

## WINTER NEWSLETTER



### 50 years of service Bob Whitcher

"Fifty years is quite a milestone, but it doesn't feel that long ago that I made a decision to transfer from London and Lancashire Insurance to join the family business of Doepel Lilley & Taylor. This move set my life and that of my family on a wonderful path and one that I'm still enjoying today.

As a youngster, I fancied myself as having a reasonable cricket career and with my bags packed for a move to Melbourne to join Fitzroy Cricket Club I was ready to go. At the last minute, I got cold feet and the night before I was due to move away from Ballarat, I had a change of heart. I decided to stay in Ballarat and I joined Doepel Lilley & Taylor. "



### About Bob

Bob Whitcher moved to Ballarat in 1949 and was educated at Brown Hill Primary and Ballarat Junior Technical School. Bob commenced his career at age 15 with London and Lancashire Insurance, and moved to Doepel Lilley & Taylor in 1963 to take control of the general insurance agencies of Commercial Union & SIO. Bob continued to study during this time and qualified as a Real Estate Agent. He became a Fellow of the National Institute of Accountants and an Associate of the Insurance Institute of Australia & New Zealand.

Bob was admitted as a Partner of Doepel Lilley & Taylor in 1986, and is now a Director of Doepels Pty Ltd, along with W&D Finance and DHL Stateplan. Bob currently runs the GIO & CGU Agencies. Bob is a proud partner, father and grandfather and has had a long association with local sporting clubs, playing cricket, football, golf, baseball, squash and lawn bowls. He was a member of the 1964 East Ballarat premiership team in the BFL, and is a Life Member of the Brown Hill Cricket Club, having played 393 games and serving as secretary for 16 years. Bob was inducted into the BHCC Hall of Fame in 2010.

### UPDATE: Ride for MS - Perth to Ballarat

Peter & Ralph Kiel completed their epic ride from Perth to Ballarat on Saturday May 25th after 28 days of cycling and covering a total of 3525 kilometres. They raised over \$38,000.00 for Multiple Sclerosis in honour of their mother who was a sufferer of the disease. Fortunately both riders and all the accompanying crew survived the ride with no medical or crash dramas for the entire trip. Peter and Ralph were welcomed back in to Ballarat in front of the Town Hall with a large contingent of friends and well wishers present.

# Ten tips to keep warm this winter

1. Seal up all the gaps. Windows and doors can leak in substantial volumes of cold air. But some simple draught stoppers fitted in or around door and window frames and at the bottom of doors can make a huge difference.
2. If you have rooms you are not heating, such as laundries and bathrooms, you should draught-proof these too, so that when you close them off, there's no unwanted air leakage happening.
3. Cover those windows. Single-pane glass has little insulation value, so you'll need to cover it to keep the cold air out (or warm air in), especially overnight. Heavy curtains that extend across to the sides of the windows, and down to the floor are recommended.
4. Use the sun. Harness nature by drawing back the curtains and blinds during the day to letting the sun's rays warm up the house, especially if you have north-facing windows.
5. Timber floors can be a bit cold in winter, especially if there is no insulation underneath. So it's time to roll out the carpet, or the winter rugs at least. If you have tiles or polished cement in areas that get the sunlight let the sun work its magic by heating the floor during the day.
6. Buy a caulking gun. And a tube of no more gaps, or three. Attack any gaps and remember to look up high, and down low. If you clean up any overfills straight away with a damp cloth it saves a bit of difficulty later.
7. Throw me a blanket. Keep a couple of throws draped over the back of your lounge to use when you're watching television.
8. Insulate your ceiling. So much heat is lost through uninsulated ceilings that it's a no brainer to get this sorted. Make sure you use a reputable installer though.
9. Set the thermostat. They say 18-21 degrees is warm enough but you may like to opt for 21, keep in mind that every degree cooler you make the house can save you about 10 per cent on your energy bills.
10. Close air-conditioning vents, and cover up any permanent vents on your walls with some cardboard and bluetack. Older style homes may have at least one fixed vent in every room.



Doepels would like to welcome three new staff members to the team

Rebecca Mellor: Owners Corporation Assistant - Rebecca is the newest member to join the Owners Corporation team and brings with her over ten years experience in Customer Service.

Leigh Hutchinson: Agents Representative, Sales Consultant - After spending 10 years as a teacher Leigh decided to persue his passion for real estate.

Abby-Elle McArthur: Administration - Abby has spent the past 3 years in the banking/finance industry and prior to this spent 3 years working in real estate.

## Ballarat's Upcoming Events

Ballarat Fresh Produce Market 3rd August, 1st September, 5th October

Each month, the Market stallholders will have the freshest seasonal produce available which ensures that there will always be something new for you to enjoy.

Royal South Street - 29th July - 3rd November

As a well established Australian cultural event, the Royal South Street Competitions run for 14 weeks annually hosting 40,000 onstage appearances.

W & D Finance Speech and Drama Competition  
12th - 16th August

The Anglican Diocesan Centre will have five very busy days of competition with the speech and drama students.

This year Doepel Lilley & Taylor celebrates 125 years as part of the Ballarat community. We will celebrate this milestone at a function on October 10. If you would like to join us contact our office.