

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard

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

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Weekend sport



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Fight over unfair tax taken to Spring Street



Protesters outside Parliament House. -S

COUNTRY Fire Authority (CFA) brigades from Murrindindi Shire joined other brigades in Wallan last Tuesday to drive in a convoy down to the protest against the Emergency Services Volunteer Fund (ESVF) at Parliament in Melbourne.

Brigades from across northern Victoria, including Echuca, Rutherglen, Benalla and Wangaratta, met with Murrindindi brigades in Wallan and left for Melbourne in a convoy at 7.45am on Tuesday, May 20.

The Murrindindi Shire brigades that attended the protest were Acheron, Yarck, Taggerty, Molesworth, Glenburn and Terip Terip. They were supported by other locals who made the trip down to Parliament personally, rather than with their CFA brigade.

Jonathan Tofts, first lieutenant at the Terip Terip CFA and organiser of the northern brigades for the protest, spoke about the successful day.

"It went all successfully. We left Wallan about 7.45am with brigades from right across northern Victoria. We made our way down Flemington Road into Melbourne and caused havoc," Jonathan said.

Some Melbourne people were caught unawares by the procession of CFA trucks heading into the city, with no clue what was happening.

"We did have one person ask 'what's happened, what's going on, why are you doing it?' and we pretty much continued driving. Melbourne people had no idea what was happening," Jonathan said.

"And that actually even happened at Parliament, this elderly person said 'what's happening, what's the matter?'. They've got no idea what's happening down in Melbourne."

The northern brigades met up with another convoy of CFA trucks on the way into

Melbourne, around Essendon Airport, where they merged together.

"When we were going up Flemington Road we all went through, everything went smoothly and we got all the vehicles up on Spring Street, in the manner of time. I had about 45 vehicles in our convoy from Wallan, and then we met with another cluster as well," Jonathan said.

"We almost all merged on around Essendon Airport there. We were pretty much coming up and over the bridge as they were coming under their section, and we all merged together, just at the right time. It was quite good. Four lanes of the highway were blockaded by us, and we were moving nice and steady."

Upon arriving at Parliament, the brigades formed a crowd, listening to guest speakers and protesting for around an hour and a half, before heading home.

"We listened to all the guest speakers, and all the opposition team. Cindy McLeish, Annabelle Clelland, Danny O'Brien and all that. They came out and said some words. Everyone was on the steps," Jonathan said.

"It would have been about an hour, an hour and a half. We left around 12pm."

Jonathan reported that the state government refused to meet with the protestors.

"They were hiding behind their big doors," he said.

"Hopefully we don't have to pay it. It will affect a lot of local businesses and local farmers. It's going to affect everyone. All the prices are going to have to go up to absorb the price of the city-centric tax that the government is putting on," Jonathan concluded, sharing his final thoughts on the issue.

★ OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, JUNE 9 ★

EARLY DEADLINES APPLY FOR JUNE 11 EDITION

CLASSIFIEDS INC DEATH AND FUNERAL NOTICES - 2PM FRIDAY, JUNE 6 ★
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

★ EDITORIAL, SPORTS, THUMBS UP/DOWN AND
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - 10AM MONDAY, JUNE 9 ★
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au AND sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

EGN and TRADES advertising deadlines remain unchanged.



Alexandra District Health

5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital

5736 0400

In an emergency dial

000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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ALEXANDRA
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COMMUNITY DIARY

Alexandra District Health

5772 0900

Non-emergency police assistance

131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon

UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

WEEKLY

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

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

Fri Man Walk @ 7am meet at RSL Hall

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

MONTHLY

1st Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318

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

2nd Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285

2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

2nd Thur Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

3rd Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318

3rd Thu Alexandra Ladies Probud 10am RSL Ph 0428 976 252

3rd Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas

3rd Sun Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913

4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

4th Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517

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

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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

Letters to the Editor

Alexandra Secondary College's visit to Japan

THANKS to Max Gleeson for his wonderful piece on the school trip to Japan as reported in the *Alexandra Standard* on May 7. Not only meaningful in allowing us to see what they saw on their journey but so well written as to put us there with the students. For those of us who have been, it surely reignited memories, and for those who have not, whetted their appetites for a trip. As a piece of news it was enlightening and informative, as well as being funny and insightful. He writes from the heart and I enjoyed every word.

Valerie Pallaoro, Alexandra

Forces at play

YOU see dear one there are so many forces at play in the threads to your tapestry of life. Your life pathway was already mapped out long before your beautiful soul was placed into your vessel. Soul contracts, bonds, encounters, debts. Karmic ties, bonds contracts debts and like all debt and contracts they must be honoured as well as paid. You are walking the footsteps of your existence you are exactly where you are meant to be. Imperfectly human, perfectly designed to be flawed. That design is now yours. Yours to be the architect, to

rewrite and design alongside co-creating with the universe. Your scales balanced in complete harmony in alignment. So many of us are misaligned at this present time. Restlessness inside is stirring, the soul wants limbo to end so that you may ascend. The serpent of the mind has all the knowledge and intellect that connects the soul to the body. Look within, everything is inside you, look to self and see.

Name and address supplied but withheld by request

Give us your 10 cents worth

THE change to our kerbside collection is imminent and the fors and againsts have been widely debated.

Please consider, when you are separating your recyclables, keeping the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) items aside and donate them to one of the many not-for-profit or community groups throughout our shire that have partnered with the CDS North Scheme.

An example of how this works very successfully is in Buxton. The Buxton Progress Association website explains how their Buxton 3711 Community Fund works for their local community.

Rather than give 10 cents to Cleanaway, the largest waste management business in

Water restrictions for Euroa and Violet Town

IN response to unseasonal prolonged dry conditions, stage two water restrictions will be introduced in nearby Euroa and Violet Town from Wednesday, May 28. Goulburn Valley Water has determined the measure is needed to safeguard supplies and ensure the system has sufficient water until storages recover.

The key changes under stage two water restrictions are: Residential and commercial lawns cannot be watered at any time; gardens can be watered using a hand-held hose fitted with a trigger nozzle, bucket or watering can at any time, on any day; use of watering systems is only permitted between 6am and 8am and 6pm and 8pm on alternate days, ie.

even and no numbered properties may water on even dates, odd-numbered properties may water on odd dates; all properties may water on the 31st of the month; councils and schools can water sports grounds and gardens in accordance with the prescribed times; cleaning windows, hosing down hard surfaces and washing vehicles is restricted.

The restrictions do not apply to recycled water or tank water. Water storages in these systems are at record low levels, about 60 percentage points lower than at the same time last year.

For more information visit gvwater.vic.gov.au/restrictions or call 5832 4800.

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT					
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS	
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	1.48	steady	below minor	
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.39	steady		
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.21am Mon	0.46	steady	below minor	
Home Creek at Yarek	10.13am Mon	0.11	steady		
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.21am Mon	0.38	steady	below minor	
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	8.20am Mon	0.21	steady	below minor	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	3.47	steady		
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.30	steady	below minor	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	10.00am Mon	0.42	steady		
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	0.98	steady	below minor	
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	below minor	
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	1.29	steady	below minor	
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	10.08am Mon	0.78	steady		
**ISSUED AT 10.15AM ON MONDAY, 26 MAY 2025					

THUMBS UP

THUMBS DOWN

THUMBS UP:

To Ellie and Ivy's Cafe in Grant Street. Fantastic service and coffee. It's so good I live there 10am to midday Wednesday to Saturday. They're open Sunday too. Great atmosphere.

THUMBS UP:

To Kerry and all the helpers for an amazing Biggest Morning Tea in Eildon. Over 50 Great raffle prizes, spectacular food and presentation. You deserve all the funds you receive. A worthy cause.

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

Weekly Weather

May 28 - June 3, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY

LOW

HIGH

DAY

LOW

HIGH

Wednesday

8

14

Wednesday

9

13

Thursday

7

17

Thursday

8

16

Friday

4

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Friday

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Saturday

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Saturday

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Sunday

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Sunday

8

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Monday

7

17

Monday

7

17

Tuesday

5

15

Tuesday

5

15

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra 9mm

Buxton..... 2.5mm

Eildon (AWS)..... 10mm

Flowerdale..... 3mm

Jamieson..... 13mm

Kinglake..... 3mm

Lake Eildon..... 9mm

Mansfield..... 8mm

Taggerty 6mm

Yarek 8mm

Yea..... 6mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week.....276.9m

Capacity as at 9am Monday.....69.1%

Metres below full supply.....12m

Daily inflow300ML

Release..... 2000ML

Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....50%

Standard

DEADLINES

Real Estate

Thursday 5pm

Trades & Services

Thursday noon

Early General News

Thursday 5pm

Classifieds

Monday noon

Editorial

Monday 9am

Sports Editorial

Monday 10am

Letters to the Editor

Monday 9am

Thumbsup/down

Monday 10am

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

5772 1002 or

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

Foundation Murrindindi announces Volunteer Grant Recipients

FOUNDATION Murrindindi proudly announced the successful recipients of its 2025 Volunteer Grant Program, at an event in Yea during National Volunteer Week.

"It's a real privilege to celebrate and congratulate the successful recipients of Foundation Murrindindi's Volunteer Grant Program," Executive Officer Robyn Hill said at the recent announcement. "This moment is about recognising the tireless efforts, selfless giving, and powerful impact made by volunteers throughout Murrindindi Shire."

Foundation Murrindindi's Volunteer Grants are designed to empower community organisations by supporting the people who give their time, energy, and heart to help others. Whether used for first aid training, the purchase of essential equipment, or subscriptions that enhance operational capacity, these grants represent a meaningful investment in building strong community networks.

"This grant program is also about ensuring sustainability. It's about saying to our

volunteers 'You matter. Your development, wellbeing, and capacity to keep going matters.' When we invest in our volunteers, we're not just ticking boxes. We're building the future of community-led resilience in Murrindindi."

Foundation Murrindindi is pleased to announce the following 2025 Volunteer Grant recipients:

Marysville Triangle Community Mens Shed's ShedTech Project: Building Community Together, Tri Gym for First Aid, CPR and Defibrillator, Eildon Events for MOVES: Moving Our Volunteers Equipment Safely, Yea CFA for Join Yea CFA Help Protect Your Community, Glenburn Hall and Progress Association's Glenburn Kitchen Upgrade, Murrindindi Ranges Wildlife Centre's Flush for Wildlife, Yea Community House's Upskill Our Volunteers, Fawcett Hall's Modern Tools for a Historical Hall: Powering our Volunteers to Better Serve the Community, Marysville CFA's Stay Safe, Murrindindi Little Athletics Centre's Empowering

Volunteers Through Technology: Laptop Upgrade for Murrindindi Little Athletics, Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House's Digital Champions: Empowering Volunteers for the Future, and Alexandra Community Hub's 'Give Back, Feel Forward': Market to Inspire More to Volunteer and Help Our Community Thrive.

"To the successful grantees, may this support energise your projects, expand your impact, and inspire others to join in the rewarding act of volunteering. We are proud of your achievements, and we are grateful for your contribution," Robyn said.

Foundation Murrindindi thanks all volunteers for their continued service and encourages everyone to consider the powerful impact of getting involved.

"Let's continue to lift each other up, lend a hand, and celebrate the incredible power of community" Robyn added.

For more information about Foundation Murrindindi, visit foundationmurrindindi.org.au



Devil Cove Campground. -S

Update of Lake Eildon campgrounds

PARKS Victoria has announced that the much-loved campgrounds in the Fraser Block at Lake Eildon are set to receive an update, making sure visitors can continue to enjoy camping in the National Park for many years to come.

Lakeside, Candlebark and Devil Cove Campgrounds will receive new accessible toilet blocks, enabling more Victorians to go camping in the great outdoors.

Parks Victoria are also planning to upgrade the Herb Fitzroy Day Visitor Area by building a new accessible toilet block next to the boat ramp.

The updates are funded by the Victorian Government's \$106m *Victoria's Great Outdoors* program.

In addition to the new amenities, Parks Victoria are planning road upgrades at Lakeside Campground, as well as new fencing and signage. An outdoor education shelter at Candlebark Campground is also included.

Each new toilet block will feature a state-of-the-art dry-vault system, removing the reliance on running water which must be carted-in. This provides an environmentally sustainable and cost-effective way to manage amenities. Non-drinking water is provided by a gravity-fed rainwater tank.

In recent times, water supply issues caused by aging infrastructure have limited the capacity of the Fraser Block camping area and impacted picnic areas in Lake Eildon National Park. This long-term solution addresses the issues caused by the water and wastewater assets currently at end-of-life. These essential updates mean that visitors can continue to enjoy camping at Lake Eildon National Park for years to come.

Parks Victoria will go to tender for the construction phase in late May. Pending final permits and approvals, works are scheduled to take place in the second half of 2025 and are expected to be complete by the end of the year.

The updates will bring the facilities at the Fraser Block at Lake Eildon in line with most of Parks Victoria's campgrounds.

Area Chief Ranger William Morris said, "The future of camping at Lake Eildon is secure. These updates mean that we can continue to welcome campers and day-visitors to Lake Eildon National Park for years to come."

"Independent consultants have thoroughly evaluated all possible options. These dry-vault toilets are the most environmentally sustainable and efficient solution."



Foundation Murrindindi and the Volunteer Grant recipients. -S

State budget contains few goodies for Murrindindi

THE Victorian Budget was delivered by Treasurer and Member for Northern Victoria, Jaclyn Symes, on Tuesday, May 20. Shortly afterwards, a press release was received from government, stating that, "The Allan Labor Government is focused on what matters most to families in Northern Victoria, delivering real help with the cost of living and more investment in frontline services."

The press release spoke about upgrades to Broadford Primary School and Wangaratta High School, St Georges Primary School in Shepparton, Tallangatta Secondary College, Lancaster Primary School, Yarrawonga College and Broadford Secondary College.

There is also \$729,000 to keep running Yarrawonga Flexiride, an on-demand bus services booked through the app. Seymour train line will also receive an additional morning and afternoon service.

As well documented, public transport will be free for Victorians under 18 from 2026, and free for Victorians aged 60 and over on weekends.

There will be an upgrade to Country Fire Authority satellite station at Leitchville. There is also an additional \$2 billion investment in Free Kinder. The Rural Women's Leadership and Mentoring Program will be continued, along with the Fox Bounty, and some additional funds into pest animal management.

Sports infrastructure in the budget includes Mount Beauty United Cricket Club, Benalla Saints Football Netball Club, and a new Pump Track for Yackandandah.

\$6 million is going towards food shares in Albury-Wodonga, Geelong, Bendigo, Shepparton, Mildura and Warrnambool. \$3 million is also going into Foodbank's GROW program.

The budget also provides rebates for energy efficient heat pumps and solar hot water systems, and a \$100 Power Saving Bonus to eligible Victorian households with a concession card.

\$18 million will enable pharmacists to treat even more Victorians with even more conditions, including allergies, nausea, high blood pressure and minor wound care for free.

But what about Murrindindi?

The treasurer's media representative was asked, has Murrindindi Shire been completely forgotten in this budget? Murrindindi has no schools funding listed. Murrindindi has next to no public transport and therefore the free public transport makes no difference here at all. Murrindindi has no Flexiride service. Murrindindi has no train line. None of the CFA station funding appears to be in Murrindindi. No sport infrastructure upgrades are listed for Murrindindi. Murrindindi's Foodshares do not appear to be receiving any support. Only the statewide changes seem to apply.

They advised in response: Rubicon Outdoor School received \$449,000 for capital works at their Thornton Campus. Current schools that have been recently funded for upgrades in the Murrindindi region include: Eildon Primary School received over \$4 million for upgrades and modernisation, this is about to go to tender with design and planning works complete. Middle Kinglake Primary School have received over \$181,000 for maintenance upgrades. Marysville Primary School have received just over \$516,000 for maintenance upgrades. Alexandra Primary and Secondary Schools also received maintenance funding.

They also said that Kinglake West CFA has been funded in this year's budget for upgrades to the station, noting that this is also almost at construction stage, and said that Murrindindi CFA received a new ultra-light tanker as part of the last round of VESEP grants announced late last year.

They further pointed out that while the extra funding for Foodshare organisations are just the ones listed, ther FoodShare's will be eligible to apply for funding through the Community Food Relief Program, which is opening again soon.

Just hang on one minute

Our newspaper explored the projects listed. All but one of the schools projects had been announced earlier in 2025, with one announced in 2024. It was also noted that the Kinglake West CFA station upgrade was announced in December 2023 and appeared in the Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2023-24. Murrindindi-Woodburn CFA was announced in the VESEP grants in the 2023/24 round.

Clarification

When contacted about the discrepancy, the media representative advised that some of the above projects were included to say that there has been investment in local schools and infrastructure in Murrindindi recently.

Although announced previously, there were two Murrindindi items which were funded in the budget this year, being Rubicon Outdoor School (\$449,028) and the Kinglake West CFA station. The Kinglake West CFA station upgrade was an election commitment from back in 2022. They have now received their construction funding in this year's budget.

They said it is not uncommon for election commitments to be funded in the later years of the term.

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Church Services

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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

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Alexandra
Worshipping, Welcoming
Sharing the transforming love of
Jesus. Services 10am each Sunday
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OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY

BAPTIST CHURCH

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

THE VINE

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

Out & About

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

Yea & District Memorial Hospital 2025
Scholarship Program applications open now.

Details and application form can be found at
yeahospital.org.au, or contact Jacky Baynes
on 5736 0412. Applications close June 15.

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

Friends of the Library Alexandra and District
Inc AGM will be held at 6pm at the Alexandra

Library. Nomination forms for committee
positions are available from the library or
from the secretary proctor@virtual.net.au.

For more information contact 0423 043 564.

Local driving instructor comments on proposed P plate age change

ADAM Neeves, the owner-operator of Drivetrain Education, teaches driving in the Murrindindi Shire. He was keen to comment on the proposal to lower the driving age to 17.

He said, "It has always been my experience that when I teach people a little older than usual, sometimes I get people come to me that are 19, 20 or 21, they have a cautious attitude and they almost inevitably do better when they're older in terms of safety. I think there is a valid argument to keep the age at 18, but I also see arguments for lowering it when it comes to things like apprenticeships and stuff like that."

"I think that if there was a discussion of reducing the age to 17, for example, that it could be made conditional on things like being enrolled in a trade or being apprentice

or something like that. You could make it linked to employment."

He commented on an article he read on cognitive development. Having wisdom teeth come through at around age 20 or 21 is one of the last vestiges of the physical aspects of puberty. There are also cognitive development things that go along with that, and risk assessment is one of those late developing skills. That seems to be exacerbated in boys as well.

"I think that there's a prevailing attitude among some teachers where they want to use negative reinforcement, like scaring young people with the threat of violence and stuff, if you don't drive properly you're going to die and all that kind of thing. It just falls on

deaf ears because they're not actually able to perceive danger at that age."

"That's one of things we're up against. It's not a lack of will to understand, it's a lack of a capability of understanding in a lot of cases," he said.

In terms of the gender divide, Adam said, "Certainly you see a little bit more risky behaviour in boys, but it's certainly not exclusive. I've seen plenty of girls do dumb things as well."

He added, "Anybody will tell you there's some kids that are 16 and level-headed that could probably cope with handling a car on their own. And there are other people that are 25, still haven't got it together enough that they can be trusted with the car. It really is an individual thing. However, the law is not really able to make that distinction in a way that makes sense. It's hard to quantify maturity. So there has to be some arbitrary cut-off date. The middle ground is 18, which is what Victoria's got."

In many cases, young drivers are taught by one parent, and the child is absorbing 100 per cent of that person's strengths and weaknesses in their driving.

He also commented that driver training is very under-regulated, so no one really polices what they say or do in a lesson, so driver trainers could give bad information or incorrect information, or really just do nothing at all, which is a very common complaint.

Adam said, "I think that with a bit of regulated and structured learning, absolutely it would be possible to lower the age, but to lower it without those safety checks in place would be I think, would be irresponsible."

Asked what advice he would give to parents when their children are learning to drive, Adam said, "I try to impress upon all parents to never hurry your child to make a decision... Safe driving isn't necessarily about eliminating error, because that's really impossible, and it's a bit of a fool's errand, we cannot fully eliminate error from the way we operate. It is important to get into the habit of making errors that don't matter. An error that doesn't matter is sitting at an intersection for a little bit too long and not going when you probably could have, whereas an error that is very important is going in front of somebody and getting T-boned. Parents should always be encouraging their kids to take their time and decision making, even when that means taking a little too long to make the decision. It is very, very easy to teach through the lens of your own experience and say, well, I would have gone then, so you should have gone then, which is an unfair thing to do to a person who's maybe in their first 10 hours of driving."

He said that the physical aspect of driving just comes with practice, but always tries to impress on people, 'If in doubt, don't pull out'.

"That would be probably the one biggest piece of advice I would give to parents is never hurry your child," Adam said. "You also have to defend them sometimes, from somebody else, somebody behind the hurrying them, somebody beeping and yelling and carrying on. You have to be able to stand up for your kid and say no, don't listen to that person. You go when you're ready."



Pictured left to right: Joy, Jenna, Taylah, Shirley, Ian, Phil, Emma, Ethan, and Angelique in the backyard at Dove Cottage. -MP

Menzies travel back in time at Dove Cottage

ON Thursday, May 22, Menzies Support Service clients got the grand tour of Dove Cottage in Alexandra from Ian Newman and Joy Burchell.

The tour was part of the Menzies Support Services re-commencing their Social Club, which had taken a back seat during COVID-19.

The social club is a weekly outing, exploring all that the Murrindindi Shire has to offer. It gives the Menzies clients time to explore the area, and it also helps with a sense of belonging in the community.

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

THIS week began with the bridge players getting together on Wednesday afternoon. There were only five this week so we had one table and rotated the spare player every two hands.

It was nice to see Marg and Margo drop in for a quick chat. There were a few faces missing on Friday for the social meeting, most notable being Ron who is in Maroondah Hospital after a nasty fall earlier in the week. The members wish him a speedy recovery. They then had a sing song to close the agenda before retiring for refreshments. There were two tables of 500 and the ladies enjoying UNO.

A reminder that there are still places on the bus for Healesville RSL Morning Melodies on Tuesday, June 10, so please put your name on the list on the front desk if you want to come.

Thank you John Wainwright for deputising for me, Mike Jennings, and submitting the *Standard* report last week with me being away for monthly treatments. This getting old is getting to be hard work. As always a reminder that if you fancy a chat, cuppa and a game of cards we would love to see you at the Bayley Street clubroom on a Friday afternoon. Meanwhile stay safe and keep smiling.

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AUSTRALIA



Elephant beanie created by Sue Wynn. -MP



Pam Byrne and Wendy Dare enjoyed Devonshire Tea at the Alexandra CWA rooms after the Beanie Festival. -MP



St Mary's Primary School's fibre art display. -MP



A winning hat by Donna Merrilees. -MP



The circus theme was in full force. -MP



Some beautiful chooks to purchase at the Beanie Festival. -MP



Spinning and yarning happening throughout the weekend. -MP



Some great colours in this beanie. -MP



The hall was buzzing over the weekend. -MP



Beanies galore. -MP



Some of the Beanie Festival committee. Pam, Carolyn, and Sue. -MP

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RESORT UPDATE

FAMILY & LOCALS DAY

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SNOW SEASON OPENING WEEKEND

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Lachlan

This award is presented to Lachlan for his true determination and resilience towards all aspects of school. He is persistent with challenges and is always keen to help everybody to be successful. Lachie is brave and seeks help when he needs it. He works hard and gives it his all.

Well done Lachie, keep kicking goals.



Sophie

Sophie has joined our school this year and has been working so hard in and out of the classroom. She is always showing kindness to others and it is great to see her happy and enjoying school.

In class, Sophie works to her best, often coming up to ask questions and clarify her learning. She has developed wonderful resilience and we are just so happy to have her in our class.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kinglake branch

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This beautiful creature was made out of many gumboots by Ruth Rowlands. -MP



Sustainable art was a very popular category. This basket was made out of toilet paper rolls. -MP



Some pretty little desserts looked too good to eat. -MP

Talent galore at CWA Group arts and craft exhibition

YARCK hall was home to the CWA Group Arts and Crafts Exhibition last weekend.

The winners for this exhibition were: Winning Branch Entry Mansfield; Most Points for Home Industries Yarck; Most Points for Blooms Redgate Alexandra; Branch Gaining Most Points overall: first Mansfield, second Yarck, third Yea; Most Points Handcrafts Helen Fitzgerald; Most Points Cookery Margo Galloway; Most Points Junior under 12 Teah Brophy; Most Points Junior 12 to 18yrs Leila Robinson; Most Points Preserves Fiona Greenway; Most Points Floral and Produce Gail Brandsen; Most Points Photography Fiona Greenway; Best Bloom in

Exhibition Cynthia Williams; Best Piece Needlework in Exhibition Rita Tomic,

and One Woman’s Work Margo Galloway.



The photography had many different subject matters. -MP



The top-selling trailer came in at \$710. -MP

Stellar wood auction for the community

THE annual Community Wood Raffle was held on Saturday, May 24. There was an outstanding turnout, with plenty to bid for. There were 36 trailers on offer from local community groups.

The event raised \$12,040, with the top trailer selling for \$710.

Over 14 community groups benefited from the wood auction. Alexandra Events’ main fundraising goal for their trailer load of wood is to go towards a doctors/mental health mobile clinic that will benefit many in the community.



Andrew Embling ran a great auction. -MP

CFA rallies against ESVF



Ray Goss from Taggerty CFA was happy to share his thoughts at the protest. -S



Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish, Mayor Damien Gallagher and Warren Davies, the Unbreakable Farmer. -S



The CFA vehicles from the northern area gathered at Wallan. -S



CFA vehicles lined up along Bourke Street on Tuesday, May 20. -S

Opposition declares intention to scrap ESVF

THE Liberals and Nationals have announced that they will scrap the Emergency Services Property Levy (ESVF), saying that it's "a tax that rips \$765 million a year from Victorian families, farmers and small businesses under the guise of supporting emergency services."

Primary producers are hit the hardest under the new tax, facing rate hikes of up to 150 per cent. There is also no guarantee that the money will go towards frontline services.

Leader of the Opposition, Brad Battin, said, "Only Labor could try and spin a massive land tax as support for volunteers. This is not about emergency services. It's about squeezing more cash from Victorians to pay for Labor's budget blowouts."

The Opposition, if elected, plan to return to the "simpler, fairer Fire Services Property Levy, a model that funds fire services transparently, without punishing homeowners, renters and farmers." They also said that SES funding would be secured transparently through the state budget, not hidden inside property rates.

He added, "Labor has failed to respect our CFA and SES volunteers. Their funding model is based on deception, and we will scrap it."

Leader of The Nationals and Shadow Minister for Emergency Services, Danny O'Brien, said regional Victorians had been hit hardest by Labor's new tax. "This cruel tax deserves to be consigned to history. The Liberals and Nationals will make sure it is," he said. "It is a tax that hits regional Victorians particularly hard. Slugging farmers with a 150 per cent increase to what they previously paid is nothing short of callous amid a drought and a cost-of-living crisis."

David Webb Ware comments on ESVF and the drought

WHEN asked his thoughts on the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF), farmer, first lieutenant at Glenburn CFA and deputy group officer of the Yea Group, David Webb Ware said, "It's an utter disgrace. What it does, it just shows the utter contempt this government has for regional Victoria."

He said, "Probably the one question that needs to be asked which nobody has answered is why have farmers been hit with the highest percentage increase? I know the answer. It's because farmers tend not to vote for Labor."

He explained that residential rates have gone from 8.7 cents per \$1000 capital improved value to 17.3 cents. Farmers have gone from 28.7 cents per \$1000 to 71.8.

"Why should farmers be paying that much higher percentage increase?" David said.

David also provided the following figures. In the last rate notice, if you had a \$750,000 house, you would have been charged \$65 under the new residential rates. You'll now be charged \$130.

If you have a residential house valued at \$1.5 million dollars, it's gone from \$130 to \$260.

Farms, including hobby farms, anybody on the rural one or rural two rate, a \$1.5 million hobby farm, for instance, went from \$430 to \$1077.

A \$3 million hobby farm or farm went from \$860 to \$2154.

A \$5 million farm, getting towards a viable farm size, from \$1435 to \$3590.

"Tell me why a farm should be paying \$3590 and a residential paying \$260. The fact that a lot of the farmers are CFA members, it is such a kick in the guts. We go and do the work, and passionately do the work, to protect the community from fire and that sort of stuff. And then we get slugged with this massive great tax," he said.

"Under the old fire service levy, all the money was put into consolidated revenue and then it was distributed to CFA, Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV), etcetera. CFA had a budget of \$330 million, FRV had a budget of \$1.70

billion. That's a much smaller organisation but it gets a much, much higher budget. Now, this levy (ESVF) covers CFA, FRV, SES, Forest Fire Management, Emergency Management Victoria, Emergency Recovery Victoria and Tripe Zero. I've seen various figures as to how much money this is going to raise.

"If you look at the CFA budget and the FRV budget, there's not much left for all those other organisations, and yet they've got to be covered. So that clearly means that there will be some money cuts from these organisations. The figures don't add up.

"As for the so-called exemption that volunteers get, that's a sham too. The Treasurer, Jaclyn Symes, said on ABC radio on Friday that volunteers would be exempt and people covered under the drought assistance package would get a discount on their ESVF. To come out and just say volunteers will be exempt is an absolute lot of nonsense because it's actually calculated based on your house and the immediate title it's on, not the rest of the farm. It's highly deceptive as to how this thing is going to be recovered. The other thing is people have got to pay the ESVF and then claim the exemption back.

It's understood that at the rally at Parliament House on Tuesday, May 20, around 600 brigades were offline, around half of the brigades in the state. David said that the event was very well-attended and people were very passionate about getting rid of the levy.

He said that in the western district, people are walking away from the CFA because of it, in significant numbers. "I think it's a tragedy," he said. He doubts that it will happen to the same degree in our area, "But people are sick to death of being treated like cash cows, and treated with the utter disrespect that this government has shown us." He said that some of the brigades abandoned their trucks at the rally because they're now out of the CFA. "Both communities will still be served by the former CFA on private units," David added.

"This is a land tax. The money that's raised from this new land tax helps to make their budget look better. The only reason they were

able to call a surplus was because of this new tax. Everybody's calling that a sham too.

David also commented on the drought, and on Murrindindi missing out on the drought supports. "It is outrageous what has happened, particularly with this fire service levy. Some of the bigger farmers are going to be paying in excess of \$20,000, some of them in excess of \$40,000. It's insane and it doesn't take into account the fact that some of these big farms might only have 50 per cent equity, so they actually own half of it. The bank, the other half, and yet you've got to pay the full amount. It is going to affect everyone in the shire, because if the farmers have got to spend this money on the levy, yeah, they won't have that money to spend back into the community."

They're also unable to raise the prices, as the prices are set by the buyers. The only way that the prices will rise is if there is demand

on a limited amount of stock, but again this is up to the buyers.

As a farmer, David is trying to keep hold of his stock in the hope that the drought will soon break and he can capitalise on it, but it's costing him a lot to do so. He bought some hay two or three weeks ago for \$340 per tonne. The same hay would be worth between \$500 and \$600 per tonne now. He said that if we don't get some rain soon, "It will be a catastrophe."

David added, "I detest what is happening and the only way we're going to change this and get some respect into regional Victoria is a change of government... The fight's certainly not over yet. It's very important to know that the CFA members in this area will be still looking after the community. If there's a house fire, we will be turning out. We will be looking after the community."

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PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 11

KID'S PUZZLES

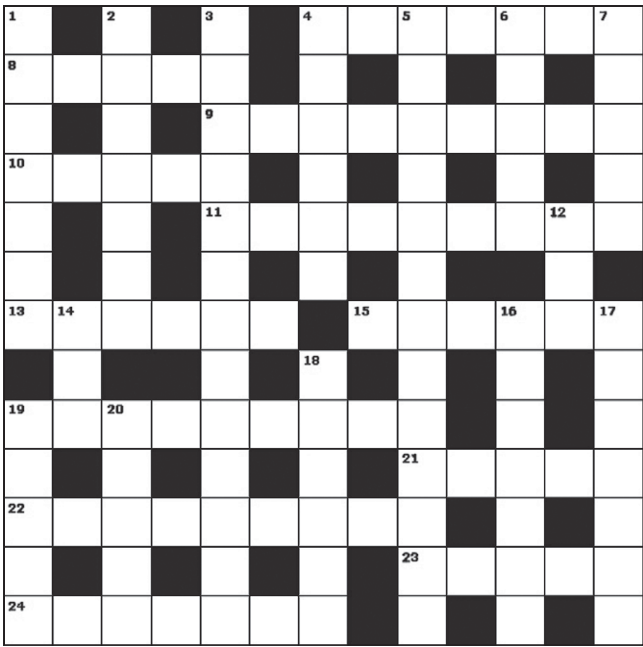
Crossword

ACROSS

- 4. Sweet mixture poured over desserts.
- 8. Doglike African mammal.
- 9. Creating clothes from cloth.
- 10. Farm consisting of a large tract of land.
- 11. A means to an end.
- 13. A fine cord used in sewing.
- 15. Small cold-water silvery fish.
- 19. Strict accuracy.
- 21. Travels by ship.
- 22. The male head of a family.
- 23. Religious paintings in oil on a small wooden panels.
- 24. A person who is being taught a skill.

DOWN

- 1. A horse-drawn battle vehicle.
- 2. A curve in a stream.
- 3. Person skilled in the science of numbers.
- 4. Curls tightly.
- 5. Skill in fencing.
- 6. Moving quickly and lightly.
- 7. A finger or toe.
- 12. A hard-shelled seed.
- 14. Of a female.
- 16. Reference book containing an alphabetical list of words.
- 17. Support oneself.
- 18. Ruthless in competition.
- 19. Small songbird.
- 20. Something additional.



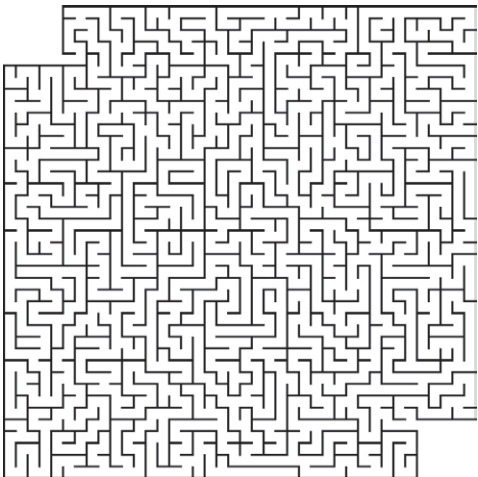
Word Search

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

Winter

- COATS
- OPENFIRE
- COLD
- RAIN
- GLOVES
- SKIING
- GUMBOOTS
- SLEDDING
- HOTCHOCOLATE
- SNOW
- JUMPERS
- WIND

Maze



Sudoku

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

Difficulty: Easy

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

	+		÷	2	11
÷		-		×	
	-	5	-		-2
-		×		+	
	÷		-		-4
-7		-9		9	

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Colouring Page



Word Search

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

Words starting with "F"

- FABULOUS
- FINISH
- FAMILY
- FLYING
- FATHER
- FRANK
- FAVORITE
- FRECKLE
- FEATHER
- FRIENDS
- FEELING
- FROSTY
- FELICITY
- FUN

Math Square

5	+		×		13
-		+		-	
	+		+		18
+		+		×	
7	+		÷		9
9		11		-10	

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Jokes

Q: What kind of chocolate do you find in airports?

A: Plain

Q: Why do bees have sticky hair?

A: Because they use a honeycomb.

The Farmer's Ag News



Around 100 people attended the 'Farming in Unpredictable Conditions' presentation at the Molesworth Hall last Friday. -AR

Drought presentation fills the Molesworth Hall

THE Molesworth Hall was filled to the brim with locals and farmers for the *Farming in Unpredictable Conditions* presentation and barbecue last Friday.

Around 100 people attended the event, organised by Alexandra Events and Murrindindi Shire Council.

Andrew Embling from Alexandra Events emceed, and guest speakers included Rob Inglis from Elders, Kerri Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria, local farmer David Webb Ware, rural outreach worker Ivan Lister, and Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Damien Gallagher.

Topics discussed included feeding stock, in particular how to make sure livestock get enough energy, what to do in transitioning stock from containment to grazing, how to cultivate quick feed, etcetera.

Damien Gallagher spoke about how council is lobbying the state government for drought relief in our area, with a co-signed letter from the Hume local government area requesting drought support.

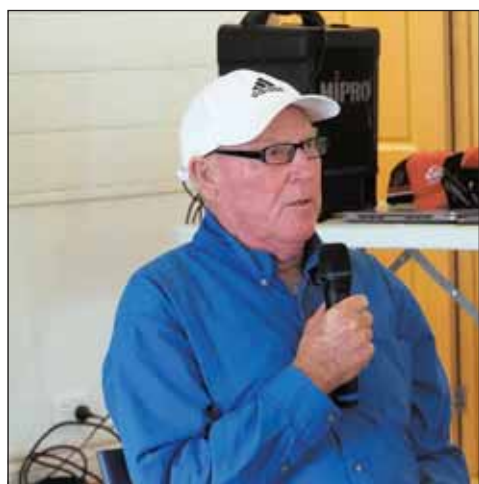
Warwick Long from the ABC broadcast the *Victorian Country Hour* program live from the Molesworth Hall after the conclusion of the presentations, while attendees were enjoying a free barbecue.



Andrew Embling and Mayor Damien Gallagher. -AR



David Webb Ware. -AR



Rural outreach worker Ivan Lister, who provides mental health support for farmers. He is in the Nagambie area every Wednesday and always happy to have a chat. He can be contacted on 0474 501 406. -AR



Kerri Goschnick from Agriculture Victoria speaking on maintaining your farms water supply. -AR

Rural Councils Victoria concerns over new budget

Rural Councils Victoria had a lot to say about the newly announced Victorian budget, including how the budget is propped up by hundreds of millions of dollars that will be ripped from the state's rural communities through the unfair Emergency Services Volunteers Fund levy.

"Despite using rural communities to prop up the state's finances, this budget fails to deliver for rural communities," RCV Chair Rob Amos said.

"Most of the spending is pre-announced or business as usual, with very few new initiatives for rural voters."

"Investing in new schools and roads upgrades is the bare minimum we expect from government," Mr Amos said.

"Rural Victoria is bearing the brunt of tax increases with very little to show for it."

The budget appears not to contain any new measures to support rural councils to manage the delivery essential programs and basic infrastructure with limited revenue.

Mr Amos said there were some positive elements in the budget, these included: a third of the government's new \$150 million Victorian Investment Fund has been earmarked for regional Victoria, to promote economic growth and new jobs; the government has also fully funded its previously announced Economic Growth Statement (\$74.1 million). Under this package, \$10 million will be spent on critical basic infrastructure needed to support new homes, such as sewerage and water connections, \$3.5 million will be used for cutting red tape across regional areas, including digitising regional council systems, and \$400,000 has been set-aside for the creation of 'Regional Launching Pads' to help stimulate regional businesses; there is also \$88 million for regional housing, as part of the Commonwealth Government's Housing Support Program.

Cr Amos said Rural Councils Victoria looks forward to working with the Victorian Government to identify further opportunities to reduce the tax burden and deliver better outcomes for rural communities.

The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



Stephan's concussion was a result of domestic violins.

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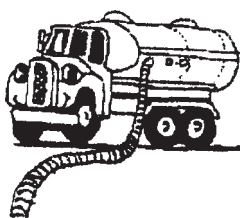
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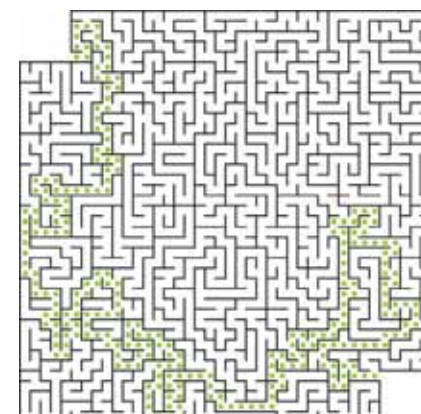
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MATH SQUARES

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TRADES ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON THURSDAY

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

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

DEATH NOTICES

MCLEOD, June. Nan, you were an amazing, strong and inspiring woman. Thank you for being a generous, loving and caring nan. You will be so sadly missed. Rest peacefully Nan. Bec and Ryder.



DEATH NOTICES

MCLEOD, June. Much loved second mum to Julie, adored nan and great nan to Rebecca and Ryder, Allan, Vince and families. Friend to Kevin. Heartfelt thanks for all your love, support and cherished memories over the last 40 plus years will be sadly missed. A life lived to the full. Rest peacefully June. Reunited with Ken.

MEETINGS



Friends of the Library Alexandra & District Inc.

Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 6pm at
Alexandra Library, Grant Street, Alexandra.
New members welcome. Nomination forms for committee positions available from the library or from the secretary: proctor@virtual.net.au.
For more information please phone 0423 043 564.

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DEATH NOTICES



STEWART, Stanley Fletcher

02/06/1926 –
20/05/2025

157007
Air Force, WW2.
The President,
Committee and
Members of
Yea - Kinglake RSL
regret the passing
of our respected
member, and a
past President,
Stan. Condolences
to the family.

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FUNERAL NOTICES

McLEOD,
Dorothy June
11/06/1929 -
18/05/2025

Passed away peacefully at Kellock Lodge. Loved wife of Lawrence (dec). Cherished mother of John, Diane, and Ken (dec).

Adored grandmother to Lara, Brooke, Simon, Kaia, Rebecca and great grandmother of 11 grandchildren

Now at peace in the arms of loved ones.

McLEOD,
Dorothy June

A funeral service celebrating the life of June will be held on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at St Johns Anglican Church, Downey Street, Alexandra commencing at 11am.

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SALE

Great quilt show by Alexandra Quilters



Many quilters working away on their craft projects. -MP



This sloth fundraising quilt was to raise money for Alexandra Primary School. -MP



This quilt was a show stopper, It was named Joan of Arc by Sharee Kuhlmann. -MP



There were some vibrant quilts at the Alexandra Quilt Show. -MP

SPORT



Autumn colours at their best. -S



Riders exploring the streets of Marysville. -S

Marysville Saddle Tramps hosts a successful four day event

MARYSVILLE Saddle Tramps hosted a successful Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA) Accreditation and Regional Camp Weekend from Thursday, May 15 to Sunday, May 18.

Gallipoli Park and the Marysville Saddle Tramps grounds were buzzing with horse floats, camp chairs, and a whole lot of horsepower as riders from across the country gathered for the ATHRA Accreditation, ATHRA Regional Camp, and the Dolly's Dream fundraiser.

It was a huge few days, with accreditation courses, rides through some of the country's most stunning forest and private properties in the area, hearty meals, music, laughter, and a whole lot of community spirit.

A massive thank you ATHRA team for choosing Marysville as the location for this annual event. It was a privilege to host the event right here at Gallipoli Park in the heart of Marysville.

Marysville Saddle Tramps Committee in conjunction with Melbourne Trail Horse Riders Committee worked along side one another to pull the event together. The support, effort, and teamwork has made this weekend such a success, and it's been a real pleasure working alongside everyone involved.

Friday afternoon kicked off with a special visit from the Bairnsdale Horse Centre Dolly's Dream truck, which set up at Gallipoli Park and brought a powerful message with it #BEKIND in support to end bulling. For more info visit dollysdream.org.au



A sight to see with the horses wandering through Marysville township. -S



A painting was donated by Bruno's Art and Sculpture garden. It was a stunning oil on canvas painting by Bruno's late father Leonardo Torfs. -S



Riders got to explore the lush green forest. -S

Friday night, the Duck Inn welcomed around 60 hungry horsemen and women, and what a job they did. Delicious meals, fast service, and a fantastic atmosphere, hats off to the team there for taking such good care of everyone.

The president of the Marysville Saddle Tramps Club wanted to thank the committee, members and families. From setting up to cleaning, slicing, officiating, cooking the bush sausage sizzle, and keeping the fires burning, everyone played a part.

ATHRA Accreditation is a vital part of keeping rides safe and properly run in accordance with the ATHRA code of conduct, the club are especially proud to have had five of their very own members become accredited over the weekend out of 15 riders from clubs across the country who attended the accreditation on the Thursday and Friday, it was a great turnout and a real show of commitment to the future of trail riding.

The club would also like to also mention the generosity of local landowners. A special thank you to Neil and Delice Guscott for letting everyone ride through their incredible property where everyone also rested for Saturday's lunch break nestled atop of the hill beside a toasty camp fire, it was a highlight. Thank you to Peter and Linda Dickinson for the safe use of the private path along their property, keeping the horses and riders off the main road made a big difference.

To the local community, thank you for your warm hospitality, especially those who provided accommodation to visitors who chose comfort over camping.

A big shout-out to the local police, as they ensured the VicOak Bridge crossing went off without a hitch and then escorted 50-odd horses down Marysville's Main Street to wrap up the Saturday ride. That moment was unforgettable for all involved.

And to wrap it all up, Saturday night at the Marysville Community Centre was one for

the books. With a feast put on by The Keppel Cafe, thank you Weiren and team, the food was incredible, service professional and great value for money. The live entertainment was the Edy Gators band, the night was full of dancing, singing, and lot of fun. The raffle and auction added the perfect finishing touch with special thanks to Bruno's art and sculpture garden for kindly donating a stunning oil on canvas painting by his late father Leonardo Torfs, and Ayden from Embling Rural for kindly donating a \$250 gift voucher.

It's weekends like these that remind us how lucky we are to live in such an amazing part of the world and have all this in our community, and this shared love of riding. Thank you to every single person who played a part.

If anyone would like to donate to dolly's Dream visit dollysdream.org.au/fundraisers/victrailrideweekend/do-it-for-dolly-day

For membership enquiries please email secretarymarysvillesaddletamps@hotmail.com.au

Round four of term two for Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition Eagles versus Kestrels

LOCHLAN versus Jordan: It was two games each with see-sawing games. Jordan claimed a good win in game three to increase his margin and win the match. 69 to 64.

Michael M versus Oli: Oli jumped out of the blocks taking the first game before Michael warmed up and took control. There was lots of running for both players. Michael held onto his control until the end of the match, claiming the win. 70 to 41.

Michael H (fill in) versus Jim: Michael took the game to Jim with his long reach and merciless punishment of anything loose. The last half of the match was an arm-wrestle between Michael's smart shots and Jim's command of the walls and corners. A streak

of perfect serves in game three kept Jim ahead for a comfortable win. 61 to 47.

Hawks versus Owls

ERIC versus Tyler: A great and reasonably even match. Tyler kept control of the game and stayed ahead throughout, winning with a solid lead. 76 to 46.

Chris T versus Mick: An entertaining match with some great rallies. Chris read the play to better position himself and control the ball. He had a lot of success with his short game and went home with the victory. 77 to 41.

Jared versus Matt L: It was a tight first game ending in a draw. Jared lifted his placement in the second game forcing Matt to rush his shots and miss hit the ball. Jared continued his dominance for a convincing victory. 74 to 56.

Andrew versus John: John was just a class above. Andrew would have done better if he hadn't have kept hitting it to John. John claimed a solid win. 63 to 45.

Thursday competition Blue tongues versus Geckos

BETH versus James (fill in): It was a competitive game when the points get going. James had a dominant serve and brilliant returns that put him ahead for the win. 73 to 50.

Sam versus Jodie: A close match. Sam had the measure of Jodie's serves, quashing her usual strength. Jodie worked hard to keep in the contest, but Sam kept upping his game to claim his victory. 62 to 53.

Daniel W versus Phil: The match opened with a tied game. Daniel lost his cool in the second game, making some unforced errors. He pulled it together to take the third game,

only to lose it in the final game. Phil went home with a decent win. 62 to 47.

Frill necks versus Skinks

BLAKE versus Matthew J: Blakes brief time in the level above has really improved his game. Matthew is always improving however Blake was just too strong and took home a commanding victory. 78 to 37.

Kristelle versus Lucas: It was anyone's match with see-sawing games and the lead changing hands every few points. Both players had a consistent mix of shots and were reading the play with deft accuracy. Kristelle clinched the victory, taking home the victory by one measly point. 58 to 57.

Stuart versus Justin: A see-sawing affair with the games swinging both ways. Justin has gone up a level and doing it admirably. Stuart snuck home with the final point in a big game to take home the win by a single point. 62 to 61.

SPORT

Round four of winter tennis

by Rhonda Carpenter and Deb Mims

YET another glorious day dawned for winter tennis with blue sky backdrops for the matches in Euroa, Terip and Mansfield.

Euroa met Moglonemby and Seven Creeks welcomed Wappan on Euroa's lawn in pristine conditions. Both matches were lengthy hotly contested affairs.

Euroa's Lyndall Bigland, Faye Mollison, Julie Harrington, Mary Dewis and Ruth

Nolan were made to work hard against Moglonemby playing two tiebreakers.

Moglonemby's Judy Sands and Sue Vaughan welcomed newcomers Kylie Ross and Ronnie Doxey into their team and together they combined strongly to take both breakers.

The sets were split three all but Euroa edged out their opponent by merely four games. Euroa won 3/41 to 3/37. On the adjacent courts Seven Creeks and Wappan played out an even longer contest.

Seven Creeks' Rowena Ellis and Nicola Enright won their opener eight to five while Wappan's Rhonda Carpenter and Carol Watts eventually took their marathon set in a tiebreak against Gayle Furphy and Mary Kelly.

Wappan found their feet on the lawn and closed out the remaining sets to win 5/45 to 1/29.

Terip had the longest day against Creighton's Creek playing three tiebreakers. Marja Wondergem, Chris Ellis, Julie Brooks and Lyn Johnson pushed hard all day. Cindy Hayes, Frances Lawrence, Phoebe Macdermid and Jenny Martin played the key points better and won 5/47 to 1/32.

The very chilly start to round three of the winter tennis competition was deceiving as the sun thawed everyone out, and those wearing warmer tennis gear wished they hadn't.

Team Delatite's Carolyn Murray, Jo O'Brien, Deb Mims, Loretta Armitage and Deb McCormack were the home team and took to the court against Benalla players, Kate Campbell, Maureen Jewell, Deb Siggers, who utilised Mansfield player Kassy Thomas.

Deb Mims was nervous in her first three set match since gradually returning from injury. While Jo and Loretta, against Maureen and Deb, were the only Mansfield combination to win a set, Carolyn and Deb managed one game in their set against Kate and Kassy due to Kate, never normally serving a double fault, served four in a row.

Much laughter was heard, during the dance of frustration, before Kate regained her composure and with partner Kassy took out the set eight to one. As usual the day was completed with a delicious afternoon tea and lots of chatter. Benalla got the choccies 5/46 to 1/23.

Ladder round four: Euroa 33, Wappan 28, Terip 26, Moglonemby 19, Creighton's Creek 19, Seven Creeks 12, Benalla 11, Mansfield seven, Delatite five.

Ben Hall Memorial Day for Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

LAST Saturday was Eildon Golf Club's Annual Ben Hall Memorial Day, a sixer competition designed to challenge not only your golfing ability but also your concentration by playing six holes of stroke, six holes of Stableford and six holes of par.

Even with the weather looking a bit grim 12 players competed for the annual perpetual Ben Hall trophy. For the second year in a row Kerry Power proved too good on the day with a score of 10 which calculates out to 37 Stableford points on a countback from Colin Long also on 10 points coming in second. Ball run went to Mark Mackwell with 12 points (35 Stableford points), John Monteath 15 (32 Stableford points) and Phil Dally 16 (31 Stableford points).

Colin Long was successful with nearest the pin with his second shot on the third and on the 14th Phil Dally the best on fifth, Peter McNair was too good on the 11th and John Monteath took the chocolates on the 12th. Ken Collier chipped in with a great shot from off the green to birdie the par four eighth to secure a round of drinks. Other winners Rod Taylor took out the entry draw, Michael McLear had a go at the swindle draw and there was no Joker draw for the week.

Next Saturday will be a stroke round and May monthly medal. The course is in great condition and with fine weather forecast the club is looking forward to a good turnout for their medal day.



The Alexandra Secondary College Senior boys' volleyball team gave it their all at the state finals. -S

ASC Senior volleyball competed at state finals

LAST fortnight Alexandra Secondary College's senior boys' volley ball team accompanied by their coach Mr Goydor competed at the state finals.

They were competitive in each match, winning one from three. It was noted the spirit within the team was impressive, as was their sportmanship and skill level.

ADNA winter netball is back

YOUTH winter netball kicked off for Alexandra District Netball Association (ADNA) with two excellent games.

Youth competition is a mixed competition involving players from years seven to 10 years of age. This year four teams will play in a 10round competition, then have finals.

Thank you to Lisa Wallace and Eliza Gesler for umpiring both games.

Game one Pep Hoornweg's Bandits versus Stu Collier's Astro's. First quarter was goal for goal with Holly G and Bella T shooting accurately for the Astro's with Samanatha and Ivy also shooting well. By half time Team Collier (Marli, Zoe and coach Stu) took the lead 12 to nine. Both teams gelled well, being their first games together, excellent passing and teamwork through the centre with intercepts taken for both sides saw a hard-fought tussle going into the long break.

After half time both teams changed their attack and defence which switched players to positions they were a little unfamiliar in. The Bandits came back hard to be within one point of the lead, Marli and Tehya V shooting for the Astro's and Charli (fill in) and Tilly firing well for the Bandits.

A point the difference going into the final quarter, Holly G back into shooting with Tehya saw the Astro's win by three points.

Astro's best: Matthew, Marli, Bella, and Holly G. Best for Bandits: Chloe, Samantha, Tilly, and Indi.

Game two was fast and hard. Comets were strong in defence against diamonds through

Megan and Ruby F in the first half and produced some good shooting from Charli (playing her second game for the night) and Brianna. Ball gets through the centre were tough, with a body-on-body battle happening between Samantha and Harley, both playing well and taking intercepts from the other. Maddy and Koa also fought hard through the centre of the court. Holly W dominated play throughout the first half all over the court. Shooters Asher and Taya were accurate with some great long shots from Taya; Zelda was also strong in attack.

Comets had a few fill ins for the night, Coach Kat was away with Renee and Heidi stepping in, Zoe and Samantha playing a second game to fill in for missing players.

The second half saw some position changes with Megan and Koa going into shooting positions and Ruby B into the centre. Samantha and Holly shifted from defence into attack for the second half.

The Comets dominated the third quarter, Holly and Samantha unstoppable in the goal third, working like a well-oiled machine together, rarely missing a shot at goal. Koa and Megan in goals at the opposing end shooting well, but had a tough fight against Taya, Maddy, and Asher to keep the ball at the rebounds.

The final quarter was an even affair with both ends shooting accurately, Comets were unable to peg back the Diamonds lead.

Comets best: Harley, Megan, Koa. Diamonds best: Holly W, Samantha, Maddy, Taya.

Thanks to those parents who helped set up and pack up and put their hand up for scoring. New players to the competition will be accepted up to game three if anyone is interested in joining.

Contact Cassandra Fraser, Youth Competition Coordinator via junior.netball@gmail.com

Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders

Football – Reserves			Netball – A Grade		
	Percentage	Wins		Percentage	Wins
Pakenham	859.21	6	Pakenham Lions	361.68	5
Seville	639.71	7	Warburton Millgrove	250.32	5
Belgrave	246.79	4	Seville	224.21	6
Warburton Millgrove	134.83	4	Yarra Glen	132.60	4
Alexandra	98.85	3	Yarra Junction	86.48	3
Yea	71.25	2	Belgrave	60.42	2
Powelltown	24.31	1	Alexandra	56.47	1
Yarra Glen	19.15	0	Yea	48.91	0
Yarra Junction	16.46	1	Powelltown	25.53	0
Football – Seniors			Netball – B Grade		
Pakenham	351.20	6	Pakenham Lions	333.06	6
Seville	234.67	7	Seville	401.89	6
Warburton Millgrove	296.48	5	Warburton Millgrove	173.22	5
Yarra Glen	108.13	4	Yarra Glen	109.92	4
Alexandra	90.49	2	Belgrave	76.22	2
Belgrave	77.68	2	Yarra Junction	59.77	3
Yea	82.64	1	Alexandra	42.90	1
Powelltown	41.27	1	Powelltown	48.81	0
Yarra Junction	25.02	0	Yea	42.54	0
Football – Senior Women			Netball – C Grade		
Warburton-Wesburn	100.00	6	Pakenham Lions	247.73	6
Wandin	83.33	5	Seville	317.35	6
Emerald	83.33	5	Warburton Millgrove	217.32	5
Thornton Eildon	60.00	3	Yarra Glen	96.62	4
Seville	16.66	1	Belgrave	62.70	2
Yea	16.66	1	Yarra Junction	70.51	2
Officer	0	0	Alexandra	66.80	1
Netball – 17 and under			Netball – D Grade		
Seville	443.86	5	Pakenham Lions	426.98	6
Pakenham Lions Gold	243.75	5	Seville	385.51	6
Warburton Millgrove	82.58	2	Warburton Millgrove	212.50	5
Pakenham Lions Maroon	49.65	1	Yarra Glen	74.86	3
Alexandra	42.13	1	Alexandra	65.87	3
Powelltown	35.44	1	Belgrave	57.43	2
Football – Under 18					
Pakenham	2283.33	6	Yea	41.08	1
Seville	285.21	5	Yarra Junction	51.54	1
Yarra Glen	87.61	3	Powelltown	20.00	0
Warburton Millgrove	35.99	2			
Yea	31.16	1			
Alexandra	13.77	0			

ADNA winter netball ladder			
	For	Against	%
Diamonds	38	22	172
Astros	17	14	121
Bandits	14	17	82
Comets	22	38	58

SPORT

Alexandra D Grade netballers take one-point win

by AFNC

Netball Awards and Results

A Grade, Alexandra 36 defeated by Yarra Junction 40.

Awards: Incentive Award, Teagan Halligan; Corner Hotel Award, Jorja Gesler.

B Grade: Alexandra 28 defeated by Yarra Junction 38.

Awards: Incentive Award, Sarah Mooney; Corner Hotel Award, Beth Cairns.

C Grade: Alexandra 29 defeated by Yarra Junction 32.

Awards: Alexandra Hotel, Rose Hurrey; Corner Hotel Award, Lauren Benson.

D Grade: Alexandra 19 defeated Yarra Junction 18.

Awards: Alexandra Hotel, Lizzie Butcher; Corner Hotel Award, Elly Gambrell.

This coming weekend, the Alexandra Rebels return to Rebel Park for a much-anticipated clash against local rivals, the Yea Tigers. With both clubs eager to claim bragging rights, a spirited contest is expected on the field.

After the match, the club will hold a special function to honour former President Ray Steyger, who stepped down last year after an incredible 28 years of service. The evening will celebrate Ray's lasting legacy and the invaluable contributions he made to the club over nearly three decades.

All members, past players, supporters, and community members are warmly invited to attend. The event will include guest speakers, shared memories, and plenty of laughs as stories from Ray's time as president are told. The bar will be open throughout the evening.

It promises to be a great day both on and off the field, one not to be missed.



B Grade netballer Emily Irwin. -S



C Grade netballer Lauren Benson. -S

Wins for Brad Newton and Judy Pearson in Alexandra

by Dave Silverman

WITH winter rapidly approaching, the weather gods gave Alexandra golfers a taste of things to come, with the temperature dropping low enough to cause the Alexandra fog to make its presence felt.

Fortunately, it generally clears just in time for a noon tee-off, leaving warm(ish), fine afternoons.

Tuesday saw a field of 12 for the usual stableford round. Alexandra Golf Club couldn't get James Fulton's boss to change his shifts, so they did the next best thing, and put him out in a group with Brad. It worked, a bit, as the win last week went to Brad Newton himself on 36 points, Russell

Purcell in second on 35 and James relegated to third, also with 35 points.

Ross Thompson took nearest the pin on seven, James was nearest on 17, and 18 went to Russell. Three players got vouchers in the rundown, namely, Nigel Waterhouse, John Greatorex and Graeme Emmerson.

Wednesday's weather was pretty much a carbon copy of Tuesday, and the 11 ladies who turned up to play par made the most of the conditions. Judy Pearson came out a clear winner on +3, with second, third and fourth all on -1. They were, respectively, Sue Greatorex, Deb Richardson and Sandy Wettenhall.

Sandy was also the nine hole winner, with +3 on the front, and claimed nearest the pin on seven. Other nearest the pins went to Sue on five and Barb Doyle on 18.

On Thursday, Ruth Worland, Barb Doyle and Sue Greatorex travelled up the hill to represent Alexandra in the Strathbogie Bowl, and while they didn't win, they were far from disgraced, scoring a creditable 100 points, only 16 points off the winners.

Burnsies Pizza were once again the sponsors for Saturday's Stableford round, which attracted a field of only nine players, almost certainly as a result of the weather, which was less than favourable. James Kidd was the winner with 37 points, Trevor Biffin was second on 35, and third was Jared Sloane, who also had 35 points.

Of the five available nearest the pins, four were claimed. Two went to Russell Purcell, James Kidd took seven, 12 to Lenny Jenkins and Dave Salomon took 18.



The Marysville Golf Club 2025 pennant squad, with Naomi Gist unfortunately being absent for the photo. -S

Marysville golfers win division two final in Euroa

by Lesley Rundle

ON Monday, May 19 the Marysville Golf Club ladies' pennant team travelled to Euroa to play Woodend in the division two final. There were some very close matches but Marysville were thrilled to win the final three to one.

With three Marysville winners 'across the line' the fifth match was 'called off' and the two players were asked to return to the clubhouse. Members would like to thank all those who played in the 2025 pennant with such commitment and good spirit.

Congratulations to Jody Doran, Heather Jenkins, Helen Howard, Mim Page, Bev Bellman, Naomi Gist, Margaret Blair and Lesley Rundle for representing Marysville.



Jody Doran with caddy Lesley Rundle. -S



Miriam Page celebrating her win. -S

It was 2025 pennant victories for the Marysville men and ladies and hopefully they can defend their success in 2026.

Last Thursday the ladies were on the road again when five of them travelled to Strathbogie to play in their annual bowl. Forty-four golfers played a stableford game in beautiful conditions. The well-maintained course was very dry causing a lot of run which suited some and disadvantaged others.

Millie Cumming from Mansfield, aged well over 80 had 84 off the stick, in essence, less than her age, to finish with an amazing 47 points. Congratulations to Millie from all the Marysville members.

Heather Jenkins with 40 points won a nearest the pin and two Dalhousie Player of the Year points with Beverley Bellman also with 40 points gaining one Dalhousie point. The Seymour team combined well to win the Bowl and members thank Strathbogie for their hospitality. This week the ladies are going to Euroa to play in the annual tournament.

The Thursday nine holers played stableford on the back nine holes. Richy Clark (8) was the winner with 19 points with Mark Alexander (4) second on a countback. Mark also won the nearest the pin on the 11th and Glenn Rattay was closest to the pin on the 18th.

Last Saturday the men played Par for the second round of the Par Shield and the ladies played stableford. The men's winner was Drew Kaempkes (9) with +3 and the runner up was Mark Bambery (23) with +1. The qualifiers for the Par shield were Drew, Mark, Ross Ansell, and Paul Martin.

The ladies' winner was Heather Jenkins (17) with 31 points on a countback from Gail Leigh (9). The nearest the pins were won by Pat Orwin, Paul Martin, Mark Bambery and Drew Kaempkes who also won the Golden Shot. Next Saturday both the men and ladies will be playing a stableford round for the Charity Day. Members are reminded that the competition and raffle fee will be doubled and all proceeds will go towards a local charity.



Russell Purcell hitting into three. -S



Greg Millard sends it on 10. -S



Emmo tees off. -S

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Big wins for Alexandra senior and reserve footballers

by AFNC

SATURDAY, May 24 the Rebels travelled to Yarra Junction to play against them in four grades of netball and two games of football. The Under 18s were taking on Seville at Seville.

Reserves

Yarra Junction 1.0 – 6 were defeated by Alexandra 24.15 - 159

THE Rebels' Reserves welcomed fresh faces to their lineup on the weekend, with Nathan Dundas, Cooper Phillips, and Ryan Lucas making their mark in style. The team came

out firing and proved far too strong for an under-manned Junction outfit.

From the first bounce, the Rebels took control of the game, piling on the pressure and dominating possession. By half-time, they had raced to a commanding 70-point lead, with Junction yet to trouble the scoreboard.

In a show of good sportsmanship, both teams agreed to reduce numbers to 16-a-side in the second half to accommodate Junction's limited bench. However, the result was never in doubt. The Rebels continued their dominance, maintaining intensity and control across all four quarters.

Awards: NP on The Run, Toby Ward; Future Fit Finance, Brandon Kapakoulakis; Alexandra Hotel, Jake Steyger; Grant Street Grocer Award, Cooper Phillips.

Seniors

Yarra Junction 9.8 – 62 were defeated by Alexandra 16.12 - 108

AFTER a disappointing loss to Warburton-Millgrove the previous week, the Alexandra Rebels were eager to bounce back, and they did just that with a determined 46-point win over Yarra Junction to retain the George Steiner Cup.

The Rebels welcomed back Tom Massey and Josh Edwards from a week off, and the inclusions of Michael Coombs, Scott Heveren, and Sam Kidd added strength and depth to the lineup. Despite a somewhat unconvincing start, the Rebels edged ahead early, leading by 13 points at the first break.

The second quarter began with a sense of urgency from the home side, but the match was temporarily halted due to an injury to a Yarra Junction player. Play was paused while the injured player received medical attention and the umpires sought clarification on the stoppage protocol from the league. Once the game resumed, it turned into a low-scoring contest, with Alexandra adding just one goal to lead 5.3 (33) to 2.4 (16) at half-time.

Following a shortened break, both sides came out with renewed intensity. The third quarter was a hard-fought battle, with bodies on the line and momentum swinging back and forth. The Rebels managed to break the game open, booting five goals to Junction's three and extending their lead to 28 points at the final change.

In the last term, the Rebels finished strongly, adding another six goals to seal the result and secure the George Steiner Cup for another year.

Awards: Kervale Incentive, Tom Boots; O'Briens Real Estate, Ed Aujard; Alexandra Hotel, Sam Boots; Buxton Hotel Award, Ben Cooper.

Under 18

Seville 22.18 – 150 defeated Alexandra 1.0 - 6

THE Alexandra Under 18s made the trip to Seville this week with a determined squad of just 17 players. Up against a strong and well-drilled Seville side, the boys entered the match as clear underdog, but their effort and attitude were once again a highlight.

Although Seville took control early, the Rebels refused to back down. They continued to chase, tackle, and contest every ball, making Seville earn every possession. The team's work rate and determination didn't waver, even as the scoreboard pressure mounted.

Each week, the young Rebels continue to take steps forward. The improvement in their teamwork, communication, and confidence is clear to see, and their commitment to each match is never in question.

Awards: Bowens Incentive, Luke Wal; GWS Award, Josh Crane; AFNC Club Voucher, Ashton Cowell; Coaches Award, Mitch Rowntree.



Reserves player Tom Halligan facing tough opposition. -S



Reserves player Toby Ward sending the ball. -S



AFNC seniors player Scott Heveren. -S



Ben Jack handballs to Luke Spence. -S

Local business rallies behind community with generous Mother's Day donation

by AFNC

IN a touching gesture of community spirit and generosity, local business Alexandra Motorcycles has donated an incredible \$925 to the Alexandra Football Netball Club (AFNC) as part of a unique Mother's Day promotion.

The initiative, driven by the family-owned business, offered customers the choice to either receive \$25 off their next purchase or have that amount donated directly to the AFNC. The response from the community was overwhelmingly supportive, with dozens of customers opting to support the club instead of redeeming the discount for themselves.

Club President Kylie Cairns said the donation was an unexpected and heart-warming surprise.

"When I was contacted about the promotion, I had no idea how successful

it would be. To hear that our club received \$925 just through the generosity of local customers and this wonderful idea from Ros at Alexandra Motorcycles, it's absolutely amazing," she said.

"This kind of support shows just how valued the club is by local businesses and families."

Ros from Alexandra Motorcycles expressed her appreciation to her loyal customers in a letter that accompanied the offer, noting how fortunate she feels to be supported by the community.

The funds will go directly toward supporting club operations, helping to provide equipment and resources for players across all levels.

The Alexandra Football Netball Club extends a heartfelt thank you to Alexandra Motorcycles and all who contributed, reminding us all of the power of community connection and local pride.



AFNC President Kylie Cairns with Ros. -S