

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, April 17, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority awarded

THE Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority has shared in a national award that recognises trailblazers in environmental and social sustainability.

Goulburn Broken CMA, as part of Victoria's 10 CMAs collectively known as Vic Catchments, won the Nature Positive category of the 35th National Banksia Sustainability Awards this month.

The award celebrates achievements in conservation, habitat restoration and species protection and highlights contributions to safeguarding and promoting the richness of nature.

Goulburn Broken CMA Chief Executive Officer, Chris Cumming, said the Vic Catchments award submission focused on CMA achievements over 25 years.

"I am extremely proud of the Goulburn Broken CMA's part in being changemakers for nature for more than 25 years, achieved through genuine collaboration with Traditional Owners, Landcare, community, government and stakeholders, to improve the health of our waterways and biodiversity from our alpine areas to our extensive floodplain environment," Ms Cumming said.

"The Goulburn Broken CMA team works across the catchment, which stretches from close to the outskirts of Melbourne in the south, the alps including Mt Buller, to the Murray River in the north, and the Campaspe River to the west. Our team brings so much regional knowledge, passion and connection to the community to deliver projects in our natural environment.

"Our work includes protecting the natural assets that underpin irrigation, river and wetland health, flood planning, soil management, landscape restoration and biodiversity protection."

Ms Cumming said that this year the Goulburn Broken CMA was renewing the community-led 30 year Shepparton Irrigation Region Land and Water Management Plan, with the initial plan having guided significant protection of soil, water and biodiversity in the irrigation district.

"We have also supported our communities through the October 2022, 2023 and January 2024 floods where our incident response, community flood information portal, river restoration, drain repair works and blackwater management were invaluable," she said.

"Recent biodiversity projects include a partnership with Traditional Owners and Alpine Resorts to improve the trajectory of the endangered mountain pygmy possum on Mount Buller.

"We are very excited about the state of our wetlands and the return of birds, including at those waterways that are part of our environmental watering program such as Moodie Swamp, south of Katamatite, and Barmah Forest."

Ms Cumming said while there was a lot of work to be done to protect and improve the health of our natural environment, it was encouraging that CMA efforts, in partnership with the catchment community to date, had been recognised through this award.

New honour board for 75 years of Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA



Captain Joel Creed being presented the brigade's 75 year award. -BD

SUNDAY, April 14, saw the Murrindindi-Woodbourne Country Fire Authority (CFA) Brigade celebrate its 75-year anniversary.

The event took place at 12pm at the Murrindindi-Woodbourne station and was well attended.

Member for Eildon, Cindy McLeish, made a speech and helped the captain of the Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA, Joel Creed, reveal a new honour board that celebrates the service of the brigade's members.

Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA treasurer, Tony Jacobs, spoke positively about the event and the recognition it gave to members of the brigade.

"Today was to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the brigade. The brigade was actually started, or firefighting in the area, was actually started in 1906, but our brigade was started in 1945," Mr Jacobs said.

"There are a number of names who are here today that are descendants of the original founders. The Cummins, the Tulls, the Solomons, the Sizars; a number of them. It was a fitting way to recognise their service."

Alongside the reveal of the honour board, members were presented with medals of service and a barbecue was held.

More on page 4 of this edition.

Local session on the future of the Central Highlands forests

ENGAGE Victoria is asking people to provide their views on the future of state forest areas of the Central Highlands, following the end of native timber harvesting.

The consultation follows the Interim Report on the region by the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council.

The panel was set up specifically to talk with people and organisations to understand values and priorities for forests in the Central Highlands. This includes talking with local communities about forests in their local area. These conversations will inform recommendations to the Victorian

Government on future use and management of state forests.

The panel is keen to hear from a wide range of voices from communities, stakeholders and peak bodies interested in these forests.

A consultation session will be held in Marysville on Tuesday, April 23 from 5.30

to 8pm at the Marysville Community Centre, 31 Falls Road, Marysville. This is the only session in Murrindindi Shire which has been announced.

For more information, visit engage.vic.gov.au/central-highlands-forests

Our office will be closed Thursday, April 25.

Early display advertising deadlines will apply. Bookings and artwork deadline is 5pm Wednesday, April 24.

All other deadlines remain the same.

We will reopen Friday, April 26, at 9am.

The Yea Chronicle

Available from these retail outlets

Alexandra FoodWorks
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Alexandra Endeavour
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Merton General Store
Metro Narby
Seymour Newsagency
Simpsons Caltex
Shell Thornton
Yarck Meat and Produce
Yea FoodWorks
Yea Newsagency

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Our history: Peace celebrations in 1919

by Yea and District Historical Society

THE Yea Chronicle reported that a committee had been formed to carry out arrangements for a Peace Day Procession following peace being declared in November 1918 and the local young men who had survived the First World War having returned.

Major Purcell moved and Cr Bacon seconded that the following committee be appointed to carry out arrangements for the Peace Day Celebrations. The committee included Mesdames Stewart, McLure, Smith, Tosh and Rice, Messrs Creighton, McDonald, Falcke, Rice, James, George and Archie Forbes, C Waddell, A McLure, Dodgshun, and Misses Rae, E Smith, N Redmond and U Honig.

The procession was planned for Saturday, July 19, 1919, and elaborate arrangements were being made with keen enthusiasm throughout the community.

The article said, "The district sent 300 men to the war; a magnificent record for the shire with a population of 2500 men, women and children and naturally the whole shire rejoices that peace with victory is now being celebrated throughout the Empire.

"Having gained experience during war time in organising so many fundraising events to support our own troops and the war effort in general, peace



Yea's Peace Celebrations in 1919.
Pictured are Edie Logan, May Dinner, May Gook, Elsie McLeish and Maud Logan. -S

finds Yea people well prepared," reported the Yea Chronicle. Everyone is not only willing but anxious to take part in the Peace Pageant.

Following the Saturday, July 19 Peace Celebrations, the Yea Chronicle ran the headline, "Magnificent Procession, Enthusiastic Crowds. A Glorious End to the World's Greatest War"

It continued, "Peace was celebrated in Yea on Saturday last by a display that will live long in the memory of those who

took part in it. The celebrations consisted of a procession and sports in the afternoon with a variety of entertainment and dance at night; admission to each of which was free, but voluntary contributions realised over 10 pounds, to which six pounds was expended on prize money for the children's sports and the balance to the Soldier's Memorial Fund.

"The town was gaily bedecked with flags and bunting; and in front of the shire hall a row of flags was stretched across the road. Long before the procession

was to commence visitors from all parts of the shire began to arrive. Mounted returned soldiers, elaborate tableau, decorated motor cars, on many of which tableau and original displays were mounted.

"Displays and tableau on drays and lorries, with original and comic displays took part in the procession, each of which was favourably commented on by the crowds of spectators who lined the streets of the town and many were cheered as they passed by."



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Weekly Weather

April 17 - April 23, 2024

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication


Alexandra


DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	6	19
Thursday	10	17
Friday	6	19
Saturday	6	20
Sunday	8	20
Monday	8	20
Tuesday	7	19



Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	7	18
Thursday	11	17
Friday	6	18
Saturday	6	20
Sunday	7	20
Monday	8	21
Tuesday	7	20






LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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

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

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




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RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	9.00am Mon	1.46	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	9.00am Mon	0.51	rising	
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.03am Mon	0.58	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	8.52am Mon	0.16	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.25am Mon	0.51	falling	below minor
Yea River at Yea	8.22am Mon	0.62	steady	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	3.58	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.45	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Trawool	9.00am Mon	1.11	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.31	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	9.00am Mon	1.43	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	6.59am Mon	1.17	steady	

****ISSUED AT 9.45AM ON MONDAY, 15 APRIL 2024**

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra	3.2mm
Buxton.....	0mm
Eildon (AWS).....	9mm
Flowerdale.....	18mm
Jamieson.....	9mm
Kinglake.....	39mm
Lake Eildon.....	7mm
Mansfield.....	4mm
Taggerty	15mm
Yarck	6mm
Yea.....	8mm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	296.88m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	92%
Metres below full supply.....	2.20m
Daily inflow	500ML
Release.....	2200ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	92%



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

Flowerdale bakery and retail open for business



BOOTS 'N Bobs Brew 'N Bakes is a bakery and takeaway and retail space located in the small community of Flowerdale, selling a little bit of everything, according to owner Natasha Conforto.

Boots 'N Bobs sells "bakery items, great toasties with quirky names, coffee, honey, Yarra Valley Gourmet products, a big range of country and western, sourdough bread, candles, a bit of everything," Natasha said.

Natasha started the business five years ago as a side project from working full-time, beginning with attending car shows and rodeos for the merchandising side, and then moving to hosting a market stall for her baked goods once a month.

"Through winter, about a year and a half ago, I decided not to do the bakery part of it. It was wet and cold. So then I continued on with the country and western side at car shows etcetera. Then I got sick of doing office work, and decided to do a little combined bakery slash retail space," Natasha said.

Natasha also spoke about the great community reception to her new business.

"It was fantastic. We had huge support from locals, because we put it out there and advertised it prior to opening. We had UGFM, the radio station for Murrindindi Shire, and we had the banner up the front and then social media.

"My partner has old cars, so he spread the word through the car clubs, etcetera, and the bike clubs. We've had people from far and wide."

Open four days a week, Boots 'N Bobs is the first time Natasha has worked for herself, and not some other boss.

"This is the first time that I haven't worked for somebody else in my whole life, and it's really nice. It's five minutes from home, we're open four days a week, and it's perfect. It's a great work-life balance.

"It's a gorgeous little space, and very unexpected when people turn up to see the way it is and go wow, this is amazing and very different," Natasha said.

She invites everyone to visit Boots 'N Bobs in Flowerdale, and more information can be found via the business' Instagram account.



ALL HOURS

- Alexandra • Yea
- Eildon • Marysville
- and districts

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Anzac Day services in the shire

MURRINDINDI Shire's Anzac Day Services will be held on Thursday, April 25.

Anzac Day Services include: the Yea service at 11am, with 10.45am assembly, at the Yea Cenotaph; the Yarck service at 10am at the war memorial; the Eildon service at 11am, with assembly at 10.50am, at Cenotaph, Utah Place; the Flowerdale service at 11am, assembly at 10.45am, at the Flowerdale Community Hall; the Glenburn service at 6am, assembly at 5.45am, at the Glenburn Community Centre (opposite the Glenburn Hall); the Kinglake dawn service at 5.30am, followed by a traditional gunfire breakfast at St Peter's Community World War One Memorial Church, followed by another service at 10am at the Lions Club Anzac Memorial; the Marysville service at 11am, with assembly

at 10.30am and a march at 10.40am, held at the Marysville Cenotaph; and the Strath Creek service at 9am, assembly at 8.45am, at the Strath Creek Pioneer Reserve Memorial; the Alexandra services will commence with its dawn service at 6am in Leckie Park, and its memorial service at 11am at Leckie Park, with marchers forming up at the bridge at 10.30am.

There are several private services occurring throughout the shire also, with Kellock Lodge providing a private service for residents at 10.30am on Wednesday, April 24, the Darlingford Nursing Home running a private service at 10.15am on Thursday, April 25, for residents, and the Yea Memorial Hospital running a private service for Rosebank Nursing Home residents and family at 9.45am on the Thursday.

The Harvest Festival

THE Harvest Festival is a traditional celebration of the harvest from the Murrindindi Community Garden. The celebration having activities of traditional community involvement, with fun and games for all centered on the garden.

The event starts at 10am and ends between noon and 1pm with a community barbecue lunch, facilitated by the Yea Rotary Club with the support of the Yea Presbyterian Church.

The Murrindindi Community Garden was opened in May 2023. It was an initiative of Scripture Union in partnership with Graham Veal, the Murrindindi community and Yea Primary School Chaplain, to support families during COVID-19 who were struggling to obtain fresh produce. There is an ongoing need in the communities of Murrindindi.

It was initially funded by a generous donation from the Welsh Church in Melbourne who were keen to support the community initiative and established it on land provided by the Yea Presbyterian Church.

It is generously supported by the Yea Garden Centre and Scottsburn Nurseries. A small team of volunteers provide labour to maintain and help with ongoing additional funding.

The garden exists for the community, and the future plans and development aim to explore how the garden and its produce may assist other community needs in the area.

Come along and bring the family to enjoy and see what is happening at this worthwhile community project.

Warm winter predicted by Bureau of Meteorology


THE Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) has released its latest long-range forecast overview, predicting a warmer than usual winter for Australia.

According to the report, both minimum and maximum temperatures are very likely to be above average for most of Australia from May to July.

They have a greater than 50 per cent chance of being unusually warm for most of Australia from May to July.

The bureau also predicts that the rainfall from May to July is likely to be below average for parts of northern Australia and small areas of the southern mainland.

More information can be found at bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary



We have something for everyone

Bakery items, fresh brew and our must try raved about selection of toasties with quirky names, a great range of sourdough breads, pastries, take home meals, honey, Yarra Valley gourmet products, a fantastic range of Country and Western, dog and horse treats, candles etc, all packed into


'a little space with big character'

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Harvest Festival

Saturday, April 20, 2024
From 10am to 1pm
The Murrindindi Garden @Yea Presbyterian
31 Station street, Yea
Barbecue lunch \$5
Profits to garden fund
Come and celebrate
Fun and games, puppet show,
Guess the weight competition
Garden bed sponsorship
Ph Colin 0457 340 525

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Standard

The Yea Chronicle


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COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

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

WEEKLY

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

MONTHLY

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

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 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

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

Out&About

THE items in Out and About are sourced from our 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.

DISPOSAL OF GREEN WASTE IS FREE DURING APRIL; Domestic quantities of garden waste, if not mixed up with other materials, needs to be no longer than 1.5m and less than 25cm in diameter. murrindindi.vic.gov.au/greenwaste

SUNDAY, APRIL 21
Buxton CFA is turning 80. They would like you to help them celebrate at their open day 11am-3pm. Trucks and demos, kids activities, memorabilia, barbecue lunch, and much more.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23
Join in on information sessions to learn more about Shaping Murrindindi's Future Project and see how you can get involved in the next stage. Noon-2pm at Taggerty Hall or 3.30 to 6.30pm at the Alexandra Shire Hall. For more information contact Allisha Milestone 0458 758 379 or email amilestone@murrindindi.vic.gov.au, or visit shapingmurrindindifuture.com.au

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24
Join in on information sessions to learn more about Shaping Murrindindi's Future Project and see how you can get involved in the next stage. 10am-1pm at MiRA Marysville. For more information contact

Allisha Milestone 0458 758 379 or email amilestone@murrindindi.vic.gov.au, or visit shapingmurrindindifuture.com.au

SATURDAY, APRIL 27
You are invited to the open of *The Life of Anne Frank* at the Alexandra Library, at 11am. RSVP by visiting murrindindi.vic.gov.au/annefrank or call 5772 0333.

Murrindindi Jobs Expo is on again. 11am-5pm at the Alexandra Football Club. Skill development, networking, resource sharing and plenty more. Free business booths and spaces available. Locally catered event. murrindindifoodandwine.org.au

75 years of the Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA Brigade



Member for Eildon, Cindy McLeish, with Captain Joel Creed, in front of the newly revealed honour board. -BD



The recognition award for 75 years of service for the Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA Brigade. -BD



Cindy McLeish and Joel Creed unveiling the brigade's new honour board. -BD



Murrindindi-Woodbourne CFA Brigade's treasurer, Tony Jacobs, hosted the event. -BD

Drumming workshops a key part of community recovery

THURSDAY, May 9, will see two African drumming workshops hosted by Murrindindi Shire Council.

One will be held at the Yea Wetlands from 10.45am until 11.15am, and the other at the Alexandra Shire Hall from 5.30pm until 6pm.

They will be followed by lunch and a barbecue dinner respectively, and registration is required for catering purposes.

Director of Community and Development, Andrew Paxton, spoke about how the African drumming workshops help people to recover from natural disasters by connecting them with community, as well as support services that can provide them with necessary help.

“We know from disasters, whether it’s fire or flood, that the impact on people is long term, and that a fast way to recover is through connections with people.

“So the state and federal government now fund, as part of flood recovery, money that helps us to fix up assets, and we also get support for staff members to help coordinate it, and we get some funding also around hubs, and how you connect with different community groups; how we help build resilient communities, and how we help individuals recover, or communities recover,” Andrew said.

“We’ve taken the approach of having a series of events and opportunities that pop up across the shire. But then we’ll have other support services there to help people, so that if an issue comes up, we can point them to where they go. So the drumming is just another way of engaging a different cohort.”

Speaking about the activity itself, Andrew mentioned how drumming brings a positive feeling, and connects people with the community around them.



“It’s an activity where you hear one drum by itself, it has a tone or tune, but when you hear a whole cohort drum, it actually changes how your heartbeat works, so it connects people in that way. It’s really popular. The whole hub funding is how do we connect with people to help them connect with their communities and feel they’re part of something, and it helps their recovery journey,” he said.

For more information, call the council on 5772 0333, or visit the council website, murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Fish net stockings

THE Victorian Government’s fish stocking program has hit a high water mark with 10 million fish stocked this year, so more recreational fishers can wet a line close to home across the state.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos recently stocked more brown trout at Lake Wendouree in Ballarat and announced the major milestone for Victorians.

More fish are stocked in Victoria than every other state and territory in Australia combined, with Murray cod, golden perch, brown and rainbow trout, threatened Macquarie perch, dusky flathead, Australian bass and more bolstering world class fishing experiences that are easy and accessible for every Victorian to enjoy.

The government’s \$96 million Go Fishing and Boating Plan has backed the Victorian Fisheries Authority (VFA) to stock more than 26 million fish since 2021.

This year, more than 1.4 million brown and rainbow trout have been stocked in waterways across the state while 7.4 million native Murray cod and golden perch fingerlings are also now in waters for recreational fishers to enjoy. They have also stocked 460,000 Australian bass and 300,000 silver perch in every corner of Victoria.

The government is making sure the future of the endangered Macquarie perch continues to shine brighter with nearly 80,000 fingerlings stocked into Victorian waters to re-establish wild populations across the state, fast-tracking the recovery of the once prominent native fish.

The recovery of Macquarie perch is also supported by significant upgrades at the VFA’s Snobs Creek and Arcadia fish hatcheries, with \$15 million invested in world-class infrastructure. Snobs Creek now features a new captive breeding centre with leading aquaculture technology.

More Victorians can now also play a part in boosting fish populations across Victoria, with the Labor Government’s Fish Habitat Improvement Fund program helping recreational fishing groups and larger organisations create better fish habitats in freshwater, marine and estuarine fisheries.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos said, “Our fish stocking program continues to deliver record breaking results for Victorian anglers and another year of 10 million fish being stocked means great fishing for future generations and attracting more families and friends to every corner of Victoria to enjoy this great activity.”

Bomb scare in Alexandra

ON the afternoon of Sunday, April 14, just after noon, a member of the public located a suspicious device near Vickery Street in Alexandra.

Victoria Police cordoned off a small area of Leckie Park, near the cenotaph, where a suspicious package had been found.

The Bomb Response Unit attended the scene, and the Alexandra SES delivered sandbags to assist Police with the operation, as well as assisting with the diverting of traffic.

People were asked to avoid the area while the investigations were underway.

The Bomb Response Unit attended and deemed the area safe about 4pm.

Police media were asked whether the incident was a deliberate act, or whether it was a misplaced item. They advised on Monday morning that it was unclear at this stage.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone who witnessed the incident or has information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

Truck rollover

ON Sunday, April 14, a truck rolled over on the Goulburn Valley Highway at Homewood, near Dairy Creek Road.

Emergency services attended the scene and the highway was closed between Yea and King Parrot Creek Road. Motorists were advised to detour via Flowerdale, King Parrot Creek Road and Strath Creek.

The B-double was loaded with 609 sheep. It rolled over and landed upside down in Dairy Creek. The driver was able to extract himself from the vehicle with minor injuries. He was taken to hospital for observation.

The bridge damaged in the incident is expected to be assessed by VicRoads. Sadly, all but 136 of the sheep had to be euthenised due to their injuries, with the local vet, local farmers and Agriculture Victoria attending.

The Goulburn Valley Highway remained closed at Homewood until late in the evening. One lane is now open while repairs are carried out, so expect delays.

ANZAC DAY SERVICES 2024



The following services will be held across Murrindindi Shire to commemorate ANZAC Day on Thursday 25 April 2024.

Wednesday 24 April

Kellock Lodge

Private service for residents at 10.30 am.

Thursday 25 April

Alexandra

Dawn service at 6.00 am at Leckie Park Memorial.

Assemble at 10.45 am at the RSL Hall for a march to Leckie Park Memorial, Vickery Street for 11.00 am service.

Eildon

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

Assemble at 10.50 am for 11.00 am service at Cenotaph, Utah Place

Flowerdale

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

Glenburn

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

Kinglake

Dawn service at 5.30 am, followed by traditional gunfire breakfast at St Peter’s Community WW1 Memorial Church, Kinglake.

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

Marysville

Assemble at 10.30 am at corner Murchison Street and Lyell Street for a march at 10.40 am to the Marysville Cenotaph for 11.00 am service.

Strath Creek

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

Yarck

Wreath laying service at 10.00 am at the Yarck War Memorial, 6592 Maroondah Highway, Yarck.

Yea

Private service at 9:45 am at Yea Memorial Hospital for Rosebank Nursing Home residents and family.

Assemble at 10.45 am at the Yea Cenotaph for 11.00 am service.



Childhood friends from Flowerdale win gold at the Olympics

Lawrence Morgan

BILL Roycroft's childhood friend from Flowerdale, Lawrence Morgan (1915-1997), played football for Fitzroy Football Club as a young man. He started with the club in 1937, playing on the same side as the famed Haydn Bunton. Lawrence played two seasons (34 games) with the team as a ruckman, before leaving.

He was also the Victorian amateur junior heavyweight boxing champion.

In 1960, he competed in the Australian Equestrian team at the Rome Olympics. He won the gold medal ahead of fellow Australian Neale Lavis in the Individual Three-Day Event, becoming the first Australian to win an equestrian gold medal. He became the first rider in Olympic history to receive maximum bonus points for cross-country and endurance.

He then teamed up with Lavis and Bill Roycroft to win gold in the Team Event in the same year.

Despite the Australian Olympic team for that year containing legends such as Herb Elliott, Dawn Fraser and Murray Rose, Lawrence was Australia's only dual gold medallist.

Following his Olympic success, Lawrence pursued steeplechasing, competing in many British races, including winning the Aintree Fox Hunter's Cup on the Grand National course. He won 22 out of 33 starts in amateur steeplechase races in the UK. He also won the 1961 Badminton dressage title, the second Australian to do so after Bill Roycroft.

In addition, Lawrence was a polo player, and won numerous trophies in the sport, and was a successful horse breeder.



Lawrence Morgan on horse, Salad Days. -S

Bill Roycroft

OLYMPIC equestrian champion, Bill Roycroft (1915-2011), was one of seven children and grew up on a dairy farm in Flowerdale. Young Bill rode throughout his childhood, racing over tree branches with his friend Lawrence Morgan. Lawrence was also an Olympic equestrian competitor.

According to an interview with Ian F Jobling on Trove, Bill attended school at Break O'Day, riding ponies to and from the school. It was three miles from the house to the school.

He told the interviewer, "Those days it was just a track through the timber. And of course there was plenty of fallen timber to jump and gutters to ride over. So I suppose if you go back through the years, that's where I got my riding experience... We couldn't afford a saddle. I think I was well into 16 or 17 before I had a saddle, yeah. I used to go do my flag racing and that bareback and ... oh, well that was a different age."

He added, "That was still at Break O'Day. Yep. That school today has moved down close to the hotel, and that would have been only half a mile from where we originally lived."

Bill left school aged 14 and moved with his mother to New South Wales, where he became a pushbike messenger for the Water Commission and then a share cropper in the area. Afterwards, he returned to Flowerdale and did odd jobs on local farms while competing as a rider.

He met his future wife, Mavis Jones, a show jumper, in Flowerdale. Bill signed up to become a soldier when World War II broke out, and he married Mavis during his first substantial leave from duty. The couple, along with their young son, moved to a soldier's block near Camperdown following the war, where they set up a dairy farm. They eventually had three sons, Barry, Wayne and Clarke.

All three children were trained by their father in the equestrian arts, with their mother choosing their horses. All three went on to compete in the Olympics, alongside their father.

Barry competed in 1964 (reserve rider), 1976 and 1988. Wayne competed in 1968, 1976 and 1984. Clarke competed in 1972. Wayne's wife Vicki also competed in the Olympics in 1984, 1988 and 1996.

At the 1996 Rome games, Bill was thrown from his horse and suffered a concussion, as well as a broken shoulder and dislocated collarbone. Despite this, he competed in the cross-country section before being airlifted to hospital.

The eventing team required three riders, but only had two remaining, as Bill was in hospital. Bill left his hospital bed, against the advice of doctors, to finish the event. This allowed his team to win the gold medal.

Bill also won bronze medals in the teams event at the 1968 and 1976 games, alongside son Wayne. They were the first father and son combination to win an Olympic medal together. Also in 1976, he became Australia's oldest Olympic competitor, aged 61.

Bill was the Australian flag bearer at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics, and his son Wayne had the same role 16 years later.

Bill was also the equestrian team manager at the 1980 Moscow Olympics, and later the national coach of the Australian eventing team. Wayne later succeeded him in the role.



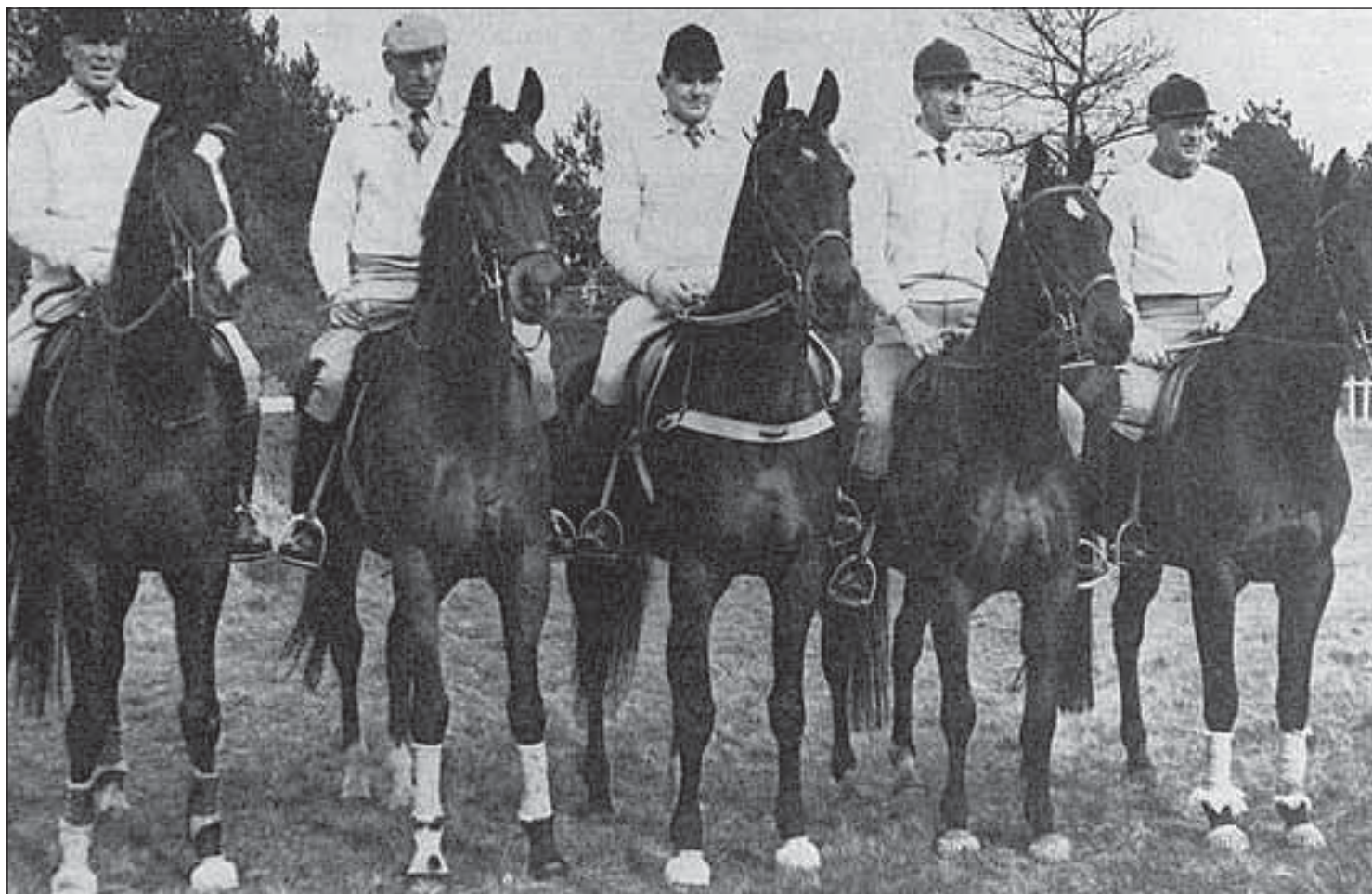
Bill Roycroft on horse, Our Solo. -S

He was one of eight Australian flag bearers at the opening ceremony of the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

He was awarded an Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1969, received an Order of Merit from the Australian Olympic Committee in 1978, inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 1985 and later upgraded to legend

status, received the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 and a Centenary Medal in 2001, and in 2011, he was inducted into the Equestrian Australia Hall of Fame.

He died aged 96 at hospital in Camperdown on May 29, 2011.



The Rome 1960 Australian Equestrian Eventing Team members, Laurie Morgan, John Kelly (reserve), Neale Lavis, Bill Roycroft and Brian Crago. -S

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Concerns over live cattle exports

THE Leader of The Nationals, David Littleproud, has urged the government to move past legal delays and reach a settlement with cattle producers impacted by the government's ban on the live cattle industry in 2011.

Recently, the government was due to respond to evidence submitted by the legal counsel representing the producers impacted by the ban.

However, despite having six months to respond, the government recently requested a further three month delay in legal proceedings in the *Brett Cattle Case*, taking the total time the government has had to respond to nine months.

This request was rejected by industry's legal representatives, which means the

government will today ask the court for a three month extension.

Mr Littleproud said further delays only stood to prolong the hurt felt by the cattle producers involved.

"The live cattle export ban of 2011 rocked the industry to its core and not only had a major financial impact on the live export industry but also on the related industries that rely upon it," Mr Littleproud said.

"This government is continuing to try and kick this issue down the road further, which considering this has now been going on for more than 12 years, is just shameful.

"A resolution for this case is well overdue and I urge the government to stop playing politics and reach a satisfactory conclusion for everyone involved."

Mr Littleproud's calls come after the federal government offered the claimants a \$215 million settlement late last year.

However, Mr Littleproud said the counteroffer was disappointing. Industry has proposed compensation of \$510 million plus interest plus costs which would likely see a settlement to those affected of between \$800 million and \$900 million.

"Frankly, the government's offer was insulting to everyone involved," Mr Littleproud said.

"The time has come for this government to come to the table with a meaningful offer and finally put this sad chapter in the Labor Government's history to rest."

Support for communities to tackle pests

THE Victorian Government is empowering local community groups to help protect their farms, local environment and the community from the threat of weeds and pests.

The *Partnership Against Pests Program* delivers industry and community-led actions that target weeds and pests in key agricultural areas.

Established weeds and pest animals damage our landscapes, impact agricultural production, are a risk to international market access and damage culturally sensitive sites. They are estimated to cost Victorian farmers \$869 million every year in management and lost production costs.

Grants delivered through the *Partnership Against Pests Grants Program* will ensure the people most affected by widely established invasive species are central to identifying problems, creating strategies and solutions that help limit their spread and reduce their impact.

Projects being funded will improve local knowledge, capability and encourage collective efforts to manage local established weeds and pests.

For more information about the *Partnership Against Pests Grants Program*, including a full list of Round Two grant recipients, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au

Victorian Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence said, "Weeds and pests threaten our agriculture industries, environment and communities. It's crucial we empower people to identify, develop and deliver projects that will protect their communities from these threats.

"The grants will support communities to reduce the impacts of established weeds and pests through local action and by bringing together all the local players to achieve sustainable, long term changes."

Australia the last continent free from bird flu

AUSTRALIA remains the last continent in the world not affected by high pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI), or more commonly, bird flu. The discovery of bird flu in cows in the USA earlier this year has sparked fresh concerns about the spread of the virus, and its effect on global production.

High pathogenicity bird flu is found in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, North and South America, as well as Antarctica more recently. Australia has experienced cases of domestic low pathogenicity avian influenza (LPAI) but has yet to receive the more deadly variant.

The pathogenicity level indicates the viruses' potential to kill poultry, not its infection rate.

The first herd of cows infected with HPAI was discovered in Texas in March, and within a week three other herds in separate states had been diagnosed. This sparks concerns that if the virus were to make its way to Australia it could effect cattle producers, and the meat industry.

The risk of infection in Australian wild birds is high, according to a December risk assessment by the Department of Agriculture.

Scientists have said it is inevitable that HPAI will reach Australia, and that it is just a matter of time before wild birds return from their summer spent in the northern hemisphere. Spring is the time of highest risk for the viruses' spread in Australia.

Despite this, the Australian Government has a number of prevention measures in place. The National Avian Influenza Wild Bird Surveillance program was launched in 2006, and is managed by Wildlife Health Australia. It seeks to prevent the outbreak of the disease by testing samples from wild birds, both healthy and sick or dead, to detect any instances of HPAI. On top of that, poultry producers have monitoring systems to detect the virus, and allow them to get in touch with the necessary authorities.

Australia also has a number of biosecurity measures in place to prevent bird flu, with people entering the country being obligated



Australia is the only continent with no recorded cases of bird flu. It's even been found in Antarctica. -Sardaka

to declare any poultry meat or products, as well as x-rays, inspections, and detector dogs.

These are strong measures that have worked well so far, but there is no way to protect against wild birds migrating, who may carry the disease. Instead, people are urged to restrict the contact between poultry under their care, and wild birds, in a bid to stop transmission of the disease to local livestock.

PHOTO COMPETITION

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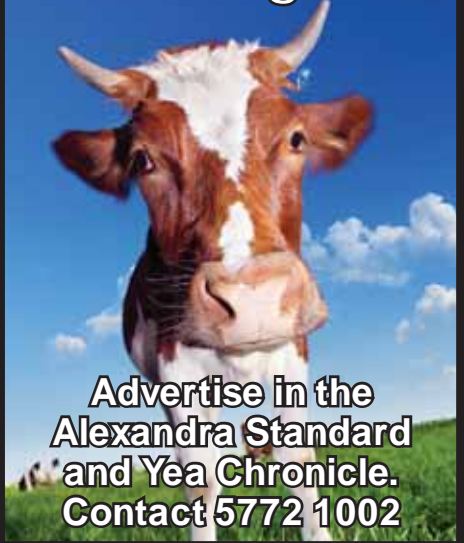


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Murrindindi Jobs Expo returning in May

THE Murrindindi Jobs Expo returns to Alexandra on May 6, offering a free event for job seekers, career changers, and businesses. This is your chance to connect, explore, and learn.

Job seekers can meet potential employers from various industries, discover open positions, and network with industry leaders. The popular Q and A panels featuring regional experts will provide valuable insights for small businesses looking to hire and job seekers seeking options and inspiration for roles and future careers.

Businesses can showcase their company culture and open positions to attract top regional talent. The expo offers both in-person and online opportunities to connect with potential employees, fostering connections and building partnerships. Businesses can also connect with service providers to support their needs and explore knowledge-sharing and resource collaboration opportunities.

The Murrindindi Jobs Expo will feature online job postings from participating businesses on the day, further expanding accessibility for both job seekers and employers.

The event is open to all ages and businesses so don't miss out. Book as an attendee, or book a space to show your business for an afternoon of connecting and industry trend discovery.

To book, visit murrindindifoodandwine.org.au or scan the QR code in the advertisement on this page.

Helping veterans gain employment

WITH its target to employ 1500 veterans met a year ahead of schedule, the Victorian Government is now helping even more veterans transition to civilian life and find meaningful employment in the public sector.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman announced that the government will further expand the target, offering 300 additional public sector roles.

The expanded target will now support 1800 veterans to secure a role in the public sector by June 2025, as part of the *Public Sector Veterans Employment Strategy*.

Since 2017, the government has recruited 1541 veterans into public sector roles with 537 becoming sworn members of Victoria Police and a further 164 taking up jobs in Corrections and Youth Justice.

While many veterans successfully transition out of the Defence Force to civilian life, some experience challenges finding employment, in

part, because of the need to navigate new systems and processes.

The strategy supports veterans who may face barriers or challenges with skills recognition and translation, lack of mentorship and professional networks, and resume writing and interview experience.

It is designed to assist veterans into employment through a range of initiatives, including Veteran Employment Workshops, the Veteran Employment Network and the Veteran Mentor Program, which pairs current and former Australian Defence Force members with mentors to help with job applications and career advancement.

These initiatives create networks, allow veterans to learn about job opportunities, and translate the skills acquired during their defence service into nationally recognised civilian qualifications.

The Labor Government has also invested \$220,000 to deliver a landmark Recognition of Prior Learning for Veterans Pilot Program, so the skills and knowledge earned during their service

is reflected in nationally recognised civilian qualifications and skill sets.

This includes a specialised Veteran Liaison Officer who works closely with TAFEs and Skills and Jobs Centres across Victoria to ensure all veterans, no matter where they live, can have their skills recognised.

For more information of the Public Sector Veterans Employment Strategy visit veterans.vic.gov.au/employment

Premier Jacinta Allan said, "Victorian veterans are some of the most qualified, skilled and talented people in our state, and that's why we want more of them working in the public sector."

"We are proud to honour the contribution of the ex-service community, and support veterans and their families."

Minister for Veterans Natalie Suleyman added, "We've already recruited more than 1500 highly skilled veterans and now we want an additional 300 service men and women to take up secure and well-paid jobs, working for Victoria."

Changes to the Fair Work Commission's functions

A NUMBER of changes to the functions of the Fair Work Commission (FWC) have come into operation.

Prohibiting sexual harassment in connection with work

The *Fair Work Act 2009* now includes a prohibition against sexual harassment in connection with work. The commission can deal with sexual harassment disputes by making a stop sexual harassment order, otherwise dealing with the dispute, or both.

The FWC have published application forms for the new sexual harassment jurisdiction.

Detailed information on the FWC's role in dealing with sexual harassment in connection with work is now available on their website. A number of changes have been made to materials following the consultations, and they will continue to review the feedback that has been provided and update material as the jurisdiction develops.

Expert Panels for pay equity and the care and community sector

An Expert Panel will be required when the commission is considering changes to modern awards which relate to gender pay equity or the care and community sector and when deciding whether to make an equal remuneration order.

A newly created Pay Equity and Awards Team within the commission will support the work of the Expert Panels. The team can be contacted at awards@fwc.gov.au

Information about gender pay equity, the work of the expert panels and *equal remuneration orders* have also been added to their website.

Absorbing the functions of the Registered Organisations Commission

The functions of the Registered Organisations Commissioner have now transferred to the general manager of the Commission.

The obligations of registered organisations do not change.

All ongoing investigations, inquiries and litigation will transfer to the general manager who will be assisted by staff transferring from the Registered Organisations Commission into the newly formed Registered Organisations Governance and Advice Branch. Conduct that occurred prior to the transfer of these functions may be subject to a potential inquiry, investigation or proceeding by the general manager.

A new email address has been established for all registered organisations matters, regorgs@fwc.gov.au

Staff in the registered organisations teams at the Fair Work Commission can be contacted on 1300 341 665.

FWC have also established a Registered Organisations Advisory Committee who will play an important advisory role over the coming months.

For further information, visit fwc.gov.au

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A person wearing a large, light-colored mushroom cap as a hat and a matching mushroom-shaped headpiece with large, dark, circular eyes. They are wearing a colorful, ruffled dress with orange, red, and blue patterns. The person is standing in a vast, arid, desert-like landscape with sparse, low-lying shrubs and a clear, hazy sky in the background. The text "From space to your place" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

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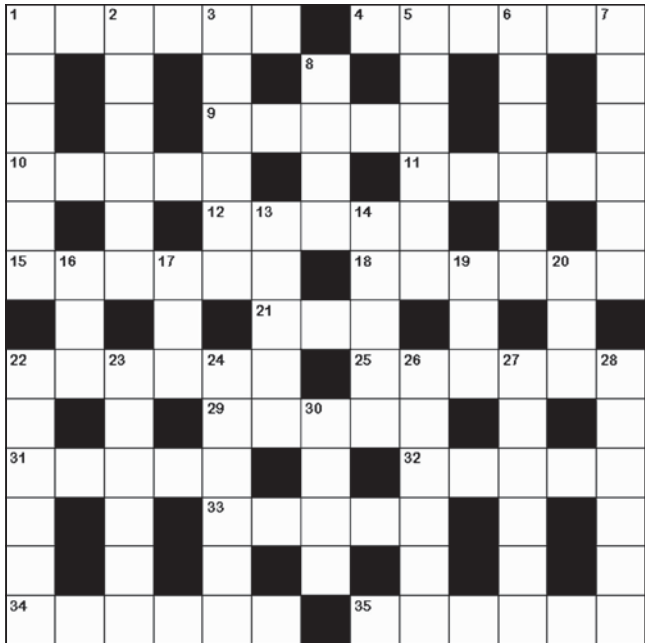
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 12

Crossword

ACROSS

- Something unusual.
- Plug for a bunghole.
- Ship of the desert.
- Physically unsound.
- Spiritual being.
- A block of gold.
- Mural done with watercolours.
- He joins pieces of metal.
- A hotel.
- An alternate route.
- Needed for vigorous activity.
- Earth or land.
- Australia's Dame Nellie.
- Large vertical steel tower.
- Dyed fabric made using wax.
- Convert into cash.
- Used to secure a boat.



DOWN

- Reject outright.
- A lottery for goods instead of money.
- A plan of action.
- Roof of the mouth.
- Fed beyond capacity.
- A maker of suits.
- Self-satisfied.
- Sound of any kind.
- The proprietor.
- A column of light.
- The ocean.
- Caustic solution.
- Common breakfast food.
- Bar at both ends of a car.
- Lacking in vitality.
- Firm and dependable.
- Serviette.
- Take pleasure in.
- Distant but within sight.
- Learn by repetition.

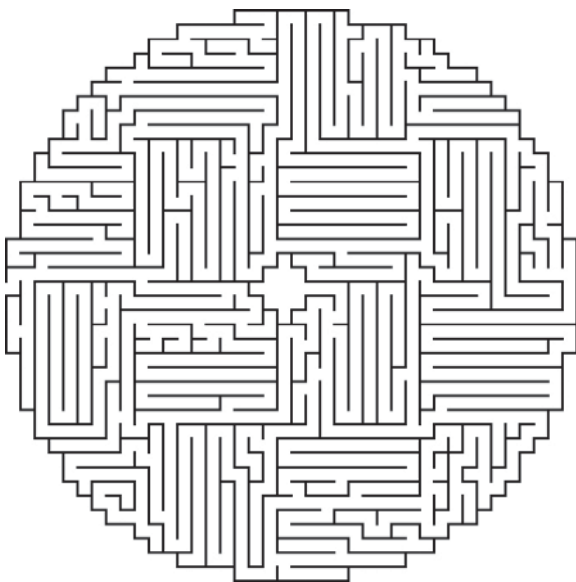
Word Search

EARTH DAY

- EARTH
- PLANT
- ENERGY
- REUSE
- GREEN
- REUSE
- NATURE
- SOIL
- OZONE
- TREES
- PLANET
- WATER

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

Maze



Sudoku

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

Difficulty: Easy

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.

Cryptogram

Aboriginal words and meaning

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
3				10				7							26					15					

I A E E A . E O E
6 7 5 3 6 8 10 10 23 3 18 10 1 4 26 6 10



A death cap mushroom. -S



A yellow staining mushroom. -S

Beware of foraging for wild mushrooms

POISONOUS mushrooms, including death cap mushrooms and yellow-staining mushrooms, occur in Victoria during autumn as the weather becomes wetter and cooler.

Consuming a death cap mushroom may result in death. Cooking, peeling or drying these mushrooms does not remove or inactivate the poison. There is no home test available to distinguish safe and edible mushrooms from poisonous mushrooms.

Mushrooms purchased from a supermarket, greengrocer or other reputable source are safe to eat.

It is recommended that people remove any mushrooms growing in home gardens as young children and pets can easily eat them.

What is the issue?

Death cap mushrooms

Death cap mushrooms (*amanita phalloides*) are extremely poisonous. Consuming just one mushroom can kill an adult. Symptoms of poisoning by death cap mushrooms can include violent stomach pains, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea. Even if initial symptoms subside serious liver damage may have occurred that may result in death.

These mushrooms grow under oak trees and the caps are 40 to 160mm in diameter. The cap ranges in colour from pale yellow-green to olive brown and the ridges on the underside of the cap are white. The base of the stem has a membrane 'cup'.

Yellow-staining mushrooms

The yellow-staining mushroom (*agaricus xanthodermus*) is the cause of most poisonings due to ingestion of wild fungi in Victoria. Consuming yellow-staining mushrooms causes nausea, stomach cramps, diarrhoea and vomiting. The severity of symptoms varies with the amount eaten.

This mushroom looks very similar to regular purchased mushrooms or 'cultivated mushrooms' (*agaricus bisporus*) and to edible wild mushrooms such as the field mushroom (*agaricus campestris*). In urban

areas the yellow-staining mushroom is unfortunately much more common than edible mushrooms. It can grow in large troops in lawns and gardens.

Who is at risk?

Anyone who collects and consumes wild mushrooms of unknown species is putting themselves at risk of potential poisoning and serious illness. Consuming a death cap mushroom may result in death.

Children should not touch wild mushrooms with their bare hands and animals should be kept away from them.

Pets can develop a range of illnesses from eating wild mushrooms, including gastroenteritis-type syndrome to severe life-threatening disease and death. Dogs are more likely than cats to ingest mushrooms.

Recommendations

Unless you are an expert, do not pick and eat wild mushrooms in Victoria.

People should urgently attend an emergency department if they believe they've eaten a poisonous mushroom. They should also take any remaining mushrooms with them for identification.

In most cases, the sooner treatment can begin, the better the outcome. Do not wait for symptoms to occur before seeking medical attention.

Contact the Victorian Poisons Information Centre immediately on 131 126 (open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Australia wide). Keep and photograph a sample of the mushroom that was consumed to share with the Victorian Poisons Information Centre for expert identification of the mushroom.

Pet owners should take particular care in areas where mushrooms may grow and where possible, remove any mushrooms from your garden before pets have a chance to eat them.

Remove any mushrooms growing in home gardens by wearing gloves and carefully place in a bag and dispose of them in a closed rubbish bin.



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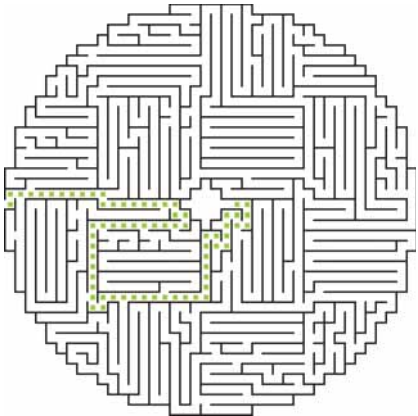
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CRYPTOGRAM

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
3	8	4	11	10	16	24	2	7	19	9	1	6

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“We believe in the strength and potential of our local economy, and this strategy is a testament to that belief. We now invite all residents, business owners, and visitors to review the draft Strategy and provide their feedback. Your voice matters in shaping the future of our local economy.”

All ages competing at Merton campdraft

OVER 700 entries attended the Merton Campdraft last weekend in pristine weather.

The two day competition included a ladies' event on Saturday morning, followed by a maiden event, junior, juvenile, and open event. Sunday morning saw the 'Alan Fox Memorial Novice' event contested, and the encouragement event.

Merton Campdraft Club secretary, Lisa Smith, spoke about the event.

"Our Junior and Juvenile events are a great way of giving kids a chance to be part of the action. And many of them give the adults a run for their money. Campdrafting is a great sport for the whole family to enjoy.

"On Sunday, we'll be starting with the 'Alan Fox Memorial Novice' event, followed by the Encouragement event to round out the weekend.

"The Encouragement event is designed to provide an entry level competition to riders starting out in campdrafting. As a club, we think it's important to give people an opportunity to give campdrafting a go."

More details can be found on the Merton Campdraft Club Facebook page.



Dust flew as cows were guided around the arena. -Photos by BD



Alexandra ladies Lynne and Ros, with Belinda from Mansfield, spectated the event. -BD



Competitors drove the cows around an enclosed course to earn points. -BD



-photos by BD

Yea Football

Under 9

by Michael Beer

WELL done to all the team members for getting the first game of the season under your belts. Keep working on your skills, teamwork and most importantly, supporting each other so we can get the most out of being a team and enjoying the great game that is football.

Hamish was great around the ball and made good pack movement. Hamish could become an excellent ground ball specialist.

Ashton had great attack on the football today. Ashton's confidence will grow over the season and he could become a great contributor to the team.

Logan gave a really strong performance today. Great marking, movement and strength in the packs. There is a real maturity in the way Logan plays.

Fox showed real improvement through the game, stopping a number of goals. With work on the basic skills throughout the season I could see Fox being one of the most improved players this season.

Josh had amazing attack on the football, with strong marking, speed and penetrating kicking across the whole game. Josh could become a great attacking forward in years to come.

Under 10

by Budgie Kiss

LAST Sunday was the first hit out of the season. With all the stuff behind scenes out of the way the under 10s hit the field running. Zac Fairchild was on the inside of all the packs with Atticus Barbeti marking everything that came near him. Archie Armstrong was just dominant.

After an even start Yea started to get on top. Oliver Skilling was solid in the air and on the ground, Toby Debrincat was covering two players in defense and did it brilliantly. Toby Johnston was being seen everywhere across the field and Henry Reid was a four quarter player and didn't matter where he played.

Then there were three new comers to football all having an impact, Safari Kiss, along with sister, Immy Kiss, were great taking marks while Dougie Macgregor was defending brilliantly. As a coach I couldn't be prouder of each of them.

Under 12

Wandong Warriors 17.12 - 114 defeated Yea Tigers 0.1 - 1

by Emma Heughan

YEA played Wandong away in the first round of the season. It was a perfect autumn day to start the season, and give the young tigers their first run out in very warm conditions for football. For a number of players it was their first time playing on the full oval, a big step up from the under

10s, and the benefit of the pre-season fitness training showed.

Wandong started strong, bursting out of the centre for their first goals, and this was a sign of things to come. The host team's confidence grew and they just kept kicking goals.

The coaches said at quarter time, the under 12s were doing everything right, it just wasn't converting to the scoreboard.

Jack Johnston got a point on the board, but in the end, the Warriors won by 113. The gutsy play from young tigers all over the field failed to convert to the score line, but gives great promise for the season. Coach Belinda Johnston said she was "super proud" of these young cubs.

Awards: Marmalades Player of the week went to Evan Porter who just didn't stop, read the play beautifully and worked tirelessly; The JGC encouragement award went to Will Cunningham, who is trying something new this season and its great to have him in the team; Most improved, provided by Yarra Valley Gas, went to Sienna Duncan who showed a lot of guts, she was always in the action.

Thanks to Duncan's Paint and Panel who are returning as sponsor for this season with a Red Hot Go award, to commence round two.

Under 14

Wandong Warriors 22.17 - 149 defeated Yea Tigers 1.0 - 6

by Tan Day

THE sun was shining on Wandong last Sunday, who proved too good for Yea. With very few numbers Yea borrowed heavily from the under 12s and managed to field a side of 15. Yea were fortunate to have Mark Steiner and Jack Christie coach, and are grateful for their guidance and assistance.

Yea managed to fight hard to the very end and gave it their best effort. The kids managed to keep running and playing with enthusiasm, even after already playing a full game. Thanks to all that assisted and to all under 14 kids out there. Go Tigers.

Goal Kickers: J Johnston; **Awards:** H Antrobus and L McAlpin.

Under 16

Echuca 29.21 - 195 defeated Yea 0.3 - 3

by Nick Fisher

LAST Sunday the Yea Tigers under 16s travelled to Kialla to take on Echuca in a grading game to see where they fit in. The eager squad of 15 tried their hardest but were totally out ranked by the very polished Echuca.

Despite the score, the Yea boys did play some great passages of football and the club is excited to see them develop through the season. The club also thanks the parents that stepped in last minute to help out. Go Tigers.



A flatbed truck trailer proved handy seating for spectators on the day. -BD



Spectators sat on hay bales to watch the drovers perform. -BD



Spectators watched competitors round up cattle in the camp. -BD



SPORT

Good win for Yea junior netballers

by Kelly Harris

Netball

Under 15

Alexandra Red defeated by Yea
IT was a beautiful day in Alexandra for the first match of the 2024 season. The Yea under 15 netballers were excited to get back on the court with three new additions named in the playing group, Jemma, Lily and Hannah.

The Yea Tigers came out strong in the first quarter scoring three unanswered goals in the beginning. Sophie and Marley displayed remarkable accuracy with their shooting. At the end of the first quarter the Tigers had displayed some of the skills that won them the premiership in 2023. First quarter scores five to 10.

Some minor changes were made heading into the second quarter. Flynn moved into centre and showed his capacity to move from one end of the court to the other with speed. Sienna continued to be consistent in goal defence and with the assistance of Micayla in keeper, they kept Alexandra Rebels Red to one goal in this term. Scores at the half time break were six to 15.

In the third quarter Yea was able to employ the new strategy of rolling substitution for a seamless changeover of Marley and Sophie in shooting. Yea's three new players, Jemma, Lily and Hannah were great in getting the ball through the centre and assisted Yea with maintaining the lead. The Rebels managed to match Yea's scoring in the third with scores 10 to 19 going into the final quarter.

The Tigers put their foot down again in the final term with Elsie taking many intercepts in wing defence and Ella feeding the ball to out shooters as wing attack. Maya used her skills as a defender to obtain rebounds in the goal circle and assist Sophie to build on the team's total. It was a consistent and determined

effort put in by the Tigers and as a consequence they walked away with a well deserved win. Well done Tigers.

Award winners: Marmalade's Player of the Week- Maya Cronk and Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved- Hannah Webber.

Under 13 Yea 36 defeated Alexandra Red 22

by Deborah Schickerling

THE first game of the season always gets off to a nervous start on and off the court but Yea had the advantage of the first center pass and possession of the ball.

The Tigers under 13s focus for the game was footwork and passing. The girls all nailed the footwork with only one or two stepping calls throughout the whole game. The passing was a bit quick at times and not as controlled as they are capable of, but generally the ball movement was good.

With both teams having 10 players and the new rolling substitutes rule, the coaches had a great opportunity to try combinations knowing they could be changed, however this wasn't necessarily the case for Yea as all combinations and positional changes had positives and the girls took on every position with gusto. The first and fourth quarters for Yea were their strongest on the scoreboard and when Alexandra came out firing in the third and got within two points, it could have been anyone's game but to the Yea girls credit they got the first turn over from the Rebels center and never looked back scoring 14 to two in the last.

Award recipients: Marmalades Best on Court award went to Lola Leatham for an outstanding first quarter and setting the team up for the win.

Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved went to Samantha Fraser for her being able to switch.



Under 11 award winners, Evie Madden, Stella Jolly and Millie Krickic. -S



Under 13 Award winners, Lola Leatham and Samantha Fraser. -S



The under 13s Marmalades Best on Court award went to Lola Leatham (right) for an outstanding first quarter and setting the team up for the win. The Yarra Valley Gas Most Improved went to Samantha Fraser (left) for her being able to switch from goals to ring defence so seamlessly and making an impact in both. -S



Under 11 division two are the youngest Tigers, playing their first ever game against Broadford, and their youngest and newest players. -S



Under 13 team for 2024 with their coach Lauren Cronk. -S



The under 13 netballers warming up. -S



In the under 15s, the Marmalade's Player of the Week was Maya Cronk and Yarra Valley Gas 'Most Improved' was Hannah Webber. -S

Busy time for Yea golfers

by Alan Pell

LAST Saturday 26 men from Yea Golf Club competed in the Monthly Medal for April in beautiful autumn weather. Winner of the day with 83 off the stick nett 68 was Brendan 'Trout' Chenhall. This is the second monthly medal for him this year having won in February as well.

Second was ever reliable Rick Wills (8) with nett 71. Third was Paul Clayton (10) with nett 74 from fourth Rob O'Halloran (22) nett 76 and Kevin Coghlan (22) fifth nett 77. There was no nearest the pin on the 11th and John Renehan won the Club Award. Putting was won by John Phillips with 24 putts.

There were six ladies on Saturday also playing a stroke event with Meryl Connell (28) nett 73 winning the day. Second was Di Holdsworth (27) with nett 79.

Friday night saw about 30 people attend the putting competition, golf quiz and pizza night



The Yea course looking magnificent. -S

at the Club. Many thanks to Phil Armstrong and his helpers for organising such a fabulous night. Sharon Grogan won the Yea Meats meat raffle.

Last Wednesday, 15 men played a stableford event. Many of us are now happy that school holidays are over as young Tom White (20) thrashed us all with 44 stableford points. He had 82 off the stick including three birdies. His playing partners described it as one of the best rounds of golf they had seen. Tom is currently also playing Pennant for the club being undefeated in his matches up to this



Tom White with Rick Wills. -S

Sunday. Unfortunately his run ended this Sunday at Marysville versus Eildon losing his match 3/2. The others however won with Rick Wills winning 3/2, John Phillips 4/2, Tony Rule 5/4 and Greg Clements 3/2 to record a 4/1 for Yea.

Further results from last Wednesday saw Bill Dredge (21) on count back with 33 points being runner up with Paul Clayton (10) third. Nearest the pin on the 11th, was Tom White. The Club Award went to John Renehan.

The club is running a special new membership deal. Signup now and receive a



Sharon with the great meat tray. -S

14 month membership for the yearly price. So from now until the end of June 2025.

Next Thursday, Yea is hosting the Dalhousie Vets. Hope to see as many Yealiens as possible at this event.

Next Saturday, April 20 sees the Men/ Mixed Foursomes Championships being held. Find a partner and book in. There are spaces for three men at our autumn golf trip to Melbourne Airport Golf Club on Tuesday, April 30. If interested please let Alan Pell know ASAP.

Rya Roberts: karting on track

LOCAL Yea High School student Rya Roberts is on track for his first Nationals start next weekend at round two of the Australian Karting Championships at Eastern Lions Kart Club in Puckapunyal.

With over 400 entries heading to the track, Rya will be amongst the 77 elite drivers competing in the KA3 Junior class from Thursday, April 18 onwards.

Coming off the back of a successful weekend at round two of the Golden Power series in Gippsland last week with a win in heat one and two, Rya will be pushing on track for a strong result.

“With this being my home club I’ve managed to have a decent amount of track time this year to work hard on my racing,” Rya said.

Yea football and netball club travelled to Alexandra for opening games

AFTER two practice matches and then a break for Easter, the Outer East League 2024 Division One season commenced with the Rebels hosting Yea for two games of football and four games of netball.

Football

Reserves

Alexandra 14.9 – 93 defeated Yea 0.6 – 6

The reserves got the football day started.

Seniors

Alexandra 22.9 – 141 defeated Yea 10.5 – 65

DESPITE a rough first half, Yea continued to work hard in the second half, rewarded with six goals to two in the last quarter.

A large crowd enjoyed excellent weather, the ground in terrific condition and games of football and netball played in great spirit. Thank you to all the Yea players and supporters that made the trip. Local State Member, Cindy McLeish, was catching up with locals and presented the Hedger Ivey Cup to Kath Hedger.

Netball

A GRADE lost 52–38;
B GRADE won 31–45;
C GRADE won 18–27;
D GRADE lost 37–11.

“I’ve also been working hard on my fitness, getting a good push from Jess and the team at Progression Physiotherapy and Performance, be it in their Condition classes or the local run club.”

Rya’s 2024 program will see him at various state rounds as well as the Golden Power Series that runs over five events throughout Victoria.

“Unfortunately, the budget doesn’t quite reach competing at all the Australian Karting Championship rounds around Australia this year, especially being a stand-alone karter, working with dad as the mechanic as well as mum and my two younger brothers supporting me.

“I’m extremely fortunate to have some great backers that have helped from buying my upgraded chassis, an engine, tyres and even entry fees paid for next week’s attack on Nationals. Without their support I wouldn’t be rocking up to the track as much as I am,” Rya said.

The Eastern Lions track is located at 1005 Seymour-Tooborac Road, Hilldene, 10km from Seymour. Admission is free for all spectators and all of the racing will also be streamed live on Saturday and Sunday on watchmysportlive.tv

Career overview

Rya started his go karting career back in 2019 at a local indoor karting facility in Chirnside Park. The obsession grew and he was there every week competing at the age of nine against 12 year olds in hire karts. But he wanted more.

2020 was the year to step up and he was fortunate, with the support of his parents, to purchase a second hand Cadet 12 Kosmic kart. Unfortunately, the pandemic hit and all tracks had to close. He managed to complete his practice hours to fulfill his licence requirements during the gaps in 2020 and compete in two club day rounds. He hasn’t looked back.

When 2021 started, the P plates were on. A strong start to the year saw him place fifth overall at one of Oakleigh Go Kart Tracks prestigious events, ‘Top Guns’. The \$100 prize money almost covered the cost of the entry and was an amazing experience.

A solid 2022 allowed for more consistent track time to build up to an extremely busy 2023 in which he competed in the Golden Power Series, Eastern Lions Club Championship and various state specialty plate races. He competed in 20 race meetings in total in 2023 and upgraded to a new Kart Republic chassis thanks to his generous sponsors.

2023 achievements

Third place in Club Championship overall. Competed in all nine rounds.

Seventh place in the Golden Power series. Competed in all six rounds. Best result: third at Bendigo round two. Over 40 competitors in the competition. Australian Karting Championship top five compete in this championship as well.

2024 and beyond

Repping the Kart Republic chassis this year, they are aiming to approach the year a little differently, with a focus on the Golden Power series in the KA3 Junior Heavy Division. They hope to also get a spot at the two Victorian rounds of the Australian Karting Championship.

Rya’s focus is on improving his fitness this year and to work on his race craft with some driver coaching.



Rya Roberts on the track. -S



Rya heading to the track. -S



Rya will be competing in round two of the Australian Karting Championships at Eastern Lions Club in Puckapunyal. -S

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