

Queens Road, Wandin East, Intersections.

Compiled by Cliff Riseborough,

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23-01-2023

The Intersections on Queens Road described in the following report have seen an ongoing spate of accidents.

I have lived at 474/480 Queens Road for 82 years and seen these roads from dusty laneways to the rat runs we have today. There have been many accidents at these intersections over that time.

Since the construction of the Roundabout on Warburton Highway at Seville when many drivers discovered Beenak Road to be a more convenient route than the traffic jams into Seville. Beenak Road is Signposted for 80 km, has had upgrades and the traffic volume has increased.

Interestingly the Warburton Highway from Yarra Junction to Warburton has many sections at 60 Km. A wider and better road than Beenak Road.

There has been alteration and upgrading over time, but when viewed closely there is not clear signage on both sides at Stop signs.

lack of Rumble Strips (or not big enough to be effective for fast moving or large vehicles).

Signage that does not apply at the moment.

Not enough warning of a crossing where the through traffic is signed for 80km per hour.

The majority of drivers adhere to the rules and the visible signage.

There are drivers who are distracted by the social media or mapping in their vehicles who may not see or be aware of the Signage or the Intersections.

There are some driving vehicles who have a total disregard of rules, regulations or the rights and lives of others.

The only way to manage these drivers is to have road design where they have no alternative but to adhere to the system.

Although Queens Road is Signed at 80 km many locals including myself will not enter Beenak Road or Wandin East Road crossings at more than 40 km, we have seen them drive straight through.

Perhaps with due consideration and some effort the Shire of Yarra Ranges with the help State & Federal Government could make this area safer for all concerned.

We do not wish to attend Funerals of our employees who never made it to work.

Cliff Riseborough

Hi Cliff,

As promised, I've drafted some points regarding visitor numbers and traffic management at Wandin that may be of use for your discussion with the council.

- Wandin attracted over 50,000 visitors to our seasonal events during the Blossom Festival and Cherry-Picking season.
- We expect our visitor numbers to continue to grow year on year, creating more jobs and driving economic prosperity for the region.
- We are VERY mindful of ensuring the safety of our team and visitors, and with this in mind we have implemented a number of control measures to make our venue as safe as possible for all.
- To safely facilitate the high volume of visitor numbers that we attract, we have implemented a series of Risk Management measures internally to ensure the safety of our staff and visitors, such as:
 - A traffic management plan
 - 20km speed restriction throughout the property
 - Road safety signage throughout the property
 - Directional signage
 - A ticketed system for all events, to safely manage capacity
 - Engaging external, professional traffic controllers during events to ensure the safe flow of traffic
 - Continual maintenance of our parking areas, roads and tracks

Our concern is that the council / Vic roads have not done enough to ensure that Queens Road is safe for locals, staff, visitors and tourists. The road will continue to get busier, which is great for the region, however, it is not great if the roads and safety infrastructure are not fit for purpose. We have seen countless near misses at this intersection and unfortunately, one of our own employees lost her life on the way to work. This was in our opinion a tragic yet inevitable outcome, which was totally unnecessary and could have been avoided, had the correct safety provisions been in place.

Please let me know if you need any further information, please let me know.

Cheers,

Mike

Michael Appleton

General Manager

Customer Experience, Tourism & Events

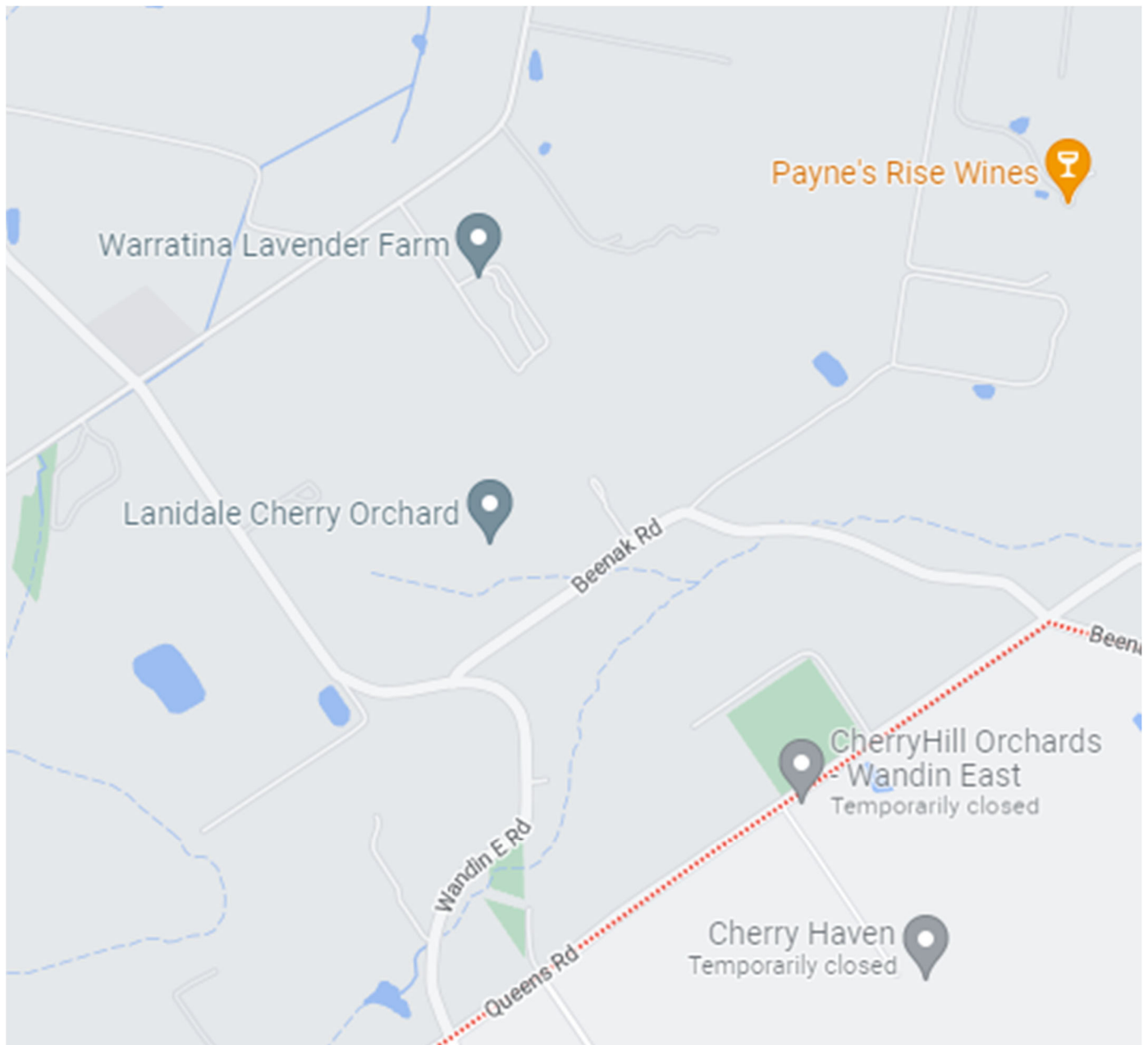


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Queens Road Wandin East is an 80 km Signed Road with through traffic from Silvan to Seville.

Cross Roads Beenak Road and Wandin East Roads are also 80 km Signed Roads.

Old Baker Road at 80 km intersects midway on Queens.

All roads are busy at times with local and tourist traffic.



Queens Road, Wandin East.

View is from the West to East approaching Beenak Road.

This is signposted as an 80km road.

Anyone approaching at more than **40km per hour is risking their lives.**

You need to be able to stop as the Beenak Road crossing traffic does not always stop at the Stop Signs.

Visibility is very poor at the best.



Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from the East looking to the West approaching Beenak Road.



Queens Road, Wandin East.

View approaching Beenak Road from the East to the West.

Crossroad sign at left is only indication of Beenak Road.

Then we have an 80km sign just prior to the crossroads.

Approaching Beenak Road there is a Suburban type wooden fence on the left (SW corner) giving little chance to see on-coming traffic in Beenak Road.

Approaching at more than 40km per hour is a death sentence. (as per 17-01-2023).

Beenak Road, Wandin North.

Viewed from the North towards the South.

This section is one bend prior to the Queens Road Intersection.

One sign for the crossroad.

Beenak Road x Queens Road, Wandin North.

Viewed from the North to the South.

Only one Stop Sign.

No Rumble Strips.

Approaching an 80km signed Queens Road.

Many take the risk, some die as a result.

Could we do better?

May-be Beenak Road should be offset.

Beenak Road x Queens Road, Wandin East.

Viewed from the North to the South.

All vehicles need to be able to stop if necessary.

Queens Road x Beenak Road.

A Tragic Ending.

Beenak Road x Queens Road, Wandin East.

One Stop Sign.

No Rumble Strips.

Poor Visibility both left and right.

Beenak Road x Queens Road, Wandin East.

One Stop Sign.

No indication of 80 km traffic.

Poor visibility both left and right.

Queens Road x Beenak Road, Wandin East.

View foreground Queens Road looking North to Beenak Road.
Possible site for offset Road.



Old Baker Road to Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from South to the North.

There is a Stop sign on the Left, wild cherry trees are obstructing the view.

No Stop Sign on right side of road.

No indication that this is a **“T” Intersection.**

Old Baker Road x Queens Road, Wandin East.

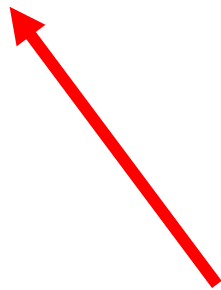
View from Old Baker Road from South to the North.

“T” Intersection, traffic turning left or right.

These are both 80km sign posted roads.

Stop sign is visible now, no Stop Sign on Right side of Road.

No Indication that this is a T intersection and there is no continuation over the intersection.



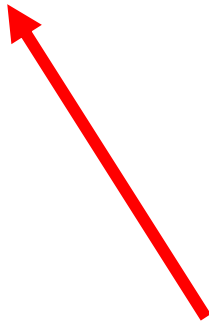
Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from East to the West, Old Baker Road is on the Left.

Signage erected when Queens Road was changed to the through Road.

This is an 80km signed Road.

Little traffic actually stops at the Stop Sign in Old Baker, most do a soft turn expecting to keep driving.



Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from East to the West.

Sign was from when Queens Road was the minor Road and traffic faced a Stop Sign.

No Indication of Cross Roads ahead.

Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from East to the West.

This is an 80km signed Road.

There are no Cross Road Signs for this Intersection.

Wandin East Road is the crossing Road.

Good view on the Left, No visibility on the Right.

Any speed over 40km does not allow avoiding the vehicle approaching from the Right that has not stopped at the Stop Sign.

Deadly. I have the Video proof.

<https://youtu.be/gCfOR75Ilzs>





Queens Road x Wandin East Road, Wandin East.

View from Queens Road heading West, Wandin East Road on the right.

There are Stop Signs for Queens Road on Wandin East Road.

Most traffic from the right does a soft left turn into Queens Road.

Others Stop and turn left, right or over on Wandin East Road.

A minority do not Stop and drive straight through.

This is not good for the traffic on the 80km posted speed.



Queens Road, Wandin East.

View from West to the East.

Sign on Right for Rumble Strips, for when Queens Road was the minor Road.

Sign for Changed Road Conditions, when Queens Road was made the through Road.

Road is Signposted for 80km.

No Signage for Wandin East Road Crossing.

Queens Road, Wandin East

View from West looking to the East.

This is an 80km Signed Road.

Compromised sign for Road Redirection at Intersection.

No Sign to warn of Wandin East Road Crossing.



Queens Road x Wandin East Road, Wandin East.

View from West to the East.

Both Roads are 80km Signed Roads.

No Signage for the Cross Road.

View to Left and Right is fairly good.



Queens Road x East Wandin Road, Wandin East.

View from West to the East.

Queens Road is 80km Road.

View both ways is good.

Note; Trees and Shrubs on North East corner (at left of photo) of Wandin East Road.

These make for the lack of vision from the other way.



Wandin East Road, Wandin East.

View from South to the North.

This is an 80km Road.

Signs both sides of Road for the Queens Road Stop Sign.



Wandin East Road x Queens Road, Wandin East.

Both Roads are 80km.

Stop Signs on both sides of Road.

Good clear Information.



Wandin East Road, Wandin North.

View is North to the South, towards Queens Road.

Signs on both sides of Road, clear visibility.

This is an 80km Road.

Prior to these signs there is another advising of Changed Conditions.

That Sign would be better placed closer to these.



Wandin East Road x Queens Road, Wandin North.

View is North to the South.

Both Roads are 80km.

Stop Signs on Both sides.

Overhanging Trees and Shrubs restrict the Sign and view.

Some of the branching has been cut recently.

Sign on Right partly obscures Stop Sign on the approach.

Traffic turns left, right, or straight ahead after stopping.

Some just drive straight through. Death Trap.

Wandin East Road x Queens Road, Wandin North.

View is North to the South.

Both Roads are 80km.

Stop Signs on Both sides.

Overhanging Trees and Shrubs restrict the Sign and view.

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Sign on Right partly obscures Stop Sign on the approach.

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Wandin East Road X Queens Road, Wandin East.

No vision to the left with trees and house close to corner.

Some of the tree branches have been recently removed.

Vehicle's sometimes drive straight thru.

Most traffic turn left with a large number then turning into Old Baker Road to East Wandin.

Road has no Rumble Strips.

Large sign on right has no relevance to the intersection.



Beenak Road, Wandin North.

View is South to the North toward Hunter & Quayle Roads.

This is a 60km / 40km school times Road.

Beenak Road is the priority Road with Rumble Strips.

Rumble Strips need to be bigger to slow traffic.

Some just drive through on Hunter & Quayle.

Locals will only approach at 40 km. Death Trap.



Beenak Road x Hunter and Quayle Roads, Wandin North.

View from North to the South.

Has Rumble Strips, **need to be larger.**

60 km / 40km (School times) speed limit.

Beenak Road is the priority Road with Rumble Strips.

This is part of the Beenak Road Rat Run, they just go.

Some just drive through on Hunter & Quayle.

Locals will only approach at 40 km. Death Trap.

In Loving Memory of



Kira Lynne Hennessy

February 7th 1992 - January 17th 2023

Corowa Golf Club

Friday January 27th 2023

Kira Lynne Hennessy

Kira was born in Corowa on Feb 7th 1992.

She was the daughter of Lynne and Tony Hennessy of Wahgunyah.

Kira was the younger of 2 children, sister to Chris.

She attended Rutherglen High School graduating as an honour student.

Kira studied interior design then a bachelor in Communications
(public relations)

Kira became the event coordinator for Victoria University for several years
then moved on to Marketing Communications Coordinator at Cherry Hill
Orchards

Kira & Josh's relationship started in August 2014, several years after they met
They were engaged in May 2022.

Kira enjoyed travelling around the world, making many lifelong friends.

Kira loved all music, danced from the age of 4 (calisthenics, jazz, tap, hip-hop) and singing, she loved karaoke.

*She had a wonderful sense of humour, loved animals,
and loved her family with fierce passion.*

