

Men ready to break silence on violence

BY TONY BYFIELDT

AT ONE time there was a universal shout recognised by men all over Australia, whether they came from the bush or the city.

This shout was "coo-ee!" and could be used in many ways; it was used as a distress signal when lost; it was used in reply to say help was coming; it was a shout to tell of your approach; and it was used as a greeting by men who marched from the bush to the city to give their support to a war.

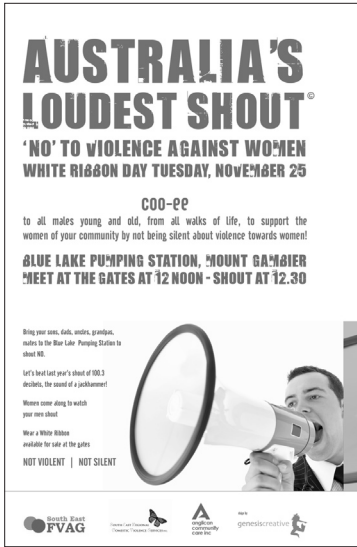
Now there is a need for men from all walks of life to take up another cry, another shout, in support of women everywhere, and that shout is "No!" to violence against women.

White Ribbon Day is a male-led campaign to end violence against women in the world.

It started back in 1991, two years after the Montréal Massacre in which 14 women students at the University of Montréal were systematically killed and 13 other students wounded by a lone gunman.

Men in Canada organised a response in a show of support to women and victims of violence everywhere.

In the Limestone Coast men can show their support to women by demonstrating that you, as a man, are not violent and not silent and are prepared to stand by your beliefs and put meaning behind them, and to get as many male friends, relatives, workmates and team members to come out with me and other male members of our community to join together at the Blue Lake Pumping Station on Tuesday,



November 25; buy a white ribbon or a bracelet to show your solidarity for the belief that violence towards women is wrong; wear your uniform or team colours and your name badge; let everybody know that you belong to a work place, a team, a community that believes that violence against women is unacceptable.

... then join in Australia's loudest shout just after 12.30pm and say "No!" to violence against women.

Some people may read this and say: "What about the women that are just as violent towards men in their relationships?"

Nobody is trying to ignore this issue or minimise the fact, but the figures show that in the majority of reported incidents of violence it is the males who have resorted to the use of violence.

If there are two violent people in a relationship does this make the use of violence anymore, justifiable anymore acceptable?

Some people may also read

this and think it doesn't happen in our community, but it does.

SA Police had 377 women referred as a result of domestic violence during financial year 2007-08 and since July this year approximately 159 women have been referred to police.

This affects the children too, with South East Regional Domestic Violence Services helping 177 women and 330 children in our region during the same financial year.

Australia's Loudest Shout is a local initiative developed by Anglican Community Care, South East Regional Domestic Violence Services and South East Family Violence Action Group.

Last year over 100 fathers, grandfathers, sons, brothers, friends and husbands attended the inaugural Australia's Loudest Shout at the Blue Lake Pumping Station with the loudest shout measured at 100.3 decibels, equivalent to a jackhammer.

This year we aim to shout louder and stronger with more men involved in putting an end to violence against women.

The hope is that the number of males willing to speak out in this community will grow and the voices of these males will increase until their shout of "No!" reverberates first throughout Mount Gambier, then the South East, then maybe even the State and the country will listen and want to join us.

I'm not violent and I'm not silent anymore.

•Tony Byfieldt is a family violence worker with the Family Relationship Centre in Helen Street, Mount Gambier.

Hasten slowly on carbon trading

FROM THE FRONT PORCH

By GRAHAM GREENWOOD

BACK in the early 1980s, when the Australian Government decided subsidising inefficient local industries was not the way to do business, it signalled the start of the free trade era.

Inefficient businesses were no longer propped up by the Australian taxpayer.

One of the few to vigorously embrace free trade was the farming industry, but it was forced to compete on an uneven playing field against countries supported by government subsidies.

But because Australia largely produces the best quality rural products our farmers held their own.

The great problem is that more than 25 years later and after years of negotiations, Australia has failed to convince other large agricultural countries to embrace free trade.

Many are beginning to realise Australia's keenness to introduce a carbon emissions

trading scheme to combat so-called global warming could leave us even more vulnerable, again leaving some nations to gain at our expense.

Australia cannot go it alone in tackling global warming.

The consequences are huge and the rising Third World countries, such as India and Indonesia, which have lower environmental standards than Australia, will gladly accept our so-called "dirty" industries to create jobs for their people.

The carbon emission scheme comes at a huge cost for some industries.

In South Australia, companies such as Kimberly-Clark at Snuggery and other smelter-type industries in the north of the state are already raising concerns with the Federal Government that the cost of the scheme will send them offshore.

Imagine what the closure of Kimberly Clark will do to Millicent's economy and the job losses that will flow into the forest and transport industries?

If global warming is a fact and, there is plenty of evidence

to suggest otherwise, then Australia should hasten slowly and for once, not be the world's policeman in leading from the front.

Free trade was a great idea, but it should have taught us a lesson.

It works only if all trading partner nations do the same.

We have been left out in the cold for 25 years on free trade.

We can't afford to go it alone on carbon emissions trading.

So far, countries that have signed the Kyoto agreement will fail to meet 2010 targets and beyond - it's obvious what that tells us.

Until all countries are committed and actually meet targets, we are just whistling in the dark, watching our jobs and industries go offshore.

If Kimberly-Clark closes, the loss of \$800m to the local economy, along with 1400 jobs, is real.

If the Australian Government believes it must act on global warming then the message is - remember the mistakes of the free trade fiasco.

STAR WATCH

WITH SARAH KULKENS



ARIES: (March 21 - April 20)
Lucky Colour: Mauve. Lucky Day: Tuesday
Racing Numbers: 3.2.6.5.
Lotto Numbers: 2.13.26.28.9.44.

Be very careful not to give in to sudden impulses. Also don't take risks with gambling, unless the odds are pretty safe. Many changes in your lifestyle are indicated.



TAURUS: (April 21 - May 20)
Lucky Colour: Blue. Lucky Day: Friday
Racing Numbers: 2.3.5.2.
Lotto Numbers: 2.13.26.36.30.33.

Relatives could pleasantly surprise you, many unexpected guests and celebrations. Good news likely from afar. Be careful in reading anything before signing on the dotted line.



GEMINI: (May 21 - June 21)
Lucky Colour: Green. Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 5.6.2.1.
Lotto Numbers: 1.12.5.45.40.33.

The financial situation is improving and changes are indicated. New friends are appearing and new links will be forged. Travel to different places is indicated.



CANCER: (June 22 - July 22)
Lucky Colour: White. Lucky Day: Sunday
Racing Numbers: 2.3.1.5.
Lotto Numbers: 1.12.15.29.8.44.

Many will get the chance to rectify mistakes from the past. Many changes are indicated and your confidence level is pretty high and this makes life a little bit easier.



LEO: (July 23 - August 22)
Lucky Colour: Yellow. Lucky Day: Wednesday
Racing Numbers: 1.2.3.1.
Lotto Numbers: 1.12.15.45.40.22.

Many will have to make snap decisions, but they will find it very hard to make up their mind. It may be best to follow your first impression.



VIRGO: (August 23 - September 23)
Lucky Colour: Orange. Lucky Day: Friday
Racing Numbers: 4.5.6.2.
Lotto Numbers: 4.12.20.25.9.3.

Travel plans could be deferred or postponed and those that do travel should proceed with care and caution. Something thought to be lost could turn up safe and sound.



LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23)
Lucky Colour: Green. Lucky Day: Friday
Racing Numbers: 2.3.5.2.
Lotto Numbers: 2.13.26.5.11.14.

You will find people more helpful. You may also need to improve your relationship at home. You may find that the activities at home are much more pleasant than those outdoors.



SCORPIO: (October 24 - November 22)
Lucky Colour: Violet. Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 2.3.2.1.
Lotto Numbers: 1.23.35.6.8.11.

A financial windfall is indicated. Many will get the travel bug. Also the social scene is getting busier and those interested could pick up someone very interesting.



SAGITTARIUS: (November 23 - December 20)
Lucky Colour: Red. Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 5.6.2.1.
Lotto Numbers: 5.12.26.36.39.11.

Many will be heading off into ventures of their own. Love life should be more satisfying and those with a choice should be able to make decisions that affect their future.



CAPRICORN: (December 21 - January 19)
Lucky Colour: Peach. Lucky Day: Saturday
Racing Numbers: 2.3.5.2.
Lotto Numbers: 2.13.25.24.40.45.

There may be some changes on the work scene, maybe a promotion. However, do not neglect the loved ones at home or take their advice to heart.



AQUARIUS: (January 20 - February 19)
Lucky Colour: White. Lucky Day: Wednesday
Racing Numbers: 5.6.2.1.
Lotto Numbers: 5.12.23.36.39.44.

Many will have to take a closer look at themselves and maybe make some 'adjustments'. Changes are indicated and you may rid yourselves of something that is no longer required.



PISCES: (February 20 - March 20)
Lucky Colour: Lemon. Lucky Day: Monday
Racing Numbers: 5.3.2.6.
Lotto Numbers: 5.12.16.29.36.30.

Travel taken for business or career ventures may promise much but produce little in the long run. Make sure you keep all your receipts otherwise you might end up paying twice.

Kerry Kulkens Psychic Line 1902 240 051

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