

South-West News

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Creature crusade

closeup
devil funds

- Schoolgirl takes action to save the Tasmanian devil.
- Fundraising for research into devil facial tumour disease.

By ALANA SCOTT

SEVENTEEN Mile Rocks eight-year-old Ceilidh Bishop is on a mission to save her favourite animal, the Tasmanian devil, from extinction.

Ceilidh's mum, Lyn Prowse-Bishop, said after a visit to the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary during the school holidays, the Year 4 Oxley State School student burst into tears at the sight of devil facial tumour disease and vowed to take action.

"I explained what was happening to the animal to Ceilidh and she said 'that's awful - I have to do something about it'," Mrs Prowse-Bishop said.

And do something she has. With her mother's help Ceilidh set up a website and linked with the Department of Primary Industries and Water and the University of Tasmania Foundation to fundraise money.

Mrs Prowse-Bishop said Ceilidh researched the animal to find the best way to help.

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■ Animal love ... Ceilidh Bishop, 8, with her Tasmanian devil doll.

GT135012
Picture: Gemma Turnbull

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Rainwater Tanks

Flood risk warning

By BELINDA BERRY

SOUTHWEST residents are reminded to be aware of the dangers of floodwaters after an 18-year-old Capalaba man died in a flooded drain last week.

Bureau of Meteorology weather forecaster Amber Young said further heavy rain was expected for South-East Queensland, which could lead to dangerous flash flooding in many Brisbane suburbs.

"At the moment we have a low



■ Hot spot . . . Albert St at Goodna after last week's downpours.

in North Queensland tracking to the southeast over the next 26 to 34 hours," Miss Young said on Monday.

"Due to the rain we have had in the southeast the ground is damp and more rain may create floods, but it depends on where the heavy rains fall."

Ipswich City Councillor Paul Tully said many residents were not aware of the areas prone to flash-flooding.

"Many people have moved into the western corridor and don't realise there's serious flooding areas where water can come up really quickly in the space of an hour," Cr Tully said.

"The tragedy in Capalaba is a timely reminder to ensure that children do not play in drains."

Cr Tully said hot spots for flash flooding in Goodna were at Albert St, Smiths Rd between Albert and Stewart St, Lower James St, the corner of Lower William and Woogaroo streets and Eric St.

Adding to the warning, Brisbane City Councillor Les Bryant said dangerous flood areas in the Richlands ward were in the vicinity of major drainage areas at Little Dorris Creek and Hanley's

Creek.

"This is not the surf where you can get your body board on to the beach," Cr Bryant said.

"With water running fast and the volumes of water flowing you can't swim against it and you will get sucked into the drainage and be submerged under water for a long time."

Brisbane City Councillor Felicity Farmer (Jamboree) said Cliveden Ave near Oxley Creek was a dangerous flash flooding area in her ward.

Help online for devilish creatures

■ From page 1

"My business is totally online so I thought that maybe we could use the internet to get people on board," she said.

"I thought I can ask my web designer to do a website.

"I let the University of Tasmania Foundation know what we'd done and they emailed back and said it was a great way to raise funds." Mrs Prowse-Bishop said now that the website was complete with free assistance from web designer Janice Kalyniuk and support from the Foundation had been attained, Ceilidh had her sights set on raising awareness through posters at shopping centres, school and Girl Guides.

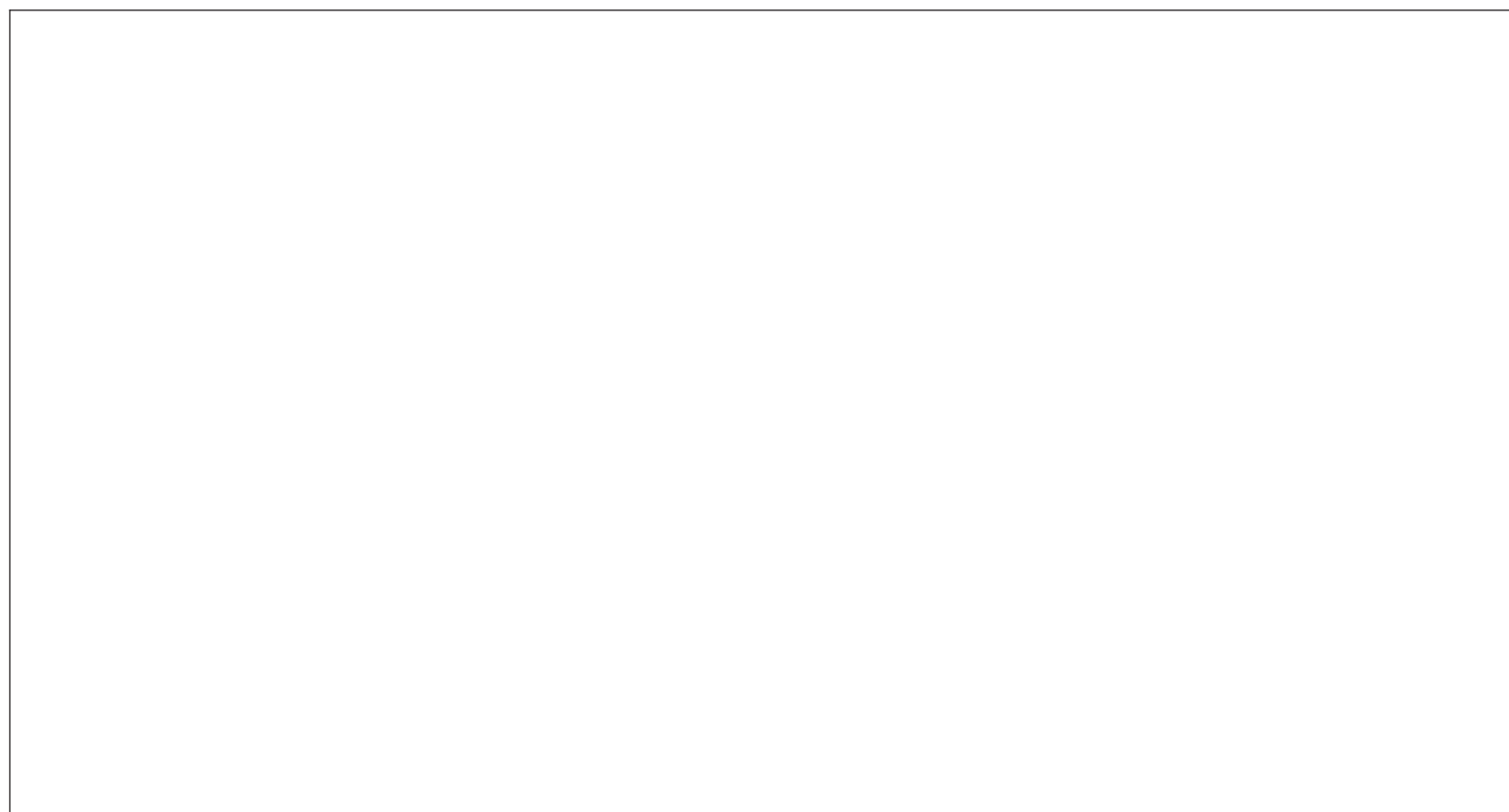
Ceilidh said she liked Tasmanian devils because they were furry and cute and helped the environment.

"They clean up - if an animal has killed another animal they help out by eating it," she said.

Mrs Prowse-Bishop said people were able to make donations on the site with 100 per cent of the proceeds going to the Save the Tasmanian Devil Project, a joint initiative of the department and the University of Tasmania Foundation.

"During the last couple of days we've had 167 hits and already raised \$60," she said.

■ To make a donation visit www.tassiedevilcancer.hfe1.com



■ Happy pair . . . Marie and Dave Robinson celebrate 48 years of marriage.

SK135223

Fate plays hand in accidental match

A QUIANT church dance in West Lancashire and a case of mistaken identity started Carole Park's Marie and Dave Robinson's long-lasting union.

The English migrants have shared many special moments with their four sons, 13 grandchildren and four great grand children and they have Mrs

Robinson's moment of confusion nearly 50 years ago to thank for them.

"We were at a jive at a place called Skelmersdale in the UK in 1958 and I confused Dave for another guy I was keen on," Mrs Robinson said.

"I'm glad I did because he has turned out to be wonderful."

After 48 years of marriage, the Robinson's confess that they finish each other's sentences, say what the other one is thinking and don't bother about gifts on Valentine's Day.

But their union is one that has been strengthened by the ups and downs of life and their appreciation of each other.

"We just love each other all the time. We know we are important to each other," Mrs Robinson said.

Mr Robinson said their love had passed the stage of gift-giving on Valentine's Day.

"What we rather do is go out for a meal and go on overseas holidays," he said.

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