



## Bedtime story to cause nightmares

WHOEVER said Harry Potter was dark obviously didn't grow up on the works of Beatrix Potter.

One staffer recently tucked-in her daughter with a *Flopsy Bunnies* bedtime story that could have been more scarring than soothing.

This is how the story goes:

Mr MacGregor can't believe his luck when he stumbles across six sleeping "leettle rabbits", which he stuffs into a sack. They are freed by Mrs Rabbit who puts vegetables in the sack in place of her offspring.



When Mr MacGregor returns he "throws down the sack on the stone floor in a way that would have been extremely painful to the Flopsy Bunnies, if they had happened to be inside it", all the while chuckling.

Then he argues with his wife over the contents of his sack.

"I shall sell them and buy myself baccy!" he says.

"Rabbit tobacco!" says Mrs MacGregor. "I shall skin them and cut off their heads!"

Hmmm. An early introduction into smoking and the fur trade. Sweet dreams, children!

## Pair's labour of love

WHEN Alan and Lily Clarke married last month they invited the homeless of Manly to their wedding.

While only a few turned up to the Little Manly Point ceremony it shows how the Clarkes feel about their clients at the Street Mission soup kitchen they have run outside Manly's Uniting Church for the past three years.

"They become friends and family," Mr Clarke said.

Standing around on the footpath has been especially hard this winter but for the couple it's a labour of love.

They serve a hot meal, followed by coffee and cake.

Mr Clarke said he also kept jackets and blankets in his van for those needing extra warmth.

"On the first Saturday night there were four clients," Mr Clarke said.

But word of mouth and references through the lunchtime soup kitchen at the Salvation Army premises and the Manly Community Centre saw the numbers increase to an average of 40.

Mr Clarke has run Street Mission for several years and



Soup kitchen volunteers - newlyweds Alan and Li Clarke. VIRGINIA YOUNG FIV43747

would like to expand but needs people with corporate contacts to help increase funding.

"I'd like to take a group of kids to China to give them an

actual high rather than a chemical high," Mr Clarke said.

If you can help, phone Mr Clarke on 0425 272 648.

## TEEN SAMARITANS Healthy helpers

■ A WOMAN waiting at a Dee Why doctors' surgery this week watched two teens help an elderly lady into the waiting room.

She had fallen and they helped her with her trolley and waited with her.

The lady mentioned she would rather go to her own doctor and the girl and boy then quietly questioned her, asking if she had any family who could help.

She said her son lived nearby so they took off to tell him and then returned to check on her again.

"They were both quietly spoken and were neatly dressed in Mater Maria College uniforms," she said. "They wouldn't accept any praise - they are both really a credit to their family and school."

## THEY SAID WHAT? Working it out

■ HARD work spotlights the character of people: some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all.

- Sam Ewig

## CONTACT US Give us a yell

■ WE WELCOME contributions to Undertow. Send your amusing emails to [undertow@manlydaily.com.au](mailto:undertow@manlydaily.com.au) or phone 9976 1941, fax 9977 2831

### ALFRESCO EMPORIUM

**GRAND OPENING TODAY!**

Join us today as we open our doors with many special offers!

1021 Pittwater Road  
Collaroy  
02 9972 9999

Purchase over \$50 and receive an El Paso Margarita Mix valued at \$19.95 (1 per person)

**Crabtree & Evelyn**

Purchase over \$45 on C&E and receive a free travel pack valued at \$19.95

Maxwell & Williams Cashmere Dinner sets was \$129.95 now \$89.95

Italian Marble Mortar and Pestle was \$69.95 now \$39.95

Simply make a purchase at our Grand Opening for your chance to win this Kitchen Aid Mixer! Valued at \$699

OR

Purchase a Kitchen Aid Artisan Mixer and receive a complimentary bowl valued at \$96.50