

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard

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

P.O Box 5, Alexandra, 3714. Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5772 1603; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Wednesday, June 25, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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murrindindibusiness.com.au

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Op Shop donates to Darlingford



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Local history at Yarck Hall



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Vehicles collide with cattle



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Weekend sport



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Alexandra Rotary's incoming President for 2025-2026 is John Allcock.

Pictured from left to right: Helen Gibb, Jenny Paul, John Cannon, Sharen Robinson, John Allcock, Debbie Skinner, Geoff Proctor, Ian Gibb. Absent: Tom Farrell and John Cannon. -S

Murrindindi Shire's crime data revealed

THE Crime Statistics Agency has released data detailing Victoria's crime numbers in the year ending March 31, 2025.

Criminal incidents

For the Murrindindi local government area (LGA) there were 512 criminal incidents, down 9.9 per cent from 568 last year.

Our shire's criminal incident rate per 100,000 population was 3262.1, well below the Victorian rate of 6692.2. Lowest in the state was Golden Plains LGA on 2377.7, with the Melbourne LGA highest on 17,792.1 per 100,000 population.

In Murrindindi, there were 60 theft-related incidents, 47 relating to criminal damage, 37 relating to breaching family violence orders (up from 23 the previous year). There were also 33 incidents relating to residential non-aggravated burglary, and 31 family violence (FV) common assault incidents.

Breaking it down further, there were two homicide and related offences in the Murrindindi Shire. Thirteen FV serious assault-related incidents were recorded, 14 non-FV serious assault, six cases of assaulting police, emergency services or other authorised officers,

31 cases of FV common assault and 17 cases of non-FV common assault.

Sixteen sexual offence incidents were recorded for the year and one case of false imprisonment. Only one incident relating to dangerous driving was recorded in Murrindindi for the year.

There were five incidents relating to causing damage by fire in the shire, and two other fire related offences.

Two cases of residential aggravated burglary took place, 33 cases of residential non-aggravated burglary, and 31 cases of non-residential non-aggravated burglary.

Twelve cases of motor vehicle theft were recorded for Murrindindi in the released data, along with 28 counts of stealing from a motor vehicle. There were eight incidents relating to stealing from a retail store.

Two cases of forgery and counterfeiting were recorded and 27 incidents relating to obtaining a benefit by deception.

Drug-wise, there were two incidents relating to drug dealing in the shire, four to drug trafficking, two of cultivating drugs and 12 of drug possession.

Thirteen firearm offences were recorded, nine incidents relating to prohibited and controlled weapons offences, and one explosive offence.

There were 37 cases of breaching family violence orders and three cases of breaching intervention orders. Two cases of cruelty to animals occurred and two environmental offences.

Of these criminal incidents, 179 occurred in houses, 56 on streets, lanes or footpaths, 21 in front yards, 21 in parkland or reserves, and 16 in sheds.

Twenty-seven per cent had charges laid, 28.1 per cent had no charges laid, and 44.9 per cent went unsolved.

In terms of the age groups of alleged offenders, there were 26 alleged offenders in the 10 to 17 years old category, 34 in 18 to 24, 35 in 25 to 29, 38 in 30 to 34, 30 in 35 to 39, 30 in 40 to 44 and 80 in 45 plus.

Of these alleged offenders, 46 were female and 230 were male.

Alexandra

Alexandra was the second-highest town in Murrindindi for criminal incidents, with a total of 82, down

from 87 the previous year.

The highest number of incidents in Alexandra were related to criminal damage (eight cases), breaches of family violence orders (eight cases), and non-residential non-aggravated burglary, other theft, and obtaining benefit by deception (all six cases).

Eildon

Eildon had 55 criminal incidents in the year ending March 31, 2025, up from 48 the previous year.

Highest of these were incidents relating to theft (seven), non-residential non-aggravated burglary (six), and non-FV common assault (five).

Flowerdale

Flowerdale is down one criminal incident from the previous year to 27 incidents. Of these, family violence common assault, criminal damage and breaches of family violence orders were most prevalent, with four cases of each.

Yea

Yea had the highest number of criminal incidents in Murrindindi Shire with 89. This is significantly down from the previous year,

where 115 criminal incidents were recorded.

Highest among these were incidents relating to other theft (15), criminal damage (eight) and stealing from a motor vehicle (eight).

Family violence

The total number of family incidents in Murrindindi Shire rose in the year ending March 2025, standing at 208 incidents. This is up 14.3 per cent from the previous year, when that number was 182.

This equals out to 1325.2 per 100,000 population, still below the Victorian rate of 1497.1 per 100,000 population.

In terms of affected family members, 152 were female and 56 were male, with most spread between the ages of 25 and 54. Categorically, there were 13 affected family members between zero and 17 years old, 20 between 18 and 24, 42 between 25 and 34, 45 between 35 and 44, 39 between 45 and 54, and 42 above 55 years old.

Continued Page 17

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

CONTACT DETAILS

CLASSIFIEDS AND COMMERCIAL PRINTING
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

ADVERTISING - Jo
1sales@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

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

SPORTS
sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

43 Grant Street - PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714
Telephone: 5772 1002 Fax: 5772 1603
Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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Letters to the Editor

Planter boxes

AN open letter to the community regarding the Grant Street planter boxes.

After seven months of the beautifully crafted and colourful planter boxes being enjoyed by the community, I was told by someone at the Easter market that they would be removed because they were in the way of the truck show parking.

A comment from president of the Truck Show on May 31 stated, "This was not a decision made by the Truck Show committee, nor was it a requirement of the upcoming Alexandra Truck Ute and Rod Show."

Sadly, without further consultation or warning all eight planters were removed by council workers early on the morning of May 29.

It was five days before I was able to confirm the whereabouts of the planters at the shire depot. It has now been almost four weeks since the planter boxes were removed.

After many attempts to sit down with council members including the Chief Engineer Mr Peter Bain and the CEO Livia Bonazzi to ascertain the future of the planters, I attempted to see the condition of the plants at the council depot via a visitors permit. This request was refused.

As a community we should be able to have answers, particularly on behalf of the shop owners who enjoyed the colourful additions to Grant Street and cared for their welfare for seven months. The list of six questions posed in the reply in the Standard on June 11 have still not been addressed.

The council tells us they welcome any contributions to enhance our community and supports these initiatives. Where is the support here? It seems to me that they can move the 'goal posts' any time to cover up their inconsistencies.

As a community we have the power to question the council and ask for answers. If we want to continue to offer enhancements or

projects that show to the residents and visitors alike that we care about our town we must stand up and be heard.

Project coordinator Pamela
Thompson, Alexandra

Utah Place

TO say the work at the Splash Park and Utah Place has been left half done by the shire is an understatement. As an example, a parking road sign has been broken and the top half stuck in the ground, mangled, in an area that the shire has seen fit to close off to parking, and the streetscape is neglected and pitiful. But none of this is uncommon in the way the shire approaches Eildon.

Even their approach to the safety of children moving from the Splash Park to the pool shows their indifference. They have simply closed off Utah Place, the road in between the two, when the responsible and truly safe action would be to build a fence along most, if not all of the Utah Place side of the Splash Park and another along Main Street, distance to be determined. Where the two meet, a zebra crossing should be installed across Utah Place for access to the pool and another across Main Street to the shopping centre.

Currently many visitors to the area do not recognise the existing crossing in front of the cenotaph, so crossing there during peak periods is a risk, especially for children. This would also help parents contain their children running around in the Splash Park area. It would also allow for Utah Place to be reopened to traffic, this time with angled lanes along the side nearest the Information Centre once the nature strip was removed. Parking is at a premium in this area over summer, so all available parking is essential.

Pamela Byrne, Eildon

Utah Place, looking towards the Splash Park and shops. -S

Utah place looking towards the shop. -S

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

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.

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.

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 Flood Level	
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.41	steady		
Acheron River at Taggerty	10.00am Mon	0.46	steady	Below Flood Level	
Home Creek at Yarek	10.42am Mon	0.15	steady		
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.00am Mon	0.42	steady	Below Flood Level	
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	08.00am Mon	0.25	steady		
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	10.00am Mon	0.47	steady		
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	3.52	steady		
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.33	steady	Below Flood Level	
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	1.08	steady	Below Flood Level	
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	Below Flood Level	
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	1.40	steady	Below Flood Level	
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	10.00am Mon	0.79	steady		
**ISSUED AT 10:56 AM AEST MONDAY 23 JUNE 2025					

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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

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Facebook

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

Weekly Weather

June 25 - July 01, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY LOW HIGH

Wednesday 3 8

Thursday 2 10

Friday 2 13

Saturday 2 13

Sunday 2 13

Monday 3 13

Tuesday 3 13

DAY LOW HIGH

Wednesday 4 8

Thursday 3 11

Friday 2 13

Saturday 1 13

Sunday 2 13

Monday 3 13

Tuesday 3 13

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra 8mm

Buxton..... 10mm

Eildon (AWS)..... 7mm

Flowerdale..... 10mm

Jamieson..... 22mm

Kinglake..... 12mm

Lake Eildon..... 7mm

Mansfield..... 4mm

Taggerty 12mm

Yarek 6mm

Yea..... 6mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week.....276.50m

Capacity as at 9am Monday.....57.9%

Metres below full supply.....12.4m

Daily inflow250ML

Release..... 1800ML

Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....62%

THE ALEXANDRA EILDON MARYSVILLE

Standard

BICORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES - THE YAREK, GOBUR, TAGGERTY, THORNTON, AND ACHERON EXPRESS

DEADLINES

Real Estate Thursday 5pm

Trades & Services Thursday noon

Early General News Thursday 5pm

Classifieds Monday noon

Editorial Monday 9am

Sports Editorial Monday 10am

Letters to the Editor Monday 9am

Thumbsup/down Monday 10am

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

5772 1002 or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support



Darlingford CEO Donna Walsh, Alexandra Opportunity Shop volunteer Gay Strongman and Darlingford's Executive Manager Judy Brooks accepting the cheque for \$10,000. -S



Alexandra Opportunity Shop board member and volunteer Pam Delmodes hands a cheque for \$7750 to the president of the Alexandra Heated Pool, Sam Hicks, and aquatic manager Elly Gambrell. -S

Alexandra Opportunity Shop generosity shines

THE Alexandra Opportunity Shop has completed its first round of donations for 2025. The Board received requests from local groups and was pleased to be able to respond to most of these. At the same time continued support was given to organisations to which the Op Shop has donated over many years. The total donations for this round were \$27,495.00.

Donations were made to the following groups: Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home received \$10,000 towards the purchase of a patient hoist and other equipment. CEO Donna Walsh was most grateful for the donation which would allow them to purchase equipment that would assist staff and clients.

Alexandra Heated Pool Inc received \$7750 for equipment including Hydro rider FOW

fitness mats and an Instructor's course. President Sam Hicks and Aquatic Manager Elly Gambrell were excited to be able to add these items to the very popular Alexandra Heated Pool. The Alexandra Opportunity Shop Board and volunteers acknowledge the pool's contribution to the health, safety and wellbeing of community members of all ages.

Alexandra SES received \$5000 which will be used to continue and assist with the fabulous work that our SES volunteers carry out throughout the shire and beyond.

Alexandra Secondary College received \$3000 towards the Driver Education Program. There has been ongoing support of the program over many years and nothing could

be more important than enabling our young people to learn the best driving practices.

Alexandra Fire Brigade Group received \$1000 as an ongoing donation and is used for administrative purposes.

Alexandra Community Shed received \$745 for the purchase of Battery etc for their Defibrillator.

These contributions are only made possible by the donations of items by our local community. At the same time the Op Shop volunteers recognise the importance of supporting the local groups that keep us safe and healthy. In response the volunteers continue to offer hours of their time each week to sort donations and to stock the shop.



Alexandra Opportunity Shop president Brenda Lopez gives SES Deputy Controller Judy Blakey a donation of \$5000. -S

Have your say about exciting new program Dindi Skills

IT'S not too late to have your say. You may have seen a community survey being circulated around Alexandra lately and wondered what it is all about. The survey is to help inform a new program called Dindi Skills, which is currently in the early stages of development, and Dindi Skills would love hear what you have to say.

The survey calls for young people (aged 12 to 25 years) and parents of children in the younger end of that age-range to share their thoughts on sports and recreational activities in Alexandra.

Do you already participate in something? Is there something you'd love to try if it was offered?

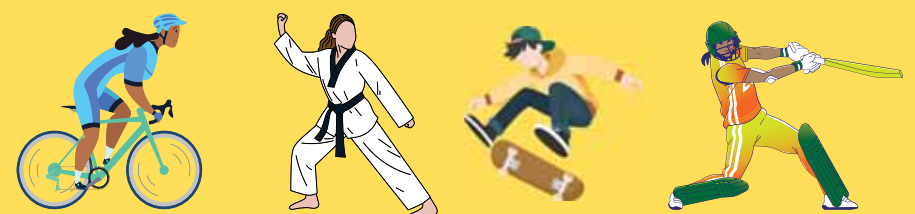
Dindi Skills will offer a series of 'Come and Try' sports and recreational activities across two school terms in 2026. The end goal is to make some of these a permanent offering. While it says 'sports and recreational activities', feel free to get creative and think out of the box.

Anything that gets us moving more and socialising more is a positive.

Have you always wanted to try archery, ballet, join a choir, go on regular hikes or bike-rides, try your hand at an arts-based activity such as pottery or join a theatre group? Are you looking for all-abilities sports and recreational activities, whether they be an extension to what is already being offered or a completely new activity? Dindi Skills wants to hear all about it.

Check out the ad on this page and use the QR code before the end of June to access the survey. If you are under 16 years old, check with a parent or carer first. Dindi Skills is a partnership program between Alexandra District Health and Murrindindi Shire Council.

If you would like to share your ideas directly or have questions about this program please contact Melissa Storey at Alexandra District Health on 5772 0900 or email melissa.storey@adh.org.au



TELL US ABOUT THE SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN ALEXANDRA!!

Alexandra District Health and Murrindindi Shire Council are working towards increasing sports and recreational options available to young people in Alexandra. This quick survey will help us understand what is already available, what you enjoy and what you would love to try.

****If you are under 16yrs please check with your parents before completing this survey****



**SURVEY OPEN
UNTIL 30/6/2025**



Murrindindi
Shire Council

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DISTRICT HEALTH

Youth
SERVICES

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

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Veterans Affairs, TAC, WorkCover, Private,
Medicare (EPC referral from GP)



5772 2649

54A Downey St, Alexandra

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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*.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26

The latest in renewables with questions and answers from Glen Morris, General Manager of Smart Energy Lab. 6.30-7.30pm at Yea Butter Factory.

MONDAY, JUNE 30

New Kerbside service starts on Monday, June 30
Visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/fourbins to learn about the new collection service

Feedback closing today for the draft Alexandra East Development Plan, have your say and help shape Alexandra's future. Read the draft plan, submit feedback and learn more at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/AEDP

Feedback closing today for Alexandra District Health and Murrindindi Shire Council's survey for increasing sports and recreational options to young people in Alexandra.

SATURDAY, JULY 5

Volunteer Expo. 1-5pm. Alexandra Football Netball Club. Enjoy light refreshments, connect with local groups and hear from experienced volunteers. For more information contact council's Community Capacity Building officer on 5772 0333.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9
Livestock handling workshop at Yea Saleyards at 9.30am to 2.30pm. Guest speakers will be Mark Bennett, Jack Briscoe, and Dominic Thurbon.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

Join Murrindindi Shire Council for a special event with Ron Litjens, 2025 Volunteer of the Year to find out how you can get trees and plants to attract native birds and pollinators to your garden. Event and webinar details are: 6.30 to 8.30pm (online session from 6.50pm) Attend in person at Alexandra Council

Fast, fair and free service to resolve rental disputes

THE Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Consumer Affairs Nick Staikos announced last week that the new Rental Dispute Resolution Victoria (RDRV) service will be live on Monday, June 23.

RDRV will help renters and rental providers settle disputes over bonds, compensation, repairs and rent increases in a more informal setting, freeing up VCAT to deal with other cases.

The free service, announced as part of the government's nation-leading housing and renting fairness reforms, will give renters a fairer go without the barrier of expensive legal fees or an intimidating VCAT hearing.

Anyone involved in a residential tenancy dispute can access the free service by calling

1300 017 378, jumping online, or attending RDRV in person.

At RDRV, highly skilled resolution experts will work to bring parties together and resolve rental disputes quickly and avoid a formal hearing. They will oversee each case from start to finish.

A new team of around 40 resolution coordinators have been recruited and trained to handle cases, and an additional 10 staff will soon join as intake officers to support the RDRV call centre.

RDRV will be headquartered in the CBD with four community locations at Oakleigh, Bundoora, Frankston and Bendigo. It's also a digital-friendly service that can be easily accessed and used online.

More than 60 per cent of disputes are expected to be able to be resolved through RDRV. It's all about guiding parties to the fastest and best result, reducing time, stress and cost, and reducing the need for lawyers.

Consumer Affairs Victoria will still be accessible to people seeking information to better understand their rights.

RDRV is the first of its kind in Australia. Victoria is leading the nation on renters' rights with more than 100 reforms already implemented and more to come including portable bonds, tougher penalties for dodgy landlords and more powers to stop excessive rent increases.

Church Services

ANGLICAN

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

CATHOLIC

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

UNITING CHURCH In Australia

St Andrews, Downey Street,
Alexandra
Worshipping, Welcoming
Sharing the transforming love of
Jesus. Services 10am each Sunday
Contact 5772 2362

OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

THE VINE

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



THUMBS UP: To the piece on the volcanic features of the area with Bill Birch. It would be interesting to see some follow-up articles, including some maps, photos, etcetera.

THUMBS UP: To the staff at Alexandra District Health, including reception, admission, discharge and the wonderful theatre nurses. You are a credit to your professions and our town. Well done ladies for all the care and consideration you gave to me on Monday, June 16.

THUMBS DOWN: To the shire for the closure of Utah Place in Eildon. It is a cheap and nasty solution to the perceived problem of children being at risk crossing unsupervised between the Splash Park and the pool, not part of the original plan agreed to by the community consultative group and denies the area valuable parking.

THUMBS UP: To Lions Club of Marysville and District for bringing the Skin Check and Awareness Unit to Marysville. So well organised and very successfully attended. Thank you.

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

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club Report

by Mike Jennings Hon Sec

THE Bridge players were in action on Wednesday enjoying a few hands and members assembled on Friday for a social meeting.

Numbers were a little down due to the cooler weather, medical appointments and members heading to warmer climes. None the less we had a productive meeting followed by the usual refreshments and games of 500 and UNO.

Chocolate Raffle winners were Yvonne, Ron and Joan. Notes for the dairy are an afternoon trip to Alexandra Lawn Bowls Club for an introduction to the sport on Tuesday,

July 15, the Annual General Meeting to be held on Friday, July 18 and a Christmas in July lunch at the Rubicon Hotel on Thursday, July 24. Watch this space for details.

For the AGM we will be looking for nominations for the committee to keep things running smoothly and new ideas. Annual fees of \$25 will be due at the end of this month so start saving your pennies.

As always we welcome new members so if you feel like a chat, a cuppa and a game of cards come and join us in the Bayley Street clubroom on a Friday afternoon.

Meanwhile stay safe, warm and keep smiling.

POLICE REPORT

Alexandra Crime Investigation Unit detectives are investigating a home invasion in Yea this morning.

It is understood three unknown offenders arrived at a property on Melba Highway and knocked on the door about 1.15am.

Police were told two of them were armed with firearms and one had a machete as they confronted the occupant and entered the house.

They demanded cash and firearms from the 68-year-old victim, then assaulted him when he refused to comply.

Detectives were told they dragged him out of the house and into the boot of his own vehicle, before heading down the driveway.

The victim got out of the vehicle and was threatened again by one of the offenders, whilst the other two set the house on fire.

The offenders poured petrol onto the victim, then fled the scene in a vehicle.

Three firearms were stolen from the property during the incident.

The victim sustained non-life-threatening injuries and drove to a nearby property to call

Triple Zero (000).

Police believe the incident was targeted, and do not believe the offenders are known to the victim.

No arrests have been made at this stage and the investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone who witnessed the incident or has information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

Police were unable to provide further details on the incident by the time this newspaper went to print.

Local CFA brigades were paged to the fire at 1.38am. Brigades from Yea, Glenburn, Limestone, Alexandra and Molesworth attended. Yarck, Koriella and Trawool were also notified but weren't required to attend.

The brigades had to wait at a staging post a distance away from the property until police made the scene safe. The house was already engulfed in flames when they arrived.

The fire was brought under control at 3.46am, however the house was entirely destroyed.

WHAT'S ON?



The photographic display was enjoyed by many. -MP

Local history at Yarck Hall is not to be missed

ON Sunday, June 23 the opening of the historical display of memorabilia of local primary schools and railway history took place at Yarck Mechanics Institute and Library, more commonly known as Yarck Hall.

The event was opened by Graham Halliburton Chairman of the Yarck Hall Committee after Norma Hodson and Geoffrey McPherson rang the restored original school bell to get everyone's attention before the speech began.

Norma Hodson has been a CWA member for 70 years and on the Yarck Hall Committee for 50 years. Geoffrey McPherson's great grandfather made the land available for the

hall. The hall opened in 1888 and has been operating ever since.

Yarck Primary School opened in 1874 under the name Home Creek State School until 1903 when it was renamed Yarck Primary School no 1331. The school closed in 1993. Public education in the colony of Victoria only began in 1872. The school building was removed when it closed.

There were over 100 photographs on display at the event and the Yarck Hall Committee plan to rotate them on a regular basis and you can see this history unfold at every market day at Yarck Hall which is held every third Saturday of the month.



The unveiling was done by Geoffrey and Graham. -MP



Norma Hodson, Geoffrey McPherson, and Graham Halliburton speaking at the start of the unveiling of the local memorabilia. -MP



Photographs from local schools included Yarck Primary School, Kanumbra, Gobur, Fawcett, Cathkin, Terip Terip, Bonnie Doon, and Molesworth. -MP



The school bell was rung by Norma Hodson and Geoffrey McPherson. -MP



Sharon Fox and Sandra Macintyre. -MP

Joint statement on Treaty negotiations

THE state government and the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria have been holding regional meetings to continue negotiations for Victoria's first statewide Treaty.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Assembly Co-Chairs Rueben Berg and Ngarra Murray attended the opening ceremony prior to negotiations on Dja Dja Wurrung country a fortnight ago.

Treaty is about making a better and fairer state for all Victorians, by ensuring First Peoples have a say over the policies that impact them and their families.

Negotiations have progressed on how an ongoing role for the First Peoples' Assembly will ensure First Peoples can make decisions on matters that impact their futures and play an ongoing role in truth-telling, including capturing stories from across Victoria and retaining an archive of this information.

The ongoing representative body will be able to advocate for First Nations communities, provide advice, work on building community leadership capability and work with the Victorian Government to close the gap between First Peoples and other Victorians.

Negotiations also emphasised the nation-leading work of the Yoorrook Justice Commission and the importance of ongoing truth-telling across local communities.

Parties discussed the significance of the official public record being created by the Yoorrook Justice Commission, and that this could be a valuable resource for teachers to use when educating students about Victoria's history.

Treaty is a pathway to acknowledging the past and making real, practical change to achieve better outcomes for Aboriginal Victorians.

Since Treaty negotiations began, more than 700 local government, community and multicultural leaders have been engaged in Treaty Forums across Victoria.

The Victorian Government is represented by senior Department of Premier and Cabinet executives, and appointed Member Negotiators represent the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria.

Established in 2018, the First Peoples' Assembly of Victoria has proven effective in enabling Aboriginal Victorians to represent their communities and negotiate Treaty.



FEEDBACK CLOSING SOON DRAFT ALEXANDRA EAST DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Have your say and help shape Alexandra's future.

Since late 2024, Council has worked with the Alexandra community, stakeholders, and a Community Reference Group to shape a plan for the future of 71 hectares in Alexandra's main residential growth area.

Shaped by community input, the draft Plan focuses on housing diversity, safer roads and paths, stronger infrastructure and support for tourism. Once adopted, it will guide future development and make the planning process more straightforward.

Read the draft Plan, submit feedback and learn more at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/AEDP by Monday 30 June 2025.

SCAN ME



lakemountain
ALPINE RESORT

THE 2025
SNOW SEASON
HAS BEGUN!

Check out what June looked like at Lake Mountain, along with what events we have coming up!



RESORT
UPDATE

Proudly supporting Student of the week

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

 **Bendigo Bank**

ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Maverick Clacy

Mav consistently shows all our school values. He is a quiet achiever who always does his best. He is a great team member during sport and consistently plays fairly. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Mav. You are a star.

EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Shannon for his hard work in writing, showing the school value of Integrity by adding in more complex punctuation.

Hailie for showing the school value of Achievement in solving complex Maths problems.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ryan



Ryan models behaviours and traits of our school vision of safety, love and faith both in the classroom and yard. He enters each day with a ready to learn mindset, he is attentive and responsive. Ryan is commended for his willingness to take on new challenges to forward his learning. Keep up the hard work Ryan, you're a star.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kingslake branch
 **Bendigo Bank**

Great discoveries about Australia's iconic Bogong moth

IN a world-first discovery, researchers have shown that Australia's iconic Bogong moth uses constellations of stars and the Milky Way to navigate hundreds of kilometres across the country during its annual migration, making it the first known invertebrate to rely on a stellar compass for long-distance travel.

The study, published in *Nature*, reveals how this unassuming nocturnal moth combines celestial navigation with Earth's magnetic field to pinpoint a specific destination it has never visited before, the cool alpine caves of the Snowy Mountains, where it hibernates for the summer.

Led by an international team of scientists from Lund University, the Australian National University (ANU), the University of South Australia (UniSA) and other global institutions, the research sheds new light on one of nature's great migration mysteries, involving approximately four million moths each year.

"Until now, we knew that some birds and even humans could use the stars to navigate long distances, but this is the first time that it's been proven in an insect," Lund University Professor of Zoology, Eric Warrant, said. He is also a Visiting Fellow at the ANU and an Adjunct Professor at UniSA.

"Bogong moths are incredibly precise. They use the stars as a compass to guide them over vast distances, adjusting their bearing based on the season and time of night."

Each spring, billions of Bogong moths (*Agrotis infusa*) emerge from breeding grounds across southeast Australia and fly up to

1000 kilometres to a small number of caves and rocky outcrops in the Australian Alps.

The moths lie dormant in the cool, dark shelters throughout summer, and in autumn make the return journey to breed and die.

Using sophisticated flight simulators and brain recordings in controlled, magnetically neutral environments, the researchers tested how moths orient themselves under different sky conditions.

When presented with natural starry skies and no magnetic field, they consistently flew in the correct migratory direction for the season, southward in spring, northward in autumn.

When the starry skies were rotated 180 degrees, the moths reversed direction accordingly, but when the stars were scrambled, their orientation vanished.

"This proves they are not just flying towards the brightest light or following a simple visual cue," Professor Warrant said. "They're reading specific patterns in the night sky to determine a geographic direction, just like migratory birds do."

Interestingly, when stars were obscured by clouds, the moths maintained their direction using only the Earth's magnetic field. This dual compass system ensures reliable navigation even in variable conditions.

The team also delved into the neurological basis of this behaviour, identifying specialised neurons in the moth's brain that respond to the orientation of the starry sky. These cells, found in brain regions responsible for navigation and

steering, fire most strongly when the moth is facing southward.

"This kind of directional tuning shows that the Bogong moth brain encodes celestial information in a surprisingly sophisticated way. It's a remarkable example of complex navigational ability packed into a tiny insect brain."

Researchers say the discovery could inform technologies in robotics, drone navigation, and even conservation strategies for species threatened by habitat loss or climate change.

Bogong moth populations have declined sharply in recent years, promoting their listing as vulnerable.

The study underscores the importance of protecting migratory pathways and the dark skies these moths rely on.

"This is not just about a moth, it's about how animals read the world around them," says Prof Warrant.

"The night sky has guided human explorers for millennia. Now we know that it guides moths, too."

Co-author Professor Javaan Chahl, a remote sensing engineer

from the University of South Australia, made headlines in August 2024 using the discoveries from a previous study led by Lund University involving dung beetles, who use the Milky Way as a reference point to roll balls of dung in straight lines.

Professor Chahl's team modelled the same technique used by dung beetles to develop an AI sensor for robot navigation in low light.



The Bogong moth migrates up to 1000 kilometres each year to a few select caves in the Australian Alps, using the stars for navigation. -Ajay Narendra, Macquarie University



A wall of Bogong moths, aestivating in a cave in the Australian Alps. -Professor Eric Warrant

Batteries and electronics can cause fires.

Don't put them in any bin.

Check your council website for local drop-off points instead.

Small acts make a **big impact**



Government response to Local Government Inquiry falls short

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has expressed disappointment with the Victorian Government’s response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Services, saying it offers little meaningful action for rural councils facing mounting financial pressure.

Council made a detailed submission to the Inquiry in July 2024, calling for systemic reform to address cost shifting, improve the fairness of grant funding, and support councils with limited rate bases to deliver core infrastructure and services. Many of the issues raised by Murrindindi were also reflected in the Inquiry’s interim report released in November 2024, which acknowledged the financial pressures faced by rural councils.

Council’s submission called for: A formal audit and resolution of cost-shifting from state and Commonwealth governments; more equitable and untied funding, especially for roads, asset renewal and infrastructure; simpler and fairer grant processes, including more realistic co-contribution expectations; reinstatement of 50:50 state funding for services like school crossings, maternal and child health, and immunisation; better disaster recovery funding, including support for resilient reconstruction and faster claim processing; transparent and fairer allocation of Financial Assistance Grants.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Damien Gallagher said the government’s response acknowledges some important issues but largely avoids the scale of reform that rural councils had hoped for.

“We acknowledge the government’s support for planning assistance, efforts to improve disaster recovery processes, and the commitment to more transparent grant allocations,” Mr Gallagher said.

“But in too many areas, the response offers in-principle support with no firm action or funding.

“This is a missed opportunity to fix long-standing inequities and rising financial pressure on small rural councils like Murrindindi. The government’s response has mostly defended the status quo, the very setting that led to the Inquiry in the first place.”

Council noted that of the 48 recommendations from the Inquiry, only nine were fully supported by the government, with a large number either deferred for further review or only supported in principle, leaving key issues like rural roads funding, service partnerships, and cost shifting unresolved.

“Rural councils like ours have higher costs to serve, limited economies of scale, and shrinking external grants,” Mr Gallagher said.

“We need reform that levels the playing field, not more processes that reinforce the status quo.”

Murrindindi Shire Council will continue to advocate through the Municipal Association of Victoria and the Rural Councils Victoria network to pursue the funding and policy reform needed to secure the long-term sustainability of local government in rural Victoria.



It was a joint effort with multi agencies involved with the collision. -S

Two vehicles collide with cattle

ON the evening of Friday, June 20, shortly after 7pm, emergency services were called to attend an incident where two vehicles had collided with cattle on the Maroondah Highway between Buxton and Narbethong. Marysville, Buxton and Narbethong Fire Brigades attended. The initial report was that a car had collided with two cows. An ambulance unit was already on-scene along with the Narbethong Captain.

It soon became clear that two vehicles, travelling in opposite directions, had collided with three Angus cows that were on a very dark stretch of the road.

Fortunately, both drivers were able to exit their vehicles with the assistance of Ambulance Victoria paramedics and others. Considering the damage to each vehicle, the drivers were fortunate. One driver, a non-local, was transported to hospital, airlifted to Melbourne from the Buxton Recreation Reserve. The other driver, a local, was unharmed.

SES Marysville Unit also attended and were utilised to provide lighting at the incident scene. Another vehicle was despatched from the Marysville SES to close the highway at Buxton. With the temperature hovering around three degrees at the time, and fog descending around the incident, the highway remained closed between Buxton and Narbethong for over two hours. Emergency services said they were grateful to everyone for their cooperation with the traffic management crews.

Victoria Police undertook on-scene investigations before determining that the road was able to be cleared and the highway opened to traffic. Sadly, two cows died as a result of the collision. Buxton Fire Brigade Captain Paul Denham reminded people to “Drive to the conditions, particularly as the weather gets wetter. There are lots of animals on the road at the moment.” He added that speeding drivers put other drivers at risk.

If you see livestock loose on the road, or on the side of the road, contact Triple Zero if you believe that they are an imminent danger to motorists. You can also contact the VicRoads to report an urgent traffic hazard on 131 170.



ON the evening of Friday, June 20 two vehicles collided with cattle between Buxton and Narbethong. -S

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT



The land affected by the application is located at:	10 Eighth Street Eildon VIC 3713
The application is for a permit to:	The application is for a permit to: Development of land for Eight (8) dwellings, Eight (8) lot subdivision, removal of native vegetation and removal of a reserve status from the land.
The applicant for the permit is:	Murrindindi Shire Council
The application reference number is:	P052.2025
You may look at the application and any documents that support the application by visiting our website via the following web address:	murrindindi.vic.gov.au/PlanningComment

Any person who may be affected by the granting of a permit may object or make other submissions to the responsible authority.

An objection must be sent to the responsible authority in writing, with the full name and postal address of the objector and include the reasons for the objection, and state how the objector would be affected.

The responsible authority must make a copy of every objection available at its office for any person to inspect during office hours free of charge until the end of the period during which an application may be made for review of a decision on the application

The responsible authority will not decide on the application before:	9 July 2025
--	-------------

If you object, the responsible authority will tell you its decision.

The Planning Unit can be contacted on (03) 5772 0333 or by emailing planning@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT



The land affected by the application is located at:	18 Twenty First Street Eildon VIC 3713
The application is for a permit to:	The application is for a permit to: Development of land for Six (6) dwellings, Six (6) lot subdivision, removal of native vegetation and removal of a reserve status from the land.
The applicant for the permit is:	Murrindindi Shire Council
The application reference number is:	P051.2025
You may look at the application and any documents that support the application by visiting our website via the following web address:	murrindindi.vic.gov.au/PlanningComment

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The Planning Unit can be contacted on (03) 5772 0333 or by emailing planning@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Annual budget adopted at council's June meeting

MURRINDINDI Shire Council's June meeting was held at the Yea Chambers. Cr McAulay declared a material conflict of interest with item 5.1 regarding the adoption of the budget as it involves an allocation of funds for repairs and renewal works at the former Taggerty Primary School.

1 Pendlebury Street, Alexandra, subdivision

During Open Forum, Angelina Bell spoke about the multi-lot subdivision planning application at 1 Pendlebury Street in Alexandra. She said that this type of application was important in addressing the housing shortage throughout Victoria and in the Murrindindi Shire. Some surrounding landowners objected, but Ms Bell said that they "didn't actually object to the subdivision itself, but rather the perceived impact of future development of those lots." As a result, they removed the proposed intersection at Thom and Myrtle Street. Following a meeting with other landowners, the subdivision layout was redesigned to respond to concerns. She noted that the land has long been zoned for residential development.

The planning application for 1 Pendlebury Street was discussed by council. Fourteen objections had been received with three subsequently withdrawn. The objections were around amenity, the future development of the lots, traffic and the capacity of the town to sustain the additional development. Five mature trees are in the area to be subdivided and these will be protected. Flood planning and open spaces were also discussed. The planning application at 1 Pendlebury Street was approved by council, subject to the conditions outlined in the report.

Eildon Key Worker Housing

The Eildon Key Worker Housing project is budgeted at \$6.28m with council contributing \$1.5 million in borrowings and \$780,000 in land value, with 33 bedrooms being the target. The project is designed to be financially sustainable, with a mix of rental income and potential future sales. The project is due for completion by June 2026 due to grant conditions, and therefore the approval of the tender is time-critical.

Mayor Gallagher proposed an amendment, being that council receive a report at the next practicable council meeting. Council voted to delegate authority to the mayor and CEO to approve the awarding of the tender for the design and construction of the 14 houses, with an allocated project budget of \$5.4 million, as well as the amendment.

Local Development Strategy

The Shaping Murrindindi's Future project is a locally led initiative, developed in response to the Victorian Government's decision to cease native forest logging. The project is now in its final stage. It has engaged the community and stakeholders to identify local strengths and opportunities, resulting in the formation of Innovation Working Groups

focused on Farm Forestry, Renewable Energy and Circular Economy, Tourism, and Health Aged Care and Social Assistance. Each group has developed targeted actions and is progressing toward securing funding and implementing initiatives that support economic diversification and long-term resilience.

Council voted to adopt the Shaping Murrindindi's Future Local Development Strategy and support the realisation of the opportunities identified.

Mayor Gallagher also reiterated that funding is available to support businesses, workers and communities during the transition, with information available via deeca.vic.gov.au/forestry

Adoption of 2025/2026 annual budget

The key features of the budget include total operating expenditure of \$44.5 million funding services and facility operations, operating surplus of \$1.08 million (includes capital income), \$17.2 million capital works program, with \$12.1 million invested in improving existing infrastructure, borrowings of \$2 million to fund new infrastructure projects that will deliver a financial return to council covering all repayments and borrowing costs, a three per cent increase in overall rates and charges in line with the rate cap set by the state government, reallocation of a \$149 component from the kerbside bin collection charge to a standalone Community Waste Charge, no increase in charges for kerbside waste and recycling collection despite expansion of the service from a two bin to four bin system, and a one-year deferral of the Community Waste Charge for a cohort of rural landowners and farmers not on the kerbside bin collection route, in recognition of the prevailing drought conditions across the shire and the added financial pressures on primary producers.

Major projects funded in the 2025/26 budget include \$4.3 million for Key Worker Housing in Eildon (largely funded by grants), \$1.4 million to renew local bridges, \$400,000 for footpath and shared path upgrades, \$270,000 for park and playground improvements, and \$95,000 for digital system upgrades and improved customer service. Council will also continue to support a local youth services program, despite the withdrawal of state government funding.

Council received nine community submissions to the draft budget in May. All were considered before finalising the budget, and individual responses will be provided to each submitter.

Mr Chesworth noted that there are a number of different payment options available, and people facing financing difficulties should contact council directly. It was also suggested that people review their rates notice as soon as it's been received and to raise any concerns early. He also said that the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund (ESVF) will be listed in the rates but

has been set by the state government, and council must collect it.

The budget was adopted by council.

Annual Priority Action Plan 2025/26

The development of the Priority Action Plan was informed by the outcomes of the Council Plan community engagement processes in June to July 2024 and February to March 2025. It has also been shaped by community feedback received through the draft Budget, consultation which closed on May 28 and early submissions on the draft Council Plan, which remains open until June 25. The focus is on a thriving and prosperous shire, healthy, inclusive and resilient communities, and trusted leadership and sustainable services. It was endorsed by council.

Road Management Plan

Council's current Road Management Plan (RMP) was adopted in 2021 and is publicly available on council's website. Under the Road Management Act 2004 and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016, council is required to review its RMP by June 30. Council Road Advisory Group (CRAG) met five times over the past 15 months. The plan was endorsed.

Councillor reports

Cr Adams

Cr Adams spoke about the progress of the Community Health and Wellbeing Plan, in collaboration with other organisations. Focus will be on existing services and existing need. She also spoke about upcoming events.

Cr McAulay

Cr McAulay spoke about the Alexandra East Development Plan, as well as the recent Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show and other events on the June long weekend, and their economic and fundraising benefits.

Cr Lording

Cr Lording spoke about the completion of pit and drain clearing works in Eildon, Alexandra, Marysville and Yea. Road crews have been active in road repairs. They have received quotes for drainage works on Riverside Drive in Yea and it is hoped that works will start soon.

Cr Hildebrand

Cr Hildebrand spoke about winter and the recent rainfall. "Although it's only a start, every drop is welcome in these dry conditions," he said. Approximately 12,000 head of cattle have passed through the Yea Sale Yards in the last few weeks, but prices have held steady. He also noted the state government's drought support for farmers. He thanked all who advocated behind the scenes for the outcome. He spoke about upcoming events in the shire.

Cr Carr

Cr Carr also commented on the recent rain, and the truck show, memorial and truck

show dinner, including the fundraiser for a mobile health clinic. She said, "It was a very successful event run by a group of volunteers and I want to congratulate all involved." She also spoke about the Eildon Lions Club 50th anniversary, saying "It was a wonderful night to celebrate an incredible history" and recognised Syd Savage.

Mayor Gallagher

Mayor Gallagher talked about his participation in the Hume Region Local Government Network forum, with a focus on sustainability, infrastructure and the ESVF levy implementation. Marysville recently hosted delegates for a property valuation conference. He also said that Murrindindi was recently featured in a podcast created by the Victorian Local Governance Association, and noted the positive impact of service clubs in Murrindindi Shire. He recently attended the Eildon Lions Club anniversary and spoke in glowing terms about their efforts. In addition, he mentioned the Resource Recovery Team's efforts to support the community in the transition to the four bin system.

CEO Report

Ms Bonazzi spoke about the commencement of the new four bin services on June 30. In addition to the website, printable calendar and hard copy calendar available from council offices, an app will also be made available. She said that council recently gained recognition through the Local Government Professional Awards, with their community flood hub project awarded a high commendation. Funding was secured through the Victorian Government and could be taken to the community. The health outreach model is working well and will extend further.

Council is developing new residential design guidelines to support the delivery of new housing developments that are attractive, sustainable and in keeping with the unique character of Murrindindi.

She said that council is closely monitoring the work of the state government's drought taskforce, and welcomes the recent progress while echoing concerns that more needs to be done. She said that council will continue advocating for practical, on-ground support for farmers and rural communities, including zero-interest loans and direct funding for councils to strengthen drought response programs.

Council is also lobbying regarding the state's decision to cease funding for group-based sleep support programs, previously delivered locally by the Maternal and Child Health nurses. The government has advised that some individual support remains available and there is a 24/7 helpline, but families will now be referred to Early Parenting Centres. The closest centre is in Whittlesea, subject to availability. She said that they continue to hold concerns about the equity and accessibility of the arrangement, and are urging the government to reconsider or to work with council on other options.

There are many ways you can give us a hand.

Your local CFA Brigade needs you, and there are many ways you can help. Roles include daytime firefighters, community educators, and support roles. You don't need experience, and you'll be amazed at what you will achieve, while fulfilling a vital and rewarding role in your community.



Scan the QR code to find out how you can help.



The Farmer's Ag News

How farmers are using Redback Weedwipers and council support to protect pastures

IN Victoria and across much of Australia, the pressure from invasive broadleaf weeds continues to compromise pasture productivity, animal health, and overall land performance. While boom spraying remains common practice, it presents challenges: non-selective application, high chemical usage, pasture damage, and spray drift risks. Increasingly, landowners are turning to weedwipers as a more precise and cost-effective solution.

One of the most widely adopted tools in this category is the Redback Weedwiper. This farmer-designed implement applies herbicide directly to the upper foliage of weeds while leaving surrounding pasture untouched. Its rising popularity is driven not only by its performance in the field, but also by increasing awareness of support options available through local councils.

Local Government Support: Grants, Subsidies, and Equipment Access

Many Victorian councils and Landcare networks are actively encouraging responsible weed control by offering: Financial subsidies or grants for eligible landowners undertaking weed control; loan programs for weedwiper machines, allowing short-term use for targeted operations; advisory services to assist with identifying problem species and planning control strategies.

Farmers are encouraged to contact their local council, catchment management authority, or Landcare group to discuss available programs. Funding availability and application processes vary by region, but in many cases, a portion of the cost of equipment hire or herbicide purchase may be covered.

Weeds Effectively Controlled by a Weedwiper

The Redback Weedwiper has proven especially effective on a wide range of tall-growing and broadleaf weeds common in Victoria.

These include: Patterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*), Saffron Thistle (*Carthamus lanatus*), Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Marshmallow (*Malva parviflora*), Varieties of Dock (*Rumex spp.*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), Bathurst Burr (*Xanthium spinosum*), and other varieties of thistle.

These species typically outcompete desirable pasture species for light and nutrients. When left unmanaged, they reduce forage quality, interfere with grazing patterns, and in many cases present toxicity risks to livestock.

Weedwipers are most effective when used during active weed growth, typically in late spring and early summer. Because the application is contact-based and highly selective, it enables treatment of specific weeds without affecting pasture cover, making it particularly useful for rotational grazing systems or organic-focused operations.

Proven Herbicide Compatibility

The Redback Weedwiper is compatible with a wide range of systemic herbicides. The following active ingredients have demonstrated consistent results across Victorian conditions:

Triclopyr + Picloram (e.g., Grazon Extra): ideal for woody and broadleaf weeds; Tordon 75-D (Picloram + 2,4-D): effective on thistles and ragwort; Metsulfuron-methyl: suitable for softer species like capeweed and dock; Glyphosate (low concentration): for general control.

Always consult chemical labels and local agronomic advice to determine appropriate application rates and mixing guidelines specific to weed species and conditions.

Why the Redback Weedwiper Is a Trusted Choice

Redback's weedwiper range is designed and built in Australia for local conditions, with features that enhance durability, effectiveness, and ease of use.



An example of a Redback Weedwiper. -S



A farmer with his Redback Weedwiper. -S

Continued Page 11



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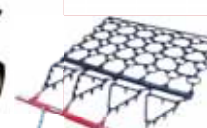
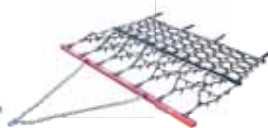
6.2m



4.8m



2.4m



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The Farmer's Ag News



Livestock contractor Jack Briscoe will teach techniques on low-stress handling of stock at the workshop. -S

Understand your stock with the Stock Sense project at Yea Saleyards

WANT to learn more about how to handle livestock in a low-stress way to help boost welfare and productivity?

Come and hear from experts like livestock contractor Jack Briscoe at a livestock handling workshop in Yea this July.

Over the course of the one-day workshop, Mr Briscoe will cover the basic instincts of livestock and humans and how they react to each other, as well as best yard safety practices, including a live demonstration.

"We have people have that come to the workshops who are classed as peri-urban

farmers who have less than five animals, up to people who have over 2000 animals, they are still working with the same animal, the same principles," Mr Briscoe said.

"It doesn't matter how many animals you own, it's for everyone."

Mr Briscoe will be joined by yard design specialist Mark Bennett, as well as internationally-engaged speaker and facilitator Dominic Thurbon, who will discuss how to make safety 'safe'.

"The thing is that no matter how long you've been in farming, bad habits are habits," Mr Briscoe said.

"Livestock only give you one free opportunity, and we've got to work with that... I think what people believe is common sense can be drilled down even more."

The workshop is facilitated by the Victorian Farmers Federation's Stock Sense project, which is funded by the Cattle and Sheep and Goats Compensation Funds and is aimed at helping Victorian livestock producers maintain and improve their animal health and welfare.

They do this through not only online resources like factsheets and webinars, but also by orchestrating educational workshops across the state, including the upcoming one in Yea.

Stock Sense's Livestock Handling Workshop will take place on Wednesday, July 9 at Yea Saleyards from 9.30am. Registrations are essential as lunch is provided. To register, visit the VFF Stock Sense Facebook events page or their website at vff.org.au/stocksense



Victorian Farmers Federation's Stock Sense project run livestock and biosecurity based workshops across the state. -S

How farmers are using Redback Weedwipers and council support to protect pastures

Continued from Page 10

Key benefits include: Precision low-volume application reduces chemical costs; Thick Carpet Wick and Pump System for consistent saturation and zero drift; Three size options (2.4m, 4.8m, and 6.2m) to suit everything from small blocks to broadacre farms; Proven results across a wide range of terrain and weed challenges.

Seeing It for Yourself

There are several ways to explore how the Redback Weedwiper could work for your operation: Ask to see one in action, Redback has a strong customer base across Victoria, and local users are often willing to demonstrate how they've used the machine to tackle specific weeds; Watch real-world videos, as numerous videos and testimonials are available online featuring farmers using the weedwiper in similar conditions; View before-and-after photos. Customers regularly share their weed control results on the Redback website and social channels; Contact a product specialist as Redback Agri can provide guidance based on your property type, weed species, and control goals.

To view the Redback Weedwiper range and watch it in action, visit: redbackagri.com.au/product/weedwiper/

And for insights, field reports, and advice, explore the Redback blog: redbackagri.com.au/news/

Complete Pasture and Landcare Solutions

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Final Note: Weedwipers are a long-term asset to any landholder seeking to manage weed pressure with precision and efficiency. For Victorian farmers, the opportunity to access council support or shared equipment schemes makes this an especially practical time to consider adoption.

For more information, product support, contact Redback Agri direct on 1800 836 313.

The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



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Stock Sense is funded by the Cattle Compensation Fund and the Sheep and Goat Compensation Fund and proudly delivered by the Victorian Farmers Federation

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL

NEW KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICE



NEW KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICE STARTS ON MONDAY 30 JUNE

The new service includes your existing general rubbish and recycling bins, and includes a new Glass bin and a Food and Garden Organics bin (optional in rural areas).

Your existing bin day remains the same, however the organics (green) bin will be collected every week, the garbage and recycling bins will be collected on alternating weeks, and glass (purple) bin every four weeks.

We now have a printable bin collection calendar available on our website (see example below), or if you would like to pick up a physical copy, you can visit one of our Library and Customer Service Centres.

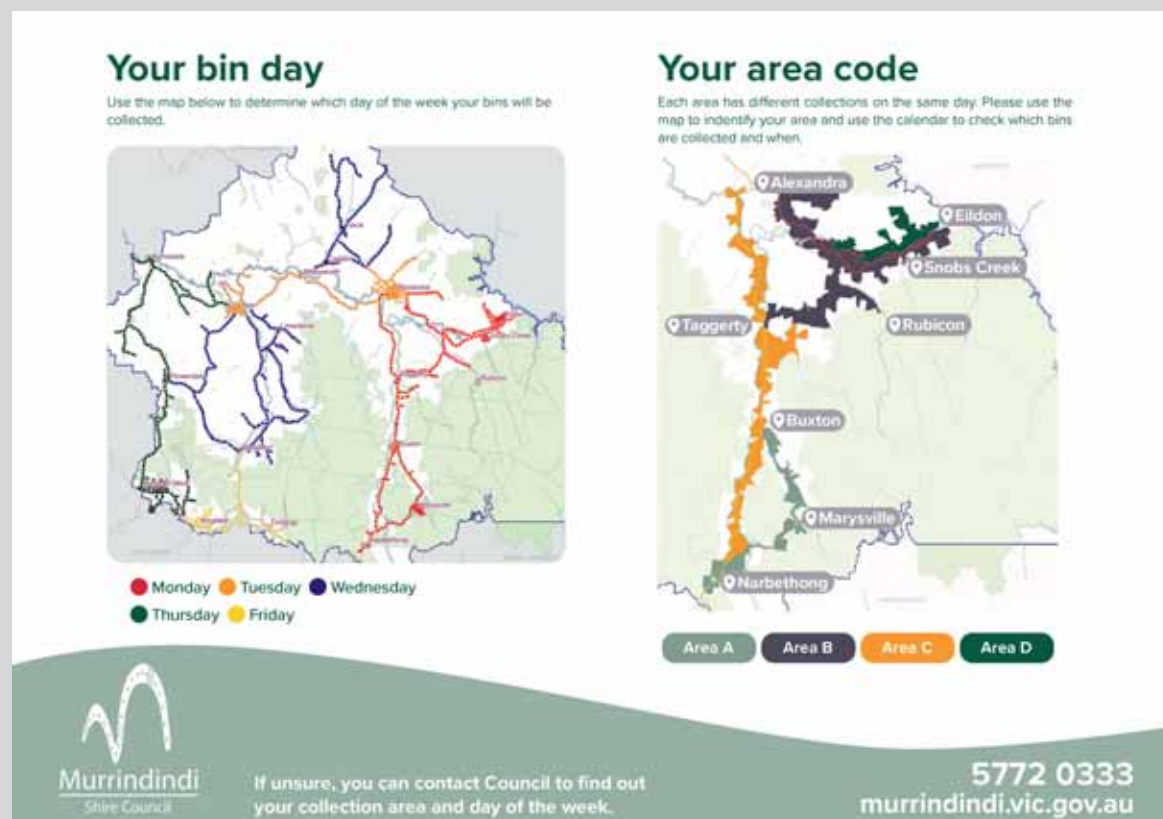
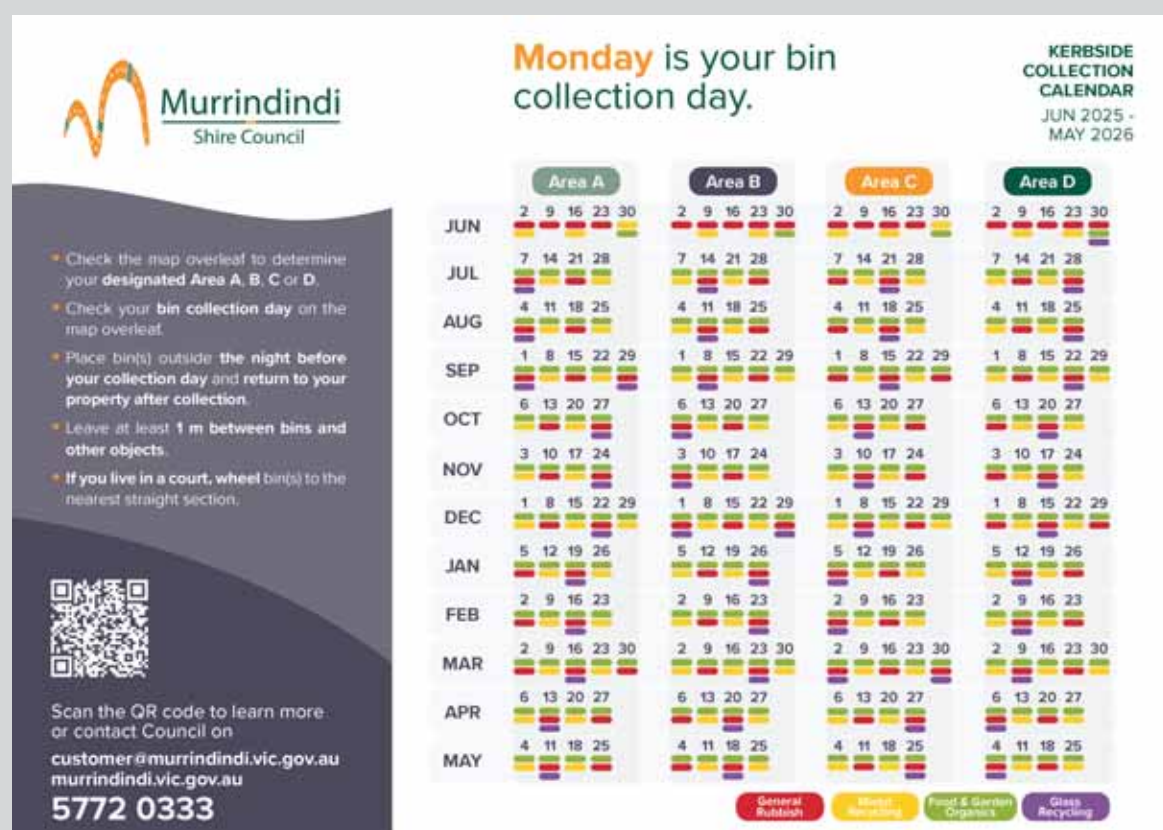
Visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/fourbins to learn more about the new kerbside collection service, download the new LoopedIn Councils bin and recycling app and to find out what you should put in each bin.

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Look for the **LoopedIn Councils** app on Google Play or the App Store.

Scan the QR code below to download.



PUZZLES

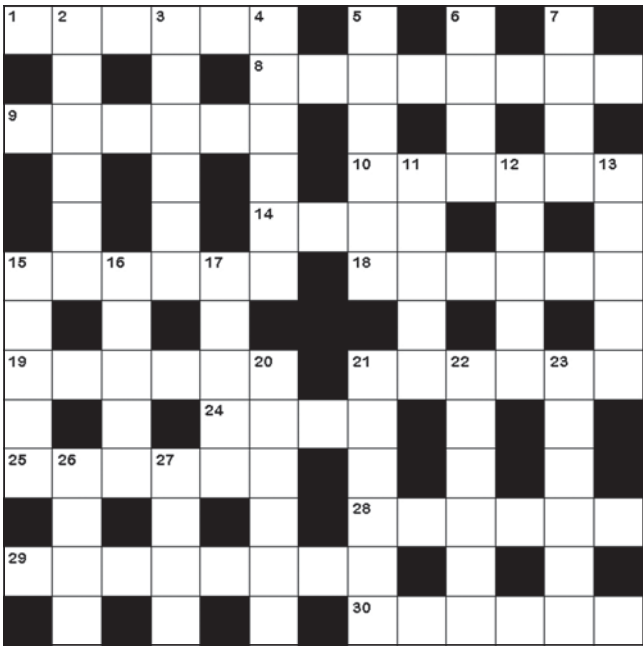
SOLUTIONS
Page 15

KID'S PUZZLES

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Long thick poles used for fighting.
- 8. Australia's most well known animal.
- 9. Interfere with other people's affairs.
- 10. Different subject matters during a discussion.
- 14. Pleasant and polite behaviour.
- 15. Fills with utter distaste.
- 18. A large wicker picnic basket.
- 19. Australia's lowest value gold coin.
- 21. A state physical or emotional strain.
- 24. A breakaway religious group.
- 25. Provided an unobstructed entrance.
- 28. An eccentric old man.
- 29. The leg of an octopus.
- 30. Watching secretly with hostile intentions.



DOWN

- 2. Three times as much.
- 3. A member of the violin family.
- 4. Wool wound in loose, elongated coils.
- 5. Someone acting as an informer for the police.
- 6. Goods sold at reduced prices.
- 7. Move around slowly and aimlessly.
- 11. The core of our feelings and intuitions.
- 12. The syrup we pour on pancakes.
- 13. Arranges things by classes or categories.
- 15. An exhibition of cowboy skills.
- 16. The rate at which the heart beats.
- 17. Let out your property on hire.
- 20. Lessen the strength or flavour of a mixture.
- 21. Sections or portions of a journey.
- 22. A medicine or therapy that cures.
- 23. Completely lacking in humour.
- 26. Having markings of two or more colours.
- 27. A short personal letter.

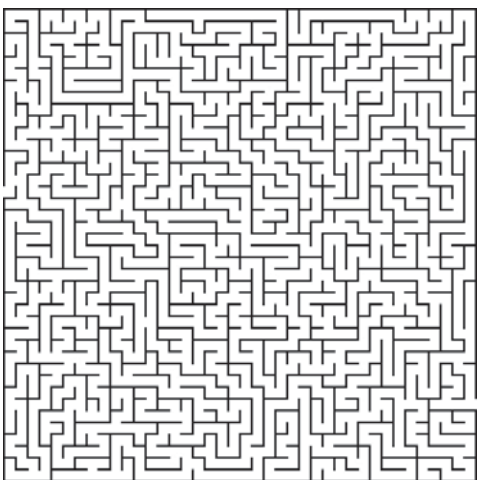
Word Search

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

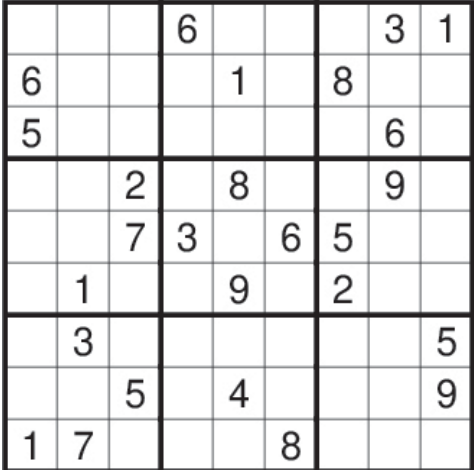
Clothing

- BATHROBE
- HANDBAG
- BIKINI
- HOODIE
- BLOUSE
- JEANS
- DRESS
- JUMPER
- EVENINGGOWN
- PANTS
- GLOVES
- PYJAMAS

Maze



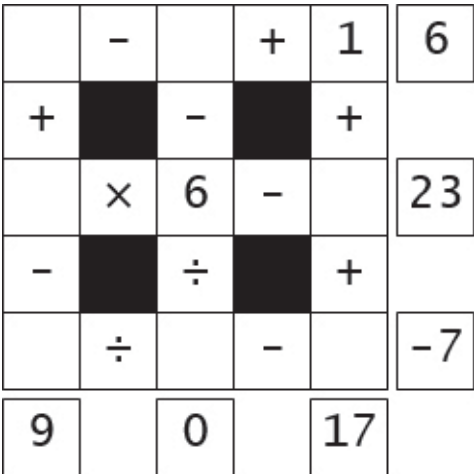
Sudoku



Difficulty: Medium

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

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Colouring Page



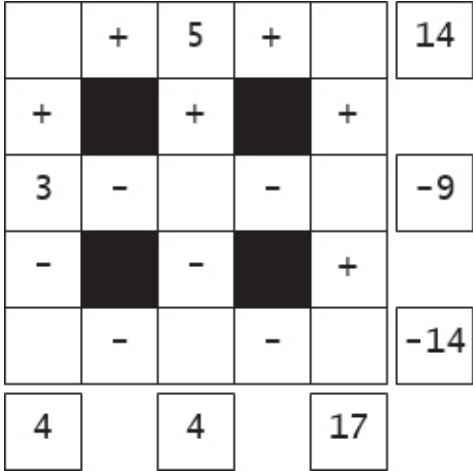
Word Search

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

Words starting with "J"

- JACARANDA
- JOVIAL
- JACKET
- JUGGLING
- JAGUAR
- JUICE
- JELLYFISH
- JULIA
- JOKER
- JUMPING
- JOSHUA
- JUNGLE
- JOURNEY
- JUNIOR

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Jokes

- Q: Why did the frog take the bus to work?
A: Because his car got toad away.
- Q: What did one hat say to the other?
A: You wait here, I'll go on a head.

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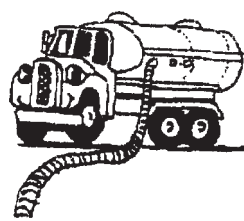


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O	P	E	N	E	D	A	M	L
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T	E	N	T	A	C	L	E	D
D	E	E	S	P	Y	I	N	G

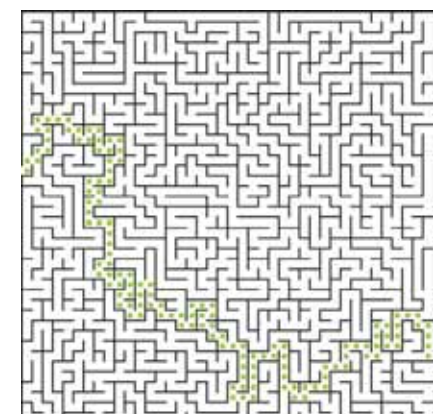
SUDOKU

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

MATH SQUARES

8	-	3	+	1	6
+		-		+	
5	x	6	-	7	23
-		÷		+	
4	÷	2	-	9	-7
9		0		17	

MAZE



KIDS MATH SQUARES

2	+	5	+	7	14
+		+		+	
3	-	8	-	4	-9
-		-		+	
1	-	9	-	6	-14
4		4		17	

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It is an offence to advertise the sale of a dog or cat or to give away free unless the Source number and microchip identification number of each animal generated by the Pet Exchange Register is included in the advertisement.

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Closing Date: Friday, July 4, 2025

Applications will be reviewed as received.

IN MEMORIAM

FOX, Roy M. OAM.
Passed away 28/06/2016.
Loved and loving father of Rhyl and Sharon, father in law of Richard, and loved grandpa Roy of Anna, Katie and James, their partners and children. Always remembered.

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More support for Victorian apprentices and trainees

A NEW Apprenticeships Victoria Helpdesk was launched by the Victorian Government recently.

The Minister for Skills and TAFE Gayle Tierney launched the Apprentice Helpdesk, a free service that provides advice and support, including information about wages and entitlements, training contracts, rights and responsibilities, and health and wellbeing at work.

Staffed by trained Apprentice Case Support Officers, the Helpdesk can also help apprentices and trainees report serious issues such as bullying and harassment to the right regulator or authority.

The Helpdesk is a two-year pilot being delivered as part of a \$9 million investment package to improve fairness, safety and mental health for apprentices and trainees, supporting them to complete their qualification so they can get a great start to their career.

This central service will make starting and completing an apprenticeship easier to navigate for almost 74,000 apprentices, as well as their employers.

The Apprentice Helpdesk builds on the success of Victoria's Apprenticeship Support Officer (ASO) program, which provides direct support to apprentices and trainees on TAFE campuses across the state. Since the launch of the ASO program, it has supported more than 166,000 apprentices.

Establishing the Helpdesk is one of the initiatives being implemented by the state government in response to the recommendations from the Apprenticeships Taskforce. The Taskforce's final report, released in October 2024, provides 16 recommendations to improve support, safety and fairness for apprentices and trainees.

Other reforms include streamlining collaboration between agencies, providing more education and support for employers, making workplaces more inclusive for women, advocating for higher apprentice wages, and improving the pipeline of trade TAFE teachers.

The Apprentice Helpdesk is available from 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays). Contact 1300 311 820 or apprenticehelpdesk@djsir.vic.gov.au

Bee-utiful awards

CONGRATULATIONS to Charlie Nancarrow from Dindi Bee Supplies in Yea on winning two golds and a highly commended for his honey. Charlie only took over Dindi Bee Supplies in late 2024.

The awards were handed out at the Victorian Apiarists Conference in Beechworth, held from June 11 to 13, with Charlie winning the equal highest number of awards.

He won gold for Liquid Honey – Dark, gold for Non-Alcoholic Honey Beverage and highly commended for Australian Beeswax – Block.

The future of our alpine resorts, including Lake Mountain

ALPINE Resorts Victoria (ARV) are inviting people to have their say on the development of their strategic plan.

The Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan is the key strategic tool guiding Victoria's alpine sector. It outlines the sector's vision and long-term strategic objectives, articulates challenges and opportunities, and identifies strategic priorities for Victoria's alpine resorts.

The current 2020-2025 Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan is nearing its end, so Alpine Resorts Victoria will be developing a new strategic plan for 2026-2030.

They are encouraging all stakeholders to have their say in the plan's development through a combination of online engagement and place-based in-person workshops.

These contributions, along with the findings from the review of the 2020-2025 Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan and consideration of other relevant data, will be used to write the new strategic plan.

The survey can be found at engage.vic.gov.au/alpine-resorts-strategic-plan-2025 or you can make a submission at the same address.



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The year ten students at the Shrine of Remembrance. -S

Alexandra Secondary College students visit Melbourne's Shrine of Remembrance

by Max Gleeson

ON June 12, Alexandra Secondary College's Year 10 History class visited The Shrine of Remembrance. Our visit complemented our studies of the Pacific Theatre of World War Two. On our guided tour we viewed exhibits relating to the sinking of the Vynar Brook, the tragedy that was the Banka Island massacre, the Changi flag, and stories and experiences of Australian Prisoners of War. We also focused on the importance of those who were left at home including the land army, and how their works helped support our soldiers.

Our tour then took us to the Crypt beneath the Sanctuary where stands a statue of a father and son both in military uniform. This sculpture represents the two generations of Victorians who served and died for our country in both world wars. Our tour guide led us in a brief service here which included the reading of the ANZAC Ode. The Sanctuary was our next stop. Here we observed a simulation of the sun's rays crossing "Greater love hath no man" carved into the Stone of Remembrance. Our guided tour was now over.

We were then given some free time to look at sections of the shrine that we were interested in. These sections included exhibits relating to the Korean War, the Boer War, and the Vietnam War.

Next, we made our way outside the Shrine to explore the courtyards that are located at the four corners of the Shrine. The courtyard at the visitor's entrance is designed to represent the trenches that Australian soldiers fought in along the Western Front. Our favorite was the Terrace Courtyard which is filled with vegetation to look like the Burma jungle. Inside this courtyard we took great joy in

finding our hometowns. These can be found on lasered panels which have the names of all Victorian towns from which soldiers enlisted in World War One.

We decided to walk from the Shrine into the city on foot, deciding not to take the tram as we all wanted to soak in the sunshine. Alexandra was in thick fog when we left home. We stopped to examine the Eternal Flame and then made our way through the Shrine's 13 hectares of land in which can be found around 320 memorial trees most of which have plaques beneath them dedicated to individual units and events honoring those who served. We also stopped to look at the statue of 'Weary' Dunlop who was a surgeon from Benalla. In World War Two he became a prisoner of war. He was a medical officer and cared for injured Australian soldiers in a prisoner of war camp along the Thai-Burma railway.

Our next stop was St Paul's Cathedral. Upon entering, it was as though the world fell silent. Being inside the cathedral we noticed the Gothic architecture, which tied into what we have been learning in English this term, a small bonus but one that was noted. Our journey then took us to the Reading Room in the State Library where lots of photos were taken. It was worth the visit. Our day finished with a nice lunch which included a wide variety of cuisines. Our bus ride home included us reflecting on the day, not long before turning into a drive filled with laughter and high spirits. We enjoyed seeing the 'Strawberry moon' pop up behind the hills once we crossed over the Spur. It is safe to say our day was enjoyed by us all.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs Tossol and Shannon who accompanied us on the day and made this possible.

Murrindindi Shire sees decrease in criminal incidents

Continued from Front Page

Opposition comments on the state of crime in Victoria

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said she is grateful that Murrindindi Shire's crime rate remains low.

"Luckily, Murrindindi Shire remains relatively untouched while crime spirals across Victoria under Labor's watch," Ms McLeish said.

"Although numbers remain considerably low in Murrindindi Shire, we still need to be vigilant. We are lucky we live in the community we do. It is clearly the place to be."

Ms McLeish says that the rest of the state is suffering because of the state government's soft touch on crime.

"Every day Victorians are less safe because of Labor's soft touch on crime and refusal to give Police, who are working night and day to keep our community safe, the resources or laws they need," Ms McLeish said.

"Labor has lost control of crime in this state; only a Liberals and Nationals government will ensure that if you break bail, you will face jail and that offenders face consequences for their actions."

"Victorians are getting sick and tired of waking to yet another story about criminals running rampant in our towns. It's time to fix this mess and start protecting our community."

Shadow Minister for Police, David Southwick agreed with the position of Cindy McLeish.

"Labor has failed Victorians on law and order. The sustained rise in crime over the past decade is a damning indictment of this government's neglect and mismanagement," Mr Southwick said.

"Today's figures are deeply concerning, but they only scratch the surface. With Victoria Police critically underfunded and understaffed, countless crimes are going unreported and undetected."

"Labor has created a crime crisis and cannot be trusted to fix the very problems they caused. Cutting law and order funding amid record crime levels show this government is either incompetent or out of money, or more likely both."

New bills introduced by state government

The Victorian Government has taken some action, introducing the *Crimes Amendment (Performance Crime) Bill* to parliament last week, which will give criminals extra jail time for sharing their disturbing crimes on social media.

The bill will outlaw the cowardly behaviour of 'posting and boasting' about certain crimes on social media and messaging applications.

The new offence targets those who publish content bragging about their involvement in serious crimes such as affray, burglary and robbery, car theft, carjacking, home invasions and violent disorder.

This includes anyone encouraging or facilitating these crimes, so there is no room to hide behind the ringleader.

This legislation responds to the dangerous trend among young people chasing clout on Tik Tok and Snapchat about their heinous crimes which encourages copycat offending, retraumatizes victims, and deeply disturbs the community.

Anyone found guilty of a specified serious offence who has also posted and boasted about it will face up to two years' jail time on top of any other penalty imposed for the substantive offence.

Third parties who are not involved in the offending such as witnesses, bystanders and journalists will not be captured by the new offence.

Further changes to bail will be introduced to parliament in the coming months and an Australian-first ban on the possession of machetes will come into effect on Monday, September 1.



Everyone was gathered together waiting for the Trivia morning to begin. -S



The very proud winning team with presenter Simon. -S

Murrindindi East U3A put their thinking caps on

ON Friday June 13, Murrindindi East U3A hosted a successful Trivia Morning at the Rubicon Hotel. One of U3A's many enthusiastic people Simon, spent considerable time to create 70 questions that he felt his target audience could answer. This was a big effort because trivia is not something that is practiced much in our group.

However, Simon's questions were many and varied. Famous people from the cover of Time magazine stretched from 1927 with 'Man of the Year' Charles Lindbergh up to 2023 with "Person of the Year" Taylor Swift. Interesting details were shared and everyone learned something new. The group also had the opportunity to show-off any knowledge they might have had with female singers from the 1960's. Not groups, only female

artists...Petula Clark, Marianne Faithfull and Aretha Franklin all had them tied up in knots, but when Cher sang 'Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves' everyone joined in.

One notable group of questions allowed the audience to select from a series of multiple-choice answers. Audio from 10 local birds was played and the group did their best to identify them correctly. Deciding between a fairy wren and a lapwing was challenging, but the kookaburra was easy and everyone had a laugh.

Questions about books, movies, history and geography completed the session before the group enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Rubicon Hotel. The Seniors meals were popular with the roast of the day and fish and chips enjoyed by many.

At the end of the day there were winners. A team of six "Just Here" took the trophy and other winners included "Magic", the "Shinboners" and the "Pub Club Girls".

U3A, a non-profit organisation, encourages people over 50 to socialise and stay active in their retirement years. Outdoor activities are not easy in winter, and so the group provides more activities indoors. This gets seniors having fun together, rather than to be cooped up alone and indoors. So, if you are a senior and you are interested in joining a U3A group, then you can enrol online at murrindindieastu3a.org.au

If you have any questions about any classes, please phone Libby Longham on 0408 896 730.

SPORT

Grants available to help Victorians become more active

THE Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence announced last week that funding of more than \$8.1 million is available to bring to life 58 projects through the latest round of the state government's *Together More Active* program.

The program draws on the power of sport to make a difference; helping organisations build safe, inclusive, and resilient environments that encourage participation and support volunteer skills development.

This round, the program is backing the continuation of a Disability Sport and Recreation pilot program to support and enhance the capability of sport clubs competing at the 2026 Special Olympic Australia National Games in Melbourne in 2026.

The *Together More Active 2023-27* Program is part of the Labor Government's *Active Victoria* strategy that sets out Victoria's priorities for sport and active recreation that ensure even more people can tap into all the benefits that sport and active recreation delivers.

For all the latest information about the program and successful grant recipients visit sport.vic.gov.au

All rugged up for golf

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Saturday as golfers emerged from their cars to prepare for the days competition it became obvious that some thought they were at Lake Mountain dressed for a day at the snow. Beanies of all shapes and sizes, woollen gloves, scarves, and heavy warm jackets were the fashion items of the day. The frost could still be seen on the greens and the fog was just beginning to lift so for those brave souls it was definitely necessary to be prepared for a cold start. However, as the morning progressed some winter clothing could be shed as the day turned out to be perfect for golf with sunshine and no wind.

Both the men and ladies played a stableford round and the men's game included the final of the Barton Cup. The ladies winner with a terrific 38 points was Michele Mansfield (25) and Micheles round included a very

close nearest the pin on the par three 136m 18th hole, another few rolls and it may have been a hole in one. Well played Michele. The ladies' runner up was Sabrina Stow (19) with 34 points. Keeping it in the family Sabrinas brother Jeremy (25) won the men's daily competition with an excellent 42 points followed by Jeremys friend and visitor Carey Nichol (29) with 37 points. The winner of the 2025 Barton Cup played over four rounds is Richy Clark and members congratulated Richy on his victory. The nearest pins were won by Gail Leigh on the ninth and 11th, Michele Mansfield on the 18th and Carey Nichol on the fourth and Carey also won the golden shot. Next Saturday all golfers will play stroke for the first round of the Winter Aggregate.

For members and local golfers the dates of the next series of the FoodWorks Murrindindi



Michele on the 18th. -S

Masters are November 15 at Alexandra, January 10 at Yea, January 31 at Marysville and February 14 at Eildon. The emergency date is Saturday February 28. Hopefully each host club will be well supported and the next season will see a record number of golfers participating in this great event.

Marysville members are reminded that the club fundraising raffle tickets can be obtained from Steve Coker and sold tickets can be returned to Steve as soon as possible.

Third medal for Burnsie

by Dave Silverman

DAN Burns is really running hot at the moment, winning his third monthly medal in seven months.

A clear, but windy winter's day for the Tuesday crowd, although "crowd" might be a bit of a stretch, with the weather definitely sorting the wheat from the chaff. The nine players that braved the biting wind experienced an otherwise fine day, with the course still retaining a little bit of run.

The top score of the day was 37 points, which was posted by James Fulton, just one clear of Greg Ebinger in second, and third-placed John Greator ex a couple further back on 34.

Greator also picked up the nearest the pin on seven, while 17 went to James. Russell Purcell was nearest on 18, and claimed a voucher in the rundown, as did Brad Newton.

It was cool (no surprises there, then) and overcast for the ladies' Stableford round last Wednesday, and a field of 12 took on the course once again.

Sue Greator ex is on a bit of a roll at the moment, and she took the win with 32 points. Second was Deb Richardson with 31, Marg Fahey came in in third on 30, and Sandra Morris squeaked into fourth place with 28 after a countback from Judy Pearson.

Judy was the nine hole winner with 14 points, and nearest the pins went to Sandy

Wettenhall on two, Sandra on seven, and Deb Richardson on 18.

With the ever-present fog hanging about for most of the day, it was a smallish field of 11 who teed off in June's monthly medal round, which was sponsored by Alexandra Windscreens.

Dan Burns took the win, and the medal, his 39 points only one clear of second spot, which was taken by Shane McGorlick. Luke Heard was in third place, also with 38, and John Norfolk came in fourth on 35. And yes, for those of you who are wondering, the club played a monthly medal as a Stableford round.

On his way to the win, Burnsie also took nearest the pin on 12 and 18, with the only other nearest the pin to be claimed going to John Steer on seven.

Foggy weather for Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

IT was a cool and foggy start to the two-person Ambrose competition last week at Eildon Golf Club and 13 hardy players brave the elements for a good day on course. Even though eventually the fog cleared, it was still a very cool day and the wood fire in the clubrooms after the game was very welcome.

With a score of 62.75 Wayne Kupke and Phil Dally took out the day's honours, coming in second with a score of 65.75 was Colin Long and Peter McNair. Ball run went

to Mark Mackwell and Peter McNair with a score of 66.25. Peter doubled up because of the odds numbers.

With the nearest the pins for the week there were no winners on the fifth or the 11th, Karen Guyer was the best on the 12th and Denis Seamer was nearest on the 14th with no birdy holes for the week. The entry draw went to Alison Southwell and Kerry Guyer tried her hand with the swindle draw.

Congratulations to all winners and to everyone that competed. Next Saturday is a stroke round and June's monthly medal.



Simon Rouget tees off on 14. -S



Shane McGorlick with a birdie on 15. -S

Tight games for Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition Eagles versus Owls

LOCHLAN versus Tyler: A great game to watch, down to the last game. Lochlan came out with some really strong shots to claim victory. 60 to 55.

Sally versus Mick: Some good long rallies. Great accuracy and placement from Sally. Mick gained the upper hand and won the match with his deep shots and court coverage. 66 to 50.

Michael M versus Matt: Supercharged squash. Fast paced with many pinpoint accurate shots putting the high-level players on notice that challengers are coming. Michael had a great first game doubling his opponents score and giving him a match-winning lead. 68 to 53.

Derrick versus John: A really even match with lots of craft, cunning and high-level squash. John gained some extra points in the final game to claim the victory. 54 to 51.

Falcons versus Kestrels

ERIC versus Jim (fill in): An odd match up. Jim put Eric through his passes, keeping the ball in play for as long as possible and resulting in long scoring match and Eric's triumph. 38 to 34.

Simon versus Oli: Simon started strong with a lead in the first half. With youth on his side, Oli kept the pressure on Simon to gain some extra points, winning the last two games and the match. 63 to 60.

Michael M (fill in) versus Jim: Even opponents with a draw to start. Great court coverage by both with Jim being a little too strong with shots throughout, stealing the victory. 63 to 47.

Thursday competition Blue Tongues versus Skinks

SAM versus Mick (fill in): It was interesting to see how Mick fared in the level above. Mick opened with a win and drew the second game. Sam had started to figure out his opponent to claim game three and gain enough of a margin to claim the victory. 58 to 56.

Daniel W versus Justin: Control switched between the first two games with Daniel staring on top only to be overthrown in the second game. The second half was much closer but as chaotic as usual with these two. Despite losing the last game, Justin managed to stay ahead in points to win the match. 66 to 64.

Dragons versus Geckos

TRAVIS versus Jodie: What a great game. Lots of clever squash played and the games see-sawed with both players taking home two games. When the final buzzer rang Jodie was crowned the victor with a two-point win. 60 to 58.

Michael H versus Phil: A close match. Michael attempted to take home a clean sweep, but Phil had other ideas and managed to take the third game from him. Michael kept ahead to take three games and the match. 65 to 50.

ALEXANDRA AND DISTRICT DARTS ASSOCIATION
COMPETITION LADDER 2025 ROUND 9

POS	TEAM	WON	LOST	PTS
1	Buxton Hotel	8	1	32
2	Kill Bills	8	1	32
3	Panthers	7	2	28
4	Arrowsmiths	5	4	20
5	Alex Bowls Club	5	4	20
6	Bucky Pub	4	5	16
7	Beer, Bulls & Boobs	3	6	12
8	On Pointers	3	6	12
9	On Point 26ers	2	7	8
10	DartVaders	0	9	0

Results
Killbills defeated Alexandra Bowls Club 8-3, Bulls, Beers and Boobs defeated DartVaders 9-2, Buxton hotel defeated On Pointers 10-1, Arrowsmiths defeated On point 26ers 9-2, Panthers defeated Bucky pub 9-2

Tons
G. Papst- 100, E. Collett -101, J. Masters-140, 140, 100, 100, 140, B. Amott-100, 100, 100, 134, 100, 100, 100, W. Nelson-100, 132, P. Dalley-100, 134, 100, 100, G. George-132, 116, G. Lund- 100, 100, 100, C. Parker-131, 140, 116, B. Ettridge -127, G. Gilmore - 140, 100, 100, 100, R. Mayfield -100, C. Hutchings-100, 100, A. Hutt -123, S. White -140, 100, 121, 100, 140, 140, 100, A. Wylde-112, A. Bull-101, 105, 135, W. Elliot-100, 109, 100, Z. Kilroy-121, 100, 140, 180, 120, 121, S. Kilroy-100, 100, 100, 140, 140, 140, 140, J. Billman-128, 131, 133, J. Smith-132, 120, C. Turner- 100, 140, M. Backstrom - 102, M. Robinson -100, 140, 132, 125, 180, 100, 135, 140, 100, 100, 140, 129 D. Cooper-100, 100, 180, D. Withoos -121, 100, 100, 121, M. Jenkins-100, 126, M. Edwards-100, 140, 100, J. Farnan-119, L. Ronalds - 132, 124, 100, S. Ritchie-100, 100, 114, 100, 100, 100, 100, L. Turnbull-140, 100, R. Penny-121, 140, 100, R. McCullum-121, 132, 116, 138

Highest Peg-Greg Lund 96
180'S- Merk Robinson, Dave Cooper, Zane Kilroy

SPORT

Alexandra junior football and netball results

by AFNC

ALEXANDRA junior football and netball players played at home for their June 22 games.

Netball Under 11

Alexandra 19 defeated Nagambie 0

Awards: HBI Canteen Voucher, Tess Welsh; Reddrops FoodWorks, Charlotte Pullen.

Under 13

Alexandra Red 18 defeated by St Marys Green 22

Awards: Reddrops FoodWorks, Jayde Stewart; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Koa Parker; Coaches Award, Bella Lamaro.

Under 13

Alexandra Black 26 defeated Yea 17

Awards: Reddrops FoodWorks, Ruby Bermingham; Alexandra Bakery and Cafe Award, Ashleigh Francis; Coaches Award, Tehya Vine.



Some of the Alexandra under 12 footballers. -S

Under 15

Alexandra Black 25 defeated by Yea 45

Awards: Reddrops FoodWorks, Nikita Lyttle; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Bella Twitchett.

Football Under nine

Awards: Tyler Cavill, Leo Jager, Darcy Simpson and Fletcher Lynch.

Under 10

Awards: Jace O'Sullivan, Bodhi McKenzie, Zac Stephens & Kaidyn King.

Under 12

Alexandra 2.2-14 defeated by Nagambie 6.8-44

Awards: Essence Coffee Lounge, Kayden Andrews; Reddrops FoodWorks, Spencer Simpson; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Hudson Brooks; Coaches, Nate Simms.

Under 14

Alexandra 7.6-48 defeated Moama 2.2-14

Awards: Essence Coffee Lounge, Jaidyn Dimech; Reddrops FoodWorks, Max Kaiser; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Charlie Broadway; Coaches Award, Evan Smith.

Under 16

Alexandra 3.1-19 defeated by Seymour 7.23-65

Awards: Essence Coffee Lounge, Cam Clark; Reddrops FoodWorks, Lachlan Williams; Alexandra Bakery and Café, Harrison Christie; Coaches Award, Noah Jack.



Eleven and under netball award winners for Alexandra. -S



The award winners for the 13 and under netball category. -S



Fifteen and under netball award winners. -S



The under nine and 10 football award winners were enthusiastic. -S

Rough match for Thornton Eildon in Warburton

by Scott Whitehead

Warburton 10.13 – 73 defeated Thornton/Eildon 1.1 – 7

AS the sun rose on a foggy Saturday morning, the Thornton/Eildon Women's Football Team were already halfway to their destination to take on Warburton for a 9.10am start.

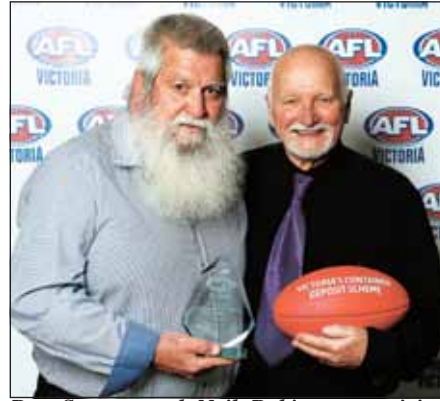
With the dew heavy on the ground, Thornton/Eildon won the toss deciding to kick up hill hoping that they could come home with the wind in their sails in the final quarter. The wind however wasn't blowing and the away team got away to a sluggish start allowing Warburton to capitalise kicking four unanswered goals in the first quarter.

Showing why they are undefeated, Warburton continued with their running game style in the second quarter making hard work for the away team. Unlike the previous week where the ball bounced from defence to defence, there was only one team's defence under pressure and that would be Thornton/Eildon's and while they had limited the home teams scoring for the

quarter, Warburton would comfortably lead at half time by 42 points.

The start of the third quarter saw an injury to Captain Rose Kealy and although desperate to return to support her team, she was unable to overcome the injury leaving Thornton/Eildon a player short for the remainder of the game. Determined to change the outcome of the game Tahnee Heard and Aisha Hendricks stepped up in the midfield and Lilia Weaver-Galbraith continued her hard work in defence showing that despite the one-sided scorecard they could impact the game and make the impending win difficult for their opposition.

Starting the fourth quarter 56 points in arrears, a miracle would be needed to reel in the margin, and it was Thornton/Eildon's Kristy Pearce who took the game on kicking the only goal for the away team early in the quarter. Yani Cousens enjoyed her return to football taking two contested marks up forward while Leah Battalis and Emma Whitehead continued to defend with enthusiasm, but Warburton would be far too polished for the ever-improving Thornton/Eildon, rounding off an impressive 66-point win.



Ray Steyger and Neil Robinson receiving the AFL Victoria recycle award in October 2024. -S



Richard Jack, initial coordinator of the project. -S

An update on recycling at AFNC

IN late 2015, the Alexandra Football Netball Club (AFNC) commenced an aluminum can recycling project, initiated by Richard and Dawn Jack, the key aim of the project to reduce the amount of material going into landfill as well as providing some income for the club.

The club project has collected over five tonnes of crushed aluminum cans that have been recycled instead of going into our local landfill.

The Alexandra Football Netball Club registered in November, 2023 with the state government's Container Deposit Scheme and now collects eligible cans, plastic and glass which are delivered to the depots in Alexandra and Eildon, while still collecting ineligible or damaged cans and delivering the crushed cans to the recycle depot in Ringwood.

The club is very appreciative of a number of businesses and residences across the district including Acheron, Alexandra, Eildon, Thornton and Yarek that support the club's project, as well as a number of people that place their containers in wheelie bins with red lids at the entrance to the Alexandra Showgrounds and Recreation Reserve.

The club and community efforts in the Container Deposit Scheme were

recognised in October, 2024 when they received the inaugural AFL Victoria award as the leading recycle Football Netball Club in the State of Victoria.

The club's project welcomes the continued growth of community support so if you have a residence / business / school that generates eligible recycle containers, we are happy to deliver a club bin which is emptied by the club on a regular basis.

Eligible containers can also be delivered to the club bins at Rebel Park or eligible containers can be delivered to either the Alexandra or Eildon depot and request the proceeds be directed to the club. Also, thanks to the support of the Eildon Opportunity Shop, the club has been able to purchase additional bins for a growing list of "customers" in the club's project.

Proceeds from the club recycle project support our junior football and netball teams with provision of equipment and resources for coaches, support staff and players.

If you have any questions, please contact Ray Steyger on 5772 2627. AFNC says thank you to all project supporters in a true community effort.

Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders

Football – Reserves

	Percentage	Wins
Seville	595.56	9
Pakenham	359.02	8
Warburton Millgrove	155.06	6
Alexandra	106.53	5
Belgrave	221.77	5
Yea	87.01	3
Powelltown	40.24	3
Yarra Junction	17.06	1
Yarra Glen	19.08	0

Football – Seniors

Pakenham	242.72	8
Seville	192.36	8
Warburton Millgrove	248.06	7
Alexandra	103.78	4
Yarra Glen	97.11	5
Belgrave	99.10	4
Yea	76.05	2
Powelltown	48.35	2
Yarra Junction	27.59	0

Football – Senior Women

Warburton-Wesburn	100.00	9
Wandin	77.77	7
Emerald	72.22	6
Thornton Eildon	56.25	4
Yea	25.00	2
Seville	12.50	1
Officer	0	0

Netball – 17 and under

Seville	391.58	8
Pakenham Lions Gold	213.24	7
Warburton Millgrove	113.40	5
Alexandra	47.37	2
Pakenham Lions Maroon	49.80	1
Powelltown	36.65	1

Football – Under 18

Pakenham	937.82	9
Seville	280.24	6
Warburton Millgrove	55.33	4
Yarra Glen	53.48	3
Alexandra	44.83	2
Yea	26.21	1

Netball – A Grade

	Percentage	Wins
Seville	225.54	9
Warburton Millgrove	227.95	8
Pakenham	228.03	7
Yarra Glen	110.34	5
Yarra Junction	95.67	5
Alexandra	69.28	3
Belgrave	59.52	2
Powelltown	33.76	1
Yea	53.41	0

Netball – B Grade

Seville	334.41	9
Pakenham	239.75	8
Warburton Millgrove	154.10	7
Yarra Glen	102.84	5
Belgrave	80.85	4
Yarra Junction	71.22	4
Yea	60.69	2
Alexandra	51.40	1
Powelltown	40.75	0

Netball – C Grade

Seville	311.61	9
Pakenham	210.14	8
Warburton Millgrove	181.60	7
Yarra Glen	90.77	5
Alexandra	78.59	3
Yarra Junction	79.25	3
Belgrave	71.02	3
Yea	44.04	1
Powelltown	38.17	0

Netball – D Grade

Seville	387.13	9
Pakenham	292.50	8
Warburton Millgrove	189.70	7
Alexandra	77.27	4
Yarra Glen	77.36	4
Belgrave	69.48	4
Yarra Junction	58.91	2
Yea	44.98	2
Powelltown	26.32	0

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Edwards Motorsport cleans up at end of season awards

LOCAL speedway team Edwards Motorsport attended the annual end of season presentation night at Bramleigh Estate in Warrandyte on Saturday, June 14.

Brock Edwards of Eildon took home the silverware in spectacular fashion-securing Late Model Racing Victoria's Club Championship honours at the annual event.

The win marks a major milestone for Brock, capping off a season filled with consistency, speed and determination.

Brock has been building towards this all season, notching up podium finishes and thrilling fans with his smooth yet calculated driving style. His championship win solidifies Brock's place as one of Victoria's top talents in the dirt late model division.

"This one's for the team, my family and friends, and everyone who backs us week in and week out" said Brock after the win.

"We've worked so hard for this and to finish the season on top means everything to me. We couldn't do it without the support of our awesome team partners, Jack Link's, iRacing, The Provender Country Bakehouse, Head-West and Edwards Built Family Houseboats."

The team had double reasons to celebrate on the night with Chevy finishing in a strong second place in the club championship, also solidifying his place as one of Victoria's talented drivers.

With the awards night now wrapped up, Edwards Motorsport head into their off-season so stayed tuned for some behind the scenes action.



Brock and Chevy Edwards celebrating with their nearest and dearest. From left to right: Tex Manning, Dusty Manning, Brock Edwards, Chevy Edwards, Jensen Edwards, and Mack Edwards. -S



Brock Edwards's V12 car. -S



Chevy Edwards's V21 car. -S

Windy conditions don't stop tennis players

by Rhonda Carpenter

CHILLY wind gusts alternated with sunny patches in Benalla for the closest match of the round between Benalla and Wappan last Monday week. Terip hosted Moglonemby, Euroa played Seven Creeks and Mansfield met Delatite on their synthetic grass under grey skies.

Benalla's Claire Sharp, Maureen Jewell, and Deb Siggers welcomed Deb Seach into the fold. Undaunted by a gardening mishap Maureen Jewell garnered strength to outplay her opponent using precision placement on the surprisingly dry lawn courts. The captain also delivered on her promise to bring their best weather.

Entertaining rallies played out with Wappan's Anna Speirs, Jenny Bell, Rhonda Carpenter and Carol Watts edging out their hosts in a skilful contest. Wappan 4-39 defeated Benalla 2-28.

On the Strathbogie plateau it was much colder for Terip's clash with Moglonemby. Judy Sands and Marlene Hanrahan got the jump on Terip's Cindy Hayes and Frances Lawrence in their opening set, while teammates Phoebe Macdermid and Jenny Martin, took their opener 8-4 against Moglonemby's Kerry Hewlett and Robyn Johnson. Once warmed up Terip combined well to take all the other sets amidst much laughter and lengthy rallies. Terip 5-45 defeated Moglonemby 1-23.

In Euroa Lyndall Bigland, Faye Mollison, Ruth Nolan, Mary Dewis and Julie Harrington shared the contest against Seven Creeks. The top side combined strongly while Julie Brook and Mary Kelly snagged Seven Creeks only set 8-5. Euroa 5-45 defeated Seven Creeks 1-17.

Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon, Keira McDonagh, Natalie Bergsma and Clare Beecham had a convincing win over Delatite. Always determined Karyn Fraser and Loretta Armitage fought hard but ultimately went down 6-8 in their tight set. Carolyn Murray and Deb Mims sought to work their way into the contest, but Mansfield wasn't taking any prisoners on this freezing day. Mansfield 6-48 defeated Delatite 0-12.

Creighton's Creek had the Bye.

Ladder: Euroa 50, Terip 45, Wappan 44, Moglonemby 38, Mansfield 35, Creighton's Creek 21, Benalla 17, Seven Creeks 16, Delatite 14.



Shannon Frith and Peter Daicos. -S



AFNC senior coach Nick Wal with Peter Daicos. -S



AFNC President Kylie Cairns with Peter Daicos. -S

AFL royalty and record-breaking bids: Patron's Day delivers unforgettable magic

by Kylie Cairns, AFNC President

IF you weren't at Alexandra Football Netball Club's (AFNC's) Patrons Day last Saturday, you truly missed something special.

From the moment guests walked through the doors at Rebel Park, there was a buzz. With over 70 attendees, a two-course feast that left no-one hungry, and a guest speaker who left the room speechless, this was more than a luncheon, it was an experience.

Hosted by Club President Kylie Cairns, this year's Patrons Day redefined what a club function can be. part-President's luncheon, part exclusive club celebration, the day honoured the club's loyal patrons and sponsors with a jam-packed afternoon of raffles, stories, and show-stopping moments.

A whopping 40 raffle prizes were handed out throughout the day, building anticipation and momentum.

Then came the headline moment: Collingwood legend Peter Daicos took the microphone and the room held its breath. For over 45 minutes, Daicos had the audience

hanging on every word as he shared tales from his playing days, life as Nick and Josh's dad, his time in the jungle on *I'm A Celebrity*, and emotional memories of his late teammate Darren Millane. He also spoke movingly about his personal connection to Fight MND and his recent plunge down the slide at the MCG, a moment that clearly left its mark.

In an unscripted, heartfelt chat with President Kylie Cairns, the two held court with sincerity, humour, and depth. It was the kind of moment that couldn't be staged and couldn't be forgotten.

Afterward, Daicos raffled off two signed guernseys and a footy, stayed for countless photos, and chatted easily with fans.

Then came the hotly anticipated auction, which added another layer of excitement to an already buzzing day. Eleven items in total were on offer, sparking competitive bids and generous contributions from the crowd.

The standout prize? Two tickets to the 2025 AFL Grand Final, which sold for a show-stopping \$2200. A Kärcher high-pressure cleaner promoted

a fierce bidding war, while a luxury accommodation package at The Trawool Estate fetched an impressive price. One lucky guest scored corporate box tickets to an upcoming Melbourne Storm game, complete with all-inclusive pre-game entertainment, food, and drinks.

Highly sought after was a trailer-load of firewood generously donated by Marshall Cairns, a practical crowd-pleaser and in a generous show of community spirit, local plumber Simon Morley offered his services to raise additional funds for the club.

The day was topped off with a mouth-watering dessert buffet served by the club's legendary catering ladies.

Reflecting on the day, Kylie Cairns was quick to deflect the spotlight.

"While I may get to stand at the front, none of this happens without our incredible sponsors, generous donors, and the hard work behind the scenes from our club secretary Michelle Jack and functions coordinator Katherine Quinsee," Kylie said.



Steven Hedger and Peter Daicos. -S