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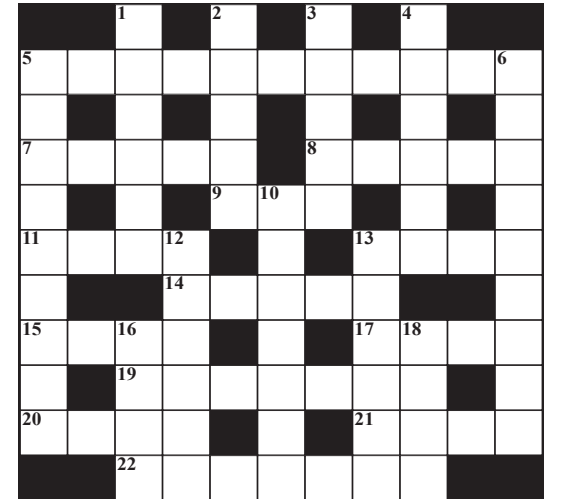
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**CROSSWORD**

**Straight Clues** Combo Cross No. 3854

- ACROSS**  
 5 Speak pompously  
 7 Circular  
 8 Thin material  
 9 Coy  
 11 Plant part  
 13 Girl's name  
 14 Possessor  
 15 Prepare copy
- DOWN**  
 1 Stand for  
 2 Looks after
- Combo Cross No. 3854**  
 3 Little song  
 4 Is down  
 5 Those dying  
 6 Basic  
 10 Medals etc  
 12 Cover with dots  
 13 Eager  
 16 Ancient goddess  
 18 A herb



**Cryptic Clues**

- ACROSS**  
 5 One poet, in fact, moved to speak as a bishop  
 7 Curved part of a bout  
 8 Headless pullet runs round with this dress material  
 9 Retiring, but finishes as rich lady  
 11 Check in front of a boat  
 13 Princess can never come inside  
 14 One who admits to being proprietor  
 15 Check print on turn of tide  
 17 Foolish temporary liking turning at last  
 19 Duster left out for some baked pastry  
 20 Dirty, so I left  
 21 Christmas carol from lone performance  
 22 Tense as turns to show faculty of sensation
- DOWN**  
 1 Rue bad finish first to last  
 2 Attends to mental perceptions ...  
 3 ... and it typifies part with a short poem to be sung
- 4 Killed everyone in marshy land  
 5 They're commonly starving on bitterly cold days  
 6 Uncompounded component all left off  
 10 Highly esteems high-ranking cards  
 12 Melt to mix and make blotchy  
 13 Reward entertainment from some glowing with passion  
 16 Egyptian goddess is seen twice  
 18 Put nothing in drink for a medicinal herb
- COMBO SOLUTION NO. 3853**
- |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | T | R | O | P | P | E | D | G |
| O | R | E | U | P | A | S |   |   |
| S | T | R | A | I | N | R | G |   |
| V | E | I | L | U | P | B | E | A |
| E | N | L | A | H |   |   |   |   |
| L | E | G | A | L | T | E | N | D |
| T | P | I | O | O |   |   |   |   |
| E | M | B | L | E | M | C | L | A |
| U | O | A | L | L | E | G | E |   |
| P | L | U | M | T | O | A |   |   |
| L | B | L | E | E | D | E | R | S |

# This is a train-stopping love story

AS a public transport commuter I often dwell on all the things that go wrong with our services, and let's face it there's quite a few.

This time however, I'd like share some of the positives of public transport life.

Firstly, I'd like to make a shout out to the friendly conductors who go above and beyond the simple "Hello, Myki please."

A few weeks ago I was at the train station and young woman was sniffing and wiping away tears as she sat alone outside the station.

One V/Line staff member sat next her and asked if she was OK, she said she'd been left stranded by her friends with no money or working phone and had to somehow get all the way back to Traralgon.

The staff member told her



not to worry and he'd see what he could do for her.

Five minutes later he returned with a glass of water and ticket from Geelong to Melbourne and Melbourne to Traralgon, free of charge.

He also came back to check on her regularly throughout the train ride back to Melbourne.

There's also friendly conduc-

tors who go out of their way to ask How you are? or how was your day? Some of them will even learn your name.

Secondly, thank you V/Line for introducing the quiet carriages.

After a 10-hour work day, silence is definitely golden and, from my experience, most people respect the sanctuary of the quiet carriage, and if they don't they are devil stared and tsked until they get the message and leave.

Thirdly, thanks to public transport, I now get two hours to myself every day.

Two hours where no one wants anything but to check my Myki, I'm not worried about traffic or crazy drivers and two hours where I can just sit, think and relax.

I can read a book, I can even read the papers or get a head start on the day's workload, if I'm feeling particularly productive.

I met a lady a few weeks ago who told me you should never chase a train, a tram or a man because another one will always come along. But stupidly, I ignored this advice one morning and chased down a train like a bat out of hell. With bags flying off me and hair in a heap, I chased it down and I must have looked particularly determined because the driver made a very rare move.

He stopped the train, yep that's right, he was pulling away from the platform and he stopped the train so this crazy lady could get on board.

So, lastly, I'd really like to thank that driver who let me on, with a small slither of my dignity left.

# Channel clearance system could bring more ships to region

## Loads of potential

**DANNY LANNEN**

GIANT oil tanker Phoenix Advance has broken a Geelong shipping record: it's hull is the deepest to have sailed into Corio Bay.

Its arrival yesterday points to the multi million-dollar benefits of a new channel clearance monitoring system.

The Singapore-flagged crude carrier charted a previously unmatched draught of 11.9m entering the port, navigating the way for operators to increase loads on vessels.

Viva Energy Geelong refinery chiefs estimate allowance of 10cm of extra draught on an oil carrier will equate to \$1 million in savings a year.

Victorian Regional Channels Authority chief executive Captain Peter McGovern said the introduction of the Melbourne-developed Dynamic Under Keel Clearance system at Geelong Port was one of the most significant achievements during his decade at the helm.

The system uses algorithms based on tides, channel dimensions and ship "squat" or depth while laden to provide pilots with precise advice on clearances and travel speeds.



**BIG:** Oil tanker Phoenix Advance cruises towards the Heads after leaving Corio Bay.

Picture: JAY TOWN

Mr McGovern said some ships would be able to carry 7000 to 9000 more tonnes of cargo.

"This makes Geelong more competitive in the long term. Ships around the world are getting bigger and if Geelong wasn't able to offer at least some advance in size then ... Geelong slowly slips down the lead ladder," he said.

The authority charges ships according to gross tonnage

and for their draughts.

"Every centimetre over 10.7m there's an extra charge, so you can see the attraction for us. If the ships sink deeper, we get more money," Capt McGovern said.

"The attraction for the woodchippers is they sell 7000 tonnes more and the attraction for the ship is it's being paid to carry 7000 more tonnes of cargo."

Viva Geelong refinery gen-

eral manager Thys Heyns said the plant accounts for more than 50 per cent of Geelong Port trade and about 20 per cent of all ship visits to Geelong.

"For Viva Energy, each additional 10cm in vessel draught results in a saving of about \$1 million per annum," Mr Heyns said.

"During the past few years we have worked closely with parties, including the VRCA, to

maximise the size of vessels that can be accommodated on refinery berths.

"As a consequence we can now concurrently berth two large crude or other feedstock vessels. That helps reduce ship demurrage costs."

The channels authority paid \$180,000 and has annual fees for the DUKC system.

Capt McGovern has said he will step down as VRCA chief executive next month.

# Deakin climbing the ranks

**LACHLAN DURLING**

AS one of 14 Australian universities to feature in world rankings, Deakin is in the top 2 per cent of universities.

Ranked 11th in Australia and 214th in the world, the university has catapulted 183 places in a year to climb in the international academic rankings.

Deakin vice-chancellor Jane den Hollander said the news was humbling to staff and students.

"This is a particularly pleasing trajectory, given Deakin moved into the top 500 in the ARWU rankings for the first time only two years ago", Professor den Hollander said.

In 2014 it announced its entry to the top 500 ranking, positioned at 412.

The university then moved up to the 398th position in the 2015 world ranking.

"This is welcome news and promising for a young university like Deakin, which researches across a full range of disciplines and has a strong focus on teaching excellence across the communities we serve," she said.

Prof den Hollander said Deakin's improved ranking was due to the high standard of research projects being done.