

# 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 3, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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## Meeting in support of Alexandra's hospital

ALEXANDRA and district residents turned out in force to the Hands Off Alexandra Hospital meeting, held at the Alexandra Shire Hall on the morning of Saturday, June 29. The hall was filled to capacity, with some watching on from the foyer or listening in from outside. The meeting was also broadcast on UGMF.

Andrew Embling acted as emcee for the event, commenting that every town needs their hospital and that no changes are needed to the board or any closures.

Mayor Damien Gallagher was the first speaker to address the audience. He commented on the end of the timber industry, the impact of the economy on local businesses, banks closing, potential changes to state forests in the shire, and now the challenges facing the hospital.

He also spoke about the various health issues facing the residents of the shire, and how greater investment in healthcare in the shire is needed.

He compared the situation to the amalgamation of the ski fields, with the smaller mountains such as Lake Mountain losing out to the larger mountains. Lake Mountain is now closed two days each week. "Small stakeholders don't win in amalgamations," he said.

He also commented on how Murrindindi Shire is often overlooked and that the community is often left to address the disadvantage. He said that he met with the Minister for Health earlier in the week, and commented that he is concerned as he can't imagine that there will be good health outcomes from the proposed changes.

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said that the full plan is not yet known and has been calling on the Minister for Health to provide the information. She was also concerned about how the hospital's staff, CEO and board can't speak out on the situation.

She said that many hospitals are already on a shoestring, and noted that costs keep increasing. She added that local staff members are certainly not going overseas



Alexandra and district residents voted unanimously on the resolution. -AR

for training. She questioned how far people will have to travel for specialist appointments under the proposed changes, and was worried that local decisions won't be made locally.

"Rallies like this make a difference," she said, noting that there have already been rallies held in Mansfield and Yea.

Shadow Minister for Health Georgie Crozier said that country hospitals are part of the heart and soul of small towns, mentioning health emergencies such as car accidents and natural disasters.

She said that rallies are being held across the state, and said that under the changes, people would have to travel further for basic care. She also commented that "health services will tank" and that there will be the closure of wards and reductions in services. She believes that the doors won't be closed but services will be lost.

Mike Dalmau told a very personal story about the death of his wife, Maxine, and the care and compassion provided by the staff at Alexandra District Health (ADH).

He also spoke about the flow on effects of the proposed changes to

the health services. As president of Alexandra District Ambulance Support Inc, he spoke about the transfer of ambulance services to Ambulance Victoria. When emergency became urgent care at ADH, a two hour job became an eight hour job to Melbourne suburbs and the number of volunteers decreased. If the services continue being centralised, he questioned how ambulances will be able to cover the area when ambulances are on a job and are potentially ramped. He called for better consultation with the community.

Ray Mathieson spoke about his history in the area, and about the importance of the hospital during the 2009 fires, and afterwards. He also spoke about how the hospital has helped him, and others, with various health conditions. "We will lose services for cost savings," he said, and added, "Spring Street, hands off our hospital."

Lorna Gelbert, former ADH board chair, said that she does not believe that the community will be well served by an amalgamation. ADH is block funded "and it is never enough," she said. Block funding means that the hospital receives the same amount of funding



People watching the meeting from the foyer as they were unable to access the main hall. -VG

regardless of the number of patients. She believes that services at risk may include urgent care, acute care, specialists, health initiatives and allied health.

"Any cuts mean serious cuts to services," she said. She also noted the increasing population in the area.

She believes that the standardisation and centralisation of services will mean that we only receive the services we're told we can have, and that people will be forced to travel to large hospitals

for services we already provide. She said that the hospital needs loud support to get the best outcomes.

Caolan O'Connor said that we deserve equal access to high quality care regardless of where we live, and that community access to health services must be maintained and advanced. He strongly encouraged people to sign the petition, created by Linda and Ian Davis, and to write to the politicians making the decisions.

"Minister, listen to the community," he said.

### Warm up your winter with a festive feast in July!

#### Celebration Dinner Saturday 20 July 2024

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**Local Radio Frequency**  
UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon  
UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands  
UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain  
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldene  
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 0402 428 086  
Sun Alanon Recovery 5.30pm. Ph Sheila 0402 428 086  
Sun Alex & Dist Dog Obedience, training. Ph 5772 1057  
Thu 7.00-10pm SES, SES/CFA complex Ph 0418 576 666  
Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

**MONTHLY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318  
1<sup>st</sup> Sat Alexandra Quilters RSL Hall 10am-4pm Ph 5772 3257  
1<sup>st</sup> Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Alexandra Market - at Station Street Ph 0427 509 988  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Alexandra Ladies Probud Club 10am RSL Ph 5772 2946  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thu Community Polluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sun Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913  
4<sup>th</sup> Tue Yarck CWA Meeting, 10.30am Yarck Hall.  
4<sup>th</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
4<sup>th</sup> Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517  
Last Fri Carers Group 10am. Free morning tea. 0418 402 455



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.



**Letters to the Editor**

**Proposed Victorian regional hospital mergers**

IN spite of the ludicrous claims that budget cuts to and centralisation of regional hospitals will not impact patient care, communities across Victoria are well aware this is a lie of Trumpian proportions. Simply repeating this patently false claim over and over again will not convince us otherwise and is an insult to the intelligence of regional Victoria. If the state government wanted to genuinely address our concerns, they would have provided our communities with facts, figures and plans, and importantly, access to the findings of the Expert Advisory Committee (which we paid for and is currently withheld).

Instead, our hospital boards are served with 'non-disclosure clauses'.

The damage to regional communities from the proposed changes has and is widely discussed in regional hospitals, town meetings, editorials and the broader media. However, there is an equally disturbing underlying issue at stake here.

Our governments are our representatives, elected by us, paid by us, accountable to us. Yet, as mentioned, the current government have forced hospital boards to sign non-disclosure clauses. Let that sink in for a moment. In other words, our government is saying to our hospital boards, "We will not permit you to tell your communities, (ie. the people the state government represent, are paid by and are accountable to), what we are up to or how we plan to spend their money."

Is this what we see as open, honest and transparent leadership? "Don't tell anyone" is hardly the approach indicative of a government with nothing to hide. Rather it smacks of a contempt for regional Victorians and their welfare.

No one should underestimate the depth of commitment to resolving this issue, as evidenced by the numerous public meetings, petitions and protests. Nor should one underestimate our ability to fight this with a strong, united, talented cohort who are fast gathering the support of influential allies.

This is a case of commitment and capability combining to face a common threat to our regional communities. As a state, let's find a better and more equitable way to deal with the Victorian budget challenges. In the meanwhile, hands off our regional hospitals.

*R Jungalwalla, Alexandra.*

**Standard The Yea Chronicle**

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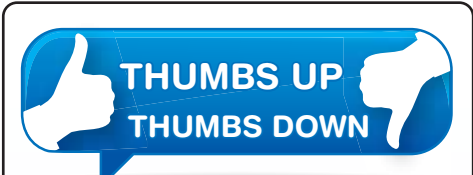
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**RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT**

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	10.00am Mon	2.47	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	10.00am Mon	0.51	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	7.16am Mon	0.91		below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	8.48am Mon	0.21	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	10.26am Mon	0.55	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea	9.44am Mon	0.88	falling	
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	10.00am Mon	4.43	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	10.00am Mon	0.52	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Trawool	10.00am Mon	2.27	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	10.00am Mon	0.30	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	10.00am Mon	2.39	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	9.53am Mon	1.24	steady	

**\*\*ISSUED AT 10.45AM ON MONDAY, 1 JULY 2024**



**THUMBS UP:** To our thoughtful and generous neighbours in Buxton who checked in on our wellbeing regularly, offering of assistance and supplying meals during our recent illnesses that took us offline.

**THUMBS UP:** Our McKenzie's bus drivers who assist us with our luggage on and off the bus when we are not at our best.

**THUMBS UP:** Congratulations to all the new operational CFA recruits following their recent General Fire Fighter course completion, from Eildon to Narbethong and towns in between.

**THUMBS DOWN:** To the Shire of Murrindindi's response for using an estate agent outside of Eildon or Alexandra to sell a property in Park Ave, Eildon. If the response is to be credible, why not use an agent from a surrounding shire, ie. Seymour or Mansfield. Why Wangaratta?

**THUMBS UP:** To Murrindindi Kitchens for the wonderful professional job in replacing our kitchen. The advice we received from Matt and the quality of the product and workmanship is second to none.

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



**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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

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

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



**DISTRICT RAINFALL**

Alexandra	15.2mm
Buxton	27mm
Eildon (AWS)	13mm
Flowerdale	20mm
Jamieson	26mm
Kinglake	23mm
Lake Eildon	22mm
Mansfield	3mm
Taggerty	19mm
Yarck	16mm
Yea	18mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

**LAKE EILDON**

Height above sea level this week	285.96m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	88.5%
Metres below full supply	2.94m
Daily inflow	1400ML
Release	8500ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	71%



**DEADLINES**

Real Estate	Thursday 5pm
Trades & Services	Thursday noon
Early General News	Thursday 5pm
Classifieds	Monday noon
Editorial	Monday 9am
Sports Editorial	Monday 10am
Letters to the Editor	Monday 9am
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

**Weekly Weather**  
July 3 - July 9, 2024

Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	0	14	Wednesday	1	14
Thursday	1	15	Thursday	2	15
Friday	1	14	Friday	1	14
Saturday	1	14	Saturday	1	15
Sunday	4	15	Sunday	4	15
Monday	8	14	Monday	8	15
Tuesday	8	13	Tuesday	8	13

**Standard** **The Yea Chronicle**

# Response from minister about Lake Mountain

ON March 21, Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish questioned Minister for the Environment Steve Dimopoulos about the decision to close Lake Mountain for two days each week during winter. She also sought assurances for the community about the long-term survival of the mountain, as it is vital to many livelihoods in Murrindindi Shire.

She said, "Marysville, along with other communities in Murrindindi Shire, has suffered a lot with floods and fire, storms, power outages and certainly the closure of the timber industry. Loss of income for Marysville because of the closure of Lake Mountain is very problematic."

The Minister responded on June 24, "I thank the Member for Eildon for her

question about this important issue for the Lake Mountain alpine resort community and surrounding areas.

"Lake Mountain alpine resort is a valued and cherished part of the Marysville community and I understand your concerns about the flow-on effects to local businesses following the altered operating hours at Lake Mountain alpine resort.

"I am advised that Alpine Resorts Victoria (ARV), established on October 1, 2022, as successor to the former Alpine Resort Management Boards, is currently working through options for the future of the alpine resorts to ensure the long term sustainability of the alpine industry.

"My department has, since 2003, supported the Southern Resorts (Lake Mountain and Mount Baw Baw) with financial support of up to \$8 million per annum. The Victorian Government also provided \$9 million to ARV in 2022-23 and approximately \$40 million in COVID-19 funding to the former alpine resort boards between 2020 and 2022.

"ARV will continue to assess resort operating hours in future winter seasons to ensure broad use and enjoyment of the alpine resort.

"I would be happy to facilitate a meeting with ARV for you to discuss these concerns further."

## Supersized fish stocking this winter

THESE school holidays the state government is stocking 80 lakes across the state with more than 35,000 catchable size rainbow trout.

Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced the stocking of over 10,000 fish across the Northern Victoria region, which has helped reach a record breaking stocking of 11.5 million this year, smashing the previous record of 10 million.

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

From Ouyen Lake to Eildon Pondage, lakes across the Northern Victoria region feature pontoons or jetties, accessible paths and parking for fishers of all abilities as well as other nearby facilities like barbecues and toilets to make it easier for families across Victoria to wet a line and enjoy the great outdoors this school holidays.

There's never been a better time for Victorian kids to start their fishing journey thanks to the Government's Little Angler Kits program which has delivered 95,000 kits to every grade five student in Victorian schools so more young anglers can try their luck at their local lake.

The kits also include a kids' guide to fishing with safety messages and educational videos that teach budding fishers tips for catching fish as well as responsible fishing practices, inspiring kids to discover this active, healthy pastime and giving families the information and equipment they need to get started.

## Firewood collection has now ceased

THE firewood collection areas closed on Sunday, June 30. It is now illegal to collect firewood from state forests and public land until the spring season opens on Sunday, September 1.

Penalties apply if you are caught collecting firewood outside the designated collection season or areas.

Remember, collected firewood needs at least a year to dry before its used in the fireplace.

Support and concessions are available for people on low incomes or experiencing hardships who rely on firewood or need help with their energy costs.

For more information visit [ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/energy-concession-and-support](http://ffm.vic.gov.au/firewood/energy-concession-and-support)

## Mobile breast screening bus in Alexandra

THE mobile breast screening bus will be located outside the Alexandra Shire Hall until July 26.

BreastScreen Victoria (BSV) is a free service for women with no breast symptoms. They are inviting women aged 50 to 74 years old to have a breast screen regularly, usually every two years.

A breast screening mammogram (or breast screen) checks for breast cancer. At your screening appointment, the radiographer will take two images of each breast, which are later examined by two or more radiologists.

In a small number of women, the screening mammogram will show possible signs of breast cancer. If this happens after your breast screen, you will be contacted to attend a second appointment which is called an assessment. An assessment appointment involves further testing such as x-rays, ultrasound, biopsies and clinical examination, to reach a diagnosis. These tests are all performed at assessment clinics.

To make an appointment for a breast screening, visit [breastscreen.org.au](http://breastscreen.org.au) or call 132 050. It could save your life.

## Hunt for the longest gum leaf

IN celebration of National Tree Day, Murrindindi Shire Council has a challenge for you, The 'Longest Gum Leaf' competition.

So, grab your coziest scarf, get out in nature and hunt for the longest gum leaf you can find. Once you've found the most epic leaf out there, head on over to one of council libraries in Alexandra, Yea, or Kinglake and show off your prized leaf.

You'll officially go in the running for some seriously cool prizes for both kids and grown ups too.

Entries close July 16. Winners will be announced at a National Tree Day event on Tuesday July 16, after a talk by well known ABC Radio presenter Dr Gregory Moore OAM.

## Vale Jack Russell

WELL known Yea identity Jack Russell passed away on Tuesday, June 25 in Yea. He had been set to move to Bendigo prior to his death.

Jack was well known for his court battles, including in the Victorian Supreme Court, with Murrindindi Shire Council, including former Shire CEOs Margaret Abbey and Craig Lloyd, as well as cases against Melbourne City Council over a tripping incident, the Shire of Yarra Ranges, members of Victoria Police and members of the Department of Corrections. At one point, he even sought a judicial review of one of the judges.

He often self-represented in court. He also knew his way around Freedom of Information laws and wasn't afraid to submit FOI requests as he saw fit.

Between October 2011 and July 2012, Jack was held in the Melbourne Remand Centre while pending trial for attempted murder. A year later, in July 2013, these charges were withdrawn. He accused members of the Department of Corrections of three "unlawful physical contacts" while he was on remand.

It should also be noted that during his time in the Melbourne Remand Centre, he wrote 70 letters to the Department of Corrections.

Jack was banned from council premises for a significant period following an incident at the Yea Library in April 2016. He was charged with unlawful assault, entering a place in a manner likely to cause a breach of the peace, and wilfully trespassing in a public place. On November 14, 2016, a magistrate convicted him of charges one and three. Charge two was dismissed.

This incident was the seed of many of his court cases against Murrindindi Shire Council.

Jack wasn't shy about disrupting meetings at Murrindindi Shire Council when permitted to attend, commenting on everything from seating arrangements and cameras, through to the restrictions on his attendance at council locations and his latest FOI requests.

He was a man with strident beliefs and was a thorn in the side of many.

## The importance of a regular mammogram

by Jacqui Person, Marysville

SITTING in a doctors surgery, and the worst words you can hear are, "I am sorry you have breast cancer." In an instant every emotion goes through your head.

Then the most comforting words, "but we have caught it early. The lump is small and we can remove it in a lumpectomy."

I have attended Breast Screen Victoria every two years since its inception. Ironically this regular mammogram would be the last time the service would send me a reminder as I had turned 74. However, they did give me a card and invited me to call and make an appointment in another two years, which would still be free. I had already determined I would continue. It just doesn't make any sense to me not to.

So, this lump was found during a regular mammogram and clearly could only have been there for less than two years. It was small and unable to be detected by examination, even by a doctor who knew what he was looking for.

A lumpectomy was successfully performed, removing all of the tumour with good margins with no detectable spread. A precautionary course of radiation followed and I am now on the road to recovery.

How different this story could have been, had it not been for breast screening.

I cannot stress enough how lucky I feel to live in a country where this service is available to everyone.

It's free, its easy, it's not painful and it just might save your life.

## Embracing Tiny Towns

THE state government is backing more community led projects in Northern Victoria's tiny towns, with more than 200 new initiatives. Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes announced 12 new projects are being delivered through the first round of the *Tiny Towns Fund*.

Locally, Acheron Mechanics Institute Inc has received \$30,050 to resurface the Acheron tennis court, the Murrindindi Shire Council has received \$25,000 to deliver a streetscape upgrade in Alexandra, and Yea and District Adult Riding Club has received \$32,000 to deliver upgrades and improvements for the pony club.

For more information visit [rdv.vic.gov.au/tinytownsfund](http://rdv.vic.gov.au/tinytownsfund)

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## 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 Fr Jose Mathew.  
Presbytery 0468 810 871  
St Matthews Eildon, Saturday 5pm  
Alexandra, Sunday 8.45am  
Sacred Heart Yea, Sunday 10.45am

### UNITING CHURCH In Australia

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Sharing the transforming love of  
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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  
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  
0481 472 152

## 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*.

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### THURSDAY, JULY 4

Eildon Events Inc AGM will be held at the Eildon Tennis clubrooms at 5pm. All welcome. For more information

or a nomination form email [eildoneventsinc@gmail.com](mailto:eildoneventsinc@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

### SATURDAY, JULY 6

Darren Gilbert open studio. Saturday and Sunday or other days by appointment. 10am-4pm each day. Giffard Street, Yea.

\*\*\*\*\*

### MONDAY, JULY 15

Murrindindi East U3A Annual General Meeting and election

of office bearers. 10.30am at Alexandra Bowling Club. Meeting followed by a guest speaker and a light lunch. All welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

### FRIDAY, JULY 19

Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group. Are you aged between 12 and 18? You are invited with your parents or carers and community members to the Alex Youth SPOT for a free barbecue from 3.30-5.30pm. For further information contact Jacky

on 0417 907 278 or Kerry on 0410 597 148.

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### SATURDAY, JULY 27

Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group 9.30am-10.30. Meeting room Yea RSL. Entry is free. For further information contact Jacky on 0417 907 278 or Kerry on 0410 597 148.

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## A history of the Alexandra hospital

from the Alexandra District Health website

IN late 1866, the mining boom hit Redgate, (as Alexandra was then known) and with the consequential population explosion, the need for medical and hospital care became an issue.

In 1870, the local council purchased two buildings for two pounds. They went on to spend a further 50 pounds, converting part of an old hotel into a courthouse and the other section into a hospital. From these humble beginnings sprang the Alexandra District Hospital.

The grand opening ball of the hospital on the old site was Friday, September 20, 1871. Its official incorporation and registration as a public hospital was on December 11, 1871, the official opening date.

The then-new hospital had a bed capacity of five and the first matron was Mrs Margaret

Milroy. In 1888, the size of the hospital was doubled to 10 beds with the reconstruction from wood to brick and the addition of the Jubilee Wing.

A disastrous fire in 1957, destroying not only the major part of the hospital but also all the archive records prior to that point, makes the development of this institution very difficult to recount. Suffice to say, a total reconstruction was undertaken.

Between 1969 and 1977, further development increased the services to a total of 30 beds including the only nursing home beds in the area.

In the mid-1980s to the present day saw the most rapid expansion in services and development of the new hospital in 2011. The health service now provides specialist medical services in eleven clinical disciplines, as well as a number of general

practitioners, radiology, allied health, district nursing and many other services. The equipment and facilities are state of the art and every effort will be made to continue to ensure that this is the case.

It is, however, more than worthy of repeating an excerpt from the *Alexandra Standard* at the turn of the century, "During the first two decades of this century, the hospital was greatly supported by the people of the surrounding area. Donations of goods were greatly appreciated and acknowledged in monthly hospital reports."

The unstinting and perpetual support from this community is what will always ensure the vitality and perpetuity of this hospital.

In 2014 the name was changed to Alexandra District Health as a representation of the broadened health service provision.

## To safety at hospital fire

*The Age, May 20, 1957*

SEVENTEEN patients were rushed to safety yesterday morning when fire swept through the hospital at Alexandra and destroyed the building.

The building was insured for £30,000, but the cost of reconstruction is estimated as high as £100,000.

Firemen from five brigades had no hope of saving the building, as flames raced through the pipes of the heating system in the roof.

The piping burst open in places. Residents almost half a mile away reported hearing a loud explosion.

During the blaze the iron roof collapsed in a shower of sparks and flame.

Local residents, the hospital staff, police and firemen worked to save the equipment and set up an emergency hospital in the isolation wards, which are in a separate building.

Ten of the patients were housed in the isolation wards, while the other seven, who are convalescing, were placed in private homes.

Until these emergency arrangements had been made, the patients were taken to the nearby nurses' quarters.

Most of the hospital equipment, including beds, furniture, sterilisers, an operating lamp torn from the theatre roof and x-ray equipment, valued at £800 was saved by volunteers.

While the equipment was carried to the school and a garage, residents cleared the isolation ward and women cooked meals.

The kitchen was the only room saved in the main hospital block.

An operating theatre and labour ward will be set up in the matron's quarters within three days.

The hospital serves about 6000 people in the Alexandra district, which is 80 miles from Melbourne.

The cause of the fire is no known, but arson detectives believe there are no suspicious circumstances.

*From page 3 of the same edition*

The fire which destroyed Alexandra hospital early yesterday was first noticed by Sister E Bourke when smoke poured from the roof of the maternity wing.

She rushed to Matron G Kemp who immediately ordered all patients to be removed from the hospital.

Describing the evacuation, the hospital cook, Mrs A Morrison said, "There was no panic. Matron Kemp told the four domestics to warn the five men patients while the nursing staff assisted the 11 women patients and a three day old baby from the building.

"One man had to be wheeled out in a chair, but we got them all out in plenty of time."

Alexandra fire brigade captain, Mr E M Stillman said the alarm rang at the station at 9.53am.

"I immediately rang the fire bell and raced to the hospital to find the maternity wing well alight," he said.

"The building was then searched but all the patients and staff had been removed to safety.

"Our fire engine and 15 volunteer firemen could not cope with the blaze so we called in Yea, Eildon, Thornton and the Forests Commission from Taggerty.

"Although there were about 100 volunteers, we had no hope of stopping the blaze, which raced through the roof from the maternity section in minutes.

"Sheets of iron were pulled from the roof, but the flames kept ahead of us all the time.

"Volunteers took grave risks from the falling roof as they entered the building.

"It took about three hours and a half to put out the blaze. It could have been burning two hours or more before it was noticed."

The chairman of the Hospitals and Charities Commission, Dr J H Lindell, said last night that technical men would visit the ruins this morning to see what could be done as quickly as possible.

Arrangements were in hand to transfer patients to other hospitals if necessary, and plans for this and the future of the hospital would be discussed today.



Alexandra's hospital after the fire. -S

## Standard

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

### Available from these retail outlets

- Alexandra FoodWorks
- Alexandra Newsagency
- Alexandra Newspapers
- Shell Buxton
- Eildon Grocer
- Alexandra Endeavour
- Hazeldene Store
- Igloo Buxton
- Marysville Grocer
- Mansfield Newsagency
- Merton General Store
- Metro Narby
- Seymour Newsagency
- Simpsons Caltex
- Taggerty Store
- Thornton Store
- Shell Thornton
- Yarck Meat and Produce
- Yea FoodWorks
- Yea Newsagency

Alexandra Newspapers are members of:





Many community organisations getting together to make a change for Murrindindi's Youth. From left to right, Stephen Joblin Secretary of the GVSAG, Kerry McGahy Team Leader of the Youth SPOT project, Sasha Barrow, from both Embassy of Ideas and Foundation Murrindindi, Jacky Gilbee, Founder and president of GVSAG, Robyn Hill CEO of Foundation Murrindindi, and Caolan O'Connor from the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod Committee. -MP

## A much-needed space for local youth

ALEXANDRA Youth SPOT is coming soon. So, what's a youth spot? This exciting new space stands for Social (areas to hang out, be sheltered and safe), Playful (to play and participate in recreation, music, art), Open (Visible, safe and accessible), and Township (Central, close to shops and relevant).

The idea came about as the Goulburn Valley Suicide Awareness Group (GVSAG) were having one of their meetings. Committee members Misha and Kerry suggested that they try and develop something for young people in Alexandra and surrounds which would promote greater resilience and build better mental health within the youth.

As the GVSAG have identified that some key influences for good mental health includes connection, inclusion, respect, fun and valuing everyone, a team of volunteers decided to commit to putting together a regular gathering place and activities based at the Embassy of Ideas in Alexandra and including holiday excursions and offer some great opportunities to young people aged 12 to 18 years old.

Jacky Gilbee, founder and president of GVSAG said, "One committee can't do this on their own. It's collaborative. It's going to happen."

This idea couldn't have come about without the generosity of help and financial

backing from community organisations such as Embassy of Ideas, Foundation Murrindindi and the Alexandra Truck, Ute and Rod committee.

This commitment to supporting local young people has created a program that will operate over the next six months during which time there is a hope to attract and retain participants and leaders.

The long term aim is for the Youth SPOT to continue, driven by young people and the Alexandra community. More volunteers will need to be recruited to undertake training in the Victorian Child Safe Standards and to work with the team. ChildSafe Australia is used for training and all leaders hold a Working with Children Check and a demonstrated history of rapport with and safety around children and young people.

Are you a young person between the age of 12 and 18? Or a parent or carer for people in this age group? Or a community member committed to our young people? You are invited to the Alexandra Youth SPOT for a free barbecue to meet a team of volunteers keen to listen to your ideas for fortnightly Friday gatherings and holiday activities on Friday, July 19 at the Embassy of Ideas from 3.30pm to 5.30pm. If getting home is an issue transport can be arranged with parental permission.

### Council launches Key Worker Housing Strategy

MURRINDINDI Shire Council has adopted its first Key Worker Housing Strategy. Designed to support important industries within the shire, the strategy aims to provide a pathway for the development of safe, secure, and suitable housing for key workers, regardless of income. Many local businesses report difficulty recruiting staff and growing with the constrained access to housing.

The strategy will help council and partners make decisions, plan, and deliver housing for key workers. It guides the development of suitable land that will offer various housing options for industries such as health and aged care, tourism, hospitality, agriculture and manufacturing. This includes both temporary and permanent housing options depending on the needs of the community. Sites owned by council and other state agencies have been identified across the shire.

Council is fostering growth in our local economy and community by enabling those who wish to move to the shire or transition from their family home, making it easier to find a safe and suitable place to live.

The strategy has identified two council-owned sites at 174 Grant Street and 94 Nihil Street in Alexandra that are suitable for development. Council is planning to seek expressions of interest from residential developers to develop these sites for key worker housing and enter a long-term lease arrangement with council. More information about this opportunity will be provided on council's e-tender portal.

Council has applied for a government grant to facilitate the development of key worker housing in Eildon, support the local economy and enable local business to grow.

Council's Sustainability, Community Wellbeing and Economic Development Portfolio Councillor Sandice McAulay said, "Council's Key Worker Housing Strategy will bring significant social and economic benefits to our beautiful Murrindindi Shire. It addresses an identified need, and will encourage the growth of our community, as people and businesses are able to hit the ground running, knowing work can begin, without worrying about where staff will be living."

The strategy can be found at [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/News-Media/Council-launches-Key-Worker-Housing-Strategy](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/News-Media/Council-launches-Key-Worker-Housing-Strategy) or call 5772 0333.

### Community activities on roadsides

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is inviting feedback from the community on its updated Rural Roadside Conservation Management (RRCM) plan and guidelines.

The RRCM plan guides how roadside vegetation is managed across the shire and helps council, the community and other agencies understand the conservation value of roadsides and how to carry out works or activities on them appropriately. These activities include utility works, roadside grazing, firewood collection, slashing, mowing and weed management. There are 26 pieces of legislation that cover government requirements. The RRCM guidelines are designed to help users to understand these requirements.

Council is seeking community feedback on the plan and companion guidelines to understand what's important to local residents in maintaining and protecting native vegetation on our rural roadsides, what activities residents usually carry out on roadsides and if the guidelines are easy to understand.

To get involved, visit council's community engage platform, The Loop, or call 5772 0333 and speak to the Environmental Programs team. Feedback closes on Sunday, July 28.

### Minimum wage increases from July 1

THE Fair Work Ombudsman is reminding employers that a 3.75 per cent minimum wage increase should be applied to eligible employees' pay from the first full pay period starting on or after today, July 1.

The new National Minimum Wage is \$915.90 per week, based on a 38-hour week for a full-time employee, or \$24.10 per hour. The rates have increased from \$882.80 per week and \$23.23 per hour.

Casual employees entitled to the National Minimum Wage must receive a minimum \$30.13 per hour, which includes 25 per cent casual loading.

### Goulburn Valley Water

#### Notice of fees and charges: 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Goulburn Valley Water would like to advise all customers of new tariffs, which have been approved by GVV's Board and the Essential Services Commission. These are applicable to all customers in GVV's serviced areas, unless alternate special fees apply.

Water service fees (daily)	\$
Standard residential (20mm)	0.5075
Vacant land - unconnected	0.2537

Water usage fees (per kilolitre, based on meter readings)	\$
Potable water (drinking)	1.2751
Non-potable water	0.8923
Raw water	0.6371

Trade waste (daily)	\$
Category 1 and 2	0.6911

Sewerage fees and charges	\$
Residential (daily)	1.3182
Vacant land - unconnected (daily)	0.6590
Non-residential (daily)	1.3182
Wastewater volume usage (per kilolitre)	1.7381
Non-residential (yearly charge per cistern where volumetric charges cannot be applied)	481.17

Bills are issued three times a year. Properties with fire services are charged a fee equivalent to 10.63 per cent of service fees.

If you are having difficulties paying your bill, support is available. We offer flexible payment options, concessions and access to government grants and programs - call us to ask about available options to suit you.

For a full list of all other fees and charges for 2024-25, please visit our website or call 1300 360 007.



[gwwater.vic.gov.au](http://gwwater.vic.gov.au)

**Are you between the age of 12 And 18?** We invite you, your parents/carers and community members committed to supporting our young people, to the **Alex Youth SPOT** for a free bbq between 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. on Friday, July 19. You will meet a team of volunteers keen to listen to your ideas for fortnightly Friday gatherings and holiday activities. The Youth SPOT operates at the Embassy of Ideas. See you there.

**What's a youth SPOT?**

- Social** (areas to hang out, sheltered, safe)
- Playful** (to play/participate in recreation, art, music etc)
- Open** (visible, safe and accessible)
- Township** (central, close to shops, relevant)

**Open Day** 19/07/2024

**Fortnightly Fridays after school till 5.30pm**  
at Embassy of Ideas, 3 Bayley St, Alexandra

02/08/2024, 16/08/2024, 30/08/2024,  
13/09/2024, 18/10/2024, 01/11/2024,  
15/11/2024, 29/11/2024, 13/12/2024

For further information, contact  
Jacky (Founder) - 0417 907 278 or Kerry (Team Leader) - 0410 597 148

Proudly supporting  
**Student of the week**

Community Bank · Yea & District and Alexandra

**Bendigo Bank**

## BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Jethro** has been more focused in class and produced a great writing piece.

Well done Jethro.

## EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



**Bella and Ella** have shown the school values of Resilience and Cooperation in their work this week.

Well done.

## ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



### Zelda

Zelda is an enthusiastic and cheerful member of our class. She embraces new learning experiences and relishes a challenge. Zelda is frequently recognised for encouraging her peers and considering difficulties from a positive perspective. Thank you for always putting a smile on everyone's faces, Zelda.

Congratulations Zelda.

**Student of the Week**

Proudly supported by  
Kinglake branch

**Bendigo Bank**

### New chapter for Sarah Southam

AFTER 11 years, local identity Sarah Southam is gradually making her way to a life in Melbourne but will still continue to play a part in the Alexandra community.

Sarah will still be working three days a week for Menzies Support Services and on the side she is working on a personal project of developing a program around disabilities and healthy eating that can be used for educational purposes.

Sarah was born and raised in the Murrindindi Shire, and moved away when she was around 14 years of age for school and university. Always coming backwards and forwards, something always drew Sarah back. Sarah moved back in 2013 with her children and they attended school at St Mary's and Alexandra Secondary College.

"It was a really great place to move for the kids. It's been fun, making connections with community," Sarah said.

Sarah worked for the Outdoor Education Group for 15 years, worked at council and has been at Menzies for around three years running exciting programs at The Mount.

The programs at The Mount involve a variety of activities. Sarah described the art classes as her passion and expertise. The programs also offer outdoor activities and gardening, making a cookbook, photography groups, entering local shows such as the beanie festival, and much more.



Sarah Southam. -S

When Sarah was asked about her proudest moment in the shire, she said, "Being part of Scouts probably. Each time I've seen a scout not confident and then developing a skill, it's the most rewarding thing. This also is the same with clients at Menzies."

As Sarah will still be working in the shire, she will still manage to fit in her Friday radio program with UGFM, and will still continue to do the artwork for the Beanie festival as she has done since the beginning.

As Sarah is known in the community as the Murrindindi Shire's Citizen of the Year in 2023, Sarah is still chuffed about the award saying, "I still don't know how I popped up that year, I'm still in shock. After all this time I still don't know who wrote the application."

Sarah's advice to the local community, "Get involved, volunteer, find a group that enables you to do something you like and are good at and have fun with it."

## Rubicon River damming successfully challenged by Taungurung LWC

THE Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) has successfully challenged a licence that would have permitted the Rubicon River to be dammed and diverted.

In a statement, Taungurung LWC said, "This river is of deep cultural significance to Taungurung people, history, Ancestors and the inherent obligation to care for Taungurung Country."

At a preliminary hearing at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT), TLaWC challenged the legality of plans by Rubicon Station Pty Ltd to divert the Rubicon River by almost 600 metres through a private property near Rubicon to power a small-scale private hydroelectric plant.

On behalf of TLaWC, lawyers from public interest legal group Environmental Justice Australia (EJA) argued at VCAT in early June that the licence granted by Goulburn Murray Water (GMW) for the scheme was unlawful.

On Thursday, June 20, the VCAT tribunal agreed with TLaWC that Goulburn Murray Water's decision to grant the licence to construct works was unlawful.

TLaWC had also argued the licence would deviate the river, and that the water authority did not have the power to do this. The tribunal did not accept this argument.

The tribunal set aside the licence to construct the work and sent it back to the decision-maker for reconsideration in accordance with the Water Act.

The VCAT decision is a partial win, because the works can't proceed

lawfully until the decision-maker considers all licence applications.

This may not be the end of the matter. It remains open to the decision-maker to reconsider the matter and issue new licences.

TLaWC continues to insist that no licences for these works and diversion should be issued, maintaining that these actions would seriously compromise the environmental and cultural values of this waterway.

TLaWC is seeking financial support in protecting this beautiful location and the life of the flora and fauna that inhabit this area, commencing a fundraising campaign to cover travel costs, filing fees, and expert costs.

Funding this important case will safeguard the future of this river and Taungurung cultural heritage. Donations can be made via [taungurung.com.au/donation](http://taungurung.com.au/donation)

TLaWC CEO Matthew Burns said, "The Rubicon River and the adjacent Camp Jungai are part of a broader cultural landscape on Taungurung Country that have deep connections with our history, Ancestors and our obligations to care for Country."

"Taungurung people have cared for this Country for 1000 generations, dedicated to keeping the waterways healthy and full.

"TLaWC prioritises protecting, enhancing and restoring habitats for local flora and fauna, which does not align with the serious interference in a public river for personal use.

"The decision on June 20 to set aside the licence for reconsideration

is a partial win for the Taungurung Nation, but the fight is not over.

"Our focus is to maintain Taungurung cultural values, limit negative environmental impacts and improve ecological conditions; advocating for healthy waterways to ensure everyone can enjoy these beautiful spaces on Taungurung Country for a thousand generations to come."

When contacted about the issue, GMW Water Delivery Services general manager Warren Blyth said, "Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) welcomes the ruling from VCAT and will reconsider the matter in accordance with the provisions of the *Water Act 1989 (Vic)*."

Owner of Rubicon Station Pty Ltd, Greg Salter, said, "The proposal obtained all necessary approvals from Goulburn Murray Water, including an approved Cultural Heritage Management Plan for which TLaWC participated in. TLaWC did not lodge any objection to the proposal while it was under consideration by GMW. VCAT remitted the application back to Goulburn Murray Water on an administrative technicality. I expect GMW to promptly re-make its decision free from any technical issues.

"TLaWC's use of 'lawfare' to defeat a legitimate green energy proposal should be ringing alarm bells for farmers right across the state who are just trying to do the right thing by the environment. Urgent legislative change is needed to allow these small types of green energy proposals to proceed without years sitting in VCAT".

# Rotary Alexandra Community Service Report

by Community Service Director  
2023-2024 Ian Gibb

THANKYOU to the Community Service Committee (John Allcock, Tom Farrell, Noel McIlwraith, Geoff Proctor, Graeme Bylund, Anne Burns and Ros Humphries) and all the other members who have contributed to a very busy and successful year.

The Community Service portfolio includes a number of club activities that have their own budgets and their own 'champions'.

As well as Rotary Alexandra activities like the Art Show, Music in the Park and Community Firewood, we also contribute to the activities of other community groups, including Cycle Dindi (where Yea Rotary does the bulk of the work) and provide labour and assistance for a host of other events like the Alexandra Show, the Rodeo and Cathedral Invitational.

Activities for the 2023/24 year in the following areas have included Lift the Lid Hat Day. The club distributed collection tins to shops in Alexandra for this Rotary project, wore silly hats on Hat Day and added \$500 to the money collected from the community service budget.

The club donated \$1000 from the community service budget to the Mothers Day Cancer Foundation (Kazza), and also supported Indigenous Health Scholarships again, donating \$500 through Australian Rotary Health.

Once again Noel McIlwraith and her helpers made Music in the Park a success at Rotary Park in March. Music in the Park has become a showcase for local talent. It is well supported by the community.

Cycle Dindi also took place in March. The club helped to provide

a gala day out for 150 cyclists. As well as great catering from Rotary Club Yea, Melinda provided her ever popular damper.

The Easter Art Show was bigger and better than ever, thanks to John Allcock and his hard working team.

Australia Day went ahead at Rotary Park on January 26, thanks to the initiative of Graeme and Jane Bylund, and Maria and Malcolm Price.

The club helped Alexandra Events with Christmas Carols on December 22.

The club also helped dismantle a complete playground in Eildon. The equipment has been shipped overseas to disadvantaged children under the Rotary Overseas Playgrounds (RORP) program.

Sensory Garden at Alexandra Primary School was the club's biggest donation for the year of \$5000 to support the construction of this project.

The club donated \$2000 towards the Jubilee Trees planted on the approach to Alexandra on the Maroondah Highway.

The food vouchers for Ukrainians in Melbourne project changed direction during the year. A donation of \$2000 in food vouchers through cooperation with Rotary Club Carlton but due to a change in housing arrangements, food vouchers became a less effective form of support for the Ukrainians.

Community Service returned what remained of Rotary Club Euroa's donation and used some of our remaining funds to send \$1000 to Rotary Club Kharkiv Renaissance for support of a children's centre.



Rotary helped to dismantle a complete playground in Eildon. The equipment was shipped overseas to disadvantaged children under the Rotary Overseas Playgrounds (RORP) program. -S

One thousand dollars was donated to Angel Flight, which is a great cause.

Together with Lions and the Vintage Car Club, the club bought a satellite phone for Alexandra District Hospital to provide emergency communication during power blackouts.

The committee has agreed to donate \$2000 through Rotary International for the Brazil floods.

Community Service donated \$500 to the 'Days for Girls' program that helps educate and support girls in remote communities.

Other donations included to Rotary funds 'Shelter Box', 'Life's Little Treasures' and to 'Starlight Foundation' (support for children with serious illnesses).

We even did car parking at The Cathedral Invitational golf tournament that attracted almost 900 vehicles. Cathedral Invitational golf club appreciated the club's effort and donated \$1800.

The 2024 firewood season is well underway. So far this winter the club has delivered 13 trailer loads to 10 households referred to the club by Legacy, RSL, Alexandra District Health and Menzies. The Beanie

Festival helped to support the program with a cheque for \$1000. The 'woodchucks' also cut, split and loaded red gum from Sharon's for the first wood raffle in May, with another to come in July.

The club helped to support the following events with labour or equipment: The Alexandra Show, wedding parking, Beanie Festival, Christmas Tree Festival, Open Gardens and Alexandra Rodeo.

Rotary Alexandra continues to provide a strong presence in the local community and the bigger world of Rotary International.

## Melinda Jackson awarded Paul Harris with Sapphire

MELINDA Jackson received a well-deserved award at the Alexandra Rotary changeover dinner last week. Melinda has been a devoted member of the Rotary Club of Alexandra. Her efforts with Cycle Dindi over eight years, wood cutting, being the art show director twice, and being president are just a few of her amazing contributions to Rotary and the community.



President Geoff Proctor and Melinda Jackson. -S

## Come work with us as a Project Firefighter



- ✓ Protect community
- ✓ Work outdoors
- ✓ Great teams
- ✓ Care for environment
- ✓ Earn and learn

Designated Aboriginal positions available

Applications close 28 July 2024



For more information and to apply: [jobs.careers.vic.gov.au/pff](https://jobs.careers.vic.gov.au/pff)



This is a recurring gathering taking place every fourth Saturday of the month for anyone struggling with grief from the loss of a loved one regardless of how and when they passed. This support group is run by volunteers of Lived Experiences and welcomes anyone aged 18 years and over.

Support groups are a space to connect with others, self reflect, discuss challenges, share experiences and self help strategies.



Saturday, July 27, 2024 from 9.30am till 10.30am



Meeting Room, Yea RSL, 26 Snodgrass Street, Yea



FREE

For further information, contact Jacky (Founder) - 0417 907 278 or Steve (Secretary) - 0412 334 521 visit our website at [gvsag.org.au](https://gvsag.org.au)

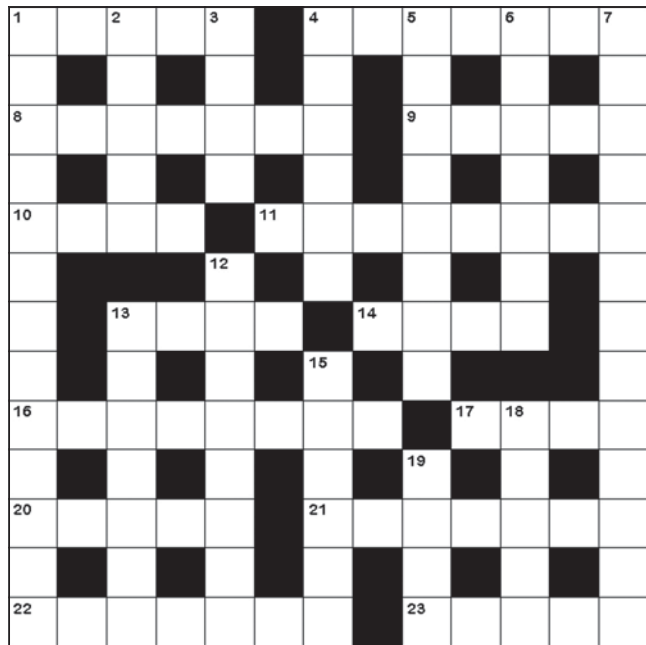
# PUZZLES

**SOLUTIONS**  
Page 12

## Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1. A very dark black.
- 4. Having spots or patches of colour.
- 8. A plan or proposal.
- 9. Narrow roads.
- 10. A ritual practice.
- 11. Finally gave in.
- 13. A movement of the ocean.
- 14. Refuse to obey.
- 16. Fiddles with.
- 17. Lemon rind used for flavouring.
- 20. A large expanse of sea.
- 21. Having the power of speech.
- 22. Be under the impression.
- 23. One's own generation.



**DOWN**

- 1. Having faith in magic or chance.
- 2. An upward push.
- 3. Made it last as long as possible.
- 4. Fuss around.
- 5. Stole some small items.
- 6. Drawn out and tedious.
- 7. Unfavourable circumstances.
- 12. Proof of one's behaviour.
- 13. People who serve at tables.
- 15. Composition written for six performers.
- 18. Person banished from their country.
- 19. A complete failure.

## Word Search

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

**July 3 - International Plastic Bag Free Day**

- BOTTLE
- DEBRIS
- ENTANGLE
- ENVIRONMENT
- MARINE
- MICROPLASTIC
- OCEAN
- POLLUTION
- RECYCLE
- REUSE
- STRAWS
- TOXIC

## Cryptogram

**Aboriginal names**

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
20				2				7

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
					9			

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
		1					

$$\frac{18}{26} \frac{A}{2} \frac{O}{20} \frac{U}{1} \frac{I}{18} \frac{U}{22} : \frac{A}{20} \frac{U}{10}$$

$$\frac{I}{4} \frac{E}{7} \frac{I}{2} \frac{U}{8}$$

## Math Square

9	×	5	+		48
-		×		+	
	-		+		5
-		-		-	
	-		-		-5
-3		-2		-1	

**Fill in the missing numbers.**

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

## Sudoku

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

**Difficulty: Medium**

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



Health promotions officer Melissa Storey and diabetes educator Angel Lau. -S

## The not so sweet facts about diabetes in the community

DIABETES impacts over 1.5 million Australians, with 934 of those cases residing in Murrindindi Shire. But did you know that 842 of those cases are specifically Type Two Diabetes (T2D), with an additional 20 per cent of cases estimated to go undiagnosed?

T2D is strongly influenced by nutritional and lifestyle factors. The good news about this is that provides an opportunity for successful management and in some cases remission can be achieved, especially for those in the first five years of diagnosis. So the key is early diagnosis wherever possible and ongoing management once diagnosed to support remission or reduce the instances of complications for those with T2D.

Diabetes educator, Angel Lau from Alexandra District Health (ADH), takes this mission to the streets. She quite literally takes diabetes education and screening out into the community. By visiting community businesses and local organisations, Angel has held numerous information stalls helping to raise awareness of diabetes, talking to

over 100 community members. With 58 people taking up the offer of free on the spot screening, 15 of those received referrals for follow up with their GP due to their results.

A diabetes diagnosis may be a challenging time when learning to manage diet and lifestyle changes, along with a range of emotions that can accompany a life changing health diagnosis. With this in mind, Angel has also started a Diabetes Support Group. This group is for people living with diabetes, and provides dietary guidance, general management techniques and emotional support post diagnosis and beyond. This group is run on site at ADH, the second Tuesday of each month.

For further information about the Diabetes Support Group, please call Angel Lau on 5772 0900. If you are a business, organisation or local group that is interested in having Angel deliver a diabetes education session and/or free screening please contact Angel on the above number.

## Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

THE bridge players and carpet bowlers were in action earlier in the week before members gathered for the social meeting on Friday. After the usual formalities, Lisa, from the Alexandra library, gave us an interesting presentation about what facilities and activities the library has to offer and gave us an interesting introduction to some books available. Thank you Lisa.

This week the committee will meet up on Friday morning at 10.30am to plan ahead for the annual general meeting which will be held on Friday, July 19 at 1pm in the Bayley Street club room. After the committee meeting members will meet up for the usual monthly business meeting.

Members are reminded that committee member nominations and items for the AGM agenda should be handed to the secretary before Friday, July 12. A list for members and guests interested in the planned excursion to the Kilsyth Club Morning Melodies on Wednesday, August 21 is available on the front desk, so please put your names down. The members plan to visit Hunters and Collectors Antiques in Bayswater on the way home.

As always, a reminder that the club is always pleased to welcome new members for any of their activities so please come along to the clubroom on a Friday afternoon. Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling.

## Snobs Creek hatchery to have greater focus on threatened species

A PROJECT to triple the size of the Arcadia native fish hatchery will begin in coming weeks, with the expanded facility set to create more local jobs and ensure a bright future for Victoria's fish populations.

Located on the banks of the Goulburn River, the upgraded facility will feature more than 100 plankton and broodfish ponds and a new administration precinct which will see hatchery produce almost six million Murray cod and golden perch each year.

Once complete, the Victorian Fisheries Authority will also transition all local Murray cod production currently at Snobs Creek conservation fish hatchery in Eildon to the expanded Arcadia hatchery, freeing up

capacity at Snobs Creek for more work on protecting Victoria's threatened native fish.

The conservation hatchery is part of the government's work to combat the decline of Victoria's native plants and animals through the 20 year Biodiversity Plan, backed by investment of \$582 million since 2014 to safeguard the state's one of a kind natural environment.

More than 8,000,000 fish will be produced in Victoria every year once the fish hatchery is complete, helping to secure the future of Victoria's fish for generations to come.

Construction is expected to be complete in mid 2025.





# The risks of grain poisoning

IN winter, many producers will start to consider supplementary feeding their livestock with grain or pellets. Such feeding will bring many benefits but does also carry the risk of grain poisoning.

Grain poisoning occurs when large amounts of starch are eaten and rapidly ferments in the rumen or first stomach. This leads to the excessive production of lactic acid, which is absorbed into the animal's body. Hence the condition's other name, lactic acidosis.

Grain poisoning may occur for the following reasons; when grain or pellets are introduced too quickly, there's a sudden increase in the amount of grain or pellets being fed, there's a change in type of grain or pellets being fed, there's insufficient feeding space leading to the dominant animals overeating, and producers not being aware the same precautions need to be followed

when accidental overeating occurs due to storage areas not being sealed.

The clinical signs of grain poisoning usually become apparent within 24 to 36 hours after the initial access to grain or pellets.

In mild cases, cattle and sheep may show a lack of appetite and appear quieter than usual.

In more severe cases, cattle and sheep may show weakness, lameness, abdominal pain, and diarrhoea ranging from porridge to water consistency, depending upon the severity of the condition, leading to dehydration. Grain poisoning can be fatal to livestock.

Reducing the animal's access to grain or pellets and increasing the availability of roughage can treat mild cases. More severe cases may need to be drenched with sodium bicarbonate to neutralise the lactic acid. Severely affected animals are unlikely to respond well to treatment.



Do you know the signs of grain poisoning in cattle? -Scott Bauer

Following treatment, affected animals may develop hoof problems and lameness due to hoof damage caused by grain poisoning.

Like in so many conditions, the best form of treatment is prevention. Key to prevention is to gradually increase the proportion of grain or pellets at a rate which the animal's body can acclimatise.

Feeding guidelines are readily available in drought feeding guides for sheep and cattle. Drought feeding guides are freely available from Agriculture Victoria. For further advice please contact your local veterinarian or Agriculture Victoria veterinary or animal health officer.

## PHOTO COMPETITION

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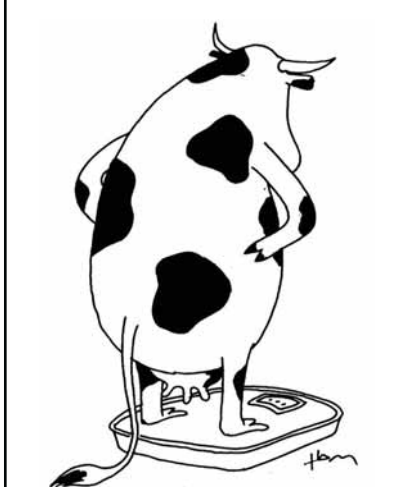
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Further information on Yea Saleyards website and Facebook page



## The Rabbit Trap

By Jed Dunstan



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# BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

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# AusNet invests in community response vehicles

VICTORIAN communities that are left without power by severe weather events will be served by four AusNet community response vehicles staffed by AusNet representatives and equipped with charging points for mobile devices and satellite internet access.

After the catastrophic February storm events which left hundreds of thousands of customers without power, AusNet has invested in the Emergency Management Mobile Assistance vehicles (EMMAs), which will be deployed to communities impacted by future large scale unplanned outages.

AusNet Executive General Manager Network Operations, Andrew Linnie, said AusNet has listened to community feedback after the February storm event.

“We attended community engagement sessions following the storms to hear from communities about the issues that impacted them most. They told us that mobile phone charging and internet access are essential for regions impacted by long term unplanned outages caused by severe weather events, so these will be incorporated into the vehicles,” said Mr Linnie.

“They will also have a defibrillator and first aid, with our representatives trained in their use, for the unlikely event of them being needed.”

“These vehicles will provide important relief for communities. We will be able to deploy them quickly in response to prolonged outages, and we hope they will provide important respite and essential advice on network restoration to people when they most need it.”

The vehicles will also be used in future awareness campaigns to help communities better prepare for prolonged outages.

Extreme weather events like the ones experienced last February are likely to become more frequent due to climate change. AusNet is now working closely with local governments and communities to find help solutions that help enhance their emergency facilities and make them better equipped to deal with future extreme weather events.

“The first of the EMMAs is now operational, with the three larger vehicles due for completion by the end of the year currently being modified,” said Mr Linnie.

Vehicle deployment will be decided on a case by case basis by a team of senior AusNet staff involved in the incident management efforts during large scale unplanned outages.

“When determining vehicle deployment, every incident and location is different. We’ll make assessments based on a range of factors such as the progress of the event, the estimated restoration time, and the location of relief and recovery centres, amongst other things,” Mr Linnie said.

AusNet will be publishing the results soon of an independent review which examined all aspects of our handling of the February storm events, including organisational systems, processes and governance.

## POLICE REPORT

DURING the school holidays, police are conducting numerous road safety checks, including breath tests, intercepts, and registration and licence checks, particularly on people on their way to the snow.

POLICE are also asking people to be mindful that additional traffic is travelling through the shire due to the snow seasons, and to be patient on the roads. Police are also working with council to ensure that travellers are parking correctly in our towns.

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

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-		x		+	
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-		-		-	
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#### DEATH NOTICES

**ROBINSON (Nee Morris), Audrey Elaine** -  
Born 10/10/1930 -  
20/06/2024.  
Loving sister of Joyce.  
Much loved sister in law of David. Fond auntie of Mark, Robyn, Lee, Donna and Timothy.  
*Rest in Peace.*

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#### MEETINGS

**MURRINDINDI EAST U3A**, Annual General Meeting and election of Office Bearers to be held on Monday, July 15 at 10.30am at the Alexandra Bowling Club, 4 Paynes Avenue, Alexandra followed by guest speaker David Roberts and a light lunch. All welcome.

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#### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST



#### BOARD MEMBER

Expression of Interest

Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home (DUGNH), located in Eildon, seeks interested parties to join the Board of Management. DUGNH operates as an Incorporated Association. The Board of Management's role is to set the strategic direction of the organisation and work effectively with senior management to ensure high quality care.

As a skills-based Board, we are seeking Expressions of Interest from people with a clinical background in disciplines, such as, medicine, nursing or allied health. Interested parties would ideally have knowledge of or an understanding of the aged care environment

If you believe you will be able to offer your expertise on a voluntary basis, please contact the Corporate Services Manager, Donna Walsh, via email: [darlingford@dughn.com](mailto:darlingford@dughn.com). General information about Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home is available via our website [dughn.com.au](http://dughn.com.au)

#### PUBLIC NOTICES

**CREDITORS**, next of kin and others having claims against the estate of any of the undermentioned deceased persons are required to send particulars of their claims to **STATE TRUSTEES LIMITED** ABN 68 064 593 148, of 1 McNab Avenue, Footscray, Victoria, 3011, the personal representative, on or before **28 August 2024**, after which date State Trustees Limited may convey or distribute the assets, having regard only to the claims of which State Trustees Limited then has notice.

**MORROW**, Geoffrey Alan, also known as Geoffrey Morrow and G A Morrow, late of 2233 Maroondah Hwy, BUXTON, VIC 3711, deceased, who died on 28 June 2011. **19 June 2024.**

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## Rinse and repeat

A MAN has been charged after an alleged spate of thefts and burglaries across the Thornton, Mansfield, Eildon, Jamieson and Broadford areas over the past few months.

It is alleged the man stole from multiple businesses between February and June, mainly targeting coin-operated washing machines.

The first incident occurred at a caravan park on Goulburn Valley Highway, Thornton on February 9 at about 4am. It is alleged the man accessed the coin trays on washing machines and allegedly stole approximately \$200 in coins.

The following month, a man allegedly attempted to gain entry to a coin machine at a business on Hightett Street on March 8 at about 7am. He was unsuccessful and left the premises.

A further incident occurred at a caravan park on Goulburn Valley Highway, Eildon on April 1 at about 11.50pm. It is alleged the man entered the laundry area where he forced access to locked coin-operated washers and dryers, stealing between \$100 and \$200 in coins.

A second business was targeted in the same month, with a Jamieson caravan park on Grey Street being targeted on April 10 at about 4.20am. It is alleged a man forced open coin-operated washing machines and stole between \$100 and \$200 in coins.

A fifth incident occurred at High Street in Broadford on May 15 at about 5pm. A man allegedly entered the business and used a tool to force open locks on vending and washing machines, stealing about \$1100 in contents.

The Hightett Street Mansfield business was hit again on May 20 about 2.55am. It is alleged a man used a jemmy bar to force open a coin vending machine but was unsuccessful and left the premises.

Another caravan park was struck on May 28 at about 5pm. It is alleged a man entered the caravan park on Eildon Road, Eildon. While inside, he allegedly forced open locks to coin-operated machines and damaged locks to other machines on the premises, stealing approximately \$1000 in coins.

The last incident occurred at Hightett Street in Mansfield where the business was struck for a third time. It is alleged that on June 13 at about 3.30am, a man forced open a coin machine at the premises with a jemmy bar, stealing approximately \$200 worth of coins before leaving and stealing \$50 in coins from a toilet block nearby.

A 42-year-old man has been charged with attempted burglary, theft (three), attempted theft and possess drug of dependence (two).

He has been bailed to appear before Shepparton Magistrates' Court on October 28.

## Ban on engineered stone

THE Victorian Government is banning the use of engineered stone from July this year, protecting Victorian workers from deadly silicosis.

The science is clear: working with engineered stone can be a death sentence. That is why the Victorian Government is taking nation leading action to ban the product, so no more young Victorian families are torn apart for the sake of a kitchen benchtop.

From July 1, work involving the manufacturing, supply, processing or installation of engineered stone benchtops, panels or slabs has been banned.

An exception to the ban will apply if the work involves the removal, repair or modification of engineered stone products installed before July 1. This work will be subject to existing control requirements for engineered stone and additional high-risk crystalline silica work regulations.

Victoria has led the way to prevent disease and support injured workers over the last five years, establishing Australia's only dedicated public hospital occupational respiratory clinic through a partnership between WorkSafe and The Alfred.

WorkSafe inspectors will be ensuring duty holders are adhering to the new regulations and any attempt to intentionally avoid the ban will be subject to strong enforcement action.

More information can be found at [worksafe.vic.gov.au/crystalline-silica](http://worksafe.vic.gov.au/crystalline-silica)

## Great games before mid winter break

by Rhonda Carpenter

SEVERE frosts and fog set the scene for Round 10 but after the mist cleared stillness ensured great matches in Euroa and Mansfield last Monday week.

Benalla travelled to Euroa for their contest against Seven Creeks, Euroa hosted Wappan and Mogloneby met Terip. With players holidaying overseas, ill or injured, team captains found fill ins and avoided forfeits. The home sides were challenged by their visitors this round.

Delatite's Natalie Bergsma, Jo O'Brien, Deb Mims, Kassy Thomas and Loretta Armitage welcomed Creighton's Creek in Mansfield.

Creighton's Creek Marja Wondergem, Gayle Furphy, Ros Doxey and Erica Mercer had all the answers though when challenged by a determined Delatite side and took the ten points 6/48 sets to 0/19.

Moglonemby's Judy Sands, Deb Seach, Mary Kelly and Lyn Johnston enjoyed laughter and lengthy rallies in their match but Terip's Cindy Hayes, Frances Lawrence, Bec Lyttle and Phoebe McDermid found a way to win every set and move further ahead on the top of the ladder. Terip six to 48 defeated Mogloneby 0 to 14.

Benalla's Kate Campbell, Claire Sharp, Maureen Jewell and Deb Siggers were convincing in all their sets after lengthy rallies against Seven Creeks Rowena Ellis, Kelly Hill, Kerry Hewlett and Genevieve Calvert.

Benalla won six to 48 to Seven Creeks 0 to 16.

Euroa's Julie Harrington, Ruth Nolan, Lyn Pierce, Triona King and Mary Dewis took a while to warm up against Wappan but took both openers with smart courtcraft and superb placement.

Jenny Bell and Rhonda Carpenter had raced to an early lead, but Julie and Ruth steadied and used their experience to take the set eight to six. Ruth and Triona won their set eight to two, while the double Jenny combination, Smith and Bell, combined superbly to win theirs eight to one. The final sets went eight to four each way with Euroa winning the day 4/37 to 2/31.

The competition pauses for the mid winter break over the school holidays and returns on Monday, July 15 with matches in Euroa, Terip, Benalla and Mansfield.

Ladder: Terip 71, Euroa 64, Benalla 58, Mansfield 47, Wappan 45, Creighton's Creek 42, Seven Creeks 40, Mogloneby 29 and Delatite 4.

## Round 11 squash results

by Kristelle Leary

### Cods versus Redfins

JARED versus Daniel W: Both players had some great shots and rallies. But in the end Daniel was just too good for Jared, taking all four games and the match. 78 to 45.

Jim versus John: A very close and intense game. John's impressive drop shots made all the difference and won him the match by a mere three points. 52 to 49.

### Trout versus Yabbies

Mick versus Lee: A seesawing game. Lee held the advantage at the halfway point by utilising placement and tight shots down the wall. Mick clawed his way back by chasing the ball down to win by two points. 51 to 49

Oli versus Pep: Oli started strong, with a good lead at the halfway point. Pep came from behind, taking the last two games to claim bragging rights. 65 to 60.

James (fill in) versus Andrew: Amazing rallies and two tied games. James managed to sneak ahead to claim victory. 67 to 62.

### Crunchie versus Jaffas

Sam (fill in) versus Blake: Coming straight from his other game, Sam was warmed up and ready to go. Continuing his good form for



James W lines up a ball on the wall against Andrew -S

the night, Sam triumphed yet again. 70 to 43.

Michael H versus Michael M: Coming back from a short hiatus, Michael M was back with a vengeance. Both players had amazing boasts, but despite Michael M's amazing dive at the end, Michael H won the match. 71 to 45.

### Smarties versus Kitkats

Sam versus Travis: Drawing in the first game, Travis's deep drives gave him an edge. However, this was outmatched by Sam's short shot placement. Sam surpassed his

opponent to steal the show. 64 to 47.

Jack (fill in) versus Daniel W (fill in): The match started off well with both players holding their own. Going into game three Jack was ahead by eight points. Game three had barely started when an unfortunate injury put a stop to the game and left us with no winner.

Stuart versus Phil: The match started close until Phil took it to a new level in game three with a 15 point lead. Stuart couldn't claw it back, leaving the win to Phil. 71 to 49.

## New research around gender balance in sport

THE Victorian Government is boosting the number of women working in sport with new research showing women in leadership roles within Victorian sporting organisations has doubled since 2017.

Minister for Community Sport, Ros Spence, recently announced the release of research by Deakin University into Victoria's *Balance the Board* policy, with findings showing the policy has led to a significant increase in women on Victorian sporting boards.

"This new research shows the many benefits that come from gender balance in the leadership of sporting organisations.

"We are focused on breaking down barriers for women and girls in sport, ensuring that everyone in Victoria has the opportunity to take part in the sports they love," Ms Spence said.

Ray Steyger, president of the Alexandra Football and Netball Club, discussed the role of women within the club.

"As far as the committee is concerned, we've got roughly 20 people on the committee, and off the top of my head, roughly half of those are women. We've got quite a good balance there. In among the junior football coaches we've got a female coach there, which is good. She's also on the club committee.

"On the executives, we have a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, and

secretary, so five people there. Two of those are female. It's not something that I've necessarily sat down and thought about, but when you actually do have a look, I'm quite pleased to say that we do have a good representation across the board as far as females are concerned," Ray said.

The findings also showed that these organisations had improved board performance, culture and decision making.

"When more women were part of boards, our research found women directors brought a focus to crucial skills including governance, strategic planning, risk management and sport knowledge to their positions. Thus, board processes became more professionalised in response to increasing more women on boards," Deakin University's Professor Pamm Phillips said.

Since 2019, *Balance the Board* has required a minimum of 40 per cent representation of women on boards at state sport and recreation organisations in order for them to be eligible for community sport funding.

In 2017, only 45 per cent of funded state sporting bodies had at least 40 per cent women directors, however since the policy came into effect at least 90 per cent of funded state sporting bodies have had at least 40 per cent women directors.

The research also found board processes improve when steps are taken to attract and retain women and that, women on boards

improve the experience for other women directors.

Director of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation, Sarah Styles, spoke to the benefits of women being more involved in sport.

"Women bring a wealth of skills and experience to sporting boards, which in turn elevates the important role these organisations have in the governance and decision making of sport and active recreation in Victoria," Ms Styles said.

Little Athletics Victoria achieved a gender balanced board through constitutional change and having more women in leadership roles. They now have five women on a board of eight members, and these changes have contributed to a positive cultural change right across the organization.

"Some positive impacts from having a gender balanced board include contributing to a positive shift in culture, and having more women in leadership roles across all levels of our sport," CEO of Little Athletics Victoria, Anthony McIntosh, said.

The research also showed that 80 per cent of Victorian sporting organisations said the policy was important in driving women's leadership on their boards.

For more information on *Balance the Board* and the new research visit [changeourgame.vic.gov.au](http://changeourgame.vic.gov.au)

## Cold weather deterring golfers

by Elizabeth Goss

ONLY a small field last Tuesday week. Leo Dynes was the winner with (20) 35 points and the runner up was Frank Devries (25) 31 points. Next came Greg Millard with (15) 30 points. Nearest the pin on the 17th went to Leo Dynes and on the 18th to Brad Newton. Ball Rundown: Brad Newton.

At last, a reasonably pleasant day for the ladies last Wednesday. The winner was Marion Williamson (32) with a nice 41 points. The runner up was Helen Findlay with (27) 38 points followed by Barb Doyle (15) 32 points. Nearest the pin on the second went to Marg Fahey, on the seventh to Barb Doyle and on the 18th to Brenda Lopez. Bronwyn Howell won the nine holes. On Wednesday, July 10 is American foursomes.

The rain held off on Saturday but only eight players ventured out for the four ball Stableford. It was won by Todd Galloway (17) and Daniel Burns (16) with 38 points. The runners up were Brad Kidd (9) and Brendan Smith (7) with 36 points. Nearest the pin on the second and seventh went to Todd Galloway. Saturday, July 6 is stroke, monthly medal and count your putts.

## Games and byes for Alexandra football and netball juniors

by Ray Steyger

THE Alexandra Football Netball Club junior teams had a mix of games and byes for round 10 of the 2024 season, the under 16 football and under 15 Alexandra Black netball travelling to Yea and the three Alexandra Red netball teams travelling to Seymour while the balance of teams had the bye.

### FOOTBALL

#### Under 16

Alexandra 10.12 - 72  
defeated Yea 3.5 - 23

Nutrien Harcourts: Matt Wal;  
Essence Coffee Lounge: Harry

Morley; FoodWorks: Bailey Bastion; Alexandra Bakery and Café: Heath Sutcliffe; Coach: Archie Gibson.

### NETBALL

#### Under 11

Alexandra Red 14  
defeated Seymour 7

FoodWorks: Ashleigh Francis;  
Alexandra Bakery and Café:  
Zoe Collier; Coach: Ricki Birch.

#### Under 13

Alexandra Red 33  
defeated Seymour 12

FoodWorks: Megan Kendall;  
Alexandra Bakery and Café: Ivy

Miljkovic; Miljkovic Family:  
Zelda Van Lierop.

#### Under 15

Alexandra Red 28  
defeated by Seymour 30

FoodWorks: Ava Carr;  
Alexandra Bakery and Café:  
Brianna Golland; Miljkovic  
Family: Abby Miljkovic.

#### Under 15

Alexandra Black 9  
defeated by Yea 42

FoodWorks: Ashlyn Newman;  
Alexandra Bakery and Café:  
Chelsea Webb; Coach:  
Hannah Weeks.

A very big thank you to the above award sponsors for their continued support of the junior footballers and netballers in 2024.

Next Sunday, all teams have the bye for the league general bye of the middle weekend of the school holidays, the season resuming the following weekend.

If anyone can assist with the canteen on home games during the season please speak to Melissa Crane to go on the roster.

**SPORT**



*The A grade netball girls in their First Nations Uniforms. -S*



*The B grade netball girls in their First Nations Uniforms. -S*



*The C grade netball girls in their First Nations Uniforms. -S*



*The D grade netball girls in their First Nations Uniforms. -S*

# Mixed results for Alexandra's netballers

**A GRADE LOST 25 – 48:** Incentive – Ellie Hedger, Corner Hotel / Grant St Grocer – Jaz Collett, Alpine Butchery – Teagan Halligan.

**B GRADE LOST 22 – 67:** Incentive – Ash Peers, Corner Hotel / Grant St Grocer – Ash Creighton, Alpine Butchery – Brodie Wheelhouse.

**C GRADE LOST 8 – 57:** Incentive – Lizzie Butcher, Corner Hotel / Grant St Grocer – Kate Broadway, Alpine Butchery – Taylah Dean.

**D GRADE WON 29 – 21:** Incentive – Emily Irwin, Corner Hotel / Grant St Grocer – Ashlee Frankcombe.

Thursday's Rebel Raffles continued last week and the club thank their sponsors. The winners were Max Church, Michelle Jack, Sharon Hedger, Des Rasmussen, Troy Surkitt and Hayley Steyger. The Penstock Pastoral Joker Jackpot is proving elusive and will be worth \$1,100 this week so head along and buy some tickets at \$1 each but you need to be at the club rooms at 8.00pm for the draw, meals available at the junior and senior sittings.

This coming Saturday Alexandra travel to Powelltown for two games of football and three games of netball, A grade having a bye. Awards will be at a venue to be confirmed.

On Saturday July 20 Alexandra host Healesville, the club celebrating 140 years since inception in 1884, also recognizing their life members and sponsors. On Saturday, August 10, Alexandra host Yarra Junction as part of Ladies Day celebrations.



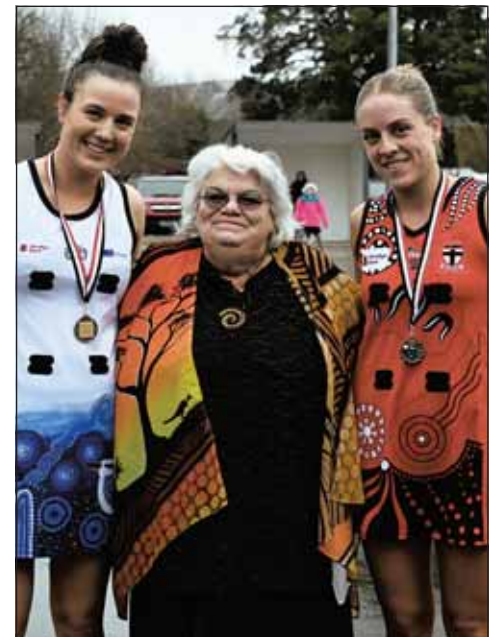
*D Grade players and Brooke De Pedro (Warburton / Milgrove) and Emily Irwin (Alexandra). -S*



*C Grade players Mel Hancock (Warburton/ Milgrove) and Lizzie Butcher (Alexandra). -S*



*B Grade players Chelsea Barnard (Warburton / Milgrove) and Ava Krijt (Alexandra). -S*



*A Grade players Karly Wappett (Warburton / Milgrove) and Ellie Hedger (Alexandra) with Aunty Irene (centre). -S*

**SPORT**



The Seniors wearing the new First Nations Jumpers. -S

# Warburton Millgrove prove strong competition

by Ray Steyger

**Football Reserves**

Alexandra 2.2 – 14 defeated by Warburton Millgrove 14.7 – 91

Alexandra returned to Rebel Park and hosted Warburton Millgrove last Saturday for round 11 of the Outer East League 2024 Division One season, the reserves welcoming back Banjo Fitzpatrick and new player Joseph Calovic into the team. For the first time in a long time, there was persistent rain and drizzle during the game but after an even first quarter the visitors showed a clean pair of heels with twelve goals to one in the next three quarters, showing why they have been very successful in the last couple of years.

Awards: Shepparton Volkswagen: Michael Coombs; Ampol fuel card: Harry Correa; Alexandra Hotel: Joseph Calovic; Buxton Hotel: Tim Polson; Sportspower: Luke Wal.

The Rebels unveiled the new First Nations jumpers and netball dresses which were designed by Aunty Irene who did a fantastic job, also conducting the formalities of the day. The club gives a big thank you to the sub-committee that worked very hard to make it all happen, to sponsors Hedger Constructions, Eildon Bakery and Café, Peers Earthmoving and Murrindindi Shire Council for their support in making the event possible.



Reserves team in their new First Nations jumpers -S

**Seniors**

Alexandra 2.9 – 21 defeated by Warburton Millgrove 6.9 – 45

The seniors, despite the continued drizzle, started with two goals to one in the first quarter but were unable to get consistent ball movement in the conditions, the visitors kicking five unanswered goals for the rest of the game to take the win. The depth of both teams is being tested this year due to the number of injuries, most of which are long term, 16 players unavailable on Saturday with Nick Meehan a new addition to the injury list on Saturday.

Awards: Incentives: Nick Meehan, Riley Frankcombe, Nathan Georgiadis and Josh Edwards; Alexandra Hotel / Ampol volunteer award: Michelle Jack; gate raffle: Brooke Carter; meat tray: Tom Massey; wine: Warburton player.

## Outer East Football and Netball League Ladders

Football - Seniors		
Healesville	275.74	7
Warburton Millgrove	146.83	8
Seville	217.41	7
Belgrave	191.36	6
Alexandra	183.99	6
Yea	94.18	5
Yarra Glen	45.91	2
Yarra Junction	37.45	1
Powelltown	21.73	1

Netball – A Grade		
Seville	163.61	9
Warburton Millgrove	176.70	8
Yarra Glen	147.78	6
Healesville	81.87	4
Belgrave	98.97	3
Alexandra	69.42	4
Yarra Junction	78.09	3
Yea	48.70	1

Football - Reserves		
Belgrave	551.66	10
Seville	370.56	9
Healesville	366.39	7
Warburton Millgrove	204.30	6
Yea	85.74	4
Alexandra	48.44	4
Powelltown	30.32	2
Yarra Junction	38.01	1
Yarra Glen	14.93	0

Netball – B Grade		
Seville	44 pts	10
Belgrave	32 pts	7
Warburton Millgrove	32 pts	7
Yarra Glen	32 pts	6
Yea	24 pts	5
Healesville	20 pts	3
Yarra Junction	16 pts	3
Powelltown	12 pts	2
Alexandra	8 pts	1

Football - Senior Women		
Warburton-Wesburn	38 pts	9
Monbulk	36 pts	9
Woori Yallock	32 pts	7
Emerald	26 pts	6
Wandin	22 pts	5
Officer	18 pts	4
Seville	4 pts	1
Thomton Eildon	0 pts	0

Netball – C Grade		
Yarra Glen	44 pts	9
Seville	40 pts	9
Warburton Millgrove	32 pts	7
Belgrave	28 pts	6
Yea	24 pts	5
Yarra Junction	20 pts	4
Healesville	12 pts	1
Alexandra	8 pts	1
Powelltown	8 pts	1

Football - Under 16		
Euroa	70.00	7
Moama	60.00	6
Seymour	44.44	4
Alexandra	22.22	2
Yea	12.50	1
Broadford	10.00	1

Netball – D Grade		
Seville	100.00	8
Alexandra	66.66	6
Belgrave	66.66	6
Yarra Glen	62.50	5
Warburton Millgrove	55.55	5
Yea	22.22	2
Yarra Junction	11.11	1
Powelltown	0	0

Football - Under 14		
Broadford	414.29	7
Wandong	259.33	5
Tabilk	167.88	5
Alexandra	123.43	3
Seymour	97.92	2
Yea	4.75	0

Football - Under 12		
Wandong	36 pts	9
Alexandra	28 pts	7
Broadford	20 pts	5
Seymour	16 pts	4
Tabilk	12 pts	3
Yea	8 pts	2
St Marys	0 pts	0



Best on Ground Seniors Game Josh Edwards with Aunty Irene. -S



Best on Ground player Harry Correa, Aunty Irene and a Warburton / Millgrove player. -S

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

# Standard Sport

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## A sports star with many talents

NARBETHONG athlete Lachlan Nicholls has recently been selected to represent Australia as a Uniroo at the FISU Modern Pentathlon University world championships, being held in August in Kaunas Lithuania.

Modern Pentathlon is an exciting multi sport consisting of epee fencing, swimming, showjumping, running and shooting. The world championships are featuring an exciting new format of laser run and obstacle.

Lachlan explained how this passion for the sport developed for him. "It all first started around six years ago when I started training for the sport. I went to a competition called an equathon which is running, swimming, and horse show jumping and they had a shooting range set up there so I had a try at it and I really enjoyed it so I decided to start the next competition which is a tetrathlon. This is running, swimming, horse riding and shooting then I went on a camp for pentathlon five years ago and I have been doing it ever since."

Lachlan is no stranger to travel as he has just

recently returned from the Laser Run World Championships in China where he finished 16th individually and ninth in the mixed relay.

Laser run is completing five laps by 600 metres and after each lap is complete you shoot with a laser pistol. Lachlan said "Sometimes it can be quite hard when you're breathing quite heavily."

Lachlan also explained some challenges with the sport, "The weather is different in the many countries I have travelled, I have been to China twice and it was really hot, most times I was struggling to breathe as I was exhausted running in the weather...you have about two days to adjust to the weather once arriving and competing at the event."

Lachlan's plans after the championship is to set his main goal to the Olympics in 2028. The upcoming FISU Modern Pentathlon University World Championships is completely self funded. If you would like to read more about Lachlan's story or sponsor or donate to Lachlan's dream visit [tinyurl.com/2u3vebvm](http://tinyurl.com/2u3vebvm)



Pistol shooting is a part of the pentathlon. -S



Lachlan fencing. -S



Lachlan running. -S

## Close match for Thornton Eildon

Thornton/Eildon 4.3 - 27 defeated by Emerald 7.5 - 47

IN women's football last week Thornton/Eildon played host to fourth place Emerald on a wet winter's afternoon. With several changes to the playing list from the previous week including the addition of first gamer and Rebels under 14 premierships coach Rebecca Clark, it was thought that it would take the players time to find their feet, but this was not to be the case.

From the beginning Thornton/Eildon found their mojo winning the ball out of the middle, scoring two behinds before Tahnee Heard opened the account with a cheeky snap out of congestion. At the sound of the quarter time siren Thornton/Eildon led Emerald by six points.

In the second quarter the belief of the home team grew, and they scored two hard earned goals. The first of these was scored by enthusiastic Billy Ross and a second to ever consistent Izzy Weston who again dominated around the ground.

Suede Croad and third time Women's Outer East 'Community

Bank' team of the week recipient Rose Kealy continued their dominance in the ruck while a fleet footed Bella Gorry sent the GPS into meltdown covering both ends of the ground. Thornton/Eildon's backline worked well together but Emerald was able to sneak through two goals of their own reducing the margin to five points at half time.

With the home team excited by the lead, coach Tash Hay encouraged the players to take on the game and to remain on task. Another hard-fought contest in the third quarter had the ball ricocheting from end to end. With plenty of support from the home crowd, Thornton/Eildon were first to score with Tara Pederson scoring truly to see the home team increase their lead by one point leaving the margin at three quarter time at six points.

With a win possible for either team it was felt that the first team to score a major was most likely to win the game. Unfortunately for Thornton/Eildon it was Emerald who found their way through the big sticks first and with their experience they were able to continue their scoring way with four unanswered goals in the final

quarter while keeping the home team scoreless.

While the result was disappointing to all in the blue and white the difference in the positive attitude and commitment of all the players from the previous week was there for all to see. After the game the Emerald players joined Thornton/Eildon in the clubrooms where they also took home first and second prize in the raffle before heading off to Bogan Bingo at the Rubicon Hotel.

Awards this week: Simpsons Fuel voucher: Tahnee Heard; Coaches Award: Suede Croad; Mitchell & co hair artistry \$50 voucher: Rebecca Clark; Club Meal voucher: Bella Gorry.

Next week Thornton/Eildon play away at Monbulk with the first bounce at 10.45am.

Training is on Monday and Thursday nights starting at 6pm. Dinner is also available on Thursday night at 7.30pm for \$15. If you wish to be a part of the team as a player, supporter or sponsor, please follow the Thornton Eildon District Football and Netball Club Facebook page or by email at [tedfnc@outlook.com](mailto:tedfnc@outlook.com)



Ebony Price and Lilah Galbraith moving the ball. -S



Izzy Weston, Abby Coolahan, and Amy Campbell passing the ball in wet conditions. -S