

# 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, October 27, 2021 \$1.50 inc. GST

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All students returned to the classroom from Friday, October 22. Pictured here are three happy students from Alexandra Primary School. More images on page 20. -S

## Council developing a climate pledge

Thirty-three out of Victoria's 79 local government areas (LGAs) have declared a climate emergency. Murrindindi Shire Council (MSC) was asked whether they are exploring if to join them in declaring a climate emergency.

Vito Albicini, Director Assets and Development at MSC replied, "While council has not formally declared a climate emergency, we are currently developing a 'TAKE2 Climate Change Pledge' to demonstrate our commitment to climate action over the coming years.

"Through the development of the 2021-2025 Council Plan we've heard about our community's growing interest in protecting our natural assets and the need to move toward net zero emissions.

"At its October 27 scheduled meeting, council will consider adopting the 2021-2025 Council Plan, including a 10-Year Financial Plan and Year-One Priority Action Plan.

"A number of strategic objectives are identified in the council plan. One of these objectives is to protect and enhance our natural environment, supporting environmental sustainability, community resilience, innovation and adaptation to climate change to achieve net-zero emissions by 2035.

"To work towards this target, we'll deliver on a number of key actions as outlined in our Year One Priority Action Plan. These actions include developing a Climate Change Adaptation Plan, a Climate Change Policy and finalising the draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction (Climate Change Mitigation) Plan.

"During this financial year we'll look at council's role in supporting farm forestry and solutions for renewable energy in our communities, work with the state government to build drought resilience in our communities and we'll begin planning for the transition to electric fleet vehicles for council operations.

"We'll also begin planning for an electric vehicle charger network across the shire in partnership with neighbouring councils.

"We want to embed sustainable practices into everything we do to help reduce our impacts on climate and the environment. We're looking forward to what we can achieve in partnership with community members, local community groups, local businesses and our partner agencies."

# Freedom Friday

AFTER record vaccination rates we will soon see Victoria become one of the most vaccinated places in the world, and Victoria is set on a path back to normal living resembling our pre-COVID lives.

The Victorian Government announced on Sunday, October 24 that the state would see many restrictions lifted at 6pm on Friday, October 29, when the state appears likely to reach 80 per cent of people aged 16 and over being fully vaccinated, and significant restrictions eased when the state reaches 90 per cent double-vaccination target for people aged 12 and over. The 90 per cent target is expected to be reached around November 24.

### 80 per cent target Friday, October 29 at 6pm

Victoria will move forward in opening up and more restrictions will fall away.

Regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne will unite and move forward on the same restrictions, enabling Victorians to travel anywhere in the state, as well as interstate.

Most indoor settings, including restaurants, pubs, gyms and hairdressers will open with no caps subject to a DQ4 (1 per 4sqm) limit, if all staff and patrons are fully vaccinated. Most

outdoor settings will remain at DQ2 (1 per 2sqm) limit up to 500, where staff and patrons are fully vaccinated.

These indoor and outdoor settings will also apply to weddings, funerals and religious gatherings if all attendees are fully vaccinated. Caps of 30 people will apply for weddings, funerals and religious gatherings if vaccination status is unknown.

Entertainment venues will reopen. For indoor seated venues including cinemas and theatres, there will be a 75 per cent capacity or DQ4 up to 1000 people and for non-seated indoor entertainment venues there will be a DQ4 limit with no patron cap.

Outdoor seated and non-seated entertainment venues including stadiums, zoos and tourism attractions will be open with a DQ2 limit up to 5,000 where staff and patrons are fully vaccinated.

Events such as music festivals will be able to host up to 5000 attendees, subject to any restrictions related to the venue. The Chief Health Officer may also grant an approval for larger crowds for significant events and venues under the Public Events Framework.

Masks will remain mandatory indoors but are no longer required outdoors. It is highly recommended you continue to

wear a mask outdoors where you cannot physically distance, such as busy street or outdoor market.

### 90 per cent target

The next milestone in the roadmap will be when Victoria hits the 90 per cent double dose vaccination target for Victorians 12 years and over, predicted to be as early as Wednesday, November 24.

At this point, caps or density quotients will be removed for all settings, and masks will only be mandatory indoors in some high-risk settings such as hospitals, aged care, public transport and justice and correctional facilities.

There will be no restrictions for indoor and outdoor events provided they follow COVIDSafe rules including vaccination requirements.

Events with significant numbers of children may not be able to operate at full capacity while vaccines remain unavailable for children. There will be some caps for religious ceremonies, weddings and funerals where vaccination status is unknown.

For more info on the roadmap or to book a vaccination visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-settings](http://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covidsafe-settings)



## GRAND ITALIAN FEAST

12 noon | Sunday 21 November

A long lazy afternoon of feasting with traditional Italian fare including our house made pastas, wood fired pizza, veal scallopini, chicken saltimbocca, tiramisu and more. Fabulous live entertainment from Andrew Farrell (piano wizard) and Barry Tudor. \$95 per adult includes Aperol spritz on arrival and free flowing Prosecco.

\$40 per child (12 years and under) includes complimentary soft drinks.

Bookings essential as numbers limited.

## BEAUTIFUL GIFT HAMPERS FOR CHRISTMAS

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 **Letters to the Editor**

**Glasgow Summit**

JUST 16 days out from what is arguably the most important meeting for the world's future survival and the Australian Prime Minister, or 'ScoMo' as he monikered himself in 2018, finally decided to attend the Glasgow COP26 Climate Summit. Well done that boy.

While other world leaders will no doubt be overjoyed to have someone, anyone, from Australia come and join in the discussions, after all we are the world's leading carbon emitter on a per capita basis, it will be interesting to see if anything of substance is presented to the meeting on Australia's behalf.

Those well-worn COVID-19 phrases, uttered by the Prime Minister, ranging from "It's not a race" to "The government has also not set, nor has any plans to set, any new targets...it is not possible to set such targets given the many uncertainties involved." (ABC News, April 11) could equally apply to the Federal Government's approach to global warming.

Currently, any carbon mitigation is certainly not being undertaken by the Federal Government but by the states (South Australia's big battery, Tasmania's hydro-electricity supply) or by big business, BHP having divested itself of its oil and gas assets due to shareholder pressure, or local community power schemes such as Yackandandah's.

As a country Australia is so far behind the rest of the developed world when it comes to dealing

with our carbon emissions and energy resources that it is acutely embarrassing. The climate science is settled and has been for decades. However, our country, our future and 26 million of us are currently being held hostage by a handful of National Party politicians with their uneducated, illogical and uncompromising views.

The concern for 'their' constituents getting a fair go is touching. However a couple of the more recalcitrant Nationals are senators who should consider representing their entire states, not just a small segment of them. The other thing that these concerned politicians conveniently omit is the fact that without the Federal Government propping up the fossil fuel industry to the tune of \$10.7 billion in 2020-2021 (The Australian Institute, April 26) these same communities would not be viable now. So it is an absolute furphy to claim that introducing a realistic climate policy will impact detrimentally on these towns and regions, as without these government subsidies the communities who rely on such industries would have become untenable years ago.

As the world moves on, with a concerted effort to reduce global warming and the world's reliance on fossil fuels, these financially cosseted operations will become stranded assets in the future. Surely now is the time to be channelling such subsidies into supporting and adapting those communities most at risk, not blocking any reasonable

or sensible or proactive plans for mitigating global warming. Such intransigence will only endanger the rest of our country with unprecedented bushfires, floods, drought and heat related deaths.

But at least 'Scotty come lately' is at last packing his bags. However, with less than a week to cobble together a realistic plan and a target, that shows Australia is serious about reducing its carbon emissions, it's not looking good. It therefore appears that our status as an underperforming global neighbour, will soon be confirmed, yet again, on the world's stage.

Not only do we deserve better from our elected leaders, but the world deserves a whole lot better from Australia's leadership too.

*Pauline Roberts, Highlands*

**Murrindindi Shire Council**

HELLO Murrindindi Council, is anybody there?

I don't like being negative, but sometimes you just keep hitting brick walls. This has been my experience with the Murrindindi Shire Council the past year or so.

There have been two matters I've been seeking council response on. One relates to the Alexandra Resource Recovery Centre (RRC), the other relates to COVID-19 vaccinations. In both instances, I wrote to the council, and copied in my local councillor.

With the RRC query, I received an email response from the relevant council employee,

and although it contained a lot of words, it didn't answer my question. After numerous toing-and-froing, where I would thank them for their reply and direct them back to the original question I had asked, which they hadn't answered, the employee simply stopped responding to my emails. Hmmm.

With the COVID-19 query, no council employee even bothered to reply. My local councillor did reply, but didn't follow through. Hmmm.

After months of silence from the council, out of the blue I received a telephone call from the Director Community Engagement. We had a lovely, long conversation. The call had been about my COVID-19 query. When I mentioned I still had an outstanding RRC query, I was asked to forward them the email thread, and they would ensure both queries were followed up on. So given new hope, I forwarded the requested information the next day. Then I waited. And waited. And waited. So I sent a follow up email to get an update. And waited. And I am still waiting.

Now I am getting fed up with paying rates, to help fund a council that simply doesn't treat its ratepayers with respect. I've been trying to be part of the solution, but it's hard when the council keeps building brick walls.

"Not happy Jan."

*Leanne Monro, Alexandra*

**Standard The Yea Chronicle**  
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**COMMUNITY DIARY**

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

**WEEKLY**  
 Mon Art Group Eildon 10am-3pm Ph 5773 2306  
 Tue/Thu Seniors Carpet Bowls 1.15pm  
 Wed Social Bowls 11am Alexandra Bowls Club Ph 5772 1150  
 Thu Take off weight naturally 5.45pm 5773 2427  
 Fri Seniors Social Club 1pm  
 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  
 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  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Alexandra Ladies Probud 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  
 Fri after 3<sup>rd</sup> Tue Field Naturalists excursion Ph 5772 1189  
 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**  
 October 27, to November 2, 2021  
 Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	6	23	Wednesday	6	24
Thursday	13	23	Thursday	14	24
Friday	7	16	Friday	8	16
Saturday	4	14	Saturday	5	14
Sunday	3	18	Sunday	4	18
Monday	4	21	Monday	4	22
Tuesday	7	24	Tuesday	7	24

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

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**  
 Letters published are the opinion of the writer and not necessarily the opinion of Alexandra Newspapers  
 Submit your letter via our Facebook page, email or mail  
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 PO Box 5 Alexandra, 3714

**LETTERS MUST NOT EXCEED 300 WORDS**  
 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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**DISTRICT RAINFALL**

Alexandra*	4.57mm
Buxton	8.5mm
Eildon (AWS)	6mm
Flowerdale	11mm
Kinglake	28mm
Lake Eildon	7mm
Marysville	N/Amm
Strath Creek	N/Amm
Taggerty	9mm
Yarck	5mm
Yea	8mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday  
 \*Alexandra totals supplied from [www.alexandraweather.org](http://www.alexandraweather.org)

**LAKE EILDON**

Height above sea level this week	284.67m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	83.9%
Metres below full supply	4.23m
Daily inflow	4500ML
Release	400ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	43%

**RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT**

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	11.00am Mon	0.84^	steady	below minor
Rubicon R at Rubicon	11.00am Mon	0.67	steady	
Acheron R at Taggerty	11.01am Mon	1.14	steady	below minor
Home Ck at Yarck	11.21am Mon	0.29	steady	
Yea R at Devlins Bridge	10.49am Mon	0.78	steady	below minor
Yea R at Yea	9.27am Mon	1.46	steady	
Goulburn R at Ghin Ghin	11.00am Mon	3.62	steady	
King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale	11.00am Mon	0.79^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Trawool	11.00am Mon	1.38^	steady	below minor
Sunday Ck at Tallarook	11.00am Mon	0.37^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.66	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Ck at Seymour	12.11pm Mon	1.20	steady	

**\*\*ISSUED AT 12.15PM ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021\*\***

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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

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on  
 5772 1002 or  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)  
 We thank you for your continued support

## Is council vaccinated?

FOR confidentiality reasons, Murrindindi Shire Council cannot state whether or not it has lost staff that are refusing to get vaccinated however, Chief Executive, Livia Bonazzi, is "thrilled" by the number of staff who have or are on the way to be vaccinated.

Ms Bonazzi said that Murrindindi Shire Council have followed, and met all the directions of the Chief Health Officer.

"Council has met the COVID-19 mandatory vaccination directions from the Chief Health Officer which require all council employees working outside of their primary place of residence to be fully vaccinated by Friday, November 26," she said.

"We're thrilled to say we have a very high percentage of council employees who are vaccinated, or are on their way to being vaccinated. It's a great result and I am very proud of the way staff have acted to protect their own health, that of their colleagues and that of the broader community by getting vaccinated.

"At this stage some council functions can still be performed by unvaccinated staff working from home, but those arrangements may no longer be available in the future. I would hope that by then, all our staff will be vaccinated so we do not need to lose any of our valued employees."

### 2021 Share the Dignity drive cancelled

YOU may have noticed that Share the Dignity is not going ahead for 2021.

Due to the restrictions of late, Gail Dacey and Victoria Keating would like to advise the community that there will not be a Dignity drive for 2021.

Gail has co-ordinated the Murrindindi drive for the past five years and is looking forward to a bigger and better 2022 to Share the Dignity.

If you would like to help with next years' drive please contact Victoria on 5772 0200 or Gail on 8624 3002 for full details.

## Where have the bike jumps gone?

ANDREWS Sawicki, Parks Victoria Area Chief Ranger, has advised that, "To keep park users safe, numerous dangerous and unauthorised jumps and tracks will be

removed from Alexandra Bushland Reserve. "Mountain biking is permitted on designated vehicle tracks and approved mountain biking tracks in most parks and reserves across Victoria.

"Parks Victoria has an established process for developing safe mountain biking facilities in parks. We encourage the public to enjoy our parks while respecting park management, the environment and public safety."

Parks Victoria is responsible for making decisions to protect and conserve the natural environment in Victoria's parks.

As the responsible land manager, Parks Victoria removes illegal tracks to ensure visitor safety and minimise environmental damage.

Parks Victoria is undertaking the required planning assessments and approvals ahead of removing the dangerous jumps.

It seems that not all were happy with the decision to remove the jumps and tracks from the Alexandra Bushland Reserve, as evidenced by the cartoon opposite from Steve Paix.



## Alexandra Show competitions

THE Alexandra Show has been cancelled again this year due to COVID-19, so they are running a competition on Facebook that is open to everyone and easy to enter. All you have to do is send a photo to [pna.alexandra@gmail.com](mailto:pna.alexandra@gmail.com). The categories you can enter are: A Vase of Flowers, An Iris, My Favourite Pet, and Decorated Biscuits (just for the kids). There is a limit of two entries per person per category.

Also, with the support of the Alexandra and District Dog Obedience Club (ADDOC), a Photo of a Dog competition is running. The prizes are \$30 for first place, \$20 second and \$10 third. Entries are limited to one per person. ADDOC are continuing to support the show with their sponsorship of the competition. This competition will begin today, Wednesday, October 27, and run until November 12.

There will also be a live competition. The categories are: An Article of Craft, a Handmade Card, A Black and White Photo, and a Container of Foliage. These will be on display in shops in Grant Street from November 13 to 20. Entries for the craft, photo and card can be entered at the showgrounds administration building on Friday, November 5 from 10am to 1pm. Foliage entries can be entered on November 12 at Full Bloom in Grant Street.

All entries are free and the organisers hope that the community will get behind the show and show your support this year. Inspire on Grant will display the Article of

Craft entries, the Black and White Photo entries will be on display at *The Standard* office, the Handmade Card entries can be seen at the Alexandra Newsagency and Full Bloom will have the Container of Foliage entries.

The committee would like to thank these local businesses for their support during these unusual times. So get those cameras and phones clicking and get your entries in. Feel free to contact Pam 0415 476 639 if you have any questions or check out the Facebook page, Alexandra Show.

## Support your local shops this Christmas

CHRISTMAS is less than two months away. When you decide it's time to hit the shops and buy up big on presents for friends and relatives, please do your shopping locally.

It's been an extraordinarily difficult couple of years for our local retailers. Many have been closed for significant periods of time during the lockdowns, and they need our support.

While buying presents in local shops, you can also look to see if the potential presents are Australian made. Every dollar you spend will help an Australian business to stay afloat.

If you can't decide what to buy, most shops have gift vouchers available.

Not only will shopping locally support businesses, it will help them to continue providing employment to locals.

Where you shop, and what you choose to buy, does matter.



Check out the size of the Murray cod caught by Kate Elison at Lake Eildon last week. There will be plenty of people fishing in the lake once restrictions ease on Friday, October 29 at 6pm. -S

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# Out & About

WHAT'S ON?

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*.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Yea and District Open Gardens, will be held on Saturday, November 6 and Sunday, November 7 commencing at 10am. See ad in this edition for full details.

November 24 at 4pm. RSVP to [jbrookes@dughn.com.au](mailto:jbrookes@dughn.com.au) to receive a Zoom meeting invitation. Full details in this week's classified section.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Murrindindi Shire Council has advised that roadworks commenced on October 7 at Marshbank and Craigie Streets Yea behind the Rec Reserve. Work is expected to take four to five weeks.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 To celebrate National Recycling Week, council has organised a free online recycling tour and trivia night. Tuesday, November 9, at 7pm. For more information see ad on page 7 or to register visit [recycling.eventbrite.com.au](http://recycling.eventbrite.com.au)

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Friends of Kellock and Kellock Lodge AGMs will be held on Thursday, November 25 at 5.30pm and 6pm. Full details in this week's classified section.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Alexandra Lawn Tennis club will hold their AGM tonight Wednesday, October 27 at 7pm at the tennis club rooms. All members, present and new, are welcome to attend. For further information contact Bec 0405 055 993.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Yea Wetlands Committee of Management will hold their AGM on Tuesday, November 9, at the Y Water Discovery Centre Yea at 7.30pm. If not possible to have face to face meeting, Zoom will be the option. Details can be obtained by contacting Corinne on 0418 407 462 or email [corinne.border@bigpond.com](mailto:corinne.border@bigpond.com)

### POLICE REPORT

MARYSVILLE Police last week impounded a vehicle for excessive speed. The vehicle was travelling in excess of 140k/h in an 80k/h zone on the Maroondah Highway in Narbethong. The male P plate driver from Yarra Junction will be charged on summons.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Redgate CWA AGM will be held on Thursday, October 28 at 1pm at the club rooms. For more information contact 0402 804 517.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Alexandra RSL will hold their next meeting on Sunday, November 14 at noon, followed by a light lunch.

## The Glamm Club

IF you are after just the one location where you can pick an outfit and get all your beauty services done in the one spot, while not having to worry about that drive into Melbourne, The Glamm Club is the place you've been looking for.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Marysville Arts Fest is on from October 28 to November 2. There will be workshops, an art show, garden art, textiles and much more.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Book now for the Grand Italian Feast at Holmesglen at Eildon on Sunday, November 21 at noon. A long lazy afternoon of feasting with traditional Italian fare and live music. Bookings are essential due to limited numbers. Contact 5774 2631.

Located at 111 Grant Street in Alexandra, owner Gabbi, noticed a gap in the market, and specifically on Grant Street, and opened The Glamm Club to offer predominantly women's clothes and fashion, as well as beauty services all in the one location.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Operation Christmas Child is on again. Oasis Community Church, Grant Street Alexandra, Thursday, October 28 between 10am and 5pm. Lunch, tea and coffee supplied. Pack a box \$10. For full details contact Judy on 0458 991 855.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Alexandra and District Kindergarten AGM will be held on Monday, October 22 at 5.30pm at the kinder. Full details available from Sally on 5772 1387 or email [alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au](mailto:alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au)

"We are an exciting and new fashion and beauty salon offering manicures and pedicures, tanning, waxing and more," Gabbi said.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Iris Garden open at Yarck. Saturday and Sunday, October 30 and 31 from 10am to 3pm. All COVID-19 guidelines will be in place. Full details contact Bron 0408 517 309.

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home AGM will be held via Zoom on Wednesday,

"The store is different and unique; it's something fresh and new and I wanted to bring the latest fashion for women to our town.

"There's something for everyone; from bargains, all the way through to more expensive items. And, while we mainly stock women's fashion, accommodating for all events in all sizes, we also stock some men's and children's clothing."

Gabbi said the clothing in store, is 'current Melbourne', meaning that women do not have to travel for the latest trends or wait for an online delivery. Some of the brands stocked currently include Refuge Denim, Sanctum, George and Enigma.

The Glamm Club is currently open Monday to Friday from 9am to 4pm, and at other times, including the weekend, by appointment only. Gabbi plans to extend these trading hours soon, so to be sure to stay up to date with the latest news from The Glamm Club via Facebook and Instagram.

Online shopping is also available. Visit [getglammed.com.au/](http://getglammed.com.au/) to view the latest stock. See their advertisement on page 5 for more details.

To follow The Glamm Club on social media, and to book your beauty appointments, visit [facebook.com/Theglammclub](https://facebook.com/Theglammclub) and [instagram.com/theglammclub/](https://instagram.com/theglammclub/)

## This week's Church Services

ANGLICAN St Johns Alexandra  
 9.30am Eucharist each Sunday  
 Children welcome  
 Fr Graeme Brown - Rectory 0429 935 000

### 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  
 Worshipping, Welcoming  
 Sharing the transforming love of Jesus  
 Services 10am each Sunday  
 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](http://www.mccbc.com.au)

### THE VINE

A Christian community of the Baptist Union of Victoria  
 Sunday 4.30pm service. 4.15pm for a cuppa.  
 Kids program during school term  
 St. Andrews, 37 Downey Street, Alexandra  
 Pastor - Geoff Leslie Ph: 0417 396 377





## We're getting ready for summer.

### We all have a part to play in keeping communities safe this bushfire season.

#### What you can do:

1. Clear private electric lines of tree branches, shrubs and long grass, to reduce bushfire risk
2. Check [outagetracker.com.au](http://outagetracker.com.au) for updates
3. Save our faults & emergencies number **13 17 99**

**We all have a part to play.**  
[ausnetservices.com.au/powerprepared](http://ausnetservices.com.au/powerprepared)

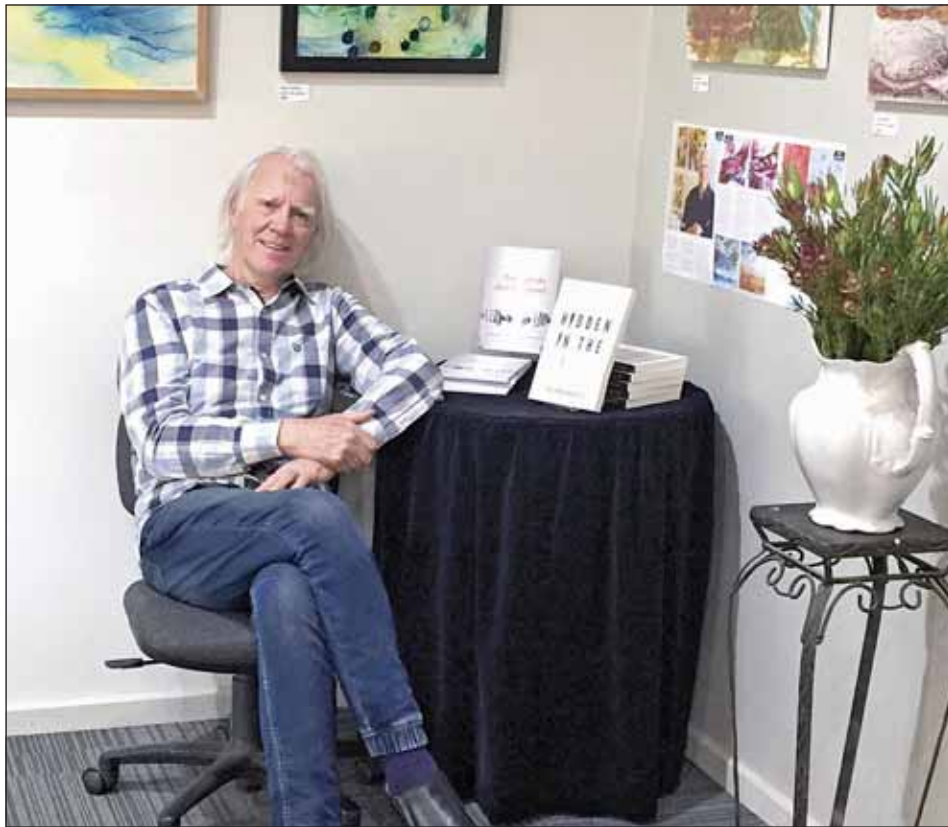


**THUMBS UP:** To Darrell, our Marysville postie, for his cheerful good service.

**THUMBS UP:** Farewell, and thank you to poet Roger. As they say in the classics, "you have tried hard and done good."

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



Ian Wood. -S

## Ian Wood exhibiting at information centre

IAN Wood has been announced as the Artist of the Month for November at the Alexandra Visitor Information Centre (VIC). The VIC is set to re-open on October 25, now that restrictions are easing in regional Victoria.

After a career of over 35 years as an interior designer, Ian Wood began to develop a new career path in fine art in 2002.

His first exhibition was in June 2004 and the second in November of the same year. His next exhibition was at The Convent Gallery Daylesford, where he has exhibited three times. He has had nine exhibitions in galleries, showrooms and art shows, and has completed private and corporate commissions.

In August 2006 Ian exhibited in San Francisco and in November 2006 on board a luxury cruise liner in Mexico. He has also exhibited at Manyung Gallery, Sorrento and MiRa in Marysville among others.

He works primarily in acrylics to create his abstract works inspired by nature. A small number of earlier works are on display in the Alexandra Information Centre during the month of October.

Ian is also an author, with his first novel, *Hidden in the Light*, published in January 2021. In August 2018 his first book of poetry and short stories, *the ends don't meet*, was published and the second edition

was released in May 2021. *Hidden in the Light* and *the ends don't meet* are both available, including at the Alexandra Information Centre.



The final count is complete, and Ava Hill (7) from Alexandra has raised an amazing total of \$4121 for charity by chopping off her lovely long locks. She has been raising the funds for Wigs for Kids, a charity which helps to relieve the financial burden on families whose children are being treated for cancer. Kirsty from Nadine and Co hairdressing cut Ava's hair on Monday, October 18, with Ava's family watching on. -S



Margaret Hanscomb, Sue Delaney, Paula Inness and Gail Kneeshaw. -S

## Position appointments for the Alexandra Fire Brigade Auxiliary

THE annual general meeting of the Alexandra Fire Brigade Auxiliary was held on Tuesday, October 19. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the 2020 meeting was cancelled, and this meeting highlighted the impact on its core activities over the past two years, with few fundraising activities.

The AGM saw the election of a new president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.

After over 10 years as president, Margaret Hanscomb has handed the reins to Paula Inness, who passed her secretary's role to Gail Kneeshaw. Sue Delaney assumed the role of vice-president, with Lachlan Morrison assuming the role of treasurer.

Paula paid tribute to Margaret, recalling how, as president, she displayed remarkable leadership and organisational skills, resulting in an income to the Auxiliary of a little over \$97,000 during her term.

Significant equipment purchased for the brigade included, AEDs, road safety

equipment, operational torches, protective clothing racks, and new blinds and window fittings in the station.

With the approach of the 2021/22 Bush Fire season, the Auxiliary will see an increase in activity, providing a range of behind-the-scenes activities, including the provision of catering support for deployed personnel, liaison with local suppliers for out-of-hours access to supplies, planning and conducting fundraising events and conducting the community Santa Run, COVID-19 restrictions allowing.

The Auxiliary is always open to accepting new members and would be delighted to see some of fresh faces in the community join the team.

There is no firm commitment to any activity, just a willingness to support the Alexandra community and enjoy the company of like-minded people.

Contact the President, Paula Inness on 0408 582 580 for further information.



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## PUT YOUR GARDEN IN THIS PICTURE

Entries close November 15, 2021

We have decided to run our photo competition with a difference this year to show off the beautiful gardens in our shire.

This is a competition for people's enjoyment only; without prizes.

If you have been working hard in your garden during lockdown, why not share a photo of it with us.

We will publish photos of your gardens over coming weeks at our discretion.

### Categories:

- Open - any garden photo
- Junior - up to 12 years old
- Produce - vegetables and fruit

Send your photos to [1sales@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:1sales@alexandranewspapers.com.au) or drop them in to either the Alexandra Standard office or the Yea Chronicle office.

GOOD LUCK



T&C: Two photos per household per category

Winners will be notified and their entries published on November 24.

ALEXANDRA STANDARD NEWSPAPERS

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

The Yea Chronicle

Proudly supporting  
**Student of the week**

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra



**BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Student of the week



**CHLOE**

Chloe worked very hard on her play script in writing. Way to go Chloe.

**ST MARYS PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Students of the week



**Bradley, Lani and Mathew**

Not Pictured: Amelia, Cooper, Rily, Jack, Declan, Emma, Max and Heath.

**ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Student of the week



**KOBY WILLIAMS ~ PREP**

Koby shows our school values of Care and Respect each day. He is a kind friend who takes time to listen to others. Koby is well known for using his kindness super powers in the playground and the classroom. You are such a great role model and friend Koby. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Koby. You are a STAR.

**Student of the Week**

Proudly supported by  
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CDBU-50108



Paul Johnson, Noel McIlwraith and Damien Cocks. -S

# Rotary update

THIS week at Rotary Alexandra, the group farewelled Aju Thomas who is moving away.

During his three years as a member of the club his fellowship and support has been greatly appreciated. He has helped with Cycle Dindi, music in the park, Australia Day, the Rodeo and the Art Show. Rotary Alexandra wishes him well in the future.

The group then inducted a new member, John Wainwright. He has been admitted not only to the Rotary Club of Alexandra but to a worldwide association and will be welcomed into the fellowship of any Rotary

club in the world. As everyone would realise without new members the clubs cannot continue carrying out its community projects.

The meeting was conducted on the veranda at the Alexandra Golf Club community facility and was a lovely night with an entertaining and informative presentation about the NBN by Damien Cocks accompanied by Paul John.

It was great to see fellow members in person, even behind masks, but no doubt they were smiling.



Aju Thomas and Bob Flowers. -S



John Wainwright. -S

**MARYSVILLE ARTS FEST**  
28 Oct - 2 Nov 2021  
marysvilleartshow.com

- Workshops
- Art Show
- Garden Art
- Paintings
- Sculpture
- Textiles
- Film
- Music
- Books
- Sales

## MURRINDINDI SHIRE MEMPC - COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

Do you live or work in Murrindindi Shire? Are you interested in Emergency Management? Council is seeking Expressions of Interest from members of our community to join a Community Advisory Group to support our Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC).

The creation of this Advisory Group is a new initiative by Council. The Advisory Group will play a key role in developing how emergency messaging, planning and response and recovery occurs within the Shire.

We're interested in hearing from knowledgeable and passionate members of our community to gain valuable local input on emergency matters.

If you'd like to be part of this exciting opportunity, please submit your Expression of Interest by emailing [mempc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au](mailto:mempc@murrindindi.vic.gov.au) or in writing to Murrindindi Shire Council, MEMPC, PO Box 138, Alexandra, Victoria 3714.

Expressions of Interest close on Friday 19 November.

To find out more about the Advisory Group and the MEMPC, please visit our website and search 'MEMPC'.

## TENDER - REHABILITATION WORKS - YEA CLOSED LANDFILL

Council invites suitably-qualified contractors to submit a tender bid to carry out civil and conservation works to finalise the rehabilitation of the Yea Closed Landfill.

To download the tender documents or make an enquiry, please visit [eprocure.com.au/murrindindi](http://eprocure.com.au/murrindindi)

Tender bids close on Tuesday 12 November 2021.

## JOBS AT COUNCIL - LIBRARY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE OFFICERS

Council is seeking talented and motivated individuals to join our customer and library service team (including Council's Customer Contact Centre).

As the first point of contact with Council's customers, you will be keen to find solutions and handle enquiries from beginning to end.

You will be an active listener, have a positive 'can-do' attitude and be able to provide prompt and friendly customer service for the full range of Council and Library Services.

If you think you know the difference between serving customers and delighting customers with your service, please apply to join our amazing team.

For more information about the role, please visit the 'jobs' section of our website or give us a call.

Applications close at 5.00 pm on Wednesday 10 November.

## NATIONAL RECYCLING WEEK

To celebrate National Recycling Week, Council has organised a free online Recycling Tour and Trivia Night on Tuesday 9 November at 7.00 pm. The virtual session will be hosted by Banyule City Council's Rethink Waste Education Centre.

During the 75 minute session, you will learn the 'dos and don'ts' and the 'hows and whys' of recycling. Whether you're a recycling novice or guru, the session will be fun and informative for all participants.

For more information and to register, please visit [recyclingtrivia.eventbrite.com.au](http://recyclingtrivia.eventbrite.com.au)

**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

# Watch out for hitchhiking pests in parcels

AS Christmas approaches, Victorians are being encouraged to check online shopping packaging for any hitchhiker pests, and to report it to reduce or stop the spread of it moving to other areas.

Victoria's Chief Plant Health Officer Rosa Crnov said there are many plant pests that can easily find themselves in packages due to their small size.

"Exotic plant pests such as brown marmorated stink bug, khapra beetle, exotic ants and snails, can go unnoticed due to their small size and hitch a ride in packages, especially in overseas mail," Ms Crnov said.

"Exotic electric ants and fire ants can also hitch a ride in domestic mail and are very aggressive, as opposed to common ants in Victoria that usually run away from disturbances. If undetected, these pests can threaten Victoria's \$14 billion food and fibre export market."

Australia Post is delivering approximately 10 million parcels a week in Australia and in Victoria alone, online shopping has grown by 48.9 per cent in the year to Wednesday, June 30, exceeding the national average of 31.8 per cent.

Ms Crnov said that in the same year, Agriculture Victoria received 797 reports from the public and from industry of suspected exotic plant and bee pests.

"In November last year, a Bayswater business emailed photos of a strange-looking bug to Agriculture Victoria after discovering the insect in an airfreight package," she said.

"The insect was confirmed as brown marmorated stink bug, a high priority for Australian biosecurity and the report was referred to the federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE), who followed up the detection.

"The brown marmorated stink bug can attack more than 300 types of fruit trees, ornamental trees, vegetable crops and gardens, so this was a very significant detection."

While Australia applies strict import conditions to goods coming in from overseas through our ports and mail centres, sometimes pests can go undetected.

Australia's farmers rely on freedom from pests and diseases to produce our food, and access both domestic and export markets. Victoria is Australia's largest producer of food and fibre products with the gross value of agricultural production in Victoria worth nearly \$16 billion.

For more information on priority insects and mites visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/pestinsects-and-mites/priority-pest-insects-and-mites](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/pestinsects-and-mites/priority-pest-insects-and-mites)

# Marysville's animals-on-bikes

LOCAL residents, Piet and Anne Bakker, have been quietly installing wonderfully creative animal-on-bike sculptures outside Marysville businesses. The animals, generally riding bikes, are in theme with the businesses. The duck outside the post office, for example, has parcels in a cart at the back, and the duck outside the police station is wearing a police cap. Their most recent installation is an echidna on a bike, located near Elevation restaurant.

Anne explained, "Like many good stories this one starts at the pub. We showed our local publican, Hong, a piece we made for home. It was an old rusty iron wheel

turned into a penny farthing with a kangaroo riding it. Now we have never stated our art work was good or we are artists. We just do it for fun. However, I was disappointed when Hong said, it looks just like a duck with a tail. I was sure it wasn't that bad.

"But Hong really did like it and asked if we would make one for the pub. 'Happy to pay,' he said, and that was the beginning of animals-on-bikes for Marysville."

The next sculpture they made was a fish for Ian and Maddy at the Marysville Takeaway. Maddy loved the sculpture.

Anne added, "When we said we planned one for the police station someone kept on about how a little piggy would look great. Now my driving record is pretty good and I plan to keep it that way so best get Sargeant Skippy on the job not the piggy.

"The Marysville transfer station has two animals on bikes now and Kelvin is on the job asking for more every trip in. It's great to see how neat he keeps the place, taking pride in his job.

"Buxton Trout Farm has a trout, Fragas Café has got a sulphur crested cockatoo, Keppel Café followed with the family of koalas, the post office pigeon carrier, and Jenny asked for one for Professionals Real Estate. The bakery has the king parrot and on Tuesday, October 19, we installed an echidna on a motorbike just down from Elevation 423. Marysville Garden Cottages have a bike so just wanted a few steel flowers to brighten the basket. The supermarket's bike is in the shed we're about to get started on it."

Anne and Piet make the animals on bikes for fun and so they don't normally charge. "We don't even ask if they want one, they just appear when we feel like it," Anne said. Some people will give them gifts, for which they are grateful.

"However just of late a few people having started to ask, so we have now made some for locals, including a cat, a cow, a dog and an elephant, and one for the Narbethong petrol station. The money goes into all the paint and welding wire we use.

"Sourcing the bikes can be a bit tricky, but we have a man on the job looking out for us. I sometimes get a phone call or text message when supplies come in. The animals we make from old corrugated steel, so our biggest cost is paint. We can't seem to find that second hand.

"It's a hubby and wife team effort and the bikes are certainly evolving. My welding is improving and my plasma cutting and painting is getting better. The ducks had a makeover last month and over a few drinks we find another idea of what we could make next.

"Friday nights at the pub keeping us busy with work and drinks for inspiration. Sometimes the ideas are good, sometimes fun and sometimes just crazy but these two retirees enjoy keeping busy and love to see the joy the animals on bikes bring to others. Thanks Marysville. Great Town."



Anne and Piet Bakker. -AR

# Feel Good, Look Good



# Save lives by saving 000 for emergencies

VICTORIANS are again being reminded to save Triple Zero for emergencies with the "Save Lives, Save 000 for Emergencies" campaign relaunching to help paramedics respond quicker and save lives.

The successful advertising campaign is back after non-emergency calls to Triple Zero (000) increased again in 2021.

More than one-in-five calls to Triple Zero for an ambulance does not require an emergency ambulance response, which can take paramedics away from time-critical life-threatening emergencies.

Demand for ambulances and emergency departments have continued to increase and will continue to increase as we safely reopen.

The campaign aims to reduce the number of non-emergency calls to Triple Zero by highlighting the teams of other healthcare professionals who are ready and able to help manage non-urgent health care issues, round-the-clock. These include GPs, pharmacists and NURSE-ON-CALL (1300 60 60 24).

The campaign has provided Victorians with a better understanding of when to call

an ambulance, with the previous campaign run helping to reduce the average number of daily calls to Triple Zero by 10 per cent.

Everyone can play a part by using other healthcare options when they are unwell or have a minor inquiry.

If in doubt, call 000. The people who take your call are trained to help and direct you to the appropriate assistance. For everything else you can get advice and immediate treatment from experienced GPs, pharmacists and registered nurses available to assist.

There are already plans to increase capacity in hospitals due to rising numbers of COVID-19 patients.

The Victorian Budget 2021/22 delivered an extra \$759 million for Ambulance Services and emergency departments to boost triage services expand telehealth and get more paramedics and ambulances on the road.

For more information visit [betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/save-000-for-emergencies](http://betterhealth.vic.gov.au/campaigns/save-000-for-emergencies)

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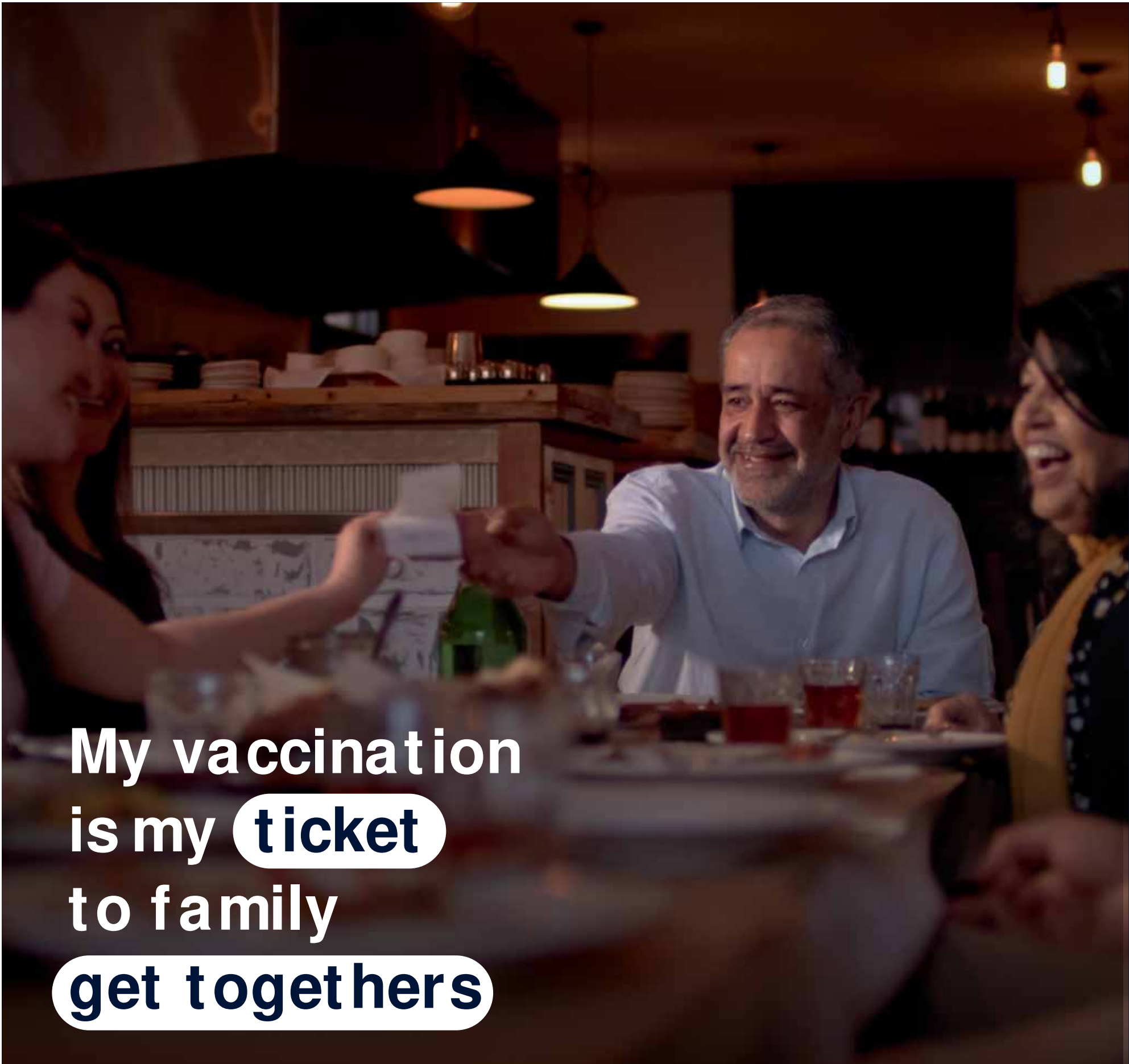
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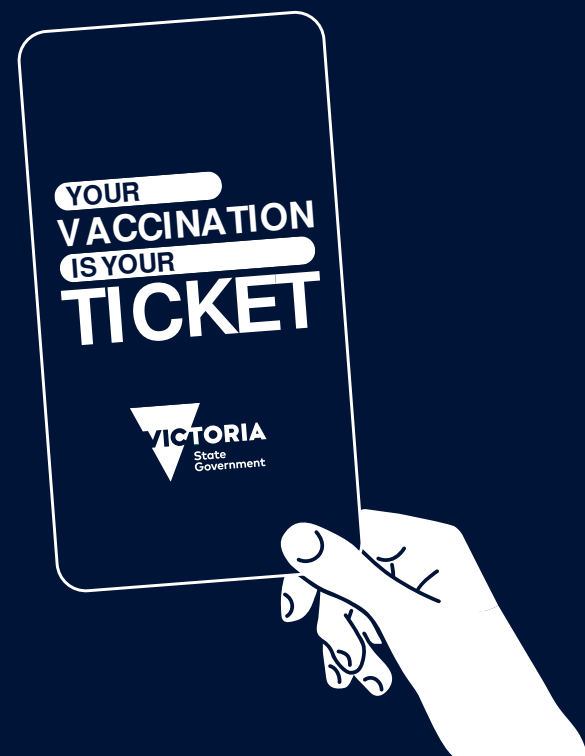
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Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



**Do you know any outstanding volunteers?**

NOMINATIONS are now open for the 2021 Volunteering Awards, which celebrate the extraordinary efforts of Victoria's hard-working volunteers.

The awards are an opportunity to recognise the incredible support volunteers have given to others during a difficult year; whether it's delivering essential food relief and medical supplies or helping seniors video call loved ones, volunteers are the backbone of our community and we say thank you.

The efforts of volunteers, leaders and organisations will be recognised across eight awards categories, including for leadership, service, impact and teamwork.

A highlight is the Premier's Volunteer of the Year, who is recognised with the Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Award. The winner will receive a \$10,000 prize to donate to a not-for-profit organisation of their choice.

This year, Volunteering Victoria will combine its awards with the Victorian Government's Premier's Volunteer Champions Awards.

Nominations for the 2021 Volunteering Awards will close on Friday, January 14, 2022. Finalists will be announced on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 and winners will be acknowledged at an official ceremony in March 2022.

Following consultation with volunteers and community organisations, the state government is currently developing a Victorian Volunteer Strategy which will underpin efforts to ensure volunteers are supported and make volunteering more accessible.

For more information or to nominate someone, visit [volunteeringvictoria.org.au/events/volunteering-awards-2021](http://volunteeringvictoria.org.au/events/volunteering-awards-2021)

# Alexandra Remembers the SIEV X

by the Reverend Dr Paul Dalzell

IT was 16 years ago when Melissa and Millie helped St John's congregation create a pole,

which to this day is part of the Suspected Illegal Entry Vehicle X (unknown)(SIEV X) Memorial in Canberra.

SIEV X was the name given to boats of asylum seekers back in 2001. A fishing boat, overcrowded with asylum seekers sank in rough seas when its engine failed. Two large military vessels, likely to be from Australia, arrived in the night, shining spotlights on the water.

A Zodiac style boat was launched. The people in the water started calling and swimming towards the lights, but the boats restarted their engines and sailed away. Dozens more people died, some giving up in despair and just allowing themselves to drown.

Three hundred and fifty-three people died on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, 2001.

The SIEV X Memorial stands as a reminder of the need to do better in seeking out and rapidly processing asylum seekers in Indonesia and other refugee camps in our region. In a situation where there is no 'queue' to join, people will be forced into the arms of anyone who can promise them hope.

To remember the 20th anniversary of the SIEV X, and Alexandra's part in creating the memorial, Rural Australians for Refugees will be holding a vigil.

The four people photographed on the poster board are, with their families, being sponsored under the Special Humanitarian Visa Program. They are Asif and Maria, and Hamid and Samaya. They are at present hiding in Kabul, having fled their hometowns.

They are part of the persecuted Hazara minority and are on Taliban wanted lists for having worked with foreigners.

They are now waiting on visas and a way out of Afghanistan. Rural Australians for Refugees is calling on the Australian Government to increase the humanitarian intake, in line with other countries, to 20,000 extra places.



Di Cherry, Bev. Dick, Robyn Walsh, Barb Gamble and Ed Cherry. -S



Regional Australians for Refugees have sponsored the four Hazara Afghans pictured on the left. They are currently in hiding in Kabul.

**Open Gardens**  
YEA & DISTRICT

**Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 November 2021**

**EXCEPTIONAL GARDENS OPEN IN YEA AND DISTRICT**

Information available on Rotary Club of Yea website or phone 0431 752 367  
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**10AM - 5PM**  
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Maps and garden descriptions available on website from August

Rotary Club of Yea

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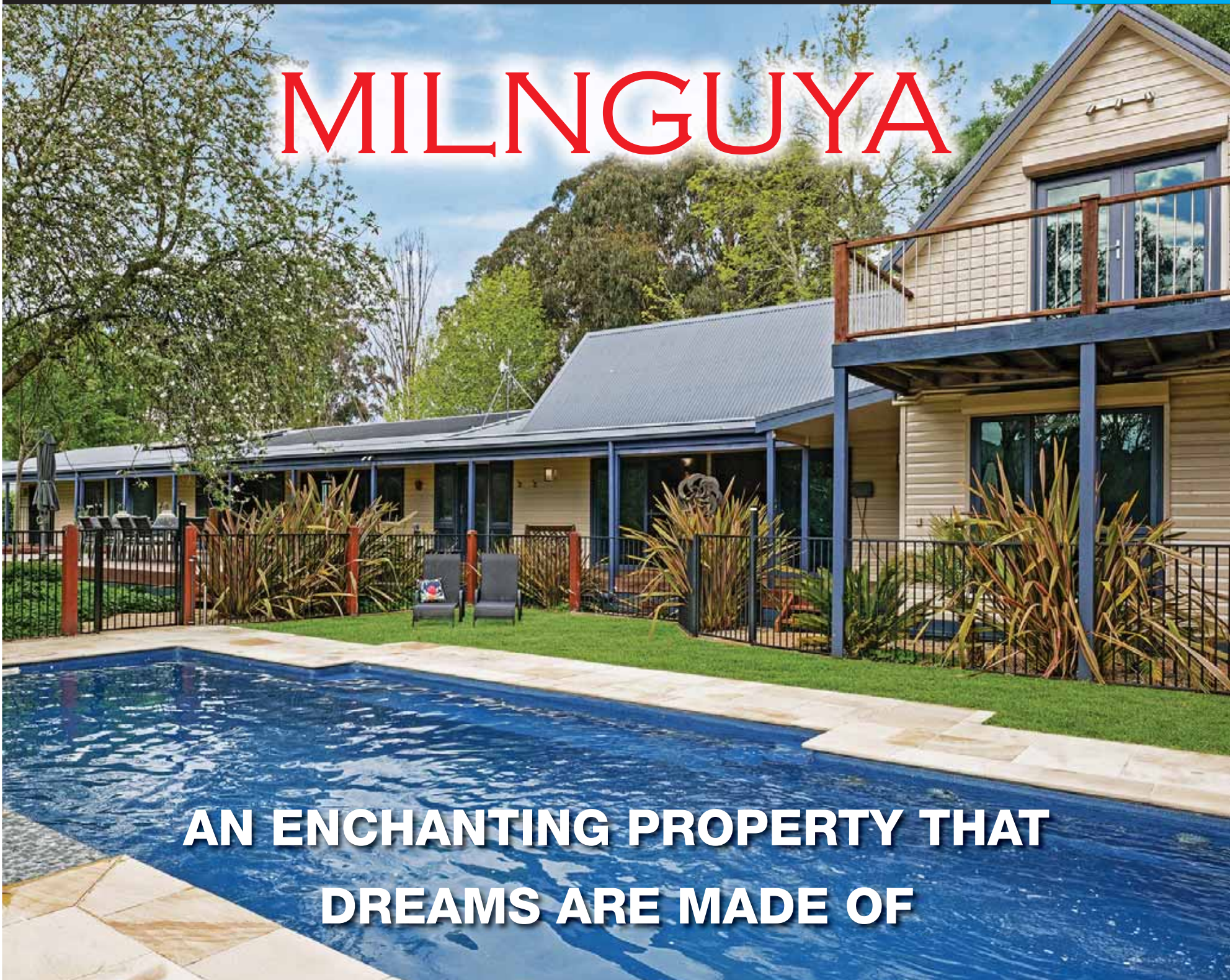
from The Alexandra Times to The Alexandra Standard  
**(A collection of articles)**

Compiled and published by Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd 2020.

# Real GUIDE Estate



## MILNGUYA



**AN ENCHANTING PROPERTY THAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF**

**eildon real estate**

**SEE PAGE 12**

404 Goulburn Valley Hwy, Eildon | FOR SALE VIA EOI CLOSING TUESDAY 30TH NOVEMBER AT 4PM

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This is a property that offers the new owners a chance to experience the beauty of the river, landscaped gardens, your own salt water heated pool, just move in and enjoy, it has been all done for you.

**Land Area:** 8240sqm (approx) with 146m (approx) of river frontage

## PROPERTY INFORMATION AND SPECIFICATIONS

### HEATING AND COOLING

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- Mud Room: Solid Tasmanian Oak Floor.

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- Asko dishwasher.
- Walk in Pantry: Caesarstone benchtops, custom cabinetry.
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- Pool / Spa: Salt water, solar heated pool/ Gazebo spa electric heated.
- House Garage: Two car capacity.
- Large Shed: Boat storage, workshop, wash bay, kitchen.
- Canopy: Caravan, Boat Canopy storage with a concrete slab.
- Property also features: Rose Garden, Citrus trees, Olive grove, Vineyard, Orchard, Children's play area gym.
- Tank Water: 280,600 Lts capacity.
- Water Licence: 2mg water licence with GMW.

Much more not listed!

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For further information on this magnificent property phone Mark Howard on: 0448 606 062



*Nik Patek. -S*

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After leaving school he moved away to gain experience working in the northern outback pastoral industry and during

that same period Nik completed his Diploma of Farm Management at the Glenormiston Agricultural College.

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Contact Nik on 0409 936 210, or send an email to [nik.patek@raywhite.com.au](mailto:nik.patek@raywhite.com.au)

To find out more about Ray White Rural Victoria, visit [RayWhiteRuralVictoria.com.au](http://RayWhiteRuralVictoria.com.au)

## Tracking down Chilean needle grass

CHILEAN needle grass is a perennial tussock-forming grass and is one of 32 declared Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) in Australia. It's commonly mistaken for native spear grass, but has potentially disastrous economic and environmental impacts.

Murrindindi Shire Council recently commenced its Rural Roadside Weed Control Program to treat many of our roadsides for noxious weeds, including Chilean needle grass. We're asking everyone to keep their eyes peeled for this weed. If you find Chilean needle grass on public land or on your own property, please get in touch with council.

Council's Environment Portfolio Councillor Karine Haslam said Chilean needle grass is a WoNS because of its ability to spread quickly and out-compete pasture and native grasses.

"This grass can severely reduce pasture productivity and contaminate hay. Its needle-like seed can injure both stock and other animals by burrowing into their mouths, hides and fleeces," Cr Haslam said.

"Chilean needle grass has been found in patches along the Goulburn Valley Highway from Molesworth to Homewood, the Melba Highway from Yea to Murrindindi Road and the Yea-Whittlesea Road from Yea to Deepdene Road. It has also been found on several municipal roadsides

within these vicinities and in patches along the Great Victorian Rail Trail.

"Now is the time to identify Chilean needle grass, while it is in flower, and there is a small window of opportunity to treat between flowering and seed set. Given the weed's ability to create persistent seed, it is important to act quickly and collectively to remove any known sites as well as newly-established infestations.

"Chilean needle grass produces seed in the base, stem and panicle of the plant so slashing or grazing alone, before flowering and seed set, won't adequately control it. In fact this weed is known to be spread by slashers and other machinery, so good vehicle hygiene is important in preventing its spread. A combined approach, which includes chemical control, is most likely to deliver the best result," Cr Haslam said.

"It is a requirement for land owners and managers to control 'restricted' weeds on their property and these weeds cannot be transported or sold lawfully within Victoria. This is especially important for hay growers to note," Cr Haslam added.

If you suspect you have this weed on your property but are unsure and would like help with identification of this pest, please also contact council on 5772 0333 to discuss before treating to avoid the inadvertent removal of Australian native spear grass.



*If you suspect you have Chilean Needle Grass on your property or need help to identify it, please contact council on 5772 0333. -S*

# KIDS PUZZLES

# PUZZLES

**SOLUTIONS**  
Page 16

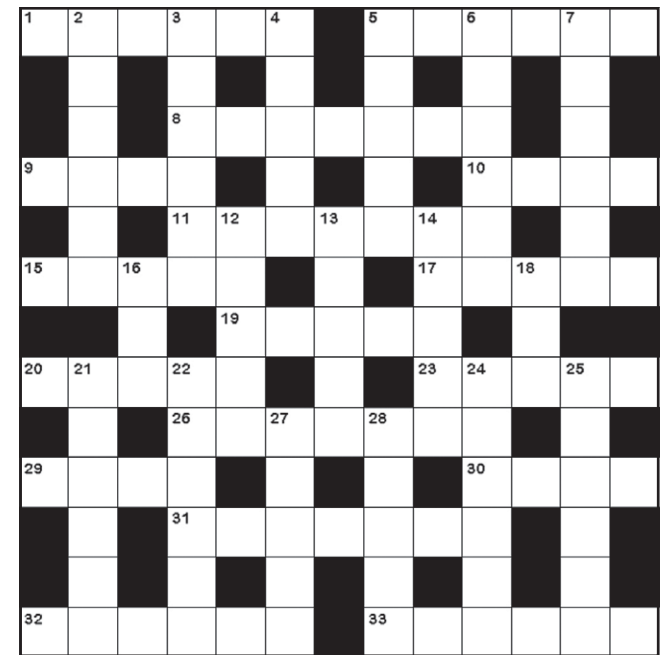
## Colour



## Crossword

### ACROSS

1. The final or eventual outcome to a situation.
5. A deep purplish red the color of ripe cherries.
8. One who does not side with any party in a dispute.
9. Excessively self-satisfied and complacent.
10. At a considerable distance in space or time.
11. Refined and tasteful in appearance and style.
15. A short musical composition for a solo instrument.
17. So strange as to inspire a feeling of fear.
19. A distant view seen through rows of trees.
20. Large yellow root of a rutabaga plant.
23. Verse with like-sounding words at the ends of lines.
26. A feeling of deep regret for a wrong committed.
29. Something that is not authentic or genuine.
30. A hill or ridge of sand created by the wind.
31. Removing dust from things by brushing or wiping.
32. A solid food made from the pressed curd of milk.
33. Christian festival where children get chocolate eggs.



### DOWN

2. A document giving official permission to do something.
3. The outcome was contingent on a single factor.
4. A temporary agreement to cease hostilities.
5. Around about the approximate time or date of.
6. Make contact with someone and communicate.
7. An overland expedition for hunting or exploring.
12. A natural embankment built up by a river.
13. Vigorous and enthusiastic enjoyment.
14. Moves closer and closer to a conclusion.
16. To take advantage of a friend for one's own end.
18. One of the stiff bony rods in the fin of a fish.
21. An abundance of money and possessions.
22. Coat food by dipping into flour before cooking.
24. Fences formed by rows of closely planted bushes.
25. Threaten someone in a violent manner.
27. Billiards stroke made with the cue held almost vertical.
28. To set in an upright or erect position.

## Word Search: Halloween

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

- BATS
- BOO
- CHOCOLATE
- DRESS UP
- GHOST
- MASK
- PUMPKIN
- ROBOTS
- SCARY
- SPIDERS
- TRICK OR TREAT
- WITCH

## Word Search: Cheese

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

- BLUE
- CAMEMBERT
- CHEDDAR
- CHEVRE
- COTTAGE
- CURD
- EDAM
- EMMENTAL
- FETA
- GORGONZOLA
- GOUDA
- HALOUMI
- HAVARTI
- MOZZARELLA
- PANEER
- PECORINO
- SMOKED

## Jokes

**Q:** Why are frogs always so happy?

**Q:** Why was six worried?



## Sudoku

**Difficulty: Medium**

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

	2				
	4				1
	3	5			2
2			3	6	
3				1	
				5	

## Trivia

**Q:** Where was the below image taken?



## Sudoku - Squiggly

**Difficulty: Easy**

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.

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

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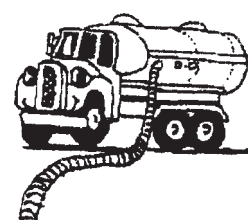
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Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish visited Darlingford on Friday, October 22, to present a lovely new Australia flag to the residents. Darlingford would like to thank Cindy for her ongoing support of the home and the local community. Pictured are George W, Cindy McLeish, George G, Les, board member Alison, and James. -S



George and Darlingford CEO Judy Brookes, supervised by Cindy McLeish (right), proudly raising the flag in the rose garden. -S

# Marysville's new mosaics

INSPIRED by the Marysville Garden Group's 'Marysville Plan' project, the large concrete planters installed in the garden area in front of MiRa were upgraded to works of mosaic art by people in the Marysville area.

The collaborative project was led by artist Jane Fraga, with weekly sessions every Wednesday either in MiRa, supported at home (contactless), or outside with instruction. The activity included guided and active participation, vocal support, sharing of stories, catering, materials, transport and advice.

The project was developed with willing community members, building capacity, sharing skills and actively engaging with passers-by, from local kids through to visiting regional tourists.

COVID-19 restrictions meant that the number of people working on the project at any one time had to be reduced. Jane managed this issue by dividing the work into smaller portions, specialising in different skill areas at different times. She even tailored and delivered 'work-at-home' packs for the lockdown periods and upskilled herself in new techniques for installation to make the most of the time available. Through her diligence, the project was still delivered on the due date.

The organisers estimated that at least 26 people from Marysville and surrounds worked on the project with a combined total of more than 200 hours.

They are very pleased with the outcome of the project, and there has been much verbal feedback around the areas of connectedness, social inclusion and beauty.

Marysville resident Bronwyn Ondraczek commented, "As a member of the team I am so delighted to have my contribution sitting

there for all time. Many of you have those contributions scattered throughout town from your wonderful efforts at rebuilding both the town and a sense of community. I never thought I could 'do art' but with Jane's gentle guidance, talent and skill, I have discovered the joy and peace that comes when doing art. A wonderful activity to

soothe us through these times of separation from family and other friends. I'm looking forward to them being able to see it in reality.

The Community Arts Group Winter Welcome project was presented by TAG and supported by the Marysville and Triangle Community Foundation.



Bronwyn Ondraczek at one of the mosaic garden beds in Marysville. -S



Glenys and Jim at the magpie mosaic on the police sign in Marysville. -S

# PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

**TRIVIA**

Alexandra race club callers box



**CROSSWORD**

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

**SUDOKU**

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

**KIDS - JOKES**

A: They eat whatever bugs them!

A: Because seven eight nine.

**KIDS - SUDOKU**

1	2	6	5	3	4
5	4	3	6	2	1
6	3	5	1	4	2
2	1	4	3	6	5
3	5	2	4	1	6
4	6	1	2	5	3



# Classifieds

Call 5772 1002 now  
to book your ad today!  
Fax 5772 1603 or Email  
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au



## Classified information

### Office hours

#### Alexandra

Monday -Thursday 9am-5pm  
Fridays 9am-3pm  
Ph 5772 1002

E: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

#### Yea

Wednesday & Friday 10am-4pm.  
Ph: 5797 2468

E: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

### Deadline - Noon Monday

#### Proofs

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

#### Payment

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

#### Death notices

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

#### Vehicles/Deals on Wheels

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

#### Bargains under \$100

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

#### Animals

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

#### Refunds or credits

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

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#### Copy right

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Print Post Approved - PP 10000292.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### Gaby's Big Veggie Seedling Sale

Every Sunday and Monday  
9am to 3pm  
from October 24  
11 Patagorang Place, Buxton  
0429 421 939

Rotary



2021

#### REMEMBRANCE DAY COMMEMORATION

at the YEA CENOTAPH  
Thursday, November 11  
commencing 10.50am

Members of the public are requested to assemble by

10.45am

Enquiries:

Yea Rotary 0408 015 196

### MEETINGS



#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING via ZOOM

7pm, Tuesday, November 16, 2021  
Yea Community House, 15 Semi Circle, Yea

Only members are eligible to nominate and vote.

Membership applications and committee nomination form as are available at the Yea Community House

Enquiries: 5797 3070  
info@yeahouse.org.au

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



#### The Alexandra Football/Netball Club

#### COACHES WANTED

The Alexandra Football/Netball Club is seeking expressions of interest for the following coaching positions in 2022

AFL Outer East Football Coaches on Saturdays – under 17 football with A, B, C and D grade netball;

Seymour District Junior Football Netball League on Sundays – under 9, under 11, under 13 and under 15 football with under 11, under 13 and under 15 netball.

Expressions of interest can be emailed to alexfootball@virtual.net.au and submitted by 5pm **Tuesday, October 26**. Any enquiries can be directed to Michelle Jack and Ray Steyger.

### SITUATION VACANT



#### CLEANER

Full time and part time

Cleaners required due to lockdown ending. Full time and part time positions available. Above award wages and bonus' for productivity and efficiency. Phone 5772 1735 or email: admin@thebreakaway.com.au

### SITUATION VACANT



#### CASUAL BAR STAFF

Seeking persons to assist during busy times including weddings, events, etc.

Experience an advantage but not necessary  
Current Responsible Serving of Alcohol Certificate required (assistance can be given to apply online for Certificate)

Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination

Join our friendly team in the pleasant environment of the Marysville Community Golf and Bowls Club

Call Jillian on 0431 398 996



#### 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@glencoe.com.au



#### St Mary's F-10 College Seymour Humanities/English Secondary Teacher Full-time, ongoing position 2022

Seymour is a historic railway township located in the Southern end of the Goulburn Valley in the Mitchell Shire and is located 100 kilometres north of Melbourne. On the banks of the Goulburn River; two minutes from the Hume Freeway with multiple daily V-Line services. Nearby to the Great Victorian Rail Trail, gourmet fair and scenic countryside, Seymour makes for a great central location to all of Victoria's offerings.

A new Primary Learning Centre will open at the college in 2022 and a Master Plan is in development alongside the F-12 Pathway team researching a return to Year 12.

If you are a graduate or experienced teacher and want to join our wonderful staff and students and teach in the spirit of Mercy Values, then your application will be welcomed for the above secondary teacher position starting in 2022.

Please refer to [www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au/our-school/employment-opportunities/](http://www.smseymour.catholic.edu.au/our-school/employment-opportunities/) for the role description and application form. For enquiries please contact the Business Manager, Mrs Felicity Melville on 0407 354 960.

Please forward a resume, covering letter addressing the selection criteria and a completed application form to the Principal, Mr Wayne Smith at [employment@smseymour.catholic.edu.au](mailto:employment@smseymour.catholic.edu.au).

Applications close: 5pm November 5, 2021

St Mary's College promotes the safety, wellbeing and inclusion of all children

### SITUATION VACANT



Permanent casual position available at Chookies, we are looking for an enthusiastic person to join our team, requires HR licence. Please contact Chookies on 5772 2152 or email on [chookies@virtual.net.au](mailto:chookies@virtual.net.au) for further details.



Programmed Health Professionals Pty Ltd

#### Disability Support Worker

- Competitive rates and advanced rosters
- Career progression opportunities and access to ongoing training
- A great organisation that supports you - where safety, care, equality and service come first

#### About the Role:

Reliable and experienced Disability Support Workers required to assist our client in Yea (100km north of Melbourne CBD)

The service times are 10am - 2pm or 4pm - 9pm weekdays with paid travel.

Duties include - community access, domestic tasks and personal care.

Applicants should be aware that pm shifts will require that you are comfortable driving on rural roads at night.

#### What we need from you:

- Cert III or IV in Disability, Community, Aged Care Support or Individual Support
- Minimum 6 months recent experience
- Nursing students also encouraged to apply

So, it's over to you. If you would like to join our team, please APPLY now – send your CV to [phprecruitmentvic@programmed.com.au](mailto:phprecruitmentvic@programmed.com.au)

To learn more about working with Programmed, we encourage you to visit our website [programmed.com.au/care](http://programmed.com.au/care)



#### Quality Safety & Risk Manager

Yea & District Memorial Hospital is a small rural health service comprising 10 acute beds, 4 bay Urgent care centre, Aged Care facility with a 10 bedded nursing home and 15 bedded Hostel (with aging in place). We also deliver community health services to our community with community engagement and involvement a key strategic focus in the current plan.

#### We are currently seeking:

Quality Safety & Risk Manager who is an enthusiastic about service quality improvement to coordinate this varied work across the organisation.

Experience working in a quality management/coordination role desirable.

The Quality Safety and Risk Manager (QSRM) is responsible for providing leadership, direction, co-ordination and management of quality, safety and risk systems and improvements activities with Yea & District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) services.

The QSRM works collaboratively with the leadership team, clinical and non-clinical staff, and consumers to ensure that YDMH has an effective, coordinated, organisation-wide approach to the provision of quality improvement, incident and risk management, management of policies and procedures, emergency and safety management systems and accreditation process across all service areas of the organisation.

If this sounds of interest and you have the required experience, we'd love to hear from you.

Please forward your resumé, cover letter and responses to the position key selection criteria available via YDMH website

[www.yeahospital.org.au](http://www.yeahospital.org.au) by COB Friday 19th November 2021 to:

**Louise Sharkey**  
Director Clinical Services / General Manager  
[Louise.sharkey@ydmh.org.au](mailto:Louise.sharkey@ydmh.org.au)

# Classifieds

Call 5772 1002 now to book your ad today!

## BIRTHDAYS

**HAIG, JAMES** 80th Birthday. Happy birthday to my big brother. Lots of love from little sister Wendy, also, Bob, Caroline, Glen, Jasmine, Finn, Ollie, Melanie, Glenn, Jade and Ronan.

## DEATH NOTICES

**BETT, John.** A long time parishoner of St Lukes Anglican Church in Yea. Parish Councillor, Warden and a friend to all. He was a great contributor to the church and will be sadly missed. Our condolences to John's family.

**BETT, JOHN** Gordon. Over 50 years of friendship. Rest in Peace. L.J.

## FOR HIRE

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

## FOR SALE

**COUCH THREE SEATER.** Mid blue. 1m high, 2.2m wide, 1m deep. VGC. \$250. 0407 689 221.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**WILD GAME HARVESTER**  
Properties wanted for the harvest of kangaroo and deer. Harvester lic: KH0092 and fully insured. Please contact 0488 997 927.

## YARCK - IRIS GARDEN OPEN

October 23 and 24  
October 30, and 31  
10am-3pm.  
6639 Maroondah Highway,  
All COVID-19 guidelines in place. Ph 0408 517 309.

## TO RENT/LEASE

**FURNISHED COTTAGE.** 5km to Alexandra. Great views. \$300/week. Ph: 0400 030 677.

## GARAGE SALES

**MONSTER GARAGE SALE.** 3 households of goods, collectables, bric-a-brac, Sat 30/10/2021 and Sun 31/10/2021. 9am-4pm. No early callers. Masks and social distancing essential. Pond Cottage, 8 Cameron Close, Buxton. 0421 653 542.

## MEETINGS

**Yea Football Netball Club**  
Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday, November, 10 at 7.30pm at Yea Recreation Reserve. Election of Office Bearers. Senior trophies will be presented to winners in attendance. Players, members parents and supporters encouraged to attend. Please check Yea FNC Facebook nearer the date for COVID-19 impacts and restrictions.

**Alexandra and District Kindergarten**  
Annual General Meeting. Monday November 22 2021 at 5:30pm. Location - 15 Bayley Street, Alexandra. May be via Zoom if restrictions are still in place. Any questions, please call Sally Phelps on 5772 1387 or Alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

## MEETINGS

**ALEXANDRA RACE CLUB AGM**  
Entertainment Center  
Tuesday, November 9 at 5.30pm  
For more information 0467 413 767

## ALEXANDRA LAWN TENNIS CLUB AGM and GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Wednesday, October 27 at 7pm at the tennis club rooms. All members and new members are welcome to attend. For further information contact club president Bec Lyttle 0405 055 993.



Yea CWA will hold its AGM on Thursday November, 25 2021, in the RSL Hall, Snodgrass Street, Yea at 10.30am.

All are welcome.

**THE ALEXANDRA FOOTBALL/NETBALL CLUB AGM** will be held at the club rooms at 7pm on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. Everyone welcome. Any queries please contact Kylie Cairns or Ray Steyger.

## MAINTENANCE

**RUBBISH REMOVED**  
clean ups, mowing, scrap removed, building maintenance. Ph Kev 0490 880 816.

## PETS & LIVESTOCK

**ISA BROWN LAYERS**  
- POL, \$24 each. Ph 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

## SITUATION VACANT

**DARLINGFORD UPPER GOULBURN NURSING HOME**  
Join a great team of caring staff at Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home. Darlingford is a 51 bed residential aged care facility that accommodates residents with a variety of care needs.  
**CASUAL / PERMANENT VACANCIES**  
Endorsed Enrolled Nurses  
Personal Care Workers  
Food & Domestic Staff  
COVID-19 vaccination and police check 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 [www.dugnh.com.au](http://www.dugnh.com.au)  
Applications should be addressed to CEO, DUGNH, PO Box 104 Eildon VIC 3713 or email [jbrookes@dugnh.com.au](mailto:jbrookes@dugnh.com.au)  
Closing date: November 12, 2021

**Koala Cherries**  
Come and work with us  
Cherries are coming  
Koala Cherries Pty Ltd are located in Yarck, Victoria. We are producers of premium fresh cherries and supply both the domestic and overseas markets. We need great people to help ensure we produce the highest quality product and the best tasting cherries for these markets. We are seeking to fill multiple positions for our upcoming cherry harvest which begins in November. These are all casual, seasonal positions with fulltime hours available from early-mid November through until mid-January, including the Christmas and New Year periods as rostered.  
**Positions are varied and include:**  
• Packing and picking staff  
• On-farm harvest crew  
• General cleaners (packhouse and farms)  
• Grader operators  
• Forklift drivers  
• Quality Control Technicians  
• COVID-19 Marshals  
• Drone operators  
• Administration  
Please refer to our website <https://koalacherries.com.au/pages/workwithus> for more information on the roles available.

## SITUATION VACANT

**ADVENTURE RESORT**  
**Outdoor Activities**  
Casual position  
We are looking for positive, outgoing staff to join our team to run and supervise our outdoor activities for students at school camp. Experience not essential and training will be provided. Flexible hours, up to 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday.  
If you have an interest in working outdoors and would like further information, please give us a call any time on 5772 1409 for a chat or email [info@alexandraadventureresort.com.au](mailto:info@alexandraadventureresort.com.au)

## On the ground support for fruit fly management

THE Victorian Government is supporting key fruit production regions across the state to protect their produce from the destructive impacts of Queensland Fruit Fly.

Minister for Agriculture Mary-Anne Thomas announced that \$2.9 million will go towards Fruit Fly Strategy grants for the Greater Sunraysia, Goulburn Murray Valley and Yarra Valley regions. This funding will support fruit fly management programs, explore new ways to manage the pest and employ full-time regional coordinators.

"Fruit fly can build up in home gardens and unmanaged lands, leading to problems on productive farms and that's why we are empowering industry and local communities to lead the management of Queensland fruit fly," Ms Thomas said.

"Our fruit fly management programs in key horticultural regions are vital and I look forward to see how these grants will support regional fruit fly coordinators to work on the ground to manage this major economic pest."

Fruit flies can be a major pest, damaging a range of fruit and vegetable crops. The Queensland fruit fly can impact production and markets for horticulture industries, which export more than \$1.6 billion of produce.

Fruit fly management programs will plan for the long term, engage local communities to help protect neighbouring horticultural production, remove unwanted fruit trees, trial new monitoring methods and apply new crop waste management techniques on farm.

The grants are a key part of the state government's Fruit Fly Strategy 2021-25 which has been developed in close consultation with industry and will deliver awareness programs that empower the community and growers to keep their crops free of damage from fruit fly.

This is part of the state government's \$6.4 million investment announced in the Victorian Budget 2021/22 to manage Queensland fruit fly and protect horticultural production and jobs.

The state government's work to manage the Queensland fruit fly will protect the 14,000 jobs supported by horticulture production across the state.

For more information visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/qff](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/qff)

## Clock ticking on energy bonus

THE Victorian Government is encouraging people doing it tough to apply for the one-off \$250 Power Saving Bonus.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio detailed that 300,000 payments, totalling \$76.6 million, had already been made to Victorians since the program was established 12 months ago.

"There are still many Victorian households who are eligible for help with their energy bills through this bonus and I encourage everyone who needs help to apply," Ms D'Ambrosio said.

"This one-off \$250 payment provides immediate financial relief for those struggling to pay their power bills.

"We want to help as many vulnerable households as we can, whether that's through a quick call with the Victorian Energy Compare helpline or by a visit to one of program partners."

Eligible households include those receiving payments through the Pension Concession, JobSeeker, Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance programs, or who hold a Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold Card.

People who may not have a computer or need help applying can get help through community outreach partners including Brotherhood of St. Laurence, Consumer Policy Research Centre, Good Shepherd and Neighbourhood House, Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria, Consumer Action Law Centre, and State Trustees Limited.

The Power Saving Bonus is part of the state government's \$797 million household energy affordability package.

The program closes Monday, January 21, 2022. To apply for the bonus visit [compare.energy.vic.gov.au](http://compare.energy.vic.gov.au)

# Alexandra Primary School



The students at Alexandra Primary School enjoyed being back with their friends when schools re-opened for all students on Friday, October 22. -S



Alexandra Primary School students having fun with Lego. -S



There was plenty for the children to work on when they returned to the classroom. -S

# Adapting to climate change and managing Victoria's bushfire risk

An open letter from Chris Hardman, Chief Fire Officer, Forest Fire Management Victoria

AS the Chief Fire Officer for Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic), my role is to keep the community and our environment safe from bushfire risk. More than ever, the impacts of climate change and its impact on the work we do is at the forefront of our thinking, planning and actions.

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report is a clear reminder that we have a fight on our hands.

Victoria is one of the most bushfire prone regions in the world, and while bushfires have always been present in Victoria, climate change is making bushfires worse.

We've seen a 170 per cent increase in bushfire ignitions in the past 50 years. In that same period, we've seen a 20 per cent decrease in spring rain.

There has been a 40 per cent increase in very high fire danger days, and this is set to triple in some parts of Victoria by the end of the century according to research recently published in the International Journal of Wildland Fire.

Every year, we have more than 1000 bushfires in Victoria and 90 per cent of those start in our forests, underlining the crucial role we have at Forest Fire Management Victoria in protecting communities, local economies and the environment.

The drier conditions mean we are living with more flammable forest undergrowth and drier gullies, which combine to create faster moving, more intense fires. Fire risk is increasing in more and different places than we've previously recorded.

We are seeing more unstable weather patterns which have become increasingly more extreme and damaging.

What this tells us is we need to be smarter and find new ways to manage our bushfire risk to protect communities and our environment.

Alongside my colleagues at FFMVic, communities and partner fire agencies the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV), we are continuously innovating to meet these risks head on:

There are fewer 'ideal' days for doing planned burns, so we've moved from autumn and spring burning to a year-round approach; we are able and ready to conduct burns 365 days a year when conditions allow.

Where planned burns aren't possible, either due to the type of landscape or proximity to communities, we are increasing our use of mechanical fuel treatments, this means mulching, slashing and mowing vegetation so it's not available to burn.

We're doing more precision burning close to where people live to help protect homes, water catchments, power supplies, schools, hospitals and key transport routes.

We are building more Strategic Fuel Breaks; these are literal breaks in forested areas that help us to stop fires from continuing on a path to a community or critical infrastructure, and they double as access routes for our forest firefighters to get to any fires that do start.

We are increasing our capacity for effective and rapid first response. We know that fires are going to start, so we need to be able to access them and put them out quickly before they spread. Last bushfire season 95 per cent of all fires were contained at the first attack (by 8am the next day) and 97 per cent were kept to less than five hectares in area.

We are using science and modelling to best plan where and how our bushfire risk management activities should happen. We don't just guess or do work to meet a meaningless target. We use weather and fire condition scenario models to show what could happen under those conditions if a fire were to start in a particular location, and figure out the best ways to stop or slow fires under those conditions.

Out in the back country forests we are doing large scale cool and mosaic (patch) burning to reduce the size, impact and intensity of fires that take hold giving us more ability to respond and contain them before they become mega-fires.

We also recognise and value the knowledge and experience of Victoria's First Peoples in living with fire. We actively support and enable Traditional Owner led cultural fire practices across the state, leading to healing and healthier Country.

While we're expecting another relatively mild bushfire season in Victoria this year, we need to remember it's everyone's responsibility to manage bushfire risk, that includes being aware of campfire safety rules. A campfire that gets out of control can be disastrous.

To find out more about what my team at FFMVic and I are doing to help keep Victoria safe from bushfires, head to [ffm.vic.gov.au/bushfire-management-facts](http://ffm.vic.gov.au/bushfire-management-facts)

## Alexandra Seniors report

by Philip Smith

**HALLELUJAH.** It seems as though we can get back to something resembling normal. With restrictions lifted we are able to reopen the hall for the bowlers, bridge and 500 players, who can once again meet and enjoy gathering together after such a long break.

Our weekly social meetings will resume on Friday, October 29 for all fully vaccinated members. We have yet to nominate a bouncer, sorry, COVID-19 marshall for the door, but Max seems the obvious candidate.

The club's committee assembled on Tuesday to discuss arrangements for our long postponed AGM, and any activities that we may be able to put in place to get things back to how life used to be.

I hope my little quotes each week since July, when all this began, have kept you informed and occasionally amused. Here's a few more.

*Thomas Fuller on COVID-19 protestors:* "The mob has many heads but no brains."

*Hyman Richover:* "The more you sweat in peace the less you bleed in war."

*Benjamin Franklin was a wise man:* The best thing to give to your enemy is, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your ear. To your child, a good example. To your father, reverence. To your Mother, conduct that will make her proud of you. To yourself, respect. To all men, charity.

*David Belasco:* "The art of showmanship is to give the public what it wants just before it knows what it wants."

*Anon:* Remember when feminist movements were something men gathered on street corners to admire as the girls strolled by.

We are always happy to welcome new members to join in bridge, bowls, 500 or UNO. If you want a good laugh, contact president Gai or myself on 0429 590 076 for more details.

# Yea COVID-19 update

YEA and surrounds, and the entire Murrindindi Shire community, have worked hard to control, and manage the recent outbreak of COVID-19 in the area and to do their best to assist those diagnosed, or people having to isolate.

As of Monday, October 25, there were 16 active COVID-19 cases in the Murrindindi Shire, bringing the total of cases in the shire since the commencement of the pandemic to 37.

In the 3717 postcode area, and also as of Monday, October 25, there were 10 active COVID-19 cases, and 18 in total during the pandemic.

Businesses and groups in town had shut as staff members waited for test results, after being caught up at the exposure sites.

Last week, Mint and Jam and the Yea Community House were both made to close its doors as staff members had to isolate while waiting for results. Mint and Jam reopened on Monday, October 25 after its staff returned negative results, and were able to deep clean the store before opening its doors.

### Current exposure sites

Anyone who visited these locations was urged to get tested and isolate.

The Royal Mail Hotel: exposure period recorded as Sunday, October 17. Staff tested negative. It is expected to re-open this week.

Yea Medical Centre: exposure period recorded as Friday, October 15 from 11.45am to 12.45pm. It has now re-opened.

Provender Bakehouse: exposure period recorded as all times from Wednesday, October 13 to Saturday, October 16. This was later updated to being a one day exposure, on Saturday October 16 from opening to 11.30am. The staff tested negative and it is expected to re-open this week.

### COVID-19 testing

Director Clinical Services, Louise Sharkey, of Yea and District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) said there has been a large turnout of community members coming forward to

be tested, just at the hospital alone.

"YDMH COVID-19 testing staff completed 278 tests in the past week as Yea township saw COVID-19 cases emerge," Ms Sharkey said.

"Our testing staff made themselves available to ensure testing was accessible in the town for those requiring urgent testing some coming in and doing additional time from their days off to cope with the demand.

"Alexandra and Seymour Hospitals kindly both offered to assist with any unmet demand we had which we were very grateful for and we worked closely with the medical practice also during this time assisting with their building deep cleaning requirements."

If you have any symptoms, the best thing for you to do is to go and get tested immediately.

COVID-19 testing is available at Yea and District Memorial Hospital, but due to high demand, bookings are absolutely essential. Call 0428 618 994 to book your appointment.

Alternatively, Seymour Health and Alexandra District Health are both offering COVID-19 testing.

Seymour Health's COVID-19 clinic site is open seven days a week from 9am to 4pm. To book an appointment, call 0436 345 573.

Alexandra District Health's COVID-19 testing clinic at The Cottage is open seven days a week. To be tested from 1 to 4.30pm, no booking is required. If you require a test out of these times, call the Nurse in Charge on 0418 589 131.

### Vaccination clinic at YDMH

One more planned vaccination clinic will be held at YDMH on Monday, November 8. The clinic will be open from 10am to 3pm, and appointments can be made by calling 1800 675 398.

Alternatively, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment](http://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment) to book your vaccination appointment at a state clinic or use the vaccine clinic finder tool to see what local pharmacies and community health services have appointments available.

# Tertiary scholarships for regional students

REGIONAL and remote students are encouraged to apply for a scholarship worth up to \$18,000 to support their tertiary education.

Round five of the Rural and Regional Enterprise Scholarships is still open, to support eligible students to undertake courses from Certificate IV to PhD level.

The Australian Government has committed more than \$62 million for the program since 2017. This has delivered more than 3000 scholarships to regional and remote students to access a tertiary education.

Minister for Regionalisation, Regional Communications and Regional Education, Senator Bridget McKenzie said the program

provides students financial support to go towards the costs of completing their studies.

"These scholarships have supported students who would otherwise not have been able to afford a higher education," Minister McKenzie said.

"We want to provide as many opportunities as possible for individuals in regional and remote Australia to pursue further study, and relieving the financial burden is one way to help them to do that.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for regional and remote students and I encourage all those eligible to apply."

For more information and to apply, visit [qtac.edu.au/rres-program](http://qtac.edu.au/rres-program)



THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

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## Alexandra Golf Club news

by Elizabeth Goss

ALTHOUGH no golf competitions have been allowed over recent weeks, there has been a lot of activity at the golf course. Many eager players have been honing their skills ready for the championship rounds.

The wonderful volunteers have been busy mowing the extra spring growth, sprucing everything up for the summer season and then the big job of annual coring. Your work is appreciated.

It is also good to report that Brendan Smith is our new men's captain. Welcome to the role Brendan.

The bright sunny weather on Tuesday and Wednesday brought out good numbers of players making the most of the course and the outside deck. Next weeks hit off on

Tuesday is 11.30am for noon, on Wednesday it will be 8.30am for 9.

The highlight of the week was the resumption of competitions on Saturday. These are the results from a field of 20 players.

The A Grade winner was Dylon Jack (8) 36 points and the runner up was Michael Bossonnet (11) 35 points. The B Grade winner, keeping things in the family, was Ben Jack (27) 38 points and the runner up was Greg Millard (25) 36. Nearest the pin on the second was Sam Kidd, on the fifth Wayne Haggis, on the seventh and 12th Michael Bossonnet and on the 18th Luke Heard. Ball Run Down: Sam Kidd, Brendan Smith, Alister Hutt, Russell Purcell, Simon Rouget and Jarrod Williamson. Next Saturday, October 30 is Stableford. Names in by 11.30am for noon hit off.

## Ready to hit the track

by Denis Smith

WITH a Health Department directive that all spectators 16 and over be double vaccinated against COVID-19, Yea & St Pats Racing Club committee are very confident of providing a very safe environment for all our patrons at their November 13 and December 18 meetings.

In a welcome change recently, it was announced that, provided social distancing of 1.5 metres can be observed, mask wearing outdoors would be optional.

Bookings are already coming in for the event, which is capped

at this stage to 1000 people, with several groups already taking up shaded sites and umbrella options to accommodate their friends.

Patrons who take a Club Membership (a bargain at \$25 covering you for all four meetings), do not have to buy a general admission for themselves as part of a package. All they have to remember is to count themselves as one of the eight (for example) in an umbrella package.

In other good news for the club, the track easily passed its annual inspection. CRV Manager of Picnic Racing said that he had rarely seen the track in such great condition

and praised the track committee for their work.

While bookmakers and the TAB van will be at the races for patrons, in a new innovation, punters who use their phones or tablets to bet with the TAB should turn on their 'venue mode' which not only puts them up for great offers from the TAB, but ensures that the club benefits from the turnover that they generate; a win all round for everyone.

You can bring their own picnic, or there will be plenty of food and drinks available and, of course, our Rustic Bar will be selling cold drinks.

## Buxton Primary School



Buxton Primary School students, pleased to be back at school. -S

## Eildon Primary School



Students at Eildon Primary School enjoying the return to school. -S



Eildon Primary School students having fun in the school grounds. -S