

FREE

Coast Lines

Your Goolwa - Victor Harbor community monthly magazine reaching Kangaroo Island and Fleurieu Peninsula

December, 2014
Vol. 4; No. 58

Subscribe by post or **FREE** via email or online
Distributed first Thursday of each month
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**Yipee...
the fat
man in
the red
suit is
coming
to town!**

Summer is here and Father Christmas is on his way. We await another New Year and we hope it's a bright one.

It's a big occasion for the youngsters who are now right into the Christmas spirit, including three-year-old Harry, pictured left with his mum Sarah Mitford-Burgess, of Encounter Bay, enjoying the warmer weather at Horseshoe Bay, Port Elliot.

Most of all, we hope it is a safe festive season. Our police try to do as much as they can to remind us not to speed – and especially drink and drive – but ultimately road safety gets back to the individual. Heed the warnings, and drive carefully... don't become another statistic or put innocent lives at risk.

Let's enjoy the occasion... Mrs Eatwave gets into the swing of the season with a sensational Christmas cake recipe on page 27, but if you want to be a real Grinch on the day just read out the pathetic Chrissy jokes on page 19. Have a great Christmas and a happy New Year. And please, take care.



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RAA

Our January, 2015 edition, Vol. 4 #59

Please note that due to the Christmas-New Year holiday period our next edition will be distributed on Thursday, January 8. Look for copies at our new locations:

GOOLWA: RiverPort real estate, 27a Cadell St

MIDDLETON: The Pork Pie Shop, Main Road

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Thank you, Merry Christmas & have a Happy New Year!

So many wonderful people have helped us during the year to allow us to bring you your free community magazine *Coast Lines*. We thank the team at SA Design & Print who print *Coast Lines* – Geoff & Sue McRostie, Todd McMahon and Nic Connor – and the businesses that take in our copies and make them available for their customers. We appreciate the many people who allowed us to tell you their story, and naturally we thank you – the reader – for inspiring us to try and produce a better publication every month.

Most of all, we would like to thank our advertisers. Without them there would not be a *Coast Lines* – it represents their continued and much-valued support of the community. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

And please make it a safe festive season. Take care.

Ashley & Jenny Porter
Publishers



Support for Victor R7 grows

The magnificent response from the wider community to help the Victor Harbor Primary School recover after a devastating fire last month continues.

Adding to the growing activities is a \$50-a-head dinner organised by our resident champion of fundraising causes Rob Heaslip at the McCracken Country Club on Wednesday, December 10. Guest speakers are local politicians Jamie Briggs and Michel Pengilly, and mayor Graham Philp. Proceeds from the auction/raffle to the school. RSVP by Monday: call 8551 0200.

There is also a "Let's help VR7 get back on its feet fair" at the Encounter Bay Oval on Sunday, December 7 from 9am-4pm. There will be stalls, face painting, jumping castle, great music, and tasty food. Entry is free.

It is unreasonable to expect the Department for Education and Child Development to simply replace everything, and community help is needed. The support is also about helping teachers, students and their parents/carers get through the trauma.

The events are a reminder that across the south coast people care for each other. The great news is that wonderful people beyond our region have expressed the same support.



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(from left) Shane
Mitchell, and
proprietors Steve
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Into the spirit of the Christmas pageant, Seachange Village social club members Barry Cook and Margaret Loughhead and (right) as they normally look... but without the costumes!



Enjoy the festive season

Friday, Dec. 12: Christmas where the Angas Flows, Strathalbyn

Saturday, Dec. 13: Victor Harbor Christmas Pageant

Sunday, Dec. 14: Goolwa Christmas Pageant

Tuesday, Dec. 16: Port Elliot Carols

Wednesday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Pageant, Normanville

Wednesday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve celebration, Warland Reserve, Victor Harbor

Christmas is coming and now it's *Jungle Bells, Jungle Bells...*

The Magic Cave was created in Adelaide 100 years ago this Christmas, and the pageants across the Fleurieu Peninsula will also continue their magnificent tradition down the main streets of our towns to welcome the world's most popular man in a red suit – Santa Clause. Sponsors, volunteers and fun-loving people have thrilled people of all ages at our pageants for years, and the crew at the Seachange Village at Goolwa have certainly got into the spirit of it all having won prizes the past five years for their creativity with their floats. They've been many characters including retired super heroes and penguins, and it seems from the costumes (or are they for real?) worn by Seachange Village social club committee members Barry Cook and Margaret Loughhead above, there is going to be plenty of monkey business going on this year. Barry said it's a secret what their theme for this year's pageant as part of the Goolwa Christmas Festival will be, but rest assured it will bring plenty of laughs once again. These guys started planning their pageant performance in April, but according to Barry,

even though the residents have enjoyed their success the effort they go to is not about winning trophies.

"We just get a huge kick out of turning the corner into Cadell Street and seeing all the smiles on people of all ages," Barry said.

"It's not just about those who take part, but the spirit of Christmas. We're proud to have represented the 150-plus residents at Seachange Village over the years – this is a team effort."

The Victor Harbor pageant will be held on Saturday, December 13, and the Goolwa Christmas Festival will be the following night. And thanks to all the sponsors and volunteers! And what will Father Christmas bring you this year? Put it this way, if you're not happy with what you end up with the Seachange crew is holding its annual indoor garage sale in the community hall on Sunday, January 4 from 8am-2pm if you care to buy something else. Who knows, Santa may even stay around and ho-ho-ho into the sausage sizzle.



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more give, less take

Coast Lines 3

When a town connects

They gathered as one in the chambers of Alexandrina Council – 102 members of the community who care – to express their support to establish Alexandrina Connect, a new community centre to serve the south coast.

After hearing Karyn Bradford, executive officer of the Milang Old School House Community Centre, talk of what a community can achieve, and Professor Fiona Verity, a sociologist and a social worker with expertise in the areas of community development and public policy emphasis talk about the vital importance of such a centre, there seemed little doubt this ambitious project was achievable.

The push for Alexandrina Connect – a community centre that would embrace Victor Harbor, the wider community and not just Goolwa – is desperately needed with growing cuts to programs that help assist people who are socially isolated.

The meeting was chaired by Carol Gaston, chair of the Goolwa & District Community Bendigo Bank and an amazing supporter of the community, who said she was overwhelmed by the response to a call for a showing of support.

"As a result of the meeting we have 16 volunteers on a steering committee, 10 on a fundraising committee and people at the meeting pledged on the night



\$8500 in the first year," Carol said. "It was very good, extremely encouraging.

"We had our first steering committee meeting on Monday night. The plan is by end of January we will have a fully incorporated body, and the systems and processes set up for the governance. This enables us to seek incorporation and get an ABN, which will happen before Christmas.

“

This is the beginning of something special for the wider community across the Fleurieu Peninsula...

– Carol Gaston

Early in the new year we will seek charitable status or DGR (deductible gift recipient) status.

"We are most definitely thrilled by the support at the meeting, and the degree of support and encouragement from council, Mayor Keith Parkes and local Member of Parliament Adrian Pederick."

The committee needs to raise \$80,000 in its first year, largely to retain some semblance of an arts-

based workshop during 2015. The ultimate target is \$120,000, which will see other programs emerge.

"This is the beginning of something special for the wider community across the Fleurieu Peninsula," Carol said. "Those in attendance at the meeting were able to see first hand what is possible in a can-do community."

The achievements of the community centre in Milang have been recognised nationally, and Carol said it was heartening that its community was so willing to lend its support and expertise to help Alexandrina Connect evolve.

Carol Gaston is pictured (centre) at the meeting in the Alexandrina Chambers with Prof Fiona Verity (left) and Karyn Bradford.

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Piece of RAN war history on its way to festival

A magnificent piece of Royal Australian Navy history will grace the South Australian Wooden Boat Festival at Goolwa Wharf on February 21-22 with the arrival of *Bincleaves*.

It is not a destroyer or even a battleship, but the last of a fleet of torpedo recovery craft that was decommissioned in 1988 having served a crucial role in Sydney during the Second World War and beyond.

Basically, the RAN was no different to other countries when it tested its unarmed torpedoes for submarines, and the *Bincleaves* would recover them.

Built in 1945, and named after the torpedo testing base near Weymouth, England, the *Bincleaves* was recognised as the pride of the RAN's torpedo recovery fleet in a story written by Ross Gillett in *The Navy*, the magazine of the Navy League of Australia, in July, 1983.

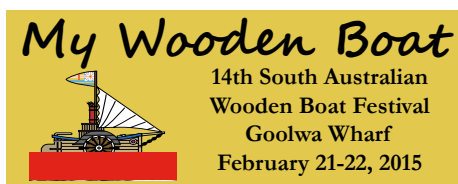
The *Bincleaves* is part of the Maritime History Trust, and is currently owned by Samuel Cutajar, of Inglewood, in the Adelaide Hills, who is passionate about military history and has a 1945 US Army jeep featured in a military vehicles museum in Edinburgh Park.

"The boat was owned by Geoff Battersby at Morgan and it caught my attention, and being into military history I felt that I had to just buy it," Samuel said. "*Bincleaves* has been in Swan Reach for the past 18 months.

"We have been doing a lot of restoration work... the usual maintenance, repainting, repairing the hull and altering the deck slightly. It was grey with white patches, but now it's all navy grey.

"The boat certainly gains a lot of attention. It's 38 feet long, has a 10ft 10in beam and twin Perkins diesel motors. There is mainly Oregon timber, and it is unusual because it's twin-skinned, meaning it has horizontal planking on the outside and 45-degree planking on the inside."

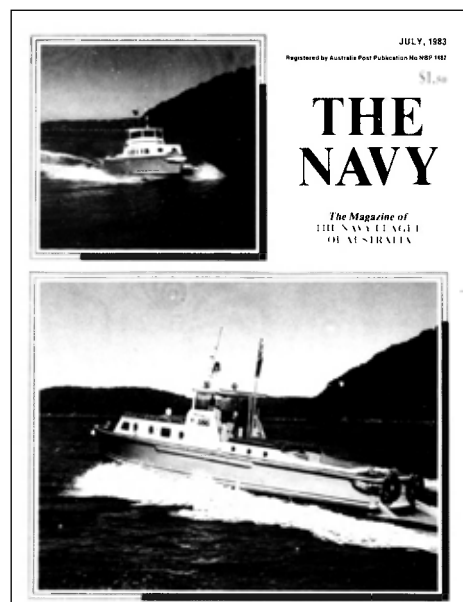
Magazines have suggested the *Bincleaves* cruises at 27 knots, but Samuel is not so sure. "There have been conflicting reports," he said. "I recently purchased a 1983 military magazine that says she does 16 knots, which I think is about the mark. You could ski behind her if you wanted to, but so far we've just gone for leisurely trips. My wife Lorraine and I are looking forward to being part of the Wooden Boat Festival and making the long trip from



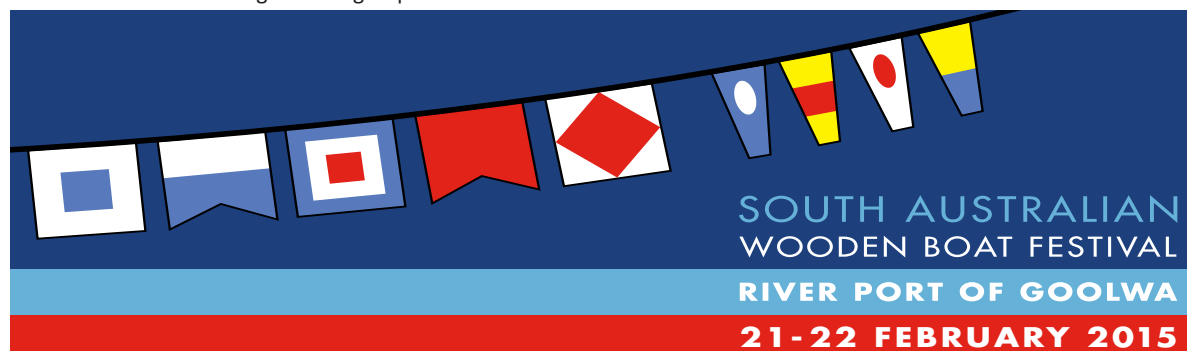
Swan Reach to Goolwa.

"The *Bincleaves* was the last torpedo recovery boat to be sold by the Navy. It had add-ons to provide living quarters on the top deck. It's not exactly how it was when it was in the Navy, but it still looks the part. We are trying to bring her back to how she was as much as possible."

Samuel, a fitter and turner by trade who ran a motor repair business before retiring, said he has no doubt people will be intrigued by the *Bincleaves* when they see her, especially the ex-Navy characters from the Goolwa RSL sub-branch when she is docked at the nearby Goolwa Wharf. It's what makes the SA Wooden Boat Festival so special – there is a great story behind every wooden boat and you never know what you are going to see next. But definitely not a destroyer or a battleship.



Top: *Bincleaves* today. Above: *Bincleaves* featured on the cover of *The Navy*, the magazine of the Navy League of Australia, in July, 1983.



Pharmacies taking on bigger role in health care

Pharmacies are playing a far more significant role in the health care system than years ago, according to Wayne Boundey, a co-proprietor of Hayborough Pharmacy.

He believes gone are the days when someone went to a chemist shop just for a prescription or something like suntan lotion, suggesting pharmacies now needed to be more pro-active in assisting people with preventative measures. "We have experienced the changes in the role of a pharmacy and moved with them," Wayne (pictured) said. "Of course, prescriptions will always be a key part of the business, but it's going to be even more about providing key services like being a flu clinic."

Hayborough Pharmacy, which is also run by other co-proprietors Justin Turner and Louise Jarman-Rowland, and is celebrating its tenth anniversary, is the only compounding pharmacy in the southern Fleurieu Peninsula. It means the pharmacy has its own laboratory and the capability to make specialised medicines that aren't available from the large manufacturers, which is important when people need to avoid certain ingredients due to allergies, or require creams, lozenges, capsules and mixtures with other special requirements.

"We can flavour medications to make them more palatable, which is great for making medication easier to give to children," Louise said. "Pharmacies have expanded from their

“

Pharmacies have expanded from their traditional dispensing role. It is about promoting health as well as looking after people – keeping you healthy.”

– Hayborough Pharmacy co-proprietor Louise Jarman-Rowland

traditional dispensing role. It is about promoting health and keeping you healthy.”

Justin said it was more important than ever to focus on customer health around the medicines.

"We're the only CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) pharmacy in the region; we have the machines used to treat sleep apnoea," Justin said. "We supply and set them up for



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customers and download their data to help analyse their progress.

"The customer service is a priority, and we work closely with numerous local nursing homes in Victor Harbor and Goolwa. We pack and deliver medications for their residents, constantly review their medication to make sure the patients are not getting interactions between their medications and supplements, and check they are getting their right dosages and/or combinations."

Wayne said Hayborough Pharmacy prided itself on serving the community beyond the traditional role of a pharmacy, and said much credit was due to the professional staff. "They are great," he said. "They care. They know the customers by name and there is mutual respect."



Thank you to all of our valued customers for 10 wonderful years

Friday & Saturday December 12-13: Help the team at Hayborough Pharmacy – pharmacists Louise Jarman-Rowland, Justin Turner & Wayne Boundey (pictured) plus the friendly staff – celebrate by sharing their huge birthday cake!

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Hayborough Pharmacy is the only compounding pharmacy on the south coast – ask the pharmacists and friendly staff why this is so important to you. And it's also the only one with CPAP machines used to treat sleep apnoea.



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Plus, if you are flying out and don't know where to leave your car, the RAA can arrange secure storage parking which includes a transfer to and from the airport at a discounted price for RAA members.

Holidays are exciting, but don't forget your property please make sure you have adequate insurance and security to cover one of your most valuable assets and again the team at the RAA Victor Harbor shop can assist.

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Welcomed support for young athletes

The Bendigo Bank's support for the local community – as a result of its support for the bank – was again evident with the Mid Coast Little Athletics Centre receiving a generous grant from the Aldinga Beach Community Bank Branch of Bendigo Bank.

The centre, which is putting fun into athletics as the youngsters develop their skills, caters from 'Tiny Tots' (3-4 years) to 17 years with an emphasis on developing basic skills in running, jumping and throwing that prepares them for an array of sports.

The Aldinga club was in desperate need of a senior high jump mat, and the local bank responded.

Centre president David Grigg was rapt, as was every member, parent and, of course, the young athletes.

"With 171 athletes taking part at our second meet of the season, this financial support has come at an excellent time and we are very grateful to the community support that the Aldinga Beach Community Bank is providing to local youth," David said.

"We are also extremely thankful to our silver and bronze sponsors, Clelands Veal Wholesale Butchers, McLaren Vale Bakery, The Carob Kitchen and The Running Company – Adelaide." Good on 'em.

The South Australian Little Athletics Association has an impressive reputation for caring and developing youngsters. Its centres across the state are all well organised, thanks to accredited volunteers and equally-hard working parents. If you would like your child to join little athletics visit the association's website to find out your nearest club: www.salaa.org.au

National honour for former local student



Local Year 12 students now embarking on life after school must surely be encouraged by the success of Brian Schiller, who has won the 2014 Prime Minister's Prize for Excellence in Science Teaching in Primary Schools – possibly the most significant teaching award in Australia.



Brian, a former Victor Harbor High School student, is the nephew of former district clerk of Port Elliot and Goolwa, the late Ronald Wellington. After moving from the family farm in the Murray Mallee as a 15-year-old, Brian lived with Ronald and his wife Thelma in 1979-80 while doing Year 11-12 at VHHS. He then worked for two years at the Victor Harbor District Council, before training to be a teacher. Nationally, one primary school teacher and one secondary teacher are honoured yearly in the Prime Minister's Prizes for Science. Brian attended the official presentation ceremony at Parliament House, and was personally congratulated by Prime Minister Tony Abbott. Brian was nominated for the award by his principal and colleagues at Seacliff Primary School, who highlighted Brian's teaching innovations that included a Japanese in Science program that he presented with the assistance of Japanese-speaking personnel, a science-guided reading strategy incorporating higher order thinking skills, and science investigations projects with gifted students.

Previously, Brian won a State Excellence in

Teaching award, was a finalist in the National BHP Billiton Science Teacher Awards, and was nominated for numerous public education awards. He is currently a general classroom teacher at Seacliff Primary.

The presentation (from left) Seacliff Primary School principal Greg Miller, Prime Minister Tony Abbott, and Brian Schiller.

CWA reformation meeting December 8

The push to revive the Country Women's Association branch in Goolwa has gained momentum with a meeting of people interested in joining scheduled at Signal Point on Monday, December 8 at 2pm. It is hoped an election of officers will be held, but there is no pressure to go on the committee by attending the meeting – those behind the push simply need to know the level of support. Let's keep it going.



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Dec 3-Jan 31

Everything Under The Sun Exhibition, Station Master's Gallery, Railway Station, South Tce, Strathalbyn. Annual summer exhibition with a difference – a collection of 'unthemed mini-thingsies'. Free entry. Wed-Sun 10am-4pm.

Dec 6-Jan 11

From Home to Here Exhibition, Signal Point Gallery, Goolwa Wharf. Inspired by thoughts of how the river relies on necessarily unfinished business, downstream. Lyn Wood, Cheryl Anne Brown and Jane Hylton combine to present notions of home in a variety of mediums. Free entry. Mon-Fri 11am-4pm, Sat, Sun 10am-4pm.

Dec 6-Jan 11

Drawing On Country Exhibition, South Coast Regional Arts Centre, Goolwa Tce, Goolwa. Following the Change and Adaption 2013 exhibition the 2014 artists will present their work. Free entry. Wed-Fri 11am-4pm, Sat, Sun 10am-4pm. Free entry.

Sunday, December 14

Goolwa Christmas Festival at Cadell Street and Arthur Neighbour Reserve from 6.30pm includes pageant, children's entertainment, carols, visit from Santa, and fireworks. Free entry. Alcohol free event.

Tuesday, December 16

Port Elliot Carols. Join in a Christmas carols sing a long with the Port Elliot community at Port Elliot Town Square, The Strand from 5pm. Includes carols and family activities. Refreshments available. Free entry.

Tuesday, December 16

Creating Christmas Decorations, Goolwa and Strathalbyn libraries 3-5pm. Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen or Rudolph... who is your favourite? Make a Christmas reindeer. Suitable for ages 5-plus. Free, bookings essential contact 8555 7000.

Go. See.

Free for community groups & clubs, etc.

Presented by Goolwa & District Community Bendigo Bank

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Thought for the Month...

Credit cards are like mosquitoes. You can keep them away for a while, but sooner or later they will be back to suck your blood.

Wednesday, December 17

Creating Christmas Decorations, Goolwa and Strathalbyn libraries 3-4pm. Make an adorable button Christmas Tree. Suitable for ages 5-plus. Free, bookings essential contact 8555 7000.

Thursday, December 18

Creating Christmas Decorations, Goolwa and Strathalbyn libraries 3-4pm. Make a Santa decoration. Suitable for ages 5-plus. Free, bookings essential contact 8555 7000.

Friday, December 19

The seventh annual festive celebration twilight concert will be held at Alexandrina Cheese, Mt Jagged. Special performers will be the Fleurieu Harmony group from 5-7pm. It's free, but book: 8554 9666.

Tuesday, December 23

Santa Visiting From The North Pole. Bring the children along to meet Santa and have a photo with him. All children will receive a small gift. Free, bookings essential. Contact 8555 7000. Strathalbyn Library 10.30am-noon; Goolwa Library 2pm-3.30pm.

Wednesday, December 24

Lions Family and Children's Christmas Eve Party, Arthur Neighbour Reserve, Goolwa 6-8.30pm. Enjoy an evening in the park with the family with entertainment and children's activities, plus free lollies and ice poles for the children. Santa will be visiting. Free entry.

December 27-28

Antique and Collectables Fair at Signal Point Gallery, Goolwa Wharf and Goolwa Primary School, Goolwa over the weekend... jewellery, Australiana, books, kitchenalia, toys, small furniture and ephemera. Tickets \$2 – all proceeds to Currency Creek CFS and community Hall. Sat 10am-4.30pm; Sun 10am-4pm. Contact 8555 4091.

Wednesday, December 31

New Year's Eve with 'The Fab Four', Fleurieu Function Centre, Barrage Rd, Goolwa. Come and celebrate with friends and family on the Fleurieu's premier waterfront venue with a three-course sit down dinner with live entertainment from the Beatles tribute band. Guest DJ to follow. Tickets \$100; bookings recommended. Contact 8555 1243.

Saturday, January 3

Tiy Fair, Jolly St, Victor Harbor from 9am-2pm. Some magnificent toy collectables on display.

January 17-18

The 19th annual Yesterday's Power Rally, Milang Oval from 10am. Collectors and enthusiasts from around Australia gather at the Milang oval for a weekend of activities, showcasing machinery, equipment from bygone days and the tractor pull. Vintage and veteran cars, commercial vehicles, motor cycles, military vehicles and much more. Contact Gaye 8536 3938 or Roger 0413 616 834.

January 17-25

Fresh Water Classic and Goolwa Regatta Week. Goolwa Regatta Yacht Club stages its nine-day festival of riverside activities, culminating with the Milang-Goolwa Freshwater Classic. Participants will compete in a variety of races including Marina Challenge Twilight Dash for Cash, vintage boats, dinghies, Sailability and remote control boats. Competitor entry fees apply. Visit: goolwaregattaweek.com.au or 8555 2617.

Saturday, January 24

Compass Cup, Mt Compass. Australia's only cow race... a great day of entertainment for the whole family with crowd participation events, food stalls, bar facilities, farm animals, sideshows and after race concert. Entry fees apply. More information at compasscup.com.au

Continued P11



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Tomorrow – December 5 – is International Volunteers Day, and when most people think of volunteering they picture people delivering Meals on Wheels or helping out in a charity op shop. But in today's busy world, you'll also see volunteers in their pyjamas. More people are starting to volunteer their time online or on the phone. It's called 'virtual volunteering' and you may participate any time, day or night. It's been popular for some time in other parts of the world, but is only now starting to take off in Australia. The charity DoSomething are calling on busy Australians to think about becoming a virtual volunteer. Their DoSomethingNearYou.com.au website is now listing virtual volunteering opportunities including becoming a Telecross volunteer for Red Cross, help scientists from the comfort of your home study penguins in the coldest parts of the world by annotating their images of wildlife in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, and assist the Australian Museum by transcribing specimen labels, field notes and diaries via your home



computer. DoSomething Founder Jon Dee said that with virtual volunteering you don't have to be fit or outgoing, or be able to drive a car. "People with disabilities or mobility restrictions can also get involved," he said. "All it takes is some spare time, whenever you happen to be available and that can be a little time or lots. Whatever you can give." Visit: DoSomethingNearYou.com.au



From P10

Monday, January 26

Cars of Australia, Strathalbyn. Iconic Australian vehicles will converge on Strathalbyn for a celebration of Australiana. Featuring cars, music, iconic food and children's entertainment. It's a car show for those manufactured or assembled in Australia prior to 1980 and eligible for historic registration. \$20 to enter your car. Visit: strathalbynautocollectors.com

Twilight markets return to Port Elliot

Get ready to snap up a bargain or fresh food in the sunset over Port Elliot. The Shipwrecks and Sunsets twilight markets organised by the Port Elliot Surf Lifesaving Club are coming back to Commodore Reserve on Saturdays, December 13 & 27, and January 10 from 4.30-8pm.

Last year's inaugural twilight market event was an outstanding success with more than 2000 people supporting 65 stalls and activities. Organisers now expect at least 80 stalls and even more people buying fresh produce, fashion and art.

It is a super concept and very well organised. Visit the market's Facebook page: Shipwrecks and Sunsets Twilight Markets. Call Hamish McMillan 0418 892 549.

Please support your local market

Cape Jervis: Second Sunday of the month from 9am-1pm.

Goolwa: First and third Sundays of the month at the wharf.

Inman Valley: First Saturday of month 9am-1pm.

Kangaroo Island Community Market: Penneshaw Oval and Town Hall first Sunday every month from 9am.

Kangaroo Island Farmers' Market: Lloyd Collins Reserve, first Sunday every month, 9am-1pm.

Myponga: Weekends and public holidays at the old Myponga Cheese Factory from 10am-4pm. www.mypongamarket.com

Port Elliot: First and third Saturdays of the month at Lakala Reserve.

Strathalbyn: Third Sunday of the month at Lions Park, South Terrace.

Willunga: Farmer's Market first Saturday of the month on McLaren Vale Road.

Victor Harbor: Farmers' market every Saturday until 1pm.

Victor Harbor: Indoor craft & plant market in the RSL clubrooms, Coral Street, on the fourth Saturday of the month from 9am-3pm.

Yankalilla: Third Saturday of the month from 9am.

Event updates:

e: info@coastlines.com.au
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Alan's round of golf at South Lakes much better than par

Alan Tarry has completed an exhausting 18 rounds of golf at South Lakes – in years, that is – and now he's going fishing.

The club has appointed Mark Crowe, who was assistant manager at McCracken Country Club, to replace him. He started on Monday.

At the stroke of midnight New Year's Eve, as we count seven, six, five, four... Alan is out of here. But while he puts this unusual timing to retire – just four days after his 60th birthday – down to his “warped sense of humour” don't believe for one moment that he hasn't enjoyed his time here since leaving the Royal Australian Air Force after 23 years as a navigator on Orion aircraft and commanding officer No. 10 Squadron.

Vastly different fields, but Alan's time at South Lakes has also been about searching for success and reaching lofty heights.

While most clubs across Australia have suffered a decline in membership from the impact of the World Financial Crisis, South Lakes has done incredibly well by basically maintaining its active membership of 574 with another 85 non-playing members.

“The South Lakes Golf Club has gone from a little hick country golf course and club to the biggest golf club outside of metropolitan Adelaide,” Alan said with enormous pride.

“I believe we grew like we have because we changed our ethos. When I first came here we were very much a club, whereas now we're more than that; we're a much bigger part of the community.

“We host things like the Tuesday night bridge club, Goolwa Hotel social club with their bingo sessions, and a lot of dinners for sporting clubs. We do charity days. Basically, we opened up the club to the community.



“It's also a great course because it suits anyone of any standard; we make sure it remains demographically suitable for all. We still have people like Jimmy O'Connor who is 89 years old and walks the course twice a week and plays in competitions on Saturdays. The course is not too demanding physically.

“We have really developed the course, like putting in Santa Anna Couch fairways, hell of a lot of mounding, and new lakes. The council approached us and asked us to take in storm water, so we did to help the community.”

Alan's wonderful contribution to golf was acknowledged in 2012 when Golf Management Australia named him South Australian Golf Manager of the Year.

However, he believes his biggest reward has been the development of club juniors, including current touring pro Max McArdle, and the mere fact people are returning to playing golf after an overall lull.

“Golf has been a bit like tennis and cricket,” Alan said. “If we (Australia) are going well at something the kids want to play that sport. When we were going well with Greg Norman everyone was playing, and now Adam Scott is doing well we are seeing a lot more juniors

come through. It's great that Golf Australia is now putting a lot more effort into junior golf.

“At the same time, the younger generation is not having kids until later which makes a difference. In my day you were married in your early 20s, and now they are doing their career thing and then getting married at 30-plus so they are not getting into golf until later. They have bigger mortgages and families coming through so they cannot afford to play golf.”

Above everything, when Alan thinks of his time at South Lakes he remembers the years his dad, Ray, a coal miner from Nottinghamshire, England caddied for his sons, Craig and Shane, who both won the junior club championship. A month after his dad died in 2002, aged just 66, Craig won the club championship.

“It was a special part of our time here as a family,” Alan said. Indeed, and the good times will continue when he and his wife, Georgina, continue their passion for fishing with far greater intense.

Gone will be the days of working 50 hours a week to help the club; no longer will he stare out the window wishing he was playing on the course trying to improve his 16 handicap. It will be all about sinkers and not sinking putts.

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Mr Ed can now tell a good news story on a rainy day

In a burdened world there is comfort that good feel stories still exist. Recently, the community's response to the Victor Harbor Primary School being razed was one, and the opening of the nearby indoor complex for the Riding For Disabled at Morgan Park was certainly another.

It wasn't only the much-appreciated presence of equestrian queen Gillian Rolton, in hand with her shining gold medals from the 1992 Barcelona and '96 Atlanta Olympic Games, that made the RDA event special, but the so-called lesser lights behind the scenes who made this magnificent centre possible.

One by one local RDA vice-president John Vincent, who like his wife, Sue, is a remarkable volunteer – amazing because they do not have a child with a disability – listed those who over the past three years had kindly donated time, effort and/or money to this wonderful cause of helping children be the best they can.

They included the blokes from RNI Construction, whose contribution was admirable, the Golf & Liquor Industry Association, the Fleurieu Philanthropy Association, Fleurieu Friends who Care group, both local Rotary clubs and the Heritage Bakery. The list was extensive, yet the occasion wasn't about self-accolades but the achievements of every RDA participant, and the marvellous volunteers and parents who until now had always braced themselves with the awful task of telling the kids there was 'no horse riding today because it's raining'. Not any more.

We saw Bethany perform on a Palomino called Mr Ed who was speechless, an Appaloosa called Bindy ridden by Kathryn, and Felicity on a chestnut named Dusty. All brilliant. They, and their parents/carers and volunteers were probably the only ones who really knew the significance of their riding ability, indeed what it had taken to get this far, but there wasn't a guest who didn't seem to share Gillian's view that gold medal performances were not purely confined to the Olympic arena.

For some, this may have just been another nice opening of a magnificent expansion that further enhances this RDA centre as one of the finest in the state, but to the kids it was a lot more. It means they don't care if it rains today. It also tells you something about our community.



Top: Kathryn aboard Bindy, and (above) Olympic gold medallist Gillian Rolton with Bethany on Mr Ed in the RDA's new undercover expansion at Morgan Park.

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Victor Harbor is perhaps the most-visited and one of the most beautiful country towns in South Australia, yet some residents see it differently. Alan Kluske finds the positives, and he says there are many. But then, he's bias; he loves this 'pretty little place'.

Victor Harbor

Alan Kluske believes in the message behind an old football fable about a country recruit who approaches the old doorman of his new league club in Adelaide and asks what the club is like.

The doorman smiles and asks in return: "What was the club like where you are from?"

The recruit says: "Not good. The coach had lost the respect of the players, the committee had lost the respect of the people behind the club, and basically we were going nowhere."

The doorman says: "It's much the same here."

Minutes later, another recruit from the same country town arrives for the first time and also asks the doorman: "What is this club like?"

Again, the doorman smiles and asks in return: "What was the club like where you are from?"

The recruit says: "I loved it. We didn't have a lot of success last season but the coach was developing the young players and they'll improve. The committee is very supportive and overall there's a great atmosphere within the club."

And again, the doorman says: "It's much the same here."

The bottom line is, whether it's a club or a town, it's how you see it; if you think it's dead then it is. If you think it's great, then it is.

It's why Alan hates, with some passion, the suggestion Victor Harbor is "God's waiting room". He sees this town as a lovely little place, and he issues a warning; if you are dying of boredom then it's your fault.

There are many who have lived here longer than Alan having come from Murray Bridge via Naracoorte in 1985, but he is certainly qualified to offer his view. He is, after all, Mr Menswear. Perhaps not quite in the super hero mould just yet, but being in his Ocean Street clothing shop with his wife, Bev, he meets the blokes



of this town, and since Mr Menswear started cross-dressing by selling fashionable women's clothing he gets a good insight to what our women are thinking too. That itself is globally unique.

Alan is also the president of Encounter Bay Rotary Club, has been on a zillion local street and business committees, coached the B-grade lads at Victor Harbor footy club to a flag in 1999, and like Max Bell around the corner it's hard to find something that he hasn't sponsored.

So when Alan, 67, says he loves this place you listen. Besides, he says, he's not interested in people who cannot find time to see the positive things in life. "Sure, there are some things here that I would like to see change a little bit, but everyone says that about every town," he said. "You go with the flow. There is not much that I

don't love about Victor Harbor."

Alan started with the entry at Kleinig's Hill: "It is a magic view from here and it varies every day. It's priceless." From the restaurant below the Bluff: "That's as good as anywhere in the world, and it's right on our doorstep. This is a pretty little place, and we are damn lucky."

And Alan talks of the breathtaking first hole at the Victor Harbor Golf Club which in September won acclaim having been named by Australia's premier golf magazine *Australian Golf Digest* in its Hall of Fame Awards for Iconic Australian Golf Holes. It looks over the town, and on the horizon you see Granite Island where the historic horse-drawn meets the old steam train engines on Australia's first-ever passenger railway line to Port Elliot.

Continued P15

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Merry Christmas



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From P14

Such magnificence, as per the tourism brochures, and we can add the awards including Australia's Tidiest Town 2013 and South Australia's Best Main Street this year.

According to Alan, Victor Harbor has a heart of its own and it pounds pretty strongly. "I really like the community spirit in this town; it's amazing," he said.

"There are towns that have lost their hospital but no one is prepared to let that happen here. The number of people who get behind every fundraising event for the South Coast District Hospital is incredible, and because of that it provides an outstanding service to the community.

"Towns lose their cinema, but not here. People support it because it has amazing character and we appreciate what we have.

"We've got the biggest community art show in the southern hemisphere and it is very professionally done by the Rotary Club of Victor Harbor. How many country towns have two magnificent golf courses, two bowling clubs, two football, netball and cricket clubs, and two Rotary clubs? Not many.

"There are a lot of people who do a lot of service work and they do a fantastic job. There is healthy rivalry among the sporting clubs... you get banter to and fro at time to time, but you don't get that in some towns; it becomes narky. Here, it's a fun place.

"There is so much variance when it comes to sporting and leisure activity for all ages. We have the magnificent clean beaches around us for water sports, and great places to ride your bikes with a mixture of flat and hilly roads.

"Overall, we are just so lucky have what we have got, but it's the strength of the community spirit that touches me most. You only need to look at the response of the town and the region to the burning down of the primary school

"Overall, we are just so lucky have what we have got, but it's the strength of the community spirit that touches me most."
– Alan Kluske

a few weeks ago; it has been amazing. The generosity is huge.

"Sadly, we're no different to any other town when it comes to accidents with young kids and we have lost a few. One was too many. The community rallies here too, but it's something that is not really acknowledged because people never promote themselves about it; they do it for the right reasons. They just do it, and that shows the character of the town.

"We have all heard the 'god's waiting room' bit, and people think that is funny. I don't like it. A town is what you make it. People said that Naracoorte was a clicky place, but when we arrived and got involved with the community and we were prepared to go out and join in we found out what the locals were really like – and they were great. Victor Harbor is no different."

From a personal point of view, Alan likes to think one of his finest achievements was being part of the Victor Harbor pageant committee that kept it going in 1988 when it looked like folding.



"The pageant was just a note in the local paper to say rock up at Eyre Tce and you are off and go," Alan said.

"I spoke to Ian Warner and Bob Kay and a few of the other local traders here and we stirred it up a bit. Those were days when we didn't know whether there would be six floats, 10 floats or 20 or none.

Continued P16



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VICTOR HARBOR 5211



Established: 1863

Population: 13,841 (2011 Census)

Name: The town was originally known as Port Victor, situated on the shores of Victor Harbor, but was changed to Victor Harbor in 1921 as a result of confusion with Port Victoria on Yorke Peninsula. The Australian Government style manual has always spelt harbour with a 'u' but a few geographical names in SA including Outer Harbor are this way as a result of poor spelling by an early-era surveyor general in SA.

Real estate: Rob Heaslip and Peter Hooper, principals of South Coast Realty with offices in Victor Harbor, Goolwa and Mount Compass, have years of experience in real estate across the region and know the trends well. Rob said that generally, with the market in Victor Harbor, you don't have the peaks and troughs like you do in most towns.

"It is a very stable market," Rob said. "History tells over the years that for investors there may not be a lot of capital growth, but there is certainly stability without taking a lot of risk. You have your ups and downs, but Victor Harbor is an excellent place to invest."

"The current market is showing signs of recovery; prices aren't going up, but there has been good improvement compared with 12 months ago. Some people see Victor Harbor as an older person's market, but in actual fact we are finding that in recent times we have sold quite a few properties to first-home buyers, which is a change compared with years ago. I see it as a reflection of the younger people coming into the town largely due to employment in aged care or hospitality, and we can see that by our schools expanding and sporting club increasing their junior participation levels."

From P15

Our committee thought we should know who we were dealing with and we started a nomination form, which caused a stir.

"We also went through the trauma of shifting from Christmas Eve, mainly because we could not get bands to perform that night and there was no music; nothing, so we brought it forward. Gee, that got some reaction. The pageant is now a magnificent event and the town should be proud."

When asked whether anything in particular had touched him personally Alan recalled the time in 1999 when the Victor Harbor Football Club held a club ball and the players had to wear a suit. "They made a big fuss about it because they said they'd never wear one again," Alan recalled.

"Not long after an elderly person within the club died, and as a mark of respect all of the players went to his funeral wearing their suit. Some never even knew the elderly gentleman."

"I thought that was pretty good,

and while people talk about how Victor Harbor is full of old people they don't know of the quality of our younger generation.

"To me, this was a reflection of when Peter Francis was principal of Victor Harbor High School (1995-2000). He turned the school around from where the kids didn't want to go to school or learn, to wanting to be there and achieve. He was followed by Peter Manuel (2001-03) who continued that great communication with the students."

"I think it is why we are getting this flow on from today's kids that there are other things in life and maybe we should be looking further ahead and be a bit more compassionate about what we do, whether it be schooling or with one another and things like that."

"The effort of these principals was a big turning point for Victor Harbor, and I don't think it can be under-estimated. Now we have young people who also love this town." **CL**

Lakeside Goolwa

update

Vol. 2, No.10 December, 2014

It can be the beginning of a new life

It may be the end of the year, but it's just the beginning of your new life at Lakeside Goolwa.

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Also expiring on December 31, 2014 is the Seniors Bonus of \$8500 provided by Lakeside Goolwa. By paying your full deposit in this calendar year you will save a massive \$18,500 on a three-bedroom home.

As work continues around our village, a few changes have been introduced in the later part of the year.

Firstly, the motel situated next door to the village has now become part of the development with future plans for this site to become two-storey townhouses complete with pontoons, magnificent views out over the wetlands and Currency Creek.

Secondly, the restaurant has been converted into the residents function centre now named the Lake View Room. Many a fun time has already been had in this room



	Current price	2015 price
2 bedroom home	\$285,500 (with Seniors Bonus)	\$299,000
3 bedroom home	\$295,500 (with Seniors Bonus)	\$314,000

with Christmas lunch our next function to celebrate the festive season.

Office relocation will take place in the New Year, moving from the Lake House building over to the new entry area of the function room. The Lake House will then have a temporary gymnasium set up until the swimming pool area is completed next year. There truly

is so much on offer and this is all happening ahead of schedule in stage 1.

We are open throughout the Christmas & New Year holiday period with the exception of Christmas Day, Boxing Day & New Year's Day.

From everyone at Lakeside Goolwa, we wish you a Merry Christmas & a very happy New Year.

Save the Dates!



Thursday, Dec. 11: Lakeside Goolwa Christmas Lunch... come down for a Christmas feast and meet Father Christmas.

Saturday, April 4 & Monday, April 6: Lakeside Goolwa Easter Bowls Invitational... two days of fun filled bowls action at the Goolwa Bowling Club – no experience necessary! Please call Fiona on 8555 2737 for more details on any of these events and to confirm numbers.

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Laugh Lines presents...

50 ... of the worst Christmas jokes of all time. If you don't like your Christmas presents read this lot out aloud at the Christmas lunch table (he he he).



What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus? Claustrophobic.

Why does Santa have three gardens? So he can ho-ho-ho.

Why was Santa's little helper sad? Because he had low elf esteem.

What do vampires sing on New Year's eve? Auld Fang Syne.

What do call Santa when he stops moving? Santa Pause.

What happened to the men who stole the advent calendar? They got 25 days.

Why do mummies like Christmas so much? Because of all the wrapping.

Where do reindeer go to dance? Christmas balls.

What kind of motor bike does Father Christmas ride? Holly Davidson.

What is the best Christmas present in the world? A broken drum because you can't beat it.

Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A mince spy.

What does Santa do with fat elves? He sends them to an elf farm.

Who delivers presents to cats? Santa Paws.

What did the sea say to Santa? Nothing; it just waved.

Who delivers presents to baby sharks at Christmas? Santa Jaws.

Who is Santa's favorite singer? Elf-is Presley.

What do Santa's little helpers learn at school? The elf-abet.

What do reindeer hang on Christmas trees? Hornaments.

What carol do they sing in the desert? Oh Camel ye Faithful.

What do you get if Santa goes down the chimney when a fire is lit? Krisp Kringle.

How long does a reindeer's legs have to be? Long enough to touch the ground.

What do you get if you cross a bell with a skunk? Jingle smells.

Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing? They always drop their needles.

What's worse than Rudolph with a runny nose? Frosty the snowman with a hot flush.

Why did the Christmas turkey join the band? Because it had the drumsticks.

What did Adam say on the day before Christmas? It's Christmas, Eve.

Why didn't anyone bid for Rudolf or Blitzen on eBay? Because they were too deer.

Why don't you ever see Father Christmas in hospital? Because he has no elf cover.

How did Mary and Joseph know that Jesus was 7lb 4oz when he was born? Because they had a weigh in a manger.

What do angry mice send to each other at Christmas? Cross Mouse cards.

What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations? Tinsilitis.

Why is it harder to buy Advent calendars? Because their days are numbered.

What do you call an obnoxious reindeer? Rude-olf.

How many presents can Santa fit into an empty sack that is three metres long? One. After that the sack is not empty.

What did the turkeys do at the Christmas dance? They danced chick to chick.

What was the crocodile's favourite game for

Christmas? Snap.

Who rarely eats her Christmas lunch? The chicken; it's usually stuffed.

Who wraps the presents in the forest? Ribbon Hood.

What do you give a railway station master for Christmas? Platform shoes.

What did the Christmas tree say to the ornament? Are you tired of hanging around?

What does Santa say in a race? Ready, set, HO!"

What do the reindeer sing to Father Christmas his birthday? Freeze a jolly good fellow.

What do you call a man who claps at Christmas? Santapplause.

What do they sing under the ocean during the winter? Christmas corals.

What did the reindeer say before launching into his comedy routine? This will sleigh you.

What's black and white and red all over? Santa covered with chimney soot.

Why did the elf go to school? To learn his Elfabet.

What's red and white, red and white, red and white? Santa Claus rolling down the hill.

What did Mrs. Claus say to Santa when she looked in the sky? Looks like rain, dear.

What do you get if you cross Santa Claus with a duck? A Christmas quacker.

... Seriously, we hope you got a few laughs from Laugh Lines during the year. Life is too short otherwise. Merry Christmas!

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The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1

(CTC) Action, fantasy, thriller starring Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, and Philip Seymour Hoffman. Against all odds, Katniss Everdeen has survived the Hunger Games twice. But now that she's made it out of the bloody arena alive, she's still not safe. The Capitol is angry. The Capitol wants revenge. Who do they think should pay for the unrest? Katniss. And what's worse, President Snow has made it clear that no one else is safe either. Not Katniss's family, not her friends, not the people of District 12. **Fri, Dec 5: 1.50pm, 8.40pm; Sat, Dec 6: 4.10pm, 8.40pm; Sun, Dec 7: 8pm; Tues, Dec 9: 8.40pm; Wed, Dec 10: 7.25pm; Fri, Dec 12: 6.15pm; Sun, Dec 14: 8pm; Mon, Dec 15: 6.30pm; Tues, Dec 16: 6.30pm; Wed, Dec 17: 6.30pm.**

Serena

(CTC) Drama starring Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper, Rhys Ifans, Toby Jones and Susanne Bier. The year is 1929, and newlyweds George and Serena Pemberton travel from Boston to the North Carolina mountains where they plan to create a timber empire. Although George has already lived in the camp long enough to father an illegitimate child, Serena is new to the mountains, but she soon shows herself to be the equal of any man, overseeing crews, hunting rattle-snakes, even saving her husband's life in the wilderness. Together this lord and lady of the woodlands ruthlessly kill or vanquish all who fall out of favour. Yet when Serena learns that she will never bear a child, she sets out to murder the son George fathered without her. Mother and child begin a struggle for their lives, and when Serena suspects George is protecting his illegitimate family, the Pembertons' intense, passionate marriage starts to unravel as the story moves toward its shocking reckoning. **Fri, Dec 5: 4.20pm, 6.30pm; Sat, Dec 6: 1.35pm, 6.30pm; Sun, Dec 7: 3.25pm, 5.50pm; Tues, Dec 9: 6.30pm; Wed, Dec 10: 3.35pm, 5pm; Fri, Dec 12: 1.55pm; Sun, Dec 14: 3.40pm; Mon, Dec 15: 2.10pm; Tues, Dec 16: 2.10pm; Wed, Dec 17: 2.10pm.**

When the Queen came to town

(G) Documentary featuring Queen Elizabeth II, Narrated by Burt Newton. A Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Queen's first Royal Tour of Australia and New Zealand. Featuring Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II and the good people of 1954 Australia who were there to witness When Queen Came to Town! **Sat, Dec 6: 12.50pm; Sun, Dec 7: 4.10pm; Wed, Dec 10: 3.20pm.**

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day

(CTC) Family comedy starring Steve Carell, Jennifer Garner, Ed Oxenbould, Dylan Minnette and Kerris Dorsey. The exploits of 11-year-old Alexander as he experiences the most terrible and horrible day of his young life, a day that begins with gum stuck in his hair, followed by

one calamity after another. But when Alexander tells his upbeat family about the misadventures of his disastrous day, he finds little sympathy and begins to wonder if bad things only happen to him. He soon learns that he's not alone when his brother, sister, mom and dad all find themselves living through their own terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day. Anyone who says there is no such thing as a bad day just hasn't had one. **Fri, Dec 5: 2.05pm, 6.40pm; Sat, Dec 6: 11.05am, 2.30pm, 6.40pm; Sun, Dec 7: 1.40pm, 5.35pm; Tues, Dec 9: 6.40pm; Wed, Dec 10: 10.45am*, 1.40pm, 5.45pm; Fri, Dec 12: 6.30pm; Sat, Dec 13: 11.40am, 1.20pm; Sun, Dec 14: 11.20am, 6pm; Mon, Dec 15: 10.20am, 5.05pm, 6.45pm; Tues, Dec 16: 10.20am, 5.05pm, 6.45pm; Wed, Dec 17: 10.20am, 5.05pm, 6.45pm; Thurs, Dec 18: 9.55am, 2.55pm; Fri, Dec 19: 9.55am, 2.55pm; Sat, Dec 20: 9.55am, 2.55pm; Sun, Dec 21: 11.30am, 6.05pm; Mon, Dec 22: 9.55am, 2.55pm; Tues, Dec 23: 9.55am, 2.55pm.**

Exodus Gods and Kings

(CTC) Drama, history movie starring Christian Bale, Aaron Paul, Sigourney Weaver, and Joel Edgerton. The story of one man's daring courage to take on the might of an empire. Ridley Scott brings new life to the story of the defiant leader Moses as he rises up against the Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses, setting 600,000 slaves on a monumental journey of escape from Egypt and its terrifying cycle of deadly plagues. **Fri, Dec 5: 3.50pm, 8.20pm; Sat, Dec 6: 10.50am, 3.45pm, 8.20pm; Sun, Dec 7: 1.25pm, 7.20pm; Tues, Dec 9: 8.20pm; Wed, Dec 10: 10.30am*, 12.45pm, 7.10pm; Fri, Dec 12: 3.45pm, 8.15pm; Sat, Dec 13: 3pm, 8pm; Sun, Dec 14: 3.10pm, 7.45pm; Mon, Dec 15: 12.15pm, 8.25pm; Tues, Dec 16: 12.15pm, 8.25pm; Wed, Dec 17: 12.15pm, 8.25pm; Thurs, Dec 18: 3.45pm, 8.30pm; Fri, Dec 19: 3.45pm, 8.30pm; Sat, Dec 20: 3.45pm, 8.30pm; Sun, Dec 21: 7.45pm; Mon, Dec 22: 3.45pm, 8.30pm; Tues, Dec 23: 3.45pm, 8.30pm.**



Horrible Bosses 2

(Ma15+) Comedy starring Chris Pine, Jason Sudeikis, Charlie Day, Jason Bateman and Christoph Waltz. Fed up with answering to higher-ups, Nick, Dale and Kurt decide to become their own bosses by launching their own business. But a slick investor soon pulls the rug out from under them. Outplayed and

desperate, and with no legal recourse, the three would-be entrepreneurs hatch a misguided plan to kidnap the investor's adult son and ransom him to regain control of their company. **Fri, Dec 12: 4.05pm, 8.40pm; Sat, Dec 13: 1.30pm, 8.15pm; Sun, Dec 14: 1.30pm, 5.50pm; Mon, Dec 15: 12.01pm, 4.20pm, 8.55pm; Tues, Dec 16: 12.01pm, 4.20pm, 8.55pm; Wed, Dec 17: 12.01pm, 4.20pm, 8.55pm; Thurs, Dec 18: 11.35am, 4.35pm, 9pm; Fri, Dec 19: 11.35am, 4.35pm, 9pm; Sat, Dec 20: 11.35am, 4.35pm, 9pm; Sun, Dec 21: 3.30pm, 8pm; Mon, Dec 22: 11.35am, 4.35pm, 9pm; Tues, Dec 23: 11.35am, 4.35pm, 9pm.**

Paddington

(CTC) Comedy, family movie starring Ben Whishaw, Nicole Kidman, Sally Hawkins, Julie Walters and Hugh Bonneville. The story follows the comic misadventures of a young Peruvian bear with a passion for all things British who travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he begins to realize that city life is not all he had imagined - until he meets the kindly Brown family who read the label around his neck and offer him a temporary haven. It looks as though his luck has changed until this rarest of bears catches the eye of a museum taxidermist. **Fri, Dec 12: 1.45pm; Sat, Dec 13: 11.30am, 3.40pm; Sun, Dec 14: 11.30am, 1pm; Mon, Dec 15: 10.15am, 3.05pm; Tues, Dec 16: 10.15am, 3.05pm; Wed, Dec 17: 10.15am, 3.05pm; Thurs, Dec 18: 1.45pm, 6.30pm; Fri, Dec 19: 1.45pm, 6.30pm; Sat, Dec 20: 1.45pm, 6.30pm; Sun, Dec 21: 2.05pm, 4.05pm; Mon, Dec 22: 1.45pm, 6.30pm; Tues, Dec 23: 1.45pm, 6.30pm.**

Annie

(PG) Comedy, family, musical starring Rose Byrne, Cameron Diaz, Jamie Foxx and Bobby Cannavale. Annie is a young, happy foster kid who's also tough enough to make her way on the streets of New York in 1914. Originally left by her parents as a baby with the promise that they'd be back for her someday, it's been a hard knock life ever since with her mean foster mom Miss Hannigan. But everything is about to change when the hard-nosed tycoon and New York mayoral candidate Will Stacks makes a thinly-veiled campaign move and takes her in. Stacks believes he's her guardian angel, but Annie's self-assured nature and bright, sun-will-come-out-tomorrow outlook on life just might mean it's the other way around. **Thurs, Dec 18: 10.15am, 12.35pm, 6.45pm; Fri, Dec 19: 10.15am, 12.35pm, 6.45pm; Sat, Dec 20: 10.15am, 12.35pm, 6.45pm; Sun, Dec 21: 11.45am, 1.10pm, 5.40pm; Mon, Dec 22: 10.15am, 12.35pm, 6.45pm; Tues, Dec 23: 10.15am, 12.35pm, 6.45pm.**

The Water Diviner

(CTC) Drama starring Jai Courtney, Russell Crowe, Olga Kurylenko and Isabel Lucas. Russell Crowe makes his directorial debut with this war story set after the Battle of Gallipoli in 1919 - the World War I campaign fought by ANZAC,

Continued P21

Turkish and Allied troops - about an Australian farmer (Crowe) who travels to Turkey to find his three missing sons. **Commences December 26.**

Big Hero 6

(PG) Animation, action, comedy, family move starring Scott Adsit, Ryan Potter, Daniel Henney and T.J. Miller. An action comedy adventure about brilliant robotics prodigy Hiro Hamada, who finds himself in the grips of a criminal plot that threatens to destroy the fast-paced, high-tech city of San Fransokyo. With the help of his closest companion, a robot named Baymax, Hiro joins forces with a reluctant team of first-time crime fighters on a mission to save their city. **Commences December 26.**

Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb

(CTC) Fantasy, adventure, comedy, family movie starring Robin Williams, Ben Stiller, Rebel Wilson, Owen Wilson and Rami Malek. The story of one man's daring courage to take on the might of an empire. Ridley Scott brings new life to the story of the defiant leader Moses as he rises up against the Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses, setting 600,000 slaves on a monumental journey of escape from Egypt and its terrifying cycle of deadly plagues. **Commences December 26.**



The Hobbit: The Battle of Five Armies

(CTC) Adventure, fantasy movie starring Ian McKellen, Martin Freeman, Benedict Cumberbatch, Richard Armitage and Luke Evans. Directed by Peter Jackson. An epic conclusion the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, Thorin Oakenshield and the Company of Dwarves. Having reclaimed their homeland from the Dragon Smaug, the Company has unwittingly unleashed a deadly force into the world. Enraged, Smaug rains his fiery wrath down upon the defenseless men, women and children of Lake-town. **Commences December 26.**

Penguins of Madagascar

(CTC) Animation, adventure, comedy, family movie starring Tom McGrath, Chris Miller, Christopher Knights, Benedict Cumberbatch and Ken Jeong. Discover the secrets of the most entertaining and mysterious birds in the global espionage game: Skipper, Kowalski, Rico and Private now must join forces with the chic spy organization, the North Wind, led by Agent Classified to stop the villainous Dr. Octavius Brine from taking over the world. **Commences January 1.**

A new August moon arising



The August Moon is rising again in Sri Lanka and once more the elegantly-decorated elephants will stroll through the streets of Kanda, the capital of Sri Lanka during the reign of the ancient kings, with amazing poise. They prance to the beat of drums and the flight of dancers to launch Esala Perahere – the Festival of the Tooth.

For those who yearn the vibrant and spectacular beauty of the orient, this festival is a must, and you may participate as part of the latest adventure presented by Jeff Rainsford at Specialised Travel, departing Sunday, August 23, 2015 for 15 days.

The local Buddhist monks base the festival around the full moon of August, but to enable you to embrace the whole spectrum Sri Lanka has to offer Jeff and partner Sylvia have plucked the gems of the spectacular 10-night event to absorb the last few nights – the Perahera Festival.

You fly Singapore Airlines staying in hand-picked hotels based on comfort, and above all, excellent value.

The tour takes in the Pinawella Elephant Orphanage, and like these little fellows you will never forget the experience. Rather than visiting one temple or historic site after another, Jeff has identified the Sigiriya Rock Fortress as the ideal location, especially majestic view from the summit plateau.

There are so many other superb features of this tour – and dare we say the paths of shopping temptation. You may study the itinerary by emailing and telephoning Jeff for an itinerary. We strongly suggest you note the accommodation and check out the quality on the internet.

COST: \$4690 per person/twin share.

Jeff has two other tours that are sure to attract enormous attention. They are:

ANZAC Day 100th Anniversary

The tour to Gallipoli is literally a lottery because of the special interest in the centenary, but there is a great alternative and far less taxing on the body. It's the ceremony in Sandakan, Sabah. Previously known as Borneo, where Australians at war also forged their bravery and honour, this ceremony is far easier to attend and the atmosphere is equally respectful.

This 10-day tour, the result of strong connections with the Sabah government organisers, departs Australia on Sunday, April 19, 2015. Again, excellent accommodation. COST: \$3860 per person/twin share.

Sandakan Memorial Day

This will be Specialised Travel's seventh tour in seven years to this event in Borneo, and every year it has earned praise. The 10-day tour departs Australia Sunday, August 9, 2015. Early bookings are strongly recommended as the hotel bookings fill quickly. COST: \$3860 per person/twin share.

Special note: Both Borneo tours offer you a choice of airline from every capital city to suit your preference.

Again, you need to study the brochure on each of these tours. With Specialised Travel, there is trust and attention to detail, and most of all a commitment to making sure you have the best and safest trip possible.

Jeff Rainsford, the owner-manager of Specialised Travel based in Goolwa, is an award-winning travel agent celebrating three decades of excellence in customer service. Call him today. ABN: 38 357 863 298 IATA: 96 8 0449 2

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Understanding the needs of farmers

Tom Kennedy remembers Christmas Day as a kid opening presents in the morning, having a family lunch and picking apricots in the afternoon. That was his country life in Loxton and every farmer would understand the crop still needs to be harvested no matter the day.

And with more than 30 years' experience in rural banking, including the past 13 in NSW, Tom can talk to any farmer and appreciate what they are about, what they would like to achieve, where they want to go with their farming business and how he may help them get there.

The great thing is, Tom enjoys being part of that process. "It's about listening to farmers and letting them know we can help," he says. Tom is now serving the Goolwa & District Community Bendigo Bank region as the relationship manager for Rural Bank, a wholly-owned member of the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Group.

The obvious question is why not call Bendigo Bank and Rural Bank by one name? Tom said it was largely about each of the banks 'playing to their strengths' – Bendigo Bank has set the standard for banking that gives financial power back to local communities, and Rural Bank's sole focus is to provide products and expertise to help agribusiness succeed. "It's about working together to meet the needs of customers," Tom said.

"Mike Bastian is the manager at the Goolwa & District Community Bendigo Bank, and is an expert in the banking requirements of personal customers. "Primary producers are also catered for because Rural Bank has the specialised financial tools to help farmers take control of their money, stay on top of challenges and grab opportunities." You get the expertise you need from the right people. We all work together.

"You can't pull the proverbial wool over a farmer's eyes because farmers know their farming business and they need someone who understands their situation."

For most part Tom is out in the countryside talking to farmers on their farm and forging working relationships. "When I am on the road I am observing what is going on in the paddocks," Tom said. "I like to hear what the farmers have to say and learn why they may be



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doing something a particular way.

"Because of my affinity with farmers, having grown up on the land myself, when I talk to them I feel at home. They are honest as the day is long. When a farmer says I do it this way for this reason, I can understand what they are talking about. You see the passion in what they do, and that's great.

"Quite often a farmer may need help with executing their plans for the future... this may include purchasing the adjacent block so their children are able to take the farm to yet another level.

"Farmers feel like they are a custodian of the land. They are looking after the land to pass it on to the next generation and that is something that you don't get in any other industry.

"When I first started in banking most country towns had a couple of banks, but in so many places now there are none. What I am finding is that a lot of the country towns are getting smaller and smaller as services and banks disappear. While other banks are closing branches, Bendigo Bank has a different philosophy and is working with local communities like Goolwa to restore banking services.

At Rural Bank we're here for rural Australians, their families and local communities, and this is so important for country towns. This ties in with the philosophy of most farmers who want to support the community, and bank with someone who looks after them. They are proud to say, hey I bank with Rural Bank."

If you would like an appointment with Tom contact him on 0409 296 699.

Going on holidays?

The Bendigo Bank has 540 customer service outlets across Australia. Customers may also do their banking at more than 90 on-line and off-line agencies through the bank's 2000-strong ATM network, or through the Bendigo Bank's phone banking and internet facility.

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Travel insurance... don't ever leave home without it

Organising travel insurance is an essential part of preparing for your overseas trip. If you are uninsured, you or your family are personally responsible for covering any medical or other costs resulting from unexpected incidents or accidents. You should make sure your travel insurance covers all medical expenses for injury or illness, as well as theft of valuables, damage to baggage and cancellations or interruptions to flight plans. Accidents can happen to anyone, and medical costs overseas can reach hundreds of thousands of dollars. Australians have faced financial hardship to cover these costs when things go wrong.

Here are some travel insurance top tips:

- Travel Insurance is as essential as your passport details regardless of your travel destination
- Comprehensive travel insurance should cover any activities you plan to participate in and be valid for the entire trip
- If you incur medical or other expenses while overseas and you don't have travel insurance, you are personally liable for covering these costs. The Australian Government cannot pay these expenses.
- There is no automatic refund when the Australian Government raises its travel warnings for travel to particular location. Refunds are dependent on the terms and conditions of your policy.
- Read and understand the product disclosure statement and make sure that you understand exactly what your policy covers. Also check the policy's exclusions including how it deals with any pre-existing medical conditions you may have.
- Unlike other types of insurance, travel insurance cover is effective from the moment your policy is issued, which can be issued up to 24 months in advance of your departure date, at no additional cost so you should seek cover as soon as non-refundable payments are made on your travel arrangements
- Check the benefits being offered by the product are sufficient for your needs, including Travel Services Provider Insolvency and Wholesaler Insolvency for complete peace of mind.
- Check you have good comprehensive cover with little or no excess on claims and don't just rely on the price... sometimes you really do only get what pay for.

While most Australians travel safely overseas, some find themselves in trouble. Each year the Australian government handles over 20,000 cases involving Australians in difficulty overseas. This includes over 1400 hospitalisations, 1000 deaths and 30 evacuations of Australians to



another location for medical purposes. In cases where the victims are not covered by travel insurance, such personal tragedies can be further compounded by a long-term financial burden. Hospitalisation, medical evacuations, or even the return of the deceased's remains to Australia, can be very expensive. Daily hospitalisation costs in south-east Asia regularly exceed \$800; return of remains from Europe in excess of \$10,000. The cost of medical evacuations from the United States regularly range from \$75,000 to \$95,000 and sometimes up to \$300,000. The Foreign Affairs Department has handled medical evacuations from Bali with costs exceeding \$60,000. Unfortunately, not all of these cases involved travellers covered by travel insurance.

This travel insurance information has been extracted from <http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au/insurance>. For actual case studies examples visit <http://www.smarttraveller.gov.au/insurance/case-studies.html>. Docinga Nominees Pty Ltd trading as Fleurieu Travel is registered with ASIC as authorised representative 269384 to represent certain insurance products.

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Forum focusing on Goolwa tourism

Cittaslow Goolwa, Southern Alexandrina Business Association, and the Lower Lakes and Coorong Tourism and Boating Group are presenting a forum to assist local tourism. They are inviting organisations, businesses or individuals with a connection with tourism to The Marina Hindmarsh Island at on Wednesday, December 10 at 5.30pm to network and hopefully create measures to stimulate tourism.

Dean Brown, chair of the LLCT&B Group, Ian Darbyshire, CEO of the Rundle Mall Management Authority and previously SATC CEO, plus and Ian Crowley from the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia, are among the speakers. Cittaslow Goolwa president Lyn Clark said she was looking forward to hearing from these respected leaders, and meeting some of the established operators as well as new businesses in and around Goolwa.

"We want to renew vibrancy for our tourism operators and enhance the Goolwa friendliness for visitors who will be following the new drive routes promoted by the state's tourism body," Lyn said.

"We offer wonderful experiences for those who come to Goolwa. These range from exploring the unique environment of the Coorong and Lower Lakes, jumping from planes, enjoying Australia's best beach, participating in cultural and artistic events to resting under shady trees sipping our local brews and tasting award-winning local produce."

Sporting club representatives, shops and businesses that serve the various needs of our visitors, local artists, B&B hosts and marine operators are invited.

Further information or if you would like to attend: contact Lyn 8555 5801 or email lyn@riverdolls.com.au by December 5.

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Give native plants a scape's chance

Some people choose native plants for their home garden because they believe you just plant them and let them grow to their heart's content. Wrong. You need to care for them like any other plant to promote a healthy life and look stunning in the garden.

Australian native plants really are special, but they are far from maintenance free. Grevilleas (pictured) are a beautiful native, but if they are not pruned at least once a year they can become straggly, lose vigour and even die. Pruning regularly encourages more flowers.

Obviously, the style of pruning may vary on the type of native plant, but if we were to look at cutting back grevilleas and callistemons we would reduce the wood to around 50mm thick. Don't be afraid to get stuck into your grevillea and prune off as much as one metre in length if necessary. The plant will produce new shoots and look thicker and more attractive within three or four months.

This doesn't damage the plants. In fact, they become covered in lush new growth and will flower prolifically in a few months time. If your natives have grown too big, or if they've become woody and open, cut them right back.

Severe pruning would kill or cure

the grevillea, but if things turn out for the worse you're probably better off because no one needs an ugly, struggling plant in the garden.

The best time for pruning natives is generally in the warmer months, from about September through to March. Remember, if you prune native plants in autumn you will be cutting off all the flower buds that would open through winter when nectar feeding birds have a tough time finding enough to eat.

Don Burke, from *Burke's Backyard* fame, has been a great promoter of Australian native plants over the years, and he has always pushed the theory that it would be better to either prune at the end of winter or the beginning of spring when there is plenty of other nectar-producing plants available for birds, or prune after the first major flush of flowers in spring.

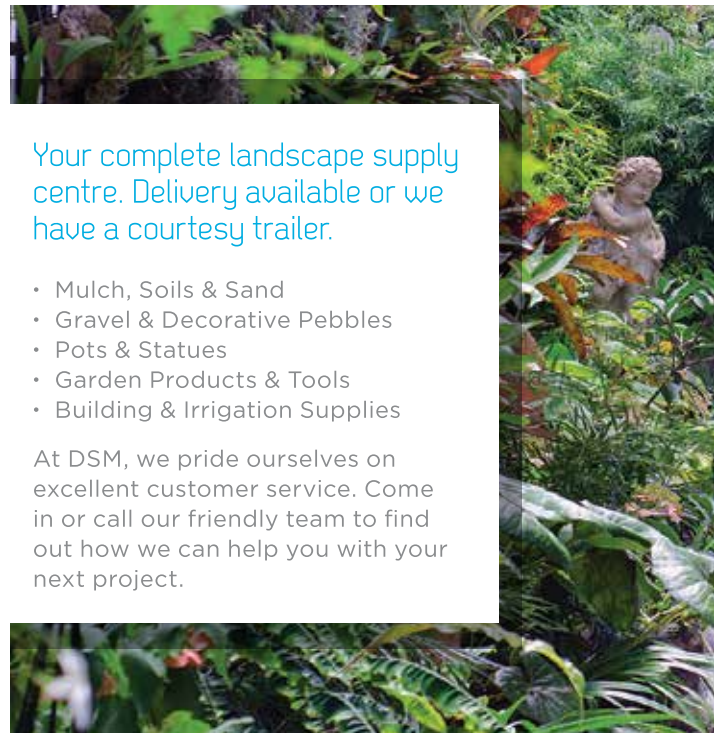
Don't prune all your grevilleas at once. Stagger the pruning over several weeks so that the birds will have a constant supply of nectar. Grevilleas need to be treated like rose bushes, not in terms of fertilising but in terms of pruning. During pruning, stand back every now and again and eyeball the plant from a distance to see how it's shaping up. Don't worry about cutting off flowers – more



During pruning, stand back every now and again and eyeball the plant from a distance to see how it's shaping up.

will soon come. Grevilleas flower more prolifically when pruned regularly. Some people are allergic

to contact with grevilleas, so wear long sleeves and gloves when pruning.



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Irritable or not, you must try some

IBS. It's a polite acronym for Irritable Bowel Syndrome, which we suspect won't be a topic of discussion around the dinner table tonight.

However, with research showing that 18 per cent, or one in every 5.5 Australians having this chronic abdominal pain, bloating and alteration of bowel habits, it is with delight we reveal that amidst the serenity of Clayton Bay there are those making history in providing relief for these poor souls.

Local resident Ronnie Banks is one of the sufferers, and having grown tired of missing two or three days work every six weeks for 20 years on average because of the impact IBS has had on his life, he chose to go on a FODMAP diet – another acronym for a group of short-chain sugars explained far right of this page.

An internationally-acclaimed research team at Monash University found that these sugars are poorly absorbed in the small intestine once they pass into the large intestine where they are fermented by bacteria, thus causing gas and an increased delivery of water into the bowel, which in turn contributes to the symptoms of IBS.

We won't get into the real specifics, but the amazingly positive impact this diet had on Ronnie led to he and his wife, Martine, with her background as a project manager in software and development, doing their own research. They discovered there was only one food brand in the world dedicated to the development and manufacture of low FODMAP food. Now there are two – Ronnie and Martine's SOME Foods.

It is a clever name because they promote the line: *When you're following a low FODMAP diet to help manage the symptoms of IBS there are many foods you can't eat, but you can eat SOME.*

The SOME Foods range is a selection of sauces that go with their absolutely delicious and simple recipes that don't include those wicked sugars and especially onion and garlic, which generally cause IBS sufferers the most grief. They include dishes like Martine and Ronnie's flavoursome Northern Indian Butter Chicken, Southern Indian Madras, a Thai Green Curry or a Thai Massaman Curry each featuring one of their SOME Foods sauces.

Forgive the commercialisation, but what Martine and Ronnie have achieved since launching their range in July is remarkable; the potential to expand their growing state-wide market across the nation and overseas.

Ronnie, who works in the health care field with medical supplier Smith + Nephew, spoke of the



horrors of IBS, and when a colleague put him on to the FODMAP diet he experienced a dramatic improvement.

"Martine and I embraced the whole idea of this diet," Ronnie said. "We love cooking, and it was easy avoiding the ingredients that I could not eat. But there were also times when I became lazy and I wanted something that was convenient.

"We were cooking something one weekend and we just thought it would be nice if every now and then we could open a jar of something and make life easier. It led to Martine doing a lot of research to see if there was anything out there to accommodate people with these same problems and we kept thinking there had to be something. There just wasn't, and that's how we came up with the recipes for the sauce products.

"I have worked in health care industry all my life, and I have always been sceptical about a new diet; whether it has a lot of scientific research behind it. There are lots of different diets and fads on the go, and when I first heard about this FODMAP diet I thought, oh, here's another one of those things people have thought of; another cleansing diet.

"When we studied the research behind this

diet from Monash University, a very credible institution with these findings published worldwide and the Therapeutic Goods Administration of Australia now recognising it as the only treatment for IBS – I thought this is worth giving a go.

"The diet has not yet caught a lot of attention by the public despite being a good option, even though it has been well researched the past 10 years, and studies undertaken suggesting 76% of people affected will get some relief." While the manufacturing takes place in Prospect, Martine and Ronnie conduct the rest of their business from their home in Clayton Bay."

The amazing thing is, we're talking about preventative measures that don't come with the usual horrible taste for which medicines are renowned.

"The ingredients are easier for us to digest whether you have IBS or not," Martine explained. "The core people we are reaching are those who have IBS and are using a low FODMAP diet to manage their symptoms, but more broadly we want everyone to love our recipes so they can make quick meals on a week night, like grabbing a jar of the Thai Massaman Curry, opening a tin of tuna, adding some peas and corn, mixing it together and popping it in the oven for 20 minutes until it is heated."

Ronnie said the project was not just about the products. "Don't get us wrong; like everyone we want to make a dollar, but we love it when we do a tasting and we hear how our product is helping someone with IBS and can have a semi-normal life again," he added. "That is incredibly rewarding to someone who has IBS." **CL**

What is the FODMAP diet?

FODMAP is an acronym for Fermentable Oligosaccharides, Disaccharides, Monosaccharides and Polyols. Common examples of foods containing these sugars, which IBS sufferers should avoid, include:

Oligosaccharides: onion, garlic, beetroot, artichoke, wheat, rye, legumes.

Disaccharides: (lactose) milk, cream, yoghurt, ice cream

Monosaccharides: honey, pear, watermelon, mango.

Polyols: apple, apricot, prune, mushroom, cauliflower, celery, sweet corn.

P26: Recipe from Martine and Robbie



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FOOD. Try SOMething healthy

Presenting an easy and delicious dish by Martine and Ronnie Banks of SOME Foods, Clayton Bay. Source: The Monash University low FODMAP diet smartphone app
For other great recipes following the FODMAP diet (see P25) visit: www.somefoods.com.au

SOME Foods superb sauces are available across the Fleurieu Peninsula including online the Jetty Food Store at Port Elliot, Sails at Clayton Bay, the Winehouse & Bleasedale Vineyards in Langhorne Creek, and Port Noarlunga South Foodland.



Butter Chicken topped with fresh Coriander

Ingredients

1 jar of SOME Foods Northern Indian Butter Chicken
600g boneless chicken
2 teaspoons oil
25g fresh coriander, leaves picked and roughly chopped
2 cups rice

Method

Cut the chicken into strips.
Heat a splash of oil in a medium frypan or pot over a medium heat. Add the chicken strips and

cook until browned, then add the jar of SOME Foods Northern Indian Butter Chicken. Mix through well and adjust the heat so the chicken slowly simmers. Simmer for 10-15 minutes or until the chicken is cooked through.
Cook the rice according to the directions on the packet.
Serve over the cooked rice and top with chopped coriander.

Serves 4

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Ingredients

Christmas Ice Cream Pudding

1 litre good quality vanilla ice cream
1 cup crumbled Christmas cake
¼ cup grated milk or dark cooking chocolate
¼ cup flaked almonds

Method

Line a pudding basin or a one-litre glass bowl with two layers of cling wrap, leaving enough to fold over the base of the ice cream pudding. Place flaked almonds on a tray lined with baking paper, and lightly toast in a pre-heated oven at 180° for about 5 minutes or until slightly golden. Remove from oven and cool.

Scoop ice cream into a bowl and allow to soften a little. Gently stir in the crumbled Christmas cake and grated chocolate (do not over stir).

Spoon the ice cream mixture into the prepared bowl and cover the base with the cling wrap. Freeze for at least six hours, or ideally overnight. Pudding can be made a week or two in advance. When ready to serve, remove from the freezer and let stand for a few minutes. Place bowl in tepid/

warm water to help loosen the pudding from the bowl, making sure water doesn't get onto the ice cream. A rounded dinner knife can also be used to gently loosen the pudding from the bowl. Invert onto a plate, remove cling wrap and sprinkle with toasted almonds and fresh cherries, strawberries or raspberries. Cut into wedges. Store remaining pudding in the freezer. For this recipe we used Bakers Delight Christmas cake, which is rich and light, and Weis Vanilla Bean ice cream. Other cakes, such as the Lions Christmas cake would be suitable, as would other ice creams..A small amount of brandy or liquor of choice can be added to

Christmas Icecream Pudding



the crumbled cake before adding it to the ice cream, if desired. A vegetable peeler is suitable for shaving the chocolate into fine pieces. Serves 6-8.

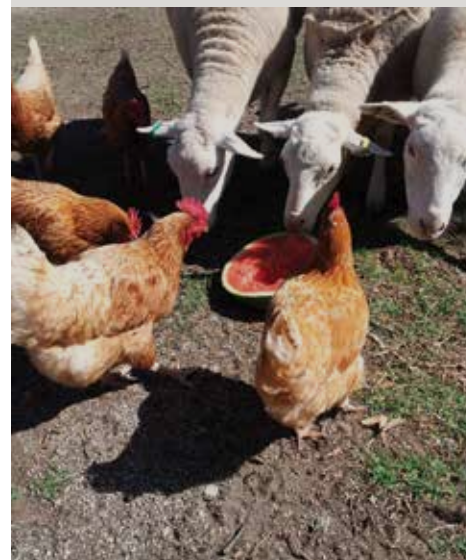
Prawn Dip

Ingredients

250g cream cheese, slightly softened
½ cup good quality mayonnaise
200g cooked prawns, thinly sliced
4 spring onions, thinly sliced
¼ to ½ teaspoon. garlic salt, to taste
1-3 drops Tabasco Sauce, to taste
freshly ground black pepper

Method

In a medium bowl, mix cream cheese and mayonnaise with a fork until well blended (or use an electric hand mixer) Stir in sliced prawns, spring onion, garlic salt, tabasco sauce and black pepper. Transfer to a serving bowl and serve with dip biscuits or sliced vegetables. Store in the refrigerator.



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Ending year on a high note

O Come All Ye Faithful singers... Christmas wouldn't be the same without all the carols, and the South Coast Choral & Arts Society Choir has certainly been raising a few high notes or two.

Among the 35-40 regular performers is Alan Field, 80, who amazingly has been involved in the Victor Harbor-based group for 58 years, back in the days when it was known simply as the South Coast Choral Society.

"I just love singing and being part of a group that has brought so much joy to so many people over the years," Alan said.

The challenge now, according to Alan, is attracting younger members to maintain this marvellous tradition of the town. "When I was first here there were a lot of young people involved," Alan said. "These days we find it hard to attract new people. Our average age is 55-70 years and it would be nice to have a new group of younger people coming through.

"The Society has been a wonderful part of Victor Harbor since 1950, and after the arts became part of the society the South Coast Choral & Arts Society has presented some wonderful concerts and musical productions that have done the town proud.

"I believe we have been a strong voice for the cultural community, and I say that with enormous pride."

Among the current members is Alan's wife, Margie, and they said the choir has obviously been a huge part of their life.

The choir was recently among 16 from SA country regions that celebrated the 50th anniversary of the SA Country Choral Association, of which our choir was a foundation member and Alan, a former principal at Victor Harbor High School, was awarded life membership in recognition of his long-time presidency.

In the magnificent Christmas tradition, the South Coast Choral & Arts Society Choir last weekend presented its annual festive performance, the Songs of the Season, and again it was a huge success. Very good, but a few younger voices next year will make it even better. Contact Alan on 8552 3944 or John Mathieson on 8552 7133 if you are interested in finishing the year on a high note.

Alan is pictured with a few of the South Coast Choral & Arts Society singers (from left) Marie Harris, Anne Craig, Gwen Koch, Jean Gunnett, Julie Woite (front), and Alan with his wife, Margie.

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