

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, September 10, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Living gift for Kellock Lodge



Page 5

Who let the goats out bleat bleat?



Page 8

Goulburn Fishing Festival



Page 12

Weekend sport



Pages 21-24

Lake Eildon recreational plans being developed

GOULBURN-Murray Water (GMW) is ensuring community members understand crucial safety and access information at its recreational sites.

Key information about both topics are included in Recreation Area Management Plans for 10 of GMW's water storages, including Lake Eildon.

The plans were developed in accordance with Victoria's Water (Recreational Area) Regulations 2023 and outline existing operating arrangements at the storages.

Development of the plans involved extensive face-to-face and online consultation with councils, agencies, Traditional Owners, local community members and recreational visitors.

GMW General Manager Water Storage Services Jon McKeown said it was important to hear from a broad range of stakeholders.

"While the primary role of our storages is to harvest and store customers' water entitlements, with over 2.5 million visitors since 2021 we know how popular these places are with recreational users," he said.

Key topics raised during consultation and clarified in the plans include environmental management, speed zones, and when and where campfires may be lit. Mr McKeown said the plans also included key guidance around foreshore access.

"They outline what areas people can access both above and below full water supply level at these locations," he said. The plans also support responsible pet owners in their desire to have their dogs join them when visiting the storages.

"We recognise the importance and value dogs play in the lives of recreational users," he said. "The expectation is that dogs are on a leash or under control at these locations at all times and that pet owners clean up after their dogs."

The plans will be formally updated every 10 years or as needed. They can be viewed on GMW's dedicated engagement platform, yoursay.gmwater.com.au/recreational-area-management-plans



Students from Alexandra Primary School with a platypus game at Kids Teaching Kids.

More on page 6. -AR

Jason Robertson returns to perform

IN August last year, former Alexandra local, Jason Robertson, appeared on *The Voice*. It was a terrific achievement for Jason, and he's now coming back to Alexandra to perform.

When asked what he's been doing since appearing on the show, Jason said, "A lot of writing. *The Voice* has helped me work my way through some original stuff which I've been meaning to do for a long time. I picked up a guitar, probably a couple of years ago and then progressing with that, so *The Voice* has really given me the drive to get stuck into writing my own stuff properly."

I've released three singles, and I've got a fourth one on the way. It's going to be an album eventually, so looking forward to that."

He's been finding plenty of gigs as well. He fronts a band called *The Funny Goats* and they've been touring from the north side of Brisbane right down to Yamba. He said there have been "plenty of shows and a lot of solo

stuff, which has been good... It's been a very busy time."

Jason will be back in Alexandra to perform at the Alexandra Hotel on September 18 to 20.

He said, "It's funny because when you're a little kid and you look up at what the adults are doing and look at the TV and listen to the radio and hear about what everyone else is doing. I remember playing my first show in Alexandra at the pub I'm going back to as a very raw frontman of a band. So to go back as an artist, as a solo artist is, well, it's a dream come true from a little boy's perspective. I can't wait. It's going to be great."

His brother works at the Meggitt's fish farm in Thornton, and he's hoping to see him. Sadly, his sister passed away recently. He also has uncles and aunties in the area.

He said, "It would be great to catch up with everybody."

He added that he hopes to see some friends from the area there as well. "There's been a

fair promotional drive at the pub... I know these guys haven't seen for 25 or 30 years turning up. So that's going to be fantastic," he said.

Jason will be performing solo original music on Thursday, September 18 and on Friday, September 19, some solo 1990s cover songs. On the Saturday night, September 20, a Melbourne guitarist he's worked with for many years is coming up and they will be doing a duo. "That'll be just basically old school bangers all the way through the night," Jason said.

He added, "If anybody's out there, any locals that know that I'm coming down, please come and say hello. I'm going to be there all weekend, during the day as well, so even if it's just to catch up, sit down and have a beer and have a chat, I'll be there on Friday all day, all day Saturday and then fly out Sunday night back to the Gold Coast. Come and say hello."



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THURSDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER
1PM ON PROPERTY YEA VICTORIA

CONTACT: TOM & OLIVIA LAWSON 0434 146 795
 E info@paringallivestock.com.au

AuctionsPlus

Elders

ROSS MILNE 0408 057 558
RYAN BAJADA 0435 411 536

SCAN FOR SALE INFO



Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by David Tanner

THE club members thoroughly enjoyed a bus trip, with Barry at the wheel, on Wednesday to *Morning Melodies* at the Lilydale International. The entertainment was first class as was the meal.

THUMBS UP
THUMBS DOWN

THUMBS UP:

Wow. Congratulations to Murrindindi Shire and the Carers' Group who put their heads together and designed the new toilet and shower block in Rotary Park. It contains great facilities for able and disabled visitors and will be a boost to tourism in the area.

THUMBS UP:

To the Standard for raising the issue of an off lead dog park with council and the great article about this.

THUMBS DOWN:

It might be time for traffic authorities to reduce the speed limit at Alexandra bridge. It's an accident waiting to happen when pulling out of the carpark.

THUMBS DOWN:

I'm sad to hear about the fire at Elli and Ivy. I hope owner and staff okay and you are up and running again soon. Your most loyal customer.

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

With the inclement weather on Friday, numbers were again a little down in numbers for our monthly business meeting. The FoodWorks voucher was won under interesting circumstances as the winner picked the winning ticket. There is no truth in the rumour that the matter is to be referred to the National Anti-Corruption Authority.

The formal agenda was dealt with swiftly so that Bev could be serenaded with an enthusiastic *Happy Birthday* before an unseemly stampede to the tea room to demolish her scrumptious sponge cake.

Afterwards, the 500 players settled into silent dedicated play while the UNO players indulged in raucous, riotous behaviour as usual.

Our Wednesday afternoon Bridge sessions are always popular, and new players are always welcome. Once again, this week saw two tables of stalwarts in enjoyable concentration.

The club welcomes new members, so if you fancy some company for a chat, a cuppa and a game of cards please drop into the Bayley Street club room on a Friday afternoon.

Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling.

Letters to the Editor

Open Letter to Mayor Gallagher

AS a shire resident, I am writing to urge you to boycott the upcoming 'Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism' on the Gold Coast.

While fighting antisemitism is important, this event is not a good faith effort to do so. It is an all expenses paid junket organised by the Combat Antisemitism Movement (CAM), a far-right US lobby group known for attempting to silence criticism of the Israeli government.

The summit's agenda and speaker list are deeply concerning, featuring a former US neo-Nazi leader and individuals linked to the extremist Advance Australia group.

Council should not be associated with an event

that platforms extremists and weaponises antisemitism to serve a far-right pro-Israel political agenda. This summit undermines, rather than helps, the real and necessary fight against all forms of racism. People who imagine that the alleged 'wave of antisemitism' in Australia is unrelated to Israel's genocide in Gaza are deluded.

Please stand for the values of our community by publicly declining this invitation and refusing to attend.

Nick Legge, Taggerty

Mayor Gallagher response

Dear Nick, Thank you for reaching out. I hope you're well. I've had many representations on council's participation in this event over the past several months. On each occasion I have respectfully responded with the following:

The Murrindindi Shire community values inclusivity and strives to be a place where every individual is supported, empowered, and diversity is genuinely celebrated. Our council strongly condemns antisemitism and Islamophobia, as well as all forms of sexual, political, racial, cultural, or religious discrimination.

Our rural Victorian council will not be attending the Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism. In the interest of transparency and upholding our commitment to good governance, council has respectfully declined the offer of travel and accommodation compensation for this purpose.

I wish you every success in your mission of advocating for peace.

Murrindindi Shire Mayor,
Damien Gallagher

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 (TW)	12.00pm Mon	1.20	steady	Below Flood Level	
Rubicon River at Rubicon	12.00pm Mon	0.68	steady		
Acheron River at Taggerty	12.00pm Mon	0.80	steady	Below Flood Level	
Home Creek at Yarek	11.52pm Mon	0.31	steady		
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.23am Mon	0.57	steady	Below Flood Level	
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	12.00pm Mon	0.37	steady		
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	12.00pm Mon	0.80	steady		
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	12.00pm Mon	3.54	steady		
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	12.00pm Mon	0.58	steady	Below Flood Level	
Goulburn River at Trawool	12.00pm Mon	1.17	steady	Below Flood Level	
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	12.00pm Mon	0.33	steady	Below Flood Level	
Goulburn River at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.50	steady	Below Flood Level	
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.36	steady		

*ISSUED AT 12:39 PM AEST MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 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.

Like us on
Facebook

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

Weekly Weather

September 10 - September 16, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY

LOW

HIGH

DAY

LOW

HIGH

Wednesday

6

12

Wednesday

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Monday

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Monday

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Tuesday

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Tuesday

6

15

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra 9mm

Buxton..... 16.5mm

Eildon (AWS)..... 11mm

Flowerdale..... 12mm

Jamieson..... 17mm

Kinglake..... 14mm

Lake Eildon..... 11mm

Mansfield..... 3mm

Taggerty 12mm

Yarek 7mm

Yea..... 13mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week.....276.59m

Capacity as at 9am Monday.....58.2%

Metres below full supply.....12.31m

Daily inflow6500ML

Release..... 1100ML

Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....39%

THE ALEXANDRA EILDON MARYSVILLE

Standard

INCORPORATING 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

\$1 million reward for capture of Desmond Freeman

VICTORIA Police has announced a reward of up to \$1 million for information leading to the arrest of Desmond Freeman following the murder of two police officers in Porepunkah last month.

Detective Leading Senior Constable Neal Thompson and Senior Constable Vadim De Waart-Hottart were part of a group of police who attended a Rayner Track property on Tuesday, August 26.

The officers were executing a search warrant as part of an investigation by the Wangaratta Sexual Offences and Child Abuse Investigation Team.

They were confronted by Freeman at his property about 10.30am, resulting in the two officers being fatally shot. A third officer was seriously injured after being shot in the lower body and is now recovering at home. The investigation into the deaths of the two officers and the serious injuries to a third officer is being conducted by the Homicide Squad.

As part of the effort to locate Freeman and bring him into custody peacefully and safely, police are offering a reward of up to \$1 million for information on his whereabouts that leads to his arrest. This reward represents the largest ever offered in Victoria for an arrest.

Over the last fortnight, a significant search has been undertaken by Victoria Police in an effort to locate Freeman, otherwise known as Desmond Filby.

A number of heavily armed police officers from across a range of specialist areas within Victoria Police continue to undertake a significant search for Freeman, assisted by personnel from a number of other agencies. More than 450 police each day are dedicated to the search.

Freeman was last seen at his Porepunkah property on August 26 shortly after the fatal shooting. At this time, police are unaware of Freeman's current location and are appealing to members of the public who do have information about his whereabouts to come forward.

At this time, there is nothing to indicate that Freeman is being assisted by a specific person, however given the difficult terrain and the requirement for various supplies this remains a possibility. Police are also open to the possibilities that he remains at large alone or is dead as a result of self-harm.

Freeman was last seen wearing dark green (khaki) tracksuit pants, dark green rain jacket, brown Blundstone boots and reading glasses. Police believe Freeman remains armed and advise members of the public not to approach him.

Detective Inspector Dean Thomas from the Homicide Squad, said, "While the offering of a reward for a murder investigation is not unusual in itself, what sets this apart is that this reward is for arrest and not conviction, and it is the largest reward ever offered for an arrest in Victoria."

"This figure recognises the seriousness of this violent offending and our commitment to locating Freeman as soon as possible so that he is no longer a risk to the broader community."

"Our aim in offering this reward is that it will lead someone out there, who may not have been willing to come forward until this time, to contact police."

"There is no doubt that up to a million dollars is a life changing amount of money for anyone and has the potential to completely change their circumstances"

"We believe this investigation will only be brought to resolution through assistance from members of the public and again, I am urging anyone with any information at all to come forward and contact Crime Stoppers."

"This could be sightings of Freeman, information you're hearing in your local communities, even suspicious activity on your property. Whatever it is, we want you to tell us."

"I would also like to stress to members of the public that if you see Freeman, then we need you to call triple zero immediately because this will give police the very best chance of apprehending him."

"Freeman has killed two people and injured a third, and it's immensely important that we can bring him into custody safely as soon as possible, hopefully this reward helps do just that."

Police urge the public in and around the township of Porepunkah to remain vigilant and report any sightings or suspicious behaviour by calling Triple Zero (000).

Anyone with any information about Freeman's whereabouts is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

For the most current advice and updates relating to this search, visit police.vic.gov.au/porepunkah-shooting-and-search-desmond-freeman-filby

Lake Mountain and Mt Baw Baw EOI Update

ALPINE Resorts Victoria (ARV) have provided the following statement regarding possible future Lake Mountain and Baw Baw operators, but unfortunately, they were unable to provide much information.

It states, "At the end of 2024, ARV launched an Expression of Interest (EOI) process for Lake Mountain and Mt Baw Baw, seeking suitably qualified entities to take on the management of one or both of the resorts in their entirety, including operation of both commercial and essential services."

"Submissions closed in February 2025, and since that time, ARV has been working through associated proposals, a process that is currently ongoing. As that process is subject to commercial in confidence, ARV is not in a position to discuss the details of these submissions but will continue to provide updates as the process progresses."

ARV has also been meeting with stakeholders and representatives of the

alpine sector throughout May, June and July to provide input into the development of the Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan (ARSP) for 2025-30. They stated that the consultation included over 120 individuals in face-to-face workshops, 290 online submissions and four online workshops.

Each round of consultation has generated a report, which can be reviewed on Engage Victoria website at engage.vic.gov.au/alpine-resorts-strategic-plan-2025

They added, "ARV is currently reviewing submissions, survey responses and input into the workshops and synthesising the data into a plan that reflects the priorities of the sector, the traditional owners, and the local communities that surround and live in the alpine resorts."

"ARV will continue to update the website and all stakeholders with information as the development of the plan progresses."



James Bennett return to the Embassy of Ideas on Friday, September 5 for a very special performance. He last performed there two years ago. Those in attendance were treated to a night of magical story telling, deep connection, soulful tunes and witnessed some amazing multi-instrument strumming skills. -S

Win a Let's Eat meal voucher

KEEN-eyed readers may have noticed that something was missing from our Let's Eat page last week. It was of course the popular form which puts people in the running to win a meal voucher.

The form has instead been included on this page. Our apologies for the oversight. Now get busy filling it out. There could be a wonderful free meal awaiting you.



Your chance to WIN a \$50 meal voucher

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Email.....

Eligible venues this month:
Kinglake Pub - Philip Lobley Wines

(Please circle your venue choice)

One entry per household

For your chance to win a \$50 voucher, return this entry by noon, **Wednesday, September 24.**

Alexandra Newspapers,
43 Grant Street or
PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714

Photocopies will not be accepted.

Winner will be notified by phone and published in the first edition of the month.

T&C: Only venues listed above in this edition are eligible to be chosen this month. Voucher is not redeemable for cash. To be used for one purchase only. Multiple vouchers cannot be saved and used together. Staff or family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Original form must be returned.





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
0408 123 581
Meeting every Sunday @ 10am

**MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**
37 Grant Street, Alexandra
Pastor Daniel Kriss
Services 10am every Sunday
Phone 0400 282 536
mccbc.com.au

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

Out&About

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

There will be a public meeting taking place at the Molesworth Public Hall on September 10, starting at 7.30pm. The purpose of the meeting is to nominate new committee members for the Committee of Management for the Molesworth Public Hall Reserve.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Maindample online clearing sale commencing noon September 11, concluding noon, September 15. Inspection day 101m-4pm, September 11. Pick up day September 17. New tools, chainsaws, old mowers, farm sundries and much more. Visit emblingrural.com.au for full list and details or phone Embling rural; Andrew 0418 266 038 or Ayden 0427 924 944.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Alexandra Museum and steam train rides open 10am-3.30pm.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Marysville Market is on again, all your favourite stalls with home made cakes, local honey, plants, sausage sizzle, live music and more.

Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Walk. Registration 8.30am event start 9am. Rail Trail loop, Yea Train Station to Two Bridges. To register, volunteer or for more information visit gvsag.org.au

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Paringa Livestock Spring Yearling bull sale; 28 x Angus and Stabilizer bulls. On property from 1pm in Yea. For full details contact Tom or Olivia Lawson 0434 146 795 or email info@paringalivestock.com.au

2030Yea My EV and other electric battery powered equipment with Q&A. 6.30-

7.30pm at Yea Butter Factory. For enquiries or bookings contact 0428 969 366 or email 2030yea@gmail.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Don't miss Jason Robertson from *The Voice* at the Alexandra Hotel Friday and Saturday night. Book for dinner, stay for the music.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Spring has sprung, Yea Garden Expo is on Saturday and Sunday 9am-3pm at the Yea Saleyards. Entry \$12 at the gate \$10 online. Concession \$10. Under 16 free. To book online visit trybooking.com/DBYVD or pay at the gate. Free parking. Contact yeagardenexpo@gmail.com or visit yearotary.org.au.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Alexandra Race Club AGM will be held at noon followed by a light lunch. Presentation of annual reports and election of office bearers. All welcome. Enquiries to secretary 0467 413 767.

Right to disconnect is activated

THE right to disconnect and the 'employee choice pathway' from casual to permanent employment both began for small business employees last week on August 26.

Small business employers and employees should have conversations about out of hours contact, with the right to disconnect starting for businesses with less than 15 employees.

The right to disconnect was added into the Fair Work Act as part of the Closing Loopholes laws, and began for employees of businesses with 15 or more employees in August last year.

Now small business employees have the right to refuse to monitor, read or respond to contact, or attempted contact, outside their working hours unless that refusal is unreasonable. This includes contact or attempted contact from their employer or a third party, such as a client.

Whether a refusal is unreasonable will depend on the circumstances, but certain factors must be considered in making this assessment. Those factors are: the reason for the contact the nature of the employee's role and level of responsibility; the employee's personal circumstances (including family or caring responsibilities); how the contact is

made and how disruptive it is to the employee; and any relevant extra pay or compensation the employee receives for working additional hours or remaining available to work out of hours.

Fair Work Ombudsman Anna Booth said small business employers and employees should talk to each other about out of hours contact and set expectations suited to their specific workplace and the employee's role.

"We hope that people working in larger businesses have already had conversations about out of hours contact and set expectations in the context of their workplace and the employee's role; now it's time for small business employers and employees to have that conversation," Ms Booth said.

"It's important to remember the right to disconnect does not prohibit employers from contacting their employees, nor does it prevent employees from contacting one another, including across time zones.

"We encourage workplace participants to educate themselves on the right to disconnect and adopt a commonsense approach.

"Like most employment matters, any dispute should first be discussed and sought to be resolved at the workplace level. Workers

Update on Puzzle Range Wind Farm

TETRIS Energy was asked to provide an update regarding the proposed Puzzle Range Wind Farm, located between the towns of Merton, Bonnie Doon and Fawcett. The location is not within a proposed Renewable Energy Zone.

An Alinta Energy spokesperson responded, "The project proposal is in its earliest phase of development, the pre-feasibility stage, which means we are assessing whether a project is viable. It may be more than a year before these assessments are complete.

"If we do find that a project is technically viable, we will seek input from the community. We are committed to listening to local voices before the concept progresses further."

can be represented by a union if they are a member, and they want to be represented.

"If that resolution does not occur, the Fair Work Commission, not to be confused with the Fair Work Ombudsman can deal with disputes regarding the right to disconnect."

ADH welcomes graduate nurses through unique city-country program

ALEXANDRA District Health (ADH) is once again proudly partnering with Eastern Health (EH) to deliver its distinctive Graduate Nurse Program, now in its seventh year. This innovative 12 month program offers newly registered nurses the opportunity to gain valuable experience across both metropolitan and rural healthcare settings.

Participants spend six months at Eastern Health's busy metropolitan hospitals and six months immersed in acute care services at ADH. The goal is to provide a well-rounded introduction to nursing, equipping graduates with the skills and confidence needed to thrive in a variety of clinical environments.

At ADH, the program supports new nurses as they transition from study to professional practice in a welcoming and supportive setting. Each graduate is paired with a dedicated nurse preceptor and has access to the Training and Development team. Graduates also attend study days at

Eastern Health to reinforce their learning and development throughout the year.

Currently, graduate nurses Rebecca and Teagan are completing their rural rotation at ADH. Rebecca chose the program specifically to gain rural experience, sharing that living and working in a country community is part of her long-term plan. Teagan says she's enjoying the strong sense of community among both staff and patients, and values the opportunity to deliver holistic care close to home.

Since arriving, both Rebecca and Teagan have settled in well and are already making a meaningful impact. Their enthusiasm, professionalism, and fresh perspectives have been warmly welcomed by the ADH team.

ADH is thrilled to have Rebecca and Teagan as part of the ADH family and look forward to seeing the valuable contributions they'll continue to make in the months ahead.



Teagan and Rebecca. -S

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

Available from these retail outlets

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Alexandra Newspapers are members of:





Kate Chaney MP, Senator Penny Allman-Payne, Helen Haines MP, Allegra Spender MP, Sophie Scamps MP and Senator David Pocock. -S

Crossbench secures win for Home Care Packages

THE Australian government has bowed to pressure from the crossbench to release 20,000 new Home Care Packages for aged care, agreeing to amendments in the Senate.

Independent Members and Senators raised the alarm back in June that the delay of the government’s aged care reforms would leave 80,000 people stranded on the wait list for in-home support.

The parliamentarians signed an open letter calling on the government to fund, at a minimum, 20,000 new packages under the current Home Care Packages scheme, to bridge the gap until the rollout of reforms in November.

Crossbench pressure increased on the government last week, with questions from Dr Haines to the Member for Aged Care, a motion from Member for Mayo Rebekha Sharkie, and amendments to aged care legislation from Independent Senator David Pocock and the Coalition.

Dr Haines said this was a win for older Australians and showed the impact of the crossbench in the interests of the nation.

“I think we have seen a victory today that will bring practical relief to 20,000 people waiting for a home care package,” said Dr Haines.

“This is proof of the positive and effective work the crossbench does across the parliament for the good of the nation.

“The government had consistently rejected calls from the crossbench and peak bodies to release more packages that would help hold the waitlist steady.

“I’m pleased that today the government has seen sense.”

Dr Haines had noted on Monday that the waitlist had blown out a further 50 per cent in six months and the department had confirmed no additional plans had been released beyond the attrition rate.

“The fact is that the waitlist for home care is getting longer, not shorter, and this is the last thing older persons and their families need, more delays and more uncertainty when they were promised the opposite from this government,” she said in her speech in Parliament.

The bill will now be returned to the House of Representatives.

Goulburn spring fresh

WATER for the environment will be released into the Goulburn River this month to stimulate fish movement and promote the growth of native plants to help protect the riverbank.

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Environmental Water and Wetlands Manager, Simon Casanelia, said the annual water release was referred to as the Goulburn River spring fresh and was expected to run from approximately September 13 to October 12.

“Environmental water will greatly benefit native vegetation by wetting the river’s banks and then receding, encouraging new growth,” Mr Casanelia said.

“Establishing the bank vegetation is a high priority. Without this vegetation growth in spring, the bank would stay bare and be more prone to damage.”

This delivery of water for the environment helps long-term stabilisation of the riverbank as native grasses, sedges, rushes and flood-tolerant native species will grow and thrive at this time of year. The roots of the plants help stabilise the bank.

The timing of the fresh is similar to last year’s spring fresh which proved successful for vegetation establishment.

Mr Casanelia said this delivery of water for the environment would also increase habitat and food resources for native fish such as Murray cod, trout cod and golden perch, platypus and waterbugs.

“Because fish are more actively migrating and spawning in spring, there is great value in the spring fresh, even with the high winter flows we’ve had.”

Water for the environment is water allocated and managed to improve the health of rivers, wetlands and floodplains. Use is adapted based on climatic conditions, water availability and ecological needs.

Decisions about using water for the environment are based on science, including research by river ecologists and long-term environmental monitoring. The research and monitoring clearly demonstrates water for the environment, and in particular the spring fresh, is vital for improving the health of the Goulburn River.

Environmental flows are planned by the Goulburn Broken CMA in consultation with the local community, river ecologists, Goulburn-Murray Water, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH), the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the Murray Darling Basin Authority.

These flows complement on-ground activities such delivering stock fencing, off-stream watering, weed control and revegetation incentives to restore high quality riparian vegetation corridors that are resistant to flood related channel change such as river bed and bank erosion.

The spring fresh is expected to benefit the whole length of the Goulburn River downstream of Lake Eildon. Flow will gradually increase to approximately 9300ML/day at Trawool and Shepparton before slowly dropping back to approximately 1000ML/day in mid-October.

Peak flows will be well below minor flood levels along the Goulburn River. At Trawool the river will reach 2.3m. The minor flood level is 4m. At Shepparton the river will reach 5.6m. The minor flood level is 9.5m. Timing and height of the fresh may vary depending on natural flows in the river. Delivery of water for the environment will reduce or stop if there is any flood risk.

The flows are authorised by the VEWB in line with its Seasonal Watering Plan 2025-26. The plan is available for download from vewb.vic.gov.au, with regular watering updates posted on the Goulburn Broken CMA website gbcma.vic.gov.au



President of Friends of Kellock Inc Jan Fallon, Kellock Lodge CEO Tania Hunter, and Kellock Board Chair Ian Gibb. -S

Friends of Kellock Inc give Kellock Lodge a living gift

JAN Fallon, President of Friends of Kellock Inc, gifted a donation of close to \$30,000 to Kellock Lodge, on behalf of the organisation, to purchase a Heat on Demand system.

Heat on Demand heats a thermal base plate in less than 12 seconds and maintains the temperature of the food at or above 60C for 60 minutes. The benefits of Heat on Demand system are improved food quality and safety, increased energy efficiency, faster service and greater control over heating processes.

Kellock Lodge trialled the Heat on Demand system for two weeks to obtain resident, family and staff feedback and the trial was a resounding success with comments like, “My meal is so much hotter for longer,” “Don’t get rid of this, it’s wonderful,” and “This is a great change as it keeps the food hot and more enjoyable to eat.”

Kellock Lodge also sought feedback from other aged care organisations who had installed the Heat on Demand system who very much encouraged Kellock to implement the system.

Kellock CEO Tania Hunter stated that warm food enhances the dining experience in aged care by increasing resident satisfaction and food intake, reducing the risk of malnutrition and weight loss. It also promotes better digestion and contributes to residents’ overall well-being and quality of life.

This ensures that every single resident enjoys a warm meal for years to come. Kellock Lodge are extremely grateful as always to Friends of Kellock Inc and the community of Alexandra for their continued support and generosity.



Heat on Demand system. -S

Lucky 13th Kids Teaching Kids



Brave students holding a snake. -AR



Kids Teaching Kids was held beneath the blooming wattles at the Yea Wetlands on Tuesday, September 2. -AR



Students from Yea Primary School performed a play. -AR



Mike with a Murray River turtle. -AR



Buxton Primary School students. -AR



Two of the young performers from Yea Primary School. -AR



Representatives from Murrindindi Shire Council sharing information about the new four bin system. -AR



Students were encouraged to share what they have learnt about the environment. -AR



Mike from Black Snake Productions and a student from Middle Kinglake Primary School holding a giant spider. -AR



A long-necked turtle. -AR



A student on stage with a python wrapped around his neck. -AR



Students from Avenel Primary School. -AR

The perfect time for the Yea Garden Expo

THE Rotary Club of Yea's Garden Expo is almost upon us, running Saturday, September 20 and Sunday, September 21, from 9am to 3pm each day.

This is perfect timing for gardeners, busy preparing their gardens for spring colour. The expo provides an opportunity to view a host of garden related products at the Yea Saleyards site (Flat Lead Road), just off the Yea-Whittlesea Road, a few kilometres on the south side of Yea. The site is flat, sealed and easily accessible and dogs are welcome, provided they are kept on leads.

There is a \$12 entry fee (\$10 online) for adults which includes free parking with concession \$10. There are ample food options available throughout the day, including egg and bacon rolls for the early starters, a gourmet barbecue, homemade soups and Devonshire teas in the kiosk, Indian food, and coffee vans.

Close to 70 vendors will be on site with exhibits ranging from bulbs, seeds, seedlings, flowering plants, and trees, to garden tools and equipment, garden art and ornaments, compost, fertilisers and more. Locals Darryl Callander and Darren Gilbert will have their very popular garden art available to purchase or order.

There is even a plant creche where purchases can be safely left until ready for pick up on departure.

The popular speaker program has been enhanced this year and will feature Black Snake Productions on Saturday at 12.30pm. A host of friendly native animals to learn about and engage with in a fun and interactive way. They are sure to be a highlight with kids and adults. An opportunity for visitors to both rest and learn.

Saturday will also feature Craig Castree at 10am, Charlie the Bee man at 11am and Ron Litjens at 2pm. Sunday speakers are Natasha Morgan at 11am and Craig Castree at 12.30pm.

This year there will be also free face painting for anyone on the Saturday. Bring the kids who have free entry.

Club members have worked hard to pull this event together and to try and improve on previous years. All the popular vendors are returning and there are a few new ones for gardeners to explore. The club would like to thank the Murrindiindi Shire for their ongoing financial support to enable this popular event to continue drawing visitors into our beautiful shire.

To check out the vendors present or for more details of the speakers, please visit yearotary.org.au and/or keep up to date via Facebook (Yea Garden Expo). Tickets may be purchased at the gate or prebooked via trybooking.com/DBYVB



A huge array of plants will be available for sale. -S



One of the beautiful garden displays from last year. -S

MCCORMACK FUNERALS
Inc. BAMFORDS Murrindiindi
21 Johnston Street, Alexandra
1800 080 909
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Murrindiindi Chapel and Funeral Home
Caring & Professional 24 hour service, all areas
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www.mccormackfunerals.com.au

Alexandra Museum
and Steam Train Rides
OPEN this
Saturday, September 13
10am to 3.30pm
7 Station Street,
Alexandra
All information can be found at:
alexandratramway.org.au
/alexandramuseum
or by contacting 0427 509 988

MARYSVILLE MARKET
Second Sunday of each month
Sunday, September 14
9am to 1pm
All your favourite stalls along
with home made cakes,
local honey, plants,
jewellery and handcrafts.
Community sausage sizzle
and live music.
To book please call 0494 329 695 or
email marysvillemarketinc@gmail.com

lakemountain
ALPINE RESORT
**AUGUST WRAP-UP
AT THE RESORT**
Scan the QR code to check out what August
looked like at Lake Mountain, along with what
we have planned for the future!

Rotary Club of Yea
YEA GARDEN EXPO
20 & 21 SEP 2025
9AM - 3PM
Location: Yea Saleyards
Flat Lead Road, Yea (see website for directions)
Only an hour from Melbourne!

- Native & flowering plants
- Garden sculptures
- Motorised barrows & vehicles
- Garden tools & Vegetable bins
- Seedlings
- Mulch, fertilisers & compost
- Ride-on & push mowers
- Nurseries
- Small chainsaws
- Roses
- Deciduous & Ornamental trees
- Garden books
- Plant Creche
- Speakers Program
- And much more.....

FOOD & DRINKS AVAILABLE!

Entry \$12 at the gate - \$10 booked online
Concession \$10
Kids U/16 FREE.
Pay at the gate or book online via www.trybooking.com:
www.trybooking.com/DBYVD (Bookings open August 1st)
FREE PARKING
Contact: yeagardenexpo@gmail.com
www.yearotary.org.au

Proudly supporting
Student of the week

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

Bendigo Bank

ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Dallas Leary

Dallas is a kind friend in the yard. He regularly supports friends who are hurt, making sure they get to the first aid room whilst keeping them calm. Care is an important school value, Dallas. Thank you for helping to make our school yard a safe place. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Dallas. You are a star.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kingslake branch

Bendigo Bank

Goats on the rail trail? Just kidding

THE Great Victorian Rail Trail between Ridds Road and Baynes Road, Cathkin was closed on the afternoon of Monday, September 8, to put in place a temporary goat fence. Goats will be used to manage vegetation along this section of the trail.

The goats will remain on-site for approximately 10 weeks. They will be securely contained behind the fencing and moved progressively along the trail as they complete their grazing. No further trail closures are expected during this period.

Goats are an ideal weed control option on sensitive sites as they have minimal impact, and reduce the need for other control methods like pesticides.

Council explained that they got the idea from a trial conducted by Parks Victoria and Pheasant Creek Blackberry Action Group in a sensitive gully which required minimal impact and was a great success. It was funded by the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce.

Goats have also been used locally by the Taungurung for weed control. Council also used goats at the Yet Wetlands last year.

The goats were tested in a single 400 square metre cell in May on the rail trail as a test,

and council are now expanding it further along the trail. They are using the same contractor as they did earlier this year and at the Yea Wetlands. The goats are pretty good at looking after themselves for the most part, but the contractor will be checking in on them and moving them to new cells when required.

People are more than welcome to visit the goats and observe them, however they are not domestic animals and are there to eat weeds, so we would ask visitors to not feed, interfere with or touch the goats.



The goats which were placed at the Yea Wetlands to get rid of the weeds. -S

Swoop-di-doo

AS the weather gets warmer and the days longer, we also start to see the occasional swooping bird. Native birds enter their breeding season in spring, and some may get protective of their young.

Lachlan Clarke, Manager Statewide Wildlife Advisory Services at the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) said, "Swooping is a normal, temporary behaviour for native birds like magpies,

butcherbirds and masked lapwings to defend their eggs and chicks for a short time while their young are most vulnerable.

"Think of it as a warning sign. They're telling you to keep your distance. While it can be a bit unsettling, it's rare for them to make contact."

Swooping can occur in both urban and rural areas, including parks, gardens, and along bike paths.

"Not all birds swoop during the breeding season, so the presence of magpies or other common swooping birds does not necessarily mean you will be swooped," Mr Clarke said.

This behaviour only lasts a short time, usually ending once the young have left the nest.

If you are worried about being caught out by a protective bird this spring, here are some steps you can take to feel safe, while also protecting our native birds:

Avoid known swooping hotspots. Move quickly, don't run if near a swooping bird. Wear protective

head and eye coverings. Don't harass birds, as this can escalate swooping. Don't feed birds or destroy their nests.

Report a swooping incident on Victoria's interactive swooping bird map by visiting wildlife.vic.gov.au/managing-wildlife/swooping-birds

All native wildlife is protected by law. Harassing, harming or disturbing native birds and other wildlife is illegal in Victoria and penalties apply.

You can report wildlife crime such as harassing, harming or disturbing wildlife to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.

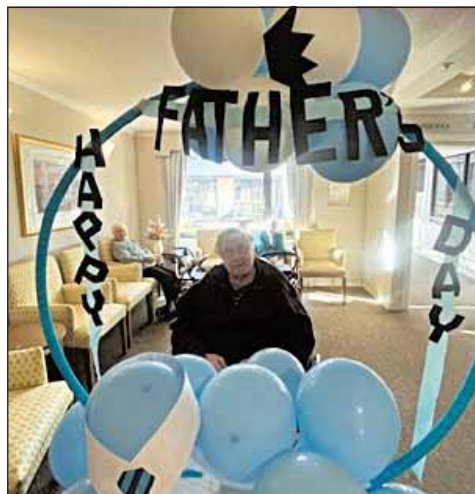
Kellock celebrates Father's Day with a photo booth



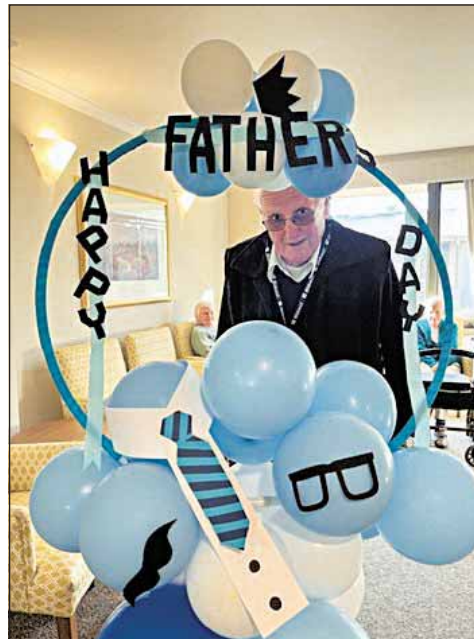
Sally from the Care Team with John Rogers. -S



Lois and Laurie Franklin. -S



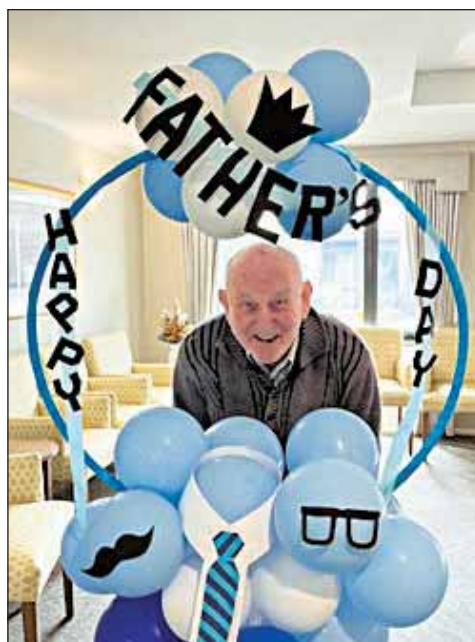
Herb Cooper. -S



Les Pratt. -S



Ryan Goodman from administration with Director of Nursing Daniel Olivieri. -S



Len Meath. -S



Joel and Lachlan, both from catering. -S



Lifestyle coordinator Viv Gill with David and Margaret Mold. -S



Maintenance works






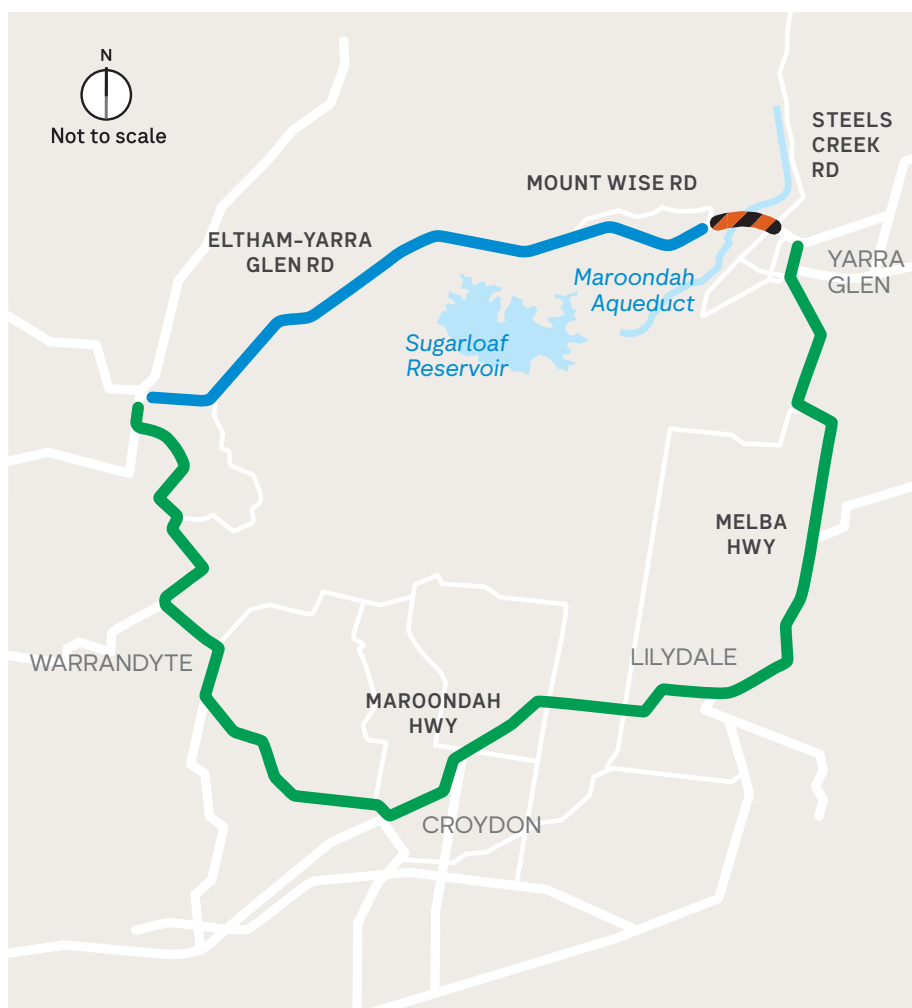
Maroondah Aqueduct Bridge closed

From 8pm Sunday 21 September to 10pm Sunday 5 October

Eltham-Yarra Glen Road will be closed between Steels Creek Road and Mount Wise Road in Yarra Glen.

Major detours in place. Plan ahead and allow extra time.

 Road closed  Road open
 Detour route



High Voltage concert shakes the Yea Shire Hall

THE Yea Shire Hall was packed to the brim last Sunday, when guitarists from across Murrindindi Shire took to the stage for the High Voltage concert.

The event kicked off at 4pm, with local young artist Tilly Rose backed by Julian Laucius performing some of her original songs. Yea High School band followed, running through several covers before the main event.

The guitarists for High Voltage, led by internationally acclaimed artist and musician, Joseph O'Farrell (JOF) and guitar

educator Chris Green, took to the stage amidst much excitement and performed a number of rock and roll classics.

Dindi Dance performed in front of the guitarists to send the atmosphere through the roof.

The High Voltage event was led by Yea Arts Inc, and proudly supported by Murrindindi Shire Council. A number of volunteers had a hand in bringing the concert to fruition, with over six months of work going into the project.

It was a successful night for the shire to remember.



There was hardly room to move in the Yea Shire Hall, but that didn't stop people from dancing and enjoying themselves. -BD



The guitarists played rock and Dindi Dance added to the atmosphere. -BD



The Yea Shire Hall was filled to the brim. -BD



The guitarists were arranged in rows down the front of the hall. -BD



The Yea High School band performed a number of songs. -BD



Internationally acclaimed musician Joseph O'Farrell (JOF) led the performance. -BD



The atmosphere for the concert was electric. -BD

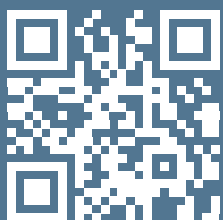


Julian Laucius playing the guitar for Tilly Rose on vocals. -BD

Machetes are now banned in Victoria

It is now illegal to own a machete in Victoria, unless you are covered by an exemption or approval. An amnesty is in effect until 30 November.

Safe disposal bins are available at select police stations across the state.



Scan to learn more or
find a secure bin location



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Trout season opens with Goulburn Fishing Festival

THE Goulburn Fishing Festival took place last Saturday on the banks of the Eildon Pondage, running from 9am to 3pm and offering a wide variety of activities for all ages.

Eildon Lions Club were cooking up a storm, there were samples of smoked trout, various stalls selling fishing gear, and a marquee with children’s activities in the main market area, plus live music.

On the opposite corner of the pondage, the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) and Fishcare Victoria were running workshops and demonstrations. They were restocking the pondage with rainbow trout and showing children how to fish.

People had fishing rods in the water all around the pondage, marking a great start to the trout season.



The Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) were restocking the pondage with rainbow trout. -BD



David Kramer, VFA Aquaculture Manager, was chatting with attendees and offering free smoked trout samples. -BD



Live music on the banks of the pondage. -BD



The VFA had a truck with tanks on the back full of trout to be released. -BD



Attendees had a variety of market stalls to peruse. -BD



The banks of the pondage were crowded with children being taught how to fish. -BD



Nigel, Dick, Kevin, Keith and Michael from the Eildon Lions Club on the barbecue. -BD



Eildon Lions Club were cooking and the VFA were talking with people about illegal fishing. -BD



The market part of the festival had a vibrant atmosphere. -BD



The rainbow trout that were being released. -BD

Murrindindi Shire Council News September



R U OK? DAY FILM SCREENINGS

Council is inviting you to join us in Alexandra, Kinglake and Yea for films, food and conversations to celebrate R U OK? Day.

Come along to one of the following screenings:

- Thursday 11 September from 5.00 pm at Yea Shire Hall for a BBQ followed by the film *Runt*
- Friday 12 September from 2.00 pm at the Alexandra Shire Hall for the film *Runt*
- Friday 12 September from 5.00 pm at the Alexandra Shire Hall for a BBQ followed by the film *Runt*
- Thursday 18 September from 5.30 pm at Ellimatta Centre at Kinglake Trust Reserve for a BBQ followed by the film *Just a Farmer*

For more information and to RSVP, call Council on 5772 0333, visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/ruokdayfilms2025 or visit one of our Library and Customer Service Centres.

DRAFT HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN

Council is developing a Health and Wellbeing Plan, shaped by community input from the Council Plan consultation, data, and local health providers. It focuses on mental, physical and social wellbeing, and priority groups such as children, young people and older adults. Once adopted, it will guide Council's health and wellbeing initiatives into the future.

Read the Plan and share your feedback at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/drafthealthandwellbeing or call Council on 5772 0333.

COUNCIL PLAN AND COMMUNITY VISION

The Council Plan sets our direction for the next four years and reflects the priorities, aspirations and ideas shared by the community.

The refreshed Community Vision outlines what the people of Murrindindi Shire hope our community will look like in ten years' time.

For more information and to read the Plan, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/councilplans

PUBLIC HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

Council's Library and Customer Service Centres in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake, and our Mobile Service, will be closed on Friday 26 September for the Grand Final Eve public holiday. Usual hours will resume on Monday 29 September.

For urgent matters such as stock on roads, dog attacks or unsafe road conditions, including fallen trees, please call 5772 0333 at any time.

For non-urgent requests, you can also lodge a customer request on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request

NEW ENERGY SAVING PRODUCTS FOR GMSS

Council can assist residents and businesses to access reliable and money saving solar systems, batteries and other energy saving products. Council is a partner in the Goulburn Murray Solar Savers (GMSS) program which has vetted products to allow people to access a range of quotes from trusted companies.

Available products now include PV solar systems, battery storage systems, hot water heat pumps, efficient heating and cooling systems, EV chargers, induction cooktops, insulation and more.

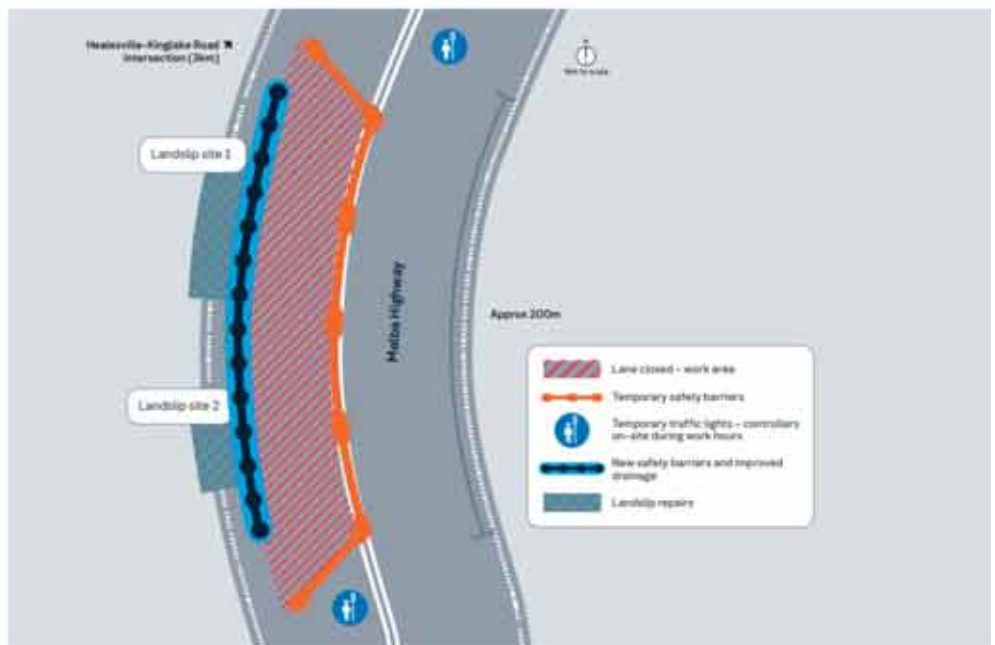
Learn more at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/gmss



ELF READING DAY IS BACK IN ALEXANDRA

ELF Reading Day is a community initiative that promotes language and literacy skills in children through reading, singing, talking and playing.

Come down to Grant Street in Alexandra on Friday 19 September from 10.00 - 11.00 am and dress up as your favourite book character, or just enjoy the storytelling at a reading station.



Map showing the lane closure on the Melba Highway with temporary traffic lights, while crews repair the two landslips.

MELBA HIGHWAY WORKS

Transport Victoria are completing works to ensure roads in the Yarra Valley remain reliable, supporting local communities, business operations and tourism.

Upcoming works to repair two landslips on the Melba Highway in Dixons Creek, just south of the Healesville-Kinglake Road intersection will commence mid-October and are expected to be complete by early 2026.

For more information on these works visit transport.vic.gov.au

FREE PADS AND TAMPONS NOW AVAILABLE

Free pads and tampons are now available from vending machines at the Kinglake and Yea Library and Customer Service Centres.

This is part of Victoria's nation-leading \$23 million commitment to provide free pads and tampons in public places, now rolling out statewide. The program aims to make period products more accessible when and where they're needed.

Following a successful first phase across metropolitan Melbourne, vending machines are now being installed in libraries, customer service centres, and major sports facilities across the state.

For more information, visit the Better Health website at betterhealth.vic.gov.au/free-pads-and-tampons

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date, subscribe to the Murrindindi Matters e-newsletter, follow us on Facebook or visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news

GET IN TOUCH

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



PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 18

KID'S PUZZLES

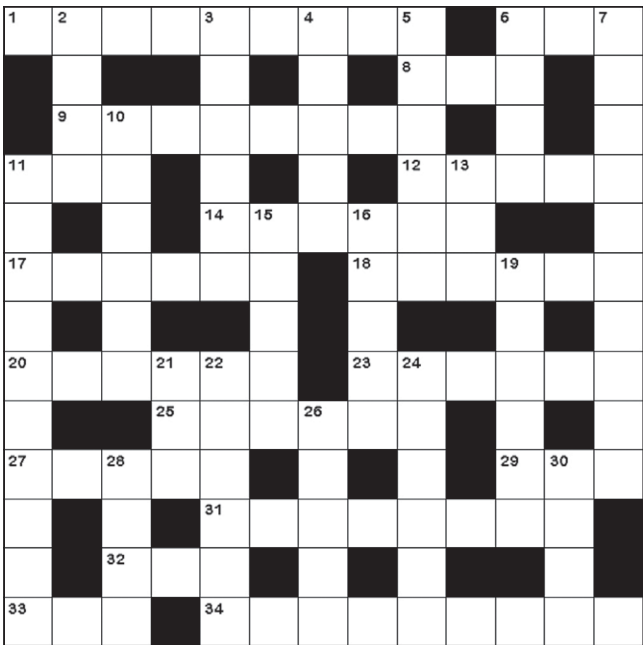
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Of surpassing excellence.
- 6. A stretch of turbulent water in the sea.
- 8. A shade of a colour.
- 9. Much more firmly fixed in place.
- 11. A common green vegetable.
- 12. The planet on which we live.
- 14. At the most prominent position.
- 17. The head male servant of a household.
- 18. A sweet innocent baby.
- 20. Brown skin from exposure to the sun.
- 23. Enrol in the armed services.
- 25. All of a person's assets and liabilities.
- 27. The overhang at the lower edge of a roof.
- 29. The point where something finishes.
- 31. Approval from an audience by clapping.
- 32. An object for children to play with.
- 33. The day before a special event.
- 34. Person employed to load and unload ships.

DOWN

- 2. A clever trick to avoid being caught.
- 3. An association of sports teams.



- 4. A generally accepted principle.
- 5. Beat the seeds out of a grain.
- 6. Bring up and educate children.
- 7. Forbidden by authority.
- 10. Woollen cloth woven in a crisscross design.
- 11. The time when puberty begins.
- 13. Took food into the mouth and swallowed.
- 15. Write in basic block letters.
- 16. Eight singers who perform together.
- 19. Increases the size of a bet.
- 21. A small peg used to support a golf ball.
- 22. Checks and evaluates the situations.
- 24. Make ineffective or invalid.
- 26. More than what is needed.
- 28. Express your choice in a ballot.
- 30. Not very far away.

Word Search

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

Holiday destinations

- BALI
- FIJI
- HAWAII
- IBIZA
- MALDIVES
- NEWZEALAND
- PARIS
- QUEENSLAND
- ROME
- TASMANIA
- THAILAND
- VANUATU

Math Square

	x		+	2	5
x		+		x	
5	-		-		-11
-		+		-	
	+		+		18
-1	14	10			

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Cryptogram

Holiday destinations

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
				19				

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
		24						

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

$\frac{L}{10} \frac{L}{24} \frac{L}{11} \frac{L}{15}$, $\frac{L}{10} \frac{L}{24} \frac{L}{22} \frac{L}{15}$

$\frac{L}{10} \frac{L}{24} \frac{L}{12} \frac{L}{15}$, $\frac{E}{10} \frac{E}{19} \frac{E}{19} \frac{E}{26}$

$\frac{L}{12} \frac{L}{16} \frac{L}{13}$, $\frac{L}{10} \frac{L}{24} \frac{L}{11} \frac{L}{13} \frac{E}{19}$

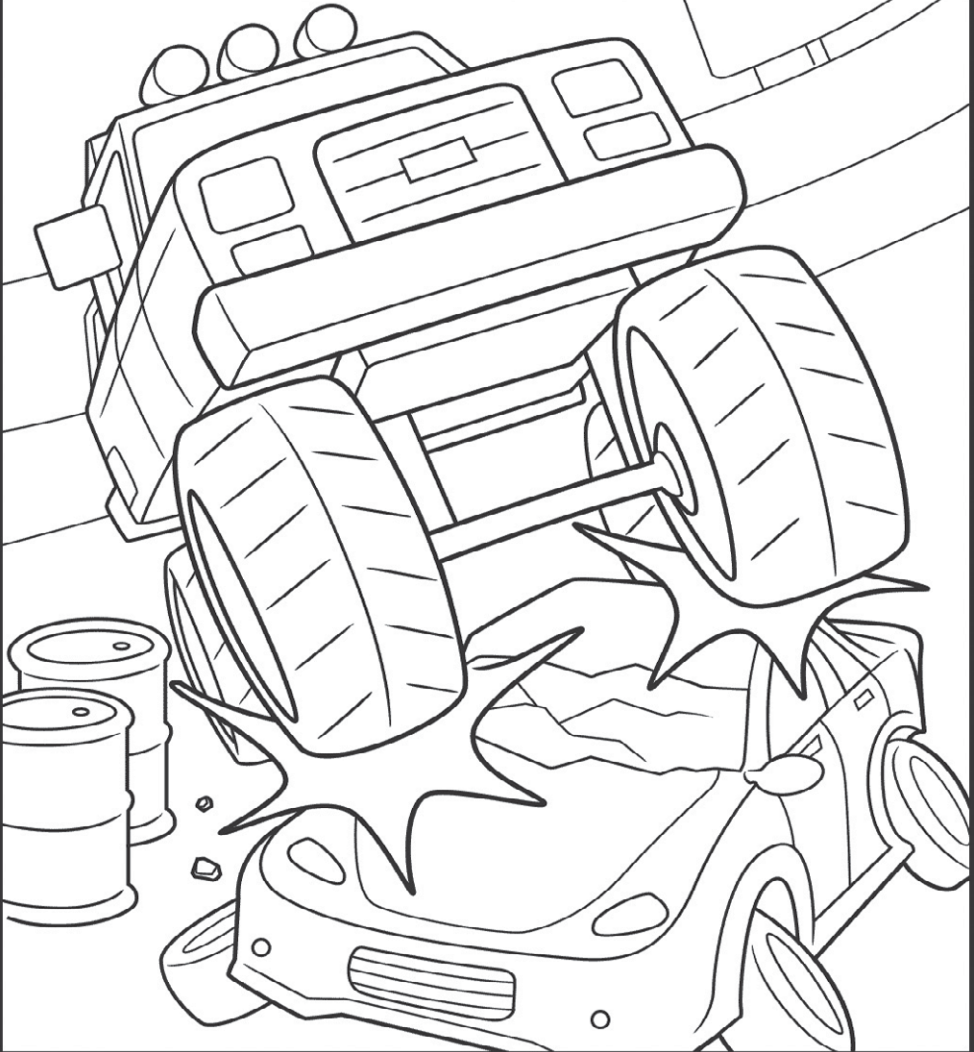
Sudoku

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

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.

Colouring Page



Word Search

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

Words starting with "U"

- UMBRELLA
- UMPIRE
- UNCLE
- UNDER
- UNDERSTAND
- UNFORTUNATE
- UNIFORM
- UNIQUE
- UNITED
- UNIVERSE
- UNUSUAL
- UPSTAIRS
- URGENT
- URSULA

Math Square

	+		+		14
-		+		-	
	-		-	9	-4
-		+		+	
8	+		+		13
-9	11	-5			

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Jokes

Q: What time do ducks wake up?
A: At the quack of dawn.

Q: Why can't a leopard hide?
A: Because he is always spotted.

THRIVE

- Lifestyle
- Wellbeing
- Health



A day to remember the people lost to suicide

THE Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness walk is set to be held for the fifth time on Sunday, September 14 starting at 8.30am.

Organiser Jacky Gilbee said that it's going to be a big year for the event "because we're finally getting the speakers really up and roaring. This year we've got guest speakers including The Unbreakable Farmer Warren Davies. Everyone knows about him. It's been so hard on farmers this year... including the cost of living and the cost of hay has just skyrocketed, so we think he's very appropriate. We've also got we always have a local person, Ron Hockley. He's a local hay man and he's been around Yea and Seymour and all those areas for a long time, and he has a really good story as well. We're also going to have David from the band *Stoked*, who does acoustic music. We're featuring this year local identity, Tayla Arnett. We're also going to have the mayor, Damien Gallagher, to read out our honour list.

"We ramped it up a little bit. A lot of people will be wondering who painted that gigantic blue tree on the Melbourne Highway. I would have to say we had a lot to do with it. We always walk probably about 100 metres from it normally, so we're going to you give you the choice of walking to the two bridges closest to the Melbourne Highway, or you can actually go and touch the blue tree. You have a choice this year, or you can do both. We also will have Cruisin' Coffee as our coffee cart this year. We have a smoking ceremony performed by Aunty Angela of the Taungurung people, and we always have a free sausage sizzle by the Yea Rotary Club."


Jacky noted that all are welcome, including pets. "We're getting more dogs than we're getting people now, which is great. We welcome two legged and four legged animals, and we have lots of great merchandise, including dog bandanas. We're going all out this year," she said.

The event is just held in the morning, leaving people free to do whatever they want in the afternoon.

She said, "You have now a day to think about your loved ones and talk to people and not worry about the stigma of suicide."



The blue tree. -S



Always held on a 2nd Sunday in September

GOULBURN VALLEY SUICIDE AWARENESS WALK

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Registration: 8.30 am | Event start: 9 am

Rail Trail loop: Yea Train Station to Two Bridges



Join us for a walk dedicated to honouring the memory of those we have lost, raising awareness, reducing stigma, and supporting families and friends affected by suicide. Whether you have been personally impacted or wish to help increase awareness about suicide, we invite you to join us in this meaningful event.

GVSAG Walk 2025 Schedule

Guest Speakers this Year
Warren Davies, "Unbreakable Farmer" and Local identity, **Ron our Hay Man**.


Come and listen to their inspiring stories before your walk this year, featuring the **Yea Blue Tree**.






Mayor Damien Gallagher will read our Honour List.

Listen to acoustic music performed by the band "**Stoked**" featuring up-and-coming **local artist Tayla Arnett** whilst enjoying your coffee from **Cruisin' Coffee Co**.


Once back from your picturesque Rail Trail walk from Yea Railway Station to the Blue Tree and back, enjoy your free sausage sizzle from **Yea Rotary Club**.

To register, volunteer, and more info, visit gvsag.org.au

 facebook.com/gvsaginc



Proudly printed by Cindy McLeish MP





Expressions of Interest – Independent Committee Members

Closing date: September 26, 2025

Yea & District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) is seeking Expressions of Interest for Independent Members to join the following voluntary Board subcommittees:

- Finance, Audit & Risk Committee
- Clinical Governance Committee

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meets monthly to provide oversight of financial reporting, compliance, risk management, and internal / external audit functions.

Required qualifications and experience:

Applicants should hold professional qualifications and/or substantial experience in accounting, auditing, or strategic risk management, with demonstrated expertise in governance. A sound understanding of public sector management frameworks and an appreciation of the unique role and operational context of a small rural health service is highly desirable.

As an Independent Member, you will:

- Bring independent judgement and expertise to support sound financial stewardship and effective risk management.
- Contribute to reviewing financial statements, budgets, and audit findings.
- Assist in monitoring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.
- Provide constructive challenge and ensure robust discussion of financial and risk issues.
- Help strengthen assurance processes that safeguard the hospital's sustainability and integrity.

Clinical Governance Committee

The Clinical Governance Committee provides oversight and assurance to the Board in relation to clinical quality and safety, ensuring that the care delivered is of the highest standard.

Required Qualifications & Experience:

Applicants should have experience in governance, board, or committee roles, together with:

- Experience engaging with consumers, carers, or community representatives.
- Strong analytical and communication skills, with the ability to constructively challenge and provide independent advice.
- A commitment to delivery of safe high-quality care whilst upholding of the highest standards of integrity and confidentiality.

Familiarity with the Victorian healthcare system or with regional/rural health services will be highly regarded.

As an Independent Member, you will:

- Provide an impartial perspective, independent of hospital management and operations.
- Contribute to monitoring clinical performance and patient safety outcomes.
- Support robust discussion on risks, compliance, quality improvement, and innovation.
- Uphold the principles of accountability, transparency, and consumer focus in clinical governance.

Please use this link to submit your application: <https://www.livehire.com/job/yeahospital/4PPKT>

If you have any issues, please contact our Executive Assistant, Chloe Harward on 5736 0490.

Yea & District Memorial Hospital is an equal opportunity employer who respects and is inclusive of our community's diversity including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, Lesbian, Gay, Transsexual, Bisexual and Intersex, varying age groups, cultural backgrounds and abilities



Upcoming Paringa sale and genetics information day

PARINGA is an established, local, family owned and operated seedstock business, centred around a passion for cattle breeding and sustainable beef production. Cattle are managed using holistic management principles to ensure soil and livestock health to produce fertile, easy care and adaptable animals that Paringa is renowned for.

Paringa focusses on producing the best Angus, Red Angus and Stabilizer genetics to elevate beef producers and give them the competitive edge to be profitable in all markets and environments. Their focus is on breeding balanced, adaptable genetics that lift productivity and feed efficiency, but not at the expense of intake and stay-ability.

The current 2025 spring sale group represents the most balanced line up of Paringa black Angus and composite Stabilizer yearlings to date. With unique genetic combinations that have resulted in a group of bulls that excel for calving ease and carcass, with high performance, and excellent temperament, in a year that had them experiencing challenging conditions.

The way Paringa manages its cow herd results in tough, predictable, adaptable and profitable genetics. Cows are run using rotational grazing with zero supplements,

and a “one strike and you’re out” policy. With particular emphasis on breeding cows that maintain body condition and rebreed in six weeks while lactating. Bull buyers can have confidence that the dams of these bulls are not only fertile and tough, but feminine, with top udder quality, feet and leg structure.

Paringa’s management system naturally eliminates cows that are too big or too small, using the disciplined culling criteria, but cows must also have the ability to raise a yearling bull to reach 450kgs at 12 months.

An added benefit of Paringa genetics is producing beautiful replacement females, needing less assistance, less inputs, easy care while producing an ideal carcass for feedlots, processors and high end MSA grass finished programs. Carcass feedback from Paringa clients as well as various carcass competition results have proven this. Overall Paringa genetics offer additional benefits; in terms of profitability, ease of management and are backed by Paringa’s Bull Guarantee.

Paringa will be holding their Spring Yearling Bull Sale on Thursday, September 18, at 1pm on their property in Murrindindi. They are holding a Genetics Information Day and Bull Walk in Yea, on September 10.



\$95 billion spring in the step for agriculture

AUSTRALIAN agriculture is marching closer to its \$100 billion goal with the sector forecast to reach \$94.7 billion in 2025-26, according to the latest forecast from Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).

NFF President David Jochinke said despite the sector taking a hit from droughts, floods and uncertainty from global trade disruptions, farmers had held a steady hand.

“The lift is largely underpinned by strong livestock prices, but credit must be given to calm approach by the government and industry on the tariff turbulence.

“Most of all, the result is also a reflection of blood, sweat and smart investment from farmers.”

Mr Jochinke said with the 2030 Roadmap goal within reach, now was the time for smart policy to get the sector over the line.

“We need to seize opportunities in front of us, like the EU FTA, ensuring they deliver meaningful market access for Australian agriculture. This will be a smart move toward value-adding and market diversification.

“Proposed federal tax and environmental reforms must build on this momentum. Sensible reform that cut red and green tape, promotes competitiveness and encourages investment into innovation will pull us closer to \$100 billion.

“Policies proposals that do not adhere to best practice principles, such as taxing unrealised gains, risks sending this trajectory backwards.

“If government can back agriculture with the right policy settings, farmers will do the rest.”

The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



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Number of head	1,869			
Average \$ per head	\$1,278			
Average weight per head	261kg			
Top price per head		\$2,810	\$2,370	\$2,900
Top weight		555kg	475kg	
Turnover	\$2.4 million			

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C		T	O	Y		L		T		A			
E	V	E			S	T	E	V	E	D	O	R	E

MATH SQUARES

1	x	3	+	2	5
x		+		x	
5	-	7	-	9	-11
-		+		-	
6	+	4	+	8	18
-1		14		10	

SUDOKU

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

CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
12	17	2	13	19	23	18	1	11	9	26	24	4
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
16	22	15	5	6	10	21	3	25	7	20	14	8

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6	+	5	+	3	14
-		+		-	
7	-	2	-	9	-4
-		+		+	
8	+	4	+	1	13
-9		11		-5	

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FUNERAL NOTICE

REDDROP, Jack Norman

A Celebration of the Life of Jack Norman Reddrop will be held in the MCC Members' Dining Room MCG (Enter Gate 2) on Monday, September 15, 2025 at 2pm followed by refreshments in the Long Room.

The family kindly ask those attending if they can RSVP via the following link: www.rememberingjackreddrop.com

In lieu of flowers, donations in memories of Jack may be made to the Skyline Foundation at www.skylinefoundation.org.au

The Celebration will be recorded and available for viewing at www.vividstream.com.au/live/jack-norman-reddrop on a later date.

Parking is available at Melbourne and Olympic Park.

FUNERAL NOTICES

SAVAGE, Lynne.

A service celebrating the life of Lynne will be held on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at the Alexandra Shire Hall commencing at 11am.

Private cremation to follow.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Peace of mind Foundation. celebration.peaceofmindfoundation.org.au/page/Celebrating-LynneSavage



DEATH NOTICES

SAVAGE, Lynne Mavis.

In loving memory of my soul mate of 47 years.

Lynne, I have a big hole in my life now, you were always there for me.

I know you fought as hard and as long as you could.

Rest in Peace now. Love you always, Deano.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Yea Cemetery Trust is asking for tenders to provide grounds maintenance services at both Yea Lawn Cemetery (Meadow Road, Yea) and Yea Old Cemetery (Moyle Street, Yea).

Tasks required, but not limited to:

- Mowing and lawn maintenance
- Edge trimming – wiper snipping
- Weed control
- Watering
- Grave site maintenance
- Installation of plaques
- Placement of ashes
- Removal of trees fallen/trimmed
- Garden maintenance around Shelter (Lawn Cemetery)

Interested parties are asked to contact the Yea Cemetery Trust, Lee Blake on 5772 0333 to obtain the RFQ document.

Tenders close on Wednesday, October 1. No late submissions will be accepted.

BARGAINS UNDER \$100

13 gate valves, \$50.
Phone 0412 212 764.

FOR HIRE

FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Rental and Sales
Alexandra
Treadmills, X- trainers, exercise bikes, rowers and more.
PH:0407 231 377

FOR SALE

ALEXANDRA, mowing round for sale. Over 30 years of servicing our local area. Enjoy the benefits of being your own boss. Trailer and equipment included to get you started. Training available. Call Luke, 0418 522 842.

PETS & LIVESTOCK

ISA BROWN LAYERS
- POL, \$35 each. Phone 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

SITUATION VACANT



Finance Manager
Part time 8 hours per week, Alexandra

- Tertiary qualification in Finance or Accounting required
- 5+ years' experience in a financial leadership position
- Proven strategic planning experience at an executive level
- Proficient in MYOB, Excel and Powerpoint
- NDIS and Aged Care financial management experience
- Not for Profit financial reporting and legislative requirements
- Must obtain and maintain an NDIS Worker Screening Check

Applications including resume and cover letter, or to obtain the position description, **contact by email at** operationsmanager@menziessupport.org.au or phone 5772 1888

SITUATION VACANT



Administration Officer 15 hours per week

Do you have excellent administration skills?

Join our team, we are seeking an efficient and enthusiastic person to support our services and programs. If you have strong interpersonal skills and enjoy serving local community members and colleagues, and working with a broad range of people, visit our website for further information.

alexhub.com.au



Suspended postal services to the United States

ON August 26, due to recently announced changes to import tariffs for postal items sent to the United States and Puerto Rico, Australia Post temporarily suspended some postal services to these destinations, until further notice.

Letters and documents with no commercial value, and gifts valued under US\$100, are not affected by the new tariff rules or the temporary suspension.

This response is in line with actions taken by numerous international postal operators. Items sent to and from the US may experience delays due to flight capacity issues, which has impacted postal operations and delivery services.

Dr Nicola Charwat, Senior Lecturer, Business Law and Taxation, Monash Business School said, "Australia has joined a growing number of countries suspending small parcel shipments to the US following the removal of a de minimis 'loophole' that has allowed parcels valued under \$US800 dollars to bypass tariffs.

"The impact in Australia will primarily be felt by small businesses that sell directly to American consumers. This includes businesses specialising in sustainable clothing and gifts, as well as distinctly Australian goods such as cosmetics, food and wine. These parcels will now be subject to a 10 per cent baseline tariff.

"The real target appears to be major overseas retailers like Shein and Temu that also export directly to consumers and avoid much higher baseline tariffs of 25 per cent or more that apply to Chinese imports.

"American consumers are the real losers, facing either restricted access to overseas goods from online businesses or substantially higher prices to cover the tariffs. This is unlikely to play well to American voters who may also find that parcels from friends and family overseas will be impacted."

Be prepared for hay fever season

AS we enter the spring months, GPs are calling for patients to be prepared in managing hay fever, allergies, and asthma.

It comes following emerging evidence that climate change is creating longer pollen seasons in some of our largest cities, only heightening the importance of taking asthma and allergic rhinitis seriously. New data also reveals that Melbourne's pollen season is starting earlier and lasting longer.

President of the Royal Australian College of GPs, Dr Michael Wright, said that your regular GP is ready to help. "Hay fever is very common, and it's vital patients who experience allergic rhinitis and asthma manage their conditions very carefully," he said.

"This includes consulting with your regular GP to ensure you have an asthma plan in place. Rather than waiting for asthma flare ups to occur as the seasons change and pollen counts grow in coming weeks and months, it's important to have a plan ready, including preventive medications.

"Melbourne is notoriously the allergy capital of the world, with almost a third of people experiencing allergic rhinitis, often due to inhaling pollens. However, this isn't a problem isolated to Melbourne, people in communities nationwide should be ready.

"Thunderstorm asthma typically strikes in our south-eastern states from October to December, so now is the time to be prepared. People with allergy issues are at increased risk, so again these patients should talk to their GP about starting hay fever treatment and potentially asthma prevention ahead of time. It's best to be prepared, and your GP is there ready to help."

An ad to look out for

AN advertisement for Toyota was recently filmed in Murrindindi Shire. The crew were spotted outside the Grand Central Hotel in Yea on Thursday, September 4.

On Friday, September 5, they were filming on the Black Spur, Maroondah Highway. It's understood that traffic was slowed in a section for two hours while filming took place, but there were minimal delays. All of the appropriate permits were in place, along with traffic management and Victoria Police.



The team at Valley Seeds talked attendees through processes. -BD



Farmers and retailers gathered at the field day from all around Victoria. -BD



People were given a chance to inspect the pasture on Valley Seed's research site. -BD

Valley Seeds show off their pastures in 2025 field day

LAST Wednesday, September 3, the Valley Seeds Field Day 2025 took place in Yarck. Led by the team at Valley Seeds, there were workshops and guided tours of the company's research site, giving farmers and retailers an opportunity to inspect new and established pasture options.



The team at Valley Seeds were happy to answer questions fielded to them by attendees. -BD



Attendees listened intently to the presentations on the various pasture types. -BD



The benefits and virtues of different pasture types were clearly laid out. -BD

Always fence your pool and spa

SAFETY always comes first if you're a pool or spa owner. Even though summer is now over, your pool needs to follow barrier requirements to prevent any accidents from occurring with you or your loved ones throughout the year.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) states all swimming pools and spas capable of containing water to a depth greater than 30 centimetres must have a compliant safety barrier to restrict access by young children under the age of five. These rules apply regardless of whether young children live at the property or visit the property.

Barriers are used for in ground pools and spas, above ground pools and spas, these even include any pools that require assembly and inflatable pools that can hold over 30 centimetres of water.

Even indoor pools and spas need a barrier and any bathing or wading pools that can hold more than 30 centimetres of water.

Different standards apply for your pool or spa depending on how old they are. You can see the checklist requirements for these on the VBA website.

If you have a pool or spa they must be registered with the local council. This came into effect in Victoria in 2019 when new laws to improve pool and spa safety were introduced. This includes new registration, inspections and certification requirements for property owners.

You can register your pool or spa on Murrindindi Shire's websites' new online building portal. Visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Victorians buckle up and ditch devices behind the wheel

MORE Victorians are keeping their eyes on the road, with a drop in the number of people caught by distracted driver and seatbelt cameras rolled out by the Victorian Government.

The latest road safety camera statistics show that more Victorians are getting the message to stay focused on driving, with a 36 per cent decrease in the number of infringements issued by the cameras from January to March this year compared to the same period last year.

In quarter three 2024-25 there were 19,063 infringements issued for not wearing a seatbelt properly or for using a device while driving, while during the same time last year there were 29,832 infringements issued.

This reduction is even more impressive given that in this period, distracted driver and seatbelt cameras were deployed for more hours and assessed more cars than ever before.

Distracted driver and seatbelt cameras are deployed across the state to catch those posing a risk to themselves and others by engaging in dangerous driving habits, such as using a mobile phone while driving, or when the driver or front seat passenger of a car is not wearing a seatbelt.

The penalty for using a mobile phone while driving is \$611 and four demerit points and the penalty for driving without a seatbelt is \$407 and three demerit points.

There are currently nine distracted driver and seatbelt camera trailers operating in Victoria that can be deployed anywhere at any time, including in regional areas.

Every dollar received from road safety cameras goes to the Better Roads Victoria Trust where it is spent on road projects such as roads restoration, road surface replacement, bridge strengthening and other road safety improvements.

Minster for Police Anthony Carbines warned people that the cameras are watching.

"I'm glad more Victorians are getting the message on road safety and doing the right thing, keeping themselves and others safer on the road," Mr Carbines said.

"We can't count this as job done, however. To those who are doing the wrong thing, these cameras are still watching and will catch you."

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne said, "We all have a role to play to make sure everyone gets home safely, so plan ahead, drive to the conditions, take regular breaks and follow the road rules so that everyone gets home safely to their loved ones."

The latest Road Safety Camera Statistics are available at vic.gov.au/cameras-save-lives

Diamond in a crown of victory: Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition Australorps versus Leghorns

JORDAN versus Eric: Eric taking the last game was a surprising turn of events. Three games of domination saw Jordan rise to triumph. 83 to 56.

Randy (fill in) versus Sally: Lots of good rallies. Sally's control of the 'T' and her drop

shots made the difference and saw her through to a comfortable win. 72 to 57.

Travis (fill in) versus Ben: Both players took home two games each with plenty of brilliant rallies throughout. Ben served well to take control until his impending win. 66 to 55.

John versus Derrick: There were two obvious halves in this match. The first half saw John leading the match with finesse. Going into the second half Derrick took

control of the match with great gumption to overtake John for victory. 62 to 50.

Isa Browns versus Silkies

Tyler versus Lochlan: Both players showing improvement, especially with their shot placement. Tyler was too strong for Lochlan. 64 to 46.

Ethan versus Liane: Serving with style, Liane's lob serves were beautifully executed.

She was on fire, leaving her opponent in the ashes. 74 to 36.

Jared versus Justin: Jared started and finished strong, but Justin picked up his game in the middle of the match. The lead Justin gained was held until the end of the match. 69 to 56.

Andrew versus Michael H: Andrew had the winning edge on all the games. Michael played his best in the last game, only to be pipped for the game on the very last rally. Andrew claimed the match. 68 to 57.

Thursday competition Golden Retrievers versus Whippets

Tyler (fill in) versus Ben: Very evenly matched players. Tyler came from behind with a killer final game to clinch the match. 62 to 58.

Kristelle versus Beth: After a tight start Kristelle started pinpointing her serves, demoralising her opponent and running away with the match. Kristelle with a commanding win. 86 to 45.

Mick versus Travis: Leaping from the gates, Travis started strong and full of life. Mick slowly wore him down and as Travis waned Mick kept piling on the pressure to make himself a diamond to adorn his crown of triumph. 61 to 57.

Daniel K versus Phil: Phil played with a never-say-die attitude, but like a one-sided trivial pursuit card, he had no answers. Daniel's top-level efficiency had Phil scurrying to all corners of the court like a turbo charged rabbit. Daniel was victorious. 81 to 33.

Dachshunds versus Labradors

Randy versus Eric F: The games went up and down like a roller coaster, quick and exciting. It was anyone's match but a bout of point gathering in game two saw Randy pull ahead and stay there. 69 to 55.

Blake versus James (fill in): It was shaping up to be a good match, but unfortunately Blake had to pull the pin with an injury. 38 to 20.

Lucas versus Sam: Lucas had some good shots, and Sam was thoughtful enough to help his victory by hitting it back to him and continuing to try for half court boasts that weren't getting deep enough. A good win for Lucas. 60 to 54.

Danie W versus Michael M: Lots of dives and great technique to dig shots out from deep in the corners. It was close, but Daniel held out for the victory. 59 to 45.



Daniel W watches as Michael M full commits to throwing himself at the ball. -S

Final round farewell as finalists tussle in epic contests

by Judy Sands and Rhonda Carpenter

AFTER a grey sky start glorious sunshine burst through for the final round of the winter competition with two matches in Mansfield and two in Euroa.

Euroa versus Seven Creeks

Top side Euroa faced Seven Creeks who had come to play. Rowena Ellis, Nicola Enright, Carmel Linehan and Mary Kelly managed to win one set eight to five, and narrowly lost one six to eight and yet another in a tiebreak, in their last match.

Euroa's Lyndall Bigland, Faye Mollison, Mary Dewis and Lyn Pierce were given a good workout in the lengthy contest. Euroa won 5/45 to 1/28.

Delatite versus Mansfield

Delatite met Mansfield in another local derby with Karyn Fraser, Carolyn Murray, Kass Thomas and Deb Mims battling hard all day. Mansfield's Michelle Pigdon, Keira

McDonagh, Sophie Yencken and Clare Beecham found their rhythm but were challenged by Carolyn and Kass in their final set taking it to a tiebreak. Keira and Sophie snatched the breaker, so Mansfield won every set 6/48 to 0/26 in an almighty tussle.

Wappan versus Benalla

Wappan welcomed Benalla onto their superbly groomed courts aspiring for the major points to push them up from fourth spot.

Benalla's Claire Sharp, Maureen Jewell, and Deb Siggers felt grateful Di Bergelin would join them against her own team. Di and Deb made a fast start going up two to zero against Rhonda Carpenter and Carol Watts in an arm wrestle reaching three games all with multiple deuce games and lengthy rallies. The rattled Wappan pair steadied and took the set eight to three.

Anna Speirs and Jenny Bell made short work of their opening set eight to two. Wappan stamped their authority on the

contest in the next pairs taking both eight to zero. There was mention of 'moonies' and meetings at Millers corner in Benalla in the enjoyable contest.

Anna and Carol needed to lift in their final set with Claire and Deb taking it up to them six to eight. Wappan won 6/48 to 0/13 earning the coveted 10 points to put them into third spot.

Moglonemby versus Terip

The match of the day was an epic contest between the second and third placed teams. Moglonemby's Judy Sands, Marlene Hanrahan, Danielle Scottis and Lisa Krepp hosted Terip's Cindy Hayes, Phoebe Macdermid, Meg Ford and Jenny Martin in a game that would shape the final four.

Both teams gave their all with the first set between Judy and Marlene and Cindy and Phoebe lasting an hour and 23 minutes with Cindy and Phoebe winning the marathon set eight to seven. On the other court a much quicker set with Meg and Jenny winning

eight to two and then Terip claimed the next two sets.

With both teams hoping the final two sets would be quick the rallies got longer as every player lifted their game to the next level, with Moglonemby winning both sets in tie breaks. Judy and Lisa mounted an almighty comeback at two to six down in their breaker to win it.

The final score saw Terip win 4-46 to 2-35. Moglonemby may have lost but they had so much fun and with Terip giving them so much encouragement they felt like winners.

Next week the semifinals will be held in Mansfield commencing at 10.30am. Spectators most welcome.

Euroa versus Moglonemby; Terip versus Wappan; winners to progress to Grand Final.

Final ladder: Euroa 115.5. Terip 102, Wappan 98, Moglonemby 96.5, Mansfield 82, Benalla 63.5, Creighton's Creek 52.5, Seven Creeks 36, Delatite 29.

SPORT

Golf comes back to Alexandra

by Dave Silverman

FINALLY, there was golf played at Alexandra Golf Club last week. The weather gods were kind, and the course is coming back to life.

Last Tuesday's stableford competition attracted a field of 10, including a few who have returned from their travels around the country. The winner was Bill Wind, who had 34 points. Russell Purcell was second on 32, and Dave Silverman came in third with 31.

Dave also picked up a voucher for nearest the pin on seven, with the only other nearest the pin to be claimed was Steve Darmody on 18. Rundown vouchers went to Steve and Greato.

The nine ladies who turned out to compete for the September Monthly Medal last Wednesday had to contend with a gusty wind, just one other thing to think about on an otherwise fine day.

The player who best dealt with the conditions was Deb Richardson, who carded an 89 net 76 to claim the medal. Second place went to Judy Pearson with a 102 net 78, and Barb Doyle was third with 96 net 79.

Deb also took the nearest the pin on two, with Barb snaring seven and 18.

The nine-hole winner was Ruth Worland, and Judy's 28 putts were the best of all for the round.

It was back to stroke for the month's medal round last Saturday. The event, sponsored by HBI Constructions, attracted a field of 17, and was played in idyllic conditions.

Luke Heard had the best score, by a margin, his two under par 68 net 67 putting him five strokes clear of second place. Jarrod Williamson took second, his chip-in birdie on nine helping him on his way to an 86 net 72. Third went to Corey Jack, also with a net 72, Jared Sloane was fourth with 73 and fifth went to John Norfolk on 74.

Corey and John also featured in the list of nearest the pin winners, with Corey taking seven and John claiming five. Two went to Michael Bossonnet, 12 to Simon Rouget and 18 went to Lennie Jenkins.

On his way to taking the September Monthly Medal, Luke needed only 23 putts.

The more eagle-eyed among you, dear readers, will have noticed that in the background of some of the photos for the week, is a nicely filled dam, a very pleasing sight for all golfers.



Michael Bossonnet on the eighth. -S



Barb Doyle on the 14th. -S



Deb Richardson sends it. -S



Shane McGorlick putting on 11. -S



Matt Richards tees off on six. -S

Stoic golfers at Marysville Golf Club

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Thursday a field of stoic, or maybe crazy golfers, played the nine-hole competition in terrible conditions at Marysville Golf Club. Among blustering winds, strong downpours and some sunshine they played stroke on the front nine holes.

Gail Leigh (5) won the competition with nett 36 on a countback from Glen Rattay. Gail had 13 putts and also played the nearest the pin on the fourth hole. Lloyd Flaherty won the nearest the pin on the ninth hole.

By contrast the conditions last Saturday were perfect for golf and golfers could be seen removing layers of clothing as the day warmed up. All players played stroke for the September monthly medal.

The ladies' winner was Jody Doran (12) with nett 75 followed by Heather Jenkins (19) with nett 79. Paul Martin (28) won the men's medal with nett 66 and Richy Clark (13) with nett 68 was the runner up.

The nearest the pins were won by Richy on the fourth, Alan Howard on the ninth, and Paul Martin on the 11th and Paul also won the Golden Shot. With 28 putts Mark Alexander won the putting competition on a countback from Glen Rattay.

At the presentation members welcomed Miles Coker to the competition and welcomed back Helen and Alan Howard from their long trip away in their caravan. Next Saturday the golfers will play a stableford round with

some juniors as part of the Junior Invitational Day.

The ladies' Dalhousie events have begun after the winter recess with Trentham holding their bowl last Thursday and Avenel will host their tournament on September 11. Marysville will be represented at Avenel.

Prior to play on Saturday the club AGM was held and many members were thanked for their outstanding contributions to the club. Those present thanked Amanda Rattay, Glen Rattay and Peter Doery for joining the committee and David Douthwaite for taking on the role of webmaster. Special thanks to Steve Coker President, and Travers Stow Treasurer, for all their hard work in guiding the club through yet another year.

Two-person ambrose at Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

LAST week Eildon Golf Club enjoyed near perfect weather and with the recent rain the course has greened up and is looking great.

There were 14 players that rolled up to compete in a two-person ambrose last week.

The week's winners were Sandi and Michael McLearn who recorded a score of net 64.75, hot on their heels Peter McNair and Colin Long with net 66.25. Ball run winners Kerry Power and Rod Taylor with net 66.25.

For nearest the pin winners last week, there were no

winners on the fifth or 11th holes, Kerry Power was the closest on the 12th and Marian Williamson hit a ripping shot on the 14th. Entry draw will be carried over until next week and John Beale had a win with the swindle.

The club says a huge thankyou to Peter McNair for putting the new barbecue to good use, and cooking up a storm for a fantastic afternoon tea.

Next Saturday's competition will be a four ball best ball stroke bring your own partner, these competitions are always a great day and Eildon Golf Club hope to see you there.

SPORT



Eildon Pondage parkrun celebrates 25 weeks

THE Eildon Pondage parkrun reached a milestone on Saturday, with the 25th weekly event held in frosty but brilliantly sunny conditions.

Twenty walkers, joggers and runners took part in the 5km course at the Lower Pondage, supported by eight volunteers. Since starting in March, more than 400 people have joined in, with many regular locals from Alexandra, Thornton and Eildon alongside visitors from Melbourne, regional

Victoria and even interstate. Over that time, 57 different volunteers have pitched in to keep the event running.

Event Director Anna Paix said the milestone was a proud moment for the community. "It was exciting to get the Eildon Pondage parkrun started in March, and now that we're through winter and the weather is warming up, it's the perfect time to come along and give parkrun a go."

Fellow Event Director Robyn Archer highlighted the role of volunteers. "parkrun relies on people stepping up each week. We're really thankful to each person who has helped out so far. The roles are easy and fun, and it's a great way to be part of your community."

parkrun starts at 8am every Saturday at the barbecue area on Ted Lech Drive. You can find Eildon Pondage parkrun on Facebook, or email eildonpondage@parkrun.com to find out more.



Grants to upgrade local sports facilities across Victoria

THE Victorian Government is backing better facilities for grassroots sport and local communities.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes encouraged applications for the 2025-26 Local Sports Infrastructure Fund (LSIF), which creates better places to play, train and compete across Victoria.

"Sport is the heart and soul of Northern Victoria, we are getting on with upgrading infrastructure so clubs can keep up with soaring demand, while also making them accessible and more inclusive," Ms Symes said.

"I urge eligible councils and sporting organisations to partner and apply for projects that will make a real difference to our community."

The fund was extended in the Victorian Budget 2025/26 and has three streams including community facilities, community sports lighting, and planning with councils being able to apply for between \$40,000 and \$500,000 for projects.

Potential projects include new or improved sports courts, lights, change rooms, playgrounds and skate parks, to benefit local clubs and communities.

All Victorian councils and Alpine Resorts Victoria are eligible to apply in partnership with their local sport and recreation clubs, sport associations and leagues with a focus on projects that will support local communities and groups to increase participation including among women and girls.

Previous projects in Northern Victoria to receive grants from the Local Sports Infrastructure Fund include funding towards Wahgunyah Pump Track, Seymour Tennis Complex Lighting Project and the Robinvale Splash Park.

This announcement comes off the back of more than \$24 million invested in regional sports facilities in July through round two of the Regional Community Sports Infrastructure Fund.

The Victorian Budget 2025/26 is also investing \$20 million to continue providing new and improved community sports infrastructure, including through the LSIF. It's part of more than \$2.4 billion invested in community sport and recreation infrastructure over the past decade.

For more information about the fund and to apply visit sport.vic.gov.au

Applications close on December 2.

More cost of living support for kids to play sport coming

THE Victorian Government is helping busy families with the cost of living and supporting sports clubs to sign up more kids to local sports with another round of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program opening next month.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence recently announced registrations are open for sporting clubs and organisations to become a Get Active Kids Activity Provider ahead of round nine of the Get Active Kids Voucher Program, opening in October.

"We're cutting the cost of living for Victorian families with cheaper access to kids sports and activities, helping more get

involved in community sport and live a healthy active life," Ms Spence said.

"We know the vouchers are making a difference, with almost 20 percent of recipients joining a sports club for the first time. That's thousands of young people getting involved in sport thanks to this program."

Clubs and sporting organisations can register as a provider, which allows families to sign up their kids by using the voucher up front and reducing out-of-pocket expenses.

Eligible families with health care or other concession cards will be able to apply for vouchers of up to \$200 per child. Families apply for the vouchers online before

redeeming them at an activity provider like a local sporting club.

To be eligible for registration as an activity provider, clubs and sporting organisations must be affiliated with a recognised State Sporting Association or State Sport and Active Recreation Body.

Since the program launched in 2020, almost 190,000 vouchers have been provided to families and 2100 activity providers have registered, opening up more opportunities across Victoria for kids to play sports.

It's not just the kids that benefit, by being a provider, clubs get more memberships and can provide more opportunities for kids to get involved.

There are two rounds of the popular program in 2025-26, with the first opening in October followed by another round in February 2026.

The program is open to kids aged up to 18 who are named on a Commonwealth Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card, and named on a Medicare Card.

A special consideration stream is also available to support children in care, temporary or provisional visa holders, migrants and international students.

Eligible clubs can register now at getactive.vic.gov.au/vouchers

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

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Close Grand Finals for AFNC junior teams

TRAVELLING to Kings Park in Seymour on Sunday the Alexandra Football Netball Club (AFNC) under 13 Alexandra Black were taking on St Marys Green, and the under 14 footballers were up against Seymour Lions who the team have always had close battles with during the home and away season.

The under 10 footballers and under 11 netball development teams took part in a lightning premiership competition that saw both teams playing off in the final of the day and coming second overall.

Under 14 football Alexandra 5.6-36 defeated by Seymour 6.4-40

Taking on the ladder leaders in the Grand Final was never going to be easy, but the under 14 Rebels rose to the challenge with a flying start.

Kicking a couple of quick goals, they went into quarter time with a five-point lead.

Full of momentum, the Rebels carried their energy into the second quarter. Dominating the play, they added another two goals while holding Seymour to just one. At the main break, the Rebels were in front 25 to 14 and confidence was high.

Seymour found their form in the third quarter, challenging the Rebels' defence. Despite the pressure, the Rebels held strong and managed to kick one goal two to Seymour's two goals, maintaining a narrow five-point lead heading into the final term.

The last quarter was a nail-biter. Seymour came out firing, and although the Rebels continued to fight hard and attack, they couldn't hold them off. Seymour kicked two

goals to Alexandra's one goal one, narrowly defeating the Rebels in the dying minutes by just four points.

Congratulations to Jaidyn Dimech, who was awarded best on ground in the Grand Final; a well-deserved honour for an outstanding performance.

Best Players: Jaidyn Dimech, Joshua Northmore, Paul Harish Balansag, Eli Van Lierop and Maverick Burchall.

While AFNC may not have taken home the big trophy, every single player should be incredibly proud. The team displayed discipline, resilience, and exceptional support for each other all day, and all season long.

The club says a huge thank you to Bec, Franky, Kim, James, Elissa,

and all the amazing parent helpers who made the season possible.

Under 13 netball Alexandra Black 13 defeated by St Marys Green 22

Playing in extremely wet and slippery conditions wasn't going to dampen the spirits or enthusiasm of AFNC's under 13 netballers, who were determined to give it their all in the Grand Final.

Winning the toss and taking the first centre pass, the girls were eager to get the game underway. However, St Mary's quickly capitalised on a few loose passes, understandable given the tough conditions, and took a six to two lead at quarter time.

With some strong encouragement from the coaches and the ever-supportive crowd, the Rebels returned to the court in the second

quarter with a few positional changes and a clear determination to fight back. Despite their efforts, the experience of the St Mary's team showed, as they extended their lead. The halftime score saw St Mary's ahead 14 to five.

The third quarter was the Rebels' strongest. With dominant defence from Tilly, well supported by Zoe, the team managed to turn over possession and transition the ball beautifully down the court to Ruby and Asher in goals. Their efforts resulted in a solid quarter score of four goals to three in favour of the Rebels.

The rain kept falling, but the girls' determination to fight for the ball never stopped. Every single player contributed throughout the match, showing true Rebels spirit. In the end, St Mary's Green proved too strong, taking the win 22 to 13.

An incredible effort from the players in trying conditions. Congratulations to every member of the team for their resilience and sportsmanship. The club says a big thank you to Coach Kate and all the parent helpers for their dedication throughout a fantastic season.

A big thankyou also goes out to all the weekly award sponsors, Essence Coffee Lounge, Reddrops FoodWorks, Alexandra Bakery and Café, Phil Savage, HBI Constructions and Alexandra Sports Power.

AFNC now look forward to celebrating all the juniors at the club's Junior Presentation Day on Sunday, September 21 at the clubrooms, commencing at 12pm.



Max Kaiser from the under 14 Alexandra football team. -S



Jaidyn Dimech was awarded best on ground for the Grand Final. -S



The Alexandra under 11 netball development team. -S



Tilly Milijovic playing netball in extreme weather conditions. -S



Summer Edwards from the Alexandra under 13 netball team. -S



Mitch Kidd under immense pressure. -S



Under 14 footballer Eli Van Lierop ready to kick the ball. -S



Baxter Lamaro from the Alexandra under 10 footballers. -S

Alexandra Newspapers will be CLOSED
Friday, September 26, 2025 for AFL Grand Final public holiday
EGN deadlines for bookings and artwork will be
NOON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
ALL OTHER DEADLINES REMAIN THE SAME