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Upper Goulburn Landcare Network members with examples of the products they make from recycling plastic. Here they are holding gorgeous aqua coloured plant pots that are not only recycled but also recyclable, meaning they never need go into landfill. Proceeds of the sale of these pots, which can be purchased from the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, are put towards other Landcare projects. Pictured are Jess Robinson from Alexandra, Will and Tarni Koster from Taggerty, Leigh Redding from Yea, Annette Cavanagh from Yea and Jack Tovey from Glenburn. More information and images on page 4.-RS

# **Exciting new attractions coming at Yea Wetlands**

A YEAR ago, Yea Wetlands achieved significant recognition when it received a grant of \$375,000 from the Victorian Government's Regional Tourism Investment Fund, the result of a very compelling application by members of the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre Association and the Committee of Management.

This grant was a major component of a \$500,000 enhancement project comprising four programs which included a major upgrading of the interpretive wing of the centre, a 600 metre extension of the existing boardwalks and walkways opening up the northern area of the wetlands, six strategically placed riparian viewing areas, and an indigenous metal sculpture trail to be placed along existing wetlands walking paths.

The project is being overseen by a project governance group (PGG) comprising members of the association and committee of management and including representatives from the Victorian Government, Murrindindi Shire Council and Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority. Taungurung consultancy is provided by Aunty Angela ten Buuren (Franklin), a Taungurung elder.

An actual start on visible work in the wetlands has unfortunately been delayed by the effects of the major flood in October last year, however the PGG and its subcommittees have been busy with detailed planning and compliance tasks.

The route of the new Kayigai riverside trail in the northern part of the wetlands has been sited using GPS satellite technology.

A specialist consultant has fully surveyed the route with a Taungurung representative and is preparing the required Cultural Heritage Management Plan. Boardwalk structural designs have been prepared and are with council for approval.

Similar work is underway for six new low impact viewing points for the enjoyment of visitors. Multiple permit reviews are under consideration ensuring all works are carried out in compliance with state and local laws, structures to be constructed in sympathy with the environment.

After an EOI process, the PGG has commissioned an artist to design the four individual sculptures for the sculpture trail. The artist has commenced work and sites for the sculptures have been selected.

In the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, the design of four new interpretative displays is well advanced as the major component of a revamp of the Russell Wealands Wing. Exhibit concepts have been agreed to and are now into the final planning stages.

The PGG has also been overseeing the raising of the \$125,000 co-funding required to complement the government's contribution. Primarily through the generosity of a number of local individuals keen to support completion of the project, around \$115,000 of that amount is in hand. Further contributions are of course most welcome. If you wish to be part of this community spirit of the project and would like to contribute, or would simply like to learn more, you can contact Greg Noonan,



Taking a stroll on the boardwalk. -S

the treasurer from Yea Wetlands Trust at yeawetlandstrust@gmail.com

This project is the next evolution of the long term vision for maximum exposure of the Yea Wetlands enabling a far greater appreciation and understanding of the ephemeral nature of the wetlands, the wildlife inhabiting the area, and the role our First Nations peoples have played and continue to play within this environment.

For further information on the Yea Wetlands visit yeawetlands.com.au

# Death stalks Murrindindi

THE new Mortality Over Regions and Time (MORT) books have just been released, outlining the causes of death across the different local government areas of Australia from 2017 to 2021.

Murrindindi's data revealed surprising differences in causes of death between men and women.

For men, the leading cause of death across the five years was coronary heart disease, with 40 dying as a result. Lung cancer was second with 20 deaths, followed shortly after by prostate cancer with 18 deaths.

Land transport accidents resulted in 15 male deaths, then chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with 14, cerebrovascular disease 14, dementia including Alzheimer's disease 12, heart failure and complications and ill-defined heart disease 12, influenza and pneumonia 11, colorectal cancer 10, liver cancer nine, cancer of unknown or ill-defined primary site nine, oesophageal cancer nine, kidney failure nine, other ill-defined causes eight, bladder cancer seven, accidental falls seven, suicide seven, melanoma of the skin five, and leukaemia (C91–C95) five.

The top 20 leading causes of death in men accounted for 241 deaths across the five years, out of a total of 355 deaths.

For women, the leading cause of death across the five years was dementia including Alzheimer's disease, with 25 deaths. Cerebrovascular disease was second with 19 deaths, followed by coronary heart disease with 19.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease resulted in 16 deaths, lung cancer 14 deaths, accidental falls 12, breast cancer 12, colorectal cancer nine, diabetes nine, cancer funknown or ill-defined primary site eight, hypertensive disease seven, heart failure and complications and ill-defined heart disease seven, kidney failure seven, non-rheumatic valve disorders six, pancreatic cancer six, ovarian cancer six, influenza and pneumonia five, other ill-defined causes five, suicide five, and leukaemia three.

The top 20 leading causes of death for women accounted for 200 deaths across the five years, out of a total of 270 deaths.

It's not all doom and gloom however. There are things that people can do to improve their health outcomes, although let's face it, the Grim Reaper stalks us all.

Keep up to date on your flu shots and COVID-19 jabs, avoid smoking, wear sunscreen and hats, keep fit both physically and mentally (use it or lose it), check for breast lumps, have regular medical checkups and when the government send you the poo pots, fill 'em up and send 'em back.

There was a disturbingly high rate of suicide in the shire, with seven men and five women. Please reach out for help if you need it. Lifeline's phone number is 131 114, Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 and Kids Helpline is 1800 551 800. Look after each other and lend a sympathetic ear or other support if needed.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

alexandranewspapers com au or mail to PO Box 5 Alexandra 3714. or drop them into the Alexandra office.

#### 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.







Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldene UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

MONTHLY

ALEXANDRA #

meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this areminder

to your regular members but also a good source of what groups

are available in the community, when they meet and a contac

Yea / Highlands

88.9

1º Mon

2rd Sat

4th Wed

# Letters to the Editor

#### Climate misdirection

THE often repeated claim (such as a letter in last week's Chronicle) that Australia produces 1.1 per cent (or simply one per cent) of global climate emissions, is an often repeated misdirection of Australia's contribution to global warming. Global warming is an existential threat to all humanity, regardless of where the emissions originate. Given individual actions matter. it is more appropriate to consider the per capita emissions of countries.

In this regard, the Australian contribution puts us in the top ten of world emitters, ninth in fact according to ourworldindata. org. Canada was 12th, USA 14th, and China 41st with per capita emissions under half that of ours. Then of course we have not accounted for the embedded emissions of manufactured goods we import, which we should add to our per capita emissions for a true representation of our global responsibility. To add to our woes, judging by the 30 per cent increase in home insurance I received last week on top of all the other cost of living expenses, the impact of climate change will be a financial cost each of us will increasingly pay.

Climate change now has momentum that will take the full range of global and individual actions over several generations to limit its impact on humanity. In rural areas the impact of climate change due to increased weather volatility is keenly felt and our resources and supply lines limited. The shire council is right to act on climate mitigation strategies that will be required sooner than we may consider necessary at this time. This year its floods and holes in the road, next year...

Ray Wynn, Alexandra

#### Global warming

IN response to Marcus Elgin's letter in the edition of July 12, with China and India's carbon emissions rising exponentially not to mention being two of the biggest importers of our coal and gas, Net Zero Australia mandates that it will do whatever it takes evoking the Albanese government policy to arrest global warming. Or should that be what climate activist zealots headed by the likes of billionaire Andrew Forrest Professor Robin Batterham and Tim Flannery, who predicted over a decade ago that our rivers will stop flowing and our dams will never fill again, want, demand and advocate to save the planet.

Marcus Elgin elucidated forensically the miniscule impact that net zero carbon emissions would have upon global emissions. But at what unfathomable economic cost to economy, to our hard working ordinary Aussie household budgets impacted by the increased cost of living some of which are already turning off heating to feed their families?

What is the cost? Net Zero Australia advocate to achieve net zero by 2050 whose modelling says our economy must find another \$1.5 trillion over the next seven years to recalibrate net emissions to zero.

While the devil is in the detail, by 2060 our economy will need a further \$9 trillion, that being six times our economy presently produces. And without two of our nation's biggest exports, coal and gas. While we continue to repeat the failures of the Rudd government collapsed geothermal plant and wave generators, and with history revisited, what of Malcolm Turnbull's Snowy 2.0 becoming our biggest storage of green power with an over-run of budgetary costs of 10 times with a now projected completion budgetary cost of a mere \$20 billion?

So, I champion Marcus Elgin's sensible, proactive, constructive advice and plan to our council to move onto something they can postively impact on. "Like the community. Fix the roads, grade the unsealed roads, deal with the roadside weeds, and let the ideologues in Canberra worry about saving the planet."

John White, Alexandra

#### Voice to Parliament

PRIOR to the last federal election, an indigenous community in Central Australia was offered money for a football oval. Elders said they were grateful but said they would rather have money for a clean water supply.

To me this sums up the need for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The Voice will enable Aboriginal people to advise the federal government on policy and projects aboriginal people deem important rather than have these imposed, top down.

Once recognised in the constitution the Voice will be a body like the Australian Taxation Office, Health Department and Defence Department that have the constitutional right to advise government. As with all such advice the government of the day can accept or reject the advice but it must listen to the advice.

Don't bury your head in the sand. This is a great opportunity for us to decide who we are as Australians. All in or only some, all in or just them and not them? If you don't know, find out. Between now and the referendum there will be lots of information out there to help you make up your own mind based on an informed decision.

THUMBS UP

To those who are tagging across our

beautiful shire with their ugly graffiti.

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

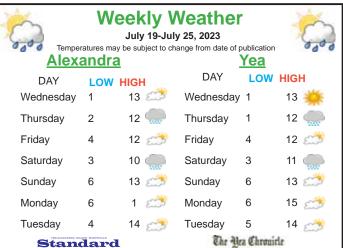
at the Editor's discretion. We request that this

THUMBS DOWN:

THUMBS DOWN

Robyn Walsh, Yarck





#### RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT STATION NAME TENDENCY FLOOD CLASS HEIGHT 0 00am Mon Goulburn R at Lake Fildon D/S 2 95^

Gouldulli K at Lake Elidoli D/S	9.00am Mon	2.93	steady	below illillor				
Rubicon R at Rubicon	`9.00am Mon	0.78	steady					
Acheron R at Taggerty	9.21am Mon	1.24	steady	below minor				
Home Ck at Yarck	9.30am Mon	0.34	steady					
Yea R at Devlins Bridge	9.59am Mon	0.72	steady	below minor				
Yea R at Yea	8.24am Mon	1.42	steady					
Goulburn R at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	5.41	steady					
King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.74^	steady	below minor				
Goulburn R at Trawool	9.00am Mon	3.44^	steady	below minor				
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.37^	steady	below minor				
Goulburn R at Seymour	10.00am Mon	3.35	steady	below minor				
Whiteheads Ck at Seymour	8.33am Mon	1.38	steady					
**ISSUED AT 10.16AM ON MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023**								

#### Capacity as at 9am Monday......97.8% Metres below full supply..... Daily inflow .......8,500ML .....12,500ML

Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)...

#### section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property DISTRICT RAINFALL Alexandra......N/Amm Buxton......1mm Kinglake......2mm Marysville ......N/A Jamieson......4mm Yarck ...... 0.6mm Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday LAKE EILDON

56cm

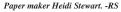
#### The Hea Chronicle **DEADLINES** Real Estate Thursday noon Trades & Services Thursday noon Thursday 5pm Early General News Classifieds Monday noon Editorial Monday 9am Sports Editorial Monday 10am Letters to the Editor Monday 9am Thumbs up/down Monday 10am If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on 5772 1002 or reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au We thank you for your continued support



Yea Community House president Cass Groves with Paper Making Workshop participants on Saturday, July 15. -RS

# Paper-making at Yea Community House







Paddy Catera with the floral paper she made.



A paper making kit ready to go. -RS

## Suade's a capella thrills at Yea Shire Hall

by Adam Dennis

IT was a cold Saturday night in Yea, but there was warmth aplenty in the Yea Shire Hall when crowds gathered to hear Melbourne a cappella group *Suade* perform.

Yea Arts Inc staged its first show of the season to an audience of 100, with many bringing creative nibbles to sustain them through the evening.

Yea Arts committee member Vikki Menhennitt acted as master of ceremonies, introducing local performers *The Dusty Dogs* to kick off proceedings. *The Dusty Dogs* presented nine songs, with the three singers providing variety. Kerry Brookes joined the band for her first performance, singing audience-friendly covers from Pink, *The Dixie Chicks* and *The Beatles*, to warm applause from the crowd.

Next up was a special preview song from the forthcoming show, You're A Good Man Charlie Brown. Perry Moon as Snoopy was interrupted by a technical glitch, and immediately engaged warmly with the audience while the problem was solved. Unfazed by the delay, Perry performed brilliantly in character and was rewarded

with a great response from the entire hall. We look forward to seeing the entire cast of the show in action when it starts on August 4.

Finally, Vikki introduced the drawcard act, Suade. Returning to the stage after some years away, they connected with the audience from the very start with their friendly and lighthearted banter. Although mostly playful and high-spirited, their soulful version of O Holy Night was a high point, and was rewarded with rapturous applause. That spiritual moment was offset with lively medleys of well-known songs as well as originals both serious and playful.

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Garnet Bailey 0417 346 214 Chris Walsh 0407 194 037 With the colourful stage lit by Alison Huth, the group looked and sounded like the impressive professionals they are. For more than 90 minutes they held the audience in the palm of their hands, with thunderous applause and foot-stamping showing just how much everyone loved the show.

As patrons made their way out into the cold Yea night the many happy faces made the organisers satisfied with a job well done. Onwards to *Charlie Brown*.

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# Government accused of ignoring school bus findings

SHADOW Minister for Education Matt Bach has accused the government of failing to respond to the recommendations of the Legislative Council's *Inquiry into the use of* school buses in rural and regional Victoria report. On Monday, July 10, it had been 577 days since the report was tabled.

The inquiry covered issues including prevention of bullying between students while travelling and improving school bus routes to meet the needs of the public in remote areas.

Recommendation three from the inquiry seeks mandated CCTV cameras on all new school buses as they come into operation in the School Bus Program.

Mr Bach said, "This inquiry was established back in 2021 and has made some serious recommendations that the government has failed in its duties to implement.

"The safety of students travelling to and from school is paramount. It's clear that this increasingly arrogant government is not taking these recommendations seriously.

"I asked the Minister for Education back in early May when she intended to implement the recommendations from this inquiry and true to form she has failed to respond."

Contacted about the issue, a Victorian Government spokesperson said, "The government will respond to each inquiry report as soon as possible. We appreciate the important work being done by Parliamentary Committees and their staff;"

The complexity of the issues considered by parliamentary committees, as well as COVID-19 backlogs of reports, is believed to have resulted in extended deliberation before responding.

#### Bower Street upgrades and detour in Kinglake

ON Monday 17 July, the intersection of Bower Street and Kinglake-Glenburn Road will undergo an upgrade that involves sealing 50 metres of Bower Street to the intersection and extending some footpaths. The upgrade aims to improve the safety and accessibility of the area for motorists and pedestrians.

The works are expected to be completed by early August, weather permitting. However, during this period, there will be some traffic disruptions and detours in place. Bower Street will be closed to Kinglake-Glenburn Road for the duration of the works, so people will need to use Mill Street and Fern Street to access Kinglake-Glenburn Road from Bower Street.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact council on 5772 0333 or email at customer@murrindindi.vic.gov. au

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4 Yea Chronicle incorporating the Kinglake Chronicle, Wednesday, July 19, 2023



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Yea Newsagency



## This week's Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA Sunday Service time

Father Mario Hendricks Ph: 0437 937 433

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew 0459 402 547 St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm Immaculate Conception Parish Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am Sacred Heart Yea, 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, YEA Station Street Yea Colin Whiteway Ph 0419 351 267 / 5799 1295 Sunday Service 11.15am

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 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*.

Alexandra District Hospital are seeking consumer engagement committee members. For further details see ad in this edition of *The Standard* or contact Juliana McCashney 5772 0997 or email *adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies/* 

# \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* WEDNESDAY, JULY 19

RAR are holding a Vigil at 10am at the Alexandra Rotunda and in the Yea main street to call to end off-shore detention.

#### FRIDAY, JULY 21

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens will hold their AGM at 1pm at the Bayley Street clubrooms. All enquiries to secretaryadscc@ gmail.com

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

Alexandra District Health invites you to join them for their 2023 Open Board meeting. To be held at 4pm at the Alexandra RSL. Tea and coffee provided. RSVP to Jennifer.creed@adh.org.au by close of business Friday, July 21.

## \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY, JULY 29

A farewell party is being held at Christ Church Marysville for Val Cockerell, Heather Mills, Sue Moss and Ada O'Flaherty. You are invited to drop by anytime between 12.30 and 3.30pm. For catering RSVP by July 24, to 0400 838 149 or 0427 633 489.

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

Eildon Events Inc will hold their AGM at Morning Mist, Back Eildon Road at 10.30am. For further details contact 0400 715 319.

WHAT'S

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 15

Eildon Action Inc will hold their AGM at Eildon VIC. Everyone is welcome. Nominations can be submitted on the night.

## \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Goulburn Fishing Festival 2023. Free event at Eildon. 10am-4pm. Lions Park, Riverside Drive. Live music, market stalls, Snobs Creek Hatchery tours, Vic Fish Kids clinics and more. Fireworks at 7pm. yfa.vid.gov.au/goulburnfishfest

#### R U OK research has highlighted the impacts of conversation

R U OK? Research has underscored the impact a genuine conversation can have on someone who is struggling with life.

The research has found more than four in five people who engaged in a meaningful conversation felt better about managing their situation having talked it through and felt supported, heard, and safe during the conversation.

However, the research also found that when asked if they were OK, two in five people (38 per cent) who said they were OK actually were not OK. These respondents told us that important factors to encourage an honest conversation are Trust, Authenticity and Environment.

It was noted people need to know the person they speak to is someone they trust, and, for many, someone they are close to. They want to know the person asking them genuinely wants to hear the answer and people would prefer to have these conversations in a relatively private space with enough time to share what they want to say.

Two months out from R U OK? Day on September 14, R U OK? are calling on

Australians to let the people they care about know; 'I'm here to hear', every day of the year.

R U OK? CEO Katheriine Newton said, "You need to ask this question because you mean it. If you really care and want to hear an honest answer, be genuine with your ask, make space to listen and let the person know you're sticking around for whatever comes next. We know the positive impact an R U OK? conversation have when people know and trust each other. This usually means that trust has been built over time, they're familiar with each other's routines and behaviours, and they likely know what's going on in each other's lives. This trust, along with consideration of the where and when a conversation will take place contributes to making an R U OK? conversation truly meaningful." Suicide Prevention Australia's June 2023 Community Tracker revealed 2 in 5 Australians know someone who has died by or attempted suicide in the last 12 months, a 13 per cent increase from 2021. For the fourth quarter running, cost of living and personal debt remained the number one issue driving distress.

"In recent years there has been a lot for Australians to deal with. Many are still feeling the impact of natural disasters and the pandemic, while the cost of living increases are adding more stress on those who might already be struggling to manage." said Ms Newton.

"There is a natural tendency for us to want to move on as new events capture focus and we resume our usual routines," explained Ms Newton.

"That's why it's important for us to recognise that the people we really care about may be feeling ongoing effects, long after something has happened to them, and to let them know we're still here to really hear."

You can find FREE resources at *ruok.org.au* to help you know when and how to ask, 'Are you OK?' in your workplace, school and community and plan your R U OK? Day 2023 activities.

For support at any time of day or night, Lifeline provides free and confidential crisis support. Call 13 11 14, text 0477 131 114 or chat online at *lifeline.org.au.* 13YARN is a free 24/7 service offering crisis support for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. Call 13YARN (13 92 76).

# \$250,000 to assist rural and regional communities

APPLICATIONS are now open for the ANZ Seeds of Renewal program, with grants of up to \$15,000 available for not for profit organisations in remote, rural and regional areas to support the ongoing prosperity of regional Australia.

The program, which is now in its 21st year, is administered by the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) and has provided more than \$5.5 million to more than 800 community groups for approximately 900 projects to help build vibrant and sustainable communities.

This year, the ANZ Seeds of Renewal program is again offering a share of \$250,000 to community organisations in remote, rural or regional locations for projects aligned to four focus areas. These areas include, Environmental sustainability, initiatives that restore and conserve the natural environment or which

contribute to lower carbon emissions, water stewardship and waste minimisation. Financial wellbeing, particularly for under represented and disadvantaged people in the community, including initiatives that improve economic participation. Housing access initiatives and programs that support those experiencing or at risk of homelessness or that provide supports for people living with disability and Projects that assist local communities to thrive by either enabling vibrant communities where everyone can participate and build a better life, or creating sustainable communities that help deliver demonstrable medium to long term economic sustainability.

A grant seeker workshop will be held online from 1 to 2pm on Wednesday July 19.

For more information about ANZ Seeds of Renewal, or to apply for a grant visit FRRR's website frrr.org.au

#### Rise in garage fires calls for households to be aware of risks

A SURGE in garage fires across the state has Victorian fire services encouraging residents to clean up their garage and consider installing smoke alarms inside.

Many of the reported garage fires in the last year were caused by faulty electrical equipment or related to fuel spills.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said CFA firefighters have already

responded to 26 garage fires this year compared to the 28 in total from last year.

Fire Rescue Commissioner Gavin Freeman asks for Victorians to check the condition of all electrical appliances in their garages.

"Inspect the condition of your electrical items and if you notice any damage, ensure they are repaired by a certified tradesperson.

"When it comes to items powered by lithium ion batteries, such as e scooters and e bikes, only use chargers and cords that were originally supplied with that device. Using chargers with incorrect power delivery can cause damage or overheating that can lead to fires.

"Finally, keep all garages free of clutter, so that if an electrical item does catch alight the fire will be less likely to spread."

# Victorian Community Achievement Awards

NOW is the time to think about someone amazing who you would like to thank for their tireless work in the community with nominations open for the 2023 Community Achievement Awards for Victoria.

The awards celebrate those people who have contributed to their community, no matter how big or small.

These nominees will be the selfless unsung heroes that dedicate their time to helping the lives of others within their community.

Full details of the category descriptions and the conditions of entry can be found on the website *awardsaustralia.com/Viccaa* 

Nominations are now open and can be filled in online at *awardsaustralia.com/ Viccaa* and select 'Nominate Now'.

Alternatively, make the process that much easier by calling 1300 055 096 or emailing vic@awardsaustralia.com and pass on the person's details.

All nominees will receive a letter of congratulations and a certificate of encouragement for their nomination.

Nominations close on Friday, September 1, with judging to take place throughout October. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 1 at the 2023 Community Achievement Awards Gala Presentation Dinner.



Bron Britton from the Yarck Hall committee with a quilt donated by the Alexandra Quilters which is being raffled to raise funds for maintenance of the hall. -RS

# Wonderful local goods on display at the Yarck Market



Yarck Country Womens Association member Nola Wernicke with goodies for sale made by CWA members. Proceeds of these go towards the good works of the Yarck CWA including donations to local nursing homes, Flying Doctors and victims of family violence. -RS



Pamela Talia, Pam Chaffe and Maria Koci enjoying morning tea made by the CWA. -RS



A giant crocheted spider, made by Nadia Schuts, was on display. -RS



Crochet artist extraordinaire Nadia Schuts with her young assistant, daughter Jaime. -RS



Pouring the shredded plastics into the injection moulder. -S



Plant pots made by UGIL from recycled plastics. -RS

# Upper Goulburn Intrepid Landcare recycling rubbish into useful products

As part of their recent community weekend, Upper Goulburn Intrepid Landcare took a walk along the Yea River cleaning up plastics from the waterway and the surrounding area. Once they had gathered the detritis, they followed up by recycling the precious plastics they found along the way.

UGIL was formed in June 2019 by Dr Annette Cavanagh and Jess Robinson, hoping to find kindred spirits interested in protecting the environment who would also enjoy the social aspects of the group. They founded the group after attending a leadership retreat run by Intrepid Landcare who promote their organisation as "a place where young people (late teens to thirties) join together and create the change they want to see in the world." The plastic recovered on Saturday was shredded into small flakes, then injection moulded into usable items. The machines they use were built by UGIL member Leigh Redding, who made them as a project to keep himself busy during lockdown.

The products UGIL make are extremely tough and are reusable. They last forever, as if they do break, they can be recycled again.

UGIL sell their recycled pots, which can be found at the Yea Wetlands Recovery Centre, to raise funds to assist with their landcare endeavours.

UGIL's community weekend, which also included tree planting and a film screening, was run with the assistance of Foundation Murrindindi.



The team with the piles of plastic they recovered



UGIL members began their waste plastics search on the roadside before heading to the river. -S



# FUN





Name .

Address

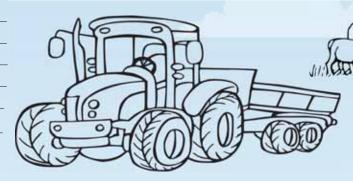
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Country Tech 89 - 91 Grant Street Alexandra Victoria 3714 5772 3165

Simply color the picture on the right, fill in your details and drop it off at Alexandra Newspapers 43 Grant Street Alexandra Vic or post it to P O Box 5 Alexandra Vic 3714. Entries close and need to be received by 11am Monday prior to our next edition.







D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_National Farm Safety

Week 2023, July 16 - 23.

#### **WINNER**

The winner of our National Different Eye Colour colouring competition is

#### **Mollie J**

Congratulations, you have won a \$10 voucher from Country Tech.



#### **WORDSEARCH - FARM HAZARDS**

Words can go in any direction.

Words can share letters as they cross over each other.

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

ANIMAL CHEMICAL CONTAINER

**FIREARM** 

**TRACTOR** 

**MACHINERY** 

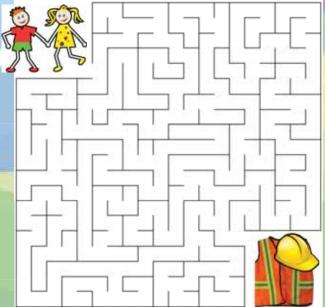
UTE

**FENCING** 

**QUADBIKE** 

**WATERBODY** 

# MAZE - FARM SAFETY Keep kids safe on the farm. Help them get their safety gear before they go out and about on the farm.



#### **SOLUTIONS** Page 11

#### Crossword

#### **ACROSS**

- Interfere with progress.
- Stringed instrument.
- Aussie paddock vehicle.
- 9 Large quantities of paper.
- 11. Let slip.
- 12. Cut to pieces.
- 13. A score.
- Very small person. Afternoon nap.
- 17. Begin an offensive.
- 20. Having a clear mind.
- 22. A shoulder weapon.
- 23. Express feelings.
- 26. Alcoholic beverage. 27. Bad luck.
- 28. Not as hard

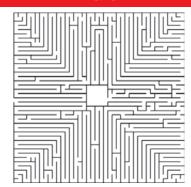
#### **DOWN**

- Village without a church. 1.
- Synthetic rubber.
- Strong-scented perennial herb.
- Semiprecious stone.
- Rip apart.
- Go back to a previous state.
- Higher than most.
- Moral uprightness 9.
- Sacred writings.
- 15. Scribble drawings on walls.
- 16. Not very often.
- 18. Person in charge of animals.
- 19. Behave comically.
- 21. Adult male swans. 24. Delineate in detail.
- 25. Small golf peg

#### Word search – Artificial Intelligence

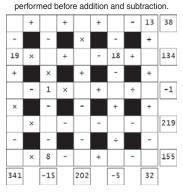
Algorithm	Ε	W	$\subset$	×	J	F	I	W	U	Z	Q	D	$\subset$	А	Н
•	L	Т	U	$\subset$	Ε	$\subset$	Ν	Ε	I	$\subset$	S	0	Н	Р	$\subset$
Circuit	Ε	Υ	I	Т	U	V	Т	R	Ι	R	М	G	Q	Υ	0
Computing	$\subset$	G	C	U	Q	0	Ε	$\subset$	W	Р	Ε	Q	R	$\subset$	I
Electronics	Т	0	Н	Ν	$\subset$	Q	L	G	U	Ρ	Ρ	L	W	R	Ρ
Future	R	L	D	F	Υ	R	L	Т	L	К	Ν	G	Ε	R	J
Intelligence	0	0	Υ	G	0	$\times$	Ι	0	$\subset$	А	F	W	0	S	0
•	N	Ν	J	L	К	Ν	G	$\subset$	Ν	R	I	G	Ε	К	5
Machine	I	Н	V	U	G	0	Ε	А	×	К	R	0	Ν	V	Z
Memory	$\subset$	$\subset$	D	×	D	0	Ν	R	Z	А	Ε	I	Ι	G	W
Programming	S	Ε	D	R	Т	0	$\subset$	R	М	R	D	К	Н	М	U
Science	R	Т	U	Ε	М	М	Ε	М	U	Н	S	Q	$\subset$	Z	×
Technology	Υ	R	0	М	Ε	М	Ι	Т	В	Ν	Υ	К	А	А	S
0,	Т	$\subset$	D	Q	V	Ν	U	W	Ν	R	Υ	$\subset$	М	G	S
Wireless	Е	F	L	Α	G	F	Α	L	G	0	R	I	Т	Н	М

#### Maze



#### Maths Squares

Fill in the missing numbers. The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 25. Each number is only used once. Each row is a math equation. Each column is a math equation. Remember that multiplication and division are



#### Sudoku

#### 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 only once.







The road in Strath Creek where Mr Richardson's body was

#### \$1m reward for information on Strath Creek murder

HOMICIDE Squad have detectives announced a \$1m reward for information as part of their investigation into the suspicious death of Robert 'Jack' Richardson almost 40 years ago.

The 49 year old's body was located by members of the public in bushland off King Parrot Creek Road near Strath Creek on March 31, 1984.

It's believed Robert, who was more commonly known to his friends and associates as Jack, had been shot in an execution-style killing.

He had last been seen with two unidentified men in St Kilda between 1.20am and 2am on March 4 and police believe he was murdered some time later on this day.

Jack had been due to appear at Melbourne County Court on March 5 after being charged, along with two co-accused, with conspiring to traffick heroin. This investigation involved a high-level

organised crime syndicate operating in Melbourne at the time, with connections to the Painters and Dockers union. The matter was also linked to an attempt on the life of a NSW Police undercover

operative, who was a prosecution witness in the case. After being committed to stand trial, Jack was granted bail and had been living in St

Despite a significant investigation at the time, no one has ever been charged with Jack's murder.

Kilda with his girlfriend.

A 1985 inquest into his death found that Jack had been murdered by a person or persons unknown.

Investigators believe Jack's death was most likely arranged with the assistance and knowledge of several people, including some he would have known well and trusted as friends.

Since the time of the original investigation, detectives have received further information about Jack's death and those potentially responsible however at this time there is insufficient evidence to charge anyone.

A forensic re-examination of an exhibit located at the crime scene has also been conducted and fresh DNA has been identified.

Police believe this will also provide further avenues of enquiry for the investigation.

Victoria Police announced a \$1m reward for information in relation to those responsible for Jack's death in the hope it will provide new leads and result in those responsible being held to account.

The reward will be paid at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner of Police, for information leading to the apprehension and subsequent conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Robert 'Jack' Richardson.

The Director of Public Prosecutions will consider, according to established guidelines, the granting of indemnification from prosecution to any person who provides information as to the identity of the principal offender or offenders in this

Police are also releasing a number of photos of Jack, as well as images from where his remains were located in Strath Creek.

Police urge anyone with information about Robert's death to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

Detective Inspector Dean Thomas, Crime Command, said, "Every person who loses their life in this way, regardless of their background or personal circumstances, deserves justice.

"The fact that Jack's murder is unsolved also means that we have had someone out there in the community for almost four decades who has never been held to account for their behaviour.

"This was someone willing to commit the ultimate act of violence with no regard for the life of others.

"These factors alone make this investigation an important one and one that we are still very keen to solve.

"Jack also had a young daughter at the time of his death. Sadly she has grown up without a father and never knowing who killed her dad and why.

"Jack's death had all the hallmarks of an underworld execution and the evidence suggests he probably had no warning he was going to be killed and trusted the person who did it.

"Ultimately, his fatal mistake may have been trusting the wrong person.

"It's not just the person who pulled the trigger who we are searching for, it's also anyone who assisted with jack's murder both before and after it occurred.

"The drug matter Jack was involved with before his death had significant links to both organised crime in Melbourne, specifically criminal elements of the notorious Painters and Dockers union.

"We believe it's likely people formerly associated with that union would have at least had knowledge about what happened to Jack and who was involved.

"Investigators have spoken to some of these people and are particularly keen to hear from anyone who used to move in those circles

"It's also worth noting the timing of Jack's death. It occurred two years to the day after the original police arrests in relation to the drug investigation and the day before the trial was meant to begin. We do not believe that this was in any way coincidental.

"Despite the significant passage of time, we believe that this matter is still solvable.

"As we always say, circumstances and relationships will change and potentially someone who may not have been able to come forward and speak to police previously may now feel they are in a position to do so.

"Given Jack's significant criminal history and associations, we also believe there is a strong likelihood that people with information were afraid to come forward at the time of his death because they feared significant retribution.

"We're hoping that some of those people may now be able to speak to us without those fears or concerns.

"This reward "This reward provides another opportunity for police to highlight that this case remains unsolved and hopefully it helps us progress the case."

# Help shape the system that protects Victoria's way of life

COMMUNITY and industry feedback is invited on Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy to help strengthen the existing system against increased pest and disease risks.

Biosecurity Victoria Executive Director Katherine Clift said widespread input is critical in shaping the strategy to prevent and manage harms to our farms, natural environment and people.

"Victoria's biosecurity system needs to adapt and change to meet current and future challenges with improved clarity on the role that everyone can play to reduce risk," Dr Clift said.

"We welcome feedback on Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy, a key commitment to strengthening our existing system against increased pests and disease risks.

'It's crucial this strategy is informed by people from a range of backgrounds and experience, including those who regularly deal with biosecurity risks and benefit from a strong biosecurity system."

Biosecurity is the actions to prevent and manage the harms caused by pests and diseases, and the impact they have on what we value most.

"Victoria's biosecurity system has responded strongly to high priority threats in recent years and there are great examples



Recipe kindly submitted by Martine Sloane of the Redgate (Alexandra) Branch of the CWA

#### Beef and Bean Casserole

from the CWA Mince Matters Cookbook

#### INGREDIENTS

2 tbsp butter

750gm minced beef

1 onion finely chopped

425gm can tomatos drained and chopped

125gm pasta shells

1 cup hot beef stock

2 teasp worcerstershire sauce

Half a teasp dried mixed herbs

1 teasp chilli powder

Freshly ground black pepper

225gm can baked beans chopped Parsley to garnish

#### METHOD

Melt butter in a saucepan then brown the mince and onion.

Stir in all the remaining ingredients (except baked beans and parsley). Mix well together and simmer gently for about 30-40 minutes.

When mince is cooked and pasta is tender, stir in baked beans and heat

Serve sprinkled with chopped parsley. To help mop up any juices, serve with Cornbread (recipe coming next month)

Redgate CWA meet at 1pm on the fourth Thursday of each month at 31 Perkins Street Alexandra. Contact Maureen on 0402 804 517. of partnerships across the system," Dr Clift said.

"The new Victorian Biosecurity Strategy prioritises more widespread collaboration as key to a stronger and more resilient system."

The draft strategy was developed with people who have a role in biosecurity, including farmers, agriculture industry bodies, supply chain and transport businesses, community and emergency management organisations, Traditional Owners and government agencies.

Community consultation included a series of statewide workshops earlier this year and builds on Victoria's Biosecurity Statement endorsed by the Victorian Government in 2022.

The strategy has also been shaped with input by Victoria's Biosecurity Reference Group (BRG), a collective representing industry and community views.

"In our collective pursuit of a secure future for both food and fibre, we must recognise that biosecurity is a shared responsibility,' BRG member and VFF Vice President Danyel Cucinotta said.

"We encourage farmers to actively engage in shaping the draft strategy with invaluable insights and collaboration that will fortify our defences, ensuring a resilient and thriving agricultural sector for generations to come."

The draft strategy is the next step in a four-year change program working with government, industry and community to strengthen different aspects of the biosecurity system.

Community members can complete a survey or make a submission on Victoria's Biosecurity Strategy by midnight, Wednesday, August 16 via engage.vic.gov.au/victorian-biosecuritystrategy-consultation

# Seasoned farmers the focus of revitalised farm safety project

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has welcomed the Victorian Government's continued investment into the Making our Farms Safer project (MOFS), to enable the vital project to help keep Victorian farmers safe.

VFF President Emma Germano said the project's immediate focus will be on farmers aged 60 years and over to help lower their overrepresentation in farming deaths and injuries.

"Farmers aged over 60 years tragically account for more than 40 per cent of deaths on farms throughout the country.

"Last year, six people aged over 60 lost their lives on Victorian farms. That's

someone's mother, father or friend that can never be replaced. We hope this project will help ensure loved ones come home at the end of the day.

"With the help of a working committee consisting of older farmers and their adult children, the project will develop specific content and resources, such as a guidebook and monthly newsletters to help make Victorian farms safer.

"Farmers and our regional communities told us loud and clear how important this project was to them, and I welcome the government's commitment to helping us keep farmers safe." Ms Germano said.

#### Supporting Victoria's top class producers

THE Victorian Government is assisting Victoria's agriculture businesses to get their produce onto more tables, while also supporting the skilled hospitality workers who service the food and drink sector.

Acting Minister for Trade and Investment Danny Pearson recently announced a \$31.2 million investment in the programs that promote Victorian producers.

These programs support industry growth, skills development and domestic and international market expansion, while further strengthening regional towns as a tourism destination.

The Victorian Government will continue to deliver hospitality scholarships through a \$5 million

investment, ensuring Victoria's food and beverage industry is equipped with skilled workers.

Scholarships of up to \$10,000 will be provided to regional and metropolitan students, supporting them to succeed in their new careers while providing a much needed workforce boost for our hospitality sector.

Underpinning Victoria's world class food and drink industries are the ingredients grown by Victorian farmers.

To help our farmers continue to grow the high quality produce they are known for, a \$3 million funding package will be delivered over the next three years to address key farm safety risks.

#### Victorian Pet Census out now

THE Victorian Government is launching the nation's first Pet Census to help shape the future of animal welfare and ensure pet owners have the support and services they need.

Minister for Agriculture Gayle Tierney recently announced the Victorian Pet Census and encouraged all pet owners to get involved.

The pet census opened on Monday, July 3 and the aim of the pet census is to ask Victorians a variety of questions to gather crucial information on pet ownership and the attitudes and experiences of owners.

Pet ownership rates in Australian households have risen from 61 per cent to 69 per cent since the pandemic, making it more important than ever for the Government to establish a better knowledge of pets, their owners and the important community organisations that support them.

Data received through the pet census will form a clearer picture of pet companionship of all kinds across Victoria, so the Government can continue supporting pet owners and improving pet welfare.

The Victorian Pet Census will take 15 minutes to complete. To take part please visit animalwelfare.vic.gov.au

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Alexandra.
This month's theme is 'landscape'. See our June 28

edition for details.



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# Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture, Aquaculture and Silviculture

# Pet dental disease awareness

by Rebecca Parth, Taggerty Veterinary Clinic

AUGUST is Pet Dental Health Month throughout Australia to help raise awareness of the importance of pet oral health.

Dental disease is a widely underrated process in our pets with 80 per cent of our pets developing dental disease over the age of 3 years. Added to this, only around 2 per cent of pet owners are actively engaging in preventative dental care.

People have 32 adult teeth which varies from our furry friends, adult dogs have 42 teeth, while cats have 30 teeth.

Dental disease is often as painful of a process for us as it is for our furry family members. Sadly, they often suffer from dental disease without their owners even realising there is something wrong. The signs of dental disease can be subtle but include the following symptoms.

Excessive drooling and pawing at mouth, difficulty/reluctance chewing, reluctance to eat, rubbing face along ground or furniture, only chewing on one side of the mouth, swellings of the head and lymph nodes, Halitosis (bad breath), plaque and tartar, discoloured teeth, gingivitis (Swollen/bleeding gums) and missing teeth.

Dental disease should not be considered to only effect the teeth and mouth. Just like for ourselves inadequate dental hygiene can lead to various infections throughout the body.

Dental disease starts with the oral cavity, the firsts signs can appear as plaque and discolouring of the teeth which eventually lead to gingivitis or gum inflammation. If gingivitis is not treated it can cause periodontal disease.

Periodontal disease is infection/inflammation of the tissues surrounding the tooth. Unfortunately, it is an irreversible process which can result in the loss of teeth. Another cause of periodontal disease, particularly in dogs, is teeth fractures often resulting from chewing bones.

The good news is we can treat gingivitis and plaque build up with routine care and if we can control dental health, we can stop periodontal disease from occuring in many situations.

There are many ways to help protect our pets teeth. For dogs and cats the most effective way to clean teeth is by using pet specific toothbrushes and toothpastes. The action of manually brushing the teeth helps to clean away bacteria and plaque before they can cause inflammation at the gum level. Brushing should be performed two to three times per week, but it must also be remembered it may not be well tolerated by some animals and alternatives should be explored for these animals. Dental treats and toys can also help provide the mechanical action of toothbrushing and work well as long as your pet is persistent enough to spend at least several minutes chewing. Prescription dental diets can be beneficial for individuals that are not fans of chewing and will help maintain dental health. Regular visits to your vet for routine oral check ups.

If dental disease is found during a dental check up, many options are available depending on the severity of the disease. These options may be as simple as enlisting the above precautions, medications or a general anaesthetic for teeth cleaning and potential tooth extractions. Dental check ups can be performed by your regular vet.

# 

Is it time for your pet to get a dental check? -Sophiecap1917

We have newspapers available for public perusal at out office,

during office hours. Come and pick one for next weeks edition

I found this in one of our 1971 editions!

#### SAVE THE DATE

July 25 - Mildura Business skills for the future workshop - AgVic

August 2 & 3 - Speed Mallee Machinery Field Days

August 6 & 7 - Hamilton Sheepvention Rural Expo

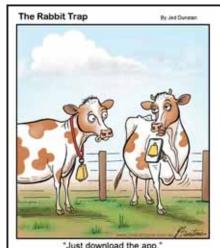
August 13-15 - Wagga Wagga Thriving Women Conference - AgriFutures

#### **UPCOMING CATTLE SALES DATES**

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Sept 1 Combined agents store sale
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Nov 3 Combined agents store sale



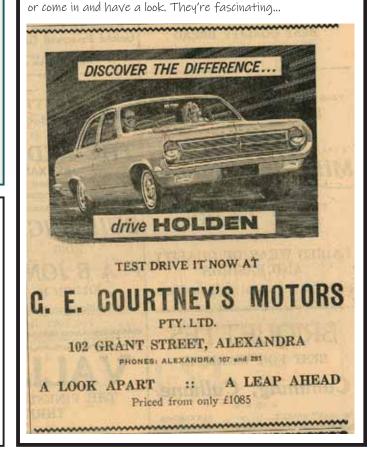
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#### **PERMANENT PART TIME 24 HOURS PER WEEK**

Alexandra District Health (ADH) are seeking an experienced office administrator to join our team as Quality and Risk Coordinator.

This diverse role is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the incident reporting software, quality reporting systems, document management system, preparation of policy and procedures and governance documents and the coordination and administration of our operational committee meetings including the preparation and distribution of meeting papers.

You will promote customer service excellence, act as a quality champion across ADH, supporting managers, and staff to strengthen capacity of Quality Improvement within their teams. You will be actively involved and support the facilitation, coordination and education of all accreditation processes.

The successful applicant will have advanced computer skills, demonstrate exemplary communication skills, will exhibit excellent attention to detail and be able to juggle multiple tasks at once.

The successful applicant will have access to an extensive handover process. Please contact Juliana McCashnev, Manager People and Culture if you have any queries regarding this role 5772 0997.

For further information, position description and application details visit: adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies.

Applications close Friday, July 21, 2023, close of business.



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For further information please contact Juliana McCashney, Manager People and Culture 5772 0997 or email

Recruitment@adh.org.au. For further information, position description and application details visit: adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies. Applications close Friday, August 4 2023, close of business



#### New funding to upskill and attract farming workers

GOTAFE has received \$1,99m as part of the Victorian Government's Agriculture TAFE and Training Funding.

The funding will support education aimed at ensuring students have the skills required for a career in agriculture, addressing the need for additional workers in the Goulburn

The Victorian Skills Plan 2022 to 2023 has identified that the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries will need an additional 3000 workers over the next three years, with the regional workforce forecast to grow by an additional 564 employees by 2025.

Key existing GOTAFE agriculture and horticulture courses will be supported by the funding, while 10 new short courses will be created, including in Aboriginal practices and land management and farm safety.

Jenny Wilson, Board Member at GOTAFE and CEO at Murray Dairy said the funding will add significant value to both students and industry.

"This funding will help upskill existing workers in the agriculture and horticulture industries, while also helping to attract diverse cohorts to undertake new and enhanced training," she said.

"We're looking forward to working with education institutes and industry to deliver training to ensure the future workforce is equipped with the required experience and

Rob Hall, Coordinator Land and Animals at GOTAFE, said the funding will not only support industry, but will also provide a range of benefits to staff and students.

"Getting this funding is an incredible boost in morale for our staff, it improves their confidence and ability, while also providing them opportunities for additional training and upskilling," Mr Hall said.

"The funding will create synergies between traditional land and farm management, so the courses have cultural relevance.

"There's a skill shortage within industry and we've struggled with this, which is why I think a multi layered approach including secondary school connections and community based elements is so important."

Farm safety will also be a key focus of the funding. This is aimed at reducing the rate of workplace deaths in the agriculture industry, with approximately 14 per cent of annual fatalities attributed to agriculture workers despite it only making up about two per cent of Victoria's workforce.

For any further questions, please get in contact via 1300 GOTAFE (468 233), Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.



#### Lifestyle Co-ordinator

A full time position is available for a suitable Lifestyle Coordinator. The role is responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of leisure and social opportunities and lifestyle care planning in conjunction with residents, families, and other members of the healthcare team.

#### Skills and experience:

- Diploma or Certificate IV in Lifestyle and Health, Diversional Therapy (or related) preferred or willing to achieve.
- Current unrestricted driver's licence
- · Ability to involve community, relatives, staff and volunteers
- · A pro-active and energetic self-starter with a strong customer service focus
- Previous experience working in an aged care setting or similar human services social care field
- Proven experience developing and coordinating lifestyle plans particularly for
- residents living with dementia Knowledge of the Aged Care Accreditation Standards and related outcomes
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, and computer literacy

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#### **MEETINGS**



The Board of Directors of Alexandra District Health invite you to join us for our

2023 Open Board Meeting

This event will be held on Wednesday 26th July, 2023 at 4.00pm, at Alexandra RSL, Grant Street Alexandra. Tea and Coffee provided.



Please RSVP to Jennifer.Creed@adh.org.au by close of business, Friday 21st July 2023.

#### SITUATION VACANT



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#### **MEETINGS**

#### EILDON ACTION INC

will hold its Annual General Meeting on August 15, 2023 at 5.30pm at the Eildon Visitor Information Centre. Everyone welcome. Nominations for committee and committee positions can be made on the night or submitted prior to the meeting. Nomination forms are available from the Visitor Information Centre or on the night.

#### SITUATION VACANT



#### Heavy combination truck driver

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- A current Heavy Combination licence with a minimum of 2 years experience
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To discuss this opportunity, or for more information please call 5770 3000. To apply please submit a cover letter and

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# **Council's new Director of Community and Development**

IN early June, Andrew Paxton started as Murrindindi Shire Council's new Director Community and Development. He's married with two children. His 17 year old is currently studying year 12, and his 21 year old is a second year apprentice doing electrical and

Andrew lives in Warrandyte, but he commented that travelling into the city for work would take a similar amount of time in peak hour. Travelling to Murrindindi is a much nicer drive.

Andrew's background was originally in the landscape architecture area, "designing, consulting and creating places." He moved from there into managing parks teams, then into urban design, before moving to Parks Victoria where he became the business manager for the Melbourne area, doing all of their capital works.

"I love and appreciate different places for what they are," Andrew said. "What's that unique character you're trying to protect?"

Andrew has looked after planning, building, health and the regulatory side of councils. He explained that the appeal of the role with Murrindindi Shire Council was that it includes economic development, tourism and business development streams, as well community development including access and inclusion, bus, youth services, pools, recreation and community engagement, and planning, building, health and strategic planning.

"It's a great portfolio in that whenever you're doing something, it has to deliver on a good social outcome, it has to deliver on a good environmental outcome. Does it stack up commercially? How do you get a good outcome in that space?" he said.

He noted that a large amount of work has been done already, citing the Eildon Activation Plan, and the next step will be accessing the funding for delivery. The Skyline Road development for example would be a turning point for Eildon. He also commented on Marysville's relationship with Lake Mountain, noting that at other ski resorts people tend to stay on the mountain. He also questioned how visitor stays could be extended or increase return visitation in another season.

Overall, he believes that it's not a one size fits all situation in the shire, but that solutions need to be tailored to suit the particular community and their needs.

The end of native timber forestry is having a "massive impact." When Andrew started at Murrindindi Shire, the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project was already underway. It was planned as a two year project to develop a seven year exit strategy. He said that the team are doing "fantastic consultation" in looking at what the future will look like multi-generationally.

While they're still running with this approach, the announcement that native timber forestry would end from the start of



Andrew Paxton. -AR

2024 has brought forward the challenges significantly. He also noted that there still seems to be a void of information around the cessation, and that there are various service industries which will be directly impacted by the decision. He expects that there will be a significant impact on the community, including schools, shops and businesses.

Soon after the announcement, council organised a meeting with the forestry Department Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR). Andrew found the discussion to be respectful and authentic. He also asked that impacted workers and contractors register with council to ensure that they don't miss out. Council plans to continue advocating on their behalf, and are planning another forum in coming weeks.

Council is looking at projects which would be good employment generators and those which would provide an economic stimulus. "We've gone back to government and said here's our shopping list of projects that we think would make a difference," Andrew said, adding that they come out of pre-existing plans, aside from a potential training hub for education in the shire.

The training hub would mean that apprentices could stay local for their training instead of travelling long distances for the educational component, for example. They are looking at opportunities for university, certificate courses or TAFE, delivered in a hub-style. This may also dove-tail with potential employees in the childcare or aged care space, industries currently experiencing challenges filling positions.

Some of the projects may also provide opportunities for forestry workers. There may be work on roads for example, such as the Skyline Road development. It is hoped that with each of the proposed projects, there will be "a training, a learning and a business outcome, as well as a social and environmental outcome," Andrew said.

In terms of planning, some work has been done on a Residential Land Use Strategy for residential growth, and supporting business and commercial also needs to be considered. Andrew said, "What is the right size of the towns? How much growth is needed without loosing the character. I think, looking at industrial and commercial land and its availability, and also who's sitting on land and not developing it? How do we encourage that to be freed up and used?"

The main issues he's found when talking to people are jobs, access to childcare and kindergartens. Council will be looking at how they can support the provision of kindergarten services. Murrindindi Shire has been identified by the state government as one of the priority areas for kindergarten and childcare, and council will be doing some work in that space.

Council are also keen support volunteers more. Andrew pointed out that there is a lot of research to show that people who volunteer are happier, healthier and more socially connected. He suggested that people may be able to support organisations in small capacities, such as doing the books, but may choose not to attend meetings on a regular basis, and that this may help to counter the low volunteer numbers in some organisations.

Long term rental accommodation is also an issue in the shire. Council is looking at land for growth as well as underutilised state government land which could be freed up. Re-zoning may be required. He'd also like the planning scheme to be more transparent, so people have greater certainty over what they will be able to do with the land prior to purchasing it.

In terms of tourism, he's keen for council to help the tourism organisations to 'step up to the plate' rather than council leading to the tourism push. He also has an interest the shire having downloadable apps highlighting the attractions of the area. "I think the world is shifting on the use of apps. I think there's still a place for hard copy brochures and all that. If it's easy enough to download then people will use it to see what's in the area," Andrew said.

Andrew was previously involved with the Phillip Island Nature Park. During COVID-19, they ran a free live-stream of the penguin parade. Millions of people viewed it each night. At the time, there were concerns that it might reduce visitation, however it actually inspired people to visit once the pandemic passed, and it's hoped that apps may have a similar affect.

Andrew suggested that if people have ideas for the future of Murrindindi, they could email customer service at council or contact them through Shaping Murrindindi's

"We're open to working with people [with business or other ideas], but it really has to deliver social, economic and environment outcomes. It's such a beautiful area. It's really got to suit the area. If someone wants to do something that's out of keeping, we might not be the right location," he said, adding that they also want it to be future-focused.

They are looking for ideas which will enhance the area and not detract from it.

# Overhaul of disaster governance

AN Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements has been commissioned by Australia's emergency management ministers, to better prepare governments for the demands of increasing future natural disasters.

The Governance Review will examine how national governance arrangements could more effectively serve national natural disaster preparedness, response, recovery, resilience, and long term policy

Due for completion by November 30, the review has been commissioned to complement the Independent Review into Commonwealth Disaster Funding, which is being led by Mr Andrew Colvin APM

The Governance Review is being led by climate change and disaster management expert Dr Robert Glasser from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI).

As part of the Review, Dr Glasser will also consider establishing an authoritative disaster advisory body and expanding the remit of the National Emergency Management Ministers Meeting a Ministerial (NEMMM) Council reporting to National Cabinet.

The NEMMM brings together portfolio emergency management ministers across jurisdictions to drive national cooperation and consistency on enduring strategic issues in emergency and disaster management and resilience.

Minister for Emergency Management, Murray Watt, who chairs the NEMMM, said ensuring the disaster response was fit for purpose across jurisdictions will deliver the best results for disaster prone communities.

"All Ministers responsible for disaster response understand that we do better through strong cooperation and by

planning ahead, not waiting for disasters to strike," Minister Watt said.

"If we are as prepared as possible at a government level, we can ensure communities get help fast.

"Dr Glasser has the right skills and experience to lead the Review and will ensure the views of all state and territory governments and key stakeholders are taken into account.

Victorian Acting Minister for Emergency Services Anthony Carbines said the Review highlighted the importance of strengthening national coordination and cooperation for disaster management, by ensuring all states and territories had a say on the effectiveness of governance processes.

"We've said all along that locals know best when it comes to what they need to recover as communities experience more frequent and severe emergencies governments must work together to support those on the front line," Minister Carbines said.

"Councils have told us that the less red tape, the better when it comes to disaster response, it's our hope that this Review helps cut some of that down and ensures decisions are made quickly, clearly and informed by local knowledge."

All levels of government, the community and private sector will be engaged to provide input, with further desktop reviews and research to inform the final

A Working Group consisting of representatives from the Australian and state and territory governments and the Australian Local Government Association is being established to support Dr Glasser.

The Review is being conducted in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.

# Yea Bowls Club tournament

by Viv Cavanagh

DESPITE the threat of wet weather, the Yea Bowls Club was able to hold a very successful 50 Up Tournament on Saturday, July 8. Sixteen members played in pairs, with the possibility to score ten shots on each end. The pair who reached 50 before their opponents became the winner for that game. Most games were very close, meaning that it took quite a while to reach the required 50 points. A second round was contested before a light barbecue meal was supplied. The overall winners of the day were Leif Elenius and Rob Marks.













## Winter round seven tennis report

by Rhonda Carpenter

THE Euroa winter women's tennis competition resumed after the midwinter break with much excitement after some missed opportunities before the break.

Players arrived at the Euroa courts, attempted to warmup but the slippery surface was deemed unplayable, and the match was cancelled. The Terip courts were also wetter than expected. Moglonemby hosted Benalla but were able to get through in a tight contest.

Luckily Mansfield Black and Mansfield Blue had begun early for their match at home to complete the round. Grey damp skies threatened, and light rain briefly interrupted play during the contest. The sun peeped through, and everyone was delighted to be on court.

The opening sets were determined by tiebreakers with Blue's Michelle Pigdon, Peta Kelly, Sophie Yencken and Clare Beecham winning both. The current and former club champions combined superbly all day with strong baseline hitting and clever courtcraft.

Black's Liza Karras, Jenny Bell, Rhonda Carpenter and Di Bergelin welcomed Di Ellis back into the fold, and battled hard but could not match Blue's class in the remaining sets. Blue won 6/48 to Black's 0/17.

Moglonemby hosted Benalla who had welcomed Mog's Robyn Johnston into their side. The match was hotly

contested and briefly interrupted by rain. Judy Sands, Debbie Seach, Mary Kelly, and Lyn Johnson narrowly took both openers. The next pairings went one each way and then Benalla's Kate Campbell, Maureen Jewell, Helen Chetuti with Johnston powered on in the final sets. Despite them winning both, one in a tiebreak, Moglonemby sealed the win by three games.

Moglonemby won 3/41 to Benalla's 3/38. Washouts were recorded for Seven Creeks versus Mansfield Red, and Terip versus Euroa.

Ladder: Terip 51, Euroa 49, Moglonemby 47, Benalla 40, Mansfield Black 33, Seven Creeks 29, Mansfield Blue 19, Mansfield Red 12.

## Yea golf report

by Alan Pell

TWENTY men played in the Monthly Medal on Saturday, July 15, with Brendan "Trout" Chenhall firing 77 off the stick, nett 64 to win by seven from Alan Pell (14) 85 nett 71. Third on count back was Paul Clayton (11) with nett 73 from fourth Brian Simmons (12) and fifth Rick Wills (7). Rob O'Halloran was nearest the pin on the fourteenth and Mic Sheather won the Club Award. The putting was won by Brendan with 22 putts. Knockout results saw Steve Rumney progress over Norm McCallum, Tom White defeated Kevin Coghlan and Greg Clements beat Wayne Rowe. Wednesday results saw Alan Pell (14) win with 84 nett 70 from second Paul Clayton (10) with nett 73. Alan won the putting with 24 putts and Trout won the Club Award.

## Yea under 13 netball



Marmalade's player of the day award went to Grace Lanigan, and the Yarra Valley Gas encouragement award went to Ivy Leatham. -S

by Racheal DeCaneva

SUNSHINE favoured the under 13 Tigers as they met Tabilk in Nagambie on Sunday, July 16. The game had a steady start and Yea went into the first break with a five goal lead thanks to the accuracy of our goal shooters, Charlotte and Pippa. Good communication from Ruby and Lola saw Yea set up great

play through the centre in the second quarter, with Lily and Ivy driving the ball forward in the mid-court. Abbey, Jemma and Grace demonstrated good defensive pressure throughout the game with excellent intercepts, resulting in turnovers. Tabilk continued to fight for possession and didn't give up but they were unable to close the gap.

## Yea Tigers 11 and under



Award winners: Marmalade's 'Player of the Week' went to Izzy, the Yarra Valley Gas 'Most Improved' went to Payton, and the Just Great Coffee 'Effort' Award went to Hayley. -S

by Andrew Harris

#### Tabilk 12 defeated Yea 25

THE sun was shining making for perfect conditions for our away game in Nagambie against Tabilk. Our team were looking forward to the contest after losing to Tabilk in a close game earlier in the season. From early in the first quarter our accuracy in goals was amazing to watch, and it continued throughout the entire game with our goalers scoring a total of 25 goals. This score was made possible by the excellent movement around the

entire court, with the team showcasing their ability to lead and pass with great confidence. We had twelve different players take to the court throughout the game and they should all be super proud of their efforts. The young tigers maintained a high level of intensity all game and came away with a great win. Congratulations to this week's award winners for their amazing contribution to the game.

Award winners: Marmalade's Player of the Week - Izzy, Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved - Payton and Just Great Coffee Effort Award - Hayley.

# The sun shines for the Yea junior footballers



J Johnston and M Geeson from the under 12s. -S



O Cunningham and J Johnston from the under 10s. -S



I White from the under 10s. -S



Jack Mullis and Harry Dignam. -S

# he Chronicle Sport



# The sun shines for the Yea junior footballers

by Kirstie Forthringham

THIS week Yea travelled to play Tabilk, and while it was a bit chilly, the sun was shining. A perfect day for footy. Josh and Ollie were on from the first bounce, with strong tackles in defence, turning the ball over for Yea. Atticus and Hudson were fabulous in the forward line. Atticus scoring 3 goals in the

Brooke and Ollie moved the ball well through the centre in the second, allowing our forwards to do their thing. Both Zac and Jack worked well together in the forward line, sharing it with the best placed Yea player and scoring a number of goals.

The third quarter saw Hudson with some great play out of the middle, controlling the ball and getting it into the forward line. Tayte put on a strong display, taking several strong marks and converting into goals. Brooke took a fabulous mark and was able to get it to Josh in a better position, who was able to score another Yea goal. The communication on display was amazing.

Henry and Logan worked hard the entire game, sticking tackles and getting the ball out of contests to our players. The players again showing each week their strong team work. Well done Tigers, another great week of footy

Awards: Marmalades Player of the Week - Atticus Barbetti. Just Great Coffee Great Player - Joshua Frankcombe. Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved - Brooklyn Waghorn.

#### Under 10

by Lyndal Tait and Claire Geeson

THE Tigers left frosty Yea, travelling to Nagambie to take on Tabilk this round. Although cold, the ground was bathed in spring-like sunshine, and the Tigers listened intently to Coach Al for their positions and instructions for the first quarter. Yea started strongly, kicking straight into attack with Charlie scoring a quick point. The Tigers took control from the kick in, and Darby gained possession to kick at goal, just missing for a point. Again, taking control in their forward zone, Charlie gained possession and kicked a great goal. The Tigers controlling much of the play for the quarter, with Tabilk scoring a single goal. Izzy handpassed to Darby who kicked forward. Fynn and Darby combining well in the forward line. Toby G was strong in defence, and Angus was gaining possessions across the ground. Luke standing tall in defence with strong tackles and working the ball out to the centre. Sienna kicked long into the Tigers forward, and Ashton controlled the ball in the centre third, delivering the ball forward to Fynn who kicked a terrific goal. Izzy, having a great quarter, kicked a super goal, followed shortly after by another goal on the run. The Tigers in control at

A quick change of positions and some positive feedback from Coach Al in relation to the team's efforts, strong plays, and great running and the Tigers were keen to take off again. Izzy continued her good form, in and under the packs to clear the ball. Fynn smothered the kick of his opponent and Toby J ran hard to gain possession. Judd was in and under, trying to gain possession for the Tigers and Oscar stuck to his opposition making them work hard. Sienna continued to run all quarter, gaining possessions and advancing the Tigers forward. Angus in defence kicked directly to Izzy for a mark, and she kicked to Fynn for one also. Fynn delivered the ball into the Tigers forward line with a long kick. Toby J and Luke in the forward line worked hard, yet the Tigers were unable to score any goals, kicking three points, but keeping Tabilk scoreless this quarter.

At the half time break, Coach Al gave the players instructions to man up, talk and win the contests. He emphasised the need to



A Barbetti and B Waghorn from the under nines. -S

continue running all quarter, and to support and talk to each other. Luke started the quarter in the ruck, tapping out to the Tigers advantage and the ball quickly made its way to the forward zone where Sienna took possession and kicked a great goal. Toby G took the ruck for the next centre bounce and tapped directly to Judd, who moved the ball on, but Tabilk took possession and moved the ball to their forward line kicking a point. Charlie taking the kick in, delivering to Luke who then kicked long to the Tigers end where Ashton kicked a super goal from a great distance. Fynn and Darby worked hard in defence all quarter. Darby earned a free kick for a great tackle. He kicked to Toby G who shrugged a tackle and kicked into Yea's attack. Angus ran hard throughout the quarter to take possession, and the Tigers defence and mid field combined well. Toby J taking his coach's instructions on board manning up and getting the hard ball gets on several occasions. He kicked to Angus, who combined with Ashton to kick to Sienna, who then kicked back to Ashton, who kicked his second goal. The Tigers upbeat going into the last break, feeling in control of a great game.

Coach Al congratulated all players on following through with the instructions he had given them, and that it had resulted in a great quarter. The Tigers once again took control from the first bounce, gaining possession and moving the ball forward, however Tabilk responded, getting a quick run on into their forward line and looking to score. But Toby G took a great mark on their goal line and he kicked to Luke who pushed goal file and he kicked to Luke win pushed out of defence. Fynn kicked forward, and from a scrum of players, Charlie grabbed the ball and snapped a great goal. Izzy's support of her team mates was impressive. She shepherded Angus, who cleared the ball to Oscar, who narrowly missed goal to score a point. The Tigers locked the ball in their forward zone through Angus, who caught his man holding the ball and kicked a great goal from the free kick. Ashton took control of the ruck for the Tigers, tapping to Fynn who kicked well forward. Tabilk continued to run and apply pressure on the Tigers as they moved forward, to once again be stopped from scoring by Toby G who took another great mark on the Tabilk goal line. He kicked to Fynn who marked and then kicked long through the centre. Angus and Charlie combined forward, with Charlie just missing to score a point. Yea manned up, making it hard for Tabilk to



J Frankcombe in the under nines. -S

get the ball out of the Tigers forward zone. Angus grabbed the ball and kicked another great goal. Ashton once again controlled the centre ball-up, tapping and then grabbing the ball himself, kicking to Fynn, who kicked to Angus, and he scored another goal. Oscar worked hard in the forward line to grab the ball from a long kick to narrowly miss goal for a point. Sienna and Izzy combined well, with Sienna grabbing a loose ball to deliver to Izzy, and for Izzy to then handball back to Sienna who kicked to Judd, who took a strong mark. An impressive game by the Tigers, with contributions by all players. A big happy birthday to Sienna for the day.

Awards: Marmalades Player of the Day - Izzy White. Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved - Oscar Cunningham. Duncan's Panel & Paint Red Hot Go - Toby Johnston.

#### Under 12

by Claire Geeson and Lyndal Tait

Having had a tough season so far, the coaches had some simple and straight forward instructions for the Tigers today: Concentrate on manning up, keep the back line open, and most of all, have fun. The Tigers started strongly, attacking the ball, and moving it into their forward line. Hunter marked strongly in the pack. Luke, Archie and Flynn combined well in the centre and Cooper took a mark across the centre line. Flynn marked strongly in the back line and earned a free kick. Hunter was strong in the centre. Ollie marked the ball in the back line to kick the Tigers back into their forward zone. Unfortunately, Archie suffered an injury and was on the bench for the remainder of the game. The Tigers working hard to stop Tabilk scoring, with a strong effort to touch the ball on the goal line. At quarter time, Coaches Cam and Marc were impressed, stating that quarter had been their best quarter of football they had played all year. They emphasised manning up and playing hard in the back line for the next

Again, the Tigers were strong from the start. Hunter in ruck tapped to his own advantage and then kicked the Tigers forward. Tabilk worked the ball quickly into their forward line, kicking a succession of three points. The Tigers eventually taking the opportunity to clear the ball with Hunter kicking into the centre of the ground. Angus, having run hard, took a rest and Toby J took to the field. Several under 9's and 10's players (Darby, Hudson, Toby G, Ollie, Toby J, Angus) stepping up to help the side again. Tyler ran hard, changing position, being given the task of containing Tabilk's best player. The Tigers working well as a team to contain Tabilk and limit their scoring opportunities. The half time message was more of the same - man up, run hard, support each other and continue

Hunter rucked strongly and took a great mark in the centre. He kicked long with Jack J running hard to defend the ball, and taking a strong mark across the back line, defended another goal. Ollie stood tall in defence, constantly working to gain possession and stop Tabilk's run to goal. Sienna worked to gain possession and Hunter took two strong marks in the back line. Max stepped forward to take a turn in the ruck for the first time and showed some great skills tapping the ball and working himself into the contest. Lucas, Sammy, Cooper, and Jackson all putting in great effort at the ball. Tyler ran all quarter, trying hard at every opportunity to get the ball, kicking Yea back into the centre. The Tigers really demonstrating improvement in so many areas across the ground.

Coaches Cam and Marc again emphasised how impressed they were with the Tigers effort at the ball and across the ground, giving it their all. The message was continue to give 100% for the final quarter. Max G with much improved confidence asked to step into the ruck for the final quarter and Hunter moving to the back line saw a big change to the lineup. Max tapping to Flynn who moved the ball to centre half forward. Tabilk defended well and quickly drove the ball into their forward line, putting the Tigers defence under pressure. Jack J and Tyler worked endlessly in defence, supported by Ollie who was reliable all day. Sienna worked hard to win possession of the ball from the bottom of the pack and she cleared it to her teammates. The Tigers tried hard all day and showed some great skills and improved movement of the ball all game. Coaches Cam and Marc were impressed by their efforts and increasing ability in all positions. Well done to all players on a great game. Keep playing like this and a win will not be far away.

Awards: Marmalades Player of the Day - Jack Johnston. Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved - Max Geeson.

#### Under 14 Tabilk 5.0-30 defeated Yea 8.8-56

On Sunday, July 16 the Yea Tigers U14's challenged Tabilk in Nagambie. The team came out firing in the first quarter but Tabilk then responded in the second quarter. The Tigers got stronger in the second half defeating Tabilk. This week we head to Alexandra to challenge the top of the ladder.

Awards: Jack Mullis and Harry Dignam.