VicRoads News

Staff Newsletter **November 1997**

Bridge of Life

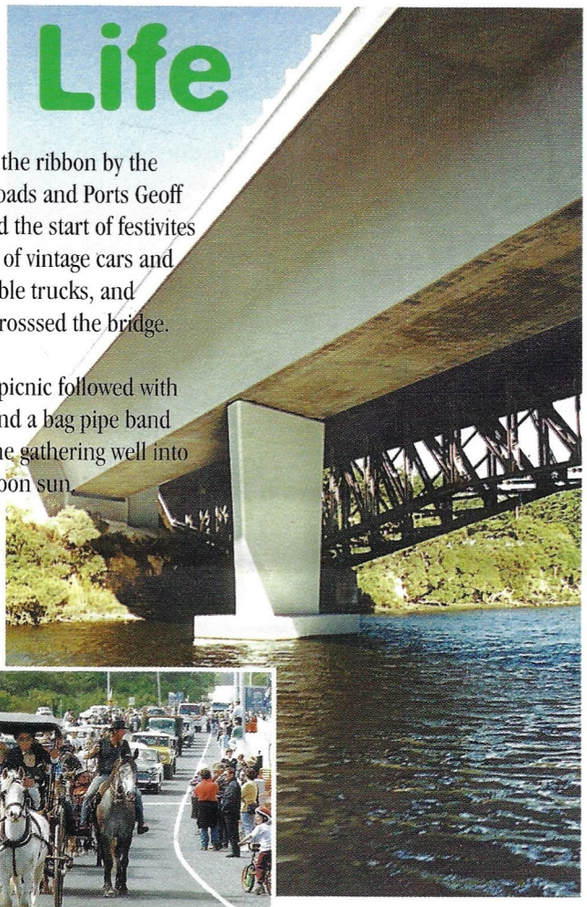
The sun was shining and the river sparkling on Sunday 21 September when about 1000 citizens of Nelson and nearby areas in south west Victoria gathered to celebrate the opening of the new Glenelg Bridge.

For Nelsonians this was a truly historic moment. The new $4m, three-span concrete bridge is the third to be constructed in Nelson since white settlement 150 years ago. These days it provides a vital link in the regional road network for substantial volumes of road freight, local traffic and the many tourists who visit this peaceful town to explore the river, rugged coastline and nearby national parks.

The first bridge was made of timber and was opened in 1893. It served the local community for 70 years until it was replaced in 1963 by an iron bridge. However, corrosion and the inability of the bridge to cope with the increasing volumes of heavy trucks and B-doubles have necessitated a stronger, wider and safer crossing.

The cutting of the ribbon by the Minister for Roads and Ports Geoff Craige signified the start of festivites as a cavalcade of vintage cars and horses, B-double trucks, and townspeople crosssed the bridge.

A community picnic followed with line dancers and a bag pipe band entertaining the gathering well into the late afternoon sun.



(Top to bottom)

Nelson's new $4m bridge over the Glenelg River.

A cavalcade of traffic leads the parade across the new bridge.

The community turned out in force to celebrate the new bridge. Pictured are children dressed in period costume.

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What's in a name?

A chance for you to splurge $100 at the ABC Shop!

Dream up the winning name for our new look newsletter, and a $100 voucher for ABC goodies is yours.

Email your suggestions to newsletter editor Christine Elmer by 15 December.

If you have any ideas for stories, please contact the editor, Christine Elmer, on 03 9854 2779 or via email: elmerc@vrnotes.roads.vic.gov.au

Great run for Grand Prix Traffic

VicRoads has been applauded for traffic management strategies that gave spectators a trouble-free run to and from the Australian Motorcycle Grand Prix held at Phillip Island in early October.

"VicRoads expertise in traffic management has been confirmed," said Geoff Craige, Minister for Roads and Ports.

"From all reports, the traffic management plan worked to expectations, in particular by facilitating the orderly flow of traffic exiting the island following the event.

"My congratulations to all staff members involved in the planning, design and implementation."

The Australian Grand Prix organisers were delighted with the efficient traffic flow. Observers from the Sydney Olympics Committee Coordination Authority were also impressed with the detailed planning and successful implementation.

The plan, which paid special attention to vehicle groups such as motorcycles and buses, was driven by Dean Zabrieszach (Metropolitan South East Region), who chaired the Traffic and Transport Committee, which comprised representation from all stakeholders. Significant input into the development and implementation of the plan was provided by Bruce Hicks (Metropolitan North West Region) and Michael Mattingley (Eastern Region).

Using a two-lane, Melbourne-bound carriageway from the circuit, across the San Remo Bridge and to the South Gippsland Highway, VicRoads achieved the following results:

- more than 3000 vehicles per hour used the blue line-marked Melbourne carriageway;
- approximately 80 coaches were off the island within 45 minutes of the event finishing. Some coaches were in Melbourne within one and a half hours;
- motorcycle traffic had cleared within one and a half hours;
- car traffic had cleared the carparks within two and a quarter hours; and
- vehicle speeds of around 85 km/h were maintained on the Philip Island Tourists' Road and 100 km/h on the Bass Highway.

Local opinion indicated that crowd numbers were equal to the attendances of 1989 and 1990, when traffic was delayed up to nine hours. Congratulations to Dean Zabrieszach and his talented team of traffic managers!

Country Street Directory Launched

The *VICROADS Country Street Directory of Victoria*, produced in partnership by VicRoads and the RACV, was launched by Ted Johnson, Managing Director of RACV on 28 October.

The directory, which is the third in the series, is Victoria's most comprehensive guide to country roads. It includes detailed maps of Victoria and more than 300 township maps, with complete road indexing. Other features of the directory include: 104 pages of regional maps, Melbourne CAD and suburbs maps, new State route numbering, new Western Ring Road maps and a new touring routes section.

John McKenzie of the RACV said that the launch celebrates the publishing relationship between the RACV and VicRoads. He commended the contributions of VicRoads cartographic team, Neil Richardson, Teresa Donnellan, Stuart Spiers (now retired) and Ron Cramer.

The new edition is a sign of the times, having progressed from an entirely hand-produced publication to full digital production today.

"The first country directory was produced by laying the film over aerial photographs on top of a lightbox, then hand-scribing the roads into the film. It was a very time consuming process. Today, the maps are digitally generated via computer desktop publishing," said Jurgen Heselschwerdt (Corporate and Public Relations), who worked on the original country directory, released in May 1992.

Speaking at the launch, Kerry Burke, VicRoads Director of Production Services, emphasised VicRoads' role in managing what happens on the road network.

"The venture is very important to us in sustaining our mapping technology, which is fundamentally associated with the business we are in. There is a natural synergy between the organisations involved, as VicRoads and RACV share many of the same stakeholders and customers."

(L to R) Stuart Spiers (retired), Teresa Donnellan and Neil Richardson celebrate the launch of the VICROADS Country Street Directory at the RACV Club.

VicRoads Wins International Award

VicRoads has won the 1997 Transportation Planning Council Best Practices Award. The award was presented by the USA Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) for *Linking Victoria: Victoria's Rural Arterial Road Network Strategy*. Peter Balfe, Director, Major Projects division, received the award in Boston USA earlier this year.

Peter Balfe (right) accepting the award from ITE President James Hanks at the ITE Annual Meeting in Boston.

Thumbs Up

Shepparton News recently gave the thumbs up to VicRoads for rapid response road repairs. The driver of a Tongala milk tanker rang the Benalla office on 28 September to report a nasty pot-hole on the Murray Valley Highway. Ray Day and Neville Leaf were on the job the same day, restoring a smooth, safe ride for road users including *Shepparton News* correspondent P J Dawson.

Hip Hip For-Ray

Congratulations to 16 staff at North Eastern Region who have clocked up 350 years' service with VicRoads between them. Their achievement was recognised at the Long Service Award Presentations held at Benalla Golf Club.

(L to R) Lester Watt of VicRoads North Eastern Region, Ray Day and his wife Dawn, with Bruce Gidley, Regional Manager North Eastern.

VicRoads Deputy Chief Executive Rob McQuillen was on hand to present the awards, and to welcome the recipients and their partners to the evening's celebrations.

The star of the evening was Ray Day, who was celebrating 40 years with VicRoads. Hot on his heels was Ron Eales, with 30 years' service, followed by an impressive pack of 20 year achievers: Geoff Allen, Rick Anderson, Ray Beavis, Ray Burley, George Coad, Noel Minifie, Lloyd Hill, Hans Jensen, Mike Kerr, Robert Lee, Gary Macdonald, Russell Wells, John McGorlick and Trevor Plumb.

"I started work with what was then the Country Roads Board in January 1957 as a member of the Euroa Patrol," Ray Day said in a moving acceptance speech.

"Since then I have met many fine people and many changes have taken place, especially the closing of the Euroa Patrol.

"This meant me moving to the Shepparton Patrol as Road Worker in Charge.

"I found it hard to accept this change at first, but in hindsight I think the restructuring was the right decision."

Ray's wife Dawn and two children, Andrew and Fiona, were at the Award presentations to celebrate with him.

"My family and I really appreciate what VicRoads has done for them," Ray said.

"It has been a continual learning experience, and the rate of learning is gaining momentum day by day!"

We Love Lucy

This month's customer service applause is for Lucy Trotta of the Carlton Registration and Licensing office. On 30 June, she and her colleagues heard the terrible words 'the computers are down' when the office was crowded with customers.

Allison Wallace, who was in the office to change her Queensland licence, continues:
"I dreaded the delay and thought I would be there for hours. Then one of the staff members [Lucy] came out and approached each customer and asked what their transactions were. She took some paperwork that could be done without the computer and told others it would not be too long ... I thought how thoughtful of her to inform the customers what was going on.

"After a short time the computers were operating again and Lucy served me. She was very efficient, friendly and had a lovely smile. My transaction was dealt with in an efficient and professional manner. She seemed to enjoy her job and although the staff were under pressure, it did not seem to affect this customer service officer. She was able to turn the situation around by asking the public what their transactions were and this seemed to calm those who were anxious.

"This type of service is most gratifying in a public office. Those people who are always degrading the public service sector and feel that they are not treated reasonably should visit the Carlton VicRoads office and then they will see things differently because of Customer Service Officers like this lovely lady Lucy.

"Congratulations to your organisation for having people like Lucy."

Lucy Trotta of the Carlton Registration and Licensing office attracted high praise.

Each year around 15 promising young graduates join VicR Graduate Recruitment and Development Program. Wh happens to them?

"VicRoads developed the Graduate Recruitment and Development Program so we would have a pool of talented graduates with the skills and experience to take us into the future," explains John Davis from the Employee Assistance Group.

"Since 1994 we've recruited around 15 graduates each year, usually with engineering or business, commerce and economics degrees, and placed them intially on an 18 months workplace training and development program.

"During that time they work in three different business areas for six months, to give them a varied experience of what VicRoads does.

"After that time they can apply for an advertised position within VicRoads and so far 39 graduates have obtained permanent positions. I think it's a testimony to the success of the program that the attrition rate is very low, with most of the grads choosing to stay with us.

"We have a good response to our advertisements for the program. For example, we received 500 applications for the 1997-98 intake, and interviewed 45 applicants for the 15 positions available.

"We certainly look for good academic results, and a balance of achievements.

"In fact, it's quite frightening to see just what some of these grads have achieved at 21 or so – they've often worked throughout their degrees, got good results, and managed to maintain healthy social and sporting lives as well."

The rotations available to recruits are based on business area needs, although every effort is made to accommodate professional interests, particularly in the second and third rotations. A work and development program for each rotation is developed by the relevant business area manager and the graduate.

Benefits to VicRoads

"The feedback from managers is that graduates' work is of a high standard, and that they have contributed well," John said.

"We also benefit from their fresh approach and questioning of the way things are done."

Every effort is made to support the graduates and help them make the most of the program. They have reviews with their business area managers, meet regularly with John Davis and his colleague Jim Tutt, and each has a mentor who is a General Manager or Director.

Mentor System

"The mentor system is a key feature of the program," John Davis says. "Mentors meet regularly with their graduates, and can provide information or support on any aspect of life at VicRoads."

Pictured is the 1996-97 group of graduates currently on rotation at VicRoads.
Back Row (L to R): Peter Cook, Jane Widdicombe, Greg Miller, Gordon Simpson, Kamila Webb
Middle Row (L to R): Linda Oman, Melissa Haymes, Donna Maloney, Adrian Giacchi, Anna Kucher
Front Row (L to R): Katy Tran, Roma Lewis, Damiano Ambrosini, Joanne Jeffery, Rayoni Head

Two of the mentors are Susan Allen, General Manager of Registration and Licensing and Kerry Burke, Director of Production Services.

"Being relatively new to VicRoads, I have been impressed by the commitment of the organisation to graduate recruitment and, in particular, by the formal mentor program," Susan Allen said.

"I have not encountered a similar program in other organisations in either the Commonwealth or State Governments.

"I am currently the mentor for three graduates and this has provided me with a better understanding of other areas of VicRoads, and of the issues which can arise for graduates and staff generally."

Both Susan and Kerry emphasise the importance of the mentor program in providing graduates with an independent source of advice on their careers.

"It's a good reminder that senior management and supervisors have a responsibility to provide this sort of support to staff at all levels, not just graduates," Susan said.

"Since being involved in the graduate mentor program, I have become much more aware of the importance of this part of my role as a manager."

Kerry Burke shares Susan's commitment to the mentor program, and meets with his group of graduates every six weeks.

"I strongly advise them to spend at least one rotation in Head Office in a policy area.

"They don't necessarily enjoy it, but it helps give them an overview of the organisation.

"At the meetings I run them through current issues, and then we usually discuss a particular topic, such as leadership styles or organisational structure.

"I see it as their meeting, and they continue to want have it, so they obviously feel it's of value."

A Word from the Graduates

Two of the current participants in the program are Dale Cunningham and Kamila Webb.

Dale, who is approaching the end of his third rotation, completed a double degree in Civil Engineering and Business Administration at RMIT. He began his VicRoads career with six months in Business Services in Eastern Region, then moved to Northern Region for a rotation in Program Delivery. Now in Planning and Investigations, he intends to apply for a permanent position with VicRoads.

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The graduate rotation program attracts young people with engineering, commerce and business backgrounds. Pictured (L to R) are graduates Dale Cunningham and Kamila Webb with John Davis, Manager Employee Assistance.

"The program has been good because working in completely different areas has allowed me to find out what I really want to do," Dale said.

"Moving around has also enabled me to meet a variety of different people, and experience the different cultures that prevail within different VicRoads regions.

"The only drawback I can think of, is that six months is a bit short if you're on an engineering-based rotation. It doesn't necessarily give you enough time to get into a job and then finish it off so that you get the full spectrum of experience."

Dale was enthusiastic about the support he received from VicRoads staff.

"Everyone is always willing to help you out. I try to get as much information as I can, and I find there is always someone ready to help ."

Kamila Webb is a graduate of Monash University, where she completed a double degree: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Bachelor of Business in Management. She is now undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Accounting.

"When I finished my degree I applied for three jobs, and I got interviews for all of them," Kamila said, "however one of my lecturers really encouraged me to go for VicRoads because of the variety their program offered.

"I'm glad I took his advice, because I've really enjoyed the program so far.

"I did my first rotation with Business Services in North West Metro Region, and my third will be in Finance.

"I enjoyed the regional office – the people were very friendly, like a family, which is great help on your first rotation.

"At the moment I'm working in Corporate and Public Relations, and I'm finding it very exciting. It gives you a broader perspective on what's going on in the organisation, and I value that.

"I still have an open mind about what I'd ultimately like to do, but I'm keen to establish what PR and marketing opportunities there are in areas like Corporate and Public Relations and Road Safety."

Words at work

This issue we tackle three more management buzz words, and look into the world of intelligent transport systems.

corporatisation means to change the way a public sector organisation operates so that it resembles a privately-owned enterprise as closely as possible while retaining public ownership. Such an enterprise would have its own commercially-oriented Board of Directors, selected for their commercial skills, and would concentrate on achieving commercial objectives such as maximising the return on its assets.

privatisation means to transfer ownership and operation of a government business enterprise from the public sector to the private sector. For example, the local distribution of electricity in Victoria has been privatised.

outsourcing means to arrange for an external organisation to provide goods and services which were previously supplied internally.

intelligent transport systems (ITS) use advanced technology to make transport safer, more efficient and more environmentally friendly. At present they are most commonly applied to managing traffic, monitoring the whereabouts of fleet vehicles such as trucks and trams and providing information to assist road users. The Drive Time system on the South Eastern Freeway, Melbourne's Parking Guidance System and the Automatic Vehicle Monitoring system used in Met Tram operations are examples of ITS. VicRoads is also developing a Freight Management System to assist freight operators to make decisions about route selection and scheduling by providing traffic information collected from sources including electronically tagged vehicles. There is actually an organisation called Intelligent Transport Systems Australia (ITS-Aust) which brings together people and organisations from private industry, government and universities committed to achieving further benefits for the community through ITS developments.

If there are terms you would like Words at Work to explore, contact Christine Elmer on extension 2779.

The Drive Time travel time sign on the South Eastern Freeway helps motorists to plan their route.

VicRoads On Show

The past few months have seen a flurry of activity for VicRoads in displays and exhibitions.

This year's Royal Melbourne Show chalked up a record attendance, not least due to VicRoads' *outstanding* display in the Government Pavilion.

The display presented a showcase of VicRoads' technical achievements during the past few years, including Computerised Licence Testing, *Motorvation 2*, the VicRoads web site and touch screen information kiosks.

Visitors literally queued to use the information kiosks and to try their skills against the licence testers.

Although technology was a crowd-pleaser, the VicRoads staff were the real highlight of the stand. More than 40 VicRoads personnel from various regions, R&L offices and projects worked on the stand over the 11 days of the Show.

It was a serious test of VicRoads knowledge, as the public asked questions on topics ranging from learner permits to the opening of the Eastern Freeway. Along with this personal 'Sale of the Century', staff battled valiantly against heat, cold and a very hard concrete floor!

In August, the Commercial Vehicle Operations Group participated in the National Freight Congress and Transport Expo at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre. The display focused on Roads, Vehicles and Drivers. Visitors were able to try out the new DALS system (Driver Offence and Licence Status System) which is a computer link between VicRoads and transport companies and allows transport operators to monitor their drivers' licence status.

More than 40 staff enthusiastically represented VicRoads at the 1997 Royal Melbourne Show. (L to R) Melissa Dark, Walter Viti, Kamila Webb, Brian McFadzean, Vince Barbante, Stephen Voss, Peter Protetto and David Ford.

Bridge Protection Award for VicRoads

A recent award presented by Solomon Corrosion Control Services has confirmed VicRoads' status as a leader in R&D among national and international road authorities.

Concrete evidence that VicRoads is a leader in research and development. Pictured (L to R) are Fred Andrews-Phaedonos and Derek Payne.

The award was presented to the Metro South East Region for its contribution to a cost- effective technique for prolonging the life of bridges located near the sea.

Called 'Sprayed Zinc Cathodic Protection', the technique was first developed in the USA, and has now been enhanced through the work of VicRoads researcher and concrete expert, Fred Andrews-Phaedonos and Bridge Maintenance Officer, Derek Payne, working with a leading authority on corrosion.

Commenting on the Award, Fred Andrews-Phaedonos said he and Derek were delighted VicRoads has been recognised by industry peers for this asset management initiative.

"The need to preserve our structural assets is essential," Fred said, "and with the majority of the Australian population living on the coastal fringe, much of our bridge infrastructure is located in an aggressive marine environment.

"In Victoria alone there are 11,000 bridges, of which 70 per cent are constructed from reinforced and pre-stressed concrete.

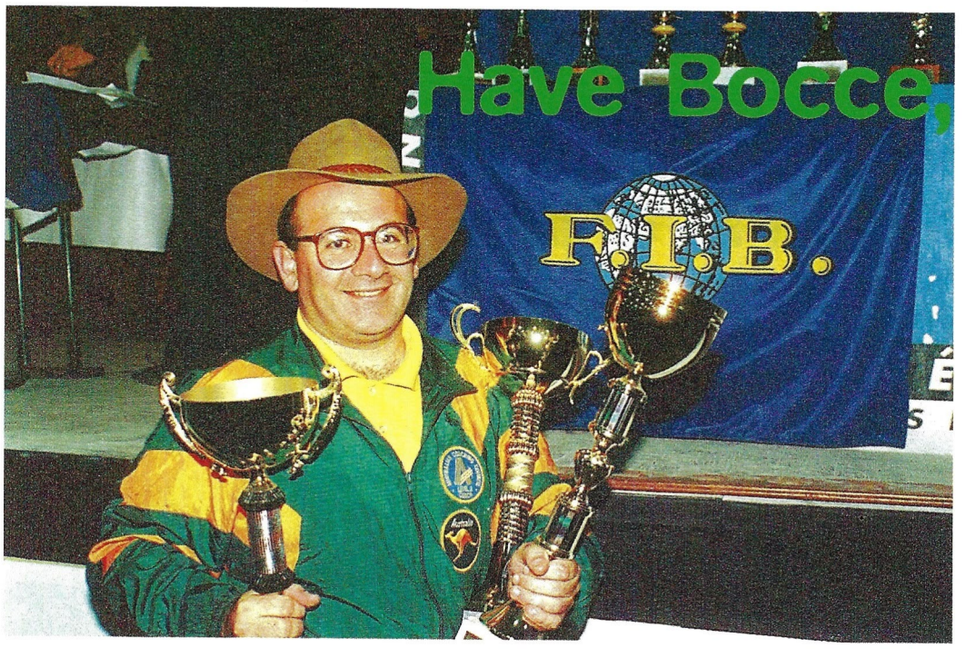
"When salt water permeates the structural concrete, it produces changes that lead to corrosion of the steel reinforcement and if this is left unattended, it reduces the safety of the structure and hastens the need for replacement.

"We have developed practical and financially viable solutions such as the sprayed zinc process to overcome these problems and increase the lifespan of our existing bridges.

"Successful results have been achieved from trials of the sprayed zinc process on four bridges in Metro South East region, where many bridges are located in bayside areas."

The award was presented by Solomon Corrosion Control Services, and provides a World Vision Child Sponsorship on behalf of VicRoads. Past recipients include Fletcher Constructions Pty Ltd, Loy Yang B and Go-Gas.

Have Bocce, will Travel



The coach, Tony Biancacci, proudly displays trophies won in France by the Australian Bocce team.

Tony Biancacci of the Design Department has returned from Croatia, where he was Australia's coach for the World Bocce Championships and Prince of Monaco Cup.

"Bocce is the game like bowls that you see families playing in parks and on beaches on the weekends," Tony explains.

"It can be played anywhere by anyone – all you need are bowls, a jack and some space.

"But it's also a highly competitive international sport, and it's become more exciting recently with the addition of individual competitions as well as the traditional team game."

There are about 25,000 bocce players in Australia, and about 10,000 of them play competitively. The game is most popular in Victoria, which boasts some 10,000 players overall, followed by Queensland.

The Italian Connection

"Like many players, I got involved in bocce through the Italian social club network," Tony explains.

"I began playing socially when I was 12, and went on to play competition bocce for eight years.

"Then came a time when I decided I wanted to put something back into the community and the game, and I was lucky enough to discover I had a natural flair for coaching.

"I think the management and entrepreneurial skills I developed working at VicRoads helped – particularly in negotiating with people," he said.

Tony headed off to the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra to earn his coaching qualifications, achieving Level 1 accreditation in 1988 and Level 2 in 1992. In the meantime he coached the Australian Junior Bocce Team for competitions in Australia, France (where his B team tactlessly outperformed the A team), Italy and Morocco.

International Success

His first international competition as coach of the senior team was the 1991 World Championships in France, where Australians came second in the two individual events and fifth overall. Next came the tri-continental championships in Chile in 1992, followed by the 1993 World Championships in Turin, Italy. This trip also included a visit to Hong Kong at the invitation of the Hong Kong Sports Institute, to demonstrate bocce to their coaches and executives.

In 1995, Tony accompanied the team to Canada, where they were beaten by one point in the quarter finals by France, who went on to win the championships. On the way back came what Tony describes as probably the highlight of his career, a visit to China to for a six day sporting tour sponsored by the Australia-China Council.

"We visited Beijing and Melbourne's sister city, Tianjin and were involved in demonstrations, coaching and competitions," Tony said.

"The hospitality was overwhelming. Every individual we met seemed to have a business card and I had a collection of about 70 cards when I left.

"They place a lot of emphasis on maintaining contact, and so I now have to send them all Christmas cards! "

Just as bocce is being introduced to Asian countries by Australian players and coaches, so bocce originally came to Australia with the thousands of migrants who came from southern Europe in the 1950s.

A Growing Sport

"As well as Italians, bocce is very popular with the French, Croatians, Swiss, Maltese and Spaniards," Tony said, "however, the sport is now entering a phase in Australia where we expect schools to be the major growth area.

"We're introducing it to schools through Aussie Sport's Sport Education in Physical Education Program (SEPEP) and I think we are on the tip of the approaching iceberg.

"When it gets off the ground and the kids start talking about it, I think it will really spread, like basketball and baseball."

When he's not on the bocce court, Tony works as a Supervising Technical Officer in the Design Department, where he is currently involved in coordinating a technical training program for internal staff and external consultants.

He is married to Anne, a bridal consultant with Myer, and has two children at university, Bianca and Mario. He enjoys bush walking, loves the country and says the opportunities bocce has given him for travel have confirmed that Australia is paradise compared to many places he has been.

Tony confirms that Australia has a growing international reputation in his chosen sport.

"We are held in high regard by the elite countries and we have had some excellent results from a small bocce population," he said.

And is there any conflict of loyalties arising from the multicultural background of Australia's bocce teams? No way, says Tony.

"From a sports points of view we represent Australia," he said.

"We are very Australian and when we won second place in two individual events in France and they played the national anthems, the hair on the back of our necks stood on end."

(L to R) Chris Connelly with husband Peter.

Getting to know Chris Connelly

The chirpy voice answering the telephone when you call the VicRoads South Western Region in Geelong is Chris Connelly, seasoned receptionist / telephonist with a great line in repartee. Chris ("My mother only called me Christine when I was in trouble") revealed the following information to our fearless investigator.

How did you come to join VicRoads?
Before I worked at VicRoads I spent two years at a car dealership then five years between two different gyms, but they ended up either going into receivership, folding or being sold. I wanted something more secure and also something that didn't involve working shifts. I saw the VicRoads advertisement in the paper, applied and was taken on by what used to be the Metropolitan Division in East Kew as receptionist/telephonist. That was in 1979. I've been with VicRoads for 18 years now, so I obviously made the right choice.

What does your present job involve?
People, communication, being a public relations person both outside and inside the organisation – and giving as much cheek as I get.

Where else have you worked in VicRoads?
I spent nine years working with VicRoads in Melbourne, then I thought it was time for a change and got a position in Geelong. In Geelong I worked in administration for the first couple of years, then the receptionist left and I've been chained to the switchboard ever since! I like what I'm doing and that's why I haven't really been in any other area.

Is your career turning out the way you expected?
I didn't ever expect to have a long-term career, and I don't have big plans to climb the corporate ladder. As I said, I like what I'm doing . However, I certainly didn't expect to stay in one place so long.

What is your long-term ambition?
I really don't have any major long-term ambitions, except to keep working to pay the bills! I waited quite a long time to get a husband, so I like to have plenty of time to be with him.

What are your personal interests?
I live at Torquay and I love walking along the beaches. My husband Peter and I built a house about four years ago and I'm working on the garden, although I've never been a gardener before in my life. I also like photography, particularly taking photographs of people.

Can you tell us a little bit about your family?
Peter was my first boyfriend, and I married him 20 odd years later! So I now have three part-time children from his first marriage, Donna, who's 18, Megan 16, and Ben 13. Then there's my mum, dad, sister and two brothers. My parents and one of my brothers also live in Torquay, so we see plenty of each other.

What is your favourite food?
Seafood, except for oysters. I don't like anything spicy. At Peter's request I recently cooked my first roast, a leg of lamb. I'm not mad on meat, but it was a great success, so I think there'll be a few more requests for roasts from now on.

What football code to you follow?
None. Peter's into car and bike racing, but that's about the only sport in the family.

What makes you laugh?
A lot of phone conversations with regular clientele, my husband and some of my workmates.

What one thing would you change about the world?
I would eliminate crime and violence. You hear about senseless crime and violence on the news all the time.

What would you do if you won Tattslotto?
I'd pay all the bills, furnish the empty rooms in our house and travel around Australia, which is something hubby really wants to do. I love peace and quiet, so I'd also be happy just to stay at home and potter.

Casual approach PAYS OFF

VicRoads staff made a great contribution to the Spastic Society of Victoria's fundraising event 'Go Casual for a Cause'.

Staff arrived at work on 7 May this year dressed in their favourite casual clothes or wore a 'Would if I Could' badge, and made a $2 or $5 donation. They raised a total of $3400, which the Spastic Society said was one of the largest sums raised by staff of a large organisation.

In presenting a certificate of appreciation to VicRoads, the Corporate Development Manager for the Spastic Society of Victoria, Laurie Clark David said, "We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to VicRoads for coordinating contributions for 'Go Casual for a Cause'. All of VicRoads' offices and country locations participated, and for a first year of participation, it was a great effort".

Throughout Victoria, 800 companies and 400 schools participated in 'Go Casual for a Cause', which raised $250,000 in Victoria and $750,000 nationally.

One in every 400 children is born with cerebral palsy, making it the most common physical disability in childhood. The Spastic Society of Victoria provides vital services to Victorian children and adults with cerebral palsy and has some 3000 clients. The Society's services include residential, transport, employment, training, therapy, recreational activities and information.

(L to R) Susan Harris, General Manager of Human Resources at VicRoads, receives the certificate of appreciation from Laurie Clark David of the Spastic Society of Victoria.