with interest."

<p>8/07 VE "Omega" Commodore \$21,750 Drive Away 45,000km One owner, 1/bks, SS Spoiler, remfact w'nty</p>	<p>VX II C2R Pack 6 cyl C/dore \$15,750 Drive Away 66,000km Full HSV kit, Chrome 17" alloys</p>	<p>DOUG IRVING MOTORS 104 Kingaroy St, Phone 4162 3566 Mob 0418 796 150 - a/Hrs 4162 3147 Car Detailing from \$20</p>	<p>2008 Suzuki Swift Auto \$16,999 Drive Away 15,100km Rem fact warranty, 1 owner log books</p>	<p>8/06 BF II Falcon XT WAGON \$18,999 Drive Away 41,000km 1 owner log books</p>
<p>98 Prado RV 2.1L 4 Cyl 7 Seat 4x4 Wagon \$15,999 Drive Away Immaculate low km for age</p>	<p>Holden Rodeo 2.8L Turbo Diesel 4x4 Dual Cab \$15,999 Drive Away Low km for age, many extras</p>	<p>9/07 Toyota Camry Altise Upgrade \$21,999 Drive Away 24,000km Rear reverse sensors, Rem fact wnty</p>	<p>BA Falcon Sedan \$10,750 Drive Away Price includes XR6 spoiler, 17" alloys and new tyres</p>	<p>VZ Commodore Executive Sedan \$14,750 Drive Away 68,000km SS spoiler, 1 elderly owner, very low km</p>
<p>2004 Nissan Pulsar ST Sedan \$10,999 Drive Away 73,000km Local and in pristine condition</p>	<p>VZ Commodore "Equipe" Sedan \$16,499 Drive Away 50,500km "SPRING SPECIAL", 1 elderly owner, many factory extras, Very low km</p>	<p>Ford Courier 4 x 4 Ute \$10,999 Drive Away Low km for age</p>	<p>TO CLEAR 05 Holden Rodeo 2x4 \$12,999 Drive Away 28,000km 1 owner As new</p>	<p>05 VZ Commodore Executive Sedan \$14,999 Drive Away 71,000km Price includes alloys & tyres</p>
		<p>Ser II AU Falcon 'S' Sedan \$8999 Drive Away 1 owner, full service history, very low km for age</p>	<p>Choice of 2 Toyota Corolla Hatches BOTH \$14,999 Drive Away BOTH AUTO, 1 WITH 35,000km, 1 WITH 70,000km</p>	<p>7/2004 BA Falcon Sedan - Low km, 1 owner, 1/bks, XR6 spoiler \$10,999 Drive Away Toyota Echo 4 Door Sedan - 5 sp, 1.5L WTI, air and steer \$6750 Drive Away 95 Mitsubishi Triton Ute - F/g canopy, alum d/side tray \$6750 Drive Away 91 EB Falcon Sedan - In good condition..... \$999 As Traded 98 VT Berlina C'dore Sedan - In good condition \$2750 As Traded</p>