



Warrnambool Base Hospital's new emergency services director Dr Franco Schreve is enjoying the region's outdoor lifestyle. 130121RG12 Picture: ROB GUNSTONE

Outdoor lifestyle the perfect prescription for hospital's recruit

WARRNAMBOOL
By **MATTHEW O'TOOLE**

WHEN it comes to a choice between the city or the coastal beauty of Warrnambool, it's a no-brainer for South African Franco Schreve.

"The lifestyle here is much better, the outdoor activities are just brilliant," the doctor said yesterday.

Dr Schreve is South West Healthcare's new director of emergency services at the Warrnambool Base Hospital.

He revealed he fell in love with Warrnambool and the region after commuting from Melbourne over the past 15 months as a locum doctor in the emergency department.

"I did the short-term locum here and it was a very pleasant experience, a very friendly environment

with both the staff and patients," he said.

"It was just a very refreshing experience."

Dr Schreve started in the role earlier this month and is aiming to further lift the quality of service in the region's biggest emergency department.

"It's been very new to me. I've mainly been involved in the clinical side of things and it's been exciting to get involved in the administration side of things," Dr Schreve said.

"I'm just very excited to be here and to be in the role. It's a very new experience for me and I'm looking forward to trying to provide a high quality service, to expand the staff base and improve and maintain the great patient experience here."

Originally from

South Africa, Dr Schreve worked in the United Kingdom before moving to Australia in 2006.

An avid mountain bike rider, he has found that the local activities and amenities are well suited to his lifestyle.

SWH centre for rural emergency medicine director, associate professor Tim Baker is already impressed with the new recruit.

"I am delighted that we have been able to recruit Dr Franco Schreve as our full-time director," he said.

"Having worked as a specialist emergency physician in rural hospitals and urban tertiary hospitals, and with aeromedical retrieval services, he has the experience to lead the newest stage of our emergency department development."

District still on fire alert

CFA urges residents to be vigilant

REGION
By **EVERARD HIMMELREICH**

THIS summer's run of high fire danger days is continuing with tomorrow shaping up as a day of severe fire danger.

CFA district five operations officer Henry Barton said temperatures in the mid-30s were predicted for Warrnambool, with warmer temperatures inland.

North-west winds would add to the volatility with a wind change predicted later in the day.

The CFA has asked people to be vigilant for the outbreak of fires tomorrow and ring 000 should they spot any.

Mr Barton said if a fire broke out, a wind change could have a significant impact on the fire front.

Tomorrow's day of extreme fire danger follows a total fire ban day last Friday and the Bureau of Meteorology has forecast there will be days of high or higher fire danger every four days to a week for the rest of summer.

Mr Barton said people should also avoid doing activities such as

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harvesting or slashing tomorrow to reduce the fire risk.

"Only do things involving long grass that are absolutely necessary," Mr Barton said.

"If it's not absolutely necessary, leave it to a cool day."

He said the frequent occurrence this summer of days of high fire danger made it prudent for people to review their bushfire plan to make sure they were comfortable it was adequate.

If people did not have a bushfire plan, they should go to the CFA website and follow the links to develop one.

Mr Barton said tomorrow's severe fire danger rating was likely to prompt some CFA brigades to staff their brigade sheds to give them the ability to respond promptly if a fire broke out.

"Possibly some brigades will be able to do that.

"It depends on what they are doing on the day." He said CFA brigades had been busy in recent weeks both fighting fires and being ready for fire outbreaks.

The heavy workload had prompted CFA authorities to ask brigades to make sure crews were rotated to allow them some rest.

Mr Barton said the Bureau of Meteorology had forecast there might be a few millimetres of rain at the end of this week but it was only likely to settle the dust and not reduce the continuing fire danger.

A Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) spokesman said the 12,000-hectare Kentbruck Heath fire near Portland was still under control as were more recent fires at Narrawong and at Bolwarra.

The Narrawong fire started on Saturday afternoon and burnt about 1.1 hectares of the Mount Clay state forest.

The Bolwarra fire started on January 16 and burnt about five hectares of farmland.

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Man jailed for police assaults

WARRNAMBOOL
By **CLARE QUIRK**

A MAN with mental health issues who said he was the King of England before assaulting police and has been jailed for three months.

Hudson Millington, 43, formerly of Warrnambool, appeared via video link from the Melbourne Assessment Prison in the Warrnambool Magistrates Court yesterday.

He pleaded guilty to four charges of assaulting police (three seriously).

The court heard that on February 25 last year Millington was in the Geelong police station cells when he told police officers he was the King of England and asked for a cigarette.

He had then used a butter satchel to cover the camera in

the cell. When four police officers attended to Millington, he struck one of them with a clenched fist and eye-gouged another.

Police had attempted to restrain Millington with a foam spray but it had no effect.

He then punched and face-gouged another police officer and tried to remove the foam spray from another.

When assessed by a medical practitioner at the time and asked to explain the incident, Millington had said he was Henry the Eighth, the King of England, and that he could do what he wanted.

Defence counsel Amanda Chambers told the court that Millington couldn't recall much of the incident and clearly at the time he was mentally unwell.

She said she had represented

him since 2000 except for a matter in 2009 when he was sentenced to five years and four months' jail with a non-parole period of three years and six months.

The offences in Geelong had related to breaches of parole.

Ms Chambers said Millington suffered from a schizoaffective disorder and although the court had to impose a sentence of imprisonment it should be wholly concurrent.

Magistrate Jonathan Klestadt said while he was satisfied the offending occurred at a time when Millington was clearly mentally ill, the conduct and effect of the behaviour on police was very serious.

On the four charges Millington was convicted and sentenced to three months jail to be served concurrently with the prison term he is already serving.

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