

SQUEEK THE CLOWN JOINS Y-FEST ATTRACTIONS

A professional Melbourne clown and multi-skilled stilt-walker, juggler and magician will add to entertainment at this year's annual Easter Y-Fest.

Yarriambiack Shire Community Development Manager and Y-Fest committee secretary Terry Sanders said this year's festival would be entirely based at Warracknabeal for the first time.

Feature entertainer Squeek the Clown will provide roving entertainment in Warracknabeal's main street before and during an annual Easter Saturday parade.

He will join Warracknabeal-based Strawberry the Clown who will create popular balloon sculptures for the children while Warracknabeal jazz band The Dixie Beats will add to the festival atmosphere.

Mr Sanders said festival organisers wanted to encourage a stronger community participation in this year's parade and were offering cash prizes for best floats, decorated bikes or costumes.

He said four \$50 prizes were earmarked for juniors to encourage children to take part and three \$100 prizes were on offer in an open category.

"Traditionally the parade attracts strong participation from Wheatlands machinery museum and Warracknabeal machinery businesses. We want to expand on that to make this year's parade bigger and better than before," he said.

Mr Sanders said people interested in entering the parade needed to complete an entry form available from Warracknabeal Tourist Information Centre in Scott Street.

Y-fest committee chairman Lance Huebner said his committee had organised a media advertising campaign to run over the next few weeks.

The campaign will feature television, radio and newspaper advertising throughout western Victoria.

Mr Huebner said ongoing sponsorship from Emmetts and John Deere over Y-fest's seven years had allowed the festival to continue its strong advertising campaign.

Y-fest also includes:

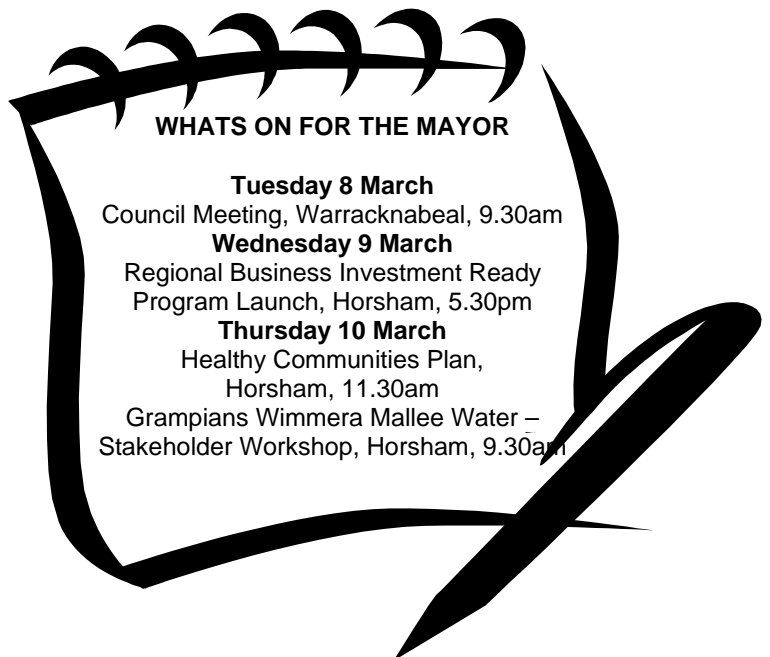
* The 38th annual Wheatlands Museum Vintage Machinery and Car Rally from Easter Saturday until Easter Monday featuring an extensive collection of vintage tractors, agricultural machinery and stationary engines, a twilight vintage tractor pull and John Deere vintage tractor race, sheep shearing, working horses, model aircraft and arts and crafts.

* Warracknabeal Art Show from 11am on Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday featuring an exhibition of paintings by SA artist Robert Landt. He is a descendant of one of Warracknabeal's oldest families and returns for a second Easter exhibition in the Yarriambiack Shire Office meeting room. Specialising in landscapes, Landt has exhibited regularly in and around Adelaide and has won many prizes for his work.

* Wimmera Racing Club's Easter Cup featuring footballers and netballers in a Dash for Cash at Warracknabeal Racecourse on Easter Saturday. Football and netball teams from throughout western Victoria will compete in a four by 80m relay race along the racecourse's main straight in a bid to win a share of \$9000 in cash and prizes.

* Warracknabeal Golf Club's annual Easter Tournament from Good Friday until Easter Monday includes men's and women's events each day and an early start time for race-goers on Easter Saturday.

Contact: Terry Sanders on 5398 0124



WHATS ON FOR THE MAYOR

Tuesday 8 March

Council Meeting, Warracknabeal, 9.30am

Wednesday 9 March

Regional Business Investment Ready Program Launch, Horsham, 5.30pm

Thursday 10 March

Healthy Communities Plan, Horsham, 11.30am

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water – Stakeholder Workshop, Horsham, 9.30am

PERMITS TO BURN FOR INDIVIDUALS

Southern Mallee (Hopetoun Group) and Warracknabeal Group Areas Only

Council is now issuing permits to burn to individuals for burning of crop residue in the above areas. Applications should be made through Council Offices at 34 Lyle Street, Warracknabeal.

CEO TRIVIA – DID YOU KNOW?!

The size of your foot is approximately the size of your forearm!