

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, October 23, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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WEEK'S
EDITION

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



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SENIORS WEEK



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CRAZY HAIR DAY



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BOWLS SEASON BEGINS



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Peter Weeks being inducted onto the Honour Roll at the CBAA awards on the Gold Coast. -Indimax Productions

Peter Weeks inducted onto honour roll

ON Saturday, October 19, president Peter Weeks and treasurer Judy Blakeney from UGFM Radio attended the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia (CBAA) awards night on the Gold Coast, following the annual conference. Peter was inducted into the Community Broadcasting Honour Roll at the event.

Peter said that the award was “a complete surprise.”

The committee, mainly Naomi Booker, nominated Peter for the inaugural Honour Roll. The CBAA represents the 400 community radio stations across Australia and was established 50 years ago.

Peter explained, “This year they decided to have an Honour Roll to honour people

that have done over 20 years of work in community broadcasting.”

Peter was unaware that he had been nominated, although the rest of the UGFM committee knew. Fortunately, they managed to keep it quiet.

Peter said, “I came up here to talk with the Australian Communications and Media Authority, and Community Broadcasting Foundation that help fund the sector, and some of the technical people were up here. We were having talks about different aspects of broadcasting and we were sitting down at the dinner on Saturday night and listening to all the awards that everyone received from community broadcasters across Australia

through various programs and they talked about the new honour roll.

“I thought, that’s great. People will get some recognition there. I’m sitting there and I thought I was pretty safe, really, because we hadn’t nominated anyone. So next thing you know, they mentioned my name and I thought, oh no. I used some other words too. Then I had to think of what the speech was going to be because I was totally unprepared for that. Four hundred people were in the room.”

Fortunately, he was able to think on his feet. He said, “I talked a bit about some of my involvement with the Community Broadcasting Association. I’ve helped out with the association over the years and of course a little bit about our role in establishing emergency broadcasting in Victoria and assisting other stations across Australia to get involved as well.

Peter has been involved with UGFM since the start, along with a few other people in the station. It commenced broadcasting 30 years ago, with an anniversary dinner coming up this weekend, with past and present presenters getting together to celebrate.

“We actually got our licence in October 1994,” Peter said. “And we began broadcasting in November 1994. We had an inaugural meeting in November 1993 to establish UGFM. It took us nearly 12 months to get our initial licence and then we began broadcasting three days a week initially. That was the only licence we could get and then they brought in a new regime called a temporary community broadcast licence, so we could get a 12 month licence and we ran on that for a few years until we gained our full licence in 1997. It’s been you know it’s a team effort. I’m just the mug in charge of it.”

Peter described his induction to the Honour Roll as “a lovely surprise. A lot of the peers in the industry said that I’ve been noticed from afar, so that’s nice to know.”

Peter said that he would “Like to thank everyone that’s been involved in the station over the years. It’s a team effort and everyone puts in 24/7. We broadcast seven days a week, keeping it on the air and maintaining the station. It’s not just behind the scenes, but on air as well. It’s a team effort by a lot of people. There are around 40 presenters and people that are involved in the operation of the station, financially and technically and on air.”



Hungry students trying to reach the corn chips in a student’s hair on Crazy Hair Day at Alexandra Primary School. More images on page 11. -AR



Alexandra Newspapers will be closed on

Tuesday, November 5 due to the Melbourne Cup public holiday.



THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE
Standard
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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS



The Yea Chronicle

Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital 5736 0400

In an emergency dial **000**

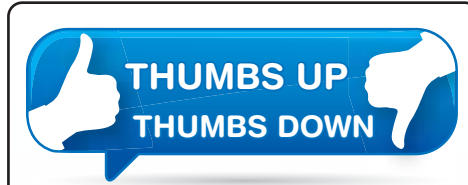
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THUMBS UP: To the artist for the wonderful spring garden display window in the Alexandra Pharmacy prior to the upcoming open garden weekend.

THUMBS DOWN: I came up the Spur just at the end of the long weekend. To my horror I came face to face with a ute pulling a very wide caravan. I had nowhere to go and ended up hitting the side wall of the Spur. This caravan was at least six inches over the white line. Thumbs down to VicRoads for not licensing caravans and vehicles towing them to be skilled in doing so.

THUMBS UP: To the local ambos who responded to my emergency on Thursday, October 3. A sincere thank you to you all.

THUMBS UP: To the friendly staff at Essence Coffee Lounge, who have a great menu, very reasonable prices and a choice of meal sizes. Thank you for the terrific service and enjoyable meals.

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

Alexandra District Health

OUR recent experience with the local hospital's acute care department has again been more than satisfactory. From Heather who received us, Amanda who took over (thank you for the sandwiches, they sustained us through the long wait), and to Allie who sent my husband on his way to Knox Private Hospital after administering his antibiotics. Dr Laura was impressive with her examination and pending diagnosis. We are lucky to have such a good service in Alexandra.

Sally Dean, Koriella

IT'S NOT OKAY

To yell at our staff.
To swear at our staff.
To be rude to our staff.
To abuse our staff in anyway.
To be disrespectful to our staff.
To show threatening behaviour towards our staff.

If you do, we have the right to ask you to leave our office and we may contact the police, or we may disconnect your call.

If you have a problem or complaint, we are happy to listen if you discuss this with us politely, please don't take your anger out on us.

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency
UGFM 106.9 Alexandra / Lake Eildon
UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.5 Marysville / Lake Mountain
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

Tues Art Group (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 0456 583 611
Thu 7.00-10pm SES, SES/CFA complex Ph 0418 576 666
Fri Communitea 10am-12pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801

MONTHLY

1st Wed Alexandra Lions dinner meet, Corner Hotel 0427 595 318
1st Sat Alexandra Quilters RSL Hall 10am-3pm Ph 0437 005 465
1st Sun Crop/Produce swap 10.30am-noon @ Embassy of Ideas
2nd Tue Alexandra District Garden Society Meeting Ph 5772 2285
2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm
2nd Sat Alexandra Market - at Station Street Ph 0427 509 988
2nd Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
3rd Sat Murrindindi Men 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
3rd Wed Alex Lions business meeting, rear RSL hall 0427 595 318
3rd Thu Alexandra Ladies Probus 10am RSL Ph 0428 976 252
3rd Thu Community Potluck dinner 6-8pm @ Embassy of Ideas
3rd Sun Alexandra RSL Ph 0409 950 913
4th Tue Yarck CWA Meeting, 10.30am Yarck Hall.
4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4th Thu Alexandra Redgate CWA Meeting 1pm, Ph 0402 804 517
Last Fri Carers Group 10am. Free morning tea. 0418 402 455

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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

Post office call centre

LOCAL residents have been expressing disappointment at being unable to make a direct call to their local post office.

When contacted about the issue, an Australia Post representative advised that the change allows staff at the post office to focus on face-to-face customer service, particularly given that their role has expanded to include banking.

The centralised call centre will be able to advise whether parcels have arrived, along with other queries. We were told that people can also leave a message for the local post office to give you a call, although a local resident was advised that this was not possible.

Standard The Hex Chronicle

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43 Grant Street - PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714
Telephone: 5772 1002 Fax: 5772 1603
Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	12.00pm Mon	1.12	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	12.00pm Mon	0.62	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	10.35am Mon	0.80	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	11.47am Mon	0.19	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	11.29am Mon	0.70	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	12.38pm Mon	1.29	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	12.00pm Mon	3.66	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	12.00pm Mon	0.74	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Trawool	12.00pm Mon	1.44	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	12.00pm Mon	0.42	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.82	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	10.09am Mon	1.21	steady	

****ISSUED AT 12.46PM ON MONDAY, 21 OCTOBER 2024**

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

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

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

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

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Standard
The Hex Chronicle

PUBLISHERS

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Weekly Weather
October 23 - October 29, 2024
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	7	22	Wednesday	8	22
Thursday	6	17	Thursday	6	18
Friday	5	17	Friday	4	18
Saturday	12	21	Saturday	12	22
Sunday	9	23	Sunday	9	23
Monday	8	19	Monday	9	19
Tuesday	10	21	Tuesday	10	21

Standard **The Hex Chronicle**

DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	26mm
Buxton	64mm
Eildon (AWS)	35mm
Flowerdale	46mm
Jamieson	15mm
Kinglake	90mm
Lake Eildon	53mm
Mansfield	23mm
Taggerty	52mm
Yarck	30mm
Yea	21mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	285.21m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	85.8%
Metres below full supply	3.69m
Daily inflow	4000ML
Release	1000ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	67.9%

Standard

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



Members and guests of the Alexandra RSL Club participated in their annual week trip away commencing on October 8. The trip was to Swan Hill and surrounds. Although several in the group have been to the area, all were blown away by what they saw at features like the pioneer settlement, the laser show on the banks of the Murray River, trips to local clubs, exploring the Catalina Museum at Lake Boga, and the amazing Spanner Man museum display at Boort. The trip was topped off by lunch at Bendigo RSL on the way home. The photo shows the happy group at the Catalina Museum in front of their amazing Catalina display after viewing a historical video of the site's history, beginnings and usage. -S

Voting closes soon for council election

THE Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) is reminding voters in Murrindindi Shire Council that they have until 6pm on Friday, October 25 to vote in the Murrindindi Shire Council election.

"You need to post your completed ballot pack before 6pm on Friday, October 25, noting local clearance times may vary," Electoral Commissioner Sven Bluemmel said.

"You can also drop your ballot pack off at the election office located at Murrindindi Shire Council Yea Office, 15 The Semi Circle, Yea before 6pm on Friday, October 25."

Any voter who still hasn't received their ballot pack should go to vec.vic.gov.au to complete an online replacement ballot pack form.

Extended hours for voters to hand deliver their completed ballot pack apply from 9am to 8pm on Thursday, October 24 and 9am to 6pm on Friday, October 25. Voting is compulsory for voters who were on the state or council roll for this election at 4pm on Wednesday, August 7.

Enrolled voters who don't vote may be fined.

History grants out now

APPLICATIONS are now open for the Victorian Government's Local History Grants Program.

The Local History Grants Program has been running for 23 years, recognising the importance of collecting and preserving the state's history.

Projects supported through previous grants include newspaper and photograph digitisation works, memorial websites, anniversary projects, digital histories, oral histories, archiving projects, community signage, exhibitions and walking tours.

Community groups such as historical societies, museums and schools are all encouraged to apply for grants to assist with funding for their historical projects, with up to \$15,000 available per grant.

More than 40 organisations received a grant through last year's funding round, locally the Taungurung Land and Waters Council received \$13,545 to catalogue its Aboriginal heritage artefacts.

Applications can be made online at prov.vic.gov.au by Monday, December 9.

New penalties for drink drivers

THE new penalties to crack down on drink drivers came into effect on Friday, October 18, trying to ensure that drivers think twice before getting behind the wheel while under the influence.

Every drink driving offender will now face a mandatory three-year period where they must have a blood alcohol content of zero.

This mandatory three-year period applies to all drink driving offenders from the time they successfully complete their court-mandated Alcohol Interlock Program.

The Alcohol Interlock Program requires drink driving offenders to install a breath-testing device in their vehicle which records any alcohol detected. Offenders must have an interlock device in their car for between six months or up to four years depending on the severity of their offence.

Victoria has some of the strongest penalties for drink driving in the country. First-time drink drivers who record a blood alcohol reading between .05 and .069 lose their licences for a minimum of three months and must have alcohol interlocks fitted to their vehicles for a minimum of six months.

Drink driving remains one of the most significant contributors to Victoria's road toll. Since 2023 around one in four drivers who have lost their lives on Victorian roads have had a blood alcohol concentration of .05 or above.

Murrindindi crime statistics

THE Crime statistics Agency (CSA) recently released crime statistics data for Victoria. Overall there were 552,228 criminal offences recorded in Victoria in the 12 months to June, amounting to an increase of 46,014 offences or 9.1 per cent.

The crime rate when population growth is considered is 7925 offences per 100,000 people. This is a 6.7 per cent increase from the year before.

Recorded offences for the Murrindindi Shire came to 758 cases, which is lower than last year's offences, which came in at 789 cases.

When it comes to criminal damage in the Murrindindi Shire, criminal damage has decreased from 66 cases in the 12 months to June 2023 to 60 cases to June 2024.

Firearms offences has reduced from 29 cases in 2023 data to 23 in the 2024 data.

Drug possession has almost halved from 42 offences in the 2023 data to 22 offences in the 2024 data. When it comes to drug trafficking in the shire there were seven cases of methylamphetamine and one case of the drug ecstasy. There were six cases of drug cultivation for cannabis recorded for the 2024 data.

Council's VicRoads services are changing

LAST week VicRoads Registration and Licensing advised Murrindindi Shire Council that the Alexandra Customer Service Centre will only be authorised to be a photo point and work diary supplier.

The Alexandra Service Centre will no longer be able to accept licence plates and will no longer be offering learners permit testing.

To complete other VicRoads services in person, the nearest VicRoads locations are in Seymour or Ringwood.

VicRoads have been contacted for comment.

Some positive data was the significant drop in breach in family violence order in 2024. In 2023 there was 105 cases and this year was 30.

Motor vehicle theft went from 23 cases in 2023 data to 31 cases in the 2024 data. Lock up your cars too, as theft from a motor vehicle rose from 36 in the previous year to 47 this year.

The data for sexual offences is concerning with a jump from 17 in the 2023 data to 29 in the recent data.

To read the full report visit crimestatistics.vic.gov.au

Correction

THE article on the repairs to the Princess Alexandra in Alexandra on October 9 incorrectly stated that the head has been resculpted. As we all know, the head was located and restored.

It's also understood that while the statue was originally on permanent loan from the National Gallery, per a news article in the Alexandra Standard in 1936, this eventually became a gift to the Shire of Alexandra.

ALEXANDRA MUSEUM

DIESEL TRAIN RIDES

Saturday, October 27, 10am-3.30pm

GROUP BOOKINGS AND INFORMATION LINE
0427 509 988

alexandratramway.org.au
[facebook.alexandramuseum](https://facebook.com/alexandramuseum)



Attendees at one of the Mental Health Promotion Training workshops, held on October 15 and 16 in Alexandra. The aim was to help people to gain knowledge and feel more empowered in building mental well being and preventing mental ill-health in their organisations and communities. -VG

Open Gardens weekend

at Fawcett Hall

plant sale
mini café
locally roasted coffee
Jan's Jams
bric a brac
garden raffle

**26th & 27th
October 2024
9am - 4pm**

**655 Spring Creek Road
Fawcett 3714**

hall hire - events & functions



ALEXANDRA & DISTRICT OPEN GARDENS

October 26 and 27, 2024. 10am-4pm.
alexandraopengardens.com.au

Beautiful town and country gardens plant sales, garden sculptures and more

Come...
be inspired!





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

St Andrews, Downey Street,
Alexandra
Worshipping, Welcoming
Sharing the transforming love of
Jesus. Services 10am each Sunday
Contact 5772 2362

OASIS COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

MOUNT CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY

BAPTIST CHURCH

37 Grant Street, Alexandra
Pastor Daniel Kriss
Services 10am every Sunday
Phone 0400 282 536
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*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

Eildon Action AGM will be held at 4pm at the Eildon Information Centre.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Alexandra Race Club Cox Plate Day. Music, tote and bookies, \$15 per person. Children under 16 free. \$10 for Concession Card holders. First race at 1.15pm. There will be a bus available bookings essential country.racing.com/Alexandra

Yellow Creek Dairy Creek Landcare will hold their AGM at 4pm at 17 Sichlau's Road, Yea. A barbecue will follow.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Alexandra and District Dog Obedience Club AGM will be held at 10am at Briggs Oval.

Wearable Floral Art. Prizes for most creative entries Rennies at Acheron 132 Breakaway Road, Acheron. Guest speakers Costa from Gardening Australia, Joost Bakker, Future food systems and Peter Burgess, Rainbow Bee Eater. Music, licensed café and more.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

Embassy of Ideas AGM will be held at 6pm at 3 Bailey Street, Alexandra. All welcome.

Yea-Kinglake RSL social meeting will be held at the RSL hall at 11.30am Enquiries to the secretary 5796 9353.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Alexandra District Netball Association will hold their AGM at 7pm at the Alexandra

Community Shed. For further information contact Cassandra on 0418 538 964.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Redgate Alexandra CWA will hold their AGM at 10am at the CWA Rooms in Perkins Street, Alexandra. For more information contact Sue 0412 435 946.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

EVENT CANCELLED - Yarck Hotel are holding a Melbourne Cup Lunch. Commencing at 11am. Race day attire, the fancier, the better. Prepaid tickets available from Lawrenda Pty Ltd or visit the hotel or the produce store for tickets. See ad in this edition for payment details. Doors open to the public after the cup.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Murrindindi Harvest Celebration Yea Railway Park 11am-4pm.

Whittlesea Show fast approaching

THE much-loved Whittlesea Show has always been a staple of the community and the 2024 event, to be held on November 2 and 3, should prove once again to be a magnificent day out.

In his first year as Whittlesea Agricultural Society President, and with a team of dedicated volunteers behind him, Jayson Munro has introduced additions to the Whittlesea Show that will impress newcomers and wow those who are returning.

Cluney's Tavern and Smokehouse area will greet visitors, along with additional rides for all, while the new look education pavilion will include activities and attractions to entertain both young and adult. Among our loved pavilions, including heritage, sheep, and the ever-popular animal nursery, there will also be new competitions to enter, including an adorable pygmy goat obstacle course. There will be pull tractors to see, toy tractors to drive, and a range of free attractions including interactive simulators, all day circus and more.

2024 offers a range of skill demonstrations and opportunities to participate in, including rope making, butter churning, sour dough making, and cake decorating and free children's activities such as bag and mask decorating.

Breakout star, Taylor Moss, fresh off the back of some live shows at the legendary CMA Festival in Nashville will hit the stage on Sunday afternoon.

The many opportunities to enter as a novice or experienced exhibitor will be listed in the show schedule which is available online at whittleseashow.org.au or pick one up at the show office, Gate One, McPhees Road, Whittlesea.

President, Jayson Munro, said, "The Whittlesea Agricultural Society tries to honour both the show's history and agriculture in the area, while continuing to introduce changes and improvements each year. This year we are pleased to be able to introduce Cluney's Tavern, where people can relax, as well as more subtle additions including new rides, and demonstrations of skills from the past. As the community continues to support this event, we, in turn, continually push to create a show to entertain".

Tickets to the Whittlesea Show are available online at ticketebo.com.au/whittlesea-agricultural-society-inc/2024-whittlesea-show or at the gate on November 2 and 3.

Looking forward to this year's Whittlesea Show, the lineup of new attractions, rides, and engaging entertainment promises to elevate the experience for all attendees. Head along for a memorable weekend. This year's show is not to be missed.

Whole Town Garage Sale a great success

ON Saturday, October 19, many people in Alexandra and surrounds had a fun day out garage sailing. The Alexandra's Whole Town Garage Sale was run by the Embassy of Ideas as a fundraiser, and it was so successful that it may become an annual event.

Sasha Barrow from the Embassy said, "The whole point of it is a win-win. It's a fundraiser for the Embassy so that we can make some money for what we do, but also people in the community could also make some money from their excess stuff they have in their garage. I think

most people did, we've talked to a couple of stall holders and garage sale holders and everyone was really happy with the outcome. There seemed to be a lot of people around town. It created quite a buzz. The town seemed really busy."

There were 32 garage sales and 11 stalls at the Embassy of Ideas.

"I don't think everyone could do them all, because there were so many," she said.

"There were a couple of people who did the whole lot. They were dedicated bargain hunters."

People attended the event from as far afield as Wodonga, Melbourne and Wangaratta. "It wasn't just locals," Sasha said. "It really was something that brought people into the town, which is really good. Everyone enjoyed the day and got some bargains as well."

They were also fortunate to have a sunny day following Friday's storms.

Sasha added, "Because of the feedback we've had from people, we've had quite a lot of positive feedback and we will be running it again at an annual level. We wanted to test it first and I think it has been successful because we've had people asking already when you run it. So we will... I think overall everyone was really pleased and there were lots of people too who said they couldn't come on Saturday because they had other commitments for other stuff that they'd love to be involved next year. We'll run it again at the same time next year."

The Embassy of Ideas raised around \$1800 from the event, their major fundraiser for the year. Sellers were also able to make some money, and businesses found that people were stopping for coffee and lunch at local businesses.

The Whole Town Garage Sale was also a great social event, connecting people in town and chatting to neighbours.



Donna and Bob selling maps of the garage sales for \$5, with the proceeds going to the Embassy of Ideas. -AR



Some of the stalls at the Embassy of Ideas. -AR

Alexandra and District Senior Citizens Club report

by honorary secretary Mike Jennings

THE highlight of the week was the Whole Town Garage Sale as the club prepared their stalls after Friday's social meeting and opened up nice and early for Saturday's sale. The club welcomed lots of happy bargain hunters and the funds they brought for the club and private stall holders. A big thank you to Embassy of Ideas for organising the

event and club members for their efforts.

The bridge players got together as usual on Monday and Wednesday for a few hands. As always a reminder that the club welcomes new members to all activities. The committee will be getting together on Friday, November 1 to plan Christmas and activities in the new year. Head along and join in. Meanwhile, stay safe and keep smiling.

Standard

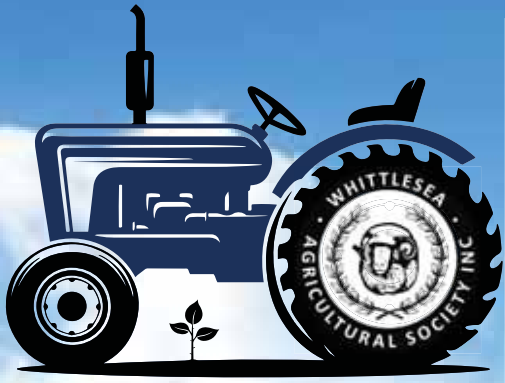
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- Igloo Buxton
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- Merton General Store
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Whittlesea SHOW

NEWS



EDITION 28, 2024



The Show will impress this year with plenty to see and do! Great new rides, workshops, demonstrations and free activities abound, as well as the Show traditions you've always loved. Grab yourself a Pavilion Hunter Showbag, enjoy live entertainment, explore the pavilions and entry displays or take some time out at Cluney's Tavern. Bring your furry best friend along and enter in our fabulous Fun Dog Show on Saturday!



There are rides for all ages, from dodgem cars to miniature train rides! With music for all, from country singer Taylor Moss to ukulele, bluegrass & brass bands, there's something for everyone! Eroni's free circus, drone display, simulators, reptile show, wood carving, stilt divas, helicopter rides and so much more to see. Don't miss out!



Our animal Pavilions showcase Cattle, Poultry, Sheep, Hobby Livestock, Alpacas and Horses. Visit the ever-popular Animal Nursery, be entertained in the Cattle arena & witness skilled riders in our Horse events. Engage with and learn from owners and experts who can share their knowledge. Be sure to watch the skilled riders in the Mounted Games on the main arena, or the Working Dog display over near the Cattle pavilion!

WHAT'S NEW

HOMECRAFT DEMONSTRATION - SAT/SUN
10.00am Cake Decorating
11.30am Sourdough Demonstration
1.00pm Scones & Jam
2.30pm Christmas Cake Decorating

BEEF CATTLE WORKSHOP - SAT ONLY
10.00am - 11am Beef Cattle Handlers Workshop

EDUCATION WORKSHOP - SAT ONLY
10.00am - 2.00pm Wellington Square Bag Decorating

VALAIS BLACKNOSE SHEEP COMP SAT ONLY

HOMECRAFT CLASSES
Fabulous Table Setting
Decorated Lampshade
Decorated Chair

TAYLOR MOSS - SUN ONLY
12.30pm - 2.00pm Performing on the Village Green Stage

PIONEER PAVILION - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm Rope Making Activity & Butter Churning Display

INTERACTIVE HARVESTER SIMULATOR SAT/SUN - 9.00am - 5.00pm

DRONE DISPLAY - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm

TRACTOR PULLING TRACTOR DISPLAY SAT/SUN 9.00am - 5.00pm

BLACK SNAKE PRODUCTIONS - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm Education Pavilion

CLUNEY'S TAVERN - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm The Plaza

PYGMY GOAT DISPLAY - SUN ONLY
9.00am - 5.00pm Sheep Pavilion

WHITTLESEA SHOW PAVILION HUNTER SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm Kids Treasure Hunt

DODGEM CARS - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm

KIDS MINIATURE TRAIN RIDES - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm

CITY OF WHITTLESEA INTERACTIVE RECYCLING DISPLAY - SAT/SUN
9.00am - 5.00pm

DAREBIN CITY BRASS BAND - SUN ONLY
9.00am - 5.00pm

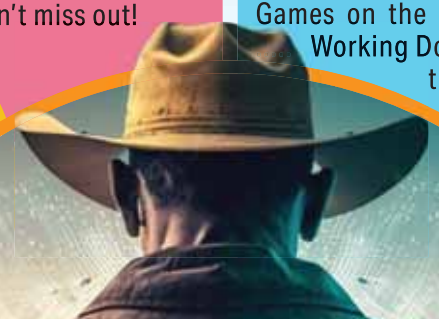
SHOWBAGS

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Student of the week

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ALEXANDRA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Indigo Russell – 5/6A

Indigo always displays our school values in everything she does. She is a consistently eager and enthusiastic learner, constantly striving for excellence in everything she achieves. She always gives 100% and is kind and respectful to everyone. We are proud to have you in our learning community. Indigo, you are a star.

BUXTON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Hendrix has been a focused learner and is persevering more with challenging tasks.

Keep it up Hendrix.

EILDON PRIMARY SCHOOL



Liam and Logan have displayed terrific enthusiasm and achievement in their work this week

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



Scarlett

Scarlett is a kind and considerate member of Foundation. She is also a focussed and determined learner. Scarlett can be a quiet achiever but she consistently makes great progress and excellent decisions. She is a wonderful role model for our school motto of love one another. Well done Scarlett.

Congratulations Scarlett.

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by
Kinglake branch



Educating students about Respectful Relationships

VICTORIAN students will now have access to Respectful Relationships resources in schools to learn to recognise and respond to issues such as toxic masculinity, hate speech, and coercive control online.

The new resources will give students the skills to counter the influence of Andrew Tate-types, helping them safely navigate issues like consent, sextortion, pornography, and gender based bullying.

More non government schools are also being invited to join over 1950 Victorian government, Catholic and independent schools, including over 370 non government schools already signed up to the initiative.

These schools can join via a new Expression of Interest process that has now been launched, with support including startup funding, implementation guidance and professional learning.

Developed by education experts Professor Helen Cahill and Associate Professor Debbie Ollis in consultation with teachers, students and parents, the new contemporary materials will help young people stay safe online and in real life.

This recent announcement also aides in making social media safer for kids, including its survey to help inform age limits and safety programs, this is available at engage.vic.gov.au/safesocials

Non-government schools can apply until November 8 to participate in Respectful Relationships at the website vic.gov.au/respectful-relationships

Koala care discussion in Yarck

OVER 40 landcarers recently attended a wonderful and very informative koala talk in Yarck by local koala expert Lynne Wallace-Greenberg.

Lynne has worked at the Port Macquarie Koala Hospital, and she currently works with Koala Smart, a koala conservation and education program.

Participants of the talk learnt about how and where koalas live, their favourite trees, how to improve thier habitat, threats that koalas face and how to help, how to report koala sightings on the KoalaMap database, and many other interesting facts about koalas.

Upper Goulburn Landcare Network would like to thank the ladies from the Yarck Country Women's Association (CWA) for the great lunch, and acknowledge that the event was funded by the Victorian State Government's Victorian Landcare Grants.



Lots of work is being done by landcarers to protect the koalas. -S



All the landcarers who attended the Landcare Koala Presentation in Yarck recently. -S

Dinner and medals for 150 years of Alexandra Fire Brigade

FOLLOWING the parade to celebrate 150 years of the Alexandra Fire Brigade on Saturday, October 12, Alexandra Captain Chris Lynch explained how privileged and honoured he felt to lead the brigade during the historic event.

“I don’t lead alone, I have an amazing team that joins me and without them, I am only one person,” Chris said.

“A lot of work went into the event and it was a great day. This isn’t just about Alexandra’s 150th, this is the community being able to have a minute to look and see the people that support them in their time of need.”

Following the parade, a dinner was held with more than 100 people in attendance. Long-service medals were presented.

The brigade was formed in February 1874, with Captain Radford Huddle as officer in charge and around 20 members on board.

A few months after the brigade was formed, the main street suffered significant fires with several buildings lost. The town had been hit with fires in the past, but reports

indicate the formation of the fire brigade paid dividends, as the fire was contained. However, with every fire comes problems and Captain Huddle and three members resigned immediately after the incident.

Training back in the day saw the firefighters don their new red uniforms before marching to the local racecourse, and while one member climbed a tree, others then had to source a continuous supply of water using buckets to get it to the top of the tree.

Over the years the brigade became involved in the demonstrations, which was later known as the State Championships, where they went on to being quite successful, winning many trophies.

The construction of a fire bell on a small tower in the main street was a major move forward to alert brigade members to fire calls. This historic bell still exists in front of the joint emergency services facility in Shamrock Street, Alexandra.

The brigade acquired its first motor vehicle during the late 1930s, a Dodge, 4 cylinder, open cap, fitted with a bell. It was a hose carriage



Members of the Alexandra Fire Brigade in uniform and with their long-service medals, and members of the public associated with the brigade. -Uniform Photography

and firefighters transport vehicle only, which proved better than having to run a reel. This truck was replaced by an Austin Series 1 fitted with a Thompson front mounted pump around 1950.

Alexandra Captain Chris Lynch said the brigade has been involved in numerous major fires over the decades.

“The 2019/20 Black Summer fires stand out, our brigade spent time at the fires at Swift Creek,” Chris said.

“Not long after I was voted in as Captain a few years ago, we responded to a fire at Maintongoon

which ended up being one of the biggest fires for the season.”

Chris joined CFA around 12 years ago and said it’s a great way to meet people, have community spirit and assist people in need.

“Many people have come and gone over the years but it’s important to talk to the people who have been there before, learn from them and respect everybody’s opinion,” Chris said.

“One of the most amazing things about Alexandra Fire Brigade is the members. We are such a diverse brigade, and we have the ability to do anything we put our minds to.

“We also couldn’t do what we do without our Fire Equipment Maintenance (FEM) team and the auxiliary members who raise much needed funds for our brigade.”

More than 30 service awards were presented during the brigade dinner including five members who received the prestigious 55 years of service.

Dignitaries at the event included Cindy McLeish MP, Mayor Damien Gallagher, CFA Board Member Ross Coyle, Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Stephen Keating and Commander Paul Brislin.

Alexandra landfill expanded

MURRINDINDI Shire Council is pleased to announce it has successfully completed construction of a new landfill cell at the Alexandra landfill site, increasing capacity for waste disposal and extending the life of the landfill for another 30 years.

The new cell, or waste storage unit, allows more waste locally, providing cost-effective waste management services within Murrindindi Shire, rather than transporting waste to other areas. This expansion was necessary due to population growth and new industry development.

This important project aligns with council’s Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy, and alongside the introduction of a four-bin kerbside collection service next year, and community’s efforts in reducing landfill waste, means council is well placed to achieve the goals of a circular economy. The new cell was constructed according to strict environmental and construction standards to prevent contamination and ensure the new landfill is safe and efficient.

A public tender process in July 2023 resulted in Goldsmith Civil and Environmental Pty Ltd being awarded the contract for construction, and Bajwa Enviro Consult Pty Ltd being awarded the contract for testing and audit services.

Council would like to thank the project partners for their dedication and hard work in delivering this critical infrastructure project.

Once council has obtained Environment Protection Agency approval to use the new landfill cell, they will begin the process of capping the old landfill area. Capping is a multi-stage project that includes a barrier layer to prevent water from entering the landfill, a gas collection system and a topsoil and vegetation layer to protect the cap, which will reduce soil erosion and improve the appearance.

For information about council’s waste management facilities, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/wasteservices or contact council on (03) 5772 0333.

Murrindindi Shire Council’s CEO Livia Bonazzi said “To assist our community and visitors to appropriately dispose of household and business refuse and recyclable materials, council operates five Resource Recovery Centres, and the Alexandra Landfill.

“Landfills are essential for managing residual waste that cannot be recycled, ensuring it is safely contained and does not harm the environment. Households and businesses can play a crucial role in reducing landfill use by adopting more sustainable practices,” Ms Bonazzi said.

“By making changes to the way we create and manage waste at home and at work, we can collectively reduce our environmental footprint and extend the life of our landfills.

“We are proud of the collaborative effort that has brought this project to fruition and look forward to continuing our work to enhance waste management in our shire. In line with Victorian State Government requirements, from July 2025 Murrindindi Shire will transition to a four-stream waste and recycling system, making it easier for households to divert food and garden organics, glass recycling and mixed recycling from landfill.”

For more information about the changes to our kerbside collection services, visit council’s website at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/fourbin,” Ms Bonazzi said.



The Alexandra landfill pictured from above. -S

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Do you know a young achiever?

NOMINATIONS for the 2025 7NEWS Victorian Young Achiever Awards are now open for amazing young people aged 30 and under from Victoria.

Do you know an inspiring young individual who finds the time to help others, who is a leader and role model for their peers, and paving the way through innovative thinking.

Category Winners will receive a prize from DMT coaching and in addition, they will be featured on a television ad, aired across the Seven Network celebrating the 2025 winners.

One of the category winners will be chosen as the 2025 Victorian Young Achiever of the Year.

To submit a nomination, simply go online to youngachieverawards.com select 'VIC' and then click the gold 'Nominate Now' button.

Alternatively, make the process that much easier by calling (03) 9720 1638 and passing on their details and we will take it from there.

Nominations close Wednesday, January 29. For assistance, please feel free to call the Awards Office or email yaa@awardsaustralia.com

Improved safety for apprentices and trainees

THE Victorian Government has launched a \$9 million package to improve safety and mental health support for apprentices and trainees after accepting all recommendations of the Apprenticeship Taskforce report, in full or in principle.

The reforms will provide more support for apprentices and their employers and address the key issues highlighted in the report, including safety, harassment, training quality, and fairness at work.

Among the first reforms to be implemented will be a pilot of a central helpdesk service, where apprentices and trainees can go for all types of workplace support. This helpdesk will be run by *Apprenticeships Victoria* and builds on the success of the *Apprenticeship Support Program*.

The government has also given in principal support to the establishment of a dedicated regulator for apprentices and trainees. The dedicated regulator will work to improve outcomes for Victoria's 77,000 apprentices and make the system easier to navigate, helping them stay in their chosen fields.

The package of reforms will include more support for employers of apprentices, greater inclusion and safety for women apprentices, modernising laws that govern the apprenticeship system, and better collaboration between agencies and the Commonwealth.

To further support our apprentices, the state government has announced three new mental health programs that will be available to them, including the *Apprentice Employee Assistance Program* (EAP). The EAP offers free counselling and can be accessed online or by phone without the need for a referral.

Victoria's Apprenticeship Taskforce was established through the *Victorian Budget 2023/24* and is chaired by Sharan Burrow AC, alongside representatives from unions, industry, and apprentices.

Apprenticeships Victoria, established in 2021, will oversee the new helpdesk and all mental health initiatives to make sure apprentices and trainees, across all industries, are getting the support they need to do well on the job.

To read the Apprenticeships Taskforce's Report and the government's response, visit: apprenticeships.vic.gov.au/apprenticeships-taskforce/

Health transport challenges in Murrindindi

AMBULANCE Victoria has flexed the rules around Non-Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT), and as of a couple of weeks ago, a large number of people in our small regional shire can no longer access NEPT reimbursement of taxi services. This includes people requiring dialysis three times per week, as well as post-transplant treatments and cancer treatments.

For people needing dialysis, the cost of a taxi is around \$180 each way to and from Seymour, which hosts the nearest dialysis service. For three return trips per week, the cost could be almost \$1100 per week for people who are generally on pensions or similar.

Following the initial uproar over the sudden changes, the patients were advised that they would book an NEPT vehicle but not get a taxi booked for them, as occurred previously. It's understood that patients accessing NEPT services require clinical supervision and therefore Ambulance Victoria is unwilling to pay for taxis. Patients instead may need to wait for a significant period for NEPT, with clinical supervision provided by the hospital.

As outlined in the editorial by Marie Bristow on this page, there have been some challenges for patients under the new systems, and there are few volunteer services able to step in and assist.

The initial response from the Health Department office said, "For Victorians who don't require clinical monitoring or care during transportation to medical appointments, community transport providers are available, particularly for those who may be unable to use public transport, taxi services or seek support from family and friends. In regional areas, across Loddon Mallee, Gippsland, South West Victoria, Grampians and North East, a large range of options are available."

People were pointed in the direction of the page, betterhealth.vic.gov.au/

health/servicesandsupports/community-transport-providers

In the Hume region, the only Murrindindi Shire service listed is Community Accessibility.

The response also said, "Local council-operated transport and statewide services are also available through Red Cross Patient Transport, Connect Health and Community, LINK Community and Transport and Federal Government schemes including My Aged Care and NDIS."

Red Cross operates in Murrindindi but the volunteers are based outside of the shire. Neither LINK Community and Transport or Connect Health and Community operate in the shire.

NDIS provides a maximum of \$1784 per year for participants who are not working, studying or attending day programs but are seeking to enhance their community access.

My Aged Care Home Care Packages (HCP) funds can be used to pay for taxi vouchers for aged-care related transport needs. This includes transport and personal assistance to help a care recipient shop, visit health practitioners, or attend social activities. Taxi vouchers can be accessed through HCP funds or through a state-based government program, but not at the same time. Where state subsidised travel is available for medical appointments, this must be used in the first instance. There are also delays in people being able to access these packages if they are not already receiving it.

Under the Multi-Purpose Taxi Program, which has very stringent criteria to access the service, half of the cost of each trip, up to \$60 is paid. More information on this service can be found at vic.gov.au/multi-purpose-taxi-program

There appears to be no easy transport solution for the people needing life-saving treatment.

Member for Eildon Cindy McLeish said, "They need to sort this out. They should have had it sorted out prior to making the change, rather than leave people in the lurch and increase the stress level significantly of the patient."

Member for Indi Helen Haines spoke about the new Aged Care bill last week in Parliament. She expressed concern that the new *Support at Home* packages will not be large enough for regional participants, who face additional costs due to higher transportation costs and workforce shortages.

She said, "It is important our aged care system is sustainable, now and well into the future, and this is the policy equivalent of knocking the house down and starting again. For people in Indi, we have a much higher proportion of older people compared to the national average, and many people move to our beautiful towns to retire. This reform is crucial to their quality of life."

"Across Indi, I hear from older people who do not receive the full benefit from their existing home care packages, because the cost of travel chews up their budgets too quickly."

Dr Haines continued her push for attention on regional transport issues during Question Time, asking the Minister for Aged Care how the government will ensure regional and rural Australians won't be disadvantaged by travel costs in delivering *Support at Home* care.

"The Minister, in responding to my question, said the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority will advise the government on services and pricing, particularly with respect to transport. I will be looking at this closely to see if this delivers better outcomes for regional people."

Things have not improved for patients receiving kidney dialysis at the Seymour hospital.

by Marie Bristow

SINCE I posted my concerns on the Alexandra Community Page on September 26, the patients have been advised that all transport to Seymour Dialysis will be done by National Transport Non Emergency Transport.

Patients were informed they should be getting a phone call the night before treatment, to advise what time they are going to be picked up.

In the last two weeks this system has failed for the patients. For example, one patient never received a phone call and as treatment is a must, arranged private transport, then the National Patient Transport arrived to pick them up.

Patients have also been getting a phone call half an hour before they are due to be picked up, instead of the previous night. This adds stress for patients, not knowing

if they will be late for their dialysis and lose their space at the hospital. Delayed treatment adds time to the journey and treatment, exhausts the patient, and most importantly the cost of requiring the private transport.

Treatment times are getting later and later due to patients getting picked up between 8.30am to 9.30am.

The waiting time is up to an hour to be picked up from Seymour to go back to Yarck and Alexandra.

On Tuesday, one patient was picked up at 7.30am to go to Seymour Dialysis. They started treatment about 8.40am and finished treatment at 12.45pm, with everything going okay.

I received a distressed phone call from the patient that afternoon saying they had been waiting nearly one and a half hours and could not be given a time they would be picked up to return to Alexandra. The

patient called Seymour Taxi to take them back to Alexandra.

Last Wednesday, a patient was told by staff at Seymour Dialysis that they had received a phone call from National Patient Transport that they would be prioritising patients. If they receive an emergency call, they will take that first, leaving the dialysis patient without notification and again the stress to arrange transport as stated above.

Enough is enough. This is affecting these patients both physically and mentally. How much more can they take? It breaks my heart hearing one of the patients saying they have had enough, this is not living and there's no quality of life. The staff from National Patient Transport are wonderful and very caring to the patients.

If the system is broken, how can we all get together to resolve it. You never know how many more will need this service in the future. Maybe it will be you.

Ambulance Victoria comments on the health transport challenges

AMBULANCE Victoria Executive Director Specialist Operations and Coordination (Acting), Michael Georgiou provided comment on the current situation regarding the transport of dialysis patients.

He said, "While there have been no changes to the Non-Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT) eligibility criteria, existing requirements for NEPT are being better implemented to ensure this service is available for those who need it such as eligible dialysis patients and to take pressure off our paramedics.

"Each time NEPT transports someone who doesn't require monitored or clinical care, it places additional strain on our busy ambulance services. This is about ensuring the service is available for those who need clinical care during transport

and to help ambulance services focus on the sickest Victorians first.

"For eligible patients in the Murrindindi Shire, we have been working with health services to coordinate transport and treatment times. Other patients have a number of options including services run by local councils and community transport providers."

NEPT is requested by authorised health professionals (nurses, paramedics, and doctors) for patients who require clinical monitoring or supervision during transport. Before being accepted, all transfers go through an assessment to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria.

The previous manual booking system for NEPT made it difficult to identify

bookings which did not meet the criteria but requests that are not eligible are now more readily identified.

Having NEPT available for people who need it is helping reduce reliance on emergency ambulances and taxis.

AV has also been working with health services to ensure patients who don't meet these eligibility requirements are supported in accessing other options including services run by local councils and community transport providers.

It's understood that appointment start times in Seymour are being pushed forward by half an hour to help ensure that NEPT can get the patients there in time, and that the pooling of patients in an NEPT vehicle is being explored.

Packing gifts for Operation Christmas Child

SAMARITAN'S Purse held a packing party for Operation Christmas Child at the Oasis Community Church in Alexandra on thursday, October 17.

Organiser Judy Peters explained, "We pack these shoeboxes to send overseas to the children for ages two to four, five to nine, and 10 to 14 for boys and girls. We put in school items, hygiene, clothing and a toy to play with such as a puzzle."

Judy stores the items at her home and does packing through the year. So far 600 shoeboxes have been packed.

The shoeboxes this year are going to Cambodia, Philippines, Fiji, Solomon Island and the Ukraine.

"Last year they sent over 10,000 into the Ukraine. It was a whole shipping container full," Judy said.

Judy has been doing the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child for at least 20 years now. Her reason behind taking part is the children.

"I just think the kids overseas don't have much. They don't get gifts. They don't get things. For the children to get a box like this is amazing. They love it."



The assortment of gifts to go in the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. -MP



Main organiser Judy Peters. -MP



The packing party having a well deserved break. -MP

Best Start Best Life

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

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

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



Murrindindi seniors participated in Tai Chi around the middle of senior's week. -BD

Seniors Week celebrated in Murrindindi

LAST week Murrindindi East U3A members shared five days of free activities and events with other seniors in our community. This was part of the 2024 Victorian Seniors Festival, the theme was 'Explore, Engage, Evolve'.

Events were held in Alexandra township and also out of town. The Eildon U3A community hosted a learn-to-play Mahjong, followed by afternoon tea. Three guests came along including the local councillor, Karine Haslam.

Alexandra offered line dancing, table tennis and tai chi, all at the St John's Hall. Half a dozen or more new people came to these classes and judging from the smiles on their faces it won't be the last time they come along.

Craft in the Garden with Greta was hugely successful with four different craft activities given as well as Devonshire morning tea

and a nice lunch. A highlight of the day was seeing the faces of the four lovely Darlingford residents who joined us for the day with their carer Jeanne. Carmel, Joyce, Peggy and Ellen joined in with Pam Thompson to make beautiful hand made cards. They played at making recycled bird-feeders and fluffy sheep however one of the sheep lost it's head.

Of course, the weather caved in for walking group but this did not deter a small group from walking Leckie Park and finishing with a hot cuppa indoors.

The grand finale of Seniors Week 2024 was without doubt the screening of *Mamma Mia the Movie* at the shire hall on Friday evening. Over 50 locals joined in the fun of dressing up, singing along and eating sandwiches and cake with other seniors.



Tai Chi at St John's Hall for some active fun. -BD

Overall, the U3A Seniors' Festival was a big success and U3A would like to thank everyone who got involved and came along to share in the fun. Special thanks to Andrew Langley for his help with the Alexandra Shire Hall. And of course, the event would not

have happened without funding provided by Foundation Murrindindi.

It was nice to see that the seniors in Murrindindi, vary in age and ability, however they are happy to work and play side by side. Everyone really did celebrate being a senior.



Greta, Jen, Kerry and Judy dressed up for Mamma Mia. -S



Murrindindi seniors gathered for a special movie screening last Friday night. -BD



Deirdre Penhale thanked everyone for coming to the Foundation Murrindindi sponsored movie night at the Alexandra Shire Hall. -BD



Sandra Morris and Deirdre Penhale resplendent in costume for the 'Mamma Mia' movie night last Friday. -BD



All dressed up for the movie screening are Julie Hardy, Sandra Morris and Jen Rennie. -BD

Crazy Hair Day at Alexandra Primary School

ALEXANDRA Primary School held a Crazy Hair Day on Friday, October 18. October is Niemann-Pick Awareness Month, and the day promotes education, understanding, and emphasises the urgent need for effective treatments and a cure.

Niemann-Pick disease refers to a group of ultra-rare lysosomal storage conditions passed down in families. NP-C is a neurologically degenerative disorder characterised by the accumulation of lipids (fats) within cells. It affects both children and adults.

Families dealing with NP-C face immense challenges as their loved ones gradually lose essential abilities. NPC is one of over 100 diseases that cause childhood dementia affecting the ability to think, reason, and remember compared to other people of the same age.

Students were encouraged to attend school with crazy hair, and to bring a gold coin to support the NP-C cause.



Due to the rain, the parade was held inside, with each year group taking a turn to walk around and be greeted by the other students. -AR



Ashleigh. -AR



Hannah. -AR



Frankie and Charli. -AR



Isla. -AR



The students and their parents put in a terrific amount of effort. -AR



Students giving each other high fives. -AR

UPCOMING FEATURES

Home Renovations & Building Essentials

Publication date: October 30

Deadline date: October 24, 5pm

Let's eat, it's our treat

Publication date: November 6

Deadline date: October 31, 5pm

Live Well, Feel Good

Publication date: November 13

Deadline date: November 7, 5pm

Work Local

Publication date: November 20

Deadline date: November 14, 5pm

PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
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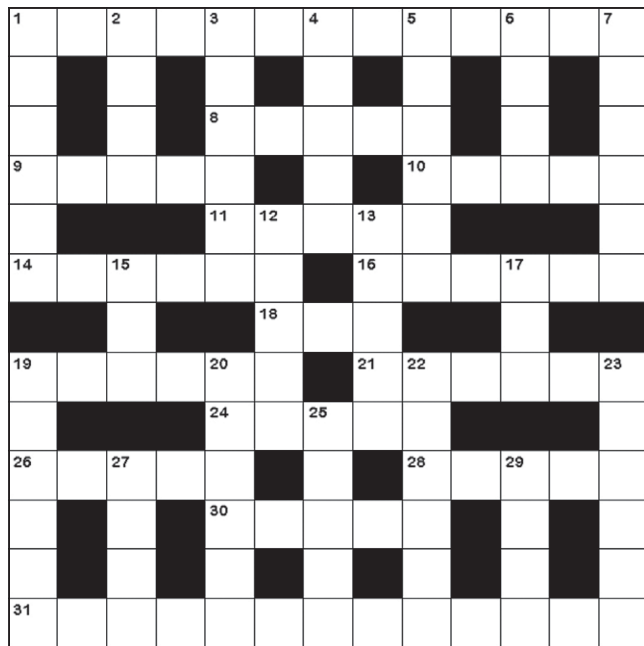
Crossword

ACROSS

- Mended and put in working order.
- Lively Scottish dances.
- A sacred song.
- Situated in a town or city.
- On the move.
- Preserve a dead body.
- Refused to obey.
- A large gorilla.
- A yellowish deposit on the teeth.
- Not present at the time.
- A stand at a market.
- The time between sunset and sunrise.
- A distinctive odour that is pleasant.
- Be king or queen.
- A lot more decoration than required.

DOWN

- A small wave on the surface of a liquid.
- A prolonged deep unconsciousness.
- The usual and expected amount.
- Unable to move or act.
- Make certain of something.
- Have no feeling.
- Put clothing on one's body.



- Elegant and stylish.
- The model of excellence.
- Prevent from entering.
- Water that is frozen solid.
- Twist together into a confusing mass.
- Connected with the stars.
- Turn pale, as if in fear.
- Pot with a spout for brewing tea
- Proof of being elsewhere at the time.
- Take hold of.
- A single time only.

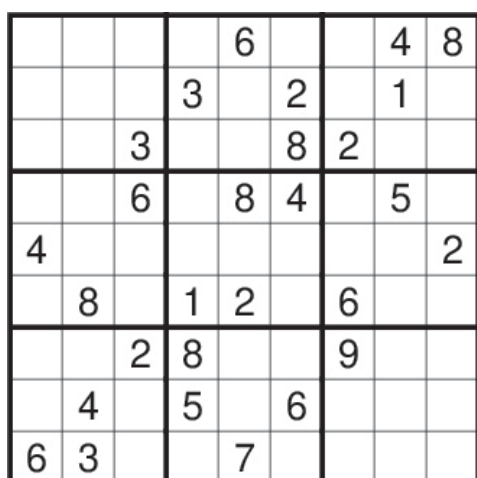
Word Search

W A K S N A B F P S A F A E Y
M P S O G O U H U O W F D V B
E B P Z N M G K A T S V C X X
F E I Z E O L K U V B T L T A
C R E K V Q I D K J L R I R I
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G W Y C Q U X E E T G K G Z N
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- | | | |
|--------|--------|---------|
| ARVO | BONZER | MOOLAH |
| BARBIE | CRANKY | OUTBACK |
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Sudoku



Difficulty: Hard

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

Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
2				15				19

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
				18				

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
		8					

$$\frac{23}{21} \frac{E}{15} \frac{O}{7} \frac{O}{18} \frac{O}{18} \frac{O}{22} \frac{O}{18} \frac{3}{3}$$

$$\frac{E}{24} \frac{E}{15} \frac{A}{12} \frac{I}{20} \frac{O}{2} \frac{O}{23} \frac{O}{2} \frac{18}{13}$$

Math Square

	-		-		-4
x		-		x	
	+		+	3	16
-		x		-	
4	+		-		11
26		-62		22	

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.

Road Advisory Group drives improvements

A DEDICATED group of community members has provided valuable recommendations to Murrindindi Shire Council on various road management issues. These suggestions aim to improve how council manages local roads.

Council's Roads Advisory Group (CRAG), formed in August 2023, consists of 14 members who live and work across the shire. Their role is to represent the local community on road management matters and help council understand what is most important to residents.

After four productive meetings, the group presented 16 recommendations, all of which were formally accepted by council at its September 25 council meeting.

Some of these recommendations are already in progress, including updating the Special Charge Scheme Policy to make it fairer, advocating for lower speed limits in high-risk areas,

reviewing work practices to find efficiencies, and establishing a rapid response roads and tree crew for urgent maintenance requests.

These recommendations will guide the review of council's Road Asset Management Plan and Road Management Plan, which outline how they create, maintain, renew and upgrade local roads and road assets over the next decade and beyond.

Council thanks the Roads Advisory Group members for their thoughtful input. Their dedication has amplified the community's voice and led to improvements that will enhance road safety throughout the shire.

Murrindindi Shire Council CEO Livia Bonazzi said, "Managing council's 1200km of sealed and unsealed roads, along with maintaining roadsides within our townships, is a significant and ongoing responsibility. Every day, we face the challenge of balancing the

need for high-quality services with our limited resources, making road maintenance one of our largest annual investments. Through the review of our Road Asset Management Plan, we are committed to identifying practical improvements that will have a lasting, positive impact across the shire.

"I'd like to sincerely thank the Roads Advisory Group members for their time, insights, and dedication. Their valuable recommendations reflect a deep understanding of community priorities and will enhance road safety and service delivery for all. This initiative is a powerful example of community-led innovation, helping to shape a stronger future for our local roads."

Roads Advisory Group member Mat Luma said, "Being part of the CRAG was an extremely positive experience. The insights gained about the council processes were valuable for us to truly understand the complexities of administration and to then be involved directly with the discussions and solutions showed everyone that there is a huge scope for future community advisory groups. I believe council learnt just as much from us as we did from them."

To learn more about the group's recommendations, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/road-recommendations



A Road Advisory Group meeting. -S

Yea Rotary welcomes District Governor

THE Rotary Club of Yea is part of both District 9790 and an international network of clubs who all work towards achieving common goals with the motto, 'Service Above Self'.

Last Wednesday, October 16, District Governor Stephen O'Connell OAM and his wife Carol, met with members and partners of the six clubs that make up zone four. The Rotary Club of Yea, with President Penny Paxman, hosted the event in the function room of the Country Club of Yea with almost 80 in attendance.

Presidents and members were present from Alexandra, Kinglake Ranges, Mansfield, Seymour, Southern Mitchell and of course Yea.

It was a lovely evening of fellowship and networking with all Rotarian enjoying the opportunity to share ideas and form meaningful partnerships.

Carol O'Connell is raising funds during the current Rotary year to support Interplast

and raised almost \$400 for this worthy cause via a lucky draw.

An estimated 143 million people each year go without surgical attention they urgently need. More than 99 million of those cases are in Asia and Oceania, where Interplast works.

Interplast provides free reconstructive surgery to those most in need and delivers high quality training for local medical professionals in 17 partner countries. The training programs help strengthen health systems by giving professionals the skills they need to restore function, and hope, to people affected by burns, tumours, hand and foot injuries, congenital anomalies and more.

In the meantime, the volunteer medical teams work tirelessly to help as many individuals as they can. What a difference this makes to those individuals. Such a worthy cause.

The evening ended with the District Governor Stephen, playing the saxophone, which everyone enjoyed.



All the Rotary Club Presidents. Back: Andy Blejwas (Kinglake Ranges), Geoff Proctor (Alexandra), Stephen Daly (Mansfield), Elizabeth McCormick (Southern Mitchell), DG Stephen O'Connell, OAM, Bob Burns (Kinglake Ranges) and Mark Dosser (Seymour). Seated: Sharon Fox (Regional Community Leader) and Penny Paxman (Yea). -S



Chlorthal dimethyl weedkiller found harmful: immediate cancellation

THE Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has cancelled all 12 products containing the herbicide chlorthal dimethyl.

This follows the recent United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) emergency order to stop use of chlorthal dimethyl (DCPA), also known as Dacthal, in the United States.

Chlorthal dimethyl is a herbicide used in vegetable crops, lawns and cotton that is currently in 12 products available in Australia.

APVMA Chief Executive Officer, Scott Hansen, said the APVMA identified an immediate risk of serious injury or serious illness which could result from use of these products.

“The APVMA has the power to act swiftly where we identify an imminent risk to human health and we are exercising that authority today with the cancellation of all products containing chlorthal dimethyl,” Mr Hansen said.

“We haven’t taken this decision lightly and are exercising a high degree of caution in cancelling these products and ask those who hold them to cease use immediately. We will issue information on the product recall requirements shortly.”

Mr Hansen said this decision brings Australia into alignment with international counterparts and reiterated that there is no phase out period for the products due to the risk to human health.

“The APVMA considers the risk of continued use to be unacceptable as the risk of exposure cannot be effectively mitigated,” Mr Hansen said.

“The primary risk is to pregnant people’s unborn babies, particularly where those people have handled the chemical or re-entered areas where the product has been used within the last five days.

“We understand the impact that this regulatory decision will have on industry, but the safety of people is of paramount importance.”

National Farmers Federation President, David Jochinke, responded to the news with positive support.

“We note the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority’s (APVMA’s)

immediate cancellation of the registration and use of all products containing chlorthal-dimethyl, commonly referred to as Dacthal or DCPA,” Mr Jochinke said.

“We commend the APVMA for doing its job swiftly and urge all farmers to immediately comply with the directive to cease use. Further recall instructions will be made available by the APVMA shortly and we will work with our member organisations to ensure farmers understand how to appropriately dispose of affected products in their possession.”

Farmers and retailers may continue to hold product until further notice but must not use it. The use of chlorthal dimethyl as an agricultural chemical product is now illegal.

Products available in Australia that include chlorthal dimethyl are: Nufarm Chorthal-Dimethyl 900 Herbicide; Imtrade Pterodactyl 900 WG Pre-Emergence Herbicide; KDPC Prethtal 750WG Herbicide; Novaguard Chlorthal 750 WG Herbicide; Ezycrop Chlorthal 750 WG Herbicide; Farmalinx Dynamo 750 Herbicide; AC Discord 750 WG Herbicide; MacPhersons Chlorthal 900 WG Herbicide; Lawthal 750WG Herbicide; Hemani Chlorthal 750 WG Herbicide; Titan Chlorthal 900 WG Pre-Emergence Herbicide; Dacthal 900 WG Pre-Emergence Herbicide.

Calving season is here

CALVING season is here and its time to monitor your cows for any problematic calving situations.

Agriculture Victoria Livestock Development Officer, Dr Hannah Manning said during calving season regular monitoring of cows is important to pick up any that are having trouble calving.

“A farmer’s strength, a calving jack or a calving pulley are the only acceptable methods to pull a calf, even then you need to be a competent operator. There is no point having the equipment if you haven’t had training on how to use it, and if a calf is stuck or not lined up properly then more force isn’t the answer,” Dr Manning said.

“Don’t forget if you’re helping with a calving, wearing gloves is a great way to reduce your exposure to any diseases that can affect humans, and it keeps things cleaner for the cow.

“If significant progress in pulling the calf hasn’t been made in 20 minutes, it’s time to stop and come up with an alternative plan.”

Dr Manning said calling your local vet early will be the best result for the cow and calf.

“Good facilities that are safe for you and anyone else helping is vital. It’s amazing how effective a vet can be with drugs in improving the whole situation. If calling your local vet isn’t an option is there someone else you can call or do you need to make some tough decisions?”

Dr Manning said the top consideration at all times is the welfare of the cow.

“Tough calvings can result in calving paralysis and down cows are a poor result and require a lot of skill and time to care for properly.”



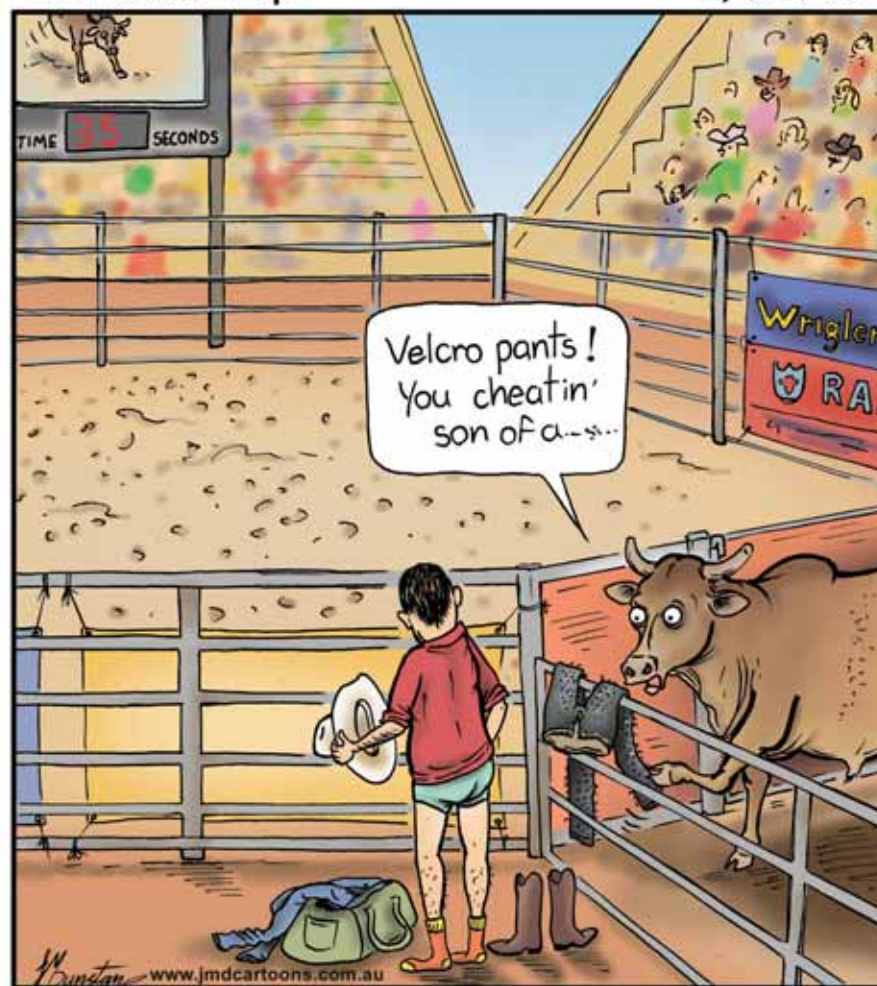
Calving season is here. -Jamie Henderson

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- DECEMBER 13, Yea Saleyards**
Store Sale
- JANUARY 10, 2025 Yea Saleyards**
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- JANUARY 17, 2025 Yea Saleyards**
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The Rabbit Trap

By Jed Dunstan



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CRYPTOGRAM

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SUDOKU

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

MATH SQUARES

5	-	1	-	8	-4
x		-		x	
6	+	7	+	3	16
-		x		-	
4	+	9	-	2	11
26		-62		22	



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Water off to win prizes

COULD you last one night without reaching for your taps? Goulburn Valley Water is encouraging people to challenge themselves this National Water Week and 'tap off' as part of Water Night, to help raise awareness about water usage.

Goulburn Valley Water is working with The Water Conservancy to bring Water Night to the region as part of its fifth year. Similar to turning off lights for Earth Hour, Water Night asks people to turn off all non-essential taps from 5pm to 10pm on Thursday, October 24.

Goulburn Valley Water customers who sign up to participate will have a chance to win prizes for the region, including VISA gift cards and stainless steel reusable drink bottles. There are also national prizes to win, including a dishwasher, coffee machine, wireless headphones, a smartwatch and more.

This year, the Water Night theme is 'Tap off, tune in', encouraging people to turn their taps off to help save energy and water, and tune in to learning how climate change could impact Australia's water supply.

Goulburn Valley Water Managing Director Steve Capewell said Water Night aims to remind people about how little actions at home can make a difference.

"We all reach for our taps on autopilot, and I don't think many of us realise how much we rely on running water every day or how much water we actually use," he said.

"I encourage people to sign up to Water Night and challenge you to turn off your taps; and in the process learn a little more about how important it is to make every drop count, particularly as we head into summer in a climate that is getting warmer and drier."

New research from the Water Conservancy about perceptions on climate change and water use shows that more than half (59 per cent) of respondents believe they are doing enough to conserve water, most underestimate their daily usage.

The average amount of water used per person every day in Australia is approximately 200 litres, yet more than three-quarters (76 per cent) of respondents think they use 150 litres or less each day. Despite Australia ranking among the top 10 countries with the highest water use globally, just one in four believe they could do more to save water.

The Water Conservancy CEO Chris Philpot said it wasn't surprising that most Australians are concerned about climate change, but the research highlighted a troubling gap in understanding how everyday water usage contributed.

CEO of The Water Conservancy, Chris Philpot said: "Last year was the hottest since records began, so it's not surprising that most Australians are concerned about climate change. However, these results highlight a troubling gap in understanding how our everyday water usage contributes to the issue."

"Water Night offers a valuable opportunity to increase Australia's water literacy and draw attention to the unseen environmental costs of over-using this precious resource," he said.

"We're encouraging all Australians to take part to demonstrate how practical, water saving actions could help make a positive environmental impact."

When considering future actions, nearly half of respondents (48 per cent) indicated they would commit to taking shorter showers. However, only one in three said they would only run dishwashers or washing machines with full loads.

Water Night ambassador and Gardening Australia's Costa Georgiadis is just one of many highprofile Australians registered to take part in this year's Water Night and is encouraging others to join.

"Climate change can often seem overwhelming, making it difficult to know how to make a difference. Water Night offers a straightforward way to reduce both water usage and your carbon footprint. I encourage everyone to sign up today. Together we can make a real difference," he said.

People can sign up at waternight.com.au and nominate Goulburn Valley Water as their water utility, or find more information at gvwater.vic.gov.au/water-night

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

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

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

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TRADES ADVERTISING DEADLINE NOON THURSDAY

The Alexandra Standard and The Yea Chronicle are printed by North East Media, Wangaratta.

Print Post Approved - PP 100000292.

PUBLIC NOTICES

This is an advertisement
Rural Aboriginal population 155,000
Urban Aboriginal population 660,000
95% of Aboriginal population growth now comes from urban areas. Why?
Ray Donkin, Buxton.

MEETINGS

YEAF FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB
Annual General Meeting
27 | NOV | 2024
6pm onwards, in the main clubrooms
Yea Recreation Reserve

MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting of ADNA will be held at Alexandra Community Shed, McKenzie Street, Alexandra on Wednesday, October 30 at 7pm.
Contact secretary, Cassandra Fraser 0418 538 964 or Juniorb.netball@gmail.com

MEETINGS

Notice of AGM
Yellow Creek Dairy Creek Landcare Group commencing 4pm Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 17 Sichelau's Road, Yea. Barbecue will follow.
Secretary Yellow Creek Dairy Creek Landcare Group

MEETINGS

Yea-Kinglake RSL Social Meeting.
RSL Hall, Monday, October 28, 2024 at 11.30am.
Enquiries to secretary 5796 9353.

ALEXANDRA AND DISTRICT KINDERGARTEN INCORPORATED.
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
The Annual General meeting of the Alexandra and District Kindergarten will be held on Monday, November 25 at 6pm at Alexandra Kindergarten, 15 Bayley Street, Alexandra. RSVP and apologies to the kinder office on 57721387 or email alexandra.kin.admin@kindergarten.vic.gov.au

FUNERAL NOTICES

GILLAHAN, The funeral service to celebrate the life of Gweneth Gillahan will be held at St Luke's Anglican Church, 1 Pelissier St, Yea on Friday, October 25, commencing at 11.30am. Following the service the funeral cortege will proceed to the Yea Cemetery.
McCormack FUNERALS
1800 080 909
www.mccormackfunerals.com.au

THANK YOU

I AM overwhelmed by the best wishes, cards and flowers I received on my retirement from Alexandra FoodWorks. So, thank you, so very much. My staff mates typify what it's like working in a country town, they are compassionate, friendly, caring and above all look after each other. What better environment to work in, so I have been very blessed to work alongside them. I cannot thank Tina, Michael and Norm enough for the opportunity to lead their Alexandra team. I am so grateful for that opportunity and the amazing journey we have been along together. Thank you too all.
Linda Hughes

PETS & LIVESTOCK

ISA BROWN LAYERS - POL, \$30 each. Phone 5798 1868. Pick-up in Alexandra or Yea. beckysfreerange@gmail.com

DEATH NOTICES

GILLAHAN, Gweneth Miriam nee McNeil 24/04/1922 - 12/10/2024
Daughter of Allan and Ellen McNeil, nee Saltau. Sister to Victor (dec), Roma (dec), Linda (dec), and Audrey. Dearly loved mother and mother in law of Lesley and Keith (dec), Brian and Dawn (dec), Peter, Richard (dec), Andrew and Susan and Michael. Dearly loved by all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. Second mother to John and Jo Harrington.
Life's Work Nobly Done

WILKS, Patricia Gail 30/04/1945 - 11/10/2024
Patricia passed away peacefully after a short illness at St Vincent's Hospital surrounded by her loving family. Cherished mother of Kerry and Paul. Adoring nana of Keeley, Ireland, Rayna (Karl), Sabine (Poppy), Winter, Jensen, Lachlan (Lachie) and Zahra. Special thanks to St Vincent's Hospital.
Salt of the earth with an eternity of love and care. Nurse to the end. Love you to the moon and back.
Please refer to whiteladyfunerals.com.au for funeral details.

IN MEMORIAM

HYATT, Barbara Louise (nee Picone). In loving memory of Barbara 1950-2000. Very sadly missed. Bruce and family.

FOR HIRE

FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Rental and Sales
Alexandra
Treadmills, X-trainers, exercise bikes, rowers and more.
PH:0407 231 377

BARGAINS UNDER \$100

CHAINSAW McCulloch. Just serviced. Old and in good working condition. \$80. Ph 0408 173 338.

SITUATION VACANT

RECEPTIONIST

St Mary's Alexandra is looking for a friendly and bubbly receptionist. This position is initially for 12 months, with the possibility of ongoing employment. Hours are 8:30am – 4:00pm five days a week, FTE 0.93.
We are seeking enthusiastic applicants who are able to demonstrate excellent interpersonal and communication skills, support the vision and mission of St Mary's Catholic Primary School and our Catholic values. Applicants must display professional behaviours when engaging in child-connected work, have an ongoing interest in children and be willing to participate in a range of school related activities.

The suitably qualified applicant will:

- Present an image of welcome for all visitors to the school
- Handle all telephone and email enquiries professionally and redirect calls/emails to the appropriate staff member.
- Assist with the preparation of internal and external publications.
- Assist with the coordination of school functions and events.
- Complete electronic filing/scanning of all records related to enrolment.
- Ensure a tidy and professional presentation of the foyer and administration area.
- Provide administrative support in order to ensure an effective and efficient administration office.
- Assist to schedule appointments for staff.
- Fulfil the role for emergency procedures as outlined in the Emergency Management Plan.
- Maintain student health information displays, medical action plans and the administration of medication as per school policy.
- Carry out the duties for First Aid including but not limited to, managing the sickbay, ensure all first aid kits are stocked to WorkCover specifications and the First Aid room is maintained appropriately as per school policy.
- Manage the visitor attendance register and ensuring compliance with family access, court orders and duty of care obligations.

If you would like to join us in being part of a team that works to ensure growth and success in our students, please send details as outlined below. St Mary's is a child safe school and as such successful applicants should hold or be willing to acquire a **Working with Children Check** and a **National Police Record Check**.

How to apply:
A detailed position description and application are available by contacting the principal at principal@smalexandra.catholic.edu.au or visiting smalexandra.catholic.edu.au
Please include your recent employer details and two (2) referees
Please express your interest by **Tuesday, November 5, 2024.**

Seniors Week celebrated in Murrindindi



Line dancing. -S



Margaret Twitchett and Jill Campbell at Craft Day. -S



Ruth and Rhonda share a cuppa after line dancing. -S



The walking group visiting the recently restored statue. -S



Jeanne with the ladies from Darlingford. -S



Joan Warren and Kerryn Papworth making birdfeeders. -MP



Sandra Morris and Greta Vallance making Christmas trees out of sticks. -MP



More cow craft for the Seniors week craft day. -MP



Group of ladies making cows for the Alexandra Show. -MP

Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES



Notice of intention to apply for a Licence to Take and Use Water (Non-Consumptive Purposes), a Licence to Construct a Weir, Off Take and Outflow on a Waterway, and a Licence to Operate Works on a Waterway

GMW Reference No: BSW0151-24, WLCM0008-24, BSW0152-24

We Rubicon Station Pty Ltd
Of 411 Rubicon Road, Rubicon VIC 3712
Refer to Vic Roads Map: 62 F6 (ed. 8)
Have made application to Goulburn- Murray Water (GMW) for a Licence to:

- Take and Use Water (For Non-Consumptive Purposes); and
- Construct a Weir, Off Take and Outflow; and
- Operate Works

To be located on Rubicon River at 441 Rubicon Road, Rubicon VIC 3712

To be constructed and used on land described as:

Volume	Folio	Lot No.	Plan No.	Plan Type	Crown Allotment	Section	Parish
10643	496	1	446718M	PS			
10643	497	2	446718M	PS			
11772	194				36	8	Taggerty

Any person able to demonstrate that their interests will be affected by the transfer of this Licence including any intended Surface Water use, is invited to make a formal submission setting out the nature of the impact within 14 days of receipt of this written notification. To make a submission please read the information available to download from. Make a submission about a licence application - Goulburn Murray Water (g-mwater.com.au) or contact GMW to arrange a copy to be posted to you. Submissions must be lodged using the GMW template available by either mail or email to, licensingadmin@gmwater.com.au or PO Box 165, TATURA VIC 3616.



Darlingford residents making pressed flower cards. -MP



Residents from Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home taking part of the Seniors Week craft activities from Murrindindi U3A. -MP

SPORT

Victory in the bottle for Alexandra Football Netball Club

THE Alexandra Football Netball Club (AFNC) won the inaugural Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Victorian Club of the Year award at the AFL Victoria's annual community awards recently.

AFNC took the honours for their efforts in raising more than \$14,000 for the club through the CDS.

Club President, Ray Steyger, expressed his gratitude for winning the award and detailed the hard work the club did to achieve it.

"We got a glass award, same as all the other winners, and then we also received a cheque for \$2500, which was quite amazing. We didn't expect that," Ray said.

"We really didn't know anything about the award, it just came across and eventuated in the last couple of months when the CDS joined as a partner with AFL Victoria. The CDS are trying to encourage football netball clubs across the state to register with the program and actively participate. As part of that promotional, they initiated this award.

"We were contacted by people from the scheme probably four or five weeks ago to suggest that we were potentially in the running for the award. A bit after that we were contacted to say that we had been selected for the award, and that we would be invited to a function to receive that award.

"It started roughly eight years ago, a few people within the club approached me with the view to starting a bit of a recycle program. We started collecting cans and built up a little bit of a customer base there. We'd collect them, crush them and send them to Melbourne.

"From that, with the new scheme that came in, the CDS in November last year, we expanded things and now we're still collecting cans, but also doing plastic and glass that are eligible for the scheme and building it up from there."

Ray finished by saying: "At the end of the day, we wouldn't be able to do it without the support of the community. We have to collect all the recycling items, and if people don't set them aside for us, we wouldn't be able to do what we do.

"We're very fortunate that around the district there is a number of people that will keep their recycling for us, and a lot of other people who drop their recycling into some bins that are at the reserve, and then we collect all the stuff from there as well.

"At the end of the day it's fairly simple. We just want the wheel to continue turning, and we need people to think about recycling," Ray concluded.

The opportunity is thanks to CDS Victoria recently becoming the Official Recycling Partner of AFL Victoria until the end of 2027, providing options for fundraising through the CDS.

CDS Victoria provides the opportunity for Victorians to return eligible drink containers for a 10-cent refund at more than 600 refund points across the state through zone operators Tomra Cleanaway, Visy and Return-It. Containers are then processed to make new items, reducing waste and working towards a circular economy.

With the option to either keep your 10c refund or donate it, footy clubs across the state are already raising funds through the scheme. This partnership aims to increase the profile of the scheme and help more clubs to benefit.

Head of AFL Victoria, Greg Madigan, expressed his excitement to be partnering with CDS Victoria to create a positive environmental impact while providing clubs with additional funding opportunities.

"Local footy clubs are the heartbeat of communities across Victoria and any program that will help clubs raise funds while having a positive impact on the environment is great for the grassroots game, which is one of the reasons why the partnership with CDS Victoria has so much potential," Mr Madigan said.

"The process of recycling eligible containers in return for refunds is a fantastic opportunity for our local clubs and their communities. Having both a positive impact on the natural environment, as well as on the health and sustainability of their footy club is a great outcome."



Best winning rink for division four. Pictured are Greg Gilmore, Lauren Gilchrist, Marie Evans and Larry Scott. -S

Season begins for Alexandra Bowls Club

by Marie Evans

THE first round of the Goulburn Valley Playing Area Saturday Pennant was completed in the best of conditions. Alexandra Bowling Club's division four and division six were pleased to host their opposition. Division four played Dookie and division six played Shepparton Park.

All games are now 21 ends instead of 25 ends. The division four section has 10 sides, Shepparton Park, Mooroopna, Dookie, Tatura Hilltop, Merrigum, Tallygaroopna, Seymour, East Shepparton and Euroa but will only play 14 rounds and division six has six teams, Shepparton Park, Nagambie, Violet Town, Euroa and Dookie and will also play 14 rounds.

President Greg Gilmore opened the day with a greeting to all bowlers and made special mention of the new Alexandra bowlers. Tim and Saxon Langmead who have joined from Sorrento British Columbia. Tony and Sandra Murphy, Warren Nelson, Steve Kirby who are all new to pennant bowls. He wished all clubs good bowling for the season ahead.

Division four had two successful rinks out of the four and were winners overall. The best winning rink for Alexandra was Greg Gilmore (Skip), Larry Scott, Marie Evans and Lauren Gilchrist. They led for the entire game and were 10 shots to zero at the end of the third end. It was 28 to six at the lunch break and 39 to 10 at end 21. They won 15 out of the 21 ends.

Doug Cooper (Skip), Andy Tobias, Trevor Stewart and Janice Dunston led four to two on end four but Dookie picked up seven shots on end five to lead nine to four. Alexandra trailed five to 15 on end nine before reducing that to 10 to 15 by end 11. Alexandra was 12 to Dookie 18 at the lunch break. However, it was all Alexandra after that, with an excellent team effort. Alexandra won seven out of the last eight ends to win 29 to 21 and won 14 out of 21 ends. A fantastic effort.

David Nicklos (Skip), Ben Gilchrist, Lauren R and Denice Chisholm led five to four on end five but trailed five to 12 by end eight. They had reduced that margin to three shots (10 to 13) by the lunch break. It was 13 all by end 15. Dookie won four out of the last six ends to win 21 to 15. Alexandra won 10 out of the 21 ends.

Tim Langmead (Skip), Clive Murphy, Karen Jackson, and Saxon Langmead met some very tough opposition who have played together for many years. Alexandra won nine ends including the last two ends which is a positive sign for the future. Congratulations to Tim and Saxon on their first pennant game for Alexandra.

Alexandra won the overall 97 to 77 and the ladder is Shepparton Park 15, Euroa, Alexandra, Seymour, Tatura Hilltop all on 14 points but separated by percentage. Alexandra play Merrigum away next Saturday who are currently sitting in sixth spot on the ladder.

Division six played Shepparton Park on Saturday and had several first time pennant players. The best side for Alexandra was Ray Mathieson (Skip), Coby Petersen, and Warren Nelson. Both Alexandra and the Shepparton Park side were a player short. Shepparton Park won 14 to 26. Shout out to Coby who wasn't down to play but got her bowls out at the last minute which enabled the game to go ahead. Well done, to Warren on his first up game.

Malcolm Gill (Skip), Marty Manning, Tony Murphy and Steve Kirby were defeated 25 to 12 but Tony and Steve who played their first pennant game will have gained some great experience.

Rodd Petersen (Skip), Anne Gunton, Sandra Murphy and Rob Roach lost to a very experienced side. Congratulations to Sandra on her first game of pennant.

Alexandra lost over all. Next week is a home game against Nagambie.

Players are reminded that they can see team selections on Facebook on Wednesday

evening, and the club house window from Wednesday evening. If you know you will be unavailable, please put your name on the list which is in the club rooms. If you are selected and can't play, please let a selector know as soon as possible.

60 and over Tournament winners

The first round of the Goulburn Valley 60 and Over Tournament was held at Alexandra last week. Fourteen sides played, including four from Whittlesea, three from Wallan, four from Kilmore, one each from Broadford, Yea and Seymour. It was held in perfect weather.

Three games were played and the winners were Ross Owen, Greg Malcome and Sarah and John McDade from Whittlesea. The next round is on October 31 and will be held at Whittlesea.

New Players always welcome

Alexandra Bowls Club is always pleased to introduce all ages to bowls. If you are interested in playing and would like to find out more, contact Greg Gilmore on 0411 605 732. Coaching and all necessary equipment are available. Look out for information on Barefoot Bowls.

The club and Bowls Victoria would love to see more young players take up bowls. The under 18 competition is huge at national, state and region level. There is a primary and secondary school competition held each year and details can be found on the Bowls Victoria Web page at bowlsvic.org.au and the Facebook page, Bowls Victoria. Information for the Goulburn Murray Region can be found at gm.bowls.com.au

The Goulburn Murray region has an under 18 bowls squad which has their own Facebook page at GM Devils Under 18 Bowls Squad. Any under 18s interested in learning how to play or to improve their skills can join in every Monday at 6pm at Shepparton Park Bowling Club.

Merton cricketers take on Benalla

MERTON cricketers hosted Benalla bushrangers on a lush mcg outfield.

Merton won the toss and batted making 4/114 restricted by some tight bowling from the Benalla boys. D King 32, Jai Mackinnon 24 and a few quick runs in the final overs from James Benton 34 no and Harry Craddock 10 no, saw a slightly under par score set for the reigning premiers to chase.

Benalla's openers played their shots giving Merton a few half chances however the experience of Benalla led by captain Simon Holmes 28 and all the other Benalla batsmen making positive contributions, saw the visitors pass Merton's total in the 28th over.

Jai Mackinnon 1/13 and James Benton 2/11 the wicket takers. Merton host the inform top side Milawa this Saturday again searching for their first win.

Intense matches for squash term four pennant

by Kristelle Leary

Monday Competition Kangaroos versus Platypus

JORDAN versus Tyler: The players had some great shots and killer serves. Jordan made a good play for the win, taking game two. But Tyler was too strong for him and championed the match. 67 to 56.

Mick versus Sally: Mick's game was on point. With exceptional serves and pinpoint placement around the court he outplayed Sally and took home a victory that double his opponent's score. 71 to 32.

Justin versus Michael M: A great match. Justin took a huge lead in the beginning with

inspired shots and running down everything his flat-footed opponent hit. This work won him the match. 66 to 54.

Jack versus Michael H (fill in): Michael took it right up to his opponent, winning the first game in a point-for-point opening game. The next two games saw a lot of close quarters combat. Jack got his placement centimetre accurate, earning himself a good lead going into the final game. Michael scrambled and won the final game, but the match went to Jack. 55 to 44.

Echidnas versus Koalas

Ethan versus Eric: Good shots by both players with great use of the court. Ethan had lovely serves which gained him the upper hand and

the victory. 74 to 33.

Matt versus Chris (fill in): Matt came out strong to take the first two games with a good lead. Chris fought back to take the third but got put in his place in the final game. Matt won the match. 74 to 52.

Jared versus Simon: A first good half to Simon, leading by 11 points. Jared lessened Simon's lead by winning the third game and drawing the fourth, to reduce Simon's winning margin. Simon claimed the win. 59 to 54.

James versus Daniel: Poor James didn't stand a chance. Daniel chewed him up and spat him out, going home with an excessive win. 78 to 42.

Thursday Competition Tigers versus Leopards

Randy versus Beth: It was a very one-sided match. Randy walked into Beth's kitchen and was served a meal of disappointment. Beth won all four games and the match. 87 to 45.

Lucas versus Kristelle: With spectacular serving Lucas maintained a solid lead. Kristelle fought back, running Lucas around the court but she couldn't quite get ahead or find a way to neutralise her opponent's serves. Lucas gleefully won the match. 71 to 53.

James versus Michael H: Brilliant rallies. Some amazing forehand smashes from James and great chasing and recovery from Michael. Just pulling ahead in the end, Michael was the champ. 63 to 58.

Lions versus Panthers

Blake versus Reece: This match started amazingly. Blake was leading until he pulled something in his shoulder during game two and the game was cancelled. An inconclusive ending.

Jodie versus Sam: A lot of changes of serve stopped either player getting in a rhythm. Close all the way through. Sam managed to hold on and win three games but only took the match by one point. 59 to 58.

Michael M (fill in) versus Phil: An entertaining match. Phil had Michael rolling around in every corner of the court, proving why he is the higher ranked player. With a joyous victory, Phil went home happy. 66 to 35.

Marysville Golf Club dry despite heavy rain

by Lesley Rundle

LAST Friday was one of the wettest days of the year with torrential rain causing local flooding and very difficult driving conditions. Miraculously by Saturday morning the last of the rain had been blown away and conditions for golf were almost perfect except for some strong winds.

The course and greens at Marysville Golf Club having been rain affected had dried out overnight on Friday and apart from some wet patches were in very good shape. A snake was even seen on the 17th river crossing enjoying a sunbake.

The men played the final round of their Club Championships and members congratulated Andrew O'Shea for being declared the 2024 Scratch Champion with 251 after three rounds -84, 85 and 82.

The winner of the handicap section and the Black Spur Trophy was Travers Stow with nett 228. Adam Littlejohn was the runner-up with nett 230. The club offers congratulations to Andrew, Travers and Adam.

The ladies played the third of four rounds for their championships and the daily winner was Heather Jenkins (20) with nett 74 followed by Margaret Blair (35) with nett 75 on a countback from Jody Doran.

The men's daily winner was Keith Atwell (18) with nett 71 and Richy Clark (13) was the runner-up with nett 72. Keith also won the putting with 27 putts. The nearest the pins were won by Gail Leigh, and Mark Bambery (2) who also won the Golden Shot.

Next Saturday both the men and ladies will play stroke with the ladies' game



Andrew O'Shea and Travers Stow with Captain Richy Clark. -S

incorporating the final round of their Club Championships.

It was announced on Saturday that Richy Clark will continue as Captain of the men's section and the club thank Ken Whittingham for taking over the role of Vice Captain from Colin Davies. Members thanked Colin for all his work as Captain and latterly Vice Captain over the last few years.

On Thursday, October 17, four ladies played in the Yea

tournament and Margaret Blair (34) won C Grade with an excellent 104/73. The club says thanks to the Yea ladies for their hospitality and all the Yea volunteers for preparing the course so well.

Over the next few weeks it will be a very busy time at the club. The 50 Year Celebration Ambrose Golf Day and Dinner is on November 9, the Marysville Mixed Tournament is on November 10, the Dalhousie Veterans are playing

at Marysville on November 14 and the first round of the Murrindindi Masters is at Eildon and being played on Saturday, November 16.

Members are asked to please volunteer to assist at these events and to ensure that entries are made and lists are signed. There are still spaces available for the golf day and dinner and locals are reminded that they can attend the dinner without having to play golf.

More championship rounds in Alexandra

by Elizabeth Goss

THE second rounds of the championships were played last week at Alexandra Golf Club.

On Wednesday the winner was Ruth Worland with a great score of 83 (17) 66. The runner-up was Marg Fahey with 93 (24) 69 followed by Sandra Morris on 123 (53) 70.

Nearest the pin on the fifth and 12th went to Ruth Worland and on the 18th to Donna Meggitt. Marie Stace won the nine-holes with 34 nett. Next Wednesday, October 31 is scheduled as the fun game of Bingo Bango Bongo after the challenges of championships.

The Saturday winner was Shane McGorlick with 81 (11) 70, the runner-up was Dave Silverman on 83 (12) 71 followed by Simon Rouget with 89 (17) 72 on a countback from Greg Millard 89 (17) 72. Next came Dylon Jack with 75 (2) 73 and then Matt Richards with 77 (3) 74.

Nearest the pin on the fifth went to Mick Holohan and on the seventh, 12th and 18th to Matt Richards. Shane McGorlick had the fewest putts with 26.

The \$50 meat raffle was jointly won by Jenkins and Williamson. Next Saturday, October 26, is a race day and there will be no

golf. Instead there will be a stableford round on Sunday, October 27.

Paul Martin was the winner on Tuesday with (30) 37 points on a countback from the runner-up Steve Darmody with (23) 37 points. Next came Nick Emmerson on (19) 36 points.

Nearest the pin on the seventh went to Brad Newton, on the 17th to Russell Hack and on the 18th to Nick Emmerson. Ball rundown: Russell Purcell and John Greatorex, Nigel Waterhouse and Jan Perzela. The club says don't forget the Cook Run on Thursday evenings at 5pm.

Wendy Newman Memorial for Eildon golfers

by Puttomatic

LAST week the Eildon Golf Club celebrated one of their past players Wendy Newman with their annual Wendy Newman Memorial Day. Wendy was a great member of the club over many years, serving as ladies' captain, ladies' president and as an accomplished player in her own right.

The club gives huge thanks to Bill Newman and the Newman family for their ongoing support for the Eildon Golf Club and for providing a fantastic afternoon tea after the game.

Last week was a four ball best ball stableford competition and 18 players competed on a fine day for golf. After coring on Wednesday the greens were a bit slow but played well and the scoring was very respectable under the circumstances.

The Wendy Newman Memorial winners were Mark Mackwell and Alan Mackwell with 45 points, closely followed by Grant Walters and Kerry Power with 44 points on a countback from Colin Long and Rod Taylor also on 44 points and John Rachcoff and Dennis Seamer with 43 points.

The nearest the pins for the week, second shot on the third Phil Dally, fifth Mark Mackwell, 11th John Rachcoff, 12th Ken Collier and 14th Rod Taylor. Leigh Munro won a round or drink for his group with a birdie on the par four eighth. Other winners Alan Howard for Marysville won the entry draw, Grant Walters took out the swindle and John Monteath tried his luck with the joker.

Next Saturday is the October monthly medal as well as the first round of the club championships and the first round of the golden putter competition. Eildon also have their presentation night on Saturday at the Rubicon Hotel, so if you haven't let the club know you are going please contact Rod Taylor.

THE ALEXANDRA · EILDON · MARYSVILLE

Standard Sport

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SPORTS EDITORIAL - sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au

Blast cricket for beginners

ALEXANDRA Cricket Club is again hosting Woolworth's Blast Cricket this summer, with the program providing an opportunity for youngsters of all abilities aged between five and 11 to try their hand at cricket and learn the sport.

The program begins on Friday, November 22, and runs for four weeks before Christmas and four weeks after. Sessions are an hour long, stretching from 4 to 5pm at the Leckie Park Cricket Oval.

Alexandra Cricket Club President, Scott Whitehead, explained the idea of the program.

"It's for beginners in cricket, so anyone in that sort of five- to 11-year-old age group. It's a basic introduction to cricket in that Woolworth's blast format," Scott said.

"Right now we've got a group of kids, there's about 10 of them, and they all came through in that junior cricket. They're playing in our senior grades.

"The real focus of our cricket this year is to get our juniors up and going. We've got two under 13 teams, which is great, there's 18 kids there. And then we've got 15 registered for our under 11s as well. We've got a lot of kids and a lot of ages, and it's because of Woolworth's Blast Cricket that we're getting those kids playing.

"The sessions are pretty short, they only run for an hour. We try to keep them under the shade, in the trees there. Other years we've done it, we've probably had anywhere between 15 and 20 kids.

"Boys and girls are more than welcome. We're hoping to get a girls' team up and running for a four-week program pre-Christmas, which will be good," Scott added.

People can register for the Woolworth's Blast Cricket program at playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/bd5d11 and questions can be directed to Andrew Wood on 0488 559 091.



The 'Fast' team during a warm up game of tug a war. -S

Big weekend for Little Athletics

ON Saturday, October 19, Murrindindi Little Athletics held its weekly session, once again attracting a great turnout of young athletes. Despite the previous day's rain, the conditions remained perfect, allowing the events to proceed smoothly. The athletes, full of energy, were eager to participate in a variety of athletic events.

The warm-up session brought an element of fun as participants decided whether they considered themselves "strong" or "fast". With this information, the athletes were divided into teams for an epic tug of war.

In the first round, the "Strong" team claimed victory. However, after a quick collaboration session, the "Fast" team managed to even the score, securing a win in the next round. Adding to the excitement, parents Phil Campbell, Phil Caswell, and Ian Boulton jumped in to join the tug of war, much to the delight of the kids who enjoyed seeing their parents getting involved.

Throughout the morning, the athletes participated in a variety of events, including sprints, hurdles, shot put, discus, and javelin. The younger athletes also benefitted from some excellent coaching by Renee Drysdale, who led the "Future Coaching Activity," providing valuable tips and encouragement. It was heartwarming to witness the camaraderie among the children as they cheered each other on and gave their best in every event.

In addition to the athletic performances, the much-anticipated return of the "Juice Box Award" added extra excitement to the day. The award seemed to boost both the athletes' competitive spirit and their cheering abilities, making the atmosphere even more electric or noisy.

On Sunday the Region Challenge team event was conducted in Melbourne as part of the 60 year celebration for Little Athletics Victoria. Bringing together a selected group of under 10 to under 17 athletes to compete in a team's competition format. Athletes score points towards their region's total, based on their placing in each event.

There were six events for each age group and gender. Additionally, there was Mixed Age and Gender four by 100m relays and a Mixed Age 1200m medley relay. The regional teams were presented with gold, silver or bronze medals. Commemorative medals were presented to the other four region teams and certificates provided to all competing athletes.

Murrindindi's own Levi Campbell represented well with fourth in Javelin, second in the 200m, fourth in triple jump and fifth in the NCR relay. Chase Hilder worked hard in the 200m Hurdle coming seventh in a strong field and was very pleased with his fourth in the 1500m walk race where he had to compete in the age group above his own. Their region of 'Northern Country' came an overall fifth out of the seven regions in Victoria.



Local Levi Campbell letting the javelin fly in Melbourne on the weekend. -S

Woolworths Blast Cricket is back in Alexandra

All abilities ages 5-11 years.

Sessions will be focusing on learning basic cricket skills and having fun.

Starting Friday 22 November 2024. 4pm-5pm

Leckie Park, Cricket Oval Alexandra

Running for eight sessions (four sessions before Christmas, with four sessions after Christmas)

Register at: playhq.com/cricket-australia/register/bd5d11
For any questions contact: Andrew Wood 0488 559 091



Hurdler Chase Hilder captured on camera while running the 200m event at the Regions Challenge. -S