

**THE STANDARD**

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**YOUR PAPER****Local**

PEOPLE waiting to undergo plastic surgery, including women who require breast reconstruction after cancer surgery, may no longer need to travel out of Warrnambool.

**Page 4****National**

DRUG trafficking kingpin Tony Mokbel was yesterday jailed for 30 years by Victorian Supreme Court judge Simon Whelan.

**Page 14****World**

THE worst monsoon floods in a decade to hit a remote north-eastern Indian state have killed more than 80 people and left two million people homeless.

**Page 16****TODAY**

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SHARES	24	PUZZLES	29
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**DID YOU WIN?****OZ LOTTO DRAW 959:** 32 34 21 28 19 24 45**Supps:** 16 & 18

**Div 1:** (No winners) Jackpot  
**Div 2:** (1) \$90,710.90  
**Div 3:** (38) \$4914.70  
**Div 4:** (206) \$466.25  
**Div 5:** (2246) \$49.40  
**Div 6:** (51,766) \$24.75  
**Div 7:** (94,416) \$15.20

**LUCKY THREE:** Draw No. 1129: 7 4 5**LUCKY FIVE:** Draw No. 1129: 5 2 15 27 18**BLACK/RED:** RED**LUCKY KENO:** Draw No. 2086: 9 12 20 24 27 29 30

32 35 40 45 49 50 52 59 61 63 67 69 71

**LUCKY LINES:** Draw No. 1464: 1 9 11 19 22 27 34 37**TRAIN TIMES****MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

Warr - Melb		Melb - Warr	
Depart	Arrive	Depart	Arrive
5.33am	9.05am	7.19am	10.43am
11.30am	2.54pm	1.00pm	4.13pm
5.18pm	8.45pm	6.39pm	10.07pm

■ For verification of times, phone 5561 4277 or 136 196 (AH)

**THAT'S ODD**

LONDON: A video of a man eating a dead rabbit apparently found by the side of the road has sparked controversy online. The clip opens with so-called stunt eater Louis Cole finding the 'roadkill' on a country lane, reports *The Sun*. The 28-year-old Christian youth worker tells the camera: "We've been looking around and we've finally found a rabbit that is obviously fairly fresh. It doesn't look like it's decomposing yet, so I thought this could make a nice meal, a tasty snack." The disturbing video has been watched nearly 300,000 times, with many users apparently left feeling queasy. One said: "This guy has serious problems. What a complete and utter idiot." [WWW.ORANGE.CO.UK](http://WWW.ORANGE.CO.UK)

**TODAY'S TEXT**

BUT Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

— Luke 19:8-10 (New International Version)

**TODAY'S THOUGHT**

If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away.

— Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

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**TODAY****SHOWERS 13°****LOCAL NEWS****Taxi driver warns of country ruin**

Geoffrey Pritchett is concerned about the future of his taxi service.

120628DW04 Picture: DAMIAN WHITE

**MEGT training group secures tender****REGION**By **JONO PECH**

TRAINING group MEGT is urging south-west businesses to look to the future after being awarded a two-year tender to facilitate apprenticeships in the region.

The apprenticeship support organisation announced yesterday it had secured four jobs for the region, after the federal government earlier this year declined to give the tender to a consortium made up of Westvic Staffing Solutions, Western District Employment Access and Geelong's G Force Recruitment.

MEGT Australian Apprenticeships Centre general manager Jan Griffin said her strategy would ensure people with detailed knowledge of the industry conditions were employed at Warrnambool and Hamilton offices.

"We provide a free service," Ms Griffin said.

"The Australian government has contracted us to assess the eligibility of businesses for government funding, to promote apprenticeships and traineeships in the region and to make it as easy as possible for businesses to employ and train staff through an apprenticeship or traineeship arrangement."

Ms Griffin said administration staff would facilitate placements.

She said they would also highlight the benefits to businesses employing apprentices or trainees.

"They are jobs that provide an absolutely free service to help facilitate the payment of government money that result in even more jobs for locals," she told *The Standard*.

"It's also an important part of my strategy to ensure the Kepler Street office is supported by a considerable infrastructure."

"This ensures the information they receive about government benefits and local training providers is always up to date and ensures benefits are processed promptly."

Two additional staff are also employed as part of the MEGT group training partnership with Mentor which was announced last month.

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**TERANG**By **ALEX SINNOTT**

Deregulation of the taxi industry will ruin small operators like Terang businessman Geoff Pritchett, lobby group Taxi Industry Stakeholders Victoria (TISV) has claimed.

Operators from across the south-west have called on Spring Street to be aware of how proposed reform of the taxi industry would impact regional owner-drivers, especially services in small towns.

Mr Pritchett has operated a taxi service in the Terang and Camperdown district for eight years and has worked on-and-off as a driver for more than

three decades. The 59-year-old told *The Standard* the flagged reforms under the state government's taxi industry inquiry would result in the marketplace being diluted and erode the profitability of already established operators.

"I can understand why the city side of things needs to be improved but there shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach to taxi services," Mr Pritchett said.

"Deregulation would kill off small operators like my business. You'd have cowboy operators all over the place trying to make a quick buck but the overall service wouldn't be sustainable."

The year-long inquiry

commissioned by the state government was spearheaded by economist Allan Fels and its findings were released last month.

TISV president John Vlassopolous said most figures within the industry were concerned by the inquiry's push for an increased number of cabs, given occupancy rates were already comparatively low.

"The message being pushed by the inquiry is that a deregulated taxi industry would make fares cheaper for the consumer, but overseas markets have proven that this is not the case," Mr Vlassopolous said.

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**SAVE LIVES.  
TALK THE  
TOLL DOWN.**

**10 NOW****9 THEN**The counter began on October 8, 2011, when *The Standard* launched the Talk The Toll Down campaign. It is measuring against the previous 12 months.**Detective grilled over Lowe probe****FROM PAGE 1**

John Collyer died last week and his funeral was held on Monday.

Detective Senior Constable Greene said it had not crossed his mind that the documents may have been altered, but he did note that some documents were not signed or dated.

He said some charges did not proceed because Mrs Lowe was able to provide explanations, such as for quarry products delivered to her home.

The policeman said Shannon Collyer had in fact been wrong in relation to some claims he made and in relation to some charges there was not enough evidence to

proceed. When asked by Mr Sheales if Shannon Collyer being wrong about numerous matters changed his confidence in Mr Collyer's allegations, Detective Senior Constable Greene said: "not entirely", but agreed it did have an impact.

Detective Senior Constable Greene said he received an abusive telephone call from John Collyer about how long the investigation was taking. He said he provided Shannon Collyer's statement to John Collyer because he wanted their statements to be consistent.

The committal hearing before magistrate Ann McGarvie is scheduled to finish tomorrow.

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