

The Yea Chronicle

92 High Street, Yea. PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

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

Ph: (03) 5797 2468 or (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5797 2257; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, November 8, 2023 \$2.00 inc. GST

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The Probus Club of Yea celebrated the Melbourne Cup Carnival Week with their own Fashions On The Field last Thursday. These ladies were chosen as the finalists: Libby Pink, Jeannie Handsaker, Judy Hard, Rosemary Simon and Elaine White. -S

16 Days of Activism walk

THIS year on November 29, Murrindindi Shire Council and Mitchell Shire Council will be co-hosting and participating in a walk against family violence. The shared community walk is aimed at raising awareness of family violence, building knowledge of local support services, as well as demonstrating the strong stance we have as a community against violence.

It is your chance to show your support during the 16 Days of Activism campaign for action towards violence against women. Council would like to invite members of the community to participate in the walk with them. Group transport will be arranged free of charge.

A free bus will be departing from 28 Perkins Street, Alexandra at 9am on November 29.

The event and walk will commence at 10am at GoTafe on Loco Street in Seymour. The walk will commence and conclude at Goulburn Park with a community barbecue, stalls of support services and other activities and goodies available on the day.

The bus will departing from Seymour back to Alexandra at approximately 1pm.

For more information and to book, please visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/News-Media/16-Days-of-Activism-Walk

Council meets with Minister to advocate for flood affected communities

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is advocating on behalf of flood-impacted communities, with Mayor John Walsh, CEO Livia Bonazzi and key staff meeting with the Minister for Water, Housing and Equality Harriet Shing MP to discuss advocacy priorities.

The October 2022 floods caused devastating impacts across Murrindindi Shire, with many communities again dealing with more flooding in June and early October this year. Dozens of properties have been flooded three times in twelve months, which is clearly a concern.

Advocacy is one of council's important functions and is a crucial element in recovery, to ensure that our community has the resources, support and funding after an emergency, and to plan and mitigate against future disasters whilst building resilience and capacity in the community for future events. Since the October 2022 flood event, council has been advocating to state and federal governments, and other relevant organisations on behalf of our community. The minister acknowledged the advocacy work being undertaken by council and the community regarding mitigating for future impacts.

A key plank of our advocacy concerns the operating rules in place for Lake Eildon as a water storage facility. Following strong community feedback, council has corresponded with the Minister for Water and the Minister for Emergency Services, seeking a capped water level in Lake Eildon to help reduce flood risk. They have

requested a review of the current rules which govern Goulburn Murray Water and its operations, including storage targets and release levels. The minister said that the Technical Assessment report on the operating rules for Lake Eildon will be released in March 2024, with any decisions or changes to operating rules being informed by the report recommendations and scientific evidence.

In addition, council is also seeking the urgent installation of live rain and river level gauges to help inform any response to future storm events. Without timely and accurate information, the incident control centres are left to operate blindly and unable to support impacted communities in a timely manner. The minister confirmed an investment for the installation of further rain and river gauges across the state, with a river gauge being installed at Molesworth by December this year.

Council said that it was pleasing to hear of the minister's support for further investment in flood modelling across the state, to better inform planning and support resilience.

Council is also continuing to advocate for repairs to major roads across the shire. Council has responsibility for managing its own roads and assets while state roads such as the Melba Highway, Whittlesea-Yea Road, Maroonah Highway and Goulburn Valley Highway are the responsibility of the Victorian Government. While council continues to roll out its own road repair packages, they are calling on the state

government to promptly make much needed repairs to its road network.

Mayor John Walsh said, "Discussions with members of parliament offer an opportunity to ensure state and federal governments are aware of the challenges we are facing, and I thank Minister Shing for visiting our shire and hearing the key concerns impacting our communities. Our advocacy efforts

so far have had some success, however more is needed to support our community with recovery. While we are committed to continuing our advocacy efforts on behalf of our communities, individuals can also play their own part in advocacy activity. This can include supporting council's advocacy activities and by contacting your local members of parliament, responsible government department or agency".

138th Alexandra Show

5 double passes to give away
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Saturday, November 11, 2023.
9am to 4pm

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A2 Colour \$30 per copy (594mmx420mm)

A1 Colour \$40 per copy (594mmx841mm)

235gsm gloss photo paper

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Letters to the Editor

Wind farm

AS Melbourne continues to grow, especially to the north, there will a greater need for recreational areas. The Southern Strathbogies, with their significant landscapes, are located to meet this need.

The proposed Seymour windfarm and associated transmission lines will make the area unattractive to recreation focussed enterprises such as wineries, weekend getaway accomodation, wedding and event venues, cycling and hiking.

Furthermore, such weekend enterprises would provide an economic boost to the surrounding towns including Yea.

The windfarm developer's claim that the project will provide 500 to 700 jobs

during the construction phase and provide 50 to 60 long term employment during the operational phase of the project.

In truth, the construction of the project would be undertaken by large Melbourne based companies and a Melbourne based workforce. In the longer term, well considered tourism and recreational associated activities far exceed the 50 to 60 long term jobs claimed by the wind farm developer.

There are already a number of tourism related winery and farm cottage accomodation businesses operating in the area and their economic viability will be threatened by the windfarm development. Existing operators state that their customers value the untouched pristine landscape,

and the peace and quiet of the southern Strathbogies.

Potential customers would be deterred by the impact of out-of-scale turbines and transmission lines and associated noise and shadow flicker.

A future landscape dominated by wind turbines and associated transmission lines will adversely affect not only existing tourism related enterprises but also curtail any longer term development of responsible getaway tourism and recreational future for the southern Strathbogies.

Susan Ackroyd and John Curtis,
Highlands

Murrindindi Shire is open for business

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is inviting community and business to help shape their Economic Development Strategy, to help guide the future of our local economy.

The five-year strategy will support existing and new businesses, providing employment, goods and services for our community and visitors, which align to the shire's unique strengths and opportunities. It will promote sustainable growth, fair distribution of wealth and opportunity and enhance the livability of the shire and the wellbeing of residents.

The strategy outlines the key priorities, actions and initiatives to be undertaken, drawing upon local strengths and addressing specific challenges.

Community members, business owners and operators are invited to contribute to this important work by telling us if

we're focusing on the right areas, which include Visitor Economy, Agriculture and Food Production, Business Support, Sustainable Future, and Prosperous Communities.

Within each priority area, there are a set of outcomes, which are designed to represent the future vision of where we could be by the end of the five-year strategy.

To provide input on the priority areas and outcomes, residents and businesses can read more about them by visiting council's online engagement platform, The Loop, at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/economicstrategy and complete an online survey, register for a focus group session, chat with council's Economic Development team in-person at a pop-up event, and/or add ideas to our online

ideas board. Feedback closes on Sunday, December 3.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor John Walsh said, "Economic development usually refers to growing and supporting an economy. However, this strategy goes beyond just growth, and focuses on the distribution of wealth and opportunity, as well as protecting the environment and enhancing the livability of our unique shire. The priority areas have been identified through research of past and current related strategies and a review of business and industry sector data, so we aren't starting from scratch. It's important to hear from business operators, workers and interested community members to understand if we're on the right track."

For more information, visit theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/economicstrategy

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

1st Mon St Lukes Seniors St Lukes Church Ph 5797 2281 comm June

1st Thu Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057

2nd Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

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

2nd Thu Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315

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

4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 1.30pm Ph 0400 424 888

Last Fri Yea-Kinnlake RSL 11 30am RSL Hall Ph 5796 9353

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

November 8 - November 14, 2023

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	14	26	Wednesday	14	28
Thursday	13	24	Thursday	13	26
Friday	16	29	Friday	17	30
Saturday	9	26	Saturday	9	25
Sunday	8	22	Sunday	9	20
Monday	8	22	Monday	8	21
Tuesday	9	23	Tuesday	9	23

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to

editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers

PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

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

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

Like us on Facebook

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	1.00pm Mon	1.50	steady	below minor
Acheron R at Taggerty	1.00pm Mon	0.88	steady	below minor
Home Ck at Yareck	12.33pm Mon	0.22	steady	
Yea R at Devlins Bridge	8.20am Mon	0.63	steady	below minor
Yea R at Yea	12.23pm Mon	0.95	steady	
King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale	1.00pm Mon	0.59	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Trawool	1.00pm Mon	1.24	steady	below minor
Sunday Ck at Tallarook	1.00pm Mon	0.31	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Seymour	1.00pm Mon	1.56	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Ck at Seymour	10.58am Mon	1.19	steady	

****ISSUED AT 1.15PM ON MONDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2023**

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra..... N/Amm

Buxton..... N/Amm

Eildon (AWS)..... 0mm

Flowerdale..... 1mm

Jamieson..... 1mm

Kinglake..... 2mm

Lake Eildon..... 0.6mm

Mansfield..... N/Amm

Taggerty 4mm

Yareck 1mm

Yea..... 1mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week.....288.87m

Capacity as at 9am Monday.....99.9%

Metres below full supply.....3cm

Daily inflow2000ML

Release.....2500ML

Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....50%

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

Crumbling regional roads abandoned

MEMBER for Eildon Cindy McLeish has said that regional lives are at risk with the Victorian Government falling 25 per cent short of its road repair target, as revealed last week in the Department of Transport and Planning's latest annual report.

The report states that the government only treated 9,000,000 square metres of rural and regional roads, 25.6 per cent down on its 2022-23 target of 12.14 million square metres, but hit its targets in suburban roads.

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said the failure to meet this target was a consequence of ongoing cuts to the road maintenance budget.

"Regional Victorians don't need an annual report to tell them Labor has abandoned our crumbling roads. They see it every day and they're tired of it," Ms McLeish said.

"We have been continually drawing the governments attention to the disgraceful condition of our local roads and highways for the last year, with many sections posing serious safety concerns. Yet the response from Labor has been to cut road maintenance funding and fail to deliver its own road repair target."

In August, it was also revealed there would be virtually no Victorian road resurfacing program in the coming financial year with no contracts for road resurfacing going to tender. This only

signals that regional roads will continue to deteriorate.

"Without a sufficient resurfacing and resealing program, the deterioration of our roads will only accelerate."

"We have people now posting birthday signs to commemorate the aging potholes on their roads. The condition of the state's transport infrastructure has become a joke," Ms McLeish said.

Shadow Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Danny O'Brien, added, "Our regional roads are in an appalling state and a 45 per cent cut to the road maintenance budget since 2020, including a further 25 per cent cut in this year's budget, is hurting all Victorian motorists."



The Melba Highway at Glenburn. -S

Congratulations to Rebecca Webber

REBECCA Webber of Kinglake West is a finalist in the Victorian Community Achievement Awards in the Community Hero Award category.

Rebecca is advocating for inclusivity and breaking down barriers for equestrians with disabilities in Victoria. Rebecca is a rare disease patient who created the first disabled western classification system in Australia.

She serves as a mentor for able and disabled riders, championing equity and accessibility in equestrian sports.

Her rare disease advocacy extends to her role as a Rare Voices Australia Ambassador, where she shares her lived experience to raise awareness and support the rare disease community.

Rebecca's tireless efforts have changed the narrative around disabled athletes in equestrian sports, focusing on abilities rather than disabilities and opening pathways for future generations.

The Community Achievement Awards started in 2002 and are designed to encourage, acknowledge and reward the valuable contributions that individuals, communities and businesses make throughout Victoria. These awards aim to recognise their success and achievements, which contribute to making Victoria a better place.

The finalists will be announced during the award ceremony on Friday, December 1.

Crash on Melba Highway near Yea

A YEA man, aged 63, was flown to hospital following a crash on the Melba Highway near Webb Wares Lane on at 6.15am on Thursday, November 2.

The man is believed to have lost control of his vehicle, crashing into an embankment and flipping the car onto its roof.

The Melba Highway was closed while emergency services attended the incident.

The man suffered non-life-threatening injuries and was airlifted to hospital for treatment.

Police have asked witnesses to the incident or people who have information to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Kanumbra speedster caught

STATE Highway Patrol officers impounded a Subaru WRX as part of Operation Furlong.

Police observed the WRX travelling at 188 km/h along a 100 km/h section of Maroondah Highway in Kanumbra at around 4.50pm on Friday, November 3.

Officers intercepted the car and spoke to the 20 year old driver. His car was impounded with towing costs of \$1800 and he is expected to be charged on summons with speed dangerous, manner dangerous and other traffic offences.

UC Sunday Morning Coming Down

Country | B-Sides Rarities | Hits and Misses | '50s thru '20s

Sunday mornings 7-9am with Johnny White

Murrindindi

FM 88.9-94.5-98.5-98.9-106.9



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Fire can spread quickly, so it's important for all Victorians to prepare. Find out how you can plan ahead this fire season to keep you and your family safe.

Plan. Act. Survive. Go to www.vic.gov.au/knowfire

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The Yea Chronicle

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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
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 11.15am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0419 351 267 / 5799 1295

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

Out&About

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

Marysville Art Show, November 3 – 30. Marysville Arts Fest 2023, art show and Marysville BookNest Writing Competition. See ad in this edition for full details or visit miramarysville.com or marysvilleartshow.com

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Yea and District Open Gardens. Eight unique gardens will be open. Information available from Rotary Club of Yea website. Tickets available at trybooking.com/CJTWN or at the Yea Wetlands Centre.

It's show time. Alexandra Show, 9am-4pm. Dog obedience, pet parade, horse arena, poultry and more. Schedules are available online alexandrashow.com.au

Alexandra Market 10am-1pm, train rides. For more information contact 0427 509 988.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Women's Health Information afternoon from 2pm at Alexandra Football clubrooms. Learn from health professionals about mental health, general health subjects and more.

Thornton Community Garage Sale, from 8am. Various driveway sales throughout town. Preloved clothes, homewares, furniture, tools and more.

Marysville Market 9am-1pm. All your favourite stalls and more.

Alexandra Museum is open from 10am-4pm. Malcolm Moore display.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

A flood recovery event. 6pm onwards Yea Tennis Club. Hear from local agronomist Stuart Foy, and local mental health nurse Sarah Austin. Enjoy a barbecue dinner, available from 7pm. Register your attendance by November 10. See ad in this edition for QR code.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Alexandra Historical Society AGM will be held at 2pm at Dove Cottage.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Alexandra Shire Hall – Prime Numbers. Battle of the Centuries Tour. Trybooking.com/CLWXB

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Acheron Hall AGM will be held at noon. All welcome.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Marysville Music Festival with Kate Ceberano, William Crighton, Frank Sultana and many more.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25

It's show time. Yea Show, Woodchop championships, sheep yard dog trials, Horticulture, cooking demonstrations,

magic show and much more.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

16 Days of Activism Walk. Murrindindi and Mitchell shires will be co-hosting and participating in a community walk against family violence. A free bus to Seymour will leave from 28 Perkins Street, Alexandra at 9am and a return bus will depart Seymour to Alexandra at approximately 1pm. For more information and to register for the bus visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/16dayswalk.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Suicide Alertness for Everyone. A 3½ workshop will help you learn to become a suicide alert helper. 6-9.30pm at Murrindindi-Woodbourne Community Hub, 815 Murrindindi Road, Murrindindi. For further information or to register, contact 0417 907 278 or 0417 570 801.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

The Board of Directors of Alexandra District Health invite you to join them for the 2022/23 Annual General Meeting at 4pm at the Alexandra District Hospital. RSVP to jennifer.creed@adh.org.au or 5772 0924 by November 30.

No current need for cameras at Yea Skate Park

THERE have been some concerns from within the Yea community about the behaviour of children at the Yea Skate Park, and requests that security cameras be installed at the location.

Murrindindi Shire Council was asked whether they have been looking into whether security camera are appropriate or required in the area.

Andrew Paxton, Director Community and Development responded, “Visual surveillance devices and Public Safety CCTV Systems are generally used to support Victoria Police operations and response and to assist Victoria Police with criminal prosecution.

“At this stage, council is not considering installing security cameras at the Yea Skate Park, or in any of our other public recreation spaces.

“Any future proposals for use of surveillance cameras in public areas for the purposes of community safety will be developed in partnership with local police and relevant community representatives. Council would need to consider privacy issues and whether the installation of surveillance devices is reasonable and proportionate to the risk.

“Council often relies on grant funding from state and federal governments to upgrade or install new assets, including surveillance devices and would also need to consider who owns, maintains and accesses the information collected.

“We encourage community members and visitors to report inappropriate behaviour to local police.”

Sergeant Nicole Wilson from Yea Police echoed this sentiment, saying that there would need to be intelligence to suggest that cameras are required at the location.

If people have concerns over criminal or antisocial activities at the Yea Skate Park, they should call Triple Zero at the time of the offence, or the Police Assistance Line on 131 444, or the Yea Police Station on 5797 2630.

If you would like to speak to council about the Yea Skate Park infrastructure and any safety concerns you might have, they would like to hear from you. Please email customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Castella Road rehabilitation works complete

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has advised that road rehabilitation works on Castella Road in Castella are now complete.

A short section of the road seal was damaged during the October 2022 floods, requiring reconstruction, between Melba Highway and Castella Road Bridge. Castella Road, which needed to be closed for construction work, is now open.

Castella Road is the start of a series of road infrastructure repairs as part of the flood recovery program.

Council is currently preparing five packages of works, approved according to state and federal government funding arrangements, to reinstate road assets across the shire, which were damaged as a

result of the October 2022 flood and storm events. Three of these packages are already out to market through a Request for Quote to Council's Panel of Contractors. The remaining two packages will also go out to market once they receive final approval from the funding authority.

Funding to undertake the works in Castella was provided through the Disaster Relief Funding Arrangements which is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Victorian Government.

Murrindindi Shire Council's Mayor John Walsh said, “We are pleased to be rolling out repairs on Council road assets across the shire, and continue helping flood impacted communities return to a sense of normality.”



Castella Road with damage to road seal, following the October 2022 flood and storm events. -S



Castella Road, following repair works. -S



Social Workers

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jobs that matter

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To make a difference to your mental health career, visit

jobsthatmatter.vic.gov.au

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Yea Open Gardens ready to flower

ROTARY Yea Open Gardens co-ordinator for 2023, Darryl King, was very excited when the owners of four town gardens agreed to participate in the open gardens weekend on Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12.

In Yea township, you'll find Peppercorn Place. It's a garden which used a very old peppercorn tree as its focal point. The owners wanted to attract local birdlife so they chose to plant a range of Australian natives and included a dry creek bed. Later, the garden evolved to include mixed garden beds, grassed areas, greenhouse and fernery among other features.

While only a small garden, St Margaret's has been created after its owners visited other gardens to find plants which did well in the Yea area. They decided to create a Yea cottage garden, planted some shade trees, started a raised bed veggie garden and let the rest evolve.

Take some old and established trees and combine them with cottage style plantings and ornamentals as well as an abundance of roses and this is just part of Maison de Verre. There is also an orchard and vegetable garden and a secluded native garden to attract the local birdlife. Don't miss the mulberry tree which dates back at least 50 years.

The owners at Purcell Road admit that their native garden is very young and is still a work in progress. The first plantings were made in 2017 and the garden is planned to be low maintenance. As much of the planting is on slopes, the plants were chosen to feature a display of many different foliages, barks and flowers.

A bonus in the township is the annual Garden Club Plant sale, always a popular place to pick up a bargain or three. Yea Garden Club members have been working all year in preparation of their big sale. This year a change of venue as the sale will be at David and Rosemary's house on the corner of North Street and Racecourse Road. Be sure to pay a visit and bag a bargain. It is their major fundraiser for the year, and they also support the Rotary Club, so it is a win for everyone.

All gardens are open from 10am to 5pm both days. Tickets to these town gardens are \$5 per garden or for just \$40, a weekend pass for all eight gardens is available, a saving of \$12. Tickets are available at each garden gate (cash only please) or can be pre-purchased at either the Yea Visitor Information Centre or at TryBooking. For more details about each garden and a map, please visit www.yeareotary.org.au



The Yea Rotary Open Gardens Weekend is on Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12. -S



All gardens are open from 10am to 5pm both days. -S



One of the beautiful gardens which will be included in the open gardens weekend. -S



There will be five town gardens and four country gardens on display. -S

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MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



IMPROVING ACCESS TO SPORT AND RECREATION FOR WOMEN, GIRLS AND GENDER DIVERSE PEOPLE

Council is exploring ways to improve opportunities for women, girls and gender diverse people to participate in local community sport and recreation.

We know there are barriers to participation and want to ensure it is welcoming, accessible, and inclusive for everyone. We need your help to find out what is making it difficult to get involved and how we can help make it easier.

Your feedback will guide the development of our draft Fair Access Policy and Action Plan.

To get involved, you can complete a survey online or by dropping-in to our Library and Customer Service Centres. Visit theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/fairaccess

Feedback closes Sunday 19 November.

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM WALK

Murrindindi and Mitchell Shire Councils will be co-hosting and participating in a community walk against family violence.

The event and walk will commence at 10.00 am at GoTafe in Seymour (Loco Street).

A free bus will be departing 28 Perkins Street, Alexandra at 9.00 am 29 November, with the return bus departing from Seymour (back to Alexandra) at approximately 1.00 pm.

For more information and to register for the free bus please visit our website: murrindindi.vic.gov.au/16dayswalk

FREE GREEN WASTE DISPOSAL AND ROADSIDE SLASHING PROGRAM HAS COMMENCED

Clean up your property ahead of fire season! From now until 31 December, you can dispose of your green waste for free at Council's Resource Recovery Centres. This includes domestic quantities of grass clippings, leaves, garden trimming and branches.

For more information on green waste disposal and RRC opening times, visit our website and search 'green waste' or give us a call.

Council's Fire Prevention Roadside Slashing Program is also underway, starting in the north of the Shire, which dries off earlier than the southern parts. The program will run through until the end of December and further slashing will be arranged as required throughout the summer months.

For more information about our Roadside Slashing Program, visit our website and search 'bushfire prevention'.

BURNING OFF IN MURRINDINDI SHIRE

Planning to burn-off? Make sure you register it! Council has simplified its burning-off laws to make it easier to maintain your properties in preparation for summer fire season.

You can burn off at any time (excluding the Fire Danger Period) without a permit, providing you meet the conditions on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/burningoff

Before burning off, you must notify emergency services. Register your burn-off by calling 1800 668 551 or avoid wait times, visit the Fire Permits Victoria website firepermits.vic.gov.au



DRAFT EILDON PONDAGE MASTERPLAN

From September to October, we asked you to share how you use the Eildon Pondage Precinct and your ideas on how it could be improved. We would like to thank everyone who got involved and gave us lots of community feedback via the survey, interactive map and at our pop-up kiosks.

We have now drafted a Masterplan and are seeking feedback from the community on the proposed future vision for the area.

To get involved, visit The Loop: theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Eildon-pondage

Feedback closes Monday 20 November.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

We are open to business! Council is inviting the community to help shape a five-year Economic Development Strategy, which will support existing and new businesses and provide employment, goods and services for our community and visitors.

Get involved and share your thoughts by completing a survey, participating in a focus group session or chatting to us in person at a pop-up event. To learn more, give us a call or visit our engagement platform, The Loop, at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/economic-strategy

Feedback closes Sunday 3 December.

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Are you interested in applying for a grant through Council's Grants and Sponsorships Program? Grant applications are open for round 3. Quick Response Grants are available all year round.

Call our Grants team on 5772 0333 for more information or visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/grants

STAY INFORMED

To stay up to date with the latest Council news, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/news or follow us on Facebook.

GET IN TOUCH

customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request
5772 0333

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Yea & District **Community Bank®** Branch



YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Congratulations to the Values Awards recipients from week four.
Evan, Blake, Tom, Holly, Evie, Ruby, Skye and Hamish
in recognition of demonstrating our school values.
Well done.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kinglake branch



Rainbow lorikeet flies into first place in bird count

BIRDLIFE Australia has revealed the preliminary results for the Aussie Bird Count. With more than 420,000 counted, the colourful rainbow lorikeet has once again come out on top, beating the noisy miner with nearly 220,000 and the iconic Australian magpie with around 154,000 counted.

In total, over 80,000 Aussies counted more than 3.6 million birds during the week submitting over 100,000 checklists and observing 658 bird species.

"The enthusiasm with which Australians have taken to the Aussie Bird Count has been outstanding," BirdLife Australia's

National Public Affairs Manager, Sean Dooley said.

Over the past 10 years, the Aussie Bird Count has helped raise the profile of Australia's bird life and encouraged thousands of people around the country to connect with nature.

"In addition to being good for our mental health, bird watching is often the first step towards nature conservation. We can't protect something if we don't know how it is faring in the first place."

With nearly one in six bird species in Australia at risk of extinction from threats such as

climate change, habitat loss, fires, and invasive species, BirdLife Australia relies on data to inform priorities and insights from monitoring projects such as the count to help shape their broader Bird Conservation Strategy, aiming to halt bird extinctions by 2032 and overall bird declines by 2050.

The results will be closely vetted by BirdLife Australia's avian experts with a comprehensive data release for the Aussie Bird Count scheduled for December this year.

Learn more about Australia's biggest citizen science event at aussiebirdcount.org.au



The stolen Bobcat. -S

Bobcat stolen from Kerrisdale

POLICE are appealing for information in relation to a stolen Bobcat. The 2008 Bobcat, which is white with black canopy, was stolen earlier this month.

Anyone with information about the theft or the whereabouts of the Bobcat is urged to contact Yea Police Station on 5797 2630 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

People are reminded to lock up their items. If on a farm, secure farm machinery and lock gates.



Some of the beautiful entries in the colouring competition. -S



Darryl King and Ruby McKay. -S



Ebony and Heidi. -S

Colouring competition winners announced

THIS year, Darryl King, the co-ordinator of Yea Rotary Open Gardens, and his helpers wanted to get the whole town involved and they came up with two ideas.

The first was to run a colouring competition for primary school children. *The Chronicle* printed a drawing for the children to colour and the entries were all finalised last Friday.

We were amazed with the number of entries and the quality of the work and want to acknowledge the involvement of staff at

both Sacred Heart College Yea and the Yea Primary School.

It was very hard for the independent judges to choose the top four art works but on Thursday, November 2, prizes were awarded as follows: First prize: Ruby McKay. Second prize: Heidi Dredge. Third prize: Ebony Frakcomb. Fourth prize: Ellie DeGroot.

All entries received have been displayed in the windows of Yea Pharmacy, Nutrien Harcourts and Yenckens in the main street

of Yea, and they make a wonderful splash of colour.

You might have seen some of the amazing window displays which are taking shape in Yea. Another brainwave of the committee, this is part of a competition for the business with the best display. Judging will be finalised this week and the winner announced after the Open Gardens Weekend.

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Find out more at betterhealth.vic.gov.au



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Vale Elsie Bennetts



Elsie Bennetts. -S

ELSIE Bennetts, a 10 year resident of Yea and active Yea CFA volunteer, has passed away aged 62.

Elsie was born in Cebu in the Philippines and she came to Australia in 1982 when she married an Australian man. They initially lived in the Albury Wodonga area, up near the Murray River.

She worked as a disability support officer, including working at Woodstock, the last asylum in NSW. Elsie also worked in South Australia for a while before moving to Melbourne, and then on to Yea when she retired.

Her only child, daughter Aloha, said, “She loved fishing and skiing and camping, all that sort of thing.” She added that her mother was certainly very active.

“She was very, very friendly. She found it really easy to make friends, really easy to talk to people. She would often help strangers. She talked to someone on the bus who had a daughter and they needed a place to stay, so she offered her place. That’s the sort of person she was. At one point, she found out that a friend’s son was living in his car, so she moved him in with her and he stayed with her for a few years,” Aloha said.

After Elsie divorced, it was just Elsie and Aloha for a while. Aloha now lives in Melbourne.



Elsie in her CFA uniform. -S


Elsie was very involved with the Yea CFA. Aloha said that Elsie liked working with the truck and other machines, and working with the people.

Aloha said, “She was on her own and was very friendly. She would be very helpful to people and help anyone who needed it.

“My mother was very into social justice and pushing for personal rights, especially in the workplace. While working for the Department of Human Services, she wrote and optimised a lot of Occupational Health and Safety policies and actively informed and encouraged other workers to claim their rights. It was one of her big passions when she was working.”

Aloha added, “She loved her cats and spent a lot of time in her garden.” Asked how many cats she had, Aloha responded, “Way too many. Officially, probably only three.”

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Kate Ceberano to perform at Marysville Music Weekend



KATE Ceberano has an Order of Australia, she’s in the Songwriters Hall of Fame, she’s got 30 albums to her name and she’s coming to Marysville.

She is a national treasure, a songstress and creator that’s been a bastion of the artistic fabric of the nation for decades.

This month she will be headlining the Marysville Music Festival in a trio set to bring her classics, as well as some new material, to an enthralled opening night audience.

“I haven’t been to this festival before. I don’t do a massive amount of headlining. I’m always about second or third down on the list. And because of the nature of things, and the economics of it all, I can only bring a trio. But part of me loves that. It’s a much more intimate expression when you have less music. I can talk and skirt around the edges and I like the idea of being able to control the narrative of the gig,” Kate said.

The constraints of the exercise can actually be a blessing, and Kate intends to make the most of the space at Marysville.

“I’m going to do what I love to do in a small setting, which is just trawl through some of my favourite songs. Obviously, with 40 years, sometimes you get into an audience situation and they’re like ‘Play the hits’ which is great, I’ll play as many of them as they want, but I’ll also be able to play and weave and duck and move around periods of my life that had other music attached to them.

“And even other people’s music. Like, for instance, I grew up with Renee Geyer. I sang for her memorial service recently, much to my sadness, and I felt like I had

been offered by her a legacy to continue. So I love performing some of her material, other Aussie classics, other women that I’ve grown up with and been raised by,” said Kate

With her performing and recording history, the many gongs and a new book just out, La Ceberano is a highly accomplished woman. She’s achieved much for one lifetime, but she’s not done yet.

“There’s a space that I’m yet to occupy, a teacher. I never thought I was smart enough to teach. I left school at 14 and I just felt useless, I just felt like I wasn’t really great at anything. And I just think that these days, teaching, the best form of teaching is showing and presenting people with opportunities so that they can be heard. And I guess that’s what I’d like to do moving forward,” Kate said.

“In my field, a lot of artists that have been doing it for 40 years, they’re still living in homes they don’t own. They don’t own much, a lot of the artists I’ve known, so we travel lightly. We don’t take a lot of shit with us. The experience is actually the house that we live in. I know that sounds a bit weird, but it’s true. I would like to take that experience, that big mansion I’ve built, and be able to give people a home. Young artists who don’t know what it feels like to tour, or what the expectations are, or how to connect with who they are and what they want to say and build different ways to say it. Not every one of us will have our names in lights. But if they could all just have a crack at it by doing it together in some other way. That’s kinda where I’m at at the moment,”

Kate Ceberano, artist, mentor and guide, will play out all those roles with the team she’s bringing to Marysville.

“I’ve got two guitarists. One of the young artists that I’ve mentored and worked with, Kathleen Halloran, she’s a rising star really. And a very dear friend of mine, James Ryan. So we’re just gonna rock out.”

The Marysville Music Weekend takes place from November 24 to 26. More information can be found at marysvillemusicweekend.com

Tickets available at: trybooking.com/events/landing/1076898

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Nathan Cowan

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Women's Health Information afternoon

A WOMEN'S health and information afternoon will be held on Sunday, November 12 at the Alexandra Football Clubrooms. Please arrive for a 2pm start. One of the keynote speakers is Keira Birchmore, a Practice Nurse at Murchison Medical Clinic.

Keira Birchmore

The health of families or communities depends largely on the health of women. The usual role of main carer, coupled with negative social and economic conditions, can have a detrimental impact on a woman's

overall health and wellbeing. Therefore, it's vital to dedicate time and effort to creating awareness of issues critical to women so that they, and the community at large, have a healthy life.

The women's health information afternoon is all about supporting women to make informed decisions about their health with information that is easy to understand.

This event provides women and girls of all cultures, socio-economic backgrounds, and gender and sexual identities, the opportunity to stop and to focus on their health and wellbeing, to listen to local health professionals about issues that affect everyday women.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare June 2023 report on the Health of Australian's females states that 56 per cent of Australian females have one or more of the 10 chronic conditions, 47 per cent of all premature deaths in females before the age of 75 are potentially avoidable through individualized care and/or treatable through

primary or hospital care. Those numbers are concerning. That is why Jean Hailes promotes the importance of maintaining your health, rather than fixing problems.

Regularly seeing your local GP and practice nurse for preventative checks, heart and health assessments and immunisations are essential to maintaining healthy lifestyle and can help prevent you from becoming another statistic.

At the Women's Health event in November, we will be discussing the importance of preventive checks, tests and assessments and how they can be accessed through your local GP. We will touch on important and relatable topics like hormones and how they affect your sleep, stress and heart health.

For more information on the Women's Health Information afternoon please contact Pamela Thompson on 0438 055 972 or Jennifer Creed at Alexandra District Health on 5772 0924.

Women's Health

Information Afternoon

In association with Alexandra District Health

Sunday 12 November

from 2pm

Alexandra Football Clubrooms

MC / Presenter Jane Poxon CEO Alexandra District Health

First 50 through door will receive a show bag of health information and surprises

Come and learn from health professionals about

- Mental health and COVID
- General women's health subjects, tests available and advice
- Pelvic floor health
- Bone health in women – diet and exercise
- Blood pressure checks

Drinks at bar prices and a sumptuous afternoon tea available

Women's Health

Sponsored by www.sisterhoodwomenstravel.com.au



Speakers Keira Birchmore and Danielle Calvert during their work at the Ambulance Victoria Rescue & Recovery centre during the Shepparton floods.



The Department of Health invites applications for a number of part time Board of Director positions at Yea and District Memorial Hospital commencing July 1, 2024.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for Victorians to positively contribute to the health and wellbeing of our communities through strategic leadership and governance oversight. Applicants are selected based on individual capabilities, personal and professional attributes, knowledge, skills and experience. All applications should include demonstrable evidence of these attributes.

Safe, high-quality care for all Victorians is a priority of the Department of Health and it is committed to establishing boards that reflect the rich diversity of communities served.

Applications close: November 19, 2023.

For further information on how to apply please refer to the Department of Health website health.vic.gov.au/board-applications

For any queries, please contact Jacky Baynes, Executive Assistant / Board Secretary on 5736 0412 or email jacky.baynes@ydmh.org.au



Department of Health



Board Director opportunities at Alexandra District Health

The Minister for Health, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, is pleased to invite applications for part time director positions at Alexandra District Health.

The positions start on 1 July 2024 and appointments are for two to three years.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for Victorians to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our communities. Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional attributes, experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of health care for the Victorian community.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring boards reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. Applications are welcomed from people of all ages, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people, people with disability, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and from lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, gender diverse, intersex and queer people.

Safe and high quality healthcare for all Victorians is a priority of the Victorian Government. Applicants must be able to demonstrate and provide evidence in support of the capabilities they identify in their applications.

Applications close at Midnight Sunday, November 19, 2023.

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply, please go to the following website: health.vic.gov.au/board-applications



Have you considered joining a hospital board?

BOTH Alexandra District Health and the Yea and District Memorial Hospital are currently seeking board members.

Victoria's public hospitals, including multi purpose services and early parenting centres, are currently seeking non-executive directors to serve on their boards. Directors usually start on July 1, 2024, for a period of up to three years.

Directors are appointed by the Minister of Health, according to the Health Services Act (Vic) 1988.

What will I have to do?

With your fellow directors on the hospital board, you will collectively set the 'big picture' strategic goals for the organisation aligning with the direction of the broader health system. The board members together also set up systems to make sure that performance can be monitored.

As a director you will work alongside the CEO (and the executive team) to make sure the organisation is operating in a safe and effective manner and achieving the goals the board has set for it.

As a director you need to ask questions and speak up regarding anything you are uncertain about. The ability to have a respectful and robust discussion makes for a well functioning board.

You will need to act in good faith and in the best interests of the hospital, and act with reasonable care and skill when making decisions and monitoring the hospital's activities and performance.

Are special qualifications needed?

The Department of Health has developed a Board Director Capability Framework which outlines key attributes and a range of capabilities that contribute to good governance and support a culture of inclusiveness and integrity.

Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional attributes, experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of health care for the Victorian community.

While Victorian public health boards are based on capabilities, boards are more effective when these capabilities also represent the richness of the diverse voices of Victorian communities.

People of all ages, women, Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people, people of all abilities, people from multicultural diverse backgrounds, people who identify with LGBTIQ+ communities are encouraged to apply. Directors with varying experience and knowledge make for better decisions.

What's in it for me?

Local public hospitals are central to the community they serve. Being on a hospital board is a way of making a difference to the broader community and ensuring vital services are delivered safely.

As a director you will be doing more than just contributing your time or advice. Being appointed to a public hospital board places you in a position of trust. You will play an important role in providing leadership and accountability for the delivery of health care.

How will I be supported?

Public hospital boards are supported by hospital management, the department and Victorian Public Sector Commission. There is also collaboration and partnerships (formal and informal) with other hospitals across the public health system.

The Department and Safer Care Victoria run statewide training on corporate and clinical governance. The Victorian Managed Insurance Authority (VMIA) also provide training on risk.

The Victorian Healthcare Association (VHA) as the peak body for Victoria's public hospitals, is also a good resource. For further information, visit vha.org.au

How much time will it take?

Boards usually meet 11 times per year (monthly and often in the late afternoon or evening) and have an annual planning day and annual general meeting. There are board committees on which directors also participate. With preparation time, a director should plan to commit a minimum of one to two days per month, and to attend at least 75 per cent of scheduled meetings.

Public hospitals and multi purpose services are classified as Class C1 or A5 boards. Refer to the department's guidance on Board remuneration health.vic.gov.au/boards-and-governance/board-remuneration-and-director-expenses

Will I be covered by insurance?

All directors of public health boards, who act in good faith, are covered for public liability, professional indemnity and personal accident insurance under a departmental insurance scheme provided by the VMIA.

How do I apply?

To apply, register with Join a Public Board at boards.vic.gov.au and then fill in the application.

For more information including how to apply, visit health.vic.gov.au/board-applications

To learn more about your local hospital, visit health.vic.gov.au/hospitals-and-health-services/public-hospitals-in-victoria

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Here for You

NOVEMBER COMMUNITY UPDATE - GOULBURN VALLEY PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT

Be Aware - Mozzies are increasing!

As the weather warms up, mosquito numbers are increasing! Warm and wet weather provides the perfect breeding ground for mosquitoes, increasing the risk of diseases like Ross River Fever and Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV). JE virus is a rare but potentially serious infection of the brain caused by a virus spread to humans through mosquito bites.

Understanding JEV

JEV is mostly spread to humans from pigs via mosquito bites but the good news is it cannot be spread from human to human. It also cannot be spread by eating pork.

Prevention is key

Dr. Will Cross, Clinical Director of GVPHU, emphasises that prevention is our best defence against mosquito-borne diseases.

Here's what you can do:

- Use Mosquito Repellent:** Apply DEET, Picaridin, or Lemon Eucalyptus-based repellents on exposed skin.
- Dress Smart:** Opt for light, loose-fitting clothing, especially during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active.
- Secure Your Space:** Ensure mosquito nettings and screens in your accommodation to keep the bugs out.



- 4. Eliminate Breeding Grounds:** Get rid of stagnant water sources where mosquitoes breed around your home.

- 5. Stay Cautious:** Be mindful around lakes, creeks, rivers, and dams, where mosquito activity is higher.

At higher risk? Get vaccinated.

People who live, work or spend time outdoors in northern Victoria, particularly in inland riverine regions extending upwards the Murray River, may be at higher risk of Japanese encephalitis. People who live or work at properties with pigs may also be at higher risk.

In Victoria, JE vaccine is free-of-charge for eligible individuals. Please note, some providers may charge an administration or consultation fee. Be sure to check if this applies to you.

This season, let's fight the bite, and protect ourselves and our communities from mosquito borne diseases.

For more information and resources on mosquito-borne diseases, visit
www.gvhealth.org.au/public-health-unit or
<https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/japanese-encephalitis>

BOLO NOVEMBER REPORT (be on the look out)

VARICELLA (chicken pox/ shingles)

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella-zoster virus that is a highly contagious infection. Symptoms appear around two to three weeks after exposure, including mild fever, headache, runny nose, sore throat, and a distinctive skin rash. Diagnosis is best left to your GP or health professional. Most cases are mild and resolve on their own. To manage symptoms get plenty of rest, stay hydrated, control fever with paracetamol, using calamine lotion for itch relief, try and prevent scratching, especially for infants.

For more information, head to <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/chickenpox>

MEASLES

Measles is a highly contagious viral illness that goes beyond just a rash and fever, potentially leading to severe complications like pneumonia and encephalitis. While Australia experiences few cases due to widespread vaccination, awareness is crucial. The virus spreads through coughs and sneezes, particularly affecting unvaccinated people, those with weak immune systems, young children, and pregnant women. If infected, stay home for four days after the rash starts and until recovery. The best defence is vaccination – two doses offer protection to 99% of vaccinated individuals.

For more information, head to <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/measles>

GASTROENTERITIS IN CHILDREN

Gastroenteritis (or gastro) is a bowel infection that causes diarrhoea and sometimes vomiting. It can cause dehydration, especially in young children and babies. Children in particular need to drink plenty of clear fluids. Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to prevent gastroenteritis infection. Alcohol-based hand sanitisers are not effective against gastroenteritis. Keep your child away from others until 48 hours after their symptoms have stopped. If symptoms persist, visit your local GP.

For more information, head to <https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/gastroenteritis-in-children>



Two courses to help you give back to the community

by Jackie Gilbee, Founder of GVSAG

If you want to give back to the community, there are two courses available through the Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group (GVSAG). The funding for these courses has come from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) and Australia Post.

As a result of the funding, the group is able to provide a short course for a Suicide Alertness for Everyone talk (safeTALK), giving people the ability to talk to someone who they feel may be suicidal, and next year GVSAG are providing meetings/gatherings for people who are bereaved from suicide.

With this course, GVSAG are also providing a facilitator course, to give you the skills to conduct a gathering of people that are bereaved from suicide.

This is also ideal for the public and would be great for coaches, trainers, teachers, etcetera. The course is free of charge.

For more information, contact Jacky on 0417 907 278 or Penny on 0417 570 801, or you can email hello@gvsag.org.au



One of the smallest participants in the walk. -S



The Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Walk is an annual event in Yea, raising awareness and providing support information. -S



Jacky (right) is one of the organisers of the event. -S



Suicide Alertness for Everyone

Presented by Michelle Graeber (CEO ARCvic)

In this 3.5 hour workshop, you will learn how to become a suicide alert helper and be better prepared to:

- Notice and respond to situations in which thoughts of suicide may be present
- Apply basic TALK steps (Tell, Ask, Listen, & KeepSafe)
- Connect the person with thoughts of suicide to suicide first aid resources and further community resources

safeTALK is run by registered Living Works trainers and uses internationally standardized learning materials.

Date: Monday, 4th December. 6:00 pm-9.30 pm

Venue: Murrindindi-Woodboume Community Hub Inc.
815 Murrindindi Road, Murrindindi 3717

For further information or to register contact us on;
Phone 0417 907 278 or 0417 570 801
Email hello@gvsag.org.au web: www.gvsag.org.au



Want to run
a Support
Group for
those affected
by suicide?

We would like to invite you to a 2 day mutual self help support group facilitator training. Attendance at both days is compulsory. The course material is for those wanting to facilitate self help groups and who would like to build skills and become effective group leaders.

The 2 day course is designed to increase knowledge and confidence about self help groups and will cover:

- Philosophy, format and structure of groups
- Ethics, group safety and self care
- Group dynamics
- Facilitator roles, responsibilities and skills
- Resolving common problems in groups
- Listening and communication skills

Date: Tuesday November 28 and December 5. 9.30am to 4.30 pm

Venue: Murrindindi-Woodboume Community Hub Inc.
815 Murrindindi Road, Murrindindi 3717

Registrations: Please register by November 22

For further information or to register contact us on;
Phone 0417 907 278 or 0417 570 801
Email hello@gvsag.org.au web: www.gvsag.org.au



10,000 fines for tailgating in Victoria

THE Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV) is calling on Victorian motorists to be aware of how close they're driving to the vehicle in front of them, with Victoria Police figures showing over 10,000 fines for tailgating have been handed out to motorists over the last five years.

In Victoria, tailgating, or 'failing to drive a sufficient distance behind a vehicle,' can see offenders receive a fine of up to \$248 and lose a demerit point. A total of 2108 infringements for this dangerous practice were given to drivers in Victoria in 2022, up five per cent from 2001 infringements in 2021.

RACV Policy Lead Safety Sam Lynch said motorists need to consider the safety risks around tailgating, with most underestimating the distance needed to stop their vehicles.

"Keeping a safe distance from the vehicle in front of you isn't just a safe driving technique, it's required by law, although a 'sufficient distance' can change depending on the road conditions and circumstance, it is recommended to keep at least a two-second gap between

your vehicle and the vehicle in front," said Mr Lynch.

"To calculate the two-second gap, pick a fixed object on the side of the road and as the vehicle in front of you passes it, start counting. If the front of your car reaches that object before you get to two, you're travelling too close. Slow down and increase the distance between the vehicles.

"If you're driving in low visibility conditions, if it's wet or foggy, at night, if you're tired, towing a caravan or driving a heavy vehicle, that gap should be extended to at least four seconds.

"The bigger the gap between the two vehicles, the more time you have to break or react to avoid a serious collision."

Mr Lynch also said that 41 per cent of RACV motor collision claims were due to rear-end collisions, which could be due to a variety of reasons including tailgating, the front driver not breaking in time or the rear driver accidentally pressing on the accelerator.

"In addition to the obvious safety reasons, motorists should also remember that in the event of a collision, it is often

the motorist who runs into the back of another vehicle that is at fault from an insurance perspective," Mr Lynch said.

"The at fault driver may be required to pay the excess on the policy, which will depend on what the policyholder has chosen."

Mr Lynch also pointed out the aggressive and intimidating nature of tailgate driving, and what motorists should do when they encounter it.

"Being tailgated can be intimidating and can divert the concentration of a motorist, resulting in collisions or leading to unsafe driving speeds," My Lynch said.

"While some drivers may be tempted to box the tailgater in and even tap on your brakes to send a message, it's simply never worth the risk to put yourself in harm's way.

"RACV recommends that if you're being tailgated or you're uncomfortable with the proximity of the vehicle behind you, stay calm, maintain a safe speed, prioritise safety, focus on the road ahead and move over or let them pass when it's safe to do so."

Basin plan amendments and challenges

MEMBER for Indi Helen Haines has been successful in making four amendments to the Murray Darling Basin Plan bill. The four amendments related to the Restoring our Rivers bill. One of the amendments was to provide review of compensation payments made in order to address the economic impacts on communities from water buybacks. The other three amendments strengthen the auditing power of the Inspector General of Water Compliance, to improve accountability and transparency.

She explained that the Water Act expires early in 2024 and the Murray Darling Basin Plan "hasn't delivered all of its targets yet." She said that the option was to either let it expire or to amend it to extend it for another two years.

The water catchments across the electorate of Indi supply more than 50 per cent of the surface water to the Murray-Darling Basin. Indi also contains the Murray-Darling Basin's largest water storages, Dartmouth Dam, Hume Dam and Lake Eildon. These dams and lakes, along with smaller dams in the electorate, amount to 63 per cent of storage capacity in the Southern Basin and 45 per cent of total storage for the whole Murray-Darling Basin.

The most contested elements regarding the Restoring Our Rivers Bill were the extension of the timeline by two years for the projects aimed at bringing water savings and enabling the government to buyback water voluntarily from people who hold water licences.

The government has the numbers in the House of Representatives to pass the legislation, so Ms Haines consulted widely across Indi, with landholders on the various rivers including the Goulburn and Murray, catchment management authorities, environmental groups, the Water for Indi group, the deputy CEO of the Northern Basin Irrigators Association, and the Goulburn Valley Irrigation Leadership group.

She said, "Fundamentally, lots of discussion, and then I negotiated four successful amendments to the government's bill, which I was really happy about."

Dr Haines also proposed two other amendments to give greater security and surety to people who are affected by flooding when, for example, water is let out of Lake Eildon. "I wasn't successful in getting that amendment through, but what I did get in the minister's response was that she committed to a constraints facilitator, a person who would work with affected communities, because certainly what I was hearing from people on the Goulburn is that they wanted to see more space in the Eildon Weir, they

wanted to have greater notification of when there are water releases, and they wanted those water releases to be made at times that take into account the effect that releases of water have on their properties."

Asked whether there were further discussions around what the facilitator would do, Dr Haines responded, "Not at this stage. The thing to remember here is that this bill is far from over. This is just the first stage of its passage."

The bill will now make its way to the Senate and there is a Senate Inquiry happening and "I'm sure there will be further amendments made to it in the Upper House and before it makes its way back again to the Lower House."

There is an ongoing push-pull between irrigators and the need for environmental flows. Dr Haines was asked, when a reduced amount of water is available, how do you envisage that working? She responded that is a question better directed to the minister.

She added that in two years' time, the whole Murray Darling Basin Plan will again be up for discussion and negotiation. "No question though that we are coming into a dry period. Part of the speech that I made to Parliament about this is that we need to take into account not only the dry years that are coming, but climate change more broadly. Much of the modelling that's been undertaken across the basin is clear that we will not have the same amount of rainfall coming into the basin in the future. There's many elements to this still to come.

"The key thing is, in the minister's speech, she makes quite clear that buybacks aren't their first option. In fact, what this plan does is extend those projects which are designed to save water, and if more water can be saved and it's demonstrated that it's bringing more environmental flows, then the buybacks wouldn't be the first course of action. But other people dispute that. It's probably the most contested and competitive area of public policy going, to be honest. There are multiple perspectives in this, whether it be farmers, whether it be communities needing drinking water, whether it be the environment having wetlands adequately watered, whether it be the Menindee Lakes, whether it be the Darling (Barka) River which as we know is in serious trouble. There are many many components to this.

"From my perspective as the Member for Indi, my approach was to try and improve the bill, having met with many people and listened to many perspectives across Indi," she said.

Among the people she spoke to, there are many different views. Along the

Goulburn River for example, where people were impacted by the Lake Eildon release flooding, they had different perspectives from people who lived along the Ovens, Kiewa and King Rivers, for example. There were also people with concerns around the ecology of the river systems.

"It a very difficult piece of law to navigate...I really tried to give voice to the people I had spoken to."

It's certainly a contentious piece of legislation. In recent days, the Victorian Farmers Federation stated, "The Productivity Commission's Murray-Darling Basin Plan Implementation Review backing of more water buybacks would irreversibly damage Basin farming communities and tears up a decade-long agreement to collaboratively manage the river system."

Senator Perin Davey, acting leader of the Nationals and Shadow Minister for Water, said, "The government's dogged pursuit of an extra 450GL of water under the Murray Darling Basin Plan should be put on hold until it is better understood what constraints easing projects can achieve."

The Australia Institute found that there is majority support for water buybacks across Basin states, party lines and regional Australia.

They said, "Changes proposed by the government include a return to water buybacks, which had been capped by the previous Liberal-National government in favour of subsidies for water-saving projects. The Australia Institute has found that the use of buybacks, additional water recovery to compensate for Basin Plan delays and reducing water extraction in rivers where the Murray cod are at risk of extinction enjoy widespread popular support."

The Australia Institute surveyed a nationally representative sample of 1535 Australians about the Murray Darling Basin and water recovery within the Basin Plan. They found that two in three Australians (66 per cent) support the reintroduction of voluntary water buybacks, with only 10 per cent opposed. Support across voting intention was Labor (71 per cent), Greens (71 per cent) and Coalition (65 per cent) voters.

The Productivity Commission said, "The Australian Government should commence a renewed program of water recovery, using the most cost-effective methods, including staged voluntary water entitlement purchases. This should occur alongside a commitment from basin governments to support communities to adjust, where warranted."

Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme now open

THE Victorian Government has launched Victoria's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS Vic), which will reduce the state's litter by up to half and put money back in the pockets of Victorians.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos opened the scheme, where people can now return their eligible drink cans, bottles and cartons for a 10 cent refund at refund points across Victoria. In Murrindindi Shire, these locations are at Nanny Jan's Emporium, 3-4A Main Street in Eildon; Yea Amble Inn, 24 High Street, Yea; and Kinglake Pub and Pantry, 28 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake. There are not currently locations in Alexandra or Marysville.

The scheme is expected to generate more than 600 jobs statewide and turn used drink containers into new, recycled products.

Reverse vending machines, depots, over-the-counter sites, and pop-up refund points will be the four ways people can return their eligible containers, and depending on the type of refund point, people can choose whether they want to receive the refund in the form of cash, a retail voucher, or an electronic refund.

Victorians can also choose to donate their refund to a charity or community organisation registered with the scheme.

The network of refund points to recycle containers will continue to grow in 2024, making the scheme even more accessible to Victorians.

VicReturn is the scheme coordinator, while zone operators Return-It, TOMRA Cleanaway, and Visy will establish and oversee the refund points and refunds to customers, as well as ensuring proper recycling of the containers. Visy is the provider in Murrindindi Shire.

The operators are each responsible for the refund point network in their allocated scheme zones: north, east and west.

Within nine months of the scheme starting, the zone operators will be required to have a minimum of one collection point per 14,500 people in metropolitan areas, at least one per town of 750 people in regional areas, and at least one per town of 350 people in remote areas.

CDS Vic is part of the Labor Government's \$515 million investment to transform the state's waste and recycling system. This includes the new standardised four-stream waste and recycling system, supporting our target of diverting 80 per cent of all material away from landfill by 2030.

The state Liberal Nations have accused the scheme of starting "amid ongoing disarray and with advocates calling for it to be delayed."

They are concerned that the state is not ready to manage the estimated three billion eligible beverages consumed in Victoria each year.

Environmental group, the Boomerang Alliance, said that there aren't enough refund points for consumers and there are significant differences in the quality and convenience of the small number of points. Furthermore, they warn the disappointing experience for consumers could turn Victorians off participating.

Shadow Minister for Environment, James Newbury, said, "The Liberals and Nationals led in calling for Victoria to introduce a working container deposit scheme, almost four years ago.

"[The current scheme] is a massive let down for environmentally minded Victorians who have waited years for Labor to introduce a working Container Deposit Scheme only to find out the state government has stuffed it up."

To learn more about CDS Vic and to find the nearest refund point closest to you, visit cdsvic.org.au

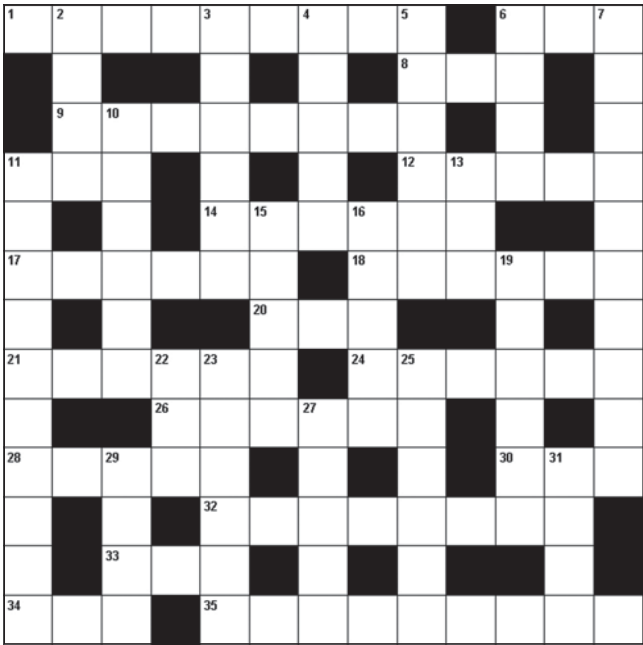
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 18

Crossword

ACROSS

- 1. Made a light chirping sound.
- 6. Casing for peas.
- 8. Broad sash worn with a Japanese kimono.
- 9. Gave a spanking to.
- 11. Bottom border of a dress.
- 12. A fertile spot in a desert.
- 14. Long handled spoons.
- 17. More mild and retiring.
- 18. Spirit and liveliness.
- 20. Strong feeling of anger.
- 21. A large, grassy, almost treeless plain.
- 24. A macaque monkey from South Asia.
- 26. Strongly opposed to.
- 28. Group of people related by blood.
- 30. Put in a horizontal position.
- 32. Plants again.
- 33. Bring to a halt.
- 34. The ocean.
- 35. Put on special clothes.



DOWN

- 2. Cunning and trickery.
- 3. Reptile with shell and flippers.
- 4. Very fast.
- 5. Extinct flightless birds of Mauritius.
- 6. Fairly large holes in the ground.
- 7. Disappoint.
- 10. Minuscule one-celled organism.
- 11. The art of preaching.
- 13. Cobra used by the Pharaohs.
- 15. Get up and out of bed.
- 16. Suggestive looks.
- 19. The end product.
- 22. Seize suddenly.
- 23. Take too far.
- 25. Person who announces important news.
- 27. The basic unit of money in India.
- 29. A personal view.
- 31. Inquires about.

Double Puzzle

TAILPSC PAPRE

LMNUUIIMA GSSLA

SCRPA CGHITOLN

BARDCDRAO STICROLNECE

10 11 12 13 14

Word Search

The 12 Rs of Zero Waste

RECYCLE REPAIR REUSE

REDUCE REPURPOSE ROT

REFILL RESPECT RECYCLE

REFUSE RESTORE REDUCE

REMEMBER RETURN REFILL

Maths Squares

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.

Maths Squares grid with numbers and operators.

Sudoku

Difficulty: Very 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.

Sudoku grid with numbers and empty cells.

Just wait a prosecco!



The naming of prosecco is one of the key sticking points in the Australia-EU free trade agreement negotiations. -Harshlight

DISCUSSIONS over the free trade agreement between Australia and the European Union (EU) have halted with no deal being mutually acceptable to the parties. The talks commenced in June 2018.

Nationals Senator Bridget McKenzie said the local wine growers have stared down a bad EU trade deal that would have significantly impacted the industry.

“No deal is better than a bad deal. Opening up more trade opportunities is vital, but the compromises our producers were being asked to make were unacceptable,” Senator McKenzie said.

“The EU wanted to place highly disputed geographical indicators that would restrict our local producers in the north east from using the name prosecco.

“Producers particularly in the King Valley have been courageous in standing up for the industry and ensuring that the voice of growers, and regional Australia, were heard by the Federal Government.

“The EU also put up a poor offer on our agricultural products such as beef and sheep and proposed quotas that were very low.

“It was right for the Australian Government to walk away from a bad offer from the European Union. Ultimately it would have hurt our producers and done significant harm to the industry long term.”

“The Nationals are strong supporters of greater trade liberalisation for Australia, but it cannot come at any cost and must always have our industry’s best interests at the forefront.”

Member for Indi Helen Haines agreed, saying “Walking away is better than a bad deal for prosecco.”

She welcomed the Australian Government’s decision to walk away from trade negotiations with the European Union which could have resulted in a bad deal for the Australian agricultural industry.

Dr Haines has been a strong advocate for protecting prosecco winemakers and grape growers in the North East of Victoria. The European Union was seeking to place Geographic Indication protection on prosecco as part of the deal which winemakers and grape growers say would devastate the industry.

“Prosecco is vital to the economy in the King Valley and a robust wine industry is vital to Indi,” Dr Haines said.

“I am pleased Trade Minister Don Farrell has listened to the concerns of farmers, winemakers, grape growers and the broader agricultural industry on this deal.

“What was on the table was not a good deal for regional Australia, and we have seen little progress and compromise by the European Union, so this was the right call for us.”

Dr Haines facilitated meetings between a delegation of King Valley winemakers and the Trade Minister Don Farrell, Agricultural Minister Murray Watt, in Parliament House late last year, and has discussed the negotiations with the Trade Minister throughout 2023.

“I’m doing all that I can to make sure our producers retain the ability to use the name Prosecco,” Dr Haines said.

“I am pleased the Trade Minister has heeded our calls, and the calls of the National Farmers Federation, Australian Grape and Wine and other industry bodies, and walked away from the negotiations where they are at,” Dr Haines said.

“While the Labor Government doesn’t always get it right for farmers and regional communities, this is a sensible decision, no deal is better than a bad deal.

“A trade deal with the EU is not over and I am sure negotiations will resume sometime in the future. When that time comes, I will encourage the government to keep negotiating in the best interests of our prosecco growers and winemakers.”

Australian farmers have argued that the agreement barely improves market access for sugar, red meat and dairy and would, in fact, impose conditions or European-mandated restrictions on local farming practices.

Prosecco was also not the only product name which the Europeans were demanding be changed. They were seeking the protection of ‘geographic indications’ including parmesan, feta, kalamata olives, and roquefort, gorgonzola, gouda, edam and gruyère cheeses.

ON THE LAND

Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture, Aquaculture and Silviculture

Research to boost industrial hemp production

WITH the global industrial hemp market expected to reach \$18.6 billion by 2027, a new research program will help Australian producers and processors capitalise on the opportunity.

AgriFutures Australia's Emerging Industries Program is investing \$2.5 million over five years to deliver game-changing research into four key areas: hemp seeds and varieties, hemp primary production, hemp products and hemp sustainability.

The Australian Industrial Hemp Program of Research (AIHPR) officially launched at Southern Cross University in Lismore, was guided by the Australian Industrial Hemp Strategic RD&E Plan and developed in close consultation with industrial hemp growers, processors, agronomists and researchers.

The AIHPR will be led by Southern Cross University, which has more than 15 years' experience in industrial hemp research.

Lead researcher, Professor Tobias Kretzschmar said the AIHPR will involve a range of other research organisations and industry partners to provide research solutions to address the industry's key barriers to growth.

"The focus areas include securing a steady supply of well-characterised varieties, developing value-add processing methods, investigating the safe and beneficial use of

hemp products in livestock and animal feed and generating information and tools for growers to understand the sustainability credentials of industrial hemp," Professor Kretzschmar said.

Hemp seeds are a rich source of essential omega fatty acids and contain high amounts

of protein. Hemp also produces high-quality fibres that can be made into fabric for clothing, replace single-use plastics and be used in building materials such as hempcrete.

AgriFutures Australia Emerging Industries Senior Manager, Dr Olivia

Reynolds, said hemp had enormous potential to boost Australia's agricultural productivity.

For more information on AgriFutures industrial hemp investments, visit agrifutures.com.au/rural-industries/industrial-hemp



Industrial hemp. -Jeff De Longe

Healthy land Healthy people

A flood recovery event

Date: Wednesday, 15 November 2023

Time: 6pm onwards

Location: Yea Tennis Club, Recreation Ave

Cost: Free

Hear from local agronomist Stuart Foy about how you can improve the quality of your soil following a flood. Also hear from local mental health nurse Sarah Austin about protecting your mental health after a flood, the support services available, and how to access them.

A BBQ dinner will be available from 7pm. YDMH is running this event in partnership with Murrindindi Shire Council, Nutrien Ag Solutions, and the Rotary Club of Yea. It is being generously funded by the State of Victoria through Emergency Recovery Victoria's Community Recovery Hub grant program in response to the October 2022 flood and storm events which significantly impacted the Shire.



Register your attendance by 10 November by scanning the QR code



Recipe kindly submitted by Christine Stonehouse of the Kinglake Branch of the CWA

ROASTED PUMPKIN SOUP

INGREDIENTS

1.25kg butternut pumpkin-peeled and cut into cubes
1 parsnip-peeled and cut into cubes
1 large onion chopped
1 large carrot chopped
1 stick of celery chopped
2 tablespoons of oil
2 teaspoons ground cumin
1 litre(4 cups) chicken or vegetable stock
Sour cream/ chopped parsley / ground nutmeg to serve

METHOD

Preheat oven 180 degrees C
Bake pumpkin and parsnip in 1tbsp of oil for 25-30 mins until soft and slightly brown.
Sauté onion in remaining oil for 2 minutes then add carrot add cook for 3 minutes.
Place all items in a soup pot bring to the boil and simmer for 20-30 minutes until soft. Allow to cool, blend together reheat slowly season to taste.
Serve with a dollop of sour cream, chopped parsley and ground nutmeg.



Kinglake CWA meet on the first tuesday of each month at the Kinglake Neighbourhood house in McMahon's Road Kinglake. Contact Christine on 0407 056 346.

PHOTO COMPETITION

Remember to submit your photo competition entry for your chance to win a \$50 gift voucher from Embling Rural in Alexandra. This month's theme is 'Our Great Outdoors'.

See our October 25 edition for details.



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Alexandra Show - alexandrashow.com

November 15 - Yea

Healthy land Healthy people
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November 26 - Yea

Yea Show - yeashow.org.au

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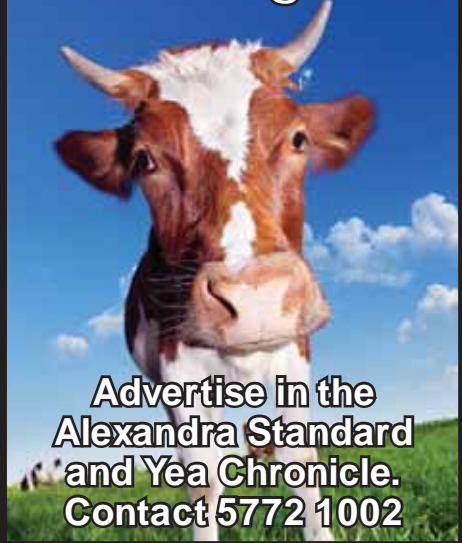
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Dec 1: Combined agents store sale



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MEETINGS



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

2022-2023 Annual General Meeting

This event will be held on
Thursday 7th December 2023 at 4.00pm, at
Alexandra District Hospital.



Please RSVP to Jennifer.Creed@adh.org.au
Or 03 5772 0924
by Thursday 30th November, 2023.

SITUATION VACANT



HOUSEKEEPER

Join OEG as Housekeeper
Passionate about outdoor education?
OEG seeks a dedicated Housekeeper.
Maintain camp cleanliness, uphold
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satisfaction.
Bring your hygiene expertise, teamwork,
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Be part of empowering youth through
outdoor experiences.

Enquire at careers@oeg.edu.au
or call Matilda on 0417 635 231.

SITUATION VACANT



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We are seeking a person to join our
wellbeing team as a counsellor.

The position may suit either a teacher
with a counselling background or skills,
or a person with counselling (or similar)
qualifications and experience of working
with young people.

To discuss this position please call
Bronwyn Howell on 5770 2014, or email
any enquiries and requests for
a position description and
key selection criteria to
Bronwyn.Howell@education.vic.gov.au

Applications close Wednesday,
November 15, 2023.

SITUATION VACANT



Accounts Payable

Hedger Constructions is a reputable building
company that has an expanding client base
covering regional Victoria and Melbourne.
We seek a motivated and organised person
to be responsible for the efficient, timely and
accurate processing of accounts payable.
The successful applicant will be comfortable
in a small team, able to make decisions
independently and a good communicator.
A minimum of 2 years experience in accounts
payable. The role is 4 days per week but a
full time role may be considered for
the right candidate.

Expressions of Interest to
jobs@hedgerconstructions.com.au

Closing Friday, November 17, 2023.



CATERING COORDINATOR

Passionate about outdoor education?

Casual position, \$28.54/hour
at Marysville

You will play an important role in
food delivery at our Camp Jungai site,
providing a high level of customer
service at all times.

You will work collaboratively with your
colleagues to deliver high quality food
service to our clients.

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or call Matilda on 0417 635 231.

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Join our award-winning team here at
Holmesglen at Eildon

www.holmesglenateildon.com.au

Admin / Reception / Reservations
Casual position, approximately 20hrs/
week. Must have good computer skills,
account processing, and with prior
experience in reservations or hotel
operations preferable.

Groundsperson

Full time position, preferable to have a
horticulture background and supervisory
experience. A detailed position description
is available.

For enquiries, please make a time to
visit, phone 5774 2631 and / or send
through your resume to the Manager
rozzanne.lawton@holmesglen.edu.au

SITUATION VACANT



LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICER x 2

2024 Fixed Term 12-month contract FTE 0.84 (5 days per week)
2024 Fixed Term 12-month contract FTE 0.51 (3 days per week)

Applications are invited for the positions of a **Learning Support Officer** at St Mary's.
These are fixed term positions commencing
January 29, 2024 and concluding on January 27, 2025.

We are seeking enthusiastic applicants who are able to demonstrate excellent
interpersonal and communication skills, support the vision and mission of St Mary's
Catholic Primary School and our Catholic values. Applicants must display professional
behaviours when engaging in child-connected work, have an ongoing interest in children
and be willing to participate in a range of school related activities.

If you would like to join us in being part of a team that works to ensure growth and
success in our students, please send details as outlined below. St Mary's is a child safe
school and as such successful applicants should hold or be willing to acquire
a **Working with Children Check** and a **National Police Record Check**.

How to apply: Detailed position descriptions and applications are available by visiting
www.smalexandra.catholic.edu.au/Employment or
by emailing principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au

**Please include: Current resume and two (2) referees,
one being your most recent employer.**
Please express your interest by November 10, 2023



Sales and Accounts Manager MATERNITY LEAVE POSITION

HG Turf Group is a family-owned business
located in Alexandra, North East Victoria and
specialises in producing premium turf for the
Melbourne and regional Victorian markets.

We are seeking to employ a Sales and
Accounts Manager for a maternity leave
position with the potential for ongoing work.

The position is a full time role working
Monday to Friday from 8am to 4pm.

Applicants should be polite, confident and
have experience in handling computer-
based applications with the ability to input
data accurately.

You would also demonstrate an excellent
phone manner, time management skills,
good attention to detail, willingness to learn
and to work in a team environment.

Your main roles would include but are not
limited to processing all inbound sales and
enquiries, assist with accounts payable and
receivable, manage and report on stock and
raw materials.

You will be an important part of our dedicated
team and will work in a positive and
supportive environment.

**Interested, or have any further
questions, please email your resumé to
info@hgturfgroup.com.au**

Classifieds

Call 5772 1002 now to book your ad today!

DEATH NOTICES

BELLMAN, Allan
George 'Doc'
Slipped away peacefully on 05/11/2023 aged 82. Loved husband of Beverley. Son of George and Lil (both dec). Brother, brother in law and uncle to Fran (dec), Kevin, Marilyn, Steve and families. Father, step father, father in law and Pa to Ron, Sue, Helen, Kylie, Brett and families. Much loved and fondly remembered.

BELLMAN, Allan
George 'Doc'. Passed away peacefully 05/11/23 aged 82. Adored dad, father in law, Pa and mate of Ronnie, Laurinda and Jake. Lots of great memories to treasure. We'll miss you heaps Pa. Let's have one more for the road..

HOSKING, Julee
nee Dickson passed away surrounded by her loved ones and her precious girls. Mike's best friend and precious girl. Beloved stepmum to Ben and Dan, sister of Ryll and Ross. Now free to roam with all her loved and cherished animals. Loved and remembered always.

DEATH NOTICES

HOSKING, Julee
14/12/1955 - 01/11/2023. We are deeply saddened by your passing but honoured to have known you and to call you our friend. Rest easy now, your battle is done. Gerry and Jane Laws.

HOSKING, Julee
Dearly loved friend and mate gone way too soon. No more pain. Love Marita and Gary.

CARTER, Helen
22/04/1930 - 15/09/2023. Memorial to be held at Helen's house, 688 Maintongoon Road, Alexandra at 3pm on Sunday, November 12. Thanks mum. From David, Phillip and families.

FUNERAL NOTICES

HOSKING, Julee
A private cremation as Julee's wishes.

McCormack
Funerals & Mortuary
AFDA 1800 080 909
www.mccormackfunerals.com.au

IN MEMORIAM

CREIGHTON, Neville Charles
31/10/1948 - 07/11/2003. Today, we are celebrating 20 years since you were taken away, sadly you normally celebrate a birthday, not a death of a loved one. Happy birthday dad, I believe that feelings are mirrored in our eyes, memories maintain our lives, experience makes us wise, tears heal our cries, the soul survives, love never dies. We miss you. Lots of love, Shaun and Amanda.

ANNIVERSARIES

50th Anniversary
Celebrating 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary
Creighton - Murray David and Evelyn married at St Roch's in Glen Iris at 4.30pm on 10/11/1973. Best wishes to Stringy and Ev.

BARGAINS UNDER \$100

SCORPION mountain bike, 21 speed, shimano gears, \$100. Ph 0438 731 590.

STANDARD Iceberg Roses, 4ft, 2 years old in 20cm pots X5. \$20 each. Ph Doug 0401 936 500.

DEALS ON WHEELS

2012 Jayco Starcraft Caravan for sale \$39,000. 16' (4.88). Single axle. Accessories - air conditioner, alloy wheels, annexe, awing, aux battery (1), bumper bar, drop down jacks, electric brakes, fridge, dual gas bottles, HWS, inner spring mattress, microwave, 4 burner oven, picnic table, radio, single beds, toilet, shower, van cover, ratchet jockey wheel, adjustable tow bar tongue and level rides. Located in Marsyville. Registration number: U83089. Ph 0419 557 274.

CARAVAN, Roma Elegance 2010. 19 feet, double bed, toilet/ shower, combined stove top, fridge, air conditioning, solar panel, TV and aerial. Many extras. \$36,000. Ph Geoff 0408 135 961.

FOR HIRE

FITNESS EQUIPMENT

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

FOR SALE

MASSEY FERGUSON 135. Reconditioned. New battery. Ph John 0419 007 146.

MEETINGS

AGM for the Acheron Hall to be held at noon on November 19. All welcome.

PETS & LIVESTOCK

ISA BROWNLAYERS - POL, \$28 each. Phone 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

Internships begin for Yea High School students

INTERNSHIPS have begun for Yea High School year nine students who are taking part in the Big Picture program. The students will be spending one day a week in the workplace and use their allocated time at school working on projects for the their hosts.

Pictured here are Jack and Brodie. After completing their Community Service Project with Gnarly Neighbours earlier in the year the boys were able to obtain internships with them also.

Jack and Brodie will be getting a crash course on design, marketing and events from Gnarly Neighbours, which will help them kickstart their dream of having their own skate brand.



Purple hay bales in Molesworth



The purple hay bales in Molesworth. -AR

HAVE you noticed the purple hay bales in Molesworth? They are a film produced by Zeus Packaging, a privately owned Irish company. The purple bales are charity donation film, with the company donating \$7 per roll of purple plastic to the Starlight Children's Foundation. The Molesworth bales are the first appearance of the bales in the Murrindindi area and the contractor is David Ross from Yea Valley Ag. "It's good to see our customers supporting our charity initiatives," Andrew Makin, sales manager for Zeus Packaging said.

Book your classified ad TODAY!

Deadline: NOON MONDAY

Phone: 5772 1002

or email

reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au

PLEASE NOTE: All classifieds **MUST** be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the time of booking.



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Phone 5772 1002
43 Grant St. Alexandra Vic. 3714





Liz in her the Ford Ranchero. -S

Goodie bags for three lucky Yea Cruise Night attendees

THIS year, thanks to sponsorship generosity, the organisers of Yea Cruise Night (YCN) decided to present goodie bags to three lucky attendees on the night.

The lucky October recipients were Kat, Brian and Tony.

Kat from Seymour drove her beloved 1970 Volkswagen Beetle affectionately known as 'Clementine'. She is a regular at many car events around the area with her club, Oldz Cool Cruisers, based in Broadford.

Brian is a long time Yea local who once again drove his impressive 1932 Morgan three wheeler. It never fails to draw a crowd and Brian loves to tell everyone about its fascinating story over many years of ownership.

Tony from Mount Evelyn is a YCN regular and usually stays for the whole weekend when YCN is on. He drives his 'baby' 1978 Mini Clubman S.

The recipients of the bags were chosen by the staff of Yea Community House who partner with YCN to run the events, and the bags were made possible with the kind donation from Deluxe Rod Shop.

The organisers were also lucky to receive a giveaway voucher from Dindi Country Clothing in Alexandra, which was awarded to Liz driving the Purple Ford Ranchero. Her enthusiasm and willingness to offer rides around town for so many people was a sight to see.



Yea local, Brian, with his 1932 Morgan three wheeler. -S

Yea and Eildon receive FRRR funding

IN partnership with Suncorp and AAMI, FRRR has awarded \$300,781 to 18 remote, rural and regional not-for-profits (NFPs) in Victorian communities impacted by the flooding events that took place between October 2022 and January 2023. In Murrindindi Shire, this includes Yea and Eildon.

The grants awarded range from \$4040 to \$20,000 and will be used for a range of projects from building community infrastructure and improving emergency facilities, to youth activity programs and community workshops, all high-priority projects for their local community.

Eildon Events Inc was awarded \$20,000 for the construction of a permanent waterproof cantilever shade structure, building capacity for the Eildon community.

Yea Community Service Group Inc received \$11,175 for their Hands on Skills for the Community project. The aim is to build community resilience with a program of workshops teaching 'sufficiency' skills, including preserving foods, composting and dehydrating, with community connection a key outcome.

Nina O'Brien, Disaster Resilience and Recovery Lead at FRRR, said this round of grants is further confirmation of the long-term impacts of natural disasters.

"In this round of grants, we're seeing projects that are about building community amenities and improving infrastructure but there's also an emphasis on initiatives that are about building community resilience and promoting social wellbeing. It's nearly a year since the floods first started and so this just goes to show that the impacts of floods are long-lasting and go far beyond the physical damage that's caused.

"The floods have had a huge emotional toll on the people in these communities, yet they're still determined to build back and become even more resilient than before, which really is inspiring to see. Thanks to the generous support of Suncorp and AAMI, we can help them to do just that," Ms O'Brien said.

Thornton and Yea teams receive TAC funding

VICTORIAN football and netball clubs will share in more than \$600,000 for their efforts in campaigning to eliminate road trauma in their communities.

The Victorian Government and Transport Accident Commission have announced this year's recipients of the TAC Club Rewards program, incentivising grassroots clubs across the state for showing a commitment to promoting road safety during the 2023 season.

In Murrindindi Shire, these teams include the Thornton Eildon Football and Netball Club, and the Yea Football Club.

Delivered in partnership with AFL Victoria, 251 clubs will receive rewards of up to \$10,000 through the program.

The program encourages clubs to engage with players, members and their communities on key road safety issues and promote safe behaviours, with the dangers of distracted driving a key focus of this year's campaign.

Successful clubs are able to use the money for a range of initiatives including education programs, club transport initiatives, new equipment and uniforms and facility upgrades and improvements.

So far this year, 236 people have died on Victoria's roads and more than half of those deaths have happened on in

regional areas, where tens of thousands of local footballers and netballers travel for games and training.

Distracted driving is one of the major causes of fatal and serious injury crashes on Victoria's roads and is particularly concerning on regional roads where people are travelling at higher speeds.

AFL Victoria-affiliated clubs from across the state were able to apply for the program by showing how they supported road safety throughout the year, including taking part in the TAC's Road Safety Round 'Band Together' campaign.

The TAC Club Rewards Program is part of the TAC's 31 year partnership with AFL Victoria, which aims to empower clubs to develop a culture where all players and members are expected to be safe on the roads.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Melissa Horne said, "Victoria's grassroots football and netball clubs are influential in their communities, so it is wonderful to be able to incentivise them to roll out critical initiatives that promote safer driving."

More information and a full list of 2023 TAC Club Rewards program recipients can be found at tac.vic.gov.au/about-the-tac/community/grants/tac-club-rewards-program

Tiny Town funding available

THE Victorian Government's Tiny Town Fund will soon be open to community groups, organisations, and local councils.

Victoria's tiniest towns will soon be eligible for grants from \$5000 up to \$50,000 for communities of up to 5000 people.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes is encouraging community groups and organisations in Tiny Towns across Northern Victoria to start thinking about projects that will beautify, activate and accentuate their local area.

Public art, sculptural bike racks, themed street furniture, equipment in parks, plantings to colour and green up streetscapes, murals, basketball hoops, pickle ball court lines, trails, all manner of ideas and opportunities which bring people together and tell a story.

Funding will be available for local projects and organisations to deliver better public places and spaces, providing the facilities families need and want in their communities. It will also help support tourism and back local jobs and businesses.

Applications are opening soon. If you would like to stay informed of opening dates or share a project idea, you can visit jaclynsymes.com.au/news/tiny-towns

Applications and funding arrangements will be made through Regional Development Victoria. Visit rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/tiny-towns-fund

Ms Symes said, "Our community members living in tiny towns know exactly what they need and this is a fabulous fund to make that special something happen. I can't wait to hear about all the magnificent project ideas that come up across our area. We want our small towns to shine and our community spirit to strengthen."

Grants available for Men's Sheds

APPLICATIONS for grants are now open to help establish, expand or improve men's sheds, as part of a \$1 million investment by the Victorian Government.

Opening the new grant round, Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence said grants of up to \$100,000 each will support communities across the state.

Men's sheds provide a place for men to come together and build friendships and support networks. They improve the health and wellbeing of their members by reducing social isolation and promoting social inclusion. Shedders get to share their skills, learn new ones, and make new friends in their local area.

They also help to support local communities including schools, emergency services like the CFA, and through donations of handmade goods to local charities.

In addition to helping build new sheds, the grants program also helps successful applicants upgrade premises, and refurbish facilities, to make them more accessible and inclusive for people with disability.

There are currently more than 360 Men's Sheds across Victoria, each contributing great value to their local community and the people who attend them.

Applications close at 5pm on Friday, December 8. For information, visit providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/mens-shed-program

Sunshine and fun at the Yea Railway Market



Audrie and Aroha with two-week old Aria. -AR



Marie Oddy and Kaye Baynes from CWA with the raffle prize. -AR



The weather was perfect for the Yea Railway Market on Saturday, November 4. -AR



Mark, aka Marqo the Magician, at the Yea Market. -AR



Elaine, Kimm and Jill, promoting the Yea Show. -AR



Alie and Penny. -AR



Joel, Jackson, Tracey and Kerry from the Murrindindi Woodburn CFA conducted a sausage sizzle fundraiser at the market. -AR



Denise Sheather and Liz Cuckson, collecting donations for the CWA at the Yea Railway Market gate. -AR

Tree removal at Yea Swimming Pool

MURRINDINDI Shire Council routinely inspects and assesses the health and structure of individual trees within our aquatic facilities and determines their suitability for the area.

They regret to inform the community that one of the trees at the Yea Swimming Pool, a desert ash, has deteriorated significantly and needs to be removed as soon as possible.

Trees are valuable assets for the environment and the community, as they provide many benefits such as beauty, shade, habitat, and carbon storage. However, trees also pose potential hazards if they are unhealthy, unstable, or damaged. That is why an arborist inspects and evaluates our trees every year and recommends the best course of action for their management.

The arborist has found that the desert ash has lost most of its vitality and has a lot of deadwood and weak growth. The tree is located in a high-use area where many people enjoy its shade during the pool season. Therefore, council has decided to remove the tree before the pool season starts, to ensure the safety of patrons. They understand that this may cause some disappointment, but hope people appreciate their concern for the well-being of residents and the environment.

Council has been contacted to find out whether other shade options will be provided for upcoming seasons.

Is your swimming pool safe?

WITH the warmer weather upon us, Kidsafe Victoria has called on pool and spa owners to check their barriers and prioritise pool safety, in a bid to reduce the number of toddler drowning incidents.

The call comes as statistics from the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia's national drowning report show that 16 children aged zero to four years drowned in 2022/23.

Swimming pools were one of the most common locations where these drowning incidents occurred, accounting for 25 per cent of all toddler drowning deaths.

Kidsafe Victoria General Manager, Jason Chambers, said while rates had reduced from previous years, drowning remained one of the leading causes of death for Australian toddlers.

"Children are attracted to water, however they don't yet understand the dangers that it can pose. Toddlers can drown quickly and silently. A split second is all it takes for them to gain unsupervised access to the water area and find themselves in trouble."

While safety barriers can be effective in reducing the risk of drowning incidents, evidence suggests that many drowning deaths in backyard pools involve barriers that are faulty, have not been maintained, or are non-compliant with Australian standards.

"Pool barriers are constantly exposed to the extremes of weather, so it's important to regularly check for any rust, loose or missing bolts, and general wear and tear.

By taking the time to check that your pool barrier and gate are in good working order, you could save a life," Mr Chambers said.

With Victorians' likelihood of drowning increasing by 68 per cent on a public holiday, Dr Hannah Calverley, Manager of Research and Evaluation at Life Saving Victoria, highlighted the importance of active adult supervision across summer, to help keep children safe.

"Active supervision is key. With the potential for any water hazard in the vicinity, keep children under the age of five in arm's reach and those under the age of 10 in your constant and direct eyeline."

Summer water safety tips

As well as regularly checking and maintaining your pool or spa barrier, Kidsafe recommends a number of other actions to help keep kids safe in and around water.

Active adult supervision: Always have an adult within arm's reach of toddlers when in and around water, with no distractions.

Water awareness: Introduce your child to water from an early age. This helps to familiarise them with water, teach them about water safety, and impart life-saving skills. Swimming lessons also promote essential physical, mental, and social development.

CPR and first aid knowledge: Knowing what to do in an emergency can save a life. Kidsafe encourages all parents and carers to enrol in a CPR and first aid course and

update their skills regularly. Displaying a CPR chart near your pool or spa area is also a good idea for quick reference in emergencies.

Top 5 issues with pool and spa barriers

Gates or doors that are no longer self-closing.

Gates or doors that are no longer self-latching.

Gates that are propped open for convenience, allowing children unsupervised access.

Gaps, holes or spaces in and under the barrier which a child can get through.

Climbable objects near the pool barrier, such as barbecues, outdoor furniture, eskies and trees.

For more information on the campaign and pool and spa safety, please visit the Kidsafe Victoria website.

Deep sleep might help prevent dementia

AS little as one per cent reduction in deep sleep per year for people over 60 years of age translates into a 27 per cent increased risk of dementia, according to a Monash study which suggests that enhancing or maintaining deep sleep, also known as slow wave sleep, in older years could stave off dementia.

The study, led by Associate Professor Matthew Pase, from the Monash School of Psychological Sciences and the Turner Institute for Brain and Mental Health in Melbourne, and published in *JAMA Neurology*, looked at 346 participants, over 60 years of age, enrolled in the Framingham Heart Study who completed two overnight sleep studies in the time periods 1995 to 1998 and 2001 to 2003, with an average of five years between the two studies.

These participants were then carefully followed for dementia from the time of the second sleep study through to 2018. The researchers found, on average, that the amount of deep sleep declined between the two studies, indicating slow wave sleep loss with ageing. Over the next 17 years of follow-up, there were 52 cases of dementia. Even adjusting for age, sex, cohort, genetic factors, smoking status, sleeping medication use, antidepressant use, and anxiolytic use, each percentage decrease in deep sleep each year was associated with a 27 per cent increase in the risk of dementia.

"Slow-wave sleep, or deep sleep, supports the ageing brain in many ways, and we know that sleep augments the clearance of metabolic waste from the brain, including facilitating the clearance of proteins that aggregate in Alzheimer's disease," Associate Professor Pase said.

"However, to date we have been unsure of the role of slow-wave sleep in the development of dementia. Our findings suggest that slow wave sleep loss may be a modifiable dementia risk factor."

Associate Professor Pase said that the Framingham Heart Study is a unique community-based cohort with repeated overnight polysomnographic (PSG) sleep studies and uninterrupted surveillance for incident dementia.

"We used these to examine how slow-wave sleep changed with ageing and whether changes in slow-wave sleep percentage were associated with the risk of later-life dementia up to 17 years later," he said.

"We also examined whether genetic risk for Alzheimer's Disease or brain volumes suggestive of early neurodegeneration were associated with a reduction in slow-wave sleep. We found that a genetic risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, but not brain volume, was associated with accelerated declines in slow wave sleep."

Darren Gilbert holds open studio in Yea



Yea artist Darren Gilbert held an open studio at his home in Yea on the weekend, showing his fabulous sculptures and artworks. -AR



Darren Gilbert working on a large sculpture in his shed. -AR



Some of the beautiful artworks in Darren's home. -AR

The Chronicle Sport

Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



The happiest golfer on the course



Russell Wealands achieved the club's first hole in one on the 11th. -S



The golf ball in the hole. -S



Martin Lowe from the Yea Medical Clinic was pleased to hand over the \$300 to an appreciative Russ. -S

A H Smith Trophy at Yea Golf Club

by Alan Pell

TWENTY men contested the second round of the A H Smith Trophy on Saturday, November 4. Daily winner with 41 points was Tom White (23) from second on countback and Smith Trophy Winner Neil Peterson (16) with 38 from third Peter Johnston (20). Fourth on countback with 35 points was Rick Wills (9) from Tony Rule, Gary Pollard and Anthony Coleman. Anthony won nearest the pin on the second and Bill Dredge was the lucky \$10 Club Award Winner. Neil had 75 points

over the two rounds of the Smith Trophy. Second was Rick Wills 67 and John Phillips was third with 65. Chooklotto stipend was won by Rob O'Halloran.

If you ever wanted to see a happy golfer it was last Saturday when Russ Wealands aced the 11th hole. Hitting a five wood it travelled straight (a bit unusual) and landed before the hole and rolled in. Old eyes didn't quite see it but when approaching the hole no visible ball so Russ checked the hole and voila! Martin Lowe (Yea Medical Clinic)

was pleased to hand over the \$300 to an appreciative Russ. Our first hole in one on the 11th.

Wednesday, November 1 saw 15 men play alternate shots foursomes with Allan Coates (9) and John Phillips (20) winning with 87 off the stick nett 72.5. Second were Brian Priestley (27) and Phil Armstrong (22) on 99 nett 74.5 and Peter Johnston (20) and Neil Peterson (16) third with 93 off the stick nett 75. No nearest the pin on the 6th. Mic Sheather and Rob O'Halloran won the Club Award.



Neil Peterson. -S