

The Yea Chronicle

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

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

Ph: (03) 5797 2468 or (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5797 2257; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, June 29, 2022 \$2.00 inc. GST

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Evie, Stella, Archie, Ayden, Holly, Alex and Saxon. -S

Beanies at Yea Primary School

THE Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival is coming up and students at Yea Primary School are getting their novelty beanies ready.

Yea Primary School will have their Beanie Day on Friday, July 22, when they all don their beanies and bring a gold coin for a local community group.

The Murrindindi Beanie and Fibre Festival is on at Alexandra Town Hall on July 23 and 24.

Leigh's epic journey from a Yea backyard to the ocean

IMAGINE climbing into a canoe at the bottom of your back garden and paddling all the way to the ocean. This would be a dream for many, but for Yea resident, Leigh Redding, that dream became a reality with his 'backyard to the sea journey'. Leigh Redding's journey commenced at his family home on the Yea River.

The planning for the trip, that took him down the Yea River and into the Murray via the Goulburn River, commenced in late 2017. The trip itself became a reality in 2020 but the journey was short-lived. A COVID-19 lockdown saw him terminate the trip at Shepparton and return home to Yea to wait for better times.

Leigh grew up by the Yea River and he learned to swim and paddle in its waters. He had a growing awareness that like many rivers, the Yea River had its final destination in the sea. This is what led him to take the epic journey. He also wanted to raise awareness about the importance of rivers and the challenges facing them, including plastic pollution.

In March 2022, Leigh Redding commenced (or should we say recommenced) his journey. He describes the Yea River as one of the most challenging parts of his journey. It was a relatively short 12 kilometre paddle but it took 10 hours to negotiate the stream as in many places he found fallen trees, logs and snags blocking his way.

"Once I left my backyard, the following 10 hours involved some paddling, climbing over countless fallen trees, lots of boat dragging, dodging snags, weaving through branches, and plenty of hard yakka. This was the baptism of snags that would release me into the Goulburn and set me on my way to the ocean," Mr Redding said.

At Ghin Ghin, he joined the upper Goulburn, a fast flowing river with strong currents around the many bends, before reaching Tallarook where it opens up into the flat country past Seymour.

Leigh says that some sections of the trip were not as peaceful as he had thought. Firstly he found Lake Nagambie hosting a rowing competition. He managed to negotiate the lake as inconspicuously as he could but was unable to avoid the displeasure of the judges.

Next came Echuca with the town in the middle of a busy Easter holiday weekend. He described the challenge of sharing the river between the town and Torrumbarry Weir with dozens of speedboats and water skiers.

"I paddled through the wake of the boats for the best part of the journey. That and the wakes from boats flooding my kayak, the blasting of music that was trying to overpower the sound of the boats tended to overpower the serenity. But once past Torrumbarry Weir

things changed for the better," he said.

The next stage took him past Swan Hill to Robinvale and Mildura.

"This section of the Murray is interesting, as many rivers streams and anabranches flow into or return into the Murray. The Murray grows in size and the array of bush-stone curlews, Murray cod, and whistling kites all share in the rich diversity and quality of this country."

He describes the South Australian section of the river as one of sheer beauty bordered by sheer cliffs of desert red and brown earth, crumbling with countless years of erosion and sun scorching.

Beyond this section he was soon in the vast expanses of Lake Alexandrina where the river meets the Murray lakes.

The weather changed when it came time to cross Lake Alexandrina. The wind had increased whipping the waves on the lake up to tiny white caps. Reaching Cape Sturt Leigh's epic paddle was close to over.

"The final five kilometres took me to the boat ramp at Goolwa and it was the toughest part of the journey paddling against the current but to reach my final destination it was well worth the effort." He added.

Captain Charles Sturt negotiated the Murray River in 1828 and Francis Cadell in 1850. Perhaps we can add Leigh Redding, 2022, to that list.

Leigh is planning to start a small scale recycling business in Murrindindi, turning post-consumer waste from the community into useful products.



Journey's end Leigh Redding rejoices on reaching the ocean. -S

Murrindindi's plan to support the timber transition

IN April, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP visited Murrindindi Shire to announce \$400,000 in funding under the \$200 million Victorian Forestry Plan for the communities of Alexandra, Taggerty and Marysville, to prepare a Local Development Strategy (LDS) and help shire communities and economy in the transition away from dependence on the native forest timber industry and towards new and sustainable industries.

Shivaun Brown, Director Community Engagement at Murrindindi Shire Council was contacted for comment on what progress has been made.

She said, "Soon, we're hoping to recruit a project manager to work in partnership with our affected communities to prepare a LDS for Murrindindi Shire. This role will be advertised internally and externally in the coming weeks.

"We'll develop the LDS using a 'smart specialisation' approach, designed by the Victorian Government. We think a Community Reference Group could be a good way to provide the community with oversight and ownership of the LDS, but we'll wait until the project manager has done some consultation with the community to confirm if this is the best approach.

"Timelines for the development of the LDS haven't been set in stone, but they have been drafted. The rest of this year will be spent appointing a project manager and getting the project up and running. This will involve working with communities and looking at the existing social and economic environment.

"From there, we'll use the information gathered to prepare a Context Analysis Report by the middle of 2023. By then we hope to have identified key projects and actions for inclusion in the LDS.

"Further time will then be spent refining the projects and preparing a final list of fundable and deliverable projects.

"We hope to finalise the LDS in early 2024 and provide a long-term vision for our affected communities, including priority industries and infrastructure for future development, highlighting opportunities for new jobs and positive economic and social benefits.

"Once a project manager is appointed, we'll confirm these timelines with the community," she said.

For more information about the Victorian Forestry Plan, visit djpr.vic.gov.au/forestry/forestry-plan

Individual businesses, contractors and employees affected by the transition should contact Kara Zdrzalka (Hinton), DJPR's Business Transition Support Officer (North-East Victoria), on 0417 483 803 for direct support.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters published are the opinion of the writer and not necessarily the opinion of Alexandra Newspapers

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Deadline is 10am Monday

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WEEKLY

Thu Town Club, RSL Hall, 6-8pm. Ph 5797 2179

Sun AA Anglican Church, Alexandra 7pm PH 1300 222 222

Sun Alanon Recovery Anglican Church, Alexandra 5.30pm.

MONTHLY

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

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

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

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

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

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

4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 10.30am Ph 5797 2998

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

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

For a \$5 annual fee for online, 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.

It's already a month since elections elected some humans are happy but nationwide joy is purring our way as longest night meets shortest day.

Tickle here

Winter 2022.. Back to Normal

Bedick 22/6/22

Dinner?

Weekly Weather

June 29, to July 5, 2022

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra

Yea

| DAY | LOW | HIGH | | DAY | LOW | HIGH | |
|-----------|-----|------|--|-----------|-----|------|--|
| Wednesday | 2 | 11 | | Wednesday | 2 | 11 | |
| Thursday | 3 | 13 | | Thursday | 3 | 13 | |
| Friday | 3 | 13 | | Friday | 4 | 13 | |
| Saturday | 1 | 13 | | Saturday | 2 | 13 | |
| Sunday | 2 | 13 | | Sunday | 2 | 13 | |
| Monday | 3 | 14 | | Monday | 3 | 14 | |
| Tuesday | 5 | 13 | | Tuesday | 5 | 13 | |

Standard

The Yea Chronicle

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| RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------|----------|-------------|
| STATION NAME | TIME | HEIGHT | TENDENCY | FLOOD CLASS |
| Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S | 11.00am Mon | 1.09^ | steady | below minor |
| Rubicon R at Rubicon | 11.00am Mon | 0.71 | steady | |
| Acheron R at Taggerty | 9.32am Mon | 0.99 | steady | below minor |
| Home Ck at Yarck | 12.12pm Mon | 0.40 | steady | |
| Yea R at Devlins Bridge | 12.53am Mon | 0.63 | steady | below minor |
| Yea R at Yea | 11.25am Mon | 0.95 | steady | |
| Goulburn R at Ghin Ghin | 11.00am Mon | 3.58 | steady | |
| King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale | 11.00am Mon | 0.57^ | steady | below minor |
| Goulburn R at Trawool | 11.00am Mon | 1.27^ | steady | below minor |
| Sunday Ck at Tallarook | 10.45am Mon | 0.33^ | steady | below minor |
| Goulburn R at Seymour | 12.00pm Mon | 1.57 | steady | below minor |
| Whiteheads Ck at Seymour | 9.53am Mon | 0.80 | steady | |

ISSUED AT 12.15PM ON MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2022

| DISTRICT RAINFALL | |
|--|---------|
| Alexandra* | 9.5mm |
| Buxton..... | 43.5mm |
| Eildon (AWS)..... | 30mm |
| Flowerdale..... | 29mm |
| Kinglake..... | 18mm |
| Lake Eildon..... | 35mm |
| Marysville | N/Amm |
| Strath Creek | N/Amm |
| Taggerty | 42mm |
| Yarck | 20mm |
| Yea..... | 16mm |
| Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday | |
| LAKE EILDON | |
| Height above sea level this week..... | 284.15m |
| Capacity as at 9am Monday..... | 82% |
| Metres below full supply..... | 4.75m |
| Daily inflow | 8000ML |
| Release..... | 1000ML |
| Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)..... | 50% |

The Yea Chronicle

DEADLINES

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

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

We thank you for your continued support

Touch-free hydration station for Yea

IN partnership with Friends of the Great Victorian Rail Trail (GVRT) and Murrindindi Shire Council, Goulburn Valley Water (GVW) has installed a new permanent hydration station in Yea.

The new station at the Yea Railway Park features auto-sensors for easy and safe community use and will provide the community, visitors and users of the Great Victorian Rail Trail with access to free, fresh drinking water while they enjoy time outdoors.

The organisations hope this will encourage community members and visitors alike to use reusable water bottles, rather than purchasing water, to cut down on plastic use.

The station has been installed as part of GVW's annual program to partner with community groups, organisations and councils to install drinking water stations in each of the towns supplied with drinking water in their service area by 2023.

Murrindindi Shire Council was keen to partner with the Friends of the GVRT to fund the installation of the station as part of their Public Health and Wellbeing plan.



Ross Vaughan, Chair of the Friends of the GVRT, trying out the unit after its recent installation. -S

Call to fix the housing crisis

RURAL Councils Victoria (RCV) has called on governments to fix housing crisis. A major new study has warned that a chronic lack of affordable housing is set to cost Australian taxpayers \$25 billion a year if no action is taken.

The report, by SGS Economics and Planning for Housing All Australians (HAA), builds on work SGS Economics and Planning did to create the *The Rural Councils Victoria Housing Blueprint*, which showed that rural Victoria alone could suffer a \$1 billion a year hit to its communities and economy.

Rural Councils Victoria Chair Cr Mary-Ann Brown said, "*The Rural Councils Victoria Housing Blueprint* shows that we need 87,400 new homes in the next 15 years right across rural Victoria.

"That's before we take into account the recent surge in rural population as people move from the cities.

"ABS data shows a 15,700 population increase across rural and regional Victoria, with the rural population increasing by 8587.

"Housing supply shortfalls have a big negative impact on rural communities, including foregone jobs and lost opportunities.

"*The Housing Blueprint* found that there would be up to \$1 billion per year in lost gross regional product in rural Victoria if action is not taken.

"*The Housing Blueprint* found that the sectors of the economy worst hit by the lack of appropriate housing for rental and home ownership include agriculture, forestry and fishing, manufacturing, construction, health and social assistance, education and training, tourism, hospitality, and the rental, hiring and real estate industries.

Ms Brown continued, "But every sector would be negatively impacted. That is why Rural Councils Victoria is calling on the government to commit to boosting rural housing supply.

"This will supercharge migration to rural areas, stimulate economic development and create employment opportunities for rural communities right across Victoria."

Local groups receive FRRR funding

SIXTY-seven projects across remote, rural and regional Australia will share in \$776,583 in grants thanks to the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program. Four of these projects are in Murrindindi.

The program supports grassroots initiatives run by organisations led by local people that will strengthen their communities and have direct benefits for those living in them.

Jill Karena, Place Portfolio Lead at FRRR, said that a noticeable trend emerged in this latest round of applications.

"Interestingly, we saw a strong interest for community gardens in this round. With the cost of living rising on top of the food shortages that are happening as a result of the pandemic and natural disasters like drought and floods, there are growing concerns in rural areas about food security and the lack of access to nutritious, affordable food.

"This is why flexible programs like SRC are crucial. The funding from this program can be used where community leaders see the greatest need. Our climate and our economy are rapidly evolving and these grants can be used to support a broad range of community-led, grassroots initiatives that are helping to address very current issues in real time," Ms Karena said.

Locally, the successful recipients were: Buxton Progress Association (BPA) Inc for the project Building Buxton

Strategy Consultation. In this project, BPA will boost their organisational and volunteer capacity through community consultation and the development of a strategic plan. They received \$9451.

Flowerdale Community House received funding for the Flowerdale Community Garden Project. Their aim is to enhance health, wellbeing, and connectedness of the community through building a community garden. They received \$10,000.

The Highlands Community Hall Committee received funding to support the Highlands Hall going forward. Their aim is to strengthen local capacity and skills through governance and strategic planning workshops and support. They received \$10,000.

Tri Gym Marysville received funding for the project, Strengthening Our Community - Healthy Body and Mind. Their aim is to support better health and wellbeing outcomes by enabling older community members to access local pilates classes. They received \$4450.

A full list of grant recipients is available on FRRR's website.

This program always accepts applications and thanks to recent support from the Australian Government, there is now a COVID-recovery stream, Rebuilding Rural Communities. Local not-for-profits and community groups are encouraged to review the expanded program guidelines and apply. More information about the SRC program is available at frrr.org.au/src

A significant donation to Foundation Murrindindi

FOUNDATION Murrindindi has received a significant donation of over \$110,000 to support projects for the Marysville and Triangle community, with a primary focus on senior residents.

"We are grateful to be trusted with these funds, to be managed on behalf of the donor," Foundation Murrindindi's chair, Melinda Burgess said.

A representative of the donor said, "We have a preference for funding of projects for senior residents, however this does not prohibit funding of the projects for other sectors of the Marysville and Triangle community.

"We chose to set up this fund with Foundation Murrindindi based on their proven track record of responsibly managing community funds," they said.

Foundation Murrindindi will establish a grant fund to distribute to projects. Details of the fund will be released soon.

Foundation Murrindindi's purpose is to inspire a community-led future for Murrindindi Shire.

If you would like to set up a fund, or make a donation, please contact the Executive Officer, Robyn Hill, on 0488 007 688 or email robyn@foundationmurrindindi.org.au

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Out&About

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

Darren Gilbert Open Studio Saturday and Sunday July 2 and 3. 10am-4pm both days. Yea Butter Factory.

Council is hosting a free two day mental health first aid course in Yea and Kinglake. Yea 9am-5pm July 16 and 23. Kinglake 9am-5pm September 3 and 10. For more information contact Murrindindi Shire Council.

Christmas in July dinner. Saturday, July 23 at Holmesglen at Eildon. Bookings essential 5774 2631.

See this weeks editions for NAIDOC Week celebrations. July 3 to July 10.

Committal trial adjourns in Jordan Purcell case

ON Thursday, June 23, Magistrate Ian Watkins, adjourned the committal hearing into the death of Alexandra footballer Jordan Purcell until August 19 to enable him to study the evidence presented during the two day hearing at the Wangaratta Magistrates Court and determine whether the case should proceed to a trial.

Alexandra man, Jack Brian Goonan, is facing charges relating to six offences, including culpable and dangerous driving causing death, failing to stop after accident causing death, failing to render assistance after an accident causing death, reckless conduct endangering life, and reckless conduct namely being under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

Mr Goonan was allegedly driving a vehicle that was involved in an incident that lead to the death of Jordan Purcell.

On the first day of the hearing, the court heard from witnesses who were passengers in the alleged vehicle and from the Alexandra resident who found the injured Mr Purcell on Hall Street. Mr Purcell later died on the way to hospital.

On day two, the court heard evidence from expert witnesses as to the nature of Mr Purcell's injuries and evidence regarding the type of vehicle that could have caused those injuries.

Victoria Police members including the Police Informant, Detective Senior Constable Sandro Lombardi and Alexandra Police Officer Sergeant Andrew Walker also presented evidence.

There was a prolonged investigation which led to charges being laid, and the hearing occurred more than three years after the date of the incident on June 16, 2019. In August 2021, Major Collision Investigation Unit detectives charged Mr Goonan over Mr Purcell's death.

The incident occurred after an Alexandra football match and an evening social function. Mr Purcell was walking to a house in Alexandra to meet up with team mates when he was allegedly struck by a vehicle on Hall Street.

Our History: Louis Ah Mouy

by Yea and District Historical Society

SBS (Sydney) is currently researching and filming a documentary on the Chinese Influence in the early days of Australia. One of the Chinese they are studying is Louis Ah Mouy, who had a major impact in the early days of Victoria and had a significant connection to the history of Yea.

Louis Ah Mouy, a carpenter by trade, arrived in Melbourne in 1851 under contract to build houses. After his contract was completed he had some success in the gold rush in Victoria. He always claimed that it was a letter he sent to his brother in China about the gold discoveries that resulted in thousands of Chinese coming to the Victorian diggings.

The "Welcome Mine" south of Yea was originally discovered and worked by Soraghan & Co and Louis Ah Mouy took over the mine in the early 1870's employing several hundred Chinese to work the mine.

The Reef at the Welcome Mine was reported to be 4 feet thick and could produce up to 50 ounces to the ton. The main shaft was sunk down to 785 feet with many hundreds of metres of tunnels following the reef. It is reputed to be the deepest man-made mine in Victoria. After a few years Ah Mouy leased the mine and his share on one level alone was reported to have been nineteen hundred pounds.

Early settlers can remember Ah Mouy driving his Jinker into Yea to catch the early morning train to Melbourne to take the weeks gold to the Mint. The gold sat in a gladstone bag at his feet and he was never robbed. He sold the Welcome Mine when the government refused to renew his lease as they suspected more gold was being sent back to China that was being taken to the Mint. A European Company bought the Mine, however they were not paying their bills locally and a local carrier who was owed a lot of money, set fire to the mine and all the poppet head and shoring timbers were burnt and the mine was closed down.

Ah Mouy became a very prosperous merchant and entrepreneur. He was credited with setting up a rice mill in Flinders Street, the first of its kind in Victoria. At Swanston Street in 1852 he was one of the first to engage in the tea business. He later became one of the original directors of the Commercial Bank of Australia in Melbourne and an early spokesman for the Victorian Chinese Community. He was founder of the See Yap (Four Districts) Society of Melbourne in 1854 and generously donated land for the building of the See Yap Joss House in 1866. He was also a land speculator and through his trade, land and mining operations amassed great wealth.

SBS are filming on site at the Welcome Mine in early July.

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This week's Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

Sunday Service time
11am
Father Mario Hendricks Ph: 0437 937 433

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

Immaculate Conception Parish
Parish Priest, Father Vinh Nguyen
Ph 5772 1167
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

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

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEA

Station Street Yea
Colin Whiteway Ph 0419 351 267 / 5799 1295
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The staff from Yea High School on Flamboyant Friday. Flamboyant Friday is new and something which was introduced for a bit of fun and for staff morale, as well as creating a talking point or engagement focus for students. They have also held a crazy socks with sandals day. The staff pictured are back row: Mr Heal, Ms Foster, Mr Burns, Mr Pell, Mr Schwab and Ms Robonson. Middle row: Ms Gilmore, Ms Zolnierczyk and Mr Aiken. Front row: Ms Barns, Mr Walsh, Ms Dalton and Ms Sambrooks. -S

First release of a children's book in Taungurung language

THE Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) has announced the release of the first book written for children in both Taungurung and English languages.

Bijil Ba Wudhi Debera (Bijil and Moths) is authored by Aunty Loraine Padgham, Taungurung Elder.

This is the story of a young Taungurung boy who accompanies his parents on their annual trip to the high plains in summer to participate in cultural activities, renew friendships with other tribes and clans, and to harvest Bogong moths. The book includes a QR code that can be scanned to listen to the story read in Taungurung language.

"This is a landmark moment in the ongoing reawakening of the Taungurung language," Matt Burns, TLaWC CEO said.

"It will form part of a number of resources that will be made over time to re-establish our language as an integral part of the cultural landscape for those, both indigenous and otherwise, living on Taungurung Country."



Aunty Loraine and Matt Burns with the new book. -S

This book is dedicated to the Taungurung people, past and present, who have cared for Taungurung Country and culture since time immemorial.

Teachers and librarians from primary schools have already expressed delight in having this cultural resource available. All primary schools within Murrindindi Shire have received a copy of *Bijil Ba Wudhi*

Debera (Bijil and Moths) via generous support from the Murrindindi Shire Council, who provided funding to support the production of the book.

Bijil Ba Wudhi Debera (Bijil and Moths) is available for purchase on TLaWC's website taungurung.com.au/store at a special launch price of \$20.

Farmers speak up for a fair go for regional Victoria

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has launched its state election platform ahead of this state election in November.

Speaking at the VFF's Grains and Livestock Conference at Ballarat, VFF President Emma Germano said she was proud to present a positive agenda that focussed on delivering for farmers and regional communities.

Ms Germano said the commitments are being sought as part of the VFF's Fair Go for Regional Victoria campaign that includes critical investment into regional road and rail, housing, healthcare, biosecurity, jobs and environmental management.

"The VFF has pulled together a policy platform that doesn't just speak to the issues farmers are facing, but the issues faced by all regional communities," Ms Germano said.

"Whether it's how we work together to maintain the profitability of industry, how we deal with a changing climate, or how we continue to sustain thriving communities with a lifestyle envied by those in Melbourne. Farmers are well placed to identify the issues that matter to all regional Victorians and to offer solutions."

Ms Germano also shared insight into the VFF's campaign strategy, saying that farmers will be active in lobbying candidates ahead of the election.

"The VFF will be active across the state during this election. Where we can, we will be on the ground in marginal electorates pushing the message that regional Victoria deserves a fair go. Marginal seats like Ripon, Polwarth, Bass, Nepean, Eildon, South Barwon, Mildura and Shepparton are all on our list of target seats.

The VFF's election platform document can be accessed on the VFF website vff.org.au

Hate symbol now banned

VICTORIA has become the first Australian state or territory to ban the public display of the Nazi symbol in recognition of its role in inciting anti-Semitism and hate.

The Summary Offences Amendment (Nazi Symbol Prohibition) Bill 2022 makes it a criminal offence for a person

to intentionally display the Nazi symbol (often referred to as the Nazi swastika) in public.

Anyone who intentionally displays the Nazi symbol in public will face penalties of up to almost \$22,000, 12 months imprisonment or both.

The Bill recognises the cultural and historical

significance of the swastika for the Buddhist, Hindu, Jain and other faith communities as an ancient and sacred symbol of peace and good fortune. The Bill does not prohibit the display of the swastika in such religious and cultural contexts.

The ban will be supported by a community education campaign to raise awareness

of the origins of the religious and cultural swastika, its importance to the Buddhist, Hindu and Jain communities and its distinction to the Nazi symbol.

The legislation will come into effect in six months to allow for time to implement this campaign.

Unattended campfires a fire risk

THE reported number of unattended and not properly extinguished campfires in Hume region have increased the past two years despite COVID-19. This behaviour continues to put country Victoria at greater risk of bushfires.

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said the number of unattended campfires may be a sign of dangers to come, especially for those with license river frontages recently opened to campers.

Ms McLeish said, "Now that the Victorian Government has opened many spots along the Goulburn River and Ovens River to people camping on licenced river frontages, there is an even greater risk of campfires being left burning or unattended."

In the Hume region, home to the Goulburn, Broken, Ovens, King and Kiewa Rivers, a staggering 414 unattended campfires were reported in 2020/21. During 2021/22, 264 were reported. In comparison, 162 unattended campfires were reported in 2019/20.

The Hume region has reported the highest number of cases in 2021/22 compared to Gippsland where 188 were reported, Grampians reported 28, Loddon Mallee reported 64, Port Phillip only 10 and Barwon Southwest reported 42.

Ms McLeish continued, "Camping has become far more popular since COVID-19 put a halt to overseas and interstate travel. Its popularity is likely to continue.

"It is great to see people out and about in nature and enjoying Victoria's natural beauty. But there needs to be responsibility around campfires and knowing the dangers," Ms McLeish said.



During 2021/22, 264 unattended campfires were reported in the Hume region. -S

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- A journey of -

150 YEARS

from The Alexandra Times
to The Alexandra Standard
(A collection of articles)

Compiled and published by Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd 2020.

Celebrate NAIDOC Week at the Yea Wetlands

THE NAIDOC 2022 theme calls on all of us to make a genuine commitment to Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up! and support and secure institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms

Whether it's seeking proper environmental, cultural and heritage protections, Constitutional change, a comprehensive process of truth-telling, working towards treaties, or calling out racism, we must do it together.

It's time to work together to narrow the gap between aspiration and reality, good intent and outcome.

This year's NAIDOC Week Program at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre will look at the importance of Cultural Heritage Planning. Join Francisco Almeida, Senior Archaeologist from Taungurung Land and Waters Council, to discuss what is involved in a Cultural Heritage Plan, when is one required and how to identify and protect cultural artefacts found on Country.

Celebrated Taungurung artist and educator Cassie Leatham will hold two workshops on Saturday, July 9 using traditional weaving techniques and natural materials.

Participants in the Little Bush Bird workshop (for ages five to 16), will create a tiny bush bird using poa grass and native bird feathers and learn about the little birds' environment.

In the Mon Mungan, Healing Weave workshop (for ages 15 and above), participants will learn to weave bracelets using two traditional weaving techniques.

Places are limited for these two workshops and costs include all materials.

The sessions are \$10 child or concession, or \$15 for an adult.

The final session of the week will be presented by Matthew Burns, CEO of Taungurung Land and Waters Council.

Matthew will lead a discussion on Treaty and the next phase of the Treaty journey.

NAIDOC Week at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre is proudly supported by Murrindindi Shire Council, Taungurung

Land and Waters Council and Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre Inc.

For details of the full program of events and to book your tickets, please visit ywatercentre.com.au or call 5797 2663.



Children attending a previous NAIDOC Week celebration at Yea Wetlands. -S



A past workshop. -S



An Indigenous elder in a possum skin cloak. -S

NAIDOC Week celebrations

NAIDOC Week will be celebrated across Murrindindi Shire from July 3 to 10.

Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Sue Carpenter said NAIDOC Week is a time to recognise, share and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture and achievements.

"I encourage community members to attend and get involved in local activities and events held across the shire. In line with this year's theme, Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!, we're calling on our communities to come together and learn about First Nations cultures and histories by attending events held by

the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre and Council's Murrindindi Library Service.

"Australia has the oldest, continuous living cultures on earth. Here in Murrindindi Shire, we are on Taungurung and Wurundjeri Land and we acknowledge the Taungurung People and Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Custodians of this land.

"The relationship between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians must be based on justice, equity and the proper recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' rights.

"We need a genuine commitment from everyone to support institutional, structural, collaborative, and cooperative reforms, whether it's seeking proper environmental, cultural and heritage protections, constitutional change, a truth-telling process, working towards treaties, or calling out racism, we must do it together.

For more information about NAIDOC Week events at the Yea Wetlands Discovery Centre, visit yeawetlands.com.au

To find out what's happening at council's libraries, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraryevents

NAIDOC celebrations at Yea Hospital

NAIDOC Week is held from July 3 to 10, and the Yea and District Memorial Hospital will be taking participating. As part of the celebrations, the hospital will be raising the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags for the first time atop two of their new flag poles.

They are inviting the community to join them and show support for the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.

The event is being held in the hospital's front garden area, at 45 Station Street in Yea, on Monday, July 4 at 2.30pm.

Leadbeater's possum born in captivity

FOR the first time in more than 20 years, two critically endangered Leadbeater's possums has been born in captivity, thanks to state government's investment in Victoria's faunal emblems.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio announced the arrival of two Highland Leadbeater's possum joeys born at Healesville Sanctuary, a breeding breakthrough due to diet and animal husbandry changes.

This breakthrough provides hope for the long-term goal of also successfully breeding Lowland Leadbeater's possums, of which fewer than 30 remain in the world. Comparatively, highland populations have declined to only a few thousand possums.

Since the Leadbeater's Possum Captive Breeding Program restarted in 2012, keepers have been trying to crack the code for breeding by closely reviewing husbandry practices and the complex dietary needs of this enchanting, nocturnal mammal.

A leading zoo and wildlife nutritionist, veterinarians, and marsupial reproductive experts are accounting the breakthrough to a new diet, which has seen positive changes to the possums' gut microbiome and reproductive health, with an increase in sperm production in the males.

The possums' diet is a honey-based nectar which the experts have loaded with increased fibre and balanced with essential vitamins and minerals.

The Leadbeater's possum was successfully bred in captivity during the 1990s, however the program ended due to ageing animals, limited genetics, and no requirements for wild release at the time.

One of the newborn Highland Leadbeater's possums last week underwent its first health check at Healesville Sanctuary's Australian Wildlife Health Centre and was confirmed to be female. The other joey, checked last month, was confirmed to be female and weighed 97 grams.

Alongside the helmeted honeyeater, the Leadbeater's possum is one of the two Victorian faunal emblems with the Victorian Government contributing \$2 million via the Faunal Emblems Program. Since 2018, almost \$4 million in funding has been dedicated to improving the long-term sustainability of both species.

Since 2014. Over the same period, the Government has invested more than \$560 million into protecting biodiversity, working to halt the decline of Victoria's plants and animals through the landmark plan *Biodiversity 2037*.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio said, "We're excited to welcome these two precious possums and to see the success of our ongoing investment into our state's faunal emblem and the unique biodiversity of Victoria."

Artists selected to create Rail Trail art

EIGHT artists have been appointed to create art installations along the Great Victorian Rail Trail and art location sites have been selected.

The artists selected to create the seven larger art installations are Donna Marcus, Yu-Fang Chi, Christabel Wigley (Wigley World), Louise Paramor, Tai Snaith, Cara Johnson and Robbie Rowlands. Mick Harding (Ngarga Warendj) has been selected to create the Trail Long series of works.

You can find biographies of the selected artists and a map of the art installation locations at the online engagement platform, The Loop, at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/GVRT-art-project.

The next phase of the project will see the detailed design for each of the sites finalised in preparation for work on the installations to begin. The works are expected to be installed before the end of April 2023.

The \$1.2 million Great ARTdoors Project is a partnership

between Murrindindi, Mansfield and Mitchell Shire Councils, funded through the Victorian Government Regional Tourism Investment Fund Stimulus Round, as part of the COVID-19 tourism stimulus package through Regional Development Victoria.

Murrindindi Shire Mayor Councillor Sue Carpenter said, "The project is aimed at attracting more visitors to the Rail Trail to support communities along the trail by building its reputation as a premier tourist attraction.

"The Rail Trail is an important part of the tourism offering across the three shires and it is exciting to see the project reach this key milestone.

"We worked with the community on the scope of the project late last year, and the three councils have since been working together, along with arts professionals with experience in delivering major public art projects, to get the right artists involved in the creation and delivery of the art installations."

Firewood season closes June 30

VICTORIANS will not be able to collect firewood from public land from midnight on Thursday, June 30 when the autumn collection season finishes.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Hume Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Aaron Kennedy said that firewood can only be taken from designated collection areas in state forests or parks from March 1 to June 30, and September 1 to November 30.

“Firewood is a shared public resource that provides a range of environmental values and needs to be managed in a sustainable way for the future.

“There are on-the-spot fines of \$727 for illegal firewood collection behaviour, and if an offence goes to court the person may be liable for fines up to \$9087, one-year-imprisonment, or both.

“Forest Fire Management Victoria and Parks Victoria staff will be patrolling parks,

forests and reserves to make sure everyone does the right thing. Careful planning and collection rules are enforced to protect the environment and habitat for native animals,” Mr Kennedy said.

Financial help is available for people on low incomes who purchase firewood or wish to transition to other energy sources.

For more information please visit ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/energy-concession-and-support

Non mains energy concessions visit services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession

Non-Mains Utility Relief Grant Scheme visit services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains

Home Heating and Cooling Upgrades Program visit heatingupgrades.vic.gov.au



Fish stocked in time for school holidays

FAMILIES and children can look forward to casting a line these school holidays, with thousands of fish stocked into waters across north-east Victoria.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced almost 9000 catchable-sized rainbow trout have now been stocked into 20 lakes across the north.

The stockings have been funded by recreational fishing licence fees and form part of the Victorian Government’s \$35 million Go Fishing Victoria plan to get more people fishing, more often.

Rainbow trout are a great stocking option for children and beginners because they’re easy to catch and take a variety of baits and lures.

Stocked lakes also feature fishing platforms, bankside tracks and picnic areas, which create safe and convenient access for families to give fishing a go.

Stocked waters across north-east Victoria for these school holidays include Eildon Pondage Weir (1000) and Marysville Lake (450).

The stocked rainbow trout have been grown by the Victorian Fisheries Authority at the Snobs Creek hatchery near Eildon.

A daily bag limit of five trout applies in lakes, of which only two trout can exceed 35 centimeters.

A total of 35,000 catchable sized rainbow trout have been stocked into more than 70 waters state-wide. For the full list of state-wide waterways stocked for these school holidays visit vfa.vic.gov.au/holidaytrout

Importance of seeing the wood from the trees

THE Conservation Regulator and Parks Victoria are urging people purchasing firewood this winter to think before they buy by asking some key questions, to help stop illegal firewood operators.

Each year Victorians are caught out unintentionally buying illegally sourced firewood which can lead to the loss of important wildlife habitat such as hollow logs and dead trees.

Firewood is often sold on social media websites, at roadside stalls and by word of mouth, and it can be difficult for customers to know where firewood for sale comes from.

Conservation Regulator Director Regulatory Operations, Ash Bunce said that it is important to know where firewood is sourced.

“Your firewood seller should be able to provide the details of where the wood they are supplying is sourced from. This includes a wholesale supplier, commercial wood lot or private land with the permission of the landowner,” Mr Bunce said.

“We’re asking the community to help us catch those doing the wrong thing. If the firewood seems relatively cheap compared to other local sellers or the seller can’t tell

you where the wood is from, it could be because it has been obtained illegally, and most likely from public land such as national parks or state forests,” he added.

Offenders found guilty of cutting or taking away more than two cubic metres of fallen or felled trees from crown land face a maximum penalty of \$9087 and or one year imprisonment. Individuals may also face an additional fine of up to \$9087 for destruction of wildlife habitat, while vehicles and equipment such as chainsaws and trailers may also be seized and forfeited upon conviction.

Parks Victoria Senior Manager Enforcement and Regulatory Services, Mark Breguet said that the illegal removal and sale of firewood from parks and reserves causes impacts that last for generations.

“It is critical for the protection of these areas and the species that rely upon timber for habitat, that purchasers of firewood ensure it is legally sourced,” Mr Breguet

The Conservation Regulator targets those suspected of unlawfully collecting and selling firewood from public land. The community can play a key role by reporting any suspicious behaviour to DELWP on 136 186.



Murrindindi
Shire Council

PLASTIC FREE JULY

Plastic Free July helps millions of people to be part of the solution to plastic pollution. We know that individuals, communities and businesses in Murrindindi Shire are already taking part in actions to reduce use of plastics, and we would love to hear more about it!

There are several ways you can get involved this July, including:

- sharing your story about an initiative you’ve taken to reduce plastic
- taking the ‘Pesky Plastics Quiz’
- attending an online workshop

For more information and to take part, visit our online engagement platform, The Loop, at theloop.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/plastic-free-july

ALEXANDRA ROTARY PARK AND VISITOR ACTIVITY PRECINCT

We’re pleased to announce that the Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Activity Precinct contract has been awarded, with construction set to commence soon, weather permitting. Works are expected to take around six months to complete and will involve installation of new play equipment and footpaths, construction of a pump track and landscaping works. We’ll try to keep noise and disruptions to a minimum, while ensuring we complete the project quickly and safely. During construction, Rotary Park and Hec Ingram Reserve will be closed to the public - we’ll let you know ahead of time when that will occur.

This \$1.725 million project is possible due to the support from Sport and Recreation Victoria and Regional Development Victoria, which have contributed \$250,000 and \$800,000 respectively to supplement Council's \$675,000 investment. We’re grateful for their vision and commitment to the redevelopment of the Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Activity Precinct.



Get in touch with Council

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

JOBS AT COUNCIL

Manager Customer Experience

Want to make a difference at the local level? A brilliant short term (6 month) job opportunity exists for you in gorgeous Murrindindi Shire.

You will be leading a stellar team of 30+ working across Communications, Libraries and Customer Service, at sites in Alexandra, Yea and Kinglake.

You will be a self-starter and ready to jump in and learn about what we do and how we work to support our communities. You will have excellent written and verbal communication skills and will have experience in leading a high-performing multi-disciplinary team.

If this sounds like you, and you are looking for a change, or your career is on an upward trajectory and you are looking to expand your skills, please apply now. Flexible work options available.

Library Service Team Leader (Alexandra Branch)

Council is seeking a new Team Leader to lead Council’s library service at its Alexandra Library. The successful applicant will lead and support staff and volunteers to provide a high-quality customer and library experience to the community. The role will actively engage with the community through the planning and delivery of library materials and programs.

For more information about these roles and to apply, please visit the 'jobs' section of our website or give us a call.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Council is hosting free 2-day Mental Health First Aid courses in Yea and Kinglake, delivered by mental health professionals from Mental Health First Aid Australia. Want to get involved? Then join us at one of the following two locations:

- Yea – 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 16 and 23 July
- Kinglake - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 3 and 10 September

For more information and to register, visit our website or give us a call.

Council adopts budget for coming year

MURRINDINDI Shire Council adopted its annual budget with the Mayor Sue Carpenter describing it as “fair and financially responsible.”

The budget will deliver much-needed and expected services for our communities. As we emerge from the acute phase of COVID-19 pandemic, we need to be mindful of the lingering effects of the pandemic on community members and businesses. It is imperative we allocate our resources wisely. Small rural councils are always looking to do more with less and manage community expectations for us to do more, and this council is no exception” Cr Carpenter said.

“Council has kept its rate rise to the 1.75 per cent cap set under the government’s fair go rates system for 2022/2023. We realise

this rate rise will impact some ratepayers more than others and we are available to assist anyone experiencing genuine financial hardship.

“We also made the decision to pay off all existing debt from the 2020/21 financial year. This means going into the 2022/2023 financial year we will take on no new debt, representing the lowest level of debt council has held in more than a decade.

“There are a number of highlights and important initiatives in the budget and council will spend \$55.8 million to deliver services and improve infrastructure across the shire. This includes our \$18.8 million capital works program,” Cr Carpenter added.

The budget reflects council’s long-established principle of user

pays for some of the optional services it provides.

“The fees and charges in this budget are based on cost-recovery from those who use them, rather than being subsidised by all ratepayers. Green waste disposal will be a free service, but only prior to fire season and following declared emergency events. Green waste disposal will incur a charge at all other times.

“An exception to our ‘user pays’ approach is our decision to again keep pool entry free for our communities in the coming season. The decision to continue free access to our pools is due to the benefits this brings to the health and wellbeing of many of our residents and especially our youth”, Cr Carpenter added.

“Finally, I believe this budget will allow us to deliver on



the promises we made to our community in our 2021-2025 council plan. It reflects both our past success and confidence in our ability to attract grant funding to our Shire to build a better future for all. The budget

shares costs fairly across the board, including by ensuring those who use services pay for them,” Cr Carpenter said.

To read the Annual Budget 2022/2022, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/budget

Murrindindi Shire Council’s June meeting

MURRINDINDI Shire Council conducted their June meeting in the Yea council offices on Wednesday, June 22. The mayor and CEO were sitting at a table with a cloth saying “You could live here too,” with the Murrindindi logo.

In community recognition, Mayor Carpenter acknowledged and congratulated Marysville SES unit controller Josephine Hunter who received an Emergency Services Medal in the Queen’s Birthday honours. More about Jo can be found in a separate article in this edition.

In the open forum section, there was a mixture of in-person and online presentations.

Mike Dalmau spoke as a resident of Acheron, supporting the planning application for 61 Acheron Road. He said he doesn’t know the applicants personally, but considered it to be the about the principle of the matter. He said that location is not high quality agricultural land and is effectively an area for cattle grazing. The applicant is keen to add an orchard at the location, and has already met the requirements of the farming zone. They have a permit already in place but want to change the location of the residence. He urged council to support the application.

Tim Buckley spoke about the same development. He and his wife are near-neighbours and his parents share a boundary with the location in question. They support economic development in the shire, but added that it must support all that is “great about Murrindindi.” He spoke against the development, concerned that it is “a radical departure from the rural environment.” He was concerned about the size of the block and in particular the location of the proposed house. He added that it’s not a house to support the rural activities here.

Murray Ross spoke about the same development. He is a neighbour immediately to the south of the location. He noted that the objectors to this permit did not object to the previous permit, but the new location will have an immediate impact on their vista and privacy. He was also concerned about the representations in the proposal. He also suggested that council look further into the agricultural elements of the application.

Andy Lloyd also spoke in opposition of the 61 Acheron Road application. He endorsed the comments of Mr Buckley and Mr Ross, and added that the junction of the rivers is a rare and unspoiled place and the application would set a bad precedent. He was also concerned about the fire risk at the new location.

Tim Buckley’s brother, Jonathan Buckley, also spoke in opposition to the proposal.

Owner of 61 Acheron Road, James Stewart is part owner of the Thornton and Eildon Waters Caravan Parks. He said he and his wife are intending to live full time at the property when the house is built. He acknowledged that the land is of little agricultural use, and said they are planning to plant a small olive grove and graze a

small number of cattle. He said that when they purchased the property, it had road infrastructure which could be seen from across the valley. He said that the house they have designed is single-storey and cut into the hill well below the ridgeline. As the result of two meetings with local residents, the design of the house has been altered. He objected to the reasons that council officers stated when issuing a recommendation to refuse the permit. He also argued that the current site is more prominent than the proposed site, and gave four examples of hilltop buildings. He also said the opposition to the proposal has seen “personal attacks on my wife and I which are defamatory and have caused us significant distress.” He asked council to grant the application.

Cr Walsh asked Mr Stewart why they are moving the house. Mr Stewart responded that they haven’t had the opportunity to explore the property due to the limitations on their ability to visit the site during COVID-19. When they visited the property on the evening before they settled the contract, they identified the new location of the house, with vista. Cr Walsh also asked questions around the road and fencing, as well as the relocation of the proposed 250-300 plant olive grove.

Angelina Bell from Bell Legal and Planning also spoke on behalf of the Stewarts. She argued against the three grounds for rejecting the application, put forward by council officers.

Jack Russell spoke about the previous month’s council meeting. He called council’s reason for disallowing his question at the April meeting as “a fabrication.” Asked whether he had a question for council, he said that he was making a submission not asking a question. He produced a document from council explaining the reasons why his 13 Freedom of Information requests were not acknowledged or processed. He said that the answer from council was not an answer. He said that the implication was that he hadn’t properly applied as he hadn’t asked for a waiver of fees. He said, “That’s a lie. I always ask for a waiver of fees.” He added, “I’ve just been ignored.” He also said that communication to one particular person has been blocked.

He said, “You have to stop this. I don’t want it to continue. I don’t want to waste any more of my time on this council. You will answer properly any questions that I raise and you’ll likewise consider filing any witness submissions... It’s got to stop. It’s got to stop now. You will not block anything that I provide to council. I will get a recognition, acknowledgement and response within the appropriate time.”

He added that he would like to be acknowledged in the street by councillors, and added that he was pleased with the new council seating plan in the Yea office. He did however request better amplification.

In Questions of Council, Trevor Johnson asked about the conditions of council roads and whether there was adequate supervision of contractors undertaking council works.

The planning application for 61 Acheron Road in Acheron was moved as per the officer recommendation. The planning application was rejected, with only Cr Carpenter voting for the application to be approved. It was noted that there were seven submissions in support of the proposal, and 12 objections.

Council’s 10 Year Asset Plan was also presented. The plan includes information about maintenance, renewal, acquisition, expansion, upgrade, disposal, and decommissioning in relation to each class of infrastructure asset under the control of council. It was unanimously approved.

Cr Haslam was chosen as the local government statewide waste forum representative for Murrindindi, with Cr Lording saying he is impressed by what she has done in the area.

Eight tenderers were selected to undertake sculptural opportunities on the Great Victorian Rail Trail, using \$1.2m provided by the Victorian Government to Murrindindi, Mitchell and Mansfield Shires. Murrindindi has taken on the operational and administrative aspects of the project. Seventy-nine artists put in submissions and 22 were invited to the tender stage. Council voted unanimously in favour of the eight selected artists.

In the Grants and Contributions program, Flowerdale Community House Inc received \$1000 for the Flowerdale Quilt Show, Foggy Mountain Inc received \$4500 for the Foggy Mountain Primary School Song Writing and Performance Project, and the Ukrainian Youth Association Melbourne received \$2200 for their Winter Camp.

The camp, to be held at the association’s property in Buxton, will invite 22 newly arrived Ukrainian refugee children aged three to 16 years old to foster new friendships, create new connections and bonds and create a supportive atmosphere. This aligns directly with council’s recent signing of the Refugee Welcome Zone. Lake Mountain and OEG are also providing support to the camp.

Regarding the Annual Budget, Michael Chesworth acknowledged the submitters and said that council would advise them of the outcome.

The budget outlines the intention to increase average rates by 1.75 per cent, in line with the average rate increase allowable under the State Government’s Fair Go Rates System for 2022/23. Council will take on no new debt, and it is noted that council has no outstanding loan debt following a decision to pay off all existing debt in the 2020/21 financial year. This represents the lowest level of absolute debt council has held in more than a decade. User fees and charges will be benchmarked against neighbouring councils.

The Capital Works Program includes widening Snobs Creek Road, a bridge replacement at the Yea Caravan Park, Great Victorian Rail Trail art installations and signage (fully grant funded in conjunction

with Mitchell and Mansfield Shires, Blue Gums to Eildon Trail, Alexandra Rotary Park and Visitor Precinct works, waste transfer station and landfill upgrades, Alexandra Maternal & Child Health internal fit out, further Kinglake streetscape works following the Kinglake Village development, an upgrade to the Yea Recreation Reserve Football Pavilion upgrade, upgrades to a number of recreation, leisure and sporting club buildings across the shire, improvements to Yea Saleyards, Skyline-Maintongoon-Sonnberg Road stage one design for road sealing, improvement works across the shire’s four swimming pools, and a farm forestry demonstration project (subject to the outcome of a feasibility study and viable business case currently underway). The budget was unanimously approved.

Councillors also voted in favour of the Priority Action Plan 2022-23. An amendment was proposed by Cr Gallagher whereby all people employed in the shire in the forestry sector be provided with information about funding and resources available through the Victorian Government to support them through the forestry industry transition. This was included.

In Councillor and CEO Reports, Cr Haslam thanked Frank and Maria Stow, and Thelma Lucas, for their incredible volunteer contributions, serving a combined 54 years as volunteers in the area. Cr Gerencser encouraged residents of the Kinglake area to attend the first of council’s Community Focussed Sessions on Wednesday, June 29 at the Kinglake Neighbourhood House from 4pm to 7.30pm. People will be given five minutes to make a presentation to council, if sought. Cr McAulay noted that planning has commenced for Emergency Management Victoria’s community based emergency exercise in Kinglake which will be taking place in November and December 2022, and congratulated Jo Hunter on her Emergency Services medal award. Cr Gallagher spoke about the Eildon planning meetings, and about the success of the recent Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Show and Truck Drivers’ Memorial. He also attended the AGM of the Upper Goulburn branch of the Australian Deer Association. The ADA President, Richie Timms stood down and the group elected Stephen O’Reilly-Nugent to take over. Cr Gallagher commented, “Richie Timms is leaving the area and his philanthropy and support for fellow members of the community will be sorely lost.”

CRO Livia Bonazzi said that, “ Council has been advised it will receive a grant of \$270,000 over three years to support the implementation of the Local government guide for preventing family violence and all forms of violence against women.” She also said that “council will be releasing revised Governance Rules for public consultation via the loop this week, the revision includes the ability for attendees to participate in person or remotely” at council meetings.

Let's Eat and Drink

MURRINDINDI

International gold for Sedona

NESTLED in the rolling hills of Murrindindi is a patch of dirt that has made its mark at international wine shows in recent years. Established by Paul Evans and Sonja Herges in 1998, Sedona Estate has grown from a weekend farm to a popular destination for wine lovers.

Earlier this year, two popular estate-grown wines embarked on a long-haul flight to London to be blind-tasted and judged for quality and value for money. Competing with many old-world wines from established European wine regions, this year's competition cemented the Sedona Estate sangiovese as the Australian winner. The 2020 estate-grown sangiovese won its second Gold Medal and topped

its class at the 2022 London Wine Competition.

As early pioneers in the region, Paul and Sonja planted the Italian grape variety sangiovese in 2001. Sangiovese is temperamental to grow, but very rewarding as a wine, if it likes its terroir.

"In 2017, we expanded the sangiovese plantings to the hillside to grow fruit with more complexity. The 2020 Sedona Estate sangiovese was the first release made from fruit grown on the hillside vineyard and the old sangiovese block," Paul explained.

Of course, the winery's Italian wine didn't make the long journey alone. Its French travel companion, the 2019 reserve shiraz, won the fourth Silver



Winemakers Paul and Sonja at Sedona. -S

Medal at the 2022 London Wine Competition.

With another vintage in barrel, Paul and Sonja have high hopes for the 2022 wines. It will be a vintage to be treasured.

The Sedona Estate cellar door is open from Thursday to

Sunday and public holidays from 11.30am to 5pm. On weekends and public holidays, artisan cheese platters and salumi boards can be enjoyed with a glass of vino on the expansive terrace or near the open fireplace in the colder months. The views never disappoint.



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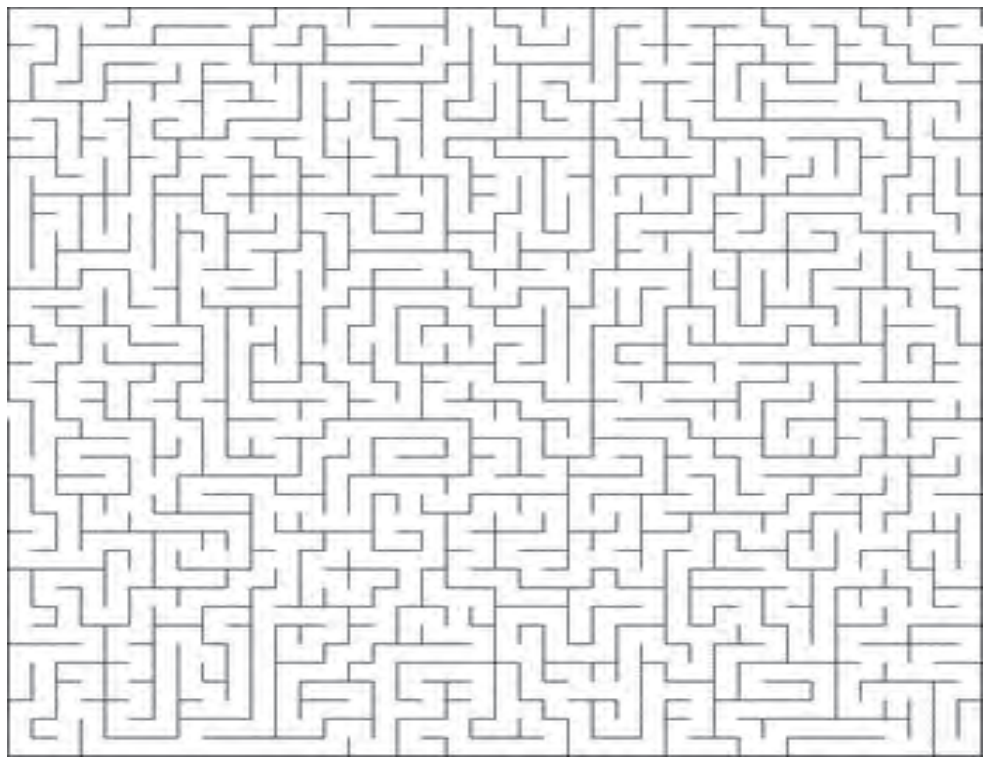
182 Shannons Rd, Murrindindi
M 0432 435 180
sedonaestate.com.au

KIDS PUZZLES

Colour



Maze



Jokes

- Q:** How do you organize an astronomer's party?
- Q:** What's the best way to carve wood?



Number Block

The missing numbers are integers between 0 and 5. The numbers in each row add up to totals to the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals along the bottom. The diagonal lines also add up the totals to the right

| | | | | |
|----|----|---|---|----|
| | | | | 5 |
| | | 1 | | 8 |
| | | 0 | | 5 |
| | | | | 11 |
| | 5 | | | 9 |
| 12 | 10 | 2 | 9 | 6 |

PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS Page 13

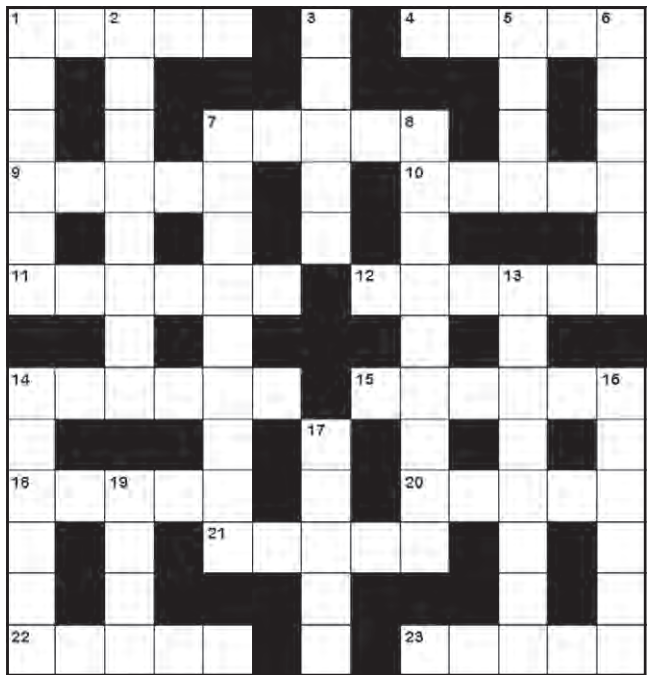
Crossword

ACROSS

- Cook food by using dry heat in an oven.
- Clasp and twist one's hands in distress.
- A sudden decline in trade or business.
- A burst of intense, bright, blazing light.
- Divide something into two equal portions.
- Medicine that induces nausea and vomiting.
- Embark on a certain course impetuously.
- One whose style has gone out of fashion.
- Deliberately arranged to cause an effect.
- Flower allied with Holland and windmills.
- A machine for shaping metal or wood.
- Enjoying feelings of contentment and joy.
- A rugged fabric that originated in Scotland.
- Having no inherent ability to move.

DOWN

- Lottery where the prizes are goods.
- Obvious, readily seen and understood.



- Small bottle for oil or vinegar on the table.
- One who is adored blindly and excessively.
- Feel great sorrow and distress over a loss.
- A print made by the silk-screen process.
- The collection and study of postage stamps.
- Lacking in positive or affirmative qualities.
- Dislike intensely and feel aversion towards.
- Experienced a series of events whilst sleeping.
- Large, yellow, tropical melon-shaped fruit.
- Ripening towards the end of the season.

Word Search – Weather

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Z | N | Y | H | L | H | N | J | T | A | E | H | D | A | S | Rain |
| J | I | L | Z | I | A | N | Q | F | C | K | M | N | Q | E | Wind |
| W | A | L | N | S | Q | N | M | E | X | Q | I | C | X | A | Hail |
| Q | R | M | C | S | G | W | O | T | D | N | Q | L | F | T | Sleet |
| R | N | J | S | X | Z | Z | I | S | A | Y | E | E | V | E | Snow |
| S | I | J | N | F | Z | V | H | L | A | M | X | N | T | M | Humidity |
| F | L | H | O | N | K | U | G | W | N | E | D | O | H | P | Heat |
| U | H | E | W | E | M | W | D | K | M | N | S | L | G | E | Cold |
| V | X | N | E | I | K | G | N | L | I | I | Z | C | U | R | Cyclone |
| B | R | A | D | T | F | J | F | W | O | P | F | Y | O | A | La Nina |
| W | T | I | E | L | N | I | N | O | U | C | R | C | R | T | El Nino |
| L | T | E | C | R | O | F | E | L | A | G | W | N | D | U | Sea temperature |
| Y | N | M | I | V | F | T | Z | I | E | Y | I | Y | D | R | Gale force |
| L | V | Q | K | C | W | U | E | I | V | H | I | U | S | E | Seasonal |
| E | A | I | W | J | K | I | O | O | Y | Q | H | A | I | L | drought |

Brain Teaser

What is full of holes but can still hold water?



Sudoku - Medium

Instructions

Fill in the boxes using the numbers 1 to 9. Every row and column and every group of 9 boxes inside the thicker lines must contain each number only once.

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

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Either one item to the value of \$100 or several items not totalling more than \$100.

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It is an offence to advertise the sale of a dog or cat or to give away free unless the microchip identification number and a source number of the animal generated by the Pet Exchange Register is included in the advertisement.

Refunds or credits

Check your advertisement on its first appearance. Although every care is taken to ensure your advertisement is correct errors can occur. Notify us immediately if there are errors in your advertisement. Refunds or credits will not be issued if your advertisement has appeared numerous times and you have not notified us. Credits or refunds will not be given if advertisements appear out of order.

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Are currently seeking reliable and hardworking labourers to join our team in Alexandra on an ongoing basis from Monday - Friday working from 7am to 3.30pm.

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- Ensuring all quality specifications are met
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Essential requirements for this role are as follows:

- Previous experience working in a fast-paced environment
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Experience using hand and power tools
- Good standard of fitness to be able to stand and lift all day
- Must be reliable and self-motivated

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The applicant will have previous experience in a similar role working in Food and/or Beverage service. The position is a full time appointment with rosters across a seven day period according to requirements of the business.

The position would ideally suit a local to Murrindindi region or someone wishing to relocate to the area.
Salary: \$43,066 gross p.a + 10% super, plus reasonable overtime will be offered which can be taken as 25% salary loading equating to \$10,767 p.a. by agreement.

Time Fraction: Full time, 1.0 EFT

Location: Eildon

WWCC: Appointment to this position is dependent on obtaining and maintaining a Working with Children Check.

Position Status: Contract of Employment to 31 March 2023

For **further information** relating to this opportunity and to view the position description, please visit the Careers at Holmesglen section of our website at www.holmesglen.edu.au

Phone enquiries regarding the position can be directed through the General Manager of Holmesglen at Eildon – Rozanne Lawton PH: 5774 2631 or email her on rozanne.lawton@holmesglen.edu.au

For application queries, please contact recruit@holmesglen.edu.au

Holmesglen is a child safe and equal opportunity employer. We are dedicated to attracting, retaining and developing our people regardless of gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability and age. Applications are encouraged from all sectors of the community, including the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community.

If you require support with your application for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on 03 9564 2676.

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For more details and to access the Position description please head to our website: yeahospital.org.au or call Rob Harneston General Manager on 0412 617 006
Please forward your resume and cover letter by close of business Friday, July 15, 2022. recruitment@ydmh.org.au



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Classifieds

SPORT

Yea men's golf

by Alan Pell

WEDNESDAY saw only five men venture forth at Yea Golf Course. Cold and damp conditions didn't deter these few brave souls from testing their game against the elements. Ken Whitfort (7) shone brightly to record an even par score to take the top honours.

Brendan Chenhall (10) was in hot form taking out second place with minus two. Mick Spagnolo won a close race for nearest the pin on the 18th. Gary Pollard came back to earth to take home the club award following his sparkling round at the 'Heath' on Tuesday.

Saturday was listed as the Mixed 4BBB Championship, but with the current course conditions it was decided to defer that event to a later date. Stay tuned.

On Saturday the rain stayed away and 15 men played a stableford round on improving course conditions. Winner on a count back with 34 points was Phil Armstrong (19) from Jeff Aurisch (18). Phil had 20 points on the back nine to win the count back from Jeff who had 18. Mic Spagnolo (6) finished third with 31 points.

There was no winner of the nearest the pin on the 18th and John Tanner won the club award with a Peter Somerville. In the club knockout, Alan Pell defeated Carl Maffei.



Phil Armstrong. -S

DEATH NOTICES

DEATH NOTICES

FUNERAL NOTICES

FOR SALE

RADFORD, Ross
22/08/1949-19/06/2022
Loved brother, brother-in-law and uncle of Kent and Jeanette, Grant, Tammy, Taylor and Courtney, Samantha (dec), Dion, Harrison and Lilly. Gone far to soon.



REID, Anne PHF
District 9790 Governor
A respected and loved friend. I shall miss the many stories we shared on our journey and your advice and mentoring to me over the years. A determined and feisty lady who fought to the end. Always remembered but now at peace.
Sharon Fox, President Elect, Rotary Club of Alexandra.

RADFORD, Barry
Ross.
Ross passed away on Sunday, June 19, 2022 at Corowa Hospital aged 72 years. He was the dearly loved partner of Sandra and much loved father and father-in-law of Rick and Mardi, Andrea, and Narelle. Loving grandfather to his grandchildren. Ross was the brother and brother-in-law of Kent and Janette. Always in our memories.

REID, Anne
10/05/1946-18/06/2022
Passed away peacefully under the care of the wonderful staff at Mansfield District Hospital.
Loved mother of Carmen and Grant. Proud grandma of Lachie and Austin. Sister to Joy, Marian and Alan (dec). Dear friend to Maria, Sharon and Pam.
With sad hearts we say goodbye to our cherished mum and grandma. Her strength and determination will not be forgotten, along with treasured memories to hold forever in our hearts. It's not what we write or the words that we say, it's how we remember you, in our own special way.

Private funeral service



REID, Anne
Members of the Rotary Club of Alexandra regret the passing of our friend and colleague, Anne Reid, on Saturday, June 18, 2022.
Anne has been a member of Rotary for 14 years and is a past President and Paul Harris Fellow. She has held various District positions, and is currently the District Governor of 9790. Our condolences to her family and friends.

REID, Anne
10/05/1946-18/06/2022
Members of District 9790 Rotary Clubs were saddened upon the death of our dear Governor Anne on June 18. A determined and kind friend taken from us.

REID, Anne
To our caring generous, wonderful friend. Thank you for your friendship, love and support over the years and all those long lunches. So sadly missed and held in our hearts. Love Pam and Maria.

RADFORD.
The funeral service for the late Mr Ross Radford will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022 at the Alexandra Football Club, William Street, at 11am. Thereafter private cremation.



IN MEMORIAM

FOX, Roy M (OAM)
Passed away 28/06/2016.
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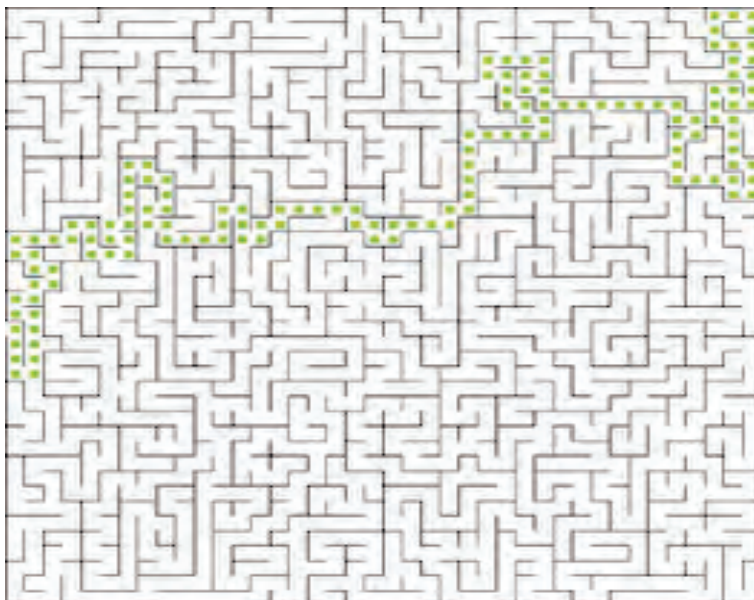
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MAZE



The Yea Primary School Walkathon



All students at Yea Primary School participated in the Annual Walkathon on the last day of term to raise money. The Walkathon took them 10km along the rail trail. Pictured are Zoe, Soph, Bridie and Mads. -S



Sienna out in front. -S



Evan. -S



Charlotte, Brooky and Tahlia. -S



Mr Irvine. -S



Jack and Xavier. -S



Some of the grade six walkers. -S



Izzy, Lexi and Kelly. -S



A group of happy walkers. -S

Return to dry courts in perfect conditions for winter tennis

by Rhonda Carpenter

THE courts were dry, and the sun eventually came out for the Euroa District Lawn Winter Tennis Association (EDLWTA), when Mansfield Black hosted Euroa for their match last Monday.

Black began well, determined in both openers, to take control. Jenny Bell and DiEllis relished their first time on court together this season and combined superbly to take the set eight to nil against Euroa's Lyndall Bigland and Rowena Ellis.

Black's Rhonda Carpenter and Jenny Smith both somewhat nervous at the outset fell behind but gathered momentum, hit the ball deep and took the set eight to five.

Bell and Carpenter raced to a four nil lead in their set, and when Bigland and Lyn Pierce steadied, black resisted their challenge, ultimately winning eight - three. The first three sets belonged to black.

Euroa having warmed to the contest, wrested control from their opponents, by taking the next three sets 8-5, 8-5 and 8-6. It was an even and fascinating contest. Every game had multiple deuces and a few scoring challenges after lengthy points.

Players were drawn to watch play on the adjacent court and there were plenty of laughs. When Carpenter hesitated to hit but let the ball go long, Mary Dewis cried out "C'mon Rhonda, you're here to play tennis; have a go."

It was a wonderfully entertaining day, the action enjoyed by sole spectator Pat Howard who watched in the sun and provided local support.

Mansfield Black secured the win over Euroa by eight games, 3/40 to 3/32.

Moglonemby hosted Mansfield Red in Euroa. Marlene Hanrahan and Judy Sands were on fire in their opener against Red's Karyn Fraser and fill-in Kate Campbell from Benalla winning eight-three.

In a tight contest red won two tiebreakers. Fraser combined well with Carolyn Murray to win one breaker and then with Deb McCormack to win eight-five, and Murray and Campbell combined strongly for the other breaker.

Mary Kelly and Robyn Johnson won their set eight to five for Moglonemby. The teams shared the sets, but Moglonemby got up by eight games.

Terip hosted Mansfield Blue and the dedication of the bye team Benalla was again on display when Maureen Jewell and Deb Siggers trekked to Terip to fill in and provide the match.

Both teams had an enjoyable day of laughs and great tennis with Terip proving too strong for the visiting combination. They didn't have it all their own way though, Siggers and Sophie Yencken won blue's only set eight-six. Terip won five sets to one, 46 games to 23.

Benalla remain in top spot of the ladder on 36 points, then Euroa on 34, Terip 31 Mansfield Black 25, Moglonemby 21, Mansfield Blue 20, Mansfield Red 13.

Competition returns after the mid-winter break on the July 11. Red will host Black, Benalla host Blue, Moglonemby host Terip and Euroa have the bye.



The Euroa team in Mansfield. -S

The Yea junior Tigers play away games



Marmalade's Player of the Week winner Ella Harris and Yarra Valley Gas 'Most Improved' winner Marley Leatham, both from the under 13s. -S



The under 15s game. -S



D Kelly and J Purvis from the under 13s.



J Johnston, Fairchild, S Heyen and T Ward from the under 11s.



Just Coffee well done award winner Lola Leatham, Yarra Valley Gas encouragement award winner Charlotte Armstrong, and Marmalades player of the day award winner Tahlia Waghorn, all from the under 11s. -S

Away games for Yea juniors

Netball

Under 13

Yea 29 defeated Seymour 14

by Kelly Harris

YEA under 13 netballers travelled over to Seymour for their weekend match with the weather continuing to be kind. The team displayed a level of intensity not seen before in this season for the entirety of the game.

The first quarter saw the Lions take the lead five to three after the Tigers had to do a quick change up with Micayla coming off for a blood nose.

The Tigers managed to regroup in the second quarter and Marley and Sophie were on fire in goals shooting 11 goals for the quarter. Flynn and Maya in defence worked seamlessly to keep the Lions to a two goal quarter and the Tigers went into half time in the lead (7-14).

Another stellar effort in the third term by Maya and Flynn saw the Lions only score once to the Tigers seven. Ella was fierce in the middle with her attacking and Sienna managed to get many intercepts as wing defence, seeing the Tigers leap even further forward at three quarter time (8-21).

Jemma was on in defence in the final quarter and was a great option particularly when under pressure in the goal third. The Lions had their best scoring quarter but were no match for the committed Tigers who played like a well drilled team. Final score, Seymour Lions defeated by Yea Tigers 14 to 29. Award winners: *Marmalade's Player of the Week* -Ella Harris and *Yarra Valley Gas 'Most Improved'* - Marley Leatham.

Under 11

Seymour 18 defeated Yea 8

by Racheal DeCaneva

THE under 11 netballers never gave up in a challenging game against a tall opposition in Seymour at Kings Park on Sunday. The youngest Tigers started to find their feet towards the end of the first quarter with strong intercepts from Grace Lanigan and Lexi Harris.

Ivy Leatham was strong in the centre with great movement and reading the play. Pippa 'Samason' Butterworth scored several brilliant shots from a distance, boosting the team's energy.

In the end, Seymour's height was too much for Yea and they won the day. Marmalades player of the day award: Tahlia Waghorn. Just Coffee, well done award: Lola Leatham and Yarra Valley Gas encouragement award: Charlotte Armstrong.

Football

Under 9

by Lyndal Tait and Claire Geeson

YEA under 9 Tigers keep getting better each week, and this was no exception, with every player stepping up to play a fantastic game. After last rounds game, where a number of players were recovering from illness and others were injured, our Tigers



J Ward, A Armstrong and D Tait from the under nines. More images on page 15. -S

were certainly ready to take on Seymour this weekend. Coach Al asked the players to focus on just having fun and playing as a team this week, and they certainly did just that.

Ollie started well in the ruck tapping out to Jack who cleared the ball, pushing it forward into attack. Archie taking possession from a contest and Austin contributing early with possessions, and the Tigers pushed the ball through for a behind.

At quarter time, Coach Al spoke to the players about his highlights of the quarter, that the pace was fast and contests were hard. He asked the players to continue to focus on getting possession and having fun, and assigned new playing positions for the next quarter.

Fynn took on ruck duties and tapped out convincingly with Toby J shepherding his team mate Angus. Fynn and Toby G both applied strong tackles and cleared the ball to Toby J on the run to kick a brilliant goal. Toby SD and Tahlia were strong in defence, working well together to apply pressure and clear the ball back through the centre third and into attack to Darby who kicked a great goal. Tommy worked hard at ground level to apply pressure and clear the ball to his team mates. This was followed by two further goals to the Tigers after clearances

from the centre ball up, with Darby getting the ball and taking one bounce before kicking a fantastic goal on the run. Darby followed up with a point, before kicking his third goal for the quarter. The Tigers struggled to clear the ball from their back line for a couple of minutes, but continued to apply great pressure, which paid off with the Tigers pressing forward through the centre third via Toby J, onto Darby and then to Archie who kicked a super goal. This was a great quarter for the Tigers who really lifted their intensity and team play.

Toby J cleared the ball and kept on running to push the ball further forward. Judd and Toby SD worked hard at ground level, often coming out of the pack with the ball. Jack, playing his best game of the season took possession and kicked to Ollie who marked and stepped back to kick a lovely goal.

Fynn in the ruck tapped strongly to Archie who kicked to clear the ball towards the Tigers attack. Toby J taking possession and kicking a fantastic goal on the run for Yea. Charlie G then tapping out for the next centre ball up, with the Tigers running strongly into attack, Angus taking possession and kicking a great goal. This was quickly followed up with the Tigers again moving straight into attack to Ollie to kick another goal to much celebration.

The Tigers forward line working brilliantly together to support each other and score goals. Izzy worked hard in the centre third to tackle, and attack and move the ball into the Tigers forward line on several occasions. Archie also working hard to press forward, clocking up an enormous number of possessions for the game. Austin provided great attack and options up forward and was rewarded with a goal. Austin taking a great mark and kicking to Ollie who kicked his third goal of the game. Angus took the ball on the run to score the Tigers final goal of the game.

The team have a weekend off for the school holidays, but training will continue for those who can attend this Thursday, at the Yea Recreation Reserve for a home game on Sunday, July 10, to support the Tigers as they take on St Mary's. Go Tigers. Marmalades player of the Week; Archie Armstrong. Just Great Coffee great player award; Darby Tait and Yarra Valley Gas most improved; Jack Ward.

Under 13 Seymour 15.14-104 defeated Yea 2.5-17

by Nick Fisher

ON Sunday the Yea Tigers under 13s challenged Seymour in Seymour. Unfortunately, Seymour

was too strong and Yea were defeated.

The scores were not fair representation of the game. All the team played well and should hold their heads high. Goal kickers were Jobe Dunne and Dustin Fisher. The weekly awards went to Dana Kelly and Jack Purvis. There will be no football next week and Yea will take on St Mary's in Yea the following week. Go Tigers.

Under 15 Woori Yallock 18.10-118 defeated Yea 0.0-0

by D Schickerling

IT was Tigers versus Tigers at the weekend with the under 15s game and both teams were in their away strips. The Yea boys held their own in the first quarter with the ball making it to the forward line more often than any other quarter however converting it was the problem, which inevitably was the problem throughout the whole match.

The third quarter was the strongest defensively again for Yea and they held the opposition to just one goal with a couple of Yea players playing their best games for the season. Unfortunately Worri's overall team work and ability were just too good 18.10-118 to 0.0-0. Marmalades player of the Week; Bailey Bastion. Yarra Valley Gas most improved; Charlie Heyen.