

Distillery scrapes bottom of whiskey barrel

TIMBOON
By **MATTHEW O'TOOLE**

IT seems that thirsty travellers on the 12 Apostles gourmet trail have nearly drunk the Timboon Railway Shed Distillery dry.

The popular restaurant has experienced a jump in visitors which has left it running low on its signature Timboon single-malt whiskey.

Distillery proprietor Tim Marwood said there had been a 25 per cent increase in visitors compared to last year and they had been forced to ration sales of their precious whiskey supply.

"We originally thought we would have enough stock to last us to April but it looks like we will be running out before then," Mr Marwood said.

"We've even had to stop supplying the bars in Melbourne that stock our whiskey while we get back to having enough stock on hand here."

Mr Marwood believes that the 12 Apostles gourmet trail, a 78-kilometre loop that highlights the district's produce and producers, is the reason behind the increased patronage to the distillery and other boutique producers in the region.

"I've spoken to other proprietors on the food loop and they've all experienced a 25 to 50 per cent increase in visitor rates compared to last year," Mr Marwood said.

Port Campbell visitor information centre co-ordinator Mark Cuthell attributes the success of the trail and the businesses on it to the growing reputation of the "fantastic" products and produce on offer, combined with the appeal of the region's beautiful coastal setting.

"We really have a little bit of everything from cheese and chocolate to wine and whiskey," Mr Cuthell said.

"When we start to mention it to people jaws drop and mouths start to salivate."

"There's a lot of quality products and producers down here and people are starting to realise it."

"People are switching on that there's more to do and short trips are getting longer."



That's your lot: Jodi Clarke gets the last drops from a bottle of Timboon Railway Shed Distillery's precious whiskey.
130115RG02 Picture: ROB GUNSTONE

Club may suspend Raymond

WARRNAMBOOL
By **MATT NEAL**

THE former Warrnambool footballer who threatened to "skull drag" a girl's "head thru glass" via Facebook may face fines or suspension.

Rhys Raymond, a Maskell medallist who now plays for Geelong West St Peters, drew the ire of his club after his misogynistic social media outburst found its way onto anti-discrimination blog TheAntiBogan.

GWSP sporting club president Danny O'Leary said the club's football department and executive will meet to discuss what punishment Raymond's behaviour deserved.

"It will be before the football season," O'Leary said.

"We'll see whether a fine and/or loss of games (is appropriate). We'll have a chat with Rhys and see if he's remorseful and where he's at. It definitely won't be swept under the carpet."

O'Leary said he wanted Raymond to front "the playing group, footballers and netballers, and tell us why he did it and what he's learnt".

Raymond's Facebook page appears to have been taken down since *The Standard's* story yesterday, but his comments remain on TheAntiBogan blog.

Anger and anguish

WARRNAMBOOL
By **SEAN MCCOMISH**

Widowed husband's cancer snub hurt

FAMILIES affected by cancer have reacted with anger to news the federal government would not even hear pleas by Peter's Project campaigners for an integrated cancer care centre in the south-west.

As the two-year anniversary nears since Rebecca Hintum died from breast cancer, her husband Jeff said he felt let down by the government.

During her 14-month battle

with cancer, the Warrnambool mother became the brave and public face in the fight for a government supported integrated cancer centre.

Speaking yesterday, Mr Hintum described his disappointment at hearing the federal health minister Tanya Plibersek had snubbed the group.

"I feel frustrated and



angry," Mr Hintum said. "There's been a lot of support in Warrnambool and a lot of tears over the years about how it affects families."

As she fought the disease, Mrs Hintum was forced to travel to Geelong for radiotherapy treatment, away

from her three children and leaving Mr Hintum at home to hold the family together for weeks at a time. Two years on, Mr Hintum told of the emotional torment of watching other Warrnambool families undergo a similar ordeal.

"I know other mothers who are going through the same thing and it's just gut-wrenching," he said. With

his youngest daughter about to start school, Mr Hintum reaffirmed his support for Peter's Project and called on the government to act.

"They need to do something about it. It's not just Warrnambool, it's Portland and Mount Gambier — it's a lot of people this centre will cover."

Strategies will be put

forward next week in the wake of the minister's response when the Peter's Project committee gathers for its monthly meeting.

Committee director Vern Robson said he remained optimistic the group could reverse the minister's decision in an election year.

About \$5 million has been committed by the state government for radiotherapy, while a site has been earmarked for the centre, Mr Robson said.

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