

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard

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

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INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Day on the train for fur babies



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Menzies clients celebrate Brewability



Page 7

Marysville cop hunts Ned Kelly



Page 10

Weekend sport



Pages 17-20

3861 native trees, shrubs and grasses planted



Planting at UT Creek in Alexandra with St Mary's Primary School and Alexandra Primary School. -S

MURRINDINDI Shire's 2025 National Tree Day (NTD) celebrations have been a huge success, despite some rain delays, with 3861 native trees, shrubs, and grasses planted across 10 sites between July 19 and August 24.

While the official Day fell on Sunday, July 27, local activities were spread out over several weeks to accommodate school calendars, volunteer availability and the weather. NTD for schools took place on Friday, July 25, with students rolling up their sleeves to plant alongside teachers, Landcare members and council staff.

This year's planting began at Thornton Recreation Reserve on July 19 and continued across the shire in Alexandra, Buxton, Eildon, Flowerdale, Yea and Yarck. Across all the events, more than 200 students, teachers, community volunteers and Landcare members contributed their time and energy to improve biodiversity, stabilise soil and provide essential habitat for wildlife. Students demonstrated impressive teamwork and dedication, gaining valuable hands-on experience and will be able to watch on with pride as their plants grow.

Murrindindi Shire Council would like to thank all community members who took part, Upper Goulburn Landcare Network, Cathedral Landcare, Flowerdale Landcare, Home Creek Spring Creek Landcare, Leckie Park/UT Creek Landcare, Yea Primary School, Yea Sacred Heart Primary School, Alexandra Primary School, St Mary's Primary School and Yea High School for their efforts and dedication.

Special thanks go to Chris Coburn from Upper Goulburn Landcare Network and their Youth Programs' Zanni Waldstein and Leigh Redding for coordinating with schools, and to Alex Jones, Cam Patterson and Andrew Storie for site preparation and planting support.

Murrindindi Shire Council Sustainability and Assets Portfolio Cr Sue Carpenter said, "National Tree Day is a wonderful example of how small actions, taken together, can make a big impact. These efforts benefit our environment, foster goodwill and provide invaluable educational experiences for our young leaders of tomorrow. We are grateful to the numerous volunteers whose dedication makes our landscapes healthier for generations to come."

Volunteers at National Tree Day events and council's *Nominate Your Favourite Street Tree* were part of a random draw on August 18, with three winners from across Murrindindi each receiving a \$40 voucher for a local supermarket. Winners included a National Tree Day Talk attendee in Yea, and volunteers from tree planting events in Alexandra and Thornton.

More images on page 16.



Nola, Angela, Emily, Taylah and Ian on Daffodil Day, outside The Dame. They were selling sweet treats, merchandise, and of course, beautiful fresh daffodils in support of the Cancer Council. -AR

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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THUMBS UP
THUMBS DOWN

THUMBS UP:

On Thursday I found myself going to a VicRoads info presentation on the Melba Highway when a low radiator warning came up on the dash. On pulling over I found the radiator cap loose and most of the expensive fluids on the road. To my surprise, a gentleman in a red car pulled over on the other side of the road and offered help. He then provided a container of water to get me to the nearest tap. He then followed me to ensure I made it. I was then able to get home. A real thumbs up to him, and with many thanks from me. Great to know that good people are out there in our shire.

THUMBS UP:

Congratulations to Peter Aumann and others regarding the Dog and Train day held last Saturday. Good attendance and well run. Nice to see a community initiative bringing Melbourne and regional people together promoting our town.

THUMBS DOWN:

To Bendigo Bank who lie about being 'community focused'. Yes they have returned over \$350 million to the community since inception which is why they are closing so many branches to reap back those lost funds.

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers. Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au

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

McLeish accuses government of letting weeds and pests run free

MEMBER for Eildon Cindy McLeish is concerned that invasive weeds and pests will go unchecked across Victoria, as the Victorian Government sacks Agriculture Victoria's pest and weed team.

From December 2025, Victoria will be the only state in Australia with no plan, no rules and no resources to deal with destructive pests like blackberries, rabbits and gorse.

Ms McLeish said this reckless decision by the state government will impact each shire in the electorate.

"Blackberries are already running rampant along roadsides, strangling our local rivers and streams and plaguing our bushland and farms.

"I receive regular complaints and concerns from constituents about blackberry growth, as well as damage to crops, and properties caused by rabbits, foxes and feral pigs.



Cindy McLeish. -S

"I see a fox at least once a day. Everyone in regional Victoria understands the problem with rabbits, foxes and noxious weeds.

"The Agriculture Victoria Pests and Weeds Teams did what they could, but it was a challenge when they didn't receive the government support. Now with one of our only lines of defence gone,

the weeds and pests will grow out of control, particularly as we come into spring," she said.

Labor has only budgeted \$537.2 million for Agriculture Victoria in 2025/26, down from \$614.8 million in 2024/25, which Ms McLeish sees as a direct attack on regional Victorians, who will feel the pinch the hardest.

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

ANOTHER happy Friday social meeting was presided over by president Yvonne, who also conducted Comedy Corner as Treasurer Dave had a cold and was wearing a face mask.

The club can confirm that everything is organised for the Lilydale International Morning Melodies on Wednesday, September 3. Barry the Bus will pick up everyone

for 8.45am departure from Bayley Street clubroom. This week's chocolate raffle winners were Joan, June and Jack.

After the refreshments, members enjoyed two tables of 500 and the ladies UNO. The bridge players were in action on Wednesday too. If you fancy a game of bridge or joining us on a Friday afternoon you will be most welcome. Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling.

COMMUNITY DIARY

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Non-emergency police assistance
131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon

UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

WEEKLY

Tue Women's Walk @ 7am @Embassy of Ideas

Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 0456 583 611

Fri Man Walk @ 7am meet at RSL Hall

Fri Communita 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

MONTHLY

1st Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318

1st Thur Murrindindi Men 6-8pm@ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

1st Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas

2nd Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285

2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

3rd Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318

3rd Thu Alexandra Ladies Probud 10am RSL Ph 0428 976 252

3rd Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas

3rd Sun Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913

4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.

4th Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517

Last Fri Carers Group 10am Grant Street Grocer. 0418 402 455

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

For a \$10 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation's regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of what groups are available in the community, when they meet and a contact phone number.

Weekly Weather

August 27 - September 2, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	6	11	Wednesday	6	12
Thursday	6	10	Thursday	6	11
Friday	4	9	Friday	4	10
Saturday	4	9	Saturday	4	10
Sunday	5	12	Sunday	5	14
Monday	4	14	Monday	4	14
Tuesday	4	15	Tuesday	4	15

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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.

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Standard

The Yea Chronicle

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)	9.00am Mon	1.55	steady	Below Flood Level
Rubicon River at Rubicon	9.00am Mon	0.50	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.00am Mon	0.56	steady	Below Flood Level
Home Creek at Yarck	6.50am Mon	0.18	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.23am Mon	0.49	steady	Below Flood Level
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	9.00am Mon	0.27	steady	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	9.00am Mon	0.61	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	3.67	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.49	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Trawool	9.00am Mon	1.31	steady	Below Flood Level
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.31	steady	Below Flood Level
Goulburn River at Seymour	9.00am Mon	1.62	steady	Below Flood Level
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.00am Mon	1.15	steady	

*ISSUED AT 09:55 AM AEST MONDAY 25 AUGUST 2025

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra	0.6mm
Buxton.....	0mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.2mm
Flowerdale.....	0.4mm
Jamieson.....	N/Amm
Kinglake.....	0.4mm
Lake Eildon.....	0mm
Mansfield.....	N/Amm
Taggerty	2mm
Yarck	0.6mm
Yea.....	0.1mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	275.63m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	55.5%
Metres below full supply.....	13.27m
Daily inflow	1000ML
Release.....	2000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	85%

THE ALEXANDRA EILDON MARYSVILLE

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

DEADLINES

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

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

5772 1002 or
reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

Trevor pushing his barrow to Canberra

TREVOR (63), a Marysville local, is planning to push his barrow all the way to Canberra. It's a matter of life and death as he's raising funds for mental health and suicide prevention among Australia's tradespeople.

In Australia, a tradie is lost to suicide every four hours. "These are the real statistics no one gets to hear about," Trevor said.

His mission is deeply personal, stemming from a moment of despair 25 years ago. While on a construction site, Trevor faced a crisis which led him to put a nail gun to his head and pull the trigger. Fortunately, a safety mechanism saved his life, giving him a second chance, a chance that so many others never get.

Now, Trevor is using his voice to speak up for those who can't. He believes that while he is just one person, together the community can make a significant impact.

His walk, pushing a wheelbarrow, symbolises the heavy load many tradies carry in silence. He hopes to spark a national conversation and create better

opportunities for tradespeople to seek help and communicate openly about their struggles.

Trevor's journey begins on Sunday, September 28 at 8am, setting off from the new Mercantile cafe in Marysville, near the Professionals Real Estate office, heading for Taggerty. The community is invited to come and cheer him on or even walk with him as he starts his incredible trek.

On September 29, he will be walking from Taggerty to Alexandra, and on September 30, he will be departing Alexandra's Rotary Park at 8am if you would like to cheer him on or walk with him, bound for Bonnie Doon. The departure time for each location will be around 8am.

You can support Trevor's cause by donating, following his journey, and spreading the word. To learn more about his story and the mission, visit trevsstory.com. There, you can watch his video, get details on the walk, and check out the 'Marble for a Mate' initiative. You can also follow his progress on the Trev's Story Facebook page.



Trevor is embarking on a journey to raise awareness about suicides in the trades. -S

Digitisation to make planning and building information easier to access

MURRINDINDI Shire Council improve how the community accesses planning and building information.

Through ongoing digitisation of historical permit files, they're streamlining processes, reducing delays and making it easier for residents, businesses, builders, and planners to access the information they need.

This work builds on a recent digitisation project, supported by the Victorian Government through the Regulatory Reform Incentive Fund (RRIF) (now Business Acceleration Fund), which converted nearly 6500 hard copy Planning and Building permit files into a fully digital system.

This projects complements council's other digital initiatives, like the Planning and Building Portal, which gives residents, builders, and planners a convenient way to lodge and track applications online.

For more information, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Services/Planning-and-Building/Planning-and-Development

Child Safety overhaul

THE Victorian Government has announced a child safety overhaul following the recent abuse allegations in childcare centres.

They will take immediate action to strengthen the Working With Children Check and child safety in early childhood education and care settings with a \$42 million boost to the sector, by accepting and implementing all 22 recommendations of the independent Rapid Child Safety Review, bringing legislation to sitting to allow for the immediate suspension of individual Working with Children Checks (WWCC).

The government will establish a new, nation-leading regulator that will more than double the frequency of compliance checks and beef up the Social Services Regulator (SSR) by bringing the WWCC, the Reportable Conduct Scheme and Child Safe Standards under the one roof by the end of the year, giving it new powers, removing silos and weeding out predators.

They are introducing mandatory child safety training and expanding professional support programs, including through changes to the National Law, to build a greater culture of speaking up, and calling on the Federal Government to prioritise quality and safety in the national childcare system.

The work has already started and will continue in the coming weeks and months to restore trust in the sector.

Rapid Child Safety Review

The review was commissioned by the state government following serious allegations of child sexual abuse in early childhood education and care (ECEC). Led by Mr Jay Weatherill AO and Ms Pam White PSM, the review was delivered to the government on August 15, 2025.

The report makes 22 recommendations to improve child safety.

Of these: Six recommendations are directed at strengthening the Victorian ECEC regulator and their functions; three recommendations include improvements to training, professional development and education for those working in the ECEC sector and families; two recommendations

go to reforms to governance and regulatory functions, including WWCC and the RCS. Eleven recommendations propose advocacy to the Commonwealth or advocacy in national forums.

The report sets out clear actions to reinforce Victoria's regulatory framework, strengthen awareness about identifying and raising child safety concerns, and advocate for urgent action to occur at the national level.

By accepting all recommendations, the government is ensuring stronger safeguards are in place to protect Victorian children and support families to have confidence in the Working With Children Check and the safety of early childhood education and care.

New early childhood education and care regulator

The early childhood education and care sector has expanded with rapid growth and the government need to not only catch up but stay ahead of these changes to address future risks.

The state government will establish an independent, strengthened authority to regulate early childhood services under the National Law, and will more than double the frequency of compliance checks.

The independent regulator will be established by the end of this year. This nation-leading body will also be responsible for the Early Childhood Workforce Register introduced in July.

This strengthened regulator will provide families with confidence that children are safe and supported.

Beefed up Social Services Regulator

For too long too many pieces of information about an individual have been left and gone unchecked.

A better understanding of child safety to protect all children is needed, including those at risk due to disability, neglect, family violence and other forms of abuse.

That's why we're taking action to strengthen the safety net around children, bringing the Working with Children

Check (WWCC), Reportable Conduct Scheme and Child Safe Standards into the Social Services Regulator (SSR) by the end of this year.

Child safeguarding schemes will also be overhauled to ensure predators can be quickly detected, excluded and never allowed to work with children again.

This includes providing the beefed up SSR with powers to consider unsubstantiated allegations and intelligence in deciding whether to grant clearances and proactively share this information with other regulators.

The government will also introduce legislation into Parliament to make some immediate changes to Working with Children Check, including to immediately suspend clearances while reassessments are finalised.

All people applying for a working with children clearance will also be required to undertake mandatory online training and testing, with review rights removed from VCAT for those who have had their clearance refused, revoked or suspended.

Giving workers and parents the confidence to raise safety concerns

Those who are best placed to respond to and report child safety concerns must be equipped with the tools and confidence to raise them.

That's why the government is taking action to introduce the national mandatory child safety training for all early childhood education and care workers and expanding the professional support program, including through proposed changes to national law, to build a greater culture of speaking up.

Government will also work with experts to provide parents and carers with evidence-based advice and online training on prevention awareness, signs of grooming and how to raise concerns.

Anyone with concerns about the safety of children in early childhood services should call the Regulatory Authority on 1300 307 415. Reports can be made anonymously. All notifications are taken seriously and investigated.

Men fined over campfires

TWO men were caught by a roving patrol in the Rubicon State Forest with lit campfires on a day of Total Fire Ban, being January 27, 2025.

Matthew Bradley and Christopher Linzner appeared in Mansfield Magistrates Court on August 20, where they plead guilty to the charges.

The judge ordered them to make a small donation of \$300 each to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and placed them under a good behaviour bond until November 26.

Ausnet vegetation works

AUSNET will be carrying out vegetation management in Caveat, Buxton, Dropmore, Eildon, Ghin Ghin, Highlands, Howes Creek, Marysville, Narbethong, Rubicon, Ruffy, Taggerty, Terip Terip, Thornton and Yarck from late August through September 2025.

The works include pruning around powerlines and, where necessary, vegetation removal.

For more details, visit Ausnet's website or call 1300 360 795.

Ausnet said that patience and cooperation is appreciated while this essential safety work is completed.

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Church Services

ANGLICAN
St Johns Alexandra
9am Eucharist each Sunday
Children welcome.
Rev Mario Hendricks -
Rectory 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC
Immaculate Conception Parish
Parish Administrator Fr Jose Mathew.
Presbytery 0468 810 871
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

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

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

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

THE VINE
A Christian community part of the Baptist
Union of Victoria
Sunday 4.30pm service
Kids program during school term
Meets at St Andrew's, 37 Downey Street,
Alexandra
Contact - 0438 642 559

Out&About

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28
Menzies Support Services
Community Meeting from
5pm onwards at 49 Nihil St,
Alexandra. They are calling for
committee members.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6
Darren Gilbert open studio
Saturday and Sunday from
10am-4pm. 5 Giffard Street, Yea
or other times by appointment
0421 378 451.

Goulburn Fishing Festival 2025
is a free event at Eildon. 9am-
2pm. Vic Fish Kids clinics
at the pondage, Snobs Creek
Hatchery guided tours, live
music, market stalls and much

more. Fireworks at 7pm. vfa.
vic.gov.au/goulburnfishfest

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
Alexandra Opportunity Shop
AGM will be held on Monday,
September 8, at 10am in the
RSL Hall.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
Alexandra and District Traders
and Tourism Association
will hold their AGM at 6pm

All businesses are invited to
attend. For more details visit
alexandratourism.com/agm

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
There will be a public meeting
taking place at the Molesworth
Public Hall on September 10,
starting at 7.30pm. The purpose
of the meeting is to nominate
new committee members for
the Committee of Management
for the Molesworth Public
Hall Reserve.

Why spring puts an extra spring in your step

THE fog is lifting, the frost is melting and its nearly time to get out and about again. As winter is a time to stay indoors, the first peak of spring emerging suddenly gives you a little extra spring in your step.

Spring can bring on feelings of improved mood and a sudden increase in energy levels as temperature increases and change of sunlight can boost serotonin levels which helps regulate your mood and gives you the energy to tackle the outdoors after being cooped up all winter. This feel good hormone is also responsible for levels of depression and anxiety. if you experience symptoms of seasonal affective disorder (SAD) the longer days with increased light can help diminish feelings of the winter blues and naturally boost your mood which is a welcoming

feeling if you have been suffering in the winter months.

When you get outdoors there are plenty of areas to explore in your own backyard. Murrindindi Shire has many wonderful walking trails and parks where you can get more physical activity in which can also increase your social interactions with others when you're out and about. Both exercising and socialising can increase endorphins which creates feelings of happiness.

Being outdoors also increases your vitamin d production. This hormone affects mood and influences your sleep patterns as it regulates serotonin and melatonin.

Even the change in environment can affect your mood as the season changes. Locally we are lucky to have an abundant amount of

spring colour pop up, whether it be the new leaves forming on the trees or bulbs sprouting in and around where you live. This new growth can give a feeling of new beginnings and better days are around the corner.

If you find your mood and energy levels don't improve into the spring months after a dark and dreary winter there are some great mental health services that can help you, these can include Beyond Blue and Lifeline, and locally, on the Murrindindi Shire Council website, there is a great list of support resources available. There is also the new mental health service that launched on July 29 in Yea, the Lower Hume Primary Mental Health service bringing local supports and removing barriers to access mental health support with clinicians based in Yea, Alexandra, Seymour, and Kilmore.

Mouth mapping at the Yea Saleyards

YEA and District Memorial Hospital (YDMH) is set to improve health services at the Yea Saleyards, thanks to a new partnership with the Rotary Club of Yea.

For a couple of years now, YDMH has run a monthly health clinic at the saleyards, but staff have been forced to work out of temporary and unsuitable spaces, including the cafeteria area or even a borrowed council library bus. These limitations have restricted both the quality and the growth of services.

To address this, YDMH and Rotary Yea successfully applied for an Elders Community Giving grant, securing \$20,000 in funding. The funds will go towards purchasing and installing a relocatable building at the saleyards, creating a dedicated space for health checks and clinics.

In addition, Rotary is supporting the hospital in purchasing new oral cancer screening technology for YDMH's innovative 'mouth mapping' program.

This collaboration marks a significant step in supporting the health and wellbeing of the local community, with a strong focus on those working in agriculture.

Dr Jennifer Keast, the Rural Health Academic Network (RHAN) co-ordinator at YDMH, was interviewed about mouth mapping and the opportunity provided by these developments.

"Mouth mapping is a fairly new initiative and doesn't differ that much from mole mapping of our skin. What people probably don't realise is that we have skin on the inside of our mouths as well as on the outside of our bodies. That skin is just as susceptible to developing cancer lesions as our external skin," Dr Keast said.

"But often they're not tested early because we don't tend to look inside our mouths, and if we are not going to the dentist very often, then these lesions can develop and be picked up quite late. If they are picked up late, they have a very high chance of poor outcome."

Running a mouth mapping program through YDMH to monitor for oral cancer in the local community is relatively simple.

"The beauty of this program is that the school of dental science at Melbourne University, through Dr Tami Yap, have developed a very cost-effective and quite straightforward program, where they can train up people, just for four hours, in medical photography," Dr Keast said.

"That enables then those people that are trained to take a series of about 20 photographs of the inside of a patient's mouth, and that's just using simple cheek retractors that the dentists would use for inspecting a mouth, and then this range of photographs.

"The people who are trained up in this medical photography don't need to be clinicians, they can be volunteers, or anyone that is interested in doing it. So through that model, we're not adding a clinical burden to overworked clinicians.

"The camera that is used costs about \$6000, and then there's some money also on an almost hairdresser-like chair for patients to sit in. Not much of an outlay for the equipment. Then the photographs are taken and through a website are downloaded to an oral medicine specialist, who can then look at those photos, review them and write a report on what they're seeing.

"That report, if there is something to report on like a lesion in the mouth, that report gets sent to the patient, the patient's GP and the patient's dentist. The simplicity of this program means that we'll be able to deliver at the Yea Saleyards through our free farmer health checks at no cost to farmers or anyone else who attend."

Dr Keast spoke about how the program will take place in Yea, and how it could potentially expand.

"For the pilot that will be kicking off as soon as we have the building out there, we have trained up two nurses from the Yea hospital, because they were available and interested, and are already attending the cattle sales in another capacity," she said.

"They've got time and they are there to be taking the photographs. Once they've honed their skills it will probably take 10 to 15 minutes per patient. They did some training, the dental school people came up to the Yea hospital and did some training. They've been trained up.

"Beyond that, what we are hoping is that the program is not just confined to the saleyards. We see this as a really important public health initiative. We're hoping through the procurement of a bus, that we'll be able to take this at least across our region. There's no reason why this can't eventually be Australia-wide.

"It might be that it starts off being very popular and we can't fit everyone in on a

particular day, but we'll keep going back as often as we can until we feel like a critical mass has been scanned. We are hoping that by January we'll be up and running at the saleyards, but that's not definite. It depends on a whole lot of stuff, like the building being erected in time. But you can probably say within six months we're hoping to hold our first clinic at the saleyards."

Dr Keast finished by stressing the importance of the program, stating that the normal rate of mouth lesions is one in 20 people for men over 75 in the general population, and that a test study in the Wimmera showed a rate of one in five for male farmers over the age of 75.

"It's looking like farmers have four times the rate of oral lesions, which may be pre-cancerous or cancerous, than the general population. That is a real concern," Dr Keast said.

"If they're picked up late, which they generally are, the outcomes for and the surgery required to resect them is really extensive and not pleasant to go through."

Where and when the oral cancer clinics are taking place will be advertised on the YDMH website once the program begins.



Dr Tami Yap, Oral Medicine Specialist, Yea nurses Sally Belford and Shona Miljkovic and simulated patient Barry Phillips. -S

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The Embassy of Ideas Potluck dinner

OVER 20 people attended the Alexandra Embassy of Ideas Potluck dinner, held on Thursday, August 21.

The event is about building connections in the community, as well as the positive power of sharing a meal.

A potluck dinner is a communal meal where everyone contributes something. Bring a meal or an item toward dinner. It can be store bought or homemade.

Sharing a meal with friends, neighbours and strangers can help to grow a community.

The Community Potluck Dinner is held on the third Thursday of each month from 6 to 8pm at the Embassy of Ideas, 3 Bayley Street in Alexandra.

The dinner has been running since March 2019. Everyone is welcome.

To find out more about events and activities at the Embassy of Ideas, please view their Facebook page facebook.com/EOIAlexandra



2025 GOULBURN FISHING FESTIVAL

**FREE EVENT
EILDON**

Saturday, 6 September, 9am - 2pm
Location: Lions Park, Riverside Drive, Eildon

- Vic Fish Kids Clinics Eildon Pondage (bookings essential)
- Snobs Creek Hatchery guided tours (11am & 1pm only)
- 2000 'stonker' rainbow trout
- Q&A with fishing expert
- Live music & market stalls
- Spinning wheel prizes

www.vfa.vic.gov.au/goulburnfishfest

**Fireworks
7pm**



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BE PART OF THE CHANGE

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Submit your interest now
visy.com/cpo-form

cdsvic.org.au





A day on the train for the fur babies

ON Saturday, August 23 Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum held a event for dogs and their owners to explore the tramway museum and have a ride or two on a heritage train.

There were market stalls and a variety of food available. The museum rooms were open and the heritage machinery were also on display for people to explore.

The pups (and their owners) all had a great time exploring and meeting friends, new and old.



There was an array of market stalls for everything your dog needs and wants. -MP



The event was well attended with families, dogs and their owners. -MP



Ron and Ann with their dogs Modra and Maggie. -MP



Mirjana and her dog Mimi at the markets stalls. -MP



Maria and Malcom Price selling their dog treats at the event. -MP



The dogs got to take in the scenery on their train rides. -MP



Some dogs had to wait their turn for a great train ride. -MP



The train rides were very popular. -MP



Time to hop off the train for this furry friend. -MP



Issy with her owner ready for a train ride. -MP



No dog was too big to participate in the train ride as Cricket the Great Dane travelled with owner Janine. -MP



Tramway committee members Peter and Paula cooking on the barbecue. -MP

Menzies clients and guests celebrate Brewability



Staff with participants in the Brewability course, holding their certificates. -AR



A magnificent array of food was on offer. -AR



Stephen, Corrie and Lani. -AR

GUESTS were treated to an amazing array of food, and of course hot drinks, impeccably served, at the completion celebration for the Menzies Support Services Brewability course.

Acting Menzies Support Services CEO Kellie Fielder welcomed the guests at the event. She explained that at the start of the year, some of the staff and clients were working on vision boards and Jenna suggested working in a café. As a result, they started looking at how this could happen and how they could develop tangible skills in the area, such as learning to be a barista. With all of the clients on board, "We went on a mission to make it happen," Kellie said.

They were able to access support via the Workforce Training Innovation Fund on behalf of the Murrindindi Health Network and they were able to access bespoke training and funding to support the request.

Brewability is about building skills "one cup at a time" and through it, a new partnership evolved with Ciri Services.

She said, "Over the last three weeks, we've seen our clients gain new skills, burst with pride and have a level of engagement that has not been seen or rivalled for some time."

The afternoon tea, held during week four, celebrated the completion of Brewability, and provided a chance for clients to show off their new skills and take pride in their achievements.

To the people who completed the course, Kellie said, "It's been a pleasure to see you gain confidence, pride yourself on a new skill, and walk a little bit taller. Unusual as it may be, I have never had a cup of coffee in my life, but today might just be the first."



Beautifully decorated cupcakes created by the participants. -AR



Val, Margaret and Simone. -AR



Pam, Dierdre, Ron and Norma. -AR



The Brewability participants at the coffee van. They took hot drink orders from the attendees, made the beverages, and delivered them once they were made. -AR

Darren Gilbert

open studio

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Abigail

Abigail consistently shows our school values. She is a quiet achiever who is developing confidence in her abilities. She is always polite and helpful to staff and students. It is great to see you beam when you achieve. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Abigail. You are a star.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sam W

Sam is a role model both in the classroom and in the playground. In class he works hard and with focus while always offering to help others. In the playground his honesty and accountability sets the example for fair play that others can follow.

Well done Sam.



Student of the Week

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Maria 'Rita' Walker. -S



Maureen Pritchett. -S



Lifestyle coordinator Viv Gill and Heather Jones. -S

Daffodil Day celebrated at Kellock Lodge

KELLOCK Lodge celebrated Daffodil Day on Thursday, August 21 with staff in yellow and residents enjoyed the opportunity to have their photo taken in a yellow daffodil frame.



Lifestyle coordinator Viv Gill, Debbie Dent from Environmental Services and CEO Tania Hunter. -S



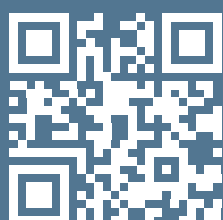
CEO Tania Hunter and Bernadette 'Bernie' Reynolds. -S



Patricia 'Pat' Moss. -S

Victoria is banning machetes from 1 September

A 3 month amnesty will allow Victorians to safely dispose of machetes with no penalties.



Scan to learn more



Authorised by the Victorian Government,
1 Treasury Place, Melbourne

Marysville policeman involved in hunt for Ned Kelly

GIPPSLAND resident, Steve Mayes, is the great grandson of Joseph Ladd Mayes, a former Marysville policeman who had a hand in the searches for bushrangers Harry Power and Ned Kelly.

Steve explained that he didn't know a lot about his father's side of the family. His father was a World War II veteran who had gone away to war at a young age, and he didn't know a lot about his family either. As a result, Steve started digging quite a few years ago and discovered that his father's grandfather was a serving member of the Victoria Police for just on 40 years and when he was in Marysville, he was involved in the hunt for Harry Power and the hunt for the Kellys.

Joseph had been born in the town of Headford in Ireland, which Steve and his wife were fortunate to visit. After Joseph's father died in about 1834, Joseph along with his mother and a brother and sister immigrated to America. After Joseph married on Manhattan Island, he arrived in Australia in 1858 and joined the Victorian police force almost immediately. His brother, John, stayed in America and was a Lieutenant in the Union Army during the American Civil War.

Joseph was stationed at Marysville when Harry Power was captured. "They went from Marysville up into the King Valley [north of Mansfield], which is a fair way. There was Joseph and an Indigenous tracker. They had information from the Quinns about where Harry Power was hiding. Apparently when they got up there, [Joseph] was confronted by Inspector Samuel Furnell who told him to get back to his station. So he did. Fernell and Francis Hare caught Harry Power exactly where my great grandfather said he'd be."

Steve also explained the connection to the hunt for Ned Kelly and the Kelly Gang. "There was a group that were in the Woolshed Valley, and they were known as the Cave Party. There were police that were hidden in what they call the police caves above the Byrne homestead, as in Joseph Byrne, a member of the Kelly Gang."

The police were up there for a month in the cold. "They'd rest through the day, but by night they'd come down into the valley and have watch parties out on the Byrne homestead for members of the Kelly Gang,

perhaps visiting that homestead, but they're under the command of a Francis Hare, who was a high-ranking police officer in the Victoria Police during the Kelly hunt," Steve said.

"They were eventually discovered by Joe Byrne's mother. One of the policemen was down at the creek, whittling a stick and she discovered him and she said that she would get Joe Byrne to shoot the whole bloody lot of them. That was in a Francis Hare's book.

"They did it pretty tough up there," Steve added.

"Joseph was also responsible for the sacking of Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick, who was in a lot of people's eyes, the instigator of the Kelly outbreak after he tried to arrest Dan Kelly at Greta."

After the Cave Party, Joseph was transferred to Lancefield where he was in charge of the Lancefield Police Station. Constable Fitzpatrick was also transferred to Lancefield and "apparently wasn't a very good police officer. He was, on the recommendation of my great grandfather, stood down from the police force."

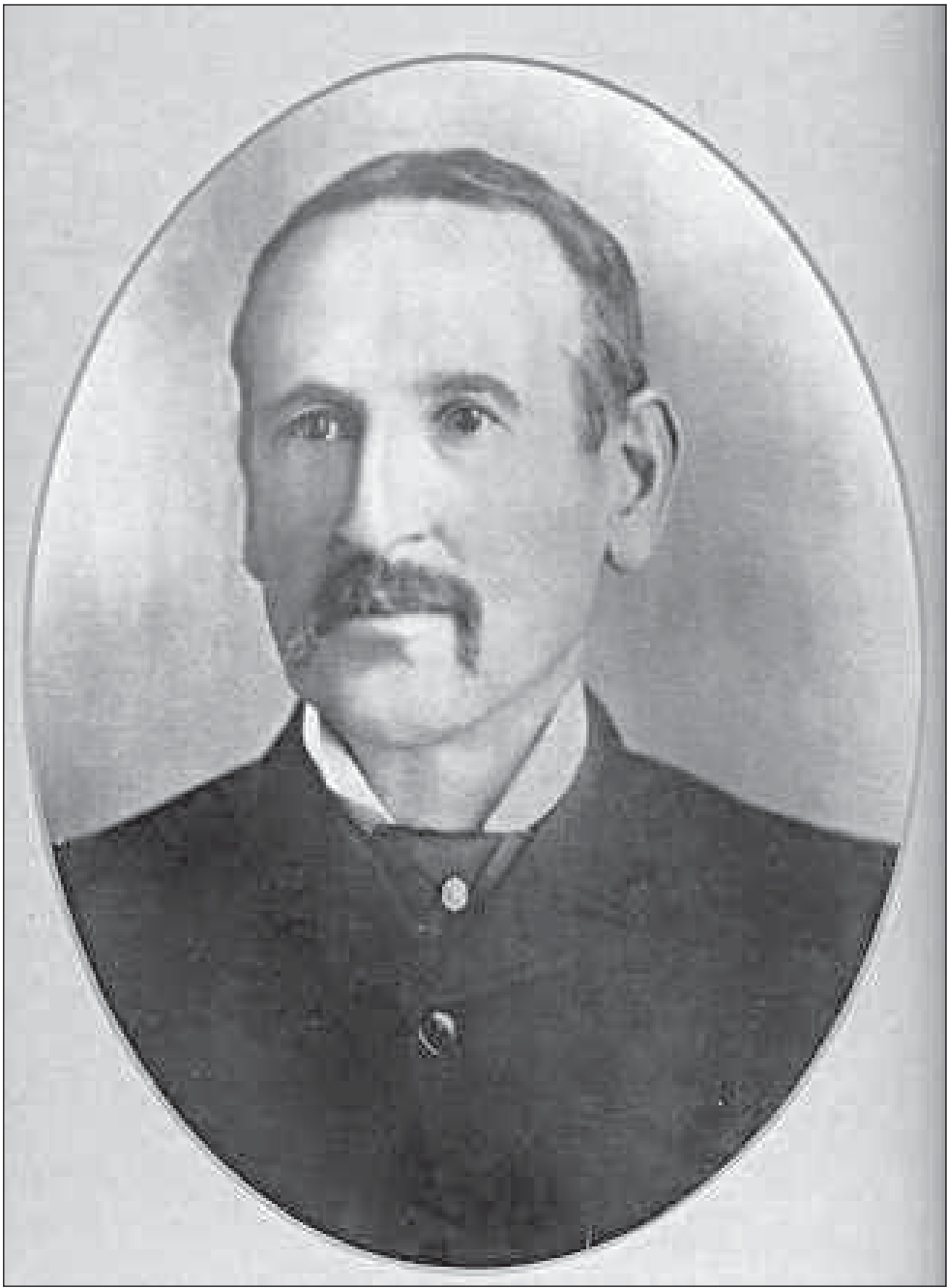
While he was still in Marysville, Joseph was also involved in apprehending the Yarra Track Bushrangers who had stolen a horse from Caulfield. Joseph was nearly shot and killed but managed to apprehend the two men.

Joseph was also able to successfully seek funding to improve the quality of the police residence in Marysville. Unfortunately, the old Marysville Watchhouse Book, which was still stored at the police station, was destroyed on Black Saturday, along with many records held by the Marysville Historical Society. Steve has since been able to provide them with some information and records.

Steve added, "His time in Marysville was very happy."

During Steve's research into his great grandfather, he has also been in contact with the Police Historical Unit, who have been able to provide him with a lot of information through the years.

Steve attended a function associated with Ned Kelly in about 2020, called *Ned and the Law*, convened by Noleen Lloyd, a descendant of Ned Kelly, and of the Harts on the other



Joseph Ladd Mayes. -S

side. Steve Hart was another member of the Kelly Gang. Steve's son Dean spoke at the event, from a speech prepared by Steve. The attendees included both descendants of the bushrangers and descendants of the police involved in the search.

He found the hospitality to be great, although he admitted to being initially apprehensive, aware that the wounds run deep up there.

Steve said Noleen, a criminal lawyer in Melbourne, commented that there's a lot of

people who put Ned Kelly up as a hero, but he was just a man.

"There's been a lot of banter about who was right and who was wrong. But I've got all my great grandfather's police records. He's certainly one of the good guys," Steve said.

He added, "I think I've got nearly every book that was ever printed on the Kelly. It interests me. It has done since I was at state school, but never knowing until I got older that I had a relative that had a connection with it."

Bail Further Amendment Bill 2025 introduced

PREMIER Jacinta Allan, Attorney-General Sonya Kilkenny and Minister Police Anthony Carbines introduced the *Bail Further Amendment Bill 2025* into Parliament on Tuesday, July 29.

This is to set out a new bail test for people accused of repeat, serious offending to protect Victorian families and deal with repeat, high-harm offending, and create a new second strike rule for people already on bail who are accused of further offending, making it harder for them to get bail. This builds on the changes made earlier this year, which are already working. The number of bail revocations and people on remand has increased.

"We are making it crystal clear, if you are charged with a serious offence while on bail for another serious offence, you will be subject to the toughest test in the country.

The tough new test will apply to those on bail for and charged again with any of the following offences: Aggravated home invasion, aggravated carjacking, armed robbery, aggravated burglary, home invasion, and carjacking.

Subjecting people accused of repeat, serious offending to a new, tougher bail test increases the

likelihood that bail will be refused and prevents re-offending.

Bail must be refused unless the decision maker is satisfied there is a high degree of probability the person will not commit one of these offences if bail is granted.

This test goes further than similar laws in New South Wales because it will apply to all ages and is permanent.

New second strike rule

These six serious offences are not the only crimes causing harm in our community. That's why a second strike rule will be introduced.

In March, the stand-alone offence of 'committing an indictable offence on bail' was introduced. This Bill builds on that work by uplifting the bail test for people accused of repeat indictable offending.

'Uplift' is where the bail test for a person accused of repeat offending is stricter than it would be for a person accused of an offence for the first time.

The offences that will be subject to the new uplift provisions include: burglary motor vehicle theft, assaults, robbery, riot and affray, firearms and controlled weapons

offences, sex offences, serious drug offence, theft (\$2500), criminal damage (above \$5000, or where damage is caused by fire).

These reforms are subject to key safeguards to mitigate any disproportionate impact on vulnerable people.

Certain lower harm offences committed while on bail like low-level drug possession will not be subject to uplift, to avoid remanding vulnerable people unnecessarily.

This second Bill builds on the bail laws passed earlier this year that put community safety first in all bail decisions, introduced bail offences, removed the principle of remand as a 'last resort' for young people and elevated certain high-harm offences like knife crime into a tougher bail test.

This will result in a further increase in the number of adult and youth offenders on remand, for which the system must be ready. That's why the government is hiring hundreds of new prison staff and bringing more prison beds online.

In total, almost 1000 additional adult prison beds will open across the system, and a further 88 beds will open at Cherry Creek and Parkville youth justice facilities.

Machete ban disposal information

THE ban on the sale and possession of machetes will be in effect from September 1.

After that date, owning, carrying, using, buying, or selling a machete without a valid exemption or approval will be a criminal offence.

More than 40 safe disposal bins will be available 24/7 at police stations across Victoria to allow people to safely dispose of machetes during the amnesty period, which will run from September 1 to November 30.

None of the safe disposal bins are located in Murrindindi Shire. The nearest locations are in Seymour, Wallan or Lilydale Police Stations.

If people do not surrender their machetes during the amnesty, they face up to two years imprisonment or a fine of more than \$47,000.

Agricultural workers who use machetes as part of their job and machetes that are used in a traditional, historical, or cultural capacity are exempted. Anyone covered by an exemption must comply with strict conditions and

be able to demonstrate eligibility if asked by police.

An interim ban on the sale of machetes was announced in May. This led to Amazon removing them from sale across the country. Since then Consumer Affairs Victoria inspected more than 470 retailers to enforce the ban, with only seven stores and one market vendor found to be breaking the law.

While there have been reports that the government spent \$13 million on the 40 machete disposal bins (around \$325,000 per bin), the government disputed this. They stated that the \$13 million covers the rollout of the the entire machete amnesty project, not just the building of the bin. The costs include the public awareness and retailer education campaign, managing exemptions for the ban, and manufacturing and installing the safe disposal bins, as well as the secure collection and destruction of items that are handed in.

It's understood that each bin costs approximately \$2400.

Further details about the program are available at vic.gov.au/machete-amnesty

The Farmer's Ag News

Historic highs for Australian beef, lamb and mutton production

THE Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has released the latest statistics on livestock slaughtered and red meat production, which according to Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) has confirmed a historic period for the red meat sector.

Financial year 2024-2025 has seen beef production reach an all-time high, lamb slaughter maintained near-record levels, and mutton throughput surging to its highest volume since 2007.

The results reflect the strength, resilience, and strategic adaptability of Australian producers across diverse seasonal conditions, according to MLA's Acting Market Information Manager, Erin Lukey.

"These results show that continued adoption of new technology and innovation on-farm, along with investments in supply chain efficiency, are continuing to pay dividends across the supply chain," Ms Lukey said.

"Despite seasonal challenges in some parts of Australia, the industry has delivered record beef production and maintained strong lamb and mutton throughput."

Cattle sector surges to historic highs

Australia processed 8.88 million head of cattle in financial year 2024-25, which is the third-largest annual slaughter since 1978 and the highest since the drought-driven peak in 2015.

The June quarter saw 2.3 million head processed, which is an eight per cent increase on the previous quarter and 10 per cent higher than the same period last year.

Queensland led the charge, lifting throughput by 13 per cent to over one million head, while New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania all recorded their strongest quarters in over a decade.

Beef production hit an all-time high of 2.75 million tonnes for the financial year, surpassing the previous record set in 2015.

The June quarter alone produced 717,891 tonnes, the largest quarterly output on record, driven by improved productivity and record feedlot turnoff.

Despite the surge in production, national carcass weights dipped to 307 kilograms, reflecting seasonal trends and a higher proportion of female cattle in the processing mix.

The female slaughter rate (FSR) rose to 54 per cent, with New South Wales and Victoria posting record rates, sitting 14 per cent and 17 per cent above their long-term averages respectively.

Lamb sector holds strong despite seasonal challenges

Lamb slaughter totalled 26.06 million head in financial year 2024-25, marking the second-

largest financial year on record. The latest quarter saw a slight two per cent decline quarter-on-quarter, the full-year figures demonstrate sustained strength across most states.

New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania all recorded quarterly increases, with Tasmania up 18 per cent to its highest kill since June 2016. Victoria saw an eight per cent decline, attributed to earlier turnoff decisions and dry seasonal conditions.

"The lamb sector continues to show strength despite seasonal variability," Ms Lukey said.

"Producers are adapting to dry conditions and making strategic decisions around turnoff timing."

Financial year 2024-25 lamb production reached 624,549 tonnes, down four per cent on 2023-24, but still the second-largest annual output. Heavier carcass weights, averaging 24.8 kilograms, helped offset lower slaughter volumes.

"We're seeing heavier lambs being processed as producers respond to pasture limitations by finishing animals on grain earlier," Ms Lukey said.

"This has helped maintain production levels even as slaughter numbers eased."

Mutton sector reflects southern destocking trends

Financial year 2024-25 saw 11.7 million head of sheep processed, the highest volume since 2006-07, with Victoria's 4.4 million head marking its largest annual turnoff since 1981. Western Australia also posted its highest annual kill since 2008, despite a sharp slowdown in the June quarter.

"The mutton data reflects significant destocking pressure, particularly in southern regions," Ms Lukey said.

Mutton production for the year rose 12 per cent year-on-year to 294,757 tonnes, with New South Wales and Victoria accounting for 73 per cent of national output. Quarter two production fell 20 per cent, continuing a downward trend from the quarter four 2024 peak.

Average sheep carcass weights declined to 23.9 kilograms, the lightest since quarter one 2019, with New South Wales averaging 26.2 kilograms and Victoria 21.5 kilograms.

"While production has eased, the overall financial year figures show how producers have managed through challenging conditions," Ms Lukey said.

"It's a reflection of the industry's resilience and forward planning."

Winter worm burdens in sheep

Dr Jeff Cave, Senior Veterinary Officer, Northern Region

WORMS and scours can be a significant problem in weaners and lambing ewes, especially with limited feed and the cold stress of winter.

Winter conditions provide ideal conditions for the survival of worm larvae on pastures. What is more, feed may be short.

Sheep that are nutritionally stressed and in light condition grazing short pastures are likely to be affected by worms and scouring this winter.

Worms should be considered in all ill-thrifty or scouring sheep, regardless of when the sheep were last drenched.

To help establish whether worms are the cause of ill-thrift or scouring it is worth considering the following:

Nutrition of the sheep including the feed availability, supplemental feeding, stocking rate, class and condition of the sheep including their body condition score, drench program including the product/s used

and date/s drenched, particularly the time since the last treatment.

To know for sure faecal samples from at least five affected and five non-affected sheep should be submitted for worm egg counts.

To help manage worms in sheep during winter: Provide adequate feed for weaners and lambing ewes on low worm pastures such as those prepared by smart grazing over summer, those previously grazed by cattle, or those used for cropping weaners and lambing ewes need to be in a condition score around 2.5. If lighter, they will need preferential treatment and feeding check worm egg counts by Wormtest (samples from 10 representative sheep) every four to six weeks through winter confirm the drench worked by Wormtest at the time of drenching and 10 to 14 days later. Check worm egg counts in lambing ewes about four weeks before lambing.

For further information please contact your local veterinarian or Agriculture Victoria animal health or extension staff, or use WormBoss at wormboss.com.au

The Trap

By Jed Dunstan



"Ooow! ...a surveillance drone!"

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AUGUST PHOTO COMPETITION

Submit your photo competition entry for AUGUST, for your chance to win a \$50 voucher from *Dindi Country Clothing* in Alexandra. The AUGUST theme is **'SUNSHINE'**.



Email your photo and contact details to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au by noon Wednesday, August 27, 2025

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T&C: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter. Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. One photo per entry. Photos must be taken within the Murrindindi Shire.

KID'S PUZZLES PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 14

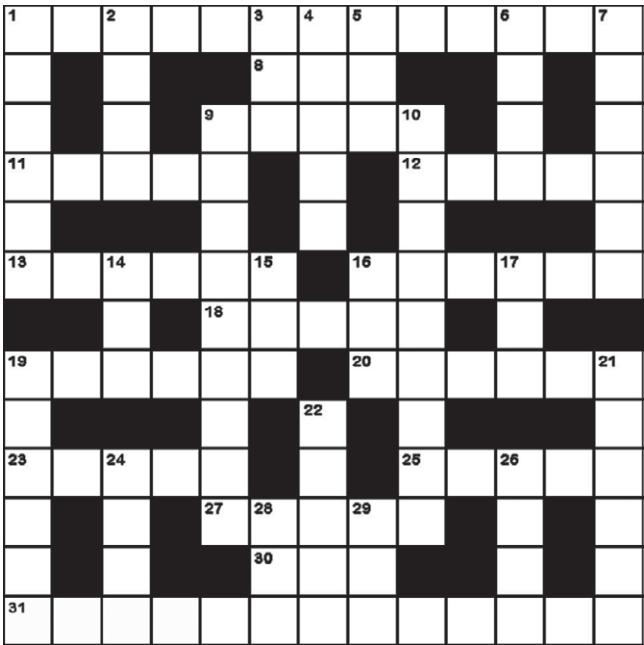
Colouring Page



Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1. Established as the genuine article.
 - 8. Make a mistake.
 - 9. Neither salty, sour or bitter.
 - 11. The fur of a rabbit.
 - 12. Black hornless beef cattle.
 - 13. Devastate and destroy.
 - 16. Tiny reptile with two pair of legs.
 - 18. Looked at steadily and intently.
 - 19. Vehicle equipped for camping.
 - 20. A great shortage.
 - 23. Long barrelled firearm.
 - 25. Garden tool for cutting grass.
 - 27. Lace placed under a dish or bowl.
 - 30. Unidentified Flying Object.
 - 31. Crumbled into tiny fragments.

- DOWN
- 1. A fisherman who uses a hook and line.
 - 2. A device for capturing.
 - 3. Never been used.
 - 4. Hikes through mountainous areas.
 - 5. Strong angry feelings.
 - 6. A small thin branch.
 - 7. Wet thoroughly.



- 9. Laughed quietly and secretly.
- 10. The art of stuffing and mounting animals.
- 14. Exuberant vigour and energy.
- 15. The organ of hearing.
- 16. Guided the way.
- 17. A distinctive quality.
- 19. Cured in brine.
- 21. A person who announces important news.
- 22. A cutting blade.
- 24. A petty quarrel.
- 26. Where the sun sets.
- 28. Not at home.
- 29. A written record of events.

Word Search

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

Words starting with "S"

- SALAD STOCKING
- SCHOOL SUBJECT
- SISTER SUMMER
- SLEEPY SUZANNE
- SNOWWHITE SWIMMING
- SOLUTION

Word Search

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

Snack foods

- APPLES CRACKERS
- BANANA DOUGHNUT
- CARROTS ICECREAM
- CHEESE ORANGES
- CHIPS PRINGLES
- COOKIES YOGHURT

Cryptogram

Snack foods

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
				15				

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
					16			

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
	21						

O 16 25 4 15 E 1 16 2 O

O 13 16 13 , O 1 16 2

4 26 25 , T 21 T O 19 21 16 13

Math Square

	+	5	-		9
+		-		-	
1	+		-		-4
+		-		+	
	+		+		18
15		-6		0	

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

	x		+	1	64
+		+		x	
	+	5	x		34
+		-		÷	
	-		÷		-1
16		4		3	

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.

Sudoku

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

Difficulty: Hard

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.

Jokes

Q: What do lions like to eat?
A: Roarr meat

Knock knock
Who's there?
Lettuce
Lettuce who?
Lettuce in, it's cold out here

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16		4		3	

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4	3	1	7	5	2	6	9	8
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PUBLIC NOTICES



Energy,
Environment
and Climate Action

Safety on Public Land Act 2004

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ZONE DECLARATION

I, Chris Hardman, Chief Fire Officer, as delegate of the Secretary of the Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action, give notice pursuant to section 7(1)(a) of the *Safety on Public Land Act 2004*, that I have made a public safety zone declaration published in the Victoria Government Gazette.

The declaration made on 14/08/2025 takes effect 01/09/2025 to 28/02/2026 inclusive.

They specify areas of State forest which have been declared public safety zones for;

- conducting fire operations and the maintenance of public safety.

The declaration specifies the period for which the areas have been declared public safety zones; the times or periods during which access to the public safety zones is restricted or prohibited; activities permitted, prohibited, or restricted in the public safety zones; restrictions or conditions (if any) applying to the public safety zones; and persons or classes of persons exempt from their operation.

A copy of the declaration, and maps showing the location of public safety zones, may be inspected at the Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, Victoria, 3002 (by appointment with the Joint Fuel Management Program Coordinator, telephone 136 186).

A copy of the declaration is available at Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action web site at: <https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests>

A copy of the maps showing the location of fire operations is available at Department of Energy Environment and Climate Action web site at: www.ffm.vic.gov.au/JFMP, or by appointment with the Joint Fuel Management Program Coordinator, telephone 136 186.

Active planned burns are listed on the Planned Burns Victoria Website (plannedburns.ffm.vic.gov.au) as either 'Within 10 Days', 'Next 24 hours', 'Now' or 'Patrol'.

Chris Hardman,
Chief Fire Officer,
as delegate of the Secretary of the Department of
Energy, Environment and Climate Action

FS-4633

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

HEDGER, Marilyn. Darrell Hedger and family would like to thank everyone for their kind words and support following the recent passing of Marilyn (Ma), it has made this difficult period a little easier.

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THE ALEXANDRA AND DISTRICT TRADERS AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION

(ADTTA) will be holding their 2025 Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, September 9, at 6pm. All businesses invited to attend.

For details please visit alexandratourism.com/agn.

MEETINGS

THE ALEXANDRA OPPORTUNITY SHOP Inc. Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, September 8, at 10am in the RSL Hall. All welcome.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

DAVID ANTHONY MILLER

late of 5355 Goulburn Valley Highway, Yea 3717 Victoria Deceased.

Creditors, next of kin and others having claims in respect of the estate of the above named deceased who died on the 24th day of February 2025 are required by his Legal Personal Representatives, namely **Sylke Margit Nielsen** and **Jessamy Sunshine Miller**, to send particulars of such claims to them at the office of Linton R. Lethlean Solicitor PO Box 498 Clifton Hill 3068 by Friday, the 31st day of October 2025 after which date the said Legal Personal Representatives may convey or distribute the assets of the estate having regard only to the claims of which they then have notice.

SITUATION VACANT



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- strive to ensure that students reach their full potential
- support colleagues with mentoring from experienced leaders and fellow colleagues

Selection criteria:

- willingness to collaborate, support and contribute to the building of a professional learning culture
- commitment to working with students from diverse backgrounds
- ability to plan and implement engaging learning experiences based on current learning and evidence-based teaching practices
- commitment to Catholic education and identity
- willingness to build strong partnerships and links between our families and school
- ability to adhere to St Mary's Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct and other policies relevant to Ministerial Order 1359
- current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching with an up to date Criminal Record check
- an ability to develop and maintain respectful and caring relationships with students, families and colleagues
- an understanding and demonstrated use of evidence based best practice
- a capacity to use data to make informed decisions about learning and teaching
- accreditation to teach Religious Education in a Catholic School is desirable (or be willing to study for accreditation)

Please include the following in your application:

- Your CV including a cover letter addressing the selection criteria.
- Mobile phone contact details for 3 referees including current/most recent Principal/ employer

How to apply:

A detailed position description and application requirements are available by accessing the school website at smalexandra.catholic.edu.au or by emailing the principal, principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au.

Applications close: August 31, 2025

St Mary's is a child safe school

National Tree Day covers Murrindindi



Planting at Thornton Recreation Reserve. -S



Planting at Boundary Creek with Yea High School. -S



Planting at Boundary Creek Boulevard with students and staff from Sacred Heart and Yea Primary Schools. -S



The planting event at Old Josephine Cutting in Alexandra. -S



The planting event at Eildon Pondage with Eildon Landcare Group. -S



Planting at UT Creek with UT Creek Leckie Park Landcare Group. -S



Planting at South Cathedral Lane with Cathedral Landcare Group. -S

Alexandra Pony Club saddles up for team penning fun



Many horses in the arena with their owners ready to learn new skills and take on new challenges. -S



Great blue skies for the riders and horses. -S

ON Saturday, August 16, Alexandra Pony Club members enjoyed a special rally at the magnificent XXXX Ranch, generously hosted by Dave and Nikki Falzon. With the support of parents, 21 head of cattle were carefully selected to give the riders the chance to try their skills in cattle work and obstacle training.

The day began with some quiet cattle handling and a series of fun obstacles that tested both horses and riders. Following an afternoon tea break the action moved into the highlight of the day, Team Penning. The younger riders were

led by parents to pen three head of cattle, while the older riders faced the tougher challenge of selecting and penning two or three cattle with matching paint markings. For many, it was their very first time working with cattle, and the smiles all round reflected the riding success and enjoyment of the day.

Not to be left out, some parents also saddled up for a turn showing their competitive spirits and bringing plenty of laughter, even through an unexpected dismount, to finish the rally in good spirits.

The club extends their thanks and gratitude to Nikki and Dave (Baldy) Falzon for opening their XXXX Ranch to the riders. The day was a memorable and valuable experience for the Alexandra Pony Club community who showcased teamwork and horsemanship together with plenty of fun.

The recent warmer weather and promise of spring has riders eager to saddle up again for the next meet, a fun overnight camp and rally at Alexandra Showgrounds on Saturday, September 20 to Sunday, September 21.



A young rider ready to take on the cattle in the background. -S

SPORT

Dominant matches for Alexandra Squash Club

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition Australorps versus Isa browns

JORDAN versus Tyler: Both players continue to improve. Jordan's serve and power were the difference. 76 to 57.

Laura versus Randy (fill in): It was an interesting match with the first game a draw. Randy dominated the second game to lead by 14 points going into game three. Making back some ground Laura fought hard but couldn't quite steal the win. 64 to 61.

Chris versus Travis (fill in): Chris showed his skills keeping a consistent lead throughout the match. Travis vied for the win but couldn't pull it off. 72 to 52.

John versus Andrew: It started with a close game that John took by two points. Andrew claimed the second match before John turned the tables to win the final two games and the match. 62 to 54.

Leghorns versus Silkies

ERIC D versus Jordan (fill in): Great improvement by Eric, but Jordan had the powerful shots to beat Eric in the end. 99 to 55.

Sally versus Kristelle (fill in): A closer match than the score suggests. Kristelle won a lot of points with strong serving. Sally won many with drop shots. In the end Kristelle took home a solid win. 71 to 56.

Ben versus Justin: It was a fast-paced, big hitting game. It was close all the way through with Ben pulling away at the end to claim the victory. 68 to 64.

Derrick versus Michael H: Derrick played hard but Michael played calm and collected to hold out for the win. 56 to 50.

Thursday competition Whippets versus Labradors

BEN H versus Eric F: An even competition created a close game. Eric pipped it, but only just taking three games and the match. 61 to 57.

Beth versus Sally (fill in): A great game play by both opponents. Sally was too strong and unpredictable for Beth, taking all four games with ease. Sally was crowned victorious. 74 to 43.

Travis versus Sam: Travis started strong by claiming the first game. Sam used game one as a warm up, lifting his skills in game two and keeping a consistent play through to the end of three, winning his match.

Phil versus Michael M: After a close start Phil took control and kept Michael running, tired and cussing. Phil had all the shots tonight, rising up to triumph. 60 to 49.

Golden Retrievers versus Dachshunds

MATTHEW versus Randy: A great match. Matthew was fuelled with sugar and put up a fight against Randy. With more experience and adaptability Randy had the match fixed, claiming the win. 76 to 50.

Kristelle versus Blake: Both players were delightfully hectic in character making for an entertaining and joyful match. Blake floundered trying to return Kristelle's precise serves. He pulled out some great shots, but



Sally powers through returning Beth's shot with her double-handed back-hand. -S

Kristelle nabbed each game and the match. 86 to 51.

Mick versus Lucas: Each player tried for finesse and placement in the first part of the match. Neither could claim ascendancy until Lucas pinpointed the back corners taking an eight-point lead at half-time. Mick's change to a power hitting game helped a little. However,

Lucas ran away with the match off the back of tight serving. 64 to 48.

Daniel K versus Daniel W: With a fire in his eyes Daniel W was on a mission. Fire is useful but it was greatly outweighed by Daniel K's skills and experience. Daniel K claimed the victory. 65 to 33.

SPORT

Season concludes for majority of Alexandra junior teams

AFNC Junior Report

LAST Sunday the Alexandra Football Netball Club under 14 and under 16 footballers travelled to Mooroopna, while the under 13 Alexandra Black and Red, and under 15 netball teams travelled to Broadford to play in their respective finals games.

Under 16 football Elimination Final

Alexandra 0.3-3 defeated by Tongala 6.9-45

Best players: Logan Conway, Fletcher Van Lierop, Hamish Wilson, Thomas Clarke, Heath Sutcliffe, Lucas Crane.

Unfortunately, the boys have now finished their season for the year, but full credit to them as they stuck the year out and nearly each week were lucky to fill a full side. Big thank you to Coaches Nick and Dan, Renee, Mel, James and all the parents who supported them each week. All the boys should be very proud of their efforts this season.

Under 14 football Qualifying Final

Alexandra 8.3-51 defeated by Seymour 8.8-56

Best Players: Eli Van Lierop, Josh Northmore, Mitchell Kidd, Jaidyn Dimech, Declan Armstrong and Nathan Webb.

While this game was a tough one the team will now focus on next week as they take on Shepparton Swans in the Preliminary Final at Nagambie on Sunday, August 31 at 11.30am.

Netball Results

Under 13 Alexandra Red 14 defeated by Broadford 22 in the Elimination Final.

Under 13 Alexandra Black 11 defeated by St Marys Green 27 in Qualifying Final

Under 15 Alexandra Black 27 defeated by St Marys 30 in Elimination Final.

While the under 13 Alexandra Red and under 15 Alexandra Black teams' season is now over, the under 13 Alexandra Black team will now play against Broadford in the preliminary final next week.



On Saturday's match Michael Bossonnet tees off. -S



On Wednesday's game Marie Stace with a long putt on nine. -S



Luke Heard on the 17th. -S



Bron Howell cleans up. -S



A long putt for Marie Stace. -S



Damon Malcom on the ninth hole. -S

Individual stableford with random draw partners at Eildon Golf Club

by Puttomatic

LAST Saturday at Eildon Golf Club was an individual stableford with randomly drawing partners before the start of play. The pairing winners were Sandi and Michael McLear with a winning combined score of 71, followed by Kerry Power and Dennis Seamer with a score of 65 and the ball run winners were Shane Barrand and John Rachcoff with 62.

Nearest the pin winners for the week, Phil Gourlay was the best in the third second shot, Leigh Munro was too good on the fifth, Rod Taylor got the closest on the 11th and Shane Barrand was successful on the 12th and 14th.

No winner on the eighth birdie hole but John Rachcoff was able to win a drink for his group on the 15th.

The individual winners for last week, Sandi McLear finished with a great 39 points, Ken Collier was next with 35 points, John Rachcoff 33 points, Kerry Power 33 points and Leigh Munro also 33 points. Other winners, entry draw winner Leigh Munro, and Ken Collier had a win with the swindle draw.

Next Saturday is Eildon Golf Club's August monthly medal stroke round; please remember 10.30am for an 11am tee off, hope to see you there.

Sunnier climes at Marysville Golf Club

by Lesley Rundle

THE golfers who migrate to sunnier climates during the Murrindindi winter are gradually finding their way home and as a consequence the number of golfers playing in the Thursday and Saturday competitions at Marysville Golf Club are gradually increasing.

A good field of 15 played in the nine-hole competition last Thursday and they enjoyed the Ambrose game with teams of two or three players on handicaps adapted to the team format.

The winning team was husband and wife Glen and Amanda Rattay (3.75) with nett 31.25 followed by the team consisting of Heather Jenkins, Keith Atwell and Geoff Ferguson (3.83) with nett 32.17. The nearest the pins were won by Amanda Rattay on the fourth and Mark Alexander on the ninth.

There were actually 'sunnier climes' in Marysville last

Saturday when the golfers played a stableford round. The ladies' winner was Lesley Rundle (35) with 31 points on a countback from Heather Jenkins. Richy Clark (13) with 37 points won the men's section followed by Steve Coker (15) with 35 points.

The nearest the pins were won by Paul Martin on the fourth, Ross Ansell on the 18th and Richy Clark on both the ninth and 11th ending in birdies. Richy also won the golden shot.

Next Saturday both the men and ladies will play a stableford round for the Neil Murphy Trophy.

The club AGM will be held on Saturday, September 6 at 8.45am. Nominations for Committee positions need to be given to Steve Coker by Saturday, August 30. On the Saturday following the AGM, being September 13, the Junior Invitational Day will be held, and all entries must be given to Heather Jenkins on 0429 146 763 by Monday, September 8.

Spring is in the air at Alexandra

by Dave Silverman

WITH another week of fine weather in the offing, 10 players teed it up in last Tuesday week's stableford round. After four hours or so, it emerged that the day's best score belonged to Greg Ebinger, his 34 points putting him three shots clear of second-placed James Fulton, with Bill Wind one shot back in third.

Greg also took off the nearest the pin on seven, with Dan Burns taking 17, while 18 went begging. John Greatorex and Bruce Colville scored a voucher in the rundown.

It was a four ball best ball for the ladies on last Wednesday, and an odd number of ladies entered, which, for those of you not familiar with

how all this stuff works, means that one player has two partners. The one player in this case turned out to be Marg Fahey, and the day went rather well for her, as you will see.

The winners, with 39 points, were Bron Howell and Marg Fahey, who also claimed the nearest the pin on 12. The other nearest the pins, on five, went to Marie Stace and you guessed it, Marg Fahey.

The nine hole winners were Sue Greatorex and Sandra Morris with 18 points.

The fog was very much in evidence early Saturday morning but cleared just in time for the captain to send us on our way at 11am. The Stableford round, sponsored by Koala Cherries,

attracted a field of 17, with some faces not seen for quite some time.

Damon Malcolm was the one who made the most of the conditions, his 38 points well clear of Jared Sloane in second, who scored 35. Michael Bossonnet was third on 34 points, fourth went to Corey Jack on 33, and Mick Holohan was fifth with 32.

The nearest the pins got shared around this week, with six vouchers handed out for the five holes. Two went to Dan Burns, Luke Heard took five, seven went to Len Jenkins and 18 went to Michael Bossonnet. On 12, unusually, Sloaney and Brad Kidd couldn't be separated, and both were awarded a voucher.

Saturday's photos were taken by Ross Malcolm. Thanks, Ross.

SPORT

Reserves and seniors are the Rebels' big winners



Seniors player Will Stewart. -S



Reserves player Brendan Musgrove. -S



Under 18 player Ash Dean ready to send the ball flying. -S



Seniors player Mitch Parker. -S



Reserves player Scott Heveren has his eye on the prize. -S



Brendan Kapakoulakis reserves player won't be taken down. -S



Under 18 player Harry Morley not letting the ball get away. -S



D Grade player Kate Broadway giving it a good go. -S



Kelsey Purcell D Grade player playing centre position. -S



Abby Miljkovic under 17 player not letting opponents distract her. -S

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Reserves and seniors are the Rebels' big winners

by Wayne Miller

THE Alexandra Football Netball Club had one of its greatest weekends recording a 23 point win in the qualifying final against Seville in the reserves and a comeback from a 39 points margin in the seniors to a four-point win in the elimination final against Belgrave.

Reserves

Alexandra 10.7-67 defeated Seville 6.8-44

THE third placed Rebels travelled to Yarra Glen to play second placed Seville in the qualifying final.

After kicking the opening two goals to Bart Wallace and Jake Keath it was a hard goal for goal slog with the Rebels two points up at three quarter time.

The Rebels' fierce tackling, hard running, creative ball use which had been a feature of their undefeated run since round 12 was again evident in the final quarter as they completely outplayed their opponents kicking four goals to one, winning by 23 points to the delight of their large supporter base.

In a great team effort Bart Wallace with four goals, Branden Kapakoulakis, Scott Heveren, Rob Andrews, Brent McDonald and the Rebels back six deserve special mentions.

Dashing centre half back Scott Heveren ran from deep in defence giving and receiving three handballs bombing the ball through the goals from fifty meters in not only the goal of the year but goal of the decade.

Key forwards Wallace and Keath were giving the Seville defence serious issues with their high marking.

Harry Correas run down tackle in the final minute to the delight of the Rebels supporters was the final cherry on top to a great quarter of finals football.

Seniors

Alexandra 11.9-75 defeated Belgrave 10.11-71

THE seniors travelled to Healesville on Sunday playing Belgrave in the Elimination Final.

Welcoming back league leading goal kicker Will Stewart and key players Josh Edwards and Harry Prendergast increased the chances of reversing the previous week's defeat to the same team.

Belgrave came out of the blocks from the opening bounce running the Rebels ragged on the large Healesville ground.

In their worst quarter for the year the siren saved Alexandra from further scoreboard damage with good players hard to find. Belgrave 6-2-39 to Alexandra 0-1-1.

The second quarter saw the Rebels halt the first quarter carnage kicking 2.3 holding Belgrave to 0.1 going into the large break still 24 points down.

The boys came out a completely different team to the first half with their intensity at the ball a feature resulting in a six-goal quarter to Belgrave two goals, scores level.

The final quarter was a dire battle with players putting their bodies on the line.

It was also heart in the mouth for the many Rebels supporters as minutes ticked by with the ball going from end to end before the siren sounded resulting in a four-point win.

Kicking 11 goals to four in the last three quarters after giving Belgrave a six-goal start was a great performance by the Rebels.

Notable performers were Lachlan Nankervis who gave the Rebels great drive in the ruck, Ed Aujard and Jonathon Grimwade were four quarter performers, Wil Stewart with four goals was a constant thorn in Belgrave defence, Mitch Parker, Ben Jack, Sam Boots and Ryan Lucas were other notable performers.

The Rebels cannot rest on their laurels as the bar goes up another level with the reserves playing Pakenham in the Preliminary Final at Yarra Glen Saturday with the winner going straight into Grand Final. The seniors also play Pakenham in the First Semi Final at Woori Yallock on Sunday.



Ben Jack ready to get the ball. -S

Under 18

Alexandra 1.1-7 defeated by Yarra Glen 15.10-100

CONGRATULATIONS to Coach Sam Kidd and his team of helpers on a fantastic season with Alexandra under 18 footballers.

While the boys didn't come away with the win in Sunday's elimination final, it has been fantastic to see the club fielding an under 18s side again. The team has been a prominent fixture around the club this year, bringing great energy and enthusiasm.

Alexandra Football Netball Club hope to see all of them back next season, whether returning to the under 18s or stepping up into the senior teams.

Best Players: Ashley Dean, Harry Morley, Luke Wal, Joshua Crane, Jamie Shawcross and Riley Frith.

Netball results

WITH two teams in the finals both Alexandra's under 17s and D Grade teams were keen to keep the netball finals campaign hopes alive. Starting out strong the under 17s took to the court in an early start playing Pakenham Maroon.

The game was tough and went back and forth during the match, but the girls stuck strong and came out on top defeating the Lions by two goals. They will now play Warburton/Milgrove in the First Semi on Sunday, August 31 at 9am at Woori Yallock. Final Score for the under 17s was Alexandra 24 defeated Pakenham Maroon 22.

The D Grade team were next up and taking on Yarra Glen at home which was always going to be a tough one. With a couple of late outs due to injuries it was a shuffle of positions for the girls. Unfortunately, they let Yarra Glen get the jump on them and were down by seven goals at the end of the first quarter.

Coach Lucy made some positional changes and the team responded and were able to bring the margin back but just quite couldn't get of top and Yarra Glen held on defeating the girls by four goals. Great effort by the whole team and Coach Lucy on a great season. Final Score Yarra Glen 27 defeated Alexandra 23.



Under 17 player Ashlyn Newman being a great defence. -S