



One 'L' of a shock



BEN DILLAWAY
dillawayb@goldcoast.com.au

I HAVE driven less than 100m when the instructor slams on the brakes from the passenger seat without warning.

My first error – not coming to a complete stop at a stop sign. It is the first of many during my 30-minute Leighton Contractors driving lesson.

Then as I try reversing in a straight line

instructor Frank Taylor butts in again.

“You just killed an old lady behind the car. You can’t use your mirrors for reversing, you must look out the back,” he says.

My knowledge of road rules has faded during the eight years since I passed my driving test. Sadly there are more mistakes.

At the end of the session Mr Taylor tells me I performed like the ‘average Aussie driver’. “You have forgotten all the things you should remember,” he says.

“There is talk among driving trainer circles that we should have a refresher course every five years to bring all these skills back up again.”

I think he’s on to something.