

# Standard

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

P.O Box 5, Alexandra, 3714. Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5772 1603; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Wednesday, June 29, 2022 \$2.00 inc. GST

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## Award for long serving member

LONG serving member of the Alexandra Group of Fire Brigades, retiring Deputy Group Officer John Rogers, was awarded CFA Life Membership.

Mr Rogers was also presented with the National Medal for Service, with first clasp, in recognition of more than 25 years of service to the nation in the emergency services.

As Deputy Group Officer and other official positions, Mr Rogers has served the Alexandra community continuously since April 1989.

Shortly after moving to Alexandra after returning from full-time work, he joined the old Alexandra Rural Fire Brigade and was quick to help in administration of the Alexandra group as the group

secretary, a role he held for a number of years including four years while also serving as a Deputy Group Officer. He held various group roles until 2002.

Throughout this period, Mr Rogers served as a member of the rural brigade until December 2018 when he became a foundation member of the new Alexandra Fire Brigade where he served as the Communications Officer until June 2020. He once again took on a group role in June 2019 as a Deputy Group Officer.

This month, he stepped down from his group position and remains a proud and passionate member of Alexandra Fire Brigade.

Members expressed their thanks to Mr Rogers for his commitment to CFA,

Alexandra Fire Brigade, Alexandra Group of Fire Brigades, and the people of the Murrindindi Shire.



District 12 Assistant Chief Officer Robert van Dorsser (left) made the presentation to John Rogers (right). -S

## Committal trial adjourns in Jordan Purcell case

ON Thursday, June 23, Magistrate Ian Watkins, adjourned the committal hearing into the death of Alexandra footballer Jordan Purcell until August 19 to enable him to study the evidence presented during the two day hearing at the Wangaratta Magistrates Court and determine whether the case should proceed to a trial.

Alexandra man, Jack Brian Goonan, is facing charges relating to six offences, including culpable and dangerous driving causing death, failing to stop after accident causing death, failing to render assistance after an accident causing death, reckless conduct endangering life, and reckless conduct namely being under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

Mr Goonan was allegedly driving a vehicle that was involved in an incident that lead to the death of Jordan Purcell.

On the first day of the hearing, the court heard from witnesses who were passengers in the alleged vehicle and from the Alexandra resident who found the injured Mr Purcell on Hall Street. Mr Purcell later died on the way to hospital.

On day two, the court heard evidence from expert witnesses as to the nature of Mr Purcell's injuries and evidence regarding the type of vehicle that could have caused those injuries.

Victoria Police members including the Police Informant, Detective Senior Constable Sandro Lombardi and Alexandra Police Officer Sergeant Andrew Walker also presented evidence.

There was a prolonged investigation which led to charges being laid, and the hearing occurred more than three years after the date of the incident on June 16, 2019. In August 2021, Major Collision Investigation Unit detectives charged Mr Goonan over Mr Purcell's death.

The incident occurred after an Alexandra football match and an evening social function. Mr Purcell was walking to a house in Alexandra to meet up with team mates when he was allegedly struck by a vehicle on Hall Street.

## Murrindindi's plan to support the timber transition

IN April, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP visited Murrindindi Shire to announce \$400,000 in funding under the \$200 million Victorian Forestry Plan for the communities of Alexandra, Taggerty and Marysville, to prepare a Local Development Strategy (LDS) and help shire communities and economy in the transition away from dependence on the native forest timber industry and towards new and sustainable industries.

Shivaun Brown, Director Community Engagement at Murrindindi Shire Council was contacted for comment on what progress has been made.

She said, "Soon, we're hoping to recruit a project manager to work in partnership with our

affected communities to prepare a LDS for Murrindindi Shire. This role will be advertised internally and externally in the coming weeks.

"We'll develop the LDS using a 'smart specialisation' approach, designed by the Victorian Government. We think a Community Reference Group could be a good way to provide the community with oversight and ownership of the LDS, but we'll wait until the project manager has done some consultation with the community to confirm if this is the best approach.

"Timelines for the development of the LDS haven't been set in stone, but they have been drafted. The rest of this

year will be spent appointing a project manager and getting the project up and running. This will involve working with communities and looking at the existing social and economic environment.

"From there, we'll use the information gathered to prepare a Context Analysis Report by the middle of 2023. By then we hope to have identified key projects and actions for inclusion in the LDS.

"Further time will then be spent refining the projects and preparing a final list of fundable and deliverable projects.

"We hope to finalise the LDS in early 2024 and provide a long-term vision for our affected communities, including priority

industries and infrastructure for future development, highlighting opportunities for new jobs and positive economic and social benefits.

"Once a project manager is appointed, we'll confirm these timelines with the community," she said.

For more information about the Victorian Forestry Plan, visit [djpr.vic.gov.au/forestry/forestry-plan](http://djpr.vic.gov.au/forestry/forestry-plan)

Individual businesses, contractors and employees affected by the transition should contact Kara Zdrzalka (Hinton), DJPR's Business Transition Support Officer (North-East Victoria), on 0417 483 803 for direct support.

## CHRISTMAS IN JULY DINNER

Saturday 23 July 2022

Mulled wine, roast turkey, glazed ham, yorkshire puddings, traditional plum pudding with brandy sauce... just a few of our favourite Christmas things!

Bring your family and friends and join us for a four course celebration dinner with all the trimmings. Music, a roving magician and Santa's visit will make this a truly magical evening.

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# Unattended campfires cause risk in region

THE reported number of unattended and not properly extinguished campfires in Hume region have increased the past two years despite COVID-19. This behaviour continues to put country Victoria at greater risk of bushfires.

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said the number of unattended campfires may be a sign of dangers to come, especially for

those with license river frontages recently opened to campers.

Ms McLeish said, “Now that the Victorian Government has opened many spots along the Goulburn River and Ovens River to people camping on licenced river frontages, there is an even greater risk of campfires being left burning or unattended.”

In the Hume region, home to the Goulburn, Broken, Ovens, King and Kiewa Rivers, a staggering 414 unattended campfires were reported in 2020/21. During 2021/22, 264 were reported. In comparison, 162 unattended campfires were reported in 2019/20.

The Hume region has reported the highest number of cases in 2021/22 compared to Gippsland where 188 were reported, Grampians reported 28, Loddon Mallee reported 64, Port Phillip only 10 and Barwon Southwest reported 42.

Ms McLeish continued, “Camping has become far more popular since COVID-19 put a halt to overseas and interstate travel. Its popularity is likely to continue.

“It is great to see people out and about in nature and enjoying Victoria’s natural beauty. But there needs to be responsibility around campfires and knowing the dangers,” Ms McLeish said.

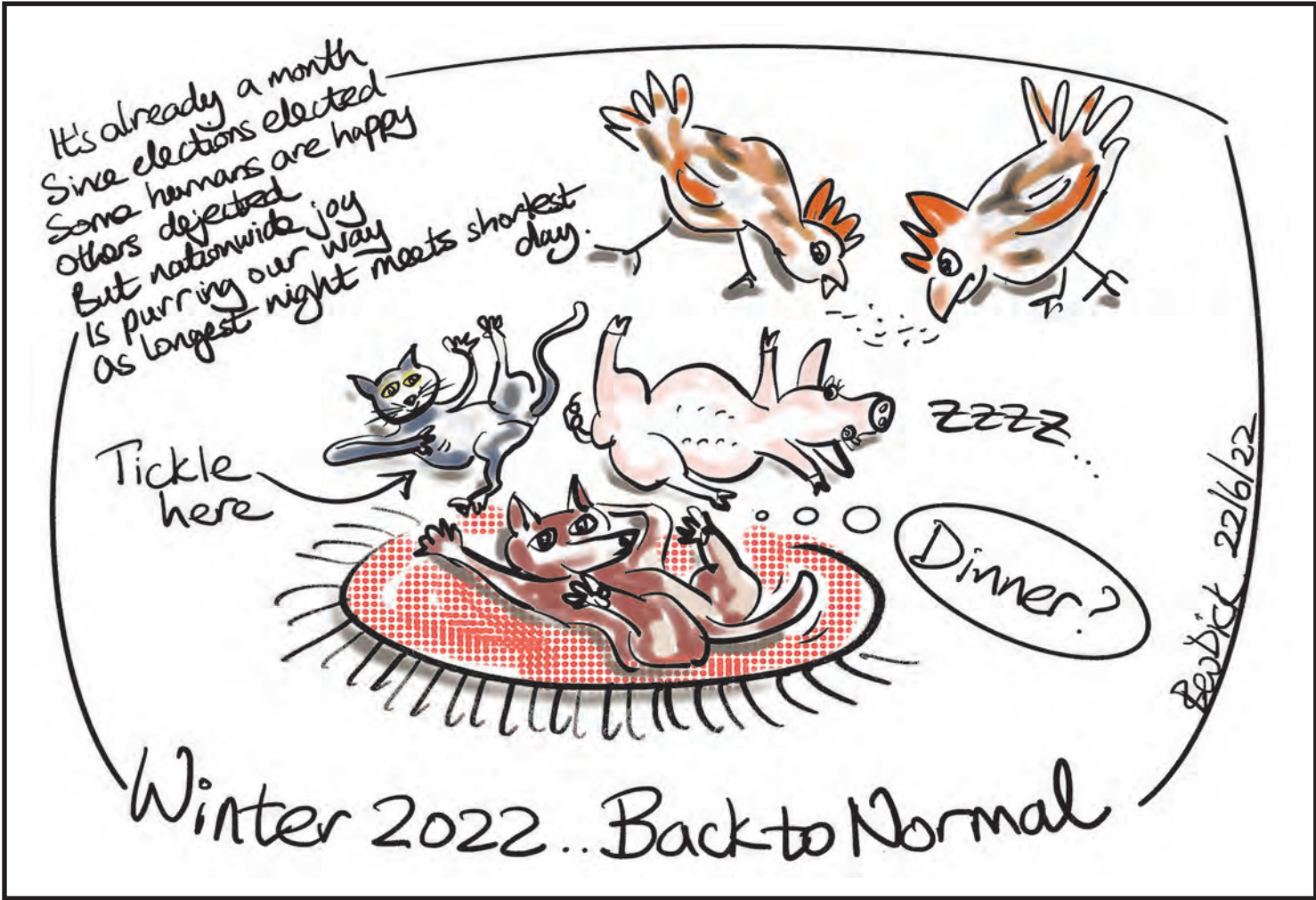
**Standard**  
*The Yea Chronicle*

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**COMMUNITY DIARY**

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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**  
Tues Art Group Eildon(Alex Tennis Rooms) 10am-3pm Ph 5773 2306  
Tue 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  
Sun AA 7pm Anglican Church, Alexandra Ph 1300 222 222  
Sun Alanon Recovery Phone 0402 428 086.  
Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 5772 1057  
Thu 7.30-10pm SES, SES/CFA complex Ph 0418 576 666  
Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

**MONTHLY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat Alexandra Quilters RSL Hall 10am-4pm Ph 5772 3257  
1<sup>st</sup> Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Alexandra Market - at Station Street Ph 0427 509 988  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Alexandra Ladies Probuss Club 10am RSL Ph 5772 2946  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sun Alexandra RSL. CLOSED due to COVID. Ph 0409 950 913  
4<sup>th</sup> Tue Yarck CWA Meeting, 10.30am Yarck Hall.  
4<sup>th</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
4<sup>th</sup> Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517  
Last Fri Carers Group walk 9.45am @ Rotary Park. 0418 402 455

**ALEXANDRA**  
NEWSPAPERS

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.

**Weekly Weather**  
June 29, to July 5, 2022  
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

**Alexandra**

DAY	LOW	HIGH	
Wednesday	2	11	☁
Thursday	3	13	☁☀
Friday	3	13	☀
Saturday	1	13	☀
Sunday	2	13	☁☀
Monday	3	14	☁☔
Tuesday	5	13	☁☔

**Standard**

**Yea**

DAY	LOW	HIGH	
Wednesday	2	11	☁☔
Thursday	3	13	☁☀
Friday	4	13	☁☀
Saturday	2	13	☁☀
Sunday	2	13	☁☀
Monday	3	14	☁☔
Tuesday	5	13	☁☔

**The Yea Chronicle**

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**  
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Submitted letters will be edited at the discretion of Alexandra Newspapers.  
Letters larger than 300 words, will not be published.  
Letters which are offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks will not be published. All letters must contain contact details of writer; name, address and telephone number, (not necessarily for publication).  
Letters without these details **will not** be published.  
Deadline is 10am Monday

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NEWSPAPERS

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	11.00am Mon	1.09^	steady	below minor
Rubicon R at Rubicon	11.00am Mon	0.71	steady	
Acheron R at Taggerty	9.32am Mon	0.99	steady	below minor
Home Ck at Yarck	12.12pm Mon	0.40	steady	
Yea R at Devlins Bridge	12.53am Mon	0.63	steady	below minor
Yea R at Yea	11.25am Mon	0.95	steady	
Goulburn R at Ghin Ghin	11.00am Mon	3.58	steady	
King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale	11.00am Mon	0.57^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Trawool	11.00am Mon	1.27^	steady	below minor
Sunday Ck at Tallarook	10.45am Mon	0.33^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.57	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Ck at Seymour	9.53am Mon	0.80	steady	

\*\*ISSUED AT 12.15PM ON MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022\*\*

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra*	9.5mm
Buxton.....	43.5mm
Eildon (AWS).....	30mm
Flowerdale.....	29mm
Kinglake.....	18mm
Lake Eildon.....	35mm
Marysville .....	N/Amm
Strath Creek .....	N/Amm
Taggerty .....	42mm
Yarck .....	20mm
Yea.....	16mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	284.15m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	82%
Metres below full supply.....	4.75m
Daily inflow .....	8000ML
Release.....	1000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	50%

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**DEADLINES**

Real Estate	Thursday noon
Trades & Services	Thursday noon
Early General News	Thursday 5pm
Classifieds	Monday noon
Editorial	Monday 9am
Sports Editorial	Monday 10am
Letters to the Editor	Monday 9am
Thumbsup/down	Monday 10am

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5772 1002 or  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)

We thank you for your continued support





# What a load of rubbish

ON June 22, a grey and drizzly day, two local women, who chose not to be named in this article, decided it was time to do a bit of a clean up along the highway from the Eglington Cutting to Spring Creek Road.

Armed with gloves hats, raincoats and a 'grab it' stick, they successfully picked up nine full bags of rubbish, plus assorted loose rubbish.

The main offenders were 'recyclable' coffee mugs and their lids, beer cans, soft drink bottles, McDonalds containers and a substantial amount of polystyrene. There was even one patch of syringes, which were not picked up and bagged. Not all of

the rubbish was picked up, as there were a couple of patches that were just a bit too close to the road on a wet, damp day.

After all the bags and loose items were piled into the backs of cars, the whole lot was taken to the Murrindindi Shire offices and put in a neat pile at the rubbish bin outside the front door.

One of the women said, "Who's responsibility is it to clean up the roadsides? The rubbish along that particular piece of highway, grew exponentially after the long weekend. When are people going to wake up and stop throwing rubbish out of cars?"



Gerry Laws, Jane Laws and Marlene Fleming celebrated World Music Day on June 21. Together, the form the group, 'More and More'. -S



## Scruffy found

Scruffy, safe and warm at home. -S

SCRUFFY, the 18 year old deaf dog which became lost on Maintongoon Road and who was featured in last week's edition of the *Alexandra Standard*, has been found. Scruffy's owners, who had to return home from their holiday without Scruffy, were straight into the car when the news came through that he had been found on Friday, June 24.

Owner Paula said via email after collecting Scruffy, "Yes, that was him. We picked him up last night [Friday] and brought him home, a five and half

hour trip, took him to the vets. He was dehydrated, very tired, and hadn't eaten for 13 days, but I think he's going to be okay.

"We're overjoyed to get him home. Thank you, thank you, thank you. He has just about no nails left, his eye was affected by dehydration. He had brambles cuts everywhere. But he's home."

It's an excellent outcome to what could have been a tragic story. We wish Scruffy all the best for his recovery.

## Four local groups receive FRRR funding

SIXTY-seven projects across remote, rural and regional Australia will share in \$776,583 in grants thanks to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program. Four of these projects are in Murrindindi.

The program supports grassroots initiatives run by organisations led by local people that will strengthen their communities and have direct benefits for those living in them.

Jill Karena, Place Portfolio Lead at FRRR, said that a noticeable trend emerged in this latest round of applications.

"Interestingly, we saw a strong interest for community gardens in this round. With the cost of living rising on top of the food shortages that are happening as a result of the pandemic and natural disasters like drought and floods, there are growing concerns in rural areas about food security and the lack of access to nutritious, affordable food.

"This is why flexible programs like SRC are crucial. The funding from this program can be used where community leaders see the greatest need. Our climate and our economy are rapidly evolving and these grants can be used to support a broad range of community-led, grassroots initiatives that are helping to address very current issues in real time," Ms Karena said.

Locally, the successful recipients were:

Buxton Progress Association (BPA) Inc for the project Building Buxton Strategy Consultation. In this project, BPA will boost their organisational and volunteer capacity through community consultation and the development of a strategic plan. They received \$9451.

Flowerdale Community House received funding for the Flowerdale Community Garden Project. Their aim is to enhance health, wellbeing, and connectedness of the community through building a community garden. They received \$10,000.

The Highlands Community Hall Committee received funding to support the Highlands Hall going forward. Their aim is to strengthen local capacity and skills

through governance and strategic planning workshops and support. They received \$10,000.

Tri Gym Marysville received funding for the project, Strengthening Our Community - Healthy Body and Mind. Their aim is to support better health and wellbeing outcomes by enabling older community members to access local pilates classes. They received \$4450.

A full list of grant recipients is available on FRRR's website.

This program always accepts applications and thanks to recent support from the Australian Government, there is now a COVID-recovery stream, Rebuilding Rural Communities. Local not-for-profits and community groups are encouraged to review the expanded program guidelines and apply. More information about the SRC program is available at [frrr.org.au/src](http://frrr.org.au/src)

## Murrindindi to host Ukrainian camp

MURRINDINDI Shire will this week play host to a group of 23 newly-arrived Ukrainian children, aged between 3 and 16 years, at a winter camp in Buxton from June 29 to July 2.

The camp is the initiative of the Ukrainian Youth Association of Australia and will give the children the chance to feel welcomed and supported and to foster new friendships and create bonds in Australia and to understand more about Australia, its plants and animals in an enjoyable environment.

The Association has sought and received support from a number of bodies and organisations for this event, including Murrindindi Shire Council through a grant of \$2200 to assist with costs for the camp

Lake Mountain Alpine Resort has provided free snow play equipment, the use of an indoor venue and will be providing lunch for the group. Volunteer staff, including a number of school teachers, are contributing their time and expertise.

Residents who wish to visit the camp can email [Melbourne@cym.org](mailto:Melbourne@cym.org)

## A significant donation to Foundation Murrindindi

FOUNDATION Murrindindi has received a significant donation of over \$110,000 to support projects for the Marysville and Triangle community, with a primary focus on senior residents.

"We are grateful to be trusted with these funds, to be managed on behalf of the donor," Foundation Murrindindi's chair, Melinda Burgess said.

A representative of the donor said, "We have a preference for funding of projects for senior residents, however this does not prohibit funding of the projects for other sectors of the Marysville and Triangle community.

"We chose to set up this fund with Foundation Murrindindi based on their proven track record of responsibly managing community funds," they said.

Foundation Murrindindi will establish a grant fund to distribute to projects. Details of the fund will be released soon.

Foundation Murrindindi's purpose is to inspire a community-led future for Murrindindi Shire.

If you would like to set up a fund, or make a donation, please contact the Executive Officer, Robyn Hill, on 0488 007 688 or email [robyn@foundationmurrindindi.org.au](mailto:robyn@foundationmurrindindi.org.au)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

People wishing to donate to support Ukraine residents should contact Red Cross on 1800 733 276 or Box 2957, Melbourne, Vic 3001

*Authorised by Ray Donkin - Buxton*

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# Marysville Lantern Parade



Students from Marysville and Buxton Primary Schools attended the lantern walk in Marysville on Saturday, June 25. They walked around the lake with family, friends and teachers. -AR



Children and adults enjoying the fire twirler's performance. The event was followed by Sera Ghaly and a beautiful candlelit harp performance. -AR



David the Music Man. -MP



Some of the attendees with sparklers. -MP



The fire twirler entertaining the audience beside the Marysville Lake. -MP

## This week's Church Services

- ANGLICAN St Johns Alexandra**  
9am Eucharist each Sunday  
Children welcome  
Fr Mario Hendricks - Rectory 0435 953 777
- CATHOLIC**  
Immaculate Conception Parish  
Parish Priest, 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  
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Kellock Lodge 2pm 4th Sunday  
contact 5772 2362
- 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
- THE VINE**  
A Christian community of the  
Baptist Union of Victoria  
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Pastor - Geoffrey Johnstone Ph: 0481 472 152

## Firewood season closes June 30

VICTORIANS will not be able to collect firewood from public land from midnight on Thursday, June 30 when the autumn collection season finishes.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Hume Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Aaron Kennedy said that firewood can only be taken from designated collection areas in state forests or parks from March 1 to June 30, and September 1 to November 30.

"Firewood is a shared public resource that provides a range of environmental values and needs to be managed in a sustainable way for the future.

"There are on-the-spot fines of \$727 for illegal firewood collection behaviour, and if an offence goes to court the person may be liable for fines up to \$9087, one-year-imprisonment, or both.

"Forest Fire Management Victoria and Parks Victoria staff

will be patrolling parks, forests and reserves to make sure everyone does the right thing. Careful planning and collection rules are enforced to protect the environment and habitat for native animals," Mr Kennedy said.

Financial help is available for people on low incomes who purchase firewood or wish to transition to other energy sources.

For more information please visit [ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/energy-concession-and-support](http://ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/energy-concession-and-support)

Non mains energy concessions visit [services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession](http://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession)

Non-Mains Utility Relief Grant Scheme visit [services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains](http://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains)

Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades Program visit [heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au](http://heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au)

## Out & About



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

\*\*\*\*\*

Darren Gilbert Open Studio Saturday and Sunday July 2 and 3. 10am-4pm both days. Yea Butter Factory.

\*\*\*\*\*

See this weeks editions for NAIDOC Week celebrations. July 3 to July 10.

\*\*\*\*\*

Council is hosting a free two day mental health first aid course in Yea and Kinglake. Yea 9am-5pm July 16 and 23. Kinglake 9am-5pm September 3 and 10. For more information contact Murrindindi Shire Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas in July dinner. Saturday, July 23 at Holmesglen at Eildon. Bookings essential 5774 2631.

## Alexandra Seniors report

by Philip Smith

THE bridge players started the week as usual on Monday. On Tuesday at bowls, a perfectly crafted five on the last end gave Phil's yellows an eight to five win over Joyce's blacks.

Friday's social meeting was its usual lively affair after welcoming Jean back last week, after her tour of some of the local hospitals. It seems the food at Alexandra Hospital was too good to miss, so she's gone back for some more. Seriously, get well soon Jean, UNO is not the same without you.

The only other item on the agenda was confirmation of arrangements for the trip to Healesville RSL for the Neil Diamond show on July 12. If you might like to attend, there are a few spare seats on the bus and if you get in touch with Phil or Gai on 0429 590 076 they can give you all the details.

Jokester David, was once again required to stretch out Comedy Corner while the members waited for afternoon tea goodies to heat up, and with material supplied by Josie, Roma, Joan and Me, the extra time was worth it. Ron spun the wheel and Roma, Joan and Chris got lucky.

With all that done we moved on to the lunch room for the now greatly anticipated afternoon tea. The usual array of good stuff was soon devoured and the Card Sharks got down to business. Out in the hall with the UNOists, the hilarity continued at its normal level. All in all a good day was had by everyone.

If you are at all interested in an intense game of cards or a fun game of carpet bowls or UNO, get in touch with Gai or Phil on 0429 590 076 and they will happily set you in the right direction.

**Words you may wish to use:**  
Dysgraphia: Impairment in your ability to write. Widdershins: anticlockwise. Zot: To depart quickly, ie. zot off. Collunarium: nose drops.

**Useless and not so useless information:**  
The wing span of a Boeing 747 is longer than the Wright Bros first flight. By raising your legs slowly and lying on your back, you won't sink in quicksand.

**Smart wills:** One of the shortest wills ever written read, "Being of sound mind, I spent all my money." A woman left her husband because he had a will of his own and she wasn't in it.



## News from Kellock Lodge

by Larry Fallon, Chairman  
of Kellock Lodge

THE following report is the latest update about Kellock Lodge Inc, your locally owned aged care facility.

The last four to five months have been extremely challenging. COVID-19 has put immense pressure on the rostering requirements and also on the staff.

Staff have been asked to work extra shifts and the CEO/DON and administration staff have been working on the floor from time to time. The board would like to thank all staff for their dedication and support during this difficult time. Also, many thanks to the volunteers who have been coming in to help. It has been enormously appreciated by the staff and residents. We have had two positions filled in the last week which will help alleviate much of the pressure on the current staff.

Our CEO/DON position has been advertised and the board will meet next Friday to determine our way forward for this position. Also, there is a senior administration position available at Kellock to relieve the pressure on compliance and administration duties.

The budget for next year is difficult to set as the final draft of government funding is not finalised. This will be a challenge, but like all challenges, there will be a solution.

What we can say is that after three years of slowly turning Kellock around from having a large deficit to a profit, this will be achieved this financial year. This has been achieved in part from great staff doing a great job.

We have had the facias painted around the entire building. Thanks to Bruce Bonsema, son of the late Lorna Coombs. He supplied labour and advice at cost, with a saving of approximately \$6000.

Yenckens and Haymes paints supplied the paint free of charge and our sincere thanks must go to them. Yenckens and Haymes are both family owned businesses and understand the difficulty in running a business under the circumstances which we are encountering today.

Kellock now has three additional motors for the new overhead tracking system, four new beds and mattresses and a new oxygen concentrator.

Friends of Kellock recently held a very successful fundraiser with the grand total of \$23,000 being raised. This money will go towards replacing carpets in the remaining rooms. Thanks to the Friends of Kellock committee for their selfless dedication and hard work.

We have also had a very generous donation from a local for \$50,000. An amazing contribution.

We do require ongoing assistance with kitchen duties and if you would like to offer your volunteer services, please call Tania on 5770 2100.

Kellock has travelled well despite the enormous challenges over the last two years. This has been due to the commitment from staff and volunteers. Ongoing workforce challenges are a large factor that we will overcome with ongoing diligence and community support.

Many thanks again to all staff and volunteers.



Auntie Loraine and Matt Burns with the new book. -S

## First release of a children's book in Taungurung language

THE Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) has announced the release of the first book written for children in both Taungurung and English languages.

*Bijil Ba Wudhi Deberra* (Bijil and Moths) is authored by Auntie Loraine Padgham, Taungurung Elder.

This is the story of a young Taungurung boy who accompanies his parents on their annual trip to the high plains in summer to participate in cultural activities, renew friendships with other tribes and clans, and to harvest Bogong moths. The book includes a QR code that can be scanned to listen to the story read in Taungurung language.

"This is a landmark moment in the ongoing reawakening of the Taungurung language," Matt Burns, TLaWC CEO said.

"It will form part of a number of resources that will be made over time to

re-establish our language as an integral part of the cultural landscape for those, both indigenous and otherwise, living on Taungurung Country."

This book is dedicated to the Taungurung people, past and present, who have cared for Taungurung Country and culture since time immemorial.

Teachers and librarians from primary schools have already expressed delight in having this cultural resource available. All primary schools within Murrindindi Shire have received a copy of *Bijil Ba Wudhi Deberra* (Bijil and Moths) via generous support from the Murrindindi Shire Council, who provided funding to support the production of the book.

*Bijil Ba Wudhi Deberra* (Bijil and Moths) is available for purchase on TLaWC's website [taungurung.com.au/](http://taungurung.com.au/) store at a special launch price of \$20.

# Rocket lost and found

BUXTON-raised team leader with the Monash High Powered Rocketry (HPR) team, Isaac Sims, was delighted to advise the media that their missing rocket had been found.

The rocket had been lost by baggage handlers when the team were in transit to the USA to compete in the Spaceport America Cup.

After quite a few tense hours, the rocket was finally located and returned to the team. As a result, they were able to compete in the prestigious event.

Poor weather conditions meant that the competition couldn't go ahead on Thursday, June 23. If it had, the Monash team would have been in big trouble.



The Monash HPR team were relieved when their rocket was returned after being lost by baggage handlers en route to the USA. -S

**Darren Gilbert**  
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**THUMBS UP THUMBS DOWN**

**THUMBS DOWN:** To opening the Eildon Pondage to further recreational use. It's a long standing policy based on safety reasons. Nothing has changed.

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](mailto:editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au)

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



# Leadbeater's possum born in captivity

FOR the first time in more than 20 years, two critically endangered Leadbeater's possums has been born in captivity, thanks to state government's investment in Victoria's faunal emblems.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio announced the arrival of two Highland Leadbeater's possum joeys born at Healesville Sanctuary, a breeding breakthrough due to diet and animal husbandry changes.

This breakthrough provides hope for the long-term goal of also successfully breeding Lowland Leadbeater's possums, of which fewer than 30 remain in the world. Comparatively, highland populations have declined to only a few thousand possums.

Since the Leadbeater's Possum Captive Breeding Program restarted in 2012, keepers have been trying to crack the code for breeding by closely reviewing husbandry practices and the complex dietary needs of this enchanting, nocturnal mammal.

A leading zoo and wildlife nutritionist, veterinarians, and marsupial reproductive experts are accounting the breakthrough to a new diet, which has seen positive changes to the possums' gut microbiome and reproductive health, with an increase in sperm production in the males.

The possums' diet is a honey-based nectar which the experts have loaded with increased fibre and balanced with essential vitamins and minerals.

The Leadbeater's possum was successfully bred in captivity during the 1990s, however the program ended due to ageing animals, limited genetics, and no requirements for wild release at the time.

One of the newborn Highland Leadbeater's possums last week underwent its first health check at Healesville Sanctuary's Australian Wildlife Health Centre and was confirmed to be female. The other joey, checked last month, was confirmed to be female and weighed 97 grams.

Alongside the helmeted honeyeater, the Leadbeater's possum is one of the two Victorian faunal emblems with the Victorian Government contributing \$2 million via the Faunal Emblems Program.

Since 2018, almost \$4 million in funding has been dedicated to improving the long-term sustainability of both species.

Since 2014. Over the same period, the Government has invested more than \$560 million into protecting biodiversity, working to halt the decline of Victoria's plants and animals through the landmark plan *Biodiversity 2037*.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio said "We're excited to welcome these two precious possums and to see the success of our ongoing investment into our state's faunal emblem and the unique biodiversity of Victoria."

## Artists selected to create Rail Trail art

EIGHT artists have been appointed to create art installations along the Great Victorian Rail Trail and art location sites have been selected.

The artists selected to create the seven larger art installations are Donna Marcus, Yu-Fang Chi, Christabel Wigley (Wigley World), Louise Paramor, Tai Snaith, Cara Johnson and Robbie Rowlands. Mick Harding (Ngarga Warendj) has been selected to create the Trail Long series of works.

You can find biographies of the selected artists and a map of the art installation locations at the online engagement platform, The Loop, at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/GVRT-art-project](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/GVRT-art-project).

The next phase of the project will see the detailed design for each of the sites finalised in preparation for work on the installations to begin. The works are expected to be installed before the end of April 2023.

The \$1.2 million Great ARTdoors Project is a partnership between Murrindindi,

Mansfield and Mitchell Shire Councils, funded through the Victorian Government Regional Tourism Investment Fund Stimulus Round, as part of the COVID-19 tourism stimulus package through Regional Development Victoria.

Murrindindi Shire Mayor Councillor Sue Carpenter said, "The project is aimed at attracting more visitors to the Rail Trail to support communities along the trail by building its reputation as a premier tourist attraction.

"The Rail Trail is an important part of the tourism offering across the three shires and it is exciting to see the project reach this key milestone.

"We worked with the community on the scope of the project late last year, and the three councils have since been working together, along with arts professionals with experience in delivering major public art projects, to get the right artists involved in the creation and delivery of the art installations."

## Celebrate NAIDOC Week at the Yea Wetlands

THE NAIDOC 2022 theme calls on all of us to make a genuine commitment to Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! and support and secure institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms

Whether it's seeking proper environmental, cultural and heritage protections, Constitutional change, a comprehensive process of truth-telling, working towards treaties, or calling out racism, we must do it together.

It's time to work together to narrow the gap between aspiration and reality, good intent and outcome.

This year's NAIDOC Week Program at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre will look at the importance of Cultural Heritage Planning. Join Francisco Almeida, Senior Archaeologist from Taungurung Land and Waters Council, to discuss what is involved in a Cultural Heritage Plan, when is one required and how to identify and protect cultural artefacts found on Country.

Celebrated Taungurung artist and educator Cassie Leatham will hold two workshops on Saturday, July 9 using traditional weaving techniques and natural materials.

Participants in the Little Bush Bird workshop (for ages five to 16), will create a tiny bush bird using poa grass and native bird feathers and learn about the little birds' environment.

In the Mon Mungan, Healing Weave workshop (for ages 15 and above), participants will learn to weave bracelets using two traditional weaving techniques.

Places are limited for these two workshops and costs include all materials. The sessions are \$10 child or concession, or \$15 for an adult.

The final session of the week will be presented by Matthew Burns, CEO of Taungurung Land and Waters Council. Matthew will lead a discussion on Treaty and the next phase of the Treaty journey.

NAIDOC Week at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre is proudly supported by Murrindindi Shire Council, Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre Inc.

For details of the full program of events and to book your tickets, please visit [yewatercentre.com.au](http://yewatercentre.com.au) or call 5797 2663.



Children attending a previous NAIDOC Week celebration at Yea Wetlands. -S

## NAIDOC Week celebrations

NAIDOC Week will be celebrated across Murrindindi Shire from July 3 to 10.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Sue Carpenter said NAIDOC Week is a time to recognise, share and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements.

"I encourage community members to attend and get involved in local activities and events held across the shire. In line with this year's theme, Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!, we're calling on our communities to come together and learn about First Nations cultures and histories by attending events held by the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre and Council's Murrindindi Library Service.

"Australia has the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. Here in Murrindindi Shire, we are on Taungurung and Wurundjeri Land and we acknowledge the Taungurung People and Wurundjeri People of

the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

"The relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians must be based on justice, equity and the proper recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights.

"We need a genuine commitment from everyone to support institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms, whether it's seeking proper environmental, cultural and heritage protections, constitutional change, a truth-telling process, working towards treaties, or calling out racism, we must do it together.

For more information about NAIDOC Week events at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, visit [yeawetlands.com.au](http://yeawetlands.com.au)

To find out what's happening at council's libraries, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraryevents](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraryevents)

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- A journey of -

# 150 YEARS

from The Alexandra Times  
to The Alexandra Standard  
(A collection of articles)

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# Jo Hunter comments on her ESM award

JOSEPHINE (Jo) Hunter, unit controller at Marysville SES, was awarded an Emergency Services Medal (ESM) at the Queen’s Birthday awards.

She moved to Marysville as a teenager with her family, and joined the Marysville SES a couple of years later, in 2004, along with her sister. They knew some people who were in the unit as they were invited along. They decided to join.

“I think starting so early, it becomes a bit of a habit, a routine, to head along each Tuesday night. From there, I just stayed,” she said.

Just two years later, she became deputy controller, and two years after that became controller, initially acting in the role. She’s now been controller for 10 years formally.

She said of her experience with the SES, “It’s been a fantastic opportunity for me. It’s certainly built a lot of leadership skills as well as the practical skills that you learn. I never had a background in working with tools and equipment and trucks and all that sort of stuff, but have developed that, and a lot of skills that are applicable to my day job.

“The other side of it is that you’re part of a big team, so one, your local team, the Marysville team, which had been fantastic and I’ve met some great people and developed friendships with them. There’s that community connection. And there’s the wider SES team as well. It’s a huge organisation and I guess because of the opportunities I’ve had, I’ve met people all over the state and other states as well. People in NSW and other that I’ve worked with. Almost without exception, everyone’s a really great person and there for the right reasons, and keen to work with you.

“I guess the third element is helping people and that’s probably what I like about the SES. Every job you go to, you’re directly helping someone, and it’s really obvious when you’re there, whether it’s a patient or whether you’re helping get a tree off someone’s roof, you always know you’re helping them which is a really positive and rewarding thing,” she said.

Some of the large jobs she’s been involved in include Black Saturday, and large searches including searches for children, such as the Lake Eildon search in 2015 for Luke Shambrook. Luke was found after five or six days missing. She’s also been involved in some large road rescues and deployments interstate.

She said that what stands out most are the people, such as working with crews to come up with solutions, and seeing other members develop their skills.

“When you’re at a job, it’s that moment you make a first connection with the casualty or someone that’s lost and you see the relief, and the anxiety removes from their eyes. On a search, there’s always this amazing moment, it’s one of my favourite moments, when you’re climbing across the Cathedral in the dark and you’re calling out, and the first time you hear someone respond to you, you hear the relief in their voice, it’s pretty amazing,” she said.

“Then you meet up with them and you can tell they’ve had that moment of feeling like they’re lost, and at risk and in jeopardy, and suddenly you arrive and the relief and the trust they place in you is a pretty rewarding moment. And the same in a car crash. That first time you poke your head in and make eye contact with the casualty, and holding their hand, and you just see them relax as much as they can. They hand over complete trust in you to get them out.”

While it can be quite an emotional job at times, Jo tends to focus on doing the job, and believes this comes down to the quality of the training they have. She also commented on how important it is to have a team around you, knowing what skills they have and what they’ll do. “You just problem-solve,” she said. “You methodically work through it.”

Sometimes after the job it can be more emotional when a casualty or the family come back and make contact with the team for a visit, particularly when they’ve made a

recovery from major injuries, and just want to say thank you.

It can also be difficult when distressed family and friends are present with a casualty, however Jo said that they have great support services and training.

The SES is traditionally a male-oriented organisation, however in the north east region, more than half of the unit controllers are women. Jo said that on a personal level, she hasn’t found her gender to be a huge barrier, “however it’s certainly present and it’s great to see it being addressed proactively in the service.”

When she was younger, she’d show up at a job and by default, the people from the other emergency services there would look to the older male as being the most experienced, not realising that I might have 10 years more experience. It’s very quickly sorted out, and part of that comes through presenting with confidence and knowing your stuff.

“We’re lucky to have such a close-knit wider emergency services group here, so there’s never any question locally, and I get awesome support from the police and the CFA and ambulance locally as well.”

Another highlight of her time with the SES has been building relationships with the different emergency services, working as one. “There’s nothing more helpful than being able to look over at a major job and know the name of the person in a different uniform standing beside you, and be able to work with them and not have any barriers between the different organisations.”

Jo has worked at the Department of Land, Water, Environment and Planning since 2010, and throughout that time they have been very supportive of her volunteering, and they understand its importance in a small community, and most of her managers understand that it could be for them or one of their family members one day when she runs out the door. They also have emergency services leave in their workplace agreement.

Day to day, she manages one of the statewide units which currently provides capability solutions for firefighting, including the provision of specialist firefighting equipment and fleets and other items.

Asked whether she had a wish list for what people visiting the area should do when adventuring in the bush, Jo said preparation is the key, whether coming up for a picnic or going to the snow or going for a hike. This might include checking the weather, checking the road conditions, confirming the route, and using reliable sources of information. She would also like to see people working within their limits. Often on the Cathedral Range, people may go beyond their own limits, so turning around when you get in trouble is a good idea. This applies whether driving in the snow or going for a hike.

If people are lost, they should stop, stay still, and let emergency services know. Never be shy about it, as they would rather know early. They’re always happy to head out and help people. The SES has some great systems and technology to find people’s location, based off their call for help. The challenge comes in when people are moving. Keep still, find some shelter and make yourself visible. If you’re in the Cathedral Range, they will find you.

“We will probably know where you are, even if you don’t,” Jo said.

Jo said of her ESM, “No-one in the SES ever chases individual accolades or awards... but this particular award for me is very much a reflection of what the team does, and the wider SES. Nothing in the SES happens without teamwork. No-one ever goes to a job by themselves. No-one ever completes a job by themselves. Everything relies on having a well-skilled and dedicated team. For me, this is more of a reflection of what the Marysville unit members past and present have done over the years together.”

New members are always welcome to join the SES. Locally, contact the Marysville or Alexandra SES.



**Murrindindi**  
Shire Council

## PLASTIC FREE JULY

Plastic Free July helps millions of people to be part of the solution to plastic pollution. We know that individuals, communities and businesses in Murrindindi Shire are already taking part in actions to reduce use of plastics, and we would love to hear more about it!

There are several ways you can get involved this July, including:

- sharing your story about an initiative you’ve taken to reduce plastic
- taking the ‘Pesky Plastics Quiz’
- attending an online workshop

For more information and to take part, visit our online engagement platform, The Loop, at [theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/plastic-free-july](http://theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/plastic-free-july)

## ALEXANDRA ROTARY PARK AND VISITOR ACTIVITY PRECINCT

We’re pleased to announce that the Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Activity Precinct contract has been awarded, with construction set to commence soon, weather permitting. Works are expected to take around six months to complete and will involve installation of new play equipment and footpaths, construction of a pump track and landscaping works. We’ll try to keep noise and disruptions to a minimum, while ensuring we complete the project quickly and safely. During construction, Rotary Park and Hec Ingram Reserve will be closed to the public - we’ll let you know ahead of time when that will occur.

This \$1.725 million project is possible due to the support from Sport and Recreation Victoria and Regional Development Victoria, which have contributed \$250,000 and \$800,000 respectively to supplement Council's \$675,000 investment. We’re grateful for their vision and commitment to the redevelopment of the Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Activity Precinct.



### Get in touch with Council

[customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
[murrindindi.vic.gov.au](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au)  
5772 0333

## JOBS AT COUNCIL

### Manager Customer Experience

Want to make a difference at the local level? A brilliant short term (6 month) job opportunity exists for you in gorgeous Murrindindi Shire.

You will be leading a stellar team of 30+ working across Communications, Libraries and Customer Service, at sites in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake.

You will be a self-starter and ready to jump in and learn about what we do and how we work to support our communities. You will have excellent written and verbal communication skills and will have experience in leading a high-performing multi-disciplinary team.

If this sounds like you, and you are looking for a change, or your career is on an upward trajectory and you are looking to expand your skills, please apply now. Flexible work options available.

### Library Service Team Leader (Alexandra Branch)

Council is seeking a new Team Leader to lead Council’s library service at its Alexandra Library. The successful applicant will lead and support staff and volunteers to provide a high-quality customer and library experience to the community. The role will actively engage with the community through the planning and delivery of library materials and programs.

For more information about these roles and to apply, please visit the 'jobs' section of our website or give us a call.

## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Council is hosting free 2-day Mental Health First Aid courses in Yea and Kinglake, delivered by mental health professionals from Mental Health First Aid Australia. Want to get involved? Then join us at one of the following two locations:

- Yea – 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 16 and 23 July
- Kinglake - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 3 and 10 September

For more information and to register, visit our website or give us a call.



Proudly supporting

# Student of the week

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**BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Student of the week



## Layla

Layla has been working hard on her counting and subitising skills in Maths. Keep up the good work Layla.

**ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Student of the week



## Pip

Pip is a great learner. He is beginning to show our school values and is working hard on not peeing inside. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Pip.

**EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Students of the week 17/06/2022



**Xander, Willem and Jasmine.**  
For showing the School Values.

**ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Students of the week



# Student of the Week

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*Dr Lachlan Fraser at the Everest Base Camp. -S*



*The view from the tents. -S*

# An uphill battle for local doctor visiting Nepal

LOCAL GP Lachlan Fraser recently undertook an adventure to Nepal to take part in the world's highest marathon, Everest Marathon. The marathon takes place from the Everest Base Camp with an altitude of 5300 metres, down to Nache Bazaar at an altitude of 3400 metres. The run is 42 kilometres. There's also an Extreme Ultra Marathon, running 60km from the Base Camp, and half marathon from halfway down the course.

Dr Fraser said that he had a great trip and trek. The trek was seven days from the local airport at Lukla to the Everest Base Camp with a guide. Along the way, he saw astounding mountain views, lots of yaks, and donkey trains transporting goods.

His oxygen levels were in the 60s or lower most of the time. Most people are in the 80s, and normal at lower altitudes is 95+, but he didn't really have altitude sickness until the fifth day.

He had an acclimatisation rest day on day six, at 5100 m. At Base

Camp, the marathon doctors said he couldn't camp there for the two days before the marathon because he had severe altitude sickness. Altitude sickness happens to some people, and it's not related to fitness.

Dr Fraser had to be helicoptered back to Kathmandu and stayed overnight in a hospital there for check-ups. The next day he had a calf ache and couldn't run more than a minute over that week. He diagnosed himself with a deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and pulmonary emboli, and got some blood thinners from a pharmacy.

At review the next day, a doctor didn't think much of it but all was confirmed with blood test and x-rays back in Australia. He has recovered now and considers himself lucky he didn't stay at Base Camp, as the result could have been much worse.

Dr Fraser commented that seven days is a bit quick for an Everest Base Camp trek. Most group treks are 10 days or more, with three acclimatisation days as you go up.

Many helicopters were flying overhead at Base Camp, for supplies but also to evacuate trekkers if needed. Sometimes trekkers are encouraged early to use their insurance for medical evacuation, with commissions paid to the parties involved.

Dr Fraser added, "Nepal is a great, safe place to visit with a vibrant culture. Kathmandu is city of 1000 temples, mixture of Hindu and Buddhist. It's safe regarding COVID-19, with five new cases reported one day for the whole country. Vaccination is needed but no testing until a RAT when I got home. They need tourists since all of the COVID-19 interruptions."

He enjoyed the temples and historic sites around Kathmandu, white water rafting, zoo and cooking school.

Three years ago, Dr Fraser topped Mt Kilimanjaro at an altitude of 5900m, with low oxygen levels and altitude sickness causing weak leg muscles on the descent.



*Dr Fraser, in the red and white t-shirt. -S*



# RealEstateGUIDE

## Call to fix the housing crisis

RURAL Councils Victoria (RCV) has called on governments to fix housing crisis. A major new study has warned that a chronic lack of affordable housing is set to cost Australian taxpayers \$25 billion a year if no action is taken.

The report, by SGS Economics and Planning for Housing All Australians (HAA), builds on work SGS Economics and Planning did to create the *The Rural Councils Victoria Housing Blueprint*, which showed that rural Victoria alone could suffer

a \$1 billion a year hit to its communities and economy.

Rural Councils Victoria Chair Cr Mary-Ann Brown said, “*The Rural Councils Victoria Housing Blueprint* shows that we need 87,400 new homes in the next 15 years right across rural Victoria.

“That’s before we take into account the recent surge in rural population as people move from the cities.

“ABS data shows a 15,700 population increase across rural and regional Victoria, with the rural population increasing by 8587.

“Housing supply shortfalls have a big negative impact on rural communities, including foregone jobs and lost opportunities.

“*The Housing Blueprint* found that there would be up to \$1 billion per year in lost gross regional product in rural Victoria if action is not taken.

“*The Housing Blueprint* found that the sectors of the economy worst hit by the lack of appropriate housing for rental and home ownership include agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, construction, health and social assistance, education and training, tourism, hospitality, and the rental, hiring and real estate industries.

Ms Brown continued, “But every sector would be negatively impacted. That is why Rural Councils Victoria is calling on the government to commit to boosting rural housing supply.

“This will supercharge migration to rural areas, stimulate economic development and create employment opportunities for rural communities right across Victoria.”



## Young people moving to regional areas

REGIONAL migration is at a five-year high and young people are driving growth, according to new data from the Commonwealth Bank and the Regional Australia Institute’s *Regional Movers Index*.

Young people are driving growth in regional areas with more Millennials and Gen-Xers moving out of capital cities, according to new insights from the March quarter *Regional Movers Index* report.

The report analyses the quarterly and annual trends in people moving to Australia’s regions. For the first time, this quarter’s report not only tracks population movement, but also the demographics of who is moving.

Young people accounted for the largest proportion of movers to the highest growth regional areas, boosting an overall migration trend from capital cities to regional areas, in the 12 months to March 2022.

The number of people moving to regional areas rose by 16.6 per cent to reach a new five-year high in the March quarter, almost doubling pre-pandemic levels.

Regional Australia Institute (RAI) CEO Liz Ritchie said Millennials and Gen-Xers were welcome additions to any regional community as they often bring with them business skills to grow the local community, as well as families who integrate into the local school system and community sporting activities.

“Regional living is attracting more young people and particularly younger families who are looking for bigger

living spaces at a cheaper cost,” Ms Ritchie said.

Commonwealth Bank Regional and Agribusiness Banking Executive General Manager Paul Fowler said regional areas are providing attractive local employment opportunities.

“Regional Australia is thriving, fuelled by strong investment across a broad range of industries including agriculture, manufacturing, retail and hospitality,” Mr Fowler said.

“There are labour shortages in many parts of regional Australia and local businesses are attracting skilled and unskilled workers to increase capacity and serve growing demand for products and services.”

Demand for housing is soaring. Moorabool in Victoria has experienced a substantial growth rates of 56 per cent.

While Millennials made up the biggest proportion of people moving to Moorabool, it also attracted a relatively high proportion of Gen-Xers at 24 per cent.

The biggest outflows were from the major cities of Sydney and Melbourne with most people heading to regional NSW, Queensland, and Victoria.

The Gold Coast in Queensland remains the most popular destination overall, attracting 11 per cent of people from major capitals, in the 12 months to March 2022. The next most popular destinations were the Sunshine Coast, Greater Geelong in Victoria, and Wollongong and Newcastle in NSW.

The biggest challenge to be faced is where these people will be housed.



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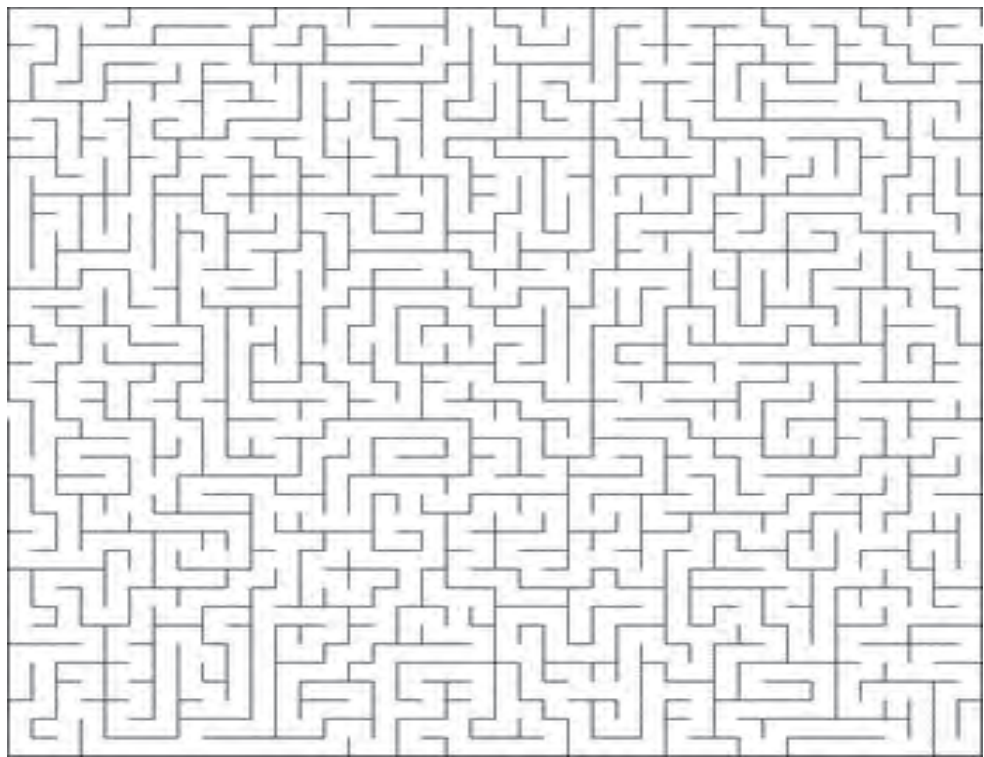
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Colour



Maze



Jokes

- Q:

How do you organize an astronomer's party?
- Q:

What's the best way to carve wood?



Number Block

The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 5. The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom. The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right

				5
		1		8
		0		5
				11
	5			9
12	10	2	9	6

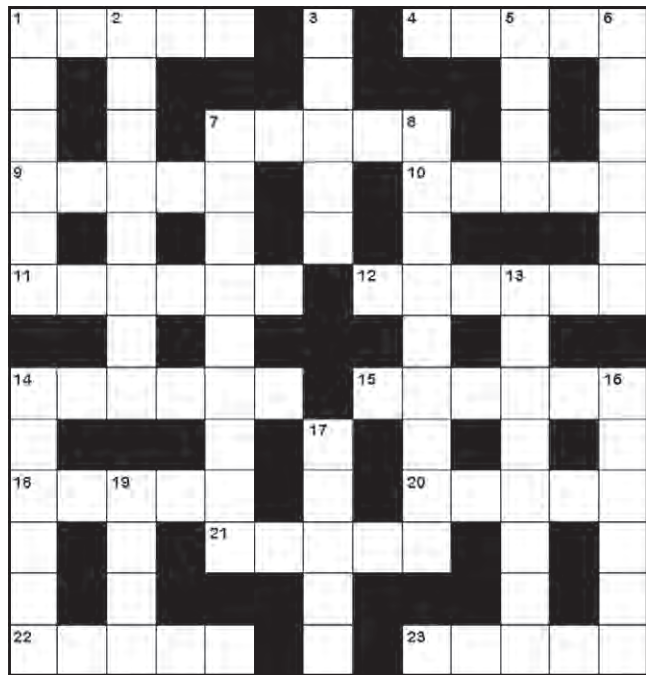
Crossword

ACROSS

1. Cook food by using dry heat in an oven.
4. Clasp and twist one's hands in distress.
7. A sudden decline in trade or business.
9. A burst of intense, bright, blazing light.
10. Divide something into two equal portions.
11. Medicine that induces nausea and vomiting.
12. Embark on a certain course impetuously.
14. One whose style has gone out of fashion.
15. Deliberately arranged to cause an effect.
18. Flower allied with Holland and windmills.
20. A machine for shaping metal or wood.
21. Enjoying feelings of contentment and joy.
22. A rugged fabric that originated in Scotland.
23. Having no inherent ability to move.

DOWN

1. Lottery where the prizes are goods.
2. Obvious, readily seen and understood.



3. Small bottle for oil or vinegar on the table.
5. One who is adored blindly and excessively.
6. Feel great sorrow and distress over a loss.
7. A print made by the silk-screen process.
8. The collection and study of postage stamps.
13. Lacking in positive or affirmative qualities.
14. Dislike intensely and feel aversion towards.
16. Experienced a series of events whilst sleeping.
17. Large, yellow, tropical melon-shaped fruit.
19. Ripening towards the end of the season.

Word Search – Weather

Z	N	Y	H	L	H	N	J	T	A	E	H	D	A	S	Rain
J	I	L	Z	I	A	N	Q	F	C	K	M	N	Q	E	Wind
W	A	L	N	S	Q	N	M	E	X	Q	I	C	X	A	Hail
Q	R	M	C	S	G	W	O	T	D	N	Q	L	F	T	Sleet
R	N	J	S	X	Z	Z	I	S	A	Y	E	E	V	E	Snow
S	I	J	N	F	Z	V	H	L	A	M	X	N	T	M	Humidity
F	L	H	O	N	K	U	G	W	N	E	D	O	H	P	Heat
U	H	E	W	E	M	W	D	K	M	N	S	L	G	E	Cold
V	X	N	E	I	K	G	N	L	I	I	Z	C	U	R	Cyclone
B	R	A	D	T	F	J	F	W	O	P	F	Y	O	A	La Nina
W	T	I	E	L	N	I	N	O	U	C	R	C	R	T	El Nino
L	T	E	C	R	O	F	E	L	A	G	W	N	D	U	Sea temperature
Y	N	M	I	V	F	T	Z	I	E	Y	I	Y	D	R	Gale force
L	V	Q	K	C	W	U	E	I	V	H	I	U	S	E	Seasonal
E	A	I	W	J	K	I	O	O	Y	Q	H	A	I	L	drought

Brain Teaser

What is full of holes but can still hold water?



Sudoku - Medium

Instructions

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

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



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### International gold for Sedona

NESTLED in the rolling hills of Murrindindi is a patch of dirt that has made its mark at international wine shows in recent years. Established by Paul Evans and Sonja Herges in 1998, Sedona Estate has grown from a weekend farm to a popular destination for wine lovers.

Earlier this year, two popular estate-grown wines embarked on a long-haul flight to London to be blind-tasted and judged for quality and value for money. Competing with many old-world wines from established European wine regions, this year's competition cemented the Sedona Estate sangiovese as the Australian winner. The 2020 estate-grown sangiovese won its second Gold Medal and topped

its class at the 2022 London Wine Competition.

As early pioneers in the region, Paul and Sonja planted the Italian grape variety sangiovese in 2001. Sangiovese is temperamental to grow, but very rewarding as a wine, if it likes its terroir.

"In 2017, we expanded the sangiovese plantings to the hillside to grow fruit with more complexity. The 2020 Sedona Estate sangiovese was the first release made from fruit grown on the hillside vineyard and the old sangiovese block," Paul explained.

Of course, the winery's Italian wine didn't make the long journey alone. Its French travel companion, the 2019 reserve shiraz, won the fourth Silver



Winemakers Paul and Sonja at Sedona. -S

Medal at the 2022 London Wine Competition.

With another vintage in barrel, Paul and Sonja have high hopes for the 2022 wines. It will be a vintage to be treasured.

The Sedona Estate cellar door is open from Thursday to

Sunday and public holidays from 11.30am to 5pm. On weekends and public holidays, artisan cheese platters and salumi boards can be enjoyed with a glass of vino on the expansive terrace or near the open fireplace in the colder months. The views never disappoint.

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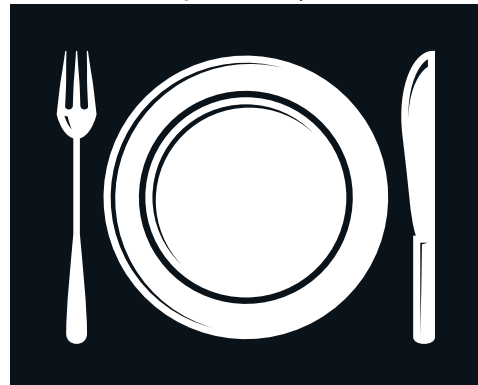
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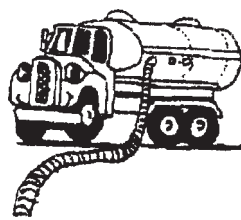
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## Hate symbol now banned

VICTORIA has become the first Australian state or territory to ban the public display of the Nazi symbol in recognition of its role in inciting anti-Semitism and hate.

The Summary Offences Amendment (Nazi Symbol Prohibition) Bill 2022 makes it a criminal offence for a person to intentionally display the Nazi symbol (often referred to as the Nazi swastika) in public.

Anyone who intentionally displays the Nazi symbol in public will face penalties of up to almost \$22,000, 12 months imprisonment or both.

The Bill recognises the cultural and historical significance of the swastika for the Buddhist, Hindu, Jain and other faith communities as an ancient and sacred symbol of peace and good fortune. The Bill does not prohibit the display of the swastika in such religious and cultural contexts.

The ban will be supported by a community education campaign to raise awareness of the origins of the religious and cultural swastika, its importance to the Buddhist, Hindu and Jain communities and its distinction to the Nazi symbol.

The legislation will come into effect in six months to allow for time to implement this campaign.

## Weimar to lead Games organising committee

JEROEN Weimar has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer of the Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee, the organisation charged with overseeing the build-up to and delivery of the event.

Weimar most recently served as the operational leader of the state's COVID-19 response from July 2020 to April 2022. He was previously Head of Transport Services at the Department of Transport and Chief Executive Officer of VicRoads, as well as the former CEO of Public Transport Victoria.

Weimar held senior roles in the United Kingdom before arriving in Australia, including Chief Operating Officer of the UK Bus division of First Group and Chief Operating Officer of Transport for London in the lead up to London 2012 Olympic Games.

The Victoria 2026 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee will lead the delivery of the Games, managing venues and services, logistics, partnerships and engagement, as well as media, broadcasting and communications.

Working closely with the Office of the Commonwealth Games, the two bodies will liaise with stakeholders including regional councils, the Commonwealth Games Federation and Commonwealth Games Australia to ensure regional Victoria shines on the world stage.

Four regional hubs will be established in Geelong, Bendigo, Ballarat and Gippsland, each with their own athlete's village and sport program. The regional hubs will host athletes, officials and fans following an Opening Ceremony at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, using Melbourne as the gateway to regional Victoria.

Victoria 2026 will extend far beyond sporting competition, with the Queen's Baton Relay, warm-up tournaments and training camps, an extensive cultural program, live sites and activations in towns and cities across the state.

Not all were happy with the announcement. Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said, "The Andrews Labor Government has serious questions to answer regarding the appointment of Jeroen Weimar as the CEO of the 2026 Commonwealth Games Organising Committee."

"The appointment comes after months of speculation Mr Weimar was lined up to take the role, following on from his resignation as COVID-19 Response Commander."

"Daniel Andrews and Martin Pakula must now come clean as to whether a professional recruitment process was undertaken or if this is yet another handpicked CEO."



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

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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 or to give away free unless the microchip identification number and a source number of the animal generated by the Pet Exchange Register is included in the advertisement.

### 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.

### Conditions of advertising

Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd has the right to refuse any advertisement. Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd gives no guarantee for positioning of advertisements.

### Copy right

Material published in this edition is subject to copyright provisions and cannot be used without the company's permission. Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility for the unauthorised republication of such material.

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

## SITUATION VACANT



Join our team at Darlingford Nursing Home  
We are committed to providing consumer quality service and offer employees professional development in a caring and friendly environment

PERMANENT and CASUAL  
vacancies currently exist for

**Registered Nurses**  
**Endorsed Enrolled Nurses**  
**Personal Care Workers**  
**Cook, food & domestic assistants**

Nursing qualification, current police check, COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations are mandatory.

Remuneration is in accordance with the appropriate award

For a position description or more information please contact reception on 5774 2711 or email [darlingford@dugnh.com.au](mailto:darlingford@dugnh.com.au). To learn more about Darlingford visit [dugnh.com.au](http://dugnh.com.au)

Applications to be addressed to CEO  
Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home  
PO Box 104 Eildon VIC 3713  
or email [darlingford@dugnh.com.au](mailto:darlingford@dugnh.com.au).



**TIMBER & STEEL PREFABRICATION**

Are currently seeking reliable and hardworking labourers to join our team in Alexandra on an ongoing basis from Monday - Friday working from 7am to 3.30pm.

**Your duties and responsibilities will include, but not limited to:**

- Manual handling
- Machine operation (training will be provided)
- Production line work (fast paced)
- Using hand and power tools
- Following strict safety procedures
- Working at a specific work station to a defined target
- Ensuring all quality specifications are met
- Participating in good housekeeping.

**Essential requirements for this role are as follows:**

- Previous experience working in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Experience using hand and power tools
- Good standard of fitness to be able to stand and lift all day
- Must be reliable and self-motivated

These positions are full time. Please call 5772 3329 or 9728 8866 during business hours or email resumes to [michael@glencoeigroup.com.au](mailto:michael@glencoeigroup.com.au)

## SITUATION VACANT

### Food & Beverage Attendant

- **LOCATION:** Eildon
- **Full time position**
- **Fantastic opportunity**

Holmesglen at Eildon – Award winning Conference Function & Event Centre has a vacancy for a full time Food & Beverage Attendant.

Holmesglen is Victoria's largest and most successful provider of Vocational & Higher Education. Holmesglen at Eildon is a purpose built Conference facility and a campus of Holmesglen.

The facility accommodates Holmesglen staff for Professional Development, student groups for retreats and outdoor recreation, as well as external conference groups, functions, and events for up to 200 persons. The property is on 660 acres and includes a working cattle farm (which is leased), pool, oval, recreation facilities and extensive kitchen garden. For a better understanding of the facility visit [www.holmesglenatieldon.com.au](http://www.holmesglenatieldon.com.au)

The applicant will have previous experience in a similar role working in Food and/or Beverage service. The position is a full time appointment with rosters across a seven day period according to requirements of the business.

The position would ideally suit a local to Murrindindi region or someone wishing to relocate to the area.  
**Salary:** \$43,066 gross p.a + 10% super, plus reasonable overtime will be offered which can be taken as 25% salary loading equating to \$10,767 p.a. by agreement.

**Time Fraction:** Full time, 1.0 EFT

**Location:** Eildon

**WWCC:** Appointment to this position is dependent on obtaining and maintaining a Working with Children Check.

**Position Status:** Contract of Employment to 31 March 2023

For **further information** relating to this opportunity and to view the position description, please visit the Careers at Holmesglen section of our website at [www.holmesglen.edu.au](http://www.holmesglen.edu.au)

Phone enquiries regarding the position can be directed through the General Manager of Holmesglen at Eildon – Rozanne Lawton PH: 5774 2631 or email her on [rozanne.lawton@holmesglen.edu.au](mailto:rozanne.lawton@holmesglen.edu.au)

For application queries, please contact [recruit@holmesglen.edu.au](mailto:recruit@holmesglen.edu.au)

*Holmesglen is a child safe and equal opportunity employer. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people regardless of gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability and age. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community, including the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community.*

*If you require support with your application for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on 03 9564 2676.*

*In accordance with the Victorian Government's COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Directions, all appointments to Holmesglen Institute will be required to provide evidence of COVID-19 Vaccination Status prior to commencing employment.*

RP1386

holmesglen



**ALEXANDRA  
SECONDARY COLLEGE**

**.78 Traffic Safety Instructor**  
(24 hours per week - 10 weeks)

Traffic Safety Car Instructor required for Year 10 students (like the L to P program at Alex Hub)

- \* School car provided
- \* \$32 an hour
- \* Position to begin August 15, 2022 for 5 weeks then 5 weeks from October 10, 2022

Enquiries to Nigel Lyttle on 0427 511 983

Please email applications to

[nigel.lyttle@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:nigel.lyttle@education.vic.gov.au)

**Applications close July 15, 2022**

## SITUATION VACANT



A great opportunity in a supportive organisation

### Hotel Services Supervisor/ Team Leader

Are you passionate about working with people and interested in helping us to provide very high-quality food and a clean and safe environment for our patients, residents and staff?

If so, then come and join our management team at Yea and District Memorial Hospital (YDMH).

This new role will provide leadership and supervision for hotel services team within YDMH. The position holds responsibility for overseeing the day to day operations of food and environmental services. The Hotel Services Supervisor is a member of the management team and works closely with their senior manager to enable the delivery of high-quality hotel services.

For more details and to access the Position description please head to our website: [yeahospital.org.au](http://yeahospital.org.au) or call Rob Harneston General Manager on 0412 617 006  
Please forward your resume and cover letter by close of business Friday, July 15, 2022. [recruitment@ydmh.org.au](mailto:recruitment@ydmh.org.au)



### Casual Housekeeper

Looking for casual work within school hours? Our residential camps are looking for casual housekeepers to join the team

- Casual positions
- Work at Camp Jungai and Camp Marysville
- Shifts Mon-Wed and Friday 9.30am-2pm
- Average 10-15 hours per week

### Kitchen Staff

Do you have cooking experience? Camp Jungai are looking for people to join their catering team:

- Part time or casual role available
- Flexible working hours Monday to Friday – No weekend work
- Between 22-30 hours per week
- Training provided.

Call Ash Creighton on 5770 8256 for a chat about the role, or apply via website [oeg.edu.au/careers](http://oeg.edu.au/careers)

## Administration/sales consultant Full Time

Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd is one of the oldest newspapers in Victoria, and the oldest in the Murrindindi Shire, first publishing in June 1868. We are looking for one energetic, dynamite applicant to take on two combined rolls.

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-5pm. Wednesday 6.45am-3pm**

*This is not a work from home role*

### What is the job?

You will be required to learn and undertake all aspects of newspaper administration, as well as have the ability to sell advertising for our two mastheads. *Alexandra and Eildon Standard*, and *The Yea Chronicle*.

### What do you need?

A current drivers licence is essential

Be able to multi task and work as a team member, and take instruction and direction from management

Fabulous ideas and be able to use initiative and have excellent organisational skills.

Strong customer service focus; great interpersonal and communication skills and strong work ethic  
Be able to start at 6.45am on Wednesday with 3pm finish.

### How to apply.

To be considered for this position submit your resume and cover letter to [manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au) by close of business July 1, 2022.

*Only applicants who are Australian residents or hold a relevant visa are eligible to apply.*



Alexandra Newspapers is an independant newspaper and not affiliated with any other media outlet in the Murrindindi Shire.



**Book your classified ad TODAY!**

**Deadline: NOON MONDAY**

**Phone: 5772 1002**

or email

[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)

**PLEASE NOTE:** All classifieds **MUST** be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the time of booking



**Alexandra Newspapers**  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)  
Phone 5772 1002  
43 Grant St. Alexandra Vic. 3714



# Classifieds

## DEATH NOTICES

**RADFORD, Ross**  
22/08/1949-19/06/2022  
Loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle of Kent and Jeanette, Grant, Tammy, Taylor and Courtney, Samantha (dec), Dion, Harrison and Lilly. Gone far to soon.



**REID, Anne**  
10/05/1946-18/06/2022  
Passed away peacefully under the care of the wonderful staff at Mansfield District Hospital. Loved mother of Carmen and Grant. Proud grandma of Lachie and Austin. Sister to Joy, Marian and Alan (dec). Dear friend to Maria, Sharon and Pam.

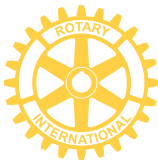
With sad hearts we say goodbye to our cherished mum and grandma. Her strength and determination will not be forgotten, along with treasured memories to hold forever in our hearts. It's not what we write or the words that we say, it's how we remember you, in our own special way.

**Private funeral service**  
  
McCormack  
FUNERALS  
INC. BARRFORD MURRINDINDI  
Peace of Mind  
A.F.D.A. 1800 080 909  
www.mccormackfunerals.com.au



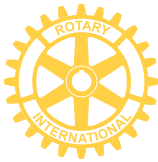
**REID, Anne**  
10/05/1946-18/06/2022  
Members of the Rotary Club of Alexandra regret the passing of our friend and colleague, Anne Reid, on Saturday, June 18, 2022. Anne has been a member of Rotary for 14 years and is a past President and Paul Harris Fellow. She has held various District positions, and is currently the District Governor of 9790. Our condolences to her family and friends.

## DEATH NOTICES



**REID, Anne PHF**  
District 9790 Governor  
A respected and loved friend. I shall miss the many stories we shared on our journey and your advice and mentoring to me over the years. A determined and feisty lady who fought to the end. Always remembered but now at peace.  
Sharon Fox, President Elect, Rotary Club of Alexandra.

**RADFORD, Barry**  
Ross.  
Ross passed away on Sunday, June 19, 2022 at Corowa Hospital aged 72 years. He was the dearly loved partner of Sandra and much loved father and father-in-law of Rick and Mardi, Andrea, and Narelle. Loving grandfather to his grandchildren. Ross was the brother and brother-in-law of Kent and Janette. Always in our memories.



**REID, Anne**  
10/05/1946-18/06/2022  
Members of District 9790 Rotary Clubs were saddened upon the death of our dear Governor Anne on June 18. A determined and kind friend taken from us.

**REID, Anne**  
To our caring generous, wonderful friend. Thank you for your friendship, love and support over the years and all those long lunches. So sadly missed and held in our hearts. Love Pam and Maria.

## FUNERAL NOTICES

**RADFORD.**  
The funeral service for the late Mr Ross Radford will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at the Alexandra Football Club, William Street, at 11am. Thereafter private cremation.



## IN MEMORIAM

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

## FOR HIRE

### FITNESS EQUIPMENT

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

## FOR SALE

**SMALL SQUARE** bales  
\$8 each Ph 0409 854 034.,

## PETS & LIVESTOCK

**ISA BROWN LAYERS**  
- POL, \$27 each. Ph 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

## DEALS ON WHEELS



**SUBARU IMPREZA**  
20i-AWD  
AZG 973

2019 Only travelled 5000ks, top of the line model with all the bells and whistles. Constant all-wheel drive. Sunroof, leather trim, heated seats, auto sensing lights and wipers, premier sound system, large touch screen. Heads up display adaptive cruise control. New battery just fitted.

No longer required  
**ROB 0428 597500**



# BOOK YOUR CLASSIFIED AD TODAY!

**Deadline: NOON MONDAY**

**Phone: 5772 1002**

or email  
**reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au**

**PLEASE NOTE:** All classifieds **MUST** be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the time of booking



**Standard**  
**The Yea Chronicle**

# Farmers speak up for a fair go for regional Victoria

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has launched its state election platform ahead of this state election in November.

Speaking at the VFF's Grains and Livestock Conference at Ballarat, VFF President Emma Germano said she was proud to present a positive agenda that focussed on delivering for farmers and regional communities.

Ms Germano said the commitments are being sought as part of the VFF's Fair Go for Regional Victoria campaign that includes critical investment into regional road and rail, housing, healthcare, biosecurity, jobs and environmental management.

"The VFF has pulled together a policy platform that doesn't just speak to the issues farmers are facing, but the issues faced by all regional communities," Ms Germano said.

"Whether it's how we work together to maintain the profitability of industry, how

we deal with a changing climate, or how we continue to sustain thriving communities with a lifestyle envied by those in Melbourne. Farmers are well placed to identify the issues that matter to all regional Victorians and to offer solutions."

Ms Germano also shared insight into the VFF's campaign strategy, saying that farmers will be active in lobbying candidates ahead of the election.

"The VFF will be active across the state during this election. Where we can, we will be on the ground in marginal electorates pushing the message that regional Victoria deserves a fair go. Marginal seats like Ripon, Polwarth, Bass, Nepean, Eildon, South Barwon, Mildura and Shepparton are all on our list of target seats.

The VFF's election platform document can be accessed on the VFF website [vff.org.au](http://vff.org.au)



## Fish stocked in time for school holidays

FAMILIES and children can look forward to casting a line these school holidays, with thousands of fish stocked into waters across north-east Victoria.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced almost 9000 catchable-sized rainbow trout have now been stocked into 20 lakes across the north.

The stockings have been funded by recreational fishing licence fees and form part of the Victorian Government's \$35 million Go Fishing Victoria plan to get more people fishing, more often.

Rainbow trout are a great stocking option for children and beginners because they're easy to catch and take a variety of baits and lures.

Stocked lakes also feature fishing platforms, bankside tracks and picnic

areas, which create safe and convenient access for families to give fishing a go.

Stocked waters across north-east Victoria for these school holidays include Eildon Pondage Weir (1000) and Marysville Lake (450).

The stocked rainbow trout have been grown by the Victorian Fisheries Authority at the Snobs Creek hatchery near Eildon.

A daily bag limit of five trout applies in lakes, of which only two trout can exceed 35 centimeters.

A total of 35,000 catchable sized rainbow trout have been stocked into more than 70 waters state-wide. For the full list of state-wide waterways stocked for these school holidays visit [vfa.vic.gov.au/holidaytrout](http://vfa.vic.gov.au/holidaytrout)

# PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

## BRAIN TEASER

A: A sponge

## KIDS - JOKES

A: You planet.

A: Whittle by whittle.

## SUDOKOU

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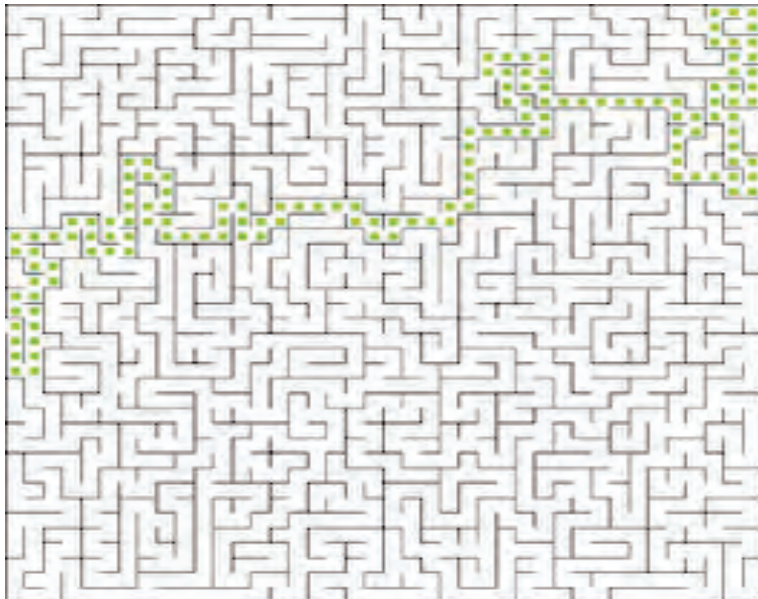
## CROSSWORD

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## MAZE







# Alexandra Secondary College at Uluru

AFTER several postponements, Alexandra Secondary College students were finally able to set out on their journey to the outback. They were originally meant to depart on the trip in 2020, but COVID-19 meant that it had to be put on hold.

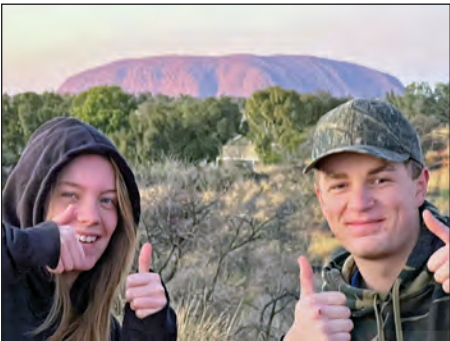
On this trip there are a large number of current year 12 students. It is fantastic that these student are not missing out on a trip which students look forward to from the day they join the college.

Some of the highlights on the trip were experiencing and learning about the culture of the traditional owners and exploring the vast and unique geography of this amazing region of Australia.

They visited Uluru, Kata Tjuta, Kings Canyon, Alice Springs, Mataranka, Katherine Gorge, Kakadu, Litchfield National Park and Darwin.

Kate Mullins has been instrumental in insuring these students have not missed out on this opportunity due to COVID-19, and the school is also thankful to Fallons for their support of this trip.

In September, the year 10 and 11 students will be heading to central Australia and the north on the regular biennial trip.



-images supplied

-S



# Murrindindi Shire Council's June meeting

MURRINDINDI Shire Council conducted their June meeting in the Yea council offices on Wednesday, June 22. The mayor and CEO were sitting at a table with a cloth saying "You could live here too," with the Murrindindi logo.

In community recognition, Mayor Carpenter acknowledged and congratulated Marysville SES unit controller Josephine Hunter who received an Emergency Services Medal in the Queen's Birthday honours. More about Jo can be found in a separate article in this edition.

In the open forum section, there was a mixture of in-person and online presentations.

Mike Dalmau spoke as a resident of Acheron, supporting the planning application for 61 Acheron Road. He said he doesn't know the applicants personally, but considered it to be the about the principle of the matter. He said that location is not high quality agricultural land and is effectively an area for cattle grazing. The applicant is keen to add an orchard at the location, and has already met the requirements of the farming zone. They have a permit already in place but want to change the location of the residence. He urged council to support the application.

Tim Buckley spoke about the same development. He and his wife are near-neighbours and his parents share a boundary with the location in question. They support economic development in the shire, but added that it must support all that is "great about Murrindindi." He spoke against the development, concerned that it is "a radical departure from the rural environment." He was concerned about the size of the block and in particular the location of the proposed house. He added that it's not a house to support the rural activities here.

Murray Ross spoke about the same development. He is a neighbour immediately to the south of the location. He noted that the objectors to this permit did not object to the previous permit, but the new location will have an immediate impact on their vista and privacy. He was also concerned about the representations in the proposal. He also suggested that council look further into the agricultural elements of the application.

Andy Lloyd also spoke in opposition of the 61 Acheron Road application. He endorsed the comments of Mr Buckley and Mr Ross, and added that the junction of the rivers is a rare and unspoiled place and the application would set a bad precedent. He was also concerned about the fire risk at the new location.

Tim Buckley's brother, Jonathan Buckley, also spoke in opposition to the proposal.

Owner of 61 Acheron Road, James Stewart is part owner of the Thornton and Eildon Waters Caravan Parks. He said he and his wife are intending to live full time at the property when the house is built. He acknowledged that the land is of little

agricultural use, and said they are planning to plant a small olive grove and graze a small number of cattle. He said that when they purchased the property, it had road infrastructure which could be seen from across the valley. He said that the house they have designed is single-storey and cut into the hill well below the ridgeline. As the result of two meetings with local residents, the design of the house has been altered. He objected to the reasons that council officers stated when issuing a recommendation to refuse the permit. He also argued that the current site is more prominent than the proposed site, and gave four examples of hilltop buildings. He also said the opposition to the proposal has seen "personal attacks on my wife and I which are defamatory and have caused us significant distress." He asked council to grant the application.

Cr Walsh asked Mr Stewart why they are moving the house. Mr Stewart responded that they haven't had the opportunity to explore the property due to the limitations on their ability to visit the site during COVID-19. When they visited the property on the evening before they settled the contract, they identified the new location of the house, with vista. Cr Walsh also asked questions around the road and fencing, as well as the relocation of the proposed 250-300 plant olive grove.

Angelina Bell from Bell Legal and Planning also spoke on behalf of the Stewarts. She argued against the three grounds for rejecting the application, put forward by council officers.

Jack Russell spoke about the previous month's council meeting. He called council's reason for disallowing his question at the April meeting as "a fabrication." Asked whether he had a question for council, he said that he was making a submission not asking a question. He produced a document from council explaining the reasons why his 13 Freedom of Information requests were not acknowledged or processed. He said that the answer from council was not an answer. He said that the implication was that he hadn't properly applied as he hadn't asked for a waiver of fees. He said, "That's a lie. I always ask for a waiver of fees." He added, "I've just been ignored." He also said that communication to one particular person has been blocked.

He said, "You have to stop this. I don't want it to continue. I don't want to waste any more of my time on this council. You will answer properly any questions that I raise and you'll likewise consider filing any witness submissions... It's got to stop. It's got to stop now. You will not block anything that I provide to council. I will get a recognition, acknowledgement and response within the appropriate time."

He added that he would like to be acknowledged in the street by councillors, and added that he was pleased with the new council seating plan in the Yea office. He did however request better amplification.

In Questions of Council, Trevor Johnson asked about the conditions of council roads

and whether there was adequate supervision of contractors undertaking council works.

The planning application for 61 Acheron Road in Acheron was moved as per the officer recommendation. The planning application was rejected, with only Cr Carpenter voting for the application to be approved. It was noted that there were seven submissions in support of the proposal, and 12 objections.

Council's 10 Year Asset Plan was also presented. The plan includes information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal, and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under the control of council. It was unanimously approved.

Cr Haslam was chosen as the local government statewide waste forum representative for Murrindindi, with Cr Lording saying he is impressed by what she has done in the area.

Eight tenderers were selected to undertake sculptural opportunities on the Great Victorian Rail Trail, using \$1.2m provided by the Victorian Government to Murrindindi, Mitchell and Mansfield Shires. Murrindindi has taken on the operational and administrative aspects of the project. Seventy-nine artists put in submissions and 22 were invited to the tender stage. Council voted unanimously in favour of the eight selected artists.

In the Grants and Contributions program, Flowerdale Community House Inc received \$1000 for the Flowerdale Quilt Show, Foggy Mountain Inc received \$4500 for the Foggy Mountain Primary School Song Writing and Performance Project, and the Ukrainian Youth Association Melbourne received \$2200 for their Winter Camp.

The camp, to be held at the association's property in Buxton, will invite 22 newly arrived Ukrainian refugee children aged three to 16 years old to foster new friendships, create new connections and bonds and create a supportive atmosphere. This aligns directly with council's recent signing of the Refugee Welcome Zone. Lake Mountain and OEG are also providing support to the camp.

Regarding the Annual Budget, Michael Chesworth acknowledged the submitters and said that council would advise them of the outcome.

The budget outlines the intention to increase average rates by 1.75 per cent, in line with the average rate increase allowable under the State Government's Fair Go Rates System for 2022/23. Council will take on no new debt, and it is noted that council has no outstanding loan debt following a decision to pay off all existing debt in the 2020/21 financial year. This represents the lowest level of absolute debt council has held in more than a decade. User fees and charges will be benchmarked against neighbouring councils.

The Capital Works Program includes widening Snobs Creek Road, a bridge replacement at the Yea Caravan Park, Great Victorian Rail Trail art installations and

signage (fully grant funded in conjunction with Mitchell and Mansfield Shires, Blue Gums to Eildon Trail, Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Precinct works, waste transfer station and landfill upgrades, Alexandra Maternal & Child Health internal fit out, further Kinglake streetscape works following the Kinglake Village development, an upgrade to the Yea Recreation Reserve Football Pavilion upgrade, upgrades to a number of recreation, leisure and sporting club buildings across the shire, improvements to Yea Saleyards, Skyline Maintongoon-Sonnberg Road stage one design for road sealing, improvement works across the shire's four swimming pools and a farm forestry demonstration project (subject to the outcome of a feasibility study and viable business case currently underway). The budget was unanimously approved.

Councillors also voted in favour of the Priority Action Plan 2022-23. An amendment was proposed by Cr Gallagher whereby all people employed in the shire in the forestry sector be provided with information about funding and resources available through the Victorian Government to support them through the forestry industry transition. This was included.

In Councillor and CEO Reports, Cr Haslam thanked Frank and Maria Stow, and Thelma Lucas, for their incredible volunteer contributions, serving a combined 54 years as volunteers in the area. Cr Gerencser encouraged residents of the Kinglake area to attend the first of council's Community Focussed Sessions on Wednesday, June 29 at the Kinglake Neighbourhood House from 4pm to 7.30pm. People will be given five minutes to make a presentation to council, if sought. Cr McAulay noted that planning has commenced for Emergency Management Victoria's community based emergency exercise in Kinglake which will be taking place in November and December 2022, and congratulated Jo Hunter on her Emergency Services medal award. Cr Gallagher spoke about the Eildon planning meetings, and about the success of the recent Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show and Truck Drivers' Memorial. He also attended the AGM of the Upper Goulburn branch of the Australian Deer Association. The ADA President, Richie Timms stood down and the group elected Stephen O'Reilly-Nugent to take over. Cr Gallagher commented, "Richie Timms is leaving the area and his philanthropy and support for fellow members of the community will be sorely lost."

CRO Livia Bonazzi said that, "Council has been advised it will receive a grant of \$270,000 over three years to support the implementation of the Local government guide for preventing family violence and all forms of violence against women." She also said that "council will be releasing revised Governance Rules for public consultation via the loop this week, the revision includes the ability for attendees to participate in person or remotely" at council meetings.

## Council adopts budget for coming year

MURRINDINDI Shire Council adopted its annual budget with the Mayor Sue Carpenter describing it as "fair and financially responsible."

The budget will deliver much-needed and expected services for our communities. As we emerge from the acute phase of COVID-19 pandemic, we need to be mindful of the lingering effects of the pandemic on community members and businesses. It is imperative we allocate our resources wisely. Small rural councils are always looking to do more with less and manage community expectations for us to do more, and this council is no exception" Cr Carpenter said.

"Council has kept its rate rise to the 1.75 per cent cap set under the government's fair go rates

system for 2022/2023. We realise this rate rise will impact some ratepayers more than others and we are available to assist anyone experiencing genuine financial hardship.

"We also made the decision to pay off all existing debt from the 2020/21 financial year. This means going into the 2022/2023 financial year we will take on no new debt, representing the lowest level of debt council has held in more than a decade.

"There are a number of highlights and important initiatives in the budget and council will spend \$55.8 million to deliver services and improve infrastructure across the shire. This includes our \$18.8 million capital works program," Cr Carpenter added.

The budget reflects council's long-established principle of user pays for some of the optional services it provides.

"The fees and charges in this budget are based on cost-recovery from those who use them, rather than being subsidised by all ratepayers. Green waste disposal will be a free service, but only prior to fire season and following declared emergency events. Green waste disposal will incur a charge at all other times.

"An exception to our 'user pays' approach is our decision to again keep pool entry free for our communities in the coming season. The decision to continue free access to our pools is due to the benefits this brings to the health and wellbeing of many of



our residents and especially our youth", Cr Carpenter added.

"Finally, I believe this budget will allow us to deliver on the promises we made to our community in our 2021-2025 council plan. It reflects both our past success and confidence in our ability to attract grant

funding to our Shire to build a better future for all. The budget shares costs fairly across the board, including by ensuring those who use services pay for them," Cr Carpenter said.

To read the Annual Budget 2022/2022, visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/budget](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/budget)



# Victorian medicinal cannabis facility reaps what it sows

A MILDURA medical cannabis factory is expected to complete its first harvest this month. The cultivation and processing facility is valued at \$115 million, and is expected to employ 40 people by the end of the year.

The site, a former fruit juice factory, has the capacity to produce 70,000 kilograms of dried cannabis, which will then be used to create capsules and oil.

The site includes an automated glasshouse, a testing facility, laboratory and rooms for cultivation.

Cann Group is the business behind the operation, and they are expecting to make their products available both nationally and internationally through pharmaceutical channels.

Their first batch was not a large as will occur in the future, and although they had some challenges, chief operating officer Shane Duncan told

the ABC that he was “really happy” with the first batch.

The early batches will be small so that they can ensure that everything is set at the right levels, including lighting, temperature, humidity and fertilisers.

They expect to start ramping up production in July or August.

Cann Group has a manufacturing licence from the Therapeutic Goods Administration.

In Victoria, a medical practitioner can prescribe a medicinal cannabis product if they believe that it is appropriate clinically, and if they have obtained the required state and or commonwealth approvals.

Medicinal cannabis can only be legally accessed through your doctor. Growing your own cannabis, or smoking illicit cannabis for medicinal purposes remains illegal in Victoria.

## Mental health support for young Victorians

A NEW government program will support young Victorians to grow up happy and healthy by catching mental health concerns earlier.

The program will invest \$200 million to expand the successful Mental Health in Primary Schools program to every single government and low-fee non-government primary school in Victoria – 1800 school campuses.

The program will see schools employing a Mental Health and Wellbeing Leader to implement a whole-school approach to wellbeing.

This will support individual students, help teachers better identify and support at-risk students, and build relationships and referral pathways to local mental health services.

The program builds on a successful pilot with 100 schools across Victoria in partnership with the Murdoch Children’s Research Institute and the University of Melbourne.

Since the start of the trials students have improved mental health and wellbeing, as well as improved social, academic and vocational outcomes.

The Royal Commission into Victoria’s Mental Health System highlighted that schools play an important role in identifying children with mental health and wellbeing challenges who can then be referred to treatment, care and support if needed.

The Bill replaces the Mental Health Act 2014, setting out rights-based objectives and principles for responsive services to make sure people seeking care are involved in decisions about their treatment and support, as well as incorporating a statement of recognition and acknowledgement of treaty process.

The investment is also matching reform with a strong, well-supported workforce – with more than 2,500 roles already created since the Royal Commission’s final report was handed down.

## Importance of seeing the wood from the trees

THE Conservation Regulator and Parks Victoria are urging people purchasing firewood this winter to think before they buy by asking some key questions, to help stop illegal firewood operators.

Each year Victorians are caught unintentionally buying illegally sourced firewood which can lead to the loss of important wildlife habitat such as hollow logs and dead trees.

Firewood is often sold on social media websites, at roadside stalls and by word of mouth, and it can be difficult for customers to know where firewood for sale comes from.

Conservation Regulator Director Regulatory Operations, Ash Bunce said that it is important to know where firewood is sourced.

“Your firewood seller should be able to provide the details of where the wood they are supplying is sourced from. This includes a wholesale supplier, commercial wood lot or private land with the permission of the landowner,” Mr Bunce said.

“We’re asking the community to help us catch those doing the wrong thing. If the firewood seems relatively cheap compared to other local sellers or the seller can’t tell

you where the wood is from, it could be because it has been obtained illegally, and most likely from public land such as national parks or state forests,” he added.

Offenders found guilty of cutting or taking away more than two cubic metres of fallen or felled trees from crown land face a maximum penalty of \$9087 and or one year imprisonment. Individuals may also face an additional fine of up to \$9087 for destruction of wildlife habitat, while vehicles and equipment such as chainsaws and trailers may also be seized and forfeited upon conviction.

Parks Victoria Senior Manager Enforcement and Regulatory Services, Mark Breguet said that the illegal removal and sale of firewood from parks and reserves causes impacts that last for generations.

“It is critical for the protection of these areas and the species that rely upon timber for habitat, that purchasers of firewood ensure it is legally sourced,” Mr Breguet

The Conservation Regulator targets those suspected of unlawfully collecting and selling firewood from public land. The community can play a key role by reporting any suspicious behaviour to DELWP on 136 186.

## SPORT

# Return to dry courts in perfect conditions for winter tennis



The Euroa team in Mansfield. -S



The Red team. -S

by Rhonda Carpenter

THE courts were dry, and the sun eventually came out for the Euroa District Lawn Tennis Association (EDLWTA), when Mansfield Black hosted Euroa for their match last Monday.

Black began well, determined in both openers, to take control. Jenny Bell and Di Ellis relished their first time on court together this season and combined superbly to take the set eight to nil against Euroa’s Lyndall Bigland and Rowena Ellis.

Black’s Rhonda Carpenter and Jenny Smith both somewhat nervous at the outset fell behind but gathered momentum, hit the ball deep and took the set eight to five.

Bell and Carpenter raced to a four nil lead in their set, and when Bigland and Lyn Pierce steadied, black resisted their challenge, ultimately winning eight - three. The first three sets belonged to black.

Euroa having warmed to the contest, wrested control from their opponents, by taking the next three sets 8-5, 8-5 and 8-6. It was an even and fascinating contest. Every game had multiple deuces and a few scoring challenges after lengthy points.

Players were drawn to watch play on the adjacent court and there were plenty of laughs. When Carpenter hesitated to hit but let the ball go long, Mary Dewis cried out “C’m on Rhonda, you’re here to play tennis; have a go.”

It was a wonderfully entertaining day, the action enjoyed by sole spectator Pat Howard who watched in the sun and provided local support.

Mansfield Black secured the win over Euroa by eight games, 3/40 to 3/32.

Moglonemby hosted Mansfield Red in Euroa. Marlene Hanrahan and Judy Sands were on fire in their opener against Red’s Karyn Fraser and fill-in Kate Campbell from Benalla winning eight-three.

In a tight contest red won two tiebreakers. Fraser combined well with Carolyn Murray to win one breaker and then with Deb McCormack to win eight-five, and Murray and Campbell combined strongly for the other breaker.

Mary Kelly and Robyn Johnson won their set eight to five for Moglonemby. The teams shared the sets, but Moglonemby got up by eight games.

Terip hosted Mansfield Blue and the dedication of the bye team Benalla was again on display when Maureen Jewell and Deb Siggers trekked to Terip to fill in and provide the match.

Both teams had an enjoyable day of laughs and great tennis with Terip proving too strong for the visiting combination. They didn’t have it all their own way though, Siggers and Sophie Yencken won blue’s only set eight-six. Terip won five sets to one, 46 games to 23.

Benalla remain in top spot of the ladder on 36 points, then Euroa on 34, Terip 31 Mansfield Black 25, Moglonemby 21, Mansfield Blue 20, Mansfield Red 13.

Competition returns after the mid-winter break on the July 11. Red will host Black, Benalla host Blue, Moglonemby host Terip and Euroa have the bye.



# The senior Rebels games



Sam Kerridge. -S



Ben Cooper. -S



Joe Daniel. -S



Nicole Hadgkiss in A grade. -S



Courtney McLennan in A grade. -S

# The junior Rebels games



15 and under football. -S



15 and under football. -S



Under nine football. -S



Under nine football. -S



Under 13 football. -S



Under 13 football. -S



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# Standard Sport

SPORTS EDITORIAL - sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



At Saturday's Ice Challenge at the Alexandra Football Netball Club, the four 'sliders' were Jack Hehir, Darren Gregg, Scott Ferrier and Caitlan Haggis. -S

## 4BBB played at Marysville

by Lesley Rundle

THERE is not a lot to report for Marysville golf this week as the winter season is well under way and some golfers choose to stay at home in the warm rather than venture out on a wet and cold day to hit a white ball into a small hole.

The Saturday competition was a 4BBB; Four Ball Best Ball-stableford game. This is a partner game with each player playing the hole as per a normal stableford round but it is only the best score of the partnership which is recorded on the card. The partners names were drawn randomly from a hat and the handicap of each player came into play.

The winning combination with an excellent 47 points was Gail Leigh (11) and Jim Bisset (18) and Gail was able to chip in off the green on both the seventh and 12th holes. The runners up were Yewls Kuan (13) and Adam Littlejohn (23) just one point behind with 46 points. The nearest the pins were won by Adam Littlejohn, Jody Doran, Brain Worcester and Duncan Talbot who also won the Golden Shot. Thanks to captain Colin Davies for organising the draw and for conducting the presentation.

Next week both the men and ladies will play a stroke round for the July monthly medal and the ladies round will incorporate the second round of the Barton Shield.

Members are reminded that Marysville will be hosting the Dalhousie Mixed Bowl on Sunday August 7, and details will be communicated via the Dalhousie Captains at a later date.

## Sun shines for Saturday golf

by Elizabeth Goss

THE Alexandra Golf course remained wet and the weather uninviting during the week so again no Tuesday and Wednesday competitions.

On Saturday the sun was shining which encouraged 12 players out for a Stableford round. The winner was James Kidd with (8) 43 points, quite impressive in the present winter conditions. The runner up was Chris Hutchings (21) 39 points. Nearest the pin on the fifth was Corey Jack, on the seventh Brendan Smith and on the 12th Ally Hutt. Saturday, July 2, is Stableford. Names in by 11.30am for noon hit off.

Wednesday, July 6, is Stroke and Monthly Medal. Names in by 9.30 for 10am hit off.

## Weather holds off for June monthly medal

by Puttomatic

EILDON Golf Club saw 13 players fight out the June monthly medal in fine, but chilly conditions. The course was in good conditions after a good soaking through and the club welcomed back Peter McNair and Russell Haack from a few weeks away, the club was happy to see them back.

Winners on the day and with his second medal win in as many months was Colin Long with a strong net 69 took out this month's medal, Rod Taylor with a nett 72 came in second and Peter McNair fresh

back from his holiday in Germany came in third with a net 77.

Other winners on the day were Andrew Paice had a nearest the pin on the second shot on the third, Rod Taylor nearest the pin on the 12th and Mark Mackwell nearest the pin on the 14th. No winners on the fifth or 11th holes and no winner on the two birdie holes. Wayne Kupke took out the entry draw and Don Reid had a win with the swindle draw.

Congratulations to all the winners and in these cold and wet conditions it's great to see a strong turn up for competitions and green fee players. Look forward to seeing you at the club.