

LIVING TODAY

IN MOOROOLBARK / YARRA RANGES

No. 13

SEPTEMBER
2005

Lilydale Swimming Club Heroes

Do you make a difference?

*Mooroolbark's
New Website!*

Bimbadeen Heights Netball Club





mooroolbark.org.au

a town in the shire of Yarra Ranges

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Welcome to Mooroolbark, **Harry**

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A proud supporter
of Mooroolbark.

Welcome to Mooroolbark!

Welcome to Mooroolbark.org.au, linking local residents with services, groups and events in the Mooroolbark area. Feel free to click around the site to see what's coming up, and remember to register to receive our newsletter every month via email...



What's on in Mooroolbark

Graffiti Cleanup - 1 June, 2005

Mooroolbark community organises impressive graffiti cleanup mobilising local young people... [\[more...\]](#)



Art for All - 2 June, 2005

Community artist works with residents to create ceramic murals at Mooroolbark Community Centre... [\[more...\]](#)



Celebrating Mooroolbark - 3 June, 2005

'Celebrate Mooroolbark' schools parade provides colour and energy during a full day of activities... [\[more...\]](#)

Local News

Plans announced for terrace makeover... [\[more...\]](#)

New shoe shop open, 20% off for the first month! [\[more...\]](#)

Local athlete wins world title... [\[more...\]](#)

Search

Coming Up...



Hard at It!!

Second annual community
planting day...

Sunday August 7th, 1pm

Red Earth
Community Park

www.mooroolbark.org.au



online within months

In our last edition, we highlighted many of the positive attributes of Mooroolbark that Mooroolbark residents had mentioned to some of the members of MAP Mooroolbark. You'll recall that MAP exists to collect up-to-date information about our township, which can help all of us plan for a better future (for more information about MAP Mooroolbark see text box).

MAP has recently developed plans for providing Mooroolbark residents (and anyone else, for that matter), with current, public information about our town through a free, online Community Directory. Imagine a community-based website, specifically designed by Mooroolbark residents to deliver information relevant to our township! Imagine a community website uncluttered by advertising – neither Shire nor business

driven – a website developed by the community to benefit the *entire* community.

In a few months we're planning that www.mooroolbark.org.au will be sufficiently developed for you to access. By visiting the home page, and using the search engine, you will be able to rapidly access the information you need. It might be up-to-date listings of doctors, or appliance repairers... schools or churches... sporting clubs or service organisations... where to eat, buy a bike, or find a piano teacher...

In addition, our voluntary webmasters will regularly update the home page. It will publicise future community activities, as well as report on recent events, in ways that will help to foster a greater sense of community identity in Mooroolbark. And of course, there will be easily accessible links to other

helpful sites, such as the Shire of Yarra Ranges, local Members of Parliament, hospitals and emergency services, businesses and so on.

We plan the home page to look something like this (see above).

Comments So Far

- The green toning of the home page reflects the attractive 'greenness' of the Mooroolbark environment
- Layout is not cluttered
- The home page is easy to negotiate
- The site contains sufficiently interesting graphics, but not too many to retard downloading
- Search engine is prominent

“ In a few months we're planning that www.mooroolbark.org.au will be sufficiently developed for you to use. ”



We would appreciate your comments about the artist's 'mock-up' of our homepage, to help us make the site as 'user-friendly' and helpful, as possible.

As you may imagine, there remains a significant amount of work to do. One of our greatest challenges lies in accumulating, confirming and loading public data before the site is officially launched. Design planning is well under way and will be completed quickly, when some anticipated funding is approved.

At this stage, we are also planning to incorporate an additional feature within the website entitled Mooroolbark

Directions. Mooroolbark Directions will house a database which will provide a rich source of qualitative and anecdotal information collected from local residents and organisations by MAP Mooroolbark members. A powerful search feature will enable users to filter thousands of responses to identify common themes, which will provide a potent tool for future township planning by the community in association with local government. The Directions page will be password protected, with users administered by the MAP Mooroolbark team.

In recent weeks, we've been grateful for your positive responses to the concept

of the website. All of us at MAP are excited about the potential usefulness of the site to all Mooroolbark residents, visitors and prospective residents.

If you'd like to help us with collecting data prior to the initial launch – please contact us! If you have data about your organisation or business that you'd like to be included, or if you have comments about the web-design, please let us know! You may email me at randmary@tpg.com.au or leave a phone message at our office on 03 9726 8898. ■

Randall Bouchier



MAP Mooroolbark THE STORY THUS FAR



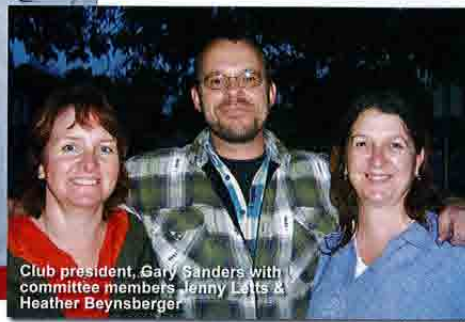
- Informal consultation with the Shire of Yarra Ranges and Mooroolbark community about the need for an informed, participative and planned approach to sustainable community development in Mooroolbark – for the benefit of the entire community
- Establishment and incorporation of *MAP Mooroolbark Inc.* – a team of unpaid community volunteers, meeting monthly
- On-going collection of data about Mooroolbark, via consultation with local community groups, traders and individuals
- Data collection includes both public community data, and anecdotal opinion useful for future planning
- Continuing enthusiastic endorsement of the process following update-presentations to Traders, community groups, Shire officers and others
- The idea of a community website - www.mooroolbark.org.au - was developed as an appropriate means of enabling data storage and access
- Recent awarding of a Community Grant from the Shire of Yarra Ranges will help ensure the continuing development of www.mooroolbark.org.au
- Community updates about *MAP Mooroolbark Inc.* continue through *Living Today in Mooroolbark*

Bimbadeen Heights Netball Club



Bimbadeen Heights Netball - 13 & Unders
(Team pictured on front cover)

The team featured is the 13 Yrs & Under group, coached by Allison Johnstone.



Club president, Gary Sanders with committee members Jenny Laits & Heather Beynsberger

Netball is a thriving sport in Mooroolbark. On any given Saturday, during the season, up to 1000 people are involved in the many games that take place between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on the McDermott Ave. courts. These games come under the auspices of the Lilydale and Yarra Valley Netball Association.

Bimbadeen Netball Club is just one of the clubs involved in this competition. The club is associated with Bimbadeen Heights Primary School and is welcoming of all girls interested in participating in the competition. Currently, Bimbadeen is fielding 8 teams ranging from Under 9's to 17 year-olds. The Bimbadeen teams have enjoyed a significant amount of success in recent seasons. A good number of their girls have gone on to represent the L.Y.V.N.A. in higher competition.

The team featured in this article is the 13 years and Under group, coached by Allison Johnstone. They are a group of girls who are enjoying success and who obviously find great enjoyment in participating together.

A committee of 10 parents is active in attending to all the needs of the club and the players involved. Club president, Gary Sanders, says that this administrative aspect of the club offers very enjoyable social connections for the parents as well as providing this highly valued opportunity for the many girls who participate.

Anyone interested in making contact with the association, or with their nearest club, is invited to ring Toni Madden (L.Y.V.N.A. secretary) for further information.
Phone 9736 2087

Therapeutic Martial Arts Program

Pembroke Secondary College, Cambridge Campus, is providing a Therapeutic Martial Arts Program to assist Year 7 boys with concentration skills and gross motor skills development. It also fosters confidence and self-esteem, which contribute towards increased academic success.

The program, which involves all Year 7 boys, encourages students to remain engaged in school and helps reduce absenteeism and early school leaving. These issues of attendance and school

retention are government and school priorities.

The instructor, Andrew Thompson assisted by Peer Educators Justin and Daniel, run the sessions each Monday morning at the campus between 8.45am and 9.15am. This program is under the guidance of Mrs. Karen Phillips, Head of Junior School Cambridge Campus. The College would like to acknowledge the generous funding provided by the Mooroolbark Community Bank in assisting this program.



Pembroke Secondary College Cambridge Campus

Quiet Achievers

Quiet achievers... Ordinary people, living ordinary lives, affecting many of us in remarkable ways.

Let me tell you of one Mooroolbark family and the difference they've made. Albert and Kath Smith have lived in Mooroolbark since 1970. During their 55-year long marriage, they raised eight children. In spite of the constant demands of family and work commitments, the Smiths have demonstrated an unusual commitment to their belief in the importance of 'helping others'.

Albert has served the Lilydale Swimming Club (based at the Hawthory Road pool) since 1963, including a staggering 39 years on the Committee where he held every office except Treasurer and Secretary. Kath, likewise, was willing to take on all sorts of helpful roles. Each of their children swam for the Club. Both Albert and Kath have been awarded Life memberships of both the Lilydale Club, and also the Dandenong Ranges District Swimming Association. Kath served as the Chief District Judge for



...the thrill of being able to reassure young people of the importance of 'just doing your best'...

14 years. In addition, as recognition of his community contribution, Albert received an Australia Day award from the Shire of Yarra Ranges in 2004.

During the 80s, the Lilydale Swimming Club almost folded. The Smith family responded as a unit! Albert became President and daughters Margo, Anita and Cheryl took over the respective responsibilities of Vice President, Secretary and Committee Member. Together, they focussed on building the *Learn to Swim* programme by employing trained instructors. Over time, they watched the Club grow again. Eventually, the Club moved to Hawthory Road, so that swimmers could train year-round in an

indoor, heated pool.

Although the Club has had its share of successes - at District and State levels - the Smiths' fondest memories are of the delighted expressions on children's faces following improved times... the involvement of families contributing together to the 'family club'... the thrill of being able to reassure young people of the importance of 'just doing your best'...

At the Club centenary in 2003, Albert, along with co-author Rosemary Cullinan, launched their history of the Lilydale Swimming Club: *From the Creek to the Dome*. The book represented thousands of hours of painstaking research and writing.

Kath says: "He's always been attached to what he was doing... it had to be done right!"

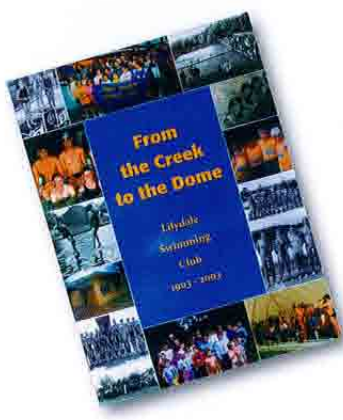
Both appreciate the vital importance of volunteers in our community. Albert says: "You can't do without them, and you can't get enough!" In spite of busy lives involved with raising eight children Kath commented about volunteering that "there's always some time, you make some time... Go for it! You get out of it what you put into it!"

Albert still enjoys the "well-mannered, respectful young people" who gather around him whenever he visits a Club function. During the years my own family was involved with the swim Club, I enjoyed watching his great rapport with younger people.

Albert Smith - this 'gentle giant' - who in his youth during the Depression swam long-distance in his native Huon River in Tasmania - is now in his eighties! He's slowing down, but he still loves to be involved. Quite simply, he sums up his life: "I've always liked to help."

Do we?

Randall Bouchier



MOOROOLBARK TRADERS & Community Group



Eight years ago a few local traders formed the Mooroolbark Volunteer Traders Group to contribute to the day-to-day needs of the Mooroolbark Township. However, the group soon saw the value of involving additional community representatives, so the name was changed to Mooroolbark Traders & Community Group. It has been operating under that title for the past four years. As well as business people, its members include representatives from Connex Trains, Mooroolbark Police, the local shire and charitable groups, etc. Its mission is to care for our township. It seeks to help make Mooroolbark a safer and more aesthetic place in which to live, work and shop.



The group convenes on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. Meetings are conducted in the Community Centre. Currently on the lookout for new blood and fresh ideas,

...the group invites any local business people, or others with ideas to benefit the township...

to call into their office, at Rocky the Cobbler, 40a Brice Avenue. Annual events include the Traders and Community Christmas Dinner, where the Raffle for the \$500 Christmas hamper is drawn. This fun-night is open to all community members. Regular Clean-up Mooroolbark events, organised by the group, have made a significant impact on the area. Fundraising throughout the year meets the cost of installing the Christmas decorations around the shopping area.

The group publishes a business directory once a year. The new one is out now and available in most shops. They also provide the Village News, which is a newsletter designed to: give the traders the opportunity to directly advertise their

wares in the local area; inform the local residents of projects, events and activities taking place locally; and to raise funds for worthwhile projects to benefit the township.

Funds raised so far have contributed towards new Christmas decorations; the giant Christmas tree that is put in Brice Ave every year; a Gurney; and graffiti - remover solution. A current project envisages a new bus shelter area outside the station (pictured left), with a community directory board and provision for a community clock. Fund-raisers for this project include the recent Trivia Night. As we go to print, this project still has to be approved by the Shire.

Geoff Peirce

Living Today in Mooroolbark congratulates the Traders & Community Group on their valuable contributions to our township and thanks them for their support of this publication.

MOBILE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY & Design for Print

Greg Blom and Angela Fraser, a Mooroolbark couple, have recently embarked on a new business venture in photography and specialised printing.

Angela has lived in Mooroolbark for over twenty years and has two children attending Croydon Secondary College. Greg hails from Avonsleigh. Together they can photograph your event and design your ideas and concepts to gain the visual



Pmobile digital
photography & design for print

impact you desire. They greatly enjoy the challenges their work brings and are committed to achieving the highest quality in every aspect of their work.

Greg has a lengthy background and interest in photography and print and Angela is well qualified and experienced in electronic design for print media.

Photography Services

Portraits, Weddings, Receptions, Formal Events, Action Events, etc.

Electronic Printing Services

Personalised Invitations, Gift Cards, Business Brochures & Cards, etc.

We wish Greg and Angela every success in this new venture. Like to know more? Contact Angela: 9725 3820 or Greg: 0401 525 120.

NEW TO MOOROOLBARK *Inspire Gifts & Homewares*

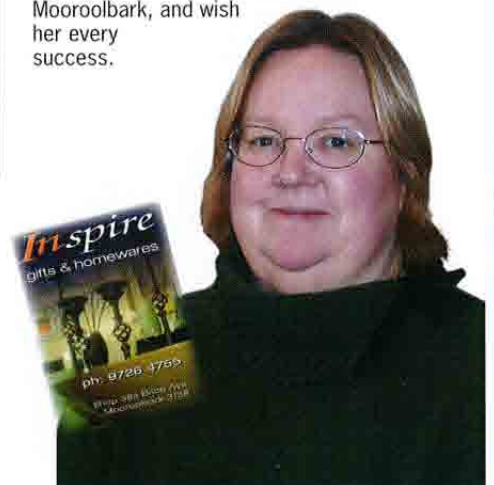
Inspire Gifts & Homewares opened in March of this year at 38a Brice Avenue. Proprietor, Jan Dakic, has many years of retail work behind her. In the 90's she ran a surf shop in Chirside Park. Since that time she has worked in and managed several gift shops giving her the experience and background needed for her current venture.

Jan, a mother of five grown children, is encouraged by the many positive changes she sees in Mooroolbark and considers it to be a good place to live and work. She is encouraged by the family and community "feel" of our neighbourhood.

Jan offers small pieces of occasional furniture, such as coffee tables, lamp tables and bookshelves. She stocks gifts and decorator items such as lamps, vases, candles and candle-holders, oil paintings & prints and artificial flowers, etc. She also carries a large range of jewellery.

Why not call in and have a look?

We welcome Jan as a new trader in Mooroolbark, and wish her every success.



BERT BRESSER

Co-ordinator of Parks & Play Spaces Shire of Yarra Ranges

Bert Bresser is a man who thoroughly enjoys his work. As Co-ordinator of Parks & Play Spaces for the Shire of Yarra Ranges, he gains much pleasure from his involvement in, and contributions to the many on-going developments of facilities and the regular maintenance of the many recreational assets we all enjoy in our beautiful Yarra Ranges district.

Bert brought to this job many years of experience in nursery and forestry work, when he began his employment with the Shire over 25 years ago. He speaks with much passion about the numerous projects and developments that he has enjoyed being a part of over the ensuing years. Many of these projects have had a very special, personal meaning for him. He has many stories to tell.

One significant aspect of the way Bert approaches his work is seen in his keen desire to identify ways to engage our various community groups in the work of developing and maintaining our parks areas. Planting days, such as those recently conducted in July at Coronation Park in Healesville and our Mooroolbark planting

day on August 7th (see article below) provide excellent opportunity for co-operative effort and shared enjoyment of results.

Engaging young people in this work, through schools, youth groups, etc. gives him special pleasure. He is strongly committed to helping our younger generations, in particular, to enjoy and appreciate the many natural assets we have and to take personal ownership of them. He speaks fondly of the wonderful example, in this way, of the work of the late Kevin Heinz.

An area of further development that Bert sees as important for our neighbourhood is that of additional linking of our local bike trails with those from other districts. This will require further close working relationships between our councils, Melbourne Water and VicRoads. He looks forward to further progress in this area

We thank Bert, on behalf of the community, for his long-term commitment to helping us all to appreciate and make the most of the natural beauty that is our heritage.

Community Planting Day

A big thank you to all of our community volunteers!

Over 100 enthusiastic tree-planters gathered outside the Red Earth Room on Sunday 7th August to participate in our annual planting day. They were welcomed by Pastor Randall Bourchier from Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship and were given planting instructions by Bert Bresser, Co-ordinator of Parks and Play Areas for our Shire. As the planting began, various community groups worked alongside individual volunteers and family units to plant a total of 1,800 shrubs and trees around the Community Centre and the Retarding Basin. A great deal of fun and laughter accompanied the whole exercise. Mayor, David Hodgett, described the crowd of planters as a "swarm of human activity" following the shire trailers as they set out the plants.

The community response was outstanding considering that quite heavy rain had been falling throughout the morning and right up to the scheduled starting time. Thankfully the weather cleared for the following two hours, allowing time for the planting to be completed and for a community BBQ to be enjoyed by all. Several participants commented on the pleasure of being part of this activity which brought together people from various parts of the community, with the common goal of helping to beautify our neighbourhood. Bert Bresser spoke excitedly about the community ownership of projects like this and the benefits that always follow.

Well done Mooroolbark !



Mooroolbark Community Bank Branch  Bendigo Bank

Supporting The Local Community.

Values in schools

What's happening?



Terry Villiers

We might wonder if all the media attention to the Victorian government's initiative on values in schools a few months ago was a mere storm in a teacup. Fortunately, that is not the case.

Planning and implementation are proceeding apace, given additional impetus by the Commonwealth government's Values for Australian Schooling programme.

The Commonwealth Initiative

The challenge is being thrown out "for principals to engage their school communities in whole school change in relation to values education." This involves not only the school staff, students, parents, and others involved in the life of the school, but also members of the wider community so that it works into all areas of school life.

The values espoused in the Commonwealth programme are broadly defined areas from which schools can develop their own specifics. They include:

- **Care & Compassion** – care for self and others
- **Doing your Best** – seeking to accomplish something worthy and admirable, trying hard, pursuing excellence
- **A Fair Go** – pursuing and protecting the common good where all people are treated fairly,
- **Freedom** – enjoying all the rights and privileges of Australia and standing up for the rights of others
- **Honesty & Trustworthiness** – being honest, sincere, and seeking the truth
- **Integrity** – conducting oneself according to moral and ethical principles, ensuring consistency between words and deeds
- **Respect** – treating others with consideration and regard, respecting another's point of view
- **Responsibility** – being accountable for one's actions, resolving differences in constructive, non-violent and peaceful ways, contributing to society and civic life, taking care of the environment
- **Understanding, Tolerance and Inclusion** – being aware of others and their cultures, accepting diversity within a democratic society, being included and including others.

It is envisioned that individual schools will develop their own approaches along with their local communities and that these values will be transmitted to all students in every aspect of school life.

Values education is built around the principle that education is as much about building character as being equipped with particular skills. Based on these values, each school will build a School

Charter – its four-year mission with identified targets and goals encompassing the whole of the school's life and activity. This includes a review of the overall curriculum provision, the school's structures and policies, procedures and rules, funding priorities, decision-making arrangements, disciplinary procedures, community relations and their welfare and pastoral care approaches. All this is directed towards a positive climate for developing students' social and civic skills, their resilience and responsibility, in an environment safe and supportive for values education.

And in Mooroolbark . . .

And right here in Mooroolbark, one of the pilot programmes is already under way. Recently the Red Earth Cluster (Bimbadeen Heights PS, Manchester Primary, Mooroolbark East Primary and Kilsyth Primary, along with Mooroolbark Secondary College) was awarded a three year Commonwealth funding grant to develop their Valuing Community – Taking Values into the Community programme. This is one of only five awarded in Victoria, twenty-six across Australia. The results of these will be disseminated Australia-wide to develop values education practice in all schools. So here we are in Mooroolbark - on the cutting edge.

The local project is being co-ordinated by the Red Earth Cluster educator, Robyn Floyd, and grew out of their State-funded Innovation & Excellence programme. As Robyn enthusiastically explained to us, this new Valuing Community – Taking Values into the Community programme envisions more active participation by schools and individual students in community life in both a positive and hands-on way. It is anticipated that projects (which are to be developed during Term 4) will take students into the community and draw the community closer to the schools. The details of the how and what are yet to be forged as the consultative process with the community gets under way. We are all encouraged to participate in this, with the first meeting coming up at the Mooroolbark Community Centre on September 13th. (See below).

Community Forum

The purpose of the forum is to discuss and explore the particular values (What kind? Which?) that should be integral to the project. These will be reflected in the planning and practice stages as they unfold next year within the community from each of the schools involved. This is a wonderful opportunity for all interested parties to make their contribution – not just to the schools but to our community life as a whole. This is an opportunity not to be missed for us to do our part in this most important aspect of our community's life.

Meanwhile, in smaller but no less significant ways the values programme continues to be developed in all the schools and we look forward to reporting more details of these in future issues.



What is the Red Earth

It is one of 247 school clusters area co-operate in developing t & Excellence Initiative aims "to curriculum supported by its foc eLearning which engage studer purpose for learning." It recogn the schools already have comm and from this base encouragem to student leadership, and furth and responsibility to the comm community focused projects. T work of the Cluster involves all consultative and professional d processes, and includes a civic conference drawing on students schools, and special parent wo



in Cluster?

Throughout Victoria where schools in a connected life of their students. Red Earth's Innovation develop an engaging, challenging and inclusive on higher order thinking skills, learning styles and and give real s the fact that ty connections can be give understanding y through ongoing ff in both opment citizenship om all local ops.



SCHOOL & COMMUNITY VALUES FORUM

**September 13th 2005, Tuesday evening
7:30 - 8:30 pm**
Mooroolbark Community Centre (on the stage area)

**All cluster schools,
parents and
interested community
members invited**

If you are planning to attend,
please phone Carmel (9727 8100) or
Robyn (9727 8188) to assist with
catering arrangements.

Right: Robyn Floyd, Educator for the Red Earth Cluster, and Janet Haase, Assistant Principal Manchester Primary School



VALUES FOR AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLING

Character Education
Character Education
 Character education is the process of developing the moral and ethical qualities that enable individuals to live responsibly and contribute positively to their communities. It is a process that involves the development of a range of skills and attitudes that are essential for a good life. Character education is not just about teaching children to be good, it is about helping them to understand the values that underpin our society and to live by those values. Character education is a process that involves the development of a range of skills and attitudes that are essential for a good life. Character education is not just about teaching children to be good, it is about helping them to understand the values that underpin our society and to live by those values.

FROM THE CHURCHES

Did you see a recent Andrew Denton programme which featured an interview with three church pastors who were actively involved in working in their local communities? They represented different denominations but shared a common desire to "get out there and do something" – in the way they saw that Jesus did. Even though he openly admitted to not being a believer, Andrew obviously admired the dedication and self sacrifice of these three Christian leaders.

Andrew saw them as "buckers of the trend", willing to move outside their comfort zones to do some good. Which should give us some cause to pause and reflect. Has the very busy-ness of our lives taken over, preventing us from being engaged with the community around us? Are we out of touch, removed and unengaged? Or are we involved, even in some small way, in making a difference?

Jesus challenged his followers to be light to the world, not to be buried in our own lives but to be visibly and transparently there – to be salt for

the earth, being part of making a discernible difference without having to blow a trumpet about it. The needs and opportunities are always there. We can start to be involved by just talking with our neighbours, with people already volunteering, or checking with the library, Community Centre or the Council offices. All sorts of churches and charities have many arms reaching out to help in their communities that could use your help.

That is the real challenge for all of us, here in Mooroolbark as well as the rest of Australia. We need to be consistently and wholeheartedly moving on that, just as those three pastors - inspired by the example of Jesus Christ. We can't all be as fully engaged as they are. But it doesn't have to be a lot to have a real effect, especially when more of us are involved.

The result? A healthier and happier community. And a healthier and happier life!

Terry Villiers



**Involved in the
community?
Me?**

MADAGASCAR

FREE FAMILY FILM NIGHT

Wednesday September 28th 7.30pm
Mooroolbark Community Centre

The usual free ice-cream and tea & coffee will be available. This school holiday program is presented by Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship, in conjunction with our community centre as a service to young families in the neighbourhood.

Bookings: Call the Community Centre on 9726 5488

Mooroolbark Christian Fellowship - Serving the Community



celebrate mooroolbark

Our local community festival preparations have begun for the 5th annual occasions of *Celebrate Mooroolbark*, which aims to highlight and celebrate all that is good about our local community.



The festival date for 2006 is Saturday April 8th. At the recent annual general meeting of the management committee, recognition was given to the major contribution that has been made by our Community Centre staff over the last four years. These staff members, in particular Sharon Turner and Marita Hearne, have borne the main load of the work behind the scenes, which has made the festival possible. Their efforts are much appreciated. In thanking the Community Centre staff, the elected co-chair-persons for the coming year, Peter Higgins and Randall Bourchier, noted the increased momentum within the community towards stepping up and taking up more of that load – a growing partnership that all would like to see extended.

Interested community members or groups are invited to contact the Community Centre to offer any ideas, suggestions or contributions. Meetings are open to all interested persons. Details of meeting arrangements are available from the Centre on 9726 5488. ■

It has been 18 months since Life Ministry Centre, partnered with the Northern Territory Christian Schools Association and the indigenous community of Gawa, which is located on a remote island off the top of Australia. Exciting times they have been.

We started to build a community kitchen, which was blown over by Cyclone Ingrid before it was completed. A cool room that was donated by Life Ministry Centre and ANZTEC Lilydale was also blown away, but fortunately we were able to rescue the motor which has been cleaned of sand and leaves and is ready to be put into the new cool room.

"The Gawa Elders have a vision for this new community that encompasses teaching the children their own culture alongside an education that will provide them with job skills".

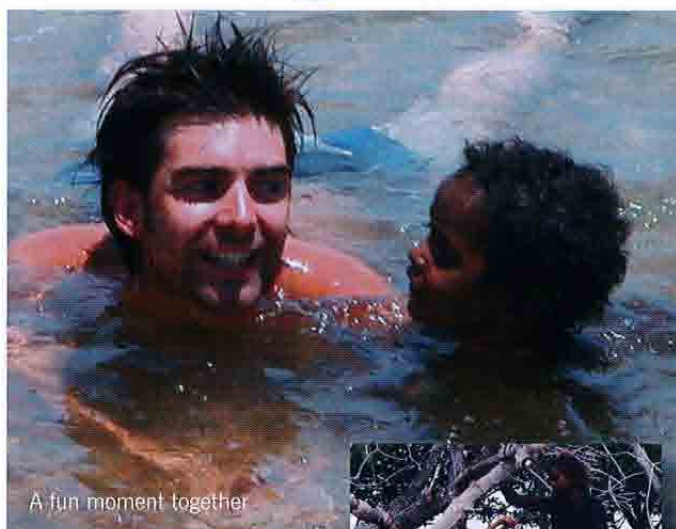
We have been invited to assist with the job skilling and the setting up of the infrastructure. To do this, we have connected with volunteers here in Melbourne, who paid their own way to work alongside the Gawa community members, passing on their skills as they build. So far, the volunteers have been as diverse as teachers, carpenters, office workers, gardeners, scientists, community workers, and we must not forget the handy men and women prepared to put their hand to anything from painting to sewing school uniforms. Our next project will be to address the lack of consistent fresh water in preparation for the establishment

of fruit and veggie gardens to provide fresh produce for the community. The Elders plan for these gardens and orchids to then become a job stream for the teenagers as they leave school. The local men and women will be trained in garden skills as we go, as well as how to maintain any equipment needed.

If you are interested in going on one of these volunteer trips or in donating in cash or 'in kind', please contact Sue Colverson on 03 9726 8111 or email sue-colverson@lmc.org.au

Sue Colverson Life Ministry Centre

locals go north



A fun moment together



Tasting oysters

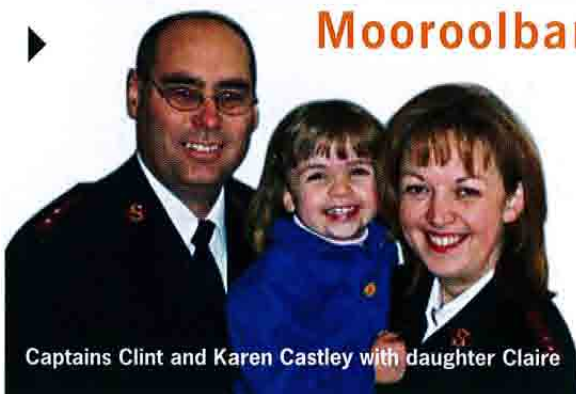
Mooroolbark welcomes the Castleys

Clint and Karen Castley are the newly appointed ministers for the Salvation Army in Mooroolbark. They transferred to Mooroolbark after serving for 5 years in the Kingston Gardens Community Church in Dingley Village. Prior to that appointment they had also served in Bairnsdale.

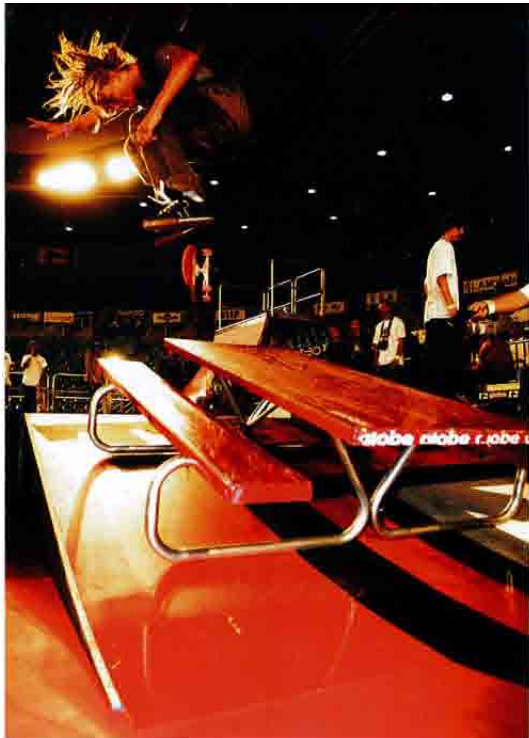
Clint says, "We are greatly enjoying our time in Mooroolbark – getting to know everyone and building on the work of our predecessors Bram and Jean Cassidy. We look forward to further developing the community and mission work of the church in our local neighbourhood." He adds,

"We both enjoy family life and love nothing better than spending time together. We are greatly appreciative of the unique delights of the Yarra Ranges area with its many walks, cafes and beautiful natural surroundings. We feel that, in Mooroolbark, we have the best of both worlds, living close to the city but just a stones throw away from country life.

The combined churches of Mooroolbark warmly welcome Clint and Karen to the area and look forward to working closely with them in serving the needs of our community.



Captains Clint and Karen Castley with daughter Claire



LIVINGTODAY in Mooroolbark

Production

LIVINGTODAY in Mooroolbark is produced by a group of local volunteers



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Like to Contribute?

If you have a good news story about people who you believe are an example to the community, please contact the editor through our church office number or by email (as above)

LOOK at it!

Sharon Turner

Pat Bouchier, a local young artist has his creations on show in his current exhibition 'Look At It!' The exhibition features photography focusing on skateboarders, portraiture and musicians, all of which are themes the artist has a passion for. Pat also works as a stencil artist. Some of you may be familiar with his Edna Walling stencils at Mooroolbark Community Centre.

Stencil art itself is a growing art form and Melbourne is internationally renowned for the calibre of its stencil art.

Pat is among the ranks of Melbourne's most



accomplished stencil artists with work at a selection of destinations in Melbourne, including a mural at the Night Cat in Fitzroy. In 'Look At It!' Pat's stencils are transformed into Warholesque canvasses, with bright colours and pop art images of faces, people and patterns.

'Look At It!' is proudly sponsored by the Mooroolbark Community Centre, Moo Wine Bar, Coffee for Me, Bricey's Delicatessen & Café and Spitting Image. Pat's exhibition will be on show at the Mooroolbark Community Centre until September 30. The Centre is open 9am - 6pm Mondays, 9am - 9pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 9am - 10pm Thursdays and 9am - 5pm Fridays.

"IT'S NOW OR NEVER"
A PLAY BY MILES TREDINNICK
TO BE PRESENTED AT MOOROOLBARK COMMUNITY CENTRE
NOVEMBER 3RD-5TH & 9TH-12TH



Chris Shaw



Kylie Gray

Mooroolbark Theatre Group
Rehearsals have begun for Mooroolbark Theatre Group's next comedy production.

An Elvis Presley fanatic, Tom, and his fiancée, Alice, arrive at a villa in Spain for their wedding. A fellow Elvis fanatic, Keith, has "sighted" Elvis

hiding out at a nearby villa. Keith talks Tom into helping him kidnap Elvis and sell the story to the tabloid press. Unfortunately, their victim appears to die in their custody. The ensuing confusion resulting from their attempts to hide their adventures (and the body) from Alice, while convincing

the "Sunday Insider" of their conquest, leads to chaos in this fast-paced, and hilarious, farce.

For tickets and further details contact Arline on 9726 4282, or visit the web site http://members.optusnet.com.au/mooroolbark_theatre_group.

MISSION STATEMENT

To contribute towards and to help to foster a Growing Community Spirit within our neighbourhood.

We seek to achieve this by:

- Highlighting the many positives within our community
- Encouraging partnership in community initiatives
- Contributing to the process of identifying and addressing community needs and concerns