

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 17, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

150 years of local reporting with integrity

murrindindibusiness.com.au

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Blast from the past



Page 5

Bush kinder



Page 7

Major tree works at race club



Page 17

Rebels Reserves win 2025 Premiership



Pages 18-20

Steve and Chris Lynch: father and son wearing important hats

STEVE Lynch wears “a character hat” when he walks with the Man Walk. He explained, “It’s something I wore when I was overseas and interstate. We went to the Kimberley’s one year, and we were walking on Cable Beach and it blew off into the salt water so it’s a bit squished. It’s a bit funny, but it’s got good character. I decided that I would buy badges for the places where I’ve visited overseas. It just gives it a little bit more character.”

He finds the hat to be a “nice ice breaker” on the Man Walk, an initiative which is going from strength to strength.

Steve said, “We’ve created incredible bond between a group of 20-odd men that would climb over hot bricks to get there at 7am on a Friday morning, just to be part of the group... You have your fast walkers and you have your slow walkers and it stretches out... What happens on the Man Walk stays on the Man Walk, and that’s why people are prepared to open up because they know if they’ve got a problem, they can share it there and it won’t go anywhere else.”

He commented that, “Farmers are special people here because they do spend a lot of time on their own.”

They have people attending from Alexandra, Buxton, Taggerty, Yarck and Thornton, with a lot of single men among them. “They enjoy the camaraderie and the contact and the walk’s good but the coffee afterwards is even better.”

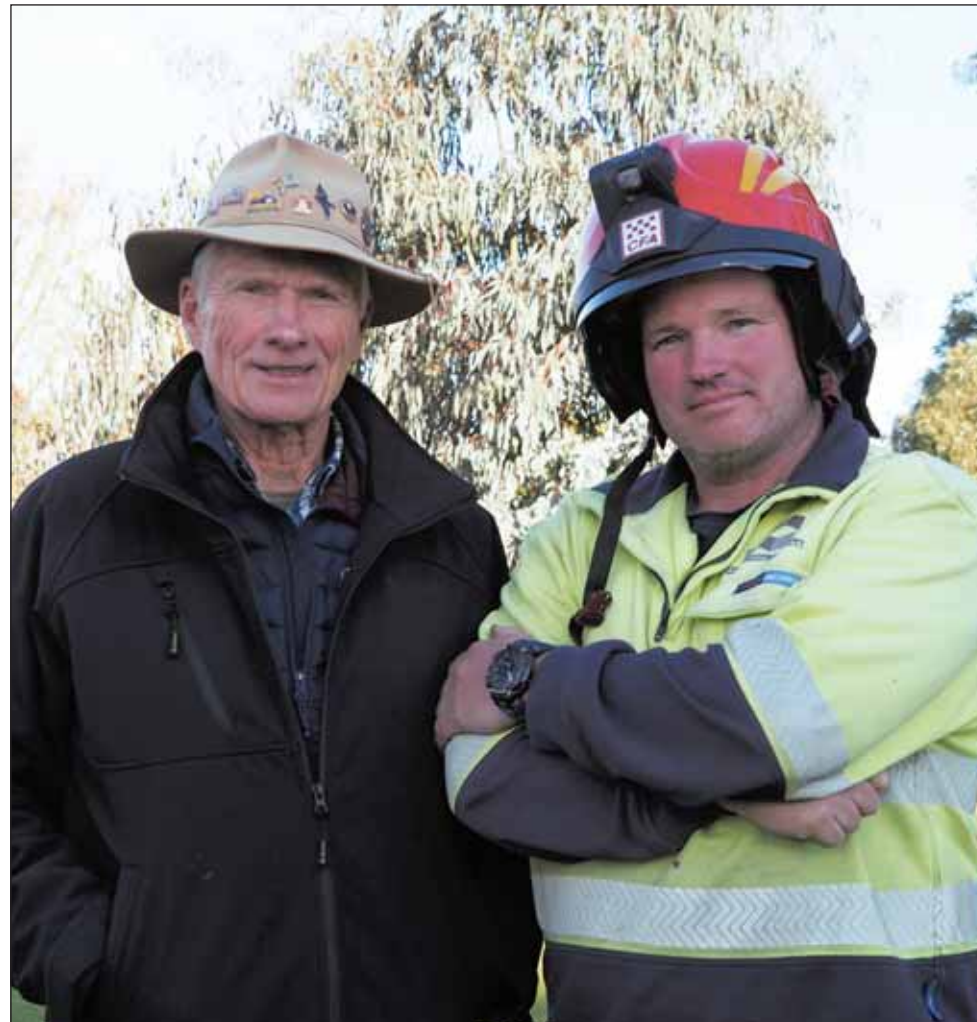
They usually walk between five and eight kilometres at a slow pace, and Steve tries to select different routes around Alexandra. He aims to select routes that suit everybody and not just a few people.

The idea for the Man Walk originated with Sasha Barrow from the Embassy of Ideas in Alexandra, and Steve was soon corralled in as convenor.

Steve said, “One of the things that I’ve created is a little group chat. When we gather at 7am, we’re supposed to head off, but at 7am, we just talk about things. One of the things that we mentioned this morning was the Hour with an Ambo that six of us went to in Taggerty, learning about mental health. Geoff, who was the organiser of the visit, reported to the group.” They also welcomed back people going overseas and people returning from their travels. They reported on the café fire in Grant Street, birthdays, and Father’s Day. “It’s just bringing everyone together” Steve said.

Steve’s son Chris Lynch, well known in Alexandra as the captain of the Alexandra Fire Brigade, said that he’s been on the walk a couple of times, but is often at work by then.

Chris said, “Quite often they’ll walk past my factory on their walk past and I’ll put



Steve and Chris Lynch.

everything down and I’ll go out onto the street and I’ll say good morning to them all.

“I usually give him a whistle, Steve said. “We have a family whistle, and I’ll let him know we’re coming.”

Chris added, “Every time I go out, I’ll give him a hug in front of everyone and offer anyone else a hug in case they need it, but definitely just saying hello to them all. They’re all great guys. It’s such a good thing for, I guess that mental health side of things. It’s been a bit of a rough track up and down and bits and pieces in our lives that I’m glad that there’s people that dad can talk to. We’re close, we talk about everything but certainly there’s other people that can take bits of experience from others I suppose.”

Steve commented that there are people with various health issues attending the walk, including prostate cancer, multiple sclerosis, early Alzheimer’s, crook legs, crook hips, heart problems, etcetera, “So if you want

to talk about your health problem, you can because there are people there that have been through it or are suffering with you. We open up and what we talk about there just stays there.”

Steve, 76, has previously suffered from prostate cancer. “I’ve been through the whole thing,” he said. “I’m a great advocate for prostate cancer and I’m an open book. If somebody wants to talk about prostate cancer, I’ll tell them where I’ve been and what happened to me, and where I am now. I’m in good shape at the moment, but it’s been a 20 year battle.”

He added, “There are a lot of guys out there that have got the problem, but haven’t talked about, and don’t want to talk about it or they haven’t come across our group yet.”

Back when his three boys were young, Steve would bring the family to Rubicon. Chris remembered being 11 when he fell in

love with the area and remembered saying to his father that he would live here one day.

Chris is with the CFA where they have access to professionals if they encounter mental health challenges, but he said of the Man Walk, “I think that a group like yours, people potentially open up more and it’s a lot more personal. I reckon that’s the best thing up here.”

Steve made the move to Murrindindi Shire from Melbourne as a result of COVID-19 as “COVID took care of my work situation... There was nothing really to keep me down there. Chris said to me one day, ‘Dad. Come and live in Alexandra. I’ll keep an eye on you.’” He said the move was “the best thing,” and his youngest son Jack isn’t too far away in Melbourne. His middle son is much further, on Vancouver Island, and they have visited him recently.

He was warned by city friends that it would be a hard transition to country life, but in fact he found the opposite to be true. He said he has plenty of things to do, including being a member of the Lions Club and an honorary member of the CFA auxiliary.

Chris is also a newer member of the Murrindindi Shire community, moving here with his family in 2013. He initially worked as a construction manager in Narbethong for a building company. He joined the Taggerty Fire Brigade in 2015, and has been putting out fires ever since.

He’s found the CFA to be very family-friendly, and his children are honorary fire brigade members, knowing all the trucks and other aspects of the station.

He said, “I encourage the children to come here and see the trucks and touch them and squirt water and all that sort of stuff because they’re the future of this place.”

When both were asked about the rewards of volunteering, Steve said, “It’s just opened so many doors. That’s what I need, because I’ve had to find a whole new network of friends up here. I still try to keep in touch with my Melbournites, but I have more fun up here now with the group that I’ve met and I’ve spent time with, and try to mentor some of them that have had problems... I think that in our social group, we should just keep an eye on our friends and look for the mood swings or the changes that that happen in people or issues that come up that they can’t handle. You need to recognise that. I’ve done a mental health course a couple of years ago, I’m still a first responder, if something goes wrong on a peer support level.”

Continued Page 6

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

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

CONTACT DETAILS

CLASSIFIEDS AND COMMERCIAL PRINTING
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

ADVERTISING - Jo
1sales@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

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

SPORTS
sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHERS

Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd 43 Grant Street, Alexandra
Victoria 3714. Material published in this edition is subject
to copyright provisions, and cannot be used without the
company's permission. Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd accepts
no responsibility for the unauthorised republication of such
material. Printed by North East Media Wangaratta. Print Post
Approved - PP 100000292

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



Letters to the Editor

Summit refusal

OUR Mayor Damian Gallagher made the right decision not going to the Gold Coast meeting to tackle antisemitism but not necessarily the reasons risen by Nick Legge.

To my knowledge there are no Jewish people in Alexandra. If there are they have a very low profile. On the flip side it's not like we have people flying Hamas and Middle Eastern flags in our town. So it would be like looking for a black cat in a dark room that isn't there.

However I would not like Alexandra to be considered antisemitic. Far from it, Israel is an ally of Australia's. There appears to be a distortion of history in Nick Legges letter suggesting Nazism is in league with Israel. Nazi Germany was all about annihilation of Jews, a fact that appears to have been

lost with the present propaganda machine operating in our media. Anyone saying otherwise needs to remember 1251 people were gunned down and 250 taken hostage by Hamas and Palestinians, many not even Israeli citizens, on October 7, 2023. Is Israel supposed to forget 50 of its citizens still held hostage and allow Palestine to regroup and attack again in few years? It may be easy to be caught up in popular rhetoric with the pro-Palestinian rallies turning Melbourne CBD into something resembling the Nuremberg address every weekend but I believe the Alexandra community is capable of critical thinking.

Tom Collins, Alexandra

Summit refusal

I WISH to respond to the two letters to the editor in *The Alexandra Standard* on September 10. In the open letter to Mayor Gallagher requested the boycotting of the upcoming Australian Mayors Summit Against Antisemitism to be held on the Gold Coast, Nick Legge pointed out the danger of extremist views and agenda that were covertly being offered under the guise of the rightful fight against antisemitism. He requested that the Mayor of Murrindindi not attend this event as its agenda was contrary to the values of our community.

In his response Mayor Gallagher stated quite clearly that he would not be attending the summit as it would compromise our community values of inclusivity and diversity. He pointed out that the Murrindindi Shire Council condemns antisemitism and Islamophobia as well as all forms of sexual, political, racial or religious discrimination.

I would like to commend the council on their decision. The offer of travel and accommodation is often a carrot for the unscrupulous, when values are disregarded and immediate gratification becomes of primary importance. We are fortunate to have a council of integrity and transparency. My thanks to Nick Legge and to Mayor Gallagher

for their openness and wisdom in dealing with this matter.

Deirdre Penhale, Alexandra

Local speed limits

Regarding the Thumbs Down in *The Standard* on September 10, why not a 40 kilometre speed limit locally? That's an excellent idea. Yea profits wonderfully in safety and community access from having a 40 kilometre limit throughout the town environs, encompassing the areas that are used by community and tourism from one end of the town to the other.

Alexandra is a small town and it would benefit business as well as people. I'd also like to see clearer road use markings for pedestrians, and move the disabled access car parks to more appropriate spaces as well.

Let's get some proper zebra crossing markings at the Grant Street corner near FoodWorks, the rotunda and as you turn left into Downey Street, and where people cross just past the intersection, there as well. People stop at the tree but they are hidden at the left turn to vision. I've watched in peak season, and it's problematic for tourists and locals alike. A zebra crossing there would make it pop and remind car drivers of the consequences.

The 60 kilometre limit there seems wrong too; since there's the angle parking at Kaz's and shortly after the children's park, then after that the high school. There's no reason why we can't put 40 kilometre limit from the entry to Alexandra that way too.

Also, on the disabled car parking, move those spaces in front of the old bank up toward the Nihil Street corner for people shopping at FoodWorks. It would be much safer and more convenient, since the bank building is empty. The disabled car park at the rear also needs a look too but that's another story.

Thumbs up to that person for bringing it up. Good job.

Valerie Pallaoro, Alexandra

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.

Weekly Weather

September 17 - September 23, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	3	14	Wednesday	3	14
Thursday	9	17	Thursday	9	18
Friday	5	16	Friday	5	17
Saturday	6	12	Saturday	7	13
Sunday	5	13	Sunday	5	14
Monday	5	12	Monday	5	13
Tuesday	7	14	Tuesday	8	15

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)	12.00pm Mon	1.71	steady	Below Flood Level
Rubicon River at Rubicon	11.00am Mon	0.57	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	11.00am Mon	0.66	steady	Below Flood Level
Home Creek at Yarck	09.49pm Mon	0.24	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.23am Mon	0.52	steady	Below Flood Level
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	12.00pm Mon	0.30	steady	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	11.00am Mon	0.75	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	12.00pm Mon	3.58	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	12.00pm Mon	0.51	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Trawool	11.00am Mon	1.19	steady	Below Flood Level
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	11.00am Mon	0.33	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Seymour	11.00am Mon	1.51	steady	Below Flood Level
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	11.00am Mon	1.24	steady	
*ISSUED AT 12:10 PM AEST MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2025				

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra	4mm
Buxton.....	4.5mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.2mm
Flowerdale.....	2mm
Jamieson.....	N/Amm
Kinglake.....	6mm
Lake Eildon.....	1mm
Mansfield.....	N/Amm
Taggerty	0.6mm
Yarck	0.4mm
Yea.....	0.7mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	276.76m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	58.7%
Metres below full supply.....	12.14m
Daily inflow	3500ML
Release.....	1750ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	43%

THE ALEXANDRA EILDON MARYSVILLE

Standard

INCORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES - THE YARCK, 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

Council advocates federally for fair investments and local priorities

MURRINDINDI Shire Council Mayor Damien Gallagher, has returned from Canberra where he joined three fellow Victorian Mayors as part of the Municipal Association of Victoria's (MAV) inaugural Mayoral Delegation to the Federal Parliament. The visit provided an opportunity to put the concerns of local councils directly before federal decision-makers.

The advocacy campaign coordinated by the MAV is built around five pillars: Making community infrastructure happen by delivering the infrastructure that growing and connected communities need; making safer roads happen by connecting communities and supporting a safer and more productive Victoria; making fairer energy happen by engaging communities in Victoria's energy transition; making resilient communities happen by future-proofing communities to withstand natural disasters; making local democracy happen by supporting stronger, safer communities and countering disinformation.

Mayor Gallagher took the lead on the resilient communities pillar, calling for a dedicated "Building to Withstand Fund" to support pre-disaster investigative works and prioritise upgrades for high-need infrastructure.

"Our residents know the cost of more regular, more intense disasters: bushfires, floods, storms. Rebuilding the same as before is wasteful. If we build back stronger and smarter now, we will save taxpayers millions and reduce the disruption to communities," Cr Gallagher said.

The delegation also highlighted climate risks, noting that Murrindindi's electorate of Indi is among the most climate-vulnerable in the country, and neighbouring Nicholls ranked the most exposed, with 26.5 per cent of properties projected to be uninsurable by 2030, rising to 80 to 90 per cent in some townships. Council made it clear that rural communities cannot be left to shoulder the risk without stronger support.

Across two days, the Mayors met with government, opposition and crossbench MPs and advisers.

The primary aim of this advocacy was simple: to ensure our voices are heard in national debates, to put Murrindindi on the map for decision-makers in Canberra, and to press the case for fair investment.

It is a credit to the Murrindindi community and council's team, that our shire was invited to be part of this delegation. Through its thorough examination of the issues and its practical, solutions-focused approach, Murrindindi Shire Council has earned the respect of governments and agencies across Australia.

On returning from Canberra, Mayor Gallagher and Council CEO Livia Bonazzi met with Victorian Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Nick Staikos, to restate Murrindindi's local priorities.

Council made a strong case for: Fair and sustainable funding reform, including adoption of recommendations from the Parliamentary Inquiry into local government funding and services; exemption from

the Windfall Gains Tax for council-led, community-benefit projects such as the Eildon key worker housing initiative; reforms to rural health funding so residents can age in place with equitable access to services; overhaul of the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund Levy so rural ratepayers are not unfairly burdened by land value charges that far exceed income capacity.

Alongside these reforms, council outlined project priorities including: Activating the Lake Eildon Master Plan, including a \$49 million tourism and economic growth project; investment in safer roads and \$10 million for rural road rehabilitation across 720km of unsealed roads; \$8.8 million for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing

and industrial land in Yea and Alexandra; \$1.4 million to establish a Regional University Study Hub in Murrindindi to support local students and workforce needs.

Mayor Gallagher said while no formal commitments were secured, the advocacy ensures Murrindindi's voice, and that of rural councils across Victoria, is being heard at the highest levels of government.

"We're not seeking handouts. We're asking for fair treatment and recognition of the unique challenges small rural shires face. Our communities deserve a fair go, and council will keep making that case until we see change," Cr Gallagher said.

Production activities halted at A1 mine

In an Australian Stock Exchange announcement on September 8, Kaiser Reef Limited advised that it has completed the strategic review of the A1 Gold Mine, located near Woods Point.

It stated, "The management of Kaiser have determined to halt production activities over the coming weeks and place the A1 Gold Mine (MIN5294) on 'care and maintenance'.

"This decision follows a strategic review of the A1 Mine that was prompted by lower gold production within the Nova Zone. Some recent drilling is still being assayed as part of a longer-term assessment and the site

will be maintained to support underground exploration in the near term.

"Future Communication Kaiser will keep stakeholders and regulators informed of material developments regarding the A1 Mine as the board considers its options.

"Kaiser maintains a healthy and growing balance sheet and ongoing profitable operations at the Henty gold mine in Tasmania, supported by strong gold prices and commendable site performance. In addition, Kaiser is pleased to report ongoing drilling at the wholly owned Union Hill Gold Mine, Maldon, which is a current focus for Kaiser."

A reminder about the Melba Highway

DON'T forget that the Department of Transport are soon to commence works to repair two landslips on the Melba Highway in Dixons Creek, just south of the Healesville-Kinglake Road intersection.

The works will commence mid-October and are expected to be complete by early 2026.

For more information on these works visit transport.vic.gov.au/news-and-resources/projects/melba-highway-landslip-repairs or call 133 778.

Eildon set to star

EILDON is set to feature in another television series, with the news that *High Country* will film a second season in the area. Other filming locations include Mansfield and Jamieson, as well as greater Melbourne.

The eight -part series will again star Leah Purcell as Sergeant Andie Whitford, drawn into a case far bigger than she ever imagined. The show is being produced by Sony Pictures Television's Curio Pictures

It's understood that the show will create 895 jobs for Victorian screen workers and inject over \$16.9 million of local spend into the Victorian economy.

Screen Australia Director of Narrative Content Louise Gough said, "Fans of the gripping series *High Country* have been eagerly awaiting its return. In this second season, Leah Purcell's portrayal as the strong and complex Andie Whitford soars to new heights as she grapples with identity, family and belonging. Curio's award-winning team have an impeccable track-record of delivering ambitious and compelling dramas with global appeal and this fast-paced enthralling tale of mystery and intrigue will have audiences on the edge of their seats."

Executive Producers Jo Porter and Rachel Gardner said, "We were delighted by the incredible audience response to the first season of *High Country* both in Australia, BBC1, Hulu and around the world. Jo h n Ridley together with the brilliant other writers have conjured up the next propulsive season with a new mystery at its heart all built around the magnetic Leah Purcell as Andie Whitford."

High Country will begin production in Victoria in November and will screen on Foxtel and Binge in 2026. Other cast members have not yet been announced.

Fly to the Aussie Bird Count

SPRING has arrived and so has Australia's favourite citizen science event. A national celebration of Australia's diverse birdlife, from magpies and fairy-wrens to cockatoos, curlews and honeyeaters, the 2025 Aussie Bird Count is taking flight for its 12th year, with registrations now open.

From Monday, October 20 to Sunday, October 26, BirdLife Australia is inviting people of all ages to take just 20 minutes out of their day to spot, identify, and count the birds around them.

Last year, more than 57,000 participants submitted nearly 130,000 checklists and logged more than 4.1 million birds across the country using the free *Aussie Bird Count* app. Bold, adaptable species, the rainbow lorikeet, noisy miner, and Australian magpie, again topped the charts. Will they swoop in for the top three once more in 2025?

Pick your spot, anywhere you like, from your backyard to your favourite park or garden and spend 20 minutes quietly observing the birds you see. Submit your count using the Aussie Bird Count app, which will help you identify the birds you see and hear.

You can go out and count as many times as you like during Bird Week as long as each count lasts 20 minutes and is submitted separately.

BirdLife Australia, the national bird conservation charity behind the Aussie Bird Count, says the event is an important step towards connection between people, place and purpose.

"It's not about being a bird expert," Sean Dooley, BirdLife Australia's National Public Affairs Manager said. "It's about spending time outdoors and learning something new about your local environment.

"The Aussie Bird Count shows how citizen science can bring families and communities together while contributing to our understanding of Australia's unique wildlife.



The Aussie Bird Count takes place from Monday, October 20 to Sunday, October 26. -John Robert McPherson

A simple 20 minute activity can become an annual family tradition that teaches everyone about observation and nature."

With more than a decade of data, the Aussie Bird Count results can provide BirdLife Australia with insights into trends in urban bird populations, contributing to a dataset that helps to guide future awareness campaigns, conservation priorities, and community education.

"Birds are indicators of environmental health. One in six Australian bird species is now under threat, so taking note of the birds around us has never been more important," Kate Millar, CEO of BirdLife Australia said. Bird Life Australia's mission is to save birds and the natural life systems on which they depend.

"It's also often a first step on a longer journey of curiosity, from noticing birds to caring about them, and from caring to protecting," Kate added.

"Whether you're a regular birder or someone who just enjoys the occasional kookaburra laugh or lorikeet fly-by, we're inviting everyone across the country to pause, step outside, and count the birds that share their skies, gardens, and daily walks."

Australia's largest citizen science project, the Aussie Bird Count encourages everyone to get to know their local birds and help BirdLife Australia take an annual, national snapshot of the birds around us.

It is also helping Australians to embrace the natural environment and sustainable thinking, through activations in classrooms, councils and even workplaces, with many embracing it as a learning tool, community activity and wellbeing initiative.

"Every count matters," Sean said. "Every time someone stops to notice a bird, even a common one, that's a moment of connection.

"Whether you're watching rainbow lorikeets on your balcony, ducks in your local pond, or fairy-wrens darting through your backyard, we want everyone to experience the joy birds bring. Communities that care about nature are communities that protect it."

To take part, download the free Aussie Bird Count app or visit aussiebirdcount.org.au to register

Market @ Yarck
including CWA morning tea and cake stall
SATURDAY September 20
from 9am
Plants, soap, preserves and jams, knitwear, jewellery and much more
Sharon Fox 0407 879 612

McCORMACK FUNERALS
Inc. BAMFORDS Murrindindi
21 Johnston Street, Alexandra
1800 080 909
Andrew, Robyn and Brooke
Murrindindi Chapel and Funeral Home
Caring & Professional 24 hour service, all areas
Obligation free appointments
Pre-paid, pre-arranged, personalised funeral and memorial services
www.mccormackfunerals.com.au

ALEXANDRA PHYSIOTHERAPY
Empowering you towards better health
Over 25 years of clinical experience.
• Back & Neck Pain • Clinical Pilates
• Sports Injuries • Orthotics
• Joint & Muscle Injuries
• Rehabilitation post surgery or injury
• Consulting Rooms available for rental
HICAPS: Health fund rebates claimed on the spot.
Veterans Affairs, TAC, WorkCover, Private, Medicare (EPC referral from GP)
5772 2649
54A Downey St, Alexandra

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.

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



THUMBS UP: What a great response to the trial Community Potluck dinners in Eildon. It's wonderful to see this as an ongoing event. Thanks to the Eildon Bowling Club for being the host and making this possible.

THUMBS DOWN: To the Department of Transport for not removing the bodies of dead native animals from the side of the road between Alexandra and Thornton. Some decaying carcasses have been there for months.

THUMBS DOWN: To the inconsiderate drivers who do not comply with the 40 kilometre speed limit on Riverside Drive, Eildon. This is a shared track used by a variety of people from very young to very old for numerous activities such as walking, running and fishing.

THUMBS UP: To Chris, Ollie and Fletcher from Alexandra Stainless who provided freshly baked scones, strawberry jam and cream to the Man Walk group of 16 on their weekly Friday morning stroll up to the speedway and back. Great community spirit.

THUMBS UP: To the Murrindindi Shire Council on the screening of 'Runt' as part of R U OK Day. The movie was heartwarming, engaging and mirrored qualities we'd wish to see in our community. Well done on your care for the residents in our area. The afternoon tea and barbecue were an unexpected bonus. Thank you.

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

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Alexandra RSL general meeting will be held at noon, followed by a light luncheon.

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.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Taungurung Native Title decision making meeting to be held at Broadford Town Hall

9.30am to 3pm. RSVP to be registered by September 25 by phoning 0427 480 056. Any questions can be directed to Malyon Law by email to kristin@malyonlaw.au or phone 0407 157 737. Further details in this weeks classified section.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

Menziess invites you to an afternoon gathering to celebrate Senior's month. Bring a friend, enjoy afternoon tea and a social support information session. RSVP by Monday, September 29 for catering. 5772 1888 or email social.support@menziessupport.org.au



The staff at Alexandra FoodWorks were keen to check on our local community on Thursday, asking R U OK? -AR

It's okay not to be okay

WORLD Suicide Prevention Day was held on Wednesday, September 10, with Murray Primary Health Network (PHN) sharing resources to help end suicide.

They state, "Suicide is the leading cause of death of Australian males aged 15 to 44 and the third leading cause of death of males aged 45 to 64. Knowing that men are typically less likely than women to reach out for support, Murray PHN has launched the *His Story. End Silence. End Suicide.* campaign in a bid to reduce the rate of men's suicide. The campaign has been developed with the help of a consumer reference group to increase awareness and to encourage help-seeking behaviours among men.

"The problem with silence is that it feeds isolation, stigma and shame. Every man has a story. This campaign and its messaging is built on hope and the knowledge that through open conversation and connection, no man's story should ever be lost to silence. By breaking the silence, we can all help to keep these stories going."

To access the resources, visit murrayphn.org.au/community/suicide-prevention/his-story/

R U OK? Day

On Thursday, September 11, R U OK? Day was held, with the reminder that every day is a good day to ask the question.

Whether it's a friend, family member, partner, or colleague, the people around us go through life's ups and downs every day.

Research has found that those who are regularly asked, 'are you okay?' report increased feelings of wellbeing, and a third of Australians say they've been asking others more often over the past year.

That means many of us are already showing up for others in meaningful ways, but when it comes to conversations about how we're really going, some people are less confident than others.

It's natural to feel a little hesitant, but the good news is nine in 10 Australians report feeling grateful, supported and cared for when

someone genuinely asks them if they're okay, and that's a good reason to give it a go. You might even be having these conversations already without realising.

R U OK? has plenty of resources available to help people to feel more confident checking in with someone you care about.

Ask R U OK? any day of the year because a conversation could change a life.

For more information, visit ruok.org.au/everyday-resources

It's okay not to be okay

Murrindindi Shire Council have compiled a useful list of resources for mental health support. It can be found at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Community/Health-and-Wellbeing/Mental-Health-Services

Support can be accessed through the Lower Hume Primary Mental Health Partnership by calling the Medicare Mental Health Line, available Monday to Friday on 1800 595 212. They will conduct an assessment and work out where to refer people to meet their needs. That could be local services or other services which meet their needs.

Referrals may also be direct from the Lower Hume Mental Health Program, GPs, other health and support services, or self-referrals.

Other support services

Lifeline provides 24-hour crisis counselling, support groups and suicide prevention services. Call 13 11 14.

Beyond Blue provides 24/7 support via phone as well as support online, via email or online forums. Call 1300 224 636.

Suicide Call Back Service provides 24/7 support if you or someone you know is feeling suicidal. Call 1300 659 467.

Medicare Mental Health is an online gateway funded by the Australian Government that can help you find free and low-cost, trusted phone and online mental health resources.

To access urgent help, call triple zero for an ambulance.

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

**Available from
 these retail outlets**

Alexandra FoodWorks
 Alexandra Newsagency
 Alexandra Newspapers
 Ampol Alexandra
 Ampol Eildon
 Buxton Shell
 Eildon Grocer
 Endeavour Alexandra
 Hazeldene Store
 Igloo Buxton
 Marysville Grocer
 Merton General Store
 Seymour Newsagency
 Taggerty Store
 Thornton Store
 Yea FoodWorks
 Yea Newsagency

Alexandra Newspapers are
 members of:

regional
 media connect

Country Press
 AUSTRALIA

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

THE bridge players got together on Wednesday afternoon and a social meeting was held on Friday afternoon in the Bayley Street clubroom. President Yvonne was at the helm, and Treasurer Dave kept everyone informed about where all the money was going before having us smiling at the jokes.

With a number of the committee members not being available on the first Friday in October, it is now planned to hold the committee meeting and monthly business meeting on Friday, October 10. In lieu of the usual social meeting on October 3, the club is planning to have lunch at a local pub. Watch this space for details. The lucky winners in the chocolate raffle were Ian, Ron and Steph. This week the members plan to have a sing song so bring your best voices along.

If you are sitting at home wondering what to do on a Friday afternoon, why not come along and join the friendly mob for a game of cards, a chat and a cuppa. You will be most welcome. Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling

Opposition to national parks

THE Liberals and Nationals are strongly opposed to the Victorian Government's move to create more national parks, saying that it will lock out long-term bush users.

The government is planning to convert state forests in central west Victoria to national parks, introducing legislation into parliament.

The proposed new national parks, Wombat-Lerderderg, Mt Buangor and Pyrenees, will cover more than 65,000 hectares and potentially exclude bush users such as gold prospectors and four-wheel-drive enthusiasts.

Future land arrangements for the Central Highlands remain unknown.

In parliament, Member for Eildon, Cindy McLeish MP asked the Minister for Environment if any state forests will be converted to a national park. Md McLeish said that the minister failed to answer the question directly.

The minister instead confirmed that the establishment of the 'Great Forest National Park', proposed by some environmental groups, is not a government initiative or policy.

Ms McLeish said, "In one breath Labor say they do not have policy to create national parks. In the next breath, they are already working to establish one. The future of the Central Highlands is up in the air."

"The Liberals and Nationals support the ongoing access to public land. We do not support the formation of more national parks."

"Bush users deserve clarity from their government about future access to their state parks and if they will be allowed to continue their favourite hobbies within Victoria."

More than 40,000 signatures collected in a petition against more national parks. Mc McLeish said that firewood collectors, horse riders, trail bike riders, campers and dog walkers will all be impacted by the looming formation of new national parks.



Rotary members with the year 2000 time capsule. -AR

Are you about to receive a blast from the past?

THE Rotary Club of Alexandra successfully dug up the time capsule, buried in the year 2000 in Rotary Park, on Wednesday, September 10. The two barrels were taken to the Woodies (Alexandra Community Shed Inc / Eildon & District Woodworkers Guild Inc) to be opened, and fortunately, all was found to be in good order. There was no damage to the items held within.

In 2000, nearly 300 people put a letter into the time capsule, leaving messages to people in the future.

On Sunday, October 5, Alexandra Market Day at Rotary Park, Rotary will display the messages from the time capsule near the stage behind the Alexandra Information Centre, the envelopes ready for collection.

Is your name on the list? Take a look at page 11 of this edition.

People will also be able to purchase new envelopes for the next time capsule while at the event. This time capsule will be buried in November and will be opened in 2050.



Darrell Hedger digging up the time capsule. -AR



Rotary members with the letters after the barrels were successfully opened. -S

Yea man charged over incident in Kings Domain

MELBOURNE Crime Investigation Unit detectives have charged a tenth person following an alleged affray and assaults which occurred in Melbourne on Sunday, August 31.

Police will allege the men assaulted people in Kings Domain around 5pm.

On Friday, September 12, detectives arrested a 20 year old Yea man on William Street, Melbourne at about 1.30pm. He has been charged with violent disorder, affray, and discharge missile.

Detectives last night also charged a 22 year old man with the same offences, and an 18 year old man with violent disorder, affray and assault with a weapon.

All three were bailed to appear in Melbourne Magistrates' Court on September 16.

Seven other people were previously charged, including a 25 year old man charged with violent disorder, affray, unlawful assault and discharge missile; a 29 year old man of no fixed address charged with violent disorder, affray, unlawful assault and discharge missile; a 31 year old Mitcham

man charged with violent disorder, affray and assault with a weapon; and a 34 year old Werribee man charged with violent disorder, affray, assault by kicking and commit indictable offence on bail.

Three other men, aged 32, 20 and 23, were arrested and charged by detectives on September 2.

Detectives are continuing to investigate the incident and urge anyone with any information or footage that may assist police to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or to make a report at crimestoppersvic.com.au



Rotary Club of Alexandra



2000-Time Capsule-2025

Did your family put a message in the Rotary time capsule in the year 2000? **300** families did.

Come to Rotary Park Sunday, October 5 from 10am until 1pm behind the Info Centre.

Collect your time capsule messages.

Bring your family and friends.

Pass the word.



Let's celebrate
Senior's Month

Thursday, October 9, 2pm
at Menzies office, 49 Nihil Street, Alexandra
Menzies welcomes you to an afternoon gathering, to celebrate Senior's Month. Bring a friend, enjoy a wonderful afternoon tea, and a Social Support information session.
Please RSVP by Monday, September 29, for catering purposes.
Phone 5772 1888 or email socialsupport@menziessupport.org.au



Proudly supporting Student of the week

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

 **Bendigo Bank**


ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Grace Goodman - Nieuwhof in Prep

Grace consistently shows the school values. She is a kind and cooperative member of her class who always does her best. She is working hard to reach her learning goals and she is winning. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Grace. You are a star.

EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lillian Fraser

For demonstrating the school value cooperation working well with others during concert practice. Legendary Lilly.



Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kingslake branch
 **Bendigo Bank**

Steve and Chris Lynch: father and son wearing important hats

Continued from Page 1

Chris added, "I guess that's where dad's group is very similar to this one [the CFA]. Same same but different maybe, where they talk about their issues and all that sort of stuff. At the fire brigade we're dealt an issue. We're meeting people on their worst days, losing everything, to an incident where there's a death, right then and there, and we have to handle that. But then we come back and there's the power of this group, very similar to the Man Walk group, we talk about it here and we debrief. Yes, we have professional help available at any time. The numbers plastered all over the place. But we too are trained to look at each other and say, right, he's not right, he's not right. They're not okay. We'll make a phone call or we approach it."

"I suppose being a captain it's up to me to make that first move. Sometimes it's very difficult to say, 'hey, I've noticed you're not quite right. Are you all good? Do you want to talk about it or can I get you a number?'"

"It's not just the incidents here. Again, the beauty of this group is we're a reasonably tight knit group here that if there is an incident or someone's not doing so well, we recognise that fairly quickly."

Steve added, "I think from a family point of view, both

Chris and I are people persons. We've got personalities that attract people to open up to us and trust."

Chris expanded on this, saying, "In saying that though, I think one of the most powerful things you can do for someone in that time of need is listen. That's all you have to do sometimes. You don't have to offer advice. You just need to be there." It's also important to be trusted and trust-worthy.

He said, "I'm not a professional peer support person. If we have a death out there that we're dealing with, or just pull the body out of a car or something, I'm not trained to deal with that, however, I can certainly listen and identify if there's an issue, and try and push them in the right direction."

In terms of advice for men in the shire, Steve said of the Man Walk, "We're really not an organised group. We're not like a Lions Club or anything like that. We're just a group of guys that got together and it's just blossomed. We're not associated with anyone or anything, other than the Embassy, because you know that's where we were born, at the Embassy, and it was Sasha's idea that created this and I guess I've just helped her push it."

"Make a new friend. Come and join the group. We're here for you," he said. "And it's fun. It's good fun."

Eildon supports R U OK? Day



Members of the Eildon community gathered to show support for R U OK? Day on Thursday, September 11. -S



Some lovely cakes and hot drinks were available. -S



Chatting with friends at the Eildon Bowls Club. -S



People enjoying a barbecue. -S

Bush kinder students learn from Taungurung people



Bush kinder provided a day of adventure and learning for the youngsters. -AR



The bush kinder special event took place in Mckenzie Reserve on Wednesday, September 10, supported by a grant from Murrindindi Shire Council. -AR



Uncle Shane and Bonnie from the Taungurung people speaking to the students. -AR



Uncle Shane teaching the students about Blackwood leaves. -AR



One of the young participants taking part in the Smoking Ceremony. -AR

Confident
communicator?
Love to lead?
**You could help
run an election**

**The Victorian Electoral Commission
is seeking highly organised people
to train as senior election officials.**

Previous electoral experience is not essential, but you must be able to:

- effectively lead a team
- be a strong communicator
- manage and direct multiple activities within a tight timeframe
- follow procedures to ensure elections are fair, impartial and conducted according to the law.

The Victorian state election will be held in November 2026 and these roles require availability for training from late July 2026.

For a job description, further information and to apply, please visit vec.vic.gov.au/jobs



Taking a break on the Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group walk. -VG



Yea Rotary generously supplied the barbecue at the event. Pictured at David Anderson, Ann Drysdale, Tippy Anderson, Penny Paxman and Darryl King. -VG



Walking from the second bridge to the Blue Tree after completing the first section of the walk. -VG



Auntie Angela at the Smoking Ceremony with Steve Joblin. -VG



Members of the band, Stoked, with singer Tayla Arnett. -VG



Jacky Gilbee with David from 'Stoked'. -VG

A walk to remember those we have lost

ON Sunday, September 14, over 80 people took part in the Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group walk.

Organiser Jacky Gilbee explained that they faced some challenges in the lead-up, with the website not working and with drizzle expected, but despite this, they had a lot of new people walking and sunny weather.

Jacky was very pleased with the event, saying, "I think we made more people aware, which is what it's all about."

She was delighted with all of the speakers and was grateful to Mayor Gallagher for reading out the honour roll, with Auntie Angela conducting the Smoking Ceremony.

She particularly noted how farmers are "really doing it tough this year."

The format for this year was a little different. Instead of just walking to the first bridge, they walked to the second bridge, where the new Blue Tree could be viewed. The painted tree stands over 12 metres high and serves as a reminder.

Jacky noted that more people who take their lives than the national road toll, "so that tells you that we need to work harder than ever to help those people... We can help them be able to reach out and not feel like they are on their own."



Volunteers at the registration desk. -VG



The signage on the bridge. -VG



The walk back to Yea. -VG



The speakers at the event, emcee David Anderson from Yea Rotary, organiser Jacky Gilbee, Ron Hockley, the Unbreakable Farmer Warren Davies, and Murrindindi Shire Mayor Damien Gallagher. -VG



The Smoking Ceremony continued when people returned from the walk. -VG



Steve Joblin and Jacky Gilbee. -VG

A delicious success for potluck dinner trial at Eildon

SINCE May this year, Eildon Events Inc has trialled monthly potluck dinners to gauge community interest, and the response has been fantastic.

Thanks to the generous support of the Eildon Bowling Club, the clubrooms were made available on the second Tuesday of each month. With easy access, cozy warmth in winter, cool comfort in summer, and stunning views over the bowling green, the venue has proven ideal.

At last week's dinner, attendees unanimously agreed to continue the monthly gatherings. However, due to pennant commitments, future potluck dinners will now be held on the second Sunday of the month, with the time remaining 6 to 8pm.

The format stays the same: Bring along something to share, like nibbles, a main, or a sweet treat. It doesn't need to be homemade or a full dish, just a contribution toward the meal is perfect. If cooking's not your thing, a small donation is also warmly welcomed.

For any queries, please contact Kerrie on 0429 409 596 or Karine on 0400 715 319.

Eildon Events Inc extends heartfelt thanks to the Eildon Bowling Club for making this initiative possible. It's been wonderful to see new friendships forming, and even new members joining the club as a result. What a win for community spirit. Sharing truly is caring.



There was delicious food on offer at the latest potluck dinner. -S



Attendees were keen to drain every last drop from the pot. -S



People were able to help themselves to a variety of cuisines. -S



Jan and Nick enjoying their potluck meals. -S



The various food choices on offer last week. -S



Helpers were hard at work in the kitchen preparing the potluck dinner. -S



Maintenance works






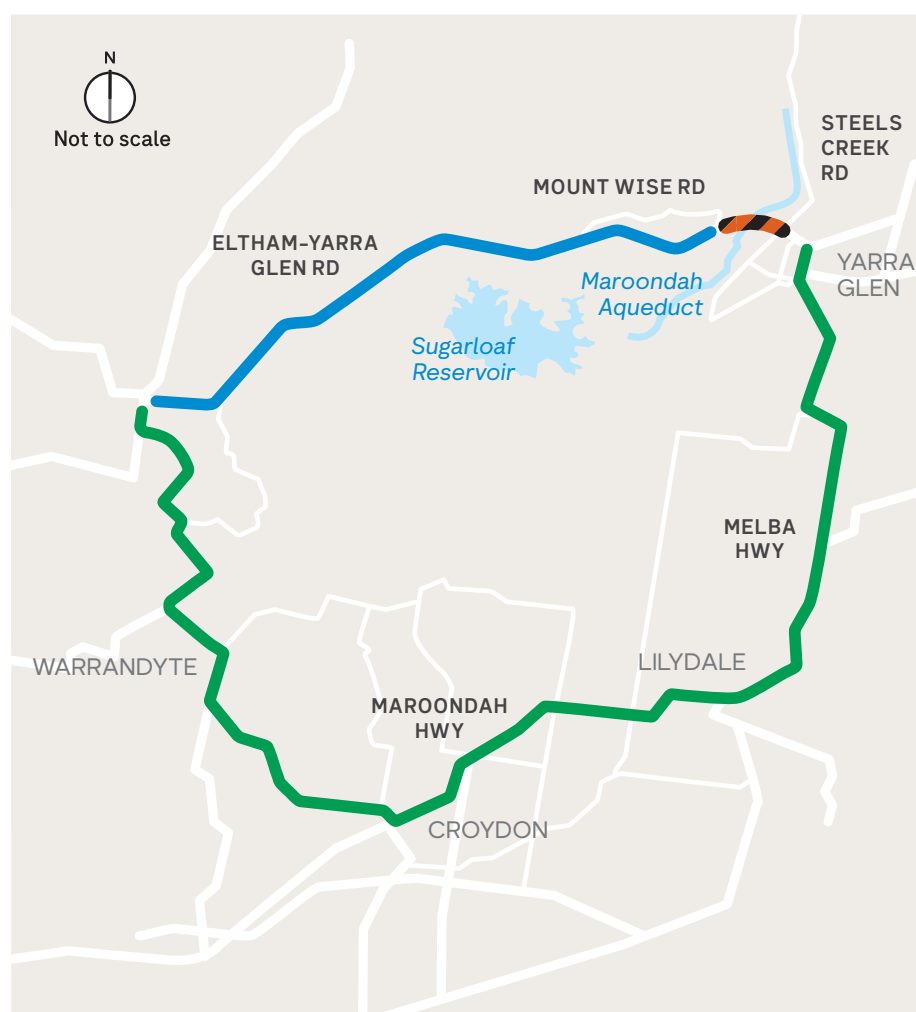
Maroondah Aqueduct Bridge closed

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



The Farmer's Ag News

National Saleyard Survey reveals strong growth

MEAT and Livestock Australia (MLA) has released the results of its 2024-25 National Saleyard Survey, revealing a significant increase in livestock transactions across Australian saleyards, with notable growth in both cattle and sheep consignments.

The annual survey, conducted by MLA's National Livestock Reporting Service (NLRs), provides a comprehensive snapshot of saleyard activity for the financial year ending June 30, 2025. It captures data from 73 cattle and 35 sheep facilities across Australia.

Yea Saleyards

The Yea Saleyards saw some 37,204 cattle transactions in 2023-24, which increased by 63 per cent to 60,500 in 2024-25. The MLA survey also shows that Yea's cattle sold accounted for 5.2 per cent of the state's cattle transactions.

Key national figures

Cattle transactions rose to 4.84 million head, up from 4.18 million in 2023-24. Sheep transactions increased to 16.39 million head, up from 14.09 million in 2023-24.

NLRs Operations Manager for MLA, Stephanie Pitt, said the results reflected a strong recovery in livestock movement and market confidence across the country.

"This year's survey highlights the resilience of Australia's livestock sector, with most states recording year-on-year growth in saleyard throughput," Ms Pitt said.

"The data also underscores the importance of regional saleyards in supporting producers, agents and buyers in a dynamic market environment."

State highlights

New South Wales led the nation with 1.82 million cattle and 9.24 million sheep transacted, marking a 22.2 per cent and 13.4 per cent increase respectively. Queensland saw a 20.9 per cent rise in cattle transactions, with Roma, Dalby and Charters Towers among the top-performing saleyards.

Victoria transacted 1.16 million cattle and 4.84 million sheep, with strong growth in Ballarat, Bendigo and Leongatha. Western Australia posted the largest percentage increase in sheep transactions at 60.2 per cent, driven by activity at Katanning and Muchea. Tasmania experienced a 23.1 per cent rise in sheep transactions, while cattle numbers dipped slightly by 5.2 per cent.

The full survey results, including detailed breakdowns by state and saleyard, are available at tinyurl.com/mb45rb9a

Record beef production forecast as national herd stabilises

AUSTRALIA'S beef industry is on track to break production records in 2025, according to Meat and Livestock Australia's (MLA) latest Australian Cattle Industry Projections September update.

Despite a slight easing in herd numbers, the national cattle herd is forecast to remain stable at 31 million head, supported by strong seasonal conditions in the north and strategic herd management in the south.

MLA Acting Market Information Manager, Erin Lukey said these figures reflect the latest seasonal, market and production data.

"These projections are a vital tool for the red meat industry. They provide a clear, evidence-based outlook that helps producers, processors and exporters make informed decisions," Ms Lukey said.

"By understanding the trends in herd composition, production capacity and global demand, the industry can better plan for the future and remain competitive in a dynamic global market."

Production and slaughter

Slaughter is forecast to rise 8.6 per cent to 9.02 million head in 2025, supported by robust cattle supply and processing capacity.

Carcass weights are expected to remain stable at 309.5kg/head, a historically high level. This stability is underpinned by a strong proportion of grainfed cattle in the slaughter mix and solid feed availability following autumn rainfall.

While increased female slaughter typically reduces average weights, the impact has been offset by improved pasture conditions resulting in higher quality cows, and the continued trend of finishing cattle at heavier weights through feedlots and improved pasture systems.

"The herd has evolved to support higher turn-off without compromising productivity," Ms Lukey said.

"This is a reflection of improved breeding efficiency and a shift toward more strategic herd management across the board."

Exports and global demand

Beef exports are forecast to reach 1.5 million tonnes shipped weight in 2025, as Australia continues to capitalise on global supply constraints caused by declining production in key competitor markets such as the United States and Brazil.

With the US progressing into a herd rebuild phase and Brazil facing herd contraction following heavy slaughter and drought recovery, Australia is uniquely positioned to meet rising international demand.

This export strength is further supported by Australia's robust processing capacity, consistent product quality, and long-standing trade relationships across North Asia, North America, and Southeast Asia.

Looking ahead

The herd is expected to remain stable through 2026 before easing slightly in 2027 due to drier seasonal conditions. However, ongoing improvements in carcass weights and processing efficiency are expected to support high production levels.

This stability is supported by consistent seasonal conditions in northern Australia and cautious stocking practices in the south, where producers are prioritising core breeding stock over expansion.

"The industry's focus is shifting from expansion to maintaining productivity and sustainability," Ms Lukey said.

"This positions the industry well to respond to both domestic and international demand in the years ahead, ensuring that Australia continues to lead in efficiency, quality and resilience across the global red meat supply chain."

To access the full report, visit: tinyurl.com/2zeuksv3

The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



Sponsored by

Alexandra Grain Store
Plumbing & Rural Supplies

A family-owned local one stop shop for Plumbing, Irrigation, Farm, Stock and Pet Supplies.

46-48 William Street Alexandria

5772 2110

alexgrainstore@gmail.com



VFF calls for realistic approach to caged-egg ban

IN light of Coles' decision to delay the phase-out of caged eggs until 2030 citing bird flu related supply issues, the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is calling on retailers and the government to take a realistic approach to guarantee the future supply of eggs for consumers.

VFF Egg Group President Brian Ahmed said recent outbreaks have highlighted the need for all three farming systems (caged, barn and free range) in maintaining food security and food affordability for all Australian families.

"The harsh reality is recent bird flu outbreaks decimated egg supplies across the country and it won't be for the last time. Our biosecurity safety net is good, but due to the nature of migrating wild birds, we can't stop everything," Mr Ahmed said.

"In times of bird flu outbreaks, caged egg systems are vital to ensuring a reliable supply of eggs across Australia. A phase-out of caged eggs only accelerates the uncertainty for farmers, disrupts supplies,

and puts massive pressure on food affordability for consumers.

"We encourage retailers and policymakers to work closely with farmers to ensure that animal welfare standards improve, without compromising farm viability or consumer access to affordable eggs."

Mr Ahmed also called on farmers and domestic chicken owners to remain vigilant as we enter the peak migratory bird season, which traditionally heightens the risk of diseases entering the country.

"Migratory birds from all over the world begin arriving en-masse during spring, which increases the risk of foreign diseases such as bird flu landing on our shores," he said.

"We've seen how damaging bird flu can be and I'm encouraging everyone to have a biosecurity plan in place and alert authorities if your birds become sick."

"Biosecurity is a shared responsibility between everyone and is a vital defence to protect both our industry and the natural environment," Mr Ahmed concluded.



Rotary Club of Alexandra



2000 Time Capsule 2025

GRAND OPENING

Rotary Park Sunday, October 5
From 10am until 1pm behind the Info Centre
Collect your time capsule messages.
Bring your family and friends. Pass the word.

No.	Envelope addressed to
1	Debbie Goodman
2	Kristopher Sawyer
3	Samuel Coutts
4	Luke, Erin & Carly Ware
5	Nadine Burke, Nathan & Amylee Goodman
6	Nadine Burke
7	Bronwen Jones
8	Kristy Penrose, Social Worker
9	Matthew Tate
10	Shae Penrose
11	Kate Hill or parents David & Cathy
12	Mary Rasmussen
12	Mark, John & Jane Wilmot
13	Kate Higgins, c/o Judy Young
14	Michael Lee
15	Marita Creighton
16	Judy Young
17	Kathy Rathbone, Michelle McLoughlan, Chris & Greg Mackrell
18	Nicholas, Jennifer & Andrew Bouvier
19	Rachel Cook & Kerry Parker
20	Cheryl Pratt
21	Samantha, Laura & Grace Westwood
22	Audry Downs
23	Salivel Coutts, Lisa Coutts & Kristen Fry
24	Sam Coutts
25	Alexandra Primary School Parents Group 2025
26	Murray Jones
27	Donna Lee Hunter
28	Dean Bellman
28	Nicki Dummet
29	Lucy & James Rollason
30	Darryl Hedger Jr & Kerry Parker
31	Eliza Jane Weinberg
32	Stacy & Mikaela Rennie
33	Lyndon, Ebony & Jordan Purcell
34	Bill Darmody & Family
34	Ruby Darmody
34	Stephen Darmody
34	Steven Kelly
34	Michael Slattery
35	Jonathon & Stevie Dent
36	Teresa & Tony Stephens
37	Margaret Stephens, Anthony Stephens
38	Karen Stephens & Grant Bradley (or descendants)
39	Nadine Burke
40	Hayley Harland
41	Angela Harland
42	Justine Harland
43	Elyse Harland
44	Timber & Building Supplies
45	Jamie, Rhiannon & Braydon Burchall
46	Jose Laura Tate
47	Lisa, Cameron & Shaun Parker
48	Nicole & Sara Powell
49	Tomas & Henry Hall
50	Justin & Kerry Parker, Zac Chapman
51	Mr. Jayden Robertson
52	Jake Armstrong
53	Lions Club of Alexandra
54	Grant & Samantha Radford
55	Fundraising Committee, Alexandra Hospital
56	Nathan & Amylee Goodman
57	Paul & Pauline Darrington, & Lance Stafford
58	Annabelle Weinberg
59	Dok, Chris, Dillon & Mally O'Keefe
59	Karen Stephens
60	Joshua & Tyra Gesler
61	Claudia Rose Schonekas-Spencer
62	Josl & Romy Stephens
63	Cooper Wayne Philips c/o Wayne & Jo Miller
64	Robbie or Leah Buckman or families
64	Gail Hardy or family
64	Steve, Daisy & Jason Hardy
65	Alida Walker
66	Staci, Jack & Tom Carpenter
67	The Hortin Girls c/o John & Carol Hortin
68	Laura, Meaghan & Sonja Finlayson
69	Mrs. Lynette Allen, Bradley, Georgia & Seaton
70	Brandon Collett
71	Brandon Collett
72	Sarah, Abbey & Kelsey Purcell
73	Secretary, Alexandra Senior Citizens Inc.
74	Russel E. & Joe; or Jacqueline, Helen, Mark or Fiona Coghill
75	David J Coghill or family Tracey, Darion
76	Madeline Nicholls c/o Wayne & Judy Nicholls
77	Sean Nicholls c/o Wayne & Judy Nicholls
78	Marion, Steven, Shae Williamson or their families
79	Stewart & Lesley Kneeshaw
79	Elizabeth Roberts
80	Mick & Judy Hall
81	The Roberts family c/o David & Gail Kneeshaw
82	Lesley & Stewart Kneeshaw & family
83	Harrison Riley Walker & brothers & sisters (if any)
84	Principal, Alexandra Vet Clinic
85	The Rice family
86	The Birchnell family c/o eldest son Peter or Richard
87	Chris & Sam Tate
87	Jessica & Laura Tate
88	Geoffrey William Webb
89	Jessica Bellman
90	Dylan Bellman
91	Paul Alan Webb
92	Alan & Audrey Downs
93	Leigh G E Hedger
94	Darrel G B Hedger

No.	Envelope addressed to
95	Toohy family - Peter, Judith, Julian & Christabelle
96	Williamson family - Geoff, Annette, Ben, Amber
97	Keely Ann Appleman
98	Meagan, John & Kate Tregaskis
99	L, E, C Ware, Ben/Ellie Thwaites, Dana/Mia Appleman McGorlick
100	Rhiannon Jade Burchall
101	Alexandra Agricultural & Pastoral Association
102	Alexandra Agricultural & Pastoral Association
103	Thomas Andrew & Stuart James Collier
104	Kimberly Shaw
105	Jessica Shaw
106	Jason Shaw
107	Belinda Shaw
108	Kelli & Harley Scott
109	Braydon John Burchall
110	Jamie Burchall
111	Jilli & Ian Haig
112	Max John Schonekas Spencer
113	Darryle Robinson
113	Tracy Rogers
113	Cathy Tonkin & all the grandchildren
113	Sue-Anne Witnish
114	Adam Herbert
114	Kathleen Herbert
114	Veronica Herbert
114	Luke Herbert
114	Heather Shaw
115	Steven & Rachael Maxwell
116	Mathew Stevens
117	Melissa Stevens
118	Joshua Klemm
119	Carol, Joanne & Robert McNair
120	Redgate CWA or Historical Society
121	Mark, Robyn, Lee, Donna & Tim FitzRoy & family
122	Alexandra SES
123	Conor Livingstone
124	Cameron Rollason
125	Karen Docking
126	Jacquelyn McFadyen
127	Sam & Kelly Culton
128	Jayne & Sophie Dent
129	Anthony & Sophie Venn
130	Jayden Robertson
131	Nadine Bourke (Ward)
132	Jodie Creighton
133	Megan Creighton
134	Brendan, Andrew, Kate, Laura & Callum Hogan
135	Kerri & Dianne Goschnick
136	Kate & Robert Goschnick
137	Alexandra Bowling Club
138	Shane & Brent McLaurin
138	Shane Nash
138	Andrew Nash
139	Linda Davis & Philip Reynolds
140	Jarron, Stephanie, Maree, Rick & grandchildren
141	Alexandra Swimming Club
142	Casey Southurst
143	Darren Southurst
144	Samuel Coutts
145	Kristen Fry
146	Alias "The Munch", Kate Louise nee Hill
147	Nicholas Blundell, Lachlan, Abbey & Kelsey Sinclair
148	John East
148	Rickie East
148	Julie Robb
149	Nathan B Webb
150	Jill Blakeney
151	CEO Alexandra District Hospital
152	Tayla Coleman
153	Alyce/Caitlyn Debono, Gary, Robert, Lyn, Steven Dacre-Debono
154	Jessica Rose & Laura Emily Tate or their children
155	Leah Buckman- Sanders
156	Descendants & family of Lynne & Yvonne Stillman
157	Matt & Jake Armstrong, Morgan & Jodie Creighton
158	Charlie & Tara Muller
159	Allie & Jordan Savage
160	Molly Dean
161	Gayle Reynolds - Hallet family
162	Dian, Julien, Alex, Fred & Dianna Parnell
162	Maureen & Trevor Squire
163	Philip & Bobby Christopher
164	Junior Guides & Brownies
165	Tarn, Kate, Rebecca, Katie, Karen, Travis, Man, Courtney
166	Maddison Coleman
167	Rhys Coleman
168	Ron Bellman, Laurinda Savage
168	Helen or John Bellman, Summer Hayes
168	Lauren Collier, Jordon Savage
168	Allie Savage, Jake Bellman
168	Sue or Brendon Savage
169	Cooper Wayne Philips c/o Wayne & Jo Miller
170	Cooper Philips brother & sisters c/o Wayne & Jo Miller
170	David Missan
171	Jennifer Stevenson c/o Niel Tremaine
172	Carren Hedger
173	Corey & Craig Schulz
174	Dale Calnan
175	Philip Calnan
176	K Deacon & D Robb
177	The current Funeral Services
178	Anna, Katie & James Long c/o Mr & Mrs R Long
	The Secretary, ASC Parents & Friends Assoc.
180	Brooke, Emma & Anna Bamford
181	Miss Clair McDonald

No.	Envelope addressed to
182	Sharon Hedger-Fogerty
183	Clayton Hedger
184	Rhiannon, Rebecca & Tom Barkley & Nathalie Derosin
185	Nadine Bourke
186	Megan Strongman
187	Carren Hedger
188	Clayton & 'Baby' Hedger
189	Priscilla & 'Baby' Hedger
190	Sharon Fogerty/Hedger, Darren Fogerty c/o R Hedger
191	Sharon Fogerty/Hedger
192	Nathan, Ricki, Christopher, Harley & Heaven Towers
193	Jack Creighton
194	Rick & Daniel Wales
195	Nicholas Strongman
196	Russel Strongman
197	Andrew Strongman c/o Russel & Megan Strongman
198	Karen Strongman
199	Michael Strongman
200	Matthew Strongman
201	Alexander & Thea Powell
202	Brydie Bonsema
203	Janette Osborne, Dianne Goschnick & their families
204	Ross & Jill Miles or Greg Londsedale
205	Elyse Harland
206	Meg Bonsema
207	Les, Michael & Daniel Clark c/o Greg Rennie
208	Simon, Tamlin, Gerard Cole c/o Greg Rennie
209	Sam Creighton
210	Tom Creighton
211	Trevor James Squire & family c/o Powell family
212	Dianne/Julian Powell, Alexander, James & Thea Ellen Powell
213	James Bonsema
214	Ex Year 3's Eildon Primary School
215	Class of 2000 Grade 5/6s Eildon Primary School
216	Class of 2000 Grade 5/6s Eildon Primary School
217	Class of 2000 Grade 5/6s Eildon Primary School
218	Class of 2000 Prep Ones & Twos Eildon Primary School
219	Sophie & Anthony Venn
220	Sophie & Anthony Venn
221	The Armstrong children
222	Myself or Trevor or Matthew & Jake Armstrong
223	Candice, Dylan & Sott Triffitt
224	Kali, Caitlin & Todd Hall
225	Daisy, Jason & Amanda Hardy, c/o Buckmans
226	Daisy, Jason & Amanda Hardy
227	Family of T E & R J Bowd or descendants c/o R Moorhead
228	Jodie McNair, Jade, Kayla/Wayne Bowcher c/o McNairs
229	Chris & Greg Bell & family
230	Bronte & Damon Thomas, Oliver Walsh
231	Ms Darion Coghill
232	Arran Scale
233	Liam Scale
234	Liam Scale
235	Emma & Jessica May
236	Christopher Edwin Harris
237	Elisha Kate Finlayson
238	Colin Finlayson
239	Mrs Joanne Amos
240	Nicholas W Harris
241	Michael & Michelle O'Brien
242	Jodie Coward, Kylie Heard
243	Ethan, Jon & Jedd Hamill
244	Tegan & Chloe Rogers
245	Ryley & Alli Jackson
246	Andrew Best
247	Madison Parsons
248	Danielle & Stephanie Keating
249	Ash-Leigh Keating
250	Relatives of Kylie Heard, Jason Fountain
251	Children of Scott & Lucy Whitehead
252	Sam Sharwood
253	The owner "Woodlea"
254	Sally Napier (nee Rollason)
254	Peter Rollason
254	Cam Rollason
255	Luke Fallon
256	Brock Fallon
257	Heath Fallon
258	Ros, Eve & children, Madielynn, Mathew, Travis & Sam
259	David, Cody, Courtney & Damon Amos
260	Jason Bourke
261	Russel Pawsey
262	President Rotary Club of Alexandra
263	Julie & Stuart Coward or kids to come
264	Johanna Rose Davis
265	Elyse Harland
266	Sarah Hamilton
267	Kate Hogan
268	Lauren Colville
269	Dean O'Brien
270	Mami O'Brien
271	Dillon John Welch, grandson of Alan & Joy Welch
272	Beau O'Brien
273	Jesiah & Chelsea Skerritt
274	Jake & Lauren Steyger
275	Children of Elizabeth & Bill Holloway
275	Suzy & Bruce Stillman
275	Andrea Stillman
276	Sue Carstein
277	Roz Carstein
278	Carol & Gary Pollard
279	Ben & Christopher Meyer

A problem year for animals in the shire

THE total number of animals seized or surrendered to RSPCA in Murrindindi Shire for 2024/5 was 13, up from previous years, with eight surrendered or seized in 2023/4 and nine in 2022/3. Unfortunately, this places Murrindindi Shire higher in the rankings, in 38th place out of the 78 local government areas (LGAs) in Victoria. The shire was previously in 49th and 46th place.

The number of reports per 1000 population is also up. It was on 3.01 in the last financial year, with the three previous years being on 2.52, 2.02, 2.5 and 2.29.

This puts Murrindindi Shire into 13th place in the LGA rankings. For the previous financial years, Murrindindi Shire was ranked 20th, 38th, 23rd and 34th.

The total number of reports by LGA stands at 47 for this year in Murrindindi Shire. In the preceding years, there were 39, 31, 39 and 34 reports. This has made Murrindindi Shire climb upwards in the rankings, from 69th place in 2020/21 to 58th place this financial year.

We must treat our animals better.

Belinda Dent, RSPCA Inspectorate Team Leader (north-east region), said, "As the Team Leader for RSPCA Victoria's Inspectorate north-east region, I manage a team of five inspectors investigating animal cruelty reports from St Kilda to Albury and everywhere in between.

"My team and I are on the front line, and we are often the first to see concerning trends and witness what pet ownership in Victoria really looks like. Sadly, the ongoing drought and cost-of-living pressures are making it harder for people to care for their animals, and my team and I are seeing the impact first-hand.

"The majority of what we deal with is not malicious cruelty, but neglect stemming from financial stress, poor access to feed, or personal challenges like mental health issues. These situations are incredibly complex, and our job is to balance enforcing animal welfare laws with helping people do better by their pets.

"Wherever possible, my team and I try to support owners before things reach a crisis point. This may be providing emergency pet food, bedding or kennels, or helping with preventative flea and worming treatments.

"Sometimes, the animals' owners recognise their animal's well-being is at risk and choose to surrender their animal into our care, while sometimes, we need to step in and seize their animal. In the last financial year, there were 543 animals from the north-east seized by, or surrendered to, RSPCA Inspectors.

"We're extremely fortunate to work closely with local police and councils, and this support helps us to care for the community and their pets.

"Other cases involved households simply being overwhelmed by the number of animals they had taken in. In the north-east region, we are continually seeing unwanted litters due to animals not being desexed, leaving owners struggling to meet the demands of providing basic care for many, vulnerable young animals.

"This year, RSPCA Victoria's Animal Cruelty Report 2024/25 shows animal hoarding, hungry animals and horse cases are rising across the state.

"In the last financial year, RSPCA Victoria responded to over 10,200 animal cruelty reports across the state. Many of these involved animals being left without enough food, water or shelter, with horses hit particularly hard, and our region is no different.

"We know times are tough, and many people are struggling to provide even the basics for the animals they love. This is why community support is so important; reports from locals can sometimes be the reason an animal is rescued in time.

"RSPCA Victoria is a not-for-profit charity established in 1871. Our vision is to end cruelty to all animals... To everyone who has made an animal cruelty report, thank you. Your willingness to help fight animal cruelty means the world to us and, more importantly, to the animals whose lives are turned around because of it."

If you have concerns about the welfare of an animal, please make a report at rspcavic.org/cruelty-report

Great things happening for the community at Eildon Primary School

Students inspect the building site. -S

IT has been a great year for Eildon Primary School after receiving a \$4.8 million grant from the Victorian government to upgrade and modernise the school's buildings.

As a result, the school will receive a brand new staff room, brand new toilet block, an outdoor courtyard and three new learning spaces in the school gym and community centre.

The new learning spaces will be installed on the upstairs mezzanine floor of the school gym and will comprise an Arts and Technology room, a library and a Performing Arts room. These three spaces will be primarily used for specialist lessons for the students but will also be available for hire to community groups when not in use by the school.

The school has also recently constructed a Minifarm comprised of shelters for rabbits, chickens and guinea pigs as well as vegetable gardens, outdoor under cover teaching space, fruit trees, campfire pit and an outdoor kitchen. The students are taking great care of the plants and animals who are fabulously protected from the elements by a substantial netting structure. The Minifarm was funded by two consecutive successful ActiveSchool grant applications totalling approximately \$70,000. The new facilities will be used both by the kindergarten and primary school students. These improvements along with the revamped BMX track, will see the students becoming even more active in a world where sedentary screen-time is becoming increasingly prevalent.

The school consistently produces strong NAPLAN results and is currently taking enrolments for 2026.



The Minifarm. -S



The new BMX track. -S

Chlamydia vaccine for koalas in development

A HISTORIC vaccine to strengthen protection of koalas against chlamydia has been developed by researchers from the University of the Sunshine Coast's Centre for Bioinnovation, with funding from the Federal Government.

The single-dose vaccine will combat the threat of chlamydia which can cause painful urinary tract infections, infertility, blindness and death in koala populations.

Researchers at the University of the Sunshine Coast have spent more than 10 years developing the single-dose vaccine to protect koalas from the disease.

Trials were conducted on hundreds of wild koalas, koalas in care, and over multiple generations.

Development of the vaccine is supported by \$749,000 in funding from the Federal Government's \$76 million Saving Koalas Fund.

The vaccine has now been registered by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

Minister for the Environment and Water, Murray Watt said the milestone is a huge achievement.

"This is a decade in the making. Having a koala chlamydia vaccine registered and ready for use is a big stride towards protecting this iconic species," Mr Watt said.

"We know chlamydia impacts the fertility of wild koala populations and is a threat to their survival, that's why the Albanese Government is supporting this project.

"We're also investing in koala habitat restoration and koala monitoring efforts so that our koalas not only survive but thrive."

Sunshine Coast Professor of Microbiology, Peter Timms said the University of the Sunshine Coast was determined to do the hard yards to move the project from research to this vital next stage.

"This is a high-quality, veterinary-approved product that can now be used in wildlife hospitals, veterinary clinics, and in the field, to protect the nation's most at-risk koalas," Professor Timms said.

"We knew a single-dose vaccine, with no need for a booster, was the answer to reducing the rapid, devastating spread of this disease, which accounts for as much as half of koala deaths across wild populations in Australia.

"A decade of clinical data, gathered through multiple vaccination trials, confirmed the vaccine's safety and effectiveness. This includes the largest and longest-ever study of wild koalas.

"We found that the vaccine reduced the likelihood of koalas developing symptoms of chlamydia during breeding age and decreased mortality from the disease in wild populations by at least 65 per cent. It offers three levels of protection: Reducing infection, preventing progression to clinical disease and, in some cases, reversing existing symptoms."

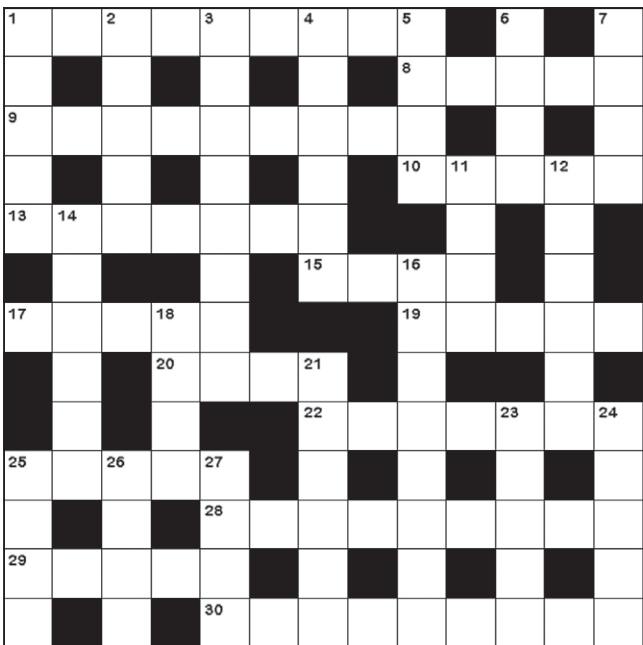
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 15

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Cultured, polite and socially developed.
- 8. A variety show with sketches and songs.
- 9. A large prickly tropical fruit.
- 10. Squeeze into a very tight space.
- 13. Look down on with contempt.
- 15. A specified day of a month.
- 17. Flavoured topping used to decorate cakes.
- 19. Grey or white wading bird with long neck.
- 20. As soon as possible.
- 22. Accepted as real or true without proof.
- 25. A pier or landing place on a river.
- 28. The science that deals with healthy food.
- 29. A person between birth and puberty.
- 30. People who you don't know.



DOWN

- 1. The god of love.
- 2. Offers goods for sale from place to place.
- 3. Food left on the plate at the end of a meal.
- 4. Cooked or heated in a microwave oven.
- 5. Pulled back the sling of a bow.
- 6. Having a zealous interest in something.
- 7. Distribute in measured portions.
- 11. A fencing sword with a blunted point.
- 12. In great numbers or quantity.
- 14. Get away from danger or difficulty.
- 16. A theatrical performer.
- 18. The back side of the neck.
- 21. The sales pitch promoting a product.
- 23. A light yellow to moderate orange yellow.
- 24. Eats a meal.
- 25. A delicate fabric with a weblike pattern.
- 26. Excessively proud of one's appearance.
- 27. Comes to a conclusion.

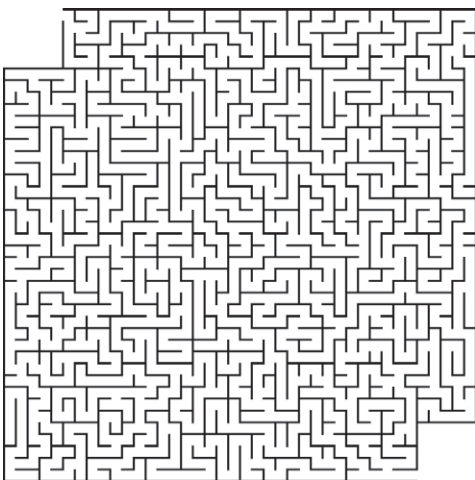
Word Search

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

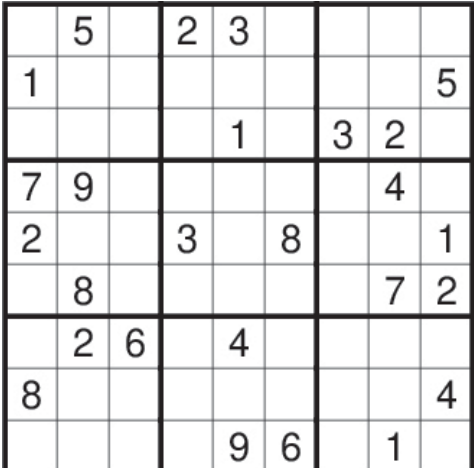
Water conservation

- AQUEDUCT
- ILFILTRATION
- AQUIFER
- PRECIPITATION
- CONDENSATION
- RECYCLE
- DROUGHT
- REDUCE
- EVAPORATION
- RUNOFF
- GREYWATER
- WASTEWATER

Maze



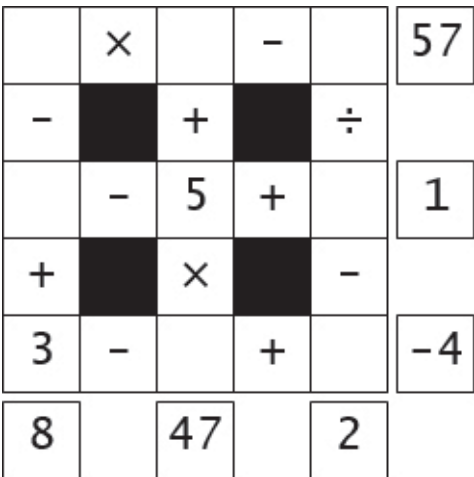
Sudoku



Difficulty: Medium

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

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

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

KID'S PUZZLES

Colouring Page



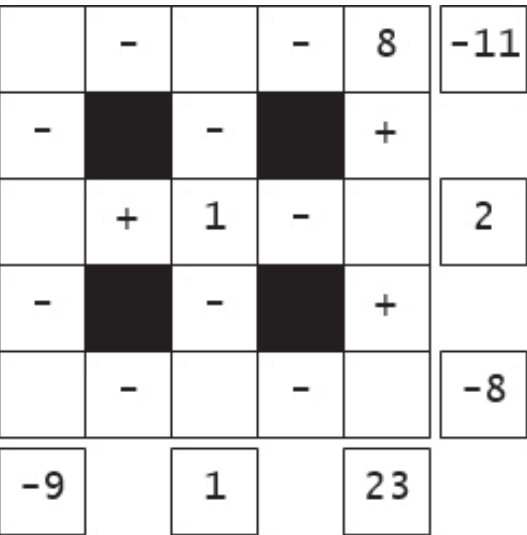
Word Search

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

Words starting with "V"

- VACANT
- VINCENT
- VALUABLE
- VIOLET
- VANILLA
- VISUAL
- VANISH
- VOCABULARY
- VEGETABLES
- VOLCANO
- VICTORIA
- VOLLEYBALL
- VICTORY
- VULTURE

Math Square



Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Jokes

Q: Why do bananas have to put on sunscreen before they go to the beach?
A: Because they might peel.

Knock knock
Who's there?
Radio
Radio who?
Radio not, here I come!

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

TO BOOK AN AD PLEASE PHONE 5772 1002

ANIMAL SERVICES

IN THE PINK Behaviourist and Certified Master Dog Groomer

0418 556 001
www.pinkdog.com.au

BOOKKEEPING

TURNOVER BOOKKEEPING

*BAS *IAS *Superannuation
*Accounts Receivable
*Accounts Payable *Payroll

Ph Trevor Turner
0419 575 176

ELECTRICIANS

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

E-TEC
Electrical Technology

- Domestic / Commercial
- Undergrounds
- Cable Locations • Trenching
- Solar Installations • Batteries

Ph 0418 543 310
info@e-tec.net.au
www.etecelectrical.com.au

MEM0042 REC N°12906

EXCAVATION & EARTHMOVING

KEATH'S EXCAVATIONS P/L, YARCK

EARTH MOVING

Excavators ~ Dozers ~ Graders
Scrapers ~ Loaders ~ Rollers
Backhoe ~ Water Carts
Low Loader ~ Tipplers
Trucks & Trailers

All equipment operated by qualified operators
PERSONAL SUPERVISION - 42 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Phone 5773 4242 Mobile 0428 577 951
keathsec@bigpond.com

EMC0082



Taggerty Vet Clinic

Dr Rebecca Parth
BVSc
0403 012 996

All Animals
Large & Small

Consultations strictly
by appointment

BRICKLAYING

Alexandra

BRICKLAYING

CONCRETE & PAVING

No job too big or too small
Free quotes
Call Jarrod, James and Corey

0409 190 502

EMC0032

ANTENNAS

Christopher Edwards
0405 554 915
info@chris-tv.com.au
Sec Reg: 997-462-605

Chris's TV
The Television Reception Specialist

- TV & FM radio antennas
- Starlink, VAST & Foxtel installs
- Extra TV wall points
- TV brackets & wall mount TVs
- Surround sound systems
- Home theatre
- Data points & mesh WIFI
- CCTV security systems

Fully Registered Fully Insured

BUILDERS & CARPENTERS

HBI CONSTRUCTIONS

SCOTT HILL
Registered Builder
0439 730 824

- NEW HOMES • EXTENSIONS
- RENOVATIONS • DECKS
- SWIMMING POOLS

info@hbiconstructions.com.au
hbiconstructions.com.au

REGISTERED Building Practitioner member

RBP - DBU 47736 HIA 1169777

J. WILLIAMS ELECTRICAL

- COMMERCIAL
- INDUSTRIAL
- SPLIT SYSTEMS
- UNDERGROUNDS
- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- NEW HOMES
- MAINTENANCE
- BREAKDOWNS

0439 842 030

Buxton Excavation & Gravel Supplies

House and shed site cuts
Driveway and road construction
Drainage and erosion works
Dam construction and clean outs
Vegetation mulching
Hazardous tree removal
Gravel/Rock/Soil/Sand supplies
20 Ton excavators
5 Ton excavator
Quad axle float
Tip truck and trailer

Darren 0447 198 740
Barney 0488 016 820

AUTOMOTIVE

ASC
ALEXANDRA SERVICE CENTRE

RACV VACC
You're in good hands

At Alexandra Service Centre we offer a wide range of services:

- Log book servicing
- General servicing
- Fleet car servicing
- Mechanical repairs
- RACV Roadside Assist
- Towing
- RACV Pre-Purchase Inspections
- Roadworthys
- Trailer servicing
- Car batteries
- Auto electrical repairs
- Air conditioning

We now have several courtesy cars available when booking a service or repairs

Come in and see the team at
6A Webster Street, Alexandra
Phone: 5772 2133

CAR DETAILING

GW
Carpet Cleaning

- ✓ Stain removal
- ✓ Urine treatment
- ✓ Upholstery cleaning
- ✓ Carpet steam cleaning
- ✓ Tile and grout cleaning

Ph 0427 322 124
admin@gvrestorations.com.au

COMPUTERS

ACROSS TECHNOLOGY

Does your business need reliable, affordable & informed IT support?

We offer:

- Remote management and monitoring
- Onsite and offsite backups
- Sales, service & repairs of Networks, Servers, PCs, laptops, tablets & phones
- Hosting for business websites & emails

Contact Anthony on 0478 534 826
Visit <https://axti.com.au>

CONVEYANCING

Sargeants

CONVEYANCING & PROPERTY TRANSFER SPECIALISTS

Debra Loveday
5772 2500
71 Grant Street, Alexandra
debra@sargeantsm.com.au
Conveyancing throughout Victoria

ENGINEERING

HUNTED
ENGINEERING

- Ute trays and canopies
- Steel and aluminium welding
- General welding • Onsite welding

10 Peterkin Place, Alexandra VIC 3714
www.huntedengineering.com.au
☎ (03) 5772 2132 📠 0427 937 404
Office hours: Mon-Thurs: 8am-4:30pm. Fri: 8am-1pm.

EXCAVATION & EARTHMOVING

Burchall Earthmoving

- ROADWORKS
- DAM WORK
- HORSE ARENAS
- GRAVEL SUPPLIES
- HOUSE & SHED SITES

Phone Shane
0418 589 240

Owner operator with local knowledge

MEM00128

EXCAVATOR HIRE

---- FOR HIRE ----

D6T dozer
Cat 12 h/grader
16T excavator

D5M dozer
Tipper
Water cart
Hay and Silage

Ernie Hadfield (20 years experience)
0429 931 127
ernie.hadfield@bigpond.com

GLAZIERS

DINDI
GLASS & GLAZING

- Residential And Commercial Glass Replacement
- New Work
- Quality Double Glazing
- Mirrors
- Splash-Backs
- Shower Screens
- Pet Doors Into Single And Double Glazed

Rob - 0439 141 812

BIN HIRE

RUBBISH REMOVAL

• DOMESTIC • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL

- Builders Waste
- 6m Walk In Bins
- Household Waste
- 3m Bins

Alexandra SKIP BINS
22 BON ST, ALEXANDRA

CALL SIMON GOODMAN
0409 997 632

LWC0193



Like us on facebook

facebook.com/alexandranewspapers

Alexandra Newspapers | 43 Grant St, Alexandra VIC 3714 | P: (03) 5772 1002

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

Standard

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

PHONE 5772 1002

GLAZIERS

ALEXANDRA WINDSCREENS & GLASS

Servicing the Murrindindi Shire
for 35 years

★ on site 24 hour service ★

- ★ Automotive glass ★
- ★ Household needs ★
- ★ Shower screens ★
- ★ Shop fronts ★

Ph Steve Heard
YOUR LOCAL GLAZIER
0427 577 839

MECHANICAL REPAIRS

Alexandra Motorcycles



- Authorised Dealer • Tyre fitting service
- Road, Enduro, Quad, Side by Side repairs
- Servicing for popular brands • Honda spare parts

VACC MEMBER
65 Downey Street (near secondary college)
PH 5772 1045

EMC4459

PAINTERS

W. & J. GREEN

PROFESSIONAL PAINTING

50 Years experience in all things painting

0407 134 756

KITCHENS

Murrindindi KITCHENS

Can design and build...

Custom built kitchens, 3D kitchen design,
Granite and Reconstituted stone, laundries,
Creative design and quality,
vanities, wardrobes

0409 146 465

38 Johnston St, Alexandra
sales@murrindindikitchens.com

PLUMBERS



John Taylor 0419 340 908

Over 40 years experience
Licenced Plumber & Gasfitter No. 26477
General plumbing maintenance
Hot water unit replacements
Wood heater installation
Roof repairs
taylorplumbing.com.au

LEGAL SERVICES

Bell Legal & Planning

Lawyers and Town Planning Consultants
Angelina Bell – Principal Solicitor
0448 793 795
admin@belllegalplanning.com.au

A & C Wood PLUMBING Lic. No. 108688

ANDREW WOOD
0488 559 091

DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL, GAS FITTING, HOT WATER SERVICES,
SEWER, SEPTIC, HEATING & EMERGENCY SERVICE

SERVICE STATIONS



Fuelling North East Victoria since 1953
with quality products and great service.

Supplying bulk fuels to your farm or business.
Lubricant specialists, catering for all your needs
with Mobil and Prolube lubricants,
greases and solvents.



Ampol Alexandra
Ampol Eildon
Mansfield Diesel Stop



0357721205 | www.simpsonsfuel.com.au

STORAGE

Lake Eildon Storage



www.lestorage.com.au
Ph: 0486 026 511

TREE SERVICES

NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

- Commercial and residential block clearing
- Deadwood and weight reduction
- 24-hour emergency call outs
- Tree and stump removal
- Pruning and shaping
- 3.6 Tonne excavator
- Insurance works
- Storm damage



FULLY INSURED

Andrew Bates: 0488 990 393
Kate Hill: 0407 555 440

IT'S TREES

- Insured
- Experienced
- Qualified
- Reliable
- Competitive

TREE & STUMP REMOVALS

Servicing Murrindindi and Mansfield Shires

5778 9603 JASON 0413 671 066

Advanced TREE CARE
Servicing N.E. Victoria

- ✓ Tree Removal ✓ Chipping ✓ Qualified Climbers & Arborists ✓ Fully Insured
- ✓ Felling ✓ Mulching ✓ Stump Removal
- ✓ Tower Hire ✓ Free Quotes

Please call **0449 810 683**
Michael on (03) 5778 7479

WATER BORING

WATER BORING

No water, no charge
after free site inspection

Ph Des Murray

0428 518 159

MM00039

WATER CARTAGE



Delivering drinking water to
Alexandra & surrounding areas

0491 795 157

Standard

The ALEXANDRA • EILDON • MARYSVILLE

Book your space
in our trades
directory today!

5772 1002

DEADLINE: 12 NOON THURSDAYS

Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au



PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

C	I	V	I	L	I	Z	E	D	A	M
U	E	E	A	R	E	V	U	E		
P	I	N	E	A	P	P	L	E	I	T
I	D	V	P	W	E	D	G	E		
D	E	S	P	I	S	E	P	A		
S	N	D	A	T	E	R	L			
I	C	I	N	G				H	E	R
A	A	S	A	P	E					
P	P		A	S	S	U	M	E	D	
L	E	V	E	E	T	P	A	I		
A	A	N	U	T	R	I	T	I	O	N
C	H	I	L	D	E	A	Z	E		
E	N		S	T	R	A	N	G	E	R

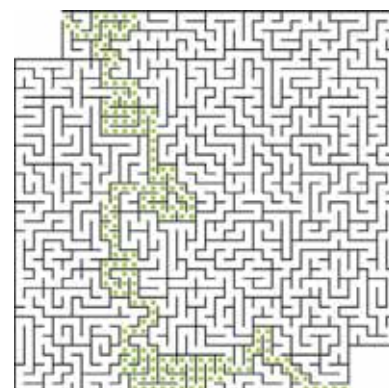
SUDOKU

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

MATH SQUARE

9	×	7	-	6	57
-		+		÷	
4	-	5	+	2	1
+		×		-	
3	-	8	+	1	-4
8		47		2	

MAZE



KIDS MATH SQUARES

2	-	5	-	8	-11
-		-		+	
7	+	1	-	6	2
-		-		+	
4	-	3	-	9	-8
-9		1		23	

Major tree works at the race club

YOU may recently have noticed some major tree works in progress at the Alexandra Racecourse and Recreation Reserve (ARRR)

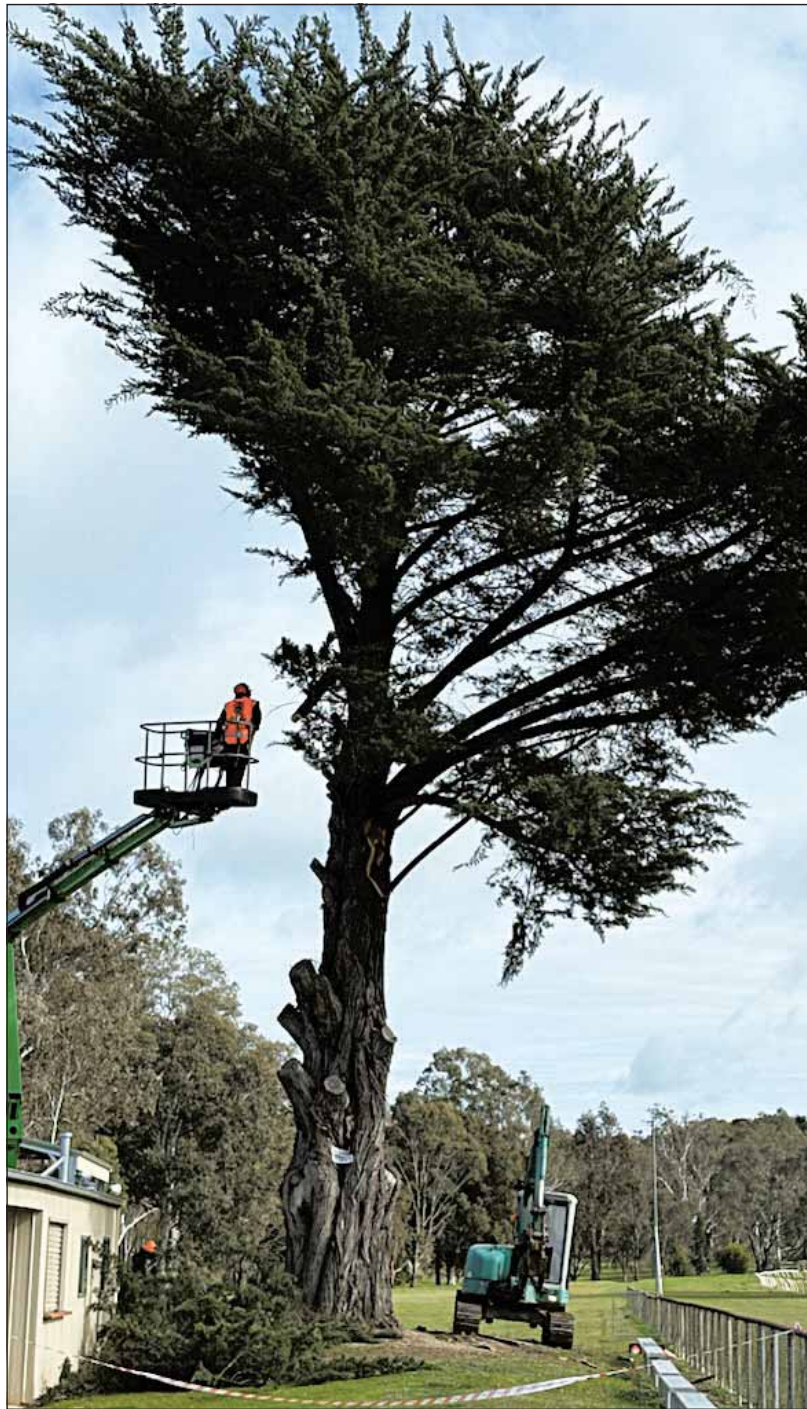
The committee of management, after consultation with an arborist and DEECA, made the difficult decision to remove the large Monterey cypress which has graced the north side of the race club's building for many years. The tree was deemed dangerous, not only for falling on the building but for the public who use the reserve on race days, and for recreational users throughout the year. The tree was cut down preserving the lower part of the stump which can be used as a table.

ARRR Committee of Management is made up of three race club representatives, three golf club representatives and three independent members elected every three years. This committee oversees the reserve and, with the two clubs, maintains it.

A detailed survey by an arborist of all the mature trees, especially the river red gums on the reserve, was carried out in recent years, with many trees identified as needing remedial works.

With a grant from DEECA, the committee of management has been working through the list, so you may see more tree works in progress, weather and events like race days and golf tournaments permitting. Also some minor work will be carried out for Occupational Health and Safety requirements from time to time including drainage improvements.

The reserve is a wonderful asset for the Alexandra and district community and the committee of management is committed to maintaining it as a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone and ask everyone to help us look after it by taking home your rubbish and picking up after your dog.



Busy times at Murrindindi East U3A

LOTS of things have been happening in Murrindindi East U3A circles lately. Recently, Andy took his Birds and Bird Life group along the rail trail at Cathkin and down Ridds Road to the Goulburn River where they spotted lots of pardalotes flitting in and out of the branches, a black faced shrike, chestnut teal ducks, black ducks and wood ducks.

The Scribblers Art Group at CH@T (Community Hub at Taggerty) have been working on their watercolour skills and the walking group's first walk this spring was along Stoney Creek Road, Fawcett for an hour, as far as they could go, then back to Fawcett Hall car park for a cuppa.

A highlight for August was a Pop Up walk around five historic sites in Alexandra led by Sandra. One session was planned but it quickly turned into two due to member interest. By the end of the day Sandra had certainly earned a coffee break.



Members enjoying a coffee after the historic tour. -S



Scribblers art at CH@T. -S



One of the groups visiting historic sites in Alexandra. -S



The Birds and Bird Life group at Cathkin. -S



Walking Group taking a break at Fawcett. -S

SPORT

Sun brings out the golfers

by Dave Silverman

A FINE spring day greeted the 10 players for Tuesday's Stableford round at Alexandra Golf Course. Unfortunately, Thommo was unable to complete the course, and was recorded as NSA.

Of the rest, Greg Ebinger was the top scorer, his 35 points three clear of Dave Silverman on 32. Greg's score would have been one better if his tee shot on seven had spun back another two inches. Frank DeVries came in third, also on 32 points.

Greg took off nearest the pins on seven and 18, and rundown vouchers were awarded to Steve Darmody and Leo Dynes.

Nine players arrived on Wednesday to play in a three-person Ambrose, and despite the low numbers, all had a pleasant day. The winning team, with a 79 net 66, comprised Deb Richardson, Sandra Morris and Sue Greateorex.

The only nearest the pin to be claimed went to Donna, Marg and Sandy on 18.

With several of the Saturday regulars away watching the football, it was a smallish field of eight that took on the course, which is starting to put on its springtime clothes and look nice and green again.

The winner was Bill Wind, who had a bit of an up and down day, but his 34 points was enough to keep him in front. Second was Greg Millard on 32, and third, also on 32, was Michael Bossonnet.

Michael also picked up nearest the pin on 18, 12 went to Pat Buckett, seven belonged to Matt Richards and John Steer took five, while two went begging.

A couple of little reminders of upcoming events. This coming Saturday, September 20, is the season opener, with the now traditional Captain versus Presidents Stableford round, with an 11am start and a barbecue to follow the golf.

Finally, a date to put in your diary is October 4, which is the date of the club's AGM. Details to follow later.



Half of Saturday's field. Greg, Matt, Michael and Pat. -S



Bill Wind on his way to victory. -S



Close but no cigar. Greg Ebinger's tee shot on seven. -S



Steve Darmody putts on 18. -S



Ruth Worland gets her round underway. -S

Tennis semi finals down to the wire

by Judy Sands and Rhonda Carpenter

Wappan 4/45 defeat Terip 2/34

IT was another magnificent day for the EDWTA semifinals being played in Mansfield on Monday, September 8.

Both matches were lengthy hard fought affairs with little separating the teams. The crowd of spectators were treated to fantastic tennis.

Relishing the opportunity to play finals Wappan's Anna Speirs, Liza Karras, Carol Watts and Rhonda Carpenter had finished third and took on Terip.

Terip's Cindy Hayes and Frances Lawrence were an impenetrable wall in their opener, while Phoebe Macdermid and Jenny Martin were challenged in theirs, the set full of momentum swings and key moments. Carol and Rhonda raced to a four-nil lead but were quickly levelled going game for game thereafter. Unable to serve it out the relieved pair took the breaker seven-five.

There were trick shots, and freak gets in the high quality hit out, with plenty of

laughter and wind assisted placements. Sets were again split in the second pairings, Terip leading by four games.

Liza and Carol, played in yet another breaker, stretching the contest as spectators felt the wind chill.

Carol's deft touch at net and Liza's strong serves had onlookers cheering. The reigning premier stamped its authority on the contest, winning both final sets and the match 4/45 to 2/34 for a spot in the grand final.

Moglonemby 3-37 had defeated Euroa 3-28

IN perfect conditions Moglonemby and Euroa travelled to Mansfield to determine who would compete in the grand final.

Euroa's team of experienced finals players Faye Mollison, Lyndall Bigland, Ruth Nolan and Julie Harrington faced Moglonemby's Judy Sands, Marlene Hanrahan, Sue Vaughan and Danielle Scottis with Julie, Faye and Marlene executing perfect drop shots and lobs, while the remainder of the players preferred long baseline rallies.

Faye and Lyndall won the first set eight-five against Judy and Marlene. On the other court Sue and Danielle won eight-one, then Judy and Sue won eight-three and Lyndall and Julie won eight-six. Only seven games separated the teams, and it was still anyone's game, but when Marlene and Sue won eight-nil, Moglonemby would play for the first time in a grand final.

For Moglonemby it has been a long wait. In 2011 the competition changed from two sections to just one section and Moglonemby were the only team from the lower section to go up and if they got 10 games or more, it would have been a good day. Marlene and Robyn were part of the original team with Judy joining them in 2017 and with the reshuffle of the Euroa teams this year Sue, Danielle and Lisa joined them.

After narrowly losing to Terip in the final round, Moglonemby will relish the chance to get another crack at them in the grand final.

Teams were grateful for the many players who filled in for them over winter and the willingness of teams to share players.



The Terip team, Cindy Hayes, Frances Lawrence, Jenny Martin and Phoebe Macdermid. -S

Many thanks go to those who provided photographs to enliven the reports and the generous contributions of highlights from the matches.

The grand final between Terip and Moglonemby was played on Monday, September 15 in Euroa.

Marysville golf report

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Saturday it was a pleasure to welcome a number of junior golfers to the inaugural Junior Invitation Day at Marysville Golf Club.

The keen young visitors played a stableford round with a member who acted as a mentor and guided them around the 18 holes. With varying degrees of golfing experience, some of the visitors already had a golf handicap and others were given one on the day. The junior winner was Angus Birchall (36) with 34 points and the runner up was his cousin Billy Baker (36) with 31 points. Angus's round included a birdie on the challenging 12th hole and he was also declared the men's runner up in the daily competition. Congratulations to Angus and all the visiting juniors. Members thanked them all for participating in the event and their supporters for transporting them, some of who walked the course with the golfers. Special thanks was given to Heather Jenkins who initiated this event, which hopefully will become a regular part of the annual syllabus.

The winner of the men's competition was Keith Atwell (18) with 38 points. Jody Doran

(11) won the ladies section with 36 points followed by Gail Leigh (12) with 31 points. The nearest the pins were won by Gail Leigh, Brian Worcester, Margaret Blair, and Steve Coker who also won the Golden Shot. Next Saturday both the ladies and men will play for the Captains Trophy with the men playing stableford and the ladies playing stroke for the rescheduled Barton Shield final.

Last Thursday the nine holers played stableford on the back nine holes and the winner was Richy Clark (7) with 18 points followed by Mark Alexander (4) with 16 points on a countback. Nearest the pins were Keith Atwell on the 11th and Amanda Rattay on the 18th.

The Dalhousie District events have resumed after the winter break and last Thursday while the nine holers were playing at home, some Marysville players were playing on other courses. Helen Howard and Heather Jenkins represented Marysville at the Avenel Ladies Tournament and with Helen winning a nearest the pin and a raffle prize and Heather gaining three Dalhousie Player of the Year points it made the early start and long drive worthwhile.



The junior players, their supporters and mentors before play on Saturday. -S

The Dalhousie Veterans played at Euroa and Steve Coker represented Marysville and enjoyed the day and the Euroa course. The ladies will travel this week to play in the Kilmore Tournament and the Veterans next play at Eildon on September 25.

On Friday, October 3, a dinner will be held in the Pavilion Bar and Grill to thank Kellan Fiske for his long service as greenkeeper and the night will also honour those major supporters who have supported the club in

replacing the stolen equipment. The dinner will start between 6 and 6.30pm at a cost of \$40 per head for a 2 course meal. Anyone who would like to attend the dinner can get more information from Steve Coker 0419 755 577.

Members and visitors please note that the course will be closed on Friday, September 19 for major tree works to be conducted and also on Monday, September 22, as part of the same operation, the front nine holes will be closed.

SPORT

Alexandra Squash Club round eight results

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition

Australorps versus Isa Browns

JORDAN versus Tyler: Jordan was consistent with his game, keeping Tyler on the back foot. With a solid win, Jordan claimed the match 76 to 56.

Eric F (fill in) versus Ethan: It was an intriguing end to this match. It was two games each with Eric taking an early lead then Ethan slowly chipped away. In the end it was a draw 55 to 55.

John versus Andrew: A brilliant match to watch. Each game was close but the point difference in each game between players was up and down. John managed to pull ahead in the end to keep his victory 67 to 62.

Leghorns versus Silkies

ERIC versus Lochlan: This game saw some long rallies. Eric had a killer serve but Lochlan had been practising his drop shots that were too hard to get. Lochlan claimed the win 76 to 54.

Sally versus Liane: There were a lot of momentum shifts throughout the match. There were great shots from each player resulted in a close contest to the end with Liane on top 52 to 51.

Ben versus Justin: Two hard hitters in a face off. A close first game saw Ben quickly overshadowed by Justin taking the second with a 10 point lead. Justin kept the pressure on

Ben who desperately and unsuccessfully tried to take back the lead. Justin claimed the win 69 to 58.

Derrick versus Michael H: This pair had some great rallies. Derrick made for a comeback one game three but lost his fire in game four to see Michael H claim the win 60 to 48.

Thursday Comp

Goden Retrievers versus Dachshunds

MATTHEW versus Randy: Matthew played well in the second game to claim the win. Randy had his measure and won three of four games to take home the match with ease 72 to 52.

Kristelle versus Blake: Blake came out firing but missed shots slowed his progress and saw Kristelle collecting points at an alarming rate. Kristelle was crowned queen of the court 79 to 43.

Mick versus Lucas: Opening with a drawn game it was anyone's match. Lucas used game one as a warmup, coming out strong and not making any errors, Lucas had all the games locked down 75 to 39.

Daniel K versus Daniel W: With his head held high, Daniel W went in with determination. Daniel W made it to all the shots he could, but Daniel K was too strong 70 to 41.

Whippets versus Labradors

BEN H versus Eric F: It was a close game between two of the newest players. Ben opened strong but Eric turned the tables to win the match by a single point 53 to 52.



Lucas nails an overhead return to Mick. -S

Beth versus Jess: There was great stroke-play by both players. Jess had great shots and depth while Beth ran down the ball. Jess was the victor 64 to 44.

Kristelle (fill in) versus Sam: Having already played a match Kristelle was ready to go and claimed the first game and built a lead that Sam could only chip away at. Kristelle started to fatigue in the second half and Sam took advantage of this, coming back to level the scores. It was a nerve wracking shootout with Sam just holding on to win the match 62 to 60.

Phil versus Michael M: Phil could do no wrong while Michael flopped on the floor doing angry calisthenics. With beautiful shots Phil was the winner 65 to 45.

Goulburn Murray Junior League Best and Fairest Presentation Day

ON Sunday, September 14, the Goulburn Murray Junior League held its annual Best & Fairest Presentation Day in Shepparton. The Alexandra Rebels were proud to have four of their talented juniors invited to attend this prestigious event: Jaidyn Dimech and Joshua Northmore (under 14 football), Cassie Kidd (15 and under netball), and Koa Parker (13 and under netball).

After an outstanding season Jaidyn Dimech finished third and Josh Northmore fifth in the Under 14 Football League Best & Fairest count. An incredible achievement that reflects their hard work, consistency, and talent. Both boys have shown they are

well on their way to becoming future senior football stars.

In the netball awards, Cassie Kidd and Koa Parker both finished as runners up in the Best & Fairest in their respective age groups (15 and under and 13 and under). This is a fantastic result for both girls, who have had excellent seasons and continue to show great promise in their netball careers.

Congratulations to Jaidyn, Josh, Cassie, and Koa on their achievements and for representing the Alexandra Rebels with pride and determination. Your efforts are a credit to yourselves, your teams, and the club. Well done.



Josh Northmore, Jaidyn Dimech, Cassie Kidd and Koa Parker. -S

Peter Grant Memorial Shoot

by P Mc

PETER Grant was a very keen trap shooter and member of the Alexandra Gun Club for over 20 years and was club secretary for seven years until his sudden passing November 19, 2022.

To acknowledge Peter's passing the Alexandra Gun Club held a memorial shoot on Sunday, September 14 at the Euroa Gun Club in Violet Town. The weather was excellent and 48 competitors came to compete a three event program and remember Peter. The first event was the Peter Grant Memorial event which was a 25 Target Double Barrel Championship. Six shooters shot possible scores so a shoot off was held and Terry Pigram from Wangaratta was the overall winner with a score of 67/67.

The second event was the 20 Target Double Barrel Highlands Shield Championship and eight shooters shot possible scores so another shoot off had to take place. Terry Pigram was again in the mix, but his mate Daryl Hunt from Wangaratta got the better of him and Daryl won with a score of 55/55.

The third event was the 20 Target Double Barrel Highlands Shield Handicap and four shooters shot possible scores and another shoot off was held. The shoot off was quick and Andrew Murphy from St James won with a score of 23/23 from Alexandra president Geoff McClure 22/23. The back marker winners were Keith Willet, Fred Heinze, Scott Mackenzie and Daryl Hunt.



Daryl Hunt, winner of Highlands Shield Championship. -S

The Highlands Shield was shot over the second and third events between Euroa, Mansfield and Alexandra Gun Clubs with teams of four shooters. Euroa had three teams; Alexandra two teams and Mansfield had one team. Euroa Gun Club team of John Foulkes, Laurie Fitzpatrick, Owen Spencer and Paul McKendrick won with a score of 152/160.

During presentations all Alexandra Gun Club members were with new polo shirts, caps and metal badges with the Alexandra Gun Club emblem on each item. Members thanked



Terry Pigram, winner of Peter Grant Memorial Championship. -S

Mark Spencer for doing the groundwork and organising the garments and badges.

Event one results – 25 Target Peter Grant Memorial

Overall and AA: Terry Pigram 67/67. 2nd AA: Daryle Hunt 66/67. 1st A: John King 44/45. 2nd A: Al Kidd 43/44. 1st B: Laurie Fitzpatrick 43/44. 2nd B: John Foulkes 50/51. 1st C: Kevin Elward 27/28. 2nd C: Sharon Gogkin-Briggs 26/28.



Andrew Murphy, winner of Highlands Shield Handicap. -S

Event two results – 20 Target Highlands Shield

Overall & AA: Daryl Hunt 55/55. 2nd AA: Terry Pigram 54/55. 1st A: Al Kidd 42/43. 2nd A: John King 26/27. 1st B: Jake Shale 38/39. 2nd B: Gary Pronk 36/37. 1st C: David Wilson 24/25. 2nd C: Peter Gorrie 31/32.

Event three results – 20 Target Highlands Shield Handicap

1st: Andrew Murphy 23/23. 2nd Geoff McClure 22/23. 3rd Owen Spencer 21/23.

Till next time keep practicing.

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard Sport

SPORTS EDITORIAL - sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

ISSN 2200-6478



9 772200 647002



The Reserves Premiers for 2025. -S

Rebels reserves take out 2025 premiership

by Alexandra Football Netball Club

Alexandra 9-6-60 defeated Seville 7-8-50

ALL roads led to Yarra Glen last Saturday with a large army of Rebel supporters making the journey to support their team.

To win the Rebels had to end a 17 year drought with their last reserves premiership in 2008, a team that included Lachie Collard and Tom McKinlay.

Going in with an unchanged team from the qualifying final win, the boys took to the field with the colours red, white, and black dominating the large crowd. In a game played in true grand final fashion; tough, hard at it contested football, the Rebels defended a small winning margin throughout the match in a closely contested game with 15 points the greatest margin.

First quarter

THE Rebels hit the ground running with goals to Conor Heaslip and Bart Wallace, but with two goals by Seville late in the quarter saw Seville four points up. Alexandra 2-1 to Seville 2-5.

Second quarter

In a hard slogging quarter with scoring difficulties, Scott Heveren stepped up with

two goals to Seville's one. Alexandra 4-2 to Seville 3-6.

Third quarter

The Rebels opened the premiership third quarter controlling play resulting in goals to Wallace and Heveren to open up a 15 point lead. Not to be denied, Seville responded with three quick goals to retake the lead. Scott Heveren again kicked a long bomb from 60 metres out on the siren to take the lead back at three quarter time. Alexandra 7-5 to Seville 6-6.

Fourth quarter

With the game in the balance and both defences defending grimly, Bart Wallace broke the game open with two big marks and kicking truly from 50 metres out. Seville replied with a late goal. Alexandra 9-6 to Seville 7-8. Rebels won at the final siren by 10 points.

In an even team performance where all players played their part, there were two match winning performers. Scott Heveren at centre half back dashing out of defence had a brilliant game kicking four goals, two of them 60 metre bombs to win the best on ground medal.

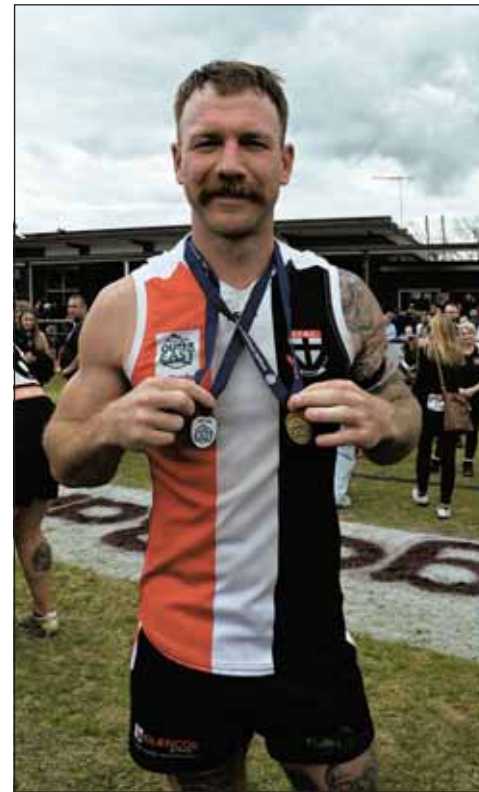
Bart Wallace was a major headache for the Seville defense all game, with his strong

marking resulting in four goals. The Rebels six defensive performance under constant pressure was outstanding. Jake Steyger continued his ruck domination through the final series giving on ballers Kappa and Heaslip first use of the ball.

At the final siren delirium reigned supreme as the Rebel supporters swarmed onto the ground.

Full credit must go to coach Max Church and Paul Wallis, to lose their opening game of the season against the same opposition by 105 points and then to coach his team to remain undefeated in nine matches including three finals, to be 2025 Premiers is an outstanding coaching performance. Over 200 supporters returned to Rebel Park to celebrate and relive the game until late in the night culminating in of the Alexandra Football / Netball Clubs greatest days.

The club will now celebrate both the junior and senior teams this coming weekend with Senior Presentation Night on Saturday, September 20 and Junior Presentation Day on Sunday, September 21, both to be held at the clubrooms. We look forward to seeing all our supporters, parents, players and sponsors finish off what has been a fantastic season at the club.



Scott Heveren, Best on Ground in the grand final. -S