

## INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

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## Council's 10 Year Financial Plan shows significant challenges

MURRINDINDI Shire Council held a special meeting of council in Kinglake West on Wednesday, October 29 to discuss the adoption of council's annual report and financial plan. Cr Carr was an apology for the meeting.

### Financial Plan 2025-35

Cr Hildebrand introduced council's 10 year financial plan. He said that the strategy is to ensure financial stability while delivering essential services and infrastructure. The challenges include the persistent underlying operational deficits, insufficient rates and grant income declining, and spoke of the need for asset renewal.

He said, "To address these procedures, the plan identifies three key interventions that would make the most positive difference to the financial outlook." These are to seek to raise rates above the rate cap, securing

increased governmental financial assistance and debt funding for short life assets. It was noted that the plan also outlines internal costs management and services and infrastructure reviews in partnership with the community.

He added that council is committed to ongoing community engagement to refine financial objectives and explore new revenue opportunities and asset rationalisation strategies.

Cr Carpenter asked Director of People and Performance Michael Chesworth to explain the meaning of debt funding for short life assets. Mr Chesworth said that council borrows with a 10 year horizon and the borrowing is the life of the asset. "So we borrow and get the return from that asset at the same time, which is a more appropriate financial approach."

Mayor Gallagher also questioned Mr Chesworth over the report about the

assumptions in the report. Mr Chesworth said that the rate cap was assumed at 2.5 per cent annually, and employee costs forecast to increase by three per cent per annum including CPI and other costs such as compliance to employment-related legislation. An example of this is the requirement that casual staff be transferred to part-time under certain conditions. Grants are assumed to grow by about four per cent per annum. Materials and services will increase by 2.5 per cent in line with the rate revenue cap. There is also an assumption of a 4.4 per cent interest rate on borrowings over a 10 year term. The assumptions are in line with the sector.

Mayor Gallagher asked, "If council were to continue its current rate of spending, underpinned by its current level of revenue, how long until council's cash reserves are exhausted by those underlying deficits?"

Mr Chesworth responded that if other interventions were not explored, then at the

current rates, by 2027/8 council would be "operating in a negative cash position. That's an unsustainable scenario and it's one that we have to avoid."

Mayor Gallagher asked what revenue increases would be required to deliver an underlying surplus. Mr Chesworth responded that if only focusing on rate revenue, council would need to fill a gap of \$12 million to \$14 million annually, "which is quite substantial. If we were to simply rely on rates in order to meet that gap we would be looking at a 42 to 55 per cent rate increase to cover that gap."

Mayor Gallagher said that the 10 year document offers a long-term plan, and one critical intervention proposed is seeking an exemption from the rate cap, as mentioned. "What is the criticality of strong and immediate term interventions on the longer-term outlook?"

Continued Page 5

  
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## Bringing solutions for our health to Parliament.

A \$2 billion Building Rural and Regional Hospitals Fund would give hospitals across Indi and regional Australia fair chance to secure funding for safe, modern care. I'll be keeping pressure on the Government for our health.

**Helen  
Haines**MP

**Wangaratta:** 117 Murphy Street, Wangaratta | 03 5721 7077  
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helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au | helenhaines.org

Authorised by Helen Haines, 117 Murphy St Wangaratta VIC 3677





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

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Victoria 3714. Material published in this edition is subject  
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Approved - PP 100000292

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Letters to the Editor

Closure of Yea Podiatry Clinic

AFTER 15 wonderful years of caring for the podiatry needs of the local community, I would like to let everyone know that Yea Podiatry Clinic will be permanently closing its doors on December 31.

I first established the clinic in 2010, and it has been an honour and a privilege to not only care for the podiatry needs of our local community, but also to get to know the wonderful people who call this area home. The relationships and trust built over the years have meant so much to me.

The decision to close has been incredibly difficult, but ultimately an important one for me and my family. Yea Podiatry Clinic

has been such a big part of my life, and I am truly grateful for the loyalty, kindness, and support I've received over the years. I will truly miss everyone.

My heartfelt thanks go to all clients, my amazing employees (Ashleigh, Bella, Ben, Barb and Jacinta), Yea Hospital, our local doctors, fellow businesses, and the broader Yea and surrounding community who have supported the clinic since the beginning. Although the clinic will soon close, the sense of care, connection, and community spirit it fostered will always remain with me.

With sincere thanks.

Erin Papadopoulos, Yea Podiatry Clinic

EILDON WEIR DARLINGFORD

CEMETERY EST. 1929

On Monday, October 20, the Eildon Cemetery received an impressive new cemetery sign thanks to the professional expertise of Robert (Bob) Dare. The Eildon Cemetery Committee are a dedicated and passionate group, striving to preserve history and implement improvements. Pictured are Robert Dare and Eildon Cemetery committee member Helena Sneddon. -S

COMMUNITY DIARY

Alexandra District Health  
5772 0900

Non-emergency police assistance  
131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon

UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

WEEKLY

Tue Women's Walk @ 7am @Embassy of Ideas  
Wed Oasis Church, free coffee connection Ph 0408 123 581  
Fri Man Walk @ 7am meet at RSL Hall  
Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training, Ph 0456 583 611  
Sun Alanon 7pm St Johns Hall. Ph 1300 22 22 22.

MONTHLY

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

November 5 - November 11, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY LOW HIGH DAY LOW HIGH

Wednesday 7 17 Wednesday 7 18

Thursday 13 21 Thursday 13 22

Friday 12 23 Friday 12 23

Saturday 10 18 Saturday 10 17

Sunday 7 17 Sunday 7 17

Monday 8 19 Monday 7 20

Tuesday 8 18 Tuesday 8 18

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

THUMBS UP

THUMBS DOWN

THUMBS UP:

To the Alexandra Timber Tramway for their Halloween night. It was an excellent outing for the whole town.

THUMBS DOWN:

Why spend millions of dollars on a Splash Park for Eildon and not turn water on for a hot long weekend?

THUMBS DOWN:

To Murrindindi Shire for not having the water on at the Eildon Splash Park. Being a long weekend with lots of tourists about and warm weather, it was ridiculous.

THUMBS DOWN:

Devastating to see the Eildon Splash Park was closed on the Cup Weekend when our town is full of families and the weather is 28 degrees. Why would the shire build a fantastic facility and then fail to keep it operational?

The 2025/26 swimming pool season starts on Saturday, November 15, including the Baanh ba Djila Splash Park in Eildon. -Ed

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

| RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT |             |        |          |                   |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|--------|----------|-------------------|
| STATION NAME                             | TIME        | HEIGHT | TENDENCY | FLOOD CLASS       |
| Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)           | 10.00AM Mon | 1.43   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Rubicon River at Rubicon                 | 10.00AM Mon | 0.54   | steady   |                   |
| Acheron River at Taggerty                | 10.00AM Mon | 0.62   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Home Creek at Yarck                      | 07.47AM Mon | 0.17   | steady   |                   |
| Yea River at Devlins Bridge              | 08.24AM Mon | 0.50   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Murrindindi River Above Colwells         | 09.00AM Mon | 0.29   | steady   |                   |
| Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd             | 10.00AM Mon | 0.64   | steady   |                   |
| Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin              | 10.00AM Mon | 3.56   | steady   |                   |
| King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale          | 10.00AM Mon | 0.39   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Goulburn River at Trawool                | 10.00AM Mon | 1.15   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Sunday Creek at Tallarook                | 10.00AM Mon | 0.31   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Goulburn River at Seymour                | 10.00AM Mon | 1.47   | steady   | Below Flood Level |
| Whiteheads Creek at Seymour              | 10.00AM Mon | 1.14   | steady   |                   |

\*ISSUED AT 10:42 AM AEDT MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2025

| DISTRICT RAINFALL                                    |         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Alexandra .....                                      | 4mm     |
| Buxton.....                                          | 5.6mm   |
| Eildon (AWS).....                                    | 2mm     |
| Flowerdale.....                                      | 4mm     |
| Jamieson.....                                        | 2mm     |
| Kinglake.....                                        | 7mm     |
| Lake Eildon.....                                     | 2mm     |
| Mansfield.....                                       | N/Amm   |
| Taggerty .....                                       | 4mm     |
| Yarck .....                                          | 4mm     |
| Yea.....                                             | 6mm     |
| Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday               |         |
| LAKE EILDON                                          |         |
| Height above sea level this week.....                | 275.66m |
| Capacity as at 9am Monday.....                       | 55.6%   |
| Metres below full supply.....                        | 13.24m  |
| Daily inflow .....                                   | 2000ML  |
| Release.....                                         | 1800ML  |
| Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)..... | 61%     |

Standard

DEADLINES

Real Estate Thursday 5pm

Trades & Services Thursday noon

Early General News Thursday 5pm

Classifieds Monday noon

Editorial Monday 9am

Sports Editorial Monday 10am

Letters to the Editor Monday 9am

Thumbsup/down Monday 10am

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

5772 1002 or  
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support



# Vehicle damages Sportspower shop

An incident on Grant Street on the afternoon of Wednesday, October 29 caused significant damage to Alexandra Sportspower. A vehicle entered the store from the street.

Fortunately, the female shopper who was at the counter at the time of the incident and the driver of the vehicle, a 73 year old local man, were both uninjured. Both were very shaken up.

It's understood that two parked vehicles were also damaged.

Police, ambulance and CFA members attended the incident.



The damage inside the store following the incident. -AR

## Adventure awaits as seasonal roads reopen

WARMER weather and the onset of spring marks the reopening of seasonal roads across Victoria, with most tracks and roads reopening from October 31.

As the snow melts and access becoming safer, four-wheel-drivers are reminded to plan ahead and expect the unexpected before venturing into some of Victoria's harshest and remote environments.

Although the gates may be open, many of the seasonal roads will not have been travelled upon for many months. There may be fallen trees or other obstructions and conditions may still be waterlogged and slippery.

While most seasonal roads in north east Victoria will reopen, Bogong High Plains Road will remain closed until Friday, November 14, following road safety works.

Sensitive alpine areas remain vulnerable to severe damage from four-wheel-drive activity, particularly when wet. Check the forecast before heading out and consider an alternative route if rain is expected.

### Staying safe on forest roads and tracks

Plan your trip and download the More to Explore App onto your mobile for full information (including offline maps) on state forest attractions.

Check the weather forecast and plan accordingly. Download the VicEmergency app and set up watch zones for the area you plan to visit. Check the FFMVic website ([ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests](http://ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests)) for warnings and road closures, and keep checking for updates. Download the Emergency Plus app [bit.ly/45BpdaT](http://bit.ly/45BpdaT) to be located in an emergency. Radio is the only means of communication in many areas. Travel in a group. Expect rough and difficult terrain. Stick to formed tracks and roads. Never drive through floodwaters. Camp high and dry, at least 20 metres from the bank of any waterways. Regularly check the VicEmergency app for warnings and trail closures.

Scott Turner, Acting Chief Fire Officer, Forest Fire Management Victoria said, "As seasonal roads reopen, we want visitors to remember that our forest road network is vast and conditions are unpredictable."

"Our crews do not regularly access some of our more remote tracks and conditions can be unpredictable. Over the winter months, trees may have fallen and tracks can be rough. Always plan ahead and drive with caution."

Chief Conservation Regulator Kate Gavens said, "Authorised officers will be patrolling roads and recreation sites to support education and make sure forest users are doing the right thing. Following vehicle rules and staying off closed roads keeps people safe but also maintains healthy forests that will benefit everyone now and into the future."

## Extras sought for television production

A CASTING call has been appearing on social media in the shire during the last week. Casting company Bayside Extras has been calling for extras to work on a television series shooting in the Murrindindi and Mansfield Shires. The roles are paid, and there is a focus on people who live nearby.

In the Murrindindi Shire, they are looking for people who live within an hour's drive of Lake Eildon, Taylor Bay, Thornton, Alexandra and Marysville. In Mansfield Shire, they are looking for people close to Jamieson, Mansfield and Bonnie Doon.

All types of roles are required. They are also looking for people in the Lake Eildon area who have boats, jet skis, water skis, etcetera.

You don't have to look like a Hollywood star to apply. They are looking for all shapes, sizes, ages and ethnicities, and no experience is required. People will need to have their own transport however, and must have the right to work in Australia. They must also not be represented by another agency.

People must have general availability and flexibility across one or more dates through to March 2026.

If people are keen to apply, they can fill out a form at [form.jotform.com/252480649272866](http://form.jotform.com/252480649272866)

The casting agency can also be contacted at [office@baysidetalent.com.au](mailto:office@baysidetalent.com.au)

## Fatal workplace incident in Eildon

VICTORIA Police have advised that they will prepare a report for the Coroner following a fatal workplace incident in Lake Eildon. The man was aged 49. The death is not being treated as suspicious. WorkSafe has been notified.

**McCORMACK FUNERALS**  
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**1800 080 909**  
Andrew, Robyn and Brooke

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personalised funeral and memorial services  
[www.mccormackfunerals.com.au](http://www.mccormackfunerals.com.au)



Alexandra RSL Club have just concluded their popular annual trip away this year. Although based in Albury, day trips included visiting Jindera, Lockhart, Ettamogah, and Bandiana as well as stops at Chiltern on the way up and Beechworth coming home. The 25 recipients voted this the best trip yet with outstanding accommodation and the guidance by coach driver Daryl rounding off a very enjoyable holiday break." -S



Peter Maffei from Friends of the Great Victorian Rail Trail, Brad Bird from Dindi Diggers and Trevor Carns from AAA Contracting. -S

## New station nameboards celebrate local history

IN partnership with the Friends of the Great Victorian Rail Trail, Murrindindi Shire Council has recently installed five station nameboards inspired by vintage designs along the Great Victorian Rail Trail. This initiative honours the region's rich railway history and complements existing signage in neighbouring council areas and other points of interest along the trail.

Installed on October 14 by local council contractors with support from the Friends of the Great Victorian Rail Trail, the signs feature laser-cut aluminium lettering and powder-coated steel, which closely emulate the original 1910s design of cast letters and timber backboards, honouring the historical character of the project.

Ross Vaughan, Secretary of the Friends of the Great Victorian Rail Trail said, "This is a project we have been involved with for over two years, beginning with Mansfield and Mitchell Shire Councils. This final section brings the project to completion, and we are delighted to see it realised. We thank Murrindindi Shire Council for its support and look forward to the signs reconnecting the rail trail with its past."

Cr Sandice McAulay, Portfolio Councillor for Economic Development stated, "We are proud to support the installation of these evocative nameboards along the Great Victorian Rail Trail. They celebrate our region's rich railway legacy and enrich the experience for both visitors and the local community. Projects like this help preserve our heritage for future generations."

**MARYSVILLE MARKET**

Second Sunday of each month

**Sunday, November 9**  
9am to 1pm

All your favourite stalls along with home made cakes, local honey, plants, jewellery and handcrafts. Community sausage sizzle and live music.

To book please call 0494 329 695 or email [marysvillemarketinc@gmail.com](mailto:marysvillemarketinc@gmail.com)





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

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

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**OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Loving God, Loving People,  
Loving Life  
118 Grant Street, Alexandra  
0408 123 581  
Meeting every Sunday @ 10am

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

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**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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9**  
Marysville Market is on again. 9am-1pm, all your favourite stalls, home made cakes, local honey, plants, handcrafts and much more.

\*\*\*\*\*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7**  
Free health checks at the Yea Cattle Sale, disability, ageing and family support.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8**  
Yea and District open gardens. Saturday and Sunday 10am-5pm. Three country gardens and two town gardens. Also Yea Garden Club plant sale and Yea and District Memorial Hospital open garden.

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The 140th Alexandra Show is on 9am-3pm. Roving entertainment, live music, petting zoo, pet parade, pedal cars and much more.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10**  
Yea Football Netball Club AGM will be held from 6pm in the main clubrooms, Yea Recreation Reserve.

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Embassy of Ideas AGM will be held at 6pm at EOI 3 Bailey Street, Alexandra. All welcome.

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Flowerdale Sports Club AGM will be held at 7pm at the sports club. All welcome. For more information email [flowerdalesportsclub@gmail.com](mailto:flowerdalesportsclub@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15**  
Join Buds and Blossoms in celebrating 20 years. Rosebank Activity room for a special afternoon tea from 1-3pm. All enquiries to Joy on 0477 482 504.

\*\*\*\*\*

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16**  
Acheron Hall AGM will be held at 9.30am All welcome. For more information contact 0423 802 772.

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Acheron Fire Brigade general and annual meeting 10.30am at the Acheron Hall, all welcome.

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Alexandra and District Dog Obedience Club AGM will be held at 11am at Briggs Oval.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24**  
Alexandra and District Kindergarten AGM will be at 6pm at the Alexandra Kindergarten. RSVP and apologies to the kinder office on 5772 1387 or email [alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au](mailto:alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25**  
Alexandra and District Netball Association AGM will be held at 7pm at the Corner Hotel (Goldfields room) Contact president, Cassandra Fraser for more information 0418 538 964 or email [junior.netball@gmail.com](mailto:junior.netball@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 28**  
You are invited to join council and Alexandra Rotary for the Walk for Respect at Rotary Park. For more information visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walkforrespect](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walkforrespect)

Resident believes Breakaway Bridge should stay broken

MICHAEL Purcell has lived and worked in Acheron for all of his life. He was keen to express his opinion on the rebuilding of the Breakaway Bridge.

When the bridge was destroyed by the flood in October 2022, he felt quite emotional about the situation. "I was very disappointed with the shire's lack of action on clearing the debris prior to the flood. They were contacted by countless residents in Acheron, time and time again."

He said, "Nothing happened." His understanding was that it was an OH&S issue, however he pointed out that for the previous 100 years it had been cleared by contractors on behalf of council. "Those outside contractors knew what they were doing," he said.

Immediately prior to the flood, there was a large amount of vegetation including tree trunks against the bridge and when the flood came through, this held up the water, causing the northern buttress to erode.

"There was plenty of lead up where they [council] were notified of it," he said. "And so like a lot of people, my reaction was annoyance at the council for lack of action."

He's concerned now about the issues which may occur if the bridge is reopened with no weight limits. The wooden bridge away was weight-limited in recent times, and single lane.

He said that a new bridge would put "heavy, fast, increased traffic flow into that area when it's a minor agricultural service road. It's not meant as a thoroughfare. The major thoroughfare exists currently, which is the Maroondah Highway that connects Alexandra to Acheron."

He believes that council needs to limit traffic on minor agricultural service roads, such as Hobans Road/Breakaway Road and Acheron Road.

He believes that signage or speed humps would make little difference. Instead, he believes that the bridge shouldn't be replaced. He said that no-one's landlocked and if an emergency were to occur there are three accesses via private properties, and that people would be unable to use the bridge in a flood anyway, as access to Breakaway Bridge is not possible due to road flooding when over 20,000ML of water is going through the area. He noted that historically there have been larger floods than October 2022 which did not damage the bridge. He also added that there is little difference in terms of travel time for the residents when driving via the Maroondah Highway.

While council has conducted consultations with the community, there have generally been updates rather than directly asking people whether they would like a bridge back or not. "They're not listening to us," he said.



The debris built up beneath Breakaway Bridge on Wednesday, September 28, 2022, immediately prior to the October 2022 flood event. -AR

He believes that many people have been afraid to speak out about not wanting a bridge and is looking at starting a petition.

He's not keen on having a single lane bridge either, believing it to be a waste of money. He suggested that Whanregarwen Road could be upgraded as it receives heavy usage when the area near Cathkin floods, however government funding tends to be project-specific.

"I want the whole town of Alexandra to be made aware of potentially what will change," he said. "From this intersection here at the main street [Grant and Downey Streets], if that bridge were to be opened, from that intersection it becomes a thoroughfare through to Maroondah Highway back out at Acheron. They will have fast traffic, noisy traffic, heavy traffic as in trucks, and a heavy volume of traffic through the main street of Alexandra."

The weight-limiting of the previous bridge would have had an impact on the heavy traffic making use of the road.

He continued, "If people want to protect the ambiance of the main street of Alexandra, they need to think about whether a new bridge should be installed. If they were to do so, unlimited for weight, the whole top of town from the main intersection right through to the top of town would completely change. Absolutely change."

He also expressed concern that the road would become "a rat run" at night for people behaving badly, and believes that people will also use it as a short cut to avoid the 40k/h zones going past schools.

"I don't think there's enough awareness in the townsfolk, the shopkeepers, the traders, all those residents south of the roundabout. Are they even made aware? They haven't been informed about it yet," he said.

He said, "We believe that the Grant Street shops need to be a quiet, intimate environment where people feel comfortable to walk the street. I don't want trucks up and down it," he said.

Asked whether he would like to see council survey residents about what they would like to see happen regarding the bridge, Michael responded, "I'd like them primarily, to consider the impact to the town of Alexandra, not just Acheron, because to me, Acheron's the minor player in the game. The township of Alexandra is the major concern."

He also pointed out that there are no slip lanes on the intersection from Acheron onto the Maroondah Highway, where the speed limit is 100k/h.

With regard to the argument about emergency services vehicles, Michael responded, "Why would emergency service vehicles want to fly up through the main street of Alexandra, given where they begin, through the main street of Alexandra and take a minor service road at possibly dangerous speeds. They should be out on the highway."

Michael is happy for people to contact him on 0457 097 335.

Murrindindi Shire Council stated, "Council has commenced the tender process for the reinstatement of the Breakaway Bridge in Acheron, following confirmation from the state government that the project qualifies for reinstatement funding. Tender submissions close on November 20, and a public meeting is being planned for late November to provide the community with a comprehensive update on progress and next steps."

Council CEO Livia Bonazzi added, "It will be a two way conversation and we are always keen to hear the views of the community. We are planning to complete the tender assessment and make a recommendation to council after the meeting."

THE ALEXANDRA • EILDON • MARYSVILLE

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# Council’s 10 Year Financial Plan shows significant challenges

Continued from Page 1

Mr Chesworth responded that if council were to gain a rate cap exemption, “The benefit to council would be to obtain that early in the life cycle of the plan because we would then benefit from the compounding effects of rate rises beyond that. The plan does talk about a rate cap of 2.5 per cent. If we were to get an exemption to that early, then those 2.5 per cents are on a much larger base and that would therefore be a much better financial outlook for us.”

Mayor Gallagher asked how Murrindindi Shire’s median rates compare to the rest of the sector. Mr Chesworth replied that Murrindindi’s average residential rate of property is \$1920, which is above the Victorian rural council average and the statewide average for small shires, which is \$1816.

Mayor Gallagher asked what measures council is undertaking to reduce costs. Mr Chesworth spoke about the efficiency program which looks at streamlining processes, reducing unnecessary waste and improving productivity. They’ll also be looking at shared service arrangements with other municipalities, saying that they’ve recently benefitted from a partnership with three neighbouring councils in job procurement arrangements for new business systems. “By joining with other councils, we get economies of scale,” he said. He added that the capital works program is carefully managed and continuing to be scrutinised. They are also categorising services into those which are

required from a statutory point of view and others that may be discretionary. They want to match the services with the cost of delivering the services, and have a conversation with the community about priorities for service delivery. In addition, they are looking at their asset rationalisation process, which means looking at how well council assets and other community assets are being utilised. They may look to consolidate so they don’t need as many buildings or facilities to service and maintain.

Cr McAulay commented on the intention to consult with the community to review and refine the financial plan. She asked what that consultation might look like and how fast it might happen.

Mr Chesworth said that they are looking at a range of approaches. With regard to asset rationalisation, in coming weeks they will embark on a deliberative engagement process where a panel of community members will work with council to look at opportunities to get better outcomes from council assets. They are also going to embark on a broader communication engagement process in the next two months around the terms of service categories to get a better understanding of priorities, and to inform people better on the way in which services are funded.

Cr Lording asked Mr Chesworth to explain the statutory requirements mentioned, so ratepayers know that council is required to provide these functions. Mr Chesworth said that in the land use planning area, council is the responsible authority under the Act to administer statutory planning services.

Council must therefore provide it. School crossing supervision is an example of a service that “isn’t really a local government originated service.” He queried whether it should be an Education Department or Victorian Government responsibility, but nonetheless, council is involved in supporting and funding it. He said it’s an example of the shift in cost from the state government to councils.

In speaking to the motion to accept the plan, Cr Carpenter said, “In our council plan, we made a commitment to be honest and transparent with our community, and this long-term financial plan is doing just that. It’s clearly setting out the financial challenges that we are facing, including rate capping and cost shifting and the structural gap in funding among other things. By adopting this plan, we are taking some bold steps to secure that our services and our infrastructure will be able to continue and be able to serve our community. I really am confident that community consultation is absolutely needed and I do encourage people to participate because we want to ensure that the decisions that we do make reflect the shared priorities, the joint responsibilities that we have for our shire’s long-term resilience.” She also thanked the officers for their work.

Cr Lording commented, “Without a plan, you’re caught bobbing in the ocean, but with this, we know where we’ve come from and we know where we want to go.”

Cr McAulay commended the forward-looking approach of the plan.

Cr Adams said she was happy to hear that community input will be welcomed.

Mayor Gallagher said, “It’s not a rosy picture but it’s certainly a comprehensive picture.” He also stated that “The Victorian Government has a critical role, headlined by a policy shift towards a fairer and more equitable distribution of government grant funding and implementation of the recommendation of the Parliamentary Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Services which it commissioned.

“The VAGO has identified structural challenges and unique challenges that face rural councils. Some key risks identified by VAGO include the asset renewal gap, inhibiting council’s capacity to renew ageing assets, operating deficits because income doesn’t match the cost of doing business, and liquidity concerns given the deficit gaps are filled with council’s cash reserves. Addressing these challenges is crucial. I therefore commit to continuing to seek government intervention to support council’s long-term sustainability and to assure our community of a continuity of value and services, including for future generations.”

The report was adopted unanimously.

### Annual Report

Prior to the financial plan presentation, the topic of the annual report was discussed. It was deferred from the October 22 meeting, pending the final audit report from the Victorian Auditor General’s Office (VAGO).

Mayor Gallagher introduced the topic, stating “In 2021, the Murrindindi community

expressed its 10 year vision to be vibrant and resilient, welcoming and inclusive, where participation is encouraged and celebrated. The aspiration was to cherish our natural and built environment while valuing our heritage. The community embraced sustainable growth and leadership in waste reduction, and declared that we are open for business. This annual report highlights council’s achievements in the fourth and final year of the Council Plan 2021-25, showcasing key milestones to both council and the Murrindindi community in pursuit of achieving its ambitious vision.”

He said that there are many highlights in the report including the delivery of the \$12.65 million Capital Works program, including the Baanh ba Djila splash park in Eildon. They also invested in bridge and drainage, storm and flood recovery works. He also noted the adoption of the four bin system, the Road Management Plan, the Molesworth and District Community Plan, and the previous council’s implementation of the Key Worker Housing Strategy.

The annual report acknowledges the contributions of John Walsh, Karine Haslam and the late Ilona Gerencser, as well as return councillors.

He noted that in November 2024, the Council Plan 2025-29 was adopted, and council’s advocacy was also outlined, including advocating for a continuation of the Red Cross Patient Transport in Murrindindi, a community voice in the management of the Central Highlands forests, funding for Kinglake Memorial Reserve oval renewal, NBN access in Marysville, healthcare for regional women, disaster recovery betterment funding to support the rebuilding of more resilient assets including Breakaway Bridge, revision of the Emergency Services Volunteers Levy and advocacy program that resulted in a cap for primary producers across the state. He thanked the community for their support, cooperation and collaboration in these matters.

He spoke about the various methods of reaching the community, and said that there has been a reduction in participation by youth in council activities and services due to state government funding cuts.

Mayor Gallagher said, “Together, we achieved a great deal in 2025 and I extend my sincere appreciation to residents, businesses, and generous volunteers, along with council’s dedicated executive team management and staff who have proudly, professionally and passionately delivered the outcomes detailed in the report.”

No questions were asked by councillors when the report was presented.

When moving the officer’s recommendation, Cr McAulay said that the report demonstrates that council is looking forward constantly at long term solutions and planning.

Cr Hildebrand listed some of the highlights in the report, including attendance at aquatic facilities, and DindiLink which connected 440 people to practical emotional and social support.

The report was approved unanimously.

## Some examples of cost-shifting onto council

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has spoken about cost-shifting from state government as one of the financial challenges they are facing. But what does this actually mean?

The following examples are drawn from Murrindindi Shire Council’s submission to the *Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Services*.

### Road maintenance

“Murrindindi Shire Council undertakes maintenance on behalf of the state Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) on roadsides and medians along state-controlled roads in all urban townships in the shire. These works include mowing, garden maintenance, litter removal and street sweeping. The annual cost to council for these works is currently \$94,108. Council receives an annual contribution from DTP of just \$11,000, or 12 per cent of the total cost to council. This contribution increased from an annual amount of \$9500 in 2019. There has been no increase to this amount since that time.”

### Building insurance

“Council provides building insurance cover for many building assets under the ownership of the Crown via the Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA). Council often has no other role in the management or operations of these assets, which include public halls, sporting facilities and recreational assets typically managed by community committees under delegation from the Crown (DEECA). The cost of building insurance is prohibitive and often out of reach for these volunteer committees. The value of these assets (\$26.8 million) represents 15.3 per cent of the total value of building assets insured by council. For 2023/24 this component equates to \$99,080 in premium cost. Despite these assets being under the responsibility of the state, there is no contribution provided to council toward this cost.”

### Boat ramps

“Following a project to raise the height of the Eildon Dam Wall in 2005, the consortium that undertook the works agreed with the Water Storage Manager (Goulburn Murray Water) to build a new boat ramp adjacent to the Wall as a legacy for the community. As there had been community interest to

manage the facility, GMW approached council to use its powers under the Local Government Act 1989 to form a Committee of Management to manage the ramp operations and maintenance, using the proceeds from ramp parking fees. In order to facilitate this committee arrangement, council agreed to take a license over the facility. This arrangement continued successfully over many years with proceeds from parking fees used by the committee to fund maintenance and leverage grant funding to expand the ramps facilities. In 2019 the Victorian Government introduced legislation to abolish boat launching or parking fees for boat ramp use across Victoria. It provided compensation equivalent to just one year’s fee proceeds. Without a means of raising revenue, the committee disbanded. This has left Council managing and maintaining an asset it doesn’t own, without a source of income to cover its costs, which amount to between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per annum depending on seasonal water levels in the lake.”

### Rate cut

“Government policy restricts councils from increasing their total rates revenue in line with property improvements, pushing costs onto local governments. This hidden cap prevents councils from capturing additional revenue needed to support enhanced services and infrastructure demands resulting from property capital improvements, straining their financial sustainability even when ratepayers improving their property have the capacity to pay, and indeed do pay higher rates than the pre-capital improvement amount. However, under the current rules, this marginal increase must be offset, so the other rate payers will receive an imperceptible reduction in their respective rates, in order to restrain the total rates revenue across the municipality. Most ratepayers perceive no value out of this arrangement, are unaware of this peculiar rule, which they find hard to comprehend when told, as the general expectation is that councils increase the total rates revenue pool following capital improvements such as extensions, renovations, new sheds or outbuildings. Lifting this hidden rates cut would not increase the rates burden on the broader rate payers, and it would enable councils to better align their revenue with the actual capital improved values, ensuring a fairer and more sustainable funding model.”



## Marysville Crystal Gardens

Open weekends  
10am-4pm

Come and see our woodlands,  
oriental and fairy gardens

\$5 adults - children free

883 Buxton Road, Marysville



Proudly supporting  
**Student of the week**

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## ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Declan Heard

Declan showed skill, bravery, and organisation this week. He designed and rehearsed footy drills at home to teach to his peers. He ran 3 classes with his team of helpers. Declan led his team with confidence. He gave clear instructions to both teachers and students. Well done, Declan. We are proud to have you in our learning community. You are a star.

## EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Jake Tennyson

for demonstrating the school value resilience by working really hard on his Day of the Disaster narrative.

Joyful Jake.



**Student of the Week**

Proudly supported by  
Kinglake branch

**Bendigo Bank**

# Treaty legislation passes Victorian Parliament

VICTORIA is the first state or territory in Australia to negotiate a Treaty with First Peoples, following the passage of the Statewide Treaty Bill through parliament last week.

The press release said, "This legislation paves the way for a new relationship between First Peoples and the Victorian Government, one built on respect, trust, and integrity."

The Statewide Treaty Bill will be signed by the Victorian Government and First Peoples' Assembly in coming weeks when the Governor provides Royal Assent to the Bill.

The Treaty Agreement will commence through a ceremonial exchange between the Victorian Government and First Peoples' Assembly in a public event at Federation Square on Friday, December 12.

The government stated, "Treaty is a pathway to acknowledging the past and making real, practical changes to achieve better outcomes for First Peoples in Victoria and close the gap."

Minister for Treaty and First Peoples Natalie Hutchins said, "Treaty is about acknowledging the truth of our past and working on a future built

on mutual understanding and respect for First Peoples. This is a historic moment for Victoria. Today we've taken a major step forward in building a future that empowers and respects First Nations Victorians."

Nationals Member for Northern Victoria Gaelle Broad was not so impressed. She said, "This bill establishes a separate system of law and regulation based on race. It creates a statutory authority with far-reaching powers, exempt from ministerial oversight and key public accountability measures."

She also raised concerns about exemptions from land tax, payroll tax, and freedom of information laws, as well as the exclusion of culturally sensitive records from public access.

"We must learn from history. Giving privileges based on race risks repeating past mistakes."

"Equality before the law has been the foundation of our success as a democracy and as a nation, and we should protect it."

Ms Broad acknowledged the shared desire across parliament to support Indigenous communities but advocated for a practical, inclusive approach.

"We do not support Treaty as the best way to achieve these aims and are opposing the legislation currently before parliament to implement it. We have committed to repealing Treaty should we be elected to government next year."

"We believe that all Victorians should be given equal treatment, equality of opportunity and justice, irrespective of their race or background

"We believe in working with local communities to deliver real outcomes and remain committed to governing for all Victorians."

"There is a better way to support reconciliation, and it is by bringing people together, not through further division," she said.

## Reading about rights at Children's Week 2025

FROM October 20 to 24, children and families across Murrindindi Shire joined council's libraries and Children's Services to celebrate Children's Week with a series of special Storytime sessions.

Children's Week is a national celebration which recognises the rights, talents and achievements of children. This year's theme, 'Everyone should know about Children's Rights', highlights the importance of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children (UNCRC) and encourages awareness of every child's right to be valued, heard and supported.

To mark the occasion, council's libraries hosted Storytime sessions featuring *The Right to Be Me*, a picture book by Allison Paterson and illustrated by Amanda Letcher. Every child who attended received a copy of the book to take home and enjoy.

Across the week, the story time sessions attracted a total of 49 children and 19 adults to the shire's libraries. Children enjoyed storytelling, arts and songs, engaging in creative

activities, celebrating imagination, and the joy of reading. Stories highlighted the theme of children's rights including the right to be happy and healthy and gave the opportunity for parents to talk about the importance of emotional wellbeing in kids. Many families expressed interest in the books and planned to continue reading and exploring the stories at home.

Portfolio Councillor for Community Wellbeing Cr Jodi Adams said the Children's Week Storytimes offered a great opportunity to explore children's rights, creativity and the joy of reading together.

"Children's Week encourages us to recognise the voices and rights of all children. We extend a big thanks to all those who attended and encourage the community to come along to the library and encourage everyone to learn, imagine and share stories with confidence and comfort."

This Children's Week events were presented by council in partnership with the Victorian Government.

## McLeish calls for roadside rubbish cleanup

MEMBER for Eildon, Cindy McLeish MP has launched a survey to gather evidence of where rubbish is being dumped illegally along our roads and highways, in a bid to get things tidied up.

Ms McLeish said the Victorian Government has failed at keeping roadsides rubbish-free and preventing illegal dumping.

"Roadside rubbish is dumped too often, along roads right across the state."

"Piles are left for many months at a time, with some rubbish being blown around and eventually into waterways, creek and rivers, causing danger to wildlife and polluting their natural habitat."

The Melba Highway is a perfect example of large rubbish piles being left on the highway for well over six months.

"People consistently raise this concern with me. They are embarrassed about the state of our surrounds. It is unsightly and bad for the environment."

"This is the reason I launched the survey, so locals can voice their concerns to the state government and let them know exactly where the worst spots are for rubbish dumping."

In Parliament recently, Ms McLeish directly called on the Minister for Roads to ensure the Department of Transport and Planning receive the appropriate budget to make an ongoing effort to clean up our roadsides.

The Minister responded, "As there are many road maintenance demands at any time, work that has the greatest impact on improving public safety is given the highest priority."

"Rubbish causing obstruction is dealt with immediately. Rubbish that does not impact road

safety is scheduled for removal in line with the strategic prioritisation system."

Ms McLeish said, "The Minister has made it clear that if it is not a hazard, it is not a priority for moving."

"This is not a once off, done and dusted job. DTP are doing what they can with Labor's allocated budget, yet it is clearly not enough."

"The issue is so much more than one empty chip packet. It is large piles of building offcuts,

rubble, mattresses, broken furniture, tyres, bags of clothes and rags, planks of wood, even washing machines."

"It is bad enough that we have animal carcasses from roadkill everywhere, but now we have piles of rubbish as well littering the roadsides."

Have your say and let the Victorian Government know where roadside rubbish is being dumped via the survey link, [cindymcleish.com.au/survey/roadside-rubbish](http://cindymcleish.com.au/survey/roadside-rubbish)



# Council News



## November 2025

### Free Green Waste in November

Council is offering free green waste disposal until Sunday 30 November at our Resource Recovery Centres in the lead-up to the fire season. Normal processing charges will apply outside this period. Learn more at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/rrc](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/rrc)

### Community Leadership Program Introduction Session

Are you interested in making change in your community? Join Council's free online introduction session to learn about the upcoming 12-week Community Leadership Program.

The session will be hosted online on Wednesday 3 December from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm. To register visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/leadership](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/leadership) or call Council's Community Capacity Building Officer on 5772 0333.

### Remembrance Day services in Murrindindi Shire

The Eildon RSL will host a service that will assemble at 10.45 am for an 11.00 am service at the Cenotaph, Utah Place.

Alexandra RSL are hosting a service that will assemble at 10.45 am for an 11.00 am service at the Cenotaph in Leckie Park.

For more details on services across the Shire, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/remembranceday](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/remembranceday)

### Discover Frogs with FrogID

Council and the Australian Museum are hosting a webinar covering the FrogID Project, why frogs matter, local frog species, and how to get involved in FrogID Week (7 - 16 November 2025).

We will broadcast the webinar live on Wednesday 5 November, from 6.30 to 8.15 pm at Alexandra Council Chambers, Kinglake Library and Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, or you can watch online starting at 6.30 pm.

For those attending at a local venue, the evening will continue with an excursion to find frogs and use the FrogID App. Light refreshments will be provided.

To find out more about the in-person events, or register to attend online, scan the QR code, email [environment@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/FrogID](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/FrogID)

### Aged Care Hub at Alexandra Library

Community members aged 66 and over are invited to visit the new Aged Care Hub at Alexandra Library, 49 Grant Street.

For more information, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/carehub](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/carehub) or visit the Hub during opening hours.



### Walk For Respect

Join Council and Rotary Alexandra for the Walk for Respect on Friday 28 November from 11.30 am at Rotary Park, Vickery Street, Alexandra, to promote safety, equality and respect, and to take a stand against domestic and family violence.

Local groups and businesses are invited to get involved by hosting a stall, sharing resources or offering small tokens of care. The Alexandra CFA will be cooking up a BBQ, and the Alexandra Country Women's Association will be serving cake and hot drinks.

For more information, visit our website at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walkforrespect](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/walkforrespect)

Supported by Respect Victoria, Safe and Equal, Rotary Club of Alexandra, Alexandra CFA and Alexandra Country Women's Association.

### Pools opening in November

Our outdoor pools in Alexandra, Eildon, Marysville, Yea and the Baanh ba Djila splash park in Eildon are getting ready to open for another fun-filled season from Saturday 15 November.

Find session times, opening hours and the latest updates at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pools](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/pools)

### Breastfeeding Support Program

Breastfeeding can be tough, but you don't have to do it alone. From 20 November 2025, qualified lactation consultants will offer free, personalised breastfeeding support at your local Maternal and Child Health centre or at home.

For more information, email [mch@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:mch@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

**Get in touch**  
5772 0333

[murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request](https://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request)  
[customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)

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# Giro Della Donna cancelled for 2025

THE team behind Giro Della Donna released a statement last month stating, “It is with great sadness that, after careful consideration, we’ve made the difficult decision that we’re unable to proceed with this year’s edition of the Giro Della Donna. While we’ve been working tirelessly to make this year a success, a number of external factors including rising supplier and delivery costs have made it challenging to stage the event to the standard we believe it deserves. This is not a decision we’ve taken lightly, and we understand it will come as disappointing news.

“Over the years, we’ve been proud to introduce thousands of riders to this remarkable region, to its climbs, descents, towns, and people. We continue to believe the Giro Della Donna showcases one of the most beautiful and rewarding cycling loops in the country, and that belief remains unchanged.

“We’re deeply grateful for the enthusiasm shown by the cycling community and by everyone who had planned to join us this November. The Giro Della Donna has always been about celebrating the beauty of the ride and the people who make it possible, and that spirit will continue to guide us in the future.”

Nathan Lorkin, director of Locale which present Giro Della Donna, was asked to provide further information about the decision. He stated that the cost of keeping everyone safe on bitumen roads has skyrocketed, estimating that the costs for traffic management have increased around 30 per cent compared to 2024. He also noted the price increases for medical services and other overheads.

“We just can’t make the numbers stack up,” he said. “With our duty of care, we can’t just let people go cowboy on the roads. The cost is far too high to be able to even make it worthwhile, and we can’t just keep doing it for the love of it. It just needs to be sustainable and viable.

“So whether it’s a reset for the Giro Della Donna to see if we can make it work in the future or not, that’s something we’re working through at the moment. But for the 2025 edition, the costs were just too great and the cash just wasn’t there. We can’t charge a rider a thousand dollars to go for a bike ride. They’re paying a lot already, and they do have an expectation of how they’ll be looked after on the day,” he said.

“We just couldn’t meet the requirements financially to be able to put the event on, to do it well, and the event deserves to be done well, and it always has been, mind you. But with those increased costs, and I feel like I’m a broken record with everything that’s going on at the moment in terms of increased cost of living and things like that. It’s coming across to a couple of things. I mean, increased costs across the board, but then also changing legislation late last year, which means that the requirements for those traffic management contractors has changed and having to put more people in the job and things like that. But then overlay, additional costs, it’s mighty high. And you can’t use volunteers.”

He said of Giro Della Donna, “It’s a beautiful event. It showcases the region, it does all those things, but it’s hard, and it’s sad, it really is. There are always a few people who would rather not see the event because it can disrupt traffic and you might have to wait a few minutes to be let through and things like that. But all in all, and seeing the outcome, the benefit to the community by way of economic impact and health and wellbeing and getting up there and all that sort of stuff is wonderful. And we did a good job together last year with the shire, with the community, with us, with the riders visiting.”

Asked whether they received funding for the 2025 event, Nathan said, “No, we missed that opportunity. We did last year, which was wonderful. It would be well north of that from last year as well, unfortunately, so I’m certainly not putting it on to them by any means. We did miss an opportunity to obtain funding from them, and that was probably on us.” The event received \$15,000 from council last year.

He added, “And also, it’s on us to seek out other pots of money outside of council as well, by way of commercial funding, sponsors and others, whether it be state government funding as well, which of course council can steer and endorse that, but fundamentally it’s up to us. But we just didn’t have the opportunity. It takes a while to get good funding. With other events we’ve had, it’s quite often it’s not just a three or six month process. It is for the smaller amounts, but for the amounts to make a difference, it’s sort of, you are looking at a longer term picture. Sometimes it takes a year or two to get all



Last year’s Giro Della Donna in Marysville. -AR

your skittles lined up and to sort of have it all in place as well.”

Unfortunately, they’re unable to use volunteers for traffic management, only for ensuring that cyclists go in the right direction. They’re not permitted to interact with traffic unless certified. He was quick to add that such volunteers are greatly appreciated, and have included in other races groups such as Rotary or the CFA or a football club, with a donation provided.

The Giro Della Donna has been around for a decade, with Marysville generally part of the route. It has only been in the past year however that the start and finish post has moved from Warburton to Marysville.

“We did take it to Marysville and it was welcomed,” Nathan said. “In the main street, the bike sculptures all the way down and the fact that you’ve got mountain biking, gravel and road cycling, and Peppers Marysville is behind it. You’ve got Northeast Tourism and their Ride High Country campaign taking Lake Mountain into its remit, so there’s a lot of popularity around cycling. It was refreshing and wonderful to take it there for the first time in 2024.”

The Marysville event last year had 936 registrations, with the Saturday’s 36 degrees resulting in heat stroke for some riders, and

the cold and rain on the Sunday causing some to be treated for hypothermia.

Asked whether they are actively working towards a 2026 event, Nathan replied, “It requires a reset to see if we can. We’d like to resume conversations to maintain it because it does have a wonderful legacy that it’s built, and people do adore it. In an ideal world, yes, certainly. It’s not completely on the back burner, but we’re just having to make sure it’s viable and it can stand on its own two feet.

“I can’t see traffic management bills coming down anytime soon. They’re not going to reset. They’re not going to draw back, so we just need to be able to financially meet those obligations. The biggest sponsor of sport globally, of any sport... at a high level is government. We’re just having to see if there’s an opportunity for us to receive funding of whatever form from whatever silo that may be... I just need to explore opportunities.”

He also noted that the northern section of the shire, including Alexandra and Yea, recently benefitted from the Gravelista, run on October 26 in the Seymour area. 736 people registered for the event with many requiring accommodation. Some needed to travel away from the immediate area for the accommodation. The event is held on lower usage roads, away from thoroughfares, making it more viable.

## BOM trying to weather the website storm

THE Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has been facing a barrage of criticism following the release of its new website, with people taking to social media to express their opinion as well as via the bureau’s website.

If you really hate the new website, you can still access the old one if you go to [reg.bom.gov.au](http://reg.bom.gov.au) (instead of [bom.gov.au](http://bom.gov.au)).

Keen-eyed viewers may also have noticed that the About section refers to ‘The Bureau’, the term which they tried to implement back in 2022 to widespread criticism.

Following the backlash, Federal Environment Minister Murray Watt released a statement on October 28. It stated, “Today I requested a meeting with the Bureau of Meteorology Acting CEO, Mr Peter Stone, to discuss the public’s concerns with its updated website.

“It’s clear that the new BOM website is not meeting many users’ expectations, with a significant range of feedback provided to the Bureau in recent days.

“In the meeting, I made clear my expectations that the BOM needed to consider this feedback and, where appropriate, adjust the website’s settings as soon as possible. This includes urgent consideration of improvements to the website’s functionality and useability.

“The Acting CEO confirmed that the BOM is considering this feedback and what adjustments can be made, while preserving the website’s reliability.

“The BOM website is a critical tool to ensure public safety, particularly during

the High Risk Weather Season and it must deliver the quality information our hardworking BOM staff are known for.

“In addition, I have asked the BOM to organise a briefing with State and Territory Emergency Services Ministers this week, to ensure they are fully briefed on the new website and the steps BOM is taking to improve it. This follows previous work by the Bureau to brief a range of stakeholders, including emergency management agencies.

“Australians deserve to have confidence in these important services. My office and I will continue to engage closely with the BOM and ensure public safety is its foremost priority.

“I strongly encourage Australians to continue to provide feedback to the BOM, to ensure changes can be made where needed.”

The previous CEO, Dr Andrew Johnson, departed BOM in September 2025.

The Acting CEO of BOM released a statement on the following day. He stated, “We are listening and welcome your feedback on the new site. It’s part of delivering a reliable service that every sector of the community can trust and rely on.

“We are moving quickly to act on the feedback received, and I am confident the community will start to see more improvements in the coming weeks,” he said.

New content, features and upgrades will continue to be rolled out through regular releases, based on feedback.

Feedback can be provided at [bom.gov.au/contact](http://bom.gov.au/contact) or by calling 1300 754 389.

## Seeking answers on the Forest Fire Management fleet

THE state Opposition has accused the Victorian Government of once again failing to provide any answers as to whether the Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic)’s G-Wagon’s fleet will be repaired or written off for the upcoming fire season.

Leader of The Nationals and Shadow Minister for Emergency Services, Danny O’Brien, said the government was failing to clarify if and when Victoria’s firefighting fleet will be in full working order.

He said that in Question Time, Minister for Environment, Steve Dimopoulos, failed to provide any answers over the 290 Forest Fire Management G-Wagon firefighting appliances recently taken offline due to a serious fault.

When asked how many of those vehicles cannot be repaired and will be written off the Minister, for the second time in two weeks, refused to provide a clear answer, offering no timeline for when the fleet would be fully operational again.

Mr O’Brien said, “We’re now weeks away from bushfire season and the Allan Labor Government can’t even say when its fire trucks will be back on the road.

“Regional Victorians deserve confidence that when the next fires start, every available truck will be ready to roll.”

Shadow Minister for Public Land Management, Melina Bath, said it was no surprise that Labor still can’t explain how this issue will be resolved.

“This is another example of Labor taking more with its new \$3 billion emergency services tax and giving less,” Ms Bath said.

“We’re just weeks away from fire season and we’re still waiting on urgent repairs or replacements for the faulty G-Wagon fleets.”

The Victorian Government were contacted for comment and they supplied the same response as when the issue was first raised with them. The first response arrived on October 9 and the second on October 29, the latter being 20 days into the 60 day planned turnaround. The media representative was asked for a more recent update in light of this, but nothing was supplied.

Their statement, attributable to a Victorian Government spokesperson, said, “The safety of our firefighters is paramount, that’s why regular safety inspections of vehicles and equipment are so important.

“FFMVic has brought online additional vehicles to continue undertaking critical bushfire season preparations and respond to bushfire emergencies.

“These repairs are being fast tracked over the next two months and FFMVic is working on agreements to secure additional emergency response vehicles from other states if required.”

Routine inspections identified issues with chassis on a large part of the G-Wagens and UniMog fleet. As a result, all 290 G-Wagens and 59 Unimogs have been removed from service while they are checked, repaired if necessary, and returned to service. Several vehicles have been cleared and are returning to service.

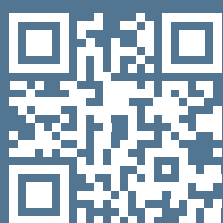
DEECA has a contingency fleet available as well as Landcruiser vehicles, Fire Tankers and bulldozers for fire response. VICSES and CFA have also provided vehicles to FFMVic.



# The machete amnesty ends 30 November

Possession after this date carries a fine of more than \$47,000 or jail time.

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# Alexandra Spring Fair held in delightful weather



The Alexandra Spring Fair was held in glorious weather. -VG



Lee Lambert from Arashel. -VG



Evie on the bungee. -VG



Judy from Free Range Art. -VG



Ruby. -VG



Cindy from Rustic Simplicity. -VG



CFA members helping people to stay fire safe. -VG



Gordon and Bob selling poppies for the Poppy Appeal. -VG



One of the musical acts on the day. -VG



Gauthier with his bakery goods. -VG



Poppy and Liv. -VG





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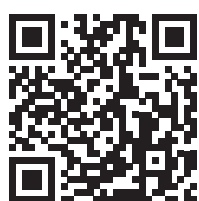
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- Philip Lobley Wines - Sedona Estate

For your chance to win a \$50 voucher, return this entry by noon, **Wednesday, November 26**  
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PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714

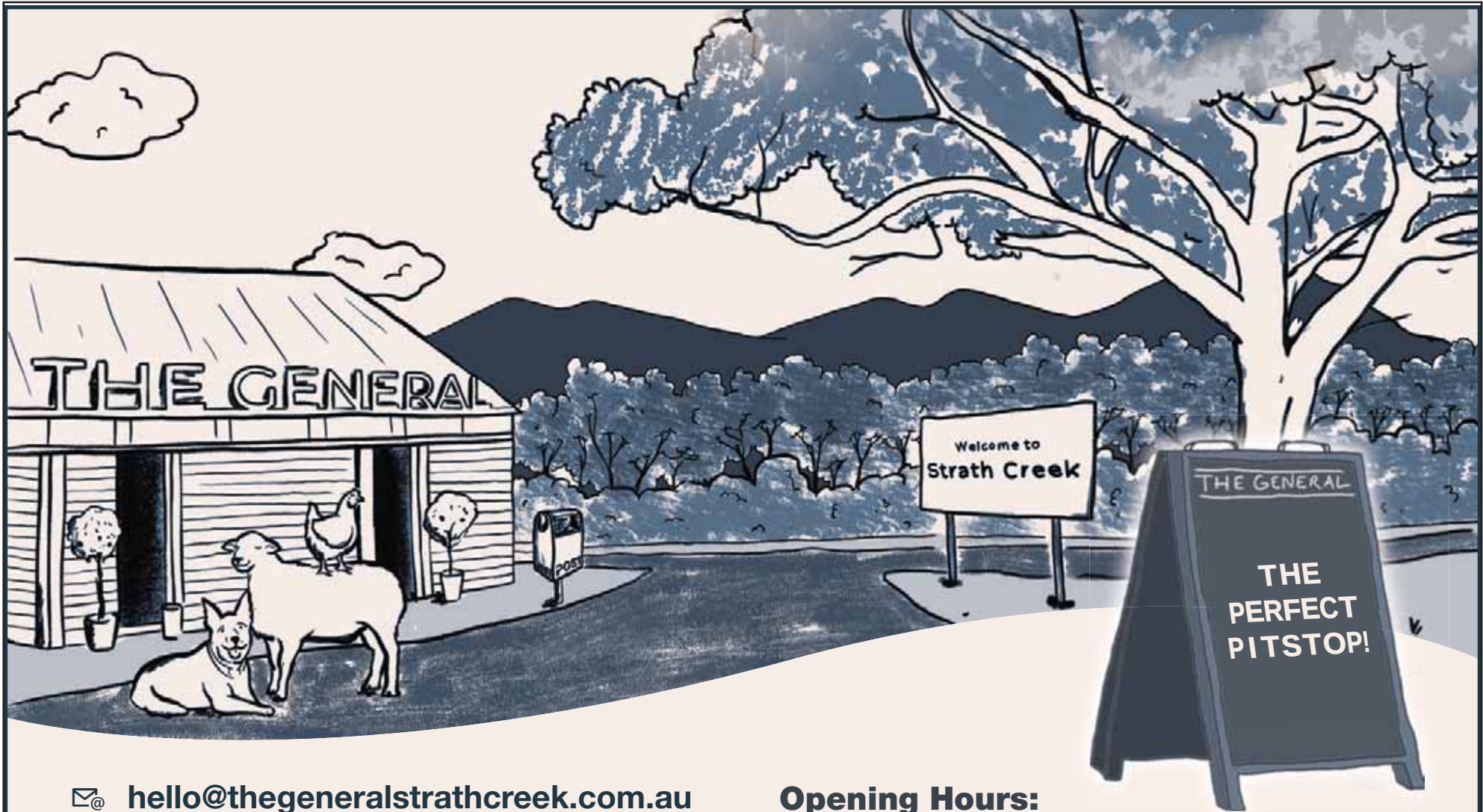
Photocopies will not be accepted.

One entry per household

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

### Win a Let's Eat meal voucher

THE winner of our October Let's Eat \$50 voucher was Michelle Crowley from Alexandra. Michelle will be having a \$50 feed on us at The General Strath Creek.  
Be sure to get your entry form from this edition for your chance to win a \$50 meal at a venue advertised in this edition of Let's Eat; It's our treat.



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# Spooky times in Alexandra on Halloween



**Job, Harvey, Dacie, Zahlia, Leo and Cohen. -AR**



**Sienna. -AR**



*Laylah and Gracie. -AR*



*Jayne and Pam with Harvey and Jorja. -AR*



*Fletcher and Ollie. -AR*



*Helen, Kirsty and Brett with Izzy and Billy. -AR*



*A spooky group having fun on Halloween. -AR*



**Debbie. -AR**



*Navy, Sadie, Lennon and Gabby. -AR*



**Alexis, Charli and Matilda. -AR**



*Penny, Noa and Hannah. -AR*



# The Farmer's Ag News

## Farmers: seek support for financial hardship

VICTORIAN Small Business Commissioner Lynda McAlary-Smith is encouraging Victorian farmers experiencing financial hardship to seek support with their situation to plan a way forward, with confidential assistance available.

There was a 23 per cent increase in applications to mediate farm debts in financial year 2024/25, according to the Victorian Small Business Commission's (VSBC) Annual Report, tabled in parliament today.

"Farming families are enduring difficult conditions, from ongoing drought to difficult economic settings and global events impacting market prices. This is reflected in an increase in creditors approaching the VSBC to mediate farm debts in arrears," Commissioner McAlary-Smith said.

As a safeguard for Victorian farmers, the *Farm Debt Mediation Act 2011* (the Act) prohibits creditors from taking enforcement action against farmers in arrears on loans for farmland and farming machinery. The Act requires farmers and their creditors to mediate, or attempt to mediate, farm debt arrears to the satisfaction of the Victorian Small Business Commissioner.

Ninety-one per cent of farm debt mediations facilitated by the VSBC in financial year 2024/25 were successful.

"Farm debt is complex and challenging as it often involves significant sums of money, the weight of family history and relationships.

It can be incredibly emotional and stressful," Commissioner McAlary-Smith said.

Farmers who aren't yet in arrears can choose to seek mediation with their financier about their farm debt as a preventative step. If those farmers then fall into arrears, the creditor must still provide the farmer with the option of a mediation about that farm debt before they can pursue recovery action.

"Farmers can tackle financial challenges before they compound," Commissioner McAlary-Smith said. "Starting the conversation early, and seeking the right assistance, can result in a better outcome in the long-term."

"There's no wrong place to start the conversation either, be it with the VSBC or the Rural Financial Counsellors, we're all here to help."

The Rural Financial Counselling Service can provide free information and assistance on financial matters, including farm debt mediation. They can be reached on 1300 771 741.

The Victorian Small Business Commission can be reached on 1800 878 964 or [vsbc.vic.gov.au](http://vsbc.vic.gov.au)

Beyond Blue offer a free and confidential mental health coaching service called NASBO by calling 1300 945 301 or by visiting [beyondblue.org.au](http://beyondblue.org.au). A 24/7 support line is available on 1300 224 636.

## Farmers gaining confidence

SHEEP producers have led a lift in Victorian farm sentiment seen in the most recent quarter and are the most optimistic commodity sector in the state, the latest Rabobank Rural Confidence Survey has found.

A combination of strong prices for sheep and lambs and improving seasonal conditions, following some of the driest years on record in many of the state's key sheep production regions, are driving the improved outlook in the sector.

Overall, the latest Rabobank survey found Victorian farmers continue to gain confidence, with the state's net rural confidence reading rising to 21 per cent, up from seven per cent last survey.

Among Victorian farmers surveyed, there has been an increase in those expecting business conditions to improve in the coming year, to 41 per cent, up from 38 per cent previously, while 20 per cent expect worsening prospects in the next 12 months (down from 30 per cent previously). A further 33 per cent are predicting conditions will remain the same.

The quarter three survey, completed last month, found Victorian farmers to be particularly positive about strong commodity prices (cited by 56 per cent) and better seasonal conditions (52 per cent).

However, seasonal conditions were also a worry for many, with 40 per cent indicating they were concerned about drought (albeit down from 50 per cent last survey). Rising input costs were also a concern for 40 per cent.

By region, the survey found farmers in nearly all areas in the state gained confidence in the latest survey period, with the western district reporting the highest sentiment, at a net reading of 34 per cent (up from eight per cent previously). However, the survey found sentiment had declined among high country producers, with net rural confidence dropping to 33 per cent in the region (from 59 per cent), although

it still boasts the second-highest rural confidence in the state.

By commodity, the survey found confidence has increased for nearly all sectors in the state.

Sentiment had declined among the state's beef producers. While 40 per cent have an optimistic view on the year ahead, this was down from 61 per cent in the previous survey. This resulted in an overall net confidence reading of 26 per cent for Victoria's beef sector, compared with last quarter's 50 per cent.

The survey found dry seasonal conditions were the major concern for beef producers. Many livestock producers have been feeding their stock for an extended period, which is an expensive undertaking, and sourcing fodder has been challenging with many competing for limited resources.

Farmers in the north of the state were keeping a close eye on irrigation allocations. For the current season, allocations are mixed with the Campaspe River system having the highest allocation at 100 per cent, followed by Vic Murray Water at 90 per cent. However, the Goulburn River is only at 54 per cent allocation.

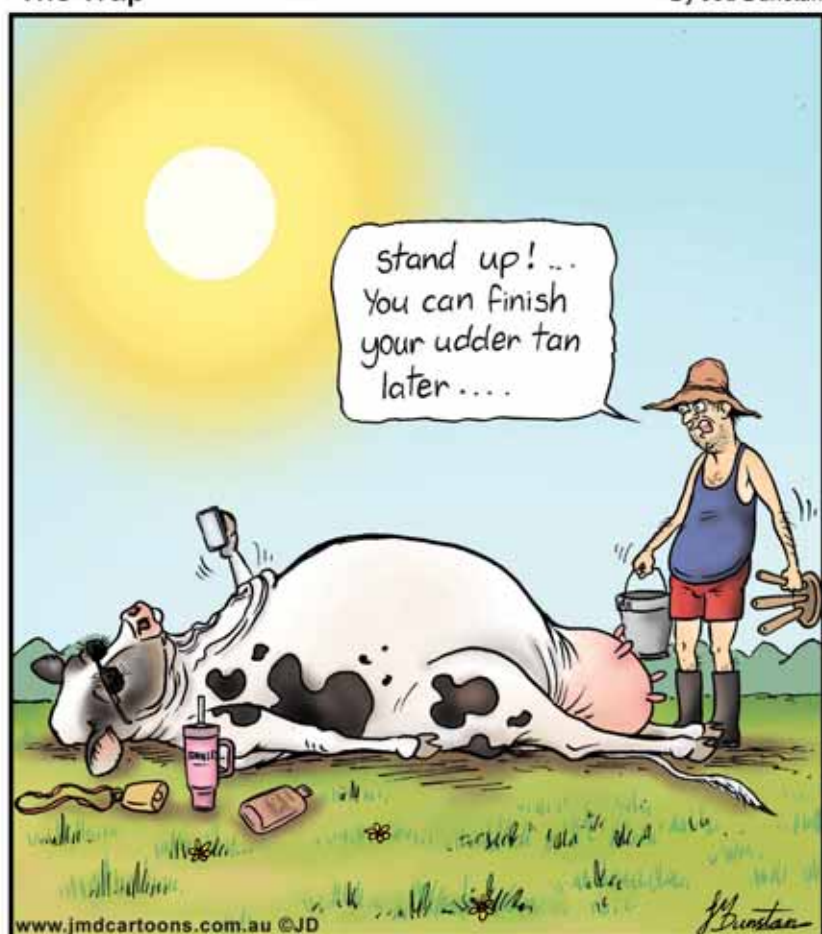
Overall, investment priorities for Victorian farmers remain similar to the previous quarter, with 62 per cent focusing on on-farm infrastructure (such as fences, yards and silos), the highest among grain producers at 73 per cent. There has also been a rise in appetite for adoption of new technologies across the state, nominated by 40 per cent of those surveyed, up from 30 per cent.

The intention to increase livestock numbers among Victorian farmers remain unchanged at 23 per cent.

The survey found the state's producers had a positive outlook on income for the 12 months ahead, with 38 per cent expecting their incomes to increase (up from 31 per cent) and 23 per cent expecting a decrease (down from 33 per cent). A total of 37 per cent were anticipating incomes to stay the same.

### The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



Bovine influencer.

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PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS  
Page 18

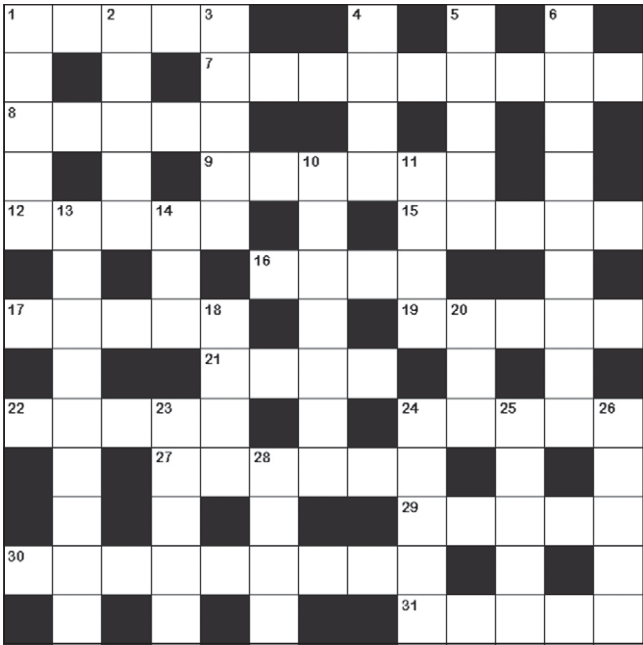
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Hide from everyone's view or knowledge.
- 7. Offensive, objectionable and disliked.
- 8. Sings out a song in a loud and forceful manner.
- 9. Look forward to the birth of a child.
- 12. Outbuildings used for storage.
- 15. Anything of material value or usefulness.
- 16. Large long-haired oxen from Tibet.
- 17. Tatters along the edges from rubbing.
- 19. A statement that has been verified as fact.
- 21. A subdivision of a larger military formation.
- 22. Stop performing an activity or action.
- 24. Orders to be taken to another place.
- 27. Give testimony in a court of law.
- 29. Before the usual time or the time expected.
- 30. Become invisible or unnoticeable.
- 31. The daughter of your sibling.

DOWN

- 1. Raises to the third power.
- 2. Judge the worth of something.
- 3. Commonly grown sweetly perfumed flowers.



- 4. Act in a funny or teasing way.
- 5. Gives indirect suggestions.
- 6. Mentioned something as being worth a try.
- 10. A confection of nuts with caramelised sugar.
- 11. Assign a certain role to an actor in a play.
- 13. A clown with brightly colored diamond shapes.
- 14. The time after sunrise and before sunset.
- 18. The fat around the kidneys in beef.
- 20. The eggs of a female fish.
- 23. Dish of cold vegetables with oil and vinegar.
- 24. Severe and strict in making demands.
- 25. Hold in your arms like a baby.
- 26. The way in which something is done.
- 28. A person of a certain kind.

Word Search

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

Yellow things

- BANANA DAFFODIL RUBBERDUCK
- BUTTER EGGYOLK SUN
- CHEESE LEMON SUNFLOWER
- CUSTARD PINEAPPLE SWEETCORN

Math Square

|    |   |    |   |   |     |
|----|---|----|---|---|-----|
|    | x |    | + |   | 13  |
| -  |   | -  |   | + |     |
|    | - | 3  | x |   | -10 |
| +  |   | +  |   | - |     |
| 1  | - |    | x |   | -62 |
| -5 |   | 10 |   | 4 |     |

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Cryptogram

Red Things

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A  | B  | C  | D  | E  | F  | G  | H  | I  |
| 6  |    |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |
| J  | K  | L  | M  | N  | O  | P  | Q  | R  |
|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| S  | T  | U  | V  | W  | X  | Y  | Z  |    |
|    | 13 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| T  | E  |    | E  |    |    |    |    |    |
| 13 | 2  | 24 | 18 | 24 | 17 | 17 | 14 | 11 |
| A  | A  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 5  | 6  | 8  | 6  | 7  | 18 | 23 | 25 | 8  |
| A  |    | E  | A  | T  |    |    |    |    |
| 6  | 10 | 24 | 6  | 9  | 13 | 25 | 12 | 9  |
| T  |    | E  |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 13 | 9  | 8  | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |

Sudoku

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

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.

KID'S PUZZLES

Colouring Page



Word Search

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

Words starting with "AD"

- ADAMANT ADMIRE
- ADAPT ADMIT
- ADDLE ADOPT
- ADDRESS ADORN
- ADHERE ADULT
- ADJUST ADVERB
- ADMIRAL ADVICE

Math Square

|    |   |    |   |   |    |
|----|---|----|---|---|----|
|    | + |    | - |   | 9  |
| +  |   | +  |   | + |    |
| 8  | - |    | + |   | 2  |
| -  |   | +  |   | - |    |
| 4  | - |    | - |   | -4 |
| 10 |   | 21 |   | 4 |    |

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Jokes

- Q: What happens when it rains cats and dogs?  
A: You have to be careful not to step in a poodle.
- Q: Why was Cinderella so bad at soccer?  
A: She kept running away from the ball.



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MATH SQUARES

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|----|---|----|---|---|-----|
| 2  | x | 4  | + | 5 | 13  |
| -  |   | -  |   | + |     |
| 8  | - | 3  | x | 6 | -10 |
| +  |   | +  |   | - |     |
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SUDOKU

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

CRYPTOGRAM

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| 8 | 14 | 21 | 3  | 7  | 23 | 13 | 9 | 1  | 11 | 26 | 18 | 19 |

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KIDS - MATH SQUARES

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| 6  | + | 5  | - | 2 | 9  |
| +  |   | +  |   | + |    |
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| -  |   | +  |   | - |    |
| 4  | - | 7  | - | 1 | -4 |
| 10 |   | 21 |   | 4 |    |

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admin@belllegalplanning.com.au

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Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

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### GARAGE SALES

**ALEXANDRA, 131 Grant Street.** Sunday, November 9 from 9am to 5pm. Kitchenware, electrical stuff, general bric a brac.

### GARAGE SALES

**YEA, 1 Mulqueeny Lane.** November 8 and 9. From 8am-4pm. Tools, furniture, old stamps, bikes, camping equipment, antiques, bric-a-brac and lots more.

### SITUATION VACANT



#### Learning Support Officer

St Mary's Alexandra is seeking a reliable and enthusiastic person to join our team.

The successful applicant will:

- Hold a Working With Children Check and Police Check
- Have experience working with children
- Be passionate about supporting a positive and caring school environment

If this sounds like you,  
we'd love to hear from you.

St Mary's Primary School Alexandra applications close on November 11 at 4pm. Please email your application to [principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au)

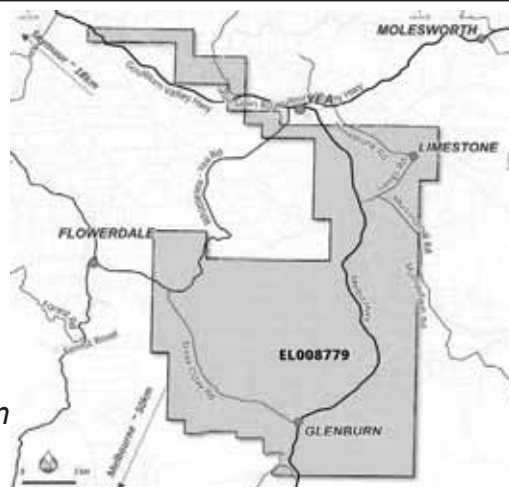
## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION LICENCE

*Mineral Resources  
(Sustainable Development)  
Act 1990 – Section 15(5)*

*Mineral Resources  
(Sustainable Development)  
(Mineral Industries)*

*Regulations 2019 – Regulation  
22(1) and Schedule 1*



#### 1. Name and address of applicant(s):

Providence Gold Pty Ltd  
C/-PO Box 563, East Maitland NSW 2323

#### 2. Contact details of applicant (for map and other information requests):

Belinda Ingram. Ph: 0428 158 374. E: [vic@amets.com.au](mailto:vic@amets.com.au)

#### 3. Applicant's Website: Further information about this application is available:

[www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/](http://www.amets.com.au/victoria-tenements/) and <https://resources.vic.gov.au/licensing-approvals/have-your-say>

#### 4. Details of the application:

Application number: EL008779  
Locality of the land to which the application relates: 1km south and west of Yea, 3km east of Flowerdale, 22km north east of Whittlesea, including Limestone, Devlin Bridge and Glenburn

Approximate area of the application (Graticular Sections): 300

Date of the application: 24 October 2025

Term the licences are applied for: 5 years

Outline of the proposed programs of work: mapping, landholder negotiations, geophysical surveys, drilling

#### 5. Objections and Comments:

Any person may object or comment to a licence being granted. (Sections 24 and 24A, Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990).

A person who objects or comments must:

- put the objection or comment in writing; and
- include the grounds on which it is made.

All objections or comments must be lodged within 21 days after the latest date on which the application was advertised and can be lodged online or posted to: The Minister for Energy and Resources, c/- Manager Licensing, Resources Victoria, PO Box 500, East Melbourne Victoria 8002

It is recommended that objections or comments are lodged online at <https://rram-vic.gov.my.site.com/ObjectionSubmission> to ensure timely consideration.

Enquiries can be made by writing to the Manager Licensing at the above address or by phoning Resources Victoria on 136 186.

#### 6. Other Statutory Requirements

Subject to other requirements being satisfied, an exploration licence, if granted, entitles the holder of the licence to explore and search for minerals in the relevant land, but does not entitle the holder to undertake mining.

Further information regarding the statutory requirements that must be complied with prior to work being undertaken on a licence, including landowner and occupier consent requirements, is available at: <https://resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use>.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**Nexus**  
Primary Health

**omnia**  
Community Health

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Nexus Primary Health and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health will formally merge on January 1, 2026 and will be known as **Omnia Community Health**, a trading name of Sunbury Community Health Centre Limited.

On 1 January 2026, all client records at Nexus Primary Health will be transferred to Sunbury Community Health Centre Ltd, located at 12-28 Macedon Street, Sunbury VIC 3429.

For those accessing Nexus Primary Health services and programs, very little will change. Clients will continue to receive the same high level of care from the same location.

Tel: 1300 77 33 52  
Email: [info@nexusprimaryhealth.org.au](mailto:info@nexusprimaryhealth.org.au)  
Web: [www.nexusprimaryhealth.org.au](http://www.nexusprimaryhealth.org.au)  
Nexus Primary Health  
ACN 136 475 708

## OPTUS

### PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION ON EXISTING LATTICE TOWER AT LAKE EILDON

- Optus is proposing to upgrade an existing mobile phone base station on existing lattice tower at **off Karralika Heights Road, Lake Eildon VIC 3713 (M0172 Eildon)**.
- In summary, this upgrade will comprise of: Removal of three (3) existing panel antennas, Installation of three (3) new antennas, Installation of temporary antennas to be used during construction and Installation and relocation of ancillary equipment.
- We invite you to provide your feedback or request further information by contacting us at: at Wannan Bao, Indara, 02 9495 9000, [community@indara.com](mailto:community@indara.com) or Level 1, 110 Pacific Highway, St Leonards NSW 2065. We will accept submissions until **5pm on Friday 21 November 2025**.
- For more information, please visit [www.rfnsa.com.au/3713001](http://www.rfnsa.com.au/3713001).

## MEETINGS

**Kellock Lodge**  
Alexandra Inc.  
RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 6.15pm**  
Residents, families and members of the Alexandra and district community are warmly invited to the Annual General Meeting of Kellock Lodge - Alexandra Incorporated.

**To be held at Kellock Lodge, 15 Bon Street, Alexandra.**

#### BUSINESS

- To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meetings held on December 2, 2024
- To receive the Annual Reports for year ending 30 June 2025
- To receive the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 30 June 2025 (KLA Inc.)
- Questions and general business

#### APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Applications are invited from members of the Alexandra and district community to join the Board of Management as a Director. The position is honorary, and Board Directors are required to be available for board meetings and committees. Expressions of interest should be addressed to the Board Chair, Kellock Lodge 15 Bon Street Alexandra, Vic, 3714 (or by email to: [info@kellocklodge.com.au](mailto:info@kellocklodge.com.au)) and include a cover letter and brief resume. Applications close of business **Monday November 3, 2025**.

Please **RSVP** your attendance for the meeting by close of business **Monday November 3, 2025**. Contact reception on 5770 2100 or [info@kellocklodge.com.au](mailto:info@kellocklodge.com.au). Teams link available by request.

Membership of KLA Inc. is welcomed, with forms available from reception on 5770 2100 or [info@kellocklodge.com.au](mailto:info@kellocklodge.com.au).



Classifieds

Call 5772 1002 now to book your ad today!

DEATH NOTICES

**BENSTON, John Brighton.**  
Died 24/10/2025 at Mornington. Past resident of Limestone community for 57 years. Much esteemed and respected Lieutenant/Captain of Limestone Brigade 1973-2000. Life member of Limestone Brigade and Yea Group Officer for 10 years. John was a tower of strength and leadership through many district fires. Remembered as always a firm friend and stalwart of the Limestone community. From members of the Limestone Fire Brigade and community.

**DANIELI, Brett Anthony.**  
Much loved son, big brother, uncle, partner and father. Taken too soon. We will miss you for the rest of our lives. Love always, Mum, Rach, Daniel and Jackson. Ash, Dylan and Maeve.

DEATH NOTICES

**HALL, Peter.**  
Of Healesville, formerly of Marysville, passed away peacefully on Monday, October 27. Dearly loved husband of Naomi (dec), much loved father of Andrew, Kathryn, Fiona and Cameron. Cherished grandfather of Daniel, Gemma and Harry, great grandfather of Sienna and Blaire. Our eternal gratitude to his many friends who enriched his life and the caring staff at Holmwood, Healesville. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a commemorative service which will be held at St John's Anglican Church, 5 Symons Street, Healesville on Friday, November 7, commencing at 2.30pm. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Refugee Council of Australia.

IN MEMORIAM

**CREIGHTON, Neville Charles.**  
31/10/1948 - 07/11/2003. Death changes everything. Time changes nothing. We still miss the sound of your voice, the wisdom in your advice, the stories of your life and just being in your presence. So no time changes nothing, we miss you as much today as we did the day you died. 22 years today, we miss you dearly. Lots of love, Shaun and Amanda.

MEETINGS

**ALEXANDRA and District Dog Obedience Club AGM** will be held on Sunday, November 16, 11am at Briggs Oval.

**FLOWERDALE Sports Club AGM** on November 10, 2025 at 7pm at Flowerdale Sports Club, 748 Spring Valley Road, Flowerdale. All welcome. For more information email flowerdalesportsclub@gmail.com.

SITUATION VACANT



Department of Health



ALEXANDRA DISTRICT HEALTH

### Board Director opportunities at Alexandra District Health

The Minister for Health, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, is pleased to invite applications for part time board director positions at Alexandra District Health. The positions start on July 1, 2026, for up to three years.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for persons with an interest in making a difference in the health sector and have the knowledge and skills for ensuring health care is delivered safely and effectively, with public money used to the benefit of all Victorians.

As a director you will be doing more than just contributing your time or knowledge. Being appointed to a hospital board places you in a position of trust. You will play an important role in providing leadership, accountability and integrity in the delivery of healthcare across Victoria.

Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of healthcare for the Victorian community. It is preferable that applicants reside in Victoria or, within the border community of those hospitals near the New South Wales and South Australian borders.

While Victorian public health boards are based on capabilities, boards are more effective when these capabilities also represent the richness of the diverse voices of Victorian communities. We encourage First Nations people, people living with a disability, people from culturally diverse backgrounds, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, gender equality, and upholding human rights.

Applications close at midnight Sunday, November 23, 2025.

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply, please go to the following website: [www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications) or contact Executive Assistant and Board Secretary, Jennifer Creed on 5772 0924.

FOR HIRE

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beckysfreerange@gmail.com

MEETINGS

**ACHERON FIRE BRIGADE**  
**General and Biannual meeting** will be held on Sunday, Nov 16 at 10.30am at Acheron Hall. All welcome.

**ACHERON HALL AGM** will be held at Acheron Hall on Sunday, November 16 at 9.30am. All welcome. For more information phone 0423 802 772.

MEETINGS

NOTICE OF AN AUTHORISATION MEETING FOR APROPOSED NATIVE TITLE DETERMINATION APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF TAUNGURUNG PEOPLE 23 NOVEMBER 2025CAMP JUNGAI – RUBICON VICTORIA

This notice is to advise that, on Sunday 23 November 2025, the law practice Malyon Law will hold an authorisation meeting for Taungurung People to decide whether or not to authorise a native title determination application under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) that is to be made over the area bordered with a black line on the map below.

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

DATE:  
Sunday 23 November 2025

TIME:  
8 am – 9.30 am:  
Registration and Verification

9.30 am – 3.00 pm:  
Authorisation Meeting

LOCATION:  
Camp Jungai, 475 Rubicon Road,  
Rubicon Victoria

Authorisation Meeting for a Taungurung Native Title Determination Application

This meeting is an important decision-making meeting for Taungurung People to decide whether or not to authorise a native title determination application under the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).

A native title determination application is an application which is made in the Federal Court of Australia for a native title determination under section 61(1) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth). A determination of native title means that the Federal Court determines (1) who holds native title; (2) what the native title rights are; (3) the area to which the native title rights apply; and (4) which Aboriginal Corporation will represent the members of the determined native title group.

Malyon Law and Senior Counsel will be present at the meeting to answer any questions about the proposed native title determination application. The expert anthropologist and genealogist/historian will also be available at the meeting to explain their research and opinions and to answer any questions. If Taungurung People authorise the native title determination application on 23 November 2025, the application will be made to the Federal Court for a determination of native title.

Who is invited to attend the Authorisation Meeting?

The Taungurung People are invited to attend this meeting and only Taungurung People are entitled to attend the meeting. The Taungurung People are those Aboriginal persons who:

If you wish to attend the Authorisation Meeting on 23 November 2025, please register your attendance by email with Emily Loughron by email on [eloughron@tlawc.com.au](mailto:eloughron@tlawc.com.au) or by phone on 0427 480 056 by 18 November 2025. All meeting attendees must be verified by the expert genealogist/historian as descending from one or more of the Taungurung apical ancestors noted above.

This may involve the proposed meeting attendee providing information about parents and grandparents. If you have not provided this information previously, please contact us at [eloughron@tlawc.com.au](mailto:eloughron@tlawc.com.au) or on 0427 480 056 to obtain a family information form or to arrange a time prior to 18 November 2025 to meet with the genealogist/historian. If you have not provided information previously or you do not submit a family information form or meet with the genealogist/historian prior to the meeting on 23 November 2025, you will be asked to provide this information prior to the meeting before you are allowed to attend.

If you have any questions about this notice or the proposed Taungurung Native Title Claim please contact Malyon Law by email on [kirstin@malyonlaw.au](mailto:kirstin@malyonlaw.au) or by phone on 0407 157 737.

(a) descend by birth, or adoption in accordance with the traditional laws acknowledged and the traditional customs observed by the Taungurung People, from one or more of the following apical ancestors (listed alphabetically):

|    |                                                    |                                                                                            |
|----|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | <b>Berrut Dr Billy</b>                             | born c.1812, died before 1871                                                              |
| 2  | <b>Birdarak Thomas Michie aka Tommy Bamfield</b>   | born c.1841-44 Benalla, died in 1893 at Coranderrk                                         |
| 3  | <b>Bundowrok Mr W Cotton And Mrs Fulina Cotton</b> | born c.1806<br>born c.1811                                                                 |
| 4  | <b>Burnie Jessie Hamilton</b>                      | born c.1858 on the Goulburn River, Lower Goulburn or Kilmore, died at Cummerugunga in 1908 |
| 5  | <b>Charles Tattambo</b>                            | born c.1790s, died in 1868 at Murchison                                                    |
| 6  | <b>Coeyrun Peter Hunter</b>                        | born c.1847 Merri Creek, died Coranderrk in 1881                                           |
| 7  | <b>Eliza Werry/Michie</b>                          | born c.1832-35 Kilmore, died at Coranderrk in 1886                                         |
| 8  | <b>Ellen Norris</b>                                | born c.1856-57 Kilmore, died Lake Condah in 1889                                           |
| 9  | <b>Jerkunning Lilly Hamilton</b>                   | born c.1852 at Sugar Loaf Station near Kilmore, died in 1876 at Coranderrk                 |
| 10 | <b>John Franklin</b>                               | born c.1847 Broadford, died Yea in 1921                                                    |
| 11 | <b>Talgium William Hamilton</b>                    | born c.1851-52 Kilmore, died at Cummerugunga in 1897                                       |
| 12 | <b>Tooterie</b>                                    | born c.1810s                                                                               |
| 13 | <b>Wallambyne Polly</b>                            | born c.1840 around Mansfield, died Coranderrk in 1900                                      |
| 14 | <b>Wyerdierum Dick Richards</b>                    | born c.1835-39 Kilmore, died at Coranderrk in 1907                                         |
| 15 | <b>Yabbee Billy Hamilton</b>                       | born before c.1820, died in 1851 near Reedy Creek                                          |

(b) identify as a Taungurung person; and

(c) are recognised and accepted as a Taungurung person in accordance with the traditional laws acknowledged and the traditional customs observed by the Taungurung People.

Please contact Malyon Law if you would like to confirm whether you are a Taungurung person and so entitled to attend the meeting. Contact details are provided at the end of this notice.

Purpose of the Authorisation Meeting

The purpose of the authorisation meeting on Sunday 23 November 2025 is for Taungurung People to decide whether or not to authorise the proposed Taungurung native title determination application over the area shown in the map above. The agenda of the meeting will be to consider whether the persons present:

- agree to and adopt a decision-making process
- agree to the proposed claim area for the Taungurung native title determination application to be made on behalf of Taungurung People (being those people invited to the authorisation meeting)
- agree to nominate specified Taungurung People, which persons accept that nomination, to be the Applicant for the proposed Taungurung native title determination application
- agree to authorise the proposed members of the Applicant to make the proposed native title determination application, and deal with matters arising in relation to it
- identify any conditions which should be imposed on the authority of the Applicant for the proposed native title determination application, and agree to impose those conditions

Registering to attend, verification process and travel assistance

The Authorisation Meeting is an important decision-making meeting and for this reason, meeting attendees must attend in person. Attendance by video-link will not be supported. Proxies will not be accepted at this meeting. Travel and accommodation assistance will be provided to enable attendance in person. This assistance will be provided by First Nations Legal & Research Services Ltd in accordance with its "Assistance to Native Title Holders/Claimants Attending Native Title Meetings Policy". This policy can be found at: <https://www.fnrls.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/FNRLS-Travel-Assistance-Policy.pdf>.





The Eildon Twilight Market seen from across the Pondage. -AR



Tayla Arnett entertaining the crowd. -AR

## Sunny skies for first Eildon Twilight Market of the season



The market was a wonderful place to browse, eat and catch up with friends. -AR



Many shoppers took the opportunity to get ready for Christmas. -AR

# Marysville Art Show opens for long weekend



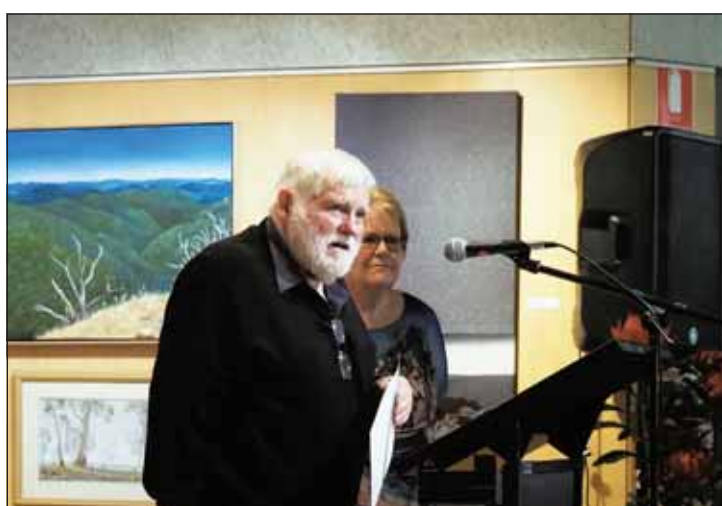
Some of the crowd in attendance on opening night, Friday, October 31. -AR



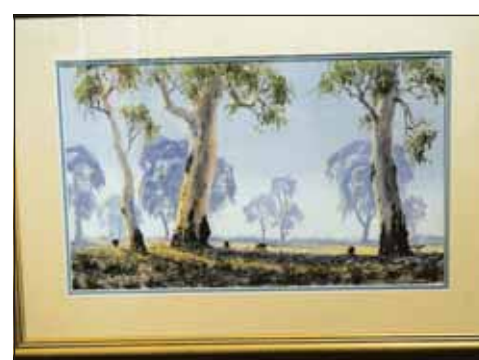
Maxwell Wilks' painting, The Crossing. -AR



The 55th Marysville Art Show was opened by Murrindindi Shire Council CEO Livia Bonazzi. -AR



Maxwell Wilks was the winner of the \$1500 Murrindindi Shire Council Award for Best in Show. -AR



Ern Trembath won the Joy and Lloyd Gould prize of \$750 for his painting, Misty Day Narbethong. -AR



# A great turnout for the Taggerty Show and Shine



A wide variety of magnificent vehicles were on display. -AR



The restored Taggerty Store vehicle. -AR



A Ford and Chevrolet. -AR



A Sunbeam. -AR



The event was held in conjunction with the Taggerty Market. -AR



The event was held in perfect conditions. -AR



Many attendees also took the opportunity to picnic, barbecue or grab a snag from the market. -AR



Some local vehicles were on display, along with vehicles from further afield. -AR



Marlene, Peter, Graham and Max from the CFA, encouraging people to Get Fire Ready. -AR

SPORT

## Second round of club championship for Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

WELCOME to the Eildon Golf Club match report. Last Saturday was the second round of the club championship and the second round of the golden putter competitions.

Congratulations to Colin Long winning the day with a nett score of 68 in a countback from Rod Taylor also on nett 68. The ball run down winners were Leigh Munro with nett 69 in a countback from Terrence Lunt and Ian Lakeland also nett 69. One of the visitors Rob Casey from Koorungal Golf Club and Peter McNair both on nett 70 also won themselves a ball.

There were no winners on the third, fifth and 12th nearest the pin holes, but Rob Casey got the closest on the 14th and Rod Taylor won a ball on the 11th. No birdies on the eighth and 15th drink holes last week.

Kerry Power took out last week's putting competition

with just 26 putts and John Monteath had a win in the club's secret six competition. Marian Williamson won last week's entry draw and Eildon's very own Don Reid had a win with the swindle draw.

Next Saturday will be the third round of the club championship and the third round of the golden putter competition.

Remember on November 14, Eildon Golf Club is hosting the annual community day, so any members who can contribute some time before or on the day please contact Ken Collier or Rod Taylor any and all help will be gratefully accepted.

The club also have the first round of the Murrindindi Masters at Alexandra Golf Course on November 15, so any club members who wish to play on the day please contact Rod Taylor so you can be entered.

Congratulation to all winners and see you at the club soon.

## Alexandra Squash Club round four of term four pennant

by Kristelle Leary

### Monday competition

Blue Vein versus Gouda  
FILL ins versus Laura: Laura's opponent was a no show, so Sally and Eric stepped up to give her a match. The fill ins did a good job, but Laura was too skilled. 63 to 49.

Jared versus Ben F: The games were swinging strongly both ways, but the match was close. Ben took the first game with an eight-point lead, only for Jared to take the second by nine points. The last two games were much closer with Jared coming out with a two-point win. 50 to 48.

Phil (fill in) versus Michael H: An enjoyable game to watch. There was a lot of movement on the court with both players running down the balls. It started close, but Phil waned in the second half allowing Michael to get ahead and take the match. 63 to 41.

### Feta versus Mozzarella

Tyler versus Eric D: A great game. Tyler had great consistency in his serves and strokes. Eric had

some great returns from the serve but didn't quite have enough to overthrow Tyler. Tyler with the victory. 77 to 51.

Liane (fill in) versus Sally: Always a classy battle between these ladies. Both were here to play but only one can take home the crown. Sally held the upper hand and had consistent wins in each game to win the match. 66 to 55.

Lucas versus Matt: Lots of long rallies and crafty shots. Matt's court coverage was impressive and helped him in his victory. 75 to 52.

Andrew versus Jim: With see-sawing games it was anyone's match. Andrew was reading the game well, but Jim's placement won him the match. 58 to 50.

### Thursday competition

Barracudas versus Piranhas  
Matthew versus Ben H: It was a simple case of Ben being too good. He has picked up the game well and showed it in winning this match. 66 to 47.

Sam (fill in) versus Travis: An eternal row between these two always makes for an entertaining

match. Sam had already played for the night, but he wasn't going to let Travis have an easy match. When the final buzzer went, Samy held the win by one point. 59 to 58.

Daniel K versus Daniel W: Daniel W tried to give Daniel K the run around, only to be shut down and put in his place by the superior player. Daniel K won with a commanding lead. 76 to 24.

### Orcas versus Stingrays

Eric F versus Beth: Impressive shots from both players. Beth controlled the middle and made good use of the corners and side walls. Eric pulled it together to draw the third in a final effort to take back the match. The win went to Beth. 63 to 49.

Sam versus Mick: Sam held a commanding lead throughout. Putting in a great last game, Mick just couldn't catch Sam. 69 to 46.

Michael M versus Ben F (fill in): Ben had the rub of the green with every shot landing. Meanwhile Michael M couldn't find the rhythm as a workable strategy. Ben ended up 11 points up in an upset. 61 to 50.



## SPORT

## Rink wins but overall losses for Alexandra Bowls Club

by Marie Evans

PENNANT round three for the Alexandra Bowls Club was marked by some good wins by individual rinks but unfortunately overall losses across the three games. Midweek Division Four played Dookie at home. Saturday Division Three who played away to ladder leaders Shepparton Park lost the game. Division Five travelled to Seymour VRI and lost the game by eight shots.

Midweek Division Four played Dookie at home. Graeme Matthews (Skip), Clive Murphy, Denise Chisholm and Luke Chapple began well picking up five shots on the first end. They led 10 to nil by end five. At end 12 they were 18 to five up. However, by end 18 they trailed 18 to 19. Not to be deterred the Alexandra rink won the last end and won 21 to 20.

John Blamey (Skip), Bob Mayfield, Marty Manning and Christine Mayfield had a close game. They were 11 all on end 11 but trailed 18 to 11 on end 14. But had reduced the margin to be 14 to 18 on end 16. The final score was Alexandra 18 to Dookie 21.

Meanwhile Doug Cooper (Skip), Trevor Stewart, Peter Collyer and Ian Franklin lost 11 to 34. Dookie won the game 75 to Alexandra 50. There was no game last Tuesday but Alexandra will be at home against East Shepparton when play resumes.

Last Saturday Division Three travelled to Shepparton and played in quite warm conditions, exacerbated by the complete lack of shade at one end of the rink. They lost the game by four shots overall. There was one winning rink. Ian Harper (Skip), Tim Langmead, Ken Argent and Saxon Langmead won 23 to 19. It was seven all on end nine, 10 all on end 13 and 14 all on end 15. A very timely five shot pickup on end 18 had Alexandra 22 to 14 up. Shepparton Park had reduced that to trail 19 to 22 by end 20 but Alexandra won the game 23 to 19. An excellent result and well played by the rink.

David Nicklos (Skip), Scott Ferrier, Bob Mayfield and Christine Mayfield played a draw. They were down six shots on end nine six to 12. But won the next end with six shots to be 12 all. Shepparton Park won the next three ends to lead 12 to 17. However, Alexandra was 16 to 17 by end 16. They won three of the last five ends and finished 21 all.

Doug Cooper (Skip), Ben Gilchrist, John Blamey and Denise Chisholm played an equally close game. They were 12 all on end 12, and 14 all on end 14. They were 17 to 15 up on end 17 but Shepparton won the last two ends to win the game 19 to 18.

Greg Gilmore (Skip), Larry Scott, Graeme Matthews and Lauren Gilchrist were seven all on end eight and nine all on end 10. Alexandra however, only won four of the last 11 ends to lose 13 to 20.

Overall Shepparton Park won 79 to 75. With two losses and a draw for the season Division Three travel to Rushworth next week and will be looking to improve and win. Rushworth are third on the ladder so it will be a challenging game.

Division Five were looking to repeat last week's win but had to be satisfied with one winning rink. Mark Stone (Skip), Roselyn Livy, Craig Parkinson and Rob Roach won 13 ends out of

21 including 10 of the last 11 ends to win 24 to 13. A great effort.

Ray Mathieson (Skip), Peter Collyer, Malcolm Gill and Pauline Gilmore won nine ends but lost 13 to 23. Trevor Stewart (Skip), Steve Kirby, Anne Gunton and Warren Nelson played some very experienced VRI players, including, Terry Flynn and J. Rhue. Coupled with the home green VRI won 29 to 11. The overall score was VRI 65 to Alexandra 53.

Alexandra is still in the four sitting in fourth spot behind Shepparton Park, Colbinabbin and Murchison. They are away to Colbinabbin next round.



Division Five best rink of Rob Roach, Roselyn Livy, Craig Parkinson and Mark Stone. -S



The Division Four best rink of Clive Murphy, Luke Chapple, Denise Chisholm and Graeme Matthews. -S



Division Three best rink of Ian Harper, Tim Langmead, Saxon Langmead and Ken Argent. -S

## New season for Little Athletics



Murrindindi Little Athletics under sixes listening and learning the finer details of throwing. -S



Jude enjoying the high jump in Little Athletics. -S



Charlotte Boulton leaping into a new season of Little Athletics. -S

## Marysville ladies travel to Lancefield

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Thursday the nine hole summer competition opened with a barbecue lunch before a round of golf on the front nine holes. The delicious barbecue was kindly supplied by Amanda and Glen Rattay and Mark Alexander and was expertly cooked by Richy Clark.

When players were able to drag themselves away from the barbecue they played a two person ambrose and the winning pair was Keith Atwell and Geoff Ferguson (3.75) with nett 31.25. Glen and Amanda Rattay (4.25) were the runners up with nett 32.75.

The nearest the pins were won by Mark Alexander on the ninth and Glen on the fourth and he also played the shot of the day with a birdie on the long par five third hole.

While the nine holers were playing at home four ladies had an early start to travel to Lancefield to play in the annual Ladies' Bowl. A good day was had by all with Lancefield Team One winning the bowl and Lancefield Team Two placing second. Heather Jenkins gained four Dalhousie player of the year points.

The Saturday golfers played a stroke round for the November monthly medal. Most of the ladies found a good score hard to come by but Gail Leigh (13) with nett 76 played well to win the medal. Helen

Howard (25) with nett 80 was the runner up.

Gail's round included a birdie and a nearest the pin on the par three ninth hole with her tee shot landing just 45 centimetres from the pin.

The winner of the men's medal was the in form Glen Rattay (12) with nett 70 and the runner up was Richy Clark (13) with nett 72. Richy also won the putting with 26 putts. Peter Lilley won the nearest the pin on the 18th hole and the Golden Shot.

Members are currently preparing for a busy weekend at the club with the Inaugural Community Standpipe Cup on Saturday, November 8 and the annual mixed tournament on Sunday, November 9. For information on each of these events please refer to the club's website or Facebook page.

The first round of the Foodworks Murrindindi Masters 2025/26 series is being held at the Alexandra Golf Club on Saturday, November 15. All Murrindindi golfers are asked to register their intent to play with club officials as soon as possible.

The Marysville golf course is looking stunning at the moment with the azaleas and rhododendrons in full bloom. The display behind the 12th hole is particularly colourful and members thank the past members for having the foresight to plant them and the current members for caring for them.



THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

# Standard

## Sport

SPORTS EDITORIAL - sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

ISSN 2200-6478



Corey Jack holds the finish after his drive. -S



Greg Millard tees off on the first. -S

## Fine weather and work on a green rebuild at Alexandra Golf Club

by Dave Silverman

WORK got underway last week on the long overdue, and much anticipated, rebuild of the sixth green at Alexandra Golf Club. As the new green will not be ready for play for some time, a temporary green will be in play until further notice, which makes the infamous sixth a very different animal, at least for a while.

Last Tuesday dawned fine and clear, and, as the temperature increases, so do the numbers. Thirteen members turned out for the regular stableford round last week, and were joined by a visitor, Kane Berkley.

Greg Millard was the winner with 39 points, with Steve Darmody in second with 37, and Graeme Emmerson third with 35. Dan Burns claimed the nearest the pin on seven, and 17 fell to Russell Haack while 18 went begging. Rundown vouchers went to Leo Dynes, Brad Newton and John Greateorex.

The fine weather continued for the ladies' stableford round last Wednesday. Marion Williamson was the winner after a countback placed her first ahead of Sue Greateorex, both having carded 33 points. Third, with 29, was Deb Richardson.

Deb also took off nearest the pin on two, with Sue taking the fifth, and 18 going to Helen Findlay.

Burnsies Pizzas sponsored the Saturday Stableford round last week, and the field of 25 were champing at the bit by the time 11am rolled around. With the fine weather and ideal course conditions, it was expected that there would be some good scores, and indeed there were.

The winner, with a very impressive 41 points, was Michael Bossonnet, well clear of second placed Marc Langeweg, one of the club's Melbourne members, who had 38. John Greateorex came in third, and fourth was James Kidd, both of whom also had 38. Fifth was Leo Dynes with 37, and Shane McGorlick snuck into sixth with 36.

Nearest the pins went to Mick Holohan on two, Todd Galloway on five, Matt Richards on seven and 12, Steve Darmody on 18, and Greg Millard put a full stop on a good day when he won the weekly raffle.



Work has begun on the sixth green. -S

## Alexandra Racing Club receives boost for facilities

ALEXANDRA Racing Club is set to benefit from a \$35,510 funding boost to upgrade their facilities and boost the race day experience as part of the Victorian Government's ongoing investment in country racing.

The club will use the grant to upgrade the alfresco area to a larger structure with a new kitchen and secure building.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes said that the upgrades will make the Alexandra Racing Club a better space for community year round.

"These upgrades will make Alexandra Racing Club an even better place for locals and visitors to come together, not just on race days, but for community events all year round," she said.

Minister for Racing Anthony Carbine announced more than \$730,000 from the Regional Customer Facilities Program to improve racing infrastructure at 18 regional racing venues.

"We're proud to back our regional racing clubs. They're at the heart of their communities

and play a vital role in supporting local economies," Mr Carbine said.

"These grants will give racegoers and locals access to better facilities that can be enjoyed well beyond race days.

"The regional racing industry contributes \$1.17 billion to Victoria's economy and supports around 9,000 full-time equivalent jobs across the state's regions."

Thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing clubs will receive grants of up to \$100,000 to deliver projects that upgrade function spaces, improve public amenities

and purchase new equipment, ensuring racegoers and communities can enjoy these venues all year round.

Under the Regional Customer Facilities Program, funded through the Victorian Racing Industry Fund, regional race clubs can apply for grants to support projects that improve facilities and encourage greater community use.

The regional racing industry contributes \$1.17 billion to the Victorian economy each year and supports more than 9,000 full-time equivalent jobs across the state.

2025

# SHOWTIME

NOVEMBER 8

## YOUR CHANCE TO WIN FAMILY TICKETS TO THE 2025 ALEXANDRA SHOW

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DROP YOUR ENTRY INTO THE ALEXANDRA STANDARD OFFICE BY NOON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6 FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN.

ONE ENTRY PER HOUSEHOLD/FAMILY

Winning tickets will need to be collected prior noon, Friday, November 7.

(Tickets are for two adults and two children) \*Staff and family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter.