

Brian drives to title



Brian Scheu, named Brisbane region cabbie of the year, has a raft of tales to tell from 10 years driving his taxi.

Genevieve Hayward

BRIAN Scheu has saved a passenger's life and in three months this year drove 214 wheelchair-bound passengers to their destinations.

So little wonder Mr Scheu, from Kallangur, has been named the Taxi Council Queensland Driver of the Year for the Brisbane region.

The father of seven beat over 3400 Black and White Cab colleagues to the title and said while it was a privi-

lege to win, he was simply doing what he loved.

"I like driving and people which is what my job involves. It's a smashing combination," Mr Scheu said.

After driving taxis for almost 10 years, Mr Scheu has his fair share of stories to tell, but the most dramatic was when a passenger collapsed and stopped breathing in his cab.

"I looked in my mirror and

saw that his head had slumped over," Mr Scheu said.

"Luckyly he had a nurse travelling with him and she started CPR while I drove horn blazing and lights flashing to the hospital as quick as I could. It was a wild event."

A former car salesman, Mr Scheu now spends much of his time driving elderly, sick and disabled passen-

gers and said they are his most rewarding clients.

"I had a lady in my cab the other day who was 103-years-old, her husband had fought in World War II and she told me I had to eat fish everyday if I wanted to live for a long time," he said.

"It is an honour to drive people like that about because they played their part in the history of Australia and I'm pleased to be able to

help them in their time of need."

Black and White Cabs general manager John Tighe said it took a special driver to show so much dedication to his passengers.

"We have lots of good drivers, but Brian stands out," Mr Tighe said.

Winners were chosen by an independent panel. Mr Scheu will now go forward to the next stage, the Queensland Taxi Driver of the Year, which will be decided in August.

State Member for Pine Rivers Seath Holswich said cheaper electricity prices are likely after a Tariff Reform Working Group, with experts from Energex, Ergon, the Queensland Competition Authority, Queensland Treasury and the Department of Energy and Water Supply, was set up.

Donor mobile

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service donor mobile will be at the Sundowner Hotel, Caboolture on Monday, July 22, 9am-4pm. For an appointment visit donateblood.com.au or phone 131 495.

Science night

Holy Spirit School, Bray Park will consult the Brisbane Astronomical Society before re-scheduling its Science Night exploration of the sky, postponed because of cloud cover.

take a number

98.8

Drinking water supply capacity of Seqwater's Grid 12, including Wivenhoe, last week was 98.8 per cent, up 0.1 per cent on the previous week. North Pine Dam was standing at 8.2 per cent, down 0.3 per cent. Lake Kurongbah's level was 97.1 per cent, down 0.8 per cent.

Picture: Angie Simms