

# 1998 Olde BP Rally makes a grand entrance into Diggers Rest



Olde BP Rally racers, from left, Terry Naish and Ross Runnalls, congratulate each other after the race. Photo: JOSEPH MASTROIANNI.

THE recent hot weather meant there was more dust than mud thrown around but that didn't stop the drivers in the 1998 Olde BP Rally from making a grand entrance into Diggers Rest.

The contingent of drivers and their navigators roared across the finish line at the Diggers Rest Hotel on the Old Calder Highway mid-afternoon on Sunday 22 March.

By DAVID ADAMSON

The rally was a replica of the classic car race that was run between 1958-1973 across south eastern Australia and was once considered the highlight of the national racing calendar. The original race was a gruelling four-day event that tested both driver and navigator

through difficult outback roads. The replica event, organised by Bob Watson, Raymond Daniel and Rob Knight, was designed to provide the same rugged conditions and was open to cars built up to 1976.

After the race, drivers and navigators enjoyed a barbecue dinner with locals which was organised by Irene Morgon from the hotel.

## Paying for play in the park privileges

By JOHN REID

SPORTING clubs and other users of Maddingley Park, Darley Park and Masons Lane will soon have to pay for the privilege.

The Shire of Moorabool Council will only pay 25 per cent of the annual cost of maintaining the three reserves.

The rest of the tab will be picked up by the users.

The Council's

Administration manager, Mr Gary Cowling, said it cost the Council about \$64,150 to maintain Bacchus Marsh's three main recreation reserves.

He said the Council had agreed to subsidise this to \$49,100 with the balance to be paid by the clubs and associations.

The Bacchus Marsh Recreational Facilities special committee was given the responsibility of coming up with an equitable charging formula and this has now been ratified by Council.

Each organisation will be charged \$25.46 a team member each season.

A cricket club would pay 12 times this figure for 12 players and a football

club would pay 23 times the amount for a football team.

It was also agreed that the Darley and Bacchus Marsh Football Clubs would contribute \$2000 from their gate receipts to the Shire.

At the other end of the scale, to encourage junior sport, clubs running under age teams will pay 20 per cent of the major rate around \$5 a person.

All other users, such as dog obedience clubs will be charged according to their capacity to pay.

President of the Bacchus Marsh Football Club, Mr Norm Jenkins, a member of the Recreational Facilities special committee, said sporting organisations had to pay their way.

"The football clubs have to contribute," he said this week.

"We can't expect the community to fund every aspect of our club."

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