

med for f crash



Foreville. At the end of the street is a 20 foot drop. Mr. C. M. R. Webster, SM, fined and ordered her to pay \$6 court costs. He recommended that no action be taken on her licence.

CEPT. BLAMED FOR AID LOSS

Warringham Shire Council missed a \$240,000 subsidy as its application was held up for three months Department of Local Government.

Mr. Clerk, Mr. R. revealed this to the Finance Committee this week.

He said the application for the subsidy for the \$443,000 before senior citizens' centre had been lodged last August.

But the Minister for Social Security, Senator Margaret Guilfoyle, in a letter, said that the application had not been received until November 28.

Decided
She said the \$3 million provided for grants for senior citizens' centre had been distributed last October.

The committee decided on Cr K. E. Begaud's motion, to recommend to the Council to tell local MHRs of the delay, and that the Council because of a verbal assurance of a

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Action groups 'here to stay'

The influence of action groups on local government decisions is likely to increase rather than decrease in the future, former Warringham Shire councillor, Mr John Twyford said this week.

He said he thought local councils would have to take more notice as these action groups became better organised.

"The quality of urban life is improving all the time and I believe that one of the factors is that people in action groups are demanding more," Mr Twyford said.

Mr Twyford served on Warringham Shire Council for two years until he moved from the district.

Comment

He is now a legal officer with the NSW Master Builders' Association and also has a weekly radio programme in which he answers general legal questions from the public.

Mr Twyford said to comment further on a statement he made over the air this week that during his time on Warringham Council he would have "walked over broken glass before upsetting the local resident action groups."

"Action groups these days are usually well-informed and certainly dedicated groups and local government would do well to take notice of them," Mr Twyford said yesterday.

Warringham Shire President, Cr R.J. Creagh believes action groups should be heard provided their motives are right.

"I think the Council is always interested in the views of any group, action or otherwise," he said.

Drawing

"Progress and action groups do a very good job in drawing the Council's attention to local needs, but they must be genuine items, not based on personal grudges or complaints for the sake of complaining."

Cr Creagh said complaints without foundation were not welcomed by most action groups.

"Individuals can actually embarrass these groups by taking their personal grudges to them," he said.

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JAIL FOR CHEATING BANK OF \$2000

Three men, one of whom was a former bank teller, were jailed for 18 months yesterday for cheating a bank of more than \$2000.

Mr B.T. Cook, SM, described the fraud by the three men as "a skilful and deliberate scheme to defraud the bank."

At an earlier hearing, Paul William Matthews, 22, taxi driver, of Carlton St, Harbord, pleaded guilty to 12 charges of imposing on 12 branches of the Commonwealth Savings Bank, untrue representations that he was entitled to obtain sums of money.

Yesterday, Laurie Edward Smith, 20, unemployed of Pine Ave, Ballina, pleaded guilty to 22 charges of being knowingly concerned in the commission of the offences of imposition.

Smith also pleaded guilty to unlawfully taking an authenticating rubber stamp out of the possession of the Commonwealth Savings Bank at Seaforth on February 20.

At an earlier hearing, Michael Wolf Hermann, 22, technician, of Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen, pleaded guilty to 10 similar charges.

Matthews also pleaded guilty to 10 charges and Hermann to 12 charges of being knowingly concerned in the commission of the offences of imposition.

Hermann also pleaded guilty to the unlawful possession of a fire extinguisher at Narrabeen on April 20.

Mr Cook sentenced each of the men to a total of 18 months jail for the offence and set a non-parole period of nine months.

At the earlier hearing, Det K.P. Thorp (Dec Why) told the court Matthews and Hermann had opened 20 accounts at various branches of the Commonwealth Bank with deposits ranging from \$3 to \$5.

He said the totals of the passbooks were then altered to a larger amount by Smith, a former employee of the Commonwealth Bank, with a stamp stolen from the bank.

BOARD HUNTS 'STAIN'

Water Board inspectors are trying to solve the problem of the brown water that has been staining the washing of residents of Dec Why Parade.

Following complaints by residents last week, inspectors ordered water supply lines to be opened and drained.

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The surfer is in Laura's blood

LATE DASH FROM HAWAII FOR TITLES

Laura Blears-Ching may be ladylike and petite but when it comes to catching a wave she's as aggressive as the next man.

She is the only woman invited to compete in the Sydney Surf About Contest which includes a star-studded line-up of the world's 24 top surfers.

Laura, 25, of Hawaii, is the sister of world amateur surfing champion Jim Blears and her father is professional wrestler Lord "Tallyho" Blears.

"Being the only woman doesn't worry me," Laura said.

"I have to admit that the competition is not as easy as I thought it would be. But after competing for the past few years I have realised that I have to get in there and fight."

Laura was flown to Sydney to compete in the contest, which is running until May 15 on beaches between Manly and Palm Beach, right at the last moment.

She had been unable to get a sponsor in Hawaii and a few days before the meeting started, the Perant Jean Company in Australia phoned her and asked her to compete.

"My only regret is that I left in such a hurry I didn't choose my board carefully enough," Laura said.

"I should have brought a smaller board with me. The waves here are a lot different from those at home. In Hawaii they are faster and a lot bigger."

"They are usually five to six feet most of the time with a lot of juice in them."

"This competition is a good challenge for me and I consider it an honour to be asked to Australia."

Surfers from Hawaii, California, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia are taking part in the competition.

Laura will compete for \$13,000 in prize money — the world's richest surfing contest — "and I will give the guys a good run for their money."

Laura was the first woman to surf for money and so far she has notched up almost \$20,000 in running, swimming, bowling, basketball and tennis.

Typical
Laura and her husband Ben (the used to like bonbons when he was a child) take life easy in their quiet little wood frame house in Makaha, Hawaii.

For them a typical day is to get up, go to the beach, surf if the waves are right, play a little morning tennis and "mess around the house."

Laura Blears-Ching —

by CHRISTINE BOOKALLIL

women's surfing champ, Superstars competitor and Playboy model — settled in the Islands 19 years ago at the ripe age of six.

Her father had fallen in love with Hawaii and moved his family there to take advantage of the life year round.

Laura's father, something of a beach fanatic, had taught all four children in his family to swim at an early age. Some of them had learned to swim before they could walk and for Laura was a short stroke from swimming to surfing.

When Laura was nine she was already competing in surfing meets against both boys and girls.

Embroiders
She was surfing better than any of the other girls around and she entered quite a few amateur surfing competitions doing fairly well.

Then about three years ago, Fred Hemmings asked her if she would like to compete in the Smirnoff professional meet.

Her acceptance made her the first girl to ever surf professionally.

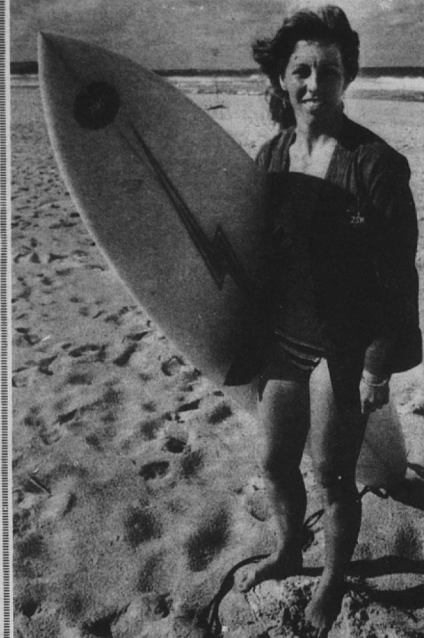
As for the future Laura says she would like to hold her own surfing meet some day.

One of the things Laura enjoys most is her role as housewife.

She likes to cook as well as care for her plants and she embroiders.

Laura says of her appearance in Playboy that it was "neat".

She explained: "They were trying to show how a female athlete can be feminine at the same time."



Laura Blears-Ching, of Hawaii, at Dec Why beach this week.

NO CLUE TO DEAD YOUTH

All attempts to identify the body of a youth found at North Head so far have been fruitless.

The youth is thought to have fallen to his death from a 50 metre cliff at 8 am on Tuesday morning.

The time of his death is indicated by a smashed watch he was wearing.

The youth was aged about 15, five feet eight inches tall and of medium build. His hair was brown and shoulder-length.

His hairstyle and appearance are described as neat and tidy.

He was wearing a blue denim jacket, fawn long-sleeved shirt, bone-coloured belt and light green trousers.

Police hope his distinctive footwear may provide a clue to his identity.

He was wearing bright green and yellow-striped running shoes.

Also found in his possession was the watch, a gold Seiko, a gold cigarette lighter and a steel comb.

The post-mortem on the body has been delayed while further attempts are made to identify the youth.

A chance drive through a Warrimoo street by a motorist resulted yesterday in two youths appearing before the Children's Court charged with stealing a motor cycle.

The motorist noticed two youngsters riding a cycle off the road. He stopped to check the bike and recognised it as being his own property — stolen from him about two months ago.

Police interviewed the boys, who produced receipts that they had bought the bike from another youth.

Further investigations led to the arrest of two youths aged 14 and 15.

HARRIGAN



"Oh, are they 'in' again?"

YOUTHS STOLE CYCLE

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STRIP SALE 'ALL CLEAR'

No obstacle now stood in the way of the sale of the Condanne St 'strip' to the Warrimoo Mall Management, Cr D. S. Sainsbury told Manly-Warrimoo Olympic Pool Joint Committee this week.

The Planning and Environment Commission advised that suspension

action had been taken to clear the way for the sale.

The Mall management is to buy the "strip" for \$400,000 with the money going to the Olympic Pool complex.

Cr Sainsbury, who is the committee chairman, said contracts could now be exchanged with the Mall management.

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