

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

P.O Box 5, Alexandra, 3714. Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5772 1603; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Wednesday, March 10, 2021 \$1.50 inc. GST

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Marysville SES and Steep Angle Team from Monbulk

They teamed up to

retrieve a badly injured

motorcycle rider, who had

collided with a tree off the

side of Mallet Track. The

rider was about 10 metres

down the rugged side of

A rope and pulley system

was used to bring the patient

up the side of the hill to

the roadway where he was

transported by Alexandra

SES 4WD and ambulance

members until they were

met by a local ambulance

crew. The rider was then

placed aboard a HEMS

helicopter at the Eildon

oval and taken to hospital in

Melbourne.

and Wandin CFA.

the hill.

murrindindibusiness.com.au

Boat rescue, car crash and bike crash

by Peter Weeks, Alexandra SES

ON Thursday, March 4, the Alexandra SES boat crew and Eildon CFA fire boat were called out to a sinking boat near Big River. Information was initially very sketchy as the report was somewhere on Lake Eildon near 'Big Inlet'. As there is no such location, SES and CFA assumed that it was possibly somewhere near Big River Inlet.

They proceeded into the Big River area with the fire boat locating the stranded male safe and well on the bank between Jerusalem Creek, where the Alexandra SES boat launched and Big River Inlet. He was conveyed to shore at Jerusalem Creek to be ckecked out by awaiting ambulance and police.

3.45am Around on Saturday, March 6, Alexandra SES were called to assist the Alexandra Police looking for any occupants of a 4WD which had gone over the edge of Right Arm Road at Taylor Bay. The Toyota Hilux had crashed into trees down the embankment. Alexandra SES crews secured the vehicle from sliding further down the hill with crews returning home around 6.30am.

On Sunday, March 7, emergency services again came together at Mallet Track near Jerusalem Creek. They were called out at around 2.25pm to a motorbike rider who had come to grief on the track.

Police and Ambulance along with HEMS helicopter were assisted by CFA from Eildon and Thornton, along with the Steep Angle Rescue crew members from Alexandra SES, assisted by



Rescuing the injured motorbike rider. -S



A rope and pulley system was used to bring the patient up to road level, -S



There was a large contingent of emergency services at the event.



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COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM	106.9	Alexandra / Lake Eildon
UGFM	88.9	Yea / Highlands
UGFM	98.5	Marysville / Lake Mountain
UGFM	98.9	Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM	94.5	Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

- Mon Art Group Eildon 10am-3pm Ph 5773 2306 Tue/Thu Seniors Carpet Bowls 1.15pm
- Wed Social Bowls 11am Alexandra Bowls Club Ph 5772 1150 Thu Take off weight naturally 5.45pm 5773 2427
- Fri Seniors Social Club 1pm
- Seniors Social Club Ipm
 Sun AA 7pm Anglican Church, Alexandra Ph 1300 222 222
 Alanon Recovery Anglican Church, Alexandra 5.30pm.
 Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 5772 1057

Letters to the Editor

Australia Day

IT is estimated that 20,000 to 60,000 Aborigines were killed in the conflicts in the 100 plus years after the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788. See *The Guardian* article *Why the number of Indigenous deaths in the frontier wars matters*.

The actions of the settlers many generations ago slowly gathered dust but the history can be uncovered. In World Wars I and II Australia lost 60,000 and 34,000 soldiers in the fighting, and we rightly commemorate their loss each year on a solemn day.

Change the date of Australia Day to the last Monday of January for a win-win solution for everyone.

Lachlan Fraser, Alexandra

Logging

TO all councillors and senior council staff members: What information do you have water quality tests from Snobs Creek ? If you have test results, are they from a government department or private enterprise? What date did the water testing begin and were they repeated weekly or monthly? Was there also any water quality testing done at the Snobs Creek Hatchery? Since all of the councillors



THUMBS DOWN: To the long wait for eye surgery at Alexandra Hospital and for the huge out-of-pocket expenses for public patients.

THUMBS UP: To St Matthews church in Eildon for their wonderful insight and kindness in establishing their Faith Cupboard.

THUMBS UP: To the Open Gardens Weekend and those who support it for their donation towards landscaping at the new Scout Hall.

THUMBS DOWN: To the tatty state of the Grant Street-Nihil Street roundabout. This is an ideal location to acknowledge the first peoples of this area. Who will take it on?

THUMBS UP: Thank you Buxton Hotel for a terrific night, great company, super food and service. It was enjoyed by the ex-Alexandra High School 'oldies'.

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

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passed the motion surely you've got scientific evidence based information which you can provide to the media and public (there should also be copies of this information included in the council minutes). Or was the motion based on heresay and a green idea oligarchy political propaganda?

Robby Johnson, Buxton

Logging

LAST week, council passed a motion to protect nine coupes within the Snobs Creek Valley. It was a unanimous decision. If you listened in to the carefully considered decisions of each councillor, you came to understand that there were a multitude of issues surrounding the continued logging of this area. The value of biodiversity and ecotourism as well as climate change overrided the small economic profit and job loss of the industry.

As a local resident of Yea, this forest is my local and following the 2019/20 summer bushfires I have found it to be a refuge and place of hope. This forest was untouched by the country-wide inferno, but has been quickly being snapped up by VicForests. Each time I visit, my heart breaks. Witnessing more and more disappearing before my eyes. Knowing the full extent of this loss having studied environmental science and working for Melbourne Water for many years post university. Now, in the dead of night, I find the animals rejoicing in the darkness. We cannot continue to allow our forests to fall and this motion has set a precedence. It is a monumental moment where a council. a group of influencers representing their community has stood up and called upon the government to listen, and listen they must.

Daniel Andrews should be making it a priority to come out to these forests and witness the destruction of the valley firsthand. Or maybe he is afraid that he will be convinced? Maybe, like these councillors, seeing is finally believing. There are no words or graphs drawn up by VicForests that can rationalise through skewed, inadequate and unjustified 'science' to justify how barbarbaric it is to plunder the last remaining, unburnt, intact, ecologically vital native forests of this country. It is time to transition the industry and save Snobs Creek Valley.

Alana Mountain, Yea

Logging

IT is an urgent matter that we as a community declare our wholehearted support for the local councillors to remain affirmed in the unanimous decision to halt logging in the eight coupes on Dry Creek Hill and near Snobs Waterfall.

Recent surveys resolutely confirm the biodiversity and richness of the forests in providing integral habitats to indigenous fauna and flora. The short-term logging plans of VicForests is disastrous for the area. Strong steps need to be taken by all councillors to protect the forests and local environment for the betterment of the community in the long-term.

A logged forest is a waste and a disgrace. Natalie Micevski, Taggerty

Politicans

LET'S talk about values. Politicians like to. Especially when discussing migrants and refugees. They talk about 'our Australian values' in a vague condescending manner as though such things were a DNA exclusive to those only born in Australia. I see values such as compassion, empathy, honesty, integrity, equality and freedom as being universal and not dependent on where someone lives or how they arrived in a country.

It's therefore ironic that our Federal politicians, in particular, can be so fixated on dictating 'Australian values' for new arrivals to our country when over the last couple of weeks, the 'Canberra Bubble' appears to be seriously lacking in such basic decencies.

Sadly, the allegations made by Brittany Higgins, and now other women who are coming forward should come as no surprise. Federal parliament was basically a boy's club for the first third of its existence.

It wasn't until 1943 that Enid Lyons and Dorothy Tangey were elected to the House of Representatives and although women make up more than half of our country's population, it was until 1975 that the first woman was admitted into cabinet.

Although all subsequent Cabinets have included women, overall, the numbers are so low as to be regarded as tokenism.

In an article entitled "Sex, Power and Politics," written for *The Age* in 2002, respected Canberra journalist Mungo MacCallum observed that, "when insiders describe Parliament House as a rabbit warren, they're not just talking about the architecture."

Apparently, liaisons among parliamentarians, staff and even journalist are not uncommon, given the highly stressful and isolating nature of that Canberra Bubble.

Rape has only recently been recognised as a war crime by the United Nations but it has been a criminal offence in Australia for a lot longer.

It is therefore disappointing to see one Member of Parliament, in an attempt at damage control, point out any such allegations as a matter of, "he said, she said." Which is quite true, but as it now appears to be, "he said, she said," it might be more appropriate to acknowledge and deal with this sort of culture that has resulted in such allegations, rather than reducing the language to that of a playground spat.

Under our judicial system one is innocent until proven guilty and no doubt if any of these allegations go to trial it could be a while before anything is resolved.

In the meantime, however, it might be timely for some of our Federal parliamentarians to look at those 'Australian values' they hold so dear and reflect. They could start with common decency and respect.

Pauline Roberts, Highlands

Letters continued Page 17



Thu 7.30-10pm SES, SES/CFA complex Ph 0418 576 666 Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

MONTHLY

1st Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm. 1st Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Mt Pleasant 0427 595 318 Alexandra Quilters RSL Hall 10am-4pm Ph 5772 3257 1st Sat Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285 2nd Tue Alexandra Market - at Station Street Ph 0427 509 988 2nd Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801 2rd Sat 3rd Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318 3rd Thu Alexandra Ladies Probus Club 10am RSL Ph 5772 2946 3rd Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 3rd Sun Alexandra RSL meeting at noon. Ph 5797 6269 4th Tue Yarck CWA Meeting, 10.30am Yarck Hall. 4th Thu Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 5772 1202 Fri after 3rd Tue Field Naturalists excursion Ph 5772 1189



For a \$5 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.

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Alexandra Lamp Light Twilight Market SATURDAY, MARCH 13 3pm-7pm Steam train rides new stall holders welcome

SUNDAY, MARCH 14 from 10am

Steam train rides

★John Fowlers 112th birthday ★Newly painted railway station building ★Alexandra Townships 154th birthday

Old Railway Station, Station Street, Alexandra Ph: 0427 509 988 - www.alexandratramway.org.au

DEADLINES

Real EstateThursday noonTrades & ServicesThursday noonEarly General NewsThursday 5pmClassifiedsMonday noonEditorialMonday 9amSports EditorialMonday 10amLetters to the EditorMonday 9amThumbsup/downMonday 10amIf 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



Dave and Rohan supervising the first fire up after the yearly inspection. -S

A weekend of events at Alexandra Railway Precinct

AFTER being closed for a from 3 to 7pm. year because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alexandra Railway

There will be a \$2 entry fee, and the steam train will finally Precinct will be open to host the be taking passengers. Train rides Alexandra Lamp Light Twilight will be \$5 with children three Market on Saturday, March 13 and under free.

Some of the stalls open will be barbecue and coffee by Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum, CWA cake stall, trash n 'treasure, wire artwork, electrical items, household and guys shed



Volunteer Memorial Walk Gardens. -S

stuff, chooks, children's toys, soaps, jams, chutneys and some new stallholders who have a lot of talent.

You will be able to order your terrarium, have a walk around the market and come back to a finished product. Also enjoy the lamps in the gardens and the colourful array of plants on the station platform.

Sunday, March 14 will be the return of regular railway operations to celebrate the 112th birthday of the John Fowler steam train and the refurbished station building, and Alexandra town will be 154 years old.

Museum entry is adults \$10 (concession adult \$8), children 4-11 years \$5, with a maximum \$25 per family, children three and under free. All visitors can enjoy unlimited train rides.

If you would like to have a stall please contact Jane on 0427 509 988 market@alexandratramway. or org.au

Please check website alexandratramway.org.au or Facebook Alexandra Tramway for further information.

Eildon Easter Fair cancelled

THE Eildon Easter Fair will sadly not be going ahead this year. Daniel McKernan from the Eildon Lions explained that "We may try to do something small later on in the year, but we'll see how that pans out. Other than that, we're just going to reset and start planning for next year and get it up and going again.'

One of the challenges they faced was a shortage of volunteers. "Lions have been struggling for numbers for years," Mr McKernan said. "They're all aging now, and when they were at the park they had to put the fence up all the time and cart all the tables up there. It was quite an ordeal to get it organised."

They're hoping to work with the parents club at the Eildon Primary School moving forward, but for this year "We've just had to call it a day and admit defeat.'

The COVID-19 rules were also a challenge. There are different tier levels for events, and once expected numbers are over 1000, "it gets a lot harder and there's a lot more involved. It's not easy."

They may hold a small market during term two or three. It's expected that the fair will soon have to move anyway, with the redevelopment of the Moore Park and addition of a splash park, there won't be enough room for the market.

It's likely that it will move into the school grounds, where there is more open space. The school is also fenced off already, which makes the job much easier.

Proposed changes of Crown Land rules

By Tricia Mifsud

THE Labor Government is seeking the responses from Victorians regarding the proposed change of regulations for allowed recreational use of Crown Land near watercourses, both licensed and unlicensed.

The proposed changes will allow Victorians to camp on regulated land, with some minor restrictions to ensure the safety and comfort of themselves and nearby residents.

Further amendments will see a focus on protecting the environment, protecting the interest of licenses and managing the risk of fire.

In 2018, the government committed to guarantee access to fishing and camping on Crown Land that has grazing licences and water frontage.

For these commitments to be applied, Parliament passed amendments to the Land Act 1958 that removed the ban of camping on licensed river frontages. The Victorian Government will in turn create the set of regulations that support the changes made by Parliament.

Minister for Fishing and Boating, Melissa Horne said Victorian Government the

GET YOUR

recognises the enjoyment its residents have in the outdoors and is committed to ensure they get the most out of their recreational experiences.

"The public has a right to enjoy public land. With these changes, campers will be welcome to use Crown Land with water frontage free and in harmony with licensees and the environment, the same way that currently occurs in State Forests," Horne said.

"The land is already available to use for a range of recreational activities including fishing, but the addition of camping will mean more opportunities for families to enjoy the great outdoors and camp free at more spots.'

However, the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is concerned that landowners of the farming community have been forgotten by the Victorian Governement.

VFF President, Emma Germano said that the VFF are very disappointed that the real fears of landowners are being ignored by the Victorian Government.

"There's no stopping campers from settling in for up to 28 days as little as 100 metres away from your home... it's a no brainer that if camping is to be allowed on grazing licences, then dogs should not be allowed," Germano said.

"Every livestock farmer knows the very presence of dogs will be smellt and seen by stock causing disruption and limiting their access to water."

As part of the regulations, landowners are restricted in erecting signs to distinguish private and public land. Landowners are concerned about their own, and their animals privacy and safety should campers take advanatge of the proposed amendments.

"Clearly the regulation prohibiting the erection of signs needs to be clarified. It's entirely appropriate for licence holders to put up signs requesting gates to be kept shut, to indicate borders between private and public land and to identify biosecurity protocols," Germano said.

Germano suggest that a 12 month review should be considered if the regulations are approved, to ensure the satisfaction from both landowners Victorian and campers.

Should the changes be approved, Victorians will be

> Alexandra's Amazing Hat Competition

I Choose

by Roger Gibson

APART from genes and time and space, in life, you choose what I embrace. You have an awesome power within, to do or be, 'most anything. You have a mind; you have a voice. In strife or bind, you have a choice. You best decide your own life's state, or others may dictate your fate. When life seems hard; the pressure's on Or you feel trapped; all hope seems gone: You can elect to win or lose; never give up! Just say.....'I choose.'

allowed to camp in allowed areas from Wednesday, September 1.

To have your say, complete the survey at engage.vic.gov.au/ regulated-watercourse-landregulations/survey



2021

"It's a new era for it, basically," Mr McKernan said.

As they now have Easter off this year, the volunteers will "make the most of it, and be ready for it next year."



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This week's **Church Services**

ANGLICAN St Johns Alexandra 9.30am Eucharist each Sunday Children welcome Fr Graeme Brown - Rectory 5772 1053

CATHOLIC

Immaculate Conception Parish Parish Preist, Father Vinh Nguyen Ph 5772 1167 St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

UNITING CHURCH In Australia

St. Andrews, Downey Street, Alexandra Worshipping, Welcoming Sharing the transforming love of Jesus Services 10am each Sunday Kellock Lodge 2pm 4th Sunday contact 5772 2362

MP visit to Murrindindi Shire

MEMBER for Eildon, Cindy McLeish together with Shadow Minister for Local Government, Tim Smith recently visited Murrindindi Shire Council to

meet with acting CEO, Michael Chesworth and Mayor Sandice McAulay along with fellow councillors.



Cr Damian Gallagher, Mayor Sandice McAulay, Shadow Minister for Local Government Tim Smith, Cr Karine Haslam and Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish. -S

Ms McLeish said, "I was excited to bring Tim to Murrindindi Shire and for him to hear from the Mayor and councillors from a small rural council first hand. It provided the councillors an opportunity to discuss what projects are being developed and relay what's important to the community. It's crucial to keep communication open".

Mr Smith said that it important that local governments stay connected and work alongside each other.

"As Shadow Minister for Local Government, it is always important to understand the complexities and difficulties that small councils face including the ability to raise money and undertake large projects.'

Mayor of Murrindindi Shire, Sandice McAulay said the meeting was a useful one to talk about some challenges facing Murrindindi Shire and other small regional shires, including around funding sources, planning and development.

"One challenge in particular is that of how to respond to the increased interest we are seeing with people wanting to move to regional areas," Mayor McAulay said.

"We need to ensure as small rural councils we are supported in doing the necessary strategic work around land planning and zoning so that we can be more flexible and responsive to changing circumstances. It was great to be able to talk through these important issues.'

Alexandra Seniors report

by Philip Smith

FRIDAY'S business meeting was its usual lively affair. After the obligatory songs of patriotism and homage to our own club we got down to business. Treasurer David, who is slowly recovering from his operations, sent in his usual monthly financial report, which didn't show much movement considering the way things keep changing on a regular basis.

With Tuesday's committee meeting having to be postponed, there was not much on the agenda, except a letter from The Vine church, thanking us for having them as tenants in our hall for their Sunday Meetings over the past 11 years. They are relocating to the Uniting Church and we wish them well.

With that out of the way it turned to stand-in jokester Roma to shuffle through her bag and come up with her usual great array of funnies. John also chipped in with a good one. Ron and I then handed out the monthly FoodWorks raffle tickets. Jean drew the winner and an excited June Parker needed Josie to confirm she was the winner. As our next business meeting was scheduled for Good Friday, the next FoodWorks raffle will have to wait.

President Gai closed the meeting and after some delicious fare in the lunch room the Card Sharks and UNO-ites (new word) got down to business

Here is our usual reminder about our weekly schedule at the hall that presently consists of social meetings each Friday at 1pm, with the first one of the each month being our business meeting. The Carpet Bowlers play every Tuesday and Thursday at 1pm. The Bridge group play on Monday afternoon at present and the Card Sharks play 500 every Friday after the meeting, as do the UNO group. Of course all of these activities are being done while applying the appropriate sanitising and distancing procedures until the situation changes. We would love to hear from anyone who is at all interested in any of these activities. Either just turn up to the hall in Bayley Street or get in touch with President Gai or myself on 0467 369 092 for more information.

Bowls: Tuesday had Ron and Marion facing off and Ron's yellows triumphed 15-6. On Thursday we played off our husband and wife visitors, Kevin and Dawn, against each other and Kevin's yellows came out on top 9-4 over Dawn's blacks.

Interesting facts: The worlds oldest original National Flag belongs to Denmark, and dates back to the thirteenth century. The Vikings reached America 500 years before the Pilgrims.

Food for thought: Martin Luther King said in 1964, "We must learn to live together as brothers or we shall perish together as fools."

Redgate Alexandra CWA news

report by Jane Laws

www.murrindindibusiness.com.au

HOPE to see everyone at the Alexandra Lamp Light Twilight Market on Saturday, March 13 from 3 to 7pm, Station Street Alexandra when Redgate Alexandra CWA will be having a cake stall. The ladies have been baking whole large cakes, for example, sponges, carrot, orange, date and nut loaves, and of course everyone's favourite, chocolate. Also, for sale will be scones which are made by our award-winning baker as part of the CWA Victoria March Scone Challenge. Each branch makes as many scones as they can, and they are sold for only \$1.50 each. All proceeds go directly to headquarters to help with the finances of the Emergency and COVID-19 funds to help families in need.

Next coffee catch up will be on Wednesday, March 10 at Grant Street Grocers at 11am.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, March 25 at 1pm at the CWA rooms, Perkins Street Alexandra. The guest speaker is Melinda Burgess from McKenzie's Services Alexandra. Hostesses are Martine and Cynthia, and the competitions are flower of the month and favourite photo.

For more information on any of the CWA activities please contact the president, Sue Wynn on 0412 435 946.

Discover your backyard this autumn

country drives, and colourful, leafy parks and gardens, that's what autumn in Murrindindi Shire is all about.

Over the coming months, why not encourage your friends and beautiful timber sculptures and family to visit this amazing part play areas that bring to life the of the world and experience our shire's spectacular show of autumn colour.

CRISP morning walks, scenic this Kinglake playground is a favourite among locals and visitors alike. Set at the edge of bushland the playground is a great spot for a weekend picnic while the kids explore the



OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH Loving God, Loving People, Loving Life 118 Grant Street, Alexandra Contact: Ps Steven Turner Ph: 0413 127 283 Meeting every Sunday @ 10am _ _ _ _ _ _ _ .

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

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THE VINE A Christian community of the Baptist Union of Victoria Sunday 4.30pm service. 4.15pm for a cuppa. Kids program during school term Senior Citizens building, Bayley Street, Alexandra Pastor - Geoff Leslie Ph: 0417 396 377

Here's some suggestions to explore with the whole family this autumn.

Fishing from the banks of the Goulburn River

The mighty Goulburn flows through much of Murrindindi Shire and there are numerous great locations from Eildon through to Yea and beyond to drop a line in and try your luck. Take the family and visit a local tackle store for advice or book a guide to find the best fishing spots and learn some new skills.

> Explore the Bollygum Playground

Inspired by the book 'Bollygum',

book's characters and locations.

Ride the Rail Trail

Grab the bikes and ride a section of the Great Victorian Rail Trail. There are some fantastic short rides to take friends and family along on including the 18km return trip from Yea to the impressive Cheviot Tunnel or the 40km trip from Alexandra to Yarck which takes in stunning views towards the Cathedral Range from high at the Eglinton Cutting.

Take an autumn drive

One of the best ways to take in all the glorious autumn colours is to take to the roads and see them in all their glory. Invite your friends and take a drive to Marysville via Buxton to see

A couple enjoying a stroll through the main street of Marysville. -S

the spectacular colours of the poplars on the Gould Memorial Drive and then enjoy a long lazy lunch in Marysville, visit Steavenson Falls and stroll around the short Beauty Spot walk.

Hike high above the lake

If you're after something a little more challenging for your visitors, head out to Lake Eildon National Park and tackle the Estate Spur or Blowhard Spur hikes which offer stunning views from high above the lake. Be sure to take a drive along Skyline Road to Eildon after your hike for some well-earned refreshment.

There's also great range of markets, music and art events to enjoy with friends and family, especially during the Easter holiday period. So invite your friends and family up to discover what's on offer in your backyard this autumn.

To find out more, visit discoverdindi.com.au/ yourbackyard or drop into one of our Visitor Information Centres and chat with one of our friendly local volunteers and pick up an Official Visitors Guides (or call us and we will send you one).

You can share your photos and stories about your experiences along the way via Instagram (and tag @discoverdindi).

Tia Smith exhibiting at information centre

Tia Smith with her work at the Alexandra Information Centre. -AR



One of Tia's works on display. -AR

FORMER Alexandra Secondary College student Tia Smith (23) is the artist of the month at the Alexandra Information Centre.

www.murrindindibusiness.com.au

Tia is an emergency intestive care unit nurse at the Shepparton Hospital who now lives in Euroa to be closer to her workplace. She explained that whenever she has time off, she returns to her family's home in Kanumbra.

Her artistic career has seen her move from realist painting to abstracts three years ago. She has recently been exhibiting her work at the Redgate Cafe in Alexandra.



Lisa Nolte from the Triangle Arts Group with Bev Aisbett at the closing event. Bev explained that her works are inspired by Chagal, Mobassa, Blackman and Mirka Mora. She is planning to exhibit more works at the Alexandra Rotary Art Show. -AR



Bev Aisbett's exhibition opening at MiRa unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the snap three day lockdown. She instead held an exhibition closing event on Saturday, March 6. She is pictured here in front of a painting which represents her move from the city to the country. She now lives in Alexandra. -AR





Chris Cavill performing on Saturday, March 6. -AR

Marysville's summer music series comes to an end

TAKE It Outside, the music in the park series in Marysville has come to a close for the summer. The final performance was on Saturday, March 6.

The vision was to bring music to Marysville, activating the Burrengeen Park outdoor dining space next to MiRa, providing a focal point for COVIDsafe community gathering, while making an opportunity for mostly local musicians to get re-started performing live after a long hiatus.

What started as a four-week season presented by Triangle Arts Group (TAG)

and Marysville's Cultural Community (MCC) grew from this small seed to become a three month festival, bringing in supporters and building a solid audience who, every week, behaved safely and followed changing guidelines as directed.

There were a total of 26 live music performances across 23 dates.

Well done to all of the musicians, sponsors, and people working very hard behind the scenes.

Free COVIDSafe Event Rotary Park Alexandra Saturday 13th March 2021 4-8pm

BYO Picnic - Sausage sizzle and drinks available Little River Wines, Grant Street Grocer Coffee



70 performance bulls on offer at the Kelly Angus second autumn sale

THE Kelly Angus Stud's second annual sale is set to be held on Thursday, March 25, the Kelly Angus team are offering 70, 18 to 20 month old bulls whose strong pedigree data and matching performance will add value to astute beef producers looking for that little extra to enhance their respective herds.

Based in the Murrindindi Valley, the Kelly Angus Stud has experienced an exceptional year in pasture growth. Stud manager Patrick Joyce said, "It is great to see livestock making a profit and buoyant cattle market sales having a positive flowon effect to the broader economy and local communities."

All 70 young bulls in the sale line-up are progeny from leading industry sire lines including the standout USA sire, Black Onyx 5Q11, GAR Inertia, Texas K2, GAR Pro Active, PA Full Power and Hazeldean Jackpot M584.

Mr Joyce said, "The 70 bulls we are offering are a true representation of the breeding program we are running here with carcase quality throughout the catalogue. Over half of the bulls are suitable for heifer joining's yet retain the performance to be used over an entire herd. We are extremely happy with how they have lined up.

"The bulls we are breeding with are clearly complementing our stud herd, and at the same time supporting our breeding objectives in respect to turning off moderate frame, highly resilient, fertile and easy doing cattle.'

Hazeldean Jackpot was purchased to blend through the herd to develop even stronger females and stylish, high performance moderate framed bulls that are easy doing, feed efficient and whose weight gains are well in front.

A carcase driven bull, PA Full Power presents with high IMF and his progeny

show good early growth data while keeping all other EBVs in proportion.Suitable for both heifers and cows, the Black Onyx sons present very well with great data sets and will deliver power early in any breeders' program.

The Texas K2 sons are powerful larger framed bulls which can be used to increase frame size and to add volume.

"Expanding the stud's capacity, introducing modern practices, and continuing to focus on genomic enhanced EBV's in order to achieve predictable breeding outcomes ensures all bulls offered on sale day meet the high standards we have set for ourselves", said Mr Joyce.

Adding more power to future bull sales will be the progeny of powerhouse sire, Texas Powerplay DXTP613. This

outstanding sire will be on display at the March 25 auction along with the stud's very own upcoming star sire, Kelly Angus Quinn GXNQ209, sired by Black Onyx 5Q11.

"Kelly Angus Quinn GXNQ209, is a 'curve bender' with exceptional calving ease, low birth weight transforming to an excellent growth spread offer quality carcase traits to match," Mr Joyce said.

Kelly Angus are commercially focused on breeding livestock that consistently performs well off grass, ensuring a positive on-flow for their clients to maximise their returns, by lowering costs. At the same time, the stud's focus on carcase quality achieves the end goal of producing high marbling prime grass-fed carcases.

Mr Joyce said, "We continue to receive positive feedback from many of our clients who state that Kelly Angus bulls' have amazing docility and adjust and adapt to a variety of conditions. We're looking forward to welcoming all new and existing clients on sale day."

The annual autumn auction is on-farm at 171 Nash's Road, Yea, at 1pm, with viewing in the morning from 10am. The auction will be conducted by Nutrien Livestock and interfaced with AuctionsPlus.

Snake-proofing your home

AS we start to approach the cooler months of the year, it is now the best time to consider snake proofing your home. With less chances of spotting the reptiles hunting their prey, or having a bake in the sun, it's much safer to approach those areas that snakes may hide in during the warmer months.

There are a number of very simple yet effective ways to minimise the chances of finding a snake on your door step. While these precautions will not guarantee a snake-free property, it can put your mind at ease knowing that you have done what you can to keep them away.

Snake hiding spots

It is important to routinely check hiding spots that snakes may be hiding in on your property. Doing this through all months of the year is important. Using a flashlight, not your hands or feet, look in places like rock piles, stacked wood, tall and out-grown grass and gardens, deep cracks in concrete, and under storage buildings like sheds.

Snake proof solutions

Now is a good time to start snake-proofing vour home. -S

or similar around any chook pens and aviaries, this will reduce the chance of snakes preying on your birds.

Don't forget inside your house

This could be much more frightening for your family. A snake outside is one thing, but knowing that the slithering critter has found its way inside? Again like the outdoors, there are some simple ways to make sure you do not have any unwelcomed visitors.

This works for outside as much





www.murrindindibusiness.com.au

DISCOVER YOUR BACKYARD IN AUTUMN

While Bali, Boston and Barcelona might be off the list of places to explore for a while, why not invite your friends and family to visit over the coming months and discover Murrindindi Shire's spectacular show of autumn colour. Crisp morning walks, scenic country drives, leafy parks and gardens ... and all right on your doorstep! Discover the many great things to see and do in Murrindindi Shire this autumn.

discoverdindi.com.au/yourbackyard

Of @discoverdindi

Keeping a clean garden is a simple and effective way to reduce the likelihood of snakes around your home. Keep your lawn cut low as unkempt grass is one of the easiest ways a snake can play hide and seek with you.

A process of snake-proofing your home is to target any mice and rat problems you may have around your property. A simple way to do this is to place rodent bait around your house. The less mouse and rats around your house, the less chance of snakes; who doesn't want to eliminate three unwanted visitors?

Another animal that is very well known for attracting the slivering critters are chickens and other birds. Of course, we are not suggesting a bait technique for your chickens, but there are simple ways to keep them safe, in turn keeping your family safe. Place a mesh covering

inside, but ensuring any holes and cavities are sealed up is crucial. Snakes love to hide, with holes being a great place for them as they can curl up to fit the size.

And if all this fails and you still find a snake on your property?

Call the experts. Don't try to be Steve Irwin and grab the snake, take photos of the snake or find a terrarium for the snake. You may think you know what type a snake has made its way to your back door, but in reality, the colour of a snake isn't always exacted correlated to its type.

A snake catcher or pest controller will be able to safely capture the snake and relocate it away from your property without harming the animal or any of your family.

Celebrating 70 years of the CFA and Good Friday **Appeal relationship**

THIS Country year, Fire Authority (CFA) is 70 year celebrating its of proudly anniversary supporting the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Brigades began fundraising for the Appeal just six years after CFA was formed, making the annual tradition a staple of CFA's identity.

One of the most iconic and familiar sights of the Appeal is the thousands of volunteers rattling purple tins on fire trucks and standing at traffic lights right across Victoria.

CFA has raised more than \$34 million since 1951, contributing to Good Friday Appeal's total tally of more than \$381 million.

One of the first CFA brigades to get involved was Edithvale Fire brigade in 1954, and long-time member Philip Jones said their fundraising techniques have changed a lot in 67 years.

"The brigade used to have a vintage fire truck and an old furniture van, which we'd drive around asking locals for money for the Children's Hospital," he said.

"We'd be driving all day, having a lot of fun and friendly banter with locals and other collecting brigades along the way.

"Once the day was out, we'd take the fire truck and the van to Flinders Street to drop the money off at the old Herald Sun building.'

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said CFA has a long and passionate history



This year, the CFA will be celebrating 70 years of involvement with the Good Friday Appeal. -AR

with the Appeal and the partnership highlights the unique characteristics that make up a CFA member.

"We are extremely proud to be supporting the Good Friday Appeal once again this year," he said.

"We understand these past 12 months have been tough for Victorians, but if you can, we encourage you to open your hearts and dig deep for the kids at the Royal Children's Hospital."

Good Friday Appeal Director Rebecca Cowan said, "we are so grateful to the CFA for all of their support".

"We have had an incredible 70 year partnership with the CFA, particularly across regional Victoria where they are often seen on the streets in fire trucks, shaking tins and collecting for the kids," she said.

"Often CFA is fundraising in drought and bushfireaffected areas, yet those communities continue to help the Good Friday Appeal every year.

"We are overwhelmed by their dedication. They provide a valuable lifeblood to our annual appeal and raise funds that go directly towards the Royal Children's Hospital.

This year, CFA members right across the state will be back among their communities, participating in face-to-face fundraising activities for the Good Friday Appeal in a COVIDSafe manner.

Many CFA brigades across the state will also be fundraising online through the Good Friday Appeal's

If you wish to donate



CELEBRATE WOMEN'S MONTH IN MURRINDINDI SHIRE

Did you know that Victoria's first Gender Equality Act commences on 31 March? To recognise its significance, Council is encouraging community members to get involved in a number of great initiatives and events, as part of our 'Women's Month' initiative.

For more information and to get involved, please visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/ womensmonth

COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME

Do you want to make a difference and help people feel connected within your local community? Or maybe uou're an older resident who is interested in having someone visit you regularly for a cuppa and a chat?

Council is encouraging community members to get involved in the Community Visitors Scheme (CVS). The CVS is a free service, funded by the Australian Government, which provides friendship and companionship to older members of our community by connecting them with local volunteers who arrange regular visits.

For more information and assistance to become part of the scheme, visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/dindilink or call our DindiLink team on 5772 0333.



DO YOU WANT TO HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE

Whether you're a long-term local, a regular visitor or someone who has recently decided to call Murrindindi Shire home, Council invites you to share your ideas and opinions on what you think is important for the future of your community.

Together, we'll create a refreshed community vision and your feedback will help us develop a new Council Plan, which will guide our work over the next four years.

To find out more, please give Council a call on 5772 0333 or visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/ shapingourfuture

TENDERS

Marysville Swimming Pool Vinyl Liner Installation

Council invites suitably qualified contractors to submit a tender for the supply and installation of a vinul pool liner at the Marysville Swimming Pool.

Tender bids close at 3.00 pm on Monday 7 April 2021.

Division 6 Asbestos Inspections and Reports

Council also invites suitably qualified consultants to submit a fee proposal for Division 6 Asbestos Inspections and Reports.

Tender bids close at 3.00 pm on Monday 15 March 2021.

To download the tender specification and documentation for either of these projects, please visit Council's e-tendering portal at tendersearch.com.au/

Australia trails the rest of the world in electric car sales

NEW figures released by the Electric Vehicle Council show Australian electric car sales stagnant at a time when the rest of the world is hitting the accelerator hard.

In 2020, there were 6900 electric cars sold in Australia, a 2.7 per cent increase from the 6718 sold in 2019. The 2020 figures show electric cars accounting for

"We have no targets, no significant incentives, and no fuel efficiency standards, and in Victoria we even have a new tax on non-emitting vehicles.'

Mr Jafari said that it wouldn't take much for Australia to join the rest of the world and only some small changes will see a greater positive outcome in the

Virtual Tin Shake.

online, you can search for your local brigade's tin on the Good Friday Appeal's Virtual Tin Shake website at virtualtinshake.com.au

0.7 per cent of total Australian car sales.

By comparison, electric vehicles in the EU increased their market share from 3.8 per cent in 2019 to 10.2 per cent in 2020. In the UK, it was 3.1 per cent in 2019 against 10.7 per cent in 2020. In California, market share went from 7.6 per cent to 8.1 per cent. And in Norway, it rose from 56 per cent in 2019 to 75 per cent in 2020.

Electric Vehicle Council chief executive Behyad Jafari said the baffling Australian anomaly needed to end. He believes Australian drivers are ready to transition to electric cars but it's those in government that are restricting the change.

"There's simply no sugarcoating it at this point, Australia has marked itself out as a uniquely hostile market to electric vehicles.

country.

"If we follow the rest of the world and look to accelerate the shift to electric vehicles, we will be rewarded with clean city air, reduced carbon impact, enhanced fuel security, and a renewed manufacturing sector.'

Mr Jafari said the Victorian Government's recent move to implement a special "tax on not polluting" was particularly baffling.

"Victoria is now doing what no other jurisdiction on earth does by discouraging people from buying electric vehicles by slugging them with a special tax," Mr Jafari said.

"When this policy idea gets pushed by the oil lobby around the world, they typically get laughed out of the room. The federal government's inaction is bad, but even they're not destructive enough to actively discourage electric vehicle uptake with a new tax.'

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

murrindindi/

All enquiries and submissions must be lodged through the e-tendering portal.



Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

Proudly supporting Student of the week

ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the week



TYLER FALLON

Tyler is working very hard to achieve his personal best. He is taking on feedback and using the strategies he is given to improve. You are becoming a great learner, Tyler. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Tyler. You are a STAR.

MARYSVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Student of the week



JAMIE JOHNSTON

Jamie has a positive mindset towards all aspects of school and has shown a determination to complete set tasks to a high standard. Well done on a fantastic start to the school year.

BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Students of the week



CHLOE

Chloe has worked hard to improve her focus and concentration in independent reading. Way to go Chloe, we are proud of your efforts.



Bendigo Bank

CADEY

Cadey has demonstrated our school value of kindness in her warm and encouraging welcome of our new student. Congratulations Cadey.

EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Students of the week

Jewel, Levi & Billy

for showing Resilience with their terrific writing this week.

ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Students of the week



Charlie, Liam, Zelda and Lillian. Not Pictured: Laura, Charlize, Hanna, Lachlan, Lottie, Milly and Alex.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Kinglake branch





Donation to Darlingford Nursing Home goes a long way

IN October 2020, The Alexandra Opportunity Shop very kindly donated \$10,000 to Darlingford Nursing Home to go toward much needed resources for the residents.

2020 was a tough year, and it took a while to carefully consider how much they could achieve with this kind donation.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a high priority has been infection control, so a new, state of the art mopping system was researched and purchased. This removes the need to carry heavy mop buckets. Also on the list were some new mattresses and bed covers for resident beds, providing a comfy night sleep. And as the fire season was approaching, a much needed trailer was purchased locally from Alexandra Stainless Steel, to help with fire preparation and removal of foliage from the site.

The Board of Management, staff and residents would like to sincerely thank Alexandra Opportunity Shop for their ongoing support to Darlingford.

The new mopping system. -S



The trailer will be used to help with fire preparation and the removal of foliage. -S

The discovery of the Black Range plane crash

IN the February 24 edition of the whether they took it out in pieces Alexandra Standard, transcripts of articles on a Black Range plane crash in 1942 were provided. We were contacted by Neil Kerr following the publication, whose father Colin found the plane.

Neil Kerr explained that his father worked for the Forest Commission at Taggerty. He was second-in-charge of the forestry office and worked mainly in the bush on the Black Range but sometimes on the Blue Range.

A large scale search was undertaken for the plane, but 10 or 12 years later, they still hadn't found it. Colin was working right up in the forest, clearing the fire breaks and so forth in preparation for the summer and "He noticed a very bright reflection coming from about 100 metres off the track in the bush. He just happened to be in the right spot with the sun shining on something, so he went down and investigated and found the plane," Neil said.

"He got a big shock, and he was quite excited too because at the time, there had been lots of other searches in the area for it and they weren't quite sure where it was."

The plane was in the middle of very dense forest. It was badly damaged, rusted out, and being overtaken by nature. "When the authorities got there, there was nothing that they could really salvage that was any good as a plane. I'm not sure whether they recovered the whole plane or in Cobram.

or whether they just left it there," Neil said.

"They gave my father permission to take what he wanted from the plane, not that there was anything there that was much good. He had a lot of nuts and bolts and wire and things like that. They'd just been left there and were of no use to anybody. I can remember we had a tin full of these nuts and bolts that came off the plane."

Unfortunately, he doesn't know what's happened to the tin. He's asked family members but to no avail.

Neil and his sister used to go up to the crash site quite a bit when the authorities came to have a look. Local people and journalists were also keen to have a look at the debris. It became a bit of a tourist attraction for a while.

Neil didn't recall whether the pilot came along to have a look at his crashed plane.

"You could see quite a distinctive path that it took through the trees," Neil said. "It chopped the tops off all these trees until it came in to crash to the ground... There was quite a path through the tall timber to where it ended up finishing. It must have come in with a fair bit of force."

Sadly Colin Kerr died in 1963, aged just 53. His wife lived on in Taggerty for many years before moving to Alexandra. She spent her last years with her son, Neil,



The approximate site of the plane crash is marked in red. Information supplied by Darryl Hedger. -S



The location in relation to Taggerty. Information supplied by Darryl Hedger. -S



Every test keeps us on top of this virus.

And keeps us doing the things we love.

So even if your symptoms are mild,



or you've been tested before, every test helps.

For testing locations visit CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au

State Government

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



The Fawcett Hall community barbecue on Saturday, March 6, was aimed at reconnecting people after a challenging year. Around 40 people attended, sharing food from the barbecue as well as salads made by Cinamon, and deserts made by local ladies. They also christened the brand new fire pit at the event. -AR



Sam Hicks, Cinamon Cunningham, and hall treasurer and event organiser Sandra Macalister. -AR



Carl, JJ and Deane at Fawcett Hall for the community barbecue. -AR



Dame Pattie Menzies Centre opens

Alexandra Standard, March 14, 1981

This article details the opening of the Dame Pattie Menzies Centre (now known as Menzies Support Services). The language used to describe the clients has also changed over time, however the decision was made not to alter the text, as it is part of the historical record.

SENATOR Guilfoyle, Minister for Finance, will officially open the Dame Pattie Menzies Centre for Intellectually Handicapped Persons this coming Saturday, March 14, at 11am.

Mr Roger Mann announced this during last week. He said, "We are delighted that the Senator has seen fit to perform this very important formality for us. It will be a great day for the community of Alexandra, all of who responded magnificently to our call for of foundation females by the members of the Poll Shorthorn Society. Fifteen females have been donated so far.

This development, which is an extension of the Day Training Centre into the adult area, is totally in keeping with local farm pursuits.

The day-to-day management, preparation for sale and showing of stock at local agriculture shows will become part of the adult programme.

The centre has been fortunate in obtaining a donation of \$5000 from the Buckland Foundation to develop suitable yards and shedding for this purpose.

Naturally a vegetable garden, dairy heifers, goats, chooks, bantams and ponies all form part of the farm activities.

The centre is also being developed as a holiday farm complex, to involve groups from institutions such as St Nicholas Hospital, and the Kew Cottages coming on a regular basis and taking part in the available activities as well as visiting the shire's features such as Fraser National Park, Snob's Creek Hatchery, etc.

As part of this development, groups of mentally impaired people from St Nicholas Hospital and Kew Cottages will be using the property during the summer holidays and on weekends during 1981.

The overall philosophy of the centre is to enable impaired people to be able, where possible, to participate in different forms of community life and it is only with the assistance of both individual members of the community and community groups such as Lions, Rotary, Apex, 50 and Overs club, etc, that this centre has been able to take it first fledgling steps.

Supervisor of the centre is Mr Michael Cole, who states that "this year should see further development of our self-sufficiency programme and a broadening of the range of self-help and work oriented activities.

"We have taken up the job of the general upkeep of the Centre and the immediate surrounding garden areas.

"Each member of our group is responsible for a specific area of work such as weeding, watering lawn, mowing and household cleaning.

"Certain garden areas have been allocated to individuals as 'project gardens'. These areas are the sole responsibility of the particular person who will plan, develop and maintain them.

"Lunches are now prepared at the centre each day by the group. A budgetary session is held at the beginning of each week at which a menu is planned and priced and goods are then purchased at the local supermarket" and excursion to work and interest related venues.

"We will be conducting three camps this year. The first of these will be at Fraser National Park at the end of February.

"We are aiming to develop maximum skills in a wide range of areas with the emphasis very much on individual needs and interests. The development of a group identity which is an active party of the community is of prime consideration in all programs."

Fulfilling a community need

The Dame Pattie Menzies Centre for Intellectually Handicapped Persons was an excellent example of a local community working with governments to fulfil a community need, said Senator Dame Margaret Guilfoyle when she officially declared the centre open last Saturday morning.

support."

An open invitation is extended to the people of Alexandra and district to attend this occasion. Mr Mann, in outlining the centre, said that the Dame Pattie Menzies Centre for Intellectually Handicapped Persons has been started to fulfill a basic need in the community.

The Day Training Centre began operation at the beginning of the third term in 1980.

Under the guidance of Acting Supervisor, Mrs Julie Padgett and her assistant Karen Loveday, along with drivers Mrs Coralie Carpenter and Mr Dennis Clarke, the centre has got off to a very solid beginning.

The 23 hectare property is also being developed as a poll shorthorn stud, with the donation



Dame Pattie Menzies and Senator Guilfoyle exchange congratulations after the centre's opening. -S

"Animals play a great part in our lives at the centre, and we have added two angora/saanan cross kids to our stock. We hope to use the fleeces in our craft work.

"We will also be increasing our stock of hens in order to enhance our egg production. Plans are underway to introduce horse riding for both leisure and to help us to participate more fully in running of the cattle stud."

"Craft has aided us in developing much needed leisure skills and we will be developing some of these (handmade paper, printed paper and handmade soap) into saleable products and ready for sale. By the middle of the year.

"We will be developing other areas of leisure and recreational activities during the year. These will include swimming, hiking It was a proud day for the centre's committee and all those who had worked so hard to establish the centre, and district people turned out in force to attend the opening.

Even the weather smiled on the opening ceremony, if only for the time the speeches were being made.

There were many official guests and a list of these with a full report of proceedings will appear later.

One special guest, however, was the centre's patron, Dame Pattie Menzies and she was welcomed back to her hometown.

Her brother, Judge Leckie and Mrs Leckie also attended.

Call for volunteers at Visitor Information Centres

ARE you looking for a new direction or a different challenge? Do you love living in Murrindindi Shire and have some time to dedicate to promoting our wonderful region? Alexandra, Marysville (MiRa) and Yea (Y Water Discovery Centre) Visitor Information Centres are looking for new volunteers to give them a hand.

Council's Mayor Sandice McAulay said she was pleased to see visitor numbers to regional Victoria steadily increasing over the last few months.

"We're seeing an influx of visitors to the area and the Visitor Information Centres across the shire are in need of some enthusiastic volunteers to help promote our region," Cr McAulay said.

"Being a volunteer can really help people who have recently moved to the area find their feet and feel part of the community. You might be a local who'd like to share your passion for the region with the local community and visitors or maybe you are already involved in the tourism industry and you're looking at a career in travel and tourism."

There isn't a large demand required from you, shifts are scheduled for three to four hours and you will be rostered on twice per month. More if you like of course.

Full training will be provided to you, so there is no need to worry if you feel you don't have the right experience. There are a number of social events held throughout the year to allow you all the hands-on training you will need.

Zoe Havers, volunteer at Y Water Discovery Centre, said she really enjoys volunteering at the Visitor Information Centre in Yea.

"The people are so friendly and I love meeting new people from all walks of life. It's a great way to stay connected and a lovely calm environment in which to spend time in," Ms Havers added.

For more information and to apply to volunteer at any of the Visitor Information Centres in the Shire, please visit *murrindindi.vic.gov.au/visitorinfo* or call the Y Water Discovery Centre on 5797 3394.

Man arrested following crash

A 37 YEAR old man was arrested following an accident on Mansfield-Woods Point Road on Thursday, March 4, resulting in a car and

More shows to hit the road across Victoria

VICTORIANS will have the opportunity to experience the best of art and culture in their hometowns with the state government boosting touring opportunities in regional and outer metropolitan areas.

Minister for Creative Industries Danny Pearson today invited creative and community organisations with plans to hit the road, or bring shows to their region, to apply for grants through the *Touring Victoria* and *Small Regional Presenters* programs.

"Our regional touring programs will support our creatives to get back to work, our venues to reactivate and our communities to come together to experience all the benefits our creative state has to offer," Mr Pearson said.

"Whether you're planning to go on tour or there is a show that would be a hit in your community, I encourage groups across the state to find out more about our programs and apply." *Touring Victoria* offers grants to Victorian arts and cultural organisations or professional performers and creatives to tour professional productions, performances, exhibitions or programs to regional and outer-metropolitan Victoria.

Projects that have received *Touring Victoria* support in previous years but had to shift their plans to 2021 or beyond due to the pandemic can also apply for support to remount their tour and put COVIDSafe measures in place.

The *Small Regional Presenters* program offers grants to regionally based not for profit community presenters, including community organisations and local government bodies, to bring performing arts shows to their community or venue that they know will appeal to local audiences.

The program is open to the full spectrum of performing arts and live shows, including theatre, music and literary events. This round

Touring Victoria offers grants to of the program will be managed by Regional ictorian arts and cultural organisations Arts Victoria on behalf of the government.

COVIDSafe funding will also be available to presenters previously supported through the *Small Regional Presenters Program* that had to postpone their shows to 2021.

A total of \$1.1 million is available in grants to present works in regional Victoria. This comes as part of the Labor Government's \$40 million investment in dedicated support for creative reactivation and renewal in regional and outer metropolitan Victoria, announced in the *Victorian Budget 20/21*.

Applications close Thursday, March 25 for the *Touring Victoria* program and applications close Tuesday, March 23 for *Small Regional Presenters* program.

Visit the Creative Victoria website for program details *creative.vic.gov.au*



COVID-19 vaccines will keep Australia safe and protect our way of life. The people most at risk of serious illness and those most likely to be exposed to the virus in our communities will be vaccinated first, including:

• Quarantine and border workers

• Frontline health care, disability and aged care workers

caravan fire.

Investigators believe that a black Toyota Land Cruiser towing a bright green ski boat on a black trailer overtook a silver Subaru Forester towing a Scenic Galaxy caravan on Mansfield-Woods Point Road about 11.15am.

It is believed the Subaru was forced off the roadway and the car and caravan burst into flames.

The male driver of the car, a 73 year old Weir Views man and his female passenger, a 71 year old Weir Views woman received serious injuries and were air-lifted to hospital.

It is believed the black Toyota Land Cruiser overtook up to eight cars prior to this incident.

Investigators are appealing to the occupants of these cars or anyone with dashcam footage or any information to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report at*crimestoppersvic.com.au* • People living in aged and disability care accommodation

Vaccination offers the best protection from COVID-19, but it's also important we all continue to remain COVIDSafe.

To find out when it's your turn, visit **australia.gov.au** or call the National coronavirus and COVID-19 vaccine helpline **1800 020 080**.

BE COVIDSAFE



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Childcare centres recognised for oral health program

CHILDCARE centres in Kilmore and Kinglake have been recognised for their commitment to improving the oral health of their charges.

Kilmore Childcare Centre, Kilmore Community Centre and Kinglake Ranges Children's Centre were among a group of five centres to receive a Smiles 4 Miles award last month from Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership.

The awards celebrated their involvement in the Smiles 4 Miles program, an oral health promotion program for early childhood education and care services developed by Dental Health Services Victoria and implemented throughout the Mitchell and Murrindindi shire regions by Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership.

Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership system integration and projects coordinator Jaimie Poorter said the program was 'a great way to help children have healthy teeth and gums for life'.

"Good habits are formed early. Children take lessons they learn at a young age with them, right up to adulthood," she said.



"By promoting good oral health behaviours early in life, we can decrease the likelihood of poor oral health later in life."

There is currently a 79 per cent award rate across childcare centres in the Lower Hume Primary Care Partnership area.

Services achieve the Smiles 4 Miles award by implementing healthy eating and oral health policies, engaging with families about the importance of oral health and educating children through a variety of fun learning experiences based on the Smiles 4 Miles key messages - drink well, eat well and clean well.

Children are encouraged to drink tap water or plain milk and avoid sugary drinks like cordials, juices and soft drinks; eat a variety of nutritious foods each day and limit sugary foods, particularly between meals; and brush teeth twice daily. Adults should help children until at least the age of seven.

People can find out more about the program by emailing jaimie. poorter@lhpcp.org.au

Giving Victorians mental health support close to home

VICTORIANS will be able to get the treatment they need sooner, closer to home and family, with the Victorian Government fast-tracking the delivery of six mental health priority sites across the state.

The six sites will be the first of up to 60 across the state, providing a 'front-door' for anyone in the community to access mental health support including a range of therapies and expanded wellbeing treatment.

Establishing the new local Adult and Older Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Services is a key recommendation of the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System. They will help Victorians access help in the community earlier, before they need to access a hospital or when they reach a crisis point.

The locations, recommended by experts, include Benalla, Brimbank, Frankston, Greater Geelong, Latrobe Valley and Whittlesea.

The Department of Health will immediately investigate options to establish services within each priority region. This will involve a consultation process with established local providers.

The first of these local services would open from mid-2022, with all six of the initial services open by the end of 2022.

Minister for Mental Health James Merlino said that the priority sites will ensure treatment is being received before it's too late.

Victorians, not matter where they live," Merlino said

"This is all about treating people early in the community, rather than too late in hospital."

The Royal Commission report contains 65 recommendations that establish a blueprint to transform mental health support and care to make it accessible, flexible and responsive, free of stigma and discrimination.

Last year, the Labor Government delivered a record \$869 million funding boost to the mental health

Faster and fairer outcomes for injured workers



NEW laws introduced to parliament will ensure workers' compensation disputes are resolved in a more timely and efficient way, helping people get back to work as soon as they can.

The Labor Government's Workplace Injury Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Arbitration) Bill 2021 allows the Accident Compensation Conciliation Service (ACCS) to hear and make binding determinations on disputes not resolved by conciliation.

Minister for Workplace Safety Ingrid Stitt said the Bill will deliver fairer outcomes, providing a simpler and cheaper alternative to court, leading to

faster resolution of disputes. "These reforms put workers at the centre of the dispute resolution process, empowering them to choose the best way to advance their claim to reach a fast and fair outcome and making sure no one falls through the cracks," Stitt said.

matter arbitrated by the ACCS, who must commence a hearing within 30 days of the dispute being referred.

Once an application for arbitration commences, a hearing will generally conclude within 60 days, with a determination made within two weeks of the hearing concluding.

This will ensure these disputes are resolved within four months, which is less time than it takes to resolve most court proceedings.

The new laws will also help to free up court capacity and boost efficiency by diverting suitable claims away from the court system.

The Bill delivers on the government's commitment to improve the dispute resolution process in line with a recommendation from the Victorian Ombudsman in its 2019 report WorkSafe 2: Follow-up investigation into the management of complex workers' compensation claims.

"Today we take the very first step to implement the ambitious agenda set out in the final report. It will take time, but these new localised mental health services will provide better coverage and easier access to services for

system as part of the *victorian* Budget 2020/21.

This investment will continue work on the Royal Commission's urgent interim report recommendations, supporting strained services now so anyone who is struggling can get the support they need, whenever they need it.

The proposed laws give workers the choice to have their



Exclusive

leasing and managing

agents for

self storage facilities



Off-Grid Living Festival gets COVID-19 tick of approval

AFTER being cancelled in 2020 just parking. With the one person per two one month out of the event date due to COVID-19, the Off-Grid Living festival has become one of the first events to be approved to go ahead in 2021.

The COVID-safe event has been given the official approval by government to take place in North East Victoria on April 10 and 11.

Event organiser Kate Nottingham said that there will be a number of measures in place to ensure the safety of those attending.

"This year we were still unsure if we could go ahead for the festival... in accordance to COVID-19 safety measures there will be hand sanitising stations, enforced 1.5 metre social distancing and wearing masks if you cannot maintain a safe gap between others," Kate said.

In terms of the event, not many other factors will need to be reviewed to align with the approved COVID-19 safety plan.

Capacity will not be limited due to the size of the land the festival is held on, but those attending are still urged to buy tickets as soon as possible.

"Our event always allowed for 5000 visitors per day to control things like



Wood craft. -S

square metre restriction, we are allowed a maximum of this many visitors per day also so that hasn't changed."

Kate is also expecting a new demographic of people heading to the festival this year.

There has been an increase of metropolitan residents moving into regional Victoria during COVID-19, and a festival like Off-Grid Living will allow for these individuals to get a real taste of living out in these areas of the state.

The event is also hoped to boost the local areas economy. Last year, so much of Victoria was affected by the bushfires before COVID-19 hit; this event will hope to make up for some of the lost revenue.

"After the bushfires last year many exhibitors and locals were looking forward to the festival to bring a significant boost to the local economy, but then Covid struck and set us all back by another year," Kate said.

"This years event will bring over \$1.5m into the local economy as many attendees stay in the area for multiple days and enjoy the North-Easts wonderful accommodation, hospitality, retail, food and wine and nature based tourism."

Kate and the other organisers are anticipating a big year for the festival, and have put in the work to ensure that the event is full with opportunities to reconnect with people and the community.

Stalls will be set up with exhibitors from the off-grid energy and transport sectors, home and building, waste and water and farming and permaculture.

"It's going to be a big year for the festival. People have been busting to go out, and this festival will be one of the first opportunities to allow people to do so."

To find out more on the event visit offgridlivingfestival.com.au









Alexandra | 34 Rose Street

Great family home

- Double storey 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom 2 living area home. · Wood heater in main living area & split systems in each
- bedroom
- Situated on 896.3 sqm with undercover entertainment area & built in BBQ

FOR SALE \$410,000

View By Appointment



1.71 hectares approx

Eildon | 480 Goulburn Valley Hwy

Designer Lifestyle Living

• 5 bedroom, 2 bathroom delightful family home nestled on 4Acres overlooking Snobs Creek

• Harkaway designed home with huge open plan living areas, redgum flooring throughout with solid redgum kitchen. • Wonderful big return verandahs, huge colourbond shed with extra height, concrete floor and power. 2 colourbond stock shelter sheds, 2mgl water rights from the Goulburn River

FOR SALE \$950,000 - \$1,050,000

View By Appointment



CLOVER LEA 'Circa' 1889

- 13.75 Ha (34Ac) situated in the Rubicon valley with 4
- bedroom 2 bathroom Victorian style homestead. Master bedroom with ensuite, 2 living areas & wood heater.
- Double carport & garage, machinery shed, cattle yards & cattle crush

Thornton | 1176 Taggerty-Thornton Road

NEW PRICE \$825,000 View By Appointment

299 NATIONAL PARK ROAP, KINGLAKE WEST g 2,85 9m2 approx. onta

d with the pote rial to obtain permit to build (STCA) Lai

Terms: \$10,000 bank cheque deposit, settlement within 30 days

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Build your dream home Priced from \$128,000

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REIA release Housing Affordability Report

REAL Estate Institute of Australia's (REIA) latest Housing Affordability Report (HAR) shows that housing affordability in Australia declined nationally in the December quarter 2020 although, overall it improved over the year by 0.7 percentage points.

REIA President, Adrian Kelly said that the decline in affordability is largely attributable to higher house prices and larger loans.

"Australian first home buyers increased their market share by 50.4 per cent over 2020, motivated by low interest rates and the range of first-home buyer incentives on offer," Kelly said.

"Seeing this trend in conversion to home ownership is particularly great news given the challenges many tenants and investors faced over the pandemic, however surging house prices could see housing affordability obliterated unless measures to improve supply are implemented. This particularly applies to regional parts of Australia."

Mr Kelly said the proportion of income required to meet loan repayments increased to 34.8 per cent or 0.9 per cent.

"The measure for housing affordability, the proportion of income required to meet loan repayments, ranged from an increase of 0.1 per cent in Victoria to an increase of 2.3 per cent in New South Wales.

Mr Kelly said rental affordability over the quarter declined, with the proportion of income required to meet rent payments increasing to 24 per cent.

"Rental affordability declined by 0.2 per cent over the quarter but increase of 0.4 percentage points over the past 12 months nationally."

"Tasmania is now the least affordable state to rent with the proportion of income required to meet rent repayments now a staggering 29.5 per cent, 5.5 percentage points higher than the national level."

"Western Australia is the most affordable, despite the proportion of income required to meet median rents increasing to 17.8 per cent," he said.

To find out more abput the HAR, visit reia.asn.au/research/reia-data-har/

Investors storm back into property market

increased by a staggering

22.7 per cent over the year.

commitments to investors

rose 6.7 per cent in New

South Wales in January to

be the highest since about

June 2018, according to the

The value of new loan

INVESTORS have stormed over the month and have back into the property market and hit a nearly threeyear high, according to new figures recently released.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Lending Indicators for January found the number of loan commitments for investors soared by 9.4 per cent



Corporate professionals and successful business owners are restarting their investment plans now that the uncertainty of 2020 is behind them.

The values of their properties have continued to grow over recent years and they are now feeling confident to reuse some of their equity by starting, or growing, their strategic property investment portfolios.

Many investors also have additional cash at their disposal after being forced to reduce their discretionary spending over the past year and some have also withdrawn funds from the stock market to invest in property rather than shares.

Record low interest rates were the main driver for the increasing investor activity, which is drastically reducing hold costs in a time of strengthening market conditions.



Private and Peaceful

\$795,000 4 🛌 2 🖍 6 🚗

\$449,000

3 🛌 2 🗎 3 🚗

Set on 2 acres (approx) of lovely gardens this property offers a recently built home, multiple entertaining areas and huge shed to suit any tradesman. The ranch style home offers 3 bedrooms all with BIR and ceiling fans, a family bathroom and separate toilet. The wonderful open plan kitchen has an island bench with 2 pak cupboard finish. The dining & lounge area is light filled and spacious with welcoming Cathedral ceilings complete with wood heater for those cosy nights. The home has a wraparound verandah taking in the views of the mountains and overlooks an ornamental dam to the front of the property. The huge 18x9 shed area with 6 metre carport awning is a tradesman's delight. Complete with mancave bar, custom built pizza oven/woodfire still leaving plenty of space for a workshop and machinery area. There is also separate accommodation available for guests, teenagers retreat or home office. Whether you are looking for a weekend escape or want a tree change not too far from Melbourne, this property is perfectly situated for all your needs. Contact our office to arrange an inspection before you miss out!



Thinking of selling your home or **Investment Property?** Look no further than RealSite!

Speak with our team today about arranging a FREE Market Appraisal for your home or investment.

We are a fully Independently owned and locally operated Real Estate Agency.

We are experiencing an influx of buyers looking to purchase in Regional Victoria and listings are selling fast - some before hitting the market!

35 Villeneuve Street, Alexandra

Hillside Family Home

Neatly presented is this comfortable 3 bedroom, plus study, two bathroom home set on the high side of Villeneuve Street. The property has been well maintained and offers both indoor and outdoor living areas. The country style kitchen is huge with wall oven and dishwasher with plenty of cupboard and bench space. The lounge/dining area has a wood fire and split system with sliding door opening out to an undercover entertaining area which offers stunning views over Alexandra. The main bedroom is spacious with plenty of storage and ensuite bathroom. Car accommodation is well catered for with a combination of carports and garage together with sep. workshop and wood shed. There is also a central courtyard which makes for a great private utility area, surrounded by a lovely low maintenance garden and storage room. Call to inspect this lovely home.



If you are thinking of selling, now is the time!





Robyn Schrader ① 0407 686 275

104A Grant Street, Alexandra. ^① 5772 1774

Renee Ward ① 0412 315 885 www.therealsite.com.au

www.murrindindibusiness.com.au The Alexandra & Eildon Standard, Wednesday, March 10, 2021 15 BUSINESS & TRADES



16 The Alexandra & Eildon Standard, Wednesday, March 10, 2021 BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

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WATER BORING



after free site inspection **Ph Des Murray** 0428 518 159 EMC0124

WATER CARTAGE



North Central Water Cartage "27,500 Litres" Food grade stainless steel tank Servicing: Alexandra, Mansfield, Yea, Narbethong Call Matt 0408 104 644

WELDING



PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

KIDS - JOKES

A: Figs the doorbell its broken. A: Police let us in, its cold out here.

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Help shape the future of the shire

WHETHER you're a long-term local, a regular visitor or someone who has recently decided to call our shire home, Murrindindi Shire Council invites you to share your ideas and opinions on what you think is important for the future of your community, as part of our 'Shaping Our Future' Project.

Council's Mayor Sandice McAulay said when a new council is elected; one of the first priorities is to develop a new Council Plan, including a vision which guides council's work over their four-year term.

It is important to hear from the community about what they believe is already great abut Murrindindi Shire and what can be changed to make it even better.

"From now until April 24, councillors and council staff will be popping up at community events, markets and in community spaces, including local supermarkets," Cr McAulay said.

"We'll be using every opportunity we can to chat to you and gather your ideas and feedback on what you think makes

Murrindindi Shire so great and what you think could help make it even better.'

There will be a number of ways the community can voice their opinions including both a print and online survey.

Pop-up kiosks will be set up at the Library and Customer Service Centres in Yea, Alexandra and Kinglake to drop in your paper surveys. Alternatively you can head online where on the brand new online engagement platform, 'Dindi - In The Loop' ('The Loop'), you will be able to complete the survey.

"We're so pleased that the Shaping Our Future Project is the first to feature on this fantastic new platform. The Loop is designed to make it easy for you to stay informed and share your ideas and opinions on key decisions and priority projects that council is working on," Cr McAulay said.

For more information, and to get involved, please visit murrindindi.vic. gov.au/shapingourfuture or give council a call on 5772 0333.

Historic Winton a restricted event

THE Austin 7 Club has announced that Historic Winton 2021 will be a restricted event, under a Tier Three Permit.

Attendance on Saturday, May 22 and Sunday, May 23 will be limited to car and motor bike entrants, their pit crews and required officials.

At this stage, no public tickets will be available, and invitations to Car Clubs will not be possible.

Austin 7 Club are saddened the event will not take its usual shape, and have not made this decision lightly. The costs involved in the strict COVIDSafe compliance and the continually changing government requirements, has led us to this decision.

Historic Winton is a unique event. There is a fabulous mix of racing cars and motor bikes, heritage and vintage displays, regular vendors, advertisers and sponsors, many hundreds of display vehicles from many clubs, and of course the loyal public.

Should restrictions ease, Austin 7 Club may be able to offer a limited number of spectator tickets, and these would be made available online. Updated information will be provided on the club's social media and website historicwinton.org/

Letters to the Editor

Letters continued from Page 2

Logging

I AM writing in today to express my concerns about the logging being conducted in the Rubicon state forest. I have seen first hand the destruction Vicforest has caused within our shire, and I am horrified to know what areas are scheduled to be clear-felled next.

I have spent a lot of time exploring these forests, walking with my family and friends, kayaking down the rivers (including the Rubicon, Big River, Yea, and Goulburn Rivers), and work for the Outdoor Education Group that is based on the doorstep of this beautiful forest. I am concerned that if logging continues within our forests the water catchments that supply our shire will be affected and the attractiveness of these places will be degraded to the point people will stop travelling to this area to recreate.

I spent a lot of time last year exploring, surveying, filming in the forest, and interviewing locals about the effects of logging in Snobs Creek Valley. I made a small documentary that may interest you and provide insight into some of my concerns.

Leigh Redding, Yea

Tourism and events

THE Victorian tourism and events sectors are among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many events on small and large scales have been cancelled across the state, often at the last minute. Event organisers have spent too long juggling the ever-changing restrictions or waiting anxiously for the Victorian Government to individually approve each and every COVID-19 safe event permit. Rightly so, people are nervous to travel and attend events due to Daniel Andrews' snap lockdowns and unpredictable decision making. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism contributed to 6.5 per cent of the Victorian economy and provided thousands of jobs. Now, due to the Andrews Labor Government's bungled handling of COVID-19, our visitor economy has haemorrhaged up to \$2.5 billion per month and is projected to shed 85,300 jobs by September 2021. Victoria's tourism and events industries are on their knees. That is why Shadow Minister for Arts, David Davis and I successfully pushed for the Victorian Parliament to conduct an inquiry into both sectors. The inquiry will recommend exactly what support is necessary to get events and tourism back up and running.

Tourism and events play a critical role in Victoria. I was so happy that the Upper House recognised that and supported our call for this inquiry. It will hold hearings in both metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. I encourage members of the tourism and events sectors to make a submission, either in writing or via a public hearing to ensure their voice is heard. We will support these important sectors to get people back to work and get Victoria moving again.

To submit your application, please visit parliament.vic.gov.au/eic-lc/inquiries/ article/4650 . Submissions close on Friday, April 16.

> Cindy McLeish MP, Shadow Minister for Tourism, Major Events and Sport

Logging

I AM so happy to have been to Snobs Creek waterfall recently - what an amazing place! Last time I visited, there was no metal staircase but now it gives me access to the awesome experience of being poised over the cascading waters. Up and beyond this miracle of nature is the Dry Creek Hill forest where, after stopping to capture the last of the evening light, we wander along the winding track chatting to one another until it is dark enough to concentrate on our primary purpose, to search for endangered greater gliders. Distinguishing their eyes from the stars is part of our challenge when gazing up to the canopy of the ancient mountain and alpine ash trees. The logging machinery will soon be here and there is nothing we can do to alert these gentle giants rooted to the slope nor the precious little creatures inhabiting their foliage! So, we are counting on anyone and everyone eager to help save our heritage to come and count greater gliders. The more of them we record, the greater our chances of saving

respected and successful sheep farming family was over.

Too old to change track or retrain, Dad's last years were tough. Like local dairy farmers in the 1970s and 1980s whose enterprises also ended, there was no compensation.

Like car and clothing industries in Australia that disappeared as governments made decisions about overseas trade, employees and their families are most often left to sink or swim. It happens all the time.

So I understand why those with jobs in and around the logging industry are fighting hard for their livelihoods.

But I find it difficult to justify keeping these jobs, for the few more years of predicted timber supply, at the expense of the mountain ecosystem on our doorstep that is unique in the world and on the verge of biological collapse. The mountains and rivers are our backbone; they are more than pretty views.

I would love to see an active Murrindindi eco-tourism industry that incorporates our skilled drivers, mechanics, road builders and forest fire-fighters. A plethora of jobs to ensure our waterways remain pure, air unpolluted, unique animals protected and our forests be impeccable carbon sinks that are looked after and visitable by all.

Bev Dick, Acheron

Logging

KINGLAKE Friends of the Forests is a not-for-profit environmental organisation established for people who want to learn about, discuss and advocate for the preservation of the native forests of Kinglake and the Central Highlands.

We are very concerned about ongoing logging of native forests in the region and the impact that will have on habitat for native animals, water catchment integrity, climate change, tourism and recreation opportunities and, not least, the amenity of having these native forests nearby for all to enjoy. We encourage the state government to assist forest industry workers to transition into plantation timbers and other industries. We were delighted to hear that at the Scheduled Meeting of Council on Wednesday February 24, Murrindindi Shire Council resolved to request VicForests to immediately cease logging in several coupes at Snobs Creek owing to concerns about its adverse impacts of the logging on the environment and on tourism visitation to the area.



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TRIVIA

Yea Shire Hall 2019

this forest.

Sheila Brennan, Alexandra

Logging

THANK you Murrindindi Shire Council for the Snobs Creek Motion. Councillors' speeches were powerful.

Personally I want over-logging in our forests to cease immediately, chiefly for biodiversity and climate change reasons. However I do worry about people losing jobs as the logging industry inevitably winds down. As a community of empathic people we need to create new possibilities.

I understand job loss from my family's story. My Dad was a fine-wool merino grazier, a producer of top quality wool, highly sought after for the finest of Italian suits and the softest woollen jumpers. But the mid 1960s brought about synthetic fabrics and even softer nylon jumpers, and so our life in Acheron as a highly

We express our thanks and gratitude to the councillors for moving this resolution, and we sincerely hope that VicForests will agree to abide by their request.

Kinglake Friends of the Forest Inc.

18 The Alexandra & Eildon Standard, Wednesday, March 10, 2021

www.murrindindibusiness.com.au

Classifieds



Classified information

Office hours

Alexandra

Monday -Thursday 9am-5pm Fridays 9am-3pm Ph 5772 1002 E: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Yea

Wednesday & Friday 10am-4pm. Ph: 5797 2468 E: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Deadline - Noon Monday

Proofs

Line ads – proofs not supplied **Display** – will only be supplied if requested

Payment

Payment is required when placing the advertisement. Cash, cheque or credit card facilities available. Master Card or Visa (no AMEX). Non-payment prior to deadline may result in advertisement not appearing.

Death notices

Cannot be published without confirmation or authority from a direct family member or funeral director.

Vehicles/Deals on Wheels

Registration or VIN number must be included in advertisement. Deals on Wheels will run for 8 weeks unless cancelled when sold.

Bargains under \$100

Either one item to the value of \$100 or several items not totalling more than \$100.

Animals

It is an offence to advertise the sale of a dog or cat unless the microchip identification number of the animal is included in the advertisement. A registered domestic animal business may use its council business registration number as an alternative.

Refunds or credits

Check your advertisement on its first appearance. Although every care is taken to ensure your advertisement is correct errors can occur. Notify us immediately if there are errors in your advertisement Refunds or credits will not be issued if your advertisement has appeared numerous times and you have not notified us. Credits or refunds will not be given if advertisements appear out of order.

MEETINGS

ALEXANDRA & DISTRICT OPEN GARDENS COMMITTEE INC AGM

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9.30am at Embassy of Ideas 3 Bayley Street. Alexandra. All welcome



BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 7.30pm Glenburn Fire Station, 3873 Melba Highway, Glenburn. Nominations for all positions can be lodged with the secretary by 4pm, Monday, March 22, 2021

PO Box 392, Yarra Glen 3775

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Embassy of Ideas *

Expression of Interest **Social Enterprise Consultant**

Seeking a suitably qualified and enthusiastic consultant to develop a feasibility study/ business plan with a clear social enterprise framework to create long-term legacy and operational sustainability for the Embassy of Ideas

Contract period: 2 months from date of appointment

Project Fee: \$5,000 Work location: negotiable. Can work remotely.

Some onsite engagement To request full EOI documentation, email embassyofideas@gmail.com or contact

Sasha Barrow 0422 225 801. Submission must be received by 10am Monday, March 22, 2021 This role is funded by the Foundation for

Rural and Regional Renewal SITUATION VACANT



hours, nights and weekends Regular required. Experience and RSA an advantage but not

essential. Send resumes through to office@eildonboatclub.com.au or call 5774 2040

Alexandra Medical Centre

SITUATION VACANT



FARM HAND POSITIONS

Koala Cherries Pty Ltd is a grower, packer and marketer of sweet cherries in Australia. Current production is in three regions throughout Victoria. Our base, main production area and packhouse is located at Yarck, central Victoria. We farm an early production area in northern Victoria at Yarroweyah, and later production in the Strathbogie region.

Our aim is to "Delight Cherry Consumers" by producing great tasting, premium quality cherries and to do this we need great people.

Koala Cherries are currently seeking motivated people to fill Farm Hand positions at both our Yarck/Alexandra and Yarroweyah/Cobram farms.

You will provide support to farm managers to ensure all tasks and operational aspects of the farm are carried out.

Duties will include, but not be limited to:

- Safe operation of tractors and farm machinery Equipment maintenance and cleaning
- Application of fertilisers and chemicals as required
- Assisting with and supporting all harvest activities
- Irrigation operation and maintenance Tree planting

These positions are full time, with overtime hours available during our busy harvest period. The successful applicant/s will have great communication skills, have a high level of attention to detail and value working in a team environment.

You will hold a current drivers license. Skills and experience in operating tractors and farm machinery would be an advantage, but not essential.

For the right applicant/s, a great opportunity exists to start or further a career in horticulture. Formal training in Fruit Growing will be available.

If you have a love of the outdoors and are interested in being part of our team, please email your letter of application and resume to simon@koalacherries.com.au.

Position description available upon request. Applications close Friday, March 26, 2021.



OFFICE ADMIN ASSISTANT

A part time position has become available with Alexandra Newspapers for an office admin assistant to join our busy reception team. You will be based in our Alexandra Office.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Excellent customer service is essential Computer skills essential. Email, Excel and Word a must.
- · Be well groomed, friendly and punctual

Call 5772 1002 now to book your ad today! Fax 5772 1603 or Email

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

DEATH NOTICES

DEAN, HAYDN Passed away on Monday, March 1 aged 76. Brother to Loris (dec), Margaret (dec). Jan James, Allan and Geoff. To know him is to love him, to me he was the best. Wherever I go I will always know that Haydn is there beside me. Gone but not forgotten. Resting in Gods garden of beautiful memories. RIP Loved always





2-6

Wednesday,

restrictions

ALEXANDRA

enforced.

10, 2021 commencing

at 7.30pm. COVID-19

DISTRICT HOTELS 8

BALL ASSOCIATION

AGM will be held on

Monday, March 15,

7.30pm at the Alexandra

Bowls Club to discuss

the future of competion.

Notices of motion to be

in the secretarys hands

by March 12, 2021. Greg

THE ACHERON CFA

Brigade Biennial General

Meeting and Elections

will be held at the

Acheron Hall at 10.30am

on Sunday, March 28, followed by morning tea.

All welcome

Gilmore 0411 605 732.

ALEXANDRA FIRE BRIGADE The Biennial General Meeting and Election of Officers of the Alexandra Fire Brigade will take place at the Alexandra Joint Facility, Emergency Shamrock 5798 Street, Alexandra on

March

AND

will be **ISA BROWN LAYERS** - POL, \$24 each. Ph 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. freerangehens.com.au

PUBLIC NOTICES

LANDCARE GROUP HOSTS FORESTRY DISCUSSION

Home Creek Spring Creek Landcare Group will be presenting a discussion on forestry in Murrindindi: Past, Present and Future at the Fawcett Hall 655 Spring Creek Road, Thursday, March 18 at 7.30pm.

The topical disussion will feature Ken Deacon from the Rubicon Forest Protection Group and John Woodley from Taggerty Farm Forestry. Entry is gold coin donation. RSVP March 16 to allison.spratt8@gmail. com or 0466 038 779





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RSPCA Victoria commends parliamentary decision to include pets in family violence legislation

pets will now be recognised as victims of family violence as an Animal Justice Party motion proposing changes to Victoria's family violence laws passed unanimously in Parliament.

The motion has called on the government to review the Family Violence Protection Act 2008 to recognise that companion animals are affected by family violence. The motion also called for more funding to support victim survivors of family violence, including for the care of animals, and removing barriers for victims who are trying to escape abusive households but don't want to leave their pet behind.

RSPCA Victoria CEO, Dr Liz Walker, said the link between family violence and animal abuse was welldocumented, both in research and in the experience of RSPCA Victoria's Inspectors.

"Numerous studies have shown that in households experiencing domestic violence and abuse, there is also a high probability of animal abuse. We know

IN a win for animal welfare, that cruelty to animals is a strong marker for other forms of violence, so we are very supportive of any improvements to legislation that works to better protect both people and animals in these situations," Dr Walker said.

"While the proposed changes aim to better protect animals in violent homes, importantly, they also recognise that victims often do not leave abusive situations for fear of abandoning their animals."

year, RSPCA provided emergency boarding for 148 animals, including those belonging to people affected by family violence.

"RSPCA Victoria's inspectors investigate thousands of animal cruelty reports every year and often see that where animal abuse exists, so does family violence. Our inspectors are trained to identify signs of abuse and work closely to refer these cases to relevant social

In the 2019/20 financial services, Victoria Police and Victoria family violence agencies.

> RSPCA Victoria believes that key agencies need to be empowered to create more opportunities for companion animals to be accommodated at refuge centres and other emergency housing facilities. The RSPCA also believes that relevant state and territory legislation should allow for the inclusion of companion animals in violence intervention and restraining orders.



Illegal rubbish disposal remains a problem

By Tricia Mifsud

ILLEGAL rubbish dumping is raising more frustration in the community. Common on public land, illegal waste disposal is seen in areas around bushlands and reserves and road sides. It is also becoming a major problem on private land.

'Clean-up of illegally dumped waste typically falls to the owner or manager of the land where it occurs, and impacts authorities such as Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), VicRoads and local councils, as well as industry or private individuals," Vito Albicini, Director of Assets and Development at Murrindindi Shire Council said.

Mr Albicini added that not only is it a matter of cleaning up the mess, but illegally disposing waste then causes many effects on the community and wildlife.

"Dumped waste often consists of household items like televisions, appliances, furniture, mattresses, tyres or construction and demolition materials. Even more concerning are the incidents where people dump asbestos or chemical waste," Mr Albicini said.

"Apart from being illegal, it causes pollution, impacts our health, threatens wildlife and causes a great deal of upset in the community. We live in such a beautiful part of the world, it's sad to see people dumping rubbish where they shouldn't."

Should you discover rubbish illegally disposed of, you can either contact the council, or alternatively Report it to Environmental Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) by calling 1300 372 842.

The Murrindindi Shire Council will take such reports seriously, and act accordingly depending if the land the rubbish was dumped on was council-managed or not.

"If the rubbish is located on councilmanaged land, we'll inspect the site and investigate it further. If we aren't able to find out who dumped it there originally, we'll remove the rubbish; recycle what we can and send the rest to landfill.'

"If the rubbish isn't located on councilmanaged land, we'll report it to the relevant agency that controls the land, on your behalf."

There are significant fines in place should you be caught illegal dumping, so what is the smartest thing to do?

"Visit council's website or give us a call to find out about the options available to you for disposal at council's Resource Recovery Centres (RRCs)," Mr Albicini said.

Women don't own their fair share of super

AUSTRALIAN women, despite making up 50 per cent of Australia's population, own roughly 40 per cent of all superannuation funds under management (FUM), equal to \$1.2 trillion

Free training via LaunchVic

VICTORIANS who lost their job during the pandemic will have the chance to take a free skills bootcamp to help them land a role with one of the state's burgeoning startups.

A new \$2 million LaunchVic initiative will provide training to 900 people, either didn't have startup experience or including 120 fellowships set aside for women and 300 fellowships for students.

over the next 20 years.

Getting the right talent remains one of the main impediments to startup growth in Victoria. Research undertaken by LaunchVic found many job applicants

average an additional 15,700 jobs each year help them land their dream startup job and a student fellowship that will creating pathways for 300 exceptional Victorian university students.

The talent programs will be rolled out through 2021. For more information, visit launchvic.org

The first 40 trainees began a five-week course last week, with almost threequarters of participants in the INCO Australia Get Into Tech program born overseas.

Farzana Mirdadi, who was born in Afghanistan, is among the intake learning about in-demand roles including digital marketing and web design. Students will build their skills before working with a job placement specialist.

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford said the funding would provide new career pathways for Victorians and ensure a pipeline of suitable candidates for Victoria's rapidly growing startup ecosystem.

Deloitte Access Economics has found the Victorian startup ecosystem, with the right support, has the potential to add on capability, didn't know where to find a startup job, or were simply unaware of the potential opportunities.

LaunchVic ran a funding process seeking high-quality proposals from experienced providers to build capability and provide hands-on experience and connections needed to secure a job at a startup or scaleup.

The successful grant recipients were:

INCO Australia, to run bootcamps and a placement service to help Victorians stood down during COVID-19 to land their first junior role in a startup. The program will create 480 industry-ready startup workers.

Stone and Chalk, to run events and develop online learning and skills and experience assessments open to all Victorians, and a mentor matching program to equip jobseekers with the know-how to succeed in a startup.

Startmate, to run a women-only fellowship for 120 Victorian women to

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford said, "We're backing Victorians who want to transition into a different career with the skills and knowledge to work in a startup or scaleup company.

"We know that startups create jobs and are playing an increasingly important role in Victoria's economy. Programs such as these will help Victorians navigate a career change to a high-growth, future-focused sector."

LaunchVic CEO Dr Kate Cornick added, "Victoria's startup ecosystem has tripled in size in just three years now worth \$7 billion, and we anticipate this growth will continue.

"Getting the right talent remains one of the main impediments to startup growth. Upskilling through these free programs demonstrates a growth mindset and is an efficient way to build the skills startups are looking for."

Rainmaker Information analysis released in the latest Superannuation Benchmarking Report recognised this imbalance.

Superannuation's gender inequality is present at all stages of a woman's working life. Women make up 50 per cent of millennial superannuation accounts, yet their account balances represent only 43 per cent of the age groups respective FUM.

Women make up 53 per cent of retirees yet own just 44 per cent of retiree superannuation FUM.

"Women own four in every \$10 of Australia's superannuation wealth," Alex Dunnin, executive director of research and compliance at Rainmaker Information said.

"Some super funds, because of the industries and employers they serve, have high concentrations of women members, including health, education, retail, hospitality and the public sector.

www.murrindindibusiness.com.au

KIDS PUZZLES





Word Search: Sonic the Hedgehog

CHARMY	М	٧	U	S	G	Е	٧	×	Ρ	А	W	U	J	0	\subset
CREAM	A	Ρ	Н	А	Т	R	Х	Υ	М	S	G	J	I	К	Н
EGGMAN	Е	С	Ζ	L	0	0	Ν	۷	Q	Ζ	К	Е	\subseteq	W	А
ESPIO	R	F	۷	Т	А	۷	R	Е	۷	А	W	I	Μ	0	R
JET	С	М	С	А	Х	К	W	Μ	γ	М	Ν	Х	J	0	М
OMEGA	В	Е	К	А	А	С	Ι	Ν	С	0	0	R	Е	Ρ	γ
	V	S	Ι	L	V	Е	R	Т	S	S	К	К	Т	М	٧
ROUGE	Z	U	U	W	G	Т	G	U	D	Ν	R	0	Ν	R	в
SHADOW	К	Ι	J	G	Υ	Т	L	F	S	D	В	L	F	D	А
SILVER	Е	R	М	L	V	γ	Е	F	٧	I	Т	R	Е	М	J
SONIC	D	А	С	L	0	Ρ	Е	Q	W	W	0	D	А	Н	S
STORM	Ν	Ζ	W	G	I	S	G	S	С	А	U	F	V	С	Ν
TIKAL	Υ	А	В	Е	Ρ	С	U	F	۷	G	G	Н	Ζ	J	W
VECTOR	Q	J	U	I	V	L	0	S	Y	F	С	R	Ζ	М	F
WAVE	I	F	0	Н	G	F	R	Y	N	R	J	К	Х	J	F



- 4. An underground
 - Something that will
 - A long narrative poem
- 7. Deep covered dish
- 12. Your consciousness of

5.

6.

- 14. Moved from one
- to catch its prey. 17. Settled into a cosy,

SOLUTIONS

- secure refuge.
- trees and rocks.
- covering the arm.
- powers to bring harm.

Word Search: Mental health

EYGXMPLX	N L ANXIETY
JTZHKSRO	R F CASE MANAGER
JEBUXDIE	ΙU
EINSBSGT	V P COACH
JXRXSANG	S U COUNSELLOR
HNRENEJY	⊂ ^O DEPRESSION
QARASQCC	Z R Emotion
VPMSKHDW	CG
ЕЕЕГОНКО	Z T FITNESS
SMJLRHAB	U R Psychiatrist
LWORKERL	E O PSYCHOLOGIST
ZGOTWNPV	S P
IRTAIHCY	S P SOCIAL WORKER
ХЈРЕКОИЈ	T U SUPPORT GROUP
AFLZLCNT	∨ 5 TRAUMA

Trivia

Difficulty: Medium Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9.

Sudoku

Q: Knock-Knock

Sudoku Difficulty: Medium

27. Push into action by annoying gently. DOWN

1. Bred from different species or varieties.

ACROSS

5.

8.

9.

of greeting. A group of warships

The universal expression

organised as a unit.

A secret rendezvous

Arrange for the extension

15. A mild expression of surprise. 16. A public building for gambling

misleading appearance. 24. To have an intense desire for.

between lovers.

10. The brother of your father or mother.

11. Present as a gift to a good cause.

13. A moralistic lecture.

and entertainment.

18. Arranges things so as to be parallel. 22. Fake or having a

25. A portable batterypowered electric lamp. 26. Inclined the head in a

gesture of respect.

of a contract.

- Inclinations towards 2. something.
- Beat through З. cleverness and wit.
- burial chamber.
- happen in time to come.
- telling of a hero's deeds.
- for serving soup.
- your own identity.
- 13. Salt water covering most of the earth's surface.
- country to another. 16. Threads spun by a spider

19. Fungus that grows on

- 20. The part of a garment
- 21. Invoke supernatural
- 23. Shine brightly and steadily.

Jokes

...whos there? figs figs who?

Q: Knock-Knock whos there? police Police who?



Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 6. Every row and column and every group of 6 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number only once.



Q: Where was the below image taken?



Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number only once.

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

A night for records at Alexandra Speedway

Alexandra speedway report by Dean Thompson

WITH the opening night of the Alexandra & District Speedway Club race season on Saturday, February 27 over, much of the talk has been about the speed of the track, the Junior Sedan records that were broken, and the health of two racers who had a huge back straight crash, rolling their cars simultaneously before being attended to by rescue and medical crews as the meeting closed early.

Shaqkira Blake and Tenayah Barton both walked away from their cars with what was diagnosed as minor injuries while their cars will need some repair.

In the Speedway Sedan's Australia Juniors, the class raced under the two gradings of Top Stars and New Stars. The New stars racing provided nine qualifying races full of action with Jacob Tinworth from the

Time running out to apply for sports grants

THE Victorian Government has announced funding through the Sporting Club Grants Program.

Support has been announced for grassroots sporting clubs impacted by the recent coronavirus circuitbreaker action.

Minister for Community Sport Ros Spence confirmed that grants of up to \$2000 are available under the Sporting Club Grants Program's Circuit Breaker Event Support category.

The new category is available for clubs that incurred costs that could not be recouped after events or activities were cancelled or postponed due to the February 12 to 17 circuit-breaker action. Costs that can be claimed include cancellation fees, lost booking fees and the loss of perishable goods.

An additional coronavirus recovery category is also being delivered to provide up to \$5000 for leagues and associations to help them get back on their feet after the pandemic.

Other Sporting Club Grants categories provide payments of up to \$1000 for new uniforms and equipment, up to \$5000 for training coaches, officials, and volunteers and up to \$5000 to improve club operational

Hamilton club winning all three of his races as he qualified into the final. Other winners in the lead up to the main event came from Fletcher Barron, Toby Parks, and James Oliver while in a subsection for new rookie drivers, Billy McBride won two heats and Nathan Miles the other as the kids gained valuable experience among others with equal amount of racing experience.

In the feature race it was Christine Oliver who led from the drop of the green flag. Following her were Tinworth, James Oliver, Blake Glynn, and Maddy Capon who zipped in and out of traffic as they made their way around the 570-metre racetrack. On lap seven though the race leaders race ended with mechanical concerns, and her brother James used traffic



Bradin Claridge from Bendigo won the VSC Junior Sedans. -S

to advantage to hit the lead as he passed Tinworth.

James Oliver recorded the fastest time of the race as he secured an exciting win from Tinworth, Glyn, Capon, and Barron.

The Top Stars class for Juniors with two years' experience or deemed to have the ability to compete with the fastest of the Juniors also had their own trophies to race for. Six qualifying heats for their final saw wins to Jaxson Vella, Jayden Bryant, Rhys Meakins, Bryant once again, Vella a second time and Linken Paterson in the final qualifier.

A 15-lap final was slated to be held and the green flag got the race underway with Vella, Bryant, and Canberra registered racer Jack Murphy motoring along in the top three. Lap four though would see the end of the race due to a highspeed crash where Shaqkira Blake rolled six times almost landing on the crash crew vehicle in the safety zone. Tenayah Barton rolling at the same time, finished up just behind Blake on the infield. The race was declared at this point as the positions were on lap four as the top few cars had crossed the line. Vella was declared the winner, Bryant second, Linken Paterson third, Murphy fourth and Dylan Barrow fifth.

Also competing for a feature event was the Victorian Speedway Council Junior Sedans, a handy field of competitors came together with the annual feature event gaining momentum as a must come to event. Dylan Barrow from the host club won heat one while Bradin Claridge from Bendigo won the next two in front of Barrow. Claridge secured a new heat race record along the way when he was two seconds quicker than the previous mark.

A very quick 15 lap final was then run with Claridge again displaying the development he has made over the last two seasons and proving to be too quick for Barrow once more. Another new record for Claridge, this time for 15 laps as he secured victory from Barrow, Rhys Meakins, Marcus Maclean, and Abbi Garlick.

The nights racing for the Sports Sedans and the Standard Saloons was declared on the top three points results with no features held due to the accident.

Healesville racer Steve Kershaw was declared winner of the Sports Sedans with Luke Fallon in second and Harry Orme third. Fallon and Kershaw were close to the class record lap time and if given a final, there was every chance that record could have been broken. Kershaw, Lee Beach, Kershaw again, Ricky Cornwall, Luke Fallon and Harry Orme all won heat races.

In Standard Saloon racing Aaron Meakins finished top points ahead of Aaron Price and his own daughter Courtney Meakins. Aaron Meakins won two heats and Price won the third and last heat.

The next meeting for Alexandra Speedway will be on March 20 with a Wingless Sprintcar feature along with the Unlimited Sedans and club classes.

Alexandra member James Oliver won the Junior Top Star Sedans. -S

Mansfield hosts Victoria Clay Target Association tower events

Mansfield Clay Target Club report Grade Peter Finn (Echuca) and by Marty McLachlan

SPECIALLY А scheduled Mansfield Clay Target Club shoot was held on Sunday of the Labour Day Long Weekend as Mansfield hosted the Victoria Clay Target Association, North East Zone, tower events in sunny and calm conditions. Competitors included club representatives from Alexandra, Echuca, Benalla, Euroa, Woods Point, Cobram, Kerang, and NSW. The day comprised all tower events shot over-head from an oscillating trap and included a 10-target eye opener Point Score followed by the Zone shoots; 25 Target Single Barrel, 25 Point Score and 25 Double Barrel Championship.

John King (Euroa) 30/30, B Grade Paul McKendrick (Euroa) 24/30 and C grade Marty McLachlan (Mansfield) 28/30.



effectiveness.

The Sporting Club Grants program is part of the Labor Government's commitment to make community sport accessible and inclusive, stimulate local economies, build sustainable sport and recreation and volunteer opportunities, and increase local participation.

Applications for the Sporting Grants Program are open until March 18, or earlier if funding is exhausted.

Grassroots clubs and organisations are encouraged to apply as soon as possible sport.vic.gov.au/grantsat and-funding. Past recipients of grants can also be found at this address.

Three squads comprising 17 shooters shot the card with AA and A Grade being combined and first prize being awarded in each event per grade. The eye opener was taken out by AA/A

The first of the main events, 25 Tower Single Barrel was won by B Grade competitor from Kerang, Stephen Ash 24/25. AA/A Grade John King 23/25, and C Grade Mansfield's John Winters. With no shoot offs it was into the Point Score, Anthony Kirley was victorious 74/75. B Grade featured Paul McKendrick once again on 66/75 and John Winters 65/75.

The last event for the day was the 25 Target Tower Double barrel, as expected this was a fight to the end with the winner needing to be decided by a shoot off between Colin Finn, Peter Finn, Mick Ward and John Winters after all four returned a perfect score. Mick was first to go after missing his second target, John hung in for a further four targets leaving the Finn's to tough it out. Colin was eventual

High Gun winners Anthony Kirley (Mansfield), John Winters (Mansfield). Paul McKendrick (Euroa), Colin Finn (Echuca), John King (Euroa) and Peter Finn (Echuca). -S

34/35. The grades went to Paul McKendrick 23/25, and for his third sash of the day John Winters had a great outing.

The overall high gun of the day is decided by combining the total over all events, missing only four targets for the day the deserving recipient was Anthony Kirley.

Club president Anthony Kirley and vice-president John Winters presented trophies and sashes on behalf of the VCTA North East Zone to the winners and place getters.

Mansfield Clay Target Gun hosts the next regular competition on the usual date, in two weeks'

winner with 35/35 over Peter time, being the third Sunday of the month; the next program will be conducted on March 21 and includes 25 Target Double Barrel, 25 Point Score and North East Zone mixed target event, 10 double, 10 single, 10 points and five pair double rise.

> The club is very family focused with lunch provided and junior shoots sponsored by the club with all junior fees waived for all competitions.

> Practice is conducted at the club grounds each Thursday through daylight savings commencing 4.30pm, Pikes Road Mansfield. If vou are interested in attending just turn up or phone 0490 702 083.

SPORT

Sixes game played for Ben Hall Memorial

Eildon golf report by Puttamatic

A BEAUTIFUL autumn morning saw a good field play for the Ben Hall Memorial at the Eildon Golf Club. Ben was the original founder of this club back in the sixties. A Sixes game was played, that is, six holes of stroke, six holes of stableford and six holes of par. Nearest the pins on the 12th and 14th was Mark Mackwell. No birdies were recorded on the eighth or 15th. Trophy winner was Peter McNair with a score of nine. Runner-up was Mark Mackwell with 11. Ball run to Marion Williamson with 12, and Ian Lakeland and John Gysberts with 13. Entry draw to Peter McNair, swindle to Tony Grayson and pick for the joker to John Gysberts.

Next week sees all head to Yea for round three of the Murrindindi Masters, hope to see you there.

Kellock Lodge barefoot bowls night

THE Alexandra Bowling Club will be holding their Kellock Lodge barefoot bowls night on Wednesday, March 24 at 5pm and finishing on dark.

For \$20 you will be able to play bowls, receive bowls tips and hints, and eat a yummy barbecue dinner, cakes and slices, tea and coffee.

Children under 12 years who accompany adults for dinner will be able to enter for \$10.

Beer, wine, soft drinks and spirits will be available at bar prices.

All names need to be in by 5pm, Tuesday, March 16. They'll be sent on to the Bowls Club to make up teams as needed and to ensure a terrific night for everyone. You can make your own teams of four if you'd like to.

Please wear flat soled shoes as your bare feet will burn on the surface of the greens.

To register your interest or find out more, please ring Veronica on 0431 218 265.

Yeehaws at pony club



Ashlee Collett in action. -S



Piper and her palomino. -S



The pony club were fortunate to hold their rally at the rodeo grounds the night prior to the Alexandra Pro Rodeo. With the help and guidance of Rachelle and Gabby, pro barrel race competitors, the members were guided and mentored on how best to ride the barrel race.

Members Chloe, Ella and Ashley were listening intently as they planned to compete the following day in the local riders session at the rodeo. There were endless practice runs on the main arena before the club held their annual race for the Alexandra Pony Club Perpetual Barrel Race trophy. The winner of this race is a combination of the riders times added and their age.

There were some thrills and spills but everyone ended up with a smile on their face.

Congratulation to 2021 winner Ashley Collett riding her pocket rocket Meggsy, second Chloe Dean and in third place, Clay Hilder.

Members now look forward to another great horsey day on Saturday, March 13 at the Alexandra Gymkhana, where they will compete in the open ring, the fun ring and over the freshmans showjumping. The club is hosting the freshmans showjumping as well as running the catering. A big thank you to the Acheron Adult Riders club for organising the 2021 Alexandra Gymkhana.



Ashlee Collett being presented with a medallion and the Alexandra Pony Club Rodeo Barrel Race perpetual trophy. -S

Brendon Smith wins Alexandra Monthly Medal

Alexandra golf report by Elizabeth Goss

your entries in. There will be no golf at

Margaret Blair winner of Monthly Medal

Marysville golf report by Lesley Rundle

IT was the March Monthly Medal round on Saturday at the Alexandra Golf Club and Brendon Smith was the winner with 79(11)68. Brendan was also the A Grade winner; the runner-up was Shane McGorlick 84(13)71 on a countback from Matt Richards 74(3)71. The B Grade winner was Jarrod Williamson 90(21)69 on a countback from the runner-up Ian Shearn 101(32)69. The ladies winner was Brenda Lopez 99(23)74. Nearest the pin on the second was Matt Richards, on the fifth Peter Phillips, on the seventh and 12th Michael Bossonnet, and on the 18th, Luke Heard and Brenda Lopez. The fewest putts went to James Kidd and Sam Kidd with 26. Ball run down to M Richards, J Kidd, L Jenkins, J Greatorex, S Darmody, and A Kirkpatrick. Raffle winners were Graham Emmerson and Jack Naden. Entry winner was M Jenkins.

Next Saturday, March 13 is the second round of the FoodWorks Murrindindi Masters at Yea. Please make sure you have Alexandra.

There were 12 players on Tuesday. The winner was Chris Smith with (20) 36 points, and the runner-up was Dave Silverman (12) 33 points on a countback from Steve Darmody (22) 33 points. Nearest the pin on the 17th was Dave Silverman, and on the 18th Peter Vallance.

It was Monthly Medal on Wednesday as well. The medal winner with an exceptional score was Marg Fahey 80(14)66. What have you done to your handicap? Marg also won Division 1; the runner-up was Judy Pearson also with a great score of 94(25)69. The Division 2 winner was Mor Gale with 109(35)74 and the runner-up was Anne Gunton 117(40)77. Nearest the pin on the second was Marg Fahey, on the seventh Sue Greatorex, and on the 18th Sandy Wettenhall. Marg Fahey had the fewest putts with 27. Next Wednesday, March 17 is the first round of the Foursomes. Names in by 8.30 for 9am hit off. LAST Saturday the golfers played a stroke round at the Marysville Golf Club for the March Monthly Medal and the ladies game included the first round of their Championships. Margaret Blair (34) won the medal with nett 70 and the runner-up was Miriam Page (22) with nett 73. Richard Clark (17) won the men's section with nett 70 on a countback from Steve Berry (10). Nearest the pins were won by Miriam Page on the fourth, Yewls Kuan on the ninth, Peter Jeffery on the 11th and Keith Atwell on the 18th. Miriam and Peter also won the Golden Shot.

While some golfers were playing in the nine-hole Thursday afternoon competition six ladies were playing in the Lancefield Tournament. Heather Jenkins (20) with an excellent nett 67 had the best nett score of the day and won the A Grade section. Helen nearest the pin and Jenny Coleman, Helen Howard and Lesley Rundle won the small teams event. Our thanks to the Lancefield ladies for their hospitality. This week three ladies will play in the Woodend Bowl. The Marysville Sandy Wilson Memorial Bowl will be held on Thursday, March 25.

Thanks to club members Brad Kasch, Geoff Fergusson, Lloyd Flaherty, and Keith Atwell for their maintenance work around the club this week. Also, members thank Heather Jenkins who used her considerable talent for blackberry elimination when untangling the mass of blackberries around the bowling green. The other garden gnomes Peter Lilley and Jillian Chandler were also spotted cleaning up some of the garden beds.

Next Saturday 30 Marysville golfers will play in the third round of the FoodWorks Murrindindi Masters at Yea.

SPORT





-Photos by AR







Dane Fountain and Blake Coward, kitted up and ready to go. -S











-Photos by AR

Alexandra **Pro Rodeo** well attended



THE Alexandra Pro Rodeo, held on Saturday, March 6, drew a crowd of close to 4000 people, keen to watch the action and enjoy the music.

Organiser Andrew Embling said "It was a very successful rodeo... There was no trouble at all. The crowd totally enjoyed it. I think starting at five o'clock for families is a great change, so that the rodeo can finish at 9.30pm, and they can take the younger families home. That's why we changed it a couple of years ago from 6pm back to 5pm."

how the event was run. They'll be providing a written report.

Mr Embling apologied to attendees for the long queues to get into the rodeo, due to the QR code and temperature testing requirements, and thanked the local police for their assistance with the queues.

In terms of the rodeo itself, "The rodeo stock were very fresh. It was the first rodeo for 12 months, so they came out and they certainly bucked to the best of their ability. It was quite a good night."

The attendees were stretched

Mr Embling said that there were no problems following the event. The grounds were cleared out, and most of the people left when the band finished at about 12.15am. "They walked down the street expecting the hotels to be open, but they were all closed, so some of them then hung around and slowly went back to where they were staying, or back to the ground.

"All the cowboys were well behaved because many left early the following morning to attend the Chiltern Rodeo, after their morning coffee and breakfast They had visits from COVIDsafe around the grounds more than of course. Mr Embling was also including intoxication, however people at the event, and they usual, and were more on the hill the announcer at Chiltern. Four they added that generally the Queensland cowboys attended crowd behaved well.

the Alexandra rodeo, and having never been here before, they loved the atmosphere. "They came down because it was a two-rodeo weekend," Mr Embling said. Three of them out of the four all won prize money, and all told Mr Embling that they would definitely come back to Alexandra Rodeo, even if it was just a one-off rodeo on the weekend. "They loved it ... As one of the cowboys said, 'You look up on the hill and there's all these people up there and making a noise.""

Alexandra Police reported that around 15 people were removed from the event for various reasons,



seemed to be fairly happy with than down on the flat.

Blake Coward and Dane Fountain participated in the Alexandra Pro Rodeo local steer riding. -S

