

The Yea Chronicle

PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

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

Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, June 3, 2026 \$2.50 inc. GST

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UFO Meeting at Highlands



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Foundation Murrindindi receives \$145,620 donation for Bushfire Recovery

FOUNDATION Murrindindi has gratefully received a donation of \$145,620 to the Murrindindi Disaster Fund following the hugely successful *Rise From The Ashes* concert held in Yarck on March 7.

The fundraising event, organised by local Terip and Yarck residents Chris Sharman and daughter Chloe with support from the Frankston Bombers Football Netball Club, brought communities together in support of people impacted by the devastating Longwood bushfire in north east Victoria.

Event organiser Chris Sharman said the success of the concert reflected a shared commitment to helping communities recover.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support shown by everyone who contributed to the *Rising From The Ashes* concert," Mr Sharman said.

"From performers and volunteers to sponsors and community members who attended or donated, people came together with a shared vision of supporting bushfire-affected communities and helping them recover for the long term."

Funds raised through the event were originally intended to be distributed in collaboration with local CFA brigades. Following discussions with stakeholders, Foundation Murrindindi was approached to manage the distribution process through the Murrindindi Disaster Fund to ensure the funds could be directed efficiently and equitably to communities most affected by the fires.

Foundation Murrindindi Executive Officer Robyn Hill said the organisation was humbled by the generosity shown through the event.

"This extraordinary contribution reflects the compassion and community spirit that emerges during difficult times. We sincerely thank everyone involved in organising the concert and all those who donated so generously."

The funds will be distributed through the Murrindindi Disaster Fund to support bushfire-affected communities, with a focus on local recovery needs identified in partnership with community organisations and leaders.

Foundation Murrindindi is an independent charity with a long history of supporting community-led disaster recovery across the region, ensuring donations are directed where they can make the greatest impact over both the immediate and longer-term recovery journey.



Chris Sharman, Robyn Hill and Chloe Sharman. -S



The Black Dog Ride riders outside St Luke's Op Shop in Yea, where they donated blankets. More on page 12. -photo Dale McKeon, Plymouth Dale Photos

FIXING OUR DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS FAILURES

We've seen too many people cut off from communications during natural disasters - putting lives at risk. I've introduced a bill in Parliament to establish temporary disaster roaming, require 24-hour backup power for mobile towers, and support projects that boost resilience - so communities stay connected when it matters most.

Helen Haines MP

Wangaratta: 117 Murphy Street, Wangaratta | 03 5721 7077
Wodonga: 79 High Street, Wodonga | 02 6024 6284
helen.haines.mp@aph.gov.au | helenhaines.org



Varroa mite chemical resistance in Victoria

TESTING of an apiary in north east Victoria has confirmed varroa mites with resistance to pyrethroid miticide treatments. The location is understood to be in the Rural City of Benalla.

The likely pathway of the pyrethroid resistant mites into Victoria was in hives moved from interstate last year and subsequently sold to a Victorian beekeeper.

Executive Director Biosecurity Charlotte Austin said the detection of pyrethroid resistance in Victoria highlights the importance of beekeepers maintaining a close watch on miticide treatment results.

“Beekeepers are urged to regularly monitor mite levels in their hives to check that treatments are working, and rotate miticides with different chemical groups as part of best practice management.

“It is important beekeepers remain alert and let us know if their products do not appear to be working as expected,” Ms Austin said.

Early in 2026, varroa mites resistant to pyrethroid and formamidine chemicals (commonly used chemicals to control varroa mites) were detected in New South Wales and Queensland.

The pyrethroid resistant varroa mites detected in north-east Victoria are undergoing further analysis with results expected at the end of the month.

Agriculture Victoria is working collaboratively with beekeepers to ensure they

have the tools and knowledge to effectively manage Varroa mites in their apiaries.

“Victoria’s two-year Varroa Transition Program is supporting best-practice management, with Bee Biosecurity Officers and apiary inspectors available to provide practical advice.

“Our Bee Biosecurity Officers bring hands-on help and advice including surveillance techniques, chemical treatment options and how to schedule and plan for treatment,” Ms Austin said.

Victoria joined other Australian states, territories and industries in transitioning from eradication to management of Varroa mite based on the National Management Group decision in 2023.

The Victorian Government’s commitment to strong biosecurity helps protect communities, food supply and everyday life for Victorians.

More information is available on Agriculture Victoria’s varroa mite current situation page and the Australian Honey Bee Industry Council website at honeybee.org.au



THUMBS DOWN: To barking dogs, causing anxiety and stress to neighbours simply wanting to enjoy peace and quiet in their own homes. Please control your pet’s barking behaviour. It’s called responsible pet ownership. Don’t leave them home alone only to annoy the neighbours. Thank you.

THUMBS DOWN: To Vic Roads and Murrindindi Shire Council for failing to act on the neglected and deplorable state of disrepair of the safety barriers lining the middle of the Goulburn Valley Highway between Yea and Molesworth.

THUMBS UP: To the Yea Men’s Shed on their amazing coordinated response in assisting our fire affected community with much needed material support over many weeks. Well done Shedders.

THUMBS DOWN: To Yea Garden Club in expecting to raise \$70,000 from the community during this current economic climate to restore a non-typical memorial water fountain that was bought 98 years ago for 200 pounds, the money being the Ideal Town prize. Surely there are other priorities.

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

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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Independently owned and operated with no association with any other media outlet in the Murrindindi Shire.

FYI ERV joins EMV under EMC BTW

EMERGENCY Recovery Victoria (ERV) has joined Emergency Management Victoria (EMV).

The Emergency Management Commissioner (EMC) Tim Wiebusch said of the change, “The transition will better integrate relief and recovery operations and initiatives within the broader emergency management system at a local, regional, and state level. Victorians affected by the summer bushfires can rest assured knowing that recovery services will continue to be delivered at the same level.”

Emergency Recovery Victoria (ERV) is expected to be fully integrated into Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) by June 30. There will be no reduction to frontline staff.

This integration brings the functions of ERV in alignment with legislative powers of EMC with the ERV CEO becoming a Deputy Commissioner (Relief and Recovery) reporting directly to the EMC.

The EMC has legislated responsibility to lead and coordinate recovery, including the activities of all agencies and organisations for all emergencies under the State Emergency Management Plan.

EMV will continue to support all communities and councils to ensure recovery is seamlessly coordinated and delivered. This includes across the Community Recovery Officers, Recovery Hubs, and the Clean-up Program while the Emergency Recovery Hotline on 1800 560 760 will also remain open.

COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 88.9	Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9	Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5	Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

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

MONTHLY

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

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

For a \$5 annual fee for one line, your club or organisation’s regular meeting dates will be listed each week. Not only is this a reminder to your regular members but also a good source of what groups are available in the community, when they meet and a contact phone number.

Weekly Weather
June 3rd - June 9, 2026

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	7	12	Wednesday	7	13
Thursday	6	10	Thursday	6	11
Friday	6	11	Friday	5	12
Saturday	7	13	Saturday	6	14
Sunday	6	14	Sunday	6	15
Monday	7	14	Monday	7	14
Tuesday	10	15	Tuesday	10	15

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ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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

Letters **must be 300 words or less**. We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.

All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.

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RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon (TW)	7.00AM Mon	1.15	steady	below flood level
Rubicon River at Rubicon	8.00AM Mon	0.52	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	7.00AM Mon	0.61	steady	below flood level
Home Creek at Yarck	7.30AM Mon	0.16	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.27AM Mon	0.51	steady	below flood level
Murrindindi River Above Colwells	2.00AM Mon	0.27	steady	
Yea R at Old Killingworth Rd	7.00AM Mon	0.62	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	7.00AM Mon	3.24	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	7.00AM Mon	0.42	steady	below flood level
Goulburn River at Trawool	8.00AM Mon	0.73	steady	below flood level
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	7.00AM Mon	0.32	steady	below flood level
Goulburn River at Seymour	7.00AM Mon	0.99	steady	below flood level
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	8.00AM Mon	0.79	steady	

***ISSUED AT 8.54 AM AEDT MONDAY 1 JUNE 2026**

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	10mm
Buxton	20mm
Eildon (AWS)	9mm
Flowerdale	9mm
Jamieson	36mm
Kinglake	17mm
Lake Eildon	13mm
Mansfield	4mm
Taggerty	14mm
Yarck	5mm
Yea	2mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	269.49m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	40.6%
Metres below full supply	19.41m
Daily inflow	1000ML
Release	1000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	51%

The Yea Chronicle

DEADLINES

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

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on 5772 1002 or reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

We thank you for your continued support

Menzies aged care services to transfer to Omnia

MENZIES Support Services has announced that Omnia Community Health will assume responsibility for the direct delivery of home and community-based aged care services in Murrindindi Shire on July 1, 2026. NDIS services will remain with Menzies.

The change was described as an important step to ensure the long-term sustainability of these services locally.

After more than 45 years in the sector, Menzies Support Services said that the transition is a proactive decision to safeguard the continuity and quality of care for local aged care clients into the future.

Omnia Community Health, formerly Nexus, already delivers services across Hume, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie local government areas. With established locations in Broadford, Kinglake, Kilmore, Kyneton, Romsey, Seymour, Sunbury and Wallan, Omnia has a strong presence and experience in delivering high-quality, community-based care.

Acting CEO/Operations Manager Kellie Fielder at Menzies said the decision reflects a commitment to ensuring clients continue to receive reliable support.

"This transition is about securing the future of aged care services in our community. We are proud of our long history and deeply value the trust our clients have placed in us. Omnia Community Health shares our commitment to person-centred care, and we are confident they will continue to deliver the high standard of service our community expects."

The transition will maintain continuity of care for clients, with Menzies and Omnia working closely to ensure services remain consistent and responsive throughout the process.

Staff currently delivering home and community-based aged care services will be invited to submit an expression of interest for roles with Omnia Community

Health, providing an opportunity to continue supporting local clients under the new arrangement.

David Wild, CEO of Omnia Community Health, said the organisation was committed to the importance of investing in and supporting the local workforce.

"We recognise the skill, experience and local connections that the current Menzies staff have, and we are pleased to be able to create opportunities for staff to continue delivering care within their local communities. Our focus is on ensuring the continuity of high-quality, person-centred care for those currently receiving in-home and community based aged care services."

This planned transition reflects broader sector changes and the importance of strong, sustainable service models in regional communities.

Menzies Support Services remains committed to supporting the Murrindindi community through its ongoing disability and community programs, while working collaboratively with Omnia Community Health to ensure a smooth and positive transition for all involved.

Speaking about the change, Menzies Support Services Acting CEO Kellie Fielder said, "Omnia and Menzies are strongly committed to ensuring a sustainable and seamless transition to support continuity of services for our clients. Our number one priority is making sure clients are supported from June 30 through to July 1 as smoothly as possible."

Kellie added, "Omnia is keen to retain as many existing staff-client relationships as possible. An expression of interest process has been made available exclusively to Menzies staff who are interested in transitioning to Omnia."

She confirmed that an all-staff meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon, with the

public announcement made on Wednesday. Representatives from Omnia, including CEO David Wild and Executive Director - Community Care Michelle Pasic, attended a meeting with aged care staff on Wednesday alongside Menzies Committee President David Beattie and Acting CEO Kellie Fielder. Staff were encouraged to ask questions and seek clarification during the session.

Menzies currently has approximately 19 staff working in the aged care service, including a mix of part-time, casual, and a small number of full-time employees.

Under the transition arrangements, staff employment with Menzies will conclude on June 30, with all entitlements paid out in accordance with legislative and industrial obligations. From July 1, those who accept roles with Omnia will commence employment with the new provider.

Kellie acknowledged that the announcement has come as a significant adjustment for staff, stating, "It has been a big shock. We've had ongoing conversations with staff, provided follow-up support, and reminded everyone of the Employee Assistance Program."

She added, "We are very committed to ensuring this transition is as smooth as possible for both clients and staff."

For NDIS services, Kellie confirmed there will be no change, stating, "It is business as usual. I'm aware there have been some rumours, however Menzies is not closing down."

In closing, Kellie said, "The committee has not taken this decision lightly, but it is a necessary step to sustainably ensure services continue to be available for our ageing population."

Omnia CEO David Wild said, "I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution Menzies Support Services has made to the community over more than 45 years, and the thoughtful and proactive approach being

taken to ensure the ongoing sustainability of local aged care services. This announcement reflects a strong commitment to maintaining continuity and quality of care for clients across the shire.

"On behalf of Omnia Community Health, I want to express our appreciation for the collaborative and constructive engagement to date.

"We are committed to working closely with Menzies and partners across the network to support a smooth and positive transition for clients, staff and the broader community.

"Our focus will be on maintaining continuity of care, supporting the local workforce, and ensuring that services remain person-centred, accessible and responsive to community need.

"I look forward to continuing to work together with colleagues across the Murrindindi Shire as this transition progresses."

Sad news about missing person

POLICE will prepare a report for the Coroner following the discovery of a man's body inside a vehicle in Fernshaw on the Black Spur on Sunday, May 31.

Officers were patrolling the area when they observed a vehicle down an embankment just off the Maroondah Highway around 10.30am.

The body, which is yet to be formally identified, is believed to be that of missing 96 year old man Hoey Kou (David). The death is not being treated as suspicious.

Our condolences to the man's family and friends.

Creeds Rd, Cummins Rd and Wilhelmina Falls roadworks

MURRINDINDI Shire Council's contractors will be conducting important flood recovery works to repair damaged culverts and roads sustained in the January 2024 Floods.

Works started on Monday, June 1, with Murrindindi's Creeds Road, Cummins Road and Wilhelmina Falls Road, all impacted. Works on all roads are expected to be completed by July 31, subject to weather conditions and may change accordingly.

The roads will remain open however traffic delays are expected. Temporary traffic management will be in place, including 40 km/h speed limits and partial road closures with no alternative routes available. Motorists are advised to allow extra travel time and take care when travelling through the area.

Fire-impacted volunteers and community members recognition events

FROM June, Murrindindi Shire Council will host a series of local community gatherings in Terip Terip, Highlands, Yarck and Fawcett to thank and recognise the extraordinary efforts of volunteers and community members in fire-affected areas during and after the January 2026 bushfires.

Everyone is invited to attend these gatherings, which will celebrate the strength, teamwork and capability of our local communities. The events will include food and music, opportunities to connect, and the presentation of a community plaque acknowledging local volunteer efforts.

Murrindindi Shire Mayor Cr Damien Gallagher is encouraging everyone to head along and show their appreciation for the people whose efforts, generosity

and community spirit have helped carry Murrindindi through one of the toughest periods in our history.

"These gatherings are intended not only to recognise the extraordinary efforts of our volunteers and community members, but also to provide an opportunity for people to connect, reflect on what they have experienced, and acknowledge the ongoing recovery journey," Cr Gallagher said.

"Council recognises that many in our community continue to face challenges, and we want to ensure these events create a respectful and supportive space to honour that shared experience and the support that continues across our communities."

Everyone is also invited to recognise the bushfire volunteers and community

members across the shire by sharing a message or story through council's online Volunteer Recognition Wall, where they can record their own experiences or the contributions of others at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/recognition26

Volunteering does not stop for a single week. New volunteers are needed now more than ever, particularly in the bushfire-impacted areas, where many people are exhausted after going above and beyond, often taking on far more than would normally be expected in a typical year.

Council has more information about volunteering opportunities at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/projects/volunteerhub

The vital work of the Yea Cancer Charity

SIMONE Sier from the Yea Cancer Charity gives \$1000 to anyone in Murrindindi Shire who has a cancer diagnosis, with numerous people being helped out multiple times.

Having funds available is such an important thing when a cancer diagnosis is received, as all of the different medical treatments can end up costing a lot. There can also be some extensive travel costs, with some people needing to travel to Melbourne for radiation five days a week.

She commented however that the charity has been "pretty quiet of late" as they haven't been getting many doctor referrals, as happened in the past.

"A lot of it's been word of mouth," she said, "And people who have cancer don't know that we've been helping."

The Yea Cancer Charity was originally created in 2011 with two local ladies, Jan Tull and Julie McLean. They used to donate \$250 to people that were diagnosed and Simone took it over in 2016 when Jan left Yea. Simone has lost many family members and friends to the disease.

During the first fundraiser, they raised over \$30,000 at the Shire Hall for a Collingwood

night, and payments were increased as a result, starting with \$500 and then increased to \$1000 per patient.

Since the start, the charity has given out an amazing \$142,000, and at the last fundraiser, they raised \$36,416 on Oaks Day 2024 at the racecourse. That was their biggest fundraiser so far.

There was no fundraiser for the charity last year as one of Simone's friends had been diagnosed with terminal cancer so Simone's focus was on that. This year however, they are looking at doing Oaks Day again.

They also have a lady, who chooses to remain anonymous, who donates upwards of \$7000 each year to the charity and has done so for about seven years. Sedona Estate also donates cartons of wine for every fundraiser that they hold each year. If anyone has any items to donate to the auction, this would be most welcome.

People can attend the upcoming event, or they can contact Simone directly if they would like to make a financial donation. Local community groups and businesses also support the cause.

She commented that when she received the Australia Day Award in 2022, many people at the breakfast didn't even know that the charity existed, and Simone found that people were coming up and putting money in the tin, keen to donate.

For the recipients, anonymity is always guaranteed, and people can also refer people that they know. Simone said, "I'm the only one who knows." The money is transferred via direct deposit after a few questions are asked to ensure that it's legitimate. She also needs to do an annual statement to the government to advise where the funds went.

Simone explained that the funds generally go toward helping people to pay their treatment, such as chemotherapy. She added, "At the moment we're happy to help out anybody that's sort of doing it tough with any cancer diagnosis."

She was also pleased that there is a new cancer treatment capability at Alexandra District Health, which will remove some of the travel pressures.

Simone can be contacted at yeacancercharity@gmail.com or by calling 0419 386 208.

End of Financial Year Reminder (for pensioners & soon-to-be retirees)

If you're thinking about getting your affairs in order before 30 June, pre-paying a funeral can be a practical option — and for many people it doesn't count toward the Centrelink assets test.
(there are some exceptions)

One option is a secured funeral bond, held with a regulated friendly society where you can set aside money specifically for funeral costs.

The amount that can be exempt is capped at the government-set threshold currently \$15,750

If you'd like a free, no-obligation information pack, contact us at anytime.

General information only — everyone's situation is different. If you're unsure, check with Services Australia or your adviser.



FINAL EMBRACE
FUNERALS
PH: 5756 3740

info@finalebracefunerals.com.au

Ruffy community gathers for Thank You Lunch to acknowledge bushfire support

LAST Sunday, from 12 to 3pm at the Tablelands Fire Recovery Hub in Ruffy, over 200 members of the community gathered for a Thank You Lunch to acknowledge the support and assistance given to them both during and in the aftermath of the Longwood bushfire.

Attendees enjoyed a multi-course lunch and live music in a long marquee that stands outside the hub, as well as under the autumn leaves in the yard behind the hall.

Short speeches were made by Colleen Furlanetto and Anne Leadbeater, to acknowledge the immense support in recovery and the efforts of volunteers and emergency services.

Darryl King and Pauline Macdowell from the Murrindindi and Woodbourne Community Hub presented the Ruffy Community Hub with a cheque for \$10,000, as a way of returning their support from the Black Saturday bushfires in 2009.



Darryl King and Pauline Macdowell from the Murrindindi and Woodbourne Community Hub presenting a cheque for \$10,000 to Colleen Furlanetto and the Ruffy Community Hub. -BD



Some of the food available for the Thank You Lunch. -BD



Part of the Thank You Lunch under the autumn trees behind the Ruffy hall. -BD



Over 200 Ruffy community members turned out to say thank you for the support post-bushfires. -BD

Twelve charged over campfires in Victoria's north-east

THE Conservation Regulator has charged 12 people after campfires were found burning on Total Fire Ban days in Victoria's north-east last summer.

The charges relate to incidents on February 5 and 7, 2026, when a Total Fire Ban was in force across the local fire district due to dangerous fire conditions.

Conservation Regulator Authorised Officers detected the campfires during patrols on public land.

Four men have been charged over a campfire at Running Creek Campground in the Mansfield State Forest on February 5.

Three men have been charged after a campfire and charcoal camp cooker were found burning at the Island Campsite in the Delatite Arm Reserve on February 5. A 17 year old male who was at the site has also been issued with an official warning.

Three men and two women have been charged over a campfire at a campsite north of Raids Inlet at Lake Eildon on February 7.

Each person has been charged with a single offence related to keeping a fire alight in the open air during a Total Fire Ban.

The charges follow a Shepparton man being convicted and fined \$5000 in the Mansfield Magistrates' Court last month for lighting a campfire at Lake Eildon during a statewide Total Fire Ban on December 26, 2024.

The Conservation Regulator conducts targeted patrols in camping areas across Victoria over summer to reduce bushfire risk and protect communities and the environment.

Campers are responsible for knowing whether a Total Fire Ban is in place, before lighting a campfire.

Total Fire Ban declarations are available via the VicEmergency website and app or through the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

Lighting a fire on a Total Fire Ban day can result in significant penalties, including fines of up to \$48,842 and up to two years in jail.

Conservation Regulator Hume Manager of Regulatory Operations Greg Chant said on the issue, "Total Fire Bans are declared to protect the community and the environment, when hot and windy conditions can allow embers from even small fires to spread quickly and ignite new fires in the landscape.

"Under Total Fire Ban conditions, lighting fires in the open air is illegal as it puts lives, property, and the environment at serious risk."

Out&About

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

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

100 lap derby and standard saloon cup is on Saturday and Sunday, racing starts at 1pm at Alexandra Speedway.

Alexandra Timber Tramway is open Saturday and Sunday from 10am-3.30pm both days. Diesel and stream train rides.

Marysville Winterfest is on at Burrengeen Park Marysville from 4-7.30pm. There is a lantern walk at 5.15pm. Live music, fire spinner, bubbles, face painting, barbecue or bring your own.

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

2026 Alexandra Truck Ute and Rod Show. Trucks, rods, music, amusements, food and much more.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9

Eildon/Alexandra Mens Shed AGM will be held at 1pm at McKenzie Street, Alexandra.

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

CFA Molesworth Biannual election and AGM will be held at 8am at the Molesworth Fire Station.

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Don't miss the new musical by Steve Paix. Mr Pres!!!! The Fake Musical. 2pm at The Memo, Healesville. yarranges.vic.gov.au/culturetracks or phone 1300 368 333.

Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

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

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND 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 Sunday Service 10.30am Colin Whiteway Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

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

Local recipients of FRRR grants

THE Foundation Rural Regional Renewal (FRRR) has awarded \$1,148,973 in grants for 79 locally led projects that will empower very remote, remote, rural and regional communities to be more vibrant, resilient, sustainable and self-sufficient.

Funded through FRRR's Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program, the grants are awarded to not-for-profit organisations (NFPs) to deliver locally driven solutions that strengthen economies, address service gaps and build resilience in remote, rural and regional communities.

The latest round of funding supports a diverse mix of projects that foster resilience, social connection and local capacity, helping communities embrace new opportunities while addressing challenges such as housing, food security, equitable access to education, social isolation, disasters and climate events, and the preservation of cultural and community assets.

Locally, \$5888 in funding was received by Diamond Valley Community Support Inc in Kinglake for *Breakdown the Digital Barrier!* The project will empower older residents by improving digital literacy, fostering safe

online practices and strengthening social connections through in-person guidance.

Buxton Progress Assoc Inc received \$16,352 for *Additional Breathing Apparatus for Buxton Fire Brigade*. This will support health and wellbeing and improve response times by providing breathing apparatus to local fire brigade.

Gnarly Neighbours Inc received \$25,000 for *Youth Disaster Resilience and Community Recovery*. The project will support young people in Seymour and surrounds (including Alexandra) to improve their mental health and wellbeing after COVID-19 and disasters through youth wellbeing activities.

Ruffy Mechanics Institute Reserve Inc received \$25,000 for *3R's: Ruffy Restore and Reconnect*. It will safeguard a local meeting place by upgrading an electrical switchboard and installing air conditioning in a community hall in a bushfire-impacted region.

Yea and District Memorial Hospital received \$25,000 for *Health on the Move - Rural Outreach Clinics* to foster health and wellbeing following the Longwood fires by delivering free outreach clinics providing preventative physical and mental health screenings.

Annual UFO Meeting at Highlands Hall for Yea Yakkers

LAST weekend saw the Yea Yacker's annual UnFinished Objects (UFO) Meeting at the Highlands Hall. Running across both Saturday and Sunday, the event is in its 20th year and gives people the opportunity to work in a group setting on unfinished projects, including quilting, cross stitch, embroidery, etcetera.

Event coordinator Pauline Roberts said that people had travelled from as far as Hill End, Gippsland, Wantirna, the Yarra Valley, Seymour, Kinglake, etcetera, from various patchwork groups. Around 30 people attended on Saturday, and another dozen plus on Sunday.

During the aftermath of the Longwood bushfire, the groups donated around 170 quilts to fire-affected people, including 70 in the Highlands. They also ran a raffle, with the funds being donated to Highlands CFA, Caveat CFA, and Terip Terip CFA. They presented the money to Highlands CFA Captain David Webb last Sunday.

Morning tea was held to accompany the craftwork, with various ladies bringing their specialty items, such as sponge cake, scones, etcetera.



It wasn't just quilting happening at the meeting, but other forms of craft, like embroidery. -BD



The ladies travelled from all over the place to attend the UFO Meeting. -BD



The group donated the money raised in their raffle to the local CFA brigades. Pictured are Kathleen Williams, Highlands CFA Captain David Webb, and Doreen Brooks. -BD



The patchwork groups donated around 170 quilts to fire-affected people after the Longwood bushfire. -BD



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Speak to a registered nurse, 24/7, for free advice on any non-emergency health concern.

For more information visit www.medicare.gov.au/1800




Australian Government

Funding available for drought preparedness projects

MORE than \$3 million in grants is now available to empower eligible agriculture-dependent communities to prepare for drought by building and maintaining their social resilience.

This is the second round of funding to be delivered by Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) through the *Future Drought Fund's (FDF) Communities Program*, which is funded by the Australian Government.

Grants are available to local not-for-profit organisations (NFPs) for projects that establish and grow community networks, increase local collaboration and engagement,

share knowledge and develop leadership skills, or upgrade small-scale community infrastructure.

There is \$1 million available in Small Network Grants of up to \$50,000 to support agriculture-dependent communities within 314 Local Government Areas (LGAs), including Murrindindi Shire.

FRRR encourages groups to contact the team to discuss their project idea. Applications are currently open and close on June 30 at 5pm. Funding will be announced late October. Learn more by visiting frrr.org.au/funding/fdf-communities

Low opening seasonal water determination

ON June 1, Lake Eildon was hovering around 40 per cent capacity. Goulburn-Murray Water River Operations Manager Andrew Shields commented, "Inflows to Lake Eildon have been well below average for the last two years."

"Due to these lower water levels and inflows, water entitlement holders in the Goulburn system will likely see a low opening seasonal determination allocation when the 2026/27 water year

begins on July 1. Goulburn-Murray Water will continue to meet our water supply obligations for customers."

The latest seasonal determination outlook was released on Friday, May 15 and shows what could happen for all northern Victorian regulated river systems, including the Goulburn system, through the 2026/27 water year based on different inflow scenarios. Visit nvrn.net.au/outlooks/current-outlook

Feeder and weaner sale at Yea Saleyards

YEA Saleyards yarded approximately 3970 head of cattle last Friday for the Feeder and Weaner Sale, with multiple livestock agents represented. The average price per head for the sale was high at 601c/kg, with concerns in the industry about a dry winter leading to more cattle being sold.

Steers sold consistently, reaching a top price of \$3160 per head and top weight of 603.3kg, making for 524c/kg. Included in their ranks were several pens of Red Angus that sold well, alongside regular Black Angus.

Heifers reached \$2470 and 471.4kg, matching the price of the steers with 524c/kg. Heifer breeds included Herefords and a number of Charolais pens but were predominantly Black Angus.

Elders livestock agent Andrew Hill said that cattle sold well on the day.

"We yarded a bit over 4000 cattle. There would have been over 100 of those big 450 to 600kg steers that made over \$3000 to \$2900. Then you come down into your middle of the road steers, about 400kg, they were making about 535c/kg," Andrew said.

"There's a lot of August, September spring-drop calves that were part of the feature sale, and they sold very well. Some of those young steers sold into the 600c/kg bracket or a touch better. I thought the market might have been somewhere around 80c/kg dearer than last week with a very good run of well-bred Angus and Hereford cattle.

"You get onto the heifers, and all those heifers sort of climbed into that 500c/kg bracket where normally they've been trading in the 470c/kg or 460c/kg. But they've all sold into that \$5 per kilogram live weight and sold well.

"There's a lot of good run on those future breeder heifers and weaner cattle to go on. There was a dispersal of the Kelly Angus stud the other side of Yea that sold well. The major feed lotters were there, the major butchers were there. Cattle sold as far as Swan Hill, Bendigo, back down into Gippsland."

The next cattle sale at the Yea Saleyards is the monthly Combined Agents Store Sale this Friday, June 5.



The sale featured multiple livestock vendors, including Elders and VLP. -BD



The first row of cows and calves drew a large crowd. -BD



There were a variety of breeds of heifers available last Friday. -BD



Hereford and Charolais heifers filled a number of pens. -BD

YEA SALEYARDS STOCK REPORT 29 MAY 2026			
Feeder & Weaner Sale	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers
Number of head	3,970		
Average \$ per head	\$1,880		
Average weight per head	312.8 kg		
Top price per head		\$3,160	\$2,470
Top weight		603.3 kg	471.4 kg
Turnover	\$7.48 million		

Government rejects recommendation to cap number of guns: Firearms Rapid Review

SIXTEEN recommendations were made in the *Rapid Review into Victoria's Firearm Laws* report, with the review's findings and the state government's response made public last Monday, May 25.

The review was conducted by former police commissioner Ken Lay following the Bondi terror attack of last year. It received more than 500 written submissions and conducted in-person consultations with stakeholders.

The state government has accepted 15 of those recommendations but chose to reject recommendation one, that suggested "introducing a cap of up to four firearms (per individual category A and B) license holder."

The report says in its key findings to support recommendation one, "the average Victorian firearm owner holds four firearms, noting that many licence holders do not own any firearms" and "a nationally consistent approach supports consideration of firearm caps, while allowing Victoria to respond to its specific community safety, economic and environmental context".

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) Acting President Peter Star has welcomed the Victorian Government's decision not to proceed with a cap on firearm numbers for primary producers, describing it as a sensible and practical outcome for Victorian farmers who use firearms as an agricultural tool of trade.

"Victorian farmers use firearms as an essential tool of trade for pest animal control, livestock protection and maintaining out leading animal welfare and biosecurity standards," Mr Star said.

"The decision not to introduce an arbitrary cap on firearm numbers is a sensible one that acknowledges the operational needs of primary producers.

"Farmers understand the importance of responsible firearm ownership and maintaining strong safety standards. It's not lost on us the reason why these reforms were flagged in the first place and we fully back the need to keep the community safe.

"However, any new requirements around licensing, storage, training or compliance must be practical, proportionate and workable for people living and working in regional and rural Victoria."

The state government's rejection of recommendation one of the review means that the Australian states and territories are split. New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory and Western Australia have all implemented caps, while Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory and now Victoria haven't.

Other recommendations made in the review were accepted by the government, stretching from legislative change to the *Firearms Act 1996 (Vic)* to more information sharing around risk-based decision making.

The government will update firearm categories so that higher-risk firearms are appropriately classified, consider strengthening oversight across the full licence lifecycle, and consider strengthening the use

of criminal intelligence in firearms licensing and prohibition decisions.

Of particular note is recommendation four, which suggests the state government "consider limiting eligibility of firearm licences to Australian citizens, or New Zealand citizens with permanent residency in Australia."

The government accepted this recommendation and will be seeking to introduce a citizenship requirement for gun holders through legislative changes.

Several of these recommendations are being progressed through legislation now. The state government will consider the review's other recommendations requiring legislative change, while the Department of Justice and Community Safety will lead the work to acquire the recommendations that do not require legislative reform.

To read the full *Rapid Review of Victoria's Firearm Laws* report and view the state government's response, visit tinyurl.com/55km6522



Speeding? Expect a minimum fine of \$254.

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



King's Birthday

Long Weekend

Winter hits different at Lake Mountain

WINTER is back and so is the winter wonderland of Lake Mountain Alpine Resort.

Just a short drive from Marysville, Lake Mountain Alpine Resort is gearing up for another season of snow-filled fun, family adventures, and that first-time-in-the-snow feeling that never gets old.

From family-friendly toboggan runs to wide open snow play areas surrounded by

alpine forest, Lake Mountain remains one of the easiest ways to experience snow in Victoria. No ski pass stress, no experience needed. Just show up, layer up, and let the excitement take over.

This season, the mountain comes to life in a more playful way than ever, with a comic-inspired campaign led by Lenny, Lake Mountain's leadbeater's possum mascot. From tobogganing to snowball fights, Lenny

brings a fun, imaginative twist to the winter experience and helps tell the story of a mountain that doesn't take itself too seriously.

Beyond the fun, Lake Mountain continues to highlight the importance of respecting and caring for the alpine environment. The region is home to unique native wildlife and delicate ecosystems, and visitors are encouraged to enjoy the snow responsibly while helping preserve the natural landscape.

Whether it's kids racing down toboggan runs, building a snowman for the first

time, or spotting Lenny's world brought to life in comic, Lake Mountain Alpine Resorts is where simple moments turn into lasting memories.

As the snow returns and the mountain comes alive again, Lake Mountain is ready to welcome visitors back over the King's Birthday long weekend, from June 6, for another season of big smiles, and the opportunity to experience a winter wonderland.

Marysville Winterfest

Saturday 6th June
Burrengeen Park
4:00-7:30
Lantern walk: 5:15
Live music - Fire spinner - Bubbles -
Workshop - Face Painting - Fundraiser BBQ
Or BYO





WINTER SEASON

Spend a day at Lake Mountain with your family and make the most of the winter season!



Wheee! This is amazing!

From thrilling toboggan runs and cross-country skiing to scenic snow walks, there's something for everyone.



Cross-country skiing is great exercise!

Come join us this winter. With snowmen to build and snowball fights to win!



Take that! Snowball fight!



Today we have Lenny the Leadbeater's possum!



Hi, my name is Lenny and my family are endangered

AND SO...



WINTER



Come meet me at Lake Mountain



MASCOTE
THE LEADBEATER POSSUM



The Leadbeater's possum is a tiny, critically endangered marsupial found only in Victoria, Australia.

They are called 'Fairy Possums'.

LENNY OUR HERO!

HOORAY FOR LENNY!

VISIT LAKE MOUNTAIN TO SEE LENNY

See you on the 6th of June.

LEADBEATER'S SOCIETY IS RUN BY FEMALES.

THE END

Scan me and book now!





King's Birthday Long Weekend

Truck show ready to roll on June 7

THE 29th annual Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show will be held on Sunday, June 7, during the King's Birthday long weekend.

Organiser Andrew Embling said that this year's show is "looking to be about the same size as last year, but you never know, we just might get a few more trucks come along."

He said that there have been many enquiries about truck entries for this year.

There's also a great music line-up, including Darren Maddock from Albury who will be on the stage two or three times throughout the day, and Kane Vincent with his band

Slow Burn. They'll be entertaining people throughout the day.

There will also be the ever-popular auction. Last year, the auction raised funds for the Murrindindi Health bus, which had a very timely launch, just days before the Longwood fire. This year, the auction will be raising funds for fire relief and mental health support, including the upcoming *Comedy and Conversations* events, with the first to be held in Yarck in July.

Andrew commented that supporting mental health and wellbeing is so important going into winter.

The auction items include a split system, a bed and breakfast weekend, car and truck fridges, chopping boards, clothing and scroll gates. He said that there are expected to be around 80 to 90 items. The auction starts at 2pm.

The wood chopping will be held in Rotary Park, with around 35 axemen already booked. Laurence O'Toole senior and junior will both be competing, along with Dylan Rowe and local Jason Kirley. There will also be around six axemen from the Coffey family, in the juniors and seniors. There will be an axeman coming from Tasmania, a couple from NSW and a lot from Victoria.

There will also be amusements at side show alley, just like every year.

There will be traffic management controlling the traffic as people cross over Grant Street, and the shops will all be open. Local food vendors will be in around the Alexandra Shire Hall area, with stallholders including local kindergarten, schools and fire brigades. The CWA will also be there, and the scouts will be doing the raffle. The first prize in the raffle is a Mercedes Sports car for the weekend from Brighton Mercedes. The winner will pick the car up and go down to Sorrento for a night at the Sorrento Hotel, before returning the car to Berwick the next day. The prize is valued around about \$2500. The second prize is a \$1000 fuel voucher and \$1000 voucher for FoodWorks, and the third prize is shortbread biscuits, pasta and flour from Bill Quail who was one of the major

suppliers of all those sorts of items going out to all of the community houses.

There's plenty for people to do, so head along, and of course it's all free of charge.

On the Saturday night prior to the truck show, on June 6, there will be a dinner for all of the show's sponsors, held at the Alexandra Shire Hall.

The truck run will also be on Saturday, June 6, starting at Yarck. There will be a barbecue in Yarck before the truck run in the car park behind the Giddy Goat. The trucks will then head to Alexandra at noon in a convoy and do a lap of the town before parking up at Rotary Park. "We're certainly looking forward to having a lot of trucks in the truck convoy," Andrew said.



Some of the crowd at the 2024 truck show. -AR

Marysville Winterfest

MARYSVILLE Winterfest returns this June, bringing light and warmth to the heart of winter. Held in Burrengeen Park, the event features live entertainment, fire pits, kids activities and a welcoming community atmosphere.

The highlight is the lantern parade, where glowing creations circle the lake at dusk, creating a magical experience for all ages.

Alexandra

29TH ANNUAL

TRUCK

UTE & ROD

SHOW

FREE ENTRY

LIVE MUSIC

- LIVE MUSIC
- EXHIBITIONS & TRADE DISPLAYS
- WOODCHOP
- MAJOR AUCTION
- CHILDREN'S AMUSEMENTS
- SHOPS OPEN

HELD ON BITUMEN IN ALEXANDRA'S MAIN STREET

SUNDAY

7 JUNE 2026

GORDON SIMPSON 0409 577 212
ANDREW EMBLING 0418 266 038
ALEXANDRATRUCKSHOW.COM.AU

Open letter from Kinglake Friends of the Forest

LED by residents of the Kinglake region, over 200 people from bushfire risk areas have written to the Victorian Premier calling for an end to the current planned burning program. 176 of the signatories are residents of Kinglake region, and 44 signatories are from other bushfire risk areas. Although only signatories from the Kinglake region were sought, nearly 100 urban residents have added their names in support.

Kinglake Friends of the Forest drafted the open letter with other members of the community at a town hall meeting last year.

The letter urges the government to heed the evidence in several

independent studies by the Australian National University and Curtin University, as well as the state's own commissions and inquiries that raise serious issues with the current burning program.

The letter includes the statements, "We hope never to experience another catastrophic bushfire like 2009. But we must be prepared. That is why we are writing to implore you to urgently update Victoria's bushfire mitigation practices in line with recent science and new technology. We are deeply concerned that the current planned burning regime is not effective, is endangering threatened species and it is harming public health."

It further states, "The rationale that underpins the current planned burning regime is based on an outdated theory that forests become more flammable as they age. Although high-quality, peer-reviewed journals have discredited this idea, FFMV appears to cherry-pick literature that relies on decades-old research and short-term data."

The open letter asks for planned burns to be replaced by a range of updated bushfire mitigation approaches including investment into rapid detection and suppression technologies.

The Bushfire Research Centre of Excellence (ANU and Optus)

states, "Bushfires are expected to cost the nation at least \$30 billion over the next three decades. Recent modelling from ANU shows investment in early bushfire detection could save Australia \$8.2 billion over the next 30 years"

Sue McKinnon, President of Kinglake Friends of the Forest, said, "In 2009 we had to evacuate, the fire turned around only three kilometres from our house. Ever since then our summers are scheduled around the weather and what needs to be done to prepare for another evacuation. It's clearly obvious to me from looking at the forest after a planned burn compared to the areas that have recovered after 2009 that planned

burns are just causing a flush of shrubs and a more flammable dryer, more open, windy, degraded forest. What I see is also reflected in current fire science which shows areas recently disturbed by planned burns are more likely to burn. On top of this, the forest is wrecked by the burns, habitat and wildlife suffers. Locals hate autumn because of the smoke that now dominates this once beautiful season. It's time the government stopped burning, started truly funding protection and heeded current science."

The letter has also been sent to the current *Inquiry into the 2026 summer fires across Victoria*.



Let's eat, it's our treat

A hearty three-course winter feast you can make at home

PICTURE this: Winter is fast approaching, and you are hosting a handful of friends for dinner. Outside, thick fog blankets the town and chill air whips through the streets. Pedestrians pull their collars up tighter against their necks and hurry onwards, eager to be near the crackling warmth of a wood fireplace.

With such a setting, what are you going to serve your guests to make them feel toasty and warm inside? Certainly not salad, or the lighter meals of summer and spring. You need hearty winter meals.

Let this three-course meal guide provide you with a starting point, or inspiration for the types of meals perfectly suited to the chilly Murrindindi climate.

Chicken and vegetable soup

A classic recipe, chicken and vegetable soup is good year-round, but it has the added benefit of warming your insides when consumed in the colder months. It can be eaten hot and then the leftovers can be frozen in glass or plastic containers, providing a meal both now and

in the future.

Ingredients: Olive oil; one leek; two garlic cloves; one carrot; two celery sticks; two zucchinis; one turnip; chicken stock; chicken breast or thighs.

Before beginning, there is a difference between store bought and homemade chicken stock. The former is easier, but homemade chicken stock adds an extra level of flavour to your chicken and vegetable soup. It takes more time, certainly, but the added flavour is the trade-off.

In terms of preparing your vegetables, peel and dice everything bar the leek and the garlic cloves. The leek should be halved and sliced thinly, and the garlic cloves crushed.

Put olive oil in a saucepan to heat, then add leek and garlic. Cook until soft.

Add the rest of your vegetables and cook for a couple of minutes to release the flavours.

Pour in eight cups of chicken stock, add your chicken pieces, and then add one cup of water. Bring the saucepan to the boil.

Once it has boiled for a minute, lower the temperature to allow the soup to simmer. Stir occasionally while letting it simmer for around an hour, or until the vegetables are nice and tender.

If the chicken hasn't fallen apart, you can remove it and let it cool, then dice it and re-add.

Serve in bowls, with a seasoning of salt and pepper if that is your preference.

Beef shepherd's pie

Shepherd's pie is another classic cold-weather meal that is relatively easy to prepare and tastes amazing. Mashed potato combined with juicy beef mince and earthy vegetables is delicious.

Ingredients: Olive oil; one brown onion; one carrot; one celery stick; two garlic cloves; beef mince; tomato paste; canned crushed tomatoes; Worcestershire sauce; beef stock; frozen peas; cheese; potatoes.

Preheat your oven to 220 degrees.

Peel, wash and chop potatoes, then add to a saucepan of boiling water. Let that boil for 20 minutes while you prepare the other ingredients.

Heat a saucepan with olive oil. Dice the carrot and celery and chop the brown onion, then add to the saucepan and cook for five minutes or so.

Add crushed garlic and cook for around 30 seconds. The mix should be nice and fragrant.

Add your beef mince and let it brown for around eight minutes, stirring with a wooden spoon to ensure it doesn't burn or stick to the bottom of the pan.

At this point, add tomato paste, the canned tomato, Worcestershire sauce and stock, and let the mixture simmer for 15 or so minutes.

Stir in your frozen peas, then let it cool for around 15 minutes.

The next step is to spoon the cooked beef and vegetable mixture into a ceramic rectangular or square baking dish. Layer the mash potato over the top and grate some cheese above that.

Bake for 10 to 15 minutes, or until the mashed potato and cheese is a lovely golden-brown colour, then serve.

Spiced rhubarb and orange puddings

To end the evening, spiced rhubarb and orange puddings add a bit of flair and panache to your three-course winter meal extravaganza. They are a small but flavourful dessert.

Ingredients: One orange; rhubarb; brown sugar; spices (cardamom, cinnamon and nutmeg); vanilla extract; self-raising flour; unsalted butter; buttermilk; caster sugar; three eggs.

The orange is the most important part of this dish and requires the most preparation to ensure it is flavoursome. Put it in a pot, cover with water and place a small plate above to make sure the orange stays submerged. Bring the pot to the boil, then reduce to a simmer and let cook for an hour and a half.

Drain the pot, slice the orange into quarters, and put it to the side to cool while you prepare the rest of the dessert.

Preheat your oven to 180 degrees, then grease six ovenproof baking dishes (around the 250ml size).

In another saucepan, add rhubarb, 220 grams of brown sugar, half a teaspoon of each of the spices, two teaspoons of vanilla extract, and a quarter cup of water. Bring the mixture to a simmer and stir it for around five minutes.

Using a food processor, put the now-cool orange pieces inside with the skin on, and operate until the orange is broken down. Add 285 grams of self-raising flour, 180 grams of butter, 250ml of buttermilk, 220 grams of caster sugar, and the three eggs. Operate the food processor until it is all mixed.

Going back to the greased baking dishes, portion out your mixture between all six, filling them to two-thirds full.

Place the baking dishes on a baking tray and cook for around 40 minutes, or until golden-brown on top. They should rise.

Dish them into bowls and cover them with the spiced rhubarb mix, which should be kept warm. The dessert is best served warm for the full experience.



Your chance to WIN a \$50 meal voucher

Name.....
 Address.....
 Phone.....
 Venue of your choice (circle your venue of choice)

Return this form by noon, Thursday, May 28 for your chance to win. Alexandra Newspapers 43 Grant Street, or PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic 3714.

LAKE EILDON HOTEL / SEDONA ESTATE

ONE ENTRY PER HOUSEHOLD
 PHOTOCOPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Winner will be notified by phone and published in the first edition of the month. T&C: Only venues advertised in this feature are eligible to be chosen. Voucher is not redeemable for cash. To be used for one purchase only. Multiple vouchers cannot be saved and used together. Staff or family of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Original form must be returned. If you do not circle your choice of venue, your entry is invalid.

PUZZLES

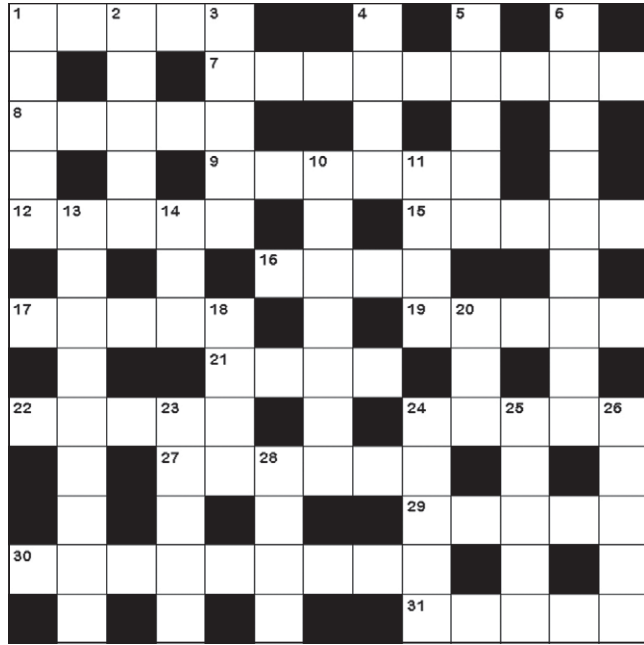
SOLUTIONS
Page 12

KID'S PUZZLES

Crossword

ACROSS

- Small helpful suggestions or pieces of advice.
- Of chief concern and importance.
- A small donkey used as a pack animal.
- Refuse to accept or acknowledge.
- A weak chirping sound, as of a small bird.
- Boat permitting water to penetrate.
- A small coffee-house or teashop.
- Scatter or spread about over a surface.
- Transport from one place to another.
- An image used as an object of worship.
- Rough or surly in manner and speech.
- Dressed in out of fashion clothes.
- A person who holds a property by lease.
- A crown-like headdress worn by women.
- A person acting in the place of another.
- Used to prime a violin bow for the best sound.



- Occupation of athletes who compete for pay.
- An imitation of the genuine article.
- An established line of travel or access.
- Uttered a snide, slightly stifled laugh.
- Consumed with envy over another's success.
- Musical symbol indicating the pitch of the notes.
- A river cascading over a steep precipice.
- The period immediately before something.
- A man's partner in marriage.
- An exaggerated sense of self-importance.
- Group of vehicles operating under one ownership.
- Use fear to discourage or prevent an action.
- Enfolds completely with a cover for protection.
- Have a strong emotional longing for.
- To dig a well in the earth.

DOWN

- A established custom that is hard to give up.
- A person trained to care for the sick or infirm.

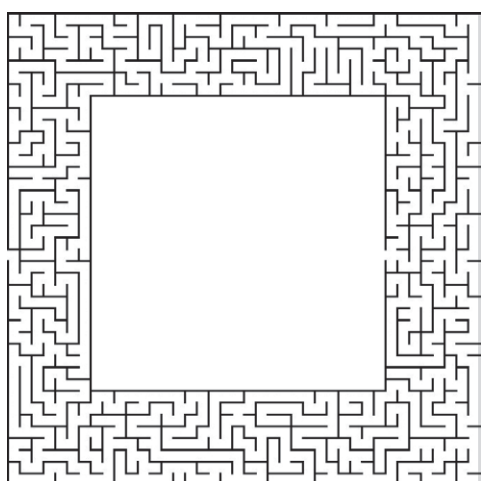
Word Search

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

Girls names

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| ALLISON | OLIVIA |
| BELINDA | PHYLIS |
| JANE | ROSEMARY |
| KAREN | SALLY |
| LIZZIE | SANDRA |
| MARIE | SUZANNE |

Maze



Math Square

	+		+	9	22
+		+		+	
	-		x		-23
+		÷		+	
3	-		+		8
12		8		20	

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.

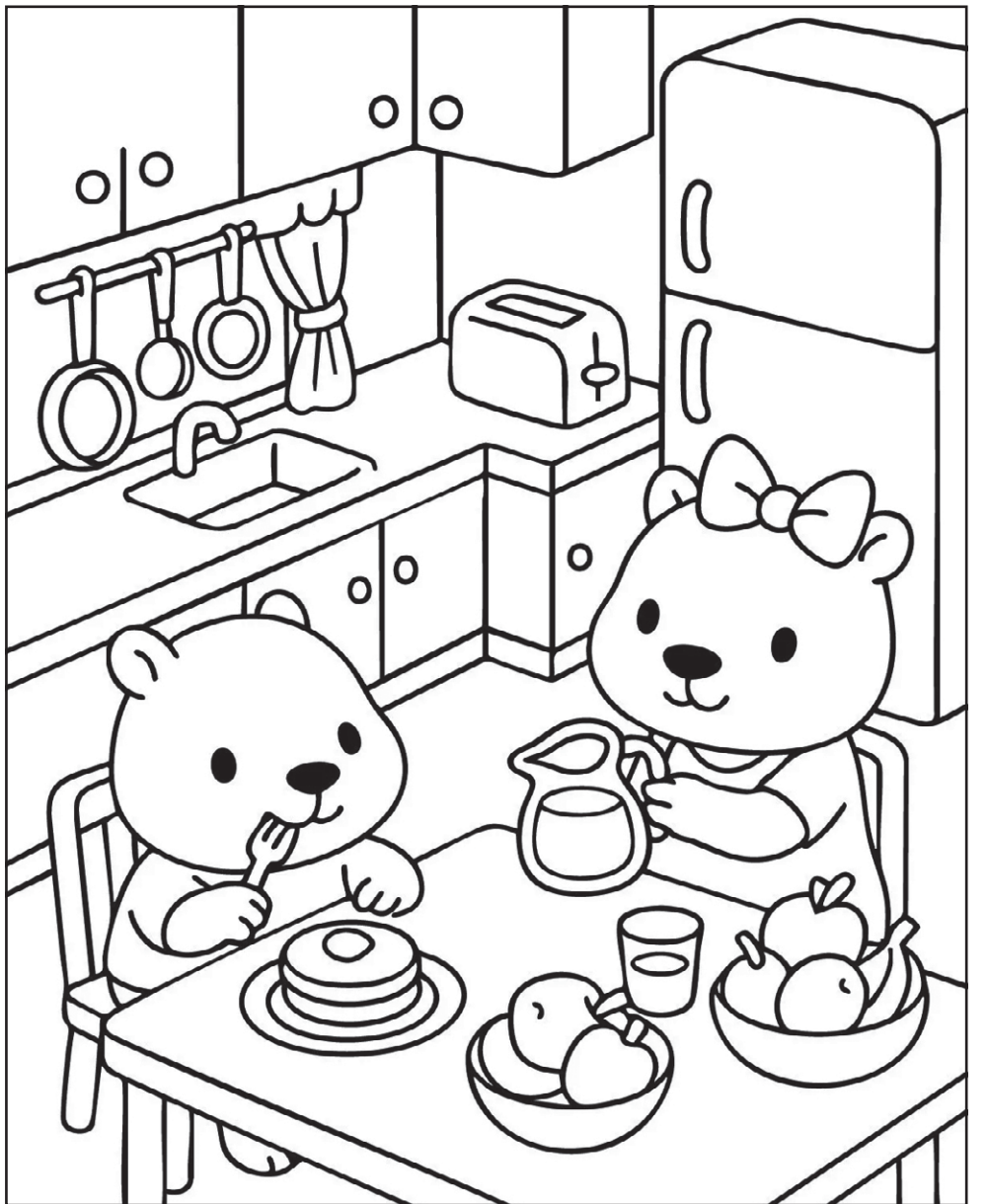
Sudoku

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

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.

Colouring Page



Word Search - Words starting with "R"

RABBIT
RAINBOW
RAPID
RASPBERRY
READ
READY
REAL
RED
RING
ROBOT
ROCK
ROCKET
ROLL
ROUND

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

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

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2	+		-		7
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11		-4		0	

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Op shop thanks Black Dog Riders

SAINT Luke's Op Shop would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to the Vic Black Dog Riders for their contribution to Yea over the weekend of May 29 to 31.

The Black Dog Blanket Ride saw a large group of riders donate warm blankets to Saint Luke's Op Shop. The group was in town for the weekend supporting many businesses in Murrindindi Shire, spreading the word about Black Dog Ride and raising awareness about depression and mental health.



Some of the donated blankets.



The riders with their banner, supporting an important cause.

Spiny cray season now open

RECREATIONAL fishers are being encouraged to take advantage of Victoria's great outdoors this winter as the three-month season for Murray spiny freshwater crayfish opened on June 1.

Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) Chief Executive Officer Travis Dowling said the Murray cray season is highly anticipated on the freshwater fishing calendar.

"Murray crays are a delicacy so the season provides a great opportunity for people to try their luck at snagging the world's second largest freshwater crayfish," Mr Dowling said.

"Catching Murray crays is great fun for fishers of all ages and experience levels.

"If you're looking to catch and keep Murray crays, we recommend the mid to lower reaches of our larger inland rivers such as the Ovens, Goulburn, Mitta Mitta and Kiewa.

"These areas also boast excellent camping spots and facilities which make it easy to enjoy a meal of delicious crays around the campfire with friends and family."

Hoop nets, baited lines (no hooks), and your own hands may all be used to catch Murray

crays. Open top lift nets can only be used to catch Murray crays at Lake Eildon, Rocklands Reservoir and Lake Dartmouth.

Nets must be attached to a tag that remains above the water's surface with the owner's full name and address written clearly.

Mr Dowling said it is also important to know how to measure crays correctly, from just behind the eye socket to the rear of the carapace, which is the main body shell.

"Measuring Murray crays correctly and only keeping ones between 10 and 12cm ensures we keep large, breeding females in the system to produce offspring for years to come," Mr Dowling said.

"Any female crays carrying eggs under their tails must be released immediately."

A daily bag limit of two crays applies, as does a statewide possession limit of four per person at any one time.

For more information on bag and size limits for Murray crays, grab a free Recreational Fishing Guide from a tackle store, download the free VicFishing app, or head to vfa.vic.gov.au/murraycrays

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H	I	N	T	S	F	E	R	S					6	3	2	9	7	4	1	8	5
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MATH SQUARE					MAZE					KIDS - MATH SQUARE						
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12		8		20		11		-4		0						

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The history of the Kinglake Post Office

THE Kinglake Post Office opened in 1914 and is now 112 years old. The building had a charmed life, having escaped being burnt down on three separate occasions, when the buildings beside it were destroyed.

Its other claim to fame was that it was arguably the smallest post office in Australia.

The first postal service for Kinglake was set up in 1883 at the home of Edward Staff on Mount Slide Road. When he left the district in 1890, the post office was transferred to *The Oaks*, the home of Harry and Elizabeth Thomson. In 1895, the Thomson family left that property. They had bought land nearby, now the site of the present Kinglake hotel, and built their home, *Aurelia Villa*, which they operated as a guesthouse for some years. Harry added an extra building on the east side for the Kinglake Post Office.

In 1908, Harry was granted a Wayside Inn licence to set up a hotel but the post office could not be operated in the same building so a new post office was erected on the west side of the Thomson home.

In 1914, Harry Thomson retired from the hotel business and built a home, *La Mascotte*, close to the hotel. This required yet another new post office building beside the house on a slightly different site and this post office served the Kinglake township until 1991 when the postal service was transferred to a shopfront in the main street. In 1992, *La Mascotte* caught fire and burnt down but the old post office building survived.

The little building was no longer required and was likely to be demolished. However, the Kinglake Neighbourhood House and the Kinglake Historical Society managed to have it saved from demolition and removed to the grounds of the Kinglake Neighbourhood House for safekeeping due to its historical significance. In the 2009 fires, the little building escaped destruction again.

The little building remained on the Neighbourhood House site for the next 30 years. In the meantime, the Kinglake Historical Society (KHS), first formed in

1984, came under the auspices of the Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House (KRNH) in 2000, holding its monthly meetings there and also storing its collection of document, maps, photos and memorabilia. The KRNH Board made some repairs and maintenance to the post office building when necessary, and both KHS and KRNH hoped that one day there would be sufficient funding to renovate it and the chance to have it relocated to a site where local residents and visitors to the district could see it and learn its interesting history.

In 2018, with the assistance of the Kinglake West Reserve Committee of Management, KHS was able to set up the Kinglake Heritage Centre in an unused building on the reserve and it was obvious that this would be a suitable location for the little post office building to be made available to the public. However, the cost of the necessary removal and renovation was far beyond the scope of KHS.

In 2023, the Kinglake Lions Club came to the rescue. They had qualified for funding for a special project to mark the centenary of Lions International and they decided to nominate the removal and renovation of the former 1914 Kinglake Post Office as their aim. This came about due to representations from KHS member, Ken Aitken, who is also a member of the Lions Club, and the KHS is hugely grateful to both Ken and the Kinglake Lions for undertaking this very special project.

The first step was to move the building to the Kinglake West Reserve and, with funding granted by FRRR. This took place in March 2023, the post office riding high on the low loader, much to the surprise of those it passed on the way. Wrangling it into place near the Kinglake Heritage Centre was quite an operation, and then it was in the hands of the local tradies and Lions Club members. They soon set to work, making structural changes where necessary and then giving it a complete facelift outside and fitting it out inside as it used to be in its early days.

The post office and its history are now on display for all to see.

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DEATH NOTICES

BOOTE, Betty Doreen
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FUNERAL NOTICES

Boote, Betty Doreen

The funeral service to celebrate the life of Betty Boote will be held at The Murrindindi Chapel, Alexandra on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 commencing at 11.30am, followed by a burial at Alexandra Cemetery.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Rotary Alexandra Wood Raffle Winner is Daryl Piergrosse.
Thanks to all who bought tickets.

Celebrating the restoration of the Kinglake Post Office

ON Saturday, May 17, a crowd of 70 visitors and local residents gathered at the Kinglake Heritage Centre to celebrate the restoration of the 1914 Kinglake Post Office building.

The special guests included members of the Kinglake Lions Club, which managed the restoration project, as well as the local tradesman who worked on the building, Murrindindi Shire Mayor Damian Gallagher, and Barbara and Lance McMinn representing the Thomson family who operated the Kinglake Post Office for 70 years.

Despite a drizzly Kinglake day, everyone enjoyed seeing the 'new look' building and the collection of historic items displayed inside it, including the manual telephone exchange, examples of early telephones, and a set of mail pigeonholes.

The poster display told of the various events in the life of the post office, including narrow escapes from fire in 1926, 1992 and 2009, and its appearance in the four-part television series, *Marion*, in 1974. Photos of the Centenary celebration in 1983, with the post office draped in red, white and blue bunting, were also on display, together with a list of signatures of those who attended on that day.

Afternoon tea was served in the Kinglake West Mechanics Institute Hall and the story of the post office and the restoration process was told. The Kinglake Lions Club was thanked for their excellent work and president Ken Aitken, officially handed the keys of the post office to Kinglake Historical Society President, Deidre Hawkins.

A hamper donated by Helen Haines, Federal Member for Indi, was first prize in the lucky ticket draw and it was altogether a very happy occasion.



Whittlesea Historical Society President Barbara Miller, Murrindindi Shire Mayor Damian Gallagher, and Kinglake Historical Society President Deirdre Hawkins. -S



Kinglake Lions President Ken Aitken handing the post office keys to Kinglake Historical Society President Deirdre Hawkins.

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Haines bill to strengthen disaster communications

WARNING that repeated communications failures in regional areas are putting lives at risk, Independent Member for Indi, Dr Helen Haines, last Monday introduced legislation to improve the resilience of Australia's telecommunications networks during natural disasters.

Dr Haines said North-East Victoria has endured successive catastrophic events in recent years, including the Black Summer bushfires, major flooding in 2022 and 2023, and the January 2026 bushfires that devastated parts of Indi.

"Two fires this summer, the Longwood Fire and the Upper Murray Fire, destroyed 400 homes and burnt more than 250,000 hectares," Dr Haines said.

Dr Haines said her constituents experienced repeated telecommunications outages during the bushfires, putting their safety at risk.

"Despite multiple reviews and inquiries making clear recommendations, governments have failed to act. When communications fail, lives are put at risk."

Dr Haines said her *Strengthening Communications in Natural Disasters Bill* would deliver three key reforms: temporary disaster roaming, mandatory power backup for mobile base stations, and a stronger pathway to fund community resilience projects.

"This is a simple, life-saving measure that is already technically possible and operating in other jurisdictions," Dr Haines said.

"It has been recommended repeatedly, including by government reviews, yet still has not been implemented. People must not lose the ability to call for help in an emergency."

The legislation would also require the communications regulator to identify high-risk mobile tower sites and enforce

minimum backup power standards.

"When towers have adequate battery or generator backup, they stay online longer, ensuring people can receive emergency warnings and stay connected when it matters most."

Dr Haines said she had long advocated for at least 24 hours of backup power for critical sites, a recommendation supported by multiple inquiries and the Victorian Government.

The bill would also formally recognise disaster-resilient communications as eligible for public interest telecommunications funding, enabling greater Commonwealth support for mobile backup systems, satellite connectivity, and rapidly deployable infrastructure such as Cells on Wheels and community Wi-Fi hubs.

"This ensures disaster resilience is treated as core infrastructure, not an afterthought," Dr Haines said.

The legislation was seconded by Independent Member for Mayo in South Australia, Rebekha Sharkie. "My community understands the very real threat of bushfires. We have lived through the fear, uncertainty and heartbreak that comes when fires threaten lives, homes and entire towns," Ms Sharkie said.

Dr Haines said the reforms were urgently needed as regional Australia faces a future of escalating climate-driven disasters.

"This bill is about ensuring that when the next fire, flood or storm hits, people can still call for help, access emergency information, and stay connected," she said.

"In regional Australia, communications are not a convenience. They are a lifeline."



A sambar deer. -Amit Rawat

Deer harvest report 2025: Alexandra ranks in most popular hunting areas

THE Game Management Authority (GMA) last week released the *Estimates of the 2025 deer harvest in Victoria* report, which showed an estimated 158,500 deer were harvested by recreational hunters last year; down from 167,600 in 2024 and 66 per cent above the long-term average of 95,400 since 2009.

According to the report, of the three deer species predominantly found in Victoria, sambar deer were the most harvested with an estimated 118,400 harvested. Of that, 54 per cent were female. Fallow deer were the second most harvested species, with an estimated harvest of 38,000 deer and 55 per cent were female. Red deer came in third.

The number of licenced recreational deer hunters in 2025 was 51,347. Fifty-five per cent of licensed hunters actively hunted in 2025 and each harvested an average of 5.6 deer over 11 days of hunting.

In terms of methods for hunting deer, the report says that

an estimated 19,900 deer were harvested using hounds in Victoria during the 2025 calendar year.

"The surveys in 2025 suggest that stalking is more efficient than hound hunting in a per person sense. The overall efficiency from the general survey was 0.51 deer harvested per hunting day compared with the hound hunting efficiency from the hound hunter survey of 0.41 deer harvested per team member per hunting day," the report states.

It also says that April had the most days hunted, with 178 days, and that June had the most deer harvested, with 124.

Alexandra was in the list of towns around the most popular hunting areas, alongside Mansfield, Bairnsdale, Corryong, and Wodonga, ranking as the fifth most popular area. The highest number of deer harvested were around the towns of Mansfield, Bairnsdale, Healesville, Heyfield and Wodonga, respectively.

The total deer harvest was estimated to be greatest in the

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA), followed by the North East CMA and the East Gippsland CMA.

GMA Research Principal, Dr Jason Flesch, said the research was based on information gathered from randomly selected licenced deer hunters who voluntarily participated in the phone surveys.

"Approximately 4700 deer hunters participated in the phone survey and provided information about their hunting activity, including how many deer were harvested, where hunting occurred, hunting methods used and the species of deer harvested," Dr Flesch said.

"This research helps build a stronger understanding of deer harvest trends and hunting activity in Victoria."

The report is produced annually by the GMA in collaboration with the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research. For a full copy of the *Estimates of the 2025 deer harvest* report, visit gma.vic.gov.au

SPORT

Euroa and District Ladies Winter Tennis report

by Deb Mims

HOW fickle weather can be, with two weeks ago being a washout for all matches and last week another lovely day for all to enjoy.

Benalla versus Wappan 2-4, 26-43

Mansfield's team, Wappan, ventured up the Midland Highway to battle it out against Benalla. Anna Speirs, Rhonda Carpenter, Carol Watts and Kimberley Marsden took the opportunity to talk strategies on the drive, which obviously worked with a win against Benalla's, Peta Kelly, Maureen Jewell, Marg Clode and Wendy Maxwell.

In keeping with past weeks, there was a tie-breaker in among the scores. A couple of "doughnuts" going Wappan's way helped to push the game score out.

Terip Terip versus Euroa 3-3, 27-40

The match up between Terip Terip and Euroa appeared much closer with the two teams sharing the sets. Lyn Johnson filled in for Terip alongside regular "Teripians" Cindy Hayes, Phoebe McDermid and Jenny Martin.

Having won the first three sets, Terip was on a roll against Faye Mollison, Judy Sands, Danielle Scotis and Mary Kelly of Euroa until Lyn had to retire hurt in her next match with an arm/elbow injury, which meant she then had to forfeit

her third and final set. Here's to hoping it's not too serious an injury, and the clubs wish Lyn a speedy recovery.

Creightons Creek versus Moglonemby 5-1, 46-30

Creightons Creek dominated their match against Moglonemby. Lyndall Bigland, Rowena Ellis, Ros Doxey, and Lyn Pierce came out firing taking the first five sets, and yes one was a tie-breaker.

Moglonemby team, Sue Vaughan, Marlene Hanrahan, Robyn Johnson and Lisa Krepp fought hard and despite only winning one set, there was some very close score lines that went Creightons Creek's way. Not quite the lovely rain free day the other matches experienced, with Euroa having spots of rain that were annoying but didn't interrupt play. Apparently, lots of hitting/rallying, stretching and changing directions, according to Creightons Creek's captain Lyndall, who also said that the day was better than a Pilates workout.

Mansfield

Despite Team Mansfield having the bye, some of the girls met up for a hit and went for a coffee and chat post playing. Deb Mims took the opportunity to try out her back and see whether it would stand up to playing after back surgery. Answer is yes, but needs to get fit before committing to rejoining the team.

Council to begin works on Kinglake Oval upgrade

MURRINDINDI Shire Council will begin redevelopment works on the Kinglake Memorial Reserve oval from June 9, with important upgrades set to support local sport and the wider Kinglake community.

The project is jointly funded by the Victorian Government and Murrindindi Shire Council following a competitive funding process, with council also overseeing delivery.

Upgrades will include playing surface improvements, drainage works, and a new irrigation system to improve safety, playability and the long-term sustainability of the oval for local clubs and the broader community.

During construction, the second half of the 2026 football and netball season, and the 2026-27 cricket season will be played at alternate venues. Council encourages the community to continue supporting the Kinglake Football Netball Club, Kinglake Junior Football Club and Kinglake District Cricket Club throughout the season.

Murrindindi Shire Council Sustainability and Assets portfolio Councillor Paul Hildebrand said

the upgrade reflects council's ongoing work to renew and improve existing community infrastructure in partnership with other levels of government.

"The Kinglake Oval is a vital community asset that plays an important role in bringing people together through sport and community connection," Cr Hildebrand said.

"The upgrade reflects council's ongoing work with community and government partners to invest in facilities that support participation and wellbeing."

Construction is expected to be completed in September, with the playing surface ready for use from late March 2027, subject to the full establishment of the new turf.

Council thanks the community, clubs, players and volunteers for their patience and flexibility while these important works are carried out.

For more information about the Kinglake Memorial Reserve upgrade project, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/kmupgrade

Yea junior netball awards



Fifteen and Under awards. Harris Gardenscapes Player of the Day, Kensi Cronk. Yarra Valley Gas Ignite Award, Izzy White. -S



Eleven and Under awards. Just Great Coffee Player of the Day, Esme Fisher. Yarra Valley Gas Ignite Award, Lexi Turner. -S



Thirteen and Under Black awards. Delux Rod Shop Player of the Day, Eva McIntyre. Yarra Valley Gas Ignite Award, Sophie Garlick. -S

Yea footballers and netballers take on Yarra Glen and Gembrook at home

THE Yea Football Netball Club's teams played at home last week, with wins for the Women's football team and the Reserves against Gembrook and Yarra Glen respectively.

Football
Seniors
 Yea 57 defeated by Yarra Glen 67
Reserves
 Yea 157 defeated Yarra Glen 8

Women
 Yea 97 defeated Gembrook 0
Netball
A Grade
 Yea 48 defeated by Yarra Glen 57

B Grade
 Yea 40 defeated by Yarra Glen 50
C Grade
 Yea 36 drew Yarra Glen 36
D Grade
 Yea 21 defeated by Yarra Glen 27

Alexandra Squash Club: Round six of term two pennant

by Kristelle Leary

Monday competition

Funnel Webs versus Orb Weavers

RANDY versus Jessica K: Such a close game. Jess got the upper hand in the second game and refused to relinquish that lead through to the end of the match, holding out for the win. 58 to 52.

Sam versus Chris: A well-played match. Sam started by winning the first two games. Chris fought in the third to take the game and even the scores. In the deciding game Sam had more stamina and trick to take the match. 64 to 59.

John versus Michael H: Michael wanted the win and started strong with a winning first game. The winds changed as second game

drew and John claimed the last two games increasing the winning margin each time. John's experience triumphed. 67 to 58.

Red Backs versus Trapdoors

Matt versus Eric (fill in): A great match to watch. There were some long rallies, but Matt played some awesome drop shots, taking home a solid win. 70 to 39.

Sally versus Laura: The competitive spirit ran wild in this match. The games won seesawed between opponents, but neither was giving in. With two games each it came down to points. Sally had gained four-points more throughout to win the match. 68 to 64.

Mick versus Rob: Mick has been holding his own in the higher level this pennant. Rob was quick as always but Mick had some trick that won him the match. 66 to 58.

Andrew (fill in) versus Daniel W: The court was playing some funky tricks. Both players did well with the unpredictable bounces and angles from the ball coming off the wall. It was a good match and Daniel claimed the victory. 60 to 57.

Wednesday competition

Mosquitoes versus Sandflies

Jordan versus Ben H: A really close match. Ben had just a bit more consistency and fewer unforced errors, winning the match. 70 to 66.

Mick versus Daniel L: A tight game until the end. Mick finished with a run of unbroken serve to nail in his victory. 62 to 51.

Mark versus Phil: Mark started strong and kept up with Phil until the final game. Phil got away in the final game as Mark waned. Phil was victorious with a good win in the final game. 65 to 47.

Bees versus Hornets

Marty versus Nicole: A family rivalry. Marty had some beautiful shots, but Nicole may have held back somewhat, assisting in Marty's win. 56 to 52.

Lucas versus Kristelle: Lucas got the jump on Kristelle in the first game but she turned the tables in the second. Lucas dominated the second half with his difficult serves. Lucas took home a solid victory. 75 to 48.

Justin versus Ben F: These battlers came out swinging so hard that a racquet was dislodged and flew across the court. Ben had Justin on the ropes in the first half, but Justin brought some amazing plays to overcome Ben's lead and claim the win for himself. 58 to 57.

Two stablefords at Yea Golf Club

by Alan Pell

LAST Saturday at Yea Golf Club saw two Stableford competitions played in favourable conditions, with all players finishing before late rain swept through the course. The overcast skies were occasionally broken by patches of sunshine, making for an enjoyable day of golf.

In the men's competition, Greg Clements (17) delivered an outstanding performance to win with 41 points. Robert O'Halloran (21) continued his consistent form to finish second with 38 points, while Phil Armstrong (18) was close behind in third on 37. Bob Glenister (11) claimed fourth place on a countback with 35 points. Nearest the pin on the 10th went to Jim Redmond, and Jono Ness secured the Club Award.

The ladies' event saw Margie Wright (20) take out top honours with 33 points, edging out Jan Wealands (25), who finished second with 32 points.

In knockout match play, Bob Glenister recorded a win over John Phillips in their second-round encounter.

Last Wednesday's golf saw Phil Armstrong (18) secure a win with 38 points from Rob O'Halloran (21) with 34 points second with John Phillips (17) third with 33 countback. No nearest the pin on the 18th and John Renehan won the Club Award.



Jordan lines up for a backhand against Ben. -S

The Chronicle Sport



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Yea Bowls Club hosts initial round of national BPL Cup

by Maurie Finn

YEA Bowls Club took on the task of hosting an initial role of the BPL Cup last Saturday, May 30. Thirty-six players, 12 teams, competed for the honours to go through to the next round. The national final will be played in Brisbane in November.

Three groups of four teams played, so that meant that three teams have gone through to the next level to be played in September.

It was an exciting concept with modified rules to speed up the games: Played two sets against each team in your section with a one end tiebreak if required. Each set was five ends only; each team was allowed one Power Play per game, where shots scored are doubled; the jack is placed at the desired position by the team with the mat, not rolled; no 'dead ends'. Jack is placed on the T if it goes 'out of bounds'.

Congratulations to Yarra Glen, Wallan and a team from Yea made up of Doug Shirrefs, Terry McInnes and Howard Geldard.

A huge thank you to the Garden Centre Yea, Yenckens and The Flyfisher for their donations of raffle prizes, to help make the day so successful. The club are so grateful to many local businesses for their continued support.

Any members of the public considering trying the game of bowls, why not head along and give it a go, with a variety of formats now being played? Opportunities to bowl in Yea include Mondays from 10am to 3pm, Thursdays from 1 to 3pm and Saturdays from 11am to 1pm. Give it a try. All welcome.



Checking to see who has the closest bowl to the jack. -S



One of the winning teams in Yarra Glen. -S



A Yea team changing ends during a game. -S

Yea junior football results

Under Nines

by Kate Adams

THE Under Nines put in another fantastic team performance last weekend, showing great effort, sportsmanship, and determination from the first bounce to the final siren.

Every player contributed throughout the game, with strong tackling, excellent teamwork, and plenty of running to support their teammates. The players moved the ball well, shared possessions, and never gave up, even when the opposition challenged them.

There were plenty of highlights, including some terrific marks, exciting goals, and courageous defensive efforts. Most importantly, the team played with enthusiasm and encouraged one another throughout the game.

A huge shoutout to last week's award winners: Marco, Just Great Coffee Encouragement Award; Chet, Yarra Valley Gas Ignite Award; Asher, Progression Physiotherapy and Performance Best Player Award.

The club says a big thank you to the coach, volunteers, and families for their ongoing support. The players should be very proud of their efforts. Thank you Broadford for having the team.

Under 10

by Jess Robinson

Round Seven took the under 10s down the road to Broadford to mark the season halfway point.

The dynamic duo Ava and Olivia, fierce as ever showing a great game of football. Jake put a few goals away and made some good leads to make way for others. Logan was super consistent in the back line chasing down the ball. Josh showed awesome composure and leadership skills.

The little tigers are showing huge improvement each week.

Awards: Yarra Valley Gas Improvement, Olivia; Delux Rods Tiger Spirit, Josh; Cathkin Farm Services Coach's, Logan.



Yea's Under 10 award winners, Olivia, Josh and Logan. -S