

IN AUSTRALIA:

Toilet seat almost turns lethal weapon

JUST like in the famous scene in the movie *Lethal Weapon 2*, when Danny Glover's character gets stuck on a toilet bowl, a man found himself glued to one in a shopping mall in Cairns, Australia.

While there was no explosive end to this real-life saga, the embarrassed man had to endure being taken from the toilet, with seat attached, to a hospital to get his rear unstuck.

The incident happened last Saturday morning when Mr Ronald Goodall, 57, visited a toilet in the Cairns Central shopping mall after probably reacting to "dodgy kebab" he had the night before, reported *The Cairns Post*.

Little did he know that there was more trouble on the horizon.

Said the devastated man: "I have never been so humiliated in all my life.

"I sat there for about 10 minutes trying to work out what to do but I had no choice."

He yelled to another toilet user to raise the alarm.

Paramedics arrived but even they could not separate him from the seat.

They detached the seat from the toilet, and, in full view of a gathering crowd, escorted him into an ambulance, which took him to a nearby hospital

Medical staff had to use industrial solvents to get the toilet seat off.

Mr Goodall's ordeal lasted 90 minutes.

Cairns Police District's Superintendent Brent Carter called it a thoughtless prank and appealed for public help to identify the culprit.

He said: "The humiliation of sitting on a toilet while emergency services are working around you trying to free you... I feel for the man."

A local government official was quoted by Associated Press as saying: "I'm disgusted that a gentlemen has had to go through that because someone thinks it's funny.

"It's a sick joke."

Police said it was the second case of a strong, fast-acting glue being smeared on a seat in the same men's toilets that day.

In the earlier incident, however, the man could get up before the glue set.

Police said the pranksters would face assault charges for causing bodily harm.



FILE PICTURE