

The Yea Chronicle

PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

With which is incorporated The Yea Telegraph, The Yea Telephone and Upper Goulburn Advocate

Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, April 22, 2026 \$2.50 inc. GST

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Young people get \$140,000 boost



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Final Yea Racing meet of season



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Disaster Relief Australia calls in administrators

DISASTER Relief Australia called in administrators on March 13 following allegations of mismanagement. These allegations were eventually unproven, however it led to the Federal Government pulling their funding, according to a report in the *Herald Sun*.

The administrators lodged a report with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, stating that the organisation has about \$2.8 million in assets, with about \$2.63 million likely to be

recovered. Employees are owed almost half a million dollars in unpaid entitlements. There are also 59 other creditors.

Board member Major General Andrew Freeman sought the reinstatement of federal funding after the organisation had been cleared, but the request was denied. Administrators were then called in.

In a Facebook post on January 13, shortly after the fires which decimated our region, the veteran-led Disaster Relief Australia said,

"Disaster Relief Australia volunteers have deployed into Victoria to coordinate and support bushfire recovery efforts. Tasked by National Emergency Management Agency at the request of the Victorian State Government, our volunteers will lead and supervise spontaneous and community volunteers across Longwood, Harcourt, Streatham, and Grass Flat as they clear debris and fire damaged trees. Our veteran volunteers have the skills and experience to coordinate spontaneous volunteer efforts in

the field and ensure they can safely, efficiently, and practically assist with recovery tasks in their own areas. We look forward to supporting the communities of Victoria."

In another post on February 26, they said, "Our volunteers have been on the ground in Victoria for more than two weeks to help communities begin to recover after devastating bushfires swept through the area in January. So far, more than 90 DRA volunteers have deployed alongside 192 NAB Foundation Recovery Crew community volunteers. Together, they have spent 5035 hours in the field helping residents in and around Harcourt, Grass Flat, Streatham and Longwood. We have cleared debris, felled burnt trees and removed damaged property. Our work is not yet done. We will take a brief break and return on March 4 at the request of Emergency Recovery Victoria, to provide further support in the coming months."

The Yea Tennis Club and Yea Football Netball Club provided access to their clubhouses while the team was in the area.

The last post on their Facebook page was on March 11.

The organisation was awarded the 2023 Australian Charity of the Year.

Disaster Relief Australia was engaged by the Victorian Government to complete clean-up related activities in the Longwood and Harcourt fire footprints.

Emergency Management Victoria were asked whether they were planning to put additional supports in place, given the issues with Disaster Relief Australia.

An Emergency Management Victoria spokesperson responded, "We acknowledge that this is an uncertain time for everyone at Disaster Relief Australia. Emergency Management Victoria continues to work with impacted council areas to understand the recovery needs of communities. Recovery supports continue to be available for people impacted by the January 2026 Victorian bushfires. We encourage anybody who needs help to call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760. Disaster Relief Australia clean-up activities that are underway remain unaffected."

A Clean-up Program is available through Emergency Recovery Victoria to support eligible people whose homes or properties were impacted by the January 2026 Victorian bushfires. The program provides demolition for people who cannot access it through their insurance because: they do not have insurance, or they are underinsured and their insurance would be inadequate to accommodate demolition and a rebuild activity. This includes removing eligible damaged homes, business and community assets at no cost. Supporting structures such as sheds may also be eligible. The Clean-up Program is not designed to replace or cover the total losses caused by the January 2026 Victorian bushfires. Find out more about the eligibility criteria for the ERV Clean-up Program at vic.gov.au/clean-support-january-2026-bushfires or call the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760.



Pat Roberts, Celia Weston and Dot Brown enjoying their day out at the Yea races. -BD

Farm leaders unite to demand smarter Murray Darling Basin management

AS conflict in the Middle East drives uncertainty and tightens pressure on fuel and fertiliser supply, Australia's peak farming bodies recently stood shoulder to shoulder on the banks of the Murray River, warning the Federal Government not to compound the strain with further water buybacks.

The National Farmers' Federation, alongside NSW Farmers and Victorian Farmers' Federation have called for a line in the sand, urging the government to deliver smarter basin management and rule out policies that strip more water from food production and regional communities at the worst possible time.

NFF President, Hamish McIntyre, said, "this is about getting the Basin Plan right, giving regional communities confidence and not repeating the mistakes of the past."

"Communities are still hurting from years of successive buybacks. We've seen the damage when policy is done to regions and

not with them, and we won't stand by and let that happen again.

"Farmers are already under pressure from rising input costs and global uncertainty, including the escalating fuel and fertiliser supply issues. If you take away water on top of that, you're not just hurting farmers, you're putting Australia's food and fibre supply at risk."

On calls for a Royal Commission into basin management, Mr McIntyre acknowledged longstanding frustrations but urged careful consideration.

"With multiple substantive reviews already underway and legislative changes on the horizon, the priority right now must be on getting these reforms right. We can't afford to lose more time or risk unintended consequences."

With multiple major water reviews underway and critical decisions looming, the

organisations say this is a defining moment to reset the approach with one grounded in evidence, practical delivery, and genuine engagement with the people who live and work in the nation's food bowl.

The groups reinforced their strong opposition to water acquisition in any form, including under the 450GL target, Sustainable Diversion Limit adjustments, and through rules-based changes that effectively strip water from productive use.

The joint delegation pointed to the draft findings of the Basin Plan Review that recognises the need for smarter water management approaches and projects to improve water quality and address native fish decline, including carp eradication.

What farmers need to see is: Practical mechanisms that deliver enhanced environmental outcomes and that simply adding more water won't translate to environmental improvement.

A national fish strategy that focuses on real outcomes that reduce fish kills and eradicate carp numbers.

A planned approach to repairing or replacing ageing infrastructure, some of which is a century old.

Actively supporting a viable and prosperous agricultural sector that underpins local communities, sustains jobs and safeguards food production for every Australian.

The organisations are actively engaged across four major processes shaping the future of water policy: The Basin Plan Review, the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into National Water Reform, the review of the *Water Act 2007*, and the review of the Inspector-General of Water Compliance.

Together, they say, these processes must speak to each other and deliver a coherent, workable path forward, not more uncertainty.

Foundation receives significant donation

Foundation Murrindindi would like to acknowledge a significant recent donation received for fire impacted communities across the Longwood Fire. Shout out to Arisit Pty Ltd. They have generously donated over \$20,000 worth of new Whirlpool and Ariston brand washing machines and microwaves to Foundation Murrindindi. These have

now been distributed to the community led relief hubs in Highlands, Terip, Ruffy, Longwood, Yarck and Fawcett. This donation will assist people as they continue on their recovery journey.

Arisit is a 100 per cent Australian owned importer and distributor of quality home appliances and electronics, and has exclusive distribution of a range of appliance brands from around the world.

The Foundation would also like to acknowledge local business HG Turf, which donated the time and trucks to pick up and deliver the goods from Dandenong to Alexandra, and Kaz and John Stillman for providing the warehouse space for storage while the items were distributed. Thanks also to Fred Lampe who was on call with his forklift to load pallets of goods on to trucks, trailers and utes.

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial 000

Standard The Yea Chronicle

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Former shire CEO heading to Joondalup

THE City of Whittlesea announced on April 15 that it will be undertaking a recruitment process for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO), following Craig Lloyd's decision not to enter into a new contract with the City of Whittlesea. Mr Lloyd has accepted the role of CEO at the City of Joondalup, in the northern suburbs of Perth, Western Australia.

Craig spent two and a half years as CEO of Murrindindi Shire Council, departing in October 2020.

Mr Lloyd will be finishing with the City of Whittlesea in late May ahead of some pre-arranged leave.

Eildon Landcare working along the bike track

LAST week, a dedicated team of Eildon Landcare volunteers, Wendy, John, Judy and Anne, spent time maintaining sections of the Goulburn River bike track. Their work focused on removing invasive weeds such as thistles and blackberry, as well as clearing accumulated leaf litter to improve the track's condition and accessibility for the community.

This ongoing effort is part of Landcare's commitment to protecting the local environment, enhancing native vegetation, and ensuring the bike track remains a safe and enjoyable space for walkers and cyclists.

The group meets every Thursday morning, weather permitting, and welcomes new volunteers of all experience levels. Anyone interested in contributing to this valuable community initiative is encouraged to get in touch with Wendy on 5774 2424.



COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency
UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldeene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY
Thu Town Club, RSL Hall, 6-8pm. Ph 5797 2179
Sun AA Anglican Church, Alexandra 7pm PH 0402 428 086
Sun Alanon Recovery, start 5.30pm. Ph Sheila 0402 428 086

MONTHLY
1st Mon St Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099
1st Thu Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057
2nd Sat Alex Repair Cafe 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
2nd Thu Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315
4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 1.30pm Ph 0400 424 888
Last Fri Yea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 0409 819 040

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
April 22 - April 28, 2026

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	10	2	Wednesday	9	22
Thursday	10	23	Thursday	9	24
Friday	11	22	Friday	10	23
Saturday	11	21	Saturday	11	21
Sunday	10	21	Sunday	10	21
Monday	10	21	Monday	10	21
Tuesday	10	20	Tuesday	10	20

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ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
can be submitted via email to
editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

Letters **must be 300 words or less**. We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.
All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.

Like us on Facebook

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RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN FLOODCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)	9.00AM Mon	1.61	steady	below flood level
Rubicon River at Rubicon	9.00AM Mon	0.42	falling	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.00AM Mon	0.52	steady	below flood level
Home Creek at Yarck	7.32AM Mon	0.15	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.27AM Mon	0.42	steady	below flood level
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	9.00AM Mon	0.21	steady	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	9.00AM Mon	0.49	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	9.00AM Mon	3.54	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	9.00AM Mon	0.34	steady	below flood level
Goulburn River at Trawool	9.00AM Mon	1.08	steady	below flood level
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00AM Mon	0.29	steady	below flood level
Goulburn River at Seymour	9.30AM Mon	1.41	steady	below flood level
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.00AM Mon	0.79	steady	

*ISSUED AT 9:54 AM AEDT MONDAY 20 APRIL 2026

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	6mm
Buxton	N/A mm
Eildon (AWS)	4mm
Flowerdale	1mm
Jamieson	8mm
Kinglake	7mm
Lake Eildon	6mm
Mansfield	3mm
Taggerty	9mm
Yarck	4mm
Yea	0.9mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	269.94m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	41.6%
Metres below full supply	18.96m
Daily inflow	600ML
Release	2750ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	62%

The Yea Chronicle

DEADLINES

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

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

Fire-impacted communities invited to book their firewood collection

COUNCIL is continuing its free firewood program for households affected by the January 2026 bushfires, with further collections becoming available on a staged basis for eligible Murrindindi property owners and renters.

The first week of the program was targeted to property owners most directly impacted by the January fires, and council has received strong positive feedback from the community about the initiative.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Cr Damien Gallagher said the program was designed to support recovery while safely managing access to firewood supplies.

"We know many households lost their firewood stores during the January bushfires, and this program is about helping people rebuild while also cleaning up fire-affected areas."

"The response from the community during the first week has been overwhelmingly positive, and now that those most directly affected have had the first opportunity to access the program, we're pleased to be able to make additional limited sessions available to other Murrindindi residents where capacity allows," Cr Gallagher said.

Bookings for free firewood will be available from two locations, Terip Terip and Koriella.

Collection sessions operate in hourly time slots, with a maximum of five vehicles per site per hour to ensure safety and orderly access.

The collection dates and times are April 20 to 24, April 30 to May 1, May 2 to 3, May 7 to 10, with various timeslots available.

Bookings are mandatory for this free offer by completing an online form. This process ensures that everyone is kept safe, and the process is managed fairly.

"We ask residents to please follow the conditions, wear appropriate footwear, and be prepared to load the wood by hand," said Cr Gallagher.

The free firewood collection form is on council's website and to apply residents must: complete the online application form, upload photo ID and proof of a Murrindindi residential or property address, receive a collection permit, and select a preferred date and time using the online booking calendar.

Eligible applicants will be emailed a permit and a booking link.

Property owners and residents who need assistance with the application process, or who are unable to upload documents, can visit Customer Service or a Recovery Hub in Alexandra or Yea, where staff can sight identification and assist with completing the application.

For more information and to apply for a collection permit visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/freefirewood

Young people get \$140,000 boost

MEMBER for Eildon Cindy McLeish says more children and their families in the Murrindindi Shire will live healthier lives, thanks to VicHealth's \$6.5 million Growing Healthy Communities grants program.

Council will use its \$140,000 grant to support young people aged nine to 16 across Eildon, Yea, Kinglake and the surrounding districts. Youth led workshops in music, visual arts and non-competitive activity will be held in skate parks, community centres, bowls clubs and arts facilities.

Murrindindi Shire Council is among 82 organisations successful in the program's second round of VicHealth's Growing Healthy Communities program.

Ms McLeish said the aim was to promote good health. "I'm a strong advocate for sport in the development of children but it's not for everyone," she said.

"This grant will open the door to others, with other talents, perhaps open the door for some that have never had the chance to explore their potential.

"At a time when families face cost of living pressures or safe spaces to be active, these grants aim to promote good physical and mental health through a passion for arts."

VicHealth will also support grant recipients by connecting them with other local leaders and providing tools, training, and support to

help maximise long-term health impacts for Victorian communities.

VicHealth CEO, Prof Anna Peeters AM, said the Growing Healthy Communities program reflects VicHealth's commitment to prevention and locally driven solutions.

"We know what people need to live healthy lives, but often the conditions around them make this difficult," she said.

The second year of the Growing Healthy Communities program builds on strong demand from communities across Victoria. In its first year, the program supported 84 organisations across Victoria through \$4.7m in funding, helping communities put health prevention into action at a local level.



Murrindindi Shire Cr Sue Carpenter, Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish and council's Manager for Community Wellbeing Stuart Collier celebrate VicHealth's \$140,000 grant. -S

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Free firewood collection

Council's free firewood collection program is now open to all Murrindindi Shire residents, not just those in fire-affected areas.

Firewood is available for collection from Koriella and Terip Terip in limited, booked sessions and a permit is required to collect. You must load wood by hand into a suitable trailer or vehicle.

Scan the QR code to visit our website and:

- Check eligibility and conditions
- Apply for a permit
- Book your collection time.

For assistance, visit a Council Customer Service Centre, or call Council on 5772 0333.



murrindindi.vic.gov.au/freefirewood

The Trawool Estate celebrates

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VESEP grants now open to support local emergency volunteers

THE Victorian Government has opened its biggest ever Volunteer Emergency Services Equipment Program (VESEP) funding round worth over \$31 million to strengthen emergency services across Victoria.

This funding is about backing the volunteers who show up for communities every day. It will help deliver new trucks, better equipment and upgraded facilities so that hardworking emergency services volunteers can continue to help keep communities safe.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaelyn Symes, is encouraging local volunteer organisations to apply, highlighting grants of up to \$250,000 to strengthen frontline capability and volunteer safety.

“We’ve seen how demanding and unpredictable the fire season can be. Our emergency services volunteers are always there when communities need them, and this funding makes sure they have the vehicles, equipment and facilities they need to keep people safe,” Ms Symes said.

“I strongly encourage our local volunteer organisations to apply and take advantage of this record investment.”

Eligible services include the Country Fire Authority (CFA), Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES), Life Saving Victoria, and Volunteer Marine Search and Rescue units.

This program is about supporting the people who support us. The state government will contribute \$2 for every \$1 raised locally, ensuring communities get more value from every dollar raised.

With support from the Emergency Services and Volunteers Fund, VESEP funding has been doubled over four years with an additional \$62 million to support emergency services volunteers. Every dollar raised through the fund is going directly into emergency and disaster response.

Some recent grant recipients include Echuca Moama Search and Rescue Squad, Nangiloc Fire Brigade, Chiltern SES, Seymour Fire Brigade, Kinglake SES, Mount Beauty Fire Brigade and many more across the Northern Victoria region.

Applications for the 2026–27 VESEP round are now open and close Thursday, June 11, 2026.

For more information and application details, visit emv.vic.gov.au/vesep



Releasing the threatened fish species back into their natural habitats. -S

Program to protect threatened aquatic species following the Longwood bushfires

THE impacts of the 2026 summer bushfires on the people, communities, and emergency services have all been extensively considered in the aftermath. But what about the affected environment?

More than 400,000 hectares of land burnt across Victoria, causing widespread destruction, leading Minister for the Environment, Steve Dimopoulos, to announce \$2.6 million for urgent conservation and recovery for threatened species impacted by the fires.

“Victoria has unique native wildlife that are under threat from our bushfires, Labor is protecting our iconic animals,” Mr Dimopoulos said.

“We are moving from emergency bushfire response to long term recovery across the state to protect the health and wellbeing of our native wildlife.”

This support is jointly funded by the Federal and Victorian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

In the north east of the state, \$600,000 is being invested in emergency programs to help vulnerable aquatic species.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) partnered with the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA), Parks

Victoria, and consulted with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, to protect threatened species following the Longwood bushfire.

Vulnerable aquatic species such as Macquarie Perch, Trout Cod, Flat-Headed Galaxias, and Alpine Spiny Crayfish were rescued from rapidly drying waterways, such as the Goulburn River.

They were housed at the VFA’s Snobs Creek Hatchery, with the understanding that they would be returned to their natural environment as conditions improved. Some have already been returned.

Federal Minister for Environment, Murray Watt, spoke about the partnership between state and federal government to protect threatened wildlife.

“Sadly our wildlife are often at the forefront of natural disasters and it can take a long time for populations, and the places they call home, to rebound,” Mr Watt said.

“The Albanese Government is very pleased to partner with the Allan Government to deliver these important projects which will support urgent conservation and recovery efforts for threatened species impacted by the fires.”

Who’s left steering the merger ship?

THE CEO of Alexandra District Health (ADH), Jane Poxon, retired on April 17. The CEO of Eastern Health (EH), David Plunkett, chose not to renew his contract.

The two former CEOs were the leading spokespeople for the merger consultation, along with ADH board member Alan Studley.

With the departures, what happens to the promises made during the consultation?

The new Eastern Health CEO is Helen Cooper. She started in her new role on April 7. At ADH, the interim CEO is Claire Palmer, Director of Clinical Services.

The boards of both organisations have signalled their support for the merger and are the driving forces behind the proposal.

The consultation in Murrindindi Shire was held over an unconscionably short period of time, with many people unaware that it was even happening as it was largely unpromoted. The online survey conducted by ADH and EH did not ask any direct questions of the community regarding the proposed merger.

A survey conducted by Murrindindi Shire Council found that two-thirds of the community are opposed to the merger.

New Eastern Health CEO Helen Cooper was asked whether it was her intention to continue to push for an amalgamation.

A spokesperson from Eastern Health responded, “The boards of Alexandra District Health and Eastern Health have formally recommended a voluntary amalgamation to strengthen access to care closer to home for the Alexandra and district community.

“With the commencement of Helen Cooper as Eastern Health Chief Executive, there is no change to the board’s recommendation and no changes to the amalgamation process that is underway.

“The recommendation now rests with the Minister for Health for consideration and approval under the *Health Services Act 1988*. No changes will occur unless Ministerial approval is granted.”

On Monday, April 13, it was announced that Victorian Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas, along with Ministers Danny Pearson and Gayle Tierney, would not be contesting the next election and would be standing down from their ministries, effective immediately. They will continue their terms on the backbench.

On Wednesday, April 15, the new Health Minister was announced as Harriet Shing.

There is no clear indication of the future of the merger between ADH and EH. Everything depends on the will of the new minister, as this is the only decision yet to make regarding the direction of healthcare in Murrindindi Shire.

Church Services

ST PETER’S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

Cnr Bald Spur/Whittlesea Kinglake Rds,
Sunday Services, 8.30am Communion.
Minister: Rev. Ruwan Palapathwala
0458 113 099

ST LUKE’S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEAL

Sunday Service time 11am
Prayerful Reflection - held each Tuesday,
10am to 11am - all welcome
Father Mario Hendricks
Ph: 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEAL

Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew
0459 402 547
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Immaculate Conception Parish
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yeal, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest
Ph 9717 6482
St Mary’s Kinglake: Sunday 8.30am

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEAL

Station Street Yeal
Sunday Service 10.30am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

1st and 3rd Sundays 9am, 1050 Main Road,
Kinglake West. 9716 2330

Out & About

The items in Out and About are sourced from our current advertising. 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.

SEE THIS EDITION FOR ALL ANZAC DAY SERVICES ACROSS THE SHIRE.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Eildon RSL sub-branch AGM will be held at 5pm at the Eildon Visitor Information Centre. Nominations for office bearers and five general committee members closed at 5pm, April 15. Nomination forms can be obtained from the secretary, Sue McLaurin, susanmclaurin55@gmail.com or phone 0409 050 494.

MONDAY, APRIL 27

Heathcote Jewellery are coming to Alexandra. Pop up store 10am-2.30pm Alexandra Bowls Club. Cash for gold, including custom and hand made jewellery, diamond specialist, repair and

remodeling and resizing and Rhodium.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Heathcote Jewellery are coming to Yeal. Pop up store 10am-2.30pm Yeal Bowls Club. Cash for gold, including custom and hand made jewellery, diamond specialist, repair and remodeling and resizing and Rhodium.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

An open community meeting will take place from 5pm at the Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House, hosted by Murrindindi Shire Council. This is an opportunity to speak to council about topics or issues that affect you and your community. Prior registration is not required.

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Confetti and Chaos at Trawool Estate. This fabulous five star experience has fun and mayhem bursting from the seams of a

wedding dress, with entirely original comedy that pulls out all the stops; including quick fire character changes and quick fire laughs. From arrival through to seating, eating, and dancing, audiences will become part of a classic wedding reception gone wildly wrong. The most hilarious wedding reception ever. A perfect gift for your mum for Mother’s Day. Book now 5792 1444 or trawoolstate.com.au/whatson/confettiandchaos

SUNDAY, MAY 10

Enjoy Mother’s Day in Wild Water restaurant at Trawool Estate. Dine from the usual all day menu, or enjoy the specials available just for this special day. Booking essential on 5792 1444 or trawoolstate.com.au/booktable

WHAT'S ON?



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Yea Bowls Club

Pop-up store open

Tuesday 28 April 2026

10am to 2.30pm

63 High Street,
Yea VIC 3717



Other Jewellery Services :

- Custom & Hand Made Jewellery
- Diamond Specialist
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- Ring Resize & Rhodium

Or visit us in-store at Heathcote!

1/77 High Street, Heathcote VIC 3523

Mobile: 0437 866 606

Haines' budget pitch focuses on reforms to health, housing and taxation

MEMBER for Indi, Dr Helen Haines, has urged the Federal Government to deliver a budget that meets the moment, pushing for reforms to health, housing and taxation.

As the Federal Budget approaches, Dr Haines has presented her annual Indi Budget Submission to Treasurer Jim Chalmers, outlining key policies and local funding priorities.

"Regional Australia is experiencing growing challenges, from access to healthcare, housing and childcare, to infrastructure and disaster recovery following bushfires and floods," Dr Haines said.

"Global instability is causing ripple effects domestically for supply chains and uncertainty for our agriculture and construction industries.

"All of this is having a direct impact on the hip pocket of everyday Australians, and the upcoming budget must respond to those challenges with targeted investment and meaningful reform."

Dr Haines said healthcare and housing in regional Australia remains a top priority, including the establishment of a *Building*

Regional and Rural Hospitals Fund and *Regional Housing Infrastructure Fund* to support critical upgrades.

"Rural Australians experience poorer health outcomes and shorter life expectancy than our city cousins, and our health services are operating with ageing infrastructure," she said.

"In the regions, the biggest handbrake on new housing is not land, it's the lack of enabling infrastructure like water and sewerage.

"We need sustained, needs-based investment to close these gaps."

Dr Haines urged the government to be bold in delivering tax reform to boost revenue, including higher taxes on gas companies and winding back capital gains tax exemptions on property investments.

"At a time when Australians are under pressure, we must ensure the tax system is fair, sustainable and fit for purpose," she said.

"Right now, the burden of taxation sits too heavily on individuals and small business, while big corporations get let off the hook.

"We export a huge amount of gas every year and collect a pittance in comparison. If we taxed this fairly, we could raise tens of billions each year from our gas exports, money that could be invested in hospitals and housing for regional Australia."

Dr Haines said she was seeing increased support for a winding back of capital gains tax benefits, across her community.

"It's clear our capital gains tax settings are a barrier to young people purchasing their own home.

"I'm seeing increased support for change, including from the generation that is benefiting most from the current settings, so that future generations can enter the housing market."

After another horror bushfire season, Dr Haines' Indi Budget Submission highlights

the need for continued investment in disaster recovery and resilience, as well as stronger support for energy reliability, telecommunications, early childhood education, aged care and local government sustainability.

"Indi is a resilient and vibrant electorate, but we can't meet these challenges alone.

"This budget is an opportunity for the government to back regional communities with the investment and reform they deserve and deliver the bold reforms Australia needs."

Dr Haines said her submission was developed in close collaboration with Indi's nine local governments and, for the first time, 10 regional health services.

"These priorities are grounded in evidence and shaped directly by our communities.

"I look forward to continuing to work constructively with the government to deliver the outcomes regional Australians need."

New Victorian Ministers announced

ON Wednesday, April 15, Premier Jacinta Allan announced her new ministry following the resignations of Gayle Tierney, Mary-Anne Thomas and Danny Pearson.

Harriet Shing - Minister for Health, Ambulance Services and Water.

Ingrid Stitt - Special Minister for State, Minister for Government Services and Minister for Multicultural and Multifaith Victoria.

Paul Edbrooke - Minister for Cost of Living, Minister for Renters, Minister for Men and Boys and Minister for Consumer Affairs.

Steve Dimopoulos - Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs, in addition to his work as the Minister for Sport and Major Events.

Colin Brooks - Minister for Industry and Advanced Manufacturing, Minister for Defence Industry and Minister for Skills and TAFE.

Natalie Suleyman - Minister for Tourism, in addition to her portfolios as Minister for Veterans and Minister for Small and Family Business and Employment.

Ben Carroll - Minister for Medical Research in addition to his other responsibilities.

Anthony Carbines - Leader of the House.

Jaclyn Symes - Minister for Development Victoria and Precincts, in addition to her role as Treasurer, Minister for Industrial Relations and the Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council.

Gabrielle Williams - Minister for Women and Girls.

Nick Staikos - Minister for Housing and Building and the Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop.

Enver Erdogan - Minister for Environment and Minister for Outdoor Recreation in addition to his work as Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation.

Sonya Kilkenny - Minister for Violence Reduction and Minister for Finance in addition to her responsibilities as Attorney-General and Minister for Planning.

Paul Hamer will continue that work as Minister for Youth Justice and Minister for Corrections, as well as the Minister for Local Government.

Ros Spence - Minister for Roads and Road Safety, in addition to Minister for Community Sport and Minister for First Peoples.

Melissa Horne - Minister for Prevention of Family Violence in addition to her other responsibilities.

Michaela Settle - Minister for Regional Development and Minister for Agriculture.

Luba Grigorovitch - Minister for Youth and Minister for Carers and Volunteers.

Tim Richardson - Cabinet Secretary.

Longwood fire remains on the map

ON the VicEmergency map, the January firegrounds are still showing up even though it's now April.

Emergency Management Victoria were asked why this is the case, and how long the firegrounds will continue to show.

They provided information stating that the Impact Areas map layer displayed on VicEmergency is informed by live data provided by the emergency service agencies. The areas affected by the January 2026 Victorian bushfires are currently shown as fire grounds on the VicEmergency map, as they have already been burnt through. The data is revised after the high-risk weather season, subject to emergency impacts and timing.

ANZAC Day Services 2026

The following services will be held across the Shire to commemorate ANZAC Day.

Friday 24 April

Alexandra

Assemble at 10.30 am for 10.45 am private service for residents at Kellogg Lodge.

Saturday 25 April

Alexandra

Dawn service at 6.00 am at Leckie Park Memorial, Vickery Street.

Assemble at 10.45 am at the RSL Hall, 44 Grant Street for 11.00 am march to Leckie Park Memorial.

Eildon

Private service at 10.15 am for residents of Darlingford Nursing Home.

Assemble at 10.40 am for 11.00 am service at Cenotaph, Utah Place.

Flowerdale

Assemble at 10.45 am for 11.00 am service at Flowerdale Community Hall, 3380 Yea-Whittlesea Road. Refreshments to follow.

Glenburn

Assemble at 5.45 am for 6.00 am dawn service at Glenburn Community Centre (opposite the Glenburn Hall, 3876 Melba Highway). Breakfast to follow at 7.00 am.

Kinglake

Dawn service at 5.30 am, followed by traditional gunfire breakfast at St Peter's Anglican Church, Corner Bald Spur Road and Whittlesea-Kinglake Road.

Service at 10.00 am at the Lions Club ANZAC Memorial, Kinglake Community Centre, 436 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road (entry via Extons Road).

Marysville

Assemble at 10.15 am at corner Murchison Street and Lyell Street for a march at 10.30 am to the Marysville Cenotaph. Refreshments to follow.

Strath Creek

Assemble at 8.45 am for 9.00 am service at Strath Creek Pioneer Reserve Memorial, Glover Street.

Yarck

Assemble at 9.45 am for 10.00 am service at the Yarck War Memorial, 6592 Maroondah Highway.

Yea

Private service at 9.45 am at Yea Memorial Hospital for residents and family.

Assemble at 10.45 am at the Yea Cenotaph, The Semi Circle for 11.00 am service.





Speeding? Expect a minimum fine of \$254.

If you speed, even a little over the limit, you can expect a minimum fine of \$254 and 1 demerit point. Police and speed cameras can be anywhere, so why take the risk? Chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.



Unsung heroes of the fire recovery effort

SO many people helped out after the bushfires, in so many ways. Some truly went above and beyond in trying to make sure that everyone was okay. It's time for these legends to be recognised.

Some people were contacted directly for their thoughts and others commented in response to our post on Facebook. People were encouraged to name someone and say a few words about what they did to help with fire recovery in Murrindindi Shire.

Their comments are included here in no particular order.

Kellock Lodge - For sheltering and caring for a number of vulnerable towns people, on that worst day and overnight, and then continuing to feed and care for them until the town's electricity and supplies were restored. All this on top of caring for their regular residents and working with a skeleton staffing situation. -Carolyn Asquith

Sam Hicks - Without a doubt, and don't forget her incredible partner Bernhardt. These two legends have not stopped since day one and continue to support and inspire everyone despite being impacted themselves. -Anne Maree Catherine

Daniel Williams and Rick Hodgetts - My son and son-in-law who fought alongside my father Brian Muller at Yarck fire front, along with **Andy and Lorraine, Tim and Col** and others. It was a hairy night for these wonderful people. -Di Fletcher

Sasha Barrow and Sam Hicks for all the reasons others have already mentioned. And **Cath Olive** and all the team at Biodiversity Recovery Alliance, for all the work they do, the stories they share, and their genuine practice of reciprocity, founded in the knowledge that when we help nature recover, nature helps us recover -Fern Hames

Jess Arnold, Lana Fitz, Will Koster, Amanda Beth -Jess Slapp

The board and staff of **Murrindindi Community Food Share Foundation Murrindindi**. Tireless work in regards to donations and collection of goods needed. **Robyn Hill** (EO) was out there, no fuss just working for community at all hours. Her staff helping people navigate government services. Well done to the board, who are voluntary, to enable this and assist as well. -Steve Belli

Jamie Duggan - Instigator of the CFA Fundraiser as others have mentioned. -Steve Belli

Sam Hicks - When the system failed the community hall stood proud and undefeated. Leading the community through crisis. -Steve Belli

Emily Gannon - One of the FFM gals here in Alexandra. She did an absolutely phenomenal job keeping us safe from the frontlines. Love ya. -Indiana Carter

Everyone who stepped up and helped are heroes. -Joshua Crute

Finn Mary - She has been doing amazing work during the response phase and now moving into recovery. She has been physically supporting her community in Yarck and now supporting the children of the broader region with fantastic events. She's a brilliant therapist who gives her all. -Amanda Beth

Alexandra Community Hub - The staff and volunteers have been and continue to be a wonderful supportive, informative and safe space. -Ange LM

Steven Grindley - For all the great things he did. -Brodie Arnott

Jye Savage - Everyone knows what this legend has done. -Beau Clarke

Kids helping Kids - These are the kind of souls who inspire the generation coming up behind us all. -Leoni K Arthur-Weston

Finn Mary -Chrystal Turnbull

John Wilson - He heads up the team from **Operation Veteran Assist**. One of the first teams in on January 10. Thirty-five volunteer veterans helping clear fence lines and downed tree. Deployed over a six week period, supporting local veterans and first responders. -Drew Maddison

Darryl King (Yea Rotary), **Yea Community House**, **Amity Rose**, **Greg Conlan** **Kylie Conlan**, **Glen Rowley**, **Ingrid**, **Just Great Coffee Yea**, **Kim Chadband** and **Donna M Slevin** (Murrindindi Shire), **John Alcock** (Alexandra Rotary), **Ann Mannion**, **Robert Gardiner**, **Saint Lukes Op Shop Yea**, **Saint Lukes Church Yea**, **Yarck Hall**, **Bron Britton**. -Leisa Carney

Central General Practice Mansfield - A wonderful contribution and very welcome at this crucial time. Well done. -Maxmaur May

Blaze Aid - and all their amazing volunteers. -Caity Jane

Jason Morris from Strathbogie Shire and Buffy Leadbeater who looked after Dave Wilkey at the Seymour Relief Centre. **Christine from the Yea Motel** who accommodated us for two or three weeks until we found a rental. The amazing angels and new very special friend **Leisa Carney**, and **Carlie Burnet-Underhill**, **Amity**, **Darryl from Rotary and all the volunteers at the Yea Community House** for their love, kindness and compassion, keeping us alive and clothed, looking to what Dave's needs would be towards recovery and the future and their financial support. **Kim Chadband** from Murrindindi Shire for your tireless help and work in sorting out services for us, plus **Andrew and Trudi** from the shire. **LouLou** (next to Yea Motel) for your love, friendship, understanding, insight and inviting us for dinner as strangers. The lovely local volunteers at the **Yarck Hall** for support and supplies. **Scott from the Yarck CFA**, and our neighbours around Yarck, **Andrew and Kerry McGahy & Tony Mann**, who constantly kept an eye on our place and went above and beyond to move along those stickybeaks and looters. **Colin and Ging B Halligan** for your help, mentally preparing us with your videos and constant cooking for the volunteers at the Yarck Hall. **Operation Veteran Assist**, **John Wilson**, **Dan Young and Tracey** and crew for all the work you did at our place, and of course **Lisa Grobe and family** for all your love, help, friendship, support and hard work to save some of our possessions. **Josh** from the Captain's Rebuild Shed for not only helping Dave but a lot of other men who lost all their tools and **John Wilkinson** from Narbethong who is still helping us clean up. -Chrissy Wilkey

Sam Hicks, Sasha Barrow, Joshua Crute, Robert Sharp and Kellie Fielder - All these amazing humans have barely taken a day off and continued to help hundreds of people. So many people did as much as they could do and went back to do more. The community as a whole has been amazing, even if it was donating \$5 or checking on a friend, if that is all you had the capacity to do and you did that, you made a difference. -Will Koster

Hay depot - Every one of the volunteers down at the hay depot. Incredible people. -Jye Savage

Andrew Embling and the hay depot crew, all of the relief centre volunteers, the CFA, family and friends, Rotary, Lions, CWA, the local shops, and the staff at the Resource Recovery Centre - Thank you all. -Erica Hawke

Robert Sharp and Melbourne Jeep Owners Club - For all the chainsawing. -Fiona J Lindsay

Timothy James Duggan - Thank you for everything you did, offering reassurance, being on and off CFA trucks day in day out, night after night helping keep people calm. The gala night. What you have done is nothing short of incredible. -Joel Gaylor

Clint Homan - After spending five days on the dozer cutting fire breaks from Alexandra to Eildon during the height of the danger, Clint (Smokey) used his first two days off to bring his own equipment up to the road where his was the only house that survived. He meticulously cleared hazardous trees and made sure that access to what used to be homes was safe and ready for when people came to grieve. No fuss, no fanfare, just a legend. -Tom Ward

Damian Gallagher - Spent more or less 24 hours fighting the fire, trying to slow it down for as long as possible around Alexandra, and before you knew it he took off his CFA gear and was back at his day job helping run our amazing shire, always offering to help anyone and anywhere he could. -Timothy James Duggan

UGFM - Particularly Nomes Booker. -Marg Rouse

Central General Practice Mansfield - They came with their doctors for a few extra days. -Cassandra Fraser

Sam Hicks - Always a huge support for our community. Our **SES, CFA, police**, etcetera also need the love and recognition for everything they do for all of us. Love hugs and strength to you all. -Sally Townsend

Tim Homann - Who drove up to Terip to get me to safety and ensure I was safe. -Jodie Penny

Terip Terip Rec Reserve committee and volunteers, Terip CFA champions - For providing wonderful support to all of our locals. -Jodie Penny

Yea Community House were incredible for the whole region and worked tirelessly across countless areas of the response. -Amanda Beth



Kids Helping Kids - A group of kids aged 10 and below who came together and raised over \$4000 and donated items to nine families who had lost their bikes, scooters, gaming consoles etcetera. So proud of them. -Amanda Beth

Jamie Duggan - His selflessness and dedication to organizing the Murrindindi CFA fundraising dinner is truly inspiring. Sixty-nine days of planning and execution, to feed and entertain 180 people, and raising a grand total of \$46,753.48. An incredible achievement. His efforts will have a lasting impact on the CFA community. And of course, to all the people who donated money, food, time, effort, and equipment. None of this would have been possible without you supporting him and our amazing CFA brigades as well. -Timothy James Duggan

Sam Hicks has brought the Fawcett and surrounding areas together, magicked up other support and resources, and tirelessly supported all of us. Plus so much more. -Bronwyn Howell

Carly Unfiltered and our hubs and community members who were so badly hit by the fires stepped up, opened their homes, created places where people could come for a meal, a hot shower, clean clothes, food and water. Highlands Hub, Fawcett Hall, Yarck Hall, Merton Hall, Grand Central Hotel, Peppercorn Hotel, etcetera. -Joel Gaylor

Bek Klinge / Grand Central Hotel - No power, but gas for cooking and food available. Opened the doors for anyone in need. Fed anyone who needed a feed without expectation of payment in return. -Kirstie Allen

Will Koster - He got his family to safety then headed back to jump on a CFA truck. He also organised for my daughter's horse to be checked on because she was really worried about him. He's always putting his hand up to help anyone. -Sophia Weaver

To those who donated hay to help our farmers feed their stock - Thank you. You came from kilometres days away just to help our local farmers to be able to keep their stock alive, even though they were probably facing droughts and floods themselves. That's the true Aussie spirit. -Joel Gaylor

4WD TV - Who have been helping people get back on their feet. -Joel Gaylor

The Unbreakable Farmer - He has stuck by us even after the fires have gone through, after he has been through such trauma himself. His true selflessness, compassion, empathy, kindness and being there for us a shoulder to lean on, an ear to speak into, a cuddle for those that needed it. Thank you for everything you're doing. -Joel Gaylor

Charities - Such as Farm Angels and Blaze Aid. Your work continues across the fireground, helping people to rebuild their homes and properties, rebuilding fencing, etcetera. Feeding those who are continuing to help, helping those who lost everything to find housing, to get fed, to have a warm bed to sleep in. Thank you so bloody much for everything you're doing. -Joel Gaylor

The interstate and overseas fire crews - Thank you. -Joel Gaylor

DEECA and FFMV - Thank you for helping the CFA to get things back to where they were, safe enough for people to return home. -Joel Gaylor

The entire CFA - Your selflessness, your sacrifice, your courage, your strength, your kindness and compassion, the work you put in day in day out, night after night is nothing short of truly incredible and inspirational. Thank you for everything you do and continue to do. -Joel Gaylor

The Acheron CFA Captain - Who went above and beyond, who always made sure his CFA troops were safe on the fireground and made sure they came home. -Joel Gaylor

Damien Gallagher - The leader of the Murrindindi Shire. His courage, his selflessness, his kindness, his generosity, his sacrifice, his leadership, his compassion and empathy. By day he was on the back of a CFA truck and by night he was back in civics leading our shire through such a traumatic, horrific time, leading our shire, being there for others. Our shire is extremely lucky to have him. Thank you Damien. -Joel Gaylor

Sue and Mike - For having me in their house for a month after the fires. **Kevin McFarlane** who had the job of 'furnishing' my rental after losing everything in the fires. **Cheryl Devaney** from Gooram CFA who found this, and the other, to let me live a normal life beyond the fire. **Michael and Rowena Stubbe** for allowing me to rent their gorgeous 'managers' house. **Deb Ellis** who got me shorts and shirts almost within days of everything gone. **Ellaine**, my dear Irish friend who lives with long-life COVID-19 but still sent me vouchers to use and contacted the Collingwood Football Club to get some memorabilia. **Lorraine and Neville Mawson** who have collected parcels for me and presented me with a bottle of wine. Friends, family.... the list really could go on and on. -Leanne Waters

Owen Lusted - He was always there to lend a hand, not only for the survivors but for the volunteers as well, and continued after everything died down. He also went to Blaze Aid to assist. He was great. -Shez Marchenko

Jean Hamilton - Tirelessly cared for fires, locals and volunteers at the Longwood Community Centre for endless hours over the emergency period and beyond. -Claire Clayton

Jean Hamilton - A true community person. -Alison McDiarmid

Paul B and a friend - They put out a house fire on the edge of town by themselves. Saw it happening and acted. -Lorelei Goodall

Dan Lawrence - He came across from Axedale to help his brother and save his Dad's property in Swan Road. -Karen Mckenzie

Andrea Bauer - For managing the Highlands Hall, sometimes for 12 or 14 hour each day. -Darryl King (Yea Rotary)

Yea Community House - The staff there have been flat chat. Their work has been mindblowing. -Darryl King (Yea Rotary)

Murrindindi Shire Council - A shout out to Kim Chadband and Donna Slavin. They have gone above and beyond and done so much work out of hours. -Darryl King (Yea Rotary)

Rotary Yea - For providing the amenities trailer to Highlands Hall, where people can shower and wash their clothes. -Darryl King (Yea Rotary)

Leisa Carney - She worked at the Food Hub at the Yea Community House. Every day without fail, she supported people, making sure they had food, fresh water and clothes. Still Leisa works from home sorting donations and distributing them. -Darryl King (Yea Rotary)

Andrew Embling - For coordinating hay distribution and for extending the invitation to visitors to support the community with a wealth of local events like the Alexandra Pro Rodeo. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Eddie White - and the trucking fraternity from Warrnambool and Western Victoria who brought 54 semi trailers of hay to town. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Neil and Jan Beer and Beer Auto Group Seymour, and Andrew Seamers and the team at Whanregarwen Pastoral Company - For shouting megal for the drivers of the hay trucks. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Kim and Lisa - Who went above and beyond to support the day, and to support the assembly



To keep Australia moving, the government has been working to secure fuel supply and has put in place the 4-level National Fuel Security Plan.

We're now at Level 2. So, consider simple actions to use less fuel, like using your car less.

Every little bit helps

For fuel saving tips, visit fuelplan.gov.au

- 4 PROTECTING CRITICAL SERVICES
- 3 TAKING TARGETED ACTION
- 2 KEEPING AUSTRALIA MOVING**
- 1 PLAN AND PREPARE

National Fuel Security Plan



Australian Government

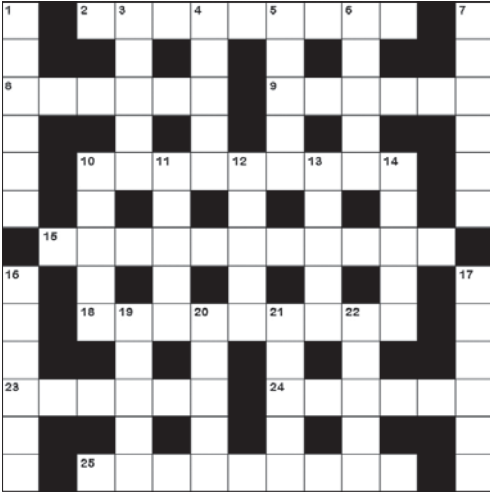
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS Page 11

KID'S PUZZLES

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- Block of compressed coal dust used as fuel.
 - A baby's bed with sides and rockers.
 - A rational motive for a belief or an action.
 - An aptitude that could be developed.
 - An exclusive right or privilege.
 - Stripped of all possessions by violence.
 - Became limp and droopy.
 - Appealing and easily remembered or repeated.
 - A female ballet dancer.



- Person with dark skin who comes from Africa.
- Informal term for military information.
- Black and blue from a bruise.
- A statement made in reply to a question.
- Knitted with diamond-shaped pattern.
- A minor actor in crowd scenes.
- A lever that is operated with the foot.
- Undergo as a result of one's own behaviour.
- Take into the mouth as a meal.

Colouring Page

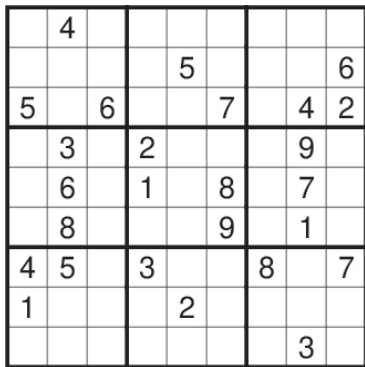


Word Search - Words starting with "L"

Word Search

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

Sudoku



Difficulty: Medium

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

LARGE L G N I N R A E L L Y F D H U
LAST B I D C A O J T E D K F L N C
LAUGH K A T V P R A M S E D G W B R
LEARNING K E L T I Y O T J M G V P G E
LEGS R L V U L N K C L S Y P I M S
LEMONADE X A A O A E N O S S E L H T I
LESSON D R C D L U Y V O Z L P G S X
LETTER E G E R S R F I L U T W U A X
LION H E Z L E L I O N J V V A L D
LITTLE Y W Q T O E Z C V M X B L R U
LOOKING T K T D M O H J C U F G L B L
LOVE V E C Y Y T K P K H H I D U E
LUCKY L D Q U I Y P I X E I W U A G
LUNCHTIME Q I O M L P M Q N T E H Z E S
J A E X S S B X I G H A I N K

ANZAC Day

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| AUSTRALIA | PEACE |
| BRAVERY | RESPECT |
| HEROES | RISINGSUN |
| MEDALS | SACRIFICE |
| NEWZEALAND | SOLDIERS |
| PARADE | UNIFORM |

Math Square

	x		+		15
-		x		+	
	+	4	÷	2	8
x		-		-	
	÷		-		-2
-46		1		4	

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

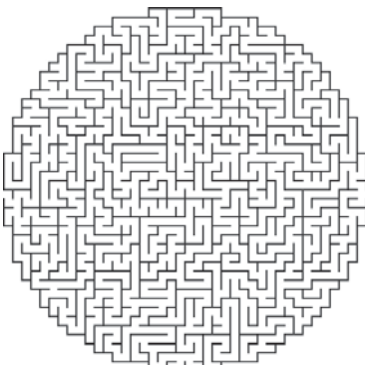
Math Square

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

	+		-	2	11
-		-		+	
	+	6	-		0
+		-		-	
	-		-		-4
9		-8		10	

Maze



Jokes

Q: What kind of bear gets caught in a rainstorm?

A: A drizzly bear.

Q: What did the raindrop say to his friends?

A: Two's company, but three's a cloud.

BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

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SPORT

Sports facilities on the way for Murrindindi

MEMBER for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes has announced that two projects in Murrindindi Shire will share in more than \$18.3 million for 78 new projects across the state through the latest round of the *Local Sports Infrastructure Fund*.

Murrindindi Shire Council will receive \$250,000 for the Alexandra District Speedway lighting upgrade project.

Council will also receive \$40,000 towards the implementation of the *Murrindindi Sport and Recreation Strategy 2027-2037*.

These investments are aimed at helping more Victorians get active while supporting local jobs, economies and healthier communities.

Ms Symes said, "Congratulations to Alexandra and District Speedway. This boost will go a long way to support the growing number of people across the region keen to get involved in local sport and recreation."

Grant for Yea Angling Club

MEMBER for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced that Yea Angling Club will reel in funding through the Stronger Fishing Clubs grant program.

They will receive \$10,000 to purchase first aid equipment, uniforms and upgrade bathroom facilities.

Up to \$10,000 is available for clubs to undertake improvements or host community events.

The Victorian Government said they want to see more families enjoying the thrill of the catch.

Ms Symes said, "We're investing in fishing clubs to help create memorable experiences for Victorians, including right here in north east Victoria. We're proud to support fishing clubs across the state, making it easier for families to have budget-friendly, outdoor fun."

Emergency Sporting Equipment grant program

THE Emergency Sporting Equipment Grant Program supports community sport and active recreation organisations across Victoria to replace or repair essential sport or first aid equipment that has been lost or destroyed because of natural disasters, including bushfire, flood, significant storms, theft, arson, or criminal damage. Grants of up to \$2000 are available.

For more information, visit sport.vic.gov.au/funding/emergency-sporting-equipment-grant-program

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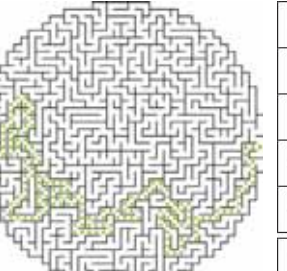
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SPORT

Six out of seven victories for Yea Tigers

THE Yea Football Netball Club teams took on Powelltown at Powelltown for round two of the season, with the exception of the women's football team, who took on Officer.

FOOTBALL Seniors

Powelltown 44 defeated by Yea 188

Reserves

Powelltown 32 defeated by Yea 136

Womens

Officer 8 defeated by Yea 66

NETBALL A Grade

Powelltown 36 defeated by Yea 61

B Grade

Powelltown 38 defeated by Yea 71

C Grade

Powelltown 17 defeated by Yea 41

D Grade

Powelltown 28 defeated Yea 23



*Yea Senior players chasing the ball despite heavy opposition.
-Photos by Savannah Gregory Photography*



Yea Reserves player lining up for goal.



Yea women footballers taking on Officer.



Yea's A Grade netballers.



B Grade Yea netballer taking a shot at goal.

Unsung heroes of the fire recovery effort

Continued from Page 8

Aussie Hay Runners - The truck and ute crews who made the journey from Seville to Murrindindi, delivering drops of hay to Highlands, Yark, Gobur, Ruffy, and surrounds. Special mention to the Cute Ute Crew who attracted volunteers from Geelong and Rosedale too. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Jake and Hamish - A couple of young men from Melbourne who saw a need and decided to help out. They worked in Melbourne during the day but after work, they jumped on Marketplace and bought up any hay they could get their hands on. They loaded up utes and trailers and their network of mates-of-mates distributed whatever they could buy, along with all manner of fencing material (self-funded) to Alexandra, Yark and Fawcett communities in need. The lads also helped Narbeview Wildlife Shelter with a supply of hay to sustain rescued natives. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Kylie - Who jumped in to support some of Yark's most impacted farmers with stock management and fencing. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Isabella from St Mary's Primary School and Guneet from Alexandra Secondary College - They dedicated a chunk of their school holidays to configuring, sorting and tidying the community-led Hub at Yark. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Sue and Emmie - Who brought some laughter and light to the community at the Yark Hotel last night. They offered free haircuts for a cause, attracting lots of donations and support for the benefit of Yark CFA. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Patricia, Nathan, Lachie and Max - The family lost their weekender in northern Murrindindi but looked for an opportunity to support their friends and neighbours. At the Community Colour Run in Yark, they catered for 400 visitors, and backed it up with a community breakfast for the special community of Terip Terip. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Carlie and Amity and the Yea Community House team - They have been supporting the Murrindindi community, distributing all manner of essential goods and comforts to everyone in need. Their commitment is amazing and their shoulders to lean on are strong. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Alexandra District Health, Yea and District Memorial Hospital, Kellock Lodge, Darlingford, Menzies - Thank you to the teams for supporting some of our most impacted and vulnerable during the emergency. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Linda Rieschick and Maureen Bond - They were overwhelmed by the community generosity, receiving and organising the enormous amount of donated goods. -Yark Hub

Sandy Keath - Who utilised her contacts with charity and government organisations who then attended the hall to guide people through processes to obtain help and grants. -Yark Hub

Shivaun Murphy - She handled social media publicity, obtaining additional volunteers and posting lists of items most in demand. -Yark Hub

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) - They provided so much practical, emotional and material support to everyone passing through the centre, including nutritious frozen meals for those impacted by the fires and volunteers. -Yark Hub

Bella from Bucks Bakery and Guneet from the Yark Service Station - They arrived every morning and worked tirelessly, putting their retail skills to use sorting and displaying grocery items that just kept arriving every minute of the day. Their beautiful smiling faces boosted morale for all. -Yark Hub

Many dedicated volunteers - They appeared to sort bedding, clothing, tools and necessities. A number came from far and wide including Marlene Fleming, Suzanna Bowman, Jo Lakeland, Susan, Teena, Jenny, Maria, Judy to name just a few, all put their own problems aside to help others. -Yark Hub

Rosalie - She arrived daily and silently placed beautiful, colourful flowers from her garden around the hall. -Yark Hub

Ging and Kiran - They kept everyone well fed with tasty lunches every day. -Yark Hub

Sharon and Graham and Bron - from the Yark Hall Committee were always there doing whatever was needed, turning on the air con/heating, putting out the rubbish. -Yark Hub

There are so many unsung heroes - They donated gifts, goods and vouchers anonymously. Pensioners and shop assistants, small businesses and large corporations, way too many to mention but all who touched our hearts. -Yark Hub

Peter Davies - His personal loss was severe. He visited the Yark Centre looking for support but on seeing how others were affected he immediately ignored his own needs and organised deliveries of brand new work boots, gloves, work pants, shirts and other protective clothing. He continued to call in regularly to top up supplies and to check up on everybody's welfare. -Yark Hub

Finn Keath - Helped keep the community spirit alive and well, organising barbecues, children's fun activities, the colour run in the park and a movie session at the hall. -Yark Hub

The people impacted - Also the other unsung heroes are those impacted by the fires who sought help. It takes a huge amount of courage to accept help. As a society we are fiercely independent and strong. Even though they had lost homes, sheds, fences, animals, the words most often heard were, "No, please give it to someone else who needs it more." -Yark Hub

Fawcett Hall Committee of Management - Sam Hicks, president and resident for working tirelessly at Fawcett Hall, going completely above and beyond. From immediate relief through to ongoing recovery, Sam has supported both on-site efforts and property-level assistance, alongside fundraising and advocacy for fire-affected communities. **Ian Newman**, secretary and generational resident, for his behind-the-scenes work in waste management and recycling, keeping the hall clean and operational. Ian has also raised nearly \$1000 through the CDS scheme. **Sandra Macalister**, treasurer and resident, for her exceptional financial management during recovery. Sandra has overseen donations, payments, and cash flow, converting donations into vouchers, ensuring creditors were paid promptly, and keeping funds moving where they were needed most, all while managing her own recovery. **Joy Burchell**, committee member, for quietly ensuring the hall remained clean and functional, maintaining toilets and waste areas daily throughout relief and recovery. **Bernhard Sauerbeck**, committee member and resident, for extraordinary on-ground support. Over 14 consecutive days, Bernhard worked tirelessly delivering hay, feeding livestock, clearing access, managing fuel supplies, and assisting with fencing and recovery logistics across the community. He still does this two mornings a week. **Cinamon Cunningham**, committee member and resident, for strong advocacy for small and mixed-use farms, identifying grant opportunities, and raising key issues across relief and recovery. Also, a dedicated voice for native wildlife and old-growth trees. **Les Perry**, committee member and resident, a quiet contributor with lived experience from previous fires. Les has provided guidance, local knowledge, and strong support for community connection initiatives, including meals at the hall. -Fawcett Hall

Koriella Fire Brigade - Captain Scott Reeves, Anna Carson, Tim Carson and Pat McVeigh, for their efforts in protecting and ultimately saving Fawcett Hall. -Fawcett Hall

Fawcett Angels - Annie, Jason, Tim, Lana and Sharon, for coordinating and delivering large-scale donations from day three of the fire. Their efforts ensured a steady and ongoing supply of essential items including water, fodder, fencing materials, tools, clothing, and food for the community. -Fawcett Hall

Andrea Redgewell from Seville Veterinary Clinic - For providing outstanding mobile veterinary care in the critical early weeks, supporting fire-affected livestock and delivering essential animal supplies. -Fawcett Hall

Narbeview Wildlife Shelter Incorporated and Murrindindi Ranges Wildlife Shelter Inc. - For their tireless work rescuing, feeding, and caring for injured wildlife, including kangaroos, wombats, and koalas. -Fawcett Hall

Donna Howson - For assisting with wildlife monitoring, reporting, and coordinated feed drop-offs. -Fawcett Hall

Catering and support crews - Led by Maureen Scale, Libby, Bron, Nevila, Mary, Bec, Leoine, Christine, Kerry, Lou, Sally, Marg, Lynne and Grant, for preparing and cleaning up of all community meals, coordinating food, and supporting community meals at the hall throughout relief and recovery period. So many others as well. -Fawcett Hall

Open Garden Fundraiser and plant team - Jan Young, Sue Pain, Pauline Lawrence, Nadine Rofe and Sue Allen for continuing the tradition of local plant fundraising despite personal loss of gardens and or paddocks and dwellings and shedding. And for management of the Fawcett Hall plant library instigated by Angel Lana and Yea Garden Centres Rachel. There are many local ladies, clubs and individuals out of region who also support this initiative. -Fawcett Hall

Marysville community support - Christine and Ken Adams, Jacqui and Ian Pearson, Di and Jim Kennedy, Jenny and Graham Pullen, James and Jane Fraga, and Melanie Ritchie for ongoing support, daily check-ins, meals, and encouragement for the community. -Fawcett Hall

Businesses of note - Rachel at Yea Garden Centre for coordinating plant donations across the region from across Victoria. Ethan from The Fine Food Merchant for ongoing food support in the relief stage. The team at Bonfire Station for community support and supplies. Colin and Mandy from Alexandra Quality Meats for food contributions, management and organisation for special events. Hairdresser Sue Dundas for personal support to locals, Daniel Clark from Anything Anytime for storage logistics and on-ground assistance with items. Jules and Tori from Greensborough Grain Store for feed and supply support. Donovan Wilson from Streamline Trees for tree assessment work. Nath and Ben from Premier Fencing for our first fodder delivery. Matt and Saatchi from Rural Fence and Trade for sourcing and logistics of donated fencing material. -Fawcett Hall

James O'Donnell - He has been at Fawcett every weekend on the chainsaw since the fire. -Ben Lewis

To all those independent people who suddenly became the vulnerable, losing property but also dreams and memories. Your humble resilience makes you all my unsung heroes. -Maureen Bond

Jonathan Tofts and Shannon Roach - I cannot speak highly enough of these two. Even though their house was destroyed too, they have gone above and beyond to help. Not only being a major part of Terip Terip CFA, but also feeding our sheep when we couldn't get back, helping my family with paperwork and putting myself and others in contact with people that could help. **Yasmine Hodgetts and Nicko Bell** - Not only were they tirelessly working at their family's house that was destroyed, but they were also helping my family by organising my family bags of clothing, picking things up for us from hubs etcetera when we couldn't, allowing us to store things at their place and even putting up posts for us to get help, even offering to buy us our animal food when we couldn't find any at the hubs. **Andrea Bauer** and the team at **Highlands Hub** for being a huge support, but also reaching out to us often to make sure we were ok and didn't need anything and keeping us up to date. -Kelly A Petersen

Darren Thomas, also, Trevor Evans, SES. All the captains and crew of the CFA, and SES crew. -Axel Van Harsel

Corey Dewhurst - While going through major changes in his professional and personal life, he was out there, every day, delivering hay, food, and water. Absolute Legend. -Axel Van Harsel

Maureen Bond, Linda Rieschick, Sharon Fox, Sandi Keath, Samantha Petersen, Tess Rich, Pagan McCarthy, St Mary's Primary School Alexandra, Alexandra Primary School Community, Sarah Irving, Buxton Primary School, Tim Drewitt, Yark Hall, Chloe Pilkington, Catherine Bowman, Vetey Coo, Jennifer Drysdale, Graham Keath, Tom Keath, Norm Stokes, Patricia and Nathan Weinberg - The list is endless. There are so many unsung heroes involved in this story and none of them are asking for recognition however you're all bloody amazing and I can't thank you enough for being a part of our recovery. Without you it wouldn't be possible. Patricia Donati. -Finn Mary

I don't know their names and it's a topic a lot can't deal with but anyone who was tasked with humanely euthanising livestock, these men and women probably don't even want to be reminded of this but they are a very forgotten group of people that did one of the hardest jobs in the whole campaign. I send all the healing their way. -Nomes Booker

Naomi McNamara, Leisa Carney, Trudy Elkington -Jell Vinycomb

Aussie Hay Runners - Branded Burgers & Bar **Jye Savage** - For putting together huge hay runs for the entire community's farmers and livestock. Without hesitation, Jye just did what he could and without his input things could have been much worse. -Rennaye McDonald

Tori Mitton from Greensborough Grain Store and **Jamie** from St Andrews Stock Feed and the team they put together for spending long endless days delivering stockfeed and supplies all over the affected areas. They put in an amazing effort and Tori gives the best hugs. Hats off to them. -Andrea Donnellan

Jo and David Rudge - They did walkthroughs of our place and next door to check for embers and watered anything in dire need. We had evacuated. We are grateful for your kindness. -Vicki Combridge

The Unsung Hero

by Nomes Booker

IT started with those we call Anzac.

SES sandbagging to keep the water back.

The fires risking it all on a flank attack.

To the lone man with a knapsack

Putting life on line those in blue.

FFMV working in a convoy of white utes.

The dirty dusty job of the dozer crew.

Lions and Rotary providing mountains of food.

Community-led Hubs stepping up on day one.

Trucks fully loaded on a hay-run.

Blaze Aid fixing fences 'til the job's done.

To the hundreds of volunteers that are still to come.

UGFM emergency broadcasting on the radio.

Army dropped in from a chopper in camos.

The ones who save your life the ambo's.

Raise a glass to all those you call hero.

Sue Dundas - For raising money by donating her time at the Yark Hotel giving haircuts to the community. -Norm Stokes

It felt throughout the acute response phase and deep into relief and the commencement of recovery, that **every person in the community** was giving of themselves everything they could. For some that was 18 hour shifts at a recovery centre, for others it was quilting, and for some it was providing a temporary home for someone displaced. Then there were the fires and the neighbours helping with fencing and stock. We had people prepare and distribute meals, or just being there for a conversation or a laugh, or a cry. Murrindindi was and continues to be a place where the community throws its arms around those who are struggling and won't abide anyone being left behind. That's the Murrindindi way. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

I'd like to recognise the dedication of **council staff**, many of whom have been stretched between core service delivery, emergency response, and community recovery, also lending their discretionary efforts in their own time to supporting people from the very first hours, and around the clock. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

Alexandra Newspapers and UGFM teams - Because relevant, timely advice and sensitive story-telling and advocacy has been vital. -Mayor Damien Gallagher

SPORT

Yea junior footballers take on Alexandra at home

by Lily Armstrong

**Under Nine
Yea versus Alexandra**

IT was a foggy and chilly morning in Yea for the first game of the season. The Under Nines burst onto the field full of energy, smiles and determination.

From the first bounce, it was clear the Tigers came to play, showing a fearless spirit. There were strong marks, courageous tackles, great goals and some fantastic runs down the field. The team showed incredible teamwork and supported each other beautifully for their first game together.

A huge shoutout to last week's award winners: Matilda received the Just Great Coffee Encouragement Award for her time

in the ruck and some great kicks; Max received the Yarra Valley Gas Ignite Award for his high energy on the field; Christian received the Progression Physiotherapy and Performance Best Player Award for his rock solid performance everytime he got the ball.

It was a fabulous atmosphere and a great game played by all players. The club says thank you to Alexandra and to their coach and wonderful families for cheering the players on. Well done, Tigers.

Under 10

Yea Tiger's Under 10s took on Alexandra Rebels at Yea for the first match of the season. The club says well done to all their amazing under 10s on a fantastic start to the season.

Some new faces joined the side, with Xander and Archie playing their first games ever with such tenacity and courage, Elliott and Harry moving up from the Under Nines making their presence know. Jake kicked the first goal of the season.

Congratulations to weekly award winners Archie, Logan M and Jake.

Under 12

First game for the season and what a nail biter it was. Yea launched out and scored the first goal within the first few minutes, kicking off a run of luck to follow.

Leading for three quarters was great inspiration for the young tiger team, unfortunately they ran out of legs in the last quarter going down by five points to the Alexandra Rebels.

Award winners last week: Toby Geeson; Archie Armstrong; and Dean Mullen on his footy debut.



Under 10s award winners Archie, Logan M and Jake. -S



Under 12 award winners Toby, Archie and Dean. -S



Under Nine award winners Christian, Matilda and Max. -S



Under 13 Black award winners Ava and Zoe. -S



Under 11 award winners Bridie and Jake. -S

Junior netball returns for Yea Tigers

by Jo Madden

JUNIOR netball is back, with round one of the Goulburn Murray Junior League kicking off last weekend. The Yea Tigers are thrilled to field two Under 13 teams this season, highlighting the continued strength of junior netball in the Yea community.

The Under 13s took to the court last Friday night under lights, with both teams settling well into new player combinations. Yea Yellow faced St Mary's Yellow, with the final score not reflecting the team's strong effort. Yea Black had a tough contest against a strong Broadford Blue outfit, going down by just one goal in a tightly fought match.

The Under 11s played last Saturday, also taking on St Mary's. New coach Chelsea Helder was delighted with the efforts of the

Tigers' youngest players, many of whom were playing their first game.

The Under 15s had the bye last week and are eager to hit the court this Sunday in Alexandra.

**Award Winners
Under 11s**

Yarra Valley Ignite Award, Bridie Tait; Just Great Coffee Player of the Day, Jake Alldrick.

Under 13s Yea Yellow

Yarra Valley Ignite Award, Alexis Rowson; Sprout Wellness Player of the Day, Evie Madden.

Under 13s Yea Black

Yarra Valley Ignite Award, Ava McDonald; Deluxe Rod Shop Player of the Day, Zoe Alldrick.



Under 13 Yellow award winners Evie and Alexis. -S



C Grade winner Don Gee. -S



A Grade winner Gary Pollard. -S



B Grade winner Phil Armstrong. -S



Bob Glenister and Christine Simmons won the April monthly medals. -S

Dalhousie Vets competition at Yea Golf Club

by Alan Pell

Dalhousie Vets

A FIELD of 56 players enjoyed excellent course conditions at Yea Golf Club under sunny skies. Many thanks go to the volunteers for their work on the course, and special appreciation to Judi and her team of ladies for providing a superb roast chicken and apple strudel lunch.

The winner of A Grade was Yea's Gary Pollard (12) with 36 points on countback from Brian Simmons (10) also from Yea.

C Grade was won by Seymour's Don Gee (25) with 37 points, with Sue Aurisch (30) of Yea finishing second on 36 points.

In B Grade, Yea's Phil Armstrong (18) recorded the best score of the day with 39 points, finishing ahead of Wicky McDowall (21) Kilmore on 37 points.

Nearest the pin winners were Wicky McDowall on the second and 18th, Gary Pollard on the 14th, and Chris Hanson on the 11th. The ball run-down went to 33 points.

The next event will be held at Kilmore on April 30 and will be a two-person Ambrose.

Wednesday golf report

In ideal conditions and the course presented in Blue Ribbon fashion, 19 men contested a stroke and putting event.

Bob Glenister (11) continued his run of great form, posting 70 nett to take out the major prize from Tony Rule (16) also on 70

nett. Two very good rounds gentlemen. Jim Redmond (24) and Brian Priestly (25) also played very well finishing with 71 nett, to fill the minor placings.

Nearest the pin on the 14th hole also went the way of Jim Redmond with a great tee shot. Johnathon Fisher relished the quality of the greens, taking just 23 putts.

Steve Rumney took out the Club Award.

Yea ladies' newsletter

Six ladies competed in the Saturday competition on April 11 with Christine Simmons (22) taking out the honours with 77 nett.

It had been a big 24 hours for Christine who was absolutely thrilled to win the ladies set of Taylor Made golf clubs and bag the night before in the Yea Golf Club major raffle. Obviously, the clubs work well for Christine. Sharing in some glory on Saturday was Bob Glenister who apparently won his first ever Monthly Medal.

On Wednesday, April 14 a larger field of 13 ladies took part in the par event. Not everyone's favourite type of competition judging by the pre-game grumbles. However, some outstanding scores came in so maybe some players decided it's not so bad.

Meryl Connell (25) had another great round to take out the win with a plus six, just pipping Judi Newman (39) on a countback. Two very satisfied players. Vicky Butler (42) also had a terrific round with plus four and Jan Wealands



Christine Simmons winning a set of Taylor Made golf clubs in the Yea Golf Club major raffle. -S

(29) came in with a very pleasing plus three as well as a nearest the pin to top it all off.

The conditions were superb, with the autumnal weather just glorious and the course stunning. A huge shout out to the efforts of all the volunteers who are keeping the course so beautifully maintained.

Next Monday, April 20, five Yea ladies will represent the club in pennant. The club wishes Christine Simmons, Sue Aurisch, Di Holdsworth, Di Elliott and Cindy Armstrong the best of luck.

There was no golf last Saturday due to the races being held.



Conditions were good for the ladies' par event. -S



Partaking in the ladies' par event at Yea Golf Club. -S



CONGRATULATIONS to Heidi Dredge, a grade six student at Sacred Heart Primary School, who represented her school at the Horseland Interschool State Championships in Boneo over five days. She and her pony Zippy did very well, placing third in the Primary School Division and earning themselves a place in the Victorian team at the National Championships in September. -S

The Chronicle Sport



Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



The crowd of racegoers enjoying the warm autumn weather. -BD



Cheering on 'Cavascot' as he took victory in race three. -BD



Spectators getting as close to the action as possible. -BD

Final race meeting of season for Yea Race Club

YEA Racing hosted the Sister Olive Yea St Pats Cup last Saturday in warm autumn conditions, with 'Patrick' taking victory in the 3000-metre feature race of the same name.

Race one, the Yarra Valley Veterinary Surgery Maiden Plate, run over 1600 metres, was won by 'Stormyfriendship'. Coming in second and third place were 'Tornado Anwa' and 'Titan's Soul' respectively.

Race two, the Adrian and Marie Sier Memorial Trophy Race, ran over 1300 metres, was taken out by 'Elite Pete' followed by 'Frostration' and 'Hula Dance'.

The shortest race of the day, race three, run over 1200 metres, was the AT and CD McCarthy Memorial Maiden Plate. 'Cavascot' took victory, followed by 'Maristela' and 'Rosie's Hero' in second and third respectively.

The feature race, the LAWD Agribusiness Sister Olive Yea St Pats Cup, run over the massive distance of 3000 metres, was won by 'Patrick', followed to the line by 'Houdini Catarno' in second and 'Carlito Brigante' in third.

Race five, the Frank Hargrave Memorial, run over 1600 metres, was won by 'Slippery Thinker', followed by 'Shintaro Samurai' and 'Up To Me'.

The final race of the event, the Inverugie Pastoral Open Trophy Race, run again over 1600 metres, was taken out by 'Disclavaboy', with 'Theo Five' in second and 'Master of Chant' in third.

Last weekend's race meeting was the last for the 2025-26 season calendar at Yea Race Club.



A bucks party from Taggerty enjoying a day out at the races. -BD



The winning jockey from race three, S. L. Cooper, being interviewed by Yea Race Club President Alister Tait. -BD



'Sir Lazarus' (5) and 'Carlito Brigante' (4) warming up before the feature race. -BD



Horse and jockey being escorted onto the racetrack. -BD



'Cavascot' beating 'Maristela' to the finish line in race three of the meeting. -BD



The Sister Olive Yea St Pats Cup winner Rob Kirkpatrick being interviewed. -BD



Kirkpatrick husband (jockey) and wife (trainer), celebrating their race win in the feature race with horse 'Patrick'. -BD



The horses and jockeys warming up before the race begins. -BD