

Standard

INCORPORATING THE ALEXANDRA TIMES - THE YARCK, GOBUR, TAGGERTY, THORNTON, AND ACHERON EXPRESS

P.O. Box 5, Alexandra, 3714. Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Fax: (03) 5772 1603; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Wednesday, July 19, 2023 \$2.00 inc. GST

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Archie McGahy, Xanthe Campbell, Lacey Schmidt and Lochie Park heading off for a term at the School for Student Leadership at Dinner Plain. -5

Alexandra Secondary College students head away to School for Student Leadership

FOR fourteen years in a row, Alexandra Secondary College students have been accepted to attend the School for Student Leadership, Alpine Campus at Dinner Plain.

School for Student Leadership (SSL) is a Victorian Department of Education and Training initiative that offers a unique residential education experience for year nine students from government schools. With a curriculum focussing on personal development and team learning projects drawn from students' home regions, there are four campuses in iconic locations across Victoria: Alpine Campus at Dinner Plain in the Victorian Alps, Snowy River Campus at Marlo in east Gippsland, Gnurad-Gundidj at Mount Noorat in the Western District and Don Valley in the Yarra Ranges.

Schools are required to express interest up to a year in advance, and students are asked to develop an idea of a community learning project they would like to undertake as part of their application to the school.

The school mixes country and city-based students together, who live at the school for an entire term. SSL believes meeting other young people from different parts of the state is part of what makes their program successful.

SSL's mission is "to provide an immersive statewide residential program for Year 9 Government school students which enables them to grow into better citizens and leaders through increased self-awareness, social engagement, community connection and environmental stewardship."

Four year nine students from Alexandra Secondary College recently departed for the SSL. They will spend the next eight weeks at The Alpine School campus of SSL at Dinner Plain, together with approximately 40 other students from schools in the North-East Country Region and the North West Metro Region.

Murrindindi's future after native timber harvesting ends

MURRINDINDI Shire Council was asked how the decision to cease native timber harvesting is changing the planning for Murrindindi's future.

Andrew Paxton, Director Community and Development responded, "The Victorian Government's decision to accelerate the cessation of native forest timber harvesting will have a significant impact on community, businesses, and the economy across Murrindindi Shire, with the transition now scheduled to be completed by January 1, 2024.

"This decision has accelerated the planned forestry transition by seven years, immediately impacting dozens of local workers in the sector and their families, the flow on effects to the local economy and supply chains, as well as indirect impacts more broadly across the shire. The sudden announcement has come as a shock for our community.

"Council is seeking advice from the Victorian Government as to what additional assistance will be made available to support the much earlier closure of the industry. Council recently facilitated a meeting between impacted logging and haulage contractors and senior government officers, to ensure a shared understanding of the impacts of this decision. Council will continue to advocate for and support short- and medium-term initiatives within Murrindindi Shire.

"Council is also continuing its advocacy for immediate and short-term support for all impacted contractors and employees, while also strongly advocating for a program of support to help our communities and businesses transition. We are very aware of the intergenerational implications to small communities and urgently seek commitments to support this change.

"This decision also makes it even more important that our community gets behind the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project, to work towards options for future industries and opportunities.

"Council has been advocating for a number of months to Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action for a more sustainable approach to delivering the Local Development Strategy, named Shaping Murrindindi's Future. We are requesting more viable timeframes to work within, to receive a greater share of funding to efficiently represent our impacted communities and seeking additional funding to rapidly pull together shovel ready projects which will create jobs and provide an immediate economic benefit to families and business across our shire.

"Council will support community through continued advocacy efforts as well as supporting the acceleration of the 'Shaping Murrindindi's Future' project.

How has Shaping Murrindindi's Future changed?

ALLISHA Milestone, Project Manager, Shaping Murrindindi's Future, was asked, is the early cessation of Native forest timber harvesting impacting plans for Shaping Murrindindi?

She responded, "Shaping Murrindindi's Future is a community-led project uniting and connecting locals who care about the future of their community. The project is assisting communities who are directly affected by the transition away from native timber harvesting, particularly the areas of Marysville, Buxton, Taggerty and Alexandra, to identify and develop opportunities for economic diversification.

"The Victorian Government recently announced that all native forest timber harvesting will cease by the end of this year. This announcement has brought forward the planned forestry transition by seven years. We understand that this announcement is causing concerns and anxiety within the community.

"This announcement has not impacted the funding that is available to deliver the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project over a two-year period.

"As part of Phase One of the project, we are focusing on identifying strengths, unique assets and innovative ideas, together

with community members and industry, which might support future economic growth in the area. This work will feed into a full Context Analysis report, which we expect to complete by November 2023.

"From there, we will move into the second phase of the project and establish working groups to develop project plans and pilots for viable innovation ideas. We expect to deliver the Local Development Strategy by March 2025, which will identify key priority projects, and the sources of funding required to deliver these projects. It will also outline the ongoing governance arrangements to enable the strategy to be led by the community."

"This project is made possible through funding from the State Government's Forestry Transition Plan. For more information relating to the updated forestry transition timelines and additional support please visit vic.gov.au/forestry or alternatively call the Forestry Information Support Line 1800 318 182.

You can also visit shapingmurrindindisfuture.com.au for more information on project timelines, or email Allisha Milestone at amilstone@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Standard The Yea Chronicle
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ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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Letters to the Editor

Climate misdirection

THE often repeated claim (such as a letter in last week's *Standard*) that Australia produces 1.1 per cent (or simply one per cent) of global climate emissions, is an often repeated misdirection of Australia's contribution to global warming. Global warming is an existential threat to all humanity, regardless of where the emissions originate. Given individual actions matter, it is more appropriate to consider the per capita emissions of countries.

In this regard, the Australian contribution puts us in the top ten of world emitters, ninth in fact according to ourworldindata.org. Canada was 12th, USA 14th, and China 41st with per capita emissions under half that of ours. Then of course we have not accounted for the embedded emissions of manufactured goods we import, which we should add to our per capita emissions for a true representation of our global responsibility. To add to our woes, judging by the 30 per cent increase in home insurance I received last week on top of all the other cost of living expenses, the impact of climate change will be a financial cost each of us will increasingly pay.

Climate change now has momentum that will take the full range of global and individual actions over several generations to limit its impact on humanity. In rural areas the impact of climate change due to increased weather volatility is keenly felt and our resources and supply lines limited. The shire council is right to act on climate mitigation strategies that will be required sooner than we may consider necessary at this time. This year its floods and holes in the road, next year...

Ray Wynn, Alexandra

Global warming

IN response to Marcus Elgin's letter in the edition of July 12, with China and India's carbon emissions rising exponentially not to mention being two of the biggest importers of our coal and gas, Net Zero Australia mandates that it will do whatever it takes evoking the Albanese government policy to arrest global warming. Or should that be

what climate activist zealots headed by the likes of billionaire Andrew Forrest, Professor Robin Batterham and Tim Flannery, who predicted over a decade ago that our rivers will stop flowing and our dams will never fill again, want, demand and advocate to save the planet.

Marcus Elgin elucidated forensically the miniscule impact that net zero carbon emissions would have upon global emissions. But at what unfathomable economic cost to economy, to our hard working ordinary Aussie household budgets impacted by the increased cost of living some of which are already turning off heating to feed their families?

What is the cost? Net Zero Australia advocate to achieve net zero by 2050 whose modelling says our economy must find another \$1.5 trillion over the next seven years to recalibrate net emissions to zero.

While the devil is in the detail, by 2060 our economy will need a further \$9 trillion, that being six times our economy presently produces. And without two of our nation's biggest exports, coal and gas. While we continue to repeat the failures of the Rudd government collapsed geothermal plant and wave generators, and with history revisited, what of Malcolm Turnbull's Snowy 2.0 becoming our biggest storage of green power with an over-run of budgetary costs of 10 times with a now projected completion budgetary cost of a mere \$20 billion?

So, I champion Marcus Elgin's sensible, proactive, constructive advice and plan to our council to move onto something they can positively impact on. "Like the community. Fix the roads, grade the unsealed roads, deal with the roadside weeds, and let the ideologues in Canberra worry about saving the planet."

John White, Alexandra

Voice to Parliament

PRIOR to the last federal election, an indigenous community in Central Australia was offered money for a football oval. Elders said they were grateful but said they would rather have money for a clean water supply.

To me this sums up the need for an Indigenous Voice to Parliament. The Voice will

enable Aboriginal people to advise the federal government on policy and projects aboriginal people deem important rather than have these imposed, top down.

Once recognised in the constitution the Voice will be a body like the Australian Taxation Office, Health Department and Defence Department that have the constitutional right to advise government. As with all such advice the government of the day can accept or reject the advice but it must listen to the advice.

Don't bury your head in the sand. This is a great opportunity for us to decide who we are as Australians. All in or only some, all in or just them and not them? If you don't know, find out. Between now and the referendum there will be lots of information out there to help you make up your own mind based on an informed decision.

Robyn Walsh, Yarck

Voice to Parliament

FURTHER to the letter on the Voice on July 12, I wish to add my voice to the discussion. We humans have an innate fear of change. When it appears the oppressed may become the oppressor we walk more warily around the issue than is usual. As I understand it, the Voice will be a representative voice to Parliament indicating the needs of the traditional owners of the land. The change in the constitution is to acknowledge the representative voice of the Aboriginal people. That is the only change.

I doubt very much that Linda Burnie will "become the most powerful person in Australia" as a result of the referendum. There are many very strong women (and men) vying for that position.

Expressing a view point that is subject to public scrutiny takes courage. Thank you to Tom Collins for assisting in further discussion, dialogue and debate on this important subject.

Deirdre Penhale, Alexandra

COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon
UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldeene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

Tues Art Group Eildon (Alex Tennis Rooms) 10am-3pm Ph 5773 2306

Tue Seniors Carpet Bowls 1.15pm

Wed Social Bowls 11am Alexandra Bowls Club Ph 5772 1150

Thu Take off weight naturally 5.45pm 5773 2427

Fri Seniors Social Club 1pm

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

Sun Alanon Recovery Phone 0402 428 086.

Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training, Ph 5772 1057

Thu 7.30-10pm SES, SES/CFA complex Ph 0418 576 666

Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

MONTHLY

1st Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318

1st Sat Alexandra Quilters RSL Hall 10am-4pm Ph 5772 3257

1st Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas

2nd Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285

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

2nd Sat Alexandra Market - at Station Street Ph 0427 509 988

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

3rd Sat Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

3rd Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318

3rd Thu Alexandra Ladies Probus Club 10am RSL Ph 5772 2946

3rd Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas

3rd Sun Alexandra RSL CLOSED due to COVID, Ph 0409 950 913

4th Tue Yarck CWA Meeting, 10.30am Yarck Hall

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

4th Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517

Last Fri Carers Group walk 9.45am @ Rotary Park, 0418 402 455

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	9.00am Mon	2.95^	steady	below minor
Rubicon R at Rubicon	9.00am Mon	0.78	steady	
Acheron R at Taggerty	9.21am Mon	1.24	steady	below minor
Home Ck at Yarck	9.30am Mon	0.34	steady	
Yea R at Devlins Bridge	9.59am Mon	0.72	steady	below minor
Yea R at Yea	8.24am Mon	1.42	steady	
Goulburn R at Ghin Ghin	9.00am Mon	5.41	steady	
King Parrot Ck at Flowerdale	9.00am Mon	0.74^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Trawool	9.00am Mon	3.44^	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	9.00am Mon	0.37^	steady	below minor
Goulburn R at Seymour	10.00am Mon	3.35	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Ck at Seymour	8.33am Mon	1.38	steady	

****ISSUED AT 10.16AM ON MONDAY, JULY 17, 2023****

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
can now be submitted via email to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au or mail to PO Box 5 Alexandra 3714, or drop them into the Alexandra office.

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 be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.

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Standard The Yea Chronicle

Weekly Weather
July 19-July 25, 2023
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	1	13	Wednesday	1	13
Thursday	2	12	Thursday	1	12
Friday	4	12	Friday	4	12
Saturday	3	10	Saturday	3	11
Sunday	6	13	Sunday	6	13
Monday	6	1	Monday	6	15
Tuesday	4	14	Tuesday	5	14

Standard The Yea Chronicle

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	N/Amm
Buxton	1mm
Eildon (AWS)	0.6mm
Flowerdale	2mm
Kinglake	2mm
Lake Eildon	1mm
Marysville	N/A
Jamieson	4mm
Taggerty	2mm
Yarck	0.6mm
Yea	0.9mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	288.34m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	97.8%
Metres below full supply	56cm
Daily inflow	8,500ML
Release	12,500ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	84%

Standard
REPRODUCING THE ALEXANDRA, YEALOCK, THE YEA, KINGLAKE, TAGGERTY, THORNHILL AND ACHERON EXPRESS

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
Thumbsup/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

Alexandra District Health responds to Facebook concerns

ON Monday, July 10, an anonymous participant posted on the Alexandra 3714 community page, "So, we have this lovely, shiny hospital on the hill but really? Is it a hospital? You can't get an ultrasound, you can only get an xray on a Monday now; there's only access to a doctor during set hours and if you're in dire straits, you have to travel at least an hour to get help. For such an elderly population, surely this needs to be a fully functioning facility. What needs to be done to make that happen? How can People Power change this? It's important. Let's not just complain. How can we fix this? P.S. this in no way reflects on the wonderful nursing staff who work there."

137 people responded with comments on the post, with varying opinions.

Alexandra District Health (ADH) provided the following comment, both directly and in response to the post.

"ADH would like to take the opportunity to address an Anonymous post currently active on the *Alexandra 3714 Community Page*. ADH would like to thank the anonymous poster for opening up this discussion.

"At ADH, we take these conversations very seriously and we welcome any feedback from the community. One way to offer feedback is through our Care Opinion link at careopinion.org.au/tellyourstory where you can share your ADH story and feedback.

"We would also welcome new members to our Community Engagement Committee, who meet monthly and have the opportunity to advise the board directors and executive team on issues requiring consumer, carer and community participation. Members can also provide input into health service operational matters and planning. You can express your interest in joining our Community Engagement Committee by visiting tinyurl.com/5n755das

"We are also having an open Board Access meeting on Wednesday, July 26 at 4pm at the Alexandra RSL. At this meeting there will be a presentation on Alexandra District Health service provision."

Rise in garage fires calls for households to be aware of risks

A SURGE in garage fires across the state has Victorian fire services encouraging residents to clean up their garage and consider installing smoke alarms inside.

Many of the reported garage fires in the last year were caused by faulty electrical equipment or related to fuel spills.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said CFA firefighters have already responded to 26 garage fires this year compared to the 28 in total from last year.

Fire Rescue Commissioner Gavin Freeman asks for Victorians to check the condition of all electrical appliances in their garages.

"Inspect the condition of your electrical items and if you notice any damage, ensure they are repaired by a certified tradesperson.

"When it comes to items powered by lithium ion batteries, such as e scooters and e bikes, only use chargers and cords that were originally supplied with that device. Using chargers with incorrect power delivery can cause damage or overheating that can lead to fires.

"Finally, keep all garages free of clutter, so that if an electrical item does catch alight the fire will be less likely to spread."

Barrister seeking precedent in Whyte sentencing

IN November 2022, Clive Whyte was found guilty in a Supreme Court trial over the stabbing murder of Martin Bebbington in Alexandra on December 7, 2020.

In a pre-sentence hearing on Tuesday, July 11, Mr Whyte's barrister argued there was a link between Mr Whyte's diagnosed alcohol use disorder and the offending.

Barrister Sarah Keating is arguing that as a result of the disorder, Mr Whyte's sentence should be reduced.

She said that Mr Whyte was highly intoxicated on the night of the murder, leaving him disinhibited and reducing his level of sound judgment. She also argued that his moral culpability was reduced as his alcoholism constituted a mental impairment.

Justice Amanda Fox responded that if she agreed with the defence argument, it would set a new legal precedent.

Prosecutor Raymond Gibson KC said while the heavy drinking and the alcohol use disorder were relevant contextual factors in sentencing, they did not reduce his level of moral culpability.

Mr Whyte is expected to be sentenced at a later date.

Thornton receives stormwater backflow prevention devices

THE installation of the two stormwater backflow prevention devices in Thornton is now complete.

Following the October 2022 floods, and in consultation with the local community, council installed two custom backflow prevention devices on the two stormwater outflow pipes that empty into the waterway on Taggerty-Thornton Road.

During periods of low water levels, these devices, also known as reflux valves or flap gates, allow the drains to function normally during times of low water levels. Once the water level in the creek rises above the level of the drains, the devices prevent the back flow of water into the stormwater system.

Once the current water recedes, they will place more rock beaching around the valves to prevent erosion.

Redgate Alexandra CWA report

THE next monthly meeting of the Redgate CWA will be on Thursday, July 27 at 1pm at the clubrooms in Perkins Street, Alexandra. The theme this month is Christmas in July with the option to dress up. Hostesses are Maureen and Pam and competitors are flower of the month and Christmas ornament.

The next Half Yearly Group Conference will be on Saturday, August 5 at 10am at the Yarrk Hall. The branch is organising the Trading Table. Raffle tickets will be available for sale at the July meeting.

The next Coffee Catch Up will be on Thursday, August 10 at Eli & Ivy Café at 11am.

Weekly Craft Sessions are held at the clubrooms on Tuesday and Friday from 10am to 2pm, please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee are provided. The cost is \$2 per session.

If you would like any more information about CWA activities or craft, please call president Sue Wynn on 0412 435 946 or secretary Holly Wal on 0429 123 846.

BookNest writing competition

THE Marysville BookNest is running its writing competition again in 2023. The open age short story and poetry sections are open to all writers who live, work or have a residence in Murrindindi. There is also a category for young writers up to the age of 18.

Jackie Mansourian, chair of the organising committee said, "The 2022 competition was very successful and entries showed that there are many talented writers in Murrindindi. We are looking forward to even more submissions this year."

Those who want to enter are reminded that the competition closes on July 30. For more information, go to the BookNest website MarysvilleBookNest.com

Watch out on the road

IT'S important for drivers to be aware of all road and footpath users when behind the wheel. There are likely to be people on foot, or on bikes or wheelchairs.

On Thursday, July 13, Ross Miller, a wheelchair user had a close encounter with a car in Alexandra.

"The car reversed out and looked one way and didn't see me because I was coming the opposite way. I think they were in a hurry looking," Mr Miller said. Fortunately, he wasn't injured in the incident.

There are a lot of wheelchair users in town and the height difference can make visibility difficult at times. When driving, please make the effort to look carefully to avoid collisions.

This is also a good time to mention that school is back for term three and it is equally important to note there is more children out and about on our local footpaths and pedestrian crossings.

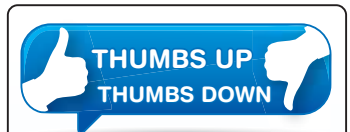
Alexandra Museum Report

THE next Alexandra 'Spring' Market is scheduled for Saturday, September 9. If you would like to have a stall, or know a friend who would like to have a stall, please contact the Alexandra Museum info line on 0427 509 988 for more information.

There is a lot of work being done at the museum grounds and working bees are held every Friday from 9am. The Alexandra Museum will be closed for annual maintenance July and August and back again on Sunday, September 10 for 'Steaming into Spring' steam train rides.

Put into your diary Alexandra Heritage Festival dates on October 7 and 8 from 9am to 3.30pm. It will be a great family weekend full of interesting activities.

If you would like to become a member or volunteer please contact info line on 0427 509 988 or email info@alexandratramway.org.au for more information.



THUMBS DOWN: To the road closures in and around Eildon for non-local cycle and auto groups. They contribute very little to the town and negatively effect a lot of people.

THUMBS DOWN: To the person who disrespectfully attacked the Honorable Linda Burnie in last week's paper. You graphically demonstrated why the Liberal Party is losing good women.

THUMBS UP: To last week's letter writers on the shut down of our timber industry, and council's plan for net zero emissions. Both hit the nail right on the head.

THUMBS DOWN: To those who are tagging across our beautiful shire with their ugly graffiti.

Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down is a reader's contribution section of Alexandra Newspapers. Send your Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down to editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Contributions will be edited and/or published at the Editor's discretion. We request that this section not be used as a slander attack on persons, businesses or property

Alexandra Seniors Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

WITH winter upon us this week, there was a drop in numbers attending the club activities and there seemed to be more apologies than members present at Friday's social meeting this week. Members seem to be escaping to warmer places, visiting relatives or off suffering from colds or flus.

Bridge and carpet bowls went on as usual on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday ukelele class, with just Rick, Frank and I with ukelele in hand, it turned out more of a jam session than lesson.

With president Jan off sick, treasurer Dave had the chair and took control of the meeting. He told the jokes and gave us the financial report too. The club has booked a dozen spots for Morning Melodies at Healesville RSL on August 8.

The annual general meeting will be held on Friday, July 21 and there are nominations for all committee positions so you don't have to be worried about not coming in case you get talked into getting a job.

Ian, Ron and Marion went the chocolate bars. A chat over tea and cake was followed by the usual games of 500 and UNO before we went home.

As always, a reminder that the club welcomes new members so if you are interested in any of the activities please come along to the Bayley Street clubroom or call 0456 456 263 for details of what's happening. Meanwhile stay safe and keep smiling.

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- Eildon • Marysville and districts

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Chris Walsh 0407 194 037

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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*.

Alexandra District Hospital are seeking consumer engagement committee members. For further details see ad in this edition of *The Standard* or contact Juliana McCashney 5772 0997 or email adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies/

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
RAR are holding a Vigil at 10am at the Alexandra Rotunda and in the Yea main street to call to end off-shore detention.

FRIDAY, JULY 21
Alexandra and District Senior Citizens will hold their AGM at 1pm at the Bayley Street clubrooms. All enquiries to secretaryadsc@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26
Alexandra District Health invites you to join them for their 2023 Open Board meeting. To be held at 4pm at the Alexandra RSL. Tea and coffee provided. RSVP to Jennifer.creed@adh.org.au by close of business Friday, July 21.

SATURDAY, JULY 29
A farewell party is being held at Christ Church Marysville for Val Cockerell, Heather Mills, Sue Moss and Ada O'Flaherty. You are invited to drop by anytime between 12.30 and 3.30pm. For catering RSVP by July 24, to 0400 838 149 or 0427 633 489.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13
Eildon Events Inc will hold their AGM at Morning Mist, Back Eildon Road at 10.30am. For further details contact 0400 715 319.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15
Eildon Action Inc will hold their AGM at Eildon VIC. Everyone is welcome. Nominations can be submitted on the night.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2
Goulburn Fishing Festival 2023. Free event at Eildon. 10am-4pm. Lions Park, Riverside Drive. Live music, market stalls, Snobs Creek Hatchery tours, Vic Fish Kids clinics and more. Fireworks at 7pm. vfa.vid.gov.au/goulburnfishingfest

Bilby craftsman Ernie hoping to pass on the baton

AFTER a decade of crafting wooden bilbies to raise money for children being treated for cancer at the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH), Ernie Hunt needs to pass on the baton.

Mr Hunt is 84 and his eyesight is failing, so he needs someone to take over making the wooden toys, the sale of which has so far raised nearly \$7000 for oncology patients at the RCH.

"Years ago, I was doing ducks for the kids at a lot of events we went to. The bloke from Peninsula Woodturners said 'We do a bilby', and he gave me one. They were selling bilbies at a sausage sizzle down there and he told me to try them so that's when I started," Ernie said.

The bilbies are very popular items, with more than 680 having been sold at various stores and markets in and around Alexandra over the years, but now they are all sold out.

After a life's work as a joiner and cabinet maker, which included training five apprentices to follow in his footsteps, Ernie has issues with his lungs and his eyes. "I'm 84 now and I'm not too well," Ernie said.

Mr Hunt has been ably assisted by his friend Barry Cleary in the production of the bilbies. Barry has been known to cheekily refer to himself as Ernie's "oldest apprentice."

Ernie said "Now my eyes are going on me, and Barry my mate he was giving me a hand, but now with my eyes I can't do them."

Ernie was inspired to do the fundraising work partly because he had had cancer

himself, but mostly because of what he saw at the hospital.

"The times we went down to the children's hospital and you see the parents walking their kids along and it gives you that drive to do them. I'm very disappointed that I can't keep it going," he said.

Mr Hunt is a life member of the Eildon and District Woodworkers Guild and he's hoping that the members there will step up and take over bilby production from him.

"I've got five boxes here with all the parts. I'll take the boxes and show them and see if I can get them going on it."

Mr Hunt said he felt proud of what he'd been able to achieve, but is very disappointed that he can't continue to make bilbies for the sick children.

"It gives you a bit of pride that you'd been giving money to them. I wish I could still keep doing it," he said.

"If my eyes were alright, I'd still be doing them like anything."

Congratulations to Ernie on a spectacular effort.



These beauties are all sold out. -S



"Apprentice" Barry Cleary with the Master, Ernie Hunt. -RS



A Bilby-making kit with an example of the finished product. -S

This week's Church Services

ANGLICAN St Johns Alexandra
9am Eucharist each Sunday
Children welcome
Rev Mario Hendricks - Rectory 0435 953 777

CATHOLIC
Immaculate Conception Parish
Parish Administrator, Father Jose Matthew
Presbytery 0468 810 871
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

UNITING CHURCH In Australia
St. Andrews, Downey Street, Alexandra
Worshipping, Welcoming
Sharing the transforming love of Jesus
Services 10am each Sunday
contact 5772 2362

OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH
Loving God, Loving People, Loving Life
118 Grant Street, Alexandra
Contact: Ps Steven Turner
Ph: 0413 127 283
Meeting every Sunday @ 10am

MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
37 Grant Street, Alexandra
Pastor Daniel Kriss
Services 10am every Sunday
Phone 0400 282 536
www.mccbc.com.au

THE VINE
A Christian community of the Baptist Union of Victoria
Sunday 4.30pm service
Kids program during school term
St Andrew's, 37 Downey Street, Alexandra
Pastor - Geoffrey Johnstone Ph: 0481 472 152



Buxton local Steve Ritchie served for 15 years in the Royal Navy and the Royal Australian Navy. He was involved in four conflicts. His story forms part of the display. -AR



Curator Katrina Nicolson. -AR



Shrine of Remembrance CEO Dean Lee. -AR



Storyteller and refugee Reza Shams. -AR

MiRa hosts Shrine of Remembrance display

ON Friday, July 14, MiRa Marysville hosted the launch of *Changed Forever: Legacies of Conflict*, a touring exhibition from the Shrine of Remembrance. The display will remain in place until August 22.

The display includes stories of migrants who have resettled in Australia from

war-torn countries alongside those of recent veterans of overseas service in the Australian Defence Force. The exhibition explores the impacts of global and civil conflict in changing lives and shaping contemporary Australia.

All have been redefined by the emotional and physical dislocation of war, and seek to reconcile this with their new lives.

The personal stories reflect the range and depth of experiences in conflict and life post-war.

Shire of Remembrance CEO Dean Lee spoke about how much Murrindindi Shire has given, with men and women from the area participating in every conflict.

He noted that the display is not a memorial to war, but a remembrance of the experiences of ordinary people who have been impacted by conflict.

He paid his respects to people, both veterans and refugees, who have shared their stories for the display.

Curator Katrina Nicolson spoke about the care with which the display was developed, and about the impact of the display on people as it has travelled around the state. She's found that people find unexpected parallels with their own experiences in the display.

She also spoke about the mental health impacts and the pressure which young veterans feel in trying to live up to the Anzac legend, adding that veterans can be both young and old.

Refugee Reza Shams, a Haraza Afghani, spoke about his experiences of conflict. He spoke about the killing of his father and his family's time in refugee camps before being accepted as a refugee in Australia. While it was certainly a challenging experience, he was deeply grateful to the many strangers who helped him on his way in Australia. He has now completed a PhD thanks to the support of these people. He feels very fortunate to be living in Australia, and compared his experiences to the experiences of the people who survived Black Saturday, saying that the challenges were similar.



Attendees at the launch. -AR

A FAREWELL PARTY

for four good friends of our community
 Val Cockerell Heather Mills
 Sue Moss Ada O'Flaherty.

Please come and join us to wish them well for the future
 DATE : Saturday, July 29
 DROP-IN : any time 12.30-3.30pm
 PLACE : Christ Church Marysville
 Light finger food provided
 For catering purposes RSVP by phone, text or email by 5pm Monday, July 24
 Ring Sue Boyle 0400 838 149
 or Diana Cherry 0427 633 489
 or by email marysvilleanglican@gmail.com

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EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL
Scarlett and Hailie showed the school value of Cooperation throughout their work this week.



BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hendrix was a wonderful ambassador for our school when he presented the Acknowledgement of Country at the Marysville Lantern Festival in front of a large crowd. Congratulations Hendrix.



ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL
Elsie Buckett - 1/2B

Elsie always shows the school values. She is a quiet and conscientious worker who works hard to achieve her goals. Elsie is developing her resilience and is absolutely nailing it. We are proud to have you in our learning community, Elsie. You are a star.

Student of the Week

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Kinglake branch

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Government accused of ignoring school bus findings

SHADOW Minister for Education Matt Bach has accused the government of failing to respond to the recommendations of the Legislative Council's *Inquiry into the use of school buses in rural and regional Victoria* report. On Monday, July 10, it had been 577 days since the report was tabled.

The inquiry covered issues including prevention of bullying between students while travelling and improving school bus routes to meet the needs of the public in remote areas.

Recommendation three from the inquiry seeks mandated CCTV cameras on all new school buses as they come into operation in the School Bus Program.

Mr Bach said, "This inquiry was established back in 2021 and has made some serious recommendations that the government has failed in its duties to implement.

"The safety of students travelling to and from school is paramount. It's clear that this increasingly arrogant government is not taking these recommendations seriously.

"I asked the Minister for Education back in early May when she intended to implement the recommendations from this inquiry and true to form she has failed to respond."

Contacted about the issue, a Victorian Government spokesperson said, "The government will respond to each inquiry report as soon as possible. We appreciate the important work being done by Parliamentary Committees and their staff."

The complexity of the issues considered by parliamentary committees, as well as COVID-19 backlogs of reports, is believed to have resulted in extended deliberation before responding.

Death stalks Murrindindi

THE new Mortality Over Regions and Time (MORT) books have just been released, outlining the causes of death across the different local government areas of Australia from 2017 to 2021.

Murrindindi's data revealed surprising differences in causes of death between men and women.

For men, the leading cause of death across the five years was coronary heart disease, with 40 dying as a result. Lung cancer was second with 20 deaths, followed shortly after by prostate cancer with 18 deaths.

Land transport accidents resulted in 15 male deaths, then chronic obstructive pulmonary disease with 14, cerebrovascular disease 14, dementia including Alzheimer's disease 12, heart failure and complications and ill-defined heart disease 12, influenza and pneumonia 11, colorectal cancer 10, liver cancer nine, cancer of unknown or ill-defined primary site nine, oesophageal cancer nine, kidney failure nine, other ill-defined causes eight, bladder cancer

seven, accidental falls seven, suicide seven, melanoma of the skin five, and leukaemia (C91-C95) five.

The top 20 leading causes of death in men accounted for 241 deaths across the five years, out of a total of 355 deaths.

For women, the leading cause of death across the five years was dementia including Alzheimer's disease, with 25 deaths. Cerebrovascular disease was second with 19 deaths, followed by coronary heart disease with 19.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease resulted in 16 deaths, lung cancer 14 deaths, accidental falls 12, breast cancer 12, colorectal cancer nine, diabetes nine, cancer of unknown or ill-defined primary site eight, hypertensive disease seven, heart failure and complications and ill-defined heart disease seven, kidney failure seven, non-rheumatic valve disorders six, pancreatic cancer six, ovarian cancer six, influenza and pneumonia five, other ill-defined causes five, suicide five, and leukaemia three.

The top 20 leading causes of death for women accounted for 200 deaths across the five years, out of a total of 270 deaths.

It's not all doom and gloom however. There are things that people can do to improve their health outcomes, although let's face it, the Grim Reaper stalks us all.

Keep up to date on your flu shots and COVID-19 jabs, avoid smoking, wear sunscreen and hats, keep fit both physically and mentally (use it or lose it), check for breast lumps, have regular medical check-ups and when the government send you the poo pots, fill 'em up and send 'em back.

There was a disturbingly high rate of suicide in the shire, with seven men and five women. Please reach out for help if you need it. Lifeline's phone number is 131 114, Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 and Kids Helpline is 1800 551 800. Look after each other and lend a sympathetic ear or other support if needed.

Streamlining care for patients with chest pain

PEOPLE living in rural Australia experience more heart disease than people in metropolitan areas and chest pain is the most common symptom that people with heart disease present to hospitals with.

Rapid and effective assessment and management of patients presenting with chest pain and/or other symptoms suggestive of acute coronary syndrome is central to reducing the burden of heart disease.

Alexandra District Health is participating in a *Timely management of chest pain* pilot project along with nine other rural and regional health services throughout Victoria. The aim is to provide valuable information and feedback to Safer Care Victoria to assist in setting up a statewide service.

The *Timely management of chest pain* pilot seeks to support Urgent Care

Centres (UCC) to ensure that regional Victorians can consistently access timely electrocardiogram (ECG) interpretation and specialist input for the triaging and management of chest pain closer to home. This timely access to specialist advice aims to prevent delays in diagnosis, ensure timely escalation of care if required and reduce potentially avoidable patient transfers, and the best possible outcomes for the patients in care.

The project will develop and pilot a streamlined model of care that supports UCC staff with triaging patients who present with chest pain or other symptoms suggestive of acute coronary syndrome.

If a patient presents to Alexandra District Health's UCC with symptoms of acute coronary syndromes they will be triaged

accordingly and the dedicated and skilled nursing and/or medical staff will attend to an ECG, cardiac monitoring, point of care pathology, observations and urgent medications. Once the patient has been triaged, if appropriate, the Alfred Health team will be contacted via telemedicine video.

The patient's ECG will be sent via a secure and efficient IT sharing system to ensure a thorough assessment. The Alfred Health team will work with the Alexandra District Health team and the patient to determine the best plan of care for the patient. With the support of Safer Care Victoria, Alfred Health and Alexandra District Health a new ECG machine and IT equipment has been purchased to allow for efficient and secure information sharing with Alfred Health.

Council's new Director of Community and Development

IN early June, Andrew Paxton started as Murrindindi Shire Council's new Director of Community and Development. He's married with two children. His 17 year old is currently studying year 12, and his 21 year old is a second year apprentice doing electrical and solar work.

Andrew lives in Warrandyte, but he commented that travelling into the city for work would take a similar amount of time in peak hour. Travelling to Murrindindi is a much nicer drive.

Andrew's background was originally in the landscape architecture area, "designing, consulting and creating places." He moved from there into managing parks teams, then into urban design, before moving to Parks Victoria where he became the business manager for the Melbourne area, doing all of their capital works.

"I love and appreciate different places for what they are," Andrew said. "What's that unique character you're trying to protect?"

Andrew has looked after planning, building, health and the regulatory side of councils. He explained that the appeal of the role with Murrindindi Shire Council was that it includes economic development, tourism and business development streams, as well as community development including access and inclusion, bus, youth services, pools, recreation and community engagement, and planning, building, health and strategic planning.

"It's a great portfolio in that whenever you're doing something, it has to deliver on a good social outcome, it has to deliver on a good environmental outcome. Does it stack up commercially? How do you get a good outcome in that space?" he said.

He noted that a large amount of work has been done already, citing the Eildon Activation Plan, and the next step will be accessing the funding for delivery. The Skyline Road development for example would be a turning point for Eildon. He also commented on Marysville's relationship with Lake Mountain, noting that at other ski resorts people tend to stay on the mountain. He also questioned how visitor stays could be extended or increase return visitation in another season.

Overall, he believes that it's not a one size fits all situation in the shire, but that solutions need to be tailored to suit the particular community and their needs.

The end of native timber forestry is having a "massive impact." When Andrew started at Murrindindi Shire, the Shaping Murrindindi's Future project was already underway. It was planned as a two year project to develop a seven year exit strategy. He said that the team are doing "fantastic

consultation" in looking at what the future will look like multi-generationally.

While they're still running with this approach, the announcement that native timber forestry would end from the start of 2024 has brought forward the challenges significantly. He also noted that there still seems to be a void of information around the cessation, and that there are various service industries which will be directly impacted by the decision. He expects that there will be a significant impact on the community, including schools, shops and businesses.

Soon after the announcement, council organised a meeting with the forestry workers, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR). Andrew found the discussion to be respectful and authentic. He also asked that impacted workers and contractors register with council to ensure that they don't miss out. Council plans to continue advocating on their behalf, and are planning another forum in coming weeks.

Council is looking at projects which would be good employment generators and those which would provide an economic stimulus. "We've gone back to government and said here's our shopping list of projects that we think would make a difference," Andrew said, adding that they come out of pre-existing plans, aside from a potential training hub for education in the shire.

The training hub would mean that apprentices could stay local for their training instead of travelling long distances for the educational component, for example. They are looking at opportunities for university, certificate courses or TAFE, delivered in a hub-style. This may also dovetail with potential employees in the childcare or aged care space, industries currently experiencing challenges filling positions.

Some of the projects may also provide opportunities for forestry workers. There may be work on roads for example, such as the Skyline Road development. It is hoped that with each of the proposed projects, there will be "a training, a learning and a business outcome, as well as a social and environmental outcome," Andrew said.

In terms of planning, some work has been done on a Residential Land Use Strategy for residential growth, and supporting business and commercial also needs to be considered. Andrew said, "What is the right size of the towns? How much growth is needed without losing the character. I think, looking at industrial and commercial land and its availability, and also who's sitting on land and not developing it? How do we encourage that to be freed up and used?"

The main issues he's found when talking to people are jobs, access to childcare and kindergartens. Council will be looking at how they can support the provision of kindergarten services. Murrindindi Shire has been identified by the state government as one of the priority areas for kindergarten and childcare, and council will be doing some work in that space.

Council are also keen support volunteers more. Andrew pointed out that there is a lot of research to show that people who volunteer are happier, healthier and more socially connected. He suggested that people may be able to support organisations in small capacities, such as doing the books, but may choose not to attend meetings on a regular basis, and that this may help to counter the low volunteer numbers in some organisations.

Long term rental accommodation is also an issue in the shire. Council is looking at land for growth as well as underutilised state government land which could be freed up. Re-zoning may be required. He'd also like the planning scheme to be more transparent, so people have greater certainty over what they will be able to do with the land prior to purchasing it.

In terms of tourism, he's keen for council to help the tourism organisations to 'step up to the plate' rather than council leading to the tourism push. He also has an interest the shire having downloadable apps highlighting the attractions of the area. "I think the world is shifting on the use of apps. I think there's still a place for hard copy brochures and all that. If it's easy enough to download then people will use it to see what's in the area," Andrew said.

Andrew was previously involved with the Phillip Island Nature Park. During COVID-19, they ran a free live-stream of the penguin parade. Millions of people viewed it each night. At the time, there were concerns that it might reduce visitation,



Andrew Paxton. -AR

however it actually inspired people to visit once the pandemic passed, and it's hoped that apps may have a similar affect.

Andrew suggested that if people have ideas for the future of Murrindindi, they could email customer service at council or contact them through Shaping Murrindindi's Future.

"We're open to working with people [with business or other ideas], but it really has to deliver social, economic and environment outcomes. It's such a beautiful area. It's really got to suit the area. If someone wants to do something that's out of keeping, we might not be the right location," he said, adding that they also want it to be future-focused.

They are looking for ideas which will enhance the area and not detract from it.

SEEKING CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Passionate about health care locally? If you are a community-minded person, who can improve consumer, carer and community participation in service planning at Alexandra District Health, we would love to hear from you.

The Community Engagement Committee is a strategic advisory committee to the Alexandra District Health Board. Our community representatives are an integral part of the Alexandra District Health Volunteer Program.

- We are looking for people who are active members of the local community with strong community networks.
- Demonstrate understanding of the local community and local health issues.
- Are able to consider community issues at a strategic level, with a focus on the benefit of the community as a whole.

Our Consumer Engagement Committee provide advice to the Board of Directors on community participation and inclusion of consumer, carer, and community views into all levels of health service operations, planning and policies. You will assist the Board and Executive team in communication and engagement with consumers and the community.

Meetings are held monthly at 5.30pm and alternate between virtual and face to face held at Alexandra District Health. Successful applicants are required to satisfactorily complete a National Police Check prior to appointment.

For further details regarding our Consumer Engagement Committee contact Juliana McCashney, Manager People and Culture on 5772 0997.

Or visit adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies/ to apply online.

Consumer engagement committee members needed

ARE you passionate about local health care? If you are a community-minded person, who can improve consumer, carer and community participation in service planning at Alexandra District Health (ADH), they would love to hear from you.

The Community Engagement Committee is a strategic advisory committee to the ADH board. Community representatives are an integral part of the ADH volunteer program.

They are looking for people who demonstrate understanding of the local community and local health issues, are active members of the local community with strong community networks, are able to consider community issues at a strategic level, with a focus on the benefit of the community as a whole, have strong communication skills, and reflect the qualities of integrity, honesty, respect of other views, objectivity, strategic thinking, leadership, and being inclusive.

As part of the committee, you would provide advice to the board on community participation and inclusion of consumer, carer, and community views into all levels of health service operations, planning and policies, advocate to the board on behalf of the community, consumers and carers, advise the board on priorities and issues requiring consumer, carer and community participation, assist the board and executive in communication and engagement with the consumers and community, and assist with the development of information for consumers and the community.

Meetings are held monthly at 5.30pm and alternate between virtual and face to face held at ADH. Successful applicants are required to satisfactorily complete a Police Records Check prior to appointment.

For further details regarding the Consumer Engagement Committee contact Juliana McCashney, Manager People and Culture on 5772 0997.

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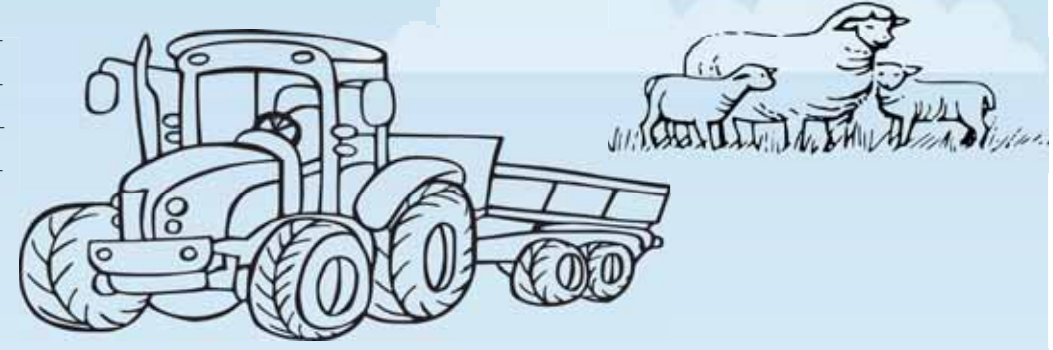
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WORDSEARCH - FARM HAZARDS

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E	S	I	M	N	H	G	B	V	Z	O	U	I	R
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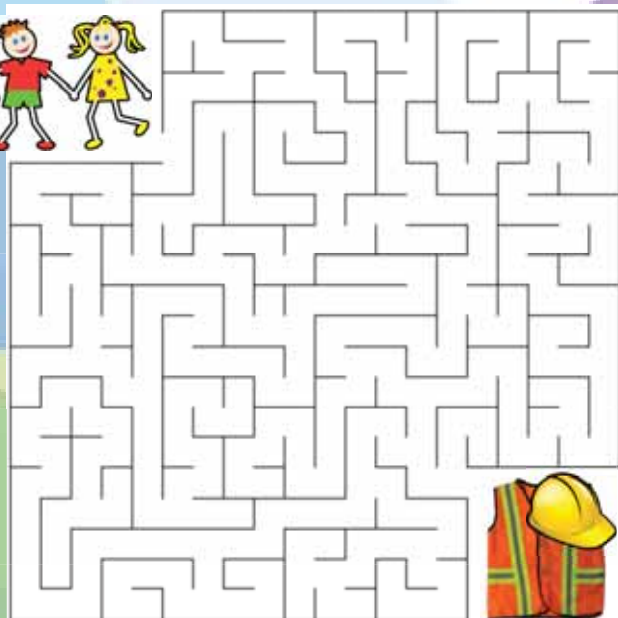
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MAZE - FARM SAFETY

Keep kids safe on the farm. Help them get their safety gear before they go out and about on the farm.



WORK LOCAL

save fuel, time and make money

New funding to upskill and attract farming workers

GOTAFE has received \$1.99m as part of the Victorian Government's Agriculture TAFE and Training Funding.

The funding will support education aimed at ensuring students have the skills required for a career in agriculture, addressing the need for additional workers in the Goulburn Ovens region.

The Victorian Skills Plan 2022 to 2023 has identified that the agriculture, forestry and fishing industries will need an additional 3000 workers over the next three years, with the regional workforce forecast to grow by an additional 564 employees by 2025.

Key existing GOTAFE agriculture and horticulture courses will be supported by the funding, while 10 new short courses will be created, including in Aboriginal practices and land management and farm safety.

Jenny Wilson, Board Member at GOTAFE and CEO at Murray Dairy said the funding

will add significant value to both students and industry.

"This funding will help upskill existing workers in the agriculture and horticulture industries, while also helping to attract diverse cohorts to undertake new and enhanced training," she said.

"We're looking forward to working with education institutes and industry to deliver training to ensure the future workforce is equipped with the required experience and skills."

Rob Hall, Coordinator Land and Animals at GOTAFE, said the funding will not only support industry, but will also provide a range of benefits to staff and students.

"Getting this funding is an incredible boost in morale for our staff, it improves their confidence and ability, while also providing them opportunities for additional training and upskilling," Mr Hall said.

"The funding will create synergies between traditional land and farm management, so the courses have cultural relevance.

"There's a skill shortage within industry and we've struggled with this, which is why I think a multi layered approach including secondary school connections and community based elements is so important."

Farm safety will also be a key focus of the funding. This is aimed at reducing the rate of workplace deaths in the agriculture industry, with approximately 14 per cent of annual fatalities attributed to agriculture workers despite it only making up about two per cent of Victoria's workforce.

For any further questions, please get in contact via 1300 GOTAFE (468 233), Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm.

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Lifestyle Co-ordinator

A full time position is available for a suitable Lifestyle Coordinator. The role is responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of leisure and social opportunities and lifestyle care planning in conjunction with residents, families, and other members of the healthcare team.

Skills and experience:

- Diploma or Certificate IV in Lifestyle and Health, Diversional Therapy (or related) preferred or willing to achieve.
- Current unrestricted driver's licence
- Ability to involve community, relatives, staff and volunteers
- A pro-active and energetic self-starter with a strong customer service focus
- Previous experience working in an aged care setting or similar human services/ social care field
- Proven experience developing and coordinating lifestyle plans particularly for residents living with dementia
- Knowledge of the Aged Care Accreditation Standards and related outcomes
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, and computer literacy

Benefits:

- Not for Profit salary packaging
- Supportive, caring and positive team environment
- Flexible working hours as negotiated
- Employee Assistance Program
- Director of Nursing support and guidance

If you are reliable, passionate and motivated we would love to hear from you.

Contact Darlingford on 5774 2711 for a position description, or send your resume to jbrookes@dugnh.com.au by August 6, 2023.

ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS

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This is not a work from home role

Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd is one of the oldest newspapers in Victoria, and the oldest in the Murrindindi Shire, first publishing in June 1868. We publish *The Alexandra Standard* and *The Yea Chronicle*, across Murrindindi and beyond. We are looking for someone to fill a role in our administration department and to assist our sales department. You will need to have the ability to be able to take on a large and important part in our team.

What the job involves:

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- Able to follow written and verbal instruction
- Ability to work under the pressure of deadlines and multi task in a busy office.
- To be punctual and professional with a strong work ethic
- Have initiative and be well organised
- Be able to problem solve and brainstorm
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- A willingness to learn many aspects of the business
- Previous admin experience is an advantage
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How to apply:

To be considered for this position, submit your resume and cover letter to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Only applicants who are Australian residents or hold a relevant visa are eligible to apply.

Standard The Yea Chronicle

Alexandra Newspapers is an independent newspaper and not affiliated with any other media outlet in the Murrindindi Shire.



ALEXANDRA
DISTRICT HEALTH
QUALITY AND RISK
COORDINATOR
PERMANENT PART TIME 24
HOURS PER WEEK

Alexandra District Health (ADH) are seeking an experienced office administrator to join our team as Quality and Risk Coordinator.

This diverse role is responsible for the administration and maintenance of the incident reporting software, quality reporting systems, document management system, preparation of policy and procedures and governance documents and the coordination and administration of our operational committee meetings including the preparation and distribution of meeting papers.

You will promote customer service excellence, act as a quality champion across ADH, supporting managers, and staff to strengthen capacity of Quality Improvement within their teams. You will be actively involved and support the facilitation, coordination and education of all accreditation processes.

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The successful applicant will have access to an extensive handover process. Please contact Juliana McCashney, Manager People and Culture if you have any queries regarding this role 5772 0997.

For further information, position description and application details visit: adh.org.au/careers/current-vacancies.

Applications close Friday, July 21, 2023, close of business.



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ON THE LAND

Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture, Aquaculture and Silviculture

Seasoned farmers the focus of revitalised farm safety project

THE Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has welcomed the Victorian Government's continued investment into the Making our Farms Safer project (MOFS), to enable the vital project to help keep Victorian farmers safe.

VFF President Emma Germano said the project's immediate focus will be on farmers aged 60 years and over to help lower their overrepresentation in farming deaths and injuries.

"Farmers aged over 60 years tragically account for more than 40 per cent of deaths on farms throughout the country.

"Last year, six people aged over 60 lost their lives on Victorian farms. That's someone's mother, father or friend that can never be replaced. We hope this project will help ensure loved ones come home at the end of the day.

"With the help of a working committee consisting of older farmers and their adult children, the project will develop specific content and resources, such as a guidebook and monthly newsletters to help make Victorian farms safer.

"Farmers and our regional communities told us loud and clear how important this project was to them, and I welcome the government's commitment to helping us keep farmers safe," Ms Germano said.

Help shape the system that protects Victoria's way of life

COMMUNITY and industry feedback is invited on Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy to help strengthen the existing system against increased pest and disease risks.

Biosecurity Victoria Executive Director Katherine Clift said widespread input is critical in shaping the strategy to prevent and manage harms to our farms, natural environment and people.

"Victoria's biosecurity system needs to adapt and change to meet current and future challenges with improved clarity on the role that everyone can play to reduce risk," Dr Clift said.

"We welcome feedback on Victoria's new Biosecurity Strategy, a key commitment to strengthening our existing system against increased pests and disease risks.

"It's crucial this strategy is informed by people from a range of backgrounds and experience, including those who regularly deal with biosecurity risks and benefit from a strong biosecurity system."

Biosecurity is the actions to prevent and manage the harms caused by pests and diseases, and the impact they have on what we value most.

"Victoria's biosecurity system has responded strongly to high priority threats in recent years and there are great examples of partnerships across the system," Dr Clift said.

"The new Victorian Biosecurity Strategy prioritises more widespread collaboration as key to a stronger and more resilient system."

The draft strategy was developed with people who have a role in biosecurity, including farmers, agriculture industry bodies, supply chain and transport businesses, community and emergency management organisations, Traditional Owners and government agencies. Community consultation included a series of statewide workshops earlier this year and builds on Victoria's Biosecurity Statement endorsed by the Victorian Government in 2022.

The strategy has also been shaped with input by Victoria's Biosecurity Reference Group (BRG), a collective representing industry and community views.

"In our collective pursuit of a secure future for both food and fibre, we must recognise that biosecurity is a shared responsibility," BRG member and VFF Vice President Danyel Cucinotta said.

"We encourage farmers to actively engage in shaping the draft strategy with invaluable insights and collaboration that will fortify our defences, ensuring a resilient and thriving agricultural sector for generations to come."

The draft strategy is the next step in a four-year change program working with government, industry and community

to strengthen different aspects of the biosecurity system.

Community members can complete a survey or make a submission on Victoria's Biosecurity Strategy by midnight, Wednesday, August 16 via engage.vic.gov.au/victorian-biosecuritystrategy-consultation

Supporting Victoria's top class producers

THE Victorian Government is assisting Victoria's agriculture businesses to get their produce onto more tables, while also supporting the skilled hospitality workers who service the food and drink sector.

Acting Minister for Trade and Investment Danny Pearson recently announced a \$31.2 million investment in the programs that promote Victorian producers.

These programs support industry growth, skills development and domestic and international market expansion, while further strengthening regional towns as a tourism destination.

The Victorian Government will continue to deliver hospitality scholarships through a \$5 million investment, ensuring Victoria's food and beverage industry is equipped with skilled workers.

Scholarships of up to \$10,000 will be provided to regional and metropolitan students, supporting them to succeed in their new careers while providing a much needed workforce boost for our hospitality sector.

Underpinning Victoria's world class food and drink industries are the ingredients grown by Victorian farmers.

To help our farmers continue to grow the high quality produce they are known for, a \$3 million funding package will be delivered over the next three years to address key farm safety risks.



Recipe kindly submitted by Martine Sloane of the Redgate (Alexandra) Branch of the CWA

Beef and Bean Casserole

from the CWA Mince Matters Cookbook

INGREDIENTS

2 tbsp butter
750gm minced beef
1 onion finely chopped
425gm can tomatoes drained and chopped
125gm pasta shells
1 cup hot beef stock
2 teasp worcestershire sauce
Half a teasp dried mixed herbs
1 teasp chilli powder
Freshly ground black pepper
225gm can baked beans chopped
Parsley to garnish

METHOD

Melt butter in a saucepan then brown the mince and onion.
Stir in all the remaining ingredients (except baked beans and parsley).
Mix well together and simmer gently for about 30-40 minutes.
When mince is cooked and pasta is tender, stir in baked beans and heat through.
Serve sprinkled with chopped parsley.
To help mop up any juices, serve with Combread (recipe coming next month)

Redgate CWA meet at 1pm on the fourth Thursday of each month at 31 Perkins Street Alexandra. Contact Maureen on 0402 804 517.

SAVE THE DATE

July 25 - Mildura Business skills for the future workshop
- AgVic

August 2 & 3 - Speed Mallee Machinery Field Days

August 6 & 7 - Hamilton Sheepvention Rural Expo

August 13-15 - Wagga Wagga Thriving Women Conference
- AgriFutures

UPCOMING CATTLE SALES DATES

Aug 4 Combined agents store sale

Sept 1 Combined agents store sale

Oct 6 Combined agents store sale

Nov 3 Combined agents store sale



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PHOTO COMPETITION

Remember to submit your photo competition entry to win a \$50 gift voucher from Dindi Country Clothing in Alexandra.

This month's theme is 'landscape'. See our June 28 edition for details.

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ON THE LAND

Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture, Aquaculture and Silviculture

Pet dental disease awareness

by Rebecca Parth, Taggerty Veterinary Clinic

AUGUST is Pet Dental Health Month throughout Australia to help raise awareness of the importance of pet oral health.

Dental disease is a widely underrated process in our pets with 80 per cent of our pets developing dental disease over the age of 3 years. Added to this, only around 2 per

cent of pet owners are actively engaging in preventative dental care.

People have 32 adult teeth which varies from our furry friends, adult dogs have 42 teeth, while cats have 30 teeth.

Dental disease is often as painful of a process for us as it is for our furry family members. Sadly, they often suffer from dental disease without their owners even realising there is something wrong. The

signs of dental disease can be subtle but include the following symptoms.

Excessive drooling and pawing at mouth, difficulty/reluctance chewing, reluctance to eat, rubbing face along ground or furniture, only chewing on one side of the mouth, swellings of the head and lymph nodes, Halitosis (bad breath), plaque and tartar, discoloured teeth, gingivitis (Swollen/bleeding gums) and missing teeth.

Dental disease should not be considered to only effect the teeth and mouth. Just like for ourselves inadequate dental hygiene can lead to various infections throughout the body.

Dental disease starts with the oral cavity, the first signs can appear as plaque and discolouring of the teeth which eventually lead to gingivitis or gum inflammation. If gingivitis is not treated it can cause periodontal disease.

Periodontal disease is infection/inflammation of the tissues surrounding the tooth. Unfortunately, it is an irreversible process which can result in the loss of teeth. Another cause of periodontal disease, particularly in dogs, is teeth fractures often resulting from chewing bones.

The good news is we can treat gingivitis and plaque build up with routine care and if we can control dental health, we can stop periodontal disease from occurring in many situations.

There are many ways to help protect our pets teeth. For dogs and cats the most effective way to clean teeth is by using pet specific toothbrushes and toothpastes. The action of manually brushing the teeth helps to clean away bacteria and plaque before they can cause inflammation at the gum level. Brushing should be performed two to three times per week, but it must also be remembered it may not be well tolerated by some animals and alternatives should be explored for these animals. Dental treats and toys can also help provide the mechanical action of toothbrushing and work well as long as your pet is persistent enough to spend at least several minutes chewing. Prescription dental diets can be beneficial for individuals that are not fans of chewing and will help maintain dental health. Regular visits to your vet for routine oral check ups.

If dental disease is found during a dental check up, many options are available depending on the severity of the disease. These options may be as simple as enlisting the above precautions, medications or a general anaesthetic for teeth cleaning and potential tooth extractions. Dental check ups can be performed by your regular vet.



Is it time for your pet to get a dental check? -Sophiecap1917



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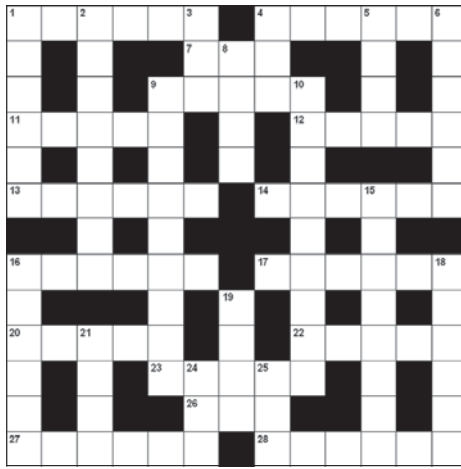
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 14

Crossword

ACROSS

- Interfere with progress.
- Stringed instrument.
- Aussie paddock vehicle.
- Large quantities of paper.
- Let slip.
- Cut to pieces.
- A score.
- Very small person.
- Afternoon nap.
- Begin an offensive.
- Having a clear mind.
- A shoulder weapon.
- Express feelings.
- Alcoholic beverage.
- Bad luck.
- Not as hard.



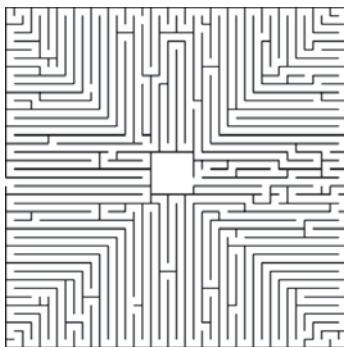
DOWN

- Village without a church.
- Synthetic rubber.
- Strong-scented perennial herb.
- Semiprecious stone.
- Rip apart.
- Go back to a previous state.
- Higher than most.
- Moral uprightness.
- Sacred writings.
- Scribble drawings on walls.
- Not very often.
- Person in charge of animals.
- Behave comically.
- Adult male swans.
- Delineate in detail.
- Small golf peg.

Word search – Artificial Intelligence

Algorithm	E W C X J F I W U Z Q D C A H
Circuit	L T U C E C N E I C S O H P C
Computing	E Y I T U V T R I R M G Q Y O
Electronics	C G C U Q O E G W P E Q R C I
Future	T O H N C Q L C U P P L W R P
Intelligence	R L D F Y R L T L K N G E R J
Machine	O O Y G O X I O C A F W O S O
Memory	N N J L K N G C N R I G E K S
Programming	I H V U G O E A X K R O N V Z
Science	C C D X D O N R Z A E I I G W
Technology	S E D R T O C R M R D K H M U
Wireless	R T U E M M E M U H S Q C Z X
	Y R O M E M I T B N Y K A A S
	T C D Q V N U W N R Y C M G S
	E F L A G F A L G O R I T H M

Maze



Maths Squares

Fill in the missing numbers. The missing values are the whole numbers between 1 and 25. 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.

	+		+	+	-	13	38
-		-		x	-		+
19	x		+		-	18	+
+		x		+	-		+
	-	1	x	+		÷	-1
x		-	-		+		+
	x		-	-	-		219
-		-	-		÷		-
	x	8	-	+	-		155
341	-15	202		-5			32

Sudoku

Difficulty: Hard

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

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



Robert 'Jack' Richardson. -S



The road in Strath Creek where Mr Richardson's body was found. -S

\$1m reward for information on Strath Creek murder

HOMICIDE Squad detectives have announced a \$1m reward for information as part of their investigation into the suspicious death of Robert 'Jack' Richardson almost 40 years ago.

The 49 year old's body was located by members of the public in bushland off King Parrot Creek Road near Strath Creek on March 31, 1984.

It's believed Robert, who was more commonly known to his friends and associates as Jack, had been shot in an execution-style killing.

He had last been seen with two unidentified men in St Kilda between 1.20am and 2am on March 4 and police believe he was murdered some time later on this day.

Jack had been due to appear at Melbourne County Court on March 5 after being charged, along with two co-accused, with conspiring to traffic heroin.

This investigation involved a high-level organised crime syndicate operating in Melbourne at the time, with connections to the Painters and Dockers union.

The matter was also linked to an attempt on the life of a NSW Police undercover operative, who was a prosecution witness in the case.

After being committed to stand trial, Jack was granted bail and had been living in St Kilda with his girlfriend.

Despite a significant investigation at the time, no one has ever been charged with Jack's murder.

A 1985 inquest into his death found that Jack had been murdered by a person or persons unknown.

Investigators believe Jack's death was most likely arranged with the assistance and knowledge of several people, including some he would have known well and trusted as friends.

Since the time of the original investigation, detectives have received further information about Jack's death and those potentially responsible however at this time there is insufficient evidence to charge anyone.

A forensic re-examination of an exhibit located at the crime scene has also been conducted and fresh DNA has been identified.

Police believe this will also provide further avenues of enquiry for the investigation.

Victoria Police announced a \$1m reward for information in relation to those responsible for Jack's death in the hope it will provide new leads and result in those responsible being held to account.

The reward will be paid at the discretion of the Chief Commissioner of Police, for information leading to the apprehension and subsequent conviction of the person or persons responsible for the death of Robert 'Jack' Richardson.

The Director of Public Prosecutions will consider, according to established guidelines, the granting of indemnification from prosecution to any person who provides information as to the identity of the principal offender or offenders in this matter.

Police are also releasing a number of photos of Jack, as well as images from where his remains were located in Strath Creek.

Police urge anyone with information about Robert's death to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at crimestoppersvic.com.au

Detective Inspector Dean Thomas, Crime Command, said, "Every person who loses their life in this way, regardless of their background or personal circumstances, deserves justice.

"The fact that Jack's murder is unsolved also means that we have had someone out there in the community for almost four decades who has never been held to account for their behaviour.

"This was someone willing to commit the ultimate act of violence with no regard for the life of others.

"These factors alone make this investigation an important one and one that we are still very keen to solve.

"Jack also had a young daughter at the time of his death. Sadly she has grown up without a father and never knowing who killed her dad and why.

"Jack's death had all the hallmarks of an underworld execution and the evidence suggests he probably had no warning he was going to be killed and trusted the person who did it.

"Ultimately, his fatal mistake may have been trusting the wrong person.

"It's not just the person who pulled the trigger who we are searching for, it's also anyone who assisted with Jack's murder both before and after it occurred.

"The drug matter Jack was involved with before his death had significant links to both organised crime in Melbourne, specifically criminal elements of the notorious Painters and Dockers union.

"We believe it's likely people formerly associated with that union would have at least had knowledge about what happened to Jack and who was involved.

"Investigators have spoken to some of these people and are particularly keen to hear from anyone who used to move in those circles.

"It's also worth noting the timing of Jack's death. It occurred two years to the day after the original police arrests in relation to the drug investigation and the day before the trial was meant to begin. We do not believe that this was in any way coincidental.

"Despite the significant passage of time, we believe that this matter is still solvable.

"As we always say, circumstances and relationships will change and potentially someone who may not have been able to come forward and speak to police previously may now feel they are in a position to do so.

"Given Jack's significant criminal history and associations, we also believe there is a strong likelihood that people with information were afraid to come forward at the time of his death because they feared significant retribution.

"We're hoping that some of those people may now be able to speak to us without those fears or concerns.

"This reward provides another opportunity for police to highlight that this case remains unsolved and hopefully it helps us progress the case."

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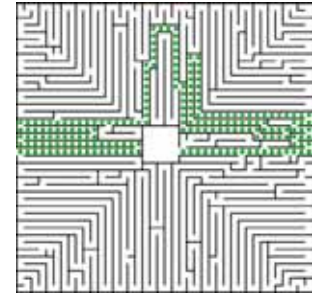
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PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

H	I	N	D	E	R	G	U	I	T	A	R	
A	E		U	T	E		S	A	E		E	
M	O	R	E	A	M	S	A	V				
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MAZE



MATHS SQUARES

7	+	9	+	11	+	24	-	13	38
-		-		x		-		+	
19	x	6	+	17	-	18	+	21	134
+		x		+		-		+	
15	-	1	x	23	+	14	÷	2	-1
x		-		-		+		+	
25	x	10	-	3	-	12	-	16	219
-		-		-		÷		-	
22	x	8	-	5	+	4	-	20	155
341		-15		202		-5		32	

SUDOKU

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

EILDON ACTION INC will hold its Annual General Meeting on August 15, 2023 at 5.30pm at the Eildon Visitor Information Centre. Everyone welcome. Nominations for committee and committee positions can be made on the night or submitted prior to the meeting. Nomination forms are available from the Visitor Information Centre or on the night.

MEETINGS



The Board of Directors of Alexandra District Health

invite you to join us for our
2023 Open Board Meeting

This event will be held on
Wednesday 26th July, 2023 at 4.00pm, at
Alexandra RSL, Grant Street Alexandra.
Tea and Coffee provided.



Please RSVP to Jennifer.Creed@adh.org.au
by close of business, Friday 21st July 2023.

SITUATION VACANT



Heavy combination truck driver
Permanent full time position

HG Turf Group is a family owned business operating since 1995. Our Turf Farm is located in Alexandra, North East Victoria.

HG Turf services domestic, trade and commercial markets in Melbourne and parts of Regional Victoria.

With an increased demand in sales we are seeking a Heavy Combination Truck Driver to assist in delivering turf orders to our customers.

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

On offer to the right candidate is a competitive pay rate, very attractive working hours along with numerous training and development opportunities.

Responsibilities include:

- Completing Pre-Start checklist and CoR documentation daily
- Communicating with the head mechanic in regards to maintenance and repairs
- Ensuring a high standard of cleanliness and housekeeping are kept
- Delivering turf to our customers in a courteous and respectful manner
- Comply with HG Turf's OH&S Policies and Procedures

To be considered for this role it would be preferred but is not essential to have the following attributes:

- A current Heavy Combination licence with a minimum of 2 years experience
- Forklift licence and experience
- An understanding of OHS and CoR and the ability to comply with all standards
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Prompt and Punctual
- Great attitude towards customer service

To discuss this opportunity, or for more information please call 5770 3000.

To apply please submit a cover letter and resume to -
LSazonov@hgturfgroup.com.au

SITUATION VACANT



Admin/sales support FULL TIME

This is not a work from home role
Alexandra Newspapers Pty Ltd is one of the oldest newspapers in Victoria, and the oldest in the Murrindindi Shire, first publishing in June 1868. We publish *The Alexandra Standard* and *The Yea Chronicle*, across Murrindindi and beyond. We are looking for someone to fill a role in our administration department and to assist our sales department. You will need to have the ability to be able to take on a large and important part in our team.

What the job involves:

- All aspects of office administration
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What you need:

- Dynamic customer service
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- Excellent knowledge of all Microsoft programs
- To be friendly, helpful and motivated
- To be a great team player
- Able to follow written and verbal instruction
- Ability to work under the pressure of deadlines and multi task in a busy office.
- To be punctual and professional with a strong work ethic
- Have initiative and be well organised
- Be able to problem solve and brainstorm
- To be methodical and thorough, with attention to detail
- A willingness to learn many aspects of the business
- Previous admin experience is an advantage
- Drivers Licence

How to apply:

To be considered for this position, submit your resume and cover letter to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au. Only applicants who are Australian residents or hold a relevant visa are eligible to apply.

Standard The Yea Chronicle

Alexandra Newspapers is an independent newspaper and not affiliated with any other media outlet in the Murrindindi Shire.

Paving preparation has begun at Buxton CFA

THE team from Hay Constructions have been hard at work preparing the area around the new workshop for the front apron and improved pedestrian access between the station and rear parking area at the Buxton CFA station. This will see removal of the radio tower left after the temporary police station was decommissioned.

After the devastating 2009 Victorian Bushfires, a temporary police station was established behind the fire station along with

the communications tower. The tower holds television aerials for the station but CFA radio communications have always been housed on the station.

With streaming technology and CFA supplied internet at the station, the tower is redundant. Its removal will enable an improved concrete path at that corner of the station, fulfilling a long held desire of older and past members to fix the 'kink' in the path.



The radio tower that will be removed that was erected after the 2009 Bushfires. - Buxton Fire Brigade



The area around the new workshop getting prepared for paving. - Buxton Fire Brigade

Students prosper from school camps



Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins with people including Craig Richards, CEO of the Outdoor Education Group, Andrew Knight, Chair of Outdoors Victoria, and Luke Cripps, Acting Principal of Newlands Primary School. -S

MINISTER for Education Natalie Hutchins on Wednesday, July 12 met students from Newlands Primary School in West Preston who are attending Camp Marysville.

Eighty students from across grades four, five and six are attending the three day camp in Marysville. They are enjoying and learning from activities including a visit to Lake Mountain to enjoy the snow, rock climbing, canoeing and a campfire.

Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins said, "Marysville was absolutely at its best today for the students from Newlands and Essendon Primary Schools who were enjoying outdoor adventures with their friends."

The Victorian Budget 2023-24 has invested \$299 million over four years to increase funding for the Camps, Sports, and Excursions Fund (CSEF), and give teachers and support staff extra pay for their time and effort at school camps.

This means schools will also now have more flexibility with how they staff school camps with teachers and support staff properly recognised for their time supporting students.



Minister for Education Natalie Hutchins with some of the students. -S

Teachers and support class staff who attend camps will now receive time in lieu of \$200 or up to four hours in overtime payments per night away. This has been backdated to the start of the year.

The government has also announced a boost in funding of \$25 per student for the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund in

recognition of the increases in the costs of camps, sports and excursions.

Eligibility for the CSEF is primarily for families with a valid means tested concession card, or for families who may not have a concession card like foster carers and asylum seeker and refugee families.

R U OK research has highlighted the impacts of conversation

R U OK? Research has underscored the impact a genuine conversation can have on someone who is struggling with life.

The research has found more than four in five people who engaged in a meaningful conversation felt better about managing their situation having talked it through and felt supported, heard, and safe during the conversation.

However, the research also found that when asked if they were OK, two in five people (38 per cent) who said they were OK actually were not OK. These respondents told us that important factors to encourage an honest conversation are Trust, Authenticity and Environment.

It was noted people need to know the person they speak to is someone they trust, and, for many, someone they are close to. They want to know the person asking them genuinely wants to hear the answer and people would prefer to have these conversations in a relatively private space with enough time to share what they want to say.

Two months out from R U OK? Day on September 14, R U OK? are calling on Australians to let the people they care about know; 'I'm here to hear', every day of the year.

R U OK? CEO Katherine Newton said, "You need to ask this question because you mean it. If you really care and want to hear an honest answer, be genuine with your ask, make space to listen and let the person know you're sticking around for whatever comes next.

"We know the positive impact an R U OK? conversation have when people know and trust each other. This usually means that trust

has been built over time, they're familiar with each other's routines and behaviours, and they likely know what's going on in each other's lives. This trust, along with consideration of the where and when a conversation will take place contributes to making an R U OK? conversation truly meaningful."

Suicide Prevention Australia's June 2023 Community Tracker revealed 2 in 5 Australians know someone who has died by or attempted suicide in the last 12 months, a 13 per cent increase from 2021. For the fourth quarter running, cost of living and personal debt remained the number one issue driving distress.

"In recent years there has been a lot for Australians to deal with. Many are still feeling the impact of natural disasters and the pandemic, while the cost of living increases are adding more stress on those who might already be struggling to manage," said Ms Newton.

"There is a natural tendency for us to want to move on as new events capture focus and we resume our usual routines," explained Ms Newton.

"That's why it's important for us to recognise that the people we really care about may be feeling ongoing effects, long after something has happened to them, and

to let them know we're still here to really hear."

You can find FREE resources at ruok.org.au to help you know when and how to ask, 'Are you OK?' in your workplace, school and community and plan your R U OK? Day 2023 activities.

For support at any time of day or night, Lifeline provides free and confidential crisis support. Call 13 11 14, text 0477 131 114 or chat online at lifeline.org.au. 13YARN is a free 24/7 service offering crisis support for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people. Call 13YARN (13 92 76).

\$250,000 to assist rural and regional communities

APPLICATIONS are now open for the ANZ Seeds of Renewal program, with grants of up to \$15,000 available for not for profit organisations in remote, rural and regional areas to support the ongoing prosperity of regional Australia.

The program, which is now in its 21st year, is administered by the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) and has provided more than \$5.5 million to more than 800 community groups for approximately 900 projects to help build vibrant and sustainable communities.

This year, the ANZ Seeds of Renewal program is again offering a share of

\$250,000 to community organisations in remote, rural or regional locations for projects aligned to four focus areas. These areas include, Environmental sustainability, initiatives that restore and conserve the natural environment or which contribute to lower carbon emissions, water stewardship and waste minimisation. Financial wellbeing, particularly for under represented and disadvantaged people in the community, including initiatives that improve economic participation. Housing access initiatives and programs that support those experiencing or at risk of homelessness or

that provide supports for people living with disability and Projects that assist local communities to thrive by either enabling vibrant communities where everyone can participate and build a better life, or creating sustainable communities that help deliver demonstrable medium to long term economic sustainability.

A grant seeker workshop will be held online from 1 to 2pm on Wednesday July 19.

For more information about ANZ Seeds of Renewal, or to apply for a grant visit FRRR's website frrr.org.au



Yarck Country Womens Association member Nola Wernicke with goodies for sale made by CWA members. Proceeds of these go towards the good works of the Yarck CWA including donations to local nursing homes, Flying Doctors and victims of family violence. -RS

Wonderful local goods on display at the Yarck Market



Crochet artist extraordinaire Nadia Schuts with her young assistant, daughter Jaime. -RS



Bron Britton from the Yarck Hall committee with a quilt donated by the Alexandra Quilters which is being raffled to raise funds for maintenance of the hall. -RS



Pamela Talia, Pam Chaffe and Maria Koci enjoying morning tea made by the CWA. -RS



A giant crocheted spider, made by Nadia Schuts, was on display. -RS

Overhaul of disaster governance

AN Independent Review of National Natural Disaster Governance Arrangements has been commissioned by Australia's emergency management ministers, to better prepare governments for the demands of increasing future natural disasters.

The Governance Review will examine how national governance arrangements could more effectively serve national natural disaster preparedness, response, recovery, resilience, and long term policy requirements.

Due for completion by November 30, the review has been commissioned to complement the Independent Review into Commonwealth Disaster Funding, which is being led by Mr Andrew Colvin APM OAM.

The Governance Review is being led by climate change and disaster management expert Dr Robert Glasser from the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI).

As part of the Review, Dr Glasser will also consider establishing an authoritative disaster advisory body and expanding the remit of the National Emergency Management Ministers Meeting (NEMMM) a Ministerial Council reporting to National Cabinet.

The NEMMM brings together emergency management portfolio ministers across jurisdictions to drive national cooperation and consistency on enduring strategic issues in emergency and disaster management and resilience.

Minister for Emergency Management, Murray Watt, who chairs the NEMMM, said ensuring the disaster response was fit for purpose across jurisdictions will deliver the best results for disaster prone communities.

"All Ministers responsible for disaster response understand that we do better through strong cooperation and by planning ahead, not waiting for disasters to strike," Minister Watt said.

"If we are as prepared as possible at a government level, we can ensure communities get help fast.

"Dr Glasser has the right skills and experience to lead the Review and will ensure the views of all state and territory governments and key stakeholders are taken into account."

Victorian Acting Minister for Emergency Services Anthony Carabines said the Review highlighted the importance of strengthening national coordination and cooperation for disaster

management, by ensuring all states and territories had a say on the effectiveness of governance processes.

"We've said all along that locals know best when it comes to what they need to recover as communities experience more frequent and severe emergencies governments must work together to support those on the front line," Minister Carabines said.

"Councils have told us that the less red tape, the better when it comes to disaster response, it's our hope that this Review helps cut some of that down and ensures decisions are made quickly, clearly and informed by local knowledge."

All levels of government, the community and private sector will be engaged to provide input, with further desktop reviews and research to inform the final report.

A Working Group consisting of representatives from the Australian and state and territory governments and the Australian Local Government Association is being established to support Dr Glasser.

The Review is being conducted in response to recommendations from the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements.

Victorian Community Achievement Awards

NOW is the time to think about someone amazing who you would like to thank for their tireless work in the community with nominations open for the 2023 Community Achievement Awards for Victoria.

The awards celebrate those people who have contributed to their community, no matter how big or small.

These nominees will be the selfless unsung heroes that dedicate their time to helping the lives of others within their community.

Full details of the category descriptions and the conditions of entry can be found on the website awardsaustralia.com/Viccaa. Nominations are now open and can be filled in online at awardsaustralia.com/Viccaa and select 'Nominate Now'.

Alternatively, make the process that much easier by calling 1300 055 096 or emailing vic@awardsaustralia.com and pass on the person's details.

All nominees will receive a letter of congratulations and a certificate of encouragement for their nomination.

Nominations close on Friday, September 1, with judging to take place throughout October. Winners will be announced on Friday, December 1 at the 2023 Community Achievement Awards Gala Presentation Dinner.

Grant available for young carers

AUSTRALIA'S most vulnerable are grappling with cost of living pressures that are affecting families and the country's young people. As families seek to minimise costs, more young people are taking up a carer role for friends and family. The \$6 million Commonwealth Government grant provides added financial aid and support to young people to continue their educational journey while they provide unpaid care to family and friends.

Young Carer Bursary will offer 1592 grants nationwide, with each grant providing a young carer with up to \$3768 to assist them with the costs of education in the 2024 academic year. With high inflation on

groceries and bills, soaring rents, a housing crisis and low wages growth, funding is vital to help to support these young people to carry out their vital carer roles.

Young carers are 12 to 25 years of age and provide substantial unpaid care to a family member or friend facing disability, illness, injury, mental health, and aged care, through to dependence on alcohol or drugs. Most care for a parent or a sibling and more than a third care for two or more relatives.

Alison Brook, CEO, Carers Australia said, "Young carers are hugely inspiring and provide a nurturing role typically beyond their years. However, caring comes

with considerable pressure that can be very isolating.

"I'm so pleased we are able to provide some financial relief in the form of an educational grant to enable these young people to remain able and committed to their studies."

Young carers help with many tasks like household chores, paying bills, personal care, giving medication and emotional support. The grants available will impact and acknowledge the lives of those who are struggling to juggle caring duties alongside education, work and their own personal interests and development.

The Young Carer Bursary Program supports young carers to continue with their education and reduce their need to undertake paid work at the same time as their study and caring duties.

Applications for the 2024 Young Carer Bursary Program will be open until September 12. More information can be found at youngcarersnetwork.com.au/bursary/young-carer-bursary

Carers Australia is the national peak body representing Australia's carers, advocating to influence policies and services at a national level.

SPORT



The male under 17 riders tackling the climb up Skyline Road with the spectacular back drop of Lake Eildon rivaling any panoramic view from this year's Tour de France. -S

Eildon Cycling Classic

by Paul from Blackburn Cycling Club

ON the weekend of July 8 and 9, over 500 cyclists participated in a three-day event, with over 63 races being held and 24 clubs participating in the Classic, hosted by Blackburn Cycling Club.

The youngest rider for the weekend was a young female cyclist of eight years of age and the oldest participant was a grand master at 75 years.

The Eildon Classic is part of the Victorian Road Series and is the main lead up race heading into the Victorian State titles at Glenrowan in August.

The nature of the events was varied with time trials, team races, hill climbs and individual races.

The feature race for the weekend was the Damian McDonald Memorial Race. Alexander Evans from the Bendigo and

District Cycling Club took the honours in the senior male race with a time of two hours, 14 minutes and an average speed of 37.3k/h. The female race was won in thrilling style in a photo finish, with Sharni Morley also from the Bendigo Club winning by the width of a bike tyre from Celestine Frantz from Hawthorn Cycling Club. Amelia Mulhern of Bendigo was only four seconds further back in third place.

The event is a massive undertaking by the Blackburn Cycling Club, with over 150 volunteers required to stage the event. People and families competing at the event booked out accommodation throughout Murrindindi Shire, with some clubs having to stay in Wangaratta and Seymour due to the popularity of the event. The Blackburn Cycling Club would like to thank the hospitality of the local community and for their support over the three days of the cycling event.



The under 17 females shrouded in mist as they tackle the Damian McDonald Memorial Race. -S



A young cyclist from Croydon Cycling Club relieved at nearing the finish line in challenging conditions. -S



All smiles after finishing. -S

A bye for senior Rebels

by Michelle Jack

THE Outer East League 2023 season round 11 on Saturday, July 15 was the Indigenous Round and a split round with the Rebels having a bye last Saturday.

Saturday, July 22 is round 12 and the Rebels travel to Yarra Glen for two games of football and three games of netball. The awards will be at the Yarrck Hotel.

The following Saturday, July 29 we return to Rebel Park and host Powelltown. The Club is also hosting Ladies Day. Enquiries to Kylie Cairns.

Thursday's Rebel Raffles returns this coming Thursday, July 20 and we thank our sponsors Swenrick Constructions, Yarrck Hotel, Reddrops FoodWorks / Houseboat Sales Lake Eildon, Eildon Bakery / Yarrck Meat and Produce, Alexandra Quality Meats / AFNC canteen, Yea Chinese Restaurant / Bailey Funerals. The Swenrick Constructions Joker Jackpot was not won and will be worth \$1300 this week so come along. You will need cash to buy a ticket for your chance to win a prize.

Winter round seven tennis report

by Rhonda Carpenter

THE Euroa winter women's tennis competition resumed after the midwinter break with much excitement after some missed opportunities before the break.

Players arrived at the Euroa courts, attempted to warmup but the slippery surface was deemed unplayable, and the match was cancelled. The Terip courts were also wetter than expected. Moglonemby hosted Benalla but were able to get through in a tight contest.

Luckily Mansfield Black and Mansfield Blue had begun early for their match at home to complete the round. Grey damp skies threatened, and light rain briefly interrupted play during the contest. The sun peeped through, and everyone was delighted to be on court.

The opening sets were determined by tiebreakers with Blue's Michelle Pigdon, Peta Kelly, Sophie Yencken and Clare Beecham winning both. The current and former club champions combined superbly all day with strong baseline hitting and clever courtcraft.

Black's Liza Karras, Jenny Bell, Rhonda Carpenter and Di Bergelin welcomed Di Ellis back into the fold, and battled hard but could not match Blue's class in the remaining sets. Blue won 6/48 to Black's 0/17.

Moglonemby hosted Benalla who had welcomed Mog's Robyn Johnston into their side. The match was hotly contested and briefly interrupted by rain. Judy Sands, Debbie Seach, Mary Kelly, and Lyn Johnson narrowly took both openers. The next pairings went one each way and then Benalla's Kate Campbell, Maureen Jewell, Helen Chetui with Johnston powered on in the final sets. Despite them winning both, one in a tiebreak, Moglonemby sealed the win by three games.

Moglonemby won 3/41 to Benalla's 3/38. Washouts were recorded for Seven Creeks versus Mansfield Red, and Terip versus Euroa.

Ladder: Terip 51, Euroa 49, Moglonemby 47, Benalla 40, Mansfield Black 33, Seven Creeks 29, Mansfield Blue 19, Mansfield Red 12.



Blake about to play a backhand against James. -S

Alexandra squash results

by Kristelle Leary

SPAGHETTI had a bye this week.

Bolognaise v Carbonara

Blake v James G: A great game. James broke away at the start to win three straight games. Blake hung in there, narrowing the margin each game and eventually managing to draw the last game. James for the win. 60 to 45.

Troy (fill-in) v Lucas: This was a very even battle. Lucas claimed the second game with a good margin, but Troy had too many tricks and won the other three games to take the match by a minimal three points. 57 to 54.

Jodie v Kelly: With two games each it was anyone's guess who won. The tally showed that Kelly's early lead was enough to hold onto the victory. 55 to 52.

Ben v Stuart: Ben put in a solid match and outplayed Stuart. Ben for the win. 62 to 47.

Michael H v James W: Recently moving up to level one, James refused to give Michael an easy win. Both players were hitting shots on every angle off the slippery walls. Michael led early taking the first game. James dominated the second game, but had the lead wrestled off him again. Michael was victorious. 65 to 60.

Lasagne v Ravioli

Charlie v Aiden: Aiden gave away some easy shots to Charlie who made full use of his chance. Aiden will improve with some more court time, but this time the win went to Charlie. 68 to 37.

Mick v Lee: Two games each. Lee won her games more convincingly for a comfortable win. 62 to 45.

Justin v Simon: Neither player was able to take control of the match. Justin managed to gather more points and games but only beat Simon by four points. 63 to 59.

Daniel W v Michael M: Daniel put Michael under pressure with some power shots and unexpected returns but, Michael was able to use his experience to make Daniel run and he started to crack, making mistakes. Michael for the win. 61 to 43.

Andrew L (fill-in) v Andrew B: Andrew L's pace had Andrew B bamboozled in the first game. As he settled into the game Andrew B controlled the game, but the damage had already been done and Andrew L finished on top. 64 to 53.

Eildon golf

by Puttamatic

SATURDAY, July 15 saw the first competition for some weeks. It was a stroke round and June Monthly Medal. With the conditions still being quite wet, and this time of the year numbers are always down, we had six players contest the medal round.

Some good scores were recorded given the wet and trying conditions. The medal winner on the day was R. Taylor net 71, closely followed by P. Dally net 72, and on countback C. Carnegie also net 72. There was no winner for nearest the pin on the third, second shot or on the eleventh or fourteenth but P. Dally took nearest the pin on the fifth and J. Beale on the twelfth.

With improved weather forecast let's hope we get rain free golf moving forward. Next Saturday will be a Stableford round.

Marysville Golf Report

by Lesley Rundle

SATURDAY, July 15 was the first day in some time where the Marysville golfers didn't require their wet weather gear. Playing conditions were good and the golfers enjoyed their day on the course. Some players played in the first round of the mixed match play event. Match play is the game played in a pennant competition whereby two players compete to win the hole. The hole is either won, lost or squared and the player with the most wins at the end of the round wins the match. Saturday's winners were Paul Martin, Mark Banbery, Richie Clark, Peter Lilley, Jody Doran, Brian Worcester and Yewls Kuan.

In the next round on Saturday, August 26, Paul

will play Mark, Richie v Peter, Brian v Yewls and Jody will play the winner of the match between Margaret Blair and Steve Coker. Those who didn't compete in the match play did a Stableford round. The ladies winner was Margaret Blair (33) with 34 points followed by Gail Leigh (11) with 30 points. The men's winner was Adam Littlejohn (22) with an excellent 38 points followed by Mark Alexander (6) with 36 points. The nearest the pins were won by Adam Littlejohn (2) Mark Alexandra and Peter Lilley, who also won the Golden Shot. Next Saturday both the men and the ladies will play a stroke round for the first round of the Winter Aggregate.

During the recess period of the Dalhousie District

Ladies Events a number of Marysville ladies play social golf on other local courses. Last Thursday three Marysville ladies joined four from the Yea Golf Club for a game at the RACV club in Healesville. There was plenty of friendship, fun and frivolity but not many good scores. Members would like to thank Heather Jenkins for organising this initiative.

The District Open Challenge Bowl will be held on Sunday, August 13 at the Broadford Golf Club. Clubs are invited to enter teams of 4 (any combination) for a Stableford game. Any Marysville members who would like to enter this event are asked to register with Lesley Rundle by Saturday, August 5.

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Junior Rebels in great form

by Michelle Jack

IN round 10 of the season, the Alexandra Football Netball Club junior teams travelled to Broadford to play four games of football, together with Alexandra Black to play three games of netball, Alexandra Red travelled to Kings Park to play Seymour in three games of netball, the under 16 football team playing their first game of the season at Rebel Park hosting Tatura. The under 9s and 10s football had a game but theirs is non-competitive and non-scoring so there is no win loss for that competition.

Football

Under 12s
Broadford 7.1 - 43 defeated by Alexandra 9.4 - 58

North Central Construction - Nathan Webb. Essence Coffee Lounge - Sienna Heard. FoodWorks - Billy Baker. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Tybar Reid. Coach - Levi

Campbell, Chase Wright, Will Simpson.

Under 14s
Broadford 2.4 - 16 defeated by Alexandra 11.17 - 83

North Central Construction - Aiden Campbell. Essence Coffee Lounge - Heath Sutcliffe. FoodWorks - Matthew Wal. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Jamie Nash. Coach - Lachlan Williams.

Under 16s
Alexandra 17.17 - 119 defeated Tatura 6.4 - 40

DMK Taxation - Callan Howell. Essence Coffee Lounge - Ryan Sproles. FoodWorks - Nathan Hendricks. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Luke Wal. Coach - Jayden Valentine.

Netball

Under 11s
Broadford 2 defeated by Alexandra Black 41

Foodworks - Bella Lamaro. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Lillian Savage. Alex Sportspower - Jayde Stewart.

Under 13s
Broadford 14 defeated by Alexandra Black 26

FoodWorks - Eadie Gibson. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Holly Williams. Alex Sportspower - Leah Cole.

Under 15s
Broadford 47 defeated Alexandra Black 20
Foodworks - Harley Olive. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Regan O'Toole.

Under 11s
Seymour 6 defeated by Alexandra Red 15
FoodWorks - Tilly Miljkovic. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Mia Bruce. Miljkovic Family - Lila Friswell.

Under 13s

Seymour 34 defeated Alexandra Red 19
FoodWorks - Ava Carr. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Ruby Friswell. Miljkovic Family - Charli Edwards.

Under 15s
Seymour 10 defeated by Alexandra Red 38
FoodWorks - Millie Wales. Alexandra Bakery and Café - Abby Miljkovic. Wales Family - Ava Krijt.

A VERY big thank you to the award sponsors for their continued support of our junior footballers and netballers in 2023. Next Sunday, July 23, Alexandra junior football and netball teams return to Rebel Park for the first time since May 21. They host Yea in four games of football and Alexandra Black host Yea in three games of netball. Alexandra Red netball has a bye, under 16 football also play at Rebel Park and host Shepparton United. There will be a social get together at the conclusion of the junior games.



The under 16s game. -S



Ava Carr in under 13 Alexandra Red netball. -S



The under 16s game. -S



The under 16s game. -S



Tahlia Peine Malone in under 13 Alexandra Red netball. -S