

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard

INCORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES - THE YARCK, GOBUR, TAGGERTY, THORNTON, AND ACHERON EXPRESS

P.O Box 5, Alexandra, 3714. Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5772 1603; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Wednesday, June 11, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

150 years of local reporting with integrity

murrindindibusiness.com.au

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Local OAM winners



Pages 3-4

First birthday for The Dame



Page 5

Marysville Winterfest



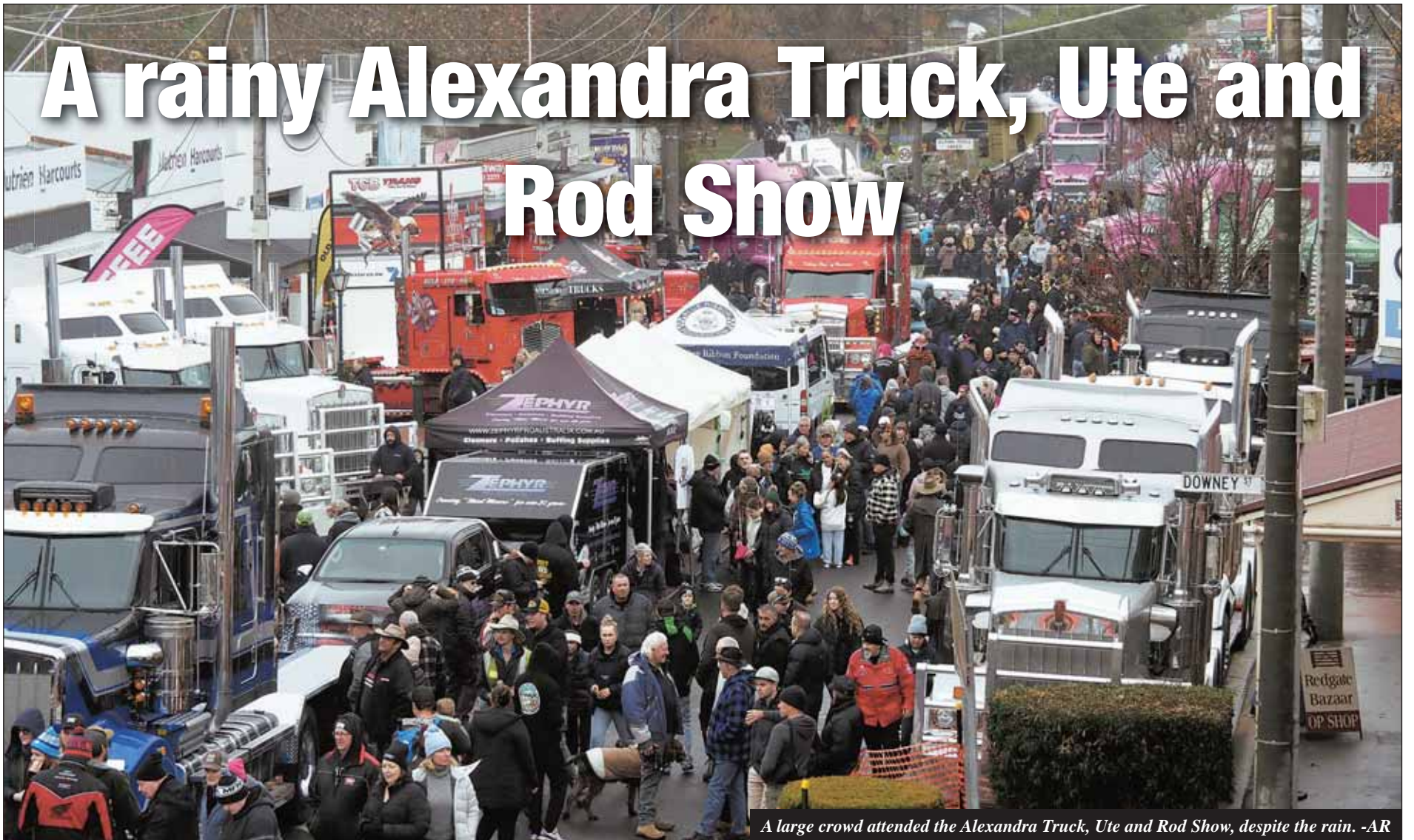
Page 12

Weekend sport



Pages 18-20

A rainy Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show



A large crowd attended the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show, despite the rain. -AR

THE 2025 Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show was very successful with good numbers, despite the rain. Everyone knew that the rain was needed in the area, so spirits remained high.

Organiser Andrew Embling estimated that around 12,000 to 13,000 people attended, which was only slightly down on last year, and around 240 trucks participated. Only the utes and rods were down a little bit due to the weather.

The woodchopping events again proved popular, and the auction was well-attended, making almost \$28,000.

They also raised over \$50,000 at the truck show dinner, held on the Saturday night. In total, the truck show raised around \$100,000.

The funds will go towards purchasing a mobile medical clinic for Yea and District Memorial Hospital, also used by Alexandra

District Health, across the Murrindindi Shire area. Further funds will also be needed for the operation of the clinic.

The community also benefitted from the truck show, with a lot of custom for local businesses and community groups operating food stalls.

Police were pleased with the behaviour of the crowds throughout, with no issues reported, and Andrew commented on

the great work of police controlling the intersection. The streets were again open to traffic by 6pm on Sunday evening.

Andrew commented, "It's great for the town. It brings so much money back into this town. People started arriving on Thursday to camp. The showgrounds were packed. The whole event was well attended. Thanks to the townspeople."

Planter boxes disappear from Grant Street

MURRINDINDI Shire Council recently removed planter boxes from Grant Street in Alexandra, due to safety concerns. Council was contacted to find out the reasons behind this.

Council stated, "These boxes were installed by volunteers after preliminary discussions with local traders and council, but due to a misunderstanding, the necessary permits, including Street Trading Activity Permits and Public Liability insurance, were not applied for. Businesses and volunteers must apply for such permits when placing items like planter boxes on footpaths or nature strips.

The permit process ensures street safety is managed for all and in a consistent approach.

"Council is currently reviewing these permit requirements and Local Laws as part of a broader effort to improve and streamline street beautification, activation and safety processes. In the meantime, the planter boxes are being safely stored and maintained by council's operations team.

"During this process, council officers have been in contact with the volunteers who organised the planter boxes to explain the need to remove them.

"Council is actively collaborating with stakeholders to ensure Grant Street remains

safe, welcoming, and visually appealing. While there is no confirmed timeline for reinstallation, we thank the community for their understanding and ongoing contributions to the vibrancy of Alexandra's town centre."

The volunteer group which installed the planter boxes provided the following statement, and raised further questions with council.

"While visiting Victoria and New South Wales, Alexandra local Pamela Thompson noticed planter boxes in some of the small towns, beautifying their main street.

"She set about seeking support and necessary approvals for a similar project in

Alexandra before the Great Victorian Bike ride visit.

"After gaining the approval and backing from the Alexandra and District Traders and Tourism Association (ADTTA committee), in an appointment with Stuart Russell (council's Manager of Operations and Maintenance), Pamela was led to understand that the positioning of the planter boxes came under the traders permit to display signs and merchandise outside their business. This was confirmed by Stuart's email on September 30, underlining the legal and correct positioning of the planter boxes.

Continued Page 17

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

Page 104

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au
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.

Like us on
Facebook

Standard

The Sun Chronicle

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

*Name and address supplied but withheld
by request*

Yarck Hall to feature historical display

THE Management Committee of the Yarck Mechanics Institute and Library (Yarck Hall) are installing a historical display of local memorabilia and photos in the hall supper room.

Exhibits from the local primary school which closed in 1993 (also Gobur Kanumbra and Fawcett schools) will be displayed along with historical photos of the area.

Approximately 2000 photos are available and the plan is to change the display on a regular basis. Entry is free to view on Yarck Market days on the third Saturday of the month.

Yarck Primary School opened in 1874 under the name Home

Creek State School until 1903 when it was renamed Yarck Primary School no 1331. The school closed in 1993.

Public education in the colony of Victoria only began in 1872.

An afternoon tea to mark the opening of the exhibition will be held at 3pm on Sunday, June 22. All residents of Yarck and surrounding districts, especially former students, are invited to attend.

For catering purposes RSVP by June 20. To RSVP, contact Sharon Fox on 0407 879 612 or Graham Halliburton on 0407 807 104.

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club Report

by Mike Jennings Hon Sec

WITH the long weekend upon us numbers were a bit down for the Business Meeting at which members were advised of the committee thoughts from the morning meeting. With overall numbers down and prices for everything rising the treasurer advised that with slowly decreasing funds available the club should consider an increase in annual membership fees from \$20 to \$25.

This proposal was put to the meeting and accepted. Due to decreasing numbers available

for the planned Healesville RSL excursion the committee had cancelled this trip. With winter upon us we will limit excursions until spring such as mini golf at Maroondah.

After the formalities we adjourned to the tearoom for the customary refreshments and chat before games of 500 and UNO. Come and join our happy ranks on any Friday afternoon or if you fancy a game of Bridge we meet up in the Bayley Street clubroom at 1pm on a Wednesday. You will be most welcome. Meanwhile stay dry, safe and keep smiling.

National parks petition takes fight to Parliament

THE Allan Labor Government has again been urged to stop the creation of any new national parks after a history-making petition was tabled in Parliament.

The Nationals' Member for Northern Victoria Gaele Broad said the petition was signed by 40,208 people, a record for a petition in the history of the Victorian Legislative Council.

Ms Broad said the petition was an overwhelmingly strong statement in response to the Victorian Government's plans to create three new national parks.

"The Nationals are opposed to new national parks because we believe the government should be focused on taking care of the existing ones," Ms Broad said.

"When it comes to state forests, our public land is public land, and it should remain accessible to the public.

"We know there are many proven benefits, including mental health benefits, to being able to enjoy our great outdoors.

"We do support ongoing and active land management of parks, not neglect. Under-resourcing leads to increased bushfire risk and to an increase in feral animals, and we have seen weeds get out of control.

"Under this government we continue to see city-based decisions being imposed on rural communities and regional communities with little regard for the people that live there.

"It's clear Labor cannot manage our parks and regional Victorians are paying the price.

"The Nationals will continue to stand up for regional communities, for fairness and for practical, sustainable land management. I do thank my Nationals colleague Melina Bath for sponsoring this petition and every single person who signed it."

Gary Pollard awarded an OAM

GARY Pollard of Yea was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division in the King's Birthday Honours List, for service to the community of Yea.

Gary has held a large number of volunteer roles within the community. As a member of the Yea and District Memorial Hospital board since 2015, he held the role of vice chair from 2018 and is currently chair of the Finance Committee.

He's also active within the golfing community, being a life member of the Yea Golf Club and president since 2020.

His other community roles include chair of Murrindindi Community Enterprise Pty Ltd from 2010-2019, current member of the Yea Recreation Reserve Committee of Management, former chair of the Yea Tourism Association, inaugural member of the Yea Rail Trail Steering Committee in 2005, a member of the Yea Streetscape Committee in the 1990s, chair of the Yea Sewerage Authority for 31 years, and a life member of the Apex Club of Yea since 1989.

He's also a life member of the Yea Cricket Club (now Yea Tigers Cricket Club) and a former president, and currently a life member of the Yea and District Cricket Association.

Gary was shire president in the Shire of Yea (a precursor to Murrindindi Shire) from 1981 to 1983 and a former councillor.

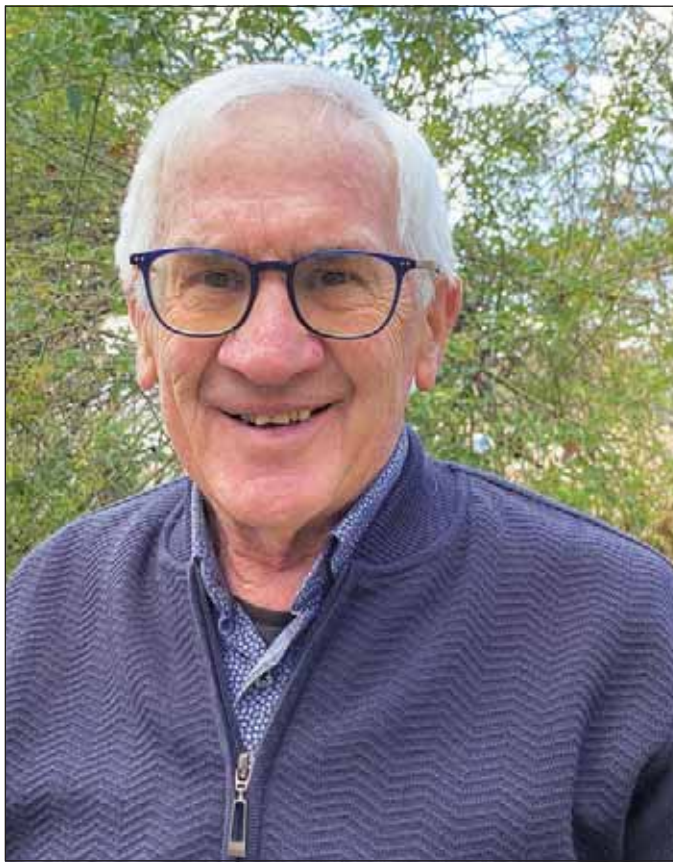
He's also owned the Yea Pharmacy for the past 44 years, and is Yea born and bred.

When asked how he found out about the award, Gary said, "I received a preliminary email notification a couple of months ago to say that I was being considered and asking me whether I would accept. So I accepted and then I got a follow up email five or six days ago confirming that the award had been given to me."

Although his wife knew about it, he commented, "It is pretty hard to not say something."

As Gary has spent a lot of time volunteering in the Yea community, he was asked about the importance of volunteering.

He said, "It's just got so many benefits. Apart from performing a service, it does something for yourself and your friends as well because it provides the social aspect. When you're volunteering you're normally with other people, so you've got the social



Gary Pollard OAM. -S

contact, you make new friends. Quite often you learn new skills and of course then there's the community benefit, which gets to be shared by a lot of people or help a lot of people so. I reckon it's just a, a really important part of our lives."

Gary was also keen to acknowledge his family and friends, saying, "I suppose I've been involved in a lot of things for a long time and you can't do that sort of thing without the help and cooperation of your family. And I suppose in many ways the person getting nominated or getting the award is a representative of their family and friends in many ways.

"I've been very fortunate to have great family life and great support. I'm really appreciative of it. I just love small communities and I feel very fortunate to be part of the Yea and Murrindindi communities.

There were also two OAM recipients in areas close to Murrindindi Shire, with Nola Evans from Bonnie Doon and Andrew Dwyer from Jamieson also awarded.

Feedback sought on Alexandra East Development Plan

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is inviting the Alexandra community to review and provide feedback on the draft Alexandra East Development Plan (AEDP).

The draft plan outlines how Alexandra East could grow over time to include approximately 680 new housing lots, helping to attract young families while ensuring that future development is well-planned, sustainable, and in tune with community needs.

"This draft plan has been developed by council in close collaboration with our community," Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor and Councillor for Red Gate Ward, Cr Damien Gallagher said.

"It reflects what we've heard through the community reference group and the broader community during workshops and discussions: a desire for a mix of lot sizes, safer roads and footpaths, better drainage to

manage flooding, and protection of significant trees that give Alexandra its unique character."

The draft AEDP, developed with the assistance of Mesh Planning, was informed by local knowledge, community aspirations, and technical input from planning specialists is now ready for your input.

"We know development plans can seem technical, but they matter: they influence how streets, houses, parks, and public spaces will come together in the years ahead," Cr Gallagher said. "Even if it's not something you'd normally look at, we encourage you to visit the website, explore the plan and tell us whether it reflects your vision for Alexandra's future."

Community members can view the draft plan, supporting materials and FAQs, and provide feedback on The Loop from June 6 to 30.

All feedback received during will help refine the final plan, which is expected to be considered by council for adoption at the August Scheduled Meeting.

Council thanks the Alexandra community for its continued involvement and invites everyone to take part in this next important step.

ALEXANDRA PHYSIOTHERAPY
Empowering you towards better health
Over 25 years of clinical experience.

- Back & Neck Pain
- Sports Injuries
- Joint & Muscle Injuries
- Rehabilitation post surgery or injury
- Consulting Rooms available for rental
- Clinical Pilates
- Orthotics

HICAPS: Health fund rebates claimed on the spot.
Veterans Affairs, TAC, WorkCover, Private, Medicare (EPC referral from GP)

5772 2649
54A Downey St, Alexandra

McCORMACK FUNERALS
Inc. BAMFORDS Murrindindi
21 Johnston Street, Alexandra

1800 080 909
Andrew, Robyn and Brooke

Murrindindi Chapel and Funeral Home
Caring & Professional 24 hour service, all areas

Obligation free appointments
Pre-paid, pre-arranged, personalised funeral and memorial services

www.mccormackfunerals.com.au

Church Services

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
Worshipping, Welcoming
Sharing the transforming love of
Jesus. Services 10am each Sunday
Contact 5772 2362

OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

Loving God, Loving People,
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

Eildon Lions are turning 50

THE Lions Club of Eildon Inc. will turn 50 this Thursday, June 12, after having been given a charter by International Lions on June 12, 1975. The club was formed after it's 'mother club', The Lions Club of Alexandra, pushed to have a club formed in Eildon. John Savage, who was a member of the Alexandra Club, was instrumental in the formation of the Eildon Club and became its first President. His brother Syd was also an original member and is still serving 50 years later. Current members, when adding up the years served, have contributed over 200 years of service to Eildon.

The club held its first dinner at The Golden Trout Hotel and it was hosted by Mike Dalmau, who started as the manager a week prior to the dinner. The club commenced with 25 members and over the 50 years has been instrumental in developing many assets in Eildon, raising funds for many causes and when required helping those in need in the community. A total of over 180 members have served over the years and achieved a great many things and all free to the community.

Of particular importance is the creation of 'The Lions Leisure Park' at the Pondage. Eildon Lions built the barbecue Rotunda at The Lions Leisure Park, a new toilet at The Lions Leisure Park, disabled fishing pier at the Pondage, and the Playground at the Pondage. This Park was named by the shire because of the work done by the Eildon Lions.

The Eildon Lions have operated the 'Big River Camp' to raise funds to be used for the various causes etc since 1978 and continues to date. The camp generates about 75 per cent of the funds raised each year for disbursement and Eildon and surrounds are the beneficiaries. Also a Lions project is the construction of the 'Dam Museum' which is a great asset to Eildon.

Events created by the Eildon Lions include Christmas Eve at the Shopping Centre; Australia Day Celebrations; blue light disco, the 'Easter Trash and Treasure Market' (started in 1983 and ceased due to COVID-19), art show, many raffles to raise funds but wood was also provide free to those in need. There are many other examples of events where the club has been involved.

The club has been active in the wider Lions community by hosting the 1984 Lion Club International District Convention and has had three zone chairmen in the past. These are John Savage, Chris Rigg, and Ian Uthenwoldt.

A dinner will be held at 'Pixies at the Billabong' on Thursday, June 12, to celebrate the 50 years commencing at 6.30pm with guests being asked to arrive at 6pm. While invitations have been sent to all residents and bookings taken it's not too late to attend. You can arrive on the night and be most welcome. Ring John Storen 0417 053 109 for details.

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*.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Alexandra RSL general meeting will be held at the RSL hall, at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

Saladin Lodge 1188 Maroondah Highway, Narbethong will be holding an equine photography exhibition 2-5pm. This is a free event, all welcome.

Clearing sale, Goulburn Valley Highway, Yea from 10am. Farm machinery, sundries, vineyard equipment, trucks, tools, hardware and more. Contact Embling Rural for further details 5772 3110.

Truck show generosity will improve access to health services

Ian Marshman AM, chair Yea and District Memorial Hospital

THE 2025 King's Birthday Weekend has highlighted once again what a special community we have in Murrindindi.

Over the space of just 24 hours the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show raised over \$100,000 for Yea and District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) to deliver a major community health initiative across the whole of Murrindindi.

Funds raised will be used to purchase a specially fitted-out mobile health clinic to be used to deliver health services in communities throughout Murrindindi. A key focus will be on providing mental health support.

This initiative will enable YDMH to put its highly successful Yea Saleyards health clinics 'on wheels' to provide services in many small Murrindindi communities without ready access to health services.

Murrindindi does not perform well across a number of health and well-being indicators. In particular it rates poorly in terms of access to general practitioner and key allied health services and has high levels of mental health illness. The mobile clinic will be an important initiative in improving access to a range of primary health services.

The board and staff of YDMH are enormously grateful to Ayden Embling and all the organising committee for championing the mobile clinic as part of this year's Alexandra Truck Show. We are in awe of all the sponsors and donors who gave so generously and spontaneously for this worthy cause. We acknowledge in particular Andrew Embling for his leadership and extraordinary passion for this cause.

A mobile health clinic dedicated to serving communities across Murrindindi is yet another illustration of the value of local health service leadership working together with their communities across regional Victoria.

Thank you, Murrindindi and the Alexandra Truck Show.

More images from the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show can be found on page 10 and 11 of this edition.



Nola Evans OAM. -AR

Nola Evans awarded an OAM

NOLA Evans was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the General Division in the King's Birthday Honours List, for service to the community of Bonnie Doon. Nola is also well known in Alexandra community, having worked as a nurse at Alexandra District Health for 33 years.

She has been highly involved in the Bonnie Doon community, including taking on the presidency of the Bonnie Doon Community Group since 2001 and editing The Bridge newsletter.

She is also a volunteer and supporter of a wide range of community organisations, including Bonnie Doon's tennis club, fire brigade and Trash and Treasure. She also wrote the book, *Reflections in time: Bonnie Doon 1978-2003*, published in 2003.

Nola found out about the award via an official email and was delighted. She commented that she attended a leadership

course back in the late 1990s which, "showed me the way," she said.

She said of Bonnie Doon, "It's been very good to see the town grow and newcomers come here. I think when the school closed, one of the community group's good achievements was being able to save the land and building with the help of the state government and turn that into a community centre."

She added, "I always enjoyed working at the hospital and I enjoy meeting new people. So that's all been good experience."

She said, "Volunteering is an important thing. I know we wouldn't have a community centre without volunteers and I'd like to recommend volunteering. People, give it a go. I know we have some very good volunteers... There's lots of different opportunities in general. And I think it's important that you get to know people and it's a very good feeling to be able to help others in some way."

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE
Standard
INCORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES - THE YARCK, GOBUR, TAGGERTY, THORNTON, AND ACHERON EXPRESS

Available from these retail outlets

Alexandra FoodWorks
Alexandra Newsagency
Alexandra Newspapers
Ampol Alexandra
Ampol Eildon
Buxton Shell
Eildon Grocer
Endeavour Alexandra
Hazeldene Store
Igloo Buxton
Marysville Grocer
Merton General Store
Seymour Newsagency
Taggerty Store
Thornton Store
Yea FoodWorks
Yea Newsagency

Alexandra Newspapers are
members of:

regional
media connect

Country Press
AUSTRALIA

First birthday for The Dame in Alexandra

THE Dame celebrated its first birthday last Wednesday, with organisers, supporters, staff and friends all gathering for tea, coffee, and a vast array of cakes and snacks.

Opened one year ago, The Dame is a Menzies Support Services initiative in partnership with Foundation Murrindindi and supported by Murrindindi Shire Council.

It sells vintage, retro, new and recycled boutique clothing of all varieties, and supports NDIS, return to work placements and trainees through partnerships, providing the opportunity for engagement and experience in a safe and supportive environment.



Many of the people involved in The Dame, whether it be organisers, supporters or staff. -BD

The shire buys a trailer

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has said that they are taking a more visible and responsive approach to community connection with the launch of a new mobile community trailer. It's designed to facilitate council's presence at local events, share information and support specific key services.

The trailer will serve as an information hub at markets and events, assist in emergency response efforts and enable targeted council support directly to communities across the shire, when and where it is most needed, complementing council's existing service delivery.

The trailer was developed in response to community feedback following recent extreme weather events, and the success of pop-up health services at the Yea Saleyards.

Since the October 2022 floods, the shire has experienced seven declared extreme weather events, many of which left residents without power, water or shelter. This new asset enhances council's ability to respond more quickly and support local recovery and resilience.

Designed with adaptability, accessibility and sustainability in mind, the trailer is fully self-sufficient. It features solar panels, battery storage, a generator, device charging stations, fridge, awning, display panels and a smart TV, making it ideal for use in diverse environments.

The trailer will be used across council functions and can also support pop-up activities such as health promotion information sharing and community consultations.

The project was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

"We're really proud to launch this mobile resource," commented council's Integrity, Finance and Resilience Portfolio Councillor Paul Hildebrand.

"This trailer is a practical investment that improves how we connect with communities, whether in times of crisis or through day-to-day engagement. We can now provide information and support more directly and flexibly, helping strengthen resilience and relationships across the shire."



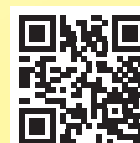
The shire's new trailer. -S

More hours, more learning, more play



Children in Murrindindi Shire can now have more time to learn through play, with 16-20 hours of free Pre-Prep every week.

Learn more at vic.gov.au/pre-prep



Proudly supporting
Student of the week

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

Bendigo Bank

EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Ellie-Mae and Scarlett

Ellie for working hard on her reading
and **Scarlett** for great effort in Maths.

ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Tori Sabec 1/2B

Tori consistently shows the school values. She is always ready to learn and is very helpful in class. Tori is a cheerful student who is a positive influence on the people around her. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Tori. You are a star.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kingslake branch

Bendigo Bank

Police urge snow travellers to plan ahead as Alpine season begins

POLICE are looking forward to this year's snow season and are issuing a reminder to the community about the importance of planning ahead to ensure a safe trip for all.

Last year, 1471 vehicles were turned back at Mt Hotham alone for failing to carry legally required wheel chains, placing themselves and others at serious risk on icy roads.

With a growing number of people travelling to the snow for single-day trips, police have seen many arriving without understanding the road rules, weather risks or equipment requirements for alpine travel.

Police and authorised officers will again be conducting checks across key routes into alpine resorts including Mt Buller, Mt Hotham, Falls Creek, Mt Baw Baw, Lake Mountain and Mt Stirling.

A zero-tolerance approach will be adopted for drivers who are not properly equipped for the conditions.

All vehicles entering alpine areas during the declared snow season are required by

law to carry wheel chains and fit them when instructed. Failing to carry chains may result in a \$395 fine, while failing to fit them when required may attract a \$988 penalty.

Wheel chains are essential for navigating steep, icy roads and can be the difference between staying on the road or sliding off it.

Eastern Region Division Four Superintendent, Joy Arbuthnot, spoke about the importance of snow chains.

"Last year, in Mt Hotham alone, police turned back 14 drivers a day who didn't have snow chains. That's not just a statistic, it's almost 1500 drivers who put themselves, their passengers, and others on the road at serious risk," Ms Arbuthnot said.

"Without snow chains, your car simply won't grip on icy roads. We've seen cars slide off the edge of mountainsides, families stranded in dangerous conditions, and collisions that could have been avoided.

"Visiting the snow is a popular tradition for many, and an exciting trip for tourists,

but it's important to remember it can quickly turn into a very serious situation if you're not prepared.

"If you arrive without snow chains or the proper preparation, you'll be turned around.

"We want people to enjoy their time in the snow. But your safety, and the safety of everyone else on the mountain, starts before you even leave home. Take responsibility. Be ready. Don't put lives at risk."

Police will also maintain a visible presence across the snowfields with local police, highway patrol, the Heavy Vehicle Unit, Liquor Control Victoria officers and dedicated alpine police conducting proactive patrols and enforcement during the season.

These officers have undertaken specialised training in alpine conditions and are prepared to respond to collisions, maintain public order, and assist in search and rescue operations.

Police responded to 16 incidents during last year's snow season. One was a serious head-on collision on Mt Buller Road involving multiple vehicles. The crash occurred 800 metres west of Mirimbah Gate where a number of people received injuries, including four children. The road was closed for more than two hours while emergency services treated and evacuated those involved. One of the drivers was allegedly travelling on the wrong side of the road.

In another incident, a family travelling from Gippsland to Mount Hotham entered the destination into their vehicle's GPS and followed a recommended route. The navigation system directed them onto the seasonally closed Dargo High Plains Road, which is a remote and unsealed track unsuitable for winter travel. The vehicle became stranded in deep snow and required assistance from police to safely return to

Gippsland. The incident serves as a reminder that GPS systems may not give the correct destination for Alpine resorts, seasonal road closures or hazardous alpine conditions.

Police also assisted in the rescue of an experienced solo hiker on Mount Feathertop, who lost sight of the track during a cold front that brought approximately 15cm of snow. The hiker became disoriented and was required to camp out overnight in freezing conditions. As the hiker was well equipped and had adequate survival gear, police and emergency services were able to locate and safely escort them back to Harrietville the following morning. The incident serves as a reminder of the importance of preparation and how quickly conditions can change in alpine areas.

Police also detected several impaired drivers across the snowfields last season, including those caught driving over the legal alcohol limit or under the influence of drugs.

Those planning a snow trip, particularly day-trippers, are urged to familiarise themselves with alpine road rules and conditions, and ensure they have a backup plan in place should the weather change or access be restricted.

Other key safety tips for those heading to the snow include: Ensure your car's radiator is filled with anti-freeze and if diesel use Alpine Mix; drive cautiously with gradual pressure on the accelerator to avoid wheel spin; brake gently and avoid unnecessary gear changes; maintain a safe braking distance from vehicles in front, especially in poor visibility; let someone know where you are going and how long you will be; regularly check weather and snow conditions as conditions can change quickly; if lost, stop, seek shelter, call Triple Zero (000) and wait.

Dindi Cooks receive FRRR funding

FOUNDATION for Rural Regional Renewal (FRRR) has awarded \$1,040,512 in grants to 101 grassroots organisations across remote, rural and regional Australia for projects that celebrate, strengthen and support their communities.

The Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program, which gives not-for-profit organisations (NFPs) working in small remote, rural and regional communities the opportunity to access grants up to \$50,000 for a wide range of initiatives that empower their communities to be vibrant, resilient, sustainable places to live, work and invest.

In round 24 of the SRC program Alexandra District Health received \$6146 for the Dindi Cooks program to engage facilitators to deliver sensory play based food and nutrition programs in Kindergartens to promote healthy eating.

FRRR always accepts applications to this program, which awards funds around four times a year. Local not-for-profit organisations and community groups are encouraged to review the program guidelines and apply. More information about the SRC program is available at frrr.org.au/src

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

Council joined communities across Australia to mark National Reconciliation Week 2025 and reflect on the theme Bridging Now to Next. The week was an opportunity to listen, learn and strengthen relationships with Traditional Owners, especially the Taungurung and Wurundjeri peoples.

Council hosted a staff Lunch and Learn session, supported a cultural immersion at Yea Wetlands and encouraged community involvement through local library activities. Thank you to everyone who took part in building a more respectful and inclusive future.

Read more at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/nrw

HAVE YOUR SAY ON ALEXANDRA EAST

The draft Alexandra East Development Plan is now open for public comment.

Shaped by input from local residents, the plan proposes future development that reflects community priorities, including diverse housing, improved footpaths and roads, better drainage and protection of big old trees.

View the draft and share your feedback by **Monday 30 June 2025** at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/draftAEDP



BRINGING COUNCIL CLOSER WITH OUR NEW TRAILER

Council has launched a new mobile community trailer to improve its presence at local events and enhance service delivery. The trailer will act as an Information Hub, assist in emergency responses and provide direct support to communities across the Shire when needed.

Developed in response to community feedback after several extreme weather events, the trailer is designed for adaptability and sustainability. It is fully self-sufficient with solar panels, battery storage, a generator, charging stations and more, allowing Council to better support recovery, share information and engage with residents across a range of settings.

For more information, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/trailer

COUNCIL PLAN 2025-29 AND 10-YEAR COMMUNITY VISION

Over the past year, Council has engaged in over 1,000 conversations with community members about what matters most for the future of Murrindindi Shire. This feedback has shaped a practical roadmap for the next four years and a vision for the next decade, organised around three strategic directions:

- A Thriving and Prosperous Shire
- Healthy, Inclusive and Resilient Communities
- Trusted Leadership and Sustainable Services

Our 10-year Community Vision outlines the long-term hopes and aspirations of Murrindindi Shire's people. It is a shared statement of intent that requires strong partnership and collaboration. Thank you to everyone who contributed; your ideas helped shape the refreshed Community Vision and the priorities guiding this Council Plan.

We now want to check in – have we heard you correctly?

We'd love your feedback on whether the Plan reflects the priorities you shared.

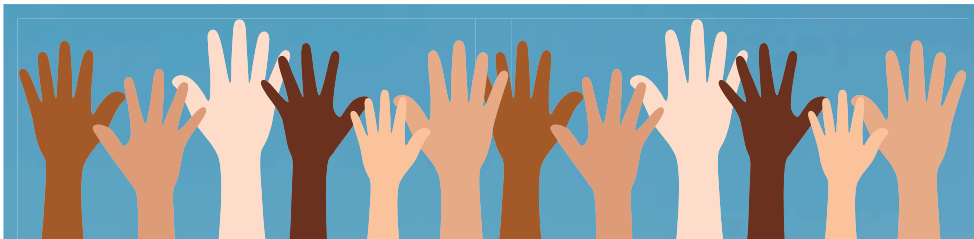
You can read the draft Council Plan and Community Vision, answer a short survey, and provide your feedback at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplan2025-29 until **Wednesday 25 June 2025**.

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request
5772 0333



FIND YOUR MATCH AT THE VOLUNTEER EXPO

In the spirit of this year's National Volunteer Week theme, 'Bringing Communities Together', Council is hosting groups from all over the Shire to help you promote your group, your cause and find your perfect volunteer match.

When: Saturday 5 July from 1.00 to 5.00 pm

Where: Alexandra Football and Netball Club, 53 William Street, Alexandra

Reservations: Free, but essential

Registrations close **Monday 23 June**.

Visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteerexpo for more information or call Council on 5772 0333 and speak with our Community Capacity Building Officer.

COMMUNITY BUS HIRE FOR LOCAL GROUPS

If your community group would like to organise transport to your next event, why not enquire about Council's Community Bus?

Council's Community Buses in Alexandra and Yea are available for hire by local community groups and not-for-profit organisations.

Each bus seats 10 (including the driver), has automatic transmission and a wheelchair hoist, and helps connect people with essential services and activities.

For more information including pricing and how to book, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/bus-hire or call **5772 0333**.

The Farmer's Ag News



Nutrien and Elders were the auctioneers for last Friday's store sale. -BD



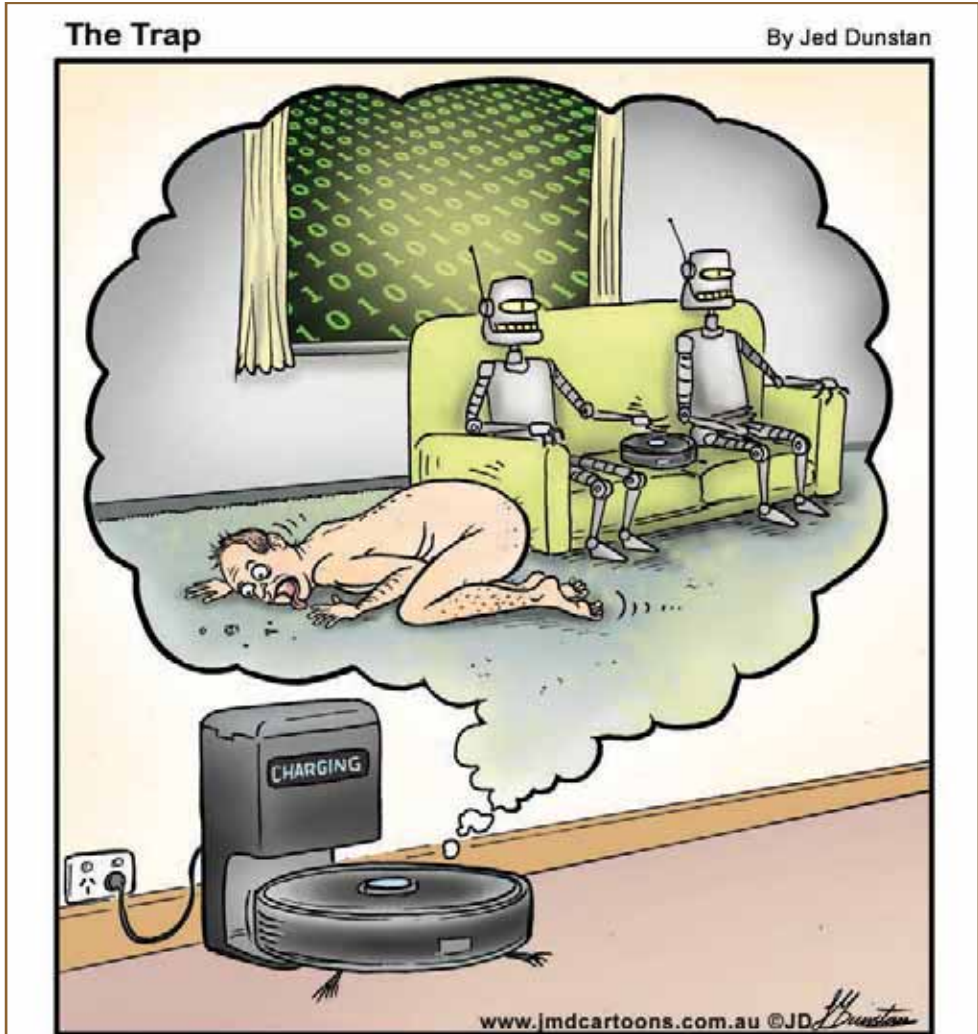
A decent crowd filled the laneways, with prices drawing plenty of interest. -BD



Michael and Anne Green from Buxton were selling their cattle last Friday. -BD



The wild weather held off for the cattle sale in the morning. -BD



Sponsored by **Roomba dream.**



Alexandra Grain Store
Plumbing & Rural Supplies

A family-owned local one stop shop for Plumbing, Irrigation, Farm, Stock and Pet Supplies.

46-48 William Street Alexandra 5772 2110 alexgrainstore@gmail.com 

Strong prices continue at Yea Saleyards

by Bailey Dixon

THE June Elders and Nutrien Store Sale took place last Friday at the Yea Saleyards, with large yarding and strong prices driven by continuing demand from up north.

There were various breeds on the day, with a mixture of Hereford, Charolais and red Angus cattle padding out the traditional black Angus trend.

The first row of the sale was occupied by pens of cows and calves, fetching a top price per head of \$1875.

Steers sold for strong amounts, many pens fetching over 400c/kg. The top pen, with a

top weight of 534.6 kilograms, sold for \$2380, making 445c/kg.

Heifers were a little bit lower in terms of price, but still decent. The top heifer pen fetched \$1900 with a top weight of 520.7 kilograms, making 365c/kg.

The overall average weight per head for the sale was 289 kilograms and the average price per head was \$1097, equalling out to a positive 380c/kg.

Prices in this strong range and wet weather over the weekend were sure to help instil some happiness in farmers and some confidence in the industry.

The next cattle sale in Yea is the July Elders and Nutrien Store Sale, taking place on July 4.

STOCK REPORT 6 JUNE 2025				
Elders & Nutrien Store Sale	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers	Cows & Calves
Number of head	3,407			
Average \$ per head	\$1,097			
Average weight per head	289kg			
Top price per head		\$2,380	\$1,900	\$1,875
Top weight		534.6kg	520.7kg	
Turnover	\$3.6 million			

The Farmer's Ag News

VFF unveils targeted drought framework to support farmers and rural communities

VICTORIAN Farmers Federation (VFF) President Brett Hosking recently unveiled a comprehensive and scalable drought response framework designed to deliver timely, targeted support to farmers and regional communities battling prolonged dry conditions.

"Our farmers are doing it tough. With rainfall in some regions falling below the 10th percentile for months on end, we need a clear plan that delivers help where and when it's needed most," Mr Hosking said.

The VFF's framework, developed in consultation with Agriculture Victoria and submitted to the Victorian Government, reflects months of policy engagement with the Victorian Agriculture Minister.

It outlines a three-tiered approach to drought support that is evidence-based and ready to implement. Measures include infrastructure and reseeding grants, municipal rate relief, water security initiatives, and dedicated mental health services. The model is built on empirical climate triggers to ensure support is equitable, transparent and responsive to escalating conditions.

It comes as VFF President Brett Hosking gets ready to meet directly with Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan to discuss the request this week.

"We've got the Premier's ear and now it's time to deliver for regional communities who are really struggling," Mr Hosking said.

"This isn't just about handouts. This is about keeping rural communities on their feet, safeguarding food production, and making sure that no farming family feels like they have to go it alone."

The framework also urges the state government to address longer-term strategic barriers, including the relaxation of pest control restrictions, improved freight access for fodder transport, and the fast-tracking of critical pipeline infrastructure projects.

"Drought doesn't just affect paddocks. It affects people. That's why our framework includes support for kids to keep playing sport, families to stay connected, and farmers to access the mental health care they need," Mr Hosking said.

Mr Hosking welcomed recent public interest in supporting farmers and called for a whole-of-government approach involving state and Federal leadership.

"We are also calling on the Victorian Premier, the Prime Minister, and both the state and Federal Agriculture Ministers to visit drought-affected communities in Victoria. It is vital that leaders see first-hand what these communities are experiencing in order to understand the challenges and identify how they can best support them."

"We're ready to work with all levels of government to implement this framework. With the right plan and the right partnerships, we can get through this together," Mr Hosking said.

Virtual fencing regulations inching closer for farmers

VICTORIAN cattle farmers will soon be able to harness the benefits of virtual fencing and herding technology, with the Victorian Government taking the next step to allow this new technology.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence announced that new regulations will be prepared for the use of virtual fencing and herding technology for cattle in Victoria. The announcement follows engagement with industry, manufacturers, and researchers on virtual fencing to understand the animal welfare impacts of the technology that will create better and more efficient farms.

"We know that Victorian farmers are looking to use virtual fencing and herding technology to improve productivity and farmer safety, which is why we're making decisions to ensure farmers have the best technology up to date," Ms Spence said.

"It is critical that we have appropriate safeguards in place to protect animal welfare, while enabling innovation on farms and these new regulations will provide a framework to achieve this."

Further engagement will occur with relevant stakeholders, including animal welfare groups with the regulations to be finalised by the end of the year.

A trial of Halter virtual fencing technology at Agriculture Victoria's Ellinbank SmartFarm in Gippsland will continue conducting research until June 30, giving Victorian farmers the chance to experience first-hand this new technology close to home.

Since July 2024, dairy cattle at the SmartFarm have been fitted with solar powered smart collars that use electronic cues to contain animals within a virtual fence and guide them to areas of

Managing deer on private property

WITH winter fast approaching, now is the time of year when deer move around the most. Deer are known to cause significant damage to land, especially to farms, destroying gardens, crops, fences and potentially carrying diseases.

For owners of private property, understanding the rules and regulations of how to manage deer on your land is essential.

In 2021, classifications were changed to say that all deer species, except for Hog Deer, are now unprotected on private land if they are causing damage.

The factors for deer causing damage are specified by way of a Governor in Council Order under section 7A of the *Wildlife Act 1975*. They include "causing damage or injury to landowners' property, infrastructure (e.g. fences), vegetation (e.g. plantations, pasture, orchards) or livestock."

Before the changes in 2021, deer causing damage on private property could only be destroyed by landowners holding an Authority to Control Wildlife (ATCW)

permit, or by bringing in licensed deer hunters.

With all but Hog Deer being listed as unprotected, landowners, their managers, permanent employees or agents may destroy problem deer. Any of the people listed may use a spotlight when destroying deer on private property.

According to the *Wildlife Act 1975* however, "any person destroying, or in the pursuit of destroying, deer on a landowner's property must carry written permission signed and dated by the landowner of that property".

The rules from the *Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024* still apply when transporting spotlights and firearms through recognised deer habitat, and there are a number of rules around approved firearms and calibres and projectile weights.

More information can be found on the Game Management Authority website, at gma.vic.gov.au/hunting/deer/where-to-hunt/fact-sheets/controlling-problem-deer-on-private-property

the farm via a mobile phone app. It also allows farmers to monitor their cows' location, health and reproductive status.

Virtual fencing uses collars with GPS and wireless technology to control livestock without physical fences. If the animal leaves a designated area, the collars send out three warning noise and vibration cues and additional stimulus to encourage the animal to return to the area.

The new regulations will make sure the roll out of virtual fencing across the state will

improve animal welfare outcomes, farm safety, productivity and staff wellbeing. Agriculture Victoria is also actively contributing to the development of the Australian Animal Welfare Guide for Virtual Fencing, a project led by the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

This guide aims to support a consistent regulatory approach across states and territories, while ensuring optimal animal welfare outcomes where virtual fencing is used.

Scholarships programs for young farmers

THE state government has announced the opening of the *2025 Upskill and Invest Young Farmers Scholarship Program* to encourage early-career farmers to apply and gain the tools they need to thrive in Victoria's agriculture sector.

The program offers scholarships of up to \$10,000 for farmers aged 18 to 40 including up to \$5000 for training or study, and another \$5000 to apply those skills on-farm through practical investments.

Participants can pursue learning in areas such as agronomy, irrigation, land management and conservation, alongside core business skills like marketing, accounting, and HR.

After completing their training, recipients can use the second half of their scholarship to invest in farm planning, new technologies, professional development, or equipment that supports innovation and growth.

Since 2015, the program has empowered 133 young farmers from across the state, helping to make Victorian agriculture more capable, adaptable and ready to take on future challenges.

Melissa Willard, who is a small-scale farmer in the Central Highlands, used her scholarship to complete training in holistic management and bio-intensive growing, with the investment helping her purchase a polytunnel for her market garden business.

Applications are now open to young farmers who have been working in a farm business for at least three days a week for the past three months, with a minimum of two years' total on-farm experience.

To apply visit vic.gov.au/youngfarmers. Applications close 5pm on Wednesday, July 23.

CLEARING SALE SUNDAY 15th JUNE 2025 10:00AM Goulburn Valley Hwy, Yea



**FARM MACHINERY, FARM SUNDRIES,
VINEYARD EQUIPMENT, TRUCKS,
TOOLS & HARDWARE, SILOS,
APPROX 450 LOTS**

Full list will be published on our website www.emblingrural.com.au
NO BUYERS PREMIUM



03 5772 3110
Alexandra Victoria

Agent: Andrew Embling - 0418 266 038
Director: Ayden Embling - 0427 924 944

JUNE PHOTO COMPETITION

Submit your photo competition entry for JUNE, for your chance to win a \$50 voucher from *Dindi Country Clothing* in Alexandra. The JUNE theme is **'anything you chose' (in Murrindindi shire)**.

Sponsored by



Email your photo and contact details to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au
by noon June 26, 2025

5772 1405

79 Grant Street Alexandra
Dindicountryclothing@gmail.com
facebook.com/DindiCountryClothing/

T&C: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter.
Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Photos must be taken within the Murrindindi Shire.



The rain didn't deter the young and young-at-heart having fun at sideshow alley. -AR



Trucks parked at the top end of Grant Street. -AR



Billie-Jo Porter. -AR

Rain didn't dampen spirits at the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show



The showbags proved to be very popular. -AR



One of the utes on display. -AR



A ute adorned with flags. -AR



The trucks lined up in the early morning. -S



A youngster having fund at the bouncy castle. -AR



The woodchopping was very popular with the spectators. -AR



An old Ford. -AR



One of the beautiful vintage cars. -AR



Caolan O'Connor with the winner of the Best Log Truck. -Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos



The Victoria Truck Drivers Memorial. -S



Blake, Julie, Julie and Pam from the Alexandra Show held a stall. -AR



Alexandra Kindergarten held a barbecue. -AR

Rain didn't dampen spirits at the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show



Andrew Embling on the microphone. -AR



Russell from Berwick and Ian from Eildon. -AR



Four children watching the woodchopping. -AR



SES members at their display. -AR



A display truck from Craig Membrey Transport. -AR



Andrew Embling and Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish. -Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos



Raindrops on one of the Mac trucks. -Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos



Kenny the Kenworth from Healthy Heads in Trucks and Sheds and the TradeMutt truck. -S

Marysville's Winterfest lives up to its name



The lantern parade around Marysville's lake. -AR



The food trucks did a brisk business, despite the rain. -AR



Francine and Aleesa. -AR



David Alloway on the piano accordion. -AR



Adam, Lennon, Ilyna and Elliott, all from Melbourne. -AR



The market was held indoors at the Marysville Recreation Centre, with the food trucks outside. -AR



The musical entertainment. -AR



Audrey, Sally and Hope with Katherine and Sue. -AR



Christina Weiss. -AR



Children playing on the mound of snow which had been brought in. -AR



Alana with Taylor (2). -AR



Many children took the opportunity to have their faces painted. -AR

PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 15

KID'S PUZZLES

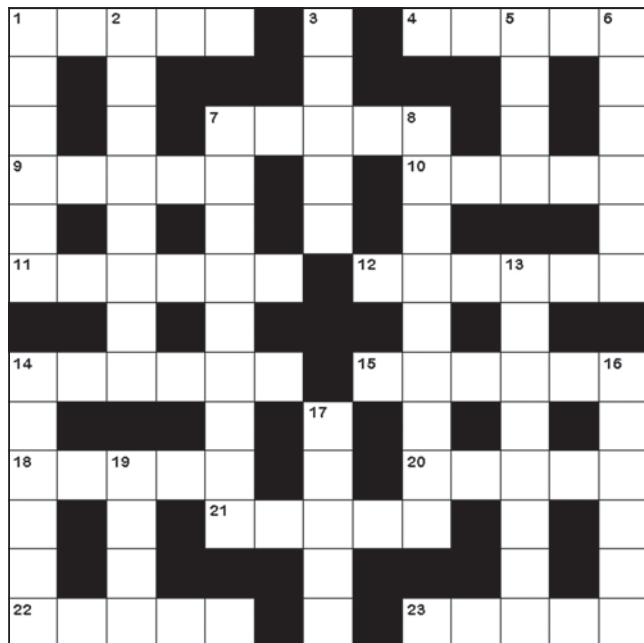
Crossword

ACROSS

- Full of good humour and high spirits.
- Have a bet.
- Sour or bitter in taste.
- Fine tune for peak performance.
- A system of reasoning.
- Using no manners.
- One who is engaged to be married.
- Copy published material illegally.
- Deliberately arranged just for effect.
- Fruit of the oak tree.
- Resulting in death.
- Rigid and inflexible.
- Live in fear or terror.
- A line of people.

DOWN

- A clown employed to entertain a king.
- A shade of very pale violet.
- Open and honest.
- Alcoholic drinks.
- Save from harm.
- Scandals in cupboards.



- Person who brings an action in a court of law.
- Elegant and sumptuous.
- A group of lions.
- A seeping, thick messy substance.

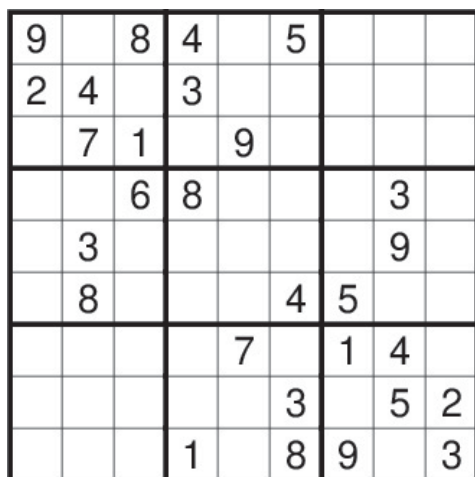
Word Search

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

Pet Names

BELLA	MILO
BUDDY	PICKLES
CHARLOTTE	ROVER
CHESTER	RUSTY
HAPPY	SPOT
MAXIMUS	TIGER

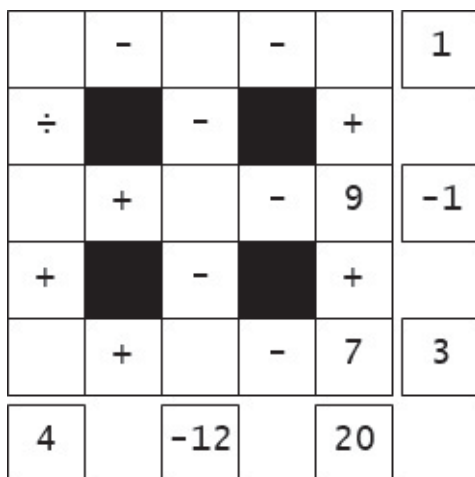
Sudoku



Difficulty: Very 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



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.

Colouring Page



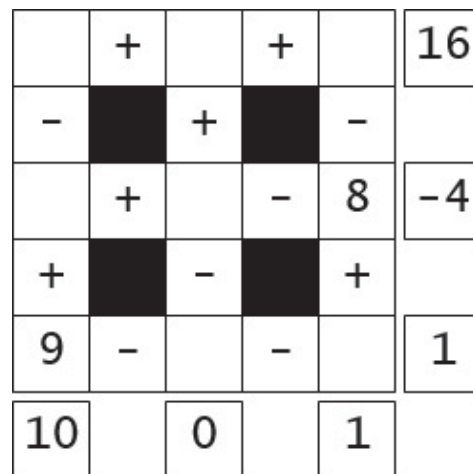
Word Search

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

Words starting with "H"

HABITAT	HELPFUL
HAMMER	HERBERT
HAMSTER	HOLIDAY
HAPPY	HOPPING
HAWAII	HOTDOG
HEATHER	HOUSE
HELICOPTER	HUNGRY

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

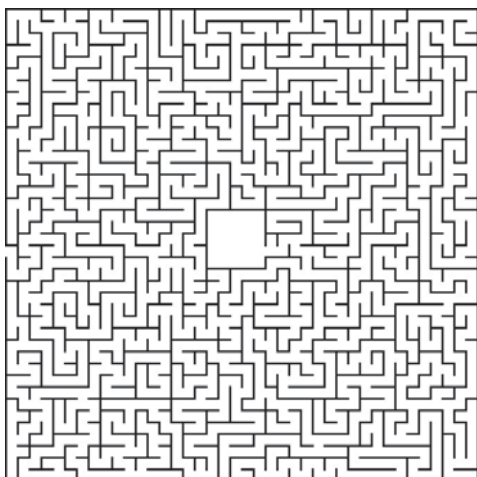
The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 9.
Each number is only used once.
Each row is a math equation.
Each column is a math equation.
Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

Jokes

Knock Knock..
Who's there?
Nobel!
Nobel who?
Nobel.....that's why I knocked

Q: What is the leading cause of dry skin?
A: Towels.

Maze



BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

TO BOOK AN AD PLEASE PHONE 5772 1002

ANIMAL SERVICES

Behaviourist and Certified Master Dog Groomer

IN THE PINK

0418 556 001
www.pinkdog.com.au

BOOKKEEPING

TURNOVER BOOKKEEPING

*BAS *IAS *Superannuation
*Accounts Receivable
*Accounts Payable *Payroll

Ph Trevor Turner
0419 575 176

CONVEYANCING

Sargeants

CONVEYANCING & PROPERTY TRANSFER SPECIALISTS

Debra Loveday
5772 2500
71 Grant Street, Alexandra
debra@sargeantsm.com.au
Conveyancing throughout Victoria

EXCAVATION & EARTHMOVING

BUXTON EXCAVATIONS

- House and Shed Sites
- Side Cuts / Driveways
- Drainage / Erosion Works
- Dams / Vegetation Mulching
- Hazardous Tree Removal
- 20 Ton Excavators
- 3 Ton Excavator
- Quad Axle Float

Darren
0447 198 740
Barney
0488 016 820



Taggerty Vet Clinic

Dr Rebecca Parth
BVSc
0403 012 996

All Animals
Large & Small

Consultations strictly
by appointment

BRICKLAYING

Alexandra

BRICKLAYING

CONCRETE & PAVING

No job too big or too small
Free quotes
Call Jarrod, James and Corey

0409 190 502

ELECTRICIANS

J. WILLIAMS ELECTRICAL

- COMMERCIAL
- SPLIT SYSTEMS
- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- MAINTENANCE
- INDUSTRIAL
- UNDERGROUNDS
- NEW HOMES
- BREAKDOWNS

0439 842 030

ANTENNAS

Christopher Edwards
0405 554 915
info@chris-tv.com.au
Sec Reg: 997-462-605

Chris's TV

The Television Reception Specialist

- TV & FM radio antennas
- Extra TV wall points
- Surround sound systems
- Data points & mesh WIFI
- Starlink, VAST & Foxtel installs
- TV brackets & wall mount TVs
- Home theatre
- CCTV security systems

Fully Registered Fully Insured

BUILDERS & CARPENTERS

HBI CONSTRUCTIONS

SCOTT HILL
Registered Builder
0439 730 824

- NEW HOMES
- EXTENSIONS
- RENOVATIONS
- DECKS
- SWIMMING POOLS

info@hbiconstructions.com.au
hbiconstructions.com.au

REGISTERED Building Practitioner member

RBP - DBU 47736 HIA 1169777

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

E-TEC
Electrical Technology

- Domestic / Commercial
- Undergrounds
- Cable Locations
- Trenching
- Solar Installations & Batteries

Ph 0418 543 310
info@e-tec.net.au
www.etecelectrical.com.au

MM00042 Rec No 12906

AUTOMOTIVE



At Alexandra Service Centre we offer a wide range of services:

- Log book servicing
- General servicing
- Fleet car servicing
- Mechanical repairs
- RACV Roadside Assist
- Towing
- RACV Pre-Purchase Inspections
- Roadworthys
- Trailer servicing
- Car batteries
- Auto electrical repairs
- Air conditioning

We now have several courtesy cars available when booking a service or repairs

Come in and see the team at
6A Webster Street, Alexandra
Phone: 5772 2133

BIN HIRE

RUBBISH REMOVAL

•DOMESTIC •COMMERCIAL •INDUSTRIAL

- Builders Waste
- Household Waste
- 6m Walk In Bins
- 3m Bins

Alexandra SKIP BINS

22 BON ST, ALEXANDRA

CALL SIMON GOODMAN
0409 997 632

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

Like us on
facebook

facebook.com/alexandranewspapers

CARPET CLEANING

GV
Carpet Cleaning

- Stain removal
- Urine treatment
- Upholstery cleaning
- Carpet steam cleaning
- Tile and grout cleaning

Ph 0427 322 124
admin@gvrestorations.com.au

CHIMNEY SWEEPING

ALEXANDRA

CHIMNEY SWEEP

Solar Panel Cleaning
Annual cleaning recommended

Phone David 0475 396 772 or
Robyn 0413 299 154

COMPUTERS

ACROSS TECHNOLOGY

Are you a small to medium business?
You need an IT department with 24/7 support?

We offer:

- Remote management and monitoring
- Onsite and offsite backups
- Sales, service and repairs for PCs, servers, laptops, tablets and phones
- Hosting for websites and emails

Contact Anthony at 0478 534 826
axti.au

ENGINEERING

HUNTED
ENGINEERING

- Ute trays and canopies
- Steel and aluminium welding
- General welding
- Onsite welding

10 Peterkin Place, Alexandra VIC 3714
www.huntedengineering.com.au
(03) 5772 2132 0427 937 404
Office hours: Mon-Thurs: 8am-4:30pm. Fri: 8am-1pm.

EXCAVATION & EARTHMOVING

Murrindindi EARTHMOVING

DAVID BAIRD, ALEXANDRA

0408 575 962

- Bobcat, Excavator and 4x4 Tipper Hire
- Post and Stump Hole Boring
- Trenching
- Site Clearing
- Material Delivery
- Rock Breaking

KEATH'S EXCAVATIONS P/L, YARCK

EARTH MOVING

Excavators ~ Dozers ~ Graders
Scrapers ~ Loaders ~ Rollers
Backhoe ~ Water Carts
Low Loader ~ Tipplers
Trucks & Trailers

All equipment operated by qualified operators
PERSONAL SUPERVISION - 42 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Phone 5773 4242 Mobile 0428 577 951
keathsexc@bigpond.com

Burchall Earthmoving

- ROADWORKS
- DAM WORK
- HORSE ARENAS
- GRAVEL SUPPLIES
- HOUSE & SHED SITES

Phone Shane
0418 589 240

Owner operator with local knowledge

EXCAVATOR HIRE

---- FOR HIRE ----

D6T dozer
Cat 12 h/grader
16T excavator

D5M dozer
Tipper
Water cart

Hay and Silage

Ernie Hadfield (20 years experience)
0429 931 127
ernie.hadfield@bigpond.com

GLAZIERS

ALEXANDRA WINDSCREENS & GLASS

Servicing the Murrindindi Shire
for 35 years

★ on site 24 hour service ★

- Automotive glass ★
- Household needs ★
- Shower screens ★
- Shop fronts ★

Ph Steve Heard
YOUR LOCAL GLAZIER
0427 577 839

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

PHONE 5772 1002

GLAZIERS



- Residential And Commercial Glass Replacement
- New Work
- Quality Double Glazing
- Mirrors
- Splash-Backs
- Shower Screens
- Pet Doors Into Single And Double Glazed

Rob - 0439 141 812

LEGAL SERVICES



Lawyers and Town Planning Consultants
Angelina Bell – Principal Solicitor
 0448 793 795
 admin@belllegalplanning.com.au

Louise Brennan
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

1560 Goulburn Valley Highway, Alexandra
Mobile 0418 414 875
 Phone 5773 2298 Fax 5773 2294

MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Boz Miljkovic
 Mechanic

Alexandra Automotive
 VACC

61 Downey Street, Alexandra
Ph (03) 5772 3232

- General Car Servicing
- Repairs & Tuning
- Batteries
- Road Worthy Certificates
- Disc & Drum Machining
- Front Ends & Suspension

Alexandra Motorcycles



- Authorised Dealer • Tyre fitting service
- Road, Enduro, Quad, Side by Side repairs
- Servicing for popular brands • Honda spare parts

VACC MEMBER
 65 Downey Street (near secondary college)
PH 5772 1045

PAINTERS

W. & J. GREEN

PROFESSIONAL PAINTING

50 Years experience in all things painting

0407 134 756

PLUMBERS



John Taylor 0419 340 908
 Over 40 years experience
 Licenced Plumber & Gasfitter No. 26477
 General plumbing maintenance
 Hot water unit replacements
 Wood heater installation
 Roof repairs
 taylorplumbing.com.au

A.M. & J. ROBINSON

Reg No. 17625



Plumbing Maintenance

Tap repairs and replacement
 High pressure sewer jetter
 Small excavator hire
MOB: 0428 509 359

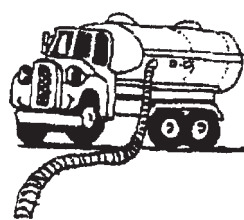
A & C Wood
 PLUMBING

ANDREW WOOD
0488 559 091

DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL, GAS FITTING, HOT WATER SERVICES,
 SEWER, SEPTIC, HEATING & EMERGENCY SERVICE

SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

SEPTIC TANK & GREASE TRAP CLEANING



EPALICENCED

~ ALL HOURS ~

5962 4841
0419 131 958

EFTPOS & Credit
 Cards Accepted

SERVICE STATIONS



*Fuelling North East Victoria since 1953
 with quality products and great service.*

Supplying bulk fuels to your farm or business.
 Lubricant specialists, catering for all your needs
 with Mobil and Prolube lubricants,
 greases and solvents.



Ampol Alexandra
 Ampol Eildon
 Mansfield Diesel Stop



0357721205 | www.simpsonsfuel.com.au

TREE SERVICES

NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

- Commercial and residential block clearing
- Deadwood and weight reduction
- 24-hour emergency call outs
- Tree and stump removal
- Pruning and shaping
- 3.6 Tonne excavator
- Insurance works
- Storm damage



FULLY INSURED

Andrew Bates: **0488 990 393**
 Kate Hill: **0407 555 440**



- Insured
- Experienced
- Qualified
- Reliable
- Competitive

TREE & STUMP REMOVALS

Servicing Murrindindi and Mansfield Shires

5778 9603 JASON 0413 671 066

Advanced TREE CARE
 Servicing N.E. Victoria

- ✓ Tree Removal ✓ Chipping ✓ Qualified Climbers & Arborists
- ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Felling ✓ Mulching ✓ Stump Removal
- ✓ Tower Hire ✓ Free Quotes

Please call **0449 810 683**
 Michael on (03) 5778 7479

WATER BORING

North West Drilling

Water Bores

Extensive experience in drilling for water in Mansfield, Alexandra and surrounding areas.
 Established since 1976

For answers to all your questions and a no obligation free quote contact GRAHAM BRENNAN
 Phone/Fax: (03) 9436 1982 Mobile: 0409 362 289
 northwest.drilling@bigpond.com
 www.northwestdrilling.com.au

WATER BORING

**No water, no charge
 after free site inspection**

Ph Des Murray

0428 518 159

WATER CARTAGE



Delivering drinking water to
 Alexandra & surrounding areas

0491 795 157

PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

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

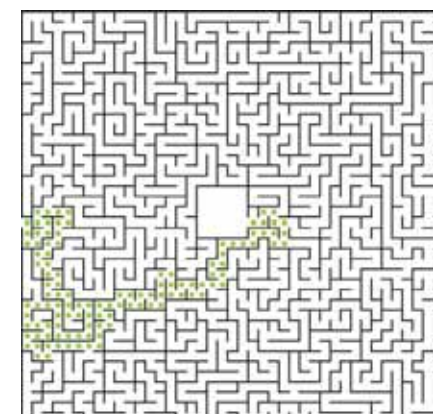
SUDOKU

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

MATH SQUARES

6	-	1	-	4	1
÷		-		+	
3	+	5	-	9	-1
+		-		+	
2	+	8	-	7	3
4		-12		20	

MAZE



KIDS MATH SQUARES

4	+	5	+	7	16
-		+		-	
3	+	1	-	8	-4
+		-		+	
9	-	6	-	2	1
10		0		1	

**BOOK YOUR
 SPACE IN THE
 TRADES
 DIRECTORY**

Phone: 5772 1002
 Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au
 Deadline: 12 noon Thursdays

43 Grant Street, Alexandra VIC 3714

Standard



Tobacco licensing scheme to start next month

THE Victorian Government's tobacco licensing scheme will begin next month to break the business model of organised crime, delivering boots on the ground to crack down on those breaking the law and backing the work of Victoria Police to disrupt the illicit tobacco trade.

Applications for licences will open from July 1, giving retailers time to apply for a licence ahead of boots on the ground enforcing from February 2026.

Backed by more than \$46 million in the *Victorian Budget 2025-26*, 14 licensing inspectors from the new regulator Tobacco Licensing Victoria will hit the streets to hold illegal operators to account, with the toughest penalties in the country in place for those breaking the law.

Under the licensing scheme, any person found to be selling illicit tobacco will face fines of up to \$355,000 or up to 15 years in jail, while businesses will face fines of more than \$1.7 million.

Inspectors will also support police with extra intelligence gathering in the fight against serious organised crime. It builds on the work of Victoria Police's Taskforce Lunar, which has already seen more than 130 offenders arrested and more than \$37 million worth of cash, vapes and illegal tobacco products seized.

Licences will only be granted to fit and proper people passing a strict test, with the regulator able to refuse a licence based on a person's history or known associates.

Licensing fees will be lower than New South Wales and Tasmania, with initial licences valid for 17 months from when enforcement begins in February 2026. The initial fee will be \$1176, to avoid businesses applying for a license twice in the same year. It will be \$830 every year thereafter.

The regulator will have the power to cancel a licence and disqualify a person from applying for a licence. Victoria Police will also play a role in ensuring the suitability of licensees

under the scheme and will have powers to impose further licence conditions, backed by more than \$4.7 million in the budget for this function.

This scheme will help protect legitimate businesses from being undercut by organised crime syndicates and prevent those with criminal affiliations from having anything to do with the legal tobacco trade.

Victoria Police's search powers will be beefed up to make it easier and quicker to raid, search and seize illicit products from a retailer suspected of having links to organised crime.

For more information on the licensing scheme regulations visit vic.gov.au/tobacco-licensing

Minister for Police Anthony Carbines said, "This will back the work of Victoria Police who are coming after crime lords. If you are doing the wrong thing and dealing in illegal tobacco, you will get caught and you will face the toughest penalties in Australia."

Expansion of Forestry Transition Program

THE Victorian Government is expanding the Forestry Transition Program through a new Community Leadership Program aimed at helping to create emerging leaders in communities of northern Victoria and Gippsland.

Committee for Gippsland and the Australian Centre for Rural Entrepreneurship are two established leadership providers that will deliver the tailored leadership programs, aimed at fostering a new generation of community leaders in these former native timber towns.

The programs will develop local leaders that are equipped for navigating change, leading their communities, and shaping the future for their regions.

In Gippsland the 'Building Resilient Forestry Communities Program' will support up to 20 program participants.

In northern Victoria, the 'Lead a New Future for Your Community' Program will support the five priority communities with Local Development Strategies in the region (Murrindindi, Yarra Ranges, Benalla, Corryong and Koondrook) with a core program for 20 participants and further workshops for an additional 100 participants.

Currently, 11 priority native timber communities are being provided medium to long term support to identify new economic opportunities and create jobs through Local Development Strategy projects, the Community Development Fund and the Community Leadership Program.

More than \$10 million in funding has already been awarded through the Local Development Strategy and Community Development Fund to support native timber communities to transition successfully.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence said, "The Community Leadership Program will help community members gain new skills to strengthen and support their local communities as they transition to new economic opportunities."

Treasurer Jaclyn Symes added, "We are continuing to support our Northern Victorian communities to build local leadership, strengthen resilience and create opportunities for sustainable economic growth now and into the future."

For more information visit vic.gov.au/forestry

VESEP grants open

APPLICATIONS for the 2025-26 round of the Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) are now open.

This year the government has announced an additional \$15 million in funding for VESEP.

Under the program, the Victorian Government matches every \$1 paid by volunteer groups with a \$2 co-contribution to a maximum contribution of \$250,000 (up from \$150,000).

Eligible services include the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victorian State Emergency Service (VICSES), Life Saving Victoria, and Volunteer Marine Search and Rescue units.

Minister for Emergency Services Vicki Ward, announced that \$30 million is available for this year's grants, double last year's amount and the most ever available in one round, thanks to the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund.

"It's really exciting to be able to offer volunteers the most funding ever through VESEP. This popular program receives a high amount of applications each year, so it's fantastic this change will allow even more groups to access the support they need," Ms Ward said.

"These grants give volunteers the freedom to determine the best way to benefit their service, ensuring they receive precisely what they need to help support and protect their communities."

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said brigades and groups from across the state are encouraged to apply for the life-saving equipment which helps protect communities.

Grants to celebrate LGBTIQA+ pride

THE state government is backing new ideas and local events that celebrate LGBTIQA+ pride in the lead-up to Victoria's Pride 2026 festival.

Minister for Equality Vicki Ward has opened expressions of interest for the Victoria's Pride Regional Activation Program, supporting regional and rural events that showcase LGBTIQA+ artists, voices and experiences.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available for community groups, councils and organisations to deliver inclusive events that help connect LGBTIQA+

communities and celebrate pride across the state.

The regional program gives more Victorians the chance to support and celebrate rainbow communities, while amplifying the stories, creativity and contributions of LGBTIQA+ people.

The Victorian Government has invested \$6.8 million for Victoria's Pride to celebrate LGBTIQA+ Victorians.

Applications are open from now until Tuesday, August 5. To apply or for more information, visit midsumma.org.au/regional-activation

"VESEP supports volunteers by providing funding to replace or purchase equipment such as vehicles, trucks, tankers, watercraft, trailers, and can also include minor facility improvements," Jason said.

There are five categories under which funding is available: Tankers; specialist and support vehicles; operational equipment; volunteer amenities costing less than \$5000; and minor works costing less than \$250,000.

"One of the key focuses of the program will be aiding those brigades that have not previously benefitted under VESEP and may face challenges with fundraising," Jason said.

In the previous round of funding, CFA received more than \$11 million across 167 successful VESEP projects, including six light tankers, 15 Ultralight tankers, six new

Big Fills and the replacement of 18 Field Command Vehicles.

The 2024-25 round also funded more than 40 brigades for minor works at their station.

Brigades or groups can only apply for one project per funding round as per Emergency Management Victoria guidelines.

Application documents, vehicle flyers, the program guidelines and further information is available on members.cfa.vic.gov.au/brigades-operational/brigades-vesep

Applications for the 2025-26 funding round close July 28 with the announcement of successful projects expected later in the year. For more information about VESEP and to find out how to apply for a grant visit emv.vic.gov.au/vsesep

Planter boxes disappear from Grant Street

Continued from Page 1

"A half page feature article was in the *Alexandra Standard* on December 4, extolling the enhancement of these planters to the beautification of Grant Street and acknowledging the welcomed efforts of the involved volunteers, and businesses also stated, "That guidelines were in place for where they can be located so would not disrupt vehicles and pedestrians."

"Prior to Pamela's meeting with Stuart Russell and ADDTA, information was sent which outlined the size of the boxes, taken from recommendations from Mitchell Shire (Seymour planters) and Strathbogie Shire (Nagambie planters), being 50cm high and 45cm round with safely rounded corners. After the installation of these colourful and much-loved boxes Facebook community

approval was confirmed by the 40 appreciation comments and 258 likes.

"Early on May 29, all planter boxes were removed by shire workers with no warning, consultation or explanation to the shop owners, and stored with an uncertain future.

"No council officers attempted to contact Pamela Thompson, the 'Woodies' or the volunteers indicating the intention to remove the planters.

"It was mentioned that they may impede the setting up of the truck show but in a communication (Saturday, May 31) from Ayden Embling, Truck Show Committee, "This was not a decision made by the truck show committee, nor was it a requirement of the upcoming Alexandra Truck Ute and Rod Show."

"An emergency meeting was held on Thursday, May 29 with Peter Bain, Chief

Engineer and Head of Shire Engineering Team at the request of the volunteers. During this discussion he gave an undertaking to repair any damage to the planter boxes and replace any damaged plants. He also committed to contact Pamela Thompson with the council's view, plans, and solutions to the planter box dispute. To date no communication has been received.

"This is extremely distressing for all involved especially the Woodies who give of their skills, time and money and have an interest in beautifying the town they live in. The community depends on the work of volunteers, and this has not been well managed.

"Some interesting questions: Why were the much-loved planter boxes allowed to remain in the main street from early November 2024 to May 2025 this year if there was a risk to

the community? Was it coincidental that they be removed just before the truck show? How many complaints have been reported to the council? How many incidents of injury have been reported because of their positioning? What is the plan moving forward to repair lost trust with the community and volunteers? Why couldn't these attractive boxes be covered, with the help of the volunteers, under the umbrella of the shire's parks and gardens?

"Colourful inclusions in any main shopping areas of small towns seems to show interest and ownership of that town to display their street to its best advantage. Flowers and gardens whether small or larger give pleasure to visitors and locals alike and put colour in what sometimes can be too commercial and cluttered. Living plants can also offset the pollution caused by exhaust fumes caused by the traffic concentration in the main street."

Workcover premium relief for Victorian businesses

THE average Workcover premium will remain at 1.8 per cent for a third consecutive year.

The government previously made the commitment that once WorkCover returns to financial sustainability, any savings will go back into the scheme to ensure better outcomes for workers and lower premiums for businesses.

Last financial year, WorkSafe provided \$3.4 billion in tailored support to more than 104,000 injured workers while helping more than 26,000 injured workers to return to safe and sustainable work.

The average premium rate has remained unchanged since the 2023-24 financial year,

when the government introduced reforms to modernise the WorkCover Scheme to ensure it remains financially sustainable and can continue to support injured workers into the future.

An independent statutory review will be conducted in 2027 to ensure the reforms are working as they should.

While the average premium rate will remain steady for 2025-26, individual premiums for Victorian employers are determined by factors that can vary from year to year, such as how much they pay their workforce and their own claims history.

Individual premiums are also based on more than 500 specific industry rates, which

are set annually based on how dangerous that particular sector has been compared with other industries in recent years.

Premium renewal notices for the 2025-26 financial year will be available via WorkSafe's Online Employer Services (OES) portal in July.

Speak up on Victoria's Fair Fuel Plan

THE Victorian Government has invited Victorians to have their say on draft fuel regulations that will level the playing field between multinational fuel companies and families and help families save money at the pump.

Minister for Consumer Affairs Nick Staikos recently opened public consultation on proposed regulations which would require more than 1500 fuel retailers across the state to report their fuel prices.

This data will feed directly into a new *Service Victoria Fuel Finder* feature, allowing motorists to make informed decisions about when and where they fill up.

The proposed regulations could save Victorian motorists hundreds of dollars a year at the bowser.

Extensive consultation held with industry since January has informed the proposed regulations and the new fuel finder feature. Public consultation will further expand on the engagement to date.

While commercial price reporting websites exist, the new fuel finder feature will include more fuel providers and will not promote any fuel outlets over others.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission found Melbourne motorists could have saved up to \$333 in 2023 by shopping around for lower priced fuel retailers and filling up at the lowest point of fuel price cycles.

Victorians have until June 22 to make a submission via Engage Victoria at engage.vic.gov.au/victorias-fair-fuel-plan

Keep an eye on the state of your fireplace this winter

IF it hasn't been lit already, most people in the shire will be starting up their woodfires to continue burning for the next six months. It's important to keep your fireplace clean and efficient for the safety of you and your family.

If there is a day where you are not burning and you've ensured the inside of your fireplace is cold, inspect and clean your chimney. You can hire a professional chimney sweep to make sure your fireplace is clean, and the chimney is assessed for any blockages.

In terms of damage, it's important to check for excessive creosote buildup. Creosote buildup is a tarlike substance that can lead to chimney fires. Creosote buildup is often due to burning wet or green firewood, poor air flow and cool flue temperatures.

When you get your chimney assessed make sure the chimney cap is put in place to stop animals entering your chimney.

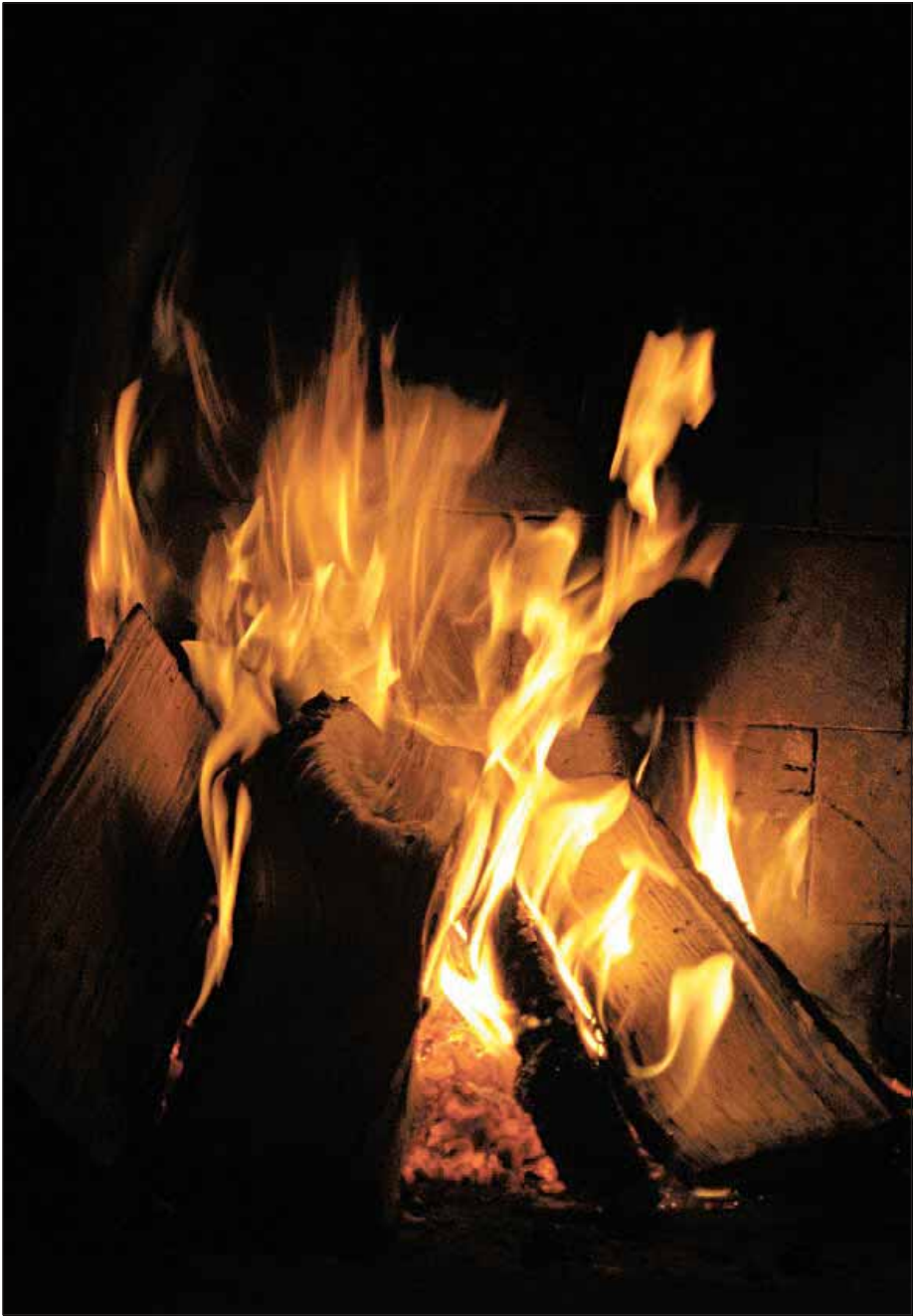
Now the next job is a dusty one, clean the interior by removing ashes and debris. Check the fan is working and check for damage such as cracks and water damage on the fire bricks, the seals and the baffle plate. Inspect the damper to make sure it's working properly by allowing proper airflow.

Whether your fireplace is an open fire or coonara style, having a fire guard in front of it can prevent sparks from escaping and protecting people from burns, especially children as they are most curious about flames.

When it comes to your firewood make sure it's seasoned properly as clean wood keeps your fireplace cleaner.

While your fire is lit make sure any clutter near the fireplace has been removed and always take care putting washing on clothes horses near the fireplace.

Keeping a close eye on the state of your fireplace can make a big difference for everyone's safety this winter.



Keeping an eye on the state of your fireplace will provide you better heat throughout winter. -Pöllö, Wikimedia Commons

SPORT

Funding for sports clubs to promote road safety

THE state government is calling on grassroots football and netball clubs to promote road safety in their communities for a share of \$700,000 thanks to the *Transport Accident Commission's (TAC) Club Rewards Program*.

This year's program aims to empower clubs to develop a culture where all players and members consider road safety before getting behind the wheel.

Now in its sixth year, the *TAC Club Rewards Program* allows AFL Victoria-affiliated football and netball clubs to apply for rewards of up to \$10,000 to spend on club initiatives like club transport, new equipment and uniforms or facility upgrades.

A further \$100,000 has been added to this year's funding pool to support more clubs in spreading the message.

More than 230 clubs earned a share of last year's pool, with many motivated to take part after being affected by road tragedy.

As part of this year's program, clubs will be asked to start conversations and be part of the campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding, with the tagline, *"Be the difference"*.

The launch last week comes as 133 people have lost their lives on Victorian roads, with more than 60 per cent of deaths happening on the same regional roads that footballers and netballers travel on for games every week.

More information on the Club Rewards Program can be found at play.afl/victoria/tacclubrewards

Tight tennis for round six

by Rhonda Carpenter

MANSFIELD'S three local teams, Delatite, Wappan and Mansfield, were all playing at home last Monday. Terip hosted Seven Creeks and Moglonemby met Creighton's Creek in Euroa.

Delatite's Karyn Fraser, Carolyn Murray, Kass Thomas and Loretta Armitage welcomed Wappan onto the groomed courts under grey skies and perfectly still air. Mansfield would host Benalla alongside them.

Wappan's Anna Speirs, Liza Karras, and Rhonda Carpenter had included Mary Reilly for her very first match. Kass and Loretta got off to a flier taking five to zero lead before Rhonda and Mary could get a game on the card. Delatite steadied, continued their great form and took the opener eight to three.

Everyone enjoyed hard baseline hitting while sole supporter Pat Howard watched devotedly from the sidelines as the sun peeped through to warm her back. Anna was the perfect

partner for her teammates, winning every set in style. On debut Mary found her rhythm, ran and retrieved, and ultimately won her first set.

Carolyn and Kass went game for game, geeing themselves up, against Liza and Rhonda until consecutive missed shots unravelled the pair into paroxysms of laughter. Wappan took advantage of the lapse, stole the lead and never looked back.

Wappan won the tight contest 4/40 to 2/27.

Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon, Keira McDonagh, Natalie Bergsma and Sophie Yencken were in strong form for their match against Benalla.

Kate Campbell, Claire Sharp, Maus Jewell and Deb Siggers snatched an opening set and a final one, but Mansfield won the others to win 4/43 to 2/29 in a match of high quality hard hitting.

Terip's Cindy Hayes, Frances Lawrence, Phoebe Macdermid and Meg Ford had all the answers in their contest against Seven Creeks.

Ro Ellis and Gayle Furphy put up a challenge in their opening set, but Terip took the chocolates 6/48 to 0/16.

Moglonemby warmly welcomed back Marlene Hanrahan and Robyn Johnson, to join Judy Sands, Lyndall Bigland, and Danielle Scotis for their match against Creighton's Creek.

Faye Mollison, Ros Doxey, Kerry Hewlett, and Lyn Johnson fought hard and to win two sets, but Marlene was enjoying being back on court after time out and won both her sets eight to one.

Moglonemby won 4/39 to 2/23. Euroa had the bye.

Ladder Round Six: Euroa 41, Moglonemby 37, Terip 36, Wappan 36, Mansfield 25, Creighton's Creek 21, Benalla 15, Seven Creeks 15, Delatite 14.

Round seven will be played on June 16 after the Kings Birthday holiday with matches in Benalla, Euroa, Mansfield and Terip. Two further rounds will be played before the mid-winter holiday break.

SPORT



Visitor Geoff Heard, Steve Coker, Peter Lilley and Drew Kaempkes pleased to have reached the 18th hole. -S

Seven golfers brave the weather at Marysville Golf Club

by Lesley Rundle

PERFECT conditions for golf are a sunny day with very little wind, no rain, comfortably warm but not too hot to attract flies and stunning surroundings to admire. Last Thursday the nine-hole golfers experienced these perfect conditions as they played stableford on the back nine holes at Marysville Golf Club.

The winner was Ian Harris (14) with 20 points followed by Amanda Rattay (13) with 19 points. The shots of the day were played by Ray Jones when he birdied the challenging par four 13th hole and also had a nearest the pin on the 11th and 18th holes.

Also, last Thursday four ladies played in the Alexandra ladies' tournament and with an earlier start than the nine-holers the greens were initially covered in frost but were soon back to normal when the sun appeared and ideal conditions eventuated.

Thirty ladies from Alexandra and visiting clubs played stroke and had an enjoyable day. Home ground advantage came into play with a number of the Alexandra ladies on the winner's list. There were no successes for the Marysville ladies on the golf course but yet again Heather Jenkins won a raffle prize.

The final Dalhousie ladies' event before the winter break is at

Avenel which is the only course in Dalhousie with sand greens which for players adds an extra challenge and interest. Three Marysville ladies will travel to Avenel.

In contrast to the perfect weather on Thursday the conditions on Saturday were about as uncomfortable as they can be. A very cold wind, rain, hail but no shine presented a number of challenges and the necessity to jump puddles added to the golfers' experience.

Most golfers chose to stay at home but seven golfers including one lady stoically played 18 holes of stroke. The winner of the June monthly medal was Keith Atwell (16) with nett 74 followed by Adam

Littlejohn (20) with nett 81. Keith Atwell and visitor Geoff Heard from East Malvern won the nearest the pins and Gail Leigh won the putting with 28 putts.

The ladies' monthly medal was cancelled and the fourth round of the Barton Shield will be rescheduled. Next Saturday both the men and ladies will play a stableford round.

Books of raffle tickets for the major fundraiser of the year are now available for members to sell. Members are asked to get the books from Steve Coker as soon as possible.

Great turn out for ladies annual open tournament

by Dave Silverman

TUESDAY rolled around again this week, as it does, and, just like in a septic tank where the big lumps float to the top, Brad Newton has once again come out a winner. In a field of 10, Brad's 36 points were clear of the rest, with Leo Dynes and James Fulton both on 33, filling the second and third spots respectively.

Brad also claimed the nearest the pin on seven, and James took 17, with 18 going to Bill Wind.

Rundown vouchers went to John Greateorex and Graeme Emmerson.

On Wednesday, nine ladies braved the cold start for a team game known as Foursomes, which, oddly, is played in teams of two people. The result was a very close finish, with Donna Meggitt and Bron Howell taking the win, just, from Marg Fahey and Helen Findlay, on a countback as both teams recorded a net 73.

Sue Greateorex and Marie Stace claimed the nearest the pin on seven, and Judy Pearson and Marion Williamson took the 18th.

Thursday saw the ladies hold their annual Open Tournament, which attracted a field of 30 from across the Dalhousie District. The open winner, with a very creditable 84 scratch, was Sue Byrne from Trentham. B Grade scratch went to our own Sue Greateorex, with a 95, and Jill Bouchier from Box Hill won C Grade with 99.

Ruth Worland won the A Grade Handicap with 88 net 74, and Judy Pearson took B Grade with 95 net 71. C Grade was taken out by Marion Foster from Marysville with 105 net 69.

Running a successful tournament is never easy, so congratulations go to Helen and all her team of Alexandra Ladies who contributed to a great day for all who attended.

And that, folks, as they say, is that for this week. The weather gods intervened to ensure that almost nobody turned up for golf on Saturday, so there was no competition. Welcome to winter in Alexandra.

Tight one point victory at Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday Competition Eagles versus Falcons

LOCHLAN versus Eric: Some great rallies. Eric's serve let him down, gifting Lochlan a number of free points to help him claim the win. 81 to 43.

Sally versus Mick (fill in): Sally had great placement and was reading the game well, pushing Mick for much of the match. Mick managed to break away in the third game to win the match. 67 to 51.

Michael M versus Matt L (fill in): It was an intriguing match. Michael took two games with his usual panache but in a surprising turn of events, Matt snatched game three with 12-point lead to put

himself ahead. Matt kept his lead until the final buzzer for victory. 61 to 60.

Hawks versus Kestrels

ETHAN versus Jordan: A close match. Ethan had the lead going into the final game until Jordan made a brilliant comeback to draw the match. 56 to 56.

Jared versus Oli: A great game by both. Oli had some good shots across the walls, but Jared held strong, played consistently and closed out the match victorious. 67 to 55.

Andrew versus Jim: Neither player could hold the upper hand. Andrew would eke out a lead with his low error count, only for Jim to push back. The final game saw Jim find a streak and shoot forward briefly

before Andrew steadied, taking advantage of every error to claim the win. 58 to 53.

Thursday Competition

Blue tongues versus Dragons

BETH versus Liane: Beth had some nice finesse shots and managed to draw the third game. Liane dominated the court from the beginning and went home with a commanding win. 72 to 42.

Sam versus Travis: Always a close match with this pair. Travis took the lead and did his best to hold onto it. Coming in with other ideas, Sam decided to claw his way through to steal the match. 67 to 61.

Daniel W versus Justin (fill in): Extreme intensity and chaos. There were some wild shots made, and they ran a marathon. Both

players took home two games, but Daniels tenacity saw him triumph. 64 to 61.

Frill necks versus Geckos

BLAKE versus Randy: Randy put in a good match, but Blake keeps improving and took control of the games to sail through to victory. 75 to 50.

Kristelle versus Jodie: A fun contest. By utilising her serve and some tricky returns Kristelle had set herself up with a five-point lead going into the last game. Jodie tightened her serves in the final game, throwing her opponent off and ultimately winning herself the match. 61 to 59.

Stuart versus Phil: It was a closer game than the score suggests. Phil was on the ball tonight and his finishing shots were deadly. Phil took home a sizeable win. 71 to 43.

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard Sport

SPORTS EDITORIAL - sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

ISSN 2200-6478



ASC athletes soar across sports fields and arenas



Koa Parker has been achieving tremendous results in swimming for ASC. -S

by Allison Crouch, Alexandra Secondary College Sport Coordinator

IT has been a dynamic and action-packed start to the year for our students, with outstanding achievements across a wide range of sports both in and out of school. From local interleague matches to interstate and national championships, Alexandra Secondary College (ASC) athletes have proven their dedication, skill, and passion for sport.

Netball interleague success, where ASC netballers had a fantastic showing in the interleague competitions. Phoebe Kidd, Cassie Kidd and Ella Palmer showcased their talent in the under 15s division, while Zoe Collier, Tilly Miljkovic and Koa Parker made a strong impression in the under 13s. These players continue to develop their skills and demonstrate leadership and teamwork on and off the court.

Equestrian endeavours. Ash Collett has been galloping across the state, representing ASC at several major equestrian events including the Albury International EA Horse Trials, Geelong EA Horse Trials, Tooradin EA Horse Trials, and the Benalla Pony Club Horse Trials. Her commitment to the sport is admirable, as she continues to compete at a high level across multiple venues.

Triathlon talent on a national stage, with Koa Parker achieving a phenomenal milestone, making the SSV Victorian Junior 13 to 14 Years Triathlon team. She competed in the School Sports Australia competition held in Rockingham, Western Australia, proudly representing Victoria. Additionally, Koa played in the Goulburn Murray Representative Netball Team alongside two other ASC girls, further highlighting her all-around athleticism.

Koa also successfully represented ASC at the State School Victoria Swimming meet earlier in May. This is an unbelievable achievement as only the top swimmer from the Hume competition is selected. There were 29 different schools that participated in the Hume Swimming competition. Koa had a brilliant day achieving outstanding results: third in breaststroke, second in butterfly and fourth in freestyle.

Volleyball champions. Danielle Nadj has reached impressive heights in volleyball, earning a spot on the Volleyball Victoria U19 team that will compete at the Australian Junior National Championships in South Australia this July. She also plays in the State League Premier Women's Division One for the Maroon Cobras in the Victorian Volleyball League, making her one of the school's top athletes.

The ASC VCE Boys Volleyball Team triumphed in the Hume competition and advanced to the state championships. Their teamwork, discipline, and strategic play have been key to their success. Congratulations to Ash Dean, Drew Collier, Casey Collett, Archie Gibson, Noah Campbell, Ben Geldart, Stuart Thompson and Sam Harris, what an unbelievable effort and brilliant opportunity to represent the college at such a level.

Mountain biking excellence, with Chase Hilder representing ASC at the Mountain Biking Interscholls in New South Wales. Competing at this level requires immense dedication, and the school is proud of Chase's efforts and representation.

Football standouts. The interleague footballers of Josh Northmore, Mav Burchall, Jaidyn Dimech, Heath Sutcliffe, Jayd Bennett and Toby Lucas have demonstrated grit and talent throughout the season. These players continue to grow in strength and contribute to a strong football culture at ASC.

Active lunchtimes and extra-curricular opportunities. It's not just during class or at competitions that students stay active. Lunchtimes at ASC are a hive of activity, with students embracing the many opportunities to engage in sport and fitness. Michael Mawson is leading a popular and successful squash competition, George Nadj is on court helping students fine-tune their volleyball skills and Ally Crouch has a dedicated gym group working out regularly in the weights and aerobics room.

With such a wide range of opportunities and so many passionate students, ASC continues to foster a culture of active, healthy living and high achievement in sport. They congratulate all students on their efforts and look forward to more exciting sporting stories in the future.



The ASC VCE Boys Volleyball Team. -S