




Speech By
Joan Pease

MEMBER FOR LYTTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Road Safety, Cyclists

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (12.48 am): I thank the member for Cook for his very meaningful and moving words. At about 7 am on 30 March this year, while riding his pride and joy, an Italian carbon road bike, on the quiet streets of Lota, my husband, Peter, was struck by a car that went through a give-way sign. The collision caused the driver's side mirror to be torn from the car. The car had a number of dents down the right-hand side and scratches the length of the car, and Peter's hip and shoulder left huge indentations on the rear panel of the vehicle. Peter ended up on his back in the middle of the intersection. There were no other cars in the street and Peter was the only other road user at the time, apart from me. I was just 100 metres further up the same street on my bicycle.

Within minutes of the accident, an ambulance was at the scene and paramedics attended to Peter's injuries. Not long after, Fire and Rescue officers arrived and the police followed closely behind them to investigate the collision. The paramedics assessed Peter's injuries and determined that he required further assessment at the PA Hospital. Twenty-five minutes later, Peter was in the accident and emergency department at the PA. The staff at the PA were fantastic. They were incredibly efficient and quick. Peter was in triage immediately on arrival, where numerous X-rays and blood samples were taken, the ECG monitor was in place, and contusions and abrasions were assessed and treated. Within 60 minutes of the accident occurring, Peter was in the admissions section of the PA accident and emergency ward, having been assessed and treated, and was under observation. He now has a digital record.

My thanks go to the emergency personnel of our ambulance, fire and rescue and police services, as well as to the nurses, doctors and other medical staff at the PA Hospital for their professional, efficient and fast work in dealing with this emergency. The personnel of the Queensland emergency services and our public hospitals deal with those types of incidents each and every. Seeing firsthand how those quiet achievers go about their jobs was eye-opening and heartwarming.

Fortunately, I have not had to deal with the trauma of traffic collisions until now. However, our front-line emergency service personnel do that daily, and all Queenslanders should be thankful for the world-class services provided by our paramedics, firefighters, nurses and doctors. As a government, it is incumbent on us to support our emergency personnel to ensure that they can continue to provide world's best practice emergency services. Fortunately, my husband had minor injuries and was up and riding his bike a few days later.

That brings me to cycling safety. The collision that occurred that morning, which left my husband lying bleeding in the middle of an intersection, was completely avoidable. How do we prevent such collisions occurring again? There are a few things that each of us can do that will immediately improve safety. I ask that everyone adhere to the one- or 1.5-metre rule and be aware and considerate of vulnerable road users such as cyclists and pedestrians.