

## Alexandra District Health to offer local cancer treatments

ALEXANDRA District Health (ADH) is delighted to announce that they will be offering oncology services.

Dr Yang Wang commenced at ADH on Thursday, July 31, and spoke to our newspaper on the same day. Dr Wang has been based at Eastern Health for the past six months, and has previously worked at different health networks, including Monash, Northern Health and Peter McCallum Cancer Centre.

He said, "I've seen a broad range of capabilities and have a lot of oncology experience training different sites."

He explained that the opportunity to work at ADH came up about a month ago, as part of a collaboration between Eastern Health and Alexandra District Health. They sent out an expression of interest and he applied and got the job.

He'll initially be working at ADH one day per week, on a Thursday for the whole day. There is also an opportunity for this to increase in the future.

From Dr Wang's side, he will be providing medical oncology services. A specialist nurse, Molly Kitson, will be joining the team in a month and she will be able to deliver infusion treatments, such as immunotherapy targeted treatments, and then once they have the capability, they will be looking to expand that as well.

Nathan Willoughby, Interim Director of Clinical Services, said, "The impetus probably came about from the development of the Health Service Networks, of which we're part of the East Metro Murrindindi Health Service Network, with Eastern Health and St Vincent's. As part of that collaboration, we were looking for something that would benefit the community, and this was one of the very first identified areas of need, essentially providing and meeting one of those key goals of providing care closer to home. We know that we've got people who are driving over an hour and a half to go down for these treatments. There's generally support people around the individual patients who are taking days off work as well in order to support people to do this. It was a no-brainer as far as 'what's something that we can hopefully come to an agreement with'. Eastern Health is providing the oncology services outreach to us here at Alexandra District Health.

"A lot of goodwill from all the parties, in particular some really enthusiastic interest from the Director of Cancer services, Dr Phillip Parente, who has been one of the driving forces to get this through and ensure that we can start out with the intended one day



Interim Director of Clinical Services Nathan Willoughby, ADH CEO Jane Poxon and Dr Yang Wang. -AR

per week in order to provide the consultation service with Doctor Wang, and then Molly Kitson who is the clinical nurse consultant who's been employed to provide a transfusion service for chemotherapy.

"We identified a space that we have available here to facilitate this, and certainly it's come together very quickly and was organised within the space of a couple of months," he said.

Natasha Bowater, Director of Quality and Risk at ADH, added, "I think it's a great opportunity for our local community... It's a great opportunity for us and we need to obviously be able to do it safely here at ADH. We're opening it up and making it available. We're doing it within our existing capabilities here at Alexandra and working with our partners at Eastern Health to be able to develop this service and see how that might evolve in the future. There might be an opportunity in the future for us to upskill and train our existing staff, but certainly this is how we've set it up for now and we can see how that develops and evolves, but there's some great opportunities at a number

of different levels, most importantly for the health and wellbeing of our local community."

It was pointed out that people who have already been diagnosed and are receiving treatment can potentially transfer to the ADH service, depending on the regimen they're on, by speaking with their GP and getting a referral to the oncology services at Eastern Health. ADH are able to take calls and direct people appropriately where they need to be.

It will certainly save a lot of time for people who are currently travelling to Lilydale or beyond.

Dr Wang said, "Starting off will be clinical reviews, looking after a lot of patients at who drive for an hour and a half down to Lilydale to see us once every few weeks or so, so even just cutting out that review, it does help to save time for them."

Asked whether the service is a trial or ongoing, Nathan responded, "We're committing to this. It's been agreed to that this is something that we're doing as part of the partnership to have been established with the local Health Service Networks."

People in all locations are welcome to access the service, including all the towns in the shire and beyond.

ADH CEO Jane Poxon said, "I am so excited. I've had a bit of a vision for a little while. I do have a bit of a passion around oncology and I think it is so important. I think it just demonstrates for me how a collaboration can work really well and how supportive Eastern Health and the network have been. It's only early days and it's been so positive for us at Alexandra. It's for our community, and that's what we wanted. It's just incredible. I'm so proud."

Tour de Cure travelled through Murrindindi Shire back in 2023 and made a generous contribution of \$10,000 towards a cancer-free future. These funds were used to purchase transport vouchers for patients accessing cancer services, and a portion of these funds will now go towards setting up the new oncology unit. Most of the funding for the service is coming through general revenue however.

## Independence for older people.

The transition to our new aged care system must preserve the dignity and quality of life for older Australians.

 Read my speech at [helenhaines.org](https://helenhaines.org)

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[helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au) | [helenhaines.org](https://helenhaines.org) | @helenhainesindi

Authorised by Helen Haines, 117 Murphy St Wangaratta VIC 3677

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Alexandra District Health  
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital  
5736 0400

In an emergency dial  
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Standard

The Yea Chronicle

CONTACT DETAILS

CLASSIFIEDS AND COMMERCIAL PRINTING  
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

MANAGER AND ACCOUNTS Karen Morrison  
manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au  
accounts@alexandranewspapers.com.au

ADVERTISING - Jo  
1sales@alexandranewspapers.com.au

TRADES and ONLINE DIRECTORY - Mary  
trades@alexandranewspapers.com.au

EDITOR Anne Richey  
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au  
(Bailey) journalist@alexandranewspapers.com.au  
(Milly) reporter@alexandranewspapers.com.au

SPORTS  
sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

43 Grant Street - PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714  
Telephone: 5772 1002 Fax: 5772 1603  
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ALEXANDRA  
NEWSPAPERS

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COMMUNITY DIARY

Alexandra District Health  
5772 0900

Non-emergency police assistance  
131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon

UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

WEEKLY

Tue Women's Walk @ 7am @Embassy of Ideas

Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 0456 583 611

Fri Man Walk @ 7am meet at RSL Hall

Fri Communita 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

MONTHLY

1<sup>st</sup> Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318

1<sup>st</sup> Thur Murrindindi Men 6-8pm@ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

1<sup>st</sup> Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas

2<sup>nd</sup> Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285

2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318

3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Alexandra Ladies Probud 10am RSL Ph 0428 976 252

3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas

3<sup>rd</sup> Sun Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913

4<sup>th</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

4<sup>th</sup> Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517

Last Fri Carers Group 10am Grant Street Grocer. 0418 402 455

ALEXANDRA  
NEWSPAPERS

For a \$10 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation's  
regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this  
a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of  
what groups are available in the community, when they meet  
and a contact phone number.

Alexandra  
and District  
Senior  
Citizens  
Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

A Lively committee meeting of the Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club on Friday morning discussed relevant club issues including the closure of the Bendigo Bank agency but the Treasurer advises with the limited facilities offered by the post office and his frequent trips to the city we would survive.

After a successful Christmas in July lunch at the Rubicon Hotel members are keen to lunch out again and the committee discussed future lunches. A provisional excursion is to Lilydale International Hotel for Morning Melodies and lunch followed by shopping in Lilydale market. If you are interested please put your name on the list on the front desk.

The bridge players enjoyed a few hands on Wednesday in the clubroom and if there are any other bridge players interested in a game please come along and join us. Friday's business meeting finished with a sing song before the usual cuppa, chat and cake, then we had a few hands of 500 and UNO. The volume of the chat seems to indicate there is plenty to talk about in town.

Please come along and join us if you feel like some company on a Friday afternoon. Meanwhile stay safe and keep smiling.

Weekly Weather

August 6 - August 12, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	1	13	Wednesday	2	13
Thursday	1	14	Thursday	1	14
Friday	2	16	Friday	2	16
Saturday	3	16	Saturday	2	17
Sunday	5	17	Sunday	4	17
Monday	9	17	Monday	9	17
Tuesday	7	15	Tuesday	7	15

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

Letters to the Editor

Treaty

READING the recent article published in The Standard and titled Joint Statement on Treaty Negotiations has caused me to reflect on what we as Australians have and where we are heading. The Oxford Dictionary defines a treaty as "A written agreement between two or more countries, formally approved and signed by their leaders."

So why is the word treaty even mentioned? There cannot be a treaty unless we as Australians choose to change the accepted definition of a treaty.

So where am I heading? Australia should be one of the richest countries in the world, but we choose not to be because we choose to change reality for ideology.

Australia has one third of the world's uranium resource. Let's put this in the perspective of oil. If Australia mined and sold uranium, it would be richer than Saudi Arabia and several top OPEC countries combined. Not to mention cheap unlimited domestic power.

What about coal? Australia has 14 per cent of the world coal resource. Number three behind the USA and Russia. Australia is winding down the production of power generated by coal while at the same time is exporting coal to China which is building coal fired power stations. Once again ideology over common sense.

Australia plays a key role in the global supply of meat, particularly beef and sheep. Australia was the fourth largest exporter of beef in 2022, and supplied 50 per cent of global sheep meat in 2023. So why are live cattle and sheep exports under threat?

Back on topic. We as Australians need to deal with reality and not ideology. Leftist, green, woke ideology is not doing Australia any favours. Let's treat all people as equals regardless of their history and origin.

We don't need a 'so called Treaty' we just need to do what's right for all Australians.

Jim Wheelhouse, Eildon

Bendigo Bank 'decline to comment' on whether Eildon ATM will be removed

IN light of the announcement of upcoming Bendigo Bank agency closures around the country, including the agencies in Marysville and Alexandra, the media representative from Bendigo Bank was asked on July 22, 'Will the Eildon and Marysville ATMs be removed?'

They responded with background information on the same day, "Agency closures do not impact Community Bank ATMs."

On Thursday, July 31, just nine days later, the Eildon Bakery Cafe announced on Facebook that Bendigo Bank will not be renewing their contract to have an ATM at their premises, and that it will be removed by September 30.

When asked about the sudden change and whether they would confirm or deny that the Eildon ATM would be removed, Bendigo Bank "declined to comment."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to  
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or  
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au  
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers  
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

Letters **must be 300 words or less.** We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.

All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.

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Standard

The Yea Chronicle

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)	9.00am Mon	1.87	steady	Below Flood Level
Rubicon River at Rubicon	9.00am Mon	0.55	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.00am Mon	0.66	steady	Below Flood Level
Home Creek at Yarck	6.51am Mon	0.25	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.22am Mon	0.70	steady	Below Flood Level
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	9.00am Mon	0.30	steady	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	9.00am Mon	0.79	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	4.02	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.61	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Trawool	9.00am Mon	1.84	steady	Below Flood Level
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.32	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Seymour	9.00am Mon	2.07	steady	Below Flood Level
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.00am Mon	1.17	steady	

\*ISSUED AT 09:24 AM AEST MONDAY 4 AUGUST 2025

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra .....	2mm
Buxton.....	5mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.6mm
Flowerdale.....	2mm
Jamieson.....	4mm
Kinglake.....	0.8mm
Lake Eildon.....	3mm
Mansfield.....	2mm
Taggerty .....	0.8mm
Yarck .....	3mm
Yea.....	1mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	276.15m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	57%
Metres below full supply.....	12.75m
Daily inflow .....	3500ML
Release.....	3000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	70%

Standard

DEADLINES

Real Estate	Thursday 5pm
Trades & Services	Thursday noon
Early General News	Thursday 5pm
Classifieds	Monday noon
Editorial	Monday 9am
Sports Editorial	Monday 10am
Letters to the Editor	Monday 9am
Thumbsup/down	Monday 10am

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on

5772 1002 or  
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support



# Trivia with a twist raises vital funds for Murrindindi food relief

COMMUNITY spirit was on full display at Foundation Murrindindi's 'Quiz for a Cause' Trivia Night, held on Saturday, July 26 at the Alexandra Shire Hall.

The sell-out event combined brains, generosity and good humour to raise much-needed funds and food for local food relief programs across Murrindindi Shire.

With local legends Sam Hicks as emcee and the ever-entertaining Steve Paix as quiz master, the evening delivered plenty of laughs and fierce competition. But this was trivia with a twist: Teams could earn bonus points by donating non-perishable food items on the night, adding a fun and meaningful layer to the event.

The hall was packed with enthusiastic participants and brimming with generosity. A range of trophies were awarded, including for most food donated, highest trivia score, lowest trivia score and the coveted 'Winner Winner Chicken Dinner' trophy, which was proudly claimed by Team Bubble and Squeak.

Fabulous donated items were auctioned and raffled, with some serious bidding wars in play, and will contribute funds for the food relief programs across Murrindindi Shire.

The success of the night will help Foundation Murrindindi continue to support relief initiatives, including the *Murrindindi Community Food Share* program, which provides free and accessible food to those who need it.

"We're thrilled by the turnout and the incredible community generosity," Foundation Murrindindi Executive Officer Robyn Hill said.

"It was a fun and meaningful night, and every dollar raised and items donated will help us continue our work supporting people in need."

Foundation Murrindindi extends sincere thanks to all volunteers, sponsors, donors, and trivia funsters who helped make 'Quiz for a Cause' a memorable and meaningful event.



The Alexandra Shire Hall was packed for the Foundation Murrindindi trivia night. -S



Team Bubble and Squeak with their 'Winner Winner Chicken Dinner' trophy. -Sue Sedelies



The Leonardo AW139 helicopter that was operating above the rescue. -Buxton CFA

## Man rescued on Mt Sugarloaf in Taggerty

A MAN was winched to safety last Tuesday after slipping about 50 metres down Mt Sugarloaf in Taggerty around noon on Tuesday, July 29.

Emergency services, including Victoria Police, Ambulance Victoria, Buxton and Taggerty Country Fire Authority and Marysville and Alexandra State Emergency Service personnel, attended the man's location near Cerberus Road.

It is understood the man was bushwalking alone when he slipped off the track. He was stuck on a rock face and unable to climb up or down.

Air Wing were able to winch the 24 year old man to safety about 2pm. The Oak Park man was not injured during the incident.

The Victoria Police Search and Rescue Squad attended in a Leonardo AW139 helicopter, marking the first time this



Marysville and Alexandra SES were able to hike in and locate the man before he was rescued by winch. -Buxton CFA

aircraft has operated on a rescue event over the Cathedral Range.

The SES crews, once again, did a fabulous job to hike in and locate the hiker.

It was fortunate that the hiker had a fully charged phone with him and was able to plot his location for the Triple Zero Victoria operators who relayed his location to the responding crews.

If you go hiking this time of year in the Cathedral Ranges, be careful on wet and slippery tracks. Ensure you are experienced in the different terrain and have a fully charged phone with you.

## Remanded in custody

A MAN was hospitalised under police guard after he was allegedly involved in multiple incidents across the Goulburn Valley on Wednesday, July 30.

The police media report stated, "It is believed officers first sighted an allegedly stolen Toyota Hilux on the Goulburn Valley Highway and Killingworth Road in Molesworth on July 30 about 12.15pm.

"A man ran from the vehicle into a nearby shed, allegedly stealing another Toyota Hilux.

"The man drove the Hilux but quickly became bogged, before allegedly running into another property and threatening the occupant with an axe.

"It is alleged the man stole another Hilux and fled in the vehicle.

"Police monitored the stolen vehicle into the Yarck area when they received reports of a collision on the Maroondah Highway about 1.50pm.

"Officers were quickly on scene and attempted to arrest the man, who was allegedly resistant and violent towards them.

"A taser was deployed, and although unsuccessful, officers were still able to overpower the man and take him into custody."

The 33 year old man was hospitalised and put under police guard in a metropolitan hospital.

"The driver of the other vehicle involved in the collision, an 83 year old Bonnie Doon man, was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries."

Detectives from the Alexandra Crime Investigation Unit were also keen to

express their appreciation to the members of the public who assisted at the scene of the motor vehicle collision in Yarck on the Wednesday afternoon.

The police said, "Your assistance is a great example of how to care for members of the community until the arrival of emergency services, and the assistance that you provided to police on scene has not gone unnoticed."

Detectives would like to re-assure the community that there are no outstanding offenders involved.

The man was charged on Friday, August 1 with aggravated burglary with person present, aggravated carjacking with offensive weapon, attempted carjacking, Reckless conducted endangering life, burglary (four), theft (12), common law assault, fail to stop vehicle on police direction, dangerous driving while pursued by police, possessing a controlled weapon (two), unlicensed driving, recklessly cause injury, and aggravated burglary with an offensive weapon.

He appeared at the Seymour Magistrates' Court on Friday via audio visual link and was remanded in custody.

Alexandra Crime Investigation Unit detectives are encouraging members of the community who assisted or were involved in any of the incidents to contact them on 5772 1002 or via Crime Stoppers.

Anyone who witnessed the incident, has CCTV/dashcam footage or information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or visit [crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)

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### ANGLICAN

#### St Johns Alexandra

9am Eucharist each Sunday  
Children welcome.  
Rev Mario Hendricks -  
Rectory 0435 953 777

### CATHOLIC

Immaculate Conception Parish  
Parish Administrator Fr Jose Mathew.  
Presbytery 0468 810 871  
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm  
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am  
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

### UNITING CHURCH In Australia

St Andrews, Downey Street,  
Alexandra  
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Jesus. Services 10am each Sunday  
Contact 5772 2362

### OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Loving Life  
118 Grant Street, Alexandra  
Meeting every Sunday @ 10am

### MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

37 Grant Street, Alexandra  
Pastor Daniel Kriss  
Services 10am every Sunday  
Phone 0400 282 536  
mccbc.com.au

### THE VINE

A Christian community part of the Baptist  
Union of Victoria  
Sunday 4.30pm service  
Kids program during school term  
Meets at St Andrew's, 37 Downey Street,  
Alexandra  
Contact - 0438 642 559

## Out & About

THE items in *Out and About* are sourced from our advertising and news stories. *Out and About* is not a free community listing diary. Not all items can be included and are placed at the discretion of *Alexandra Newspapers*.

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### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

Alexandra Secondary College open night from 6-8.30pm tonight. The entire college will be open for families to take guided or self guided tours. Staff from different learning areas will also be available.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

Yea Hospital and Rosebank Auxiliary will hold their AGM at 2pm in the Grace Bennetts Centre meeting room, Yea. Afternoon tea will be provided. RSVP to Kaye 0400 424 888.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Flowerdale Hotel is celebrating it's first year of ownership. From 11am there will be live music, games, food and much more.

\*\*\*\*\*

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

Alexandra Garden Club AGM will be held at 2pm at the Uniting Church, Alexandra.

\*\*\*\*\*

Friends of the Yea Library AGM will be held 2.30pm at Yea Council Chambers. Election of all office bearers. All welcome. Afternoon tea to follow. Ph 0417 429 441 for enquiries.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MONDAY, AUGUST 11

Yea and St Pats Racing Club will hold their AGM at 6pm at the racecourse clubhouse. All members and interested supporters are invited to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

Eildon Events Inc Annual General Meeting at 5.30pm at the Eildon Tennis Clubrooms, Eildon road, Eildon. New members welcome. Nomination forms for committee member positions available from the secretary at [eildoneventsinc@gmail.com](mailto:eildoneventsinc@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

Yea Arts Inc presents Dave Adren; playing at Homewood Hall at 4pm. For further details and tickets [yeaartsinc.org/tickets](http://yeaartsinc.org/tickets)

\*\*\*\*\*

### MONDAY, AUGUST 18

UGFM Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm via Zoom. For a meeting link or to nominate for committee contact via email at [secretary@ugfm.org](mailto:secretary@ugfm.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

## New local mental health service launches

A NEW local mental health service was launched at the Yea Shire Hall on Tuesday, July 29. The service will help connect people living in Mitchell and Murrindindi local government areas with mental health clinicians based in Yea, Alexandra, Seymour and Kilmore.

Elizabeth Sinclair, Yea and District Memorial Hospital CEO, welcomed the audience and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the lands on which the new service will operate.

She said, "It's truly a privilege to stand in front of you here today to talk about this, not just as the CEO of Yea and District Memorial Hospital, but also as a proud member of this community, and celebrate with you a really significant milestone with the official launch of the Lower Hume Primary Mental Health Service.

"This isn't just another service. It's testament to what we can achieve when we actually work together. For too long, we've known the challenges faced by our communities, both Mitchell and Murrindindi people, particularly when it comes to accessing mental health support.

"Our own data which is reinforced by Murray Primary Health Network (PHN) data, clearly shows that the number of local people reporting a mental health condition is higher than in many other places, not just in our state but in our country.

"We all know that sometimes the hardest part isn't just asking for help, but knowing where to turn, especially when you live outside nature metropolitan areas. This is precisely why this new service is so important and so vital.

"It connects our community members with a dedicated mental health set of clinicians... right here in Yea, Alexandra, Seymour and Kilmore. They are residing in communities that they're going to be serving. It brings the support closer to home and reduces barriers to access, which is fundamentally what we should be doing across the board in all areas of health," she said.

She also noted that it's a partner project, not initiated by any one hospital or service, and was grateful for the funding received through the PHN. With Yea hospital leading the service, she also thanked the PHN for their trust.

She added, "We understand the unique nuances of rural life, the strengths and the challenges, and by managing and delivering these services locally together, we're ensuring that care is not only accessible but also culturally appropriate, and truly responsive to the needs of our residents."



CEO of Yea and District Memorial Hospital Elizabeth Sinclair, CEO of Alexandra and District Memorial Hospital Jane Poxon, CEO of Seymour Health Ward Steet, CEO of Murray PHN Matt Jones, Executive Director of Mental Health at Northern Health Belinda Scott and Northern Health CEO Linda Romano. -AR

"This collaboration means more to people who have access to face to face mental health services close to their home. Our team of mental health clinicians is here to help us and here to help make this come to life, but also help those in the community that are desperate for services.

"It's been five years since we've had any mental health services coming into Murrindindi... This service has been created for the benefit of people living here. Together we are dedicated to building a healthier and more supported Lower Hume," she said.

Elizabeth also spoke about the Alpine Outreach bus which was sitting outside of the Yea Shire Hall during the launch. She explained that she and board chair Ian Marshman spent a rainy weekend at the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show speaking about mental health services in the shire. The truck show raised an extraordinary \$150,000 for the hospital to buy a van. The aim is to provide mental health and other health services accessible to the smaller communities in the shire.

They heard about Alpine Outreach, which had done a similar thing and had a bus all fitted out. They met with the organisation to find out more and ended up being handed the keys so they could borrow the bus. It made its debut at the Yea Saleyards on Friday, and they expect that it will have a lot of use moving forward. They will also be buying another bus with the truck show funds, so there is a large amount of outreach potential, to keep our community healthy.

Matt Jones, CEO of Murray PHN, said, "On behalf of Murray PHN, I really commend your health services and your interest and willingness, and I know your communities are really going to benefit greatly from these services."

Naomi McNamara, Director of Community Services at YDMH provided information on how to access the services. She said, "The

Lower Hume Primary Mental Health Service is designed to support people of all ages, people who are living or working in Mitchell and Murrindindi Shire, who are experiencing mental health symptoms that are mild to moderate and have mild to moderate levels of distress and people who are requiring a non-urgent mental health response."

When people get in touch, there will be an initial consultation, focusing on people's needs and their situation to best understand how to support them. That will be followed by brief intervention sessions that will assist in identifying goals and working through issues that have been identified.

The service can be accessed through the Medicare Mental Health Line, available Monday to Friday on 1800 595 212. They will conduct an assessment and work out where to refer people to meet their needs. That could be local services or other services which meet their needs.

Referrals may also be direct from the Lower Hume Mental Health Program, GPs, other health and support services, or self-referrals.

She added, "The team is really committed to providing confidential and non-judgmental timely support to help people in the community to manage and improve their mental health closer to home."

For more information on how to make a referral or self-refer, call 5736 0418, weekdays between 9am and 4.30pm.

If you are in an emergency situation or at immediate risk of harm to yourself or others, please call emergency services on Triple Zero (000). Other services include Lifeline 131 314 or [lifeline.org.au](http://lifeline.org.au) and the Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467 or [suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://suicidecallbackservice.org.au)

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# Murrindindi Shire welcomes new citizens this winter

MURRINDINDI Shire Council celebrated six new Australian Citizens on Tuesday, July 29 at an official Citizenship Ceremony held at the Alexandra Council Chamber.

Lixing Mao, Juan Camilo Garces Londono, Ma Luisa Perote Lerio, Lei Yang, Sofia Huong Rowan and Florine Benedicte France Pirone have pledged their loyalty to Australia, its people, and its democratic beliefs, and to uphold and obey the laws of Australia and respect the rights and liberties of its people.

In attendance were guests including Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Damien Gallagher, Deputy Mayor Anita Carr, Acting CEO of Murrindindi Shire Council Andrew Paxton, Yvonne Miller from Local Early Education Action Group, Marie Bristow a health services advocate, Lucy Collings from Alexandra Sprouts Club and Alexandra and District Kindergarten, and Ayden Embling from Alexandra and District Traders and Tourism Association, Alexandra Pro Rodeo and Alexandra CFA.

Murrindindi Shire Council extends its warmest congratulations to all the conferees and wishes them all the best in their new journey as Australian Citizens.

Council will host one more Citizenship Ceremony in 2025.

To learn more about becoming an Australian citizen, please visit the Department of Home Affairs website [immi.homeaffairs.gov.au](http://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au) or call the Citizenship Information line on 131 880 during business hours.

“Welcoming new citizens is one of the most special moments for our shire,” Mayor Damien Gallagher said.

“Each person brings unique experiences and perspectives that enrich our community. Today’s ceremony is not just about receiving certificates; it’s about recognising the shared future we are building together here in Murrindindi and we are delighted to celebrate this occasion with our newest community members and their families.”



Yvonne Miller, Marie Bristow, Ayden Embling, Mayor Damien Gallagher, Juan Camilo Garces Londono, Lei Yang, Lixing Mao, Ma Luisa Perote Lerio, Sofia Huong Rowan, Deputy Mayor Anita Carr, Lucy Collings. -S



Robyn and Carole's garden at Taggerty. -S

## Gardens locked in for Alexandra and District Open Gardens

ALEXANDRA and District Open Gardens is proud to announce that all gardens are locked in for Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26, as it celebrates its 35th year. There will be seven diverse gardens open over the weekend between 10am and 4pm.

This year there are four town gardens, and three country gardens located at Marysville, Buxton, Taggerty, Alexandra and Thornton.

In addition, Alexandra Sprouts Club, an after-school program full of gardening activities based at Embassy of Ideas, 3 Bayley Street, Alexandra, will be open between 10.30am and 1.30pm on Saturday and Sunday. They are a recipient of a \$1000 donation from Alexandra and District Open Gardens.

At each garden you will find additional interesting attractions including food, sculptures, craft and plants on offer for sale.

There are five gardens that will be open to the public for the first time and two of these that are young. As one of these garden owners said, “This garden is very much a

work in progress and hopefully will provide encouragement to those dealing with new gardens and challenging conditions.”

The garden owners have spent many hours creating a special place for themselves and are being very generous in opening and sharing their private gardens for you to visit and enjoy.

Visit [alexandraopengardens.com.au](http://alexandraopengardens.com.au) for information on all the gardens and detailed descriptions of what you can see at each one. There will also be a few surprises waiting for you.

The entry fees are \$5 per person for town gardens, \$8 per person for country gardens or \$40 per person for an all-garden pass. Tickets are available on the weekend at each garden gate. Cash only as there aren't card payment facilities. You can also purchase an all-gardens weekend pass through *Trybooking*. A QR code is on the event's website.

Alexandra and District Open Gardens look forward to seeing you on the weekend at these gardens. Come and be inspired.

## The rescheduled National Tree Day Planting in Alexandra

MURRINDINDI Shire Council's National Tree Day planting event at Old Josephine Cutting in Alexandra, originally planned for Sunday, July 27, was postponed due to predicted heavy rainfall. The site's steep slope meant participant safety would have been compromised.

Council has announced that the event has been rescheduled to Sunday, August 10 from 9am to 12.30pm.

The location is approximately three-quarters of the way up Old Josephine Cutting. Entry is via the road next to the Alexandra Showgrounds, at the top end of Grant Street.

People will be planting a variety of native trees, shrubs, groundcovers and grasses to support biodiversity and create a bird-friendly habitat. The site is not wheelchair accessible and may not be suitable for very young children. Please wear sturdy footwear, bring gloves, and consider a raincoat. All planting tools and equipment will be provided.

Community members are warmly invited to take part. This is a great opportunity to connect with others and contribute to a healthier environment.

For more information, contact Sue McNair at council on 5772 0333.

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Cindy McLEISH MP  
STATE MEMBER FOR EILDON



[CindyMcLeish.com.au](http://CindyMcLeish.com.au)

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03 9730 1066 CindyMcLeishMP

cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Cindy McLeish MP, Shop 10, 38-40 Bell Street, Yarra Glen





## Proudly supporting Student of the week

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### ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### Logan Robins



Logan has been consistently showing the school values. He has been doing his personal best. Logan is becoming brave with his learning, taking risks and having a growth mindset. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Logan. You are a star.

### EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### Jake Tennyson



For showing the school value Resilience by working hard all week and producing some terrific writing about aboriginal history.  
Very good Jake

### ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

#### Asha



It is a delight to present the Principal's Award to Asha. Asha is a true role model for her peers. She lives out our school prayer. Asha is inclusive, positive, thoughtful and sensitive towards her classmates. Her words and actions are always respectful. She never fails to spread a little kindness with a smile, or an encouraging word. Asha approaches her learning with determination and a commitment to strive. Stand proud Asha as we celebrate your achievements.  
You are a superstar.

#### Jayla



Jayla was presented the Principal's Award in recognition of the incredible growth she has shown in her attitude toward learning. She has shown to give things a real go, asking questions, and contributing more in class discussions. It has been so rewarding to watch Jayla to believe in herself and shift her mindset. Her growing confidence and willingness to participate are having a clear and positive impact on her learning. We are so proud of the progress she is making and the courage she is showing each day in 5/6W.

## Student of the Week

Proudly supported by  
Kinglake branch
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## Key services a focus for Helen Haines in first weeks of Federal Parliament

MEMBER for Indi, Dr Helen Haines MP, has covered a gamut of key service areas in the first two weeks of the new Federal Parliament.

With international affairs a heavy presence in the Parliament, so too were domestic issues with Dr Haines making key advocacy statements for Indi.

The Federal Government passed legislation on its election commitment to reduce student HECS debt by 20 per cent, which Dr Haines supported for the almost 14,000 people in Indi that have an average HECS debt of \$21,000. Dr Haines's support was not without criticism, though, citing the timing of indexation as a problem for students.

"The current indexation arrangements are unfairly adding thousands of dollars to Australian debts and should be fixed," Dr Haines said.

Dr Haines called on the government to extend payments for practical placements for students, following her successful amendment in the last Parliament to have the system reviewed within three years.

"I hear from so many people having to choose between study or work, some putting their degrees on hold because unpaid placements are simply not possible when they have mortgages, rents and bills to pay."

Dr Haines raised issues with changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Pricing Review after meeting with local service providers last month. Under new rules, the amount providers can claim for travel is halved and risks the viability of future service delivery.

"Last month I met with more than a dozen of Indi's physiotherapists, occupational

therapists, dieticians, speech pathologists and support coordinators to hear their concerns.

"I have urged the government to pause these pricing changes and consult with providers in order to protect these NDIS services in the regions."

Other legislation passing the Parliament included two bills to legislate technical changes required for aged care reforms that will come into effect from November 1.

Dr Haines reinforced concern that the delay of 83,000 new Home Care Packages was leaving nearly 90,000 people waiting for care, speaking on the bill and raising the issue in Question Time last Thursday.

"The government's delay to the new aged care system leaves nearly 90,000 people waiting for a home care package," Dr Haines said.

"Despite this, the government ignored the crossbench call to fund 20,000 packages to bridge the gap to the new system and cannot articulate what they are doing to support these people in the meantime."

Parliament resumes on August 25.

### McLeish calls for action on Eildon Container Deposit Scheme

THE Eildon and surrounding community are in uproar after the unexpected halt of the popular Container Deposit Scheme in Eildon township. Local Member, Cindy McLeish MP called on the Minister for Environment in Parliament to get involved and sort out the situation.

Under Parliamentary guidelines, the minister has 30 days to respond to Ms McLeish's request, however can choose to act quickly and resolve the matter with Visy in a couple of days.

Ms McLeish said, "I am particularly grumpy about this, and the Eildon community are as well, and rightly so, because it seems to be almost out of the blue that this scheme was halted. The community want it back up and running pronto."

"The government want communities involved in the container deposit scheme. This is a great example of them pushing community away from it."

During the tourist season, people from the many local caravan parks and campgrounds use the Eildon location to deposit their containers. The community, extending well beyond the township, support local operator, Jason Lodge, who wants to continue operating the scheme at a new site.

"It sounds to me that Visy do not want this successful scheme operating. The Minister needs to fix this ASAP. The community is fuming," Ms McLeish concluded.

## Council outlines actions taken in opposition to the ESVF

COUNCILLORS and Mayors from 22 Victorian local government areas met on July 26 to devise a plan to stop the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) levy. Murrindindi Shire Council was asked to provide information on the decision not to attend.

They responded, "Murrindindi Shire Council has been a strong and consistent advocate for change to the ESVF levy since it was first announced.

"Rather than duplicating efforts, council has focused its energy on coordinated and strategic advocacy through Rural Councils Victoria, Regional Cities Victoria and the Hume Region Local Government Network all existing networks with established influence and shared rural priorities.

"Council has taken clear and public action. In May 2025, we passed an urgent motion calling on the state government to provide relief for rural landowners and

primary producers, acknowledging the significant cost-of-living impact of the ESVF, particularly for those already grappling with drought, disaster recovery and rising costs. The motion followed legal advice via the Municipal Association of Victoria confirming that councils are obligated to collect the levy and that unpaid charges cannot be waived or ignored.

"Deputy Mayor Cr Anita Carr, who introduced the urgent business, said at the time, 'The motion highlights council's deep concern about the impact this new tax will have on our farming families and rural communities. We simply cannot allow a situation where people are pushed closer to the edge because of an unfair system.'

"Mayor Gallagher also wrote directly to Treasurer Jaclyn Symes MP, stating the levy unfairly targets those who already contribute so much through volunteering, fundraising and community service. Council has met

with both the Treasurer and Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence, highlighting the additional \$1.8 million this levy will extract from our local community and local economy.

"We've welcomed the state government's recent decision to cap the levy for primary production land from 2025-26, an outcome our advocacy helped achieve, but we know this is just a first step.

"Through the newly formed Victorian Government Drought Response Taskforce, we are continuing to press for long-term reform. Most recently, Mayor Gallagher wrote to Premier Jacinta Allan calling for 'A full review of the Emergency Services Levy, which remains a significant burden for our agriculture sector supply businesses despite the temporary reprieve for primary producers.'

"Council has always had our community's back, and we will continue to stand up and speak out until the ESVF levy is fair for all Victorians."



# MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS AUGUST



## BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT FOR MUMS

Mums and caregivers, are you navigating the journey of breastfeeding?

We offer latch troubleshooting, milk supply guidance, bottle feeding tips and solid and finger food instructions. We offer telehealth support over the phone, or outreach visits every second Tuesday. This service is run by our dedicated Maternal and Child Health nurses.

For more information or to book a session, call Susan on **0436 659 910**, or Lou on **0437 844 811**.

## CALLING ALL EVENT HOSTS

Local event organisers are invited to the Murrindindi Events Forum to connect, collaborate and strengthen event planning across the region.

Enjoy a free lunch, hear from industry experts and discover how shared resources can support your next community event.

Registrations close Monday 12 August.

For more information visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eventsforum](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/eventsforum)



## DRAFT ASSET PLAN

We're updating our Asset Management Plan to guide how we care for community infrastructure, other than roads, over the next 10 years and beyond. This includes everything from footpaths to playgrounds, public toilets to BBQs. It's a key part of how Council plans for the future, and it's something we're required to do under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Your feedback is crucial in guiding how we maintain, upgrade, and invest in these assets to ensure they continue to serve our community effectively and sustainably.

For more information and to help us shape this Plan, visit [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/assets](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/assets)

Feedback closes **Sunday 17 August**.

## COUNCIL FACILITIES FOR HIRE

Looking for a venue? Have you considered hiring one of Council's community centres or halls?

Council manages eight venues across Murrindindi Shire:

- Alexandra Council Chamber
- Alexandra Shire Hall
- Kinglake Community Centre
- Kinglake Service Centre – Meeting Room
- Thorton Memorial Hall
- Yea Council Chamber
- Yea Railway Reserve and Goods Shed
- Yea Shire Hall

To book a venue, or to learn more about other community-run venues, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/venuesforhire](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/venuesforhire)

## COUNCIL PLAN AND COMMUNITY VISION

Council adopted its Council Plan 2025-2029 and 2035 Community Vision at the 23 July Scheduled Meeting of Council.

The Plan sets our direction for the next four years and reflects the priorities, aspirations and ideas shared by the community. The refreshed Community Vision outlines what the people of Murrindindi Shire hope our community will look like in ten years' time.

For more information and to read the Plan, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplans](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplans)

## STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news) or follow us on Facebook.

## GET IN TOUCH

[customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
[murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request)  
5772 0333



## ALEXANDRA COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE

Council and Alexandra Secondary College have begun early concept planning to explore future upgrades to the Alexandra Community Leisure Centre. The project aims to modernise the facility, improve accessibility and safety, and ensure it meets community needs now and into the future.

For more information and to leave your feedback, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/communitycentre](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/communitycentre)

Feedback closes **Sunday 24 August**.

## REPORT AN ISSUE ON SNAP SEND SOLVE

Community members can report issues and provide feedback to Council at the click of a button through the 'Snap Send Solve' mobile app.

Anyone with a compatible mobile device can use 'Snap Send Solve'. It's as easy as taking a photo, confirming your location on the map, adding a few words to describe the problem, identifying yourself and hitting 'send'.

For more information, including how to download, scan the QR code below or visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/snapsendsolve](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/snapsendsolve)

# SCAN ME





# What happened to Warren Meyer?

AT Easter in 2008, Warren Meyer disappeared from the Dom Dom Saddle area of the Black Spur.

Over the years, there have been a huge number of theories around his disappearance, including that he may have stumbled across an illegal marijuana plantation, encountered criminals or illegal shooters (or all of the above) or an escaped psychiatric patient known to have been in the area at the time. It's possible that no-one will ever know the answer, but the goal is to bring Warren home for a dignified funeral.

Zee Meyer and husband Warren were married for 31 years. Their first meeting was in Kathmandu, travelling on the back of an old converted army truck. Zee said, "We had an adventurous spirit right from the moment that we met, and hiking and camping was a huge part of our life."

Warren was Canadian, but Zee "dragged him back" to Australia, although he was happy to be here as the Canadian winters were so long.

They settled in Melbourne and had two children together. Zee said Warren enjoyed Australia because "If it's cold, you can still get out and about."

The couple developed a core group of friends, and they would all go away together each Easter to stay somewhere in the state. In 2008, they chose Healesville, the 10 of them staying in three cabins.

Warren would always build a hike into their trips, usually on the Sunday and generally around 10km, and it was the same that year. A special Easter lunch extravaganza had been booked months in advance at the RACV Country Club, so Warren left for his walk early so he would be back in time. He chose to walk from Mt Dom Dom.

It was a sunny, warm day. Warren had prepared food and had water. He had a fully kitted out backpack that he always had with him, a GPS, and a fully charged phone. In addition to hiking for 30 years, he was also a member of the Bayside Bushwalking Club. He had an understanding of the bush and was a very fit and athletic 57 year old. He also played basketball and tennis at competition level.

Zee said of the day that Warren vanished, "I was with my friends. We had breakfast together and we just were laughing and carrying on. Warren wasn't back by 12 and he did say if I'm a little bit late, just go on and I'll catch you up, so we went into the restaurant and I kept looking up, waiting for Warren to walk past the window, because everyone was coming into the restaurant and he just wasn't turning up and we all started to worry and everyone was talking about, well, where's Warren. There was an empty chair at the end of the table and it sort of became a bit haunting, that there wasn't anyone there to take up that space."

"I suppose it would be 1pm we started phoning. He had my phone because my phone was fully charged and we kept phoning, and there was just this disconnected sound. You couldn't even leave a message. We thought, this is really weird. Really weird. So because we were caught in this situation, this very extensive lunch, we went through those formalities. I thought... maybe he's lost his keys. The panic had started setting, I'd say at 3pm. We all got up left and half of the group went to Dom Dom Saddle. Half stayed behind in case he did arrive back."

Zee was among the group who went to Dom Dom Saddle. As the Black Spur is very windy, she began to wonder whether Warren might have gone off the road, however she was relieved to find Warren's vehicle in the Dom Dom carpark. Unfortunately, the relief was short-lived. Warren wasn't at the car and neither was his backpack. The car was locked.

The group headed towards Road 8, calling his name, and started to panic. They called the police at about 3.45pm. The police soon arrived, along with a police helicopter. They were able to signal to it from the picnic tables near the car park.

The police were concerned that Warren may have become lost in the bush. Zee later found out that Warren was the only person who went missing in the bush in 2008 who wasn't found.

Two young officers appeared not long after the helicopter left. They had four-



Warren and Zee on one of their journeys. -S



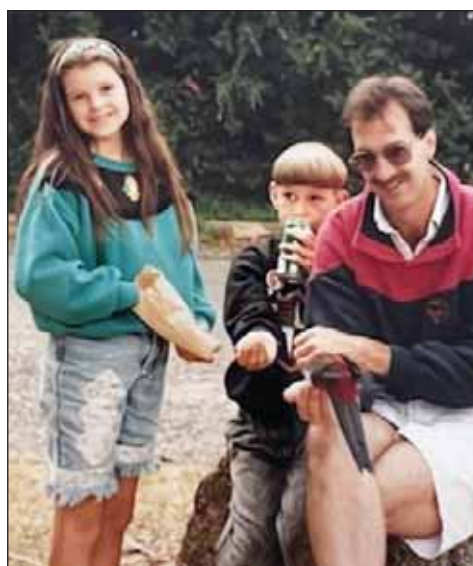
Warren Meyer. -S



One of the sniffer dogs recently deployed at Dom Dom Saddle. -S



Warren's family members at a Warren Meyer mural. -S



Warren with his children. -S

wheel drive and they said they'd search all the known tracks in the area. Zee still thought that Warren would be found, maybe with a twisted ankle or something. The police officers searched until about 2.30am but were unable to find him.

Zee stayed overnight in the car, still expecting Warren to walk out of the forest in the full moon light. She started becoming very stressed and couldn't sleep. She also hadn't eaten since the lunch and was down to the last of her water.

The search recommenced at 8am, with Zee called into the control room. She contacted her son, who was at home, and asked him to go onto his computer and see what maps Warren had downloaded, and which of Warren's six maps was missing. The map was sent through to the control room.

Warren had told her he was going to Dom Dom. She thought this meant Mount Dom Dom instead of Dom Dom Saddle carpark. As a result, the searches were around the Mount Dom Dom area, where there are no walking tracks, instead of the walks emanating from Dom Dom Saddle.

She said, "Warren wouldn't have gone there" if there was no track. She is therefore concerned that the search was conducted in the wrong place.

It is documented that he went along Road 8 and Morley Track with his bushwalking group. He was also interested in Road 9 or Monda Track, part of the Bicentennial Trail. People can also hike in the water catchment area, closed to vehicular traffic.

Warren wasn't wearing gaiters when bushwalking. He was wearing shorts and long socks with boots, and because of this, Zee doesn't believe that he would have left established tracks. "He wasn't a bush basher. He wasn't unhealthy and had a heart attack," Zee said. "All these things have been said to me. Had an aneurysm."

When the possibility of a snake bite was raised, Zee said, "Those tracks, you can drive a car on them... I mean it's really easy to get around, really easy."

A five day search was conducted by police, "Which was really just scratching the surface, I think," Zee said. The police received a statement from a doctor at one of the hospitals, saying that it was highly unlikely that he would have survived, "so they packed up and left."

Zee was surprised by this as there's plenty of water around that area, and people can survive for weeks without food.

Family and friends continued to search every week for the first year, but to no avail, and the police investigation found no results.

The case remains in the hands of the Missing Persons Squad.

A number of leads were uncovered further down the track when she engaged a private investigator, Valentine Smith. He was encountered by accident in a restaurant and worked for them pro bono.

Through the investigator, she found out that there was an error with the time frames to do with an absconder from a mental hospital, in the area at the time.

Zee went on *A Current Affair* in October 2008, and as a result, they heard from people living at the closest house to where Warren went missing. On the day, the family heard out of control shooting in the area when their family was out looking for Easter eggs. They ushered the children inside. They were not believed to be deer hunters, "because the bush was blown apart," Zee said, adding that it's unlawful to shoot on the Black Spur as it's a National Park.

Easter is well known as being a busy time in the area, with many additional tourists.

"You're really sitting on the doorstep of a huge city, a city of going into 6,000,000 soon, I think. At Easter, we could see it at the place was just booming with people. There was a flood of people through the area. It was very, very busy. So you get a certain element heading out there, an unsavoury element perhaps. Camping and drinking and shooting up the place. And I really think that seems to be what's happened here."

She explained that Meni Caroutas was producing a podcast about Warren in 2024. He had previously worked with Julie Cohen and Search and Rescue Dogs Australia (SARDA) on a case in NSW. He got in touch with Zee and said that he wanted to bring a human remains dog in. Zee said that she would like them to run the dog along the track where the shooting was heard.

The dog was walked five or six kilometres and went through an area of water. On the way back, the dog 'alerted' in the area where the shooting location had been indicated following the information received in 2008. She said that it was unambiguous, a clear indication that there were human remains.

They were unable to track the scent due to the nature of the heavily-wooded bushland, and it may have been the result of water runoff from the surrounding hills. A couple of weeks later, they got the same result.

Zee and the team again returned to the Dom Dom Saddle area, this time with two dogs. Both dogs again 'alerted'. It was after rain, and water was draining off the hill. They followed the water past a pipe and first one dog then the other dog set off a huge alert.

Afterwards, Zee got in touch with the now-former Police Commissioner Shane Patton and told him what had happened. He responded very quickly and got it down to the Missing Person's Squad.

On July 15, the Missing Person's Squad sought to see replicated results, however the ground was fairly dry. Those present included Search and Rescue, the Missing Person's Squad, SARDA Valentine Smith, an anthropologist, Warren's son, and Zee.

When the dogs alerted, the anthropologist looked up the hill a bit and look at lush ferns as an indicator they had been fertilised. Zee noted that the same method had been used to successfully locate the body of Matthew Leveson.

It was also noted that her nephew had noticed a bad smell in the same area as the dog had 'alerted' when they were searching in the months after Warren's disappearance. The location also fitted with the 9.01am phone 'ping' and the time indicated for the end of the shooting.

Given the time that's passed, and the lack of dash cams and roadside cameras at the time, it's unlikely that anyone associated with the death will ever be found, if this was the case. Zee would just like to have her much-loved husband buried with honour and dignity.

She said, "We actually had a celebration of his life a month after he went missing because we knew he was deceased. But to be discarded in the bush like that is, I don't even have a word for it. It's so disgraceful that that has happened. But I also believe if we can't extract him from there, I probably believe 95 per cent that he is in that area. But because we can't locate a particular grave because the density of the bush, it makes it really hard. If we were to bring in a bobcat into a National Park that's going to set off a whole different saga."

She said, "I want it understood what the capabilities of these dogs are. I want some sort of academic approach to the dogs so that when the next person comes along, you don't have a debate about, 'do these dogs have these skills that they're claimed to have?'"

"The police are going to go away and do an assessment. We're doing an assessment, and already experts in the field have been contacted in Scotland and in the United States, because these dogs are being used all around the world and I want some sort of understanding of their capabilities so that it will help the next person."

"If I can't get my husband back, I want to make some sort of change or developing an understanding of the capabilities of these dogs, because we're only in the infancy of using them in Australia."

She noted that special canine skills are required to pick up the scent of human remains, and that their skills are different to police dogs.

Asked what she would like to say to the people of Murrindindi Shire, Zee responded, "I know there are a lot of people in the areas that searched for Warren. I've always tried to communicate just how appreciative we were of them, and the time they put in and dealing with that difficult bush, often in difficult circumstances and they were always kind if we were around and we didn't feel so alone as a family doing this when we saw the community to come together like this. So that's the first thing."

"The other is if anyone has knowledge of anything in relation to not only Easter 2008 but knowledge of the goings on in an area that they live in. Especially in relation to shooting, we would be very interested in that as well."

Warren now has four grandchildren he's never met, and his family just want to lay him to rest with dignity. Please call Triple Zero or contact Crime Stoppers on 131 444 if you know anything about the case.

*National Missing Persons Week runs from August 3 to 9.*



# Ever wanted to be in a rock band?

HAVE you ever dreamt of rocking out on stage with your mates? Are you a musical family that can strut your stuff or are you a closet air-guitarist who deserves to show off your moves? The registrations are rolling in and there is still plenty of time to take part in Yea Arts Inc *High Voltage* event.

Guitarists across Murrindindi are invited to take part and rock out with internationally acclaimed artist and musician, Joseph O'Farrell (JOF). Having just returned from a successful *High Voltage* event at the Norfolk and Norwich Festival in the UK, we're spoilt to now be the next rock event on the *High Voltage* calendar.

Yea Arts Inc President, Allan Thatcher knew he was onto something amazing when he saw the event at Hamer Hall in Melbourne a few years ago and since then Mr Thatcher has dreamt of bringing the event to Murrindindi.

Mr Thatcher said, "I would love to see generations of one family come and take part. Imagine a grandad and his grandchild taking the stage together or a group of mates that rock in their garage but haven't had a chance to play live on stage together. We're creating this opportunity for all those who



dream of rocking to make it a reality under the guidance of Jof."

There are a number of workshops planned to occur across the last two weekends of August to rehearse and get your stage craft skills honed. Workshops will occur in Yea,

Alexandra and Kinglake. The event is all ages, all skill levels plus we're on the look out for other performers such as dancers, singers and other musicians to make it one huge community celebration.

On Sunday, September 7 at 4pm at the Yea Shire Hall the big event takes place. The entire event is free and everyone is invited to come to enjoy the final performance and support the rock stars. No tickets required just mark 4pm, September 7 in your calendars. Make it a Father's Day activity.

Participants will be sent a song book with the tabs and playing instructions after registration. All the details are on the registration form which is available via the Yea Arts Inc website. [yeaartsinc.org/high-voltage](http://yeaartsinc.org/high-voltage). All ages, all abilities, all welcome.

*High Voltage* project is led by Yea Arts Inc and proudly supported by Murrindindi Shire Council to make it a shire-wide celebration, bringing local talent together for one *High Voltage* concert to remember.

If you have any questions, please email local producer Cynthia Lim on [eventsyeaarts@gmail.com](mailto:eventsyeaarts@gmail.com) or call 0403 831 520.

The project is part of Murrindindi Shire Council's Community Capacity Building Program, made possible with funding from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Community Development Fund.

## Students raise \$1600 for MND research

ALEXANDRA Secondary College student representatives are pleased to report that the Motor Neurone Disease (MND) fundraiser at the school raised a grand total of \$1600.

The funds were raised through nominating teachers to take the plunge down an inflatable slide and into icy waters on Friday, July 25, and through holding a Free Dress Day.

Well done to all involved.

## Dave Arden plays Homewood Hall in August

YEA Arts Inc is continuing its policy of bringing top-quality entertainment to venues across the shire. Fresh from the successful Keith Potger (*The Seekers*) show at the Alexandra Shire Hall, the regional arts group presents indigenous singer-songwriter Dave

Arden at Homewood Hall on the afternoon of Saturday, August 16.

David was the front man for the *Koori Youth Band* and has worked with many of the great First Nation acts including the *Hard Time Band* and *Altogether Band*. He has been honoured to play for many esteemed First Nations artists as well as playing lead guitar and singing with the late Archie Roach and Ruby Hunter during their successful performance and recording career.

David has also played key roles in groundbreaking Aboriginal projects that have impacted powerfully in the sector, including being the co-musical director for the *Black Arm Band* and presenting a commissioned work for the Yirramboi Festival entitled *A Fight For Survival*.

The August 16 Homewood Hall event will see doors and licenced bar open at 3pm, with Dave Arden taking the stage at 4pm. A highlight of the performance is expected when a group of local singers are joined by members of the *Badger Creek Women's Choir* to provide a glorious backing to a few of David's songs.

After the performance all attendees are welcome to socialise, with Yea Arts Inc providing barbecued sausages with the assistance of Yea Rotary.

This will be a special and moving event that everyone can enjoy. Secure your place in the audience at [YeaArtsInc.org/tickets](http://YeaArtsInc.org/tickets) now.

## Melba Highway roadworks meeting

TRANSPORT Victoria are in the planning stages for repairing two landslips on the Melba Highway in Dixons Creek, just south of the Healesville-Kinglake Road intersection.

Works are being staged to minimise disruptions to the community and manage the significant volume of daily traffic, heavy vehicles and people who use these roads and recreationally visit the Yarra Valley. Construction timeframes are subject to change depending on weather and ground conditions.

They will be holding community information sessions at three locations to present information about the upcoming road maintenance works.

There will be a meeting at the Yea Shire Hall on Wednesday, August 13 from 6 to 7pm.

There will be another meeting at the Kinglake Community Centre, 436 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, on Thursday, August 14 from 6 to 7pm.

These information sessions are open to everyone, please register your attendance to assist with our planning. Visit [tinyurl.com/52sue8z](http://tinyurl.com/52sue8z).

The Melba Highway landslip repairs in Dixons Creek are expected to occur from Mid-October 2025 to early 2026. There will be a 24/7 single lane closure on Melba Highway on Dixons Creek, approximately 3km south of the Healesville-Kinglake Road intersection. There will be speed reductions and temporary traffic lights in place to manage two-way traffic on the Melba Highway. No detour is required.

## Occupational therapy students create sensory space at Yea Uniting Early Learning

TWO occupational therapy students from Australian Catholic University, Jade and Tully, have recently completed their clinical placement at Yea United Early Learning Centre. Their placement was part of the Yea and District Memorial Hospital's (YDMH) Innovative Model of Care Project, which aims to enhance the delivery of allied health services in early childhood settings.

During their time at the centre, Jade and Tully designed and implemented a sensory space to support children's self-regulation, engagement, and overall wellbeing.

They describe the space in the following way:

"We created this sensory space as a dedicated area for children to visit throughout the day to help regulate their sensory systems. By supporting their individual needs in this way, the space enables children to engage more actively in their learning and participate more fully in kindergarten life," they said.

"The design of the space was informed by extensive research, including both formal assessments and close observation and interaction with the children. With the invaluable support of our clinical supervisor, Siobhan from Dindi Kids in Alexandra, we were able to develop an

intentional, purpose-built environment tailored to their needs.

"Working within a limited budget, we focused on creating as many elements as possible ourselves and purchased only what was necessary. To support the use of the space, we also developed an informational brochure for families and a picture storybook designed to teach children how to use the space purposefully, with clear examples of what they might do while there.

"Our hope is that this sensory space will have a lasting positive impact, supporting children to self-regulate, engage in learning, and thrive in both play and classroom activities"

Centre Director Fiona Purvis commented on the students' placement, saying: "It has been such a positive learning experience for everyone involved in the project. The sensory space that Jade and Tully created as part of their project has had such an impact with supporting and guiding children's behaviour and self-regulation since we have returned after the school holidays. I really look forward to watching how this project evolves with future students"



Fiona Purvis, Centre Manager, Maggie Palmer, Project Manager, ACU student Jade, two children enjoying the sensory space and in front ACU student Jade. -S

# Dave Arden

## SONGMAN

### HOMEWOOD HALL

Sat 16 august 4pm

[Yeaartsinc.org/tickets](http://Yeaartsinc.org/tickets)

WITH LOCAL CHOIR!





# The Farmer's Ag News

**DUE** to the typically remote and accessible nature of farms, it is essential to look at a range of measures when enhancing security, in order to safeguard your property, equipment, and livestock against theft, vandalism and potential threats.

By taking a good look around the farm and seeing how your security measures up is a great way to identify any areas that need attention.

Some of the following tips are a great starting point.

Firstly, to deter trespassers, place “no trespassing” and “private property” signs at the entrance to your property, and along boundary fences and areas that access roads to paddocks.

Having signs saying equipment is marked and the area has security cameras and alarms is also a good way to deter trespassers.

## Sheds

Securing your sheds with good heavy duty roller doors and keeping them locked with good quality padlocks. Ideally having your sheds positioned so they can be seen from the home is not always possible, but it is ideal. A great deterrent around sheds can also be sensor lights and security alarms.

## Fencing and gates

Ensure they're in good and secure condition they need to be regularly checked, and the

conditions of your gates should be mounted securely to corner posts and monitored for wear and tear.

## Fuel

Fuel is a popular item when it comes to theft. Lock your fuel tanks with padlocks, ideally at the cut off valve and make sure you close and lock the valves and switch off the pump when they're not in use.

## Firearms

Make sure your firearms are registered, and your licences are up to date. Follow all laws when it comes to storage that meet legal requirements. Never leave your firearms in

unattended or in unlocked vehicles. If you're not home for long periods of times or your property is unoccupied, consider storing your firearms with a trusted licence holder.

## Stock

Your stock is your livelihood, keep accurate records of all your livestock, including ID, numbers, purchases, sales, births and deaths. Taking photos or videos of them is a good idea in case of theft.

Keep any receipts of purchase to prove ownership and make sure your stock's National Livestock Identification System (NLIS) tags are up to date.

As feed is such a problem these days it makes it an ideal item for theft. Never leave storage bins or loaded trucks unattended during harvest. Make sure loading equipment isn't readily available when you're not around, and if possible store hay bales in lockable sheds instead of being out in the open for all eyes to see.

For a comprehensive guide to farm safety, Crime Stoppers have a printable farmer safety checklist you can use as you go through your property and assess what needs to be done around the farm.

If you become aware that livestock, equipment, fuel and feed is missing it's important to report it to police. The sooner it is logged with police there is a better chance of catching the offender.

To report non-urgent farm crime, call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or submit an online report.

## Grant support for agricultural and pastoral societies

VICTORIAN agricultural and pastoral societies will receive more support to upgrade infrastructure and participate in regional shows.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence announced last week the opening of applications for this year's *Agricultural and Pastoral Society Grants Program*, helping organisations with projects that encourage community involvement and promote Victoria's rich agriculture industry.

The grants provide successful applicants with up to \$10,000 to support infrastructure development and upgrades to celebrate Victoria's agricultural communities, industries and produce.

The grants can be used to upgrade or establish new facilities, enhance public amenities, improve essential infrastructure, improve business management activities, biosecurity planning and promote reporting of livestock movements.

Agricultural and Pastoral Societies are community groups with a shared interest in agriculture, horticulture or livestock. These groups can be found across rural and regional areas, dedicating their time to a wide range of roles in their communities, such as hosting events and fundraisers to support local priorities and agricultural activities.

With over 100 societies across the state, the grant program plays a significant role in regional

Victoria's vibrant calendar of events, building community spirit by celebrating agriculture in a fun, entertaining, educational, and inclusive environment.

Applications for the latest round of grants close Friday, September 12.

For more information or to apply visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/agricultural-and-pastoral-society-grants](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/agricultural-and-pastoral-society-grants)

## More trees on farms to benefit landowners

THE Victorian Government is encouraging Victorian farmers and landowners to take advantage of a new program to plant more trees on their farms, helping to boost timber supply, increase biodiversity and prevent soil erosion.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence last week announced the Victorian Trees on Farms Program at Parliament House, alongside industry members at the Victorian Forest Products Association's Timber Plantations showcase.

“Victoria's tree plantations are an essential resource, not only for our state's biodiversity, but to support our housing pipeline, create regional jobs, and produce

paper and packaging products to replace single use plastics,” Ms Spence said.

“We're supporting Victorian farmers and landholders to reap the benefits of planting trees on their farms, including improving grazing outcomes and offsetting carbon emissions.”

The new program is offering grants of up to \$80,000 for landholders to plant trees on their property, providing long term solutions including boosting shade and shelter for livestock, improving stock and crop production, offsetting carbon emissions or generating income through carbon credits.

Landholders will also be able to generate additional income through timber production, including from harvested wood

products or use the timber for on-farm uses such as firewood and fence posts.

An additional grants program, the Trees on Farms Incubator Program, is offering planting service providers and forestry professionals up to \$50,000 to support landowners who might be contemplating planting trees on their property.

This service will help landowners develop tailored, implementation-ready project plans to align with their property and planting goals, while providing education, training and upskilling for tree planting and management activities.

For more information on the program, visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/trees-on-farms](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/trees-on-farms)

## The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



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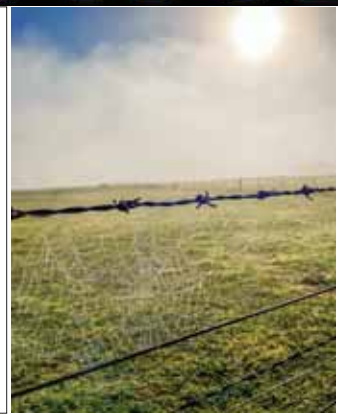
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*July competition winner is Jamie Lynch*

## JULY PHOTO COMPETITION



**The AUGUST theme is 'Sunshine'** - Submit your photo entry to [manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au) by noon August 27, with your name, town and contact number for your chance to win a \$50 gift voucher from Dindi Country Clothing in Alexandra.

T&Cs: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter. **One photo per entry.** Photo must be taken in the Murrindind shire and are not to be digitally altered or enhanced. **Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter.**



# The process of obtaining a firearm licence

MANAGEMENT of the Victorian deer population is a contentious issue at the moment, but most people agree that hunters are helping to manage the situation.

Navigating the bureaucratic process of obtaining a firearm licence is a challenge. Here's a relatively simple explainer of how to get your firearm licence.

In order to obtain a firearm licence, you first need a 'genuine reason for owning a firearm'. This legal requirement will be stated on your firearm application. Genuine reasons can include hunting, target shooting, etcetera.

If you list hunting or target shooting as your genuine reason, you either need written permission to hunt on private land or be a member of a club such as the Australian Deer Association or Sporting Shooters' Association of Australia.

Book yourself in for a firearm safety course. If you search 'firearm safety course' a number of results will come up that you can choose from. Alternatively, you can contact your local Divisional

Firearms Officers (DFO), who will direct you to a firearm safety course.

For Murrindindi Shire, the closest DFO is in Seymour and can be contacted on 5735 0294.

The firearm safety course that you will want for hunting or target shooting is a Category A and B firearm licence, which covers most rifles and shotguns. Once you've completed your safety course you will receive a certificate which must be included in your licence application.

The next step is to apply for your Victorian firearm licence through the Victoria Police Licensing eServices Portal at [eservices.police.vic.gov.au/eServices/login.htm](https://eservices.police.vic.gov.au/eServices/login.htm)

Items you need to complete your online application include: Proof of genuine reason to own a firearm (such as club membership); firearm safety course certificate; a personal reference who has known you for at least 12 months and is a person of good standing as categorised by Victoria Police; and 100 points of identification

(passport, birth certificate, driver's licence, etcetera).

A person of good standing could be a doctor, justice of the peace, a notary, etcetera. A full list of acceptable identification referees can be found at [police.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-12/Acceptable-Referees.pdf](https://police.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-12/Acceptable-Referees.pdf)

The deliberation process is lengthy once you have submitted your application. Due to a legislative requirement, new firearm licence applications cannot be issued until 28 days have passed from the date of completion. It can then take up to 14 days for the application to be successful, meaning the whole process could take around 40 days.

If you are successful in your application, you will be notified by Victoria Police. They will provide you with a temporary licence that you can use while waiting for your licence card to arrive in the mail.

Furthermore, to purchase a firearm you also need a Permit to Acquire issued by Victoria Police.

## Set your focus on nature shots

ENTRIES for photographs for the 2026 Goulburn Broken Catchment calendar close on Wednesday, August 13.

The popular calendar is known for its stunning collection of local images taken by community members.

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority CEO, Carl Walters, said the calendar photo competition was a great way for local people to showcase their photographic skills of plants, animals and the environment.

"Eighteen members of the public had their photos selected for this year's calendar and of those, six were first time contributors," Mr Walters said.

"The calendar photo competition continues to attract new interest from people who are out and about in nature with their camera, right across the catchment.

"Drone photography is proving popular in the entries and there

was a great aerial shot of the Mid-Goulburn River selected this year."

Email your images of birds, animals, plants, insects and natural places in the Goulburn Broken catchment to Janice Mentiplay-Smith at [janicem@gbcma.vic.gov.au](mailto:janicem@gbcma.vic.gov.au)

To be eligible, photos must be between two and 10MB in landscape orientation (not portrait) and submitted as a JPEG file attachment, not as a picture inserted into the text of the email. Please include a description of the image in the email subject line, such as 'Australian Boobook'). No USBs devices will be accepted.

The Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network Advisory Group assists with selecting the best photos for inclusion in the calendar. This project is coordinated by the Goulburn Broken CMA, with support from Moira Shire Council and Greater Shepparton City Council.



# Let's eat, it's our treat

## The fabulous Kinglake Pub

THE Kinglake Pub serves as a community gathering point for the picturesque Kinglake and surrounding communities, with good food and a variety of social events.

Wednesday night is steak night and children eat free, Thursday is pot and parma night, and Friday sees Joker Poker played within the pub's welcoming walls.

A number of special events take place at the Kinglake Pub, such as bingo, karaoke, and live entertainment.

There is a function room available for special occasions, family gatherings, business meetings, etcetera, and cosy motel rooms on-site.

Darren and his team work hard to keep the pub's atmosphere vibrant and make the space somewhere for all to enjoy.

It has stood in place since 1908, originally established by Harry and Elizabeth Thomson. It served as a site of refuge during the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires, as well as receiving significant damage.

The Kinglake Pub serves lunch and dinner Tuesday to Sunday, and is open from 11am Saturday and Sunday, 2.30pm on a Monday, and 11.30am the other days.

You can keep up to date with what is happening at the pub by searching Kinglake Pub on Facebook or contact them by calling 5786 1230 or emailing [info@kinglakepub.com.au](mailto:info@kinglakepub.com.au)

### Let's Eat July winner

THE winner of our July Let's Eat \$50 voucher was Marianne Raymond from Alexandra. Marianne will be having a \$50 feed on us at Peppers Marysville. Be sure to get your entry form from this edition for your chance to win a \$50 meal at the venue advertised in this edition of Let's Eat; It's our treat.



## Let's eat; it's our treat

### Your chance to WIN a \$50 meal voucher

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Email.....

Eligible venue this month: **Kinglake Pub**

For your chance to win a \$50 voucher, return this entry by noon, **Wednesday, August 27.**

Alexandra Newspapers,  
43 Grant Street or  
PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714

**Photocopies will not be accepted.**

**One entry per household**

Winner will be notified by phone and published in the first edition of the month.  
T&C: **Only venues listed above in this edition are eligible to be chosen this month.** Voucher is not redeemable for cash. To be used for one purchase only. Multiple vouchers cannot be saved and used together. Staff or family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Original form must be returned.



**Wednesday Steak night and kids eat free**  
**Thursday Pot n Parma night**  
**Friday Joker Poker**



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KID'S PUZZLES PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS  
Page 14

Colouring Page



Word Search

P Y S K Q T O J K F W S A D W  
H O E L D C S S I G S X D E U  
E P R V I D K J O E J O Y A A  
G U S C I C L A C P A R R O T  
N M P G U T N N P Q C B V N D  
I P L D N P I E E E G L Y Q U  
T K E J G R I S P Y N K M I G  
N I A P P U O N O I A G P A P  
I N S U X F V L E P D L U R Q  
A N E P I L I H P V A I E I N  
P A L T U O I H B N O T E K N  
P A T R I C I A E F E V U H D  
I B Y O V A I T R N B R Q T V  
O B Z Z K M S L D E I J M N H  
S E R U T C I P P R E X N V R

Words starting with "P"

- PAINTING PLANETS  
PARROT PLEASE  
PATRICIA PORCUPINE  
PENCILS POSITIVE  
PENGUIN PRETEND  
PHILIP PRINCESS  
PICTURES PUMPKIN

Math Square

	+		+		14
+		+		+	
8	+	6	+		21
+		-		+	
	+		-		6
22		4		13	

Fill in the missing numbers.

The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 9.  
Each number is only used once.  
Each row is a math equation.  
Each column is a math equation.  
Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

Jokes

- Q: What did Batman say to Robin before they got in the car?  
A: Robin, get in the car
- Q: Why was the librarian kicked off the plane?  
A: Because it was overbooked

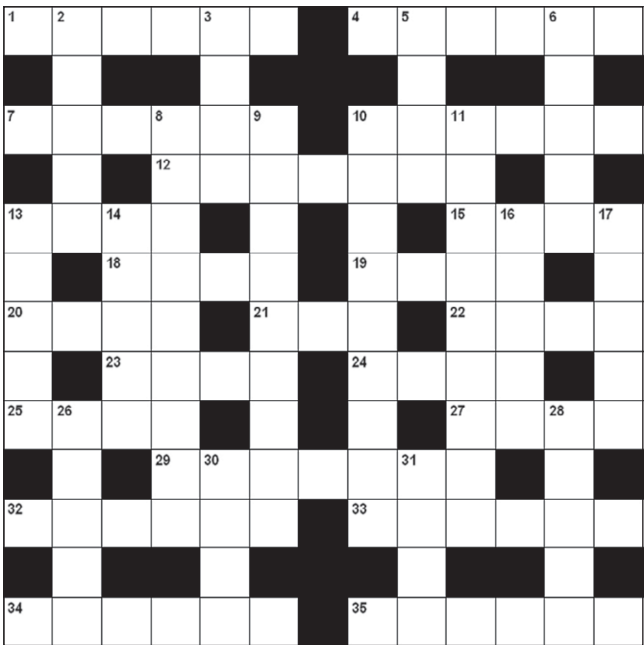
Crossword

ACROSS

1. Flowing easily and without effort.  
4. Fill with absolute horror.  
7. On the cards.  
10. Light and funny entertainment.  
12. Set free from confinement.  
13. Former emperor of Russia.  
15. Disagreeably damp and cold.  
18. Prepare for a confrontation.  
19. Similar in quality  
20. Small branch.  
21. Spelled exactly as it was written.  
22. One row above another.  
23. Shoe repair tool.  
24. Shaped like an egg.  
25. All collect in one place.  
27. Small slender gull.  
29. Lend dignity to.  
32. A soft, very fine paper.  
33. A figure in square dancing.  
34. Smother or suppress something.  
35. Lack of interest or concern.

DOWN

2. Sail close to the wind.  
3. Absolutely nothing.  
5. An argument in favour.



6. Thick waterproof woollen cloth.  
8. Supplies with water artificially.  
9. Leather bag with two compartments.  
10. Underground burial places.  
11. Reflects deeply on.  
13. Object or symbol of a tribe.  
14. Nimble and active.  
16. Like a feeble old woman.  
17. Islamic sacred book.  
26. Force to move out.  
28. A small freshwater fish.  
30. Amounting to nothing.  
31. A source of artificial light.

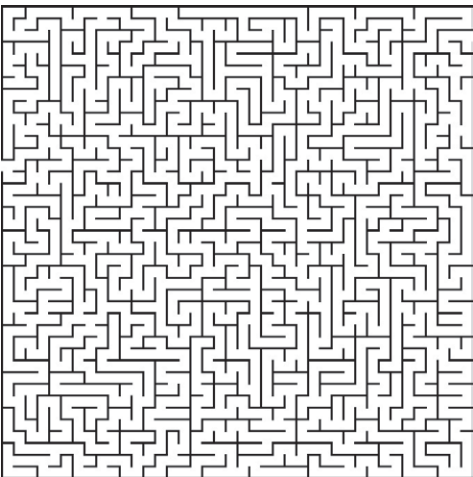
Word Search

F E S T I V A L M Q S R P S H  
H D P A I X W U L L Z A B O H  
B U A K N I S L H X A T I N N  
G H Y N I I O K N G Q I P G M  
M N G R C R E G N I S U Y W H  
Z Z S I N I B X S F C G H R E  
U H A K R Q N D D D L A T I V  
D N C X I R O G O E R N E T D  
N O Z A O N K T G M V O D E Z  
R H O H H L O V O R G D C R V  
F R B N C P E N H G A B S E D  
R C P K A J Y C Z F M G Y Q R  
E Y U N O I T A R B E L E C X  
O X Q O Z D P G F B N P C B M  
X T U U A M B A V Z L F P H T

Music

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HARMONY SONGWRITER

Maze



Sudoku

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

Difficulty: hard

Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9.  
Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number and letter only once.

Math Square

	÷		+		5
-		-		+	
3	+	9	+		19
+		+		×	
	×		-		19
9		-1		36	

Fill in the missing numbers.

The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 9.  
Each number is only used once.  
Each row is a math equation.  
Each column is a math equation.  
Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.



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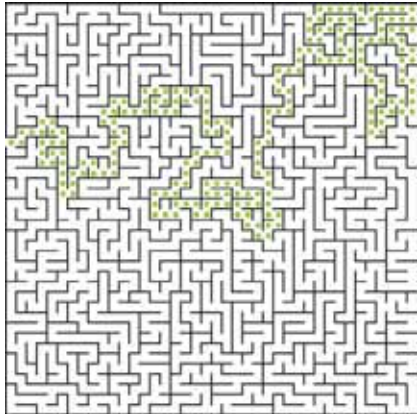
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MATH SQUARE

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MAZE



KIDS MATH SQUARES

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22		4		13	



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## TRADES ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON THURSDAY

The Alexandra Standard and The Yea Chronicle are printed by North East Media, Wangaratta.

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

### DEATH NOTICES

#### SHAW, Estelle.

Passed away on August 4 at Kellock Lodge. Husband of Bert (dec) ex Merton. Mother of Jim and Catherine. Dearly beloved by friends and family. Thanks to staff at Kellock for their care.

#### WATTS,

Susan Elizabeth.

21/11/1945 - 27/07/2025

Passed away peacefully. Loved wife to Pete. Loving mother to Liz, Ange, Kylie, Pete, Dan and partners. Doting grandma to Hannah, Tom, Nick, and Sam, Tadgh and Zac, Charlie, Regan, Jasper and Ollie, Jed, Aliyah and Layla. Great grandma to Lachlan and Charlotte. Her joy and passion was always her family always loved and will be missed.



#### WILLIAMS, Cathryn Robyn nee Long.

15/05/1980 - 27/07/2025. Passed away in Townsville surrounded by her loved ones. Freed from all pain. Our beautiful daughter can now rest peacefully. So deeply loved and so sadly missed. Allison Dennison and Colin Long.



### FUNERAL NOTICES

#### SHAW, Estelle.

A funeral service celebrating the life of Estelle Shaw will be held at the Uniting Church, Downey Street Alexandra on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 commencing at 11am.



#### WATTS,

Susan Elizabeth.

A service celebrating the life of Susan will be held at Murrindindi Chapel on Friday, August 22, 2025 commencing at 11am followed by a private burial.



### DEATH NOTICES

#### LAWSON, Donald Bruce OAM

23/05/1940 - 02/08/2025

Beloved husband of Jenny (dec). Brother to Jane and Libby (dec). Loving father to Tom, Sarah (dec) and Harry. Father in law to Olivia and Ruth. Beloved grandpa to Eve, Annie, Oscar, Monty, Charlotte and Edward. Visionary cattle industry leader, innovator, advocate, educator, story teller, and friends to many around the world.

A celebration of Don's life will be held at Yea Shire Hall on Thursday, August 7, 2025 at 1.30pm. Followed by a private cremation.

In lieu of flowers, donations welcome to Beyond Blue [www.beyondblue.org.au/get-involved/donate](http://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-involved/donate)

Check McCormack Funerals website for live stream link.

**Standard**  
The Yea Chronicle

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
All classifieds must be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the time of booking.



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### MEETINGS



#### Eildon Events Inc.

Annual General Meeting, Thursday, August 14, 2025, 5.30pm at Eildon Tennis Clubrooms, Eildon Road, Eildon.

New members welcome. Nomination forms for committee member positions available from the secretary: [eildoneventsinc@gmail.com](mailto:eildoneventsinc@gmail.com)

For more information please call 0409 050 494. A normal committee meeting will follow the AGM.



#### Upper Goulburn Community Radio

Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, August 18 at 7.30pm via Zoom. For a meeting link or to nominate for committee contact via email [secretary@ugfm.org](mailto:secretary@ugfm.org) or PO Box 270, Alexandra, Vic, 3714 or call 5772 2722.



#### Yea Hospital and Rosebank Auxiliary Annual General Meeting

will be held on Thursday, August 7 at 2pm in the Grace Bennetts Centre Meeting Room at 20 Miller Street, Yea. Afternoon tea will be provided. RSVP Kaye on 0400 424 888.

YEA AND ST PATS RACING CLUB AGM will be held at the Yea Racecourse in the club house at 6pm on Monday, August 11. All members and interested supporters are invited to attend. Sarah, secretary.

### FOR HIRE

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## Informative discussions on local crime

ON Thursday, July 24 the Neighbourhood Policing Forum was held online. The forum covers the Benalla Police Service Area (PSA), which includes the Benalla, Mansfield, and Murrindindi Shire and discussed current crime trends, crime preventions, young people, family violence, road policing, drugs and drug related crime.

Discussions were led by Superintendent Brett Kahan and Acting Inspector Mark Byers from the Victoria Police Eastern Region Leadership Team.

Acting Senior Sergeant (A/S/SGT) Jen Parker discussed the commitment of the Family Violence and Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team to hold perpetrators accountable and break the cycle family violence.

Family violence reports have increased by 15 per cent in our area, compared to last year. A/S/SGT Parker stated that the increase indicates victims of family violence have trust in our police and matters of will be treated respectfully. The majority of family violence reported across the Benalla PSA, were reported as verbal incidents, with emotional abuse the second highest form of family violence reported.

Emotional abuse can include excluding someone from spending time with family or friends, it may also include statements such as 'If you loved me then you would do this for me' to control someone.

A/S/SGT Parker also stated children were present three quarters of recorded incidents of family violence. While not being directly the victim of the violence, being witness to incidents of family violence causes harm and many live with the effects of trauma from family violence.

It is important to continue to have discussions within the community that family violence is not acceptable, and police are available at any time to support victims. A/S/SGT Parker stated that detectives work closely with agencies such as Centre Against Violence, Benalla Health and Child Protection to support aggrieved family members.

Leading Senior Constable (LSC) Chris Di Ciero from the Proactive Policing Unit (PPU) discussed the role of early intervention and building trust between police and young people. LSC Di Ciero acknowledged the partnership between police and local schools, councils and support services for opportunities to engage with youth and help curb young people offending.

LSC Di Ciero explained members of the PPU play an important role in educating young people about issues relevant to young people such as online safety, consent, and road safety.

A/S/SGT Mel Walker spoke on road safety across the division and highlighted that reducing road trauma is not just the responsibility of Highway Patrol members but a priority for all members of Victoria Police.

A/S/SGT Walker acknowledged motorcycle riders are vulnerable road users and overly represented in serious injury collisions across our division. While rural roads can be quite unpredictable due to challenges such as rough road surfaces, fog and wildlife, speed was still the highest recorded contributor of serious injury and fatal collisions.

A/S/SGT Walker discussed how the community plays a large role in helping keep our roads safe and urged members of the community who want to provide information about unsafe drivers to contact Crime Stoppers, alternatively if you witness dangerous driving and need immediate police assistance to call Triple Zero (000).

Crime Investigation Unit Manager, Senior Sergeant (S/SGT) Costakis Costa discussed recent crime data and stated that police have been focussed on firearm storage compliance. S/SGT Costa recommended that firearm owners do not store firearms at unoccupied locations, which have been targeted by offenders across the state.

S/SGT Costa discussed the increase in drug possession statistics over the past year is a positive sign that police are targeting concerns regarding drugs in our community. Members of the community were encouraged if they 'see something, say something' about crime, including concerns about drug dealing or other criminal activity to contact Crime Stoppers or their local police.

Police value the opportunity to discuss local issues with the community, and encourage people who live, work or often visit our area to follow the Eyewatch Benalla Police Service Area Facebook page to stay connected.

## Victorian students top of NAPLAN

VICTORIAN students have achieved their strongest NAPLAN results and are leading the nation.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll announced last week that Victorian students are top of the class, ranking first or second in 18 of 20 measures and significantly improving on our 2024 results.

Victorian students are smashing records with an average of 70 per cent falling in the 'strong' or 'exceeding' bands while our primary students ranked first or second in all 10 domains.

Thanks to hardworking teachers and education support staff, the 2025 results also show that fewer students are needing additional support, with less students in the bottom band than in 2024 on 16 of 20 measures.



SPORT

### Valley Sport Launches Level Up to regional and volunteer clubs

VALLEY sport is proud to announce the launch of Level Up, a new online platform supporting community sport clubs to meet their child safe compliance requirements with confidence.

Level Up is a practical and accessible tool that helps clubs, coaches, and volunteers build safer, more inclusive sporting environments for children and young people. The platform has been co-created by industry-leading experts, child safeguarding specialist Sam Dellamarta and inclusive sport specialist Michael Woods, to ensure it reflects best practice and real-world applicability.

With thanks to support from Sport and Recreation Victoria's Together More Active and Sustainable Volunteer Workforce Programs, Valley Sport is rolling out the platform to all clubs across Moira, Mitchell, Murrindindi, Benalla, Strathbogie, Mansfield, and Greater Shepparton shires from this week.

"In the lead-up to International Safe Sport Day on August 8, there's no better time to be supporting clubs to embed child safe practices," Megan Carr, Executive Officer of Valley Sport, said.

"Child safety is a shared responsibility, and Level Up gives clubs the tools to embed good practices into their everyday operations. We're proud to be walking alongside clubs as they build confidence, understanding, and stronger systems."

Through this rollout, Valley Sport will: Support access to the Level Up platform, support clubs to work through the platform at their own pace. The Level Up features include: Step-by-step guidance aligned with the Victorian Child Safe Standards, interactive education modules for coaches and volunteers, editable policies, templates, and practical resources, a recognition system to acknowledge clubs taking proactive steps designed specifically for community sport. Level Up breaks down complex compliance requirements into manageable, achievable actions especially valuable for regional and volunteer-led clubs.

Clubs interested in accessing the platform and receiving support are encouraged to contact Valley Sport via [clubsupport@valleysport.net.au](mailto:clubsupport@valleysport.net.au)

### Weather conditions causing game uncertainty

by Rhonda Carpenter

DESPITE 40 millimetres of rain over the weekend the Euroa courts had drained well. Moglonemby hosted Seven Creeks and Mansfield drove to Euroa for their match, but Benalla's grass courts were unplayable due to the deluge for matches last Monday.

Further early morning rain created uncertainty on whether play could proceed. After captains conferred Creighton's Creek travelled over to play Wappan in Mansfield.

Wappan's Anna Speirs, Jenny Bell, Rhonda Carpenter and Di Bergelin began brilliantly taking the first three sets, but Creighton's Creek steadied to come home with a wet sail in an entertaining and enjoyable contest.

Deb Seach, Chris Ellis, Kerry Hewlett, and Kass Thomas found their range, returning superbly, winning the last three. One final pairing played through a downpour, while the others took a short break and returned just as they finished.

Everyone would have to wait for their afternoon tea as the final pairs fought out a long hard set with the result decided in a tiebreaker. The wind stilled and the sun came out in patches as Chris and Kerry fought off a challenge from Jenny and Rhonda to win the breaker seven to five.

Wappan won the contest 3/37 to 3/29.

Moglonemby's Annabelle Hayes, Marlene Hanrahan, Robyn Johnson and Lisa Krepp enjoyed a long day of hard hitting against Seven Creeks in Euroa.

Nicola Enright, Julie Brook, Carmel Linehan, and Mary Kelly took it right up to the hosts winning two sets, losing in a tiebreaker, and an eight to six set in a tight tussle.

Nevertheless, Moglonemby won the match 4/42 to 2/32.

Euroa's Kristen Davey and Lyndall Bigland had a tight opening set against Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon and Keira McDonagh winning in a tiebreak, while Ruth Nolan and Julie Harrington took a much smoother path to win theirs eight to one. Euroa won the next two as well, but Michelle and Clare Beecham took theirs eight to three, while Keira and Sophie Yencken went down one to eight.

Euroa won the match 5/43 to 1/24.

Benalla versus Terip was a washout and the teams shared the points.

Round 11 Ladder: Euroa 84.5, Moglonemby 68.5, Terip 68, Wappan 61, Mansfield 47, Benalla 41.5, Creighton's Creek 28.5, Seven Creeks 26, Delatite 25.



Wappan's Rhonda Carpenter, Anna Speirs, Jenny Bell and Di Bergelin -S



Creighton's Creek: Kerry Hewlett, Chris Ellis, Kass Thomas and Deb Seach. -S

### Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders

Football – Reserves			Netball – A Grade		
	Percentage	Wins		Percentage	Wins
Seville	538.56	14	Seville	217.81	14
Pakenham	431.23	13	Warburton Millgrove	214.66	13
Warburton Millgrove	182.12	9	Pakenham	223.43	12
Alexandra	151.72	9	Yarra Glen	125.25	9
Belgrave	198.55	8	Yarra Junction	88.11	6
Yea	92.82	5	Alexandra	72.12	5
Powelltown	25.21	3	Belgrave	66.12	4
Yarra Glen	21.50	1	Powelltown	33.52	1
Yarra Junction	15.18	1	Yea	52.03	0
Football – Seniors			Netball – B Grade		
Warburton Millgrove	247.07	12	Seville	342.14	15
Pakenham	243.77	12	Pakenham	263.90	13
Seville	205.82	12	Warburton Millgrove	169.21	11
Alexandra	128.47	8	Yarra Glen	116.40	9
Belgrave	108.20	8	Belgrave	83.06	6
Yarra Glen	85.65	6	Yarra Junction	67.66	6
Yea	80.23	3	Yea	54.40	2
Powelltown	38.75	2	Alexandra	49.49	2
Yarra Junction	24.52	0	Powelltown	37.68	0
Football – Senior Women			Netball – C Grade		
Warburton-Wesburn	100.00	14	Seville	328.63	15
Wandin	78.57	11	Pakenham	219.63	13
Emerald	60.71	8	Warburton Millgrove	182.46	11
Yea	50.00	7	Yarra Glen	92.20	7
Thornton Eildon	34.61	4	Belgrave	77.99	6
Officer	14.28	2	Yarra Junction	80.57	6
Seville	7.69	1	Alexandra	78.43	4
Netball – 17 and under			Yea	43.92	1
Seville	471.64	13	Powelltown	29.89	0
Pakenham Lions Gold	236.96	11	Netball – D Grade		
Warburton Millgrove	83.91	6	Seville	391.02	14
Alexandra	47.10	4	Pakenham	330.06	13
Pakenham Lions Maroon	53.32	3	Warburton Millgrove	209.24	12
Powelltown	45.36	3	Yarra Glen	77.66	5
Football – Under 18			Alexandra	71.16	6
Pakenham	1021.88	13	Belgrave	67.87	5
Seville	329.08	10	Yea	51.51	4
Warburton Millgrove	48.73	6	Yarra Junction	50.11	2
Alexandra	42.87	5	Powelltown	28.24	0
Yarra Glen	38.70	3			
Yea	35.39	2			



### ALEXANDRA AND DISTRICT DARTS ASSOCIATION COMPETITION LADDER 2025 ROUND 14

POS	TEAM	PLAYED	WON	LOST	PTS
1	Buxton Hotel	14	12	2	48
2	Kill Bills	14	12	2	48
3	Panthers	14	12	2	48
4	Arrowsmiths	14	8	6	32
5	Alex Bowls Club	14	8	6	32
6	Bucky Pub	14	7	7	28
7	On Pointers	14	5	9	20
8	Beer, Bulls & Boobs	14	3	11	12
9	On Point 26ers	14	3	11	12
10	Dart Vaders	14	0	14	0

RESULTS  
KILLBILLS def BULLS, BEERS & BOOBS 11-0  
PANTHERS def BUXTON HOTEL 6-5  
ON POINTERS def ON POINT 26ERS 7-4  
ALEX BOWLS CLUB def ARROWSMITHS 6-5  
BUCKY PUB def DARTVADERS 9-2

#### TONS

K. Davies – 125, 133, R. Holt – 131, J. Masters – 100, 180, 100, 100, 118, B. Arnott – 123, 120, 100, 100, W. Nelson – 140, P. Dalley – 100, 180, 140, G. Lund – 121, 116, C. Parker – 140, 125, B. George – 100, 140, G. Gilmore – 100, C. Hutchings – 115 A. Hutt – 100, 100, 140, 133, S. Ferrier – 100, A. Bull – 133, W. Elliot – 125, 138, R. Bates – 140, 100, 107, 100, 100, G. Elder – 140, 134, 123, 152, Z. Kilroy – 140, 100, 100, 100, 100, 164, 180, 100, S. Kilroy – 140, 140, 100, C. Murray – 134, D. Kilroy – 100, 100, 121, 100, J. Smith – 100, 100, 100, 100, 120, C. Turner – 132, 140, M. Robinson – 100, 140, 100, 100, 140, 100, 100, 125, 100, 180 D. Withoos – 123, 100, M. Jenkins – 100, 100, 101, 100, D. Cooper – 116, M. Edwards – 100, 125, 140, 100, 135, 100, J. Farnan – 140, L. Ronalds – 160, 100, V. Hodgson – 100, S. Ritchie – 100, 100, 121, 130, L. Turnbull – 100, R. Penny – 100, 100, 100 R. McCullum – 100

HIGHEST PEG – Zane Kilroy 164

180'S – Mark Robinson, Zane Kilroy, Jason Masters, Phil Dalley



# Clash of the Daniels: Alexandra Squash Club report

by Kristelle Leary

## Monday competition Australorps versus Isa Browns

JORDAN versus Ethan (fill in): Each game was neck and neck. Both players drew their weapon and fought tooth and nail with only a one-point win in each game. Jordan was craftier and won the match by two-points. 53 to 51.

Laura versus Ethan: Another close match involving Ethan. Laura keep Ethan on his toes and held the upper hand going into the final game. Ethan made some moves in an unsuccessful attempt to claim the title. With a two-point lead, Laura took the win. 53 to 51.

Chris versus Jared: Oozing confidence, Jared kept a good lead through to the end of game three. Homing in on the ball Chris lessened his point deficit in the final game, but experience won out. Jared was the victor. 66 to 61.

John versus Andrew: Starting on a hot streak Andrew claimed the first game. Each game was close but John rallied the troops, turning the match around to take three games and the win. 61 to 55.

## Leghorns versus Silkies

ERIC D versus Lochlan: A great game, both played really well. In the end, Lochlan took three games to win the match. 65 to 53.

Sally versus Liane: A close match all the way through with the standard of rallies and strokes getting better as the match progressed. At the

final buzzer, Sally was standing victorious. 64 to 56.

Ben versus Justin: Ben got off to a strong start. Justin came back with good serving. It was two games apiece, but Justin claimed the match on points. 76 to 51.

Derrick versus Michael H: It was a hard slog with both players vying for the upper hand. Derrick made a play for the lead and took game three, however Michael's consistency throughout saw him declare victory. 59 to 51.

## Thursday competition Golden Retrievers versus Dachshunds

MATTHEW versus Randy: Dead even after the first two games. Matthew is always improving; however, Randy ran away with the match in the final two games to take the match. 68 to 54.

Kristelle versus Blake: Blake desperately wanted to take Kristelle down a few pegs, and he certainly put in the effort. With a vicious serve, Kristelle increased her lead with each passing game. Blake stole the final game, but it was bittersweet as Kristelle had already done enough damage to triumph. 70 to 56.

Mick versus Lucas: Mick's brief bright start was soon eclipsed by Lucas taking a five-point lead for the first game. Mick fought back in the second game but was soon behind as Lucas's meticulous deep shots proved to be tricky. Mick stormed home to blitz Lucas who became error prone. From out of



Randy strides forward to return Matthew's shot. -S

nowhere, Mick won with a two-point lead. 54 to 52.

Daniel K versus Daniel W: A clash of the Daniel's. Daniel W had some excellent shots that would be winners against most other players, but Daniel K is exceptionally skilled and sent each shot back with precision to claim a commanding win. 81 to 25.

## Whippets versus Labradors

BEN versus Eric F: It was a newbie knockout. Both recent additions to

the club came to prove their mettle and valiantly put forth some good shots. It was close with Ben coming out on top. 60 to 48.

Beth versus Jess: The first game was a draw. Someone had to step it up and having warmed up after the first game, Jess ramped it up progressively getting better as the match went on and ending with a final game that saw her double Beth's score. Jess went home with a decent win. 67 to 49.

Travis versus Sam: It was a game of point streaks. Travis got a roll with some great serves, while Sam had a beautiful short game. After the back and forth and seesawing games, Sam held the trophy with a measly, but well earned, one-point win. 57 to 56.

Phil versus Michael M: Phil had his eye lasered in, hitting shots with incredible accuracy. Michael came back swinging in the last but couldn't close the gap. Phil was the winner. 64 to 46.

## Finally, excellent golfing conditions

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Saturday at Marysville golf Club the weather gods were with the golfers when, in excellent conditions, they played a stroke round for the August monthly medal.

The ladies round also included the fourth round of the Barton Shield. The ladies medal winner was Margaret Blair (30) with nett 77 followed closely by Jody Doran (12) with nett 78. The qualifiers for the Barton Shield final from this round were Lesley Rundle and Jody Doran. They will join Margaret Blair, Gail Leigh, Heather Jenkins, Meredith Doery, Lizzy Matthews, and Mim Page in the final on Saturday, September 20.

The winner of the men's medal was Steve Coker (17) with nett 68 and the runner up was Drew Kaempkes (14) with nett 72. Just two of the four nearest the pins were achieved by Paul Martin winning on the ninth and Drew Kaempkes on the 18th and he also won the golden shot. Richard Clark won the putting competition with 35 putts. Next Saturday both the ladies and men will play a stableford round.

During the recent storm and high winds a number of trees were blown over, branches fell and debris was scattered around the course. Kellan Fiske and the course volunteers did a great job clearing the debris from the greens and fairways to make to course playable for the Thursday and Saturday golfers. Members thank them all for the extra effort they put in during what is already a busy time for them.

As with any club a lot of work is carried out behind the scenes and members thank Heather Jenkins for initiating two upcoming events. On Saturday, September 13 a Junior Invitational Day will be held and bookings are essential. All junior golfers under 18 are welcome to attend and play alongside the members who will guide them around the course and explain some of the rules. Clubs are available for hire for just \$10, there is no entry fee and there will be prizes for the winner and runner up. Participants don't need to be a member of a club. It will be a 9.30am arrival for a 10.00am hit off. Registrations are essential and please register with Heather Jenkins on 0429 146 763 or [heatherjenkins2008@hotmail.com](mailto:heatherjenkins2008@hotmail.com) before Monday, September 8. Details can also be found on the clubs Facebook, Instagram, and the website.

A day of golf clinics will be held at the club on Friday, September 26. Travis Harrison a PGA professional coach will be conducting the clinics with three options available to participants. A beginners clinic for new and returning golfers, an intermediate one for those who play on a semi regular basis and private individual 30-minute lessons in the afternoon. Bookings are essential before Tuesday, August 26 and for information about limited numbers, costs, and registration please contact Heather Jenkins whose details are given above. Details can also be found on the clubs Facebook page and website.

## Wonderful memorial for missed Alexandra golfer

by Dave Silverman

THE golfing week at Alexandra began, as it usually does, with a Stableford round last Tuesday. The weather was fine but cool, with very little morning fog still in evidence at the off. Of the eight players, the best score belonged to James Fulton, who recorded a creditable 34 points. Second place went to Steve Darmody, with 30 points, and Leo Dynes was third with 29.

Young Jimmy also claimed the two nearest the pins on seven and 17, while 18 did not yield to the assault. Rundown vouchers went to Paul Martin and Bruce Colville.

Sadly, despite last Wednesday dawning fine and clear, not enough ladies turned up to justify a competition this week.

As part of our memorial to Alan Kirkpatrick, 16 players turned out for a nine-hole competition on Friday morning. No results have been made available, but many stories about Kirky were

told, and all involved had a great time. The more formal Memorial, held in the afternoon, was very well attended, and family and friends alike joined together to remember a hell of a good bloke.

And so, on Saturday, and just for something completely different, it was decided that August's Monthly Medal contest was to be a Stableford round. Sponsored by Koala Cherries, a field of 14 teed off in the fog at 11am, and it wasn't until nearly midday that the sun appeared, and the remainder of the afternoon was nigh on perfect for golf.

The winner of the Monthly Medal, with an impressive 37 points, was James Kidd, well ahead of second-placed John Steer, who scored 33. Michael Bossonnet was third, also on 33, and fourth was Mick Holohan with 31.

Shane McGorlick was nearest to the pin on two, Matt Richards claimed seven, 12 went to Dan Burns and Mick Holohan took 18.

## July monthly medal for Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

IN a foggy start at Eildon Golf Club, 11 players contested a stroke round and the July monthly medal. After the day cleared it was cool but turned into a fantastic day for golf.

With fast greens and the course a bit soft from the recent rain, the day was set for great scoring. Unfortunately most of the golfers didn't do it justice.

Leigh Munro was able to head the field and finished on top with a net score of 74, closely followed by Alison Southwell with a net 75. Ball run winners for the week were Ken Collier

with net 77, Michael McLear net 78 and Marian Williamson net 79.

Nearest the pins last week, Michael McLear was the best with his second shot on the third and on the 12th, there was no winner on the fifth. Leigh Munro was too good on the 11th and Alison Southwell was the closest on the 14th.

There were no birdies on the birdie holes eight and 15. Other winners for last week, Michael McLear won the entry draw and Rod Taylor took out the swindle draw.

The club says a huge thanks to all the volunteers doing heaps of work around the course over the last few weeks, the course is looking a picture, and congratulates all the winners.



## SPORT

# Junior matches at Rebel Park

THE Alexandra juniors were at home last weekend, taking on St Mary's and Seymour. It turned into a beautiful day at Rebel Park once the fog lifted, making for great conditions for footy and netball. The club says a big thank you once again to everyone who helped out in the canteen.

## FOOTBALL

### Under nine

**Awards:** Essence Coffee Lounge, Ryan Kirley; Canteen Voucher, Corbyn Hayes-Moynihan; Footy cards, Noah Dyson and Jude Nardella-Morcom.

### Under 10

**Awards:** Phil Savage Award, Tahj Parker; Essence Coffee Lounge, Jace O'Sullivan; Footy cards, Zac Stephens and Harvey Hill.

### Under 12

**Alexandra 5.4-34 defeated St Marys 3.4-22**

**Awards:** Essence Coffee Lounge, Hudson Brooks; Reddrops FoodWorks, Clay Hilder; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Zac Stephens; Coaches Award, Kaidan Tomlinson.

### Under 16

**Alexandra 4.8-32 defeated Seymour 10.8-68**

**Awards:** Essence Coffee Lounge, Jaidyn Dimech; Reddrops FoodWorks, Logan Conway; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Matt Wal; Coaches Award, Josh Northmore.

## NETBALL

### Under 11

**Alexandra Red 4 defeated by St Marys 11**

**Awards:** AFNC Canteen Voucher, Amelia Kocianic; Reddrops FoodWorks Award, Ricki Birch; Coaches Award, Annie Baker.

### Under 13

**Alexandra Red 20 defeated by St Marys 22**

**Awards:** Reddrops FoodWorks; Jayde Stewart; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Harper Williamson.

### Alexandra Black 16

### defeated by

### St Marys Green 25

**Awards:** Reddrops FoodWorks, Summer Edwards; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Asher Mullins.

### Under 15

**Alexandra Red 39 defeated St Marys 69**

**Awards:** Reddrops FoodWorks, Ava Carr; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Hannah Weeks; Coaches Award, Maddison Birch.



Under nine and 10 award winners. -S



Connor Kaempkes for the under 16 team fighting for the ball. -S



Under 12 award winners. -S



Under 11 award winners. -S

# Thornton/Eildon closes out improved season

by Scott Whitehead

## Thornton/Eildon 1.2-8 defeated by Wandin 9.8-62

IN the final round of the home and away season Thornton/Eildon played host to Wandin.

The day was to be a special one where the club would host golden ticket round. The game celebrated players and an inspiring person that has impacted their football journey. It was also a day to thank supporters and sponsors for their contribution to the Thornton/Eildon Football Club.

The fog cleared and the sun bathed the ground just in time for the 12.30pm start.

Captain Rose Kealy won the toss, choosing to kick to the Taggerty end of the ground and gave Thornton/Eildon's midfield first use of the footy through her dominant ruck performance. Midfielders Tahnee Heard, Jamee Cousens and Jade Mewburn battled hard early, but second place Wandin scored the only major for the quarter taking a six-point lead into quarter time.

Wandin turned up the heat in the second quarter showing dominance around the ground placing Thornton/Eildon's backline under enormous pressure. Bechet Cousens continued her good form as did Mia Supple. The return of Amber Saric-Skeewes bolstered the backline but it wasn't enough to put a pause on Wandin's goal scoring with the visiting team kicking four goals for the quarter.

Early injuries to Amy Campbell and Leah Battalis in the third quarter had the coaches scurrying to find replacement in the backline. Emma Whitehead and Lilah Weaver-Galbraith worked tirelessly to support their teammates. Up forward Jevitha Jeeva Kumar, Yani Cousens, Lucy McRae and Kristy Pearce kept their feet, and their determination saw the ball in the hands of Siobhan Bell who kicked her first goal for the season. It was Wandin however who continued to extend their lead scoring another two goals for the quarter.

With 18 minutes remaining in the season Coach Tash Hay asked for one last effort and for her crew to enjoy the last moments of the season. Abby Coolahan was moved to the backline and as the day warmed up so did the work rate of future stars Mia and Sienna Heard. Xalia Sutton



Thornton Eildon players with their creative imagination bringing their gear in anything but a footy bag. -S

Stevenson continued to amass possessions with her speed and agility out classing her opponents. Sadly though, there was no fairytale end to the season with home team going down to a much faster experienced opponent.

**Awards:** Molesworth Hotel and General store, Sienna Heard; Café Alex, Xalia Stevenson; Molesworth Hotel and General store, Jevitha Kumar; Snobs Creek Holiday Park, Mia Heard.

With the season over the club now moves on to the installation of new AFL standard lights, electronic scoreboard and goal netting. This Federal Government grant will see the project delivered prior to next season and will be supported by the Murrindindi Shire Council.

The Thornton/Eildon Football Club thanks all their supporters and sponsors who have assisted in making the season possible and look forward to next season. If you are interested in being a player, supporter or a sponsor you can find details on the Thornton Eildon District Football and Netball Club's Facebook page or by email [tedfnc@outlook.com](mailto:tedfnc@outlook.com)



Mia Heard, Xalia Stevenson, Javitha Kumar and Sienna Heard with their game day awards. -S



## SPORT

*The pressure is mounting before the race. -S**Tayla in one of her races. -S**Tayla (centre) looking incredibly proud of her efforts. -S**Tayla taking in the moment in Croatia. -S*

## Major racing achievement for Tayla Street

AUSTRALIAN racer from Flowerdale, Tayla Street, travelled all the way to Croatia in July as she was selected to represent Australia at the 2025 FIM Women's Speedway Gold Trophy at the FIM speedway academy.

The three day event consisted of the first two days training with elite coaches Greg Hancock, who is a full-time speedway world champion, and probably one of the most successful speedway riders, and Glen Phillips, who is also a speedway national rider in track and long-track.

Tayla explained, "They had a lot of people who have so much experience with giving on-site coaching and the right devices to help you develop and build your skills before the main event on the Saturday. It was very good to have that. It was almost like a bit of a leg up. It's a pretty big deal to go over and ride in a foreign country, but then to also have two days of practice and coaching from these awesome people, it was a massive bonus."

"They had seminars as well, how to maintain your bike, and then also having the ability to understand how to conduct yourself in media, like social media, and how to promote yourself in a professional manner. It was insightful, those first few days. You had a lot of track time, but you were also working on not only riding the bike but having high-performance techniques like coming into the corners and having cones in certain spots to get the right line, and every rider is different, so finding the right process. And then the final day was the main race meeting."

There were four heat races on the main race day. "I started from the outside in the first race and then each race I moved to the

inside. My first heat I was starting from the outside, which was yellow, and that race I got a win, which was awesome. I was like 'alright, I've had a good start to the day.' My second race I got a second, and then my third race I got a third, and then I got a win. Every race that I rode I had points, which was awesome, and which put me in fourth place for the last chance qualifier.

"How speedway works, for the first two people, they have an automatic direct route to the final, and then from fourth to sixth you have a race and whoever finishes first and second is into the final.

"Unfortunately, I wasn't able to get the result that I wanted to in the final, but it was an exhilarating experience for me and it was just, for me to get sixth place in the world, I couldn't ask for a better result," she said.

Tayla describes her recent experience as absolutely incredible, "The help and support from not only locally but Australia-wide and then internationally was out of this world. This just does not happen. The event, with how it was constructed, was so professional and streamlined and I was so happy with my performance, especially for my first ever international race meeting. For me to have the ability to get fourth before the final, and sixth overall in the world, I couldn't ask for better."

Tayla had to do some serious fundraising to get herself over to the event in Croatia, being a bit reluctant to do a GoFundMe page she still went ahead with it, which really helped her reach her dreams.

"I was a bit reluctant to do it, I'm not going to get help and it doesn't seem right. I literally

wrote what I did, poured my heart out, told everyone this is what I want to do, can you help me, and then within the first two days I raised something like \$4000. I was like what, this is crazy. It got shared around different social media, it was unbelievable. It really put so much wind in my sails to say you can do this, it is possible. Also to make it happen, I'm a signwriter by trade, I'm doing a lot of work as well, I sold my old race bikes, I sold my trailer that I wasn't using. My grandpa cut all this firewood, and we did raffles and that. There was a lot of work involved, which was awesome. It was an awesome experience to have that.

"When I was over there, I was always having so many people message me, and I was getting flooded with all these messages on my socials asking how it was going. It was beautiful," she said.

Over the last 12 months Tayla has had her eye on the prize after some significant hurdles to cross with her racing career. This time last year Tayla broke her back in a racing accident at Gunnedah in New South Wales, and to get to where she is now in her racing career was a no mean feat.

"Honestly, it boggles my mind. Every day I'm in pain with my back, but I looked at this scenario of getting this opportunity. I'm 25 years old, so I'm coming towards the end of my racing adventures I guess, because I am going to be starting to organise myself and have a family and do all that sort of stuff. But for me to do this, and considering where I was, injured in a hospital bed, I just wouldn't believe it if someone told me that I would be racing over in Croatia in the Women's World

Speedway Championship. I would be like 'nah you're dreaming'. It's just crazy and a nice little reminder that nothing is impossible and things can change in an instant.

"With my back it took time to recover, and it took a long time also to get my confidence back, get my speed and be comfortable with riding the way that you have to and being at the pointy end and high level. Eventually it came back, and I'm really passionate about racing," she said.

Now Tayla is coming down from the high of the recent racing experience in Croatia, more planning is in the works for her next adventure.

"For me at the moment, I'm just waiting to hear back when they are going to release the dates and location for the next meet. Depending on where it is, and if it's possible, I would really like to go over there again. And I will have a bit more time to organise myself, rather than doing it all in two months. I can have a little bit more time to plan and start getting my name out there a bit more and get together resumes and start applying for support financially from companies. I'm looking forward, I definitely want to go back over. When I went over I made some really good connections with people to help me in the future, which is awesome.

"There's so many more opportunities over in Europe, and I'd definitely like to be able to take it to the next level. But anything can happen. We just see how it goes and keep enjoying it, and do the best I can with networking and promoting myself and you never know what the future can hold."



THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

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## Games against Yarra Junction and Ladies Day for Alexandra Football Netball Club

### Reserves

**Alexandra 22.13-145 defeated Yarra Junction 1.5-11**

THE Reserves lineup saw a few changes this week with the inclusion of Chase Pearce, Tom McKinlay (back from injury), and Will Ellis. The Rebels came out firing, kicking five goals one to Junction's two points in a dominant first quarter. The momentum continued in the second, with another five goals added to the tally while keeping the Eagles to just one major.

Jake Keath was a standout up forward, marking strongly and finishing with an incredible nine-goal haul, earning best-on-ground honours. The Rebels were convincing

winners by the final siren, defeating Yarra Junction 22.13 (145) to 1.5 (11).

It was a true team effort, with strong performances also from Brodie Humphries, Brendan Musgrove, and Tom Halligan. A great win for the Reserves and a strong statement heading into the next round.

Awards: NP on The Run, Jake Keath; Future Fit Finance, Brendan Musgrove; Alexandra Hotel, Jayden Saggin; Buxton Hotel, Brodie Humphries.

### Seniors

**Alexandra 18.10-118 defeated Yarra Junction 4.4-23**

THE Seniors once again had to manage last-minute changes to the lineup due to illness

and injury, with Luke Wal, Josh Crane, Tyson Pedlar, and Sam Kidd coming into the side. Despite the disruptions, the Rebels got off to a flying start, piling on six unanswered goals to Yarra Junction's single point in a dominant first quarter.

While the second term wasn't as commanding, the Rebels still controlled the play, adding three goals four points to Junction's two points. At the main break, the Rebels held a commanding lead 9.4 (61) to 0.3 (3).

The third quarter saw a slight lapse in intensity from the Rebels, allowing Junction to capitalise and kick three goals. However, the Rebels still maintained the upper hand, responding with four goals one point of their

own. They finished strongly in the final term, adding another five goals two points to Junction's one goal one point to secure a convincing win.

Will Stewart was again a dominant target up forward, finishing with seven goals, while Ted Watkin was also impressive with five majors. Ed Aujard earned best-on-ground honours with another standout performance, and Nathan Georgiadis was rock-solid in the backline.

Another strong team effort from the Rebels, keeping momentum rolling into the next round.

Awards: Kervale Incentive, Ed Aujard; O'Briens Real Estate, Will Stewart; Alexandra Hotel, Ted Watkin; Buxton Hotel Award, Nathan Georgiadis.

### Netball awards and results

#### A Grade

**Alexandra 49 defeated Yarra Junction 47**

Incentive Award, Tegan Halligan; Corner Hotel Award, Caitlan Haggis.

#### B Grade

**Alexandra 36 defeated by Yarra Junction 49**

Incentive Award, Regan O'Toole; Corner Hotel Award, Beth Cairns.

#### C Grade

**Alexandra 36 defeated by Yarra Junction 40**

Alexandra Hotel Award, Lauren Benson; Corner Hotel Award, Brodie Wheelhouse.

#### D Grade

**Alexandra 35 defeated Yarra Junction 19**

Alexandra Hotel Award, Mandy Gesler; Corner Hotel Award, Himali Collins.

#### Under 17

**Alexandra 11 defeated by Warburton/Milgrove 11**

Koala Cherries Award, Brenna Frost; AFNC Club Voucher, Regan O'Toole.

The Alexandra Football Netball Club proudly hosted its annual Ladies Day event over the weekend, with 93 tickets sold for what continues to be one of the most anticipated events of the season. This year's guest speaker was the wonderful Patrina "Pats" Jones, co-host of the Christian O'Connell Show on Gold 104.3, who delighted guests with her warmth and stories.

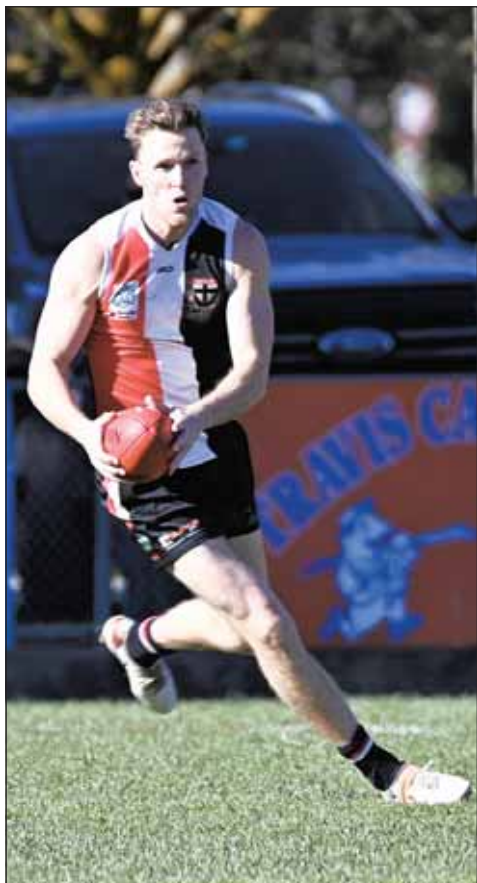
The club says a huge thank you to everyone who helped make the day such a success, particularly Tod, Simon, and Dutchy for their efforts behind the bar.

As the season nears its end, they are pleased to announce the dates for the club presentation functions: Senior Presentation Night will be held on Saturday, September 20; Junior Presentation Day is set for Sunday, September 21. Further details will be shared soon.

Looking ahead, the club will travel to Yea this Saturday to take on the Tigers on their home ground. This weekend holds extra significance, with the clubs playing for the Hedger/Ivey Cup, a special fixture recognising shared history and friendly rivalry.

It's set to be a full day of action with four games of netball starting from 10.15am (D Grade), followed by three football matches: Under 18s at 12.30pm; reserves at 2.20pm; seniors in a twilight match at 4pm.

The club encourage all supporters to make the trip to Yea and get behind the teams as they battle for the Hedger/Ivey cup and continue building momentum toward finals.



Seniors player Will Stewart moving the ball in winter sunshine. -S



Katherine Quinsee, Kylie Cairns, guest speaker for Ladies Day Patrina Jones, Roxane Coutts and Michelle Jack. -S



Reserves player Jake Keath with a solid mark. -S



B Grade player Ashlyn Newman working out where to send the ball. -S



A Grade netballer Claire Jungfer sizing up her options. -S