

Taking a shine to hard work

By KELLY RYAN

A PINT-sized entrepreneur is cleaning up in his street.

Seven-year-old Andreas Pivet-Marsh is known as the "buck-a-bin boy" around his neighborhood.

He grabs his neighbours' wheelie bins as fast as they are emptied by the garbage truck.

Andreas lines up the bins, almost as big as he is, then mops them clean. He returns each bin to its rightful owner and happily holds out a little hand for the \$1 coin residents are pleased to pay.

Andreas doesn't just do bins.

The little fellow with the giant work ethic has also branched out into car washing.

The Year 2 student is a familiar sight in the Footscray street where he has lived since he was born.

It began when his sister Ruby-Rose, at 10, started to earn pocket money for household chores.

"But Andreas was too young for pocket money, we think, so he just started working for himself," dad Hugo Pivet said.

Andreas originally spent his hard-earned cash on lollies.

But he made a money tin into which he now pours his savings for a new Game Boy.

Neighbours said Andreas carries out his cleaning work with much gusto.

"He makes sure he gets the bins before we do so he is certain to make a buck," one said.

"Who wants to clean a



wheelie bin? And he does a great job as well."

Andreas gets up early on bin day and is usually waiting on the footpath as the garbage truck passes. He then takes over, hosing, mopping and drying the big bins.

Mum Karen Marsh said she was delighted her energetic son found so many ways to keep himself busy.

"When he visits his grandmother in Ocean Grove, he is keen and quick to hoe her vege-

table garden and he rakes up the leaves," Ms Marsh said.

When he is not working, Andreas swims and enjoys other sports.

"He never stops, he is always on the go," Ms Marsh said. "It has

been a bit harder for him on holidays because he has to ask if it is Tuesday, bin day."

Andreas has bigger career plans and intends to bin his cleaning job when he can.

Mr Pivet, a house-painter, said his son hoped he could follow in his footsteps.

"He turns eight next year so I expect he will be offering to paint the house next summer," the proud dad said.



Initiative: Andreas Pivet-Marsh cleans the bins for \$1 a shot and really gets into his work.

Pictures: PETER WARD

Sam's baths back in swim

By JEN KELLY, urban affairs reporter

SAM Newman's Middle Brighton Baths will reopen to swimmers on Australia Day after a 10-month closure.

But the full glory of the historic baths' revamp will not be seen until March.

The TV footy presenter is one of four businessmen behind the make-over of the early 1900s bathing pavilion, at a cost of well over \$3 million.

The beach area, diving boards, change rooms, toilets and part of the boardwalk will reopen for swimmers at 7am on January 26.

The 120-seat restaurant, 80-seat cafe, 200-space car park, gymnasium and kiosk are expected to be ready by late March.

"It's nowhere near finished," Middle Brighton Baths chairman Jonathan Dixon said.

"We're just opening partially to accommodate anyone who wants to have a swim."

Mr Dixon laughed off rumours that the complex would include a giant Velcro wall, which visitors could take a flying leap towards and stick to.

"(Rumours are) going to happen with Sam being in it," said Mr Dixon, a Brighton real estate agent.

"There's no Velcro, it's all glass panels."

\$260,000 for prick of needle

A HOSPITAL theatre technician pricked by a needle while working was awarded a record \$260,000 compensation yesterday.

The woman, 53, had sued the Mornington Peninsula Hospital after she was pricked by the needle while washing equipment more than six years ago.

The County Court had heard the initial injury was minor but she had nerve damage to her arm when she had a blood sample taken in accordance with hospital procedure.

Tests for AIDS, and hepatitis B and C were all negative.

The woman's lawyer, Lee Flanagan, of Arnold, Thomas & Becker, said the case was settled yesterday with his client receiving the record payout.

— JEREMY KELLY



Passed away: Jock Rankin, with Mary Delahunty.

Cancer claims property boss

By RACHAEL HODDER

BUSINESS advocate and former journalist Jock Rankin died early yesterday morning after a battle with cancer.

His wife, Education Minister Mary Delahunty, and children Nicholas, 16, and Olivia, 12, were at his bedside.

Mr Rankin, 52, was the Property Council's executive director.

He had a successful broadcast journalism ca-

reer, including work on programs such as *Four Corners*, *AM*, *PM* and *Sunday*.

He also served as ABC TV's news and current affairs director.

Ms Delahunty, Nicholas, Olivia, brother Tim Rankin and mother Betty Rankin thanked staff at the Freemasons Hospital for their care, compassion and understanding.

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