

THE SpringDale

CIRCULATION
3000



MESSENGER

P.O. Box 80, Drysdale, 3222



A free newsletter compiled by SpringDale Community Cottage

DECEMBER, 1992

The Committee of SpringDale wishes to thank its many supporters - readers, advertisers, volunteers, and all those people who have wished us well and helped us to "keep on keeping on" over the past twelve months.

IT'S THE MESSENGER'S FIRST BIRTHDAY!

let's say NOT YOUNG. Some have new babies, some have new grandchildren. But we all have fun. We all enjoy what we're doing. And we all feel part of a very important community project which has much to offer in these pretty depressing times. "The Messenger" looks forward to another

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY & SAFE NEW YEAR

A special thank you to those pioneers who



first had the vision and dreamed the dream of a community centre for the Drysdale/Clifton Springs area. Some of those wonderful people are still with us, still working. It would be great if some of you out there decided to join us too. If SpringDale Community Cottage is to flourish there's heaps more work to be done. A lot of help is still needed. If you're interested in becoming a tutor, attending a class, joining an ACTIVE committee, being a volunteer - whatever. If you recognize the need, believe in our future, and want to be part of what's bound to be a success story - **GET IN TOUCH.**

Some of us are in our twenties. Some are

proud year in bringing our readers closer to the

"heartbeat" of what's happening in the community. We wish you and your families a peaceful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. See you then!

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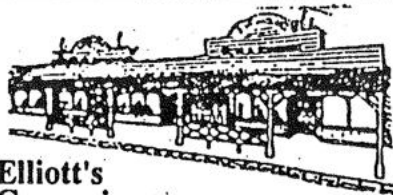
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V.A.L.I.D.

"God, give me the strength."

That's the daily prayer of Bertha Brown. She wonders how long she and her husband, Jack, will be able to care for their middle-aged son with an intellectual disability. Bertha is not alone. CSV has identified thirteen hundred ageing parents of sons and daughters with intellectual disability in Victoria. Bertha says it's hard now she's old. "My patience sometimes runs out." Jill's mum says "Between my four kids I've been taking care of children for 48 years, and the most time I've had off was one week." The pediatrician told Jane's mum "Take her home and love her. She won't live long." 37 years ago! She adds "I guess she'll probably live longer. I don't know whether that's a blessing or not."

Too many parents in this situation are forced to pray: God - let him die first.

On December 9th a Geelong group set up a Regional Branch of VALID - Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability. VALID, a Victoria-wide organisation, is uniting the families of people with physical and intellectual disability. Working together, they are a powerful force for reform. VALID parents have a vital role to play in development of services to meet the needs of all disabled people and their families. While the older parents, like Bertha, are suffering from 'burn-out' there are many young parents taking up the challenge. They know all too well the

problems. 'what will happen when I die?', 'we don't want to involve our other kids in this,' 'even in the best (group home) you're not sure if staff will notice if someone is thirsty, and give her a glass of water.'

Barbara Donovan is the local VALID contact. For further information parents and families should phone SpringDale on 531 960.

TOY LIBRARY COMING!

Residents of Clifton Springs and Drysdale in conjunction with SpringDale Community Cottage are working towards establishing a toy library for our families. An enthusiastic group have come together at a preliminary meeting to discuss possibilities, and to sort through the very many jobs that need to be tackled in the future. Over the coming months the group hopes to find a "home" for the toy library and to raise enough money to purchase a stock of educational and fun toys. In the meantime, the first fundraiser is a garage sale on Sunday 20th December from 10am to 2pm. Donations of clothes, knick-knacks, books, toys plants, household items and any thing to help get the toy library started can be dropped at 26 Palmerston St, Drysdale. We are also getting a hamper organised. It will be raffled before Christmas, tickets on sale soon. For info - next meeting Monday 14th December at SpringDale Community Cottage, 15 Princess St, Drysdale, or contact Helen, 512 060, Lisa 51 3591 SpringDale on 53 1960.

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GOOD NEWS STORY - a new feature.....

HELPING HANDS

The North Bellarine Combined Churches Food Care Group has recently been formed. They aim to provide relief in the form of food to families and individuals who are experiencing difficulties making ends meet. Modelled on a similar successful program in Ocean Grove, our local churches and other community groups have been working together to help those in need living in Drysdale, Clifton Springs, Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards areas. Drawing on volunteers from the churches, a committee has been formed who meet monthly to oversee the management of the group's activities. The committee has worked hard to define the group's aims, to establish a roster of helping hands, and a system for the collection and distribution of the food. To date, eight baskets have been placed at various locations on the peninsula (in supermarkets, etc) to collect donations and the response has been encouraging. These baskets are then emptied, taken to the main storage depot, from which carers can select food for delivery to families in need. The North Bellarine Combined Churches Food Care Group has been thrilled to receive a substantial donation of \$1,000 from the Drysdale Rotary, which immediately went to purchase a fridge and freezer. This has

enabled the group to collect fresh and frozen foods, ensuring families receive good, basic staple food items. The community is urged to contribute as they can by donating food or other essential shopping items (eg shampoo, soap, powder).

After such a bleak winter and in the midst of such pressing economic times, it is heartening to see the community coming together to support each other in this way.

People in need of assistance can ring the Drysdale Community Health Centre on 51 2291. They can be assured the matter will be handled in the strictest confidence.

Girl Guides and Brownies of Drysdale District recently won the Victorian Children's Community Award for service. Each Guide and Brownie has adopted a special "Person" at the Drysdale Retirement Village and takes gifts for their birthday, Father's and Mother's Days and Christmas. The certificate was recently presented to the Guides and Brownies by Mr John Hayes, The Mayor of Bellarine Rural City Council at a ceremony in the Retirement Village and the residents changed roles and put on a lovely afternoon tea for the girls and Leaders. The girls are planning a sausage sizzle at the Community Hall where they will sing carols and give gifts to their "special friend" from the Village. District Leader Clair Hocking can be contacted on phone 53 1134.



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BUSH NURSES TELL A STORY (1922-1987)

The Drysdale and District Community Health Centre is endeavouring to document the history of the Drysdale Bush Nursing Centre. Established in 1922, the Bush Nursing Service first ran from the home of a nurse who lived in Wyndham Street. Eventually, in 1939, a local councillor, George Wisbey, donated land at 15 Princess Street, Drysdale. With the help of a loan and local fundraising efforts, a disused farm house was relocated to the site and became both the residence for the bush nurse and a clinic.

Back in those earlier times, with few doctors in the area and access to Geelong often difficult, the nurse was called upon to attend to a wide variety of health-related problems, and travelled all over the district.

As the population grew, the need for increased clinic space was heeded with the addition of a small wing to the existing building. Today the Maternal and Child Health Nurse uses these rooms.

The Bush Nursing Centre became a Community Health Centre in 1987 in order to provide a more diverse range of health services. A really special feature of the Drysdale & District Health Centre has been the long association maintained by staff and advisory committee members. The current nurse, SR Joan Falahey, has been caring for the community for 12 years. Mrs Pat Chirgwin, the Secretary of the Committee for 30 years now, says "we are keen to get the history of the Bush Nursing compiled before the stories are lost forever. We need the help of the community." She is interested in any mementos, photos, recollections, and articles and can be contacted on 51 2347.

CHRISTMAS BLISS

A little child, a shining star,
A stable rough, the door ajar,
Yet in that place, so crude..., forlorn,
The hope of all the world was born.



CLIFTON SPRINGS BAPTIST

CHURCH 45-51 Central Road, Clifton Springs Pastor: Rev S
Rae 53 1833 Dec 20th 10am Family Service (children
presenting items) 7.30pm Shared Tea followed by Carol
Service Dec 25th 9am - 10am Christmas Day Celebrations.

A warm invitation to all to join us for these services.

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CHRISTMAS ATTRACTION

Yes, Christmas is here again folks, and to help celebrate the festive season, traders in the Tuckerbag complex are presenting Father Christmas for the enjoyment of young and old alike. Between midday and 2pm on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December, Father Christmas will be at the centre to greet shoppers and to talk to the children. So come along, bring your family, friends, and camera, and capture some Christmas excitement while fulfilling your shopping needs.



FORMING NEW LINKS

A most successful afternoon tea was held recently as part of the "Linking Neighbours" ongoing activity in helping to bring people together. Attended by about 30 people from different age groups and backgrounds, everyone enjoyed the plentiful food and cheery conversation (if not cramped conditions)! On behalf of Springdale, the organisers Maureen and Joan were pleased to see people relaxing and making new contacts with other local folk. One of the exciting "spin-offs" from the afternoon was an expression of interest in the formation of a creative writer's group. This proposal may be followed up in the near future. Linking Neighbours aims to hold similar get togethers on a regular basis next year and welcomes new faces to its doors. Ring 53 1960 for further information.

COUNCIL CORNER

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Are your children bored? Do you as parents want some peace? Then send the kids to the Bellarine Rural City Council's School Holiday Program between January 11th and 22nd.

For the small price of \$6.00 per day plus expenses between 8am and 6pm. Enrolments are from the Bellarine Rural City Office, Drysdale and the Newcomb Community Centre, Newcomb. For information telephone the School Holiday Program Co-ordinator, Ms Katherine Tarr on 530 228.

OUTREACH, An Introduction to Adventure Activities for Young Women and Men 13 - 16 Years. January 18 - 22, 1993. Learn to rock climb, canoe, abseil, sail, surf and windsurf. Cost - between \$10 - \$17 per day including transport and lunch. Further details and application forms are available from Jodie Henderson, Recreation Officer, on telephone 520 300.

CLIFTON SPRINGS BOATING HAVEN

The Council has received funding from the Federal Government under the Local Capital Works Program to continue the development of the Clifton Springs regional boating facility. It is anticipated that State funding via the State Boating Council will also be approved to complete stage 3 of the project. Works proposed to be implemented over the summer period include the construction of public toilets, and car park development.

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DRYSDALE

LIBRARY NEWS

I'd like to wish all the patrons of the Drysdale Library a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and remind you that the library will close at 5.00pm Thursday 24th December, to re-open on Monday 4th January, 1993 at 1.00pm. If you are going away and have books to return during this time, out-of-hours return book chutes are located at Ocean Grove, Newcomb and the city libraries, so please return books to any of these branches.

Once again the Geelong Regional Library will be participating in the Statewide Summer Reading Program. This year the theme is "Be prepared for an adventure when you open a book!". Kits from the program are available from all branches of the library service, with award afternoon being held during the week 18-22nd January. For more details please call in and ask, or phone me.

Don't forget to stock up well to tide you over the Christmas break, not only with books. Next time you're in look at the videos, records and tapes we have available too.

BARBARA RILEY Phone 513 855

TRADER OF THE MONTH

Why bother travelling to Geelong for patchwork and quilting materials, sewing aids and knitting wools, when "Knit'n'Sew" Drysdale is at your door. About five years ago the proprietor, Mary Ellis, saw the need to stock a large variety of pure American cotton for patchwork and quilting enthusiasts, along with other supplies eg hoops, books, needles, etc.

"Knit'n'Sew" also has a full range of DMC cottons, silks and designs for needlework, English and Australian printed canvasses for tapestries and Semco tapestry wool. A new line of pure wool from Patons called "Fireside" is retailing at \$2.20. Check the basket for specials. A layby service is also available. Come in and browse, you are

The "Messenger" Free Classifieds

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MR GARRY SPRY - MLA FOR BELLARINE

"I am unrepentantly parochial," says Garry Spry, the new Liberal Member for Bellarine, of his commitment to the people and issues in his electorate. Garry, married to Robin for nearly 26 years and the father of three daughters, Sam 23, Alison 22, and Emily 19, has a long association with the district. He first came to Drysdale in 1950 where his family purchased a farming and grazing property, "Soho" in Murradoc Road. When Garry's father died in 1957, Garry left school to help his mother run the farm while his four brothers and sisters were educated. After his marriage to Robin, and with two small children, Garry moved to Casterton where he lived in what he describes as "humble circumstances" while he tried his hand at a number of occupations, including shearing and wood chopping. He eventually moved back to the peninsula, buying an historic old home in Queenscliff which he and Robin have now restored. Garry's career path seems to have taken off at this point. During the following years he became active in the Borough, as councillor for six years, and established a number of enterprising small businesses including fencing and furniture making. Garry also studied for his real estate licence and began a successful business in Drysdale which he has recently sold. Hand in hand with a sound grasp of economic practices, Garry describes himself as a "humanist" with a philosophical disposition. Garry spoke freely about the importance of family (he gives great credit to his wife) and believes it is up to each of us to make the best we can of life's opportunities. Recognizing also the need for a "welfare net", Garry feels "the measure of a society is the way it is able to look after the people who are disadvantaged, either by lack of opportunity or by misfortune". With this sense of social responsibility Garry entered state politics and won at the recent election. He feels a great affinity for the people of Drysdale/Clifton Springs and wishes to extend to all best wishes for a healthy and happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year which will provide a foundation in which all Victorians can pull together for a secure and rewarding future.



Garry & Robin Spry

LARGEST SCOUT GROUP IN GEELONG 1st Drysdale Scout Group are pleased to announce that Clifton Springs Scout Group have merged with Drysdale to become the largest Scout Group in the Geelong area. Our membership now totals 178 boys and 32 Leaders. We have two Joey Scout Mobs, four Cub Scout Packs, two Scout Troops and a Venturers Unit. 1st Drysdale Scout Group will be holding a cake stall and selling Christmas trees at the Drysdale Community market on Sunday 20th December.



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BACK PAGE BITS

FOOD FOR THOUGHT *The individual can make a difference. It is up to each of us to do what "I can". Be positive. Put in. Do.*

BINGO Come and join Bingo every Wednesday at The Clifton Springs Bowling Club. Eyes down at 7.30pm. Phone 51 3605.

DRYSDALE AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE Physiotherapist (Sue Martin) now in attendance every Tuesday 1.30 - 3.30pm at the centre (consultation only). Any enquiries please phone 51 2291.

CLIFTON SPRINGS GARDEN CLUB wishes to thank all the entrants and sponsors who helped make the Annual Spring Show a success. With the number of entries growing each year the club is grateful for the participation of many non-members, including many junior entries. Major winners this year were Mrs Kath Evans, (Aggregate), and Mrs Mavis Bradbrook (Best Show Entry). The garden club meets in the Senior Citizens Rooms, Drysdale at 7.30pm on 2nd Monday of each month, except January. All welcome.

ADDRESS CHANGE FOR GEELONG CITIZENS' ADVICE BUREAU - NEW VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. The Geelong Citizens' Advice Bureau Inc has moved from the Custodian Arcade to the Old Court House, Gheringhap Street. This organisation has served for 19 years in the heart of Geelong. It is an information and referral service, free and

confidential to all, regardless of their place of residence. Selected volunteers undergo a TAFE training course and a period of probation. Application for membership of this worthwhile organisation are now open. We need more volunteers. Further information may be obtained by telephone 29 2436

ST LEONARDS LIGHT-UP CELEBRATION Saturday 19/12/92. The fairies have been very busy and through the generous donations from the community money is being raised to put sets of "Fairy Lights" in the corner cypress tree at St Leonards. To celebrate the actual "Light-up", an afternoon and evening's entertainment has been organised for your enjoyment. There will be something for all the family. Cathy Blake's Student String Recital 2 - 3 pm, "Angel's Never Cry" 4 - 5pm, Foreshore Entertainment 5 - 6pm, Rectial/Concert 6 - 8pm, Carols by Candlelight from 8pm, "Light-Up" Ceremony approx. 9.30pm, Paddiwack from 9.30pm. This is a non-profit event, assisted by the Bellarine Rural City Council. Ticket for events on sale from 12th December - contact 57 1768 or 57 3011.

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