

[REDACTED]
Anglesea
Vic 3230

21 July 2016

Cr Rose Hodge
Mayor
Surf Coast Shire
PO Box 350
Torquay Vic 3228



Dear Cr Hodge

Please find enclosed two petitions for Council to consider. The first is regarding adequate and informative signage in the Anglesea Shopping Precinct prohibiting the riding of bicycles, skateboarding, rollerblading and use of scooters on the shopping centre footpaths.

The second is in regard to the reversing out of car park spaces in the Shopping Precinct.

Some months ago I wrote a letter to the Surf Coast Times about the first issue and was surprised at the comments I received from some of the shop owners and staff who had seen the letter. I spoke to some more shop owners/managers and realised that they all shared my concerns. It was suggested I formally approach Council on this matter so I drew up two statements and asked the shop owners/managers to sign. I made the decision that I would stop collecting signatures once I had more than half of the shops signed up. I achieved that target with zero refusals.

To back up the shop owners/managers I sought the support of the four major organisations who have health and safety as their main concerns. I approached the Anglesea Police Station, the Anglesea Medical Centre, the Anglesea Ambulance Team and the captain of the CFA. All signed willingly and have wished me good luck and hope that this successful.

I look forward to hearing from Council on these matters and having further discussions.

Yours sincerely


John Cummings
[REDACTED]

Anglesea Shopping Precinct

Request for consideration to be given
to give drivers reversing out of a parking space
priority over drivers passing through

We the shop owners/managers of the properties below support this proposal.

Great Ocean Properties
101 Great Ocean Road

Te Larloss 5/7/16

Anglesea Post Office
99 Great Ocean Road

ERCampbell 5/7/16.

Malee Thai restaurant
97A Great Ocean Road

Bendigo Bank
97 Great Ocean Road

[Signature] 4/7/16

Caffe Daniele
95 Great Ocean Road

[Signature] 04/07/16.

Anglesea Pharmacy
93 Great Ocean Road

[Signature] 6/7/2016

Great Ocean Road Real Estate
91 Great Ocean Road

Anglesea News and Lotto
89 Great Ocean Road

[Signature] 5/7/16

Hayden Real Estate
87 Great Ocean Road

[Signature] 4/7/16.

Guns & Roses
17/87-89 Great Ocean Road

Offshore Café
87 Great Ocean Road

Coulter Roache
87-89 Great Ocean Road

Coastline Financial Group
20/87-89 Great Ocean Road

McMillan & Associates
87-89 Great Ocean Road

Sundar Ghara
9/87-89 Great Ocean Road

Paula Darrell 6.7.16.

Anglesea IGA Supermarket
69/71 Great Ocean Road

Rob Lamb. 4/7/16

Anglesea Beach Club
3/87 Great Ocean Road

Christine Key 4/7/16.

Frangipanis
10/87-89 Great Ocean Road

SeaEyes Restaurant
12/87-89 Great Ocean Road

Oaks Bakery Café
87 Great Ocean Road

Sun. Sand. Sea
87 Great Ocean Road

Reganby 6/7/16.

Commonwealth Bank Anglesea Branch
85 Great Ocean Road

El 6/7/16.

Anglesea Fish Shop
83 Great Ocean Road

Anglesea Bakery
81 Great Ocean Road

Surf Coast Real Estate
79 Great Ocean Road

Jums BBQ Chickens
77 Great Ocean Road

Nordenfine Ice Cream
75 Great Ocean Road

Laneway 73 Café
73 Great Ocean Road

Seaside Seconds OpShop
71 Great Ocean Road

Pauline O'Donnell 13/7/16.

Real Estate rentals
69 Great Ocean Road

Trailhead Bike Co.
67 Great Ocean Road

Rose Chinese Restaurant
65 Great Ocean Road

Anglesea Pizza
1/63 Great Ocean Road


Anglesea Fruitz
2/63 Great Ocean Road


Anglesea Police Station
55 Great Ocean Road
Anglesea 3230

SURFCOAST MEDICAL CENTRE
McMILLAN ST ANGLESEA 3230
PROV. NO. 0220292H
ABN: 85 517 300 637
PH: 4215 6700 FAX 4215 6796


ANGLESEA AMBULANCE
3-5 McMILLAN ST
ANGLESEA 3230

600 McMAHON AVE
ANGLESEA 3230.
52631533

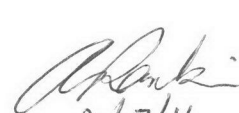
 6/7/16
7/7/16.

 8/7/16

 18/7/16.

 19/7/16.

 21/7/16.

 21/7/16.

Anglesea Shopping Precinct

Request for consideration to be given to give drivers reversing out of a parking space priority over drivers passing through

This issue is far more complex than the signage proposal but it needs to be raised and discussed. The law in this State says that through traffic has right of way over drivers reversing out of parking spaces.

Obviously someone reversing out of a parking space outside Maids Pantry or Stabbs the butchers HAVE to give way to traffic on the Great Ocean Road. No argument there. But shopping centres aren't thoroughfares.

Maybe when this law was first drawn up and enacted, it was perfectly adequate for the time. But it wasn't enacted to never to be changed. And times do change. I remember many years ago when, if we were turning left at an intersection, we had to give way to oncoming traffic turning right. Until Jeff Kennett came to power and decided it was a stupid rule.

The majority of Anglesea residents do apply common sense and they do give way to people reversing out of their parking space, but not all do, and sadly many visitors don't.

Times have changed since this law was enacted. The biggest change to car parks generally is the minimal amount of space provided per car. This isn't so bad at Anglesea, but the car parking spaces at some Torquay shops are woefully small. In some car parking areas, people reverse into a parking space, but that is not possible at Anglesea because of angle parking. The next biggest change is the advent of four-wheel drive vehicles. I would venture to say that most times that I am reversing out of a parking space in the Anglesea Shopping Precinct car park, I find myself next to a four-wheel drive vehicle which completely blocks my view. I have to reverse out very slowly, keeping one eye on the rear vision mirror in case a car opposite is reversing out as well as straining to see if a car is coming through on my left or right. Many is the time I have been two thirds out and a driver coming through has given me a blast and sped past.

I recall one incident when I was trying to reverse out of a parking space next to a massive four-wheel drive vehicle which was completely blocking my view of through traffic and I was almost out of my parking space when a car flew past at speed, horn blaring. It gave me a hell of a fright and I hit my car horn as well. The driver parked and slowed me down as I was passing him and berated me saying he had right of way and if all people in Anglesea were as rude to visitors as I was, then maybe he should find somewhere else to holiday. I hope he has.

Cars today are faster and quieter and I hate to say it but drivers have generally become more aggressive. Road rage is on the increase across the State.

I think the time has come for State government to revisit this law and to change it and I intend to write to my local State MP on this issue. However, I acknowledge that is highly unlikely. But even if they don't, I am reliably informed that the Shire has the jurisdiction to pass a local ruling that dictates that people driving through should give way to people reversing out of parking spaces. According to an officer I spoke with at VicRoads, the Surf Coast Shire is responsible for the Anglesea Shopping Precinct and they have the right to make such a decision should they so desire.

As with the signage petition, I approached several shop owners about this situation and all agreed that this is a real problem that needs to be addressed before someone is seriously injured. I haven't visited with every shop in the precinct but have met with more than half of the shop owners and/or managers and all without exception have signed the attached petition.

Sensible signage needs to be placed at the entrances to the car park stating or requesting that drivers slow down and give due attention to drivers reversing out of a parking space. Several shop owners/managers commented that if this wasn't possible, then maybe speed humps should be installed at the entrances. This is not my recommendation but I agreed to include it. One commented that the two speed humps near the public toilets has slowed traffic there noticeably.