

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Sensory garden at Kellock Lodge



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Changes at Eildon CFA



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Allan Weeks celebrates 90 years



Page 10

Weekend sport



Pages 16-20



CFA members fight the car prop fire during Exercise Night Strike. More on page 12. -AR

No large scale land tenure changes for Central Highlands?

THE Eminent Panel for Community Engagement (EPCE) completed their work on the Central Highlands state forest in October 2024 and it is currently being considered by government.

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) website states, "On July 31, 2024, Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos MP extended the date for VEAC to submit its final report to one month after the government publicly releases the Eminent Panel on Community Engagement's report on Central Highlands state forest."

The government was asked when the EPCE report be released, and the reasons behind the delay.

A Victorian Government spokesperson responded, "Victoria's forests are the heart of our state, our forests are spaces for families to experience their favourite activities like camping, fishing, hunting and walking.

"We have heard that Victorians want to enjoy the great outdoors with access to a wide range of recreational opportunities, while protecting what we love about our iconic bush for generations to come.

"We see a future where the benefit of our forests are enjoyed by all Victorians. The government will not be considering large scale land tenure changes."

Attempts were made to confirm whether the statement relating to no large scale land tenure changes definitely applies to the Central Highlands rather than the Great Outdoors Taskforce area, however no response was received by the time the newspaper went to print.

The EPCE was set up to talk with people and organisations to understand values and priorities for forests in the Central Highlands. They spoke to over 1000 people at 60 engagement sessions and received over 14,000 responses through Engage Victoria to its consultation on the future of State Forests in Victoria's Central Highlands.

It's understood that the government will respond to both the Eminent Panel and Great Outdoor Taskforce's reports together to provide a holistic picture on the future of Victoria's state forests.

Murrindindi Shire, although our rural setting may exacerbate challenges in reporting and accessing support services.

Community response and support

Local resources and information available through Murrindindi Shire Council. Statewide, Safe Steps is a 24/7 family violence response centre. Seniors Rights Victoria offers advice and support for elder abuse victims.

Community members also to be vigilant and supportive. This is a community problem. We all have a role to play in addressing both family violence and elder abuse, supporting prevention and intervention.

Rotary hears from family violence specialist

AT their most recent meeting, members of Alexandra Rotary listened to an informative address from Finn, specialist family violence

children's clinician at Nexus Primary Health. Finn has been helping children and families affected by family violence in our area for over 20 years.

She reached out to Alexandra Rotary for financial support because the government redistributed the funding for the specialist family violence unit, leaving six very experienced staff and hundreds of vulnerable children and their families without support.

Nexus Primary Health resolved to retain the three therapists under community health funding, and with additional community support such as Rotary's donation will be able to cover the copayment for families seeking counselling. \$13 may not seem a lot, but for some families it can be the difference between feeding their families, or not, tonight.

Family violence is not just a personal tragedy. It is a community crisis affecting our whole community.

In 2023 Victoria Police responded to 94,170 family violence incidents statewide, one every six minutes. One in three women in Victoria have experienced physical and/or sexual violence since age of 15. Family violence incidents have increase 38 per cent over the last 10 years.

In Murrindindi in 2023-24 there were 1201 reports of family violence. Family violence includes physical, emotional, psychological financial and sexual abuse, coercive control within family groups. It is a disproportionate use of power to gain control over others.

Regional areas including Murrindindi experience higher rates of family violence compared to metropolitan areas, with less access to resources partly to blame, and less anonymity.

Challenges include limited emergency housing options for victims seeking immediate safety, geographical isolation hinders access to support services.

Another topic discussed was elder abuse. Elder abuse involves harm to older individuals by someone they trust, often a family member. Psychological (63 per cent) and financial (62 per cent) abuses are the most reported. Physical abuse accounts for 16 per cent of reports, and social abuse 11 per cent.

In 91 per cent of cases the abuser is a family member, commonly sons (39 per cent) or daughters (28 per cent).


Approximately one in six older Australians experience some form of elder abuse.

Local data is limited, but demographic trends suggest the issue is pertinent in



Finn and Rotarian Jenny Paul. -S

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900
Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400
In an emergency dial
000



CONTACT DETAILS

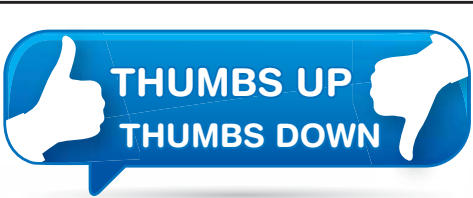
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Independantly owned and operated with no association with any other media outlet in the Murrindindi Shire.



THUMBS UP: To Ann and her loyal troop for their annual effort in 'planting' the poppies at the rotunda for ANZAC Day, and again in November for Remembrance Day.

THUMBS DOWN: To the Murrindindi Shire for their lack of effort in improving the stony and grass surface either side of the rotunda in Alexandra.

THUMBS UP: To Ron Cooper for his 20 years of dedicated management of the bookshop in Alexandra.

THUMBS DOWN: To the many motorists who are driving with only one headlight or brake light. Check your light bulbs please. Earlier darkness, rain and poor visibility will be here very soon.

THUMBS UP: To The Hub services and the people who run them. Everything is completely confidential, you're made to feel at home, nothing is too much trouble, no-one talks down to you because you're not sure how to navigate the tricky government websites. All round, it was a very positive experience, and I wish more people knew about it because they're just marvellous.

THUMBS DOWN: The hospitals have been inundated with people suffering from Labor pains.

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

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



Letters to the Editor

New bins

LIKE many other residents of the shire, I have recently had dumped on me three new unsightly kerbside bins which I do not want or need. I object to having to pay \$410 every year for a service that I will not even be using, especially given the increasing costs of living we are all facing. Making a protest to the local council only receives the response that the service is 'mandatory'.

I wish to point out that it is possible to claim an exemption under section 23 of the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021*. An exemption is to be

granted when the property is not generating sufficient waste, or you don't want the service and the property is outside the compulsory waste collection zone.

The compulsory zone applies to properties "within a township or low-density residential area" so it does not apply to most farming properties. Residents can apply for an exemption through the council website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Services/Bins-Rubbish-and-Recycling/Kerbside-Collection-Service

Name and address supplied but withheld by request



Linda Carter sent this image from Acheron Cutting, taken on the morning of Friday, May 9. The fog rising in the valley provides a reminder for motorists to turn their headlights on when driving through fog, as it helps other drivers to see you. -Linda Carter

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

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	1.69	rising	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.38	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.22am Mon	0.44	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	10.44am Mon	0.10	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.20am Mon	0.39	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	10.20am Mon	0.16	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	3.66	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.29	steady	below minor
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	10.00am Mon	0.39	steady	
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	1.25	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	1.55	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.43am Mon	0.79	steady	

**ISSUED AT 10.46AM ON MONDAY, 12 MAY 2025




LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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


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

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







Weekly Weather
May 14 - May 20, 2025
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication



Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	6	20	Wednesday	7	20
Thursday	5	19	Thursday	5	18
Friday	8	18	Friday	9	18
Saturday	5	14	Saturday	5	14
Sunday	4	15	Sunday	4	15
Monday	5	17	Monday	5	17
Tuesday	6	18	Tuesday	7	18



DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra.....	0.3mm
Buxton.....	4mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.8mm
Flowerdale.....	0.6mm
Jamieson.....	5mm
Kinglake.....	2mm
Lake Eildon.....	4mm
Mansfield.....	0.2mm
Taggerty.....	3mm
Yarck.....	4mm
Yea.....	4mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week.....	277.10m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	59.6%
Metres below full supply.....	11.8m
Daily inflow.....	300ML
Release.....	2000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	52%



DEADLINES

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

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

5772 1002 or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

Redgate Alexandra CWA Monthly Report and Upcoming Events

THE Redgate Alexandra CWA group would like to thank Mayor Damien Gallagher for his talk at last month's meeting. He explained the new environmental collection policy very clearly and was happy to answer all questions.

The next monthly meeting will be on Thursday, May 22 at the CWA Clubrooms, Perkins Street, Alexandra starting at 1pm. The theme will be product and resource, industrial hemp, and finalising catering for the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show. The hostesses are Pam and Jane with competitions

being flower of the month, and article or clothing item made from hemp products.

Upcoming Events

Group Arts and Craft Exhibition: The branch will be providing stewards for the judging on Friday, May 23. On Saturday, May 24, Yarck Hall is open for public visitors from 10am to 3pm. Entry cost is \$5. View entries including paper craft, quilting, knitting, preserves, cooking, photography and horticulture from all the branches in our district, Healesville, Euroa, Mansfield, Yarck, Yea, Seymour, Broadford/Mt Piper and Alexandra.

During the Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival on Saturday, May 24 and Sunday, May 25 everyone is invited to the Devonshire Tea. It's only \$5 and available at the clubrooms

in Perkins Street, Alexandra from 10am to 2pm. Come and say hello and enjoy a cosy warm atmosphere and gluten free options are available if you prefer not to have a scone, jam and cream.

Members will be attending the Annual General Meeting and State Conference in Shepparton on Friday, May 30 and Saturday, May 31 to vote on the constitution and resolutions.

If you love craft and a chat, CWA has weekly catch ups every Tuesday from 10am to 2pm. Tea and coffee provided for a donation of \$2 and please bring your own lunch.

If you would like any further information, please contact Sue Wynn on 0412 435 946 or Jane Laws on 0412 653 647.

Fatal crash near Marysville

POLICE are investigating the circumstances surrounding a fatal motorcycle crash in Marysville on Monday, May 5. It is understood the rider came off their motorcycle while travelling along Marysville-Woods Point Road about 1.30pm.

The rider, a 65 year old Wesburn man, died at the scene. The investigation into the cause of the crash remains ongoing. Diversions were put in place along Marysville-Woods Point Road following the incident.

Anyone who witnessed the crash or with dashcam footage is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

More support for tiny towns in Northern Victoria

MINISTER for Regional Development and Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes last week announced seven new Tiny Towns projects in Murrindindi Shire. The fund is for towns with populations of fewer than 5000 people.

"Rural and Regional Victoria has so much to offer, which is why we're continuing to support projects that enhance our tiniest towns, strengthen community connections and encourage more visitors to all corners of the state," Ms Symes said.

"The Tiny Towns Fund is refreshing community halls, creating new walking tracks, upgrading local sporting facilities and boosting the regional art scene, making our smallest towns great places to live, work, stay and play."

From walking track upgrades to community centre renovations, the grants of between \$5000 and \$50,000 will help local communities across Victoria flourish, and in many cases, support local workers during project development.

These projects are Fawcett Mechanics Institute Reserve Committee of Management \$34,000 for improvements and upgrades, Glenburn Hall and Progress Association \$18,803 for their community hub upgrade project, Toolangi Public Recreation Reserve and Camping Reserve \$16,000 to refurbish the cricket pitch, Highlands Community Hall Committee \$6000 for a security upgrade, Alexandra Indoor Heated Pool Inc \$10,000 for upgrades, Alexandra Bowling Club \$30,400 for upgrades.

Almost 350 projects are now being supported through round one and round two of the Tiny Towns Fund across more than 300 towns.

The fund is a part of the state government's record \$45 billion investment over the past decade in projects and programs that support regional and rural Victoria.

For more information about the Tiny Towns Fund, visit rdv.vic.gov.au/tiny-towns-fund



Members of the Welshpool Horticultural Club during their visit. -S

Welshpool Horticultural Club visits

THE Welshpool Horticultural Club did the rounds of our lovely area over three days, visiting Taggerty, the Eildon Information Centre and Eildon Dams Museum before having lunch at the Eildon Bakery. The weather was perfect.

Next they visited the dam wall and Fogg's lookout before going on an unofficial walk through an Eildon garden and loving the river views there. On the way back to Alexandra they stopped off at Snobs Falls.

Their last stop the next day before heading home was morning tea at Rennie's Gallery in Acheron.

It was a pleasure to have these friendly out-of-town visitors and go away with lovely memories of their trip to our part of Victoria.

The trip had significant help over many weeks from Annette at the Eildon Visitor Information Centre planning their trip.

Alexandra Community Wood Auction

THE Alexandra Community Wood Auction is set for Saturday, May 24, starting at 10am at the bottom end of Bayley Street, near the Embassy of Ideas.

Organiser Andrew Embling said, "We do it every year. It's a community event."

At the moment, there are about 19 trailer loads of wood registered, from groups including Acheron CFA and hall, the Australian Deer Association, Alexandra Fire Brigade, Alexandra Scouts, Koriella CFA, the Alexandra Kindergarten.

Andrew explained, "Community groups just need to bring their wood in. We sell it. They get the money. It's a great community event. All of those organisations get

some money to put aside for themselves going forward."

People are welcome to go along and watch, or to get in on the bidding. If people are the successful purchaser, the organisation will deliver the wood for them.

"We're still taking wood. If anybody's got any organisations who would like to put some wood in, all they have to do is give me a call on the mobile and we'll book the wood in," Andrew said. "Rotary used to do it. We've been doing it now for about 18 years."

If you are associated with a community group and would like to book in a trailer of wood, contact Andrew Embling on 0418 266 038.

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

THE Alexandra and District Senior Citizens had a happy social meeting on Friday, chaired by Barbara. It followed the Bridge players enjoying a few hands on Wednesday. The main topic at the social meeting was the change of plans for the next excursion. With the uncertainty about the cinema program for next month we will now be going to Healesville RSL for Morning Melodies on Tuesday, June 10 to enjoy an Elvis tribute show and lunch. If you want to be part of this day out please get your name on the list on the front desk in the clubroom.

Treasurer Dave had a busy day, telling the members that they had sufficient funds for future plans, how to watch out for computer scams, and had us smiling with the jokes and entertaining the UNO players on the piano. Keep up the good work, mate.

Ian, John R and Mike Jennings won the chocolate bars before retiring to the tearoom. If you would like to join the happy group for a chat, a cuppa and a game of cards, you are welcome to join on a Friday afternoon in the Bayley Street clubroom. Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling.

North East Victoria Global Book Crawl is on now

AUSTRALIANS know all about a pub crawl, but how about a book crawl? Your favourite local bookshops have joined a new international initiative, the Global Book Crawl (GBC), and everyone is invited to take part of the fun. This great book crawl started on April 21 and will finish on June 9.

The Global Book Crawl will bring together bookstores and book lovers from around the world, with a simple yet powerful idea, to unite local bookshops in a celebration of local literature, community and culture.

A Book Crawl is an adventure through the heart of a city's local bookshops. Participants visit multiple shops, connecting with the local book culture and discovering hidden gems. Using your GBC Passport, collect a stamp at every bookshop you visit, and be in the running to win book prize packs or gift vouchers.

The following bookstores in our local area and nearest vicinity include: Already Read Bookshop, 78 Binney Street, Euroa; Books at Yarck, 6591 Maroondah Hwy, Yarck; Booktique Albury, Shop 7, AMP Lane, Albury; Booktique Wangaratta, 51 Reid St, Wangaratta; Goulburn River Books, 99 Grant St, Alexandra; Ink Bookshop, 53 High St, Mansfield; Little Shop of Good Reads, 31 Hightett St, Mansfield; The Bright Bookshop, 113 Gavan St, Bright, and Verso Books, 1/222 Maroondah Hwy, Healesville.

Participating bookstores strengthen community bonds with book lovers in their area and through collaboration with other local bookshops. Together, they create a united front that celebrates and supports authors, readers, and publishers.

Drop into your local bookshop to pick up your Global Book Crawl Passport and start planning your route.

Market @ Yarck
including CWA morning tea and cake stall
SATURDAY May 17 from 9am
Plants, soap, preserves and jams, knitwear, jewellery and much more
Sharon Fox 0407 879 612

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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*.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

Market @ Yarck including CWA morning tea and cake stall from 9am.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

Alexandra RSL's AGM will be held at noon at the RSL Hall on Grant Street, Alexandra,

followed by a light luncheon.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

Yarck Rural Fire Brigade AGM will be held at 6.30pm at the Yarck Hall. All welcome.

MONDAY, MAY 26

Yea Water Tigers AGM will be held at 6pm at the Yea Community House. General meeting will follow at 6.30pm. enquiries to secretary at yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com or phone 0459 248 488, new members welcome.

TUESDAY, MAY 27

Molesworth Caravan Park will hold a public meeting at the community hall at 7pm for the purpose of nominating a Committee of Management for the next three years. For further information, nomination forms and declaration forms can be obtained from Helen Willard on 0435 320 317 or via email secretary@molesworthreserve.com.au



The death cap mushroom is lethal, even in the smallest quantities. -S

Poisonous mushrooms growing in Victoria

AN alert from the Chief Health Officer was issued on Tuesday, May 6 as the poisonous death cap and yellow staining mushroom are appearing in Victoria now that autumn has arrived, and the weather is becoming wetter and cooler.

These mushrooms can be lethal and consuming even a single death cap mushroom may result in death. Even cooking, peeling or drying these mushrooms does not remove or inactivate the poison in these mushrooms.

There is no home test available to distinguish the safety of mushrooms and determine whether they are poisonous or not. The best way to source mushrooms is to purchase them from a supermarket, greengrocer, or other reputable sources.

If you see any mushrooms in your garden at home be sure to remove them by wearing gloves and place them in a bag and dispose of them in your general waste bin, as young children and pets can easily be curious by them and consume them.

Pets can develop a range of illness from eating wild mushrooms including gastroenteritis-type syndrome to severe life-threatening disease and death. Dogs are more likely than cats to ingest mushrooms.

Death cap mushrooms

THE death cap mushrooms are extremely poisonous, consuming just one mushroom can kill an adult.

Symptoms usually commence six to 24 hours after ingestion with stomach pains, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. These symptoms can then settle, giving a false

sense of recovery, however the toxin will have entered the body's circulation and started causing serious harm, particularly to the liver. Typically, two to four days after ingestion those severely poisoned will develop irreversible liver failure, often associated with kidney failure, that may ultimately result in death.

These mushrooms usually grow under oak trees and the caps are 40 to 160mm in diameter. The cap ranges in colour from pale yellow to green and olive brown and the ridges on the underside of the cap (gills) are white. The base of the stem has a membrane 'cup'.

Yellow-staining mushrooms

THE yellow-staining mushroom (*Agaricus xanthodermus*) is the cause of most poisonings due to ingestion of wild fungi in Victoria. Symptoms of yellow-staining mushroom poisoning include stomach pain, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. The severity of symptoms varies with the amount eaten.

This mushroom looks very similar to regular purchased mushrooms or 'cultivated mushrooms' (*Agaricus bisporus*) and to edible wild mushrooms such as the field mushroom (*Agaricus campestris*). In urban areas the yellow-staining mushroom is unfortunately much more common than edible mushrooms. It can grow in large troops in lawns and gardens, and when damaged, the cap and stem stain yellow, later fading to a brownish colour. The mushroom can also emit a chemical-like smell.



Yellow-staining mushrooms. -S

Anyone who collects and consumes wild mushrooms of unknown species is putting themselves at risk of potential poisoning and serious illness.

Unless you are an expert, do not pick and eat wild mushrooms in Victoria. If you suspect you or anyone in your care may have eaten a poisonous mushroom, do not wait for symptoms to occur before seeking medical attention.

Contact the Victorian Poisons Information Centre immediately on 131 126, 24 hours a day, seven days a week for appropriate advice. This may include seeking treatment at a hospital emergency department. Keep a sample and a photograph of the mushroom that was consumed to share with the Victorian Poisons Information Centre for expert identification of the mushroom.

If you or anyone in your care has trouble breathing, collapsed, is having a fit or is suffering an anaphylactic reaction, immediately call 000 for an ambulance. Do not call the Victorian Poisons Information Centre in an emergency.

Mother's Day Classic Yea takes on the Rail Trail

YEA and District Memorial Hospital hosted this year's Mother's Day Classic in Yea, a fun run event to raise funds for breast cancer research.

The finish line for the event was at Railway Park, Yea, and there were a number of different lengths that participants could walk or run.

A 24 kilometre run started at 8.30am, an 18 kilometre run began at 9.30am, there was a 10 kilometre run at 10am, and a five kilometre or one kilometre run at 10.30am.



Attendees of the Mother's Day Classic in Yea ready to set out on the five kilometre walk. More on page 16. -Photos by Dale McKeon (Plymouth Dale)



Crossing the finish line. -S



The participants at the starting line. -S



One of the dogs on the walk. -S



Children took part as well. -S



Dressed up for the occasion. -S



A group of participants. -S

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 cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au

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






Win 1 of 10 double passes

48th Historic Winton Car Show - May 24 and May 25

Photocopied or emailed entries will not be accepted.

ONE ENTRY PER HOUSEHOLD

To go in the draw, this voucher must be received by **noon, Wednesday, May 14**
Alexandra Newspapers, 43 Grant Street or
PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714.

Name

Address

Email

Phone

Sensory Garden in the works at Kellock Lodge

ON Tuesday, May 6 it was all hands on deck as the new sensory garden at Kellock Lodge began its development.

Previously, the space was an internal courtyard. It is now being transformed into a sensory garden for the residents to enjoy. The space will include many plant species, providing a sensory experience for the residents, including touch, taste, smell and sight.

This project has been nine months in the making, with the help and drive of Friends of Kellock.

It will be a great space for everyone to enjoy, all year round.



Some of the amazing volunteers to create the sensory garden. Back row: Bill, Ian, Wayne, Trevor, John, John. Front row: Simon, Jenny, Lynne, Siera, Jan, and Kim. -MP



The garden starting to come together quite nicely. -MP



Landscape designer Kim having a chat to Bill among jobs. -MP



Jan giving the garden a good watering. -MP



Geoff and John getting ready to start moving some mulch. -MP



The autumn light reflecting on the plants was just beautiful. -MP



A glorious autumn day for the volunteers creating a sensory garden for the residents at Kellock Lodge. -MP

Thank you, Indi.

It's an honour to be re-elected as your Independent Federal Member for Indi. I'll keep working with you, and for you and make every minute count.



Season of changes at Eildon CFA

IN February this year, John Bird stood down as Captain of the Eildon Fire Brigade due to family and work circumstances. The Eildon Fire Brigade decided to wait until after the fire season before holding the special elections to fill the role. Nicki Lund has been Acting Captain during that time.

Due to work commitments, CFA member Tim stood down from the Secretary role as well during this time.

The brigade would like to thank both John and Tim for their service in their roles within the Brigade and the Management Team.

The Special Elections were held last week to fill the roles of Captain and Secretary, with the following members being elected into the positions effective from May 7 until June 30, 2026 when the Biennial Elections will be held as normal: Captain: Nicki Lund who was previously first Lieutenant and former Captain; First Lieutenant (Operations): Neil Campbell, who was previously fourth Lieutenant; Fourth Lieutenant (Asset and Maintenance): John Hughes, who was previously Comms Officer and former Fourth Lieutenant; Secretary: Kim Whitten; Comms Officer: John Hughes.

As part of the Medal Presentation Dinner in June 2024, the following members were unable to attend and were presented their medals by Commander Justin Dally at last week's meeting: Wayne Murphy: 45 Years CFA Life Member and National Emergency Medal Clasp for the 2019/20 Bushfires; Helen Harland: 25 Years, and Ken Dare: 20 Years.



Eildon CFA members. -S



Ken Dare receiving his 20 years service medal. -S



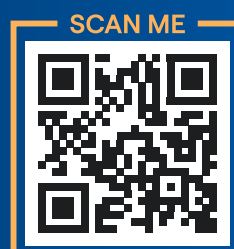
Helen Harland received recognition for her 25 years of service. -S



Wayne Murphy receiving his medal for 45 Years CFA Life Member and National Emergency Medal Clasp for the 2019/20 Bushfires. -S

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Liam

The award is presented to Liam for showing the school values.

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Leo - Principal Award

This award is presented to Leo for his exceptional dedication to learning, consistency in following expectations, and the kindness and thoughtfulness he demonstrates to others. Leo consistently strives for excellence in all academic endeavours, showing a deep commitment to growth and understanding. He approaches challenges with a positive attitude, demonstrating perseverance and a genuine desire to learn. Additionally, his caring nature and willingness to support peers create a welcoming and encouraging environment for all. Leo exemplifies the values of hard work, respect, and compassion, making them a true role model to his classmates and a valued member of the school community.

Student of the Week

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Henry Andrews: From Vietnam to the Alexandra RSL

HENRY Andrews joined the Alexandra Returned and Services League (RSL) when he moved to Alexandra in 2003 from Melbourne with his wife Yvonne, and became president of the Alexandra RSL in 2009, at a delayed AGM due to the Black Saturday bushfires.

“The 2009 AGM was postponed due to the fires, as the RSL hall was used as a clothing distribution centre. It was in March that I went down to see Keith Bennett [then Alexandra RSL president] and he was in terminal, down at St Vincent’s Hospital. We came back and had our AGM in March, and that’s when I took over as president,” Henry said.

“It was quite interesting, my first ANZAC Day service. I was a bundle of nerves, being the first time I’d ever done it. I got through it, and I inaugurated a Vietnam veteran’s service up here as well.”

He served as president until 2017, when he stepped back to become vice-president due to health issues. At the time he was also on the boards of the Murrindindi Climate Network and the Murrindindi Cancer Support Group. These health issues continued, which has led to the decision to soon leave the Alexandra area.

Long before coming to Alexandra, Henry served in the Signal Corps in the Vietnam War, working as a technician.

“I went to Vietnam in April 1966 and came home in May 1967. I had nearly 14 months there. I was in the Signal Corps, one of the technicians operating the transmitter station on the outskirts of Saigon. That was 12 hours on, 24 hours off. I did that from mid-April all the way through to October without a break,” Henry said.

“The reason I finished up then was because I got dengue fever. That put me into hospital, but they didn’t know what was wrong with me. I got two days off and a few Panadol and a ‘you should be okay’. I was just going downhill.

“They took me into 17th field hospital, which is an American hospital, and they

started doing the tests. The orderly came and put a thermometer in my mouth. They took the thermometer out and everyone started running. I was 108, which is about 43 degrees. I ended up in an ice bath and was in a coma for about a week.”

During the war he was also working as a technician in a control centre when dichloro-diphenyl-trichloroethane (DDT) entered the facility through the air vents. He spent two days in hospital following the incident, as he had inhaled a lungful of the chemical.

During a mortar attack a piece of shrapnel took a chunk out of his shoulder when he left a safety bunker to turn off the signal light that the enemy was using as a target for their military base.

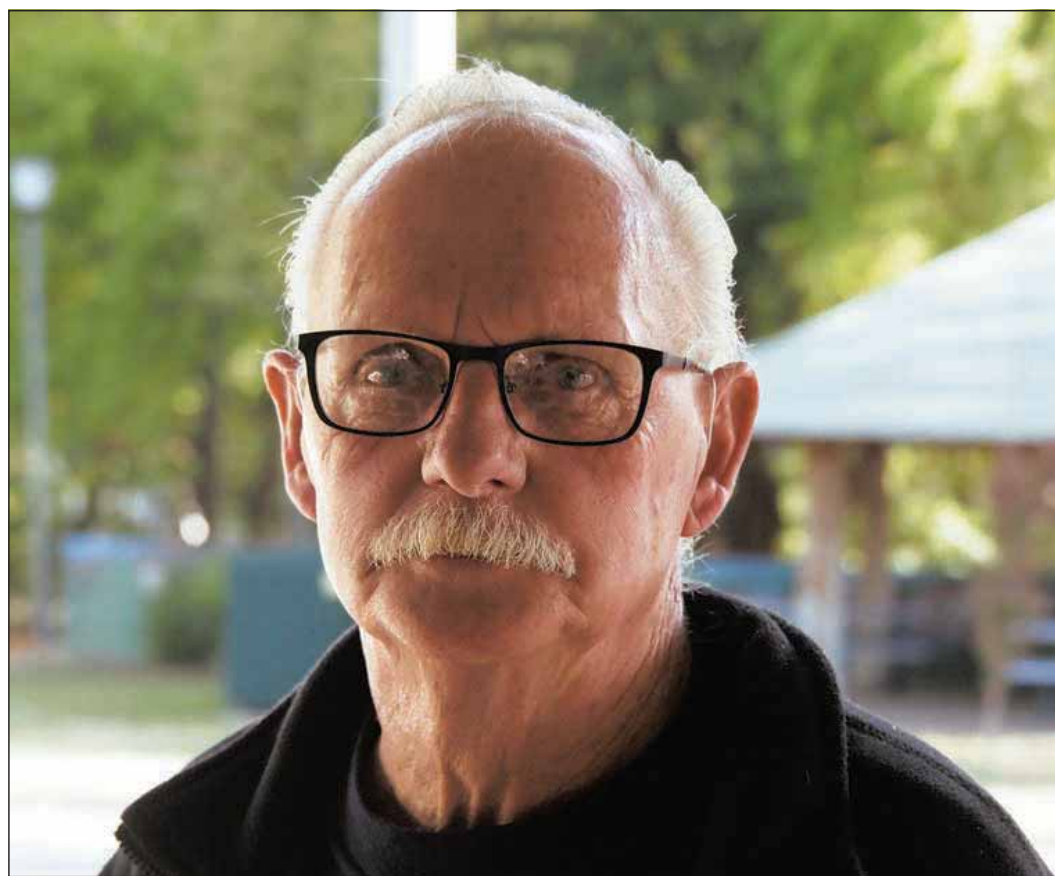
Henry stayed in the army for some 20 years after returning from Vietnam, working in a construction squadron tasked with building communications centres among other various roles.

He struggled with mental health, as many returned soldiers do. Asked how he dealt with this issue, he replied “mainly, I hate to say it, but I spent my time drunk. But I had a lot of people helping, family and that sort of thing. Plus I had a couple of outside hobbies, so that kept me going too.”

Henry married his wife, Yvonne, on January 22, 1966. The pair had been engaged for 18 months, and brought the wedding forward to before Henry was deployed to Vietnam.

“I knew I was going to Vietnam when I got posted to this unit. So I went and asked, ‘when am I likely to go?’ and they said, this was December 1965, ‘you won’t be going until October or November,’” Henry said.

“I went and had a talk to Yvonne, and we decided we’d bring all the wedding stuff forward, so we got married January 22. I only had three days’ leave. When I came back I got called into the orderly’s room, and they said ‘go pack your bags, you’re going to Canungra on Thursday for a month of jungle training’.



Henry Andrews. -AR

“I did that, came back, and did two weeks’ training on the transmitters to bring me up to speed. I had a week in vacation leave and then I was gone [to Vietnam].”

Henry and Yvonne have been married for 59 years, with next January marking their 60th wedding anniversary. They have four children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Though he has been a member of the RSL for a long time, and had some great experiences within the organisation, Henry encountered negativity when initially looking to join.

“In 1968, round about then, I called in after work one day, I was a corporal at the time, to Ringwood RSL, to join. The guy at the desk said he’d go and get some paperwork,

go and grab a drink and I’ll meet you at the bar,” Henry said.

“I went and got a drink, which back in those days was rum and coke. There were two guys down the other end of the bar, I walked down to introduce myself. The first one sitting there said ‘listen son, when you’ve been to real war, you can come back and talk to us’.

“I put my drink down on the bar and walked out, and I’ve never ever done that. I always finish a drink.”

When asked what the RSL brings in terms of positivity and support, Henry replied that it is an important organisation because “it’s a group of people who understand what you’ve been through. It’s very difficult to try to explain to people who have never been scared of what’s happening around you and there’s nothing you can do about it.”



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Allan Weeks celebrates 90 years

ALEXANDRA local Allan Weeks recently celebrated his 90th birthday so it was time to sit down for a chat, to find out about his remarkable achievements.

Allan was born at Alexandra's Kia-Ora guest house, run at the time by his father's sister, a nurse. It was located near the railway station. He initially attended Acheron Primary School because the state school teacher lived in Alexandra and drove past their door every day, in the days before buses. Later he moved to Alexandra Primary School, and at high school level, he attended Ivanhoe Grammar.

Allan's interest in photography started while he was in the last couple of year of his primary school education, starting out using a Box Brownie. Unfortunately, the first film he developed didn't work out. He managed to improve through trial and error, and built a plywood dark room at the end of his father's garage. As for his parents, "Well, they didn't say I couldn't do it," he said laughing.

After high school, Allan worked on his father's farm for a couple of years, before taking a job at the photography business, Granger Studios in Toorak, for two years. He didn't initially take photos but was a photographic assistant as well as working in the darkroom and proofing. It was in this role that he met a photographer with The Age. He taught Allan how to print thin negatives using a variety of techniques. This later came in handy in the air force, based in Laverton.

Allan said, "I put my name down to go to Korea [in 1954], but I was knocked back for no reason that I could at the time, but I think I heard later I was very good at producing photographs from a thin negative that you can hardly see anything on... and the commanding officer wanted to keep me there as long as possible, until I left the air force. In hindsight, who knows? You don't know whether you might pick up a stray bullet there. Might be just as well I didn't go."

Allan first met Patricia when he was stationed at Laverton. He used to go with friends to the Heidelberg Town Hall on Saturday nights. He said, "This particular night I met Pat. We used to have to leave about 11pm to be in by midnight. Here's muggins me walking down Geelong Road hitchhiking at about 1am. We got down there [to Laverton] and if I had gone in to the gate, I would have been slapped in the guard house. So it was over the back fences of Laverton, in the back way. In those days they didn't have big high fences around the airports like they do today," Allan said. Fortunately, he wasn't caught. Allan and Pamela married on May 17, 1958.

The couple moved back to Alexandra, where Allan started a photographic business.

He became a news photographer for the ABC, *The Sun*, GMV6 and the *Alexandra Standard*. He had an arrangement with the *Alexandra Standard* where they included his photos with a credit, as it was good publicity for him. He was happy with that. He was on-call with the *Herald Sun*, where his coverage included covering the Violet Town train crash.

One of his most memorable jobs was at Mount Buffalo, and he regards it as one of his best news stories. Two people or more were killed on Mount Buffalo when a bus they were travelling in was hit by a falling rock. He received a call from *The Sun*, asking him to go up and take photos. He was told that a plane would be waiting for him at the Porepunkah airstrip. Allan knew Mount Buffalo fairly well as he'd been there before on news stories. He said to Reg, the pilot, who had been taking him to Porepunkah that they should fly over the ridge. As they did so, they saw a heavy haulage truck with the bus on the back, lifted up by its front wheels and a hole in the side. "To top it off, there were big rocks up the back," Allan said. "So I took photographs. We turned around. Twenty minutes later, we were back down at Moorabbin." From there, he called the pictures editor of the Sun and said that he had the photos. He initially wasn't believed as it had been so fast. The images made the centre page and the front page.

He also took photos of Prince Charles and Princess Anne at Timbertop, as well as doing an exclusive story on Malcolm Fraser with wife Tammy at Lake Eildon.

He fondly recalled winning third prize in a worldwide film competition, with competitors including the British Army and the American Army Medical Centre. Doctor Joan Esser at



Ian Napier, Rex Tate, John Coles, Allan Courtney, Dr Len Weber and Allan Weeks. -S



Alan and Patricia Weeks. -AR



Alan Weeks. -S



Alan and Patricia Weeks on their wedding day. -S



The flying groups third plane, a Cessna, pictured flying over Lake Eildon. -S

Mansfield had an autistic son and she started the Mansfield Autism Statewide Services. Dr Esser contacted Allan about filming a documentary. Allan didn't charge for his services and Dr Esser paid for all the film. The ABC loaned him a tape recorder. Some of the film was shot at Monash University, filming an autistic child through one way glass. It was titled *Autism without Tears*.

Flying is something which is close to his heart, and he spoke about the first flying group in the area, which became Lake Eildon Airways, with members including Ian Napier, Rex Tate, John Coles, Allan Courtney, Dr Len Weber and Allan Weeks. One of the biggest scares of Allan's life was when the motor blew up on the second plane they had when they were flying over the Black Spur. At the time, all pilots were trained in forced landings, and so this was what they had to undertake, landing on the side of a hill. Despite this, Allan always loved flying.

Stan Reynolds at the ambulance service in Alexandra needed someone to act as controller. This role "built into something pretty big," Allan said. He stayed with

the service for around 40 years, attending emergencies around the area.

Allan received an OAM at Government House in 2000, for service to the community, particularly through his work with the Alexandra District Voluntary Ambulance Service, where he was secretary/controller, from 1955 to 1994. His wife Pat was also involved in the ambulance service. In addition, Allan was a board member of the Alexandra District Hospital for 35 years, and their treasurer for 27 years.

In addition to also being involved in the ambulance service, wife Patricia is also a botanical artist.

On the farm, the deregulation of the dairy industry caused a significant change for farmers, with many moving to beef cattle. Allan decided in 2001 that it was time for him to retire, aged 69. Both Allan and son Clinton left the family farming partnership, based on the Acheron flats. Allan's brother continued on for a while but then decided to give it up because he could see the writing on the wall.

Following the retirement, Allan and Pat spent the following 20 years going backwards

and forwards to Alice Springs, including living there for 12 years, largely for the wildflowers, painted by Pat.

Allan and Pat now have five children, Peter, Clinton, Melissa, Carolyn and Sarah. He said, "We're proud of them all. They've all done very well." They also have 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

They certainly had a great party for Allan's 90th birthday in Acheron, with over 100 people in attendance.

Pat and Allan moved into central Alexandra from their former home on the Acheron Cutting around six months ago.

He noted that his grandmother, Daisy Ellen Weeks, received an Order of the British Empire (OBE) from the Queen Elizabeth II in London. She was one of the first female shire presidents in Victoria, with the Alexandra Shire Council (now Murrindindi Shire Council). As mentioned, Allan received an OAM, and son Peter Weeks, Alexandra SES controller, received an OAM in 2012 and an Emergency Services Medal (ESM) in 2025.

All are certainly fine efforts, and the family has given much to the area.

The Farmer's Ag News



Nutrien were the vendors for the day, auctioning off the cattle with efficiency. -BD



A large crowd for the weaner sale last Friday in Yea. -BD

Big yarding for Nutrien Spring Drop

by Bailey Dixon

THE Nutrien Yea Spring Drop Weaner Sale took place last Friday at the Yea Saleyards, with a big yarding of over 3600 cattle.

A mix of mostly black Angus steer and heifer weaners, prices proved reasonable on the day.

Top price per head for steers was \$1450 with a top weight of 362 kilograms, making for around 401c/kg, above average.

Heifers on the other hand had a top price per head of \$1100 and a top weight of 321 kilograms. With cents per kilogram equalling out to 343, this made heifers slightly below average when compared to the National Young Cattle Indicator, where the latest report states market average as 363c/kg.

Doing the maths, average price per head for the sale was \$870 and average weight per head was 297 kilograms, equalling to an average of 293c/kg.

A large commission buyer from the north helped the sale along, with Duncan Brown purchasing almost half of the available cattle.

The next cattle sale in Yea takes place on the day this edition is published, Wednesday, May 14, with the Elders Yea Autumn Feature Store Sale. The next sales after that are a combined Elders and Nutrien Store Sale on June 6, and an Alex Scott and Staff Store Sale on June 13.



Black Angus were the predominant breed for sale. -BD



The brisk morning air had people rugging up for warmth. -BD

STOCK REPORT 9 MAY 2025			
Nutrien Yea Spring Drop Weaner Sale	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers
Number of head	3,602		
Average \$ per head	\$870		
Average weight per head	297kg		
Top price per head		\$1,450	\$1,100
Top weight		362kg	321kg
Turnover	\$3.1 million		



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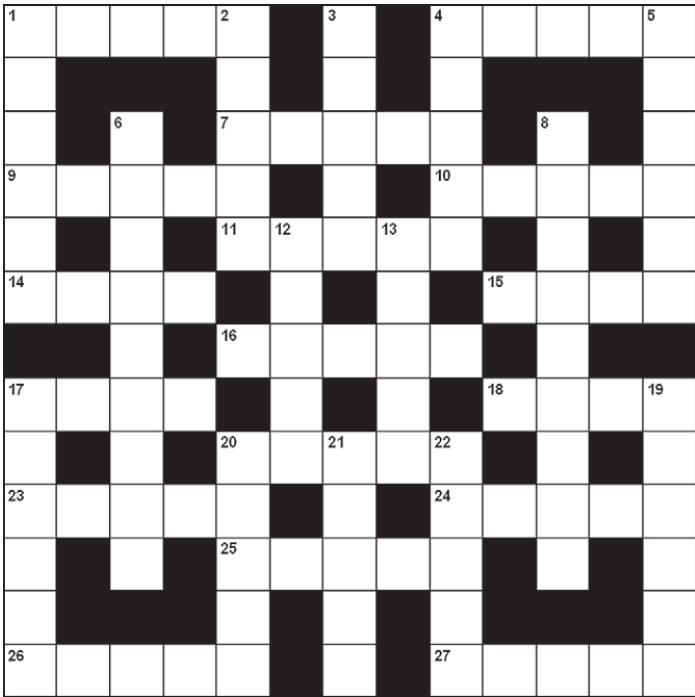
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 14

Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1. Specified and identified.
 - 4. One turn of a spiral.
 - 7. A male duck.
 - 9. The present time.
 - 10. Faithful and true.
 - 11. Momentary flash of light.
 - 14. Appear very large.
 - 15. Drove very fast.
 - 16. Adhered to.
 - 17. A seductive woman.
 - 18. Open to debate.
 - 20. Far beyond the norm.
 - 23. A theatrical performer.
 - 24. Loud sound.
 - 25. Taken the first step.
 - 26. Become fully developed.
 - 27. Consent reluctantly.

- DOWN
- 1. Single whole grain of cereal.
 - 2. Thickened enlargements.
 - 3. Shopping center.
 - 4. Large marine snail.
 - 5. Removed with long handled spoon.
 - 6. With identity concealed.

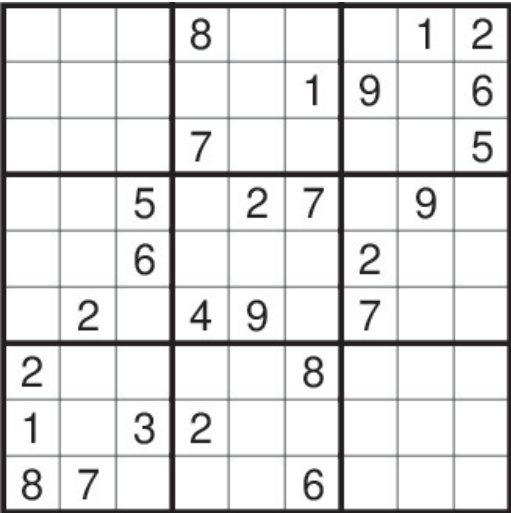


- 8. Harmonious in sound.
- 12. Part of a flower.
- 13. Capable of great speed.
- 17. Barely adequate.
- 19. Poured in torrents.
- 20. Densely populated area.
- 21. Large carnivorous feline.
- 22. Harass and irritate.

Word Search

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

Sudoku



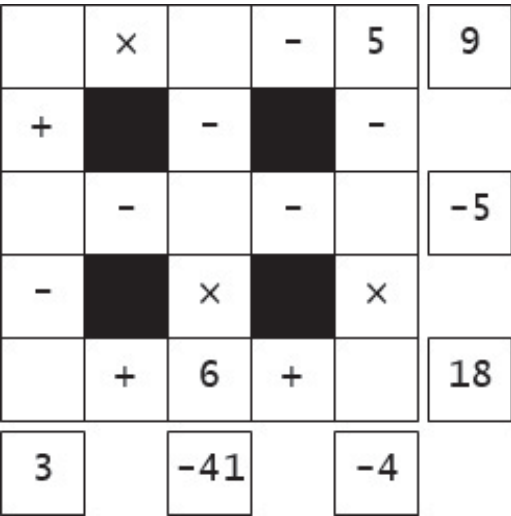
Sports

ATHLETICS	LAWNBOWLS
BASEBALL	NETBALL
BASKETBALL	RUGBY
CRICKET	SKIING
CYCLING	SOCCER
FOOTBALL	SWIMMING

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.

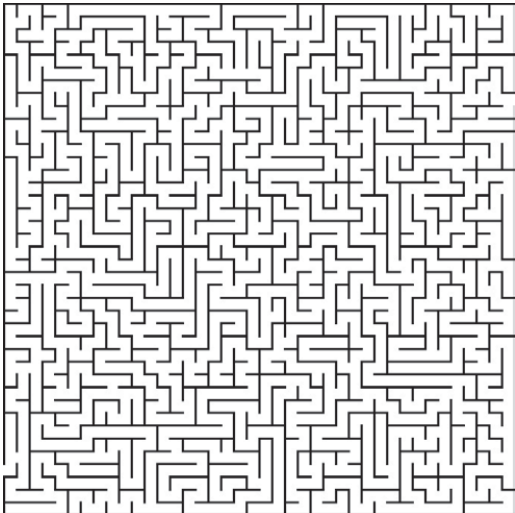
Math Square



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.

Maze



The briefing prior to the exercise. -AR



Ilona, Greg and David in the command vehicle. -AR

Exercise Night Strike eight

KORIELLA Fire Brigade conducted the CFA night training exercise on the evening of Friday May 9. The exercise included most of the local brigades.

The exercise involved local brigades ‘turning out’ to a mock motor vehicle accident that has occurred on private property in Fawcett. In the exercise, the vehicle has started a grass and scrub fire threatening a home. There were live or active grass fires, however a CFA Car Prop was utilised.

The aim of the training was to expose crew members to situations that they will often come across when ‘turning out’ to real incidents. The better trained they are the better the response will be.

Over 70 members attended the exercise, including more than 55 local CFA members.



CFA members watching the exercise. -AR



The exercise was a terrific way to gain skills. -AR



CFA members extinguishing a fire in the car prop. -AR

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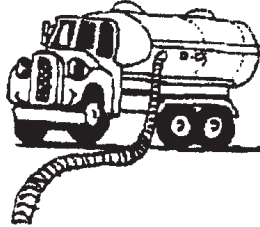
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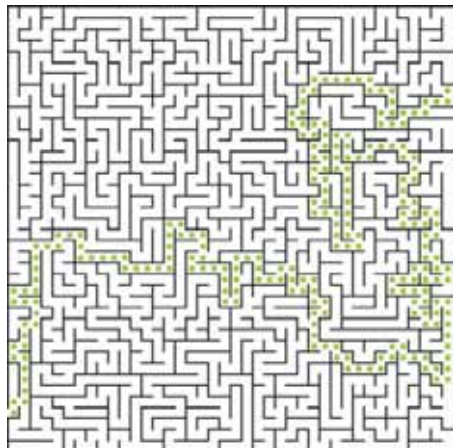
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TRADES ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON THURSDAY

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DEATH NOTICES

BUCKMAN, June
01/05/1938 – 10/05/2025
(late of Alexandra, Victoria)

Wife of Frank (dec). Mother of Robbie, Gail and Leigh (dec). Grandmother of 11, great grandmother of four.

A Thanksgiving Service for June's life will be held in the Uniting Church, Lyttleton Street, Castlemaine on Tuesday, May 20 at 2.30pm.

To join us at the service via livestream please visit June's tribute page on the website of Mount Alexander Funerals.

We will take her back to Alexandra to be buried, with a graveside service at the Alexandra Cemetery at 11.30am on Wednesday, May 21. We would love you to join us at either service.

She made life beautiful by unselfish deeds, generous thoughts for other's needs, happy, smiling, always content, and respected where ever she went.



THANK YOU



Thank you Meals on Wheels
from Yea and District Memorial Hospital.

Yea and District Memorial Hospital is no longer providing meals for the Meals on Wheels Program.

Nexus and Sunbury Cobaw Community Health are reorganising how the service is delivered and we trust that our community will continue to have access to high quality meals delivered to their home.

We would like to thank our staff for cooking delicious meals for the Meals on Wheels program for over 15 years.

We have loved working with the dedicated Meals on Wheels volunteers and other local staff who delivered meals to our community.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



The **Yea and District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary** needs you. We need more volunteers to join our Auxiliary, it's a great opportunity to give back to the community.

No experience is necessary, we are a fun and friendly group of committed volunteers and we can learn together.

The Yea and District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary has a long and proud history of raising money for the hospital to support the services provided and the residents of Rosebank Hostel and Nursing Home. The Auxiliary runs a range of fundraising activities across the year and meets on a monthly basis.

Please contact Kaye on 0400 424 888 for more information and to register your interest.

IN MEMORIAM

COOKSON, Warwick.
16/05/2017
Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard but always near. Still loved, still missed and held so dear. June, Fiona and Geoff.

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FUNERAL NOTICES

ELENIUS,
Leif Erik.

A funeral service for Leif will be held on Wednesday, May 14 at Yea Bowling Club commencing at noon.



MEETINGS

ALEXANDRA Bowls Club AGM will be held at the club rooms on Sunday, May 18 at 11am. Presentations and barbecue to follow.

YARCK Rural Fire Brigade will hold their AGM on Wednesday, May 21 at 6.30pm at the Yarck Hall. It would be great to see you all there.

MEETINGS

MOLESWORTH CARAVAN PARK.

Notice is given of a Public Meeting to be held at 7pm on May 27, 2025 commencing at the Molesworth Community Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three and no more than nine persons as the Committee of Management for the Molesworth Caravan Park for a term of three years. The current committee's term will expire on June 30, 2025. All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night. Nominations from women, Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, young people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds are encouraged. Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting the secretary, Helen Willard 0435 320 317 or via email at secretary@molesworthreserve.com.au.

MEETINGS



General meeting for the Alexandra RSL will be held on Sunday, May 18, at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

YEA Water Tigers Amateur Swimming Club AGM. Meeting will be held at Yea Community House. Monday, May 26 at 6 pm. All positions declared vacant. General meeting will follow at 6.30 pm. Enquiries to the secretary: yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com, 0459 248 488. New members welcome.

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SPORT

Alexandra Secondary College Annual Athletics Carnival

by Ally Crouch, Sports Coordinator for Alexandra Secondary College

THE Annual Alexandra Secondary College (ASC) Athletics Carnival was held on Friday, May 2 at Briggs Oval. It was a fantastic day filled with enthusiasm, talent, and school spirit as students from all year levels participated in a wide range of track and field events.

In the lead-up to the main event, 31 dedicated students from years seven to 12 competed in the 3000 metre race on Thursday, May 1. The carnival itself was packed with energy, friendly competition, and many memorable moments.

ASC are thrilled to announce that eight college records were broken this year, an outstanding achievement.

The college offers a huge congratulations to everyone who participated, and says well done to Long House, who claimed overall victory on the day.

Record Breakers

Levi Campbell broke the 2020 100m Dash record with a time of 13.42 seconds; broke the 2004 800m record with a time of 2 minutes 26 seconds; and broke the 1994 Triple Jump record with a jump of 10.72 metres.

Koa Parker broke the 2015 3000m record with a time of 12 minutes 11 seconds; broke the 2003 800m record with a time of 2 minutes 41 seconds; and broke the 2003 1500m record with a time of 5 minutes 29 seconds.

Harish Balansag broke the 2024 200m record with a time of 27.65 seconds.

Marli Collier broke the 2004 Shot Put record with a throw of 9.59 metres.

Age Group Champions

Twelve to 13 year old female winner was Koa Parker, with runner-up Tilly Mikjickovic.

Twelve to 13 year old male winner was Harish Balansag, with runner-up Eli Weeks.

Fourteen year old female winner was Cheyanne Richard, with runner-up Mia Heard.

Fourteen year old male winner was Levi Campbell, with runner-up Chase Hilder.

Fifteen year old female equal winners were Hannah Weeks and Cassie Kidd, with runner-up Phoebe Kidd.

Fifteen year old male winner was Seth Pilcher, with runner-up Hamish Wilson.

Sixteen year old female winner was Marli Collier, with runner-up Ash Newman.

Sixteen year old male winner was Brayden Stewart, with runner-up Brody Ricco-Goulay.

Seventeen year old female winner was Reese Stewart, with runner-up Talia Nash.

Seventeen year old male equal winners were Archie McGahy and George Sotiropoulos, with runner-up Sam Harris.

Eighteen to 20 year old female equal winners were Danielle Nadj and Milly Weeks, with runner-up Kloe Morton.

Eighteen to 20 year old male winner was Ben Geldart, with runner-up Noah Campbell.



Students setting off on the 1500 metre sprint race. -BD



Fellow students watched as the discus was thrown. -BD



Students found creative ways to entertain themselves in between events. -BD



Medal winners from the Alexandra Secondary College Annual Athletics Carnival that took place on Friday, May 2. -S



Passing the finish line during one of the many sprint races. -BD



Inside the gymnasium, students had the opportunity to participate in the high jump events. -BD



Flying through the air in a long jump attempt. -BD



Teachers led students in how to improve their athletic performances on the day. -BD



The marquees set up for each of the Alexandra Secondary College sport houses. -BD



Launching the javelin with all the strength possible. -BD

Tennis is back

by Rhonda Carpenter

CREIGHTON'S Creek welcomed Wappan while Seven Creeks met Moglonemby for their matches on the magnificently manicured lawn surface in Euroa last Monday. Wind gusts on the warm day made the contests extremely entertaining.

Creighton's Creek' Chris Ellis, Roz Doxey, Julie Brook, and Lyn Johnston faced Wappan's Natalie Bergsma, Jenny Bell, Liza Karras and Rhonda Carpenter in a lengthy battle of hard hitting.

The Mansfield visitors found the lawn to their liking and took the first four sets with courtcraft angles and a massive comeback by Natalie and Liza from three to six down to win eight to six.

In the final sets Wappan players distractedly watched their teammates game on the adjacent court, lost focus, and the set eight to two. Chris and Lyn caught them napping and made the most of the lapse with stunning form.

Wappan won 5/42 to Creighton's Creek 1/30.

Moglonemby's Judy Sands, Sue Vaughan, Danielle Scotis, and Lisa Krepp versed Seven Creeks' Rowena Ellis, Gayle Furphy, Mary Kelly and Jill Hayes in a tight tussle. The pairs combined strongly against each other with openers going each way.

Moglonemby took the next two, while the last pairs were split again. Moglonemby won 4/43 to Seven Creeks 2/27 in a lengthy match putting them into second spot on the ladder.

Euroa travelled to Mansfield for the closest match of the day. Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon, Keira McDonagh, Clare Beecham, and Sophie Yencken shared the sets three all but Euroa's Lyndall Bigland, Faye Mollison, Ruth Nolan and Lyn Pierce were up by four games when the final scores were tallied.

Euroa won 3/34 to 3/30 to seize third spot on the ladder.

Terip welcomed Benalla for a great day of tennis on the plateau. Cindy Hayes, Frances Lawrence, Phoebe MacDermid and Melissa MacDowell were convincing in every set. Benalla's Claire Sharp, Maureen Jewell, Deb Siggers, and Wendy Maxwell toiled hard, but Terip won the day 6/48 to 0/19.

Delatite had the bye. This year Euroa have made changes to their teams by mixing them up. The draw for the winter competition can be found at play.tennis.com.au/mansfieldtennisassociation/Competitions/Euroawinter

Ladder after round two: Terip 17, Moglonemby 16, Euroa 16, Creighton's Creek 10, Wappan 10, Mansfield 6, Seven Creeks 3, Delatite 2, and Benalla 0.

The dedicated volunteers on MTA's committee met at the Delatite Hotel last Monday night to discuss the past season and plan for the next one. The AGM will be held in September and those keen to contribute can contact the club by writing to mansfieldtennisassoc@gmail.com outlining how they might offer support.

Night coordinators, team selectors, and event volunteers are always needed to manage summer competition. A Pickleball Social Competition will be launched in October and those interested can contact Liza Karras lizakarras@bigpond.com by May 30 to offer their support to the sub-committee being formed.

For all sorts of information check out the club's website play.tennis.com.au/mansfieldtennisassociation

Club Coach Liam Delany can be contacted for coaching on 0425 711 412.



Cross country races for Murrindindi Shire primary school students

PRIMARY school students from around Murrindindi Shire made the trip to Eildon Primary School for the cluster cross country running event last Wednesday.

Events included races from 300 metres in length to 2500 metres, with a variety of age categories.

The event was attended by Alexandra Primary School, Buxton Primary School, Eildon Primary School, Flowerdale Primary School, Marysville Primary School, Sacred Heart Primary School, St Mary's Primary School, and Yea Primary School.



Students from various primary schools around Murrindindi Shire converged in Eildon for a group cross country running event. -Photos by BD



SPORT

Marg and Judy to play off for Ladies' Monthly Medal

by Dave Silverman

THE weather was just about perfect for golf this week, cold mornings leading into warm, still, very pleasant days.

Thus, it was on Tuesday, as 11 players teed off at noon on a course which still has plenty of run in it, and, for the second week running, it was James Fulton who took the top spot with 35 points. If this keeps up we may have to find him a job where he doesn't get Tuesdays off. Second was Brad Newton with 31, and Leo Dynes was third, also with 31.

Brad claimed nearest the pin on seven, and 17 went to Bill Wind. Bill also scored a rundown voucher, as did Russell Purcell and Ross Thompson.

On Wednesday morning, eight ladies entered to compete for the May Monthly Medal. In the end, though, there will have to be a play-off for the medal, as both Marg Fahey and Judy Pearson returned nett 69's. Marg was declared the winner on the day after a countback, and third place went to Sue Greatorex with a nett 75.

Judy had the fewest putts with 27, and Bron Howell was the nine hole winner. Nearest the pins went to Sue on two, Helen Findlay on five and Marg on 12.

The fine weather continued into Saturday, although those who teed off early had to contend with the Alexandra fog. It's interesting to note that none of the top scores came from the early starters. The event attracted a field of 21, and was sponsored by Travis Capp Plumbing.

Trevor Biffin played to his handicap to take the win, his 36 points just one clear of second-placed Alison Rouget. Sharyn Petrzela was one further back in third, and Shane McGorlick and Matt Richards were fourth and fifth respectively on 33.

Shane also picked up the nearest the pin for the second, and the 12th went to Matt. Corey Jack took seven, and 18 went to Dan Burns.



Everyone preparing to tee off on Saturday's match. -S



Sharyn and Alison on 13th hole on Saturday's game. -S



Trevor Biffin chipping up. -S



John Greatorex on the eighth tee. -S



Bill Wind holes out on seven. -S



Jan Petrzela's second on 10. -S

Marysville golf ladies win against Lancefield at Seymour



Autumn in all its glory. -S

by Lesley Rundle

WHAT a pleasure it is to play on our beautiful golf course during these Autumn days. The red and golden leaves are stunning and many keen photographers were stopping on the roadside next to the course to capture the stunning colours of the Autumn foliage.

On Thursday the nine holers played Par on the back nine holes and Ian Harris (14) won on +2 on a countback from Lloyd Flaherty (13). The nearest the pin on the 11th was Paul Martin and on the 18th was Brian Worcestor. Evidently there were a number of interesting cross country shots played during the round but the shot of the day was played by Brian Worcestor who chipped in on the challenging 15th to make Par.

While the regular nine hole competition was being played at Marysville five ladies

played in the annual ladies Bowl at Yea. Congratulations to Margaret Blair (29) who with 42 stableford points and the best score of the day won C Grade. She was also a member of the winning small teams, won a raffle and five Dalhousie Player of the Year points.

Congratulations to a Yea team for winning the Bowl and members thank the ladies for their hospitality. The next Dalhousie ladies event is the Strathbogie Bowl on Thursday, May 22.

On Saturday both the men and ladies played Par and the men's event was the first round of the Par Shield. Keith Atwell was the winner on and Adam Littlejohn was runner up. The first-round qualifiers for the Par Shield were Adam, Keith and Brian Worcestor. The ladies winner was Lesley Rundle (34) with +2 from Gail Leigh (10) with -2. The nearest the pins



C Grade winner at Yea Margaret Blair. -S

were won by Peter Lilley, Brett Mansfield and Keith Atwell who also won the Golden Shot. Next Saturday the men will play stableford for the third round of the Barton Cup and the ladies will also play stableford for the Mavis Hadfield Trophy.

On Monday, May 5 the ladies Pennant team played the second round of their competition against Lancefield at Seymour. The ladies played well to win the match four to one. Last Monday they played Woodend at Lancefield and the results will be given next week.

Perfect conditions for Don Reid Day

by Puttamic

AN absolute cracking autumn's day saw 17 players contest a two person aggregate Stableford competition in the annual Don Reid Day.

In nothing short of perfect conditions, Grant Walters and Mark Mackwell entered the clubhouse with a combined 67 points to take first place honours and five ahead of runners up John Monteath and Jezza Magee on 62.

John Monteath also paired up with John Gysberts and secured a ball run as did Wayne and Adam Kupke, and Colin Long who partnered Peter McNair.

Grant was successful with his second shot for closest the pin on the par four third, Phil Dally took out both the 11th and 12th with Adam rounding out securing the 14th. The fifth went unclaimed as did our two birdie holes.

Colin was the entry draw winner, Don won the swindle and Grant was successful in the joker draw even managing to find the elusive card.

Just a reminder in case you missed Rod's message, there will be no competition this Wednesday. Next Saturday will be a three person coloured ball competition. Hope you can join us.

Alexandra junior footballers and netballers scatter

by Michelle Jack

THE Alexandra Juniors only had two games of football and two games of netball for this round. The Under 13 and 15 Alexandra Black netballers travelled to Broadford and the Under 14 footballers travelled to Euroa to take on the pies on their home ground. Under 16 footballers played at home against the Shepparton Swans.

Under 13 Netball
Broadford 12 defeated by Alexandra Black 24

Under 15 Netball
Broadford 23 defeated Alexandra Black 18

Under 14 Football
Euroa 4.13 – 37 defeated by Alexandra 11.6 - 72

Awards: Jordan, Adam, Chase and Billy.



Fletcher Van Lierop sending the ball further down the field. -S

Under 16 Football
Alexandra 2.2 – 14 defeated by Shepparton Swans 17.17 - 119

Awards: Jayde Bennette, Hamish Wilson, Matt Wal and Cam Clark.

The Alexandra junior teams will see the Under Nine, 10 and 12s and all the netball

teams playing at home against Broadford or St Marys next round. With the Under 14s travelling to Wandong and the Under 16s playing Echuca at Princess Park in Shepparton.

The club would like to acknowledge the continued support of all their sponsors.



Heath Sutcliffe under pressure from the opposing team. -S



Matt Wal marking the ball with an excellent jump. -S

Great games for Lizards and Birds

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition
Eagles versus Hawks

LOCHLAN versus Ethan: A great game by both with some great shots and laughs. It was a fabulous game to watch and very close in the end. Lochlan won the match by one-point. 50 to 49.

Sally versus Chris T: Chris is in good form and easily tackled Sally leaving her in the dust. Chris went home with an outrageous won. 90 to 45.

Michael M versus Jared: Michael hit the ground running and capitalised on Jared’s slow start. Jared found some accuracy in his serve and put himself back in contention. Refusing to go down, Michael tightened up his shot to put the match to bed and seal his victory. 60 to 47.

Derrick versus Andrew: Andrew played an efficient game to take an early lead. He consolidated his lead in the second game by playing at the peak of his form. Derrick is a classy player and pulled out some amazing shots to reduce his deficit. However, Andrew hung on in this epic match to come out triumphant. 54 to 50.

Falcons versus Owls

ERIC versus Tyler: Tyler started strong to claim the first two games. Eric rose to the



James and Sally crowd the corner, playing some drop shots. -S

challenge to win game three, but Tyler had him on the ropes and claimed the final game and the match. 61 to 47.

Simon versus Justin (fill in): Simon’s game relies on well placed meticulous shots. Tonight, he was not well placed enough and Justins energetically blitzed his way to a big win. 72 to 48.

Jack versus John: It was a great match. John played his usual game of finesse and Jack but in a good effort but lost his way in the final game. John kept consistent to take home the match. 62 to 46.

Blue Tongues versus Frill necks

BETH versus Blake: Coming out strong, Blake took the lead. Beth attempted to break through but couldn’t bring Blake down. Blake claimed the win. 69 to 46.

Sam versus Kristelle: Charging into the fray, Sam ran the ball down and put to use some of his trickier shots. Kristelle attempted to turn the tables with her drop shots, but Sam held the upper hand for a convincing win. 71 to 44.

Daniel W versus Stu: Daniel started strong in the first game. With a great variation of serves from Stu he pushed back to take three games and the match. 60 to 50.

Dragons versus Skinks

LIANE versus Matt J: Both players are coming back to squash after some time off and took some time to shake off the cobwebs. Liane did not hold back, keeping Matt moving, taking home the match with a commanding win. 78 to 33.

Travis versus Lucas: The match started off close with both players finding their rhythm. Game four provided a change of pace with Lucas closing out the game on seventeen-point win to take the match. 65 to 45.

Michael H versus Phil (fill in): By the halfway mark there was only a few points different. Micheal took it up a notch to win the next two games to claim the match. 76 to 39.

Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders

Football – Reserves

	Percentage	Wins
Seville	637.00	5
Pakenham	580.00	4
Belgrave	191.96	3
Warburton Millgrove	118.49	2
Yea	103.54	2
Alexandra	52.88	2
Powelltown	35.63	1
Yarra Junction	24.85	1
Yarra Glen	22.64	0

Football – Seniors

Pakenham	295.12	4
Seville	226.38	5
Warburton Millgrove	375.64	3
Yarra Glen	121.41	4
Yea	105.76	1
Alexandra	85.71	1
Powelltown	39.48	1
Belgrave	65.76	1
Yarra Junction	25.64	0

Football – Senior Women

Warburton-Wesburn	100.00	5
Emerald	75.00	3
Thornton Eildon	75.00	3
Wandin	75.00	3
Yea	25.00	1
Seville	0	0
Officer	0	0

Netball – 17 and under

Seville	443.86	5
Pakenham Lions Gold	264.86	4
Warburton Millgrove	86.32	1
Pakenham Lions Maroon	47.06	1
Alexandra	34.42	1
Powelltown	26.56	0

Football – Under 18

Pakenham	2714.81	5
Seville	203.68	3
Yarra Glen	116.12	3
Warburton Millgrove	18.37	1
Alexandra	12.19	0
Yea	18.31	0

Netball – A Grade

	Percentage	Wins
Pakenham Lions	390.24	4
Seville	201.75	5
Warburton Millgrove	214.78	3
Yarra Glen	132.60	4
Yarra Junction	97.67	2
Alexandra	60.00	1
Yea	64.15	0
Belgrave	47.03	1
Powelltown	21.02	0

Netball – B Grade

Seville	379.79	5
Pakenham Lions	368.42	4
Warburton Millgrove	136.17	3
Yarra Glen	126.74	4
Yarra Junction	61.11	2
Alexandra	40.16	1
Belgrave	67.20	1
Yea	53.42	0
Powelltown	44.08	0

Netball – C Grade

Pakenham Lions	310.39	4
Seville	265.96	5
Warburton Millgrove	185.71	3
Yarra Glen	102.45	4
Alexandra	66.47	1
Yarra Junction	68.94	1
Powelltown	35.11	0
Belgrave	55.36	1
Yea	52.70	0

Netball – D Grade

Pakenham Lions	641.38	4
Seville	330.77	5
Warburton Millgrove	181.71	3
Yarra Glen	81.29	3
Alexandra	68.75	2
Yea	64.65	1
Yarra Junction	52.12	1
Belgrave	47.55	1
Powelltown	18.95	0

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Alexandra Reserve footballers win against Yarra Glen

by Michelle Jack

SATURDAY, May 10, the Alexandra Rebels played Yarra Glen at home in three games of football and four games of netball.

Under 18
Alexandra 3.3 – 21 defeated
by Yarra Glen 11.9 - 75

THE Under 18s coming off a bye were keen to run out on their home turf and while undermanned, they never gave up.

Awards: Bowens Incentive, Jamie Shawcross; Garry Warren Smith Motors, Ashton Cowell; AFNC Club Voucher, Sam Harris; and Coaches Award, Jaidon Snyman.

Reserves
Alexandra 6.16 – 52 defeated
Yarra Glen 4.5 – 29

WITH a full side despite a number of players out the Reserves started well with Kapa

kicking the first goal for the game. This inspired the team to dig in kicking five goals to Yarra Glen's one, leading by 29 points at halftime.

The third quarter was more even between the two sides both only managing to kick one goal for the term. Heading into the final quarter the Rebels still had a handy lead of 34 points which ultimately gave them the win as they were kept goalless in the last quarter.

Awards: NP on the Run, Dan Cussen; Future Fit Finance, Jayden Saggin; AFNC Club Voucher, Tyson Pedlar; and Simpson Fuel Card, Lachlan Haynes.

Seniors
Alexandra 11.7 – 73 defeated
by Yarra Glen 12.11 - 83

THE Seniors having lost a few players to injuries from the week before at the Powelltown game welcomed in a couple of debutants in Brodie Humphries and Josh

Crane and also Daniel Roper who had played a full game in the Reserves.

The first quarter was pretty even between the two teams but Yarra Glen led at quarter time by five points. Second quarter saw the Rebels kick four goals to Yarra Glen's two, putting them in front at half time by five points.

Yarra Glen in the third out scored the Rebels having eight scoring shots compared to the Rebels which saw them take back the lead at three quarter time by five points. In the last quarter Yarra Glen got the better of the Rebels and finished the final term on top by 10 points.

Awards: Kervale Incentive, Harry Aikman; O'Briens Real Estate, Sam Boots; Simpson Fuel Card, Sam Turner; Buxton Hotel Award, Will Stewart.

This week our Senior sides will travel to Warburton in five games of netball and three games of football.



Kylie Cairns passing the ball. -S



Under 18 Alexandra player George Sotiropoulos moving with the ball. -S



Ash Creighton calmly controlling the ball during play. -S

Thornton women's team celebrate another win

by Scott Whitehead

Thornton/Eildon 5.4-34
defeated Seville 2.6-18

INCREDIBLE autumn conditions greeted Thornton/Eildon as they hosted Seville in round five of women's football. Boasting an almost full-strength team, and with the home ground advantage, Thornton/Eildon were confident that they would come away with the win at the end of the day.

Unexpectedly, Seville came out and showed that the thrashings received earlier in the season were not a true indication of how this game would go and were the first to score a major. This kicked Thornton/Eildon into gear, and they returned fire with a goal of their own to Trinity Tebbutt. At the end of the first quarter Seville held on to a slender two point lead.

In another tight quarter, Thornton/Eildon again found it difficult to score but with goals to Captain Rose Kealy and a late one to Kim Walton had the home team regain the lead and at half time the gap between the two teams was 10 points.

At the half time break and under the shade of the trees the home team coaching staff felt that while Thornton/Eildon were in front the hard work was yet to come to ensure they would receive the four points by games end. The message was given to control possession of the ball and limit Seville's opportunities to score.

In a scrambled third quarter Seville managed to have four scoring shots but squandered their opportunities in front of goal and allowed Lucy McCrae to soccer the ball off the ground for her first major. At the three-quarter time break Thornton/Eildon's lead had been reduced to eight points.

With the home crowd right behind them Thornton/Eildon put the foot down and another goal to Lucy McCrae allowed the coaches to breathe a slight sigh of relief as the margin continued to grow. Midfielders Izzy Weston, Siobhan Bell, Jamee Cousens and Aisha Hendricks showed maturity around the ground as they constantly returned the ball into Thornton/Eildon's forward line. The home team backline held strong with Bechet Cousins, Emma Whitehead, and Amy Campbell not allowing Seville to score and at the final siren Thornton/Eildon held on to a 16 point hard-fought win.

The third win for the season now sees Thornton/Eildon sitting equal second on the ladder and take on their equal in Wandin next week, which should see the winner maintain that position on the ladder.

Goals: Lucy McCrae two, Trinity Tebutt, Rose Kealy, Kim Walton one each

Awards

MOLESWORTH Hotel and General store: Emma Whitehead; Café Alex: Siobhan Bell; Murrindindi Aged and Home care: Aisha Hendricks; Coaches award \$20: Jamee Cousens

Next week Thornton/Eildon head off for the early game starting at 9.10am at the Wandin Recreation reserve.

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