

# Greyhound driver charged

## Police arrest 52-year-old over horror Bruce Hwy bus crash that killed three women

**Cas Garvey  
Janessa Ekert  
Patrick Billings**

Police have arrested and charged the 52-year-old driver of a Greyhound bus involved in a crash that claimed the lives of three women in Far North Queensland seven weeks ago.

After extensive investigations, Peter Jason Cafe, of Townsville, was on Tuesday charged with five counts of dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death or grievous

bodily harm. Cafe had been driving the bus, with 33 people on board, northbound on the Bruce Hwy at Gumlu, between Townsville and Bowen, on Sunday June 30.

Police will allege that about 11.05am, the bus crossed on to the wrong side of the road and struck a Landcruiser towing a caravan, which was coming the opposite way.

Townsville grandmother Emma "Alli" Sailor, 56, and German women Aliya Tonga, 21, and Marissa Martin, 33,

were killed and dozens more injured.

Cafe is charged with three counts of dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death.

He is further charged with two counts of dangerous operation of a vehicle causing grievous bodily harm, in relation to other victims Tyla Dickinson and Dylan Davis.

Cafe was charged following an investigation by the Mackay Forensic Crash Unit.

He was denied watch-house bail by police and appeared in

Brisbane Magistrates Court. Cafe was granted bail by magistrate Joseph Pinder on his own undertaking, with the matter adjourned to Bowen on September 24.

The Courier-Mail reported earlier this month that Ms Tonga's cousin, Dilan Gungor, had been in Australia seven years ago.

"Three-and-a-half weeks ago, I returned, but for a different reason," Ms Gungor said. "My 21-year-old cousin Aliya was on a Greyhound bus on

her way to Townsville on June 30. Aliya did not survive. Her parents have endless questions."

The Gumlu tragedy has sparked renewed calls for the Bruce Hwy, Queensland's biggest and most dangerous major artery, to be upgraded.

The Courier-Mail and regional sister publications have been running a Help Our Highway campaign to spark government action and arrest the spiralling death toll.

Cafe is the third Queensland

bus driver to be charged over a fatal crash in recent months.

Brisbane City Council bus driver Lindsay Frances Selby, 70, was charged with driving without due care and attention causing death after pedestrian Tia Cameron, 18, was killed in the Brisbane CBD on March 8.

Another BCC bus driver, Carl James Van Der Wiel, 59, of North Lakes, was charged with manslaughter after pedestrian Ryan Pemble, aged in his 40s, was fatally struck in South Brisbane on June 28.

## Banners are upcycled to sports bags

**Iwan Jones**

The FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 Brisbane street pole banners have been recycled by Brisbane business, Bailey Print Group, into sports bags.

The bags were initially delivered to Football Queensland headquarters, and distribution of the bags to local football clubs has now started.

Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner said the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023 legacy initiative honours the historic event, while finding creative solutions to being more sustainable.

"The history-making FIFA Women's World Cup put Brisbane on the global stage as a major events city and delivered an incredible \$100m into the local economy," Mr Schrinner said.

"This exciting initiative means that our next generation of players can hold a part of history in their hands, as they prepare to be our future sporting stars."

Bailey Print Group director Samantha Bailey-Jensen said the company was thrilled to partner with the Brisbane Economic Development Agency on this upcycling project.



Westside Grovely FC Juniors Piper Tomkins, 10, Freya Thickett, 8, Melita Patrick, 6 and Evelyn Bell, 5, with the FIFA Bags. Picture: Nigel Hallett

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