

The Yea Chronicle

PO Box 5, Alexandra Vic. 3714

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

Ph: (03) 5772 1002; Email: reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au Your community newspaper since 1885 Wednesday, October 23, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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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

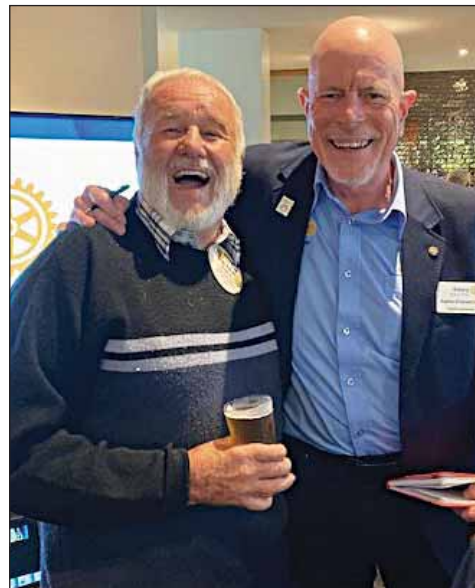
and raised almost \$400 for this worthy cause via a lucky draw.

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.



Yea Rotarian Peter Tull with District Governor Stephen O'Connell OAM. -S



Stephen O'Connell and his wife Carol. -S



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 Dossier (Seymour). Seated: Sharon Fox (Regional Community Leader) and Penny Paxman (Yea). -S



Alexandra Newspapers will be closed on

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



THE ALEXANDRA, BELDON, MANSFIELD
Standard
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ALEXANDRA
NEWSPAPERS



The Yea Chronicle

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Yea & District Memorial Hospital 5736 0400


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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.

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.

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.

The Yea Chronicle Standard

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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.

Like us on Facebook

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

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%

The Yea Chronicle

DEADLINES

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

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

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

Peter Weeks inducted onto honour roll



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

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.”

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.



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garden raffle

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COMMUNITY DIARY

Local Radio Frequency

UGFM 88.9 Yea / Highlands
UGFM 98.9 Flowerdale / Hazeldene
UGFM 94.5 Kinglake Ranges

WEEKLY

Thu Town Club, RSL Hall, 6-8pm. Ph 5797 2179
Sun AA Anglican Church, Alexandra 7pm PH 0402 428 086
Sun Alanon Recovery, start 5.30pm. Ph Sheila 0402 428 086

MONTHLY

1st Mon St Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099
1st Thu Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057
2nd Sat Alex Repair Cafe 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
2nd Thu Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315
4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 1.30pm Ph 0400 424 888
Last Fri Yea-Kinglake RSL, 11.30am RSL Hall, Ph 5796 9353



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.

The Yea Chronicle

Available from these retail outlets

- Alexandra FoodWorks
Alexandra Newsagency
Alexandra Newspapers
Endeavour Yea
Hazeldene Store
Merton General Store
Seymour Newsagency
Shell Thornton
Yea FoodWorks
Yea Newsagency

Alexandra Newspapers are members of:



Church Services

ST PETER'S MEMORIAL ANGLICAN CHURCH

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

ST LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF YEA

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

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ALEXANDRA AND YEA

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

CATHOLIC PARISH OF KINGLAKE

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

SCOTS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, YEA

Station Street Yea
Sunday Service 11.15am
Colin Whiteway
Ph 0457 340 525

UNITING CHURCH

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

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 cafe 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.

80 years of Kinglake Fire Brigade

THERE was a celebratory weekend for Kinglake Fire Brigade members, who marked their 80 years of service alongside their families and friends at Lawsons Restaurant on Saturday, October 12.

Having missed their 75 year milestone during COVID years, the occasion was highly anticipated and one that allowed for many reflections.

Newly appointed Captain Paul Buck said although they have a dinner every year with service awards presented, the evening involved a great deal of reminiscing.

"It was a great night to all get together and touch on the highs and lows the brigade has been through over the years," Paul said.

"We had a photo slideshow that led to many conversations from the long-serving members who fondly recounted the memories on screen."

Paul said it has been interesting to navigate the aftermath of the 2009 Black Saturday bushfires which saw severe devastation in the township, claiming 120 lives in the area.

"The response and loss have had such a long-lasting effect on the community, and the brigade, and it will continue to do so. It's something that is always talked about. You can't forget what happened," Paul said.

"You see the members that drifted away initially, then those that were here at the time start to get on in age or slowly take a step back, or worse, pass away."

When powerful winds brought down powerlines in Kilmore East on the morning of February 7, 2009, the afternoon saw it spread right through to Kinglake National Park before merging into the most significant fire. The Kinglake Fire Complex.

"We're very mindful of the long-drought conditions that lead into that year and although we're not in that situation now, we do talk about it in our preparations for the upcoming fire season," Paul said.

"We do stay green a lot longer up here than other parts of Victoria, so we do face challenges when preparing the community for fire.

"Although the northern part of our district like Yea and Seymour dry out a lot earlier, it's hard for us to tell people to prepare when



CFA board member Tony Peake with Kinglake Fire Brigade Captain Paul Buck. -S

they're still cutting green grass rather than bailing hay.

"By the time we're drying out, we're in the middle of the Christmas period and into January."

Over the last 18 months, the brigade has embarked on a recruitment drive, leading to five new operational firefighters who have just completed their general firefighter training.

"We're in that rebuilding phase, which was kicked off by the previous captain who recently moved out of the area, so we picked it up and kept running with it," Paul said.

"We've got a couple of 17-year-olds in the mix, one who has come over with his mum and dad. Plus, an 18-year-old and two more locals who have just gone through their

expression of interest. We'll aim to have up and running by fire season.

"We're hoping with more numbers this season we can really start to engage more with the community to get us all prepared for the season."

While they currently reside in a co-located station with SES that was opened in 2012 following the fires, interestingly the old untouched rusty tin shed that was once the original fire station sits just 50m away.

"There's also an intermediate station that is next to the pub that is still standing," Paul said.

"It's pretty special to have three sheds all so close together that represent the history of the brigade from beginning to current day."

Road Advisory Group drives improvements



A Road Advisory Group meeting. -S

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

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.

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

FSA/DETS2045

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

Student of the Week

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



YEA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Congratulations to this weeks Values Award winners, Evie, Jake, Brooklyn, Ella and Holly. All students have been showing our school values and being excellent role models for others. Well done

SACRED HEART SCHOOL



Congratulations to Atticus, Matthew, Toby, Harley and Ebony for receiving awards for outstanding actions that align with our school values of Respect, Resilience and Safety

Student of the Week

Proudly supported by Kinglake branch



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

Be snake alert this spring

NOW the weather is warming up, snakes are becoming more active in Victoria and it's vital to be prepared and stay safe.

To keep yourself safe, watch your step, keep an eye on pets and children when outside, keep your yard tidy and remove debris and keep grass cut low.

Educate yourself and learn about local snake species and their habitat and know who your local snake catchers are. If someone is bitten, call 000 immediately.

Snakes are protected under the *Wildlife Act 1975*, and capturing, harming, or killing them is illegal. If you encounter a snake, keep your distance and contact local wildlife authorities if needed.

Situations concerning snakes and other wildlife are handled by the *Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA)*. For more information, contact DEECA on 136 186.

Thunderstorm asthma is a big risk

WITH ryegrass pollen season being well underway in Victoria, Asthma Australia urges people with hay fever to take thunderstorm asthma seriously.

This pollen is a major trigger for asthma and allergic rhinitis (hay fever) and high levels of pollen contributed to the state's Thunderstorm Asthma (TSA) Epidemic in 2016. Asthma Australia is urging people with not just asthma, but also hay fever, to be prepared.

On November 21, 2016, more than 3500 people across Victoria presented to emergency rooms in respiratory distress. Tragically, the 2016 TSA event was associated with 10 asthma fatalities. Ryegrass pollen had peaked in the days leading up to the event. Rain and moisture ruptured the ryegrass pollen grains so they were small enough to be inhaled. A thunderstorm then brought the particles down to ground level.

Of all those presenting with thunderstorm asthma, hay fever was present in the vast majority (87 per cent), while asthma was previously known to be present in only 28 per cent.

While all asthma fatalities were exclusively linked to people with an asthma diagnosis, an unusually high number of people presented to hospital with respiratory distress who had only ever had hay fever.

Professor Jo Douglass, AO, is an Asthma Australia spokesperson, respiratory and allergy specialist and Director of Research at the Royal Melbourne Hospital. She said that the TSA event revealed that many people who believe they only experience hay fever actually have asthma.

"We reviewed those who had presented to hospital with thunderstorm asthma. Evidence revealed that one third of people who described only having hay fever symptoms before going to hospital with thunderstorm asthma, actually experienced asthma symptoms but did not recognise them.



Do you have a thunderstorm asthma plan in place? -Mathias Krumbholz

"It's important to recognise hay fever symptoms associated with asthma, like night waking and morning wheezing, and to see a doctor for an asthma review. People with undiagnosed asthma need to receive a formal diagnosis so they can begin to manage their condition.

"This could help reduce their risk of an asthma attack or hospitalisation during future thunderstorm asthma events," she said.

It may also reduce symptoms during the spring hay fever season such as night waking with cough or wheeze or shortness of breath when outdoors.

The general ryegrass pollen season runs from August to December in Victoria. The state has experienced a number of less serious thunderstorm asthma epidemics before the 2016 event, with each event occurring in November and every springtime season brings an increase in emergency department attendances of those with allergies and asthma.

While TSA has been mostly described in the South East of Australia, ryegrass pollen seasons do happen across the rest of Australia, so it's important for all people with asthma and hay fever to be prepared.

Susceptibility factors for thunderstorm asthma include asthma, hay fever, ryegrass pollen sensitisation (allergy), and poor use of prescribed corticosteroid-based asthma preventer therapy, which is the mainstay of asthma management.

Being outdoors at the time of the TSA event was also identified as a risk factor.

To lower their chance of having thunderstorm asthma, people with asthma should engage in good asthma management year round. This means ensuring they have at least an annual asthma review with their GP and that their Asthma Action Plan is up to date so they understand what steps to take in the event of an asthma flare up or emergency. Now is the perfect time for this in the lead up to TSA season.

Using a preventer inhaler, keeping hay fever under control, taking any necessary hay fever medicines and having scripts and supply of asthma and hay fever medicines ready are also key.

Checking pollen levels, and where possible, avoiding being outside on these days, especially at the start of a thunderstorm, may also be important. A world leading forecasting system is available for all Victorians to use either via the *VicEmergency* app or the website.

Haines aims to improve access to home battery storage

FEDERAL Independent Member for Indi Dr Helen Haines MP has urged the government to help households bring down their power bills through improving access to home battery storage.

Meeting with Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Josh Wilson in parliament last week, Dr Haines pushed for support of her *Cheaper Home Batteries Bill* in response to collapsing solar feed-in tariffs and the rising cost of living.

Dr Haines said it was past time the government prioritised home batteries to deliver practical relief measures to help households maximise the full benefit of home solar energy.

"Energy bills are one of the biggest costs in a household budget and we need to support people to reduce their energy costs," she said.

"One in three Australian households have already taken their power literally into their own hands by installing rooftop solar to reduce their power bills and emissions. If those households had batteries to store that energy, they could reduce their costs further.

"That is why we need my *Cheaper Home Batteries Bill*, to make this technology more affordable and accessible, and to store more clean renewable energy for use when the sun isn't shining."

Dr Haines introduced a private members bill in 2022 and again in 2023 to include home batteries in the *Small Scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES)*, with the Parliamentary Budget Office publishing an official costing at \$3.6 million over four years.

The SRES is responsible for bringing down the cost of solar panels and the highest take up rate of rooftop solar in the world.

"This is the missing piece of the puzzle, which would help households use their stored power during peak periods instead of buying it back from the grid."

Dr Haines said she would continue to take every opportunity to push the government to act.

"I raised this with the Assistant Minister of Climate Change and Energy when we met, as part of a broader conversation about home electrification.

"I told the Assistant Minister about the financial pressure being felt by so many people in Indi, with groceries and energy high on the list."

Changing settings in the electricity sector have seen a steep reduction in feed-in tariff rates and a risk that consumers will be

charged to export their excess power back into the grid.

"I have been talking about the need for this legislation for more than two years, and it is clear as Solar Feed-In Tariffs drop that the time for this change is now."

Dr Haines said only a fraction of consumers with solar panels were able to harness the full benefit of renewable energy to ease their household budgets.

"My bill replicates an incredibly successful government program and it should be a no brainer for the government to extend this to batteries.

"Not only will it help households bring down their power bills even further, but it also helps address the challenge identified by AEMO of excess power flowing back into the grid."

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

3G shuts down this week

SMALL and family businesses have just five days to make sure they do not have their vital business systems and equipment fail when the 3G network is switched off on October 28, says the Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, Bruce Billson.

"Many of us do not realise there is an awful lot of technology and equipment we use every day that's enabled by 3G as the wireless comms link and that it will stop working when the system is turned off later this month unless it is upgraded," Mr Billson said.

"I fear many small, family and farming businesses are unaware of the scope of this event and the possible business harming disconnection and technology dysfunction they may face."

With five days to shutdown its time for small business to check older style EFTPOS terminals; check tap-to-pay pads at car park exits and on vending machines, medical monitors and sensors, security systems and cameras, asset tracking tools, water and environmental monitors, hand-held pads and tablets.

Its important to remember some 4G devices also run on 3G, with four days to shut down check telephones in elevators, with three days to shutdown, check the modem on your tractor, with two days to shutdown check fire alarms, and with one day to shutdown check remote sensors will still close the farm gate.

"This change is about far more than upgrading an old 3G phone," Mr Billson said.

"Business owners need to 'check your tech' on vital business systems and services that have a wireless communications link back to a base, service hub, control centre or panel that relies on 3G.

"Quite understandably, many of us focus on what the piece of kit actually does and the timesaving or technology enhancing way it allows us to get on with business.

"It would be terrible if the first time you learn it runs on 3G is when it shuts down, and that might be critical to your business operations."

Mr Billson said more could be done by telecommunications companies and technology manufacturers and suppliers to improve awareness and action among small businesses, to identify those who might unknowingly be using 3G, and to explain the wide ranging effects and options to upgrade or replace their equipment as soon as possible.

"Don't risk being caught out. Please, check the functionality of your technology so you're not a 3G casualty," Mr Billson said.

RESTORING OUR RIVERS 2024 EXPRESSIONS OF INTERESTS NOW OPEN

REFERENCE: **EOI 1:** ATM_2024_2749
EOI 2: ATM_2024_2750

HOW TO REGISTER:

Opened: **30 September 2024**
Closing date: **12 midday AEDT, 27 Nov 2024**

- Visit www.tenders.gov.au/atm and search for *Restoring our Rivers*
- Download and read the *Request for Expression of Interest* documents
- Login or Register as a new user
- Complete the expression of interest response form and submit your response.

The Australian Government, represented by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, is inviting Expressions of Interests (EOIs) from water right owners across the Southern Connected Murray-Darling Basin who may want to sell their water in 2025.

- EOI 1** invites responses from single water rights owners who were not eligible for the *Restoring Our Rivers: 2024 Selected Catchments Open Tender*. This includes water right owners from within Irrigation Infrastructure Operator areas.
- EOI 2** invites responses from entities interested in selling a large portfolio of water of around 20 GL (or greater) across the southern connected Basin.

Responses to the EOIs are not considered binding offers. However, only respondents who submit an EOI will be able to proceed to subsequent purchase program. Owners of eligible water rights in the catchments listed in the table, including unregulated entitlements and section 51 licences, are invited to express their interest stating the proposed volume and price at which they want to sell their permanent water rights to the department.

The decision to participate is completely voluntary. To read the *Request for Expression of Interest* and register your interest, please visit AusTender www.tenders.gov.au - and search for *Restoring our Rivers*.

MORE INFORMATION:

For more information on voluntary water purchasing, visit www.dcceew.gov.au/watertender

ASSISTANCE:

For help with using AusTender, visit help.tenders.gov.au If you can't access AusTender or have questions about the expression of interest process, please email watertenders@dcceew.gov.au

LIST OF CATCHMENTS:

NEW SOUTH WALES	
Murray River	
Murrumbidgee	
Lower Darling	
VICTORIA	
Broken	Kiewa
Goulburn	Mitta Mitta
Campaspe	Loddon
Ovens & King	Victorian Murray
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	
South Australian Murray	



Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

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.

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.

UPCOMING FEATURES

Home Renovations & Building Essentials



Publication date: October 30

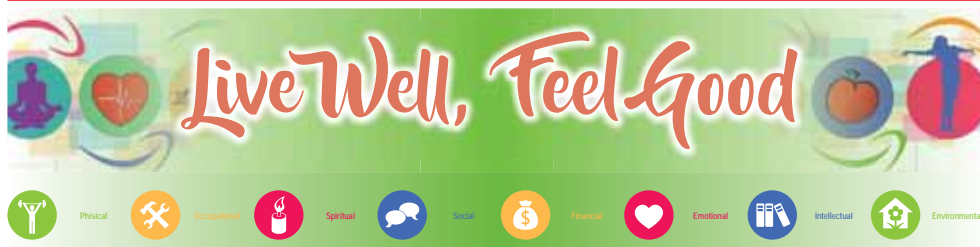
Deadline date: October 24, 5pm

Let's eat, it's our treat



Publication date: November 6

Deadline date: October 31, 5pm



Publication date: November 13

Deadline date: November 7, 5pm

Work Local



Publication date: November 20

Deadline date: November 14, 5pm

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.



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 Chlorthal-Dimethyl 900 Herbicide; Imtrade Pterodactyl 900 WG Pre-Emergence Herbicide; KDPC Prethal 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.



Calving season is here. -Jamie Henderson

"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."

Watching out for scours outbreak

by Dr Jeff Cave, Agriculture Victoria Senior Veterinary Officer

KEEPING your calves in good health is of top importance. A scours outbreak in your herd can be time consuming, expensive to treat and, if not managed correctly, can result in significant losses.

Calf scours is most common in beef calves during the first six weeks of life.

It is difficult to control the disease once calves start to scour and become sick. It is therefore important to manage calving herds to avoid outbreaks.

Scours is caused by an interaction between the environment, the health of the calf and the presence of disease causing agents (pathogens), which include bacteria, viruses and protozoa.

These pathogens are shed in low, but increased numbers in the manure of cows around the time of calving, and in much greater numbers in the manure of scouring calves and unaffected calves up to six months of age. During a scours outbreak,

a rapid build up of pathogens can occur in the environment.

While the pathogen's actions vary their effects are consistent, a loss of fluid and electrolytes associated with diarrhoea leading to dehydration, weakness, and in some cases the death of the calf.

To reduce the risk of calf scours in your herd you should minimise contact between young calves and potential sources of infection by avoiding wet, muddy areas or areas with manure build up; maximise colostrum intake by avoiding calving difficulty (dystocia) and poor early bonding calves from heifers are most at risk.

Any calf that has not suckled within six hours of birth should be supplemented with colostrum. Avoid stress, poor nutrition and crowding, and avoid the introduction of new calf scour pathogens into the herd by not replacing dead calves with bobby calves from another property and not introducing recently purchased animals into the calving herd.

Control measures should be applied quickly when scouring calves require treatment, as the disease can spread rapidly if pathogen build-up is not addressed. Move all pregnant cows to a new calving paddock and do not put any new calves with affected cows and calves.

To successfully treat a scouring calf, supportive therapy is needed to counteract the effects of diarrhoea.

The most important aspect of supportive therapy is to give an adequate quantity of fluids and electrolytes to replace what is lost in the diarrhoea.

The use of antibiotics may be appropriate but only under veterinary advice.

A key to the success of treatment is to commence it promptly at the first indication of adverse clinical signs. If these steps were followed, I would hope that you would enjoy a trouble free calving season.

For further advice please contact your local veterinarian or Agriculture Victoria veterinary or animal health officer.

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 1, Yea Saleyards

Store Sale

NOVEMBER 8, Yea Saleyards

Store Sale

NOVEMBER 22, Yea Saleyards

Weaner Sale

NOVEMBER 29, Yea Saleyards

Weaner Sale

DECEMBER 6, Yea Saleyards

Store Sale

DECEMBER 13, Yea Saleyards

Store Sale

JANUARY 10, 2025 Yea Saleyards

Weaner Sale

JANUARY 15, 2025 Yea Saleyards

Weaner Sale

JANUARY 17, 2025 Yea Saleyards

Weaner Sale

OCTOBER PHOTO COMPETITION

Submit your photo competition entry for September, for your chance to win a \$50 voucher from *Dindi Country Clothing* in Alexandra. The October theme is *'Transportation'*.

Sponsored by



Email your photo and contact details to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au by noon October 24, 2024

5772 1405

79 Grant Street Alexandra

Dindicountryclothing@gmail.com
[facebook.com/DindiCountryClothing/](https://www.facebook.com/DindiCountryClothing/)

T&C: Professional photographers are ineligible to enter. Staff or associated family members of Alexandra Newspapers are ineligible to enter. Photos must be taken within the Murrindindi Shire

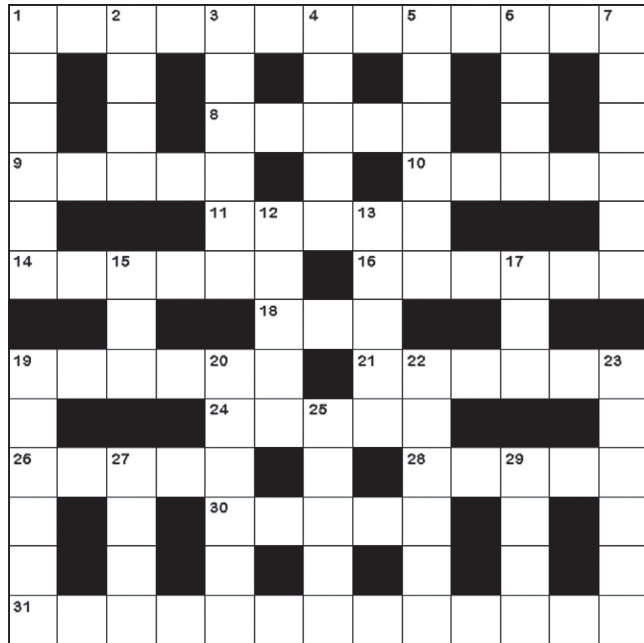
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 11

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.

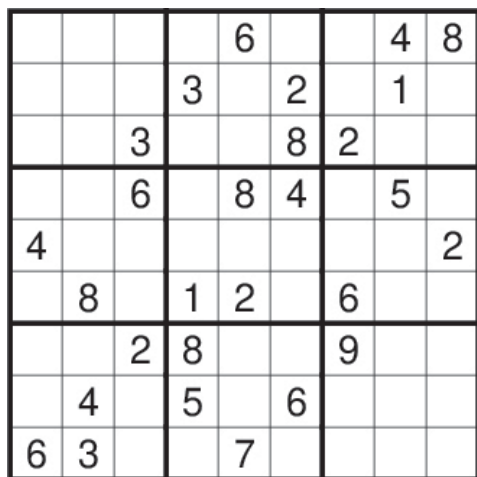
Word Search

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
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V Y L L D E X H R R V N H S Y

Slangs of Australia

- | | | |
|--------|--------|---------|
| ARVO | BONZER | MOOLAH |
| BARBIE | CRANKY | OUTBACK |
| BIKKIE | DUNNY | POSTIE |
| BLOKE | HEAPS | RIPPER |

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					

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

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

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.



Participants with their binoculars. -S

Engaging Evening at Yea Wetlands with Ron Litjens

MURRINDINDI Shire Council hosted a special talk and guided walk through the Yea Wetlands on Tuesday, October 8, partnering with amateur naturalist Ron Litjens to share information on local bird species and how to attract more birds to your backyard.

Attendees were taken on a guided walk, where Ron, a well-known local amateur naturalist, member of the Strath Creek and Yea River Landcare Groups and Yea Wetlands tour guide, spoke about practical tips to attract birds to backyards by providing water, encouraging insects, and shelter using plants and nestboxes.

Ron also talked about the Aussie Bird Count, an activity for all ages that involves observing and counting the birds that live near you, whether it's your garden, the local park or your town centre.

Murrindindi Shire is home to a rich variety of birdlife. During the guided tour, attendees saw and heard at least 17 species of birds including little pied cormorant, little black cormorant, Australasian darter, Australian ibis, white-browed scrub wren, striated pardalote, little raven, superb

fairy wren, Australian wood duck, Pacific black duck, white-faced heron, Australian magpie, crimson rosella, rufous whistler, grey fantail, white-throated treecreeper and black-faced cuckoo-shrike.

Murrindindi Shire Council's CEO, Livia Bonazzi, said, "Events such as this are a wonderful way to connect our community with the natural environment while offering simple, practical tips to help preserve it. I was fascinated to learn more about our local birds, and I encourage everyone to take part in citizen science projects like the Aussie Bird Count and upcoming FrogID Week to contribute to important environmental data collection."



Participants pointing out birds. -S



Ron Litjens. -S

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Feedback needed for the new Bushfire Code

THE Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) is updating the Code of Practice for Bushfire Management on Public Land (the Bushfire Code) and your input is needed.

The Bushfire Code sets out objectives for the way bushfires are managed on public land, including state forests and national parks. These objectives support DEECA to meet legislative obligations across all phases of bushfire management, from mitigation through to recovery.

The current Bushfire Code is more than 10 years old and expires in December.

Updates to the Bushfire Code will help to outline how DEECA will work with other agencies to collectively manage bushfires; reflect the different ways different landscapes are managed such as Fire and Fuel Management Zones; expand the scope of the Bushfire Code to reflect the range of bushfire management tools; embed Victoria's commitment to Aboriginal self-determination in bushfire management; track and report on progress against Victoria's monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework, and align the Bushfire Code with key strategic and operational documents. This includes Victoria's Bushfire Management Strategy and the State Emergency Management Plan.

The Bushfire Code only applies to national park, state forest and protected public land. It does not impose responsibilities on individuals.

The survey closes at 11.59pm on Sunday, November 3. To have your say on the draft code visit engage.vic.gov.au/Code-of-Practice-for-Bushfire-Management-on-Public

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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/

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CRYPTOGRAM

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SUDOKU

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MATH SQUARES

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6	+	7	+	3	16
-		x		-	
4	+	9	-	2	11
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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

A.D.N.A.
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
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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

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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.

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- 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.**

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



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



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

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.

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.



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



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



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



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

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

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- Construct a Weir, Off Take and Outflow; and
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10643	497	2	446718M	PS			
11772	194				36	8	Taggerty

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SPORT

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.



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



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



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

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.

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 lead 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.

Sponsored games for Yea Bowls Club

by Angela Finn

ON Monday, October 7, 18 bowlers took to the rinks at Yea Bowls Club. It was a keenly contested affair. Every team won at least one game and there were no three game winners.

The inclement weather was very timely as it rained just after the second game finished and during lunch, before clearing up just in time for the third game.

Maurie Finn, Neil Rieschieck and Terry McInnes were the winning trio, with the highest margin over their three games. They were very happy to receive their winnings courtesy of Yea Machinery. Runners-up were Mick Barrott, Ruth Hatty and Barry Moore.

Last Monday, October 14, 20 bowlers played in beautiful weather. A new format was introduced for the day. Two jacks were used on each rink and stayed where they finished, instead of being placed on the centreline as is usual. This resulted in bowlers having to bowl to the jacks in very unusual positions, great practice for when the jack is moved off the line.

Scores were taken for the three closest bowls to each jack. This innovation was enjoyed by all and brought about real strategy, as bowlers had to choose which jack they bowled to that would most benefit their team. It will be used again from time to time.

John Jarvis, Jeff Green and Barry Moore were the only three game winners on the day. Runners-up were Justin Branch, Rodney Pitt-Wood and Doug Shirrefs.

The Yea Bowls Club is very grateful for the sponsorship of Yea Machinery for the month of October, who sponsored the Monday Triples.



Winners of Monday's Triple game on October 7 were Maurie Finn, Neil Rieschieck and Terry McInnes. -S



Winners of Monday's Triple game on October 14 were John Jarvis, Jeff Green and Barry Moore. -S

Phil wins Wednesday and the Isobel Bett Ladies Tournament runs

by Alan Pell

WITH spring in the air and Yea Golf Course rated a firm, dry track in excellent condition, 14 members assembled at the starting barrier for a stroke and putting event.

Phil Armstrong (22) showed his liking of the mid week event going back to back with a nett 66 to take home the lollies. Ever consistent Trevor Connell (20) and Michael Spagnolo (8) returned to the clubhouse with 69 and 70 nett respectively to fill the minor placings.

Brian Priestly with 26 putts was adjudged the winner on the straight shooters course taking out the Putters Cup from Phil on countback.

Michael Spagnolo showed his preference for the shorter holes with a nearest the pin win on the 14th hole.

Russ Wealands recently returned from the turnout paddock appeared short of a gallop and is sure to improve with more games under his belt. Russ took home the much sought after Club Award.

The ladies had a social nine holes as they prepared for the Yea Ladies' Tournament on Thursday.

Jeff Aurisch on Tuesday at Dalhousie Vets at Eildon, continued his purple patch of form by winning the stableford competition with 42 points.

Yea Isobel Bett Ladies Tournament

by Jan Wealands

THE Yea Isobel Bett Ladies Tournament annual event was held at Yea Golf Course on Thursday, October 17. Twenty-seven ladies from 11 different clubs enjoyed fine weather and a course in excellent condition. The event was 18 holes stroke with the winner needing the best nett score.

Local lady Cindy Armstrong won the main prize, the Isobel Bett Trophy, with a great score of 69 nett. Other local winners were Vicki Clements, who won B grade nett, and Vicky Butler took out nearest the pin on the 14th.

Everyone enjoyed a yummy lunch in the clubrooms afterwards.

Isobel Bett was Club President in 1970, 1971 and 1978, a tireless worker who died in 1980 in her mid 50s.



Vicki Clements won B grade. -S



Cindy Armstrong was presented her trophy by life member, Miranda Gill. -S

The Chronicle Sport



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The rain didn't stop the races

A SPECTACULAR day for Yea Races on Saturday, October 19. With a little chill at the start of the day the sun was beaming on the keen punters as they attended the Bet 365 Yea Spring spectacular.

The previous couple of days before the race there was 20.5mm of rain and last Friday's weather did put a question mark in the air,

however the track rated a soft seven so the event could still proceed.

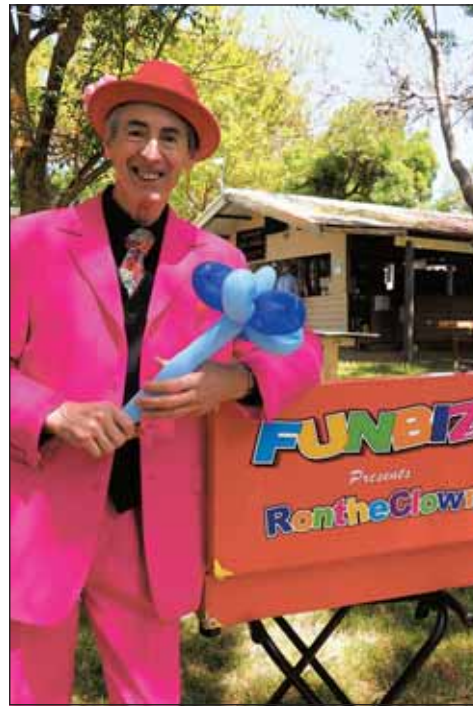
Many attended the event, including families, hens and bucks parties, keen punters, and first timers. There was something there for everyone and a great way to celebrate the start of the racing season.



Horses raced on the soggy but still raceable ground.



A great day for a hen's party: Ein, Allira, Hollie, Brodie (the hen), Shae, and Melissa.



One of the many entertainment acts of the day, Ron the Clown.



The horses moved graciously through the track.



The winner of the first race Bet 365 Victoria Shaw was Lika Mosh with jockey L Taylor.



The races were a great place to get together and catch up.



Some beautiful headwear worn by Anne Masters, Karen Stevenson, and Kate Rourke.



Leulla, Liz and Toby travelled from Melbourne to attend the races.