



READ ALL ABOUT IT: Mayor Geoff Kettle listened intently while author/Gruen Transfer regular Jane Caro read from her novel "Just a Girl", which sees her assume the identity of Queen Elizabeth I. Ms Caro was in town to launch the local National Year of Reading Campaign.



NOVEL IDEA: "Where are all the kids?" one little boy murmured as he ventured into the Children's Reading Room of the library yesterday morning, looking around at the scores of adults that had keenly crammed into the tiny space. After being ushered into a seat by his mother, the youngster was understandably confused as to why his normal romping ground resembled a convention centre. The answer to his question was that dozens of locals had packed into the room to hear marketing guru/ABC star turn author Jane Caro talk about the importance of reading and what led her to write her first novel, "Just a Girl", which fictitiously chronicles the young life of the virgin queen, Elizabeth I.

■ Tom Sebo's story continues page 11

School zones at 'high risk'

By EMMA MASTRONARDI

SCHOOL zones in Goulburn have been declared "high risk" after the NRMA reviewed a survey conducted by the *Goulburn Post* this week. Out of seven surveyed schools none adequately displayed the proper school zone signage to the minimal Australian standard. Twenty-eight signs in total were tested; four per each school zone, and only one met the fluorescent green visibility standard; yet the zone was declared "unsafe" as the other three did not meet the same standard.

The NRMA's research suggests that one in every five school zone signs in NSW is not acceptable. A spokesperson for the NRMA said the results in Goulburn were confronting and were "an outrage". "We cannot believe that the figures in Goulburn are so low, there are just no words to describe that," the spokesperson said. "Everyday children's lives are being put at risk because of this. It cannot go on any longer." To meet the minimum safety standard of a sign it must be on fluorescent lime backing, and have reflective material.

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