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POWERBALL

Draw No: 922
 Numbers: 19, 27, 37, 34, 33, 26. Supps: 20.
 Div 1: Jackpots. Div 2: \$69,330.85. Div 3: \$5849.25. Div 4: \$196.75.
 Div 5: \$64.20. Div 6: \$38.60. Div 7: \$27.25. Div 8: \$13.35.

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SUDOKU

		7		1 9		3	
1						6	
4		3					
6		9		7			
			6		8		
				5		7	1
						2	7
		4					5
5		2 8		4			

9	6	4	7	8	2	5	3
5	8	3	9	6	1	4	2
7	1	7	3	4	5	9	8
1	2	7	4	6	2	3	8
3	4	6	8	2	9	5	1
8	2	5	7	1	7	3	6
7	9	1	7	9	8	3	2
4	3	8	5	9	6	3	7
1	9	6	2	3	7	8	4
2	8	3	6	4	1	7	5

HOW TO PLAY
 To solve this puzzle:
 Each 3 x 3 box, each
 row and each column
 must contain all
 numbers from 1 to 9.

DANNY LANNEN

email danny.lannen@news.com.au



An odyssey of love

OF course, the boat's name was *Harmony*. From the storied Croatian island of Lastovo the fishing vessel carried the hopeful hearts of three brothers. It was harmony they sought as they fled their homeland in 1951 and in time it was harmony they found in the burgeoning land of Australia.

Their family name was Siketa and it reached back at least to 14th century times on the island, which history attests stirred the imagination of the Greek great Homer. Through those centuries the Siketas were fishermen and the deep blue waters of the Adriatic were kind, but in the days following World War II they decided they could not live beneath the shadow of communist rule. Aldo, Ivan and Mario were the brothers who struck out by stealth that night aboard their fishing boat *Harmony*.

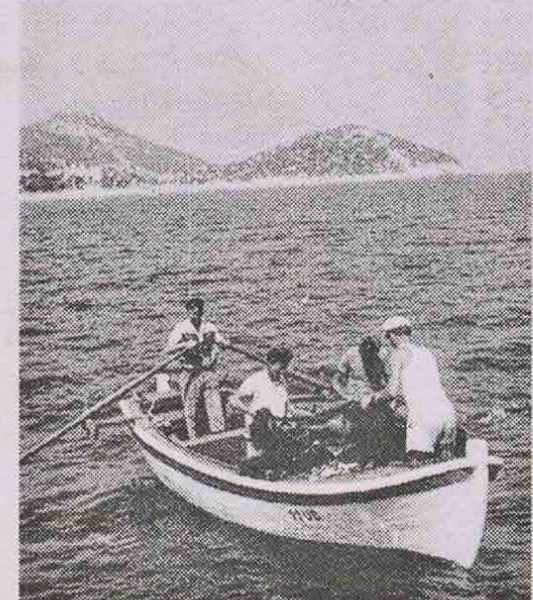
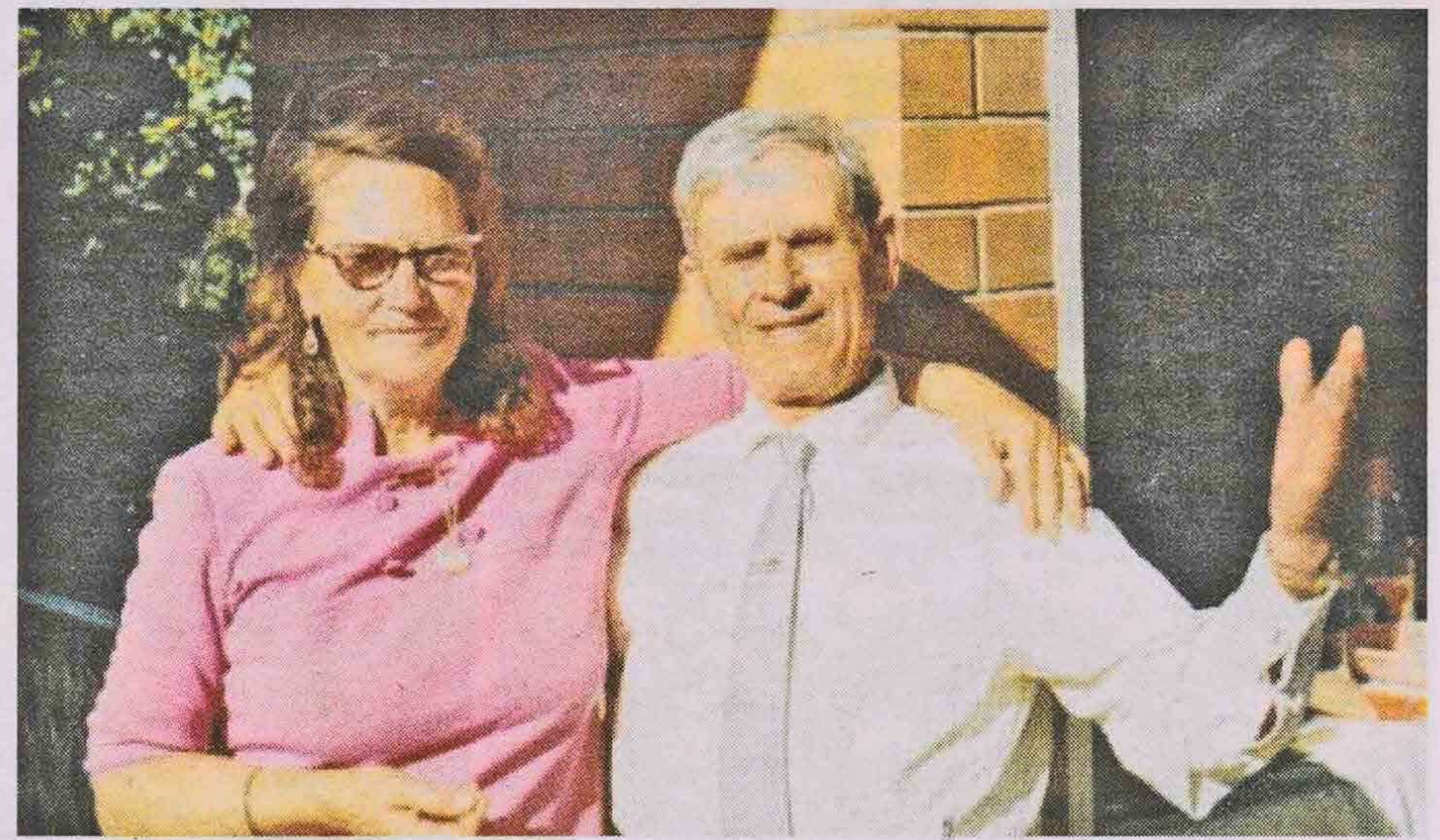
Their flight took them to Italy, where they were afforded refugee status and worked in camps before considering immigrant life in America, Argentina or Australia. Their choice of Australia was profound, the product prodigious — and a gathering at Geelong's Kardinia International College tomorrow will celebrate their vision, daring and resolve.

Upwards of 150 descendants of the brothers' parents Antun and Filomena will gather for a 25th annual Siketa reunion. Pride will be palpable. The Siketa story is vivid and enduring, and one of myriad threads in Geelong's big-hearted, wealth-for-toil multicultural story. Aldo, Ivan and Mario were three of 10 siblings who grew up on Lastovo, alongside Tonko, Bruno, Kuzma, Milenko, Ellena, Ida and Pierina. Two other siblings died during childhood.

Their centuries-old two-storey stone home was nestled on a terraced hillside at the heart of their whitewashed village and they grew knowing a life of subsistence, community and faith. But benevolent times while Croatia was annexed to Italy shifted to discontented times under Yugoslav rule and the young men sought their new horizon.

Their first real home in Geelong was a one-room bungalow they built from wood saved from Ford factory boxes. They toiled at whatever work they could get their hands on. In time all of their family joined them in Australia, including parents Antun and Filomena, and the branches of their family tree now reach five flourished and flourishing generations.

Aldo remains their distinguished family elder, known and admired through his many community involvements, including work with Geelong Ethnic Community Council. Bruno's Siketa Meats in Bell Park main-



TOP: The Siketa parents Filomena and Antun. Above left: Fishermen off the Croatian island of Lastovo. Above right: The Siketa family members, back from left, Milenko, Kuzma, Bruno, Mario, Tonko, Ivan, Aldo; Front, Ellena, mother Filomena, father Antun, Ida, and Pierina.

tains revered status, with brother Milenko instrumental in its running across the decades, and now another generation taking charge. The siblings lost parents Antun in 1986 and Filomena in 1994. Tonko also died in 1994. In 1989 when sister Ellena was terminally ill, children from the third Australian generation thought it important to bring family together in celebration of life. That celebration became the first of a quarter of a century of annual reunions, which now include the likes of live music and magicians alongside the traditional barbecue and so much laughter. Younger generations explore the family roots so deeply embedded in that Adriatic island where the odyssey began. Many of the men at the reunion will wear shirts doubly close to their hearts with the blue and white stripes of Lastovo almost matching the hoops of the Geelong Cats. Older family members have returned to

the clan home on Lastovo regularly, at times with their children for precious immersion in culture and heritage. Aldo and his daughter Antoinette joined Bruno to return last year for the island's 500th traditional Poklad festival. Their story made feature news in the Split newspaper *Slobodna Dalmacija*, which reflected on the family's enduring unity and footprint on the island. "It must be that the secret lies in the name of the fishing boat," the story said in translation. "*Harmony* is the word."

WORD OF THE WEEK
HEY kids, here's a word you can use today: Homeric, meaning heroic, epic, relating to or suggestive of Homer or his poetry. Example: Dad I think it's time I joined some of my friends starting to make these Homeric journeys overseas.

Find your African beat at Werribee Open Range Zoo!

rhythm of africa

Every Saturday until 9pm from 4 January to 22 February

KIDS ARE FREE!

An unforgettable African adventure awaits you this Summer!
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