

**44 Ramsden St
Clifton Hill
VIC 3068**

Paul Graham
Group CEO and M.D.
Australia Post
GPO Box 1777,
Melbourne Vic 3001

Sunday, 7 September 2024

Dear Mr Graham,

I am writing to you as the secretary of the East Clifton Hill Residents Inc (ECHRI). It is unclear from the Australia Post website to whom I should be directing this letter but I trust that your office will be able to pass it to the person with the relevant responsibilities.

Amongst other things, ECHRI, as an incorporated association with members in the locality, includes in its Statement of Purposes obligations to 'act on behalf of and in the interest of its members and members of the local community' and to 'have regard to the public interest and the local environment in all aspects of its operations';

It has been drawn to ECHRI's notice this week that one of our local mailboxes, near the junction of Spensley and Berry Streets, Clifton Hill 3068, outside 36 Berry Street, has been removed. Further investigation has revealed the removal of post boxes previously at 28 Noone Street and 43 Groome Street. Further it appears that the box at the end of Spensley St near the junction with The Boulevard has disappeared, too.

No-one to whom we have spoken is aware of any notice or discussion regarding these actions. It is unknown whether the removals are temporary or permanent, or whether they will be replaced with some newer post boxes of a different design. Enquiries to Australia Post locally have not provided an answer.

Given that the Spensley St/ Berry St area is designated a 'Local Activity Centre' and is a well trafficked route to the Clifton Hill railway station, the logic of the removal there is unclear. Of course we all know that 'snail mail' is not used

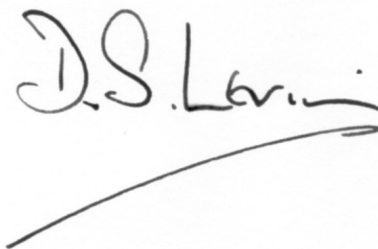
today as it was a decade or more ago, but if this is the logic, should we expect all our local post boxes to be removed soon?

The removal of such a large number of boxes seriously disadvantages the more elderly residents, and they are the people who, one might suppose, more often still write letters. Is the removal of so many boxes consistent with the Community Service Obligations prescribed under the Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989?

Are you prepared to consult with the local community to establish which boxes are the most useful or are you merely acting on the basis of the volume of letters deposited on any one day, week or month?

In that regard we ask that you now ensure that ECHRI is put on any list of bodies who will be notified of possible changes and consulted as to the views of the local community in Clifton Hill.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D.S. Levin". Below the signature is a long, sweeping horizontal line that starts under the first name and extends to the right, ending under the last name.

David Levin
Secretary
ECHRI