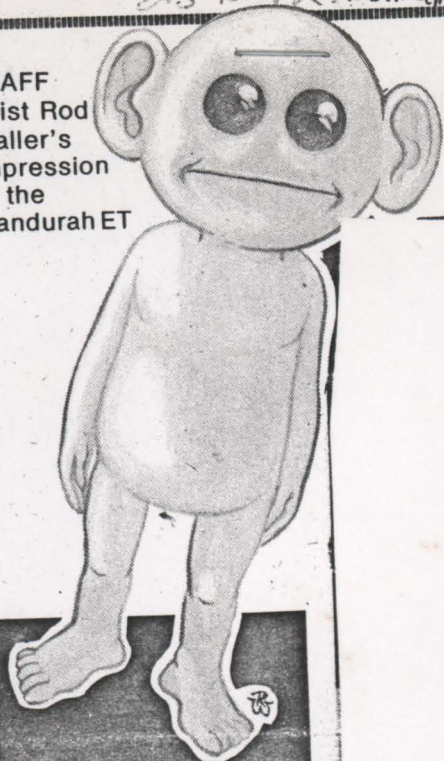


"WEST MAIL" (Bell) PERTH,
25 DEC '82 25.12.82 AUSTRALIA
CR. JAFF BELL

STAFF
artist Rod
Waller's
impression
of the
Mandurah ET



**'I saw it
years
ago...'**

E.T. was there . . . not quite the Hollywood creation but still Extra Terrestrial.

That's the explanation a Bayswater woman has for the appearance of a small, glistening, hairless creature at Mandurah 52 years ago.

Beryl Hickey, 67, says she has been reluctant to tell her story for all these years for fear of ridicule.

She said: "I hadn't thought about it for ages until I saw the film and I just wanted to let people know there really might be funny things around."

Beryl was 15 when the small creature stepped into the humpy in which her family lived during the Depression.

She said: "It seemed to have been attracted by the light of the hurricane lamp.

Terrified

"It was the most frightening thing I had ever seen. My father, who was religious, was terrified.

"He thought it was the work of the Devil and threw a prawning net over it to drag it outside.

"It had big ears, a wide slit mouth and glistened as though it was wet or covered in oil.

"It stood about half a metre tall, with bulging eyes covered with a film.

"It was obviously not human, yet it had perfectly-formed little hands and feet and was pink like a baby.

"It made a frightened, squeaky noise when it was caught under the net.

"Our father told us never to speak about it or tell anyone.

"But I told a friend and she reminded me about it after reading about the film.

"I don't want to make a fuss . . . just to let people know about the strange creature we saw.

"And we didn't see any flying saucers."