

Car hurtles into busy hair salon: Police probe cause

Baby's miracle escape

By **EMMA MASTRONARDI**

A BABY was among those to have miraculously escaped serious injury after a car ploughed into a busy Auburn Street hair salon on Wednesday afternoon.

Three others were hurt when the blue Toyota Corolla sedan driven by an elderly man mounted the kerb and accelerated over the footpath before hurtling into Deja Vu at about 3pm.

There were seven people and a baby in the shop at the time.

Sergeant Ed Taylor, from Goulburn Police, confirmed a woman and the infant she was holding were not harmed.

It is believed a woman was hit by the car and struck her head on a table causing a minor laceration.

Another woman sustained a broken finger.

All patrons and staff from inside the shop were taken by ambulance to Goulburn Base Hospital for further treatment.

"Aside from obvious onsets of shock the driver appears to be in a sound condition," Sgt Taylor said.

"People inside the shop were treated for minor injuries, nothing major, just some bumps and bruises."

It is believed all people involved were local.

Police told the *Goulburn Post*, on scene, it was believed the driver was attempting to reverse but in doing so had mistakenly shifted into drive on his automatic car.

Sgt Taylor said further investigations revealed that "the (driver's) foot was planted on the accelerator instead of the brake".

A passing female pedestrian told the *Post* she had to jump to avoid the car as it mounted the kerb with such force that it ploughed through the shop window, narrowly missing the customers and staff.

A neighbouring business owner said she heard the initial crash and ran out into the street. She heard women screaming in terror and saw passers-by also yelling for help. Tradesmen yesterday worked tirelessly to repair the internal damage to the salon.

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CLOSE SHAVE: The scene of Wednesday's near tragic accident where a car hurtled into an Auburn Street hair salon during the afternoon rush. Police are still investigating what happened. Main photo shows how far the vehicle ended up in the salon. Photo above right is of vehicle being reversed out. Photos: Darryl Fernance and Chris Gordon.

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