

\$60,000 position New flood job for Hepburn

BY PAT NOLAN

A NEW job position in the Hepburn Shire will be created to aid the long-term recovery from recent floods.

The \$60,000 business and community development position was announced last week as part of the state government package to aid the flood relief effort.

The position will involve working with communities and responding to situations that have arisen after the floods, particularly in Creswick and Clunes.

It is part of the government's

additional \$52.5 million flood relief package.

Member for Ballarat East Geoff Howard said the creation of the position in addition to other commitments from the government showed dedication to the flood relief effort.

The role will also involve developing strategies to restore and redevelop some of the hardest hit facilities such as the Creswick Bowling Club, Hammond Park and Clunes Sports Ground.

It is one of five flood recovery officer positions across the state. It will be in effect for six months.

As part of the overall package, potholes on Creswick-Newstead Road and Ballarat-Maryborough Road will also be repaired, totalling \$570,000.

"We need to lend a hand to these communities to ensure their fast and full recovery," said Mr Howard.

The government boost will see up to \$33 million spent on road infrastructure, \$16.9 million on restoration of public infrastructure and \$2.6 million for SES reimbursements.



GRACEFUL: Alexandra McMaster performs in the Carole Oliver School of Ballet's *Four Seasons*.

Showcasing South Street

AFTER 14 weeks the Royal South Street Society's annual eisteddfod came to an end with last night's showcase.

The evening featured 130 performers who had been invited back after performing previously throughout the event.

Staging the event requires more than 250

volunteers who put in thousands of man hours. Royal South Street Society marketing manager Emma Sbardella said this year's event had been an outstanding success and expected to exceed last year's numbers.

"We do have a lot of people that come year after year which is really nice," she said.

Punter pulled over on buggy

A 30-year-old Kensington man tried to get home from Flemington races on Saturday behind the wheel of a motorised buggy.

He managed to navigate the buggy out of the racecourse, but it was no mud runner in the

heavy conditions after persistent rain.

He was quickly overtaken by police and when given a breath test blew 0.86 – well over the legal limit.

He was charged with theft and drink driving. His next appearance will be in court.

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