

Hello and welcome to the February edition of Wobby Warbles, bringing you all things wobby-related for this leap year month. Did you know that wobbegongs are actually the protectors and guardians of lobsters? I learnt this fun fact from an Aboriginal elder of the Jerringa tribe. Wobbies protect lobsters. And then they eat them. Sounds like a perfectly healthy relationship.

On to the news of the month.

### **What's been happening in Wobby World?**

February has been a very salty month. Wobbies have been getting wet in some pretty warmish temperatures. Kym's watch has been telling us that the water temperature has been up to 23 degrees, which is lovely and all, but as a winter swimming club I'm sure there are many of us chomping at the bit for the cooler climes and delicious shock of cold water to the limbs.

Speaking of bits and the chomping of (I do love me a good segue!), many of our number ventured to the races at Nowra this month, swapping their fins for fascinators and their cozzies for couture. Here's a write up of the day from Julie. Thanks, Julie!

**It all began with an idea in Wobbegong President John Stapleton's head : "A social day out at Nowra Races"; but it did not end there as he gently coaxed his contacts at the racetrack to name one of the races on the day the " Jervis Bay Wobbegong CJB Handicap". Wobbegong heads bobbed out of the bay whispering " a horse race named after us"! Our very social Dale worked her magic and collected names and cash. Blue skies, sun shining and gentle breeze greeted 54 landlocked Wobbegongs as they arrived, dressed to the nines, at the picturesque facility to enjoy a relaxing fun filled day. One last suprise from " El Presidento": the Nowra Race Day is now an annual event on Wobbegong calendar!**





Have you ever seen a crowd of more stylish swimmers?



## Member Spotlight!

It's time to shine the light on another valued and valuable member! This month we arc that beam at Irene! I love Irene. She's fun, bubbly, funny, kind, caring, gives the BEST hugs, can dance on a table like you wouldn't believe, takes no bullshit (my newsletter, my language) and is just an all round excellent human.



So let's learn more about her!



Irene in her natural habitat

### Where are you from and how long have you lived in Jervis Bay?

Moved from Cronulla to the Bay and Basin area 1982. Except for a year or so in WA I have lived here since.

### How did you become a wobby?

I became a Wobby in 2019. I was messing about in the water a few times a week at Blenheim Beach when Richard B advised me to stop it and join a real swimming group. I'd watched the Wobbies for a couple of years at Husky beach when walking my dog, They seemed good swimmers and I was quite intimidated, However, being the intrepid dame I am, I promised Richard I'd join the Wobbies on my return from my little drive West.

## **Tell us about your swimming history - when / where did you begin?**

My introduction to swimming was in England. I have a pic of my dad in his wool one-piece with me in his arms aged 12 months at the Italian Gardens Outdoor Pool Scarborough, Yorkshire. It's sepia, so can't say if we were blue with cold or is was just the developing. He taught all his kids to swim even if they didn't want to. By the time I was at school dad would tell everyone I could swim the channel. Ha Ha. We arrived in Australia 26th July 1956, on the 27th it was raining; regardless Dad took us to Port Kembla beach to swim. An Aussie fisherman and his son, same age as us kids, walked passed us while we were in the surf. The boy wanted to swim too but his dad told him in no uncertain terms 'no' and that we were "Bloody mad Poms"!

## **What do you love about swimming with the wobbies?**

I love to swim with the Wobbies. We are a diverse group of people each of us bringing an extraordinary wealth of abilities, swimming or other skills.

## **What do you do? If retired, what did you do?**

What do I do? I'm retired, for the most part I mess about; yep, I'm a dag; not yet incompetent but trying hard at it. Was a girl, nurse, a wife, a mother, tried to be an empathetic teacher and the best person I can be.

## **Favourite place to go in Jervis Bay?**

My favourite JB place would be in the water, with the Wobbies;

## **If you could be anywhere in the world right now, where would you be?**

There is nowhere that I would rather be than here in JB.

## **What three words best describe you?**

Little old lady!

**Thanks Irene! You sure do excel at the being the best person you can be, and we love you for it!**



Irene, Julie, Dale and Prez at the 2022 Nationals



# Wobby Woos!

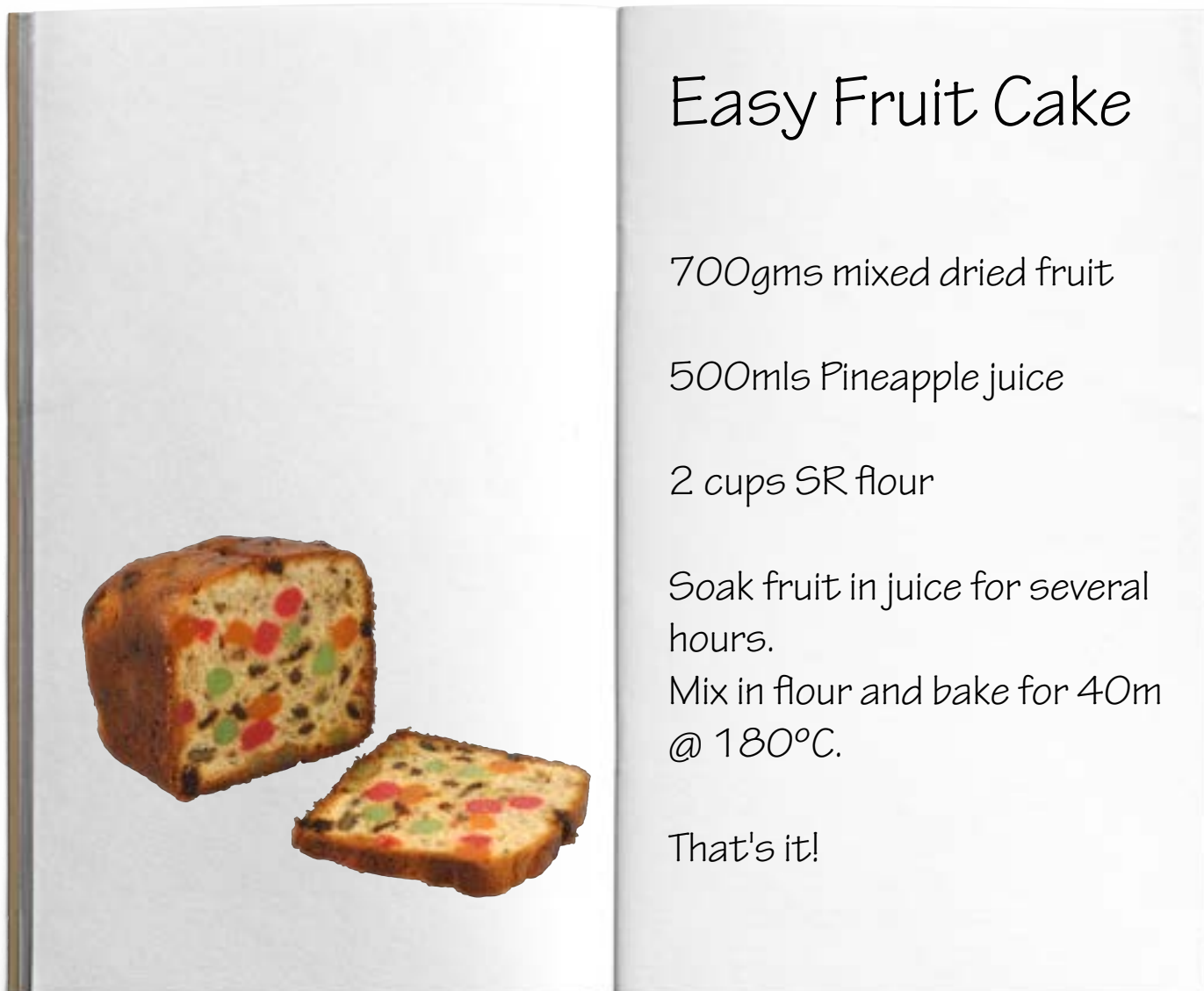
The biggest Woo! this month has to go to everyone's favourite cheerful fella, Mark Taylor - who went to hospital for some quiet time... er I mean, for a back operation and emerged relatively unscathed. Woo Mark! We wish you a super speedy recovery, so you can be back doing the housework for Leanne!

There were also some birthdays this month! So a big happy birthday Woo! to Sally and Al. I'm sure there are other Pisceans amongst you, but these are the two I know about, so for those I've missed - a big Woo! to all you other February fishies.

That's it from me! I'll leave you with this yummy recipe for a super simple fruit cake courtesy of Roz. Thanks, Roz!

See you on the beach wobbies!

Mish  
Club Publicity Person



## Easy Fruit Cake

700gms mixed dried fruit

500mls Pineapple juice

2 cups SR flour

Soak fruit in juice for several hours.

Mix in flour and bake for 40m @ 180°C.

That's it!