

The Yea Chronicle

PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

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

Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, May 7, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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Food Share celebrates first birthday



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Murrindindi Shire welcomes new citizens

Council CEO Livia Bonazzi, Michelle Jack, Secretary Alexandra Football Netball Club, Neil Robinson, Alexandra RSL and Alexandra Football Netball Club, Annie Robinson, Alexandra RSL and Football Netball Club, Mayor Damien Gallagher, Frederik Meert, Ritchie Frew, John Bush, Yumeng Yang, Robert Taylor, Alexander Sloan, Cindy McLeish MP, Deputy Mayor Anita Carr, Martine Sloan, Red Gate CWA, Noel McIlwraith, Rotary Club of Alexandra and Murrindindi Foodshare, and John McIlwraith, Friends of Rotary. -S

IN a joyful ceremony held on Tuesday, April 29 at Alexandra Council Chamber, Murrindindi Shire Council officially welcomed six new Australian Citizens as part of a special citizenship event.

Hosted by Mayor Damien Gallagher, together with Deputy Mayor Anita Carr and CEO Livia Bonazzi, the ceremony brought together families, community leaders and council representatives to witness and

celebrate this important milestone in the lives of the new citizens.

The conferees, Frederick, Ritchie, John, Yumeng, Robert, and Alexander, have pledged their commitment to Australia's democratic values and were presented with certificates of citizenship in front of an audience of family and friends.

In attendance were guests including Michelle Jack, Secretary Alexandra

Football Netball Club, Neil Robinson, Alexandra RSL and Alexandra Football Netball Club, Annie Robinson, Alexandra RSL and Football Netball Club, Martine Sloan, Red Gate CWA, Noel McIlwraith, Rotary Club of Alexandra and Murrindindi Foodshare, John McIlwraith, Friends of Rotary, and Cindy McLeish MP who were pleased to congratulate the shire's newest Australians.

Council will proudly host a further two Citizenship Ceremonies throughout 2025.

To learn more about becoming an Australian citizen, please visit the Department of Home Affairs website at immi.homeaffairs.gov.au or call the Citizenship Information line on 131 880 during business hours.

Council responds to community feedback on Yea Springs Estate flooding

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has said that they acknowledge the concerns raised by residents following the significant flooding that affected the Yea Springs Estate during the heavy rain events in December 2023 and January 2024. These events caused substantial local disruption, with roads cut and access limited for up to two days.

While the event was rare, classified as a one in 200-year flood (Annual Exceedance Probability of 0.5 per cent), council said that they understand the impact on residents and is taking steps to address community concerns.

Council said that they want to reassure residents that all properties in the estate were developed in accordance with Victorian standards to withstand a one in 100-year flood. Importantly, while some roads and private yards were inundated, no houses experienced over-floor flooding.

Following the flood, council met with affected residents to listen to their experiences and develop practical measures to reduce future flood risk.

Actions taken so far have included upgrading the dam wall and stormwater outfall at Boundary Creek Reserve to improve water flow and capacity, building a new earthen embankment alongside the Boundary Creek Boulevard footpath which will soon be planted with native vegetation for erosion control and biodiversity, completing works on the Boulevard to improve how stormwater flows into the reserve, inspecting culverts on Racecourse Road, which were found to be functioning well, conducting Level Two bridge assessments along Boundary Creek confirming they are in good working condition, clearing woody weeds and managing vegetation along the creek to reduce floodwater obstructions, and hosting emergency preparedness sessions in November 2024 as part of the LEAP program to support community resilience.

Council said they are committed to reducing flood impacts where possible, through infrastructure upgrades, community engagement, advocacy, and education, but said that some factors are beyond their direct

control. These include drainage and water flows across privately owned land, where council cannot undertake works without landowner consent.

One such case is the farm dam adjacent to Lawrances Road, located on land not owned or managed by council, where runoff from the hills continues to pose challenges. Council is actively working with relevant landowners to seek a resolution.

Council is also planning for future development. Land between Yea Springs and the Yea Secondary College, currently undeveloped, will in time include formalised stormwater infrastructure to replace natural drainage. Council has prepared designs to improve drainage in the area, including a drainage easement in Jordan Way that channels overflow towards Boundary Creek Boulevard.

To support the area's long-term transition from rural to residential, council has applied for federal funding to construct and seal the local road network, upgrade stormwater drainage, and raise the Racecourse Road

bridge and approaches. The proposed works are valued at \$18 million.

They said that they remain committed to keeping the community informed and ensuring public safety remains their top priority. Future access for Yea Springs is addressed in the current Development Plan Overlay and will be delivered as part of the next stage of housing development. Council is also advocating for improved telecommunications resilience, including battery backup for towers, to ensure better connectivity during power outages.

In partnership with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and with state government funding, council has also commenced updated flood studies for the broader Yea township, including Boundary Creek, to guide future planning and mitigation.

Council said that they want to thank residents for their ongoing input and cooperation as they continue to work together to build a safer, more resilient community.

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital
5736 0400

In an emergency dial
000

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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Police seeking information over disappearance

DETECTIVES from the Missing Persons Squad are seeking public assistance as part of their investigation into the 2023 disappearance of Kinglake man Rodney McKenzie.

The then 71 year old was last seen by an associate about 1.30pm on Sunday, March 5, 2023 when he drove him to the local shops.

After returning home, Rodney did not access his bank accounts or his phone or make any further contact with his family again.

He was reported missing by his daughter, Jackie, on Thursday, March 23, 2023 when she became concerned she had not heard from him for longer than usual.

Jackie went to check on her father at his Bald Spur Road home but found the premises unlocked, and Rodney's phone, wallet and car still at the address.

Rodney lived a secluded life on his 20 acre property and was not known to leave his home particularly often.

Police searched the property over a three day period in March with assistance from the Air Wing, Search and Rescue, Special Solo Unit, State Emergency Services and the Country Fire Authority.

No trace of Rodney was found.

Over the past 12 months enquiries made by detectives from the Missing Persons Squad have increasingly lead them to believe that Rodney has met with foul play.

As such, his disappearance is now being treated as suspicious.

Police are releasing a number of images of Rodney, as well as CCTV of one of the last times he was seen in public, in the hope that someone recognises him and may be able to provide information on his likely final movements.

Anyone with any other information regarding his disappearance is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential crime report at crimestoppersvic.com.au

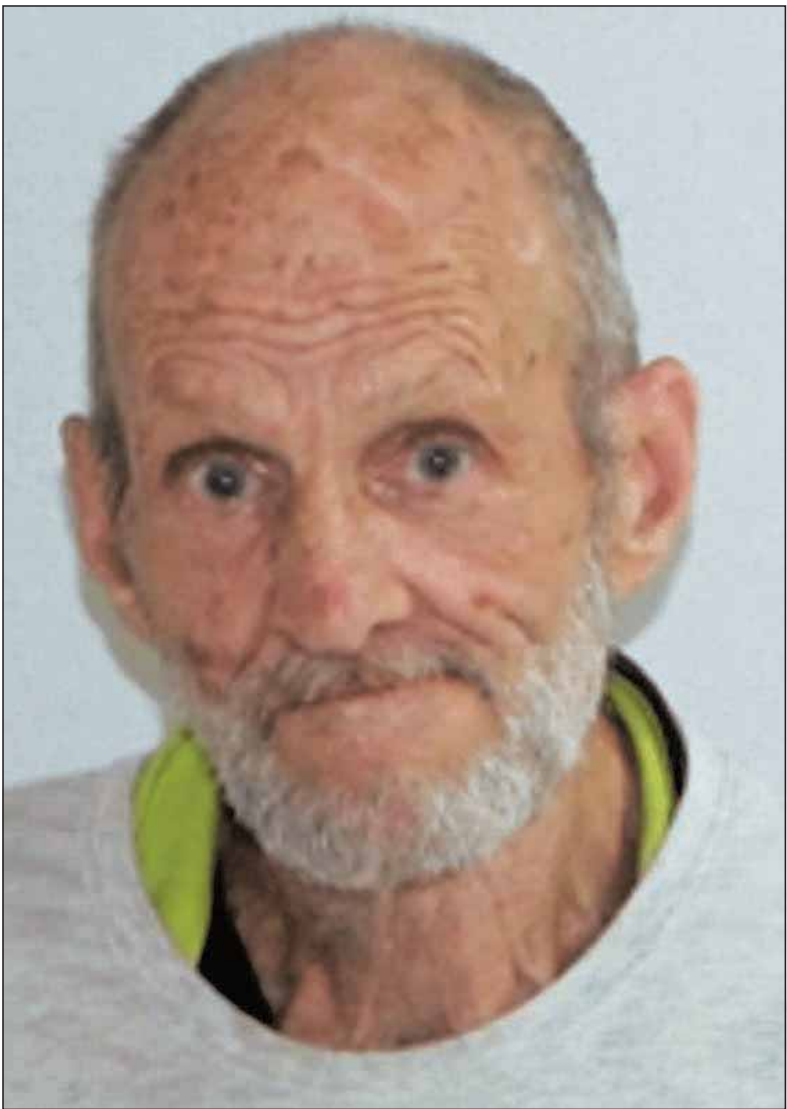
Detective Acting Inspector Steve Trewavas, Missing Persons Squad, said, "Rodney's disappearance is of concern to investigators, as well as his friends and family.

"He was known to police as he'd had significant involvement with drugs over the course of his life.

"This has provided detectives with a range of avenues of enquiry, and it's information provided as part of those enquiries that has lead us to this conclusion.

"Initially consideration was given that he may have had a fall or a medical episode somewhere on his property as the terrain is so rugged, but a three day search utilising all resources available to police located no trace of him.

"Sadly, at this time we do believe Rodney has likely met with foul play.



Rodney McKenzie. -S

"His phone and bank accounts have not been touched since March 5, 2023. We are confident there are people out there who know what has happened to him.

"We are hopeful that today's appeal leads to those people coming forward. Any information provided to detectives will be followed up thoroughly in the hope we can provide some answers for Rodney's family.

"I encourage anyone with any information at all to speak to police or information can be provided anonymously via Crime Stoppers."

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT					
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS	
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	0.35	steady	below minor	
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.38	steady		
Acheron River at Taggerty	9.22am Mon	0.44	steady	below minor	
Home Creek at Yarck	7.44am Mon	0.10	steady		
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	7.20am Mon	0.39	steady	below minor	
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	8.20am Mon	0.18	steady	below minor	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	3.77	steady		
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.29	steady	below minor	
King Parrot Ck at Kerrisdale	9.00am Mon	0.11	steady		
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	1.45	steady	below minor	
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	-0.08	steady	below minor	
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	1.74	steady	below minor	
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.43am Mon	0.79	steady		

**ISSUED AT 10.16AM ON MONDAY, 5 MAY 2025

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can be submitted via email to
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PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

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

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

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Standard

The Yea Chronicle

Weekly Weather

May 7 - May 13, 2025

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	6	18	Wednesday	7	18
Thursday	5	16	Thursday	5	16
Friday	6	19	Friday	5	20
Saturday	7	21	Saturday	7	21
Sunday	9	22	Sunday	8	22
Monday	9	22	Monday	9	22
Tuesday	9	20	Tuesday	9	21

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

DISTRICT RAINFALL	
Alexandra.....	0mm
Buxton.....	0mm
Eildon (AWS).....	0.2mm
Flowerdale.....	0.6mm
Jamieson.....	N/Amm
Kinglake	3mm
Lake Eildon	0mm
Mansfield.....	N/Amm
Taggerty	0mm
Yarck	0mm
Yea.....	N/Amm
Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday	
LAKE EILDON	
Height above sea level this week.....	277.33m
Capacity as at 9am Monday.....	60.3%
Metres below full supply.....	11.6m
Daily inflow	300ML
Release.....	3300ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change).....	63%

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

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5772 1002 or
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We thank you for your continued support

Labor wins majority and Helen Haines wins Indi

THE Australian Labor Party was the clear winner in the Federal election, held on Saturday, May 3, but locally, the preference was still for independents, with incumbent Helen Haines taking the seat of Indi.

Dr Haines received 52,515 votes (58.49 per cent) in the two candidates preferred count once all of the ballots had been counted, against Liberal James Trenery, who received 37,270 votes (41.51 per cent), with a swing of 0.45 per cent.

The first preference count saw Helen Haines receive 38,637 votes (43.03 per cent), Labor's Mitch Bridges 7186 votes (eight per cent), Liberal James Trenery received 27,851 votes (31.02 per cent), One Nation's Athol Thomas received 6233 votes (6.94 per cent), Greens' Alysia Regan received 2943 votes (3.28 per cent), Libertarian Tim Quilty received 1445 votes (1.61 per cent), Family First's Michael White received 1601 votes (1.78 per cent), Legalise Cannabis Party's Ben Howman received 2622 votes (2.92 per cent), and Independent Mark McFarlane received 1268 votes (1.41 per cent).

There were 89,786 formal votes and 5161 informal votes (5.44 per cent).

Around the polling stations, James Trenery won Narbethong (73 votes to Helen Haines's 52), Yea (292 to 270), Glenburn (82 to 60) and Thornton (91 to 52), but all other polling stations in the shire went to Helen Haines.

Taggerty saw Helen Haines on 124 to James Trenery's 103, Marysville 155 to 113, Kinglake 261 to 141, Flowerdale 109 to 77, Eildon 119 to 111 and Alexandra 446 to 440.



The Helen Haines team celebrates. -S

Once the electorate results became clear, Dr Haines posted on Facebook, "Thank you, Indi. I'm honoured that you have placed your trust in me to represent you for another three years. It is a responsibility I take seriously and one that I carry with great pride and gratitude. I will continue to use my position as your independent representative to deliver local impact and national influence, in housing, to help cost-of-living, for better healthcare,

childcare and regional infrastructure, and for continued action on climate change. From Kinglake to Corryong, Mansfield to Wodonga, thank you to people across Indi for sharing your views, your issues and your hopes, and for participating in our democracy. It is the biggest honour of my life to represent you as Federal Independent Member for Indi and I will continue to make every minute count."

James Trenery posted, "Thank you, Indi. Though we didn't get the result we hoped for this time, I want to say a deep and sincere thank you to everyone who stood with us, especially the incredible people of Indi. Your support, energy, and belief carried us every step of the way. To the volunteers who gave their time, heart, and effort: we are so grateful. You made this campaign something truly special. This isn't the end. It's just the beginning. We are more determined than ever. Together, we will keep building, keep showing up, and keep working, harder than ever, for the future we believe in. Let's stay connected, stay strong, and keep going. Indi, we're just getting started."

Labor's Mitch Bridges posted, "To the people of Indi: thank you. Whether you voted Labor or not, know that I believe in this region. I'm proud to have fought for a government that believes we deserve to train here, stay here, get paid what we're worth and raise families with the support they need. We may not have won the seat, but we've earned something powerful, momentum. This wasn't a one-shot campaign it was the start of something lasting. A movement to show that Labor values belong in Indi. There's more to learn and more work ahead, but for now, let's celebrate a thumping Labor victory. Congratulations of course to Dr Haines for a third victory, and well done to James for the fantastic effort. Hope to see you all again soon."

Food Share celebrates first birthday

VOLUNTEERS and supporters gathered on Wednesday, April 30 to celebrate the first birthday of Murrindindi Community Food Share.

When they opened their doors just 12 months ago, they had a simple but powerful vision, to support the community's health and wellbeing by addressing food insecurity in Murrindindi Shire.

Foodbank Victoria reports that 37 per cent of people living in regional Victoria experience food insecurity, more than in metropolitan Melbourne.

Foundation Murrindindi Executive Officer Robyn Hill said, "Over the past year, our monthly food share events have grown from an initial distribution at our first event last May of 217kg of food, to our most recent event in April where we provided 1019kg of food in just three hours.

"In total, we've distributed over 9000kg of food, welcomed over 950 people, from 15 different locations, hosted two events with free haircuts by Spencer the Salon and several more where the Rotary Club of Alexandra warmed bellies with delicious soup and a roll. These additional activities boost self-esteem, increase conversation and engagement and grow personal connections.

"During this process we have built something far greater than just a food share. We've nurtured a community of kindness, dignity, and connection.

"This hasn't happened by chance. It's happened because of the incredible commitment of our partner organisations (such as Reddrops FoodWorks, Menzies Support Services and Yea Community House), our generous donors, including the amazing monthly delivery of potatoes from Dobsons, and local community groups who collect and deliver food to us, those who provide small and large financial contributions that keep us going and the many individuals who share our belief that everyone deserves food on their table," Robyn said.

"Our growth has been supported by two grants, one from the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to insulate this shed and establish the Murrindindi Food Relief Network. This will further extend the support we already provide to existing food relief organisations such as the Faith Cupboard in Eildon and Alexandra Community Hub. Our grant from AGL Hydro has allowed the purchase of our fridge and freezer and a contribution towards the food that fills it and we're thrilled to have a full fridge for our food share event tomorrow.

"To our volunteers, rain, hail or shine, you show up. You sort, you pack, you welcome

and help our visitors, you smile, and you remind us what real community looks like, ably lead by our own team member Sasha. You are all the heartbeat of this place.

"Thank you for backing a vision that puts people first. Your support has helped turn this grassroots effort into something strong, sustainable, and full of promise.

"And finally, it gives me great pleasure to officially launch our newest initiative, the Food Share Fresh garden. The new space will allow us to grow veggies and herbs and they will add to the fresh food offer we will be able to provide. It also gives us an inviting and safe space to host additional events that support our participants' wellbeing.

"As we look ahead to our second year and beyond, I feel nothing but gratitude. This first year has proven what's possible when we come together with purpose and compassion," Robyn said.



Organisers, volunteers and supporters celebrating the one year anniversary of the Murrindindi Community Food Share, located in Alexandra. -AR

Collision on Melba Highway

A COLLISION occurred between a decommissioned fire truck and a 4WD towing a caravan last Monday, south of Yea on the Melba Highway at 3pm.

Emergency services responded, including Yea CFA Rescue, ambulance, police and Alexandra SES. The highway was closed until 6.30pm on the Monday.

Two male patients were taken to hospital, one via air ambulance and the other by road. Both patients survived.

Highway Patrol will continue to investigate to determine who was at fault for the collision.



The scene of the collision on the Melba Highway south of Yea. -S



Alexandra Museum
and Steam Train Rides

OPEN this
Saturday May 10
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Alexandra

All information can be found at:
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/alexandramuseum
or by contacting 0427 509 988



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MURRINDINDI Shire Council congratulates the young organisers and performers who brought the Beyond the Beats event to life in Eildon on Sunday, April 13. The afternoon featured five local artists and drew a crowd of 55 attendees from across the shire and surrounding areas.

The event was planned and delivered by the youth Planning Crew of Issy, Tarni and Liv, who coordinated decorations, snacks, hosting and photography. Their dedication and hard work ensured a seamless and enjoyable experience for all. The venue was full of colours, disco balls and fun with the Planning Crew creating an event and space that will not be forgotten.

Council also thanks Pixie, Janine and the team at Pixies @ the Billabong for generously hosting the event. Their support made the gathering possible and contributed to its warm and inclusive vibe.

The performers, Lilah Galbraith, Alexis Farley, Samuel Harris, Tayla Anne Music and James Whybrow, showcased a wide range of styles and talents. Events like Beyond the Beats offer local musicians the chance to gain experience performing live, while also helping build confidence and community connections.

Council is committed to supporting opportunities where young people can take the lead in shaping and delivering events, building skills in planning, communication and leadership along the way.

Mayor Damien Gallagher and Deputy Mayor Anita Carr attended the event to show their support for local music and youth-led initiatives.

Mayor Gallagher said, “It was fantastic to see our young people come together to create such a vibrant and engaging event. Their passion and creativity are truly inspiring.”

Deputy Mayor Carr added, “I was in awe of the young, local artists and the energy and talent they all displayed on the big stage. Events like these are vital for fostering community spirit in Eildon and across Murrindindi Shire and supporting our local young artists.

“Music has the power to bring people together, and our artists showed the musical talent on offer across Murrindindi Shire. Everyone involved should be proud of the event’s success.”

Tayla, from Tayla Anne Music, one of the local performers at the event said, “It was a wonderful afternoon event for the community, especially for the young ones who enjoyed a fun day out, a fantastic way to support local artists. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of it.”

Beyond the Beats was supported by funding from the *Push All-Ages Grants Program*, part of the Victorian Government’s 10,000 Gigs initiative.

Young people interested in performing or being involved in future events can follow the Murrindindi Shire Youth Facebook and Instagram pages for updates and opportunities.



Attendees at the Beyond the Beats event in Eildon. -S

COMMUNITY DIARY

Yea District Hospital
5736 0400

Non-emergency police assistance
131 444

EMERGENCY 000

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands

UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale/Hazeldene

UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

MONTHLY COMMUNITY GROUPS

1st Mon St Luke’s Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099

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

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

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

Last Fri Yea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 5796 9353

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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

Connect, contribute and celebrate at Murrindindi Shire Council’s Volunteer Expo

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is inviting all volunteer groups and anyone interested in volunteering to their Volunteer Expo at the Alexandra Football Netball Club on Saturday, July 5.

In the spirit of this year’s National Volunteer Week theme, ‘Bringing Communities Together’, council is hosting the expo to connect you with opportunities that suit your skills, interests and passions, and help local groups grow their numbers.

Volunteering is a rewarding way to give back, build new skills and boost your wellbeing. It also strengthens community connections and lets you support causes that matter to you. From helping local charities and environmental groups, to working with animals, assisting emergency services or preserving local history, there’s something for everyone.

The Volunteer Expo aims to connect community groups with people keen to contribute their time and talents. Local

organisations will showcase a range of volunteer roles to suit different interests and skill sets. Whether you’re just starting out or looking to grow your group, the expo is a great opportunity to get involved and make a difference in our shire.

In the lead-up to the expo, Networking Pop-up Sessions will be held in Marysville, Eildon and Alexandra. All events are free and open to everyone. These sessions offer a relaxed opportunity to meet representatives from local organisations and find out how you can get involved.

They are a great way to explore your options before the main expo. Whether you are new to volunteering or just want to meet people and learn more, these networking events are the ideal starting point, so head along and enjoy a hot beverage on council.

For a full schedule of these networking events, and to register your attendance, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteernetworking

If you would like to host a stall at the Volunteer Expo, volunteer groups can register to showcase their opportunities. Prospective volunteers can also register for a ticket to attend. Registrations close Monday, June 23.

For more information and to register your stall or attendance, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteere expo or call council on (03) 5772 0333 and ask to speak with their Community Capacity Building Officer.

Murrindindi Shire Council is pleased to advise this event was made possible by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Community Development Fund. For more information on the Community Capacity Building program visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/communitycapacitybuilding

Murrindindi Shire Mayor Damien Gallagher highlights the critical role volunteers play in strengthening the community.

“Volunteers are the heart of our shire, and this expo gives everyone a chance to find out how they can get involved whether it’s supporting a local cause, gain new skills, or simply connecting with others, we encourage all community members to attend.

Church Services

ST PETER’S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

ST LUKE’S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

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

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

Parish Priest, Father Jose Mathew 0459 402 547 St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm Immaculate Conception Parish Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

Fr Martin Ashe, Parish Priest Ph 9717 6482 St Mary’s Kinglake: Sunday 8.30am

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEA

Station Street Yea Sunday Service 10.30am Colin Whiteway Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

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

Out&About

WHAT'S ON?

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

THURSDAY, MAY 8

Yea Arts Inc are running a free Business of Art workshop in Alexandra. The first workshops in the series include photo and video essentials and social media and brand building for creatives and are led by Sam Hicks. Spaces are limited. To book a spot visit yeaartsinc.org

FRIDAY, MAY 9

Yea spring drop weaner sale. For more information visit Yea Saleyards website or facebook page.

SUNDAY, MAY 11

Mother’s Day Luncheon at Holmesglen at Eildon. Bookings are essential for this three-course luncheon showcasing the finest local produce, and a complimentary glass of sparkling on arrival. Visit the website at holmesglenateildon.com.au or call 5774 2631 to book.

MONDAY, MAY 26

Yea Water Tigers AGM will be held at 6pm at the Yea Community House. General meeting will follow at 6.30pm. enquiries to secretary at yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com or phone 0459 248 488, new members welcome.

A successful Murrindindi Children's Network Annual Conference

ON Thursday, May 1 Murrindindi Children's Network presented the 2025 Early Childhood Conference: Exploring Neurodevelopment at Holmesglen in Eildon.

Councillor Sue Carpenter emceed the event, with four guest speakers throughout the day. There was outstanding attendance from early childhood educators, allied health workers, specialists, and anyone interested in the early childhood sector.

The conference focused on some important aspects of childhood development, this

included navigating mental health, connection with infants and young children, safety and attachment, using play to develop the brain, and preparing young children for the digital world that we live in.

First speaker of the day was Robyn Papworth who was back by popular demand. Robyn is the founder of *play move improve* and is an exercise physiologist and developmental educator and also a strong advocate for early intervention and neurodiversity.

Robyn spoke of how children are struggling with movement as they are addicted to screens, Robyn said "Anyone under two should have zero screen time, not televisions but devices in hands." Its not just movement that screens are affecting, since the introduction of screens children have 1000 less words in their vocabulary.

Screen time reduces language, fewer back and forth interactions, limited sensory inputs and decreased eye contact. With screen time children are only getting auditory and

visual stimulation and they aren't receiving tactile, taste, smell, vestibular input (sensory information which detects changes in head position, motion, and balance) and proprioception (the body's ability to perceive its position and movement in space). Strengthening all these areas leads to a regulated child and overall wellbeing.

Another interesting highlight of Robyn's presentations was the connection between brain development and joint attention. Having joint attention is the ability to share focus on an object or event with another person, this promotes engaging in a shared experience. As children are struggling to connect, they are showing signs of lack of eye contact, difficulty with transitions, limited emotional expression, challenges of co-regulation as they are resistant to join in activities and prefer screen based activities. Gaining joint attention builds a critical pathway for social development, language development, and emotional regulation. To help children develop joint attention, we as adults need to learn joint attention. Eye contact triggers oxytocin release, it is something we can all benefit from.

Other speakers of the day included Wendy Burton, a senior consultant and infant mental health practitioner, Emily Walters, a creative arts therapist, and Sumudu Mallawaarachchi, a research fellow from the Australian Research Council centre of excellence for the Digital Child talking about the effects of the digital world on children's development.



Councillor Sue Carpenter introducing the first speaker of the day Robyn Papworth. -MP



Robyn Papworth had some very insightful information for everyone to walk away with. -MP



Councillor Sue Carpenter opened the conference and emceed the event. -MP



The conference was a very well attended event. -MP

Proposed safety works in Murrindindi Shire

COUNCIL has received funding through the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) Safer Local Roads and Streets Program (SLRSP), in partnership with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to deliver road safety signage upgrades, speed limit reviews and other road safety works at eight locations across Murrindindi Shire.

Council want to hear from you about the proposed changes, including speed limit reductions. Visit council's website to learn more, and provide feedback at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/safer-roads

Feedback is open until Sunday, May 18. Please note, at this stage funding is only available for the following areas: Jerusalem Creek Road, Eildon; Skyline Road and U T Creek Road, Eildon to Devils River; Ghin Ghin Road, Ghin Ghin to Highlands; Killingworth Road, Killingworth; McMahon's Road, Kinglake; Extons Road, Kinglake Central; Yack Road and Top Road, Ruffy to Terip Terip to Gobur, and Whanregarwen Road, Molesworth to Whanregarwen.

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03 9730 1066 [CindyMcLeishMP](https://www.facebook.com/CindyMcLeishMP)

cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Cindy McLeish MP, Shop 10, 38-40 Bell Street, Yarra Glen

Keith Potger
Celebrating The Seekers' 60 Years

8pm Sat 17 May
Alexandra Shire Hall



Dave Arden
"Songman"
8pm Sat 16 August
Homewood Hall

YEA ARTS INC

YeaArtsInc.org/tickets

BOOK NOW!



Student of the Week

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



SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Congratulations to Heidi, Zach and Josh K. (not pictured) on receiving awards for outstanding actions that align with our school values of Respect, Resilience and Safety.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kinglake branch



Road Rule 79A is set to be expanded, meaning people will have to drop their speed to 40km/h past roadside assist workers, tow trucks, etcetera. -BD

Slowing to 40km/h rule expanded to protect roadside workers

THE Victorian Government is protecting roadside workers and emergency services, who are there for Victorians in their most vulnerable moments.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne recently announced the Road Rule 79A will be expanded so workers and volunteers can get their jobs done, without fearing for their safety, whether responding to an accident, a vehicle breakdown, or a life-threatening situation.

“Incident response, roadside assistance and breakdown towing vehicles are there for us when we are in need. This change acknowledges the risks they take and our commitment to keeping them safe,” Ms Horne said.

“It is the responsibility of all drivers to familiarise themselves with this road rule and to always slow to 40km/h past responding vehicles, for the safety of workers and all road users.”

Road Rule 79A was first introduced in 2017 and requires drivers and riders to: Slow to 40km/h when passing stationary emergency or enforcement vehicles with flashing red, blue, magenta, or yellow

lights; approach stationary emergency services or enforcement vehicles at a speed that will allow them to stop safely if required and not increase their speed until a safe distance from the scene.

From July 1, Road Rule 79A (RR79A) will be extended to include accident towing, breakdown towing, roadside assistance, and all incident response service vehicles.

Currently, RR79A only applies to police vehicles, emergency vehicles, enforcement vehicles, and VicRoads Incident Response Service vehicles.

These changes come following a review into the road rule which considered the scope of the rule, compliance rates, penalties, and safety benefits.

The review found that there was a strong case for expanding the scope of vehicles covered by RR79A to increase safety for those who respond to road accidents, and the experiences of people in the industry.

The colour of the flashing lights included in the road rule will not change.

For more information about Road Rule 79A please visit transport.vic.gov.au

Young people not understanding Lithium-ion battery risks

NEW research shows that a large proportion of young people underestimate the risks that can lead to lithium-ion battery fires.

A study commissioned by Energy Safe Victoria found 41 per cent of 18 to 29 year old e-ride owners were unaware of the safety risk caused by incompatible chargers and batteries, and 64 per cent would purchase generic replacement batteries and chargers online.

Energy Safe CEO Leanne Hughson said the research was concerning.

“Using incompatible batteries and chargers on your lithium-ion devices is one of the main causes of thermal runaway, which essentially means your battery overheats and explodes,” Ms Hughson said.

“Numerous house fires have been caused by the misuse of lithium-ion batteries. There have been fatalities and serious injuries in other states and overseas.”

Lithium-ion batteries are the most common type of rechargeable battery used to power e-rides, including e-scooters and e-bikes.

To encourage owners to charge their e-rides safely, Energy Safe Victoria has launched a new campaign showing how quickly a fire can start if an incompatible battery and charger are being used. The campaign has been developed with the support of Victoria’s Country Fire Authority and Fire Rescue Victoria.

“Generic aftermarket chargers are not always compatible with the e-ride battery. Just because the plug fits it doesn’t mean the charger is compatible,” Ms Hughson said.

“Buying them online from overseas suppliers often means the batteries and chargers do not meet Australian Standards for safety.”

Lithium-ion batteries contain technology that communicates with the battery charger to monitor how the charge is progressing. Once the battery is fully charged the battery tells the charger to stop charging. By using a charger that isn’t compatible with the battery it can’t tell the charger to stop charging.

“Purchasing generic battery chargers may save money in the short term, but it could have very dangerous consequences with the battery overheating and causing a violent and devastating fire,” Ms Hughson said.

Fire Rescue Victoria’s Deputy Commissioner Community Safety, Josh Fischer, said, “Victorian firefighters are responding to almost one fire each day caused by rechargeable lithium-ion batteries.

“Stop using the battery if you notice strong odours, colour change, extreme heat, change in shape, leaking or unusual sounds such as popping or hissing.

“If your battery catches fire call Triple Zero (000) immediately and wait in a safe location for firefighters to arrive.”

Ms Hughson said DIY building or modifying batteries, or attempting to charge damaged batteries, could also result in safety risks.

“Lithium-ion batteries should never be modified. People who modify lithium-ion battery systems to get more power or attempt to build their own batteries are risking lives and property.”

Further information about how to charge lithium-ion batteries safely is on the Energy Safe Victoria website energysafe.vic.gov.au/battery-safety

Free dental for school children

VICTORIAN families are saving up to \$400 a year per child on dental checkups, with the *Victorian Government’s Smile Squad School Dental Program* coming soon.

For families, the price of a visit to the dentist can be a deterrent to regular checkups, but with Smile Squad, maintaining oral health doesn’t need to be a financial burden.

Delivered by mobile teams of dedicated oral health clinicians who travel across the state in bright orange vans, the program provides free check-ups and follow up care, x-rays, teeth cleaning, application of fluoride and dental sealants, fillings, and root canals to school students.

With term two now underway, parents are encouraged to register their child to take part in the program, and it’s now easier than ever, with a new simplified form available in 31 languages making sure parents from any background can provide consent ahead of a visit to their child’s school.

Dental conditions are one of the highest causes of preventable hospitalisations for children. Improving access to dental care is critical, with tooth decay now five times more prevalent than asthma among children.

More information on the Smile Squad program can be found at health.vic.gov.au/smile-squad

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL NEWS



DRAFT ANNUAL BUDGET FEEDBACK

It's that time of year again, Council has prepared its draft Annual Budget for 2025/2026!

Our Annual Budget outlines the broad range of services we provide to our community and the funding required to deliver these services.

We're inviting you to read the budget and provide feedback at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/budget or in person at our Library and Customer Service Centres.

Feedback closes on Wednesday 28 May.

VOLUNTEER EXPO

In the spirit of this year's National Volunteer Week theme, 'Bringing Communities Together', Council is hosting a Volunteer Expo to help you find your perfect volunteer match.

When: Saturday 5 July from 1.00 to 5.00 pm

Where: Alexandra Football and Netball Club, 53 William Street, Alexandra

Reservations: Free, but essential for catering and venue capacity purposes.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Volunteering offers the opportunity to learn more about our vibrant and diverse community and develop interests you've always wanted to explore. From arts and literature to bettering our environment, working with animals, or supporting emergency services, and local history, there's a group for you.

Visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteerexpo or call Council on 5772 0333 for more information.

This event was made possible by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Community Development Fund.

PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT REDUCTIONS

Council has received funding under TAC's Safer Local Roads and Streets Program, in partnership with the Department of Transport and Planning for road safety signage upgrades, speed limit reviews and safety works. Works are proposed at eight locations across the Shire.

Council welcomes feedback on the proposed speed limit reductions and other road safety works. Visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/safer-roads and complete the survey.

Feedback closes Sunday 18 May.

COUNCIL PLAN CONSULTATION COMING SOON

Over the past year we have heard from the community about what matters most for the future of our Shire.

We've taken that feedback and shaped it into a draft Council Plan, to guide our priorities and decision-making over the next four years, and a refreshed Community Vision, outlining where we want our community to be in 10 years.

Now we want to check in - have we heard you correctly? Consultation will open 29 May and close 15 June.

COME AND CELEBRATE IDAHOBIT IN YEA

All community members should feel welcome and included in our community. In celebration of IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersex Discrimination and Transphobia), Council is hosting a flag raising ceremony at 10.00 am on Friday 16 May outside the Yea Library.

Join us for morning tea and empowering reflections as we celebrate and support the LGBTQIA+ community.

IMMUNISATION SESSIONS

Flu season is coming, and we understand the whirlwind of caring for small children. Amidst the chaos, don't forget the essential: immunisation. It's a shield against preventable diseases!

We're thrilled to offer free influenza immunisation for children aged 6 months to 4 years. Protect your little ones from the flu! Remember to bring their Child Health Record Book and Medicare Card on the day.

For additional information about the flu and the vaccine, email us at immunisation@murrindindi.vic.gov.au or visit our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/immunisation

Book online at murrindindi.book.vaxapp.com.au

ALEXANDRA BUSINESS BREAKFAST

Council is inviting all businesses and entrepreneurs based in Murrindindi Shire to join us for a casual and friendly complementary business breakfast gathering.

This is a great opportunity to network with fellow business owners, gain insights from a guest speaker on improving your online visibility, and hear updates from Council regarding key projects, initiatives and events. Learn more on our website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/business-breakfast

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIPS SUPPORT

Calling all local community groups! Have you got an idea for your community? Council's Grants and Sponsorships Program provides up to \$5000 for community projects that:

- improve the liveability of our towns and places
- build connections
- create opportunities for participation in the local community
- improve health and wellbeing
- protect our natural environment
- assist communities to plan for the future.

Find out more at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/grants

If you'd like assistance with preparing your grant application, please call 5772 0333.

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

Nexus Primary Health and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health to unite

NEXUS Primary Health (Nexus) and Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health (SCCH) are pleased to announce the two organisations will merge to form one community health service designed to deliver better, more connected healthcare.

From Thursday, January 1 2026, Nexus and SCCH will merge into a new single entity to create a more resilient community health service for people who live in the Hume, Macedon Ranges, Mitchell, Murrindindi and Strathbogie local government areas.

Joint Board Chair, Peter Donlon, said the decision to merge has been made after the exploration phase confirmed that uniting the health services would improve access to safe, high-quality, and sustainable healthcare and community services to people living across the organisation’s catchment areas.

“This is the beginning of a significant journey, one that will strengthen the way we deliver care to the communities we serve and ensure our sustainability long into the future,” said Mr Donlon.

“Over the coming months we will begin the process of integration. This will be a comprehensive process involving consultation with staff and key stakeholders, including the development of a new name for the unified entity.”

SCCH’s Chief Executive Officer, David Wild, said staff will play a critical role in the merger. “Our staff are the backbone of our organisations. We will keep our teams informed at every stage and invite them to contribute to both the operational aspects of the merger and values and the brand of the unified entity. All members of our teams will play a critical role in shaping the new organisation,” said Mr Wild.

“It will be business as usual for staff and clients while this consultation takes place. Any operational and structural changes will follow all enterprise agreements, awards and other workplace requirements.”

Nexus’s Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Ciccossillo said that clients and the local community will also have the opportunity to contribute to the design of the new organisation.

“We know that our local communities have unique needs and care deeply about both organisations. That’s why we will also engage the community and give locals the opportunity to contribute to the design of the new organisation’s brand and values.

“While we are in the early stages of the process, we are excited about working together to deliver high quality care into our local communities. We will continue to share updates throughout the transition to a unified community health service. We are committed to delivering better, more connected healthcare for our communities into the future.”

The two organisations will begin implementing the merger from Wednesday, April 30. The merger will be complete by Thursday, January 1 2026.

Australians reported scam losses fell by almost 26 per cent

THE National Anti-Scam Centre’s latest *Targeting Scams Report* found scam losses reported to key organisations fell by 25.9 per cent to \$2 billion from January 1 to December 31, 2024, showing the efforts from all contributing stakeholders are reducing the financial impact of scams on Australians.

The report combines data from Scamwatch, ReportCyber, the Australian Financial Crimes Exchange, IDCARE and Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).

According to the combined data, scam reports also fell by 17.8 per cent to 494,732 scam reports for 2024 compared to 601,803 in 2023.

“While we are encouraged by the drop in reported financial losses, we acknowledge scammers are sophisticated and highly motivated criminals. We need to remain vigilant and pivot our defences to maintain this downward trajectory,” ACCC Deputy Chair Catriona Lowe said.

“Combining and actioning the intelligence we and partners receive through reports is a key element of this effort.

“Scams lead to more than just financial loss. We know that the impact on scam victims and families is all too often life changing, and scams have negative effects on relationships, mental health and well-being.”

The top five scam types in the combined data were investment, romance, payment redirection, remote access and phishing scams, which jointly accounted for more than 70 per cent of the total combined losses.

Investment scams resulted in the highest overall combined losses, with \$945 million reported lost in 2024.

However, the work of government and stakeholders including through initiatives such as the investment scam fusion cell have led to a decrease of 27.3 per cent from the \$1.3 billion reported lost to investment scams in 2023.

“We continue to be concerned about the high individual losses and emotional impact of scams. Scammers often make contact on social media and groom their victims over long periods of time. We urge Australians to never take investment advice or give money to people they have only met online,” Ms Lowe said.

“We’re committed to providing ever better protection for Australians against increasingly sophisticated scams and are confident that our coordinated efforts across government, law enforcement and industry will continue to drive losses down.”

In 2024, the National Anti-Scam Centre referred more than 8000 URLs for takedown, including 6000 to the National Anti-Scam Centre takedown service and over 2000 investment related scams to ASIC. Of the over 6000 URLs referred to the NASC takedown service, 92 per cent were successfully removed, avoiding an estimated \$36 million in losses. The National Anti-Scam Centre also referred 10,355 suspected Facebook scam URLs to Meta for further investigation.

A more detailed analysis about scams reported to the National Anti-Scam Centre’s Scamwatch service which received 249,448 reports in 2024, a 17.3 per cent decrease compared with 2023.

Financial losses reported to Scamwatch decreased by 33.1 per cent with \$318.8 million in 2024 compared to \$476.8 million in 2023.

“We encourage everyone to report scams they see to help keep all Australians safe. One of the best weapons we have is the intelligence gathered in reports from Australians,” Ms Lowe said.

Scamwatch data shows that the most reported contact method leading to financial loss was social media. There were 7724 reports about social media scams leading to financial loss in 2024 with overall losses of \$69.5 million.

Phone scams had the highest overall losses for contact method with \$107.2 million reported lost across 2179 reporters.

Bank transfer continued to lead to the highest overall losses when it came to payment methods with overall losses of \$141.7 million reported to Scamwatch.

Scamwatch data shows that losses incurred by First Nations people increased by 73.1 per cent to \$6.5 million in 2024. The National Anti-Scam Centre will focus efforts to reach First Nations communities in 2025.

In terms of likelihood to experience a financial loss, people aged 35 to 44 reported the most Scamwatch reports with loss.

Those aged 65 and over continue to report the highest losses of any aged group at \$99.6 million in 2024, a 17.6 per cent drop since 2023.

Reported scam losses for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities decreased by 36 per cent from 2023.

Overall losses for reporters with disability decreased by 32.6 per cent compared to 2023, with losses of \$20.8 million

Reported losses for small business were 24 per cent lower than 2023 with \$13.1 million in losses.

Even though the report shows a considerable decline in scams across Australia, it’s still important to not become complacent. Never give money or your information to any if your unsure, Ask yourself is the message or call fake, if you have doubts contact the business they say they are by sourcing their number by yourself.

If you do find you have been scammed, act quick, contact your bank immediately if there is any unusual activity or they obtain your information or your money. Report any suspicious activity to Scamwatch at scamwatch.gov.au

VOLUNTEER

EXPO

5 JULY 2025

Looking to make a difference in your community? Or already volunteering and keen to grow your group?

In line with this year’s National Volunteer Week theme, ‘Bringing Communities Together’, Council is hosting a Volunteer Expo to help you find your perfect volunteer match.

When: Saturday 5 July from 1.00 to 5.00 pm
Where: Alexandra Football and Netball Club, 53 William Street, Alexandra
Reservations: Free but essential by Monday 23 June.

Enjoy some light refreshments, connect with local groups, and hear from experienced volunteers.

To book your ticket or stall, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteerexpo

Not sure where to start? Come along to one of our free Networking Pop-up Sessions to meet with local organisations over a hot drink, on us!

For session locations, times and to register, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/volunteernetworking

For more information, call Council on **5772 0333** and ask to speak with our Community Capacity Building Officer.

This event is part of Murrindindi Shire Council's Community Capacity Building Program, made possible with funding from the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Community Development Fund.



Protect yourself against upcoming flu season

VICTORIANS are reminded that now is the time to book in your annual flu vaccination ahead of the winter peak season to protect yourself and others.

Free flu vaccines are now available for children under five years old and other at-risk groups. Victorian Chief Health Officer Dr Tarun Weeramanthri is encouraging more Victorians to get their annual flu vaccine, with reported cases of flu and other respiratory viruses already on the rise.

Dr Weeramanthri said babies and toddlers need special protection from the flu, as they are more likely to get severe illness and need treatment in hospital.

“The flu can be serious, especially for children which is why the vaccine is free for children under five,” Dr Weeramanthri said.

“For vulnerable groups in the community the flu can be deadly and for others it can result in severe health effects and long recovery periods.”

“It’s critically important to stay up to date with your vaccines, the influenza virus changes throughout the year and that’s why new vaccines are developed for each season. Vaccination is the best thing you can do to protect yourself, your family, friends and people at most risk in the community.”

Flu vaccination is recommended for anyone six months and older and is free for at risk groups including children aged six months to five years, people over 65 years, pregnant women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and people with medical conditions that put them at increased risk of severe flu.

People can get their vaccine at general practices, pharmacies, local council immunisation clinics, Aboriginal Health Services and often at their workplace. There have been more than 11,000 notified influenza cases in Victoria this year already, which is almost twice as many as for the same time last year. It remains early in this year’s flu season and numbers are expected to rise more steeply in the winter months.

Dr Weeramanthri highlighted the flu is highly contagious and while it most often causes mild to moderate illness with symptoms such as fever and cough, severe illness can develop. Babies, children, older people, and people with underlying medical conditions were amongst the most vulnerable.

“Having an annual flu vaccine will not only reduce your chances of catching the flu but also reduce the severity of your illness if you become infected,” he said.

Flu vaccines can be given at the same time as other National Immunisation Program vaccines, such as the new free maternal RSV vaccine and the COVID-19 vaccine. In addition to vaccination, simple steps can help stop the spread of respiratory illnesses such as washing hands, coughing or sneezing into your elbow, wearing a mask, and staying home when sick.

The Yea Saleyards will have their free flu vaccinations on Friday, June 6.

Draft budget delivered at special meeting of council

ON Wednesday, April 30 Murrindindi Shire Council held the Special Meeting of Council at the Alexandra chambers.

Mayor Damien Gallagher opened the meeting, there was an apology from Councillor Sandice McAulay, there were no requests for planned leave. No disclosures or conflicts of interests were expressed about the meeting or the agenda.

Councillor Hilderbrand introduced the endorsement draft annual budget 2025/26 to the public for consultations as required by the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Some key points as explained was council is budgeting for \$44.5 million to run services and facilities, the budget returns and operating surplus of \$330,000. \$17.2 million is allocated for capital works with most of it going into existing infrastructure.

There will be a community waste charge of \$129 that will apply to all properties, this will cover waste services that will benefit everyone. This amount is already in the kerbside charge. There is no increase for kerbside waste collection charges even with the shift to the four-bin service coming soon.

“This is a cautious budget with only a few new incentives, due to the ongoing financial pressures facing council it also flags a need for future conversations with the community about what services and facilities we can sustainably provide.

“Submissions on this budget can be made until May 28, and the community members can speak at that night’s council meeting. Final adoption is scheduled for June 25,” Councillor Hilderbrand said.

Councillor Carr asked if the projects not listed in the budget but actively trying to get funding for, such as the drainage project in Thornton if they can be added to the budget after its been adopted, and once the funding is received can the works for these projects go ahead?

It was explained that the budget can always be adjusted to accommodate grant funding for projects that arise after the budget is adopted, as the budget gets reviewed quarterly. The capacity is also reviewed as there is already committed works for the year. The timing of it will depend on the capacity to deliver.

Councillor Carpenter asked about the community waste charge to be confirmed that will all properties being charged, does that include the commercial and industrial properties? This was confirmed there is no exception.

Councillor Lording asked if we have a major event how do we incorporate it in the budget how does it work? It was answered that we can recognise the financial impacts and review of the budget and we can meet outside of the quarterly schedule to make financial decisions if there is a need to respond to an emergency. We can consider to deferring projects if we need to free up resources and it also depends on the scale and the availability of external funding assistance.

Council have factored in a rate increase where the total rate revenue from rates, the increase will be three per cent and that’s in line with the rate cap set by the state government. They are factoring in one per cent for supplementary valuations that might occur through the year. This has been reasonably consistent with other years. Council are looking to borrow funds of two million dollars to fund projects that will provide a return back to council. Council will commence borrowings early in the financial year anticipating a term of around seven years and a term of around five percent.

Consumer price index will come into around 3.2 per cent and capacity to increase revenue is three per cent.

Mayor Gallagher asked as we are in the third quarter of this year’s budget is there anything that will impact the current year budget?

Every year in December it is forecasted where they will land at the end of the year and if things arise. These can be variations, to capital projects or grant funded projects they can be followed over to the following year. However if there is over-expenditure or under-expenditure on council funded services or projects that hasn’t been forecasted it will impact the cash position when the new budget is started. Council aren’t anticipating any significant or material variations that will impact on the cash position next year.

To compliment the state governments support for business and workers who is dealing with the transition away native timber harvesting, council budget supports the community economic reliance away from that industry by being successful securing grants from the forest transition fund to support many new projects.

The budget highlights contain important operational and capital projects and initiatives under the three strategic directions established in consultation with the community in the draft 2025-2029 council plan. The projects that will support this will include, \$4.3 million to build 14 units as part of the Eildon Key Worker Accommodation Project, helping local businesses attract and retain staff by providing essential housing (partly grant funded); Upgrades up to \$453,000 at the Yea Saleyards, including technology improvements, renewed water troughs and expanded shade structures; \$380,000 to establish an Integrated Forestry and Carbon Offset Project; \$77,433 to continue the Forestry Transition Program, including investment in Community Capacity Building (grant funded); \$49,000 for strategic land use planning to incorporate housing development opportunities into the Murrindindi Planning Scheme; \$104,000 to continue biodiversity and environmental management across council managed roadsides and bushland reserves; \$194,000 allocated to council’s

Grants and Sponsorships Program to foster local initiatives and community-led projects; \$20,000 to develop the next four year Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan; \$20,000 to install additional power points at the Yea Shire Hall to enhance its function as a community emergency response and recovery centre; \$260,000 for the Leaping Into Resilience Program, equipping communities to better prepare for disasters and major emergencies (grant funded); \$100,000 to maintain youth participation and resilience programs following the withdrawal of state government funding; \$270,000 for upgrades to playgrounds, barbeques, park furniture and irrigation across public parks and recreation reserves; \$400,000 to continue the renewal of council’s footpath and shared path network, enhancing access and safety; \$80,000 to kickstart the first year of implementation of the Council Plan 2025-2029; \$1.4 million for bridge renewal, including \$40,000 to install signage on council’s bridges with official names and load ratings; \$20,000 to support deliberative community engagement on the future of building and recreation assets across the shire; \$25,000 for an online public building booking platform to support hirers of public facilities; \$400,000 to undertake minor and major drainage renewal and upgrades to reduce local flood risk and improve stormwater management; \$95,500 to continue council’s digital transformation in collaboration with Mansfield, Strathbogie and Benalla Shire Councils, and \$20,000 to undertake efficiency reviews and productivity improvements/

The draft budget is available online on council’s website and hard copies at customer service centres including the mobile library. Submissions can be made online or by written assistance. People can also speak to their submission at the scheduled council meeting and do it in open forum.

FSA/DET/2045

**Best Start
Best Life**

Four-Year-Old Kinder is becoming Pre-Prep.

In 2025, Pre-Prep will be available for 16–30 hours per week in Murrindindi Shire. Pre-Prep means more time to develop important social and emotional skills. Learning through play helps children explore, solve problems, communicate and create, while making friends – getting them ready for school and life.

Enrol for 2025. Speak with your preferred kinder service or local council today about how to register for a place or to learn more visit vic.gov.au/pre-prep



Let's eat, it's our treat

Black Spur Inn: Local flavour, legendary history

AT the heart of Narbethong, the Black Spur Inn isn't just a place to eat, it's part of Victoria's living history.

Built in 1862 along the legendary Black Spur Drive, the inn has welcomed gold prospectors, timber workers, and travellers for over 160 years.

Through bushfires, floods, and decades of change, the Black Spur Inn has remained a proud symbol of resilience, hospitality, and community spirit.

The Black Spur itself, once a trail for Indigenous people journeying to Coranderrk Aboriginal Station, became a vital link for prospectors and adventurers.

Even today, the towering Mountain Ash forests and winding road inspire awe, and the Black Spur Inn stands ready to greet visitors with a warm welcome and a true taste of local life.

Since 2006, Di and Jim Kennedy have lovingly restored and reimagined the inn, blending its historic charm with the best of modern country hospitality.

Their Garden View Restaurant celebrates local produce, regional wines, and locally roasted coffee, crafting menus that tell the story of the land and the people who call it home.

With 17 cosy rooms, lush gardens, a bright glass-walled restaurant, and space for couples,

families, and groups, the Black Spur Inn invites guests to slow down, savour local flavours, and reconnect with nature.

A new chapter is now unfolding since late 2024, with the inn rebranding to Black Spur Inn – Country Guest House.

While the look evolves, the heart remains unchanged: local pride, warm hospitality, and quality food and wine at every turn.

Bookings are essential. Visit blackspurinn.com.au or call 5963 7121 to secure your table.

Come for the history. Stay for the hospitality. Savour the local flavours.



The Black Spur Inn pictured in 1918, some 56 years after it opened, demonstrating its long history. -S



Di and Jim Kennedy, the passionate owners of the Black Spur Inn. -S

Sundays just got a whole lot tastier at Philip Lobley Wines

TUCKED away in the rolling hills of the Yea Valley, Philip Lobley Wines invites you to experience the perfect pairing: handcrafted wines and wood-fired pizza.

Every Sunday, the cellar door transforms into a relaxed haven where good food, fine wine, and great company come together under open skies.

Pizza Sundays are more than just a meal, they're a tradition in the making. Bring your friends, your family, or simply yourself, and enjoy artisan pizzas topped with fresh, local ingredients, all baked to perfection in their roaring wood-fired oven. Sip on their small-batch, naturally made wines while soaking in the serenity of the vineyard.

Whether you're a wine enthusiast, a pizza lover, or just looking for a laid-back Sunday escape, Philip Lobley Wines delivers warmth, flavour, and genuine country hospitality. From crisp whites to complex reds, every bottle reflects their passion for sustainable winemaking and their love for community.

Join them this Sunday to unwind, indulge, and make memories that taste as good as they feel.

Pizza Sundays run from noon to 5pm every Sunday at Philip Lobley Wines in Glenburn. Bookings are encouraged, call 0447 166 377.



People can enjoy good food and wine at Phillip Lobley winery. -S

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YEAL VALLEY

**Cellar Door, open Sundays
noon to 5pm.**

**Wood fired pizzas
and wine**

Bookings preferred
0447 166 377.

1084 Kinglake Glenburn Road,
Glenburn 3717.





Always the right time to treat someone special

THERE are many opportunities to treat those special people in your life to something delicious, such as a gourmet meal, a refreshing glass of wine or some nibbles.

Occasions like birthdays, holidays, Mother's Day,

or Easter are the obvious choices, but with the great selection of local businesses just around the corner in Murrindindi Shire, the opportunity exists at any time.

Plenty of people use Murrindindi as a meeting

point to catch up with family, or stop at fabulous local wineries or pubs for a relaxing Friday evening.

When it is just too hard to cook your own dinner and host family at your house, local venues provide an option that allows both you and your guests to have a good time, without all the stress of preparation.

With Mother's Day happening this weekend, consider taking your mum somewhere special to acknowledge all the hard work and kindness she gave to you over the years.

Regardless of what the occasion is, it is always a good time to take someone special out to eat at one of the many amazing locations in our beautiful shire.



Sedona Estate's Cellar Door is open every weekend. -S

sedona[®] estate

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Graze on our delicious
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Let's Eat winner

THE winner of the April 'Let's Eat' \$50 voucher was Sandi Swan from Alexandra. Sandi will be having a \$50 feed on us at Flowerdale Hotel.

Be sure to get your entry form from this edition for your chance to win a \$50 meal at one of the venues advertised in this edition of *Let's Eat; It's our treat*.



Your chance to WIN a \$50 meal voucher

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

Email.....

Eligible venues this month:

Sedona Estate - Philip Lobely Wines - Black Spur Inn
(Circle one venue of your choice from above list only)

For your chance to win a \$50
voucher, return this entry by
noon, **Wednesday, May 29.**

Alexandra Newspapers,
43 Grant Street or
PO Box 5, Alexandra, 3714

**Photocopies will not be
accepted.
One entry per
household.**

Winner will be notified by phone and published in the first edition of the month.
T&C: **Only venues listed above in this edition are eligible to be chosen this month.** Winner will be contacted by phone and name
published in next edition of the feature. Voucher is not redeemable for cash. To be used for one purchase only. Multiple vouchers
cannot be saved and used together. Staff or family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter.
Original form must be returned.



An image from the short film, Snap. -S

Maintongoon-shot film to screen at major short film festival

A LOCALLY-shot psychological horror film is set to make its big screen debut at one of Victoria's most prestigious short film festivals this June.

Snap, a tense and atmospheric thriller filmed entirely in Maintongoon, will screen as part of the 2025 St Kilda Film Festival on Sunday, June 8 at 8.30pm and Sunday, June 15, at 4.45pm at St Kilda Town Hall.

The film follows a lone photographer at a mountain cabin who grows suspicious that she might be someone else's subject.

Shot over just three days in 2023 at a family-owned cabin nestled in the Maintongoon hills, *Snap* was created on a micro-budget by an ambitious team of young Victorian filmmakers. The crew embraced the region's natural beauty, crafting a visually immersive and striking viewing experience.

Directed and shot by 20-year-old filmmaking duo Lily Lunder and Koko Crozier, *Snap* continues the pair's passion for telling female-led

stories with psychological depth. Their previous collaborations have screened at Flickerfest, Melbourne Women in Film Festival, and the Sony Catchlight Film Festival. They also recently completed their debut feature film *The Offing*, which featured locations across the region including Buxton, Taggerty and Yea.

The film was written by Simon Digby, whose family generously offered their Maintongoon cabin as the primary filming location. Currently studying a Master of Creative Writing at the University of Melbourne, Digby's script offers a chilling exploration of the fine line between observer and observed.

With its moody visuals, eerie score by composer Thomas Law and haunting final twist, *Snap* offers a distinctly regional take on themes of perspective, vulnerability, and the unease that lurks when we realise we are not alone.

More information is available at stkildafilmfestival.com.au

Many opportunities at your local op shop

YOU never know what you will find in an opportunity shop. It's a bit of a hunt. Some days there's nothing and then other days you will hit the jackpot.

With the cost of living these days, many people are struggling to pay bills, feed and clothe their families, and opportunity shops are a great way to save a couple of dollars along the way.

Sustainable fashion can include promoting circularity through recycling, upcycling, and repairing clothing. There are seven R's when it comes to sustainable fashion. These include: Rethink (by changing your thinking about your purchasing decisions is the starting point when it comes to sustainable fashion), Reduce (Less is more), Reuse (Having pieces that you can reuse over time in your wardrobe means you're not buying more as fashion trends change over time), Repair (Don't throw away, try and mend your favourite pieces), Rent (Why buy when you can rent. Some opportunity shops have a rental section of high end pieces you can rent for an upcoming event instead of outlaying a large amount of money for one occasion when you may not use the piece again), Recycle (Old garments can have a new lease of life as fashion does make its way again through the ages), Resell (Give your clothes a new home. Sell them on buy swap and sell sites, give them to a friend or donate them to your local opportunity shop. Only donate them if they are in a condition

you would use them in, opportunity shops aren't a dumping ground).

In the state of sustainability report 2024 by Sustainability Victoria, the question was asked of survey participants whether buying second hand is the way to a more sustainable fashion industry. Seventy-two per cent said it reduced the amount of new clothes they subsequently bought.

The report states, "According to the Australian Fashion Council's Roadmap to clothing circularity, Australians on average buy 56 new pieces of clothing per year.

"A total of 67 per cent of Victorians already buy or sell second hand clothes and other items, which contributes to a circular economy."

The benefits of donating to your local opportunity shops is endless. This includes the shops giving back to their local community groups so they can benefit. It's a circle of giving. Using opportunity shops, whether you're buying or donating, contributes to the effort towards reducing landfill. The volunteers in these opportunity shops also have an important role and sense of purpose in their community, and contributing in the sustainability efforts and a better future for all.

Go and visit your local opportunity shops in the Murrindindi Shire, these include Marysville, Eildon, Yea, Alexandra and Flowerdale. You may be surprised what you will find.

The Farmer's Ag News

Big turnout for Just a Farmer movie screening in Alexandra

LAST Friday evening *Just a Farmer*, an Australian-made movie dealing with themes such as the struggles of farm life and farmer mental health, was screened at the Alexandra Shire Hall.

The screening was well-attended by the Murrindindi Shire community, with the Alexandra Shire Hall packed to the brim. The event was organised by Embassy of Ideas.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Damien Gallagher emceed the event, which was funded by the State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and supported by Murrindindi Shire Council, Alexandra Events, Alexandra District Health, Yea and District Memorial Hospital and the Goulburn Regional Drought Resilience Plan.

The Alexandra Show Committee cooked up a storm to provide soup and supper for those attending.

Leila McDougall, the filmmaker and actress, and Warren Davies from *The Unbreakable Farmer* took to the stage after the film was shown to discuss how the film came about and how mental health can be discussed in the farming community. They also answered questions from the audience.

Jen Wood from Alexandra District Health and Sarah Austin from Yea and District Memorial Hospital followed, providing more insight into dealing with mental health in a rural community.



The Alexandra Shire Hall was filled to the brim with members of the Murrindindi Shire community. -BD



Jen Wood from Alexandra District Health and Sarah Austin from Yea and District Memorial Hospital talking about mental health. -BD



*Leila McDougall, the filmmaker and actress, speaking with Warren Davies from *The Unbreakable Farmer*. -BD*

Avian influenza restrictions reduced

AREAS where there are restrictions on the movement of birds, bird products, equipment and vehicles, for the control of the H7N8 avian influenza (bird flu) outbreak near Euroa, have been reduced.

From Monday, April 28, restrictions will apply only within a new five kilometre control area around the four affected properties near Euroa.

Mandatory movement controls including those for game bird hunters and hunting activities, will no longer apply in areas outside the new control area.

Agriculture Victoria will further revise the restrictions as it continues to monitor for disease, complete decontamination of affected properties and eradicate the outbreak.

Victoria's Acting Chief Veterinary Officer, Dr Sally

Salmon, thanked the poultry industry and the community for their cooperation to date.

"This is a significant step towards establishing Victoria's freedom from high pathogenicity avian influenza."

"We have been able to further ease restrictions due to the cooperation and hard work of industry, community and the impacted property owners."

"We are in the final stages of decontaminating the affected premises. We have had over 100 staff and contractors working on the response for almost three months and we appreciate their ongoing commitment."

Restrictions remain in place for the movement of birds, poultry products (including eggs and manure), equipment, and vehicles on or off properties in the new control area. Game bird

hunting is also not permitted in the control area.

To prevent and eliminate biosecurity threats, every livestock producer should have an up-to-date farm biosecurity plan and be able to recognise signs of diseases that could impact their animals.

Poultry farmers and backyard flock and bird owners are urged to report any cases of unexplained bird deaths to the 24-hour Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888, or to your local vet.

More information on the current H7 bird flu response, including movement permits and a map showing the new control area, is available at agriculture.vic.gov.au/avianinfluenza or by calling the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.

Benefits of stock containment in dry conditions

AGRICULTURE Victoria is encouraging livestock producers to consider effective stock containment strategies to help maintain core herd or flock numbers and support pasture recovery.

Agriculture Victoria's Land Management Extension Officer Kerri Goschnick said dry seasonal conditions and limited rainfall continue to place pressure on grazing operations, impacting pasture growth and causing bare ground across many paddocks.

"Stock containment refers to confining livestock in designated areas, where farmers can effectively manage feed, water and shelter," Ms Goschnick said.

"This allows farm paddocks to rest until an autumn break causes pastures to recover and withstand livestock grazing."

"Stock containment doesn't necessarily require a complicated system; it can be as simple as a sacrifice paddock with good quality water and access for feeding."

"Farmers should be aware that there is a higher risk of weed infestation when importing feed to supplementary feed livestock."

"Establishing a stock containment area to use supplementary feed will contain the weed seeds to a manageable area. Weeds to look out for include parthenium weed, particularly in fodder sourced from parts of Queensland and New South Wales."

"It is important that animals in containment have their nutritional, water and shelter needs met."

Agriculture Victoria can assist in planning feed budgets and stock containment area design and management.

Further information can be found by searching for these items on the Agriculture Victoria website. For more information about drought and dry seasonal conditions support head to agriculture.vic.gov.au/dryseasons



A foggy morning in Yea meant that it was chilly at the saleyards, but there were still a large number of cattle for sale across a variety of breeds. -BD



Prices were high despite continuing dry conditions. It has become cold before it has become wet. -BD

First fog of 2025 at Yea cattle sale

by Bailey Dixon

AROUND 3000 cattle were yarded at the Elders and Nutrien Store Sale last Friday, May 2, in the first brisk and foggy cattle sale at Yea for 2025.

A number of pens included Yea Football Netball Club (YFNC) signs, with the rebirth of YFNC's Cattleman's Club. Farmers around the shire donate some of their cattle to be sold, with the profits being donated to the football netball club.

The first row was dedicated to cows and calves.

One pen of 15 Angus steers with an average weight of 636kg made an average of \$2260 per head, equalling out to 355c/kg.

Breeds on the day tended towards black Angus cattle, but there were also some Charolais and Herefords, etcetera.

Yea and District Memorial Hospital were providing free flu vaccinations on the day.



A red Angus and a black Angus calf for sale. -BD



The first lane sold was cows and calves at last Friday's sale. -BD

Struggle to access agriculture workforce

THE National Farmers' Federation (NFF) has issued a stark warning that mounting red tape and increasingly complex labour laws are choking access to the workers agriculture desperately needs, placing Australia's food security, farm viability, and regional economies at serious risk.

NFF President David Jochinke said, "We're calling on all political leaders to understand that without a reliable farm workforce, our ability to produce affordable, high-quality food and fibre is under direct threat," Mr Jochinke said.

"Labour shortages are already forcing some farmers to leave crops unharvested, turn away business, or scale back production. Staff costs make up around a third of farm expenses, and access to workers can mean the difference between a successful season, or watching produce rot in the paddock."

Mr Jochinke said farmers want to get on with the job of growing food, not navigating a maze of bureaucracy and visa confusion.

Domestic Workforce

"On the home front, farmers are grappling with increasingly complex Industrial Relations laws," Mr Jochinke said.

"We're asking for a review into these laws, because we believe there are huge productivity gains to be achieved by adjusting these rules.

"Small and family-run farms are struggling to navigate confusing rhetoric on pay rates, overtime, worker classification, compliance with fair work statutory regimes, and more.

"Farmers want to pay their workers a fair wage, but complicated Industrial Relations

laws could be streamlined so farmers can spend more time out in the paddock, rather than chained to the desk."

The NFF also believes that extending the highly successful AgCAREERSTART gap year program for another three years, and establishing a dedicated Agriculture Trade Apprenticeship, would help bolster the domestic workforce.

Overseas Workforce

Mr Jochinke said employers relied on multiple, secure pathways for overseas workers.

"Short-term, we need to fix the PALM scheme, streamline the skilled visa system, and retain the Working Holiday Maker visa scheme.

"The PALM Scheme is especially fraught. It's become unworkable for many growers thanks to rigid rules and administrative burden.

"There was real concern raised when the Migration Review flagged limiting, or worse, removing the 88-day regional work incentive for backpackers.

"Thousands of backpackers choose to work in agriculture, and without them, we will see farmers walk away from farming.

"Long-term, we'd like to see a dedicated farm visa for those who want to come and work on Aussie farms.

"Farmers are dealing with a hotchpotch of migration streams, including the backpackers, which are not designed directly for agriculture.

"Farmers need a strong workforce strategy, from backpackers to skilled migrants to young Aussies giving agriculture a go."

WINNER

\$50 voucher kindly sponsored by



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APRIL PHOTO COMPETITION



April competition winner is Dean McLean- Alexandra.

The MAY theme is 'LEAVES' - Submit your photo entry to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au by noon May 28, with your name, town and contact number for your chance to win a \$50 gift voucher from Dindi Country Clothing in Alexandra.

T&Cs: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter. One photo per entry. Photo must be taken in the Murrindind shire and are not to be digitally altered or enhanced. Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter.

PUZZLES

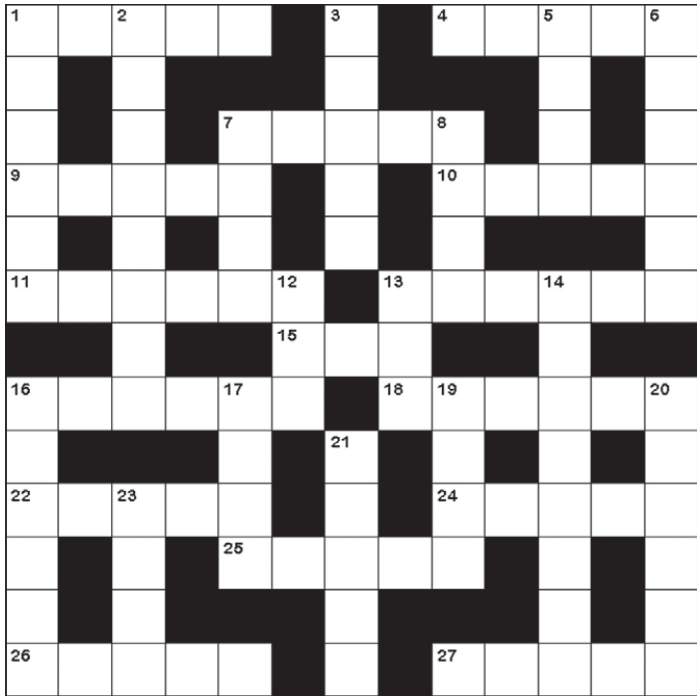
SOLUTIONS
Page 15

KID’S PUZZLES

Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1. Wrinkle your forehead.
 - 4. Green spot in a desert.
 - 7. Paid out money.
 - 9. A squeaking sound.
 - 10. A mistake.
 - 11. Loving and indulgent.
 - 13. Dangerous acts.
 - 15. A single thing.
 - 16. A blue-violet colour.
 - 18. Burrowing marsupial.
 - 22. Legally punishable.
 - 24. Mix up or confuse.
 - 25. Stuff with a spicy paste.
 - 26. A secret rendezvous.
 - 27. Cover with liquid before cooking.

- DOWN**
- 1. Compelled to comply.
 - 2. Took offence.
 - 3. A search.
 - 5. Go bad.
 - 6. Gains points in a game.
 - 7. The rind of a fruit.
 - 8. Something typed.
 - 12. A thick messy substance.



- 13. Make clothes by stitching.
- 14. Unimportant people.
- 16. Brought from a foreign country.
- 17. A deep yellow colour.
- 19. Using speech rather than writing.
- 20. Multiply by three.
- 21. Take delight in.
- 23. All of a nation’s warships.

Word Search

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

- Reptiles**
- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| BEARDEDDRAGON | GOANNA |
| BLUETONGUE | IGUANA |
| CHAMELEON | LIZARD |
| CROCODILE | SNAKE |
| FROG | THORNYDEVIL |
| GECKO | TORTOISE |

Cryptogram

Reptiles

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
		14						

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
8	12						

$\frac{L}{9} \frac{L}{14} \frac{L}{14}$ $\frac{T}{24} \frac{T}{18} \frac{T}{2} \frac{T}{9} \frac{T}{12} \frac{T}{3} \frac{T}{18} \frac{T}{2} \frac{T}{8}$

$\frac{T}{26} \frac{T}{18} \frac{T}{2} \frac{T}{9} \frac{T}{12}$ $\frac{T}{9} \frac{T}{21} \frac{T}{23}$

$\frac{S}{8} \frac{S}{4} \frac{L}{9} \frac{L}{14} \frac{L}{14}$

Colouring Page

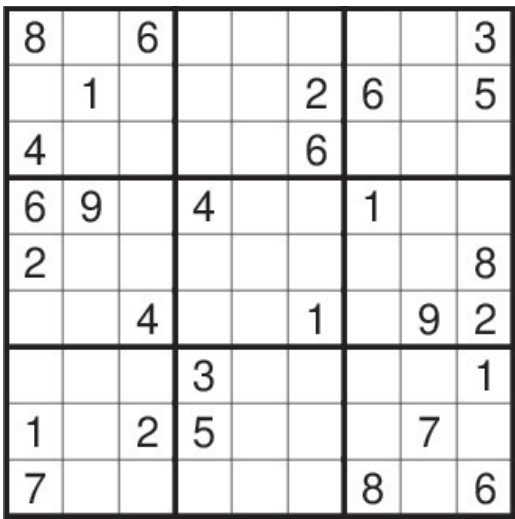


Word Search

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

- Words that start with “C”**
- | | |
|---------|---------|
| CAMEL | CLUMSY |
| CAMERON | COAT |
| CHAIR | COLOR |
| CIRCUS | COMET |
| CLIMB | COURAGE |
| CLOUDY | CRAYON |
| CLOWN | CRUNCHY |

Sudoku



Difficulty: Medium

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.

Math Square

	+		-	1	4
+		+		+	
	-	6	+		5
-		-		-	
	+		x		77
5		0		-4	

Fill in the missing numbers.

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

Math Square

	-		+		3
+		-		-	
7	+		+		22
-		+		-	
8	+		+		14
4		1		-10	

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.

Jokes

- | | |
|--|--|
| Q: What do you call a bear with no teeth? | Q: What vegetable do sailors hate the most? |
| A: A Gummy bear | A: Leeks |

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PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

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

CRYPTOGRAM

ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

SUDOKU

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

MATH SQUARES

3	+	2	-	1	4
+		+		+	
7	-	6	+	4	5
-		-		-	
5	+	8	x	9	77
5		0		-4	

KIDS - MATH SQUARES

5	-	3	+	1	3
+		-		-	
7	+	6	+	9	22
-		+		-	
8	+	4	+	2	14
4		1		-10	

Use your school saving bonus for winter uniforms

THE Victorian Government's School Saving Bonus is providing cost of living relief to hundreds of thousands of families, who have so far saved more than \$150 million on the costs of school essentials.

Families who haven't had the chance to use their bonus, time is running out to buy uniforms or textbooks. If you haven't used it yet, it is encouraged to use it by purchasing winter uniforms as the weather gets cooler.

More than 700,000 transactions have been processed since the bonus was launched in November, with families saving more than \$60 million on uniforms, \$58 million on camps and excursions, and \$31.8 million on textbooks.

While most families have drawn on their School Saving Bonus in part or in full, around 30 per cent of bonuses remain untouched, ready to be used by families ahead of winter.

The next few months are the last chance to use the \$400 School Saving Bonus to purchase uniforms or textbooks, either through approved suppliers or at second-hand uniform and textbook shops run by schools.

Any money unspent by June 30 will automatically transfer to a family's school account, with parents able to use these remaining funds on school activities like camps, sports or excursions.

Non-government school families who have a healthcare or concession card are also eligible to receive the bonus. These schools decide how to allocate the bonus to best accommodate their families and students.

For more information about the School Saving Bonus, visit vic.gov.au/school-saving-bonus

Schools back, observe your surroundings

TERM two has commenced for schools so it's time to remember to slow down near school zones to 40km per hour. These reduced speed limits are designed to keep children safe by lowering the speed limit at peak times when children are travelling to and from school.

In most cases the speed limit during school speed zone times is 40km/h, this is when the original speed limit is less than 80km/h and the speed limit changes to 60km/h when the original speed limit is 80km/h or higher.

The speed limit and operating times will be clearly displayed on nearby signs.

School speed limits apply depending on the zone you're travelling in. The types of zones are permanent 40km/h zones and variable time based zones.

Time based school zones operate between 8 and 9.30am and 2.30 to 4pm, on weekdays during Victorian school terms, except for public holidays.

For children who are still learning road rules, their behaviour may be unpredictable in traffic situations. Drivers need to observe the speed limit at all times, never use a mobile phone while driving, plan ahead by allowing extra time with your commute so your not stressed out and rushing around, respect crossing supervisors and their instructions, and follow parking rules if you're dropping children off at school.

VEAC report delayed

THE Victorian Environmental Assessment Council's *Assessment of the values of State forests in eastern Victoria* was delivered to the Minister for the Environment, Steve Dimopoulos, on April 28.

The report was due to be released publicly by April 25, but this did not happen.

The assessment informs the work of the Great Outdoors Taskforce in its provision of advice and recommendations to the Minister on the future use and management of state forest areas, with VEAC not required to undertake public consultations or make recommendations.

The purpose of the assessment was to identify the biodiversity, ecological, geological and geomorphological values of the specified area; the historic heritage, social and economic values of the specified area; and the current and likely future threats to those values, including climate change.

Classifieds

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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

MEETINGS

ALEXANDRA Bowls Club AGM will be held at the club rooms on Sunday, May 18 at 11am. Presentations and barbecue to follow.

YEA Water Tigers Amateur Swimming Club AGM. Meeting will be held at Yea Community House. Monday, May 26 at 6 pm. All positions declared vacant. General meeting will follow at 6.30 pm. Enquiries to the secretary: yeawatertigerscommittee@gmail.com, 0459 248 488. New members welcome.



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SITUATION VACANT



**LEARNING SUPPORT OFFICER
2025 Fixed Term FTE 0.84 (5 days per week)**

Applications are invited for the position of a Learning Support Officer at St Mary's Catholic Primary School. This is a fixed term position to commence in May 2025 and at this stage will conclude on January 26, 2026 although it may be extended into the 2026 school year.

The position is five days a week, working from 8:30am till 3:20pm. 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: A detailed position description and application are available by contacting the principal at principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au Please include current resume and two (2) referees, one being your most recent employer. Please express your interest by May 14, 2025.

What do you do with a noisy neighbour?

WHEN the peace is disturbed when you're at home from noisy neighbours, what do you do? Confront them? Go above them, or just live with it? Knowing your rights and when you stand with noise complaints is a good starting point.

The Environment Protection Act 2017 says it's an offence to make unreasonable noise from a residence. A residential property includes any land, building or outbuilding used in connection with a residence. This includes driveways, sheds and workshops.

It doesn't include land when construction, demolition or removal of a residence is being carried out, unless it is maintenance or repair of an existing building.

Depending on the source of the noise depends on where you make your complaint to. Any commercial or industrial noise coming from places such as restaurants, supermarkets, and commercial construction needs to be reported to the EPA or local council.

For residential noise and residential construction noise such as air conditioning, pool pumps, parties and stereo systems, and home construction work you need to notify council or Victoria Police for after hours response.

In the Environment Protection Regulations 2021, it lists prescribed items and the regulations lists the prohibited hours in the day these items cant be used and this extends to someone in another house in a habitable room can hear the items.

The prohibited times in the regulations don't apply when using equipment in an emergency, or your air conditioner during a Department of Health and Human Services heat health alert day.

For those noisy neighbours who love for the whole neighbourhood to hear what music they are playing, any musical instruments and electrical audio goods such as radios, stereos and televisions cannot be heard on Monday to Thursday before 7am and after 10pm. Friday is before 7am and after 11pm. Saturday and Public holidays before 9am and after 11pm and on a Sunday before 9am and after 10pm. If the music continues outside these times, contact local police or report them to council in business hours.

Noise enforcement officers consider the complaint with its volume and intensity, time and place, circumstances, how long the noise continues and how often it occurs.

If it's a noisy dog that's interrupting the peace, under the Domestic Animals Act 1994, council's community law officers can investigate and prosecute if need be.

According to Murrindindi Shire's webpage, it's an offence for the person living in the house to let their animals make persistent noise that disturbs people.

If you're being disturbed by noise from barking dogs, council recommends taking the following steps. This includes speaking to your neighbour to resolve the issue in the first instance. In many cases they may not know their dog is barking. Ensure you find out where the barking is coming from, to enable council to respond.

If you are unable to resolve the barking issue with your neighbour, you can report it to council by completing the online request form on council's barking dogs page or contact council's Community Safety Unit on 5772 0333.

If noise is an ongoing problem with your neighbours there are some methods to rectify the issue before taking the matter further. See if the issue can be resolved by speaking to the person or business creating the issue, as they may not be aware that they're causing a problem.

If you feel your neighbours aren't approachable with your noise complaint or you're just unsure about them, its also fine to skip that step and speak to council or police.

If you want to make a report to council about residential noise, council advises the use of the Noise App. This app is free and available for Apple and Android phones. This handy apps records the samples of noises that you are reporting including the date and the time. It allows you to tell council how loud the noise is and where its coming from and how it affects you. This app allows you to take multiple recordings to show council the issue is ongoing. This method helps council investigate the issue at hand.



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What to know when building a fence

WHETHER it's to secure your home or give it some extra street appeal, there are many things to consider when building a fence.

When it comes to a boundary fence, it's not just up to you to get the fence replaced, repaired or built.

The dispute settlement centre of Victoria suggests the following steps when it comes to fencing your property.

Firstly, you need to find your neighbours contact details. If it's a rented property, renters aren't required to pay so you need to contact the owner or landlord. To find these details you can contact the Murrindindi Shire Council rates department to put you in the right direction.

Once you have found your neighbour, have a conversation about what you would like to achieve with a new fence. If this is agreed upon then little else needs to be done to get the ball rolling.

If your neighbour is unsure about what you're proposing, get quotes and supply them to your neighbour with a fencing notice, if the matter goes to court this notice is required.

A Fencing Notice is a formal document that outlines a proposal to repair, replace, or build a new fence. Your neighbour has 30 days to respond from the day they receive the Fencing Notice. It's a good idea to send it to them by registered post so there is proof that they have received it.

If this is something your neighbour doesn't agree with, consider making some compromises. These could include offering to pay more than half if you want a more expensive fence.

Even though fencing costs are shared equally by neighbours this can depend

on whether the current fence needs to be repaired or replaced, one neighbour wants a different or more expensive fence or if there has been a case where one of the neighbours has deliberately damaged the fence.

If the matter can't be resolved, you can apply for an order from the Magistrate's Court. It is recommended that in these cases disputes are resolved outside of formal measures such as courts as these orders can take time, cost money, and cause unwanted tension between neighbours.

When it comes to building a fence its best to budget for all the hidden extras, these can include clearing the land so the fence can be built, removal of the existing fence, land surveying to find the correct boundaries, and temporary barriers if they are needed in the interim.

The Dispute Settlement of Victoria says in Victoria the law doesn't state how tall a fence should be or what it is made from.

For residential properties a sufficient dividing fence can be a simple 1.8 metre timber paling fence but in rural properties a sufficient dividing fence can be as simple as a post and wire fence.

According to the Murrindindi Shire Council if you want to build a front fence you don't need a permit if it's up to one metre high and you are situated on a standard street. A fence up to two metres high may be permitted on major roads such as highways with a building permit.

There are many different rules and regulations with different councils, to find information relevant to you regarding heights, locations, and general construction guidelines contact the Murrindindi Shire Council on 5772 0333.

Monthly Medal to Oakley

by Alan Pell

LAST Saturday saw 21 men contest the monthly medal at Royal Yea. Winner with an impressive nett 64 was young Oakley Ness (19) winning from second John Phillips (17) with nett 65. Third with the best countback on nett 70 was Bob Glenister (10) from Bill Dredge (26) fourth and Neil Peterson (14). Putting was won by Neil with 22 putts. Nearest the pin on the second was Bill Dredge and Greg Clements won the club award on countback from Kevin Coghlan. Jan Wealands (27) with her best score of 98 nett 71 won the Ladies Monthly Medal with Nicola Rule second with nett 82.

Wednesday at Growling Frog Golf Club, 12 blokes play a stableford game off the Blue Markers 136 slope rating par 72. With the 14 men playing at Yea plus 10 ladies it shows that golf is popular in town.

Winner at Growling Frog was Jeff Moss (18) from JP Mullaly (five) both on 37 points with Bob Glenister (13) 36 third and Steve Rumney (31) fourth with 35 points.

Bob and Steve won the Four Ball with 45 points from JP and Jeff 44.

Everyone enjoyed the course with its big greens, plenty of bunkers and great couch fairways. Lunch afterwards was good too.

Meanwhile back at Yea the Kath Homewood Trophy took place. Under brilliant autumn conditions 10 Ladies contested the second round of the Kath Homewood Trophy. Christine Simmons was triumphant posting a combined score of 152 over two rounds to take out the coveted award. Cindy Armstrong, Jan Wealands and Di Elliott were runners up with 155. The daily event saw Lorraine Callender (21) nett 74 return to the winners circle, proving age is no barrier and plenty of practice pays off. Miranda Gill (17) nett 76 also played a fine round to take out second place. Khai Jarvis was thrilled to be nearest the pin on the 10th Hole.

In the Men's round, 14 members and guest played a Stableford event with regular visitor from Broadford, Laurie Dobson (19) posting 35 to collect the chocolates on countback from Brian Simmons (10). Anthony La Garutta (19) was close behind with 34 points to pip John Phillips (17) on countback for third place. Brian Simmons was a clear winner in nearest the pin on the 10th Hole. Newcomer Glen Walsh learnt the variables in golf, last week almost took out the Wednesday competition, this week took home the club award. Welcome aboard Glen.



Turned out to be a fine week for gold last week. -S



Some stunning clouds covering the green. -S

Animals finding their forever homes

THE Victorian Government is assisting pet rescue and rehoming groups find homes for vulnerable pets through the recent round of the Individual Pet Rehoming Grants.

The Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence announced last week that a further \$1.27 million has been awarded to organisations that provides vital rehoming services for cats and dogs.

Sixty organisations are involved in the program, they will be reimbursed \$500 per dog and \$200 per cat to help cover the costs of rehoming, including desexing, microchipping, vaccinations, the purchase of crates, bedding and leads, and training or rehabilitation.

As part of this round of funding, Victorian Animal Aid in Coldstream has been awarded grants totaling \$75,000. The organisation provides some services to the Murrindindi Shire area.

The program helps to reduce the costs for animal shelters and community foster care networks, so that they can continue caring for our state's furry friends.

To date the program has invested \$5 million across 90 organisations, supporting the rehoming more than 6000 dogs and 12,000 cats.

Delivered as part of the Animal Welfare Fund (AWF) Grants Program, these grants recognise and support the important role animal shelters and rehoming organisations play in caring for and rehabilitating our cats and dogs, offering vulnerable animals a second chance at finding a home.

Since 2014, the AWF Grants Program has awarded more than \$13 million in funding to not-for-profit animal shelters, foster care organisations and community vet clinics to directly improve companion animal welfare in Victoria.



Funding has been provided to help animals find their forever home. -Cayambe

SPORT

Squash is back up and running

by Kristelle Leary

Monday Competition
Eagles versus Falcons

JORDAN versus Eric: A nice game by both players, but Jordan was much too strong taking all four games and the match. 85 to 36.

Sally versus Mick (fill in): Mick was playing at another level on the night. Despite a number

of air-shots he still claimed each game to take home the victory. 71 to 40.

Michael M versus Simon: Opening with a tied game. Michael took control of the match going forward, finding himself in the winner's box. 63 to 50.

Derrick versus Jack: Derrick came out strong and he kept a cool head throughout. Jack's frustrations got the better of him, relinquishing the victory to Derrick. 50 to 39.

Hawks versus Kestrels

ETHAN versus Lochlan: A great game to watch. Both players had some great shots. Ethan's quality serves made all the difference and won him the match. 63 to 46.

Chris T versus James: Having moved up a level, Chris showed he is ready by cruising to a victory offer James. 68 to 49.

Jared versus Justin: Jarrod's game continues to improve. His boasts off the side wall wrong-footed Justin numerous times. Jared claimed three games and the win. 61 to 52.

Andrew versus Jim: Neither player could get the upper hand early with serves being picked off. Andrew got the early lead by reducing errors, causing Jim to tighten up his serves and playing combinations that sent Andrew into a five-point deficit. Jim held the lead until the end. 55 to 50.

Thursday Competition
Blue Tongues versus Dragons

BETH versus Hilary (fill in): The match started close with Hilary taking the lead. The lead that Hilary held only grew with each game, securing Hilary's victory. 73 to 48.

Sam versus Travis: Lots of long rallies, running and great shots. The game was closer than the score suggests, but Travis found his groove first to take the match. 66 to 47.

Daniel W versus Michael H: Multiple long rallies. It was closer than the score shows, Daniel losing game two by seven points was his downfall. Michael won all four games and the match. 64 to 48.

Frill necks versus Geckos

BLAKE versus Randy: Blake had beautiful variation in his serves and won the first three games. There was a great fight back from Randy in the last game, but Blake still took the match. 71 to 48.

Kristelle versus Sam (fill in): Sam was still warmed up from his first match and too control of the match. Struggling to connect the ball to the racquet, Kristelle lost her marbles and the match. 73 to 47.

Stuart versus Phil: A close start and finish to the match. Stuart lost his way in the middle two game, boosting Phil's win. 85 to 48.



Round one of squash is done and dusted. -S

Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders					
Football – Reserves			Netball – A Grade		
	Percentage	Wins		Percentage	Wins
Pakenham	580.00	4	Pakenham Lions	390.24	4
Seville	522.73	4	Seville	200.72	4
Yea	159.68	2	Warburton Millgrove	156.60	2
Belgrave	171.78	2	Yarra Glen	121.05	3
Warburton Millgrove	80.18	1	Yarra Junction	119.46	2
Powelltown	44.78	1	Alexandra	63.04	1
Alexandra	39.10	1	Yea	56.02	0
Yarra Junction	34.66	1	Powelltown	24.46	0
Yarra Glen	18.36	0	Belgrave	38.71	0
Football – Seniors			Netball – B Grade		
Pakenham	295.12	4	Seville	385.14	4
Seville	163.13	4	Pakenham Lions	368.42	4
Warburton Millgrove	297.14	2	Yarra Glen	121.94	3
Yarra Glen	123.21	3	Warburton Millgrove	99.17	2
Yea	108.70	1	Yarra Junction	74.44	2
Alexandra	85.02	1	Alexandra	33.83	1
Powelltown	54.79	1	Yea	51.83	0
Belgrave	58.55	0	Powelltown	50.58	0
Yarra Junction	29.92	0	Belgrave	51.83	0
Football – Senior Women			Netball – C Grade		
Warburton-Wesburn	100.00	4	Pakenham Lions	310.39	4
Wandin	75.00	3	Seville	276.00	4
Emerald	66.66	2	Warburton Millgrove	120.93	2
Thornton Eildon	66.66	2	Yarra Glen	92.03	3
Yea	33.33	1	Alexandra	67.67	1
Seville	0	0	Yarra Junction	77.97	1
Officer	0	0	Powelltown	49.59	0
Football – 17 and under			Yea	42.86	0
			Belgrave	45.36	0
Seville	616.67	4	Netball – D Grade		
Pakenham Lions Gold	406.98	4			
Pakenham Lions Maroon	47.06	1	Pakenham Lions	641.38	4
Warburton Milgrove	40.26	0	Seville	315.09	4
Alexandra	34.42	1	Warburton Millgrove	137.50	2
Powelltown	23.40	0	Yarra Glen	90.65	3
Football – Under 18			Yea	65.43	1
			Alexandra	46.88	1
Pakenham	10416.67	4	Yarra Junction	63.25	1
Seville	565.45	3	Powelltown	18.45	0
Yarra Glen	93.21	2	Belgrave	37.88	0
Warburton Millgrove	18.37	1			
Alexandra	8.04	0			
Yea	18.31	0			



Some keen volunteers cooking the sausages over last weekend. -S

Yea Bowls Club at the Railway Market

By Viv Cavanagh

AFTER a cold start, last Saturday turned out to be a lovely day for the Yea Railway Market.

It was the Yea Bowls Club's turn to benefit from the gate entry fee and provide a barbecue.

Members of the Bowls Club sold sausages in bread with onion, and cans of soft drink to those wandering around the Market.

As the Yea Primary School Parents and Friends Association were unable to run the Democracy Sausage sizzle at the polling booth, the bowls club were given the opportunity to set up an additional selling point at the school.



Yea bowls club wood raffle was a winter warmer. -S

A trailer load of wood, supplied by Angela and Maurie Finn, was also raffled on the day. This was won by Glen McMaster.

Thanks to Terry Muller for coordinating with Cass to enable us to have this opportunity and to Michael Barrott for spending the morning cooking sausages. Other members who helped included Maurie and Angela Finn, Rod and Viv Cavanagh, Terry and Wendy McInnes and Leonard Sheahan. This was an enjoyable morning and a very successful fundraiser.

Yea Juniors impress under Friday night lights

by Jo Madden

WITH a split round scheduled due to the Goulburn Murray Junior League Interleague on Sunday, Yea's Under 13 and Under 15 netball teams took to the court under lights on Friday night for their clash against St Mary's. A fantastic atmosphere surrounded the evening, with a barbecue running and strong support on the sidelines as both age groups delivered impressive performances.

After a tightly contested start with both sides going goal-for-goal, Yea found their stride and pulled away with a dominant second half, finishing with a 20-9 victory. Award winners were Velvet Fontana (Always Contracting Player of the night) and Tahlia Waghorn (Yarra Valley Gas Coaches Choice).

The Under 15s match proved to be a much tighter affair. St Mary's came out strong and matched Yea across the court, with scores locked at halftime. The contest remained close until late in the final quarter when Yea managed

to break away and clinch a thrilling win. Award winners were Jemma Anstey (UpBuild Player of the night) and Charlotte Armstrong (Yarra Valley Gas Coaches Choice).

Yea Junior Football Netball Club thanks the St Mary's Junior Football Netball Club for spirited and enjoyable games across the weekend.

Interleague Netball Announcement

by Deb Schickerling

YEA Football Netball Club offer congratulations to their very own Goulburn Murray Junior Netball Representatives.

A big shoutout to Pippa Butterworth (13 and under) and Jemma Anstey and Grace Lanigan (15 and under) who proudly represented Yea in the first of two tournaments last Sunday.

While Grace was unfortunately sidelined due to illness, it is likely she'll bounce back stronger.

The club is very proud of their representatives.



Milly Krickic and Hayley Krickic. -S



Velvet Fontana and Tahlia Waghorn looking happy with their awards. -S



Lexi Turner and Ivy Duncan. -S



J Anstey and P Butterworth representing Yea at the interleague competition. -S



Charlotte Armstrong and Jemma Anstey with their awards. -S



The Goulburn Murray Junior Interleague netball team. -S

The Chronicle Sport



Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

First home game of season for under 12s

Under nines

by Lily Armstrong

YEA Football Netball Club's under nines hit the ground running last week, showing just how much improvement can happen in seven short days.

The team brought an incredible level of energy, teamwork, and determination, and it truly paid off. There were more goals kicked for the week, with players starting to really find their rhythm and understand the flow of the game.

Strong marks, brave tackles, and some clever handpasses had the crowd cheering from the sidelines. It was clear the children are gaining confidence and starting to gel beautifully as a team.

Award winners: Just Great Coffee Most Determined Award, Charlie S; Armstrong Plumbing Best Team Player Award, Carl; Yarra Valley Gas Coaches Award, Hunter.

The hard work is showing, let's see what next week brings.

Under 10s

by Belinda Johnston

ON a sunny home game day, Yea Tiger's under 10s played against St Marys.

Indi took a few great marks on the chest, kicked onto Ava which lead to a score on the board. Team spirit was all around, Maverick hand balled to Logan which brought home another point.

Great game played by the Yea Tigers. Awards: Josh, Maverick and Jake W.

Under 12s

Yea 16.12 - 108 defeated St Mary's 1.1 - 7

by Lyndal Tait

THE first home game of the season saw a spirited Yea side welcome St Mary's to Tigerland for a terrific game of football.

Darby Tait captained the side for the week, leading a team that put in immense effort on the back of some great training during the week. Significant improvement was demonstrated by all players across the field, with players focussing on implementing skills they have been working on at training.

They combined well across the entire ground over the four quarters with many goal scorers, and everyone contributing to driving the ball forward to score.

Players rotated into different positions throughout the game, giving them opportunity to have an impact across the ground. Highlights of the game were Darby (four), Ollie (four) and Archie (three) scoring multiple goals each, Toby G kicking a great goal, along with Fox (two), Rory and Joshua kicking their very first goals in a game.

Coach Al was mightily impressed with his team's performance, and their support and celebrations of each other's efforts. A super game to watch and be a part of.

The club gives thanks to all their sponsors, and game day volunteers. Special thanks to James Frankcombe for umpiring the game, and the supporters for cheering the Tigers on.

Duncan's Paint and Panel 'Red Hot Go - Player of the Day' award, Rory Bohn; Sprout Wellness 'Being your Best' award, Fox Beer; Yarra Valley Gas 'Coaches Award', Ollie Skilling.

Under 14s

by Belinda Johnston

THE under 14s played away at Seymour against a very strong team Seymour Lions. Hunter in the ruck up was extremely competitive winning 90 per cent of all contests which lead the ball to be available for the centre players.

Everyone was working hard on the ball, unfortunately Seymour were too strong on the day.

Award winners Ashton, Hunter and Jarrah.



Some of the Yea under 12 players. -S



The Yea Tigers under nine players. -S



Award winners from the Yea under 10 side. -S



Thirteen and under netballers V Fontana and T Waghorn. -S



Under 14 players A Fontana, H Steiner and J Paterson. -S

Historic Winton presents a huge two days of historic motorsport

THE 48th Historic Winton will be held on May 24 and 25 at Winton Motor Raceway, and it will be two full days of historic car racing and vehicle displays of the elegant, the rustic, the weird and wacky.

Presented by the Austin 7 Club, Historic Winton is well known as being Australia's most popular historic race event showcasing racing cars from the very beginning (more than 100 years ago) to the mid-1980s.

The Shannons Car Park features 'Pride of Place' vehicles while heritage displays of emergency services and other types of vehicles are exhibited around the track.

"There is so much to see and do that we provide a courtesy bus to take visitors to the various attractions around the outside of the track," Historic Winton Organiser, John Kessner said.

A unique feature of the event is the trackside camping at Winton Motor Raceway.

"There's room for 700 motorhomes, caravans and tents," John said.

"For safety reasons, no pets are allowed though, as we can't have them accidentally running onto the track."

He said that Historic Winton is well reputed for its friendliness with competitors meeting here once a year from all over Australia, many become lifelong friends.

Preceding Historic Winton is the Benalla Historic Vehicle Tour on Friday, May 23. Motoring enthusiasts tour the rich and varied sights of Benalla and surrounds. To add to the fun, Austin 7 Club, "President's Choice" trophies are awarded to participants with 'stand out' vehicles.

John said that the Austin 7 Club was currently celebrating its 75th Anniversary and it's 400 plus members are proud of its achievements and impact on motorsport in Australia.

"We have been holding events at Winton Motor Raceway for more than 50 years and Historic Winton for 49 years.

"Our Club history includes our formative role in motorsport in Australia with us being on the founding committee of the first motorsport peak body and we introduced Observed Section Trials (or mud trials) to Australia," John said.



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