

From the Committee

Do not forget our 15th year celebration on Thursday 11 April – it is a chance to celebrate our contribution to the community. Details were in our last newsletter and booking can be done online.

On Thursday 18 April we have been invited to join Probus for a trip Around the Bay in a Day.



The coach will leave the Visitor Information Centre carpark at 8.45am and return at about 5.00pm. The cost is \$70 per person and includes the coach fare, morning tea, a two-course lunch at the Rye RSL, and the ferry crossing from Portsea to Queenscliff.

This should be a great day out so make your booking quickly. Register and pay with Probus directly by contacting Margaret or Bob Orr by email at boborr33@bigpond.net.au or phone 53452165.

Studio 32 Volunteers required

As you know Judy Henderson has started this venture in the premises formally occupied by Biggin and Scott Real Estate. It is an outlet for local art and some second-hand items.

Judy would appreciate a few volunteers to help out in this facility. It will not be a burden as you can be flexible with times and days. Contact Judy at railwayworkshops@gmail.com or 5345 1374 for more information.

Could you offer a course?

Our tutors are always willing to share their knowledge and you do not have to be a public speaker or professor. Many of our groups are a mix of social and learning and if you have a skill you could share, not necessarily ongoing, it could be a short course, contact Anne.



Luisa (left) and Nellie Gregory. Images: Trove

Women's Cricket

It all began in the Goldfields

The first recorded game of women's cricket was played in Bendigo on 7 April in 1874. Inspired by a visit in the same year by the English men's cricket team, the town decided that the sport would be the theme of their annual fair. A meeting held in March to gauge interest in a women's cricket match attracted 35 local women. Twenty-two were selected and they wore specially made white calico dresses.

The local paper noted that the women 'unquestionably showed excellent play, and drew forth the repeated plaudits of spectators'.

The first Women's Cricket Association was formed in Victoria in 1904 with 21 teams. More associations would follow across the country.

That first game in Bendigo set off a string of games around the country. But it was a game in Sydney in 1886 that revealed Australia's first cricket star: Rosalie Dean. But it also brought us the Gregory sisters.

Dean played in the match between the 'Siroccos' and 'Fernleas' alongside the Gregory sisters at the Associated Cricket Ground or the SCG as it's known today. More than 3000 people watched that game.

Dean would go on to score multiple centuries at games around NSW and would be the first woman cricketer to be included in Wisden.

And the Gregory sisters? Nellie and Louisa Gregory were hugely influential in the development of

women's cricket in NSW. The duo played, captained teams and organised matches around the state. Nellie was even the first president of the NSW Women's Cricket Association in 1927.

Margaret Peden was born a year after the first Women's Cricket Association formed. She would go on to be one of the most influential women in cricket in the first half of the twentieth century.

Educated at one of the first schools to allow girls to play cricket, Margaret founded the University of Sydney's women's cricket club. She played an important role in rebuilding the NSW Women's Cricket Association, even serving as secretary for 16 years. She was one of the founders of the Australian Women's Cricket Council in 1930 where she served as secretary and chairwoman. In 1934, it was Margaret that set about organising the first Australian tour by an English women's cricket team.

Not just a sound administrator, Margaret could play too and she captained the NSW cricket team for many years. Margaret even led a bunch of her teammates to level and clear an old market garden in Kuring-gai to use as a cricket ground. Legend has it, their efforts to clean the old garden up were not completely successful as potatoes were often found!

The history of women's cricket is full of pioneers so it's no surprise that it was the women who played in the very first cricket world cup in 1973, two years before the men would play in 1975. England hosted a round robin tournament. Australia competed, alongside New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and International XI and a Young England team.



Australia's first cricket World Cup team played in England in 1973.

Much of the credit for the 1973 World Cup goes to English captain Rachel Heyhoe-Flint who gained the support of businessman and philanthropist Sir Jack Hayward. Heyhoe-Flint who starred and led

the English team to victory, would later be the first woman to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.



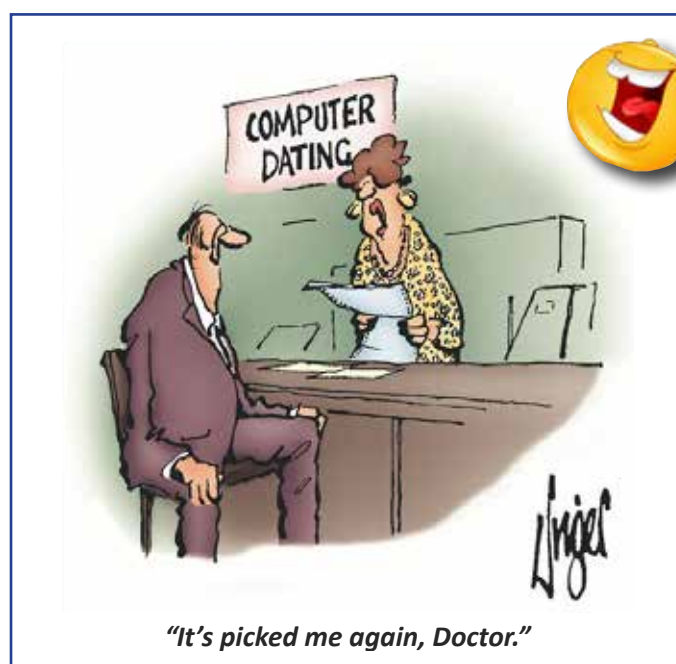
No trip down cricket's memory lane is complete without mentioning Faith Thomas. When Faith was selected to play for Australia's national cricket team in

1958, she became the first Aboriginal woman to be selected for a national sports team. It was a meteoric rise for the young South Australian nurse. After only three local games, she was playing for the state team. She played for the South Australian team from 1956 to 1958.

Faith played in only one test, the 1958 Ashes Series against England and was the first indigenous Australian woman to represent Australia in any international sport. Thomas was a fast bowler and, apart from cricket, she also excelled in athletics. She was a talented sprinter and long jumper. Her athletic abilities were remarkable.

She was born in the Nepabunna Aboriginal mission in South Australia in 1933 and was one of the first Aboriginal university graduates and a nurse. She was one of just four Indigenous Australians who have played Test cricket.

In 2019, she received an Order of Australia for services to cricket and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. Thomas passed away in 2022.





Too old to try something new?

We all know that continuing to study and learn has many benefits, as we get older. It was interesting to read in a BBC report, that a 95-year-old man in England has become a university's oldest graduate – and is considering another course.

Retired psychiatrist, David Marjot, graduated from Kingston (UK) University with an MA in Modern European Philosophy. He completed his latest studies 72 years after he originally qualified as a doctor.

Dr Marjot, from Weybridge, Surrey, is now contemplating a part-time doctorate, which could take him until he is 102 to complete.

He said his degree was “hard work” as “my memory was not what it used to be”.

Offering advice to those thinking of re-entering education after decades away, he said: “It is a bit of a gamble, but the main thing is if you’re interested then go for it. “I was lucky to have world-class teachers and it was a very positive experience. I think it is important to always keep challenging yourself even as you get older.”



Looking for the best cat litter for odour control that's also easy to clean and gentle on your cat's paws?

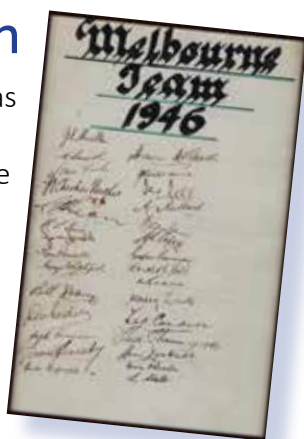
Michu Tofu Cat Litter is your top choice. This all-natural cat litter not only minimizes smells but is also a flushable cat litter, ensuring cleanup is a breeze.

Editors note: Now try to convince me Tofu is good for you!

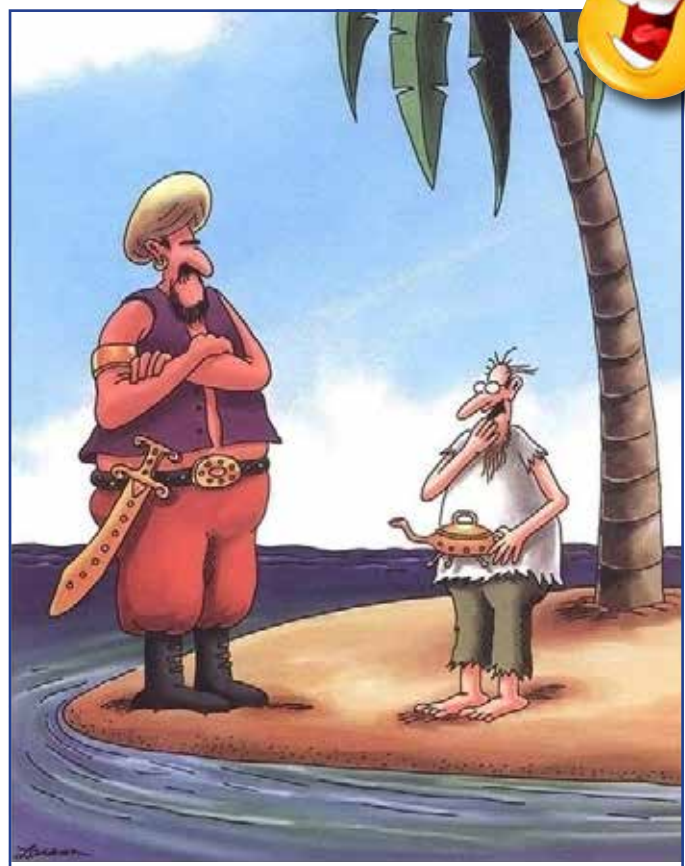
Die-hard Demon

At 100 years of age, Des Bell has remained a die-hard Demon since his days in the red and blue guernsey in 1946/47.

Desmond Clyde Bell was born on 23 May 1923 in Creswick. He served as a gunner in the Australian Army during World War II.



Des Bell, Melbourne's oldest living past player, with Angus Brayshaw and the 2021 Premiership Cup.



“Well, let's see – so far I've got rhythm and I've got music... actually, who could ask for anything more?”



Can you spot a scam?

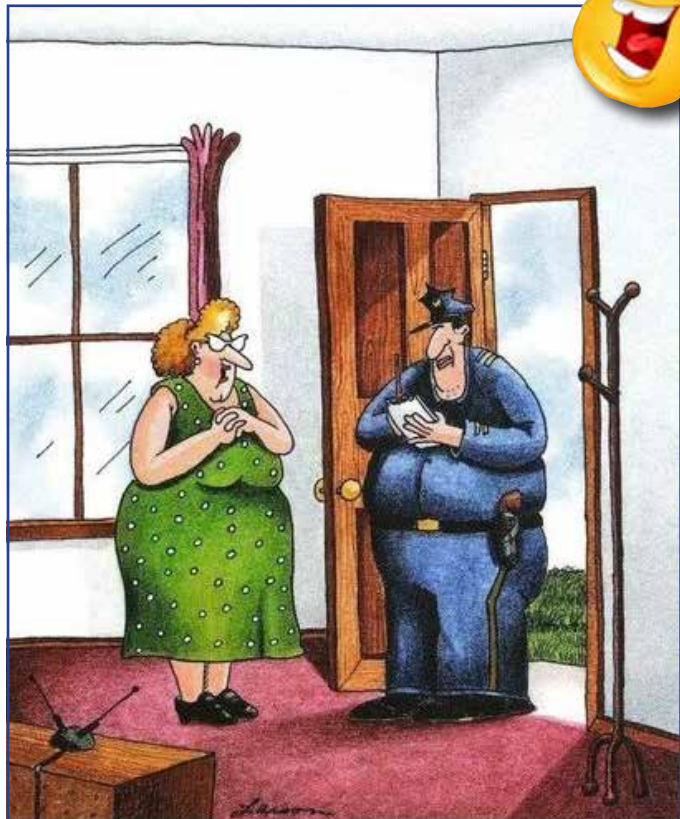
Australians lost more than \$480 million in scams last year. Job scams came in at \$24.7 million — an almost 155 per cent increase year-on-year that made it the fastest-growing scam type in 2023.

It's easy to say 'what an idiot' when you hear about some of these things, but as scammers become increasingly sophisticated, it's hard to keep up with the latest scams. So could you spot a scam?

Well the Australian Cyber Security Centre has set up a test to see if you can spot a scam. Test your skills and see if you could beat the scammers by taking the test

<https://www.cyber.gov.au/protect-yourself/spotting-scams#sts-container>.

Source: Your Life Choices



"And when I got home, Harold's coat and hat were gone, his worries were on the doorstep, and Gladys Mitchell, my neighbour, says she saw him heading west, on the sunny side of the street."



"It's some kind of silly note from the barbarians, sire. It says, 'We will, we will, rock you. We will, we will, rock you'..."

U3A Membership Policy

When a member pays the required membership subscriptions they become a member of Creswick & District U3A and must follow the Terms and Conditions of membership. Listed below are some of these conditions. The complete list of Conditions and Policies is available on the [website](#).

1. Always act in the best interests of the U3A and never do anything to bring the U3A into disrepute.
2. Abide by the terms and conditions of the constitution.
3. Treat fellow members with respect and courtesy at all times.
4. Comply with and support the decisions of the elected Committee.