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 **DRAFT DRAFT DRAFT**

Mr. Grant Williams **aca@nine.com.au**
Executive Producer, ‘A Current Affair’
TCN Channel 9

24 Artarmon Road

Willoughby, Sydney, NSW 2068

Dear Mr. Williams

**Dangerous and reckless motor bike driving on the Old Pacific Highway just south of the Hawkesbury River Bridge each (fine day) weekend has caused road bicycle riders to desist cycling the once popular 35km leg from Hornsby to Mt. White**

**Will ‘A Current Affair’ expose this practice and thereby cause the RMS and NSW Police to cease this potentially lethal practice which has become increasingly dangerous by the week, as more and more motor bike riders that *‘get their jollies’* from *Bending their Bike* through bends to *“make sparks fly”* and *“throttling up the straights”* over the** [**3.85km**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pieintheskyroutemap.jpg) **road section between Brooklyn Rd and** [**Pie in the Sky Café**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pie_in_the_sky_circa_2017.htm)**?**

‘[**Dumbest car hoons**](https://www.9now.com.au/a-current-affair/2017/clip-cj63h439600700gp4owun5s8k)**’ (telecast 8 Aug) - a precedent to Channel 9 similarly exposing the dangers**

The [**Writer**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/writer.htm) has administered a road cycle group, [**Muggaccinos**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/writer.htm), which had provided a 95km (ave) on-road bicycle ride on the perimeter of Greater Sydney each Sunday for 21 years. [**Over  150 different road cyclists**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/ChoresnCrew/ChoresMainPage/ChoresnCrew.htm) have cycled on *Muggs'* rides over the last 21 years. We visit over 30 different [***Nosh Stop***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/NoshStops.htm) each year.

The [***Pie in the Sky Café***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/pie_in_the_sky.htm) **(*former clientele*)** at North Cowan has been a regular [***Nosh Stop***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/NoshStops.htm) for Muggs' cyclists as evidenced in our [***PitS***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/pie_in_the_sky.htm) webpage.

Alas, increasingly over the last few years, more and more motor bike riders have used [***Pie in the Sky Café***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pie_in_the_sky_circa_2017.htm) (***current clientele***) as a temporary base camp to “*ride loops*” [**down to Brooklyn Rd, pause for up to a few mins until any motor bike riders ahead have commenced their return leg**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/Road_map_3%2C85km.htm) and then ascend back to [***PitS***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/pie_in_the_sky.htm). These ascents are regularly at high speed through the bends, and higher speed along the straights, often in close proximity to fellow motor bike riders, and bellowing loud exhaust noise due to illegal exhaust system modification as evidenced in the following YouTubes:

1. [**Police Chase, Fast Riders and a crash. Old Pacific Highway – 6-11-16**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwEnB02DSpo)
2. **[Riding with Subscribers: with a Crash and a Police Encounter](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWiEICkgNEA)**
3. [**‘Sunday Therapy’ - RAW Onboard - Old Pacific Highway**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ifq_EzA-DMI)

On Sunday 6th August around 11am the [**Writer**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/writer.htm) was approached by another road cyclist, Russell Garstang, at [***Pie in the Sky Café***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pie_in_the_sky_circa_2017.htm) who had just cycled up the [**3.85km**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pieintheskyroutemap.jpg) road section from Brooklyn Rd. Russell told me that 15 mins earlier that he had come very close to being seriously injured (or killed) when a motor biker braked at a corner (almost half way up the [**3.85km**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pieintheskyroutemap.jpg) ascent) and came off, whereupon –

1. the fallen motor-biker passed him (on his bicycle accompanied by his daughter) on his RHS; and
2. his motor bike launched passed him on his LHS.

because the motor biker had panicked after a police car that was descending down from *PitS* did a rapid 'Uie' (in front of him) whereupon the police car chased a 'P Plater' motor biker up the
Old Pacific Highway towards *PitS* that was also travelling at high speed.

* 2 –

The Writer had cycled up to *PitS* 5 mins earlier and saw the police car chasing the ‘P Plater’. The police car was travelling at about 140km p/h on a straight road section along the overpass*.*

Will Channel 9 –

* draw on the precedent ‘[**Dumbest car hoons**](https://www.9now.com.au/a-current-affair/2017/clip-cj63h439600700gp4owun5s8k)’ telecast on 8 August, where a dozen security cameras filmed by [**Elaren Security**](https://www.whitepages.com.au/elaren-security-11761614/brooklyn-vic-11761619B) dangerous car hooning in Brooklyn Victoria (Melbourne’s Western suburbs) and sent that footage to the Victorian police. Equipped with this material evidence, the Vic. Police took effective action to desist that dangerous hooning behaviour; and
* assemble (on a fine weather Sunday) between 9am and 3pm, -
	+ **two** crews of **two** electronically skilled technicians each, dressed in motor bike garb (preferably over-weight with a long beard) and station them at the two tightest corners on the [**3.85km road section between Brooklyn Rd. and *Pie in the Sky Café***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/pieintheskyroutemap.jpg)- equipped with video cameras; and
	+ **two** crews positioned at the two longest straight road sections with discrete radar speed guns and discrete sound volume equipment?

Last month, on a Sunday approaching midday, the Writerwas [**standing on the food queue at *PitS***](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/20170723_122227.jpg) waiting to buy a meat pie. It was a particularly [**long queue**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/20170723_122227.jpg), so he was standing behind two young motor bike riders standing immediately in front of him, who were in full leathers [**with bulging knee cap guards**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/KneeCaps/motor_bikers_wearing_metal_knee.htm). They were ‘*chuffed’* that they had reduced their ascent times during their nine ascents so far that morning. They accepted that they would not break their ‘loops’ record of 16 ascents that day. During that [**queue wait**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/20170723_122227.jpg) two other motor bike riders, known to them, discussed with them the bends that they could readily *“make sparks fly’’*.

The Writer and Russell Garstang are prepared to meet with you if Channel 9 provides us with a letter that notes that Channel 9 undertakes to maintain the anonymity of each of us thereby protecting , A Current Affair’s ‘*sources’*.

If Channel 9 opts to –

1. obtain –
* video evidence of dangerous and reckless motor bike driving (or use the You Tubes on the opening page); and
* noise level empirical proof that some motor bikes are exceeding permitted noise levels, by [**Replacing the Exhaust System**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zlwuJ2XfwXo),

which has caused road cyclists in their droves to desist a wonderful, once popular 70km bicycle ride from Hornsby to Mt. White Road Warriors Café and back, because of the dangerous and intimidating 3.85km road section between Brooklyn Rd and *PitS*; and

1. then telecast a segment on ‘A Current Affair’ that evidences why road cyclists no longer patronize *PitS* on weekends, particularly on Sundays;

‘A Current Affair’ could use two actors to represent Phil and Russell where those actors tell the ‘A Current Affair’ interviewer that they, as road cyclists, want –

1. the RMS to place new speed limit signage along the 3.85km dual lane road section that informs that the 80km p/h speed limit reduces to 60km p/h speed limit on weekends and Public Holidays (relying on the precedent where speed limits are reduced to 40km p/h for 90 mins in the mornings and 90 mins in ‘school zones’); and
2. NSW Police should be granted authority to position in the bush along the 3.85km road section (infrequently on fine weather weekends) discretely hidden (manned by a policeman dressed in *Civvies*) –
3. speed cameras along the straight sections and post out speeding fines to offenders; and
* 3 –
1. sound level measurement equipment along the straight sections and post out traffic sound breach fines to offenders.

The Writer visited Hornsby police station concerning the above about a year ago. He was told that Gordon police administer the Old Pacific Highway. He spoke to a police officer about his concerns who said that they do patrols. But as soon as the patrols are finished mayhem recommences.

Patently, it would be materially more cost effective for the police to be allowed to utilize hidden electronic equipment to achieve (i) and (ii) above, by *“thinking outside the box”*.
See: [**RMS - Mobile speed cameras**](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/business-industry/heavy-vehicles/safety-compliance/speeding-camera-enforcement/mobile-speed-cameras.html)

The below two articles evidence that motor bike rider, Ben James, was recently sentenced to six years jail for killing a road cyclist, Steve Jarvie, only two kilometres from *PitS*:

* [**Cyclist hater boasted about causing fall that caused rider’s death**](http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/cyclist-hater-boasted-about-causing-fall-that-caused-riders-death/news-story/2af2d32a4f6d4d2261d5f2077c377012)
* [**Ben Smith jailed for eight years over death of cyclist Steven Jarvie**](http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/ben-smith-jailed-for-eight-years-jail-over-death-of-cyclist-steven-jarvie-20170703-gx3bhd.html)

A bicycle rider friend of the Writer who lives on the south side is Grahame. About three years ago, Grahame was cycling one of his regular Sunday rides heading south towards the
Royal National Park. Grahame was leading a one row peloton/bunch of about six local bicycle compadres. A motor bike that did not display number plates with a pillion rider seated behind the driver, came up behind and juxtaposed close to Graham’s single row bicycle peloton. The pillion rider pushed Grahame off his bicycle, whilst the peloton was travelling at about 33km p/h. The NSW police were on the scene quickly and radioed ahead seeking other police to intercept the offending motor bike rider. Alas, the motor bike rider and pillion passenger were not intercepted. Grahame *‘lost a lot of bark’* but fortunately suffered no spinal injury. Grahame is happy to verbal validate the above account to you. The incident would be on police records.

Alas, dangerous motor bike behaviour is not limited to the afore-mentioned 3.85km road section of the Old Pacific Highway as the below article in the St George & Sutherland ‘**Leader**’ evidences:

* [**www.theleader.com.au/story/1715213/are-motorbike-joyriders-overrunning-royal-national-park/**](http://www.theleader.com.au/story/1715213/are-motorbike-joyriders-overrunning-royal-national-park/)

The Writer can provide you the names and ‘phone numbers of up to a dozen road cyclists who will confirm that –

1. road cycling up to *PitS* on Sundays (in particular) is generally dangerous and intimidating; and
2. this predicament has become progressively worse over recent years as social media and word-of-mouth has alerted more and more motor bike riders, [**who wear knee cap guards**](http://www.muggaccinos.com/Warm_Fuzzy/NoshStops/Cafes/PitS/MotorBikes/KneeCaps/motor_bikers_wearing_metal_knee.htm), to –
* *‘spray sparks’* on the bends and hammer up the straights back up to *PitS*; and
* clock-up their loops and lower their ascent times,

from their temporary day base camp at *PitS*.

NB: You Tube files in the letter could be removed at any time, better to download them.



Philip Johnston