

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, April 9, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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murrindindibusiness.com.au

## INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

High tides for 24-25 pool season



Page 3

Eildon Reserves declared open



Page 8

Grade six jumpers at St Marys



Page 12

Weekend sport



Pages 18-20

### POLICE REPORT

ON Wednesday, April 2, a 28 year old Alexandra man was tested for drugs in his system at a roadside stop. He returned a positive reading. The reading will be analysed and the man may be prosecuted for drug driving. Police have advised that there will be a marked increase in roadside drug testing around the shire.

POLICE have also reminded drivers that with daylight saving coming to an end, more people will be on the roads after dark. Please drive safely as there has been an increase in vehicles colliding with animals on our roads, including deer, wombats and kangaroos.

POLICE are still seeking a witness to an incident which occurred on Cooper Street on Saturday, March 22. It's understood that a vehicle may have deliberately hit a kangaroo. Please contact the Alexandra Police Station if you have any information.

PEOPLE are reminded that if they witness a driving offence, they can call Crime Stoppers with the registration number of the vehicle. Dash cam footage can also be provided. For further information, visit [crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)



Pictured at the Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum (ATTM) are ATTM president Stefan Rebetz and ATTM vice president Peter Aumann with MBFF committee member Sue Wynn and MBFF event coordinator and promotions Carolyn Weeks in front of Alexandra's own 1936 Kelly and Lewis diesel. More on page 4. -S

## Communities LEAPing towards resilience

FIVE communities across Murrindindi Shire have successfully completed the LEAPing into Resilience Project, creating Local Emergency Action Plans (LEAPs) to help them withstand the impacts of natural disasters. The communities are Flowerdale, Glenburn, Marysville and Triangle, Toolangi and Castella, and Yea and district.

The LEAPing into Resilience Project is a joint initiative between Murrindindi, Mansfield and Strathbogie Shire Councils, made possible with funding from the Australian Government.

The first round of the LEAP Project was designed to help communities prepare for and recover after emergencies. It provided opportunities for community members to connect

with each other and receive training in areas they identified as important, such as what to do in the first 72 hours after an emergency, chainsaw use and maintenance, grant writing skills and psychological first aid. Council would like to thank the community members who participated, and emergency services volunteers and agencies for their guidance and input into the project.

With the completion of this project, community members who participated from these five communities are now better equipped with skills and knowledge to increase their resilience. Council encourages all community members to practise preparedness, and familiarise themselves with the finalised LEAPs on the website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/leaps](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/leaps)

A second round of the LEAP Project is coming in April 2025, as council has been successful in securing extra funding to work with more communities. The new grant funding is from the *Safer Together Program* through the Victorian Government's Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA). This upcoming project will be in partnership with Mansfield Shire Council.

If your community could benefit from being involved in the next LEAP project, email [leap@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:leap@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or call council on 5772 0333.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Community Wellbeing Portfolio Councillor Jodi Adams encouraged more communities to nominate for the project.

"Our residents who were involved in the LEAPing into Resilience project have already taken the jump and are building towards stronger communities with increased resilience. Feedback from those involved has been positive, and I would highly encourage our communities who were not involved the first time to contact council and nominate for the upcoming opportunity."

"Real opportunities for capacity building, such as the chainsaw operation course, help our communities prepare for the future, and the equally important, but harder to measure, connection between our people, provides a key pillar of resilience in the face of adversity," Cr Adams added.

## EASTER OFFICE HOURS

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18 AND MONDAY, APRIL 21

EARLY DEADLINES  
APPLY FOR APRIL 23  
EDITION

NOON, THURSDAY, APRIL 17  
★ DISPLAY ADS - BOOKING AND ARTWORK  
★ CLASSIFIEDS INC DEATH NOTICES ★ TRADES

10AM MONDAY, APRIL 21  
★ EDITORIAL, SPORTS AND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WE WILL REOPEN 9AM TUESDAY, APRIL 22



43 Grant Street, Alexandra Ph: 5772 1002  
email: [reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)

The Yea Chronicle

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE  
Standard

ALEXANDRA  
NEWSPAPERS



# COMMUNITY DIARY

**Alexandra District Health**  
**5772 0900**  
**Non-emergency police assistance**  
**131 444**  
**EMERGENCY 000**

**Local Radio Frequency**  
 UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon  
 UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain


## MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

### WEEKLY

Tue	Women's Walk @ 7am @Embassy of Ideas
Sun	Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 0456 583 611
Fri	Man Walk @ 7am meet at RSL Hall
Fri	Communita 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

### MONTHLY

1 <sup>st</sup> Wed	Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318
1 <sup>st</sup> Sun	Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thur	Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	Alexandra Ladies Probus 10am RSL Ph 0428 976 252
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm. Ph 0402 804 517
Last Fri	Carkers Group 10am Grant Street Grocer. 0418 402 455




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

The success of this grant funding is an important step towards making Marysville Community Centre a more energy-efficient, resilient, and sustainable space for the

“This neighbourhood battery will make a difference to the Marysville community and increase resilience in an area of high fire and storm risk. It also aligns with Council’s sustainability goals for Murrindindi Shire. I would like to thank the Victorian Government for the grant funding, as projects of this size are beyond the scope of small regional councils like ours. The success of projects like this shows the impact we can have when we work together,” Cr McAulay said.

IN the March 26 edition of the Alexandra Standard a letter to the editor and the police report noted the incident with the kangaroo occurred on Friday, March 21. This has been brought to our attention that it was Saturday, March 22.

















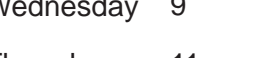
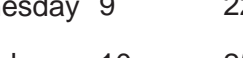
# Weekly Weather

April 9 - April 15, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra
Yea

DAY			DAY		
LOW	HIGH		LOW	HIGH	
Wednesday	9	22 	Wednesday	9	22 
Thursday	11	24 	Thursday	10	25 
Friday	11	27 	Friday	11	26 
Saturday	13	28 	Saturday	13	28 
Sunday	14	27 	Sunday	14	28 
Monday	14	25 	Monday	13	25 
Tuesday	11	23 	Tuesday	11	23 

THUMBS UP

THUMBS DOWN

**THUMBS UP:** I can not believe how much the puzzle page has helped me and I enjoy every bit of it. Kudos to whoever creates it.

**THUMBS DOWN:** Dog walkers please take your dog droppings with you instead leaving them on my lawn. Thank you.

**THUMBS DOWN:** To the fire hydrant in the center median strip in Grant street, Alexandra, next to the rotunda that does not have a cover and is protruding out of the grass about 150mm. It's a tripping hazard just waiting for an unsuspecting person to be injured.

**THUMBS DOWN:** To Robyn and the people who didn't name themselves regarding ANZAC Day. Lest we forget.

**THUMBS UP:** A huge thank you to Chris from Alexandra Community Hub. Chris was so supportive and helpful with helping me to navigate my age pension issues through Centrelink. We are so lucky to have such amazing support in our rural community.

**THUMBS DOWN:** How come it took four weeks for a card sent in Alexandra to arrive in my letterbox also in Alexandra? Unbelievable. I thought 15 days from Alexandra to Acheron was bad enough but 4 weeks?

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers.  
Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to  
[editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au)

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

**ALEXANDRA**  
NEWSPAPERS


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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to  
[editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au) or  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)  
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers  
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

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

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

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**Standard**

**The Sun Chronicle**

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	2.19	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.38	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.24am Mon	0.42	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	4.46am Mon	0.10	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.20am Mon	0.39	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	9.18am Mon	0.24	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	4.08	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.31	steady	below minor
King Parrot Ck at Kerrisdale	10.15am Mon	0.09	steady	
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	1.85	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	2.05	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	8.57am Mon	0.79	steady	
**ISSUED AT 10.45AM ON MONDAY, 7 APRIL 2025				

Alexandra.....	0.2mm
Buxton.....	1.5mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.2mm
Flowerdale.....	2mm
Jamieson.....	0.6mm
Kinglake.....	12mm
Lake Eildon.....	0.2mm
Mansfield.....	N/Amm
Taggerty.....	0mm
Yarck.....	0.6mm
Yea.....	N/Amm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	278.75m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	64.4%
Metres below full supply.....	10.15m
Daily inflow .....	350ML
Release.....	5500ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	93.4%

THE ALEXANDRA EILDON • MARYSVILLE

# Standard

INCORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES • THE YARCK, GOBBIE, TAGGERY, THORNTON, AND ACHERON EXPRESS

## DEADLINES

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

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

5772 1002 or  
*[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)*

*We thank you for your continued support*



# Rural communities to be hit hardest by new state government levy

A REVAMPED Victorian Government emergency services levy is set to rip \$140 million from rural communities annually according to a new analysis, prompting urgent calls for the tax to be scaled back.

The new Emergency Services and Volunteer Fund represents a 150 per cent tax hike on some rural landholders, when compared to the Fire Services Levy it is designed to replace. This is despite a complete lack of guarantees regarding how (or where) the new money will be spent.

"This new levy is dreadfully unfair. It's going to smash farm budgets, hurt local businesses and cause job losses in our towns and communities," RCV Chair Cr Rob Amos warned.

"Every extra dollar we send to Spring Street is a dollar that can't be spent in a local business or used to pay an employee."

Aside from the weather, financial stress is already the leading driver of poor farmer mental health.

"Everybody agrees our emergency services need a boost."

"This new levy will hit Victorian farmers the hardest. How does that make any sense

after years of drought and amid a cost-of-living crisis?" Cr Amos said.

"At the very least this new tax burden should be shared equally among all Victorian landholders."

RCV is also concerned by the Victorian Government's refusal to guarantee that money raised by the levy will only be spent on local CFA and SES crews, equipment and infrastructure.

Rural Councils Victoria has written to the Victorian Treasurer, Jaclyn Symes, sharing this new analysis and raising its concerns. We look forward to sitting down with the Treasurer to ensure she's aware of the impact the ESFV will have on Victoria's farmers and rural communities.

Other concerns RCV holds about this new levy include: Rural councils will be required to collect this new annual levy through rates notices and then pass the money onto the state. However, forcing local governments to collect a Victorian Government tax is unfair. The State Revenue Office exists for this exact purpose and should be the vehicle for collection. There's nothing to stop the Victorian Government increasing the levy in the future. This contrasts with local councils, which have been subject to a rate cap of 2.38

per cent (average over 10 years). The rate cap is essentially a cap on council funding for local services and infrastructure. Either way, the new levy should be capped also, or subject only to scheduled increases. The Victorian Government says CFA and SES volunteers will be exempt from the new ESFV levy. But this is only partially true, as the exemption will only apply to one rateable property. Most farmers hold the title for numerous rateable properties and will therefore still be required to pay a significant fee.

"The Emergency Services Volunteer Fund levy isn't scheduled to come into force until July," Cr Amos said.

"There's still time for the Victorian Government to acknowledge the inequities and unforeseen consequences of this new levy and make changes."

A Statement from Murrindindi Shire Council said, "Council recognises the critical role that emergency services play in protecting our communities and the importance of ensuring they are adequately funded. However, we are deeply concerned about the financial impact of the new Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESFV) on our rural and regional ratepayers, as well as the additional burden placed on

councils to collect this levy on behalf of the State Government.

"Council is closely monitoring the issue and engaging with the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Rural Council's Victoria (RCV) and other councils to advocate for a fairer approach. We will continue to raise the impact on farming and commercial ratepayers in our discussions with the State Government.

Rural Councils Victoria first published this release. Murrindindi Shire Council is represented on the RCV committee.

## Council responds to hand-delivered concerns

AT the March council meeting, during the public participation section, Garry Angus handed over an envelope to Livia Bonazzi containing concerns.

Council was asked to provide further information on this, including the nature of the allegations and any investigations being undertaken.

Council responded, "At the council meeting on March 26, Mr Garry Angus spoke about the subdivision and civil works at 45-47 Carey Road, Killingworth, and handed an envelope to the CEO during public participation.

"Council treats all correspondence and documents received from community members in a confidential and respectful manner. The content of Mr Angus's verbal comments and the fact that he tabled documents in a public meeting are now part of the public record.

"Mr Angus asked a series of questions that relate to a range of matters, including planning, engineering approvals, and compliance. At this stage, no complaint has been lodged, and no evidence has been presented that would indicate any breach of council process or propriety.

"Council prides itself on its strong foundations of good governance, integrity and transparency. Our processes are designed to be robust and stand up to scrutiny. As with all questions or suggestions posed by the community, council will review the processes related to this development in accordance with its statutory role and responsibilities. Should any irregularities be identified, council will take appropriate steps, which may include referral for independent review.

"Members of the public who believe they have evidence of wrongdoing are encouraged to raise concerns through the appropriate formal channels. The Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 (the Act) requires council to maintain internal processes that facilitate disclosures, effectively manage the receipt of information and provide protection for all parties who may be involved. To learn more about reporting an act of improper conduct or detrimental action and how we can protect you for providing such information, refer to the Public Interest Disclosures section of the website [murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

"Council remains committed to transparency, procedural fairness, and good governance in all its dealings."

## Easter Sunday at Fawcett Hall: A community day out

EASTER Sunday at Fawcett Hall promises a fantastic day out for the whole community, with something for all ages to enjoy. On Sunday, April 20 from 9am to 4pm, locals and visitors alike can take part in a car boot sale, historical displays, market stalls, and delicious food.

For just a gold coin donation at the gate, visitors can browse the car boot sale (\$10 per car to sell), pick up home-made jams and plants, and enjoy a sausage sizzle and self-serve tea, coffee, and soft drinks.

A highlight of the day is the famous Marg's passionfruit sponge, a must-try treat.

For history lovers, the event will showcase historical displays from Fawcett and Koriella, as well as a nostalgic collection of photographs from Alexandra Secondary College in the 1980's.

Families won't want to miss the Easter Egg Hunt at 9am for kids under 12.

Fawcett Hall is located at 655 Spring Creek Road, Fawcett, just 10 minutes from Alexandra.

Make a weekend of it with the Alexandra Rotary Easter Art Show and Rennies at Acheron Sculpture Exhibition, both running across Easter, with a reciprocal entry for ticket holders.



Last year's Fawcett Hall car boot sale. -BD

For more information, visit [fawcethall.org.au](http://fawcethall.org.au)

## High tides for the 2024-2025 pool season

MURRINDINDI Shire Council's outdoor pools have made a splash this summer, welcoming the highest-ever number of visitors. Nearly 35,000 visits were recorded across Alexandra, Yea, Eildon and Marysville pools

during the 2024-25 season, it was an impressive increase of almost 25 per cent on the previous record set in 2024.

Mayor Damien Gallagher said it was wonderful to see so many locals and visitors making the

most of the free entry program and enjoying the facilities on offer.

"All of our pools broke attendance records this season. The Alexandra Swimming Pool led the way, becoming the first in the shire to welcome over 10,000 visitors in a single season, more than 2000 above last year's tally. Across all pools, favourable weather conditions meant there was a record low number of pool closures, with one dedicated Marysville swimmer even clocking up 100 visits."

Mayor Gallagher extended his thanks to the Eildon Op Shop which kindly donated new pool toys for the Eildon Swimming Pool. "With 8646 visits recorded at the Eildon pool and the opening of the brand new Baanh ba Djila Splash Park nearby in the Walter Moore and Thomas Marr Reserves, Eildon has solidified its position as a summer destination with local businesses also commenting on the increased visitation in Eildon."

"My sincere thanks to our lifeguards, who worked tirelessly throughout the season to keep everyone safe. I take my hat off to the team, well done on another successful swimming pool season."

The statistics for the pool attendance across the Murrindindi Shire for the 2024-2025 season were as follows: Alexandra 10,624 patrons, Eildon 8646 patrons, Marysville 8224 patrons, and Yea 6884 patrons. This amounted to a total of 34,778 patrons using Murrindindi Shire Swimming Pools.

As council looks ahead, recruitment for the 2025-26 pool season will begin soon. "Each year, we recruit around 45 lifeguards and support staff, but like many communities across the state, we are feeling the impact of a statewide lifeguard shortage. Lifeguards are essential to ensuring our pools are safe and enjoyable, so if you or someone you know is interested, keep an eye out on council's website or Facebook page for updates," Mayor Gallagher said.



Lifeguards at Eildon Pool with all the great equipment donated from Eildon Op Shop for everyone to enjoy. -S

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## fawcett hall

sausage sizzle,  
home made jams, plants,  
historical displays:  
fawcett region &  
Alexandra. S. C - 80's,  
passionfruit sponge

& carboot sale - \$10  
per car to sell stuff

more info >  
website or  
facebook



April 20 - 9am - 4pm  
easter sunday



## 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  
Contact: Ps Steven Turner  
Ph: 0413 127 283  
Meeting every Sunday @ 10am

### MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

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

### THE VINE

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

## Out & About

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

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### SUNDAY, APRIL 13

Beyond the Beats, live young, local music artists. A vibrant music event celebrating fresh talent and good vibes. 2-5.30pm at Pixies at the Billabong Eildon. Tickets via QR code in ad in this edition.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Don Wilson Photography Exhibition, 34 Retreat Road, Buxton over Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm. [donovanwilson@redbubble.com](mailto:donovanwilson@redbubble.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Fawcett Hall, sausage sizzle, home made jams, plants, historical displays and much more. 9a-4pm and a carboot sale.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SUNDAY, APRIL 27

Eildon Bowling Club AGM will be held at 2pm at the club, Sixth Street, Eildon.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

NUMBERS were down a bit for bridge this week mainly due to ill health but hopefully things will improve after the Easter break. Friday saw a constructive committee meeting in the morning followed by a lively business meeting in the afternoon. David Hunt-Sharman advised that due to his business activities he is having to cut back on his activities within the club but would remain on the committee at least till the AGM mid year. David's knowledge of legalese and business matters is a great asset to the club and much appreciated.

It was decided that we would not meet up on Good Friday or ANZAC Day as members would be participating in other activities. After the formalities, members enjoyed the usual chat and refreshments before enjoying the games of 500 and UNO. It was nice to welcome two new ladies joining us for a game of 500.

If you would like to come along on a Friday afternoon you will be most welcome. Next week I hope to tell you how much members enjoyed the trip to Healesville RSL for the Morning Melodies and lunch. Meanwhile stay safe and keep smiling.

## ANZAC Day 2025

THERE is a call for all men who were called up for National Service between the years of 1951 and 1972. Regardless of any organisation. If you were called up between the years mentioned, we would like to see you march on ANZAC Day.

If you have your own medals wear them on your left side, you have relation's medals wear them on your right.

We meet on ANZAC Day at 8am outside Young & Jacksons in Flinders Street. We look forward to seeing you there. Any inquiries call Peter Kemp on 0427 859 549.

## Easter Fair 2025

Last year at the Easter Fair there was a surprise visitor. -BD

THE annual Alexandra Easter Fair will be a fun day out for families in Alexandra on Easter Sunday, April 20 at Rotary Park proudly hosted by Alexandra and District Traders and Tourism Association (ADTTA).

This great family fun filled day is a gold coin donation and will start at 10am and finish at 3pm, there will be something for everyone with a variety of things on offer.

There will be market stalls to peruse at your own leisure, local food, face painting,

local wineries and breweries, live music from Darren Coulson and artists from the Paul Music Group, and children's amusements and entertainment.

This Easter experience is a great opportunity to have a day out with the family and some time to catch up with friends along the way. This event is one not to be missed as it will be a memorable one for all.

For more information contact [alexandraeventsld@gmail.com](mailto:alexandraeventsld@gmail.com) or visit Alexandra Tourism's Facebook page.

## Don't forget to check your smoke alarms

DID you remember to check and change your smoke alarm battery when daylight saving ended? There's still time, and while doing this, it's best to clean them. Vacuum the dust and cobwebs and gently wipe around the unit while making sure they are working correctly.

Fire Rescue Victoria recommends using smoke alarms powered by a 10 year lithium battery for longevity. If you already have one of these there is no need to change the battery yearly until required. If you hear a chirping noise this can mean the battery is running low and needs to be replaced immediately. It is advised to replace all smoke alarm batteries every 10 years, when doing so consider getting interconnected smoke alarms so when one sounds, they all sound throughout the home.

## Hour with an Ambo at the Eildon Information Centre

EILDON Action Inc and Ambulance Victoria are inviting people to attend the Eildon Information Centre on the last Tuesday of each month at 10am (for about an hour) to listen to a short presentation by a health professional to learn about a myriad of different health-related subjects. This is a valuable free service for our community and free health checks are offered. The topic in April will be *Respiratory Conditions COPD*. Morning tea will be provided.

Eildon Action Inc is also inviting new membership applications for consideration. They meet once per month at the information centre. Please ring Annette on 0412 724 660 for an appointment if you would like to become part of our team and be an active member.

## Beanie festival donates to local groups

EVERY year the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival (MBFF) is pleased to donate money raised from their annual event to various local charities and not for profit groups within the Shire of Murrindindi.

Recently MBFF Committee members Sue Wynn and Carolyn Weeks were pleased to hand over a cheque to the Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum at a recent working bee that was well attended by 18 volunteers.

Vice President Peter Aumann was "blown away to receive the money and support from the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival Committee."

Peter also stated, "It is an exciting time for the ATTM as we have lots of new members joining up and lots of fresh and existing projects happening right now. With the team completing a new entrance to the precinct, signage, fencing, and work commencing on a new disabled accessible carriage."

It is also an exciting time for the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival as this year the festival is expanding with more stalls on offer and the Alexandra Timer Tramway and Museum will be running during the Beanie Festival weekend. The locomotive, a 1936 Kelly and Lewis diesel was built for Alexandra and worked between the town and Rubicon, will be donning a specially made beanie.

Many have been busy behind the scenes knitting 'grannie squares' to join forces for the big unveil on the Beanie Festival weekend. How big will it be? Well, you will just have to head on over to the ATTM to see it for yourself.

In the meantime, the Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum would love to get members helping out on the platform and also with train driving. So too the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival rely on the fabulous community to knit, crochet, spin, create fibre art or felt their way into our amazing fibre arts festival. Beginners are encouraged and there are so many ways you, your school or community group can get involved.

The Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival is on in May and includes a market, stall holders, CWA Devonshire Tea, sculptures in the park, Alexandra Quilters and yummy treats.

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

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Anthony and Tracy outside one of the buildings. -AR

## Scenic Marysville to hold open day

SCENIC Marysville, a new accommodation business, is set to have a grand opening after three years of hard work. The business is owned by Tracy Boyce and Anthony Slot, who have also owned Marysville Garden Cottages, next door to Scenic Marysville, for the past 11 years.

The couple has lived in Marysville for the past 18 years, and Anthony, a builder, was involved in the rebuilding of numerous houses in the area following Black Saturday.

They designed Scenic Marysville themselves, and much attention has been paid to the detail. Each of the rooms across the three buildings are different, each unique in their own way. There are 11 rooms in the larger building, and a two bedroom cottage and a three bedroom cottage, so they have something to suit all holidaymakers, although they don't cater for children.

The accommodation is designed to suit all access needs, and two accommodation options are compliant with the disability code, and each room also contains a king

size bed. There's also an indoor/outdoor communal space where people can gather for catch-ups or meetings. The building was built with recycling in mind, and uses a passive solar design and solar hot water.

The garden is looking lovely, even though it's only new, and should be terrific in coming years.

The project was supported by the Victorian Government who were looking to support regional tourism projects. The funding helped them to offset the post-COVID-19 increase in building costs. Anthony said, "We're very grateful for their support."

With Marysville Garden Cottages rating extremely well on travel booking websites, there are high hopes for Scenic Marysville as well. They have only just started developing a social media presence and taking bookings.

Scenic Marysville is holding an open day on Sunday, April 13 from noon to 2pm so people can head along and check it out. It's located at 4 Barton Avenue in Marysville.



One of the new light-filled rooms. -AR



Don's wildlife photography is top notch, as demonstrated by this spectacular shot of eagles. -S

## Don Wilson to host photographic exhibition

DON Wilson is a landscape and wildlife photographer from Marysville who will be displaying over three decades of photos at his at-home exhibition on Saturday, April 19 and Sunday, April 20.

He started playing around in the field of photography at about the age of 20, back when cameras were film.

"I have never got really involved in it, I just always had a camera and messed around," Don said.

"I probably was often disappointed with the results with film, as it takes a long time to get good with film. Once you go to digital and you can take photos and delete them, you advance so quick. I found that I did."

With his nature photography, Don focusses on capturing the image in the moment and doing as little post-editing as possible.

"Most of what I do, and I've pretty much always done, is got very minimal post-editing etcetera. That's probably why I like wildlife so much, because I do almost nothing to it. It is what it is straight out of the camera. Which, for me, is important."

"Everyone's different of course, but what I take is what was there, and that's important to me."



Don Wilson, local man who takes inspired nature photographs, will be hosting an artist's exhibition on the weekend of April 19 and 20. -S

He gave some advice for people looking to get started in photography, that it's not about the gear, it's about cultivating the eye for a good shot and taking a number of photos that improve on each other, even of the same subject.

"My main photography thing I guess is not really about gear, it's about seeing what you see and how you capture it. And photography has just gone more that way into photoshop and what you see is maybe not even real anymore."

"Develop your eye. I can see what will make a good photo well before I've got the camera out. I can see the art in a normal landscape and imagine what light can make it better. That's more important than gear."

"Look at lots of photos too, try and understand what you like, what appeals to you. Try and work out if there is a style that is actually yours, which is hard to do these days. When you look at your photos, look at what shouldn't be there as well."

Don's exhibition includes a lot of photography that he's taken over the last five years but hasn't shared and some of his favourite photos from over the years. He mainly presents them in the form of canvas.

"The exhibition is a fair bit of new stuff, but some old favourites as well. It's really just a mix. It's almost 30 years of photography, so it's not a specific thing in general. It's at-home so people can come or not come, and there'll be a sign down the road."

"I've done a lot of seascapes, I've done stuff in Tasmania, up the New South Wales coast and stuff like that. I push the local stuff because it's a bit unique."

"I haven't been sharing a lot of what I've been taking over the last four or five years, which is why I thought I better do the exhibition. I've got this big build-up of stuff again, and I thought I'll put that together."

The exhibition takes place from 10am to 4pm on April 19 and 20, at Don's house on 34 Retreat Road, Buxton. For further details or additional information contact Don at [donovanwilson@redbubble.com](mailto:donovanwilson@redbubble.com)

YOU'RE INVITED



SCENIC  
MARYSVILLE

■ Sunday, April 13, 2025 noon to 2pm ■ 4 Barton Avenue Marysville Vic

OPEN DAY



Over 3 years in the making, designed and built by the creators of Marysville Garden Cottages, is the brand-new **SCENIC MARYSVILLE**

Thoughtfully appointed 13 suite tourist accommodation, catering for adults seeking a rejuvenating retreat.

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

## Don Wilson Photography

PHOTO EXHIBITION



Please come along and view some of my favourite landscape and wildlife images, showcasing the stunning beauty of our local region and beyond.

My artwork will be available to purchase from the exhibition.

Saturday and Sunday,  
April 19 and 20, 10am to 4pm

📍 34 Retreat Road, Buxton

🌐 [donovanwilson@redbubble.com](mailto:donovanwilson@redbubble.com)



## Proudly supporting Student of the week

Community Bank · Yea &amp; District and Alexandra

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### ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL



#### Jack Stewart

Jack has shown the school value of Achieve whilst pushing through challenges on the Friday Mountain Bike Track sessions. Jack rode with persistence, gradually developing his skills as his confidence grew. That's a great learning attitude. Jack, we are proud to have you in our learning community.  
You are a star.

### ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL



#### Alisha A

Alisha is a conscientious student who is always ready to learn and do her best. Alisha applies herself and seeks feedback on how to make improvements to her tasks. She is always up to challenge herself and likes to share the connections she makes between topics. Alisha displays kindness, is willing to help others and is always polite and respectful to everyone in the school community.  
Well done, Alisha

## Student of the Week

Proudly supported by  
Kingslake branch
 **Bendigo Bank**


The farmers gathered in the Cattle Pavilion at the Alexandra Showgrounds. -AR



Kerry Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria with Andrew Embling. -AR

## Drought seminar well-attended

AN event titled *Farming in Dry Conditions: Free seminar and breakfast* was held at the Alexandra Showgrounds on the morning of Thursday, April 3.

Andrew Embling explained that the 2022 Flood Recovery Committee still had some funds left over. He had been a part of a drought committee from 2004 to 2009 and was familiar with the challenges being faced. He suggested to the shire that they form a drought committee, and they said that there was some money left over from the floods so it was diverted to addressing drought impacts through a dry conditions seminar.

The funding came through the state and federal governments, with Murrindindi Shire Council and Alexandra Events providing the funds for coffee and food.

Twenty-eight farmers from across Murrindindi attended the event, and both the

Alexandra and Yea hospitals were represented. Anyone who was feeling depressed about the drought was encouraged to call or attend these health services.

There were also industry representatives at the event, including Zoetis, Olsens and Ridley Barastoc, and the breakfast was made by the Alexandra Show Society. The Little Green Coffee Cart was also there.

The main speaker was Rob Inglis, a nutritionist from Elders in Wagga. Andrew said, "People went away with a lot of knowledge from him." Kerri Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria also spoke about water.

Andrew said, "All in all, it was a great day, and it was a great lead-up coming into the screening of *Just a Farmer* on May 2."

Alexandra Events will be a major part of the screening, along with all of the agencies.



Farmers listening to the speakers during the seminar before enjoying a lovely breakfast. -AR



## MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



### CRMS AND PAYMENTS OFFLINE

Council's customer request management system is being upgraded and will be offline from 5.00 pm Wednesday 30 April until 9.00 am Monday 5 May.

During this time customers will not be able to make online web requests or make online payments. If attending a customer service centre during this time, or calling our team to submit a request, please be patient as they will be working with manual systems and working through a backlog of requests.

### FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL IN APRIL

Autumn is the perfect time to tidy up your garden! From 1 - 30 April, you can dispose of your green waste for FREE at Council's Resource Recovery Centres.

This offer includes domestic quantities of garden waste. For more information on green waste disposal and what will be accepted, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/greenwaste](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/greenwaste) or call us at 5772 0333.

### CHANGES TO KINGLAKE AND YEA LIBRARY HOURS

Starting Tuesday 22 April, we are changing the afternoon hours for our Kinglake and Yea Library and Customer Service Centres. This change reflects how our community uses these services and ensures the safety of our staff who work alone at night.

The main changes are:

- Kinglake Library will no longer be open until 6.30 pm on Mondays.
- Yea Library will no longer be open until 6.30 pm on Tuesdays.

The new hours are:

- Monday to Friday: 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
- Saturday: 10.00 am to 12 noon

We will continue to run regular library programs after hours as scheduled. For more information on opening hours and locations, call Council on 5772 0333 or visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries)



### PET REGISTRATION RENEWALS REMINDER

You should have now received your pet registration renewal. Please note, registration for dogs and cats is due by 10 April. If your details have changed or you need to register a new pet, visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pets](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pets)

Registering your pet(s) is important for ensuring that they can be easily identified and returned to you in the event they become lost. It is mandatory for all dogs and cats being registered for the first time with Murrindindi Shire Council to be microchipped. This regulation also applies to previously registered dogs and cats that move into Murrindindi Shire from another Shire.

### COUNCIL SERVICES OVER EASTER

During the Easter long weekend (18-21 April), there will be some changes to Council services.

**Kerbside Collection:** This service will continue as usual over the Easter long weekend.

**Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs):** Our RRCs will be open as usual, except on Good Friday (18 April), when they will be closed.

The Alexandra Landfill will be closed to the public on both Good Friday and Easter Monday. For more details, visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/RRC](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/RRC)

**Library and Customer Service Centres:** Our Library and Customer Service Centres in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake, as well as our Mobile Service, will be closed from Good Friday and will reopen on Tuesday 22 April.

**Urgent Matters:** For urgent issues like stock on roads, dog attacks, or unsafe road conditions (including fallen trees), please call 5772 0333 at any time.

**Non-Urgent Requests:** We will be back to assist you from Tuesday 22 April. Online requests can be lodged at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request)

### HELP SHAPE ALEXANDRA EAST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Council is calling on the Alexandra community to provide feedback on the proposed options for the Alexandra East Development Plan (AEDP).

Council has held two in-person consultation opportunities, and you can continue to provide feedback through an online or phone survey until Monday 21 April.

Find out more about the options or provide feedback by visiting [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/aedp](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/aedp) or calling 5772 0333.

### DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET 2025/2026

Council is preparing a draft Annual Budget for the next financial year. The draft Budget is scheduled to be made available to the community for comment during April and May. Stay tuned for more information on how you can provide feedback.

### BEYOND THE BEATS IN EILDON

Join us at Pixies at the Billabong, Eildon, on Sunday 13 April from 2.00 - 5.30 pm for a fun-filled, all-ages music event with an epic local young lineup! Tickets include snacks and soft drinks. Transport is available, with buses running from Kinglake and Marysville with stops along the way.

For more information or to buy tickets, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/beyondthebeats](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/beyondthebeats)

### STAY INFORMED

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

### GET IN TOUCH

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



# Eildon Reserves Redevelopment declared ‘open’

MURRINDINDI Shire Council was proud to host the official opening of the new Eildon Reserves Redevelopment project at Walter Moore Reserve on Taungurung Country by the State Member for Northern Victoria, Jaclyn Symes, MP on Friday, April 4.

The Eildon Reserves Redevelopment has seen the transformation of Walter Moore and Thomas Marr Reserves, with the construction of a skate park, flying fox, swing set, senior play space and adventure playground.

The Baahn ba Djila splash park, meaning ‘Water and Play’ in Taungurung language, is a new stand-out feature of the reserve, providing the perfect spot for locals and visitors to keep cool during the hotter months.

New barbecue facilities and picnic areas provide the perfect setting for a leisurely day out. The reserves also include upgraded toilet and change facilities for all abilities.

Murrindindi Shire Council’s Mayor Damien Gallagher was thrilled to see so many in attendance at the opening, including community representatives from Eildon Lions, Eildon Events, Eildon Primary School and the Eildon Houseboat Industry Association, and member of the Eildon Deliberation Panel.

“The Eildon Reserves Redevelopment project has provided significant recreational and economic benefits to the Eildon community. The new and upgraded facilities provide a vibrant space for locals and visitors to our stunning region,” he said.

“Eildon is a wonderful location for outdoor activities, like water sports, boating and camping. With the addition of the Baahn ba Djila splash park and a range of other new facilities, Eildon has certainly solidified its position as a sought-after summer destination for all ages.”

“Thank you to the community and local businesses for your passionate support for this project. It’s been great to see local families, community members and visitors enjoy the reserves and splash park, and I warmly welcome new visitors to come and experience all that Eildon has to offer”, Mayor Gallagher added.

The Eildon Reserves Redevelopment was made possible with funding from the Victorian Government and Australian Government, supporting Council’s \$1.493 million contribution.

Minister Jaclyn Symes said, “We’re giving communities like Eildon the facilities they need so more locals can enjoy healthy activities they love for free, whilst enjoying the benefits of the great outdoors.”

For information about Walter Moore Reserve, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walter-moore-reserve](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walter-moore-reserve)



Uncle Peter from the Taungurung Land and Waters Council conducted the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony. -AR



Crs Sue Carpenter, Paul Hildebrand, Damien Gallagher, Anita Carr and Sandice McAulay with shire CEO Livia Bonazzi, Treasurer Jaclyn Symes and students from Eildon Primary School. -AR



Mayor Damien Gallagher. -AR



Treasurer Jaclyn Symes. -AR



**HELP SHAPE THE ALEXANDRA EAST DEVELOPMENT PLAN**



Council is seeking your feedback on the proposed options for the Alexandra East Development Plan (AEDP) to shape the future of 71 hectares in Alexandra’s major growth area.

**GET INVOLVED:**

If you weren’t able to attend the recent community events for this project, where residents, businesses and local groups had the opportunity to share their ideas, you can now have your say through an online or phone survey.

Visit [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/aedp](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/aedp) or call 5772 0333 to get involved and share your feedback.

Feedback closes Monday 21 April.

Help shape the Alexandra East Development Plan!



This project is made possible with funding from the Australian Government’s Housing Support Program.



The new splash park, Baanh ba Djila, has officially opened. -AR



Builders from Warrandale Industries who worked on the project. Back: Tim, Dean and Warwick. Front: Michael, Seth and Darren. -AR



## Councils aim to Make Good Happen this federal election

THE Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), the peak body representing Victoria's 79 councils, has launched its *Make Good Happen* federal election campaign, signalling the Victorian local government sector's five highest priorities ahead of the federal election.

"All councils across Victoria are wanting to partner with the federal government to meet housing demand, fix potholed roads, deliver energy transition commitments, fortify our critical infrastructure to withstand fires, floods or storms, and promote active local democracy and cohesive communities," MAV CEO Kelly Grigsby said.

"With all of these challenges upon us, there has never been a more important time to advocate on behalf of our communities for policies, initiatives and investments that will help build a resilient and sustainable Victoria," Ms Grigsby added.

The MAV *Make Good Happen* campaign will focus on: Making community infrastructure happen through delivering the infrastructure growing communities need to thrive; making safer roads happen through connecting communities and supporting a safer and more productive Victoria; making fairer energy happen by engaging communities in Victoria's energy transition; making resilient communities happen by future-proofing communities to withstand natural disaster; making local democracy happen by supporting stronger, safer communities and countering disinformation.

In each of these five areas the MAV campaign will showcase best practice programs and initiatives that can be replicated state and nationwide and call for supportive policy and funding.

Speaking in support of the campaign priorities and their importance in Murrindindi Shire, Mayor Damien Gallagher said "The upcoming federal election is a great opportunity for all councils to advocate on behalf of our residents. Working together on shared goals gives us a greater chance for success. The MAV campaign focuses on areas that we believe will have a lasting impact on our shire."

"Together, we are committed to advocating for infrastructure to support sustainable growth in our shire, pushing for safer roads across our large road network, and supporting our communities' interests in the transition to renewable energy, while protecting our local environment, farming viability and tourism.

"Our advocacy also focuses on building resilience to withstand natural

disasters, including building back more resilient infrastructure. Strengthening local democracy and the fight against disinformation has always been important, however in the current climate it is even more crucial.

"By addressing these key priorities, we can ensure a brighter, safer, and more sustainable future for all residents of Murrindindi Shire," Cr Gallagher concluded.

The MAV *Make Good Happen* campaign is providing a unified voice for the local government sector as they advocate to bring about positive change within communities across the state. For more information visit [mav.asn.au/make-good-happen](http://mav.asn.au/make-good-happen)

## Cadet to Qualified Building Surveyor

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is proud to congratulate Jaymie Elward on successfully completing the Victorian Government's *Women Building Surveyors Program*, becoming a qualified Building Surveyor and reaching a significant milestone in her career.

Jaymie's journey from cadet to qualified Building Surveyor highlights the supportive and inclusive environment at council and Jaymie's hard work and dedication. The Building Services team has been key in guiding and mentoring Jaymie, helping her gain the skills and experience needed to succeed.

The *Women Building Surveyors Cadetship Program* provides councils across Victoria with

funding to employ aspiring professionals and give hands-on experience and thorough training in building surveying to support their education. Jaymie's success proves the program's effectiveness and its potential for future cadets.

Jaymie shared her thoughts on this achievement.

"Completing my cadetship and becoming a qualified Building Surveyor has been a challenging yet incredibly rewarding journey. I'm thankful for the guidance and support I received from both my colleagues and supervisors throughout the program. This experience has not only equipped me with the essential skills needed for the role but has also inspired me to encourage other women to consider

careers in building surveying. The industry is fast-paced and ideal for those who thrive on challenges. You have to embrace being busy, and no matter how long you've been in the role, there's always something new to learn every day."

Council's Building Services team plays a crucial role in promoting good building practices and ensuring that buildings in the Shire are safe and compliant. They offer valuable services to the community, such as conducting building inspections, approving permits, and providing advice on building regulations. Jaymie's new qualification will strengthen the team's capabilities and improve the services offered to residents and businesses.



Rob Skinner, Council's Municipal Building Surveyor, Jaymie Elward, Council's Building Surveyor, and Natalie Stewart, Manager Development Services. -S

FSA/DETS2045

### Best Start Best Life

## Four-Year-Old Kinder is becoming Pre-Prep.

In 2025, Pre-Prep will be available for 16–30 hours per week in Murrindindi Shire. Pre-Prep means more time to develop important social and emotional skills. Learning through play helps children explore, solve problems, communicate and create, while making friends – getting them ready for school and life.

Enrol for 2025. Speak with your preferred kinder service or local council today about how to register for a place or to learn more visit [vic.gov.au/pre-prep](http://vic.gov.au/pre-prep)





Dr Anna Manning from Delatite Veterinary Services with Sally from Yea and District Memorial Hospital. Dr Manning was at the cattle sales to discuss zoonotic diseases, particularly those transferable between cattle and humans. -BD



Farmers enjoying a chat while the cattle are auctioned. -BD



There was a large crowd for the most recent Yea sale, with people watching to see how prices would hold given the dry conditions and the flooding in Queensland. -BD

## Positive prices at April cattle sale in Yea

by Bailey Dixon

THE April cattle sale at the Yea Saleyards took place last Friday, with a big yarding of 3250 head due to continuing strong interest from northern buyers.

Majority of the cattle were steers and black Angus, with the top price per head being \$2560 and top weight 645 kilograms, making for 411c/kg.

The last three rows of the sale were heifers. Top price was \$1990 and top weight 499.2 kilograms, leading to a strong average of 399c/kg.

On average, the cattle at the sale weighed in at 312 kilograms average and sold for \$1233

per head on average, making 395c/kg the average for the day.

High prices were a good sign for farmers, showing that the industry is still standing strong despite concerns around tariffs and the continuing dry conditions.

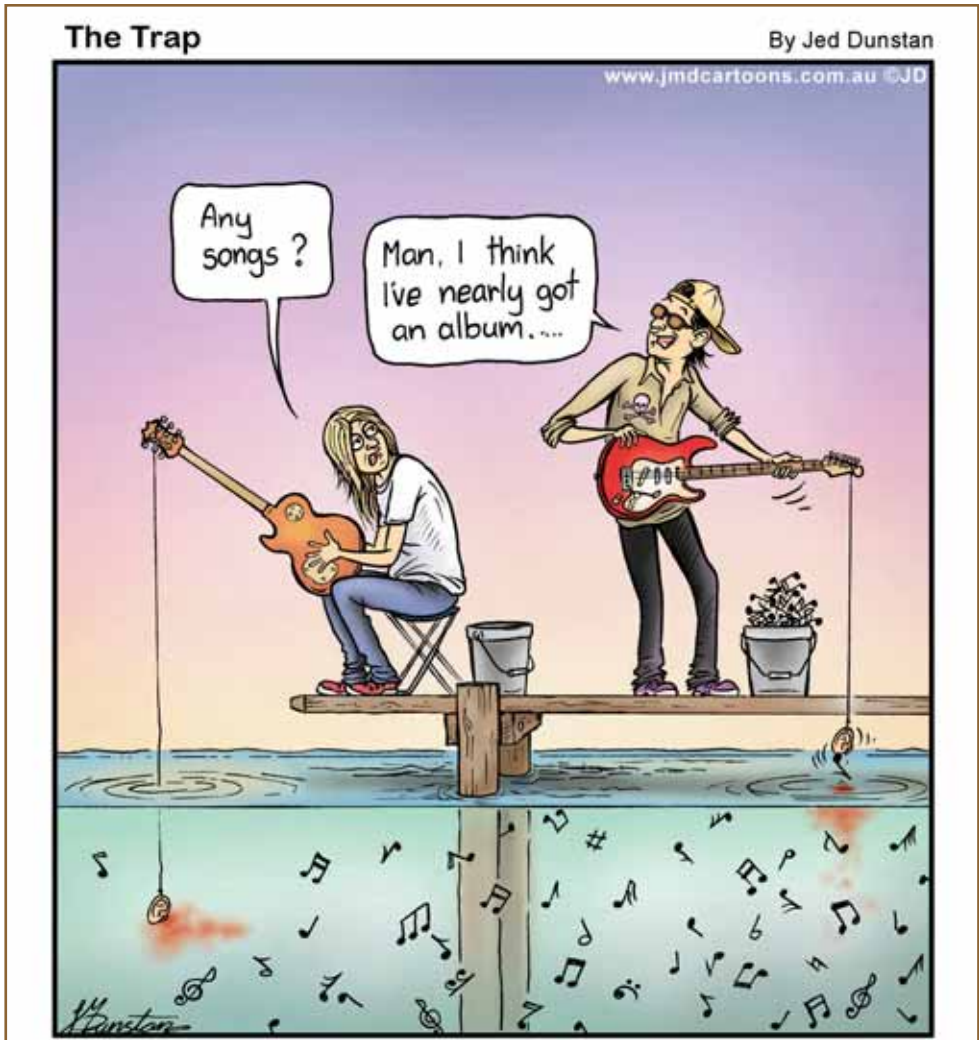
Also at the April sale was Dr Anna Manning from Delatite Veterinary Services, who was talking with farmers about zoonotic diseases, or diseases that can spread from cattle to humans, and people from AgBiz Assist were offering rural financial counselling services.

Upcoming cattle sales at the Yea Saleyards include an Elders and Nutrien Store Sale on May 2, and an Alex Scott and Staff Chris Stanley Store Sale on May 9.



Nutrien and Elders were the auctioneers for the day, with a big number of cattle to get through. -BD

STOCK REPORT 4 APRIL 2025			
Elders & Nutrien Store Sale	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers
Number of head	3,250		
Average \$ per head	\$1,233		
Average weight per head	312kg		
Top price per head		\$2,560	\$1,990
Top weight		645kg	499.2kg
Turnover	\$4 million		



Sponsored by

### APRIL PHOTO COMPETITION

Submit your photo competition entry for APRIL, for your chance to win a \$50 voucher from *Dindi Country Clothing* in Alexandra. The APRIL theme is **'pets'**.

Sponsored by

**5772 1405**  
79 Grant Street Alexandra  
Dindicountryclothing@gmail.com  
facebook.com/DindiCountryClothing/

Email your photo and contact details to [manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au) by noon April, 24, 2025

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.

**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](mailto:alexgrainstore@gmail.com)





The large number of attendees at a previous Off-Grid Living Festival listening attentively to presentations. -S

## Everything off-grid related coming soon to Chiltern

THE Off-Grid Living Festival is happening on April 12 and 13 in Chiltern. The team of organisers, consisting of four passionate individuals, has poured their hearts into creating an event that celebrates sustainable living and the off-grid lifestyle.

They believe in fostering a community where like-minded people come together to embrace a lifestyle that treads lightly on the planet. The festival, curated by incredible Festival Director, Kate Nottingham, is a testament to her visionary approach and commitment to growing this unique event.

There are some 280 exhibitors at this year's festival, ranging from solar consultations to bush survival workshops to woodworking.

Event Coordinator Arabella Watson spoke about the family-friendly nature of the festival.

"We really try to make it family focused. Obviously there is a lot of adult stuff, like solar companies and EVs, but we also have a whole range of things for children," Arabella said.

"There's an animal petting zoo, there's Clydesdale horse rides, there's a kid's tyre playground that they can come and play in. Plus there are workshops specifically for children, with parent supervision. There's even a pickling workshop for all ages.

"We always have music, so there's a stage that runs for the two days with live music to keep all ages happy, and there will be face painting."

Asked about what the organisers want people to walk away from the festival feeling, Arabella responded that she wants people to walk away feeling inspired.

"It is so varied. We often get asked to explain the festival, and we say come along and learn about the latest technology such as battery banks and all that type of stuff, or you could walk away having made your own hand-made pair of socks," Arabella said.

"We want people to walk away feeling inspired and that there is things they can do. And to have a sense of hope and learn some new skills regardless of what skill that is."

New additions to this year's Off-Grid Living Festival in Chiltern include: A film partnership with Environmental Films Australia, featuring special screenings at the historic Star Theatre in Chiltern; cocktail night opening launch at Posh Plonk on Main, showcasing local foods and specialty drinks in an intimate setting; Saturday night long table feast with wild discovered foods, a unique dining experience celebrating wild-foraged flavours.



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Woodworking is just one of the large variety of crafts and elements of off-grid living on display at the festival. -S



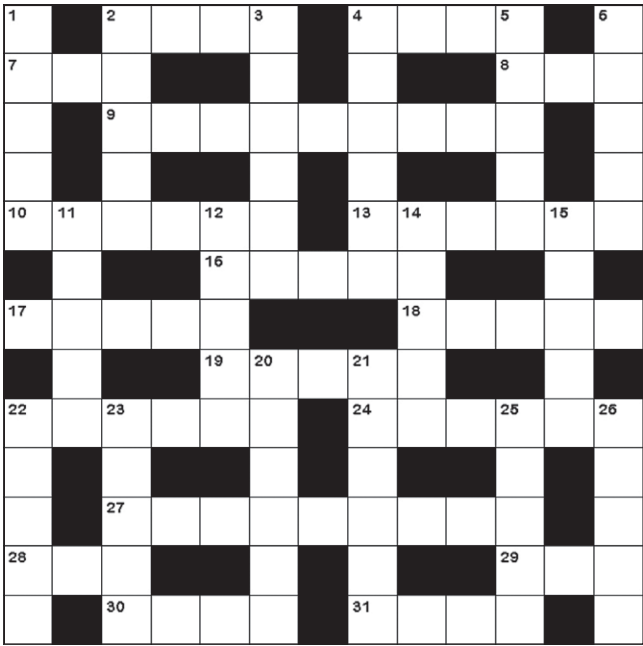
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS  
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Crossword

ACROSS

2. A large seagoing vessel.  
4. Strike with a heavy, crushing blow.  
7. Tell an untruth.  
8. A strong feeling of anger.  
9. A flippant, sardonic remark.  
10. The force used to push something.  
13. Tastelessly cheap and showy.  
16. Stopped sleeping.  
17. An act punishable by law.  
18. Dwell on with malicious satisfaction.  
19. A stingless male bee.  
22. A small or medium-sized couch.  
24. Warns of approaching danger.  
27. An official valuation.  
28. Gave food to.  
29. A collection in its entirety.  
30. The way out.  
31. Resentment at seeing the success of others.



DOWN

1. Show contempt and disregard for.  
2. Drainage pipe for rainwater and waste.  
3. Music to be played very fast.  
4. Tell someone off angrily and at length.  
5. A long walk in the country.  
6. Physically and mentally fatigued.  
11. A large group.  
12. A large yellow-fleshed turnip.  
14. A divine messenger from God.  
15. Behave in response to a situation.  
20. Feel sorrow over an action.  
21. A local inhabitant.  
22. Move very slightly.  
23. An equal exchange.  
25. An car race run over public roads.  
26. Like the taste of sea water.

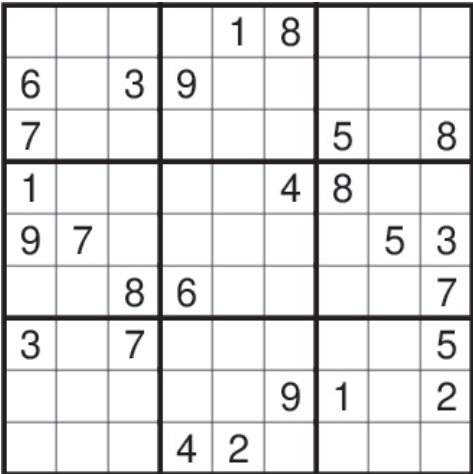
Word Search

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

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Sudoku



Difficulty: Medium

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.

Cryptogram

AFL

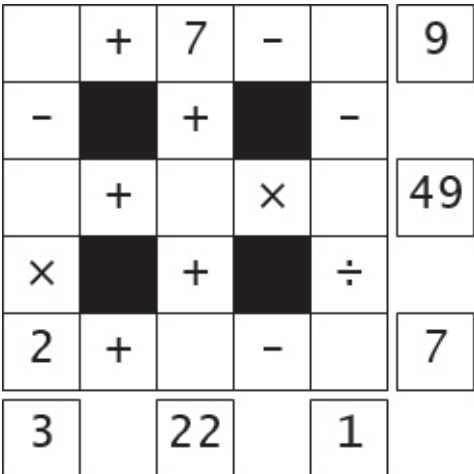


T S S T E  
26 18 11 11 6 16 18 26 8 15 22

S  
11 8 22 14 10 3 18 16

T E E  
26 8 15 21 6 22 21 14 15

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.



St Mary's Primary School class of 2025 recently received their grade six jumpers. -S

Grade six students at  
St Mary's receive their jumpers



The grade six students wearing their new jumpers with pride. -S

Murrindindi East U3A update

MURRINDINDI East U3A was very thankful to have Gwen Green, an experienced and engaging gemmologist from London, come to speak to the group about her incredible knowledge of pearls. This 'pop up' event was held in the quaint surroundings of The Embassy of Ideas where cosy seating is nestled beside a large

television screen. The screen showcased some brilliant photographs of pearls, their history and how they were used over time.

Some of these gems had been found in burial sites and this proved that pearls were used in jewellery design over 2000 years ago. During the Roman Empire, pearls were

used extensively for jewellery and clothing decoration. Gwen's pictures showed beautiful crowns, long and large strands of pearls and a magnificent Tudor necklace. In these times men, as well as women, wore pearls, most likely to show off their status as well as for decoration.

Gwen's presentation included diagrams of where pearls are found throughout the world and also how they are formed in nature. Early pearl discoveries were found on the seabed, beside the mollusc after the creature expelled it from the shell.

Of course, morning tea was provided at the conclusion of the presentation. Judy Maloney, who organised this event, also made sure that a fabulous selection of cakes and biscuits were available to all.

At tea, Gwen Green was seen with several U3A members gathered around in a small group. They were drawn to her as she cast her expert eye over some pearl jewellery which had been brought in from a jewellery case at home.

By the end of the morning, everyone was wondering exactly how many pearl necklaces were sitting around in people's bedrooms, unloved and no longer used. It became a popular talking point over a cuppa, and some of the group decided they were going home to check out what was in grandma's jewellery box



Gwen Green at the Embassy of Ideas. -S



Jill and Marianne chatting with Gwen Green over a cuppa. -S





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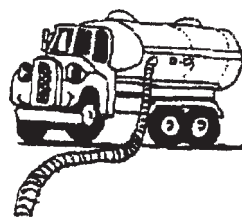
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T	E	X	I	T	E	N	V	Y	Y

**CRYPTOGRAM**

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**SUDOKU**

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

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5	+	7	-	3	9
-		+		-	
1	+	6	×	8	49
×		+		÷	
2	+	9	-	4	7
3		22		1	



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## TRADES ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON THURSDAY

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

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### EASTER OFFICE CLOSURE

Our office will be closed from Friday, April 18 and will reopen on Tuesday, April 22.

Early classified deadlines for April 23 edition will apply

#### CLASSIFIED DEADLINE IS NOON, THURSDAY, APRIL 17

This includes death and funeral notices, public notices, meetings, for sale, situation vacant, etc.



### PUBLIC NOTICES

## Standard The Yea Chronicle

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### DEATH NOTICES

**BARKER, Trevor John.** Passed away on 03/04/2025. Dearly loved and loving brother and brother in law to Greg and Jacinta. Loved uncle to Alissia, Kylie and Megan. No more pain and suffering Trev. Fond memories.

**JONES, Elsa.**  
06/09/1945 -  
27/03/2025

Passed away at Wantirna Health. Loving wife of Dudley (dec). Caring mother of Leanne and Kevin. Stepmother to Colin and Debra and families. Cherished gran to Thomas and Abbee.

### FUNERAL NOTICES

**JONES, Elsa.**

A funeral service celebrating the life of Elsa will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025 at Marysville Community Centre commencing at 12:30pm followed by a burial at Marysville Cemetery.



### MEETINGS



General meeting for the Alexandra RSL will be held on Sunday, April 13, at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

**EILDON BOWLING CLUB** Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27 at 2pm at the club, Sixth Street, Eildon.

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## business cards



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# Australian agriculture sector disappointed by tariffs

THE United States recently introduced a 10 per cent tariff on all Australian exports, leaving the agriculture sector disappointed.

The relationship between the Australian and US agricultural industries has been longstanding, with the existence of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement supporting trade in the form of zero tariffs on two-way trade.

Australia imports \$2.5 billion AUD worth of US food and agricultural products annually, and around \$400 million worth of farm machinery annually.

In return, the US owns and leases about 2 million hectares of Australian agricultural land, being a multi-billion-dollar investor in our agriculture sector.

Various agricultural organisations have expressed their disappointment in the tariffs since the announcement last Thursday.

President of the National Farmer's Federation (NFF) David Jochinke spoke with Prime Minister Anthony Albanese last week, outlining that the sector does not support the introduction of reciprocal tariffs and supports the government in standing firm in defence of Australia's science-based biosecurity framework.

"This decision is a disappointing step backward for our nations and for the global economy," Mr Jochinke said.

"The Australian agricultural industry supports a considered and measured approach to negotiations with the United States and will work closely with the government and all sides of politics to seek a resolution to this issue," Mr Jochinke said.

"The NFF has long championed free and fair trade, not just for agriculture but all industries, recognising its role in global

economic growth and stability. Australian agriculture is unwavering in its commitment to this.

"While this decision creates unnecessary uncertainty, we remain confident in the strength of Australian agriculture. Our products are sought after worldwide for their quality, sustainability, and reliability."

The NFF also welcomes the government's \$50 million commitment to help affected sectors diversity markets and will seek clarity on how the funding will be delivered.

The Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) and its members are disappointed in the United States' decision to impose tariffs on Australian red meat exports destined for the US.

Red Meat Advisory Council (RMAC) Chair, Mr John McKillop, said the decision to impose a 10 per cent tariff on goods imported

to the US failed to recognise that Australian red meat contributes to stable food supplies and prices in the United States.

"While Australian meat exports will shortly be subjected to a 10 per cent tariff, there is no ban on Australian red meat and our trade with the US will continue," Mr McKillop said.

"However, it remains a disappointing decision from the US, in stark contrast to our 20-year partnership under the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA).

"Last year, 2024, was a record year for Australian red meat exports, driven by strong global demand. Australian producers can be assured that we operate in a strong global trading environment with high demand for our red meat from over 100 markets.

Mr McKillop said the Australian red meat industry, in partnership with the Australian government, has worked to alleviate economic trade barriers, including tariffs, via the negotiation of free trade agreements (FTAs) over a number of years. As a result, 91 per cent of beef, 74 per cent of sheep meat and 89 per cent of goat meat exports traded globally are covered under existing FTAs, which remain effective.

"The US was Australia's largest red meat export market in 2024, worth A\$6.07B, almost one third of total global exports. The US will continue to be a key market despite these tariffs," Mr McKillop said.

Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) Managing Director, Michael Crowley, said that MLA and the industry had already been working on this issue throughout 2025 with the formation of an industry taskforce and collaboration and communication with the Australian Government.

"US tariffs will impact the prices paid by American families and may have flow on impacts on the supply chain. It is unlikely these changes will make a difference to retail prices here in Australia," Mr Crowley said.

## Reserved Seat holder representing Taungurung LaWC

TAUNGURUNG Land and Waters Council (TLWC) is proud to announce that Kaley Nicholson is the new Taungurung Treaty Representative to the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria following an election process that ended on Friday, February 7, replacing Matt Burns.

In her inaugural speech, Kaley said, "As a proud Taungurung woman with deep family lines throughout Victoria, I am honoured to be elected as the Taungurung Representative on the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria. I want to thank my people for placing their trust in me to represent them at the Treaty table.

"Growing up in rural Victoria, I understand the unique challenges our Mob face in the regions. Deeply entrenched poverty and having to navigate systems that were never designed for us means that access to services and genuine economic opportunities, can often feel out of reach. Treaty must deliver real change for our communities, no matter where they live. It needs to break down barriers, create new opportunities, and ensure that Traditional Owners and all First Peoples across the state are supported to care for Country, strengthen community, and build a strong future for the next generations.

"I am passionate about ensuring our Elders are

respected and elevated in decision-making, that our young people are empowered and have a voice, and that opportunities are created for future generations. Treaty is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to reshape our future on our own terms. It is about truth-telling, justice, and ensuring the next generations inherit a legacy of strength, culture, and sovereignty.

"This is not something that can be done alone. It must be done together. I encourage all First Peoples to be part of the conversation, to share your voices, and to help shape this journey. I will always be available to listen, to learn, and to advocate for the needs of our community.

"I look forward to working alongside you all as we negotiate a Treaty that reflects the strength and resilience of our people and ancestors.

"Warrawii-ngat yuwang-ngal-in." (Let's stand together).



Kaley Nicholson. -S



Philip Shier from council's planning department speaking about some of the details of the plan. -AR

## Consultations about Alexandra East Development Plan

MURRINDINDI Shire Council hosted a drop-in session at the Alexandra Shire Hall on the afternoon of Monday, March 31. They were seeking feedback about the proposed options for the plan to shape the future of 71 hectares in the town.

There was also a facilitated workshop conducted on Tuesday, April 1.

The focus was to gather input on various elements of the development plan, including how to achieve a diversity of housing that meets both current and future needs, foster community connectedness, improve access through roads and foot and cycle paths, and manage risks such as flooding and bushfire hazards.

People also have the opportunity to provide feedback through an online survey at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects/aedp](https://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects/aedp)

The survey will be open until Monday, April 21.



Bronwyn Pettitt from Mesh Planning speaking with locals about the Alexandra East Development Plan. -AR

## Free RSV Protection for eligible families

THE long acting immunisation to keep babies safe from Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is now free for families until September 30. It was announced that the RSV immunisation will be free for all newborns if their mother wasn't vaccinated during pregnancy.

RSV is a highly infectious virus that infects up to 90 per cent of children within the first two years of life. The Victorian Government is delivering a free program to protect around 40,000 Victorian babies born this RSV season.

As part of the program, the long-acting monoclonal antibody, nirsevimab, is administered in hospital as part of standard post-birth care, helping parents save and avoiding visits to the GP.

Eligible infants aged up to two years who are vulnerable to severe RSV disease will be protected thanks to a dedicated catch-up program.

The Victorian Government's state-based program complements the Commonwealth maternal vaccine, Abrysvo, which commenced in February as part of the coordinated national effort to protect as many babies as possible.

Mothers are encouraged to get vaccinated during their pregnancy to help build immunity in their baby as early as possible. However, for those unable to be immunised with Abrysvo, or mums immunised less than two weeks before delivery, the Victorian-funded, nirsevimab, will now be available for babies.

In Australia, RSV is the most common cause of hospitalisation in infants because it can often progress to pneumonia or bronchiolitis in very young children.



SPORT

# Term one pennant is done and dusted

by Kristelle Leary

PENNANT has come to an end and the victors have been crowned. Monday night saw Mocha on top with a commanding lead. Thursday night was a bit closer with Earl Grey finishing in first place. Good work everyone.

*Affogato versus Latte*

LEE versus Mick: Such a great game to watch. Some long rallies were played, and the match was tight with only one point in it. That one point was a shining beacon for Mick, who took home the victory. 48 to 47.

Jared versus Matt: This was a close battle as the player who could claim the ‘T’ in the court would gain the ascendancy. Jared is ruining some unforced errors. The fast and improving Matt pinched an unlikely win. 62 to 61.

Derrick versus Andrew: On paper this should have been a comfortable win for

Derrick. Andrew, however, was able to play a sensible game that kept Derrick running. Derrick lead by a point going into the final game, but Andrew extracted mistakes from his tiring opponent and nabbed the win. 54 to 51.

*Espresso versus Mocha*

TYLER versus Ethan: Ethan played some superior shots and was able to accumulate more points despite the game score being even. Ethan took home the win. 58 to 49.

James G versus Sally (fill in): Some lovely shots from both players and some good rallies. James’s ability to chase the ball down made all the difference and fast tracked his victory. 69 to 41.

Justin versus Michael (fill in): Michael was just too good! Justin had no answer to his opponents flat cross-court shots. Michael was crowned the victor. 65 to 46.

Jim (fill in) versus Michael H: Great hitting by both players with long rallies and great court coverage. Jim was too strong in the end and had the slight edge through the middle, winning him the match. 54 to 51.

*Chai versus Ooloong*

RANDY versus Jess: Coming out strong Jess lead the match. Randy had some good shots, but Jess’s consistency is what won her the match. 69 to 42.

Sam versus Kristelle: What a close match. Both players made some unforced errors, but neither was willing to admit defeat. Going into the final game Kristelle had a one-point lead. Sam caught her of guard one too many times, taking the lead and going home triumphant. 63 to 59.

Jim versus Phil (fill in): The points don’t show how good of a match this was. Both played well but Jim had some low trick shots

that Phil couldn’t handle. Jim won the match. 69 to 40.

*Earl Grey versus Rooibos*

CHRIS versus James S: Chris was in control for most of the match. James snatched himself a win in the third game, but Chris kept ahead to take home a solid win. 72 to 56.

Travis versus Blake: An even contest. Travis got ahead in game two with good depth. Blake found his range in game three to level the score. It all came down to the last game and scores were tied with a minute left on the clock, Travis put a run of points together to finish the game and match on top. 60 to 56.

Daniel W versus Michael M: Always the entertainers, it was a very animated match. Going into the final game the score was tied. Michael ended up sliding on the floor more than once, but Daniel had the goods, taking home the final game and match. 62 to 54.

## Marysville golfers play final round of summer cup

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Thursday was a busy day for the Marysville golfers. On the back nine holes the Thursday golfers played Ambrose for the final round of the summer cup. The daily winners were Gail Leigh, Keith Atwell and Paul Martin (4.8) winning with nett 28.17.

The runners-up were Brian Worcester and Harry Harris (6.5) with nett 31.5. Nearest the pins were won by Amanda Rattay on the 11th and Mark Alexander on the 18th. The finals of the summer competition consisting of three stableford rounds will begin next week.

The minor summer winner was Glen Rattay with 35 points. All members and visitors are welcome to join the nine holers each Thursday teeing off at 1pm.

While the nine holers played close to home five ladies had early starts and travelled to Romsey for the annual ladies’ bowl. A good field of 52 players from Dalhousie and neighbouring districts played in cool but dry autumn conditions.

A Gisborne team won the bowl on a countback from Kilmore with 96 points. The Marysville team of Margaret Blair, Helen Howard and Lesley Rundle with 95 points were second equal with Lancefield. Helen Howard was the runner-up in B Grade with 35 points and gained 3 Dalhousie Player of the Year points.

Heather Jenkins (17) with 33 points missed being A Grade runner-up on a countback. To complete a successful day Lesley Rundle won a raffle prize. There is now a break in the ladies’ Dalhousie events until the Lancefield Tournament on May 1.

The Saturday stroke round was played for the April monthly medal and the ladies’ round included the second round of the Barton Shield. The ladies’ medal winner was Meredith Doery (31) with nett 71 and Gail Leigh (11) was the runner-up with nett 75. Gail had already qualified for the Barton Shield final so the two qualifiers from this round were Meredith Doery and Heather Jenkins (17) with nett 77.

The men’s medal winner was Andrew O’Shea (8) with nett 70 and the runner-up was Ross Ansell (11) with nett 72. Nearest the pins were Andrew on the fourth and 18th, Richy Clark on the 11th and Adam Littlejohn on the ninth and he won the Golden Shot.

Ken Whittingham won the putting with 26 putts. After play members welcomed Brett and Michele Mansfield and Drew Kaempkes to the competition. Next Saturday members will host the social group Tour Elephants for the annual challenge. Entries have now closed but if any member needs to put in a late entry please contact Heather Jenkins.

## Alexandra Cricket Club Trophy winners

by Scott Whitehead

*Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 A Grade*

Batting Average: Matthew Wal; Bowling Average: Vinu Hewage; Captains Award: Matthew Wal; Five Wicket Haul: Vinu Hewage; Hatrick: Vinu Hewage; Jordan Purcell Memorial Award: Matt Wal; Alan Parsons MVP: Will Ashton.

*Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 B Grade*

Batting Average: Levi Ronalds; Bowling Average: Will Ellis; Captains Award: Jaidon Snyman

*Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 Under 13 Black*

Batting: Dusty Fitzpatrick; Bowling: Dusty Fitzpatrick; All Rounder: Nathan Webb; Most improved: Sam Weisse; Coaches Award: Jack Laverty;

*Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 Under 13 Red*

Bowling: Jayden Dimech; Batting: Jayden Dimech; Most improved: Jaxon Green; Coaches Award: Jack Kidd; All Rounder: Riley Cole 12 Trophies.

Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 Best Club Person: Michael Mawson; Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 Presidents Trophy: Matthew Waixel; Alexandra Cricket Club 24/25 Family Volunteer Award: The Fitzpatrick Family.

## Many visitors come to Eildon Golf club

by Puttomatic

WELCOME to the Eildon Golf Club match report. Last week we enjoyed near perfect weather and with the recent rain the course has greened up and is looking great. The club welcomed visitors from Alexandra Golf Club as their course was being used for the races and there was a total of 16 players compete in a two person Stableford Multiplier event.

The week’s winners were, Dennis McDonald and Rod Taylor with 73 points, in second palace Brad Newton and Rosemary Parker with 55 points, the ball run went to John Rachcoff and Mark Mackwell with 47 points. Our nearest to the pin winners this week were Michael McLearn with best on the three with his second shot, Brad Newton was too good on the fifth, Steven Darmody

hit the best shot on the 12th, and Ken Collier took the chocolates on the 14th. There were two birdies designated birdie hole eighth, Mark Mackwell and Rod Taylor no one on the 15th hole. Other winners this week, Rod Taylor won the entry draw and Kerry Power won the swindle and had a go at the Joker draw.

Our pennant team is on the board with 4/1 win on Sunday over the Marysville Golf Club at the Yea, well done team let’s keep the wins coming.

Next week is one of our Memorial days with the Lech Memorial sixers competition. The Eildon Golf Club value and celebrate past members, who without their hard work and their vision for the Golf Club in the early days we would not have such a great facility that we enjoy today.

## Merton Campdraft gears up for its annual campdraft event this weekend

THE Merton Campdraft Club is gearing up for its annual campdraft event this weekend (April 11, 12 and 13). With over 700 entries for nine events, the three-day campdraft is attracting competitors from across Victoria and interstate and is one of three campdraft events in Mansfield Shire, a testament to the popularity of the growing horse sport of campdrafting. Audience entry is free.

Club Secretary Lisa Smith said the weekend will kick off with the Ladies’ event, followed by the ‘Top Cut Out’ feature event on Friday evening, with a further eight events across Saturday and Sunday. The Top Cut Out

is a new evening event held under lights, designed to showcase the best horse and rider combinations”.

“Thanks to the generous support of Mansfield Shire Council’s *Outlying Communities Infrastructure Fund*, we have received a grant to enhance the quality of our arena surface. This upgrade will not only improve the experience for all competitors but will make it easier for us to prepare our arena for future events,” Ms Smith said.

“We’d like to thank Fox Pastoral and Fox Dairies for coming on board as our major cattle donors. We are extremely grateful to

Luke Hilton from TRAX Livestock Carriers for donating his weekend to cart the cattle for us.

“Events like this just aren’t possible without the support from our sponsors.

“Finally, I’d like to thank our hardworking committee members for the hours they’ve put in to make our upcoming event a success, and to the local volunteers and businesses who support our event.”

For more information about the event, follow the Merton Campdraft Club Facebook page for the latest updates.

## Alexandra’s final chook run of the season

by Dave Silverman

THERE was a field of 12 for Tuesday’s Stableford round last week, and the game was played in fine, warm conditions.

Bruce Colville, who is really on top of his game at the moment, was the winner with 38 points. Only one point behind in second was Bill Wind, and third went to Frank Devries on 35,

Nearest the Pins went to John Greatorex on seven, Dan Burns on 17 and Russell Purcell on 18. Dan also claimed a rundown voucher, along with Brad Newton and Ross Thompson.

A good sized field of 14 played in Wednesday’s Stroke round, with the prize being the April Monthly Medal. That prize was taken off in fine style by Deb Richardson, her 81 net 68 two strokes clear of all the other place-getters, namely Marg Fahey in second, Marie Stace in third and Ruth Worland in fourth.

Deb was obviously hitting accurately, as she took off all three Nearest the Pins on five, 12 and 18, and had the fewest putts to boot.

The nine hole comp winner was Donna Meggitt on the back nine.

Thursday night and the last Chook Run of the season was a great success, with plenty of golf, fun and laughs all round. Mick Holohan was the winner with a net 26, second was Jarrod Williamson with a 28, and Brad Kidd came in third with a net 30. The Chook Run organisers, and the Alexandra Golf Club, would like to thank Dan Burns, he of Burnsies fame, for his generous support of this event over the last few years.

The course was closed on Saturday for the final horse race of the season, so there was no competition played, and, although a Stableford round was gazetted for early Sunday morning, there were not enough starters.

In Pennant news, the Scratch team had the bye, but hosted the two teams which played at Alexandra, while the Handicap team won 3/2 over Marysville.



## SPORT



Lachlan (6) from Alexandra. -AR



Crossing the line in race three. -AR



Bride-to-be Sarah with her bridesmaids. -AR



The Alexandra Lions Club worked the barbecue at the races. -AR

## Alexandra Race Club season wraps with country and western races

by Bob Cooper

"THEY'RE off." Who is? Well, the horses of course, as are the conventional clothes normally worn at an Alexandra race meeting, as is self-consciousness and the limitations of excessively hot weather.

The final meeting of the Alexandra Race Club for this part of 2025, was very successfully run on Saturday, April 5, with a well-supported country and western theme.

Although there were some initial concerns about the weather, everything turned out very nicely, allowing for a truly enjoyable day, and wow were some of those outfits, tops, hats, boots, etcetera, just superb. Out they came, embracing the theme of the day, with the musical talent of duet *Naturally Kerley* creating some tuneful entertainment.

The crowd, the race club's loyal supporters, and first timers as well, did their best to make the most of the occasion, enjoying themselves, but hoping for a win or two as well. But they weren't the only ones hoping to come

out winners, with the loyal and supportive trainers and jockeys giving off their best.

Before moving on to the detail of the results, the Alexandra Race Club would like to acknowledge and thank the highly valued sponsors of the meet. Their generosity and encouragement is so greatly appreciated, and the club sincerely thanks their sponsors.

This was an occasion for all ages, with plenty to do to entertain from the littlies to the more mature, and for all adults that absolute thrill, especially so when standing at the fence, when those four-legged juggernauts come thundering down the final straight.

And how did they perform, those determined and courageous riders? Well, there were some who achieved well deserved success, and as is usually the case, others who gave off their best, but who didn't get the candy on this occasion.

Race one on the card was the Welcome Harper Read Purvis Trophy over 1830 metres, was won by Troy Kilgower trained 8 *Shouts* well ridden by Sebastian Galea.

Presto's Final Sprint Open Trophy saw *Pine Valley* come through trained by Don Dwyer and giving Shaun Cooper his first win of the day.

The Bet 365 Maiden Plate over 1540 metres saw Shaun Cooper achieve his second success of the meet on Mallee Maid, riding for trainer Anthony Dudley.

There was food for thought when it came to Reddrops FoodWorks Trophy Race, but Tracey Johnson left the other shoppers behind, riding *Some Eclipse* for the Ron Hackley stable.

From food to real estate, and the Nutrien Harcourt supported, Andrew Dale trained *Rushford* taking out the Alexandra Open Trophy, with Shaun Cooper gaining his third win, carrying the weight of 73 kilograms. *Rushford* also won the Alexandra Cup just a few weeks back.

The Patrons and Saints Open Trophy was taken out by *Calypso Rich*, trained by Grant White, with Ben Moffat on board.

And to conclude a highly successful and enjoyable day, *Team America* took out the

Thornton General Store Maiden Plate, an enjoyable win for jockey Catherine Masters, and trainer Dan McCarthy.

Probably the most notable achievement of the day was jockey Shaun Cooper riding three winners on the day. This is a significant achievement for any jockey at any level.

This meet brought to a conclusion the awarding of two very special awards.

The first, the Donate Life Alexandra Leading Trainer Award, going to Troy Kilgower.

And the second award, causing this man's smile to stretch even further, was the 2025 Geoff Purvis Alexandra Leading Jockey Award, being won by none other than Shaun Cooper.

Both of these gentlemen won their awards without the benefit of any country and western gear.

That's it for now. The kids had fun. The big kids also had fun, and with a recognition of the contributions from everyone who assisted in any way.



One of the winners in the fashion competition. -AR



Olivia (4) from Bendigo at the face painting. -AR



Mitchell (11) from Alexandra at the pony rides. -AR



Valac is a former steeplechaser who was helping out at the track. -AR



Naturally Kerley provided the musical entertainment. -AR



Alexandra Sawyer, Donna Atwell and Alby Atwell at the races. Donna was celebrating her 60th birthday at the event. -AR



THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

# Standard Sport

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## Thornton Eildon Womens kicks off season with a win

by Scott Whitehead

ROUND one of the outer Eastern division two women's football kicked off this week with Thornton heading over the Great Divide to take on Seville on their home ground. The team this season would see many returning players complimented by some exceptional recruiting by the coaching staff.

After a short but energised pre-season, the Thornton players were eager to shake off the nerves to see where their hard work would take them this season. It was evident from the first bounce that the result would be remarkably different from the corresponding 120 thrashing from the season before.

Captain Rose Kealy won the first tap to a determined Tahnee Heard for the first possession and clearance of the season. Tahnee then followed up her hard work up forward and from a stoppage was able to snap the first goal of the season. In a fierce first quarter Thornton went into the break with a slim two point lead.

The contest in the second quarter followed a similar trend to the first with Thornton's midfield dominating around the ground. Recruits, Jamee Cousens and Jade Mewburn found plenty of the ball and gave Thornton's forwards numerous opportunities to score. Lucy McRae, on her return to football after having her first child, roved her own ruck works and snapped truly to put Thornton eight points up at half time.

The third quarter saw much of the same dominance that Thornton showed in the first half and they continued to keep the scorers on their toes. Trinity Tebbutt opened her account and snapped truly while Maya Fuller followed soon after with a goal of her own. At Three quarter time Thornton lead Seville by 15 points.

The final quarter of the game saw Seville have multiple opportunities to score but the



Winners are grinners -S

steely backline kept their nerve limiting Seville to a solitary goal. Imogen Paine teamed up well with her new teammates and rebounded any forward entries made by Seville. With only seconds to go in the game, Lucy McRae took a mark 15 meters out from goal and again kicked truly to seal the 19-point win for Thornton.

It had been two years since Thornton had their last win and the excitement was evident with the players piling in to celebrate and to acknowledge the hard work leading up to the result.

Goals: Lucy McRae two, Trinity Tebbutt, Jade Mewburn, Maya Fuller one each.

Awards: Molesworth Hotel and General store: Rose Kealy, Café Alex: Jamee Cousens, Murrindindi Aged and Home care: Jade Newburn, Coaches award: Imogen Paine.

Next week Thornton play Warburton at the Thornton Recreation Reserve with the first bounce at 12:30pm. Training is every Monday and Thursday starting at 6pm with meals available on Thursday nights for \$15. If you are interested in being a player, supporter or a sponsor you can find details on the Thornton Eildon District Football and Netball clubs facebook page or by email [tedfnc@outlook.com](mailto:tedfnc@outlook.com)



Last week the Thornton Eildon and District Football and Netball Club had their jumper presentation night. This was in lead up to round one game against Seville. -S

## Alexandra under 17 netballers take on Pakenham

by Michelle Jack

ON Saturday, the Alexandra under 17 netball team played their first game of the season against Pakenham, while the rest of the Senior Club had the bye. Although the game didn't go the girls' way with Pakenham



Abby Miljkovic preparing to send the netball on its way. -S

taking the win 34 to 9 their determination and effort were commendable.

This match marked the first time the team played together, and despite the result, they showed great promise for the season ahead. Each player gave it their all, working hard



Chelsea Webb sizing up her options for a pass. -S

and supporting one another throughout the game.

Coach Sarah did an excellent job in guiding and motivating the team, fostering a positive and supportive environment. Awards went to Abby Miljkovic and Ashlyn Newman.

This Thursday night the club will hold the Senior Jumper Presentation (Seniors / Reserves and Under 18s) and netball team announcements with dinners will as usual this week, and everyone is welcome to join. They'll also have Happy Hour from 5.30 to 6.30pm for all club members.

Coming up on Thursday, April 24 in preparation for the juniors' first home game that weekend there will be the Junior Football Jumper Presentation and Netball Team announcement at the club starting at 5.30pm. All parents and supporters and players are encouraged to attend. Meals will also be available for everyone.

This coming Saturday, April 12 will see the senior club travel to Seville to start their campaign for the 2025 Season.

The club is still seeking volunteers for several important roles ahead of the 2025 season:

**Junior Canteen Manager:** The club is looking for a Canteen Manager to oversee operations during Junior home games. This role could potentially be shared, and full training and assistance will be provided. If interested, please contact Kath Hedger at 0438 520 382 or Melissa Crane on 0412 794 022.

**Netball Umpires:** Each year the club is required to provide umpires for our Senior Netball Competition (Under 17, D and C grades) for all home and away matches. If anyone is interested in umpiring, please reach out to Brodie Wheelhouse on 0400 154 458.

Memberships and sponsorships are available, and anyone looking to purchase a membership ticket or sponsor the club please contact us at our new email address [alexandrafnc@outereastfn.com.au](mailto:alexandrafnc@outereastfn.com.au)