

Court win casts doubt on Meter Eyes

By DAVID COHEN

A Peppermint Grove motorist who took Cottesloe council to court over a Meter Eye fine has cast doubt on the legality of the lucrative parking system.

Sue Russell won her case in Fremantle Magistrates' Court in 2009 after Cottesloe had issued a \$20 fine, saying her Mercedes Benz overstayed in Napoleon Street.

The POST has learnt that as a result of her win, Eye fines may not be legal.

The devices were not supported by law, like Multanovas and hand-held speed cameras.

In the 2013 financial year, Cottesloe fined drivers close to \$1million, with about half coming from over-stayers pinged by its 500 Meter Eyes.

Meter Eyes are set into Cottesloe parking spaces on the beachfront and at shopping centres.

They record when cars arrive and leave, sending a signal to rangers when an overstay is detected.

Ms Russell said she had become incensed when a ranger believed the reading from the electronic device and not her word.

"He virtually accused me of lying," she said.

"My integrity is one thing I value, so I let him have it big-time."

Ms Russell appeared twice in court. The first time, the council did not show up.

"Afterwards then they sent some stupid excuse, the magistrate heard the case - and he threw it out," Ms Russell said.

Critical to Ms Russell's defence were time-stamped receipts from the post office and Van's restaurant.

"I was only there seven or eight minutes," she said.

"I saw the ranger and said, 'Here are receipts which showed when I got here'."

"He said, 'No, the thing says you've been there longer.'"

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Jason Shaw, right, president of Cottesloe Boardriders, and David Harrison invite the public to join them on the waves for charity. Photo: Paul McGovern

Join the Foamie revival

Foam surfboards that put generations of young surfers on their feet have been hauled out of storage for a revival of the Foamie Classic in Cottesloe.

Mosman Park surfer David Harrison is organising the nostalgic competition at the Cove surf break to raise money for Ride to Conquer Cancer for the Harry Perkins Institute in Nedlands.

The last Foamie Classic was held about 20 years ago.

"Foamies are a uniquely Western Australian phenomenon," David said.

"They were made locally and were very popular, but they are not made any more."

They have been overtaken by the composite boogie boards.

David expects adults who cut their surfing teeth on foamies to turn up for the comp.

He has been retrieving dusty foamies from sheds and has bought three after online advertisements.

Rescued foamies will be available free of charge to riders without their own.

To register for the November 22 event contact foamieclassic@gmail.com. Entry fee is \$40.

Kidnapped teen in Claremont attack

By BRET CHRISTIAN

A teenage university student who was abducted and sexually assaulted in Claremont five years before the first known victim of the Claremont serial killer has told her story publicly for the first time.

A man kidnapped her from a car in the carpark opposite the Cottesloe Hotel and drove her to the abandoned Lakeway drive-in theatre in Swanbourne, where he tried to rape her.

She escaped but he stalked and recaptured her in Claremont and bundled her into the back of his station wagon.

She came forward after friends read in the POST that police investigating the three known Claremont serial killings of the mid-1990s have now positively linked a prior offence to the last of the known victims, Ciara Glennon (POST October 17).

Forensic tests have confirmed that the man who murdered Ms Glennon is the same man who abducted a 17-year-old in Gugerri Street, Claremont, bundled her into the back of his van and drove her to Karrakatta cemetery, raped her and left her for dead.

She survived and ran to Hollywood Hospital.

Special Crime Squad police are keen to investigate other attempted abductions in the Claremont area before and after the Claremont series of killings.

The woman had never reported the abduction to police, believing it was useless because she did not have a description of the man or his vehicle.

She said she had been celebrating with friends at the Cottesloe Hotel in late 1989 when they took her to their car parked opposite the hotel because she was extremely drunk.

"I couldn't handle alcohol," she said.

"They left me there and went back to the pub.

Historic rape attempt before serial killer struck

"He must have been watching. I was dressed in a tight short skirt and a tight little top."

She said she must have been moved from her friend's car to the kidnapper's car.

"The next thing I remember was waking up, being driven along Servetus Street [Swanbourne] in his car while he was groping my boobs."

"He stopped at the old drive-in at Swanbourne and I came to pretty quickly. I had an adrenaline surge. I sobered up instantly and I can remember everything clearly to this day."

She said the man tried to kiss her while groping her.

"He had hard whiskers. I had only been with boys up until then, so he must have been at least 30."

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