EASTERN VICTORIA

ROUNDABOUT

VIC ROADS **MARCH 1994**

REGIONAL MANAGERS NOTES

Construction Season

Although the weather has not been the kindest to us, the past 2 months have seen construction works at Anderson and Kalimna completed. Both of these jobs are passing lanes which will relieve traffic buildup, particularly during the tourist season.

The first of the Better Roads Victoria contracts has been let to TW & GE Ralls Pty Ltd for a passing lane on the South Gippsland Highway at Nyora. This is the first of many of these contracts. Three more contracts are being advertised at present - a roundabout at Stratford and two passing lanes on the Princes Highway east of Stratford. The Technical Services Area and the Highways Operations groups have been very busy organising consultants and preparing specifications for these works.

Our direct labour gangs are moving onto a passing lane on the South Gippsland Highway at Loch and works on the Omeo Highway at Pheasants Nest north of Bruthen and near Tongio Gap.

Maintenance Changes

Maintenance contracts currently under consideration by North Eastern Region will affect our operation at Omeo. The two contracts to be let are on the Alpine Road from Omeo to Harrietville and on the Omeo Highway from Glen Valley northerly to Tallandoon (check your VicRoads Country Directory). Because of these changes, the Ensay Patrol has now been permanently disbanded and the Omeo, Bairnsdale and Orbost Patrol lengths reorganized to give each patrol about 120kms of highway to look after.

I have been very pleased at the results being achieved in pavement repairs by patrols using the Bobcat Profiler. This little machine is cement stabilizing patches much smaller than possible with the larger machine and the results look good. The success of cement stabilized patching on the Princes Highway east of Orbost, the Cann Valley Highway and the Omeo Highway, (mainly with the large machine) has allowed us to catch up on other urgent work as well as giving the public a safer surface to travel on.

Bituminous Surfacing Changes

As from 1 July 1994, the Bituminous Surfacing unit in the region will reduce to one gang which will service the State Highways and the East Gippsland municipalities. All other municipalities will put their work to contract, which we will also be bidding upon.

As a result of this change there will be a redeployment of some B.S. people into the construction and maintenance areas.

We mean to stay in the Bituminous Surfacing business and intend to give Contractors stiff opposition in price and quality of work.

Trucks in Action

It was a pleasure to attend this year's Trucks in Action display at Lardner Park in late February and to see VicRoads so well represented.

Congratulations to the TSS group for their hard work, particularly Joe Bechaz, the committee chairman, and all VicRoads people from R & L, Princes East Project and Plant Branch who were involved.

Corporate Management Group

On 7 February, the Corporate Management Group held its meeting at Traralgon where staff had the opportunity to meet with CMG members over a lunchtime barbecue. My thanks to all who attended and helped on the day, particularly our Chaplain, Greg Luxford, who showed his hand as a BBQ chef.

During the barbecue, the opportunity was taken to present service awards to Neville Arbuthnot (20 years), Peter McCulloch (30 years) and Norm Butler (30 years).

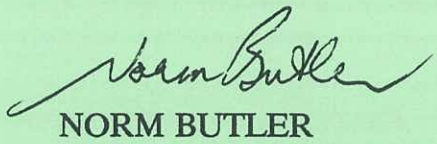
Registration and Licensing

Business seems to be increasing more as time goes on. Morwell Office hit the 300 transactions per day last week, the first time ever. Even with payment facilities at banks, it seems that our offices are drawing the business because of the standards of service and knowledge of the business.

We are still in the process of having Motorcycle Training and Testing providers accredited in the Region. It is interesting to see that Gippsland Driver Training and Education Centre has been accredited as a provider in the South Eastern Metropolitan Region.

Welcome

I am pleased to welcome Audrey Aquaro, Traffic Safety Education Consultant to the Traralgon Office, and Robert Harcourt, Customer Service Officer to the Leongatha Office. Audrey comes to us from Moe Secondary College where she was a full time integration teacher, and Robert comes to us from Blackburn R & L Office, although hailing from Wangaratta.



NORM BUTLER
REGIONAL MANAGER
EASTERN VICTORIA

WorkCover Claims lodged Feb 94

Loss of hearing (2 - field)
Back strain (recurrence) (1 - field)
Chest pains (heart attack) (1 - field)
Back pain (1 - office)
Face laceration (1 - office)

(Letter to Regional Manager from Shire of Tambo, Lakes Entrance)

Re: Quality Management

I wish to express Council's appreciation for Brian Bagley's assistance in introducing Quality management to the Shire's Outdoor Staff. The 45 field staff who attended the session conducted by Brian titled "An Introduction to Quality Management" heard an excellent address on the principles and practices of total quality management and quality assurance.

Brian's address was informative and presented in a professional manner, targeted to his audience. Brian related the theory of quality management to many practical examples in the road construction industry involving the field staff present in the discussions. Please pass on Council's appreciation to Brian for his assistance and to yourself for permitting Brian to speak to the Shire staff on this important topic.

(Sgd) Michael Ellis
Manager Engineering

TO BE SURE TO BE SURE

Not being satisfied with a single copy of a print job, a certain R & L Manager (who loves the sunshine in the Eastern part of the State) decided to be sure that the printout was correct and requested no fewer than 5793 copies, yes folks, that's right, 5793 copies of the one job.

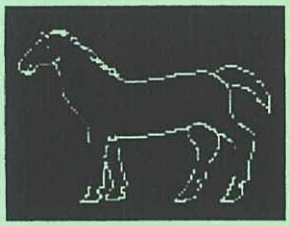
After attempting to print 333 of these an effort was made to "kill" the print queue which had been established. Just killing print jobs took 20 minutes, imagine how long it would have taken to actually print them out.

(Letter received by Traralgon Patrol)

Dear Gavan,

I would like to thank yourself and your 3 workmates for stopping to assist me on Wednesday, when my car broke down on the highway. A woman who breaks down on the roads these days is very vulnerable and I was grateful to see 3 honest, reliable looking fellows had stopped for me - your assistance was greatly appreciated. I eventually made it home with the car on the back of the 'tray' towing truck.
Once again, thank you. Please share the enclosed with your mates and I hope you win. Regards, Margaret Palmer.

ITEMS FOR SALE



1 Bay Mare - 14½ hh
Registered Australian Saddle Pony
Registered E.F.A.
Pony club experience, shown successfully.
$1500 o.n.o. - rider with some experience required. Good home only.

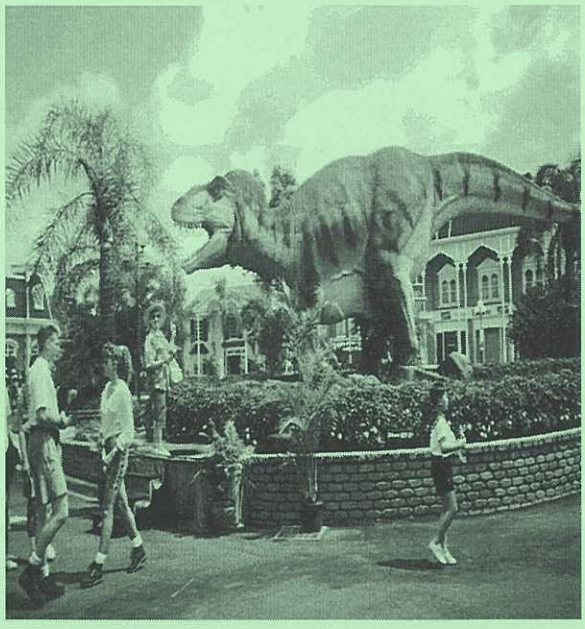
1 single horse float, 11 months rego.
$600.

1 Honda CB125 Motorcycle 1980, registered to May 1994. Good condition.
$750 (with RWC)
$700 (no RWC)

Contact Kate Runge (Morwell VicRoads) B.H. (051) 341788, A.H. (051) 761041.

Holiday Report

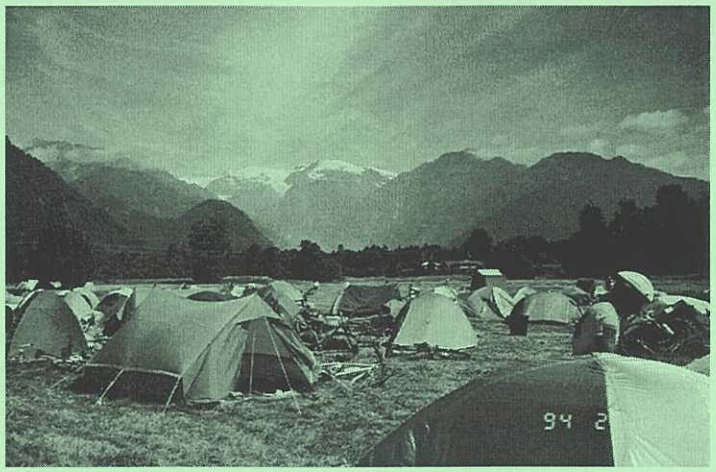
Newsletter's co-editor Joy Harrison and daughter Francine recently spent an action-packed weeks' holiday on the Gold Coast. The girls toured the various theme parks - Dreamworld, Seaworld and Moveieworld thoroughly enjoying all the attractions. Highlights were the Dinosaur Exhibition at Dreamworld, with lifesize "animals" moving and growling (awesome!), a helicopter joyflight, visit to Warner Bros studio to see how movies are made, a days' cruise to South Stradbroke Island, speedboat rides, a visit to Jupiters Casino, and a tour of Surfers' on the back of a Harley Davidson!



Joy "interviewing" the Dinosaur



Lou hard at it.



Campsite early in the morning with snow capped mountains in the background.

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Lisa Magee who has been with Vic Roads in Bairnsdale for the past ten years, the last four in the R & L Section, departs on Friday 18th March to take up a position at the Greensborough Registration & Licensing Office. Best wishes are extended to Lisa from all staff at Bairnsdale. Lisa's daughter Jacqui started school this year and as the photograph shows Jacqui was looking forward to the big day.



BAIRNSDALE R & L NEWS

Lou Wigg hasn't been sitting down to much lately - had somewhat of a sore behind after participating in the Great New Zealand Bike Ride recently which involved three weeks of pedalling through very scenic countryside. Lou and husband Ron had a great time and would do it all again (with a bit more padding!)

Family News

The Salter family were out in force recently to celebrate the wedding of Marj and Kens' eldest daughter Natasha to Theo Theissling of Traralgon. Below is a selection of photographs of the occasion.



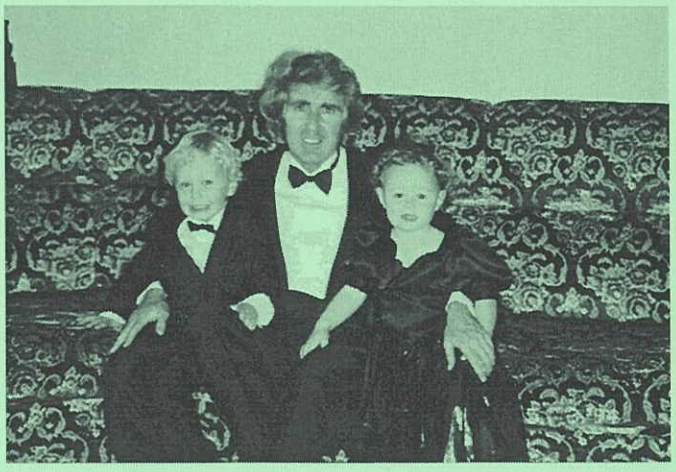
Marj & Ken with the bridal couple



Natasha and Theo



The three bridesmaids -
daughters Samantha, Felicity and Priscilla



Ken with the 2 youngest members of the clan, Adam and Shawnee

Feminist Humour!

One of the world's most celebrated chain letters showed feminist humour at its meanest. It read:

"This letter was started by a woman like yourself in hopes of bringing relief to other tired and discontented women. Only, unlike most chain letters, this one does not cost anything. Just send a copy of this letter to 11 of your good friends who are equally tired and discontented. Then bundle up your husband or boyfriend and send him to the woman whose name appears at the top of the list. When your name appears on top of the list you will receive 16,877 men - and one of them is bound to be a hell of a lot better than the one you already have! Do not break this chain...have faith. One woman broke the chain and got her husband back. At this writing, a friend of mine has already received 184 men."

And did you hear about the wife who got rid of ten stones of unsightly, unwanted flab in three months. She divorced him!

A driving instructor asked his female pupil: "If a traffic signal changes to amber only, what will you see next?" "That's easy" she replied. "Some fool man trying to beat the lights."

"What are you getting for your husband this Christmas?" "I don't know. Make me an offer."

"He was so depressed, he went and put his head in the gas oven." "What did you do?" "Oh, I basted it every 15 minutes."

oooOOOooo

Male Humour!

The examiner was testing a male applicant for a driving licence. "What does it mean," he asked, "when a woman is holding out her hand?"

"Well," replied the young hopeful. "You can be sure that she is turning left, turning right, backing up, doing a three-point turn, waving at somebody, or going to stop."

And of course we have the mother-in-law jokes:

Definition of mixed emotion: watching your mother-in-law drive off a cliff in your new car!

Every Christmas the wife's mother has been to our house for her dinner. This year we're having a change - we're going to let her in.

A lawyer cabled one of his clients: "Your mother-in-law passed away in her sleep last night. Shall we order burial, embalming, or cremation?" The client wired back: "Take no chances. Order all three."

The wealthy businessman returned home early one day quite unexpectedly and found his wife in the arms of his best friend. He looked at his friend disdainfully and said: "Dick, I must. But you?"

For Sale For Removal

1 Building - situated at the VicRoads Depot, Dunbar Road, Traralgon.
Galv Iron Roof, Vertical W/Board Cladding, 4 windows, one toilet.
Power, water and sewerage disconnected.
Approx. size under eaves 7.3m x 3.7m.

Offers to Harvey Dinelli by 30th March 1994.

PERSONALITY PAGE!



Name: Harvey Dinelli

Born at: Morwell

Occupation: Business Services Manager

Did My Schooling At: Morwell High School

Married to: Dianne **Childrens Names:** Adam, Kasey

Hobbies & Interests: Kids, Football, Basketball, Computers

Most Interesting Thing I Did Before Joining VicRoads: Drove a taxi part time

Person I Admire Most: Ron Barassi

Favourite TV Show: Northern Exposure

Favourite Performer: Jack Nicholson

Favourite Food: Roast

Favourite Music: Beatles

Favourite Football Team: SOUTH MELBOURNE!

Relaxing At Home I Like To:
- Do things with kids
- Watch sport
- BBQ

When I Retire I Will: Travel