

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, November 20, 2024 \$2.00 inc. GST

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If you believe someone is in immediate danger, call 000 and ask for the police.



New provider for Flowerdale Kindergarten

IN good news for families in Flowerdale and surrounds, Murrindindi Shire Council is excited to announce the appointment of a new Early Years Manager to manage the Flowerdale Kindergarten. The kindergarten operates independently but alongside council's Maternal and Child Health services, from council's facility at 3377 Whittlesea-Yea Road, Flowerdale.

Uniting (Vic/Tas) will manage the Flowerdale Kindergarten service starting in 2025, following an expression of interest (EOI) process run by council and the Department of Education.

The decision earlier in the year by Mitchell Shire Council to not renew the sub-lease of Flowerdale Kindergarten has created this opportunity to secure a new provider. Uniting (Vic/Tas) brings a wealth of experience in early childhood education, allowing Flowerdale Kindergarten to continue to provide a nurturing, safe and engaging environment for local families.

Council recognises the uncertainty and concern that a change like this can create for families. They are working with Mitchell Shire Council, Flowerdale Primary School, the Department of Education, the Flowerdale

Kindergarten Committee, and local families to ensure a smooth transition.

They would like to thank all partners and kindergarten families for their input into the EOI process, which has contributed to this successful outcome, ensuring this important service meets the needs of local families, now and into the future.

Council have shared this information with kindergarten families. Soon, they will have the opportunity to meet the new Uniting (Vic/Tas) team and learn more about their plans for the kindergarten.

For more information, contact council's Children's Services Coordinator, Sue Porter,

by calling (03) 5772 0333 or by emailing sporter@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

Murrindindi Shire Council's CEO Livia Bonazzi said "We are pleased to confirm the continuity of service through this new partnership with Uniting (Vic/Tas) and the Department of Education.

"We believe that this transition will bring positive changes for Flowerdale families, maintain a high quality of care and education for our children, and that the wonderful culture in place at the kindergarten will continue under the experienced management of Uniting (Vic/Tas)."



Community members enjoying the Murrindindi Harvest Celebration on Saturday, November 16. More on page 4 of this edition. -AR

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S EDITION

Murrindindi Shire's new councillors



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Murrindindi Harvest celebration



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Flowerdale Community Day



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Sport



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Alexandra District Health
5772 0900

Yea & District Memorial Hospital 5736 0400

In an emergency dial 000

 **Letters to the Editor**

Cruise Night parking

THE organisers of Yea Cruise Night would like to clarify that we were happy with the way the attendees complied with the rules that are now being enforced by Murrindindi Shire Council.

We are however, not entirely happy with these rules and are seeking to refine the appearance of the plantation on event nights for the safety of attendees and the visual aesthetics of the night.

Dale McKeon, Yea Cruise Night

IT'S NOT OKAY

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

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

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



Big changes to Santa mail

AUSTRALIA Post has changed the way that Santa Mail will operate this year. Instead of the children posting a letter and tracking it before receiving a letter and gift from Santa in the post, they will now need to deliver a letter in person at a post office and receive a 'Christmas Pip the Koala' ornament and a letter from Santa.

Seems to take some of the magic out of it.

From November 15, children are encouraged to write a letter to Santa, sharing their Christmas wishes and maybe a few good deeds they've accomplished this year. Put the letter in a sealed envelope. There's no need for a postage stamp or return address. Then visit the post office, drop off your letter and wait for the gift. Let's hope that the queues are not too long.

If a child has already mailed their letter, they can still receive their ornament and letter if they go into a post office.

Further steps taken to rectify VCE exam scandal

THE Victorian Government is working with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) to use a robust and nationally-recognised assessment tool to address errors that occurred in the 2024 VCE exams, and to ensure every student is assessed fairly.

The VCAA will use the existing anomalous grade check process for the VCE exams impacted by the errors, a well established process used by the VCAA to ensure student results are fair and equitable.

Similar processes including a consideration of disadvantage process were used by the VCAA during COVID-19.

This process will review student marks in the affected exams and identify any anomalies in how students have responded to the affected questions.

It will also analyse if any discrepancies are identified and if so, further analysis will be undertaken. This could include comparing how students performed compared to other students, and how students performed on other examinations.

Finally, student marks will be adjusted if any questions are identified as providing anyone with an unfair advantage. This could mean invalidating questions and awarding all students who sat this exam a full mark if necessary.

The implementation of this process will be overseen by an independent advisory panel of experts chaired by Professor John Firth. Professor Firth is a former CEO of the VCAA and supported the development of the Consideration of Disadvantage Process during COVID-19 and is familiar with the anomalous grade check process.

Professor Firth will be joined on the expert panel by Dr Nathan Zoanetti, Research Director, Methodology and Measurement with the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and the internationally regarded education measurement expert and former Chair of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority, Professor Barry McGaw AO.

The CEO of the VCAA, Kylie White has resigned her position. The Secretary of the Department of Education has appointed Dr Marcia Devlin AM, the CEO of the Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership, to act in the role of Interim CEO pending a permanent appointment.

Students, parents and carers who have any questions about this process should first contact their school who has received information from the VCAA.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Education Ben Carroll said, "I am extremely disappointed by what has occurred. I have instructed the VCAA to take all necessary action to ensure that all students are treated fairly, and no student is disadvantaged in the marking of this year's exams.

"I am satisfied that, supported by additional independent experts, the right processes are in place to ensure that that every single student has the best chance to achieve their best."

"The root-and-branch review of the VCAA that will commence in January 2025 should ensure the cause of these errors is clearly identified so they are not repeated."



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RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT

STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	11.00am Mon	1.71	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	11.00am Mon	0.54	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	10.25am Mon	0.74	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	8.49am Mon	0.14	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	11.29am Mon	0.55	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	9.22am Mon	0.61	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	11.00am Mon	3.77	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	11.00am Mon	0.50	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Trawool	11.00am Mon	1.41	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	11.00am Mon	0.30	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	11.00am Mon	1.70	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	10.07am Mon	1.15	steady	

****ISSUED AT 11.45AM ON MONDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2024**



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

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

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



DISTRICT RAINFALL

Alexandra	6mm
Buxton	16mm
Eildon (AWS)	20mm
Flowerdale	5mm
Jamieson	30mm
Kinglake	9mm
Lake Eildon	16mm
Mansfield	5mm
Taggerty	8mm
Yarck	12mm
Yea	7mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

LAKE EILDON

Height above sea level this week	284.87m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	84.5%
Metres below full supply	4.03m
Daily inflow	1000ML
Release	3500ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	75%



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

Weekly Weather
November 20 - November 26, 2024
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	10	26	Wednesday	10	25
Thursday	16	30	Thursday	17	31
Friday	17	31	Friday	17	32
Saturday	18	32	Saturday	19	33
Sunday	18	30	Sunday	18	30
Monday	18	27	Monday	19	27
Tuesday	18	26	Tuesday	18	28

New councillors take office for Murrindindi Shire Council

LAST Wednesday, November 13, the elected representatives for Murrindindi Shire Council took office. Murrindindi Shire CEO, Livia Bonazzi, led the swearing-in of the new councillors.

Out of the seven elected representatives, five took the oath of office and two the affirmation of office, making them official councillors for Murrindindi Shire until 2028.

Each councillor took the time to thank those who supported them as well as the community who voted for them, and express their excitement to provide representation

and support the citizens of Murrindindi Shire moving forward.

The elected councillors are Cr Sandice McAulay (Cathedral Ward), Cr Sue Carpenter (Cheviot Ward), Cr Anita Carr (Eildon Ward), Cr Eric Lording (King Parrot Ward), Cr Jodi Adams (Kinglake Ward), Cr Paul Hildebrand (Koriella Ward), and Cr Damien Gallagher (Red Gate Ward).

Of these councillors, Cr Damien Gallagher, Cr Eric Lording, Cr Sandice McAulay and Cr Sue Carpenter have all been councillors previously.

On November 20, council will hold its first official meeting, where a new mayor will be elected. At this meeting, councillors will also be appointed a portfolio for the first year of their term, allowing them to build deeper insights and contribute meaningfully to strategic planning and policy development in key areas of council's operations.

Murrindindi Shire Council's CEO, Livia Bonazzi, warmly welcomed the new team.

"On behalf of all Murrindindi Shire Council staff, we are excited to work alongside our new and returning councillors, whose diverse

perspectives and expertise will undoubtedly enrich our mission. Together, we aim to achieve positive outcomes for our community over the next four years," Ms Bonazzi said.

"A special thank you goes out to our outgoing Councillors, who have shown exceptional dedication and left a meaningful legacy for the Murrindindi Shire community. Your service has embodied our values of accountability, integrity, empathy and professionalism, and has made a lasting impact."



Crs Sandice McAulay, Eric Lording, Damien Gallagher, Paul Hildebrand, Anita Carr, Jodi Adams and Sue Carpenter, with shire CEO Livia Bonazzi. -AR

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

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 Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801
 2nd Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
 2nd Thu Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315
 4th Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.
 4th Thu Yea CWA Yea RSL Hall, 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.

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*.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Yea and District Memorial Hospital Annual Community Meeting. Yea Country Club Hotel 6pm. RSVP to 5736 0400 or email yeahospital@ydmh.org.au

Community Drop in session Goulburn and Broken Rivers flood study. 4 to 7pm at Molesworth Public Hall. For more details visit gbcma.vic.gov.au

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Free Prostate and Cervical cancer screening kits available from Yea Saleyards at the weaner sale.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

Kellock Lodge AGM will be held at 6.15pm at 15 Bon Street, Alexandra. RSVP attendance by COB November 24. Phone 5770 2100 or info@kellocklodge.com.au. Zoom link is available on request.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home AGM will be held at 1.30pm in the North Lounge room. Video conference available on request. All welcome, RSVP by December 10 to 5774 2711 or email darlingford@dugh.com.au

FIRE RESTRICTIONS IN THE MURRINDINDI SHIRE CAME INTO FORCE ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Free Prostate and Cervical cancer screening kits available from Yea Saleyards at the weaner sale.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

The Yea show is on again. Cookery, crafts, Classic cars, line dancing, Royal Australian Navy Band, roaming comic character, show bags and plenty more to fill in the day.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Grand Italian Feast at Holmesglen. Noon to 4pm. Enjoy a lazy afternoon of feasting with traditional Italian fare. Bookings essential 5774 2631.

Homewood Hall AGM will be held at 7.30pm. All welcome.

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

Dame Pattie Menziess Centre Inc AGM will be held at The Mount at 5.30pm. RSVP 5772 1888 or email DPMC@menziessupport.org.au by November 22.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26
 Alexandra and Eildon Lapidary Club AGM will be held at the club rooms at 2pm.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28
 Alexandra Historical Society AGM will be held at 2pm at Dove Cottage.

The Yea Chronicle

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

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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

Murrindindi celebrates its harvest

THE inaugural Murrindindi Harvest Celebration was held at the Yea Railway Station on Saturday, November 16.

There were three celebrity chefs at the event, along with seven guest speakers including Dan from Holistic Pastoral and Tom from Tom's Paddock Eggs, speaking about regenerative farming.

There were also three vigneron from Sedona Estate, Phillip Lobley and Utter Wines who spoke about their challenges as small boutique wineries in our region.

A Murrindindi Shire Council representative talked about curbside waste and household battery disposal, and Umberto Frattali spoke about the challenges and waste innovations in the olive industry.

Chef Byron Moore made eggs benedict, chef Megan Knapp made the perfect tart in both a savoury and a sweet version, and chef Ross Omario did a whole grilled venison top side with special vinegar sauce.

There were 35 suppliers for the event, including local tradespeople, and 31 stall holders with 14 producers showcased.

Event coordinator Sam Hicks was very pleased with the number of attendees, even though it got a bit hot and sticky in the afternoon. The bulk of the people were there between 11am and 2pm.

She said, "The feedback has been phenomenal. I've had messages, phone calls, texts. From people saying how they enjoyed the day, how they loved actually being able to talk to the people who grow the grapes or make the eggs or have hives with honey."

They've put out a survey seeking feedback about the event.

The event was funded through DEECA and Murrindindi Shire Council's Flood Recovery package.

It's currently too early to know whether the event will occur again next year as it will depend on funding and interest.

The event was 12 months in the planning, with Sam devoting three weeks full time on the event.

"It was a fabulous day. The community support was amazing. The local business support was amazing," Sam said.

"I had a great think tank team of Jenny Pullen, Sonia Heres, Jackie Ashton Cunningham and Nici Thompson."



The ladies from Yea Spin and Yarn. -AR



Cr Damien Gallagher and Gourmet Farmer Ross O'Meara. -AR



Kim Chadband from Murrindindi Shire Council with one of their very popular free smoothies. All people had to do was ride an exercise bike for 30 seconds to crush the ice. -AR



Adrian, Jane, James and Sam. -AR

VCE exam blunder affects students

REPORTS have revealed that several of this year's Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) examination papers have been compromised.

Multiple VCE sample exams available on the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) website have been found to contain hidden text that is very similar to questions contained in actual examination papers.

Three compromised exams have already been sat in 2024, including Specialist Mathematics, Business Management and Legal Studies. Furthermore, at least five other upcoming examinations have reportedly been similarly compromised, potentially affecting more than 10,000 VCE students.

The compromised exams provide an unfair advantage to students with knowledge of the hidden text and follow similar VCE examination paper blunders in 2022 and 2023.

In response to several errors during the 2023 VCE examination period, Minister for Education, Ben Carroll, launched a review into the VCAA's examination setting policies.

This year Mr Carroll has ordered a branch-and-root review of the VCAA. The Victorian

Government will also install an independent monitor to oversee next year's exams.

"Students deserve better. It is clear to me that some students have been let down as a result of these errors and that is completely unacceptable," Mr Carroll said.

The VCAA will undergo a full external review of its structure and operations, to provide full confidence to Victorian students, families and schools.

The state government accepted all recommendations of the 2024 Independent Review chaired by Dr John Bennett, however it is clear that there are ongoing issues relating to the production and distribution of exams.

A team of external reviewers will be appointed to examine all elements of the VCAA's operating model. In addition, an independent monitor will work with and provide guidance to the VCAA, and advise the government of the VCAA's role regarding exam preparation, management and production.

A person of appropriate standing and expertise will be appointed to commence in the role early in 2025. Terms of reference will be developed to outline the monitor's roles and responsibilities.

Shadow Minister for Early Childhood and Education, Jess Wilson, said, "Labor's gross incompetence has once again left students disadvantaged and compromised the integrity of VCE examinations.

"For students, VCE is stressful enough without concerns of exam papers containing errors, being leaked, incorrectly distributed or otherwise compromised.

"Minister for Education Ben Carroll's 'review' of the VCAA has clearly failed. Minister Carroll must immediately instruct the VCAA to draft new exam papers for the remaining compromised subjects so no student is put at a disadvantage.

"These repeated blunders cannot be tolerated. The VCAA must be subjected to an urgent, independent investigation to restore community confidence in this authority."

At the first opportunity during the next parliamentary sitting week, the Victorian Liberals and Nationals will move a motion to request the Victorian Ombudsman investigate how this debacle occurred, the VCAA's culpability and response, as well as review existing VCE examination processes.

Ms Wilson said, "The response by the VCAA and Minister for Education to the latest VCE examination debacle has been entirely inadequate.

"After three consecutive years of errors, blunders and compromised assessments, a comprehensive and independent investigation into the VCAA and VCE process must occur.

"The Allan Labor Government has overseen repeated failings within the VCE assessment process and cannot be trusted to stop these damaging errors from occurring again in the future.

"The Victorian Liberals and Nationals will move a motion in parliament to refer the VCAA to the Ombudsman to investigate how this latest debacle occurred and what needs to be done to restore integrity to VCE assessments and ensure no student is put at a disadvantage in the future," Ms Wilson concluded.

Flood study seeks community input

RESIDENTS of communities along the Goulburn and Broken rivers are invited to attend drop-in sessions being held by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) to provide input into a key flood study.

The Goulburn Broken CMA is conducting the *Goulburn and Broken Rivers Flood Study* to provide flood mapping for the Goulburn River from Lake Eildon to Shepparton, and the Broken River from Lake Nillahcootie to Shepparton, including for many areas which have not been flood mapped previously.

Residents from Thornton, Molesworth and Trawool, and surrounding areas are encouraged to attend the community drop-in sessions.

The CMA's Floodplain Implementation Manager, Joel Leister, said the communities and towns along the Goulburn and Broken Rivers have a long history of significant flood events, including most recently at the start of this year and in 2022.

"Detailed flood studies already exist for Shepparton, Benalla, Seymour and Murchison, so this flood study is seeking to fill the gaps in our flooding modelling in between these towns and the areas downstream of

Lake Eildon and Lake Nillahcootie," Mr Leister said.

"Flood studies are important tools for not only understanding flood behaviour and informing flood risk, but the outputs from these studies are also used to update emergency planning documents and intelligence.

"The studies are also used to update council planning schemes and inform future development, including the setting of minimum floor levels for construction of buildings."

Mr Leister said one of the key stages of a flood study was a process called 'calibration', where the flood models seek to replicate a historic flood event in terms of flood levels and extent.

"The Goulburn and Broken Rivers Flood Study has used the 2022 and 1993 flood events as the calibration events, representing the largest flood events in recent memory in the Goulburn River and Broken River floodplains respectively," he said.

The community drop-in sessions provide the community with an opportunity to discuss the prepared draft flood mapping from the 2022 and 1993 flood events and provide input into whether the mapping reflects what was experienced during the 2022 and 1993 floods.



Flooding in Acheron in 2022. -S

Representatives of local council and the Victoria SES will attend. The CMA and its key partners will be available to discuss the next steps in the study, including the preparation of the one in 100 Annual Exceedance Probability flood extent and associated levels, the assessments of the impacts of climate change, updates to overlays within the planning scheme and updates to emergency planning documentation.

The community drop-in sessions will be held from 4pm to 7pm on Tuesday, November 19 at the Toolamba Community Centre (Wren Street, Toolamba); Wednesday, November 20 at the Benalla Visitor Information Centre (14

Mair Street, Benalla); Tuesday, November 26 at the Nagambie Lakes Regatta Centre (Loddings Lane, Nagambie); Wednesday, November 27 at the Seymour Recovery Hub (4 Guild Street, Seymour); Thursday, November 28 at the Molesworth Public Hall (4355 Goulburn Valley Highway, Molesworth).

From Monday, November 18 the draft flood mapping for the 2022 and 1993 flood events will be available at gbcma.vic.gov.au and people can also provide comments there if they are unable to attend a community drop-in session. For more information contact the Goulburn Broken CMA on 5822 7700 or planning@gbcma.vic.gov.au

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Murrindindi Shire Council election Declaration of results



The following candidates were elected to Murrindindi Shire Council at the general election held in October 2024:

Cathedral Ward

McAULAY, Sandice

Red Gate Ward

GALLAGHER, Damien

Cheviot Ward

CARPENTER, Sue

Eildon Ward

CARR, Anita

King Parrot Ward

LORDING, Eric

Kinglake Ward

ADAMS, Jodi

Koriella Ward

HILDEBRAND, Paul

Further details about the results are available at vec.vic.gov.au

Susan Cross

Election Manager

12 November 2024

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832 | @electionsvic

Authorised by S. Bluemmel, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.



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Cindy McLEISH MP

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cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Cindy McLeish MP, Shop 10, 38-40 Bell Street, Yarra Glen



Stephen Duckett speaking about small regional hospitals

PROFESSOR Stephen Duckett OAM is an Honorary Enterprise Professor in the School of Population and Global Health and in the Department of General Practice at the University of Melbourne.

He led the report, *Targeting Zero: Supporting the Victorian hospital system to eliminate avoidable harm and strengthen quality of care*, in 2016, often referred to as the Duckett report. The report was in response to the discovery of a cluster of potentially avoidable perinatal deaths at Djerriwarrh Health Services in Victoria's east between 2012 and 2014, and led to the creation of Safer Care Victoria.

Professor Duckett will be speaking at the Yea and District Memorial Hospital's annual community meeting at the Country Club Hotel on November 25 from 6pm.

Having Professor Duckett as guest speaker is quite a coup for the hospital. Speaking on the phone in the lead-up to the meeting, Professor Duckett explained that he worked with Ian Marshman, chair of YDMH, a long time ago, and that they have kept in contact ever since. It was a favour to Mr Marshman in a sense.

He was asked how he would envision small rural hospitals in 10 years time, in an ideal world. Professor Duckett responded, "There's two things that I'd like to see in the ideal world. First that the small rural hospital has local leadership associated with it. That is, it's not run from a big regional centre. The local leadership may not necessarily be in that town, it may be in the next town over, but it's still this focus of local and this focus of a local management that relates to the local town.

"Now, the reason I'm saying that is that the local hospital does a number of things that you don't see in bigger hospitals, and bigger hospitals don't give priority to, and it's partly that the local hospital is there in case of emergency, so people can be stabilised. It's partly that the local hospital can do more things, especially things that are about building the community, creating resilience so it can manage climate change

emergencies more easily. It can do things like create community, create community gardens, and things that contribute to health as health is broadly defined and not just as sickness or the absence of disease."

Recent research indicates that there are very bad health outcomes in regional areas, largely due to the tyranny of distance there. The Chief Health Officer indicated that in rural areas, there are higher rates of cancer, cardiovascular disease, COPD, diabetes, mental and behavioural disorders due to substance abuse, and many others. The latest research from Rural Health shows that rural men are 2.5 times and women 2.8 times more likely to die from potentially avoidable causes than those in urban areas. Professor Duckett was asked how this might be addressed in the current context.

He responded, "There's a couple of the underlying reason for that, and I've given a speech about this in Bendigo a few years ago. There are issues of First Nations Aboriginal



Professor Stephen Duckett. -S

people having much worse health status than non-Aboriginal Australians, but secondly it's also, as you say, sometimes these conditions are not picked up. We often think of the rugged outdoor person and equate that with rural, but that's not what rural is these days and people in rural Australia are exposed to the same sorts of conditions which lead to those increased rates, but also they may not go to the GPs. They may not be picked up, they may not get around to do anything about it, and so for those potentially avoidable conditions if your diabetes is picked up later, you've got more problems and so on. So part of what we want to be seeing in rural healthcare is not just worrying about the hospitals but worrying about the general practice and also the multi-disciplinary team that sits around health these days."

Professor Duckett has agreed that a part of that is bringing finding a way to bring in more GPs and medical specialists into regional Victoria.

"I'd phrase it as about the health workforce generally because you need not only the GP, you need the nurses, you need the paramedics, you need all of these, the physios and so on. All of these people contribute to helping and managing chronic conditions, when people have chronic conditions," he said.

"One of the issues I will be talking about in the speech is this issue a workforce and the role of the local hospital in getting people to think about health as a possible career, getting people to think about going on to vocational education or going on to university, which they might not otherwise do, and making it easier for them to do that. And that might be having a link up with a university or the provider who does distance education. So you might have people in the town who are able to study nursing in the town, if they do it by online education."

This is becoming more possible as technology evolves, and Professor Duckett commented, "It's in a sense to grow your own strategy that so the local hospital doesn't only do hospital stuff, which is often what we think about it. But it also does this community building approach and also the education building approach, getting people to think about going on to further study and getting people to think about health courses in particular."

If people grow up regionally, then they are also more likely to work regionally when they complete their education.

Professor Duckett was asked to comment further on the tyranny of distance for people who live in regional areas.

He said, "We know it's just not possible for every speciality to be available in every town. That's just not either feasible or clinically appropriate, because you want the specialists to have lots and lots of experience and keep up to date with their experience.

"And so then you've got to say, well, what are we going to do about it? If we believe in equity, what are we going to do about making sure that small rural towns have access to the best care possible? Well, part of the answer is technology. That is, we can now do things with technology we weren't able to do before, and so that means the GP might be able to consult with a specialist, get advice about

how to manage this issue locally, and so the person doesn't need to travel because the information travels.

"It might be that you can do a Telehealth consultation between the person and the specialist as well. I don't think we're using that sort technology enough, even though we all experienced massive change in technology during the first couple of years of the COVID-19 epidemic. We haven't got it in our mindset about how we're going to make sure we can partially overcome tyranny of distance through these new technological supports.

"You can do it better if there is a base there to start with. There is a GP who you can go to and be part of the conduit and be supported in managing your condition. So instead of having to go and see the specialist once every six months or once every three months, you might only need to see them once and then get ongoing support locally."

Professor Duckett was also asked about the part he sees artificial intelligence playing in the health profession moving forward.

He commented, "I wouldn't put eggs in the AI basket. What I say is it's just making sure the technology is available and yes, it might be able to help the GP come to a decision and come to an understanding, but what's important is that there is this technology and you may not need to use AI for that purpose."

Hospitals in Murrindindi Shire have lost a range of services across the last 20 or so years, including maternity, a variety of operations, and the treatment of children. While the rationale is patient safety, it also means that patients need to spend a lot more time travelling, which can at times be problematic.

Professor Duckett said, "That's part of the trade off. As I said earlier, you want to make sure that the healthcare you're going to see is good healthcare, and by and large what we have seen in the past is that the more frequently you see a condition, the better you are able to manage it, and this is especially true with procedural things like surgery and so on.

"That is one of the reasons why the doctors who used to do a huge range of things are now narrowing what they do so they can do it better. So what we've got to balance is making sure we've got the right skills locally, but those skills that are appropriate and are done well. Now this is where AI comes in. The literature on this is a pre AI literature and it's primarily procedural, but not entirely procedural, and so AI doesn't help with the procedure really at this stage but it may help to bring the resources of AI to skill up the person who is doing the diagnosis and so on. So, this may be an issue that needs to be revisited as we think about one what the AI revolution is going to allow. But again, it comes back to the issue of we have to have the services there.

"One of the things that's happening in other states is the so-called Google generalist where you train a person as a rural GP, and then you say we are going to give you extra skills in obstetrics, for example, or anaesthetics, and so on, and so you don't need to have a specialist obstetrician. You don't need to have a specialist anaesthetist. You have this so-called rural generalist with this additional training. Now, in the case of maternity care, you've got to have a couple of these people in the town. You've got to have a person with the anaesthetic skills and they might use the anaesthetics in other areas as well as obstetrics and you've got to have a couple of people so they're not on call 24/7, 52 weeks of the year, which means you've got to have a certain volume, which even when you aggregate a couple of rural towns together, you might not these days."

He added that his view is that small rural hospitals shouldn't be run from big regional centres, but that "you do want small regional hospitals working together, and that might mean they merge and have a single board but essentially, they still have local management, and one might be the place for dialysis and another one might be the place for age care, another one might be the place for chemotherapy or whatever, and you can actually run a system like that with quite small populations and do it well."



Community Drop-In Session Goulburn & Broken Rivers Flood Study

Thursday 28 November, 4pm to 7pm

Molesworth Public Hall, 4355 Goulburn Valley Highway

The Goulburn Broken CMA is holding this community drop-in session as part of developing the Goulburn and Broken Rivers Flood Study.

This session will present flood modelling and mapping of the 2022 and 1993 flood events.

Come along to share your observations from those flood events and provide input into whether the presented mapping accurately reflects what was experienced.


The finalised study will be used to update emergency planning documents and flood intelligence.

Murrindindi Shire Council and VICSES representatives will be in attendance.

For more details and to provide comment on the draft study if you are unable to attend visit: www.gbcma.vic.gov.au



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Yea Show to showcase country excellence

ANOTHER bumper Yea Show will be enjoyed on Saturday, November 23. As well as all the amazing show exhibits there are a host of activities and attractions for all ages.

The renowned *Royal Australian Navy Band* will belt out all your favourite songs in two 40 minute shows at 11am and 2pm. Be sure to be there to rock along with these top performers.

Level-Up Gaming is coming and bringing 10 Virtual Reality head consoles and up to 300 games to choose from. An attraction to suit all ages and all free. They can be found in the football change rooms on show day.

The Central Victorian Axemen's Association will once again run a full Championship Woodchop. Always a great draw card for country people, especially a community which has a proud timber and milling history. There will be tall poles as well as chain saw competitions. They make it all seem that cutting through a log is as easy as cutting a cake.

The Yea Cattle Show is one of the largest outside the Melbourne Royal. The local world-renowned beef studs compete against entrants from all over Victoria and Southern New South Wales, with Findley High School agricultural students again competing. Yea has one of the most impressive line-ups of young aspiring cattlemen competing in the Junior Cattle Handlers and Junior Judging competitions. The prestigious Heifer Challenge is held on the Friday evening prior to the show and everyone is welcome to come along to watch this iconic event in the cattle industry. The Hoof and Hook competition is a



Members of the Royal Australian Navy Band. -S

highly sought after challenge among local cattle producers too.

The Yea Show Yard and Utility Sheep Dog Trials are a very high-profile event in any farming community. These incredibly intelligent and versatile dogs and their handlers show their skills to win the Yea Cup. This is another

event at Yea which attracts entrants from all over Victoria and Southern New South Wales. Winners of the Yard Dog Trials at Seymour, Euroa, Alexandra and Yea Shows compete at the end of the day to win the Yea Cup Championship.

Enjoy watching the shearers' skill at the Fleece Pavilion where there

will be shearing demonstrations and children can learn how to skirt a fleece in a hands-on activity.

There will also be baby lambs here to pat or snap a photo. Look for other baby animals throughout the show grounds. The Yea Spinners will once again be demonstrating their skills, inviting you to join them to learn their craft and they will have beautiful homespun items for sale.

A big Horse Show this year with a comprehensive six-ring program, full Pony Club ring and many other special events. Admire these impeccably groomed horses and riders. Visit the Goat Pavilion, see nannies being milked and pat the babies, there are also some baby chickens in the Poultry Pavilion amongst the more regal roosters.

Don't miss the Grand Parade on the arena at 1pm, followed by the popular Dog High Jump and spectacular Young Farmers Challenge.

Another new attraction this year is the Yarra Valley Steam Preservation Society. Members will showcase an amazing variety of their beautifully restored historic engines. Step back in time to admire how our forefathers relied on these machines which were state-of-the-art inventions not so long ago.

Amazing Farm Homestead skills can be found in the Art, Craft, Needlework and Photography Section in the main pavilion. Clever fingers create exquisite garments and other crafts. It's always one of the most popular sections of the show. The Horticulture Pavilion is always a visual and sensual delight. This section has moved to the netball rooms.

The cookery and preserves can now be found in the tennis pavilion and you will not only be amazed at the delicious array of cooking and preserves but you can purchase some delicious vanilla slices and small Christmas cakes and also a magnificent variety of home-made preserves, etcetera. The Cookery Stewards are selling goodies to raise money for the Guide Dogs Association of Victoria which is not government sponsored and is a vital support for the vision impaired. The stewards have been busy cooking for months and are appealing to all brilliant local cooks for support. If you have some excess pickles, relishes, sauces, etcetera, and would like to contribute a jar or two to their fundraising venture for a good cause, you can drop them off at the cookery pavilion on the Friday before the show. Due to occupational health and safety regulations, all ingredients need to be listed on the jars please.

There are so many other events to look for, with demonstrations by local line dancers at 10.30am on the netball courts after the Children's Pet Show. Do you have the dog with the waggiest tail? Look for the comic characters strolling around the showgrounds. Great photo opportunity for the little ones. Call in and have a delicious home-made scone at the CWA kitchen. There are also all the other show attractions including showbags, rides and stalls.

Gates open 7am. Adults \$17, seniors and concession \$12, secondary students \$5 and children under 12 free. Family tickets are \$35 (two adults and two children).

Unless you are paying for rides, showbags or a coffee, all the rest of the show is free.

An Ecumenical Christmas Carol Celebration Service

You are cordially invited to join us for a joyous Ecumenical Christmas Carolling get-together

Date: Friday, 6th December 2024, 6pm

Venue: St Mary's Catholic Church
Nihil St Street, Alexandra



Refreshments will be served after the service

For further information contact: Fr. Mario Hendricks
Mobile 0435 953 777 or email: mdphen@yahoo.com

YE AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL & HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION INC

YEA SHOW



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- Victorian Axeman's Woodchop Championships
- Exquisite crafts
- Yea Cup Final Sheep Yard Dog Trial
- 6 ring horse arena
- Prestigious Yea Cattle Show including Heifer Challenge
- Goats
- Poultry
- Fleeces
- Classic cars
- Line dancers
- Cookery
- Shearing demonstrations and woolclassing
- Royal Australian Navy Rock Band, 11am and 2pm
- Level Up Gaming - 10 consoles and over 300 games
- Roaming comic characters
- Show bags
- Show rides

And lots more!

Student of the Week

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



SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Congratulations to Hayley, Velvet, Ashton, Josh, Scarlett, Ted, Kaden and Ella 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



Fascinating FrogID Week webinar and walk

MURRINDINDI Shire Council and the Australian Museum hosted a captivating online webinar for FrogID Week, followed by in-person walks in Alexandra, Kinglake and Yea on Monday, November 11, to learn about the FrogID project and why frogs matter.

Nadiyah Roslan from the Australian Museum Research Institute, a biologist with extensive experience in climate biology and conservation, hosted the engaging webinar.

The presentation included an introduction to the FrogID project, why frogs matter, the importance of citizen science projects, frog species that can be found in Murrindindi Shire, unique frog species and their calls, and how to get involved using the FrogID App for FrogID Week.

Over 100 attendees participated online, with 32 people attending in-person. Following the webinar, council's Senior Environment Assessment Officer Sue McNair and the Alexandra group visited UT Creek, Kinglake Landcare Group co-founder Roger Cook and the Kinglake group visited Stony Creek Reserve, and local frog enthusiast Ron Litjens and the Yea group visited the Yea Wetlands.

Council's libraries in Kinglake and Yea also celebrated FrogID Week with frog-themed story time sessions. Children enjoyed frog-related books, songs, and crafts, with librarians dressing up as frogs to add to the fun.

To learn more, visit the frogid.net.au



Yea Wetlands webinar.

How to Ignite the Spark of Life®



A 4-hour seminar/ workshop for leaders, health care professionals and care staff.



Jane Verity

The focus of this 4-hour education is on the quality of the connection between the carer and the person with dementia, building competencies in the psychological and emotional aspects of care that flow on to also benefit clinical care practices such as how to engage while providing wound care.

The education facilitates the fundamental shift from being emotionally disengaged to being emotionally engaged creating the foundation for an equal and respectful relationship that humanises the experience of dementia. This is also the basis for solving behaviours of concern and facilitating rementia - the recovery of lost abilities.



Enrol now!

**Email: trainlocal@menziessupport.org.au
Phone: (03) 5772 1888**





A police vehicle outside the Yea Police Station, with messages including 'Wanted. Fair Pay.' -S

Victoria Police in pay dispute with government

ON Thursday and Friday, November 14 and 15, police at some suburban stations and the police academy downed tools in the first Victoria Police strike action in 25 years. Wayne Gatt from the police association said that the disruptions would continue if the government didn't provide a satisfactory pay deal.

They are seeking a six per cent pay rise, with the decision in the hands of the Fair Work Commission (FWC).

He said in a statement that there are over 1000 vacancies and around 800 members off sick.

FWC heard submissions on Monday from the union and Victoria Police.

The best paid police officers in Australia are in New South Wales. They recently came to an agreement with the government which will see officers receive a wage increase of between 22 per cent and 39 per cent.

Locally, police members in Murrindindi showed their support for the action through messages on the windows of police vehicles.

Share the Dignity charity on track for one-millionth donation

AS Australian charity Share the Dignity marks the 10th anniversary of its 'It's in the Bag' Christmas appeal, it is on track to receive its one-millionth donation. This is a significant milestone representing one million vulnerable women and girls in Australia who have received a bag filled with essential items.

Each November, Share the Dignity calls on Australians to help women and girls facing homelessness, domestic violence, or poverty by donating a bag filled with essentials. These donations provide more than just essential items; they offer love, dignity, and hope at a time when it's most needed.

The initiative encourages everyday Australians to fill a bag with essential items such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, and period products.

Share the Dignity founder and managing director, Rochelle Courtenay, said she was hopeful at least 85,000 women and girls would receive a gift of love and hope this Christmas.

"Together over the last 10 years we have helped ensure almost one million women and girls who are waking up on Christmas morning in domestic violence refuges and homeless shelters have the dignity they deserve. For many, an 'It's in the Bag' was the only gift they received, and it gave them hope to keep going," Ms Courtenay said.

"I know times are tough for so many, but if you can, I urge you to put an 'It's in the Bag' together or to get together with your bestie and pack one together. With our Bloody Big Survey revealing some eye-opening statistics, you never know who in your life may be impacted, so please, help someone in need this Christmas."

In particular, the charity is seeking more essential items rather than bags, as they have had an influx of the latter.

Supporters can drop-off an 'It's in the Bag' donation to the *Alexandra Standard* office at 43 Grant Street, Alexandra between November 15 and December 1. They can also sponsor a bag online, or register to become a Share the Dignity volunteer. Donations will be distributed to Australians in need in time for Christmas via Share the Dignity's 3000 charity partners.

sharethedignity

Head to: sharethedignity.org.au

to learn more about the organisation, to get help, to donate, to volunteer, or to support the organization by making a purchase in their online shop.

ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS

Alexandra Newspapers is proud to be a collection point for all donations to go toward it's in the bag program run by share the dignity.

KINDER YOU CAN COUNT ON

The Victorian Government is making it easier for families to find a three and four-year old kinder learning program they can count on.

- 1 LED BY A QUALIFIED TEACHER**
The Kinder Tick recognises kinder programs that are led by a qualified teacher.
- 2 PLAY-BASED LEARNING PROGRAM**
It highlights kindergartens and long day care centres that offer play-based programs to help children learn and grow, before they start school.
- 3 FUNDED AND APPROVED BY THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT**
It also identifies services that are approved for Victorian Government funding.

LOOK FOR THE KINDER TICK

KINDERGARTEN

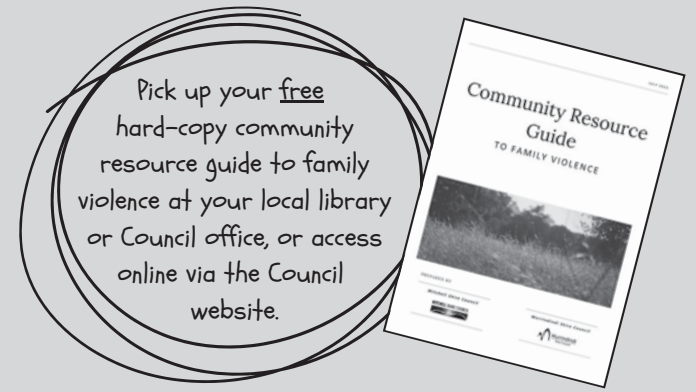
Victorian Government Approved

Find out more at vic.gov.au/kindertick

VICTORIA
State Government

A Little Respect

Creating space for conversations in our community about important topics related to relationships, gender equality and family violence prevention.



Lee is the Free From Violence Project Officer at Murrindindi Shire Council. She is passionate about raising awareness about important issues in the local community, particularly related to gender equality and family violence prevention. Lee operates with curiosity over conflict and believes we all have something to learn from one another. Lee's work aligns with her studies in law and criminology, but mostly with her lived experience as Victim-Survivor. She has presented at state-wide Government Forums alongside other well-known advocates, and facilitated community forums focused on mental health, gender equality and family violence.

Topic of the month: 16 Days of Activism.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that commences on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. The campaign was started by activists at the inauguration of the Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991. It is used as an organising strategy by individuals and organisations around the world to call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls (UN Women). In support of this civil society initiative, the United Nations Secretary-General launched in 2008 the campaign UNITE by 2030 to End Violence against Women, which runs parallel to the 16 Days of Activism. Every year, the UNITE Campaign focuses on a specific theme and this year's is 'UNITE! Invest to prevent violence against women and girls'. The campaign calls on citizens to show how much they care about ending violence against women and girls by sharing the actions they are taking to create a world free from violence towards women. This year's campaign also calls on governments worldwide to share how they are investing in gender-based violence prevention (UN Women). Think about three women in your life. It is statistically likely that more than one of those women have experienced men's violence, which is a fundamental violation of human rights. Safety for women is not a given in any community – and neither is respect. But it does not have to be this way, and we should not accept this. Violence against women and girls is preventable, if we change the underlying social conditions that drive men's violence.

Why does the campaign focus only on violence against women and girls?

Anyone can experience (or use) violence. However, women are overwhelmingly the victims of family/intimate partner violence and face a much higher risk of being killed by a current or former partner than men. All experiences of violence are unique and valid, and we respectfully acknowledge this. The UN campaign is focused on men's violence against women and girls because of the sheer prevalence of men's violence.

What is Murrindindi Shire Council doing for 16 Days?

In 2024, Murrindindi Shire Council is partnering with Safe + Equal (and others) to support local community groups and businesses to engage with this important campaign. Community members are encouraged to get involved in the following local events:

Latte with a Lawyer: In partnership with ARC Justice and Grant St. Grocer Alexandra, enjoy a free hot drink and casual chat with lawyers from Goulburn Valley Community Legal Centre on Wed 27 Nov, from 10.00 am - 1.00 pm at Grant St. Grocer in Alexandra. Anyone is welcome to drop in and chat about the legal system, ask for advice on a range of topics or collect information about support services in either the main cafe or a private room.

Mitchell Shire Council Steps Towards Change Walk: A community walk to raise awareness of family violence, build knowledge of local support services. Part of a united cross-council stance against violence. The walk starts at 10.00 am on Thu 5 Dec, Hadfield Park, Wallan. See the poster in this issue for details on how to register.

Call It In! A free casual workshop for men to talk about mental health on Sat 30 Nov, from 9.30 - 11.30 am at the Embassy of Ideas in Alexandra. Facilitated by local Social Worker, Nate Proctor and Local Tradie, David Webb. Register via this QR code.



In addition to these events, Council has also offered to gift new books from the Respect Victoria book list to local Early Childhood services, Primary and Secondary Schools. Our local libraries also have several new books from this list for community to enjoy, and a selection of similarly themed books available throughout the campaign. Educating future generations on the fundamental right to feel safe and respected through the gift of reading is vital.

How can you support and engage with 16 Days?

Grab a free copy of the [Community Violence Resource Guide to Family violence](#) (pictured above). It is a great resource, containing many tips relevant to the 16 Days of Activism campaign. Similarly, the [Free From Violence Activity Cards](#) (see bottom left) offer a bite-sized learning approach to gender equality, family violence and primary prevention. These subjects can be tricky, and the cards make these conversations easier to navigate. Simply scan the QR code on the bottom left to access.

What about Respect Victoria resources?

Respect Victoria has compiled a comprehensive list of suggestions for getting involved in the campaign. Visit the Respect Victoria website respectvictoria.vic.gov.au to explore in detail. We've captured a summary below:

- **Read** to your children, or yourself, selecting a book from the Respect Victoria book recommendation list.
- **Include** a 16 Days of Activism banner to your email signature during the campaign.
- **Sign-up** to receive newsletters or updates from Respect Victoria, Safe + Equal or IWDA.
- **Listen** to the 'There's No Place Like Home' podcast, hosted by Tarang Chawla.
- **Learn** how to respond to disclosures of violence.
- **Stay curious** and listen to the women in your life without judgement or defensiveness.

We all have a role to play in ending violence against women and girls. Everyone, regardless of gender, has the right to live in a community free from violence.

Getting support

Call 000 in an emergency or if you are in immediate danger.

- 1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732
- Rainbow Door: A free specialist helpline for LGBTQIA+ Victorians. Phone: 1800 729 367 or visit rainbowdoor.org.au
- Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre: 1800 015 188
- Orange Door Goulburn: 1800 634 245
- Nexus Primary Health: 1300 773 352
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Djirra Aboriginal Women Support Service: 1800 959 563
- Mensline Australia: 1300 789 978
- 'Are You Safe at Home?' areyousafeathome.org.au

Would you like your own deck of Free From Violence Activity Cards?

Scan the QR code below to register your interest and we will get in touch make sure you don't miss out on this great conversational and icebreaker tool!



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, November 20, 2024



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM NOVEMBER 25 - DECEMBER 10



16 Days of
Activism

respectvictoria.vic.gov.au

Join us on Thursday 5 December 2024:

Steps Towards Change.

Mitchell Shire Council's third annual walk against
Gender-Based Violence.

10am, Hadfield Park, Wallan.

To register visit: mitchellshire.vic.gov.au/16-days





At the SEED Hub (Sustaining Economic Empowerment and Dignity for Women) we provide a safe space to help women connect, share their experiences, learn new skills, and find their way to financial independence.

Register for our FREE Workshops

HERmoney

- Improve your:
- Budgeting
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- Make your resume and cover letter stand out
- Make the best first impressions
- Improve your interview skills

Stepping Stones to YOUR Pathway

- Improve your confidence
- Make new connections
- Learn new skills
- Reach your goals!

Navigating Services Australia

- Understand your rights
- How to navigate self service
- Learn about the types of payments

Scan the QR code to register



Get in touch

- 📍 47A Angelsey Street, Seymour
- ☎ 0482 188 099
- 📧 seedproject@bsl.org.au



What's on

COFFEE WITH A COP

Tuesday, December 3, 9.30am–11am

In partnership with Victoria Police and Northern Community Legal Centre, Coffee with a Cop provides an opportunity to enjoy a cup of coffee while engaging in informal and safe conversations with local police officers and a senior lawyer.

It's a chance to ask questions and encourage meaningful conversations. The session will take place at Little Stones Cafe in Seymour.

MITCHELL COMMUNITY WALK AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: STEPS TOWARDS CHANGE

Thursday, December 5, 10am

The walk begins at 10am at Hadfield Park with a Welcome to Country and opening speeches from a range of people, including Tarang Chawla.

Tarang Chawla is a speaker, writer, and former lawyer who serves as Commissioner at the Victorian Multicultural Commission and is the co-founder of Not One More Niki, a grassroots not-for-profit organisation working to end men's violence against women and named in memory of his younger sister, Nikita, who was murdered by her partner in 2015.

Tarang is also a sessional academic at Monash University. He wrote, produced, and hosted the first two seasons of the acclaimed podcast *There's No Place Like Home*, and advised both state and federal governments on family violence reform and effectively engaging men in gender equality.

The 1km walk through Hadfield Park and surrounding block concludes at 1pm with a community event, including local support service stalls, a BBQ, and local young artist performances.

Everyone is welcome, and attendees are encouraged to bring friends, family, and pets while wearing orange attire, if you can.

SPEAK UP FORUM

Tuesday, December 10, 1pm–3pm

In partnership with Northern Community Legal Centre, the Speak Up forum is a free event to raise awareness about respect towards women and children, and to express support for respectful relationships.

Join in and enjoy free activities with lunch included. People of all ages and genders are welcome.

This session will be held at the Greater Beveridge Community Centre.

RESPECT IS BUILDING HEALTHY, EQUAL RELATIONSHIPS.

Supporting 16 days of activism against gender-based violence.

We all deserve to be safe, equal and respected.



Ros Spence MP
STATE MEMBER FOR KALKALLO

- 📍 Shop D00-02B Craigieburn Central Shopping Centre, 340 Craigieburn Road Craigieburn VIC 3064
- ☎ 8377 4477 📧 ros.spence@parliament.vic.gov.au
- 📱 RosSpenceMP 🌐 rosspence.com.au

Find out what you can do to turn **Awareness into Action**

Gender-based violence is abusive behaviour directed at someone because of their gender, most often women and girls. It includes intimate partner, family and sexual violence and happens 365 days a year across Australia. So, let's use these vital 16 days of activism to turn awareness into tangible, sustainable action to prevent gender-based violence all year round.



Scan the QR code to access WHGNE's guide on how to turn awareness into action to prevent gender-based violence year-round



16 Days

MITCHELL Shire Council is once again standing united alongside the community for the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based violence is a global campaign that begins on Monday, November 25, coinciding with the International Day for Elimination of

Violence against Women, and ends on Tuesday, December 10, the global Human Rights Day.

Council, as part of the Lower Hume Collaborative Group, is partnering with other councils and organisations to make it clear that family violence is not tolerated or accepted within the community.

Mitchell Shire Council Chief Executive Brett Luxford said that as a community, council was committed to raising awareness and taking action against gender-based violence.

"The 16 Days of Activism is a vital opportunity for us to unite, educate, and empower everyone to speak out against violence in all its forms," he said.

"Family violence is not just a personal issue, it is a community issue. By standing together during these 16 Days of Activism, we send a powerful message that we will not tolerate violence against anyone. Everyone deserves to feel safe.

"We all have a right to feel safe, have equal access to support, and live a life free from violence. We all have a role to play in the prevention of violence against women and this starts with respect.

"Respect is shown in many forms such as building equitable and healthy relationships, calling out mates who have said something

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

harmful, and making it clear that all forms of violence are unacceptable.

"As a community, we can change attitudes and behaviours that support environments that allow violence to thrive.

"We invite all members of our community to participate in events during 16 Days of Activism.

"Together, we can take meaningful steps toward change and show that we stand united in our commitment to ending violence."

Read for change

EDUCATION is the first step towards a better future for women. Read and share these books to teach little ones, teenagers, friends, family, and co-workers what respect truly means.

Children's books:

Respect is ...

raising children to be true equals.

- **Every-day Dress-up** by Selina Alko
- **Not Every Princess** by Jeffrey Bone and Lisa Bone
- **Empathy Is Your Superpower** by Cori Bussolari
- **This Boy Can!** by Cori Brooke
- **I am Enough** by Grace Byers
- **The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be** by Joanna Gaines
- **Jacob's New Dress** by Sarah and Ian Hoffman

Middle years and young adult books:

Respect is ...

choosing to be the change.

- **Girls on the Verge** by Sharon Biggs Waller
- **Lads: a Guide to Respect and Consent for Teenage Boys** by Alan Bissett
- **Consent Laid Bare** by Chanel Contos
- **The Gilded Ones** by Namina Forna
- **The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali** by Sabina Khan
- **Girls Can Fly** by Ambelin Kwaymullina and Sally Morgan

Adult fiction and non-fiction books:

Respect is ...

knowing violence against women is preventable.

- **Hana: The Audacity to Be Free** by Hana Assafiri
- **Hope** by Rosie Batty
- **The Angry Women's Choir** by Meg Bignell
- **She Is Not Your Rehab** by Matt Brown
- **Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men** by Caroline Criado Perez
- **Muddy People A Memoir** by Sara El Sayed
- **The Mental Load: A Feminist Comic** by Emma
- **Girl, Woman, Other** by Bernardine Evaristo
- **Delusions of Gender** by Cordelia Fine
- **Wifedom: Mrs. Orwell's Invisible Life** by Anna Funder
- **Teaching Consent** by Jane Gilmore
- **Troll Hunting: Inside the World of Online Hate and its Human Fallout** by Ginger Gorman
- **Underestimated: The Wisdom and Power of Teenage Girls** by Chelsey Goodan
- **The Time Has Come: Why Men Must Join the Gender Equality Revolution** by Michael Kaufman
- **Eggshell Skull** by Bri Lee
- **Unshrinking** by Kate Manne
- **Talkin' Up to the White Woman** by Aileen Moreton-Robinson
- **Men Explain Things to Me** by Rebecca Solnit
- **The Dictionary of Lost Words** by Pip Williams

WHAT IS RESPECT?

RESPECT can mean something different for everyone, but at its core, respect is the consideration and acceptance of others' thoughts, feelings, wishes, and rights.

We invite readers to write or draw in the box below what respect means to them, and share this activity with friends and family—because we all deserve to be respected.

TO ME, RESPECT IS...

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

RESPECT VICTORIA

Here for You

GVPHU stands for respect, gender equality, and women's health.

As advocates and champions for women's wellbeing, we are committed and dedicated to a community where every woman is celebrated, safe and empowered.

Together we can create a future of respect, where everyone is equal and feels valued.



ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



ZONTA CLUB OF MITCHELL

@ZONTACLUBOFMITCHELL
 @ZONTAMITCHELL
 ZONTACLUBMITCHELL@GMAIL.COM

Why the work of Love in Action is so important for our community....

In 2023-2024, The Mitchell Shire family-violence incident rate was 2,371 per 100,000 people, 1.7 times the state average.

A 21.5% rate increase in the number of family violence incidences compared to the previous year (2022-23)

Families escaping domestic violence are often displaced quickly, leaving behind food, clothes, and personal belongings.



This is why the **Community Bank** have committed to assisting Love in Action in providing emergency food, emergency clothing, and toys for families escaping domestic violence.

We believe in the vision of Love in Action, and that everyone deserves safety and security, and the support they need to access it.



Community Bank
Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford

Wendy **LOVELL** MP

Liberal Member for Northern Victoria Region

"Together we can foster a community where everyone has the right to live a life free from violence and discrimination"

p: (03) 5821 6668 e: wendy.lovell@parliament.vic.gov.au

/wendylovelIMP



Authorised by Wendy Lovell MP, 222 Wyndham Street Shepparton.

RESPECT IS KNOWING YOU CAN HELP PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN **16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM**



FamilyCare, Rumbalara, Primary Care Connect, Nexus Primary Health and Family Safety Victoria support the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and Respect Women: Call it Out Campaign to prevent family violence in our community.

The **Orange Door** provides help and support for family violence, as well as families in need of support with the wellbeing and development of children.

To access support, please contact:

The **Orange Door** on 1800 634 245 (9am - 5pm, Mon - Fri)

- goulburn@orangedoor.vic.gov.au
- 42/80 Bentinck Street, Wallan 3756
- 210 Corio Street, Shepparton 3630

or call **Safe Steps** on 1800 015 188 (available 24/7)



WELLINGTON SQUARE SHOPPING CENTRE

Supports the

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM



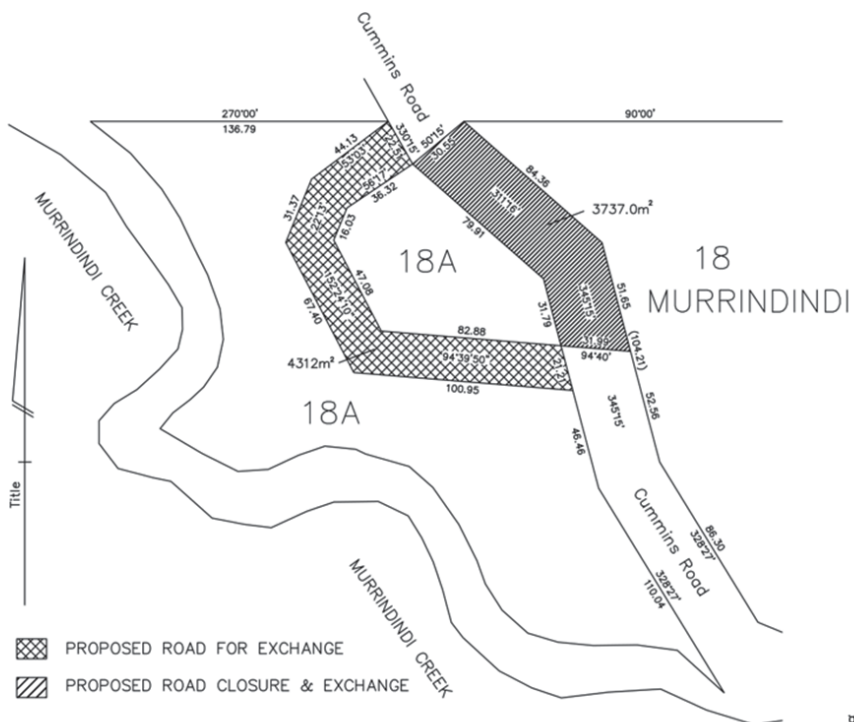
Phone: 5783 3887
81-89 High Street, Wallan

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITING SUBMISSIONS UNDER COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND SECTION 223 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989 PROPOSED ROAD DEVIATION AND LAND EXCHANGE – CUMMINS ROAD, MURRINDINDI



Murrindindi Shire Council (Council) gives notice under section 207 and clause 2 of Schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (1989 Act) and section 114 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (2020 Act) that it proposes to deviate part of the unused government road, known as Cummins Road, Murrindindi in exchange for the creation of a road reserve on land owned by the owner of crown allotment 18A, section B, Parish of Murrindindi.

Proposed plan for road closure and exchange below.



Under section 223 of the 1989 Act, any person may make a submission on this proposal. Any person wishing to make a submission must do so in writing by 4.00 pm on 20 December 2024. All submissions will be considered in accordance with section 223 of the 1989 Act and with Council's Community Engagement Policy.

How do I make a written submission?

- Email: customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au
- Mail: PO Box 138, Alexandra VIC 3714
- In-person: 28 Perkins Street, Alexandra

Submissions must include 'Cummins Road, Murrindindi' as the subject.

Any person making a submission is entitled to request in the submission that the person wishes to appear in person, or to be represented by a person specified in the submission, at a meeting to be heard in support of the submission before Council (or a committee established by Council for this purpose).

If a person wishes to be heard in support of their submission, they must include this request to be heard in their written submission.

Following consideration of submissions, Council may resolve not to deviate part of the road or to deviate part of the road in exchange for the creation of a road reserve.

Further information on the proposal can be obtained by calling Council on (03) 5772 0333.

RESTORING OUR RIVERS 2024 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST - NOW OPEN

REF: ATM_2024_2750

The Australian Government, represented by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, is inviting Expressions of Interest (EOIs) to sell water from water rights owners the Southern Connected Murray-Darling Basin 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.

The expressions of interest will close soon at 12 midday AEDT, 27 November 2024.

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	

Owners of eligible water rights in the catchments listed above, 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

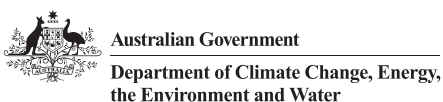
The decision to participate is completely voluntary. You must submit an EOI through this process if you want to be considered for any subsequent water purchasing in 2025. To read the *Request for Expression of Interest* and register your interest, please visit AusTender www.tenders.gov.au - and search 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



UPCOMING FEATURES

Shop Local This Christmas



Publishing: November 27

Deadline: November 21, 5pm

2025 Events Calendar



Publishing: December 18

Deadline: November 27, 5pm

Let's eat, it's our treat



Publishing: December 4

Deadline: November 28, 5pm



Publishing: December 11

Deadline: December 5, 5pm



Report invasive hawkweed to protect our environment

THIS spring, enjoy the high country while helping to preserve its beauty and biodiversity. While bushwalking, mountain biking or hiking, people are encouraged to report invasive hawkweed and help protect Victoria's environment and agriculture.

Hawkweed poses a significant threat to local ecosystems, spreading quickly and releasing chemicals that prevent other plants from growing. This is why you must report it immediately if you see it.

All hawkweeds have hairy leaves and stems. Leaves form a low growing rosette.

King devil hawkweed (*Hieracium praealtum* or *Pilosella piloselloides*) are yellow flowers with square-ended petals clusters of up to 25 flower heads per stem.

Mouse-ear hawkweed (*Hieracium pilosella* or *Pilosella officinarum*) is a yellow flower with square-ended petals and a solitary flower on each stem.

Orange hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum* or *Pilosella aurantiaca*) are bright orange flowers with square-ended petals clusters of five to 30 flower heads per stem.

Know exactly what you're looking for and check out an identification video and 3D model of Orange hawkweed before heading out. These can be found at agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/weeds/state-prohibited-weeds/hawkweed#h2-4

When identifying hawkweed, be aware of similar-looking plants that are often mistaken

for hawkweed, like common dandelion and native yam daisy which are hairless and have a single flower per stalk.

Knowing your hawkweed means timely and targeted intervention, but even if in doubt it is better to still report.

If you think you have seen hawkweed, call Agriculture Victoria on 136 186, email weed.spotters@agriculture.vic.gov.au or report online at agriculture.vic.gov.au/hawkweed



Orange hawkweed. -S



Mouse-ear hawkweed. -S



King devil hawkweed. -S

Farmers' Federal Budget drive national productivity

THE National Farmers' Federation (NFF) has delivered 20 targeted investments in its 2025-26 Pre-Budget Submission to drive productivity growth.

NFF President David Jochinke said the Australian economy continued to navigate complex challenges from slowing productivity growth to ongoing cost-of-living pressures, while shifting global dynamics add further complications.

"Families are grappling with rising costs, tight budgets and growing uncertainties. Australian farmers also share these burdens

as productivity growth lags, input prices fluctuate, and market volatility squeezes margins," Mr Jochinke said.

"Yet we remain steadfastly optimistic about agriculture's role in helping Australia address these challenges. With the right policy and investment settings, agriculture can help Australia overcome its challenges.

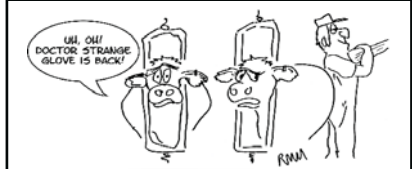
"While strong economic policies are vital to our sector's growth, the people driving agriculture are at the heart of everything we achieve. It's why we've included an ask to boost farmer wellbeing following from

the National Forum on Mental Health and Wellbeing in Agriculture the NFF hosted in March," Mr Jochinke said.

The priorities include; \$1 billion for improving freight supply chains, including roads and rail, \$175 million for a farmworker accommodation investment package of incentives, \$150 million for climate-related research and development, \$36 million to extend the On Farm Connectivity Program to grow digital uptake, and \$25 million for a national, agricultural industry led approach to grow farmers' wellbeing and prevent suicides.

FREE Health Checks for the FARMING COMMUNITY

FREE Prostate & Cervical Cancer Screening Kits



Yea Saleyards Friday 22 November & 29 November 2024

FREE Sun Smart Information



Yea Saleyards Friday 6 December 2024

FREE Skin Checks



Yea Saleyards Friday 17 January & 7 February 2025

Further information on Yea Saleyards website and Facebook page



SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER 22, Yea Saleyards
Weaner Sale

NOVEMBER 29, Yea Saleyards
Store 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

SAVE THE DATE

NOVEMBER PHOTO COMPETITION

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

Sponsored by



Email your photo and contact details to manager@alexandranewspapers.com.au by noon November 27, 2024

5772 1405

79 Grant Street Alexandra
Dindicountryclothing@gmail.com
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

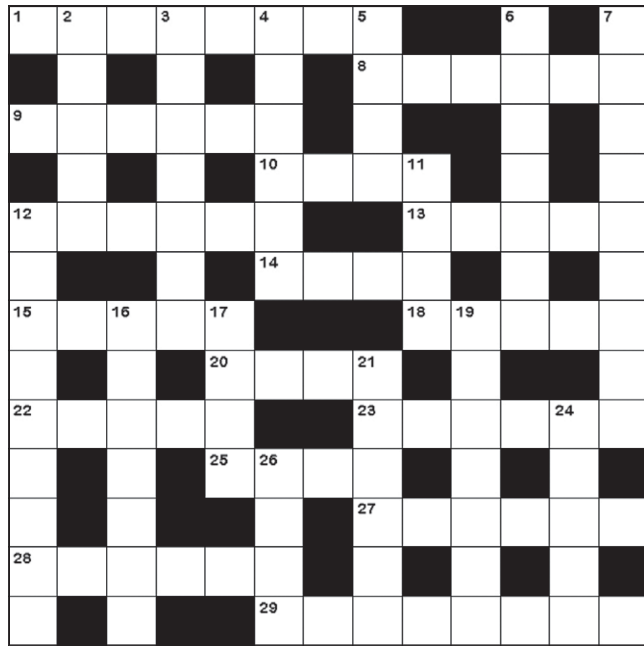
PUZZLES

SOLUTIONS
Page 19

Crossword

ACROSS

- Distributed or sold illicitly.
- Prove to be false or incorrect.
- Give help or support.
- Children's spinning toys.
- Three times as many.
- Africa's laughing dog.
- A contest to be first to achieve something.
- Bearing weapons.
- To be in terror of.
- Female sheep.
- A slight or surface burn.
- Not wearing shoes.
- A series of steps to be carried out.
- Took a life.
- Entwine into a confusing mass.
- Something that makes no sense.



DOWN

- A stingy hoarder of money.
- Catch a brief look at.
- Rubbish dropped in a public place.
- The tiniest amount of liquid.
- Severely simple or plain.
- Deprived someone by cheating.

- An outbuilding used for storage.
- Change into another language.
- All of the inhabitants of the earth.
- A very low sound.
- Reach a decision.
- At the bottom of a body of water.
- Does as one is told.
- The right to property in lieu of payment.

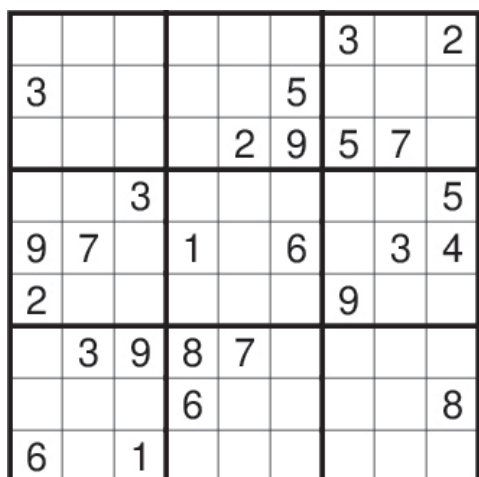
Word Search

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

Down on the Farm

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| CHICKEN | HORSE |
| DAIRYCOW | PIGSTYE |
| FARMER | SHEEP |
| FARMHOUSE | TOOLSHED |
| FENCING | TRACTOR |
| HAYBALE | WATERTROUGH |

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

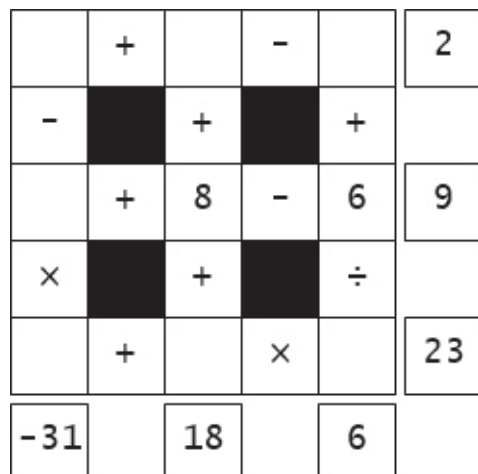


$$\begin{array}{r} \text{S} \\ \hline 1 \quad 19 \quad 24 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} \text{E} \\ \hline 1 \quad 5 \quad 13 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{S} \quad \text{E} \\ \hline 24 \quad 13 \quad 21 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} \text{S} \quad \text{O} \\ \hline 24 \quad 9 \quad 8 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} \text{O} \\ \hline 1 \quad 9 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{E} \\ \hline 11 \quad 13 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} \text{O} \\ \hline 7 \quad 9 \quad 20 \quad 20 \quad 12 \end{array}$$

Math Square



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.



Ensure that injured wildlife are looked after by a authorised wildlife carer. -Charles J Sharp

Don't take injured wildlife home

VICTORIANS are being reminded not to take injured or orphaned native animals home with them.

Chief Conservation Regulator, Kate Gavens, said while the intentions might be good, in most cases it's not the best outcome for an orphaned or injured wild animal, such as kangaroo joeys, to be taken to someone's house who isn't authorised to do so.

"Sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife need specialised care or they may become habituated to humans and domestic animals, potentially losing their natural instincts and behaviours, hindering their ability to be released and survive in the wild," Ms Gavens said.

"If you find an injured or orphaned wildlife, it's in the animal's best interests for you to call 136 186 or use the Help for Injured Wildlife online tool to find a trained rehabilitator who can take proper care of them."

People taking wildlife home may also face fines and can risk exposure to diseases to themselves or their pets. If unauthorised people take in wildlife, the animals can be exposed to domestic animals, loud human living environments and inappropriate, and sometimes unsafe caring and feeding techniques.

For example, an orphaned Eastern Grey Kangaroo joey was reportedly found by the roadside and kept by well-meaning people who did not have the skills or knowledge to care for her properly.

Fortunately for this joey, the Conservation Regulator received a call about her situation and officers took her to a wildlife shelter near Bendigo where she was found to be sick and undernourished and is now receiving specialised care.

If members of the public encounter sick, injured or orphaned wildlife they should call the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action on 136 186 or use the Help for Injured Wildlife tool. Wildlife rehabilitation is undertaken by a diverse network of authorised and experienced volunteer shelter operators

and foster carers and are supported by wildlife rescuers and registered veterinarians.

It is illegal in Victoria to take and keep sick, injured or orphaned wildlife from the wild without authorisation is an offence under the *Wildlife Act 1975* that carries a fine of up to \$9879.50 and/or six months imprisonment.

Members of the community picking up sick animals can also increase the risk of spreading diseases including avian influenza. State and Commonwealth agencies are working together to ensure the potential impacts of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreaks are minimised including helping wildlife rehabilitators to prepare for any outbreak of the H5N1 strain which has not been detected in Australia to date.

For more information on the response to HPAI outbreaks go to wildlife.vic.gov.au/sick-injured-or-orphaned-wildlife/high-pathogenic-avian-influenza

For more information on caring for native wildlife or becoming an authorised Wildlife Shelter or Foster Carer go to vic.gov.au/wildlife-rehabilitation-shelters-and-foster-carers

If you see any orphaned or injured wildlife, please call a local wildlife shelter or Wildlife Victoria. It only takes a few minutes to do and you could be saving a little life.

Wildlife Victoria can be contacted on 8400 7300. The number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week or you can report online at wildlifelifevictoria.org.au

If you call them, they will send someone out. Often, these will be local wildlife carers.

The local wildlife carers in Murrindindi Shire are Salvum Wildlife Shelter in Thornton (0438 644 021), Narbeview Wildlife Shelter in Buxton (0419 584 099), Murrindindi Ranges Wildlife Shelter in Strath Creek (0430 440 286) and Sherrie in Eildon (0498 053 760).

WORK LOCAL

save fuel, time and make money

Applications open for regional worker accommodation grants

THE Victorian Government is backing more regional businesses to attract the workers they need, with another round of the *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* now open.

Speaking last week at the annual conference of the Victorian Country Press Association in Torquay, Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney announced the opening of applications for this program's second round.

"We're working closely with private sector businesses, industry and community groups to build the homes and accommodation our towns need, supporting Victoria's regions to have the skilled workers they need so our communities can prosper," Ms Tierney said.

"The second round of the *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* is one of the ways

we're creating more housing where it's needed most."

The *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* supports shovel-ready projects, with co-investment from private businesses, industries, regional councils, or local community groups to deliver the worker housing that local industries and workforces need to support communities in regional Victoria to thrive for years to come.

Eligible local housing projects will be fit-for-purpose to meet the skills needs of key sectors such as health, agriculture, education, manufacturing, and tourism, from self-contained units, worker villages, family dwellings, shared accommodation, and studios, and unique to the needs of the local community.



Applications are now open for the *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund*. -AR

Regional Victorian cities and towns that have robust, shovel-ready ideas in partnership with local business and industry are strongly encouraged to apply in this second round.

The opening of applications for round two comes on the back of last month's announcement of funding for more than 20 successful projects that unlock nearly \$250 million in combined private and public investment through the program's first round,

boosting affordable housing options for workers and their families.

Successful projects from the first round of the fund include one of Australia's largest food manufacturers Don Smallgoods, who are building eight four-bedroom units for more than 30 manufacturing and production workers. The units will provide short-term and seasonal workers with accommodation nearby to Don's Castlemaine facility.

More than 1300 workers will also be supported with new worker accommodation throughout Victoria's alpine resorts in Mt Hotham, Mt Buller and Falls Creek. The new homes will help ease workforce shortages and support tourism offerings in Victoria's iconic Alpine region through modern accommodation facilities built by Grollo Group.

Dozens of regional healthcare workers will find more affordable housing across the state including Goulburn Valley Health, Bairnsdale Regional Health, and Bass Coast Health. These projects will ensure regional Victoria has housing for the hospital staff to make it best placed to deliver essential health services.

The *Regional Worker Accommodation Fund* is part of the state government's record \$45 billion investment in regional and rural Victoria since 2014. The fund is one of the ways regional and rural Victorian cities and towns are being becoming even better places to live, work, stay, and play.

Applications are open until Friday, January 31. For more information about the fund, visit rdv.vic.gov.au/rwaf



Darlingford Nursing Home is a not-for-profit, public residential aged care facility, providing quality care to our community.

We are searching for:

Food Services, Cleaning &/or Laundry Staff

We are searching for Food Services & Cleaning Staff to join our friendly team on a casual or part time basis and to provide quality services to our valued residents. Includes weekend work.

Requirements:

- Current police check
- Influenza vaccination
- Food Safety Level 1 Certificate (or commitment to complete)
- To complete ongoing training

Benefits:

- Attractive salary packaging
- Employee Assistance Program
- Supportive management team
- Ongoing Professional Development
- Remuneration as per applicable Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025.

Please telephone reception (03) 5774 2711 for a position description, or email your resumé to dwalsh@dugnh.com.au

Administrative Officer Part Time 3-4 Days/Week

We are seeking a dedicated Administrative Assistant, to join our team. This position is a part time role 3-4 full days a week. This role requires a warm and friendly demeanour, a can-do attitude and a willingness to learn and provide support when needed. You'll work autonomously and as part of a driven and caring team.

Mandatory Requirements:

- Influenza vaccination
- Current police check

Essential:

- Relevant experience in an administrative support role
- Bookkeeping experience
- Payroll and Rostering experience
- Previous experience in Aged care
- Excellent computer skills with ability to understand and use IT applications and platforms.

Benefits:

- Attractive salary packaging
- Employee Assistance Program available
- Supportive management team
- Ongoing Professional Development
- Remuneration as per Health and Allied Services, Managers and Administrative Workers (Victorian Public Sector) (Single Interest Employers) Enterprise Agreement 2021-2025.

Please telephone reception (03) 5774 2711 for a position description or email your resumé to dwalsh@dugnh.com.au by midday on Monday 2nd December 2024



Casual Housekeeper Camp Marysville

Looking for immediate-start, casual housekeeping work?

Join The Outdoor Education Group's team at Camp Marysville!

Requirements:

- Attention to detail
- Reliable and punctual
- Can work independently

Perks:

- Great pay
- Flexible schedule
- Work in a beautiful setting

Contact Zara to apply: careers@oeg.edu.au or 0407 121 159

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BUSINESS & TRADES DIRECTORY

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CONVEYANCING & PROPERTY
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The Yea Chronicle

Government lack of action around Disability Support Pension criticised

DURING last week's Senate Estimates the Australian Government released its official response to the report on the purpose, intent and adequacy of the Disability Support Pension (DSP).

People with Disability Australia (PWDA), Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) and disability advocacy organisations have expressed alarm at the government's dismissal of the report's recommendations and called for urgent action to address barriers to accessing the DSP, the risk of poverty for recipients and to reform how eligibility is assessed and avenues for dispute resolution.

People with Disability Australia President, Marayke Jonkers, said, "It's unacceptable that this report has sat on the shelf for over two years and received such a lacklustre response. The government has not explained why the report's recommendations are no longer relevant."

"We know the Disability Support Pension needs to be higher and available to more people with disability or far too many in our community will continue to live in poverty and not have the financial resources to meet their most basic needs. The government must take action."

"This response from the government collides with changes to the NDIS and people with disability facing new or continued gaps in services and fears over how they will pay for things like mobility aides, assistive technology and support workers."

"Major changes are needed to support the employment of people with disability but these must go hand-in-hand with an adequate social safety net for those who are unable to participate in employment, including people with chronic illnesses."

"The Disability Support Pension is a lifeline for many that determines whether their support and living needs will be met, and there are too many people who don't have access, who should," Ms Jonkers said.

Key recommendations from the report that have not been actioned include amending claims processes to ensure people with disability or chronic illness who have little opportunity to enter or re-enter the labour force are granted the Disability Support Pension; removal of mutual obligations for people during the process of their claims and making the program of support voluntary, "abandoning punitive compliance measures" and making employment services more effective; increasing funding for disability advocacy, community legal services and First Nations organisations to support DSP claimants in their claims process; increasing funding to improve linkages between Services Australia and First Nations organisations; establishing principles in the administration of social security, including proactively assisting people to access support; treating people with respect; making adjustments to service delivery to meet individual needs.

While changes to the impairment tables in 2023 were a starting point for reform, the failure to act on the systemic flaws in how the DSP is administered and who it is available to has left people with disability without the financial resources necessary to live.

ACOSS CEO, Dr Cassandra Goldie, said, "Everyday people with disability struggle to afford the basic essentials of life due to a system that does more to exclude them than support them."

"Each year, 44 per cent of claims for the Disability Support Pension are rejected thanks to a bureaucratic, stressful and impersonal claims process. People with disability end up on the woefully inadequate \$56 a day JobSeeker Payment, with some forced to do mutual obligations despite having a disability or chronic ill health."

"The government cannot sweep this national shame under the rug. It has a duty to ensure Australia's social security provides people with enough to cover essentials, including the extra costs that disability brings, and are treated with the respect and dignity they deserve."

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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 10000292.

MEETINGS



Dame Pattie Menzies Centre Inc. Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Monday, November 25, 2024 at 5.30pm to be held at The Mount.

Any new business or applications for COM membership for consideration need to be forwarded to the secretary, seven business days prior to AGM.

RSVP on 5772 1888 or email DPMC@menziessupport.org.au by Friday, November 22, 2024.



Registration No: A0018756R

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 33rd Annual General Meeting of Darlingford Upper Goulburn Nursing Home Inc will be held on **Wednesday, December 11, 2024 commencing at 1.30pm in North Lounge Room. Video conferencing available, please email request to. darlingford@dughn.com.au**

Business of the Meeting:

- to confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting
- to receive and consider:
 - the annual report of the Committee on the activities of the Association during the preceding financial year
 - the financial statements of the association for the preceding financial year
- to elect the members of the committee;
- Appointment of Auditor

Applications for a position on the Board of Management are invited. Please contact Darlingford on 5774 2711. ALL WELCOME
Please RSVP by December 10, 2024



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday, December 2, 2024 at 6.15 pm Residents, families and members of the Alexandra and district community are warmly invited to the Annual General Meeting of Kellock Lodge - Alexandria Incorporated to be held at Kellock Lodge, 15 Bon St Alexandria 3714

BUSINESS

- To confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meetings held on November 15, 2023
- To receive the Annual Reports for year ending 30 June 2024
- To receive the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2024 (KLA Inc.)
- Questions and general business

APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

Applications are invited from members of the Alexandra and district Community to join the Board of Management as a Director. The position is honorary, and Board Directors are required to be available for board meetings and committees. Expressions of interest should be addressed to the Board Chair, Kellock Lodge 15 Bon Street Alexandria, Vic, 3714 (or by email to: info@kellocklodge.com.au) and include a cover letter and brief resume. Applications close of business Monday November 25, 2024. Please RSVP your attendance for the meeting by close of business Monday 24 November. Contact reception on 5770 2100 or info@kellocklodge.com.au. Zoom link available by request. Membership of KLA Inc. is welcomed, with forms available from reception on 5770 2100 or info@kellocklodge.com.au.
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PUBLIC NOTICES

DECLARATION

Fire Restrictions

CFA and Forest Fire Management Victoria will be introducing fire restrictions (Fire Danger Period and Prohibited Period, respectively) for all private land within the municipalities listed below.

The Fire Restriction Period will commence at 0100 hours on the date shown and unless varied by a subsequent declaration, will end at 0100 hours on 01/05/2025

Municipality	Date of Commencement
Mitchell Shire	18/11/2024
Murrindindi Shire	18/11/2024

Certain restrictions on the lighting of fires are in force during the Fire Restriction Period. Information about fire restrictions within the Country Area of Victoria can be obtained from www.cfa.vic.gov.au, your local CFA District Office or Municipal Fire Prevention Officer

Information about fire restrictions within the Fire Protected Area can be obtained from www.ffm.vic.gov.au, or your local Forest Fire Management Victoria Fire District Officer

Jason Heffernan
Chief Officer

Chris Hardman
Chief Fire Officer



DEATH NOTICES

HEWITT,
nee (Tennant)
Dawn

18/09/1935 -
08/11/2024

Loved wife of Allan (dec).
Mother of Bruce, Keith and Joy
Friend of Deb.
Loved by all, resting peacefully.

LADE, Peg.

In loving memory of Peg whose unique style will always be remembered by all of the Naughty Nannas of Yea.

FUNERAL NOTICES

HEWITT,
nee (Tennant)
Dawn

A memorial service celebrating the life of Dawn will be held Tuesday, November 26, 2024 at the Alexandra Masonic Lodge, 24 Webster Street commencing at 1pm.



IN MEMORIAM

FOX, Doris Edna (nee Aldous). Passed away on 18/11/1985. Loved and loving mother of Rhyl and Sharon, mother in law of Richard and dear grandmother of Anna, Katie and James. Always remembered.

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MEETINGS



Yea-Kinglake RSL Social Meeting.
RSL Hall, Monday, November 25, 2024 at 11.30am. Enquiries to secretary 5796 9353.

Alexandra and Eildon Lapidary Club AGM will be held on November 26 at 2pm at club rooms. All welcome.

Homewood Hall AGM will be held at the hall on November 25, 2024 at 7.30 pm. All welcome.

PETS & LIVESTOCK

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

PUBLIC NOTICES



Department of Health



Board director opportunities at Alexandra District Health

The Minister for Health, the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, is pleased to invite applications for part time board director positions at **Alexandra District Health**. The positions start on July 1, 2025 and appointments are for up to three years.

These positions provide an exciting opportunity for Victorians to contribute to the health and wellbeing of our communities. Applicants are selected for their capabilities, including personal and professional experience, knowledge, and skills that contribute to the strategic leadership and oversight of health care for the Victorian community.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards reflect the rich diversity of the Victorian community. This includes diverse leadership of the health system that represents the variety of backgrounds and cultures of Victorian communities to enable the vision of achieving the best health, wellbeing and safety for everyone.

To build an empowered and engaged leadership across the health system, our priority areas are people of all ages, First Nations people, people who live with a disability, people from culturally diverse backgrounds, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, the promotion of gender equality and upholding human rights.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the capabilities identified in their applications.

Applications close at midnight **Sunday, November 24, 2024.**

Further information about Victorian health service boards and how to apply can be found at www.health.vic.gov.au/board-applications or call Executive Assistant, Jennifer Creed on 5772 0924.

Big day for Flowerdale community

THE Flowerdale Community Day and Show and Shine took place last Sunday at the Flowerdale Sports Club.

A number of classic cars were in attendance, providing attendees with the opportunity to admire them and chat with owners. Around 130 people attended the day in the first couple of hours.

The Flowerdale Fire Brigade rolled out some of their equipment, including a fire truck, to display on the day, and an agriculture drone was also showcased.

Attendees could enjoy a game of tennis, browse the various wares on display, or play a round of mini golf on the Flowerdale Sports Club's newly erected mini golf course.

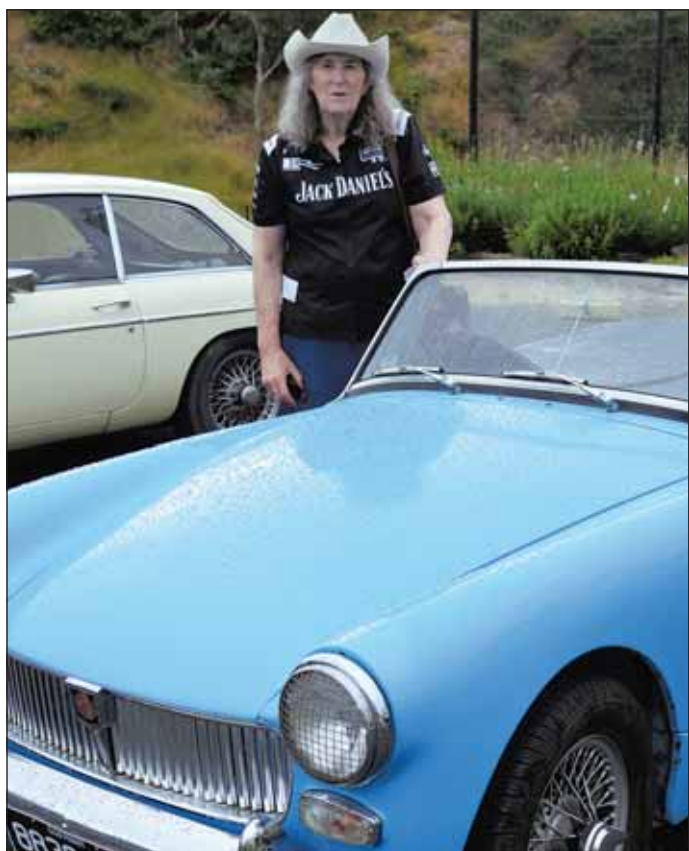
There was a band playing at the event, and the Flowerdale Men's Shed were handling the parking situation, making it a day to really bring Flowerdale together and showcase their community.



A slightly damp classic car at the Flowerdale Community Day. -BD



The Flowerdale CFA rolled out their equipment to display on the day, making the classic MGs look even smaller. -BD



Flowerdale local Jeanette with her 1968 MG Midget mark three. -BD



There were a number of cars on display despite the temperamental weather at the Flowerdale Community Day and Show'n'Shine. -BD



The band 'Stoked' playing at the event. -BD



A 500 horsepower worked V8 engine under the hood of one of the classic cars in Flowerdale. -BD



People milling and chatting at the Flowerdale Sports Club. -BD



A number of people were enjoying the Flowerdale Community Day, including Evelyn, Jodie, Arthur, and Valerie. -BD



A variety of items were on-display and for sale in Flowerdale. -BD

SPORT

Alexandra speedway season begins with several local winners

by Dean Thompson

ALEXANDRA Speedway started its new race season with the local member racers picking up several feature race wins on a night that included series rounds for sports sedans, junior sedans, street stocks and late models. An enthusiastic crowd was on hand to see River Paterson from Yarra Junction, Luke Morrison from Officer, Dylan Barrow from Wandin, David Donegan from Healesville, and Matthew Nelson from Woori Yallock, who were all winners.

The biggest field belonged to the sports sedans with competitors who came from Northeast Victoria, Eastern Suburbs of Melbourne, Southeastern Suburbs of Melbourne, and the Murrindindi surrounds. Qualifying race wins were shared by Rhys Collins, Damien Miller, Tommy McDonald, Ian Thomsen, Damien Miller again, Dale Smith, McDonald a second time, Lee Beach, and Dale Smith a second time.

There was crash damage and mechanical issues along the way putting drivers out of the event before the final, some of them being favourites for a potential victory. Donegan, McDonald, Russell Smith and his son Dale, Thomsen, and Beach started in the first six spots in the twenty five lap final with Donegan securing the lead spot initially before McDonald past him on lap three. Dale Smith moved to the lead on lap six while Donegan dropped back into third spot before he passed McDonald for second on lap ten.

It took until lap fifteen before Donegan passed Smith and assumed the lead spot once again and McDonald also moved passed Smith on lap nineteen into second. For much of the race the top three were right around each other before Donegan cleared off later in the race eventually to a four second margin. Donegan would claim the victory ahead of McDonald, Dale Smith, Beach, and Josh Service in the Sports Sedan Extreme Series round.

Junior Sedan Promotional Association competitors in both grades of Top Star and New Stars were on hand for series action. In



Car 75, driven by David Donegan from Healesville, who was the winner of the sports sedans category. -S

top Star competition drivers raced in three of the four heat races held to set their qualifying spot. Cruz Carlin won a first heat race where the first four competitors were separated by less than a second in the closest heat race. Brad Marshall then Victorian state champion River Paterson twice in succession won heat races also. Paterson, Will Fallon, James Peacock, Carlin, Axel Robinson and Jake Bradley were the top six starters. Paterson put himself out in front on lap one with Tamika Simpson moving inside the top six until lap four. Peacock and Carlin swapped spots more than once in third and fourth during the race before Paterson greeted the chequered flag leading all fifteen laps to beat Fallon, Carlin, Peacock and Robinson with the margin just .240 at the end between the lead two in an exciting finish.

New Stars action began with Noah Basten winning the first two heat races ahead of Luke Morrison by less than a second before

Morrison won the final qualifier. Basten, Morrison, Cruz Paterson, Dacy Dannatt, Taijan Ussger and Cruz Abela were the top six starters with Basten hitting the front on lap one of twelve. Morrison kept the pressure on and at lap eight made the move into the lead spot. Morrison then created a little gap in the closing stages to defeat Basten, Paterson, Dannatt and Ussher.

Three heats were slated for Street Stock competition for a round of their Speedway Sedans Victoria series. Matt Nelson raced away for a huge victory in the first heat race and in contrast the second heat race that he also won had a margin of less than a second. Linken Paterson then picked up a strong win in the final heat race. Twenty-five laps were then the distance to compete over in the final. Nelson began with Paterson from the front with Jack Jordan Ricky Cornwall, Matt Brooks and Matt Bishop holding starting spots in the top six. Nelson led from the drop

of the green with Paterson the first to exit the race and Cornwall moving to second. Tim Hutchinson who recently won an event at Wangaratta moved into third on lap five. Nelson held a comfortable lead and the top three held their spots for the next twenty laps with Nelson greeting the flagman four seconds ahead of Cornwall, Hutchinson, Jordan, and Bishop.

In Late Model competition Dylan Barrow and Chevy Edwards shared wins in the two qualifying races before Barrow led all ten laps in the final to defeat the Edwards brothers Chevy and Brock, then come Tasmanian Ellis Dickenson and Shane Belk.

Alexandra Speedway will next hold competition on December 7 with a state Production Sedan series round, a Goulburn Ovens Sedan Association series round, Sports Sedans, National Junior Sedans, Standard Saloons, and a Ladies Standard Saloon series round.

Close squash games this week

by Kristelle Leary

Kangaroos versus Echidnas

JORDAN versus Ethan: Great match with some really powerful shots. Jordan put in a good effort, but Ethan came out on top. 66 to 43.

Mick versus Matt: See sawing games with large point differences. Each game presented a change in leader with Matt leading at the end of the match to take the win. 66 to 60.

Justin versus Jared: With a great first half, Jared cruised into game three. Simon upped his game to win game three and draw the final game, but Jared had better form on the night and stayed in front. 55 to 53.

Jack versus James: An absolute marathon of match. Both players ran the court like their life depended on it making it wonderful to watch. Jack had an exceptional first and last game to claim the victory. 55 to 46.

Platypus versus Wombats

TYLER versus Lochlan: Both players had good shots. Lochlan made a comeback in the

third game to even out the score, but Tyler held out and was too strong to overcome. 57 to 51.

Sally versus Lee (fill in): Sally put in a good effort, but Lee had skill to spare to take home a resounding victory. 70 to 41.

Michael M versus Daniel W: Michael's fury and bombast were no match for Daniel's amazing court coverage. Daniel could not put a foot wrong as every shot found its target, leaving his opponent flat footed and frustrated. Michael threw everything into the third game, only to come up a draw. Both players were hitting walls, sprawling in corners and crawling on the ground. Daniel ran away with the match 70 to 44.

John versus Derrick: The two refined gentlemen for the club went point for point early on with each hitting shots of improbable angles and perfectly measured distances. John enjoyed a narrow lead after two games. Returning from his injury, Derrick found his rhythm and shot ahead enough in the last two games to win. 54 to 47.



Phil lines up a backhand against Ruth. -S

Tigers versus Leopards

RANDY versus Beth: A close match. Randy had an outstanding third game and finished strong to take home the match. 67 to 65.

James versus Michael H: Great rallies from both players. James was winning going into the final game, but Michael proved too strong taking the final game and the match. 63 to 56.

Lions versus Panthers

RANDY (fill in) versus Reece: Only one point difference in the match. Reece pulled

ahead with a six-point lead in game three, only for Randy returning the favour in game four. With a single point to claim the win, Reece was victorious. 68 to 67.

Travis (fill in) versus Sam: It was anyone's match for the majority of the time until game three saw a spectacle when Sam had a 45 second stint of absolute skill and clarity. This short episode of collecting points put Sam ahead for victory. 69 to 54.

Ruth (fill in) versus Phil: Another close match. Excellent placement from Ruth pitted against great running from Phil. In the end, Ruth's placement won out. 67 to 65.

SPORT

Monday triples and pennant news from Yea Bowls Club

by Angela Finn

ON Monday, November 4 there were four rinks full, 24 bowlers in all. It was a beautiful day for bowls. The winning team won all three games by a healthy margin. It was fantastic to have Leif Elenius playing and back to some great form after struggling with ill health in recent times. His partners in crime were Dick Dashwood and Joe McCarthy.

The runners up were Greg Newland, Tony Buc and Rob Marks were also three game winners.

A Melbourne Cup Sweep was drawn following the bowls results and everyone joined into sing 'Happy Birthday' to life member Anthony McCarthy on his 95th birthday.

Monday, November 11 was also a beautiful day for bowls. Eighteen bowlers took to the greens. Play halted for the 11am observances. Either side of this some great, competitive

bowls took place. Winners were Mick Barrott, Barry Moore and Howard Geldard. Mick and Barry capped a good day by also winning the raffles. Runners-up were Ruth Hatty, Tony Buc, and Jeff Green.

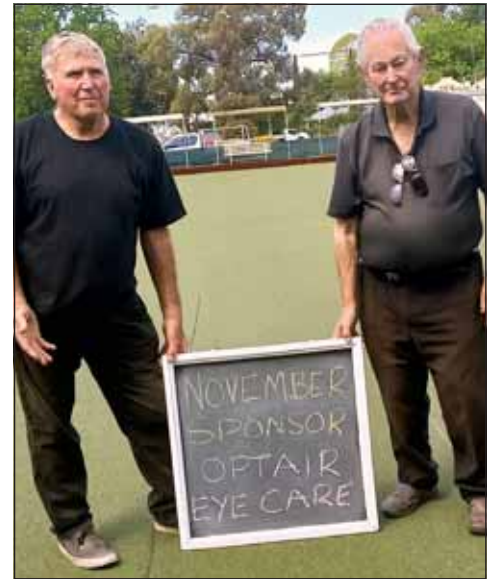
After a one win, two loss start to the season, Yea has hit back hard with the Pennant competition, defeating East Shepparton at home across all three rinks on Saturday November 9, winning 71 to 43; and then defeating Seymour VRI away 67 shots to 55, on Saturday November 16.

This brought Yea to three wins, two losses and has a second on the ladder.

The Pennant on Saturday November 9, Rink one, with skip Neil Rieschieck, Terry Muller, Rob Marks playing only his second game of Pennant, and lead Angela Finn, held sway all day with a comprehensive victory, 26 shots to nine; Rink two, with skip Maurie Finn, Darren Sherman, Maureen Marks playing

her first Pennant game and lead Mick Barrott had a tight tussle, but Yea finished strongly to win, 28 shots to 19; Rink three, with skip Terry McInnes, Doug Shirrefs, Cliff Sinclair and lead Viv Cavanagh pulled off an amazing comeback. Down 14 shots to three after 12 ends, they then switched into gear and dominated the last 9 ends, finally winning 17 shots to 15.

The Pennant on Saturday, November 16, rink one, with skip Terry McInnes, Cliff Sinclair, Leonard Sheahan playing his first Pennant game following three bouts of surgery, and Viv Cavanagh got an early lead and won convincingly 27-16; Rink two, with skip Justin Branch, Darren Sherman, Maureen Marks and Mick Barrott, were well down early in the game but fought their way brilliantly to win 24-16; Rink three, with skip Neil Rieschieck, Maurie Finn, Terry Muller and Judy Murfin after an even first half, went down 23-16.



Winners for November 11, Mick and Barry, with Howard absent from the photo. -S



Leonard returned for pennant games. -S



Winners for November 4, Joe, Judy and Dick. -S

Murrindindi Masters in full swing

by Alan Pell

THE Murrindindi Masters is an annual event over four rounds, played at each of four clubs which are Eildon, Alexandra, Yea, and Marysville over the summer months. Yea players dominated the first round of the 2024-25 Murrindindi Masters at Eildon Golf Club. Yea golfers came home from Eildon needing Armaguard to transport the loot, which is

generously sponsored by the Reddrop owned FoodWorks group.

From a field of 89 entries, 31 of which were from Yea Golf Club, there were several winners including, Jeff and Sue Aurisch both had 41 points, winning the mens' and ladies' Mini Masters (best scores on the day) which won them \$250 FoodWorks vouchers each. Alan Pell won Men's A Grade with 38 points. Rick Wills was A Grade Runner up on countback with 38 as well. Vicki Clements was runner up in Ladies A Grade with 36 points and Vicky Butler Runner up in the Ladies B Grade with 36 points. Penny Britton won the Ladies B grade with 37 points. Rick Wills, Sam Wright and Vicki Clements also won \$50 nearest the pin vouchers. All in all, vouchers to the value of nearly \$1000 to redeem at Yea FoodWorks. A huge thanks to the sponsors and Eildon Golf Club who presented their course in tip top condition.

Last Wednesday's Men's golf saw the recent C Grade Champion Rob O'Halloran (22) continue his good form with 90 off the stick nett 68 to win the stroke competition from Gary Pollard (13) and Neil Peterson (18) with nett 69 each. Phil Armstrong was nearest the pin on the 11th, Gary Pollard won the putting with 26 putts and John Renehan took a narrow win in the club award. Ladies last Wednesday saw Penny Britton (32) with nett 72 win from Miranda Gill (17) 73 and Di Elliott (29) with 74 in a field of 11 players.



Jeff Aurisch won the mini master men's category in Eildon last weekend. -S

Merton cricketers play against city colts

LAST weekend Merton cricketers travelled to Wangaratta to take on city colts on a well prepared turf wicket in warm conditions on a quick outfield. Merton won the toss and bowled and continued on from last week's efforts against Delatite with the bowling and fielding improving on a weekly basis.

Young spinner Henry Berriman leads the way for Merton taking 5/29 taking crucial wickets in the colts top and middle order, fellow youngster Noah Whittall with 3/42 and Rohan Berriman 2/17 saw colts bowled out in the 35th over for 133, Harry Craddock and Ross Mackinnon with two outstanding catches backed up the Merton bowlers. C Reid 35 and G Marek 22 were the top scorers.

Merton struggled to build partnerships losing early wickets but Jai Lerch-Mackinnon 36 steadied things for the Merton side and a late partnership between James Benton 16 and new recruit Josh Johnson 32 not out, along with Tyson Garlick saw a close finish go Merton's way passing the colts total in the 32nd over, Marek, Ormond, Solimo and Sanders all with one wicket for the home side. Merton have the bye next Saturday then travel to Wangaratta on November 30 to take on Rovers United Bruck.



Sixteen year old Henry Berriman helped his Merton side to victory with 5/29 off eight overs versus the City Colts in the WDCA B grade competition.

The Chronicle Sport

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Summer weather for spring guineas



Rachael Standfield, Jeannie Mitchell, and Rachel Rae dressed up and enjoying their day at the races. -BD



Another round of races took place in Yea last Saturday. Pictured is 'Strong Lady', ridden by Ben Moffat, crossing the line slightly ahead of 'All Too Creedy', ridden by Shaun Cooper, to take victory in the second race of the day. -BD



'Alternate', ridden by Craig Kirkpatrick, well clear of the field in race one. -BD



Some of the horses warming up for the second race of the day in the very warm weather. -BD



Denis Smith from the Yea Race Club presenting race one winner Craig Kirkpatrick, who rode 'Alternate', with his winnings. -BD



The Yea races proved a day for everyone to enjoy, including families. Pictured are Georgia, Renee, and Maree. -BD



A large crowd was in attendance of the races despite sweltering weather. -BD



People of all ages watched the horses thunder along the track at Yea. -BD