

Red Hats set sail on cruise

The Red Hat Society was out in full force as the group took to the water for its annual boat cruise on Lake Nagambie recently.

For the third year in a row, the Ruby and Pearls of Kilmore has welcomed women from across the state to enjoy a relaxing and joyous catch up.

"We welcomed ladies from Rowville, Surrey Hill, Bendigo, Bacchus Marsh and all over the countryside," Queen Janesca Jan Childs said.

"It was an absolutely brilliant day. In fact, before we even got back to the dock some ladies were asking me what the date would be for next year."

Prior to shipping off at 11 am, women gathered for some prizes that Jan had made up especially for the occasion.

"We had good quality drink bottles and I made up some origami rabbits to put earrings on. So we had 11 prizes and the ladies could choose what they wanted," she said.

On board, the ladies were treated to a game of Red Hat Bingo.

"It's a bit like ordinary bingo except instead of calling out numbers, we call out items of clothing or accessories the ladies would be wearing," Jan said.

"Whoever called out bingo would win \$25 and essentially have her cruise paid for."

It is tradition for the Red



At the dock: The Red Hat Society recently had its annual boat cruise on Lake Nagambie.

Hat Society to sport just that — red accessories and purple clothing.

What some may not know is that in the month of

their birthday, the women are able to switch it up and wear red with purple accessories.

This was the case for five

women on board and it was definitely a reason to celebrate.

"The traditional instrument of the Red Hat Society

is a kazoo and it just so happened one lady brought hers along. She played *Happy Birthday* for the ladies, it was amazing," Jan said.

For the rest of the cruise, the women were able to relax, socialise and even enjoy a glass of wine until they made it back to shore.

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Business of the Week



With poo, Pudd is man for you

Hayden "Pudd" Saunders is the Seymour district's friendly poo-ologist, but he was not the first wear that title.

Seymour and District Septic Cleaners has been servicing Seymour and its surrounding area, with its previous owner and master poo-ologist Peter Sanderson, since 1991.

After a lengthy 18-month to two-year training period with his predecessor, Pudd bought the business this year.

"People normally call me when things are too late," Pudd said.

"They don't often trigger that something is wrong until their toilet is bubbling back over or there's a terrible smell coming from their septic tank.

"But people can get them cleaned out more regularly and be a bit more proactive in keeping an eye on things."

Pudd typically finds and cleans septic tanks, sewerage treatment systems and portable toilets.

He travels as far as Euroa and Heathcote and services

a regular clientele of commercial and domestic clients, including wineries and horse studs.

"When people move into a new house, often they have no idea about how to care for their septic tank or where it even is," Pudd said.

"I can help them find their septic using a metal detector and also educate them a bit about how their septic works.

"It's not a complicated system, but it needs to be flowing right for everything to be working correctly."

And while it is an uncomplicated system, Pudd's job is not as simple as sticking a pipe in and pumping out a tank.

"The original owner, Peter, was the original poo-ologist and an excellent teacher — there are lots of different types of tanks, of different ages, and there are different ways to find lids on tanks," Pudd said.

● To request a free quote, get in touch with Hayden "Pudd" Saunders on 04 18 138 139.