

Close Flagstaff Hill; save Fletcher Jones

If there is one thing Warrnambool needs to get right, it is the preservation of Pleasant Hill and the Fletcher Jones site...so why are we spending so much time, money and effort on Flagstaff Hill instead?

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Bluestone Magazine has delivered on its promise to produce a quality read every week about the arts, people, food and places of beautiful South-West Victoria. The response to our online magazine has been wonderful, but we are asking for your help to continue in 2014. Click above to find out more.

End of the line for fine art at Sherwood Park

Mark Rashleigh is the last man standing at what was once a flourishing School of Art and Design at Sherwood Park, Warrnambool, and, come mid next year, he too will be gone.

Christmas stories for any age

Christmas is a wonderful excuse, if you need one, to enjoy timeless children's Christmas stories. Warrnambool Books select their top five Christmas books for kids...

Walking with strength and purpose



Susie Alexander, second from right, with the women she planned to walk with in Melbourne before relocating the walk to Warrnambool: Alison Ridley (left), Lisa Petherick and Pip Norton.

[dropcap style="font-size: 60px; color: #A5CECD;"] I
[/dropcap]n October, we [brought you the story](#) of **Susie**

Alexander, from Warrnambool, who we nominated as one of our first quiet heroes for her inspirational approach to her fight against breast cancer.

At that time, Susie hoped she would be well enough after her series of often debilitating treatments to participate in the annual **Sussan Women's Fun Run** held in Melbourne on December 8 to raise funds for the [Breast Cancer Network Australia](#).

Unfortunately Susie couldn't make it to Melbourne, because the health of her mother, who is also battling cancer, is deteriorating*. But she was determined to still do the 5km walk to fulfil the promise that she made to herself and to her dozens of supporters who had donated funds to the cause.



Friends for life: Susie (centre) with Warrnambool High school friends Susan Bruce, Heather Dickie, Caroline Parker, Karen Svensen and Jane Parker. (They have married names now, but they didn't back then!)

[dropcap style="font-size: 60px; color: #A5CECD;"] S
[/dropcap]o Susie held her own version of the Sussan Women's Fun Run down at the Warrnambool waterfront and invited her

friends, family and supporters to join her. They came on foot and on bicycles, with children, and with dogs and, by 9am, about 100 people were ready to walk for Susie, for her Mum and for everyone else who is facing the challenge of cancer.

It was one of those uplifting moments when people gather for a common cause and, in this case, to celebrate all that makes life so precious.

Thankyou, Susie, for reminding us of how even taking a simple walk by the sea is such a gift.

** (Susie's mother, Jan, passed away peacefully on Dec 18, 2013).*



Ready to stride out: Susie Alexander with her sister, Lynne Wormald.

[box] As of this weekend, Susie had raised \$3500 toward the [Breast Cancer Network Australia](#) and donations were still coming in. She had set herself a target of \$1000. [/box]



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