

# 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, January 22, 2025 \$2.00 inc. GST

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## Dale McKeon: The man behind the Yea Cruise Night

by Bailey Dixon

DALE McKeon is the mastermind behind the ever-popular Yea Cruise Night that fills the main street of Yea with classic cars once a month, bringing shiny fenders and the rumble of engines to Murrindindi Shire.

Famous around town for his toreador red 1958 Plymouth Belvedere and photography skills, this masthead sat down with Dale to talk about who he is and what he is passionate about.

"I've had it [a passion for classic cars] for a long time. My dad had an old car in the garage for years that was his from the 60s. It was a 1939 Ford, which he took off the road to do stuff to, bought all these parts for it, and never got back to it. It sat in the shed for pretty much my entire childhood, not going, but it was always there," Dale said.

"I had an aunty who had a car similar to that, which I always loved. It just stuck in my mind."

Dale's photography skills emerged when he took up the hobby following a major injury some years ago.

"The backstory on my photography is that I had a serious back injury about 2012-13. I had a double fusion in my lower back. I was doing metal fabrication at the time. I've been in metal trades my whole life. Basically, I had to give that up, I couldn't work, and I was off work for years," Dale said.

"Some of my hobbies took over, which was photography. While I was recovering, I bought a camera and mucked around a little bit. Once I was okay with life a bit, I went around to a few more car events and things like that. It really is just a hobby, and I enjoy that. I've been doing some community photos and stuff, and it's been good to do that."

Dale and his now-wife Amanda Price moved from Melbourne to Yea during

COVID-19 and started looking around for car events and clubs.

"In Melbourne, we moved up from Croydon in the eastern suburbs, and we went to a lot of car events down that way often. When we moved here, the first thing was to get on Facebook and see what events are going on around here to go and do stuff. I could see there wasn't a lot," Dale said.

With a clear niche to fill, Dale contacted Jim Wolstencroft, then-president of the Bushrodders Rod and Custom Club, and pitched him the idea of running an event in Yea. The pair now work together at Deluxe Rod Shop just outside of Yea.

"I messaged as you do... I'd seen they'd [Bushrodders Rod and Custom Club] previously run some events in town, but I think the last one was 2017. There wasn't a lot happening, and that [COVID] sort of stopped them from having different events," Dale said.

"One thing led to another, I met him, and I said I had an idea... I was thinking about doing something here. He was very encouraging and said let's just do it. We created a Facebook page and put an event out with no council approval or anything, just a social gathering of like-minded people.

"It's an empty main street, if you've got an old car bring it along. It was very casual to begin with."

The Yea Cruise Night began in December 2021 and has flourished into a major event that brings the town to life. Many of the shops in the main street of Yea sponsor the cruise night, and the Yea Community House handle the logistical side of the event.

Dale and Amanda are the dynamic duo who capture the essence of the cruise night in the form of photography, sharing their pictures online. Dale handles the car photography, while Amanda wanders the main street taking pictures of the crowd and families enjoying the event.



Founder of the Yea Cruise Night Dale McKeon with his striking 1958 Plymouth Belvedere in the main street of Yea, where the cruise night takes place. -BD

This gives a good perspective of how the event imbues Yea with a special buzz once a month on a Saturday night. Dale spoke about the healthy connection between the cruise night and the Yea residents.

"The amount of local people that came [at the start], and continue to come and support it, has surprised me a little bit. We started it for car people, but lots of families and kids and whatever come down for the night and it's something to do in Yea. They've been really supportive, which is good," Dale said.

Since starting the Yea Cruise Night, Dale now works at Deluxe Rod Shop, with the job evolving from the owner, Steven Alldrick, enlisting Dale to take photos and improve the shop's social media footprint.

"I met Steven, who is the owner of Deluxe. After we started the cruise night,

he initially wanted some photography work for his business. That was the real reason I went there. He got in touch with me and said he wanted to improve his social media. He didn't have time to take photos, he's too busy building hot rods," Dale said.

"I went there initially to go and do that, but we talked, and he realised I could weld and use a lathe and do some metal work from my previous life. I hadn't worked in that game since my back injury, so I just eased myself back into work there, so now I do three days a week there and photos and stuff for him. Building hot rods at Deluxe is great, I enjoy it.

"I moved here and one thing led to another, it wasn't my intention. But obviously I do something that appeals to people," Dale concluded.

Alexandra Newspaper's office will be CLOSED Monday, January 27

Deadline for classifieds artwork and bookings (deaths, funerals, meetings, for sale etc) for the edition of January 29 will be Friday, January 24 at 2pm.

General advertising and Trades deadlines for bookings and artwork will remain unchanged. Editorial deadlines remain unchanged.

# Correction

IN last weeks edition the Yea Rotary Barbecue Breakfast had an incorrect time printed.

The correct time is a 9am start at the grassed median strip adjacent to the Yea Shire Hall.



Stay alert to scams on social media. -Today Testing

## Don't be too social on social media

ACCORDING to Scamwatch reports, Australians lost more money in 2024 to social media scams than any other form of scams. Over 6000 victims reported losing \$58.3 million to social media scams in the first ten months of last year.

It's common for scammers to use fake or hijacked profiles on social media, messaging platforms and apps to steal money and personal information. Other forms of scams may include investment scams, romance scams and job and employment scams through social media networks.

The usual way to spot a scam within social media is an offer to make quick, easy money requiring not much effort, advertising a job that requires payment for training or access to work tasks, inviting you to enter a competition or limited time offers.

When it comes to marketplace posts, if you are selling something and they will offer you a high price without seeing the item, this rings alarm bells, they may be selling items lower than the usual price they are listed, and once you show interest they make up excuses as to why they can't meet you in person.

These scammers learn about you from what you share on social media, and they deceive you into sharing personal information even further. These scammers

usually pretend to be one of your friends, a romantic interest, a financial advisor or a business.

According to Scamwatch there are some simple steps you can take to avoid these scams, they include: Make sure the person is who they say they are; research profiles to see how long they have been online, how many followers they have, and what kind of activity they have; be careful if anyone makes a job offer without an interview, research the recruiter or agency making the offer; research any investment opportunity fully, and never send any money or personal details to someone you have only met online.

Being in a tight knit community, our local Facebook marketplace pages and community groups have members who are fairly switched on as to what is a scam and what isn't, don't let this drop your guard though, always look after yourself by arming yourself to stay protected.

Don't send money or hand over any personal information to anyone you have met online regardless of who they say they are, check away, if something doesn't feel right it's probably not and protect yourself and others by reporting suspicious contacts and activities to scamwatch at [scamwatch.gov.au](http://scamwatch.gov.au) and if you have found you have lost your money contact your financial institution.



**THUMBS UP:** To Scott Reeves, Koriella Fire Brigade captain, for his wonderfully sad and entertaining article on the situation of their modular toilet. Happy it turned out for the best, you should be flushed with success.

**THUMBS DOWN:** To the people who take their dogs, particularly big dogs, with them when eating outside along the main street, allowing them to block the footpath.

**THUMBS UP:** To the land owners for their Christmas decorations on roadsides.

**THUMBS DOWN:** To the dog owners who don't pick up after their dogs on walking tracks.

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

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

## Unattended campfires in Murrindindi

BOXING Day appears to be a hot spot for unattended campfires in Murrindindi Shire.

Lucas Russell, District Manager of Murrindindi District with Forest Fire Management Victoria said, "On Boxing Day, which was a day of Total Fire Ban, eight campfires were detected in Murrindindi District. Seven of those were unattended campfires.

"There were no other unattended campfires detected over the Christmas and New Year period."

**Alexandra District Health**  
5772 0900  
Yea & District Memorial Hospital  
5736 0400  
**In an emergency dial 000**

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Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

**PUBLISHERS**

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**ALEXANDRA NEWSPAPERS**

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can be submitted via email to  
[editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au) or  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)  
or by mail to Alexandra Newspapers  
PO Box 5, Alexandra 3714.

Letters **must be 300 words or less**. We will not publish defamatory letters, or content which is offensive, threatening or containing personal attacks. Submitted letters may be edited before going to print.  
All letters must contain writers name, address and contact number. (not necessarily for publication). Letters without these details supplied cannot not be published. Deadline for Letters to the Editor is 9am Monday.

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RIVER HEIGHTS FOR THE GOULBURN CATCHMENT				
STATION NAME	TIME	HEIGHT	TENDENCY	FLOOD CLASS
Goulburn R at Lake Eildon D/S	12.00pm Mon	1.84	steady	below minor
Rubicon River at Rubicon	12.00pm Mon	0.46	steady	
Acheron River at Taggerty	6.45am Mon	0.48	steady	below minor
Home Creek at Yarck	11.50am Mon	0.11	steady	
Yea River at Devlins Bridge	11.19am Mon	0.43	steady	below minor
Yea River at Yea GV Water PS	12.21pm Mon	0.26	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Ghin Ghin	12.00pm Mon	3.80	steady	
King Parrot Creek at Flowerdale	12.00pm Mon	0.33	steady	below minor
King Parrot Ck at Kerrisdale	12.15pm Mon	0.13	steady	
Goulburn River at Trawool	12.00pm Mon	1.45	steady	below minor
Sunday Creek at Tallarook	12.00pm Mon	0.12	steady	below minor
Goulburn River at Seymour	12.00pm Mon	1.73	steady	below minor
Whiteheads Creek at Seymour	12.08pm Mon	1.01	steady	

**\*\*ISSUED AT 12.46PM ON MONDAY, 20 JANUARY 202**

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[editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:editorial@alexandranewspapers.com.au) or  
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**Weekly Weather**  
January 22 - January 28, 2024  
Temperatures may be subject to change from date of publication

Alexandra			Yea		
DAY	LOW	HIGH	DAY	LOW	HIGH
Wednesday	10	26	Wednesday	10	24
Thursday	11	24	Thursday	10	24
Friday	12	25	Friday	12	25
Saturday	13	28	Saturday	14	29
Sunday	16	31	Sunday	16	31
Monday	18	35	Monday	17	36
Tuesday	14	31	Tuesday	13	29

**DISTRICT RAINFALL**

Alexandra	0mm
Buxton	N/Amm
Eildon (AWS)	0.2mm
Flowerdale	7mm
Jamieson	0.8mm
Kinglake	9mm
Lake Eildon	0.8mm
Mansfield	N/Amm
Taggerty	0mm
Yarck	0.2mm
Yea	0.1mm

Above details for 7 days to 9am Monday

**LAKE EILDON**

Height above sea level this week	283.39m
Capacity as at 9am Monday	79.3%
Metres below full supply	5.51m
Daily inflow	500ML
Release	3750ML
Eildon Pondage (may be subject to rapid change)	56%

**The Yea Chronicle**

**DEADLINES**

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

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the office on  
5772 1002 or  
[reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au](mailto:reception@alexandranewspapers.com.au)  
We thank you for your continued support



The fire in Killingworth was fortunately contained quickly by CFA. -S

## Fire at Killingworth West

ON Thursday, January 16, a fire was reported at Killingworth West. It's understood that a man was welding at the property in a location which was surrounded by long grass, and the welder arced. There was a strong breeze and at this time of year, the landscape is very dry.

The CFA attended, along with private vehicles, and they were quickly able to get

on top of the fire. The fire spread across an acre before it was brought under control.

CFA Limestone Capain and Yea Group Officer Paul Stanley asked that people avoid welding, mowing and other high risk activities on high wind days even if it's not a Total Fire Ban day, as it may cause a fast-running grass fire. Be conscious of your environment.

On hot, windy days, avoid slashing, avoid driving vehicles and motorbikes through dry grass or crop as the risk from the hot exhaust system is high, avoid chainsawing, and avoid cutting, welding and grinding.

Carry a water supply or an effective water knapsack of at least nine litres capacity.

## Call for P plate driving age to be lowered

NATIONALS Member for Northern Victoria Gaele Broad is calling for Victoria's probationary driving age to be reduced to 17, saying this would bring it in line with other states and reduce disadvantage for young people in rural areas.

Victoria is the only state or territory in Australia that still requires P plate drivers to be aged 18 or over.

Ms Broad said the move would be a game changer for many rural and regional families.

"Young people, especially those living in rural and regional areas are at a disadvantage by not being allowed to access their provisional licence at the age of 17," Ms Broad said.

"In the last week I was contacted by many young people and their families who are very keen to see the P plate age lowered. One young driver said 'a lot of kids would be absolutely stoked'.

"People who live in rural and regional areas often do not have access to public transport to get to work, apprenticeships or study," Ms Broad said.

"They rely on their families to transport them to and from these commitments, but not

everyone has someone who can drive them around when they need it."

Ms Broad raised the issue in Parliament in July 2024, but the state government did not support the idea.

"I will raise the issue again when Parliament resumes next month," Ms Broad said.

The Transport Accident Commission was asked about the possible lowering of the driving age. CEO Tracey Slatter responded, "Road crashes are one of the leading causes of death among young people, and drivers on probationary licences are at a higher risk of crashing.

"Victoria's world class Graduated Licensing System has been informed by research from youth development and road safety behavioural studies, and has proven successful in reducing the number of young drivers killed and seriously injured on our roads.

"The more supervised experience young people get as learner drivers the better equipped they will be to become safe solo drivers."

In their first year of driving, young drivers in Victoria are almost four times more likely to be involved in a fatal or serious injury

crash than more experienced drivers. The key reasons for this are inexperience and the fact that young drivers are more likely to take risks, like texting. Experience and maturity are pivotal when it comes to safety.

The Victorian Law Reform, Road and Community Safety Parliamentary Committee conducted a Parliamentary inquiry to explore the impact of lowering the licencing age in 2016. Research conducted at that time estimated that lowering the licencing age to 17 would result in 10 more deaths, 241 more serious injuries and 714 more minor injuries each year.

Victoria's Graduated Licensing System (GLS) is informed by research and evidence in both youth development and road safety behaviours. It ensures drivers progressively build the skills needed to drive safely. This system includes a minimum licencing age along with other measures such as a driving experience requirement for licensing eligibility for learners under 21 years and restrictions on P1 and P2 drivers. Since the GLS was introduced in 2007/08, 42.5 per cent fewer drivers aged 18 to 23 years have been involved in fatal or serious injury crashes on our roads.

## Potholes: We're tired of this

PAM Coulson from Alexandra Tyrepower was asked whether their business has seen an increase in the number of vehicles requiring new tyres as a result of pothole damage.

She said, "We would have someone come in probably nearly every day with blown tyres or racked rims. Huge amount of people... Sometimes even have to get a tow truck to get here because if they've blown a tyre or cracked a rim and they haven't got a spare, they've got no other choice but to get a tow truck. So that's extra expense for them again."

Unfortunately, damage to vehicles on Department of Transport managed roads is only covered for expenses past \$1640. The first \$1640 of damage is the responsibility of the owner or vehicle insurance (often with an excess which may make a claim unviable). Therefore, drivers often have to absorb the expense themselves.

Pam added, "Sometimes we might even get two [people with pothole-damaged wheels] in the one day. It's very bad and people are so angry."

Asked how many people would come in with tyres damaged by potholes five years ago, Pam responded, "Five years ago we probably got none... Or maybe, one or two every now and then, but it's really bad now."

When asked whether there were particular locations that people have been mentioning when they came in with tyre damage, Pam said that between Alexandra and Yea is very bad, "But it doesn't really matter which direction you go in, they're everywhere."

She said that the damage is generally limited to tyres and rims, but sometimes people need wheel alignments after hitting potholes as well. The potholes are also having more impact on low profile tyres as well, with 4WDs and larger vehicles having fewer issues.

As outlined in the last week's edition, this newspaper's Freedom of Information (FOI) request, submitted to the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) on August 15 was rejected on December 30.

It sought to find out the total annual spend on road repairs and maintenance in Murrindindi Shire across each of the past 10 financial (or calendar) years. They advised that such information was not available.

A new FOI was submitted on Wednesday, January 15. The new FOI is seeking to find out "The total annual spend on road repairs and maintenance in the smallest increment (ie. region) which includes Murrindindi Shire, across each of the past 10 financial (or calendar) years."

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**Cindy McLEISH MP**

STATE MEMBER FOR EILDON

Shop 10, 38-40 Bell Street, Yarra Glen  
03 9730 1066 f CindyMcLeishMP  
cindy.mcleish@parliament.vic.gov.au

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

## 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

1<sup>st</sup> Mon St Luke's Seniors, St Lukes Hall, Ph Jenny 0407 972 099  
 1<sup>st</sup> Thu Yea Hospital/Rosebank Aux 2pm. Ph 5797 3057  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat Alex Repair Café 1-3pm @ Embassy of Ideas 0422 225 801  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
 Yea Garden Club Yea RSL Hall 1.30pm Ph 0439 870 315  
 4<sup>th</sup> Wed Molesworth Patchwork & Craft, Molesworth Hall 10am-4pm.  
 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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

## The Yea Chronicle

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- Alexandra Newsagency
- Alexandra Newspapers
- Endeavour Yea
- Hazeldene Store
- Merton General Store
- Seymour Newsagency
- Shell Thornton
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# Out & About

THE items in Out and About are sourced from our advertising and news stories. *Out and About is not a free community listing diary.* Not all items can be included and are placed at the discretion of *Alexandra Newspapers*.

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### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22

LEAP Resilience Project training for Marysville and Triangle. Free grant writing workshop, 1-4pm at Lakeview Room Marysville Community Centre. Tea and coffee provided. For more information and to register visit [murrindindi.vic.gov.au/trianglegrantworkshop](http://murrindindi.vic.gov.au/trianglegrantworkshop) or call Danna on 5772 0333.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Yea Rotary 2025 Art show. Dress theme – sequins. Yea Town Hall opening night 7.30-9.30pm. Friday, Saturday and Sunday 10am-5pm. Final day Monday January 27, 10am-3pm. Bookings for opening night for catering purposes to [trybooking.com/CWRXH](http://trybooking.com/CWRXH)

\*\*\*\*\*

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Yea & District Memorial Hospital AGM will be held at 5pm in The Grace Bennett Centre of the hospital. RSVP by Friday, January 24 to Chloe Harwood 5736 0490 or email [chloe.harward@ydmh.org.au](mailto:chloe.harward@ydmh.org.au)

\*\*\*\*\*

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Trawool, Valentine's Day, Exclusive wine dinner by Grave Goose in Turbine restaurant. Limited seats available, Books essential 5792 1444 or [trawoolestate.com.au](http://trawoolestate.com.au). See ad in this edition for more upcoming events at Trawool.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Stronger Communities grants

MEMBER for Indi Helen Haines is inviting Expressions of Interest for round nine of the Indi Stronger Communities program.

Open to community organisations and local governments, grants between \$2500 and \$20,000 are available for community projects.

"Each year, the dedication and commitment of many local organisations to building a thriving community is recognised with funding to boost their local projects," Dr Haines said.

"Priority areas of focus for round nine of the programme include boosting tourism, supporting veterans and people with disabilities, and upgrading medical and sporting facilities.

Previous program rounds have funded projects such as kitchen upgrades at the Euroa Citizens Band, refurbishments at the Bonegilla Hall, and the installation of shade sails at Tangambalanga Active Park.

"Seeing these projects brought to reality, and the lasting benefits experienced by our communities has been an extraordinary highlight of being Indi's Independent MP."

A panel comprised of representatives of local governments and community groups will assess the Expressions of Interest, prior to successful proponents being invited to make applications, go to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources.

More information and to submit an Expressions of Interest, please visit [helenhaines.org/grants](http://helenhaines.org/grants)

Expressions of Interest must be received by 5pm on Thursday, February 13.

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Opera @ Eildon. Book your tickets now [trybooking.com/CVOSP](http://trybooking.com/CVOSP). For your chance to win two gold tickets, cut the coupon out of this week's paper and return to the *Alexandra Standard* office by, January 30.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Trawool, Drag Trivia. A more glamorous take on your traditional pub trivia. Grab your team mates and get to Trawool for this outrageous evening of run and trivia. Bookings essential 5792 1444 or [trawoolestate.com.au](http://trawoolestate.com.au). See ad in this edition for more upcoming events at Trawool.

\*\*\*\*\*



Ella with hairdresser Sue Dundas who donated her time to make Ella's dreams come true. -S

## Generous act from local student

ON Thursday, January 16, young Ella Buick from Cathkin cut all her hair off after growing it for seven years to donate her hair to be made into wigs for children battling childhood cancer. Local hairdresser Sue Dundas donated her time to cutting Ella's beautiful locks for the occasion.

Since the time of writing Ella's big chop had raised \$3056 which surpasses

her original goal of raising \$1000, the money raised will be going to Variety, the children's charity.

Ella, the grade two student at Alexandra Primary School said, "I thought I kind of want to cut my hair and one of my friends said why don't you donate it."

Ella's mum Anna said, "I'm incredibly proud of her she has received so many donations it's great."



Ella before the big chop on Thursday, January 16. -S



Ella with her new do. -S

# POLICE REPORT



ALEXANDRA Police are currently investigating a collision that occurred in the car park of the Alexandra Hospital at 4.57am on Thursday, January 9. A white extra cab Ford Ranger with a silver tray is observed on the hospital CCTV reversing from a car space outside the pathology entrance and colliding with the rear

of the parked Mitsubishi Triton. The Ford Ranger then left the car park. The Triton sustained damage to the left rear taillight and some panel damage. Police are asking for the person involved and anyone with any information to contact Alexandra Police on 5772 1040 or Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

POLICE are investigating a break in at the lolly shop in Eildon on the evening of January 15 into January 16. An unidentified male broke in and stole the till. It's understood that the person also impacted the construction works for the skate park. Witnesses are urged to contact the Alexandra Crime Investigation Unit on 5772 1040 or make a report via CrimeStoppers on 1800 333 000.

OVER the next few months, police will be targeting hoon drivers. They will have an overt and covert police presence in a number of areas in the shire.



Investigators have released footage of a male who may be able to assist with enquiries. The full footage is available on the Benalla Eyewitness Facebook page. -S

## Plenty of fish in the lakes

VICTORIAN fishers are in for a bumper season, with more chances to hook, line and sinker a Murray cod thanks to 10 years of record fish stocking by the state government.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos visited Karkarook Lake recently to release 6000 Murray cod fingerlings for fishers and to celebrate the government's continued investment in Victorian fishing.

"We want Victorians to get out and enjoy our great outdoors and there's no better time to wet a line, with 66 million fish stocked in the last decade, more than all other Australian states and territories combined," Mr Dimopoulos said.

"There are millions of reasons Victorian families should get out and drop a line this year, with dozens of lakes and rivers stocked across the state."

Since 2014, more than 66 million fish have been released across Victoria including golden perch, Australian bass, estuary perch, trout, salmon and dusky flathead. That is more stocking than all other Australian states and territories combined.

The fingerlings released today were produced at the Arcadia Native Fish Hatchery,

near Shepparton, which is being upgraded to triple its size and will see it produce up to six million native fish each year, part of a \$15 million investment.

Since 2014, more than 22 million Murray cod have been stocked into Victorian waters at more than 60 locations across the state.

Several Victorian lakes are open year-round so fishers can wet a line and reel in a Murray cod including Lake Eppalock, Rocklands Reservoir and Lake Eildon. Since 2014, Lake Eppalock alone has scored 2.4 million cod, with locals and visitors now catching increasing numbers of fish, which are likely upward of three to four years old.

Near the Grampians, Rocklands Reservoir has been stocked with millions of Murray cod since 2017, plenty of which are now being caught by freshwater anglers.

Several other waterways are flourishing thanks to record stocking and delivering benefits for nearby communities like Melton Reservoir, Cairn Curran, Taylors Lake near Horsham, Eildon and Lake Nillahcootie.

To find out more about some of the state's top fishing locations, head to [vfa.vic.gov.au/fishingdestinations](http://vfa.vic.gov.au/fishingdestinations)

## Don't forget to nominate young achievers

NOMINATIONS close soon for the 2025 Victorian 7NEWS Young Achiever Awards, on Wednesday, January 29 at midnight.

There is still time to nominate a young person 30 years of age and under, as of December 31, 2024, who is making a difference in the community. The categories are: The Victorian Government Group Achievement in the Community Award, Yarn Strong Sista Indigenous Achievement Award, Little Gigs "Little Victorian's" Achiever Award, Seward Dawson Community Service and Social Impact Award, IKON Services Environmental Sustainability Award, Josh's Rainbow Eggs Ethical Business Award, Kangan Institute Inspirational TAFE Student Award,

Awards Australia Foundation Connecting Communities Award, and Konica Minolta Career Achievement Award.

Category Winners will receive a prize from DMT coaching and in addition, they will be featured on a TV ad, aired across the Seven Network celebrating the 2025 winners. One of the category winners will be chosen as the 2025 Victorian Young Achiever of the Year.

To submit a nomination, simply go online to [youngachieverawards.com](http://youngachieverawards.com) select 'VIC' and then click the 'Nominate Now' button. Alternatively, make the process that much easier by calling 9720 1638 and passing on their details or email [yaa@awardsaustralia.com](mailto:yaa@awardsaustralia.com)



Yea & District  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Yea & District Memorial Hospital, Chair Mr. Ian Marshman AO warmly invites members of the community to attend the Hospital's 2024 Annual General Meeting.

**Tuesday 28th January 2025**

**5pm**

**The Grace Bennett Centre  
Yea & District Memorial Hospital**

**RSVP by 5pm Friday 24 January**

Chloe Harward

(03) 5736 0490

[Chloe.Harward@ydmh.org.au](mailto:Chloe.Harward@ydmh.org.au)



## Every drop counts Be water wise

It's everyone's responsibility to use water wisely.  
**Together, we can save a lot.**  
Always follow the Permanent Water Saving Rules, they're designed to help you save water every day.



**1**

**FOUNTAINS  
AND WATER  
FEATURES**

Must recirculate water

**2**

**VEHICLES CAN  
BE CLEANED AT  
ANY TIME USING  
A BUCKET**

Or with a leak-free handheld hose with a trigger nozzle

**3**

**SPRINKLERS  
AND WATERING  
SYSTEMS**

Can only be used between 6pm and 10am

**4**

**USE A BROOM  
OR A BLOWER  
TO CLEAN HARD  
SURFACES**

Like pathways, decks, concrete or driveways

**5**

**LEAK FREE HOSES  
CAN BE USED AT  
ANY TIME**

But they must be fitted with a trigger nozzle

For more tips to save drips, visit: [www.gvwater.vic.gov.au/every-drop-counts](http://www.gvwater.vic.gov.au/every-drop-counts)



# Put the time in teaching bicycle safety

AS we are well into the swing of the school holidays and not far off from the school term commencing, children's bike safety should be paramount for each family that have young children as it's a popular form of transport over this period.

The TAC explains why children are at risk when it comes to roadside accidents. This includes children act on impulse; this can happen whether they are walking, riding their bikes or even just near the traffic; children have difficulty judging speed and distance, they have difficulty seeing objects in side vision and identifying the direction of speed and estimation of speed timing. Children's peripheral eyesight is not fully developed at a young age and this contributes to this problem; smaller children are less visible to drivers, this includes blind spots and when they're behind a vehicle. Having a reversing camera can reduce

the risk of collision, particularly when fitted to SUV'S and 4WD vehicles, however this is not just to be relied upon.

Children need a lot of assistance from an early age to manage road safety when using their bicycles. Road safety skills are best learnt in the actual environment with an adult present.

According to *Betterhealth.vic.gov.au*, "by law children under the age of 13 years can ride on the footpath and adults can too when supervising them. Children under 13 years of age are not recommended to cycle on the road."

For children under five it's important to talk to them about the traffic environment when you're out and about, always be a good role model by obeying road rules and crossing roads safely, make eye contact with road users, especially at intersections and get your child to mimic this behaviour.

Make sure your child always wears an approved Australian Standards helmet at all times, these are vital in protecting child cyclists against head, brain, and facial injuries. Wearing a helmet can reduce the risk of head injury by 60 to 90 per cent.

It is compulsory to wear a helmet when riding a bicycle in Victoria on any road or road-related area like a bike path, bike lane, shared footpath or separated footpath and wear some bright visible clothing so road users can see them clearly.

Check with your early childhood education centre if they also incorporate a bicycle safety program within their service as this is a valuable resource for children to learn about bicycle safety.

For older children aged five to nine they still need supervision, but their skills should be

developing. When crossing roads the saying "stop, look, listen and think" is a popular term for your child to stop what they are doing, take a moment and assess the situation before they continue on with their journey.

As children this age are gaining more independence it's still important to go for regular rides together and plan a safe route to school for your child and open communication about other places they can ride safely to.

When choosing a bicycle for your child you need to make sure it fits them properly, a bicycle that is too big for your child is dangerous.

Better health suggests to test for size stand your child over the bicycle with both feet on the ground. For medium or lightweight bicycles, there should be at least two centimetres between the child's crotch and the crossbar, or where the crossbar would be if the bicycle had one. For BMX and mountain bicycles, there should be at least five centimetres between the child's crotch and the bicycle crossbar.

Make sure all controls are within easy reach and comfortable to use, and that the seat can be adjusted. If you buy a second-hand bicycle, get it serviced properly.

## Aircrane spotted on test flight

AN eagle-eyed Kinglake resident spotted an aircrane in their vicinity on Wednesday, January 15.

Emergency Management Victoria said that as part of aircraft requirements, periodic flight checks are undertaken and the aircrane undertook a return test flight from Essendon to Yan Yean recently.

A representative said, "The safety of all staff and crew working in and around aircraft is the highest priority. As these flights are periodic, we're unable to advise when the next test flight will occur."



## Murrindindi's median house price falls

MEDIAN house prices in Murrindindi Shire have not fared well over the last 12 months, according to a recent report from Domain.

Murrindindi Shire's median house price dropped by 11.9 per cent from December 2023 to December 2024, from \$732,500 to \$645,000. The longer term growth remains positive however, with a five year increase of 44.4 per cent, starting at \$446,750 in December 2019.

In the surrounding area, the annual median price decreased by 7.1 per cent in Alpine Shire, and increased by 3.3 per cent in Mitchell Shire. There wasn't enough data for Mansfield, Yarra Ranges and Strathbogie to be determined.

The only regional Victorian shire with a larger fall in median house value than Murrindindi was Colac Otway Shire with a 13.3 per cent drop, and equal to Murrindindi Shire with a 11.9 per cent drop was Yarriambiack.

Many city dwellers were keen to move to regional Victoria during COVID-19. In recent times, this may have shifted with many office workers needing to return to the centralised office, post-COVID-19.

Melbourne house prices increased by almost \$16,000 (1.6 per cent) over the December quarter to \$1.039 million. It is the first quarterly gain in a year and the largest in three years.

Notably, it's the first time in about four years that Melbourne has recorded stronger positive quarterly growth than Sydney. This improvement has softened the pace of annual decline, with house prices down by almost \$11,000 (-1.0 per cent), making Melbourne the only capital city to record a decline in house prices over 2024.

Despite the positive shift over the quarter, Melbourne has struggled to enter a sustained recovery over the past three years, with conditions remaining subdued. The positive change in the final quarter of 2024 means Melbourne house prices are about one-quarter into a recovery, though they remain almost \$54,000 (-4.9 per cent) below their December 2021 peak.

Melbourne unit prices increased by almost \$12,000 (2.1 per cent) over the December quarter to \$577,405. This is the strongest quarterly gain in 1.5 years and brings unit prices to their highest level in 2.5 years. Despite this quarterly reacceleration, annual growth has continued to slow, and has halved compared to the previous year. Units have consistently outperformed houses over the past two years, narrowing the price gap between property types to just over a two-year low. A house now costs 80 per cent more than a unit.

## Japanese encephalitis virus detected in northern Victoria

HOLIDAY makers and residents in the state's north are being reminded to remain vigilant against mosquitoes, following recent detections of the Japanese encephalitis virus.

Victoria's early warning mosquito surveillance program has identified the virus in two mosquito traps in Moira Shire, the first mosquito-borne disease detections this season.

It follows similar recent detections in New South Wales and a confirmed human case of Japanese encephalitis identified in Victoria in December.

Victoria's Chief Health Officer, Tarun Weeramanthri, said the findings confirmed the virus was circulating in northern Victoria.

"Japanese encephalitis virus can cause a rare but potentially serious infection of the brain and is spread to humans through bites from infected mosquitoes," Dr Weeramanthri said.

"If you're visiting northern Victoria, particularly inland riverine regions and near the Murray River, you're potentially at higher risk of infection.

"It's important to take steps to prevent mosquito bites so cover up, use repellent and limit your time outdoors when mosquitoes are about."

The Japanese encephalitis virus vaccine is free for eligible people in 24 high-risk local government areas in northern Victoria.

If camping or caravanning in high-risk areas of northern Victoria: Ensure mosquito screens are intact; close doors and tent flaps to stop mosquitoes getting inside; use a mosquito net if mosquito screens are not available; try to avoid camping near wetland habitats where mosquitoes are likely breeding.

There is no specific treatment available for Japanese encephalitis. The best prevention is to protect against mosquito bites. For people who develop Japanese encephalitis, treatment aims to reduce the severity of the symptoms and may include medication and admission to hospital.

For more information about Japanese encephalitis visit the Better Health Channel at [betterhealth.vic.gov.au/japanese-encephalitis](http://betterhealth.vic.gov.au/japanese-encephalitis)

## What's on at

# T R A W O O L

8150 Goulburn Valley Hwy, Trawool 57921444 [trawoolstate.com.au](http://trawoolstate.com.au)

### FEB 14th VALENTINE'S DAY

Exclusive Wine Dinner by Brave Goose in Turbine restaurant *limited seats available*  
Dine in Wild Water restaurant on Valentine's Day & receive  
*a complimentary glass of sparkling wine on arrival.*

### FEB 22nd DRAG TRIVIA

A more glamorous take on your traditional pub trivia! Grab your teammates and get to Trawool for this outrageous evening of fun and trivia!

### APRIL 5th MURDER MYSTERY AT TRAWOOL

A fun, interactive Murder Mystery evening throughout the hotel. Dining in Wild Water restaurant on a fabulous 3-course set menu in your finest 1920's outfits!

### APRIL 13th TRAWOOL WEDDING SHOWCASE

Group tours and personal time to chat with our wedding coordinators, to view the Estate and discuss your perfect day in more detail.

### JUNE 7th ABBA TRIBUTE SHOW

Come dressed in your ABBA best for an interactive night of sing-along fun. *Tickets include a welcome drink and a delicious two course meal.*

## Weekly Local's Specials

**KIDS EAT FREE** in Wild Water restaurant  
*when an adult meal is purchased*

**WEDNESDAYS** FISH AND CHIPS SPECIAL  
*\$25 with chips, salad & comp drink\**

**THURSDAYS** STEAK NIGHT  
*\$30 with chips, salad & comp drink\**

**EVERYDAY** HAPPY HOUR in Granite Bar

FIND OUT MORE AND TO BOOK



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST



# Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.

Police are out there to keep you safe. If you still choose to take risks while driving and break the road rules, chances are you will be caught.



# Howitt Society advocates learning from history

by Garry Squires Secretary The Howitt Society

COULD a Los Angeles-type fire disaster occur in Victoria or anywhere else in Australia? The answer is clearly yes and it has already happened many times.

Recent examples in Victoria are February 2024 at Pomonal near the Grampians where 45 houses were lost and Mallacoota in 2020 where 128 houses were lost. While these were on a smaller scale than LA, and no lives were lost, the key factors leading up to the disasters were similar to LA, long unburnt fuels, dry conditions and residences close to the bush.

When adverse weather conditions including strong winds occurred, this ensured long distance spotting ahead of the main front and into the buildings in the towns, which were largely unoccupied as residents had already evacuated.

Of course, Victoria can go back to Black Saturday in 2009 where 173 people died, including 120 in the Kinglake area and 34 in Marysville, and where over 2000 houses were destroyed. In terms of loss of life, those fires were a far worse disaster than the current LA fires. Other Australian states have similar stories.

There is an important saying, “Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it.”

Fire disasters are the result of the combination of meteorological conditions, topographical conditions, and fuel type and quantity. It is not possible to change the topography of an area and meteorological conditions are outside our control, so the only thing that can help mitigate the intensity of fires is to reduce fuel loads. No fuel equals no fire, less fuel equals less intense fire.

Broad scale fuel reduction programs are the proven way to reduce fuels over extensive areas. The Royal Commission after the 2009 fires recommended a minimum of five per cent of forests should be treated annually. The successful program in Western Australia targets six to eight per

cent annually. Victoria currently achieves about 1.3 per cent.

It is important that land managers learn from history and actively manage a comprehensive fuel management program across the forests of Victoria as part of mitigation against another fire disaster.

[The Howitt Society comprises many from across Victoria with long experience in fire prevention and mitigation. Garry Squires, the author of this release, is a retired senior Regional Forester and until recently was the Regional Manager of DEECA, Gippsland. Alexandra’s Peter Rice is the vice president of the organisation.]

# Include your pets in your fire plan

THE Country Fire Authority (CFA) and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) Victoria are urging residents to include pets in their bushfire survival plans, amid the significant fire activity already impacting Victoria this summer.

Having bedding, food, and water ready to go for your furry friend could save valuable time in the event of a fire.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan emphasised the importance of being ready to leave early on high-risk bushfire days.

“While you should always prioritise your own safety ahead of your pets, your bushfire plan isn’t fully complete unless it accounts for them,” Jason said.

“When creating a plan, consider what your pets will eat and drink, how you will transport them, and where you are taking them.

“Once you have your kit prepared, keep it somewhere that’s easily accessible. Keep towels and woollen blankets on hand to protect pets during the journey and to keep them as cool as possible.

“Another valuable step is microchipping pets for easy identification and ensuring your phone number is visible on their collar. For horses and livestock, a separate plan is required.

“If you’re unable to evacuate livestock, the safest place is a large, well-grazed, and fenced area away from roads where they can move freely with access to water,” Jason said.

“Make sure you’re prepared. Late evacuation will put you and your animals at risk.”

RSPCA Victoria CEO Dr Liz Walker reiterated the importance of including pets in bushfire survival plans.

“Planning for emergencies is such a crucial part of life in Victoria particularly during the summer months,” Dr Walker said.

“Many people across the state already have a Fire Ready Plan in place, and we’re urging everyone to make sure their pets are included too.

“An emergency kit with medication, updated contact details on microchips and collars, photos or scans on your phone of important documents like vaccination certifications, are just some of the items to prepare in advance.

“Our pets are such an important part of our lives, including them in your Fire Ready plans increases the chances of you and your pet making it to safety in an emergency situation.”

For more information and tips on how to keep your pets and livestock safe during high bushfire risk days, visit [cfa.vic.gov.au/pets](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/pets)



Make sure you include your beloved pets in your fire plan. -S

## UPCOMING FEATURES

**Publishing: February 5**      **Deadline: January 30, 5pm**

**Publishing: February 12**      **Deadline: February 4, 5pm**

**Publishing: February 19**      **Deadline: February 13, 5pm**

**Publishing: March 5**      **Deadline: February 27, 5pm**

## Campfire warnings on fire danger days

EMERGENCY services are urging campers to ensure they are aware of current fire danger ratings after 18 people were warned about unauthorised campfires in the state’s east last month.

Jamieson police and Jamieson CFA conducted a patrol of camping grounds in the Upper Goulburn State Forest between 7am and 11am on Boxing Day. This was a day of total fire ban due to the hot weather.

During this patrol, 18 people were found to have lit a campfire at their site, with the fires immediately dealt with by authorities.

With the exception of one site, all campers were in the area from metropolitan Melbourne.

Last week police issued a warning about the dangers of unextinguished campfires following an incident in Cape Otway this month that led to a bushfire.

About 14 hectares were burned during the fire on January 8 and approximately 150 people needed to be evacuated from nearby campsites.

Investigators from Forest Fire Management, Colac Crime Investigation Unit (CIU) and the Arson and Explosives Squad have determined the cause of the fire to be an unattended campfire which appears not to have been extinguished.

Police are now treating the bushfire as a criminal investigation and detectives from Colac CIU are appealing for any witnesses.

Emergency services are reminding campers that a recklessly lit fire such as a campfire on a total fire ban day can have the same outcome as a deliberately lit fire, including significant loss of life, serious injury and property damage.

Recklessly lit fires can include things like disobeying restrictions relating to Total Fire Bans or fire danger periods, leaving

campfires unattended, or using machinery during hot weather.

Police will investigate and take action to catch those responsible when a fire is deemed suspicious, whether it was a deliberate or reckless action.

Anyone found guilty of recklessly or intentionally causing a bushfire faces a penalty of up to 15 years imprisonment.

Detective Inspector Chris Murray from the Arson and Explosives Squad said, “It is absolutely critical that people are aware of the current fire danger rating and what it means for them, both before they head out on a trip and during the duration of the trip.

“The weather can change quickly, meaning people need to adjust their behaviour. It may mean that on one day a campfire is permitted but the next day it absolutely is not.

“The actions of these 18 people could have led to catastrophic consequences for their families and everyone around them. It could have resulted in the destruction of people’s properties and livelihoods, as well as irreparable damage to the local bushland.

“No life is worth a campfire and I again want to remind the community that if you light it, you own it, which includes all the consequences of your actions.”

Further information about bushfire arson and reckless fires is available on the Victoria Police website at [police.vic.gov.au/bushfire-arson](http://police.vic.gov.au/bushfire-arson)

Learn more about the Victoria Police and Crimestoppers ‘You Light It, You Own It, bushfire campaign at [crimestoppersvic.com.au/current-focus/bushfires/](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au/current-focus/bushfires/)

Anyone who witnesses suspicious or reckless behaviour as it is occurring should call Triple Zero (000) and anyone with other information should contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or [crimestoppers.com.au](http://crimestoppers.com.au)



# Vale Marie Elizabeth Sier

by Simone Sier

SADLY, our beloved Marie Sier of Limestone, Yea, passed away on Saturday, January 4 after a very short battle with cancer.

Marie was born at home in Kells County Meath in a small town called Termonfeckin in Drogheda, Ireland on March 2, 1936. She was the eldest daughter of Michael and Margaret Molloy, and sister to Michael, Christie, Albert and Phyllis (all deceased).

Loving wife of Adrian (deceased) and much loved mum, mother-in-law, grandmother and great grandmother of Sean and Maureen, Melinda and Chris, Sam, Mackenzie and Savanna, Adrian and Jodie, Harri, Mitch and Ellie, Michael and Sande, Jessica and Patrick, Peter and Simone, and Jamaya and Connor.

Marie worked as a nurse in Surrey, England for five years before coming to Australia in 1958, where she worked as a nurse for another five years at Kingston and Heatherdale hospitals.

She met the love of her life and married Adrian Sier in 1963. They celebrated 60 years of marriage in 2023, before the passing of Adrian a few weeks later.

Marie was a devoted member of the Yea community. She spent 30 years organising the St.Pat's Day Races and 30 years doing Meals on Wheels. Marie was also very involved in taking the kids' sports training at Sacred Heart School for many years when the boys were young.

Marie loved a flutter on the horses, the pokies, and loved her Bingo, always having the luck of the Irish on her side, most of the time.

She loved her golf for many years, and was also a very active member of the community with the tennis club in the early years.

Marie loved to make jam and relish. For the past few years she would donate two boxes which included six jars of her jam and a bottle of sparkling for the annual *Yea Community Cancer Charity Oaks Day Fundraiser*, and also to the *Women of Africa Charity*. These went at record prices every year, the highest bid going for \$390 for one box.

When Marie came home from hospital, all she wanted to do was make the next batch of jam so that we had it for our 2025 fundraiser events. She was always thinking about everyone else.

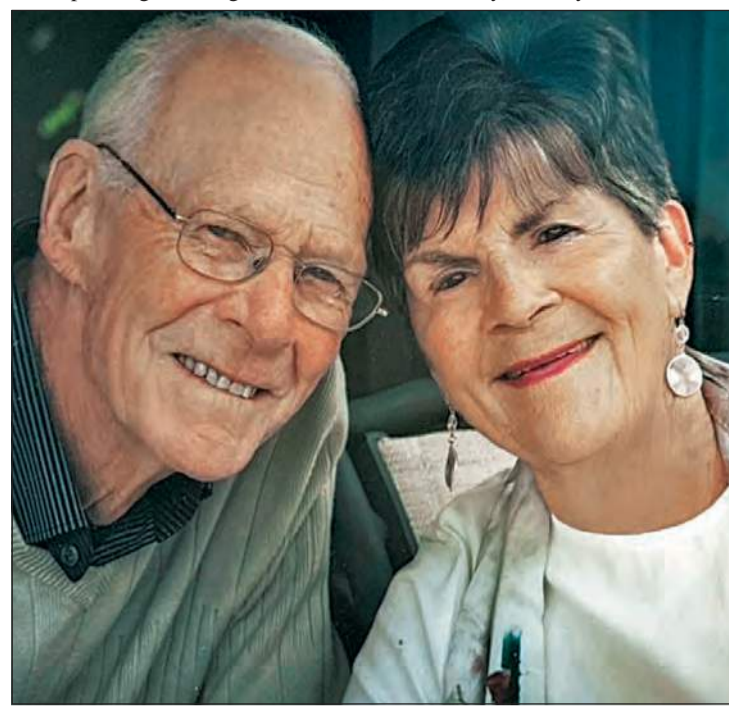
The last five weeks before Marie's passing, it was evident that she was so very loved by so many people. The amount of visitors coming through the doors each and every day put a big smile on her face. We had to keep a diary of who was coming so that there wasn't a full house every day.

Marie made a huge impact on everyone who knew her. She was inspirational, kind, loving, funny, and full of joy.

She lived her life to the fullest. Her greatest joys were the love of her husband, her family and her many friends, and pottering about in her garden every day.



Adrian and Marie on their wedding day. -S



Adrian and Marie. -S



Marie at her birthplace in Termonfeckin, Ireland. -S

She will be very sadly missed by everyone that had the honour of being a part of her life.

Among Marie's most significant accomplishments was raising her four son's, whom she held as her pride and joy.

Marie's loss is deeply felt by all of her family and those who knew and loved her. Her memory will continue to live on and inspire strength, resilience and generosity in those lives she touched.

We can't thank Dr Martin Lowe enough for always being there when we needed, even when he was on holidays, and for Rachael and the palliative care team for your loving support of Marie.

A funeral Mass to celebrate Marie's life was held at Sacred Heart Church on Thursday, January 16.

In lieu of flowers, Marie requested donations in her memory, to the *Yea Community Cancer Charity*. This can be done by contacting [yeacancercharity@gmail.com](mailto:yeacancercharity@gmail.com)



Marie surrounded by her family. -S

# SAFER DRIVING STARTS WITH YOU



## DON'T LET A CAR CHANGE WHO YOU ARE

# Good turnout for Yea Cup

More images and information on page 20.

## Woman arrested after Highlands CFA Burglary

ALEXANDRA Crime Investigation Unit detectives arrested a woman on Monday, January 13 after an alleged burglary and theft of a ute along with firefighting equipment from the Highlands CFA on Ghin Ghin Road on Thursday, January 9.

The ute, a 2006 Toyota Landcruiser with CFA markings, was allegedly stolen along with the equipment.

Police located the vehicle parked in a service station on Hume Highway, Tallarook and attempted to intercept it on January 10.

The Landcruiser ute allegedly collided with a police car, unoccupied at the time, before it drove away with police in quick pursuit.

Police lost sight of the Landcruiser which was located a short time later, abandoned on Hume Freeway, Wallan.

A 36 year old Melton South woman was arrested nearby. She was interviewed by detectives and is expected to be charged on summons. A male suspect is yet to be identified.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report at [crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)



Yea Races President Alister Tait with Yea Cup winning jockey Jack Virgona, who won on 'Retrospection' and trainer Jason Bridgman. -Dale McKeon (Plymouth Dale Photography)



'Bulletproof' chasing 'Sconaero' and 'Beatrice Cranach' in race four of the Yea Races. -BD



The horses powered around the track both off-screen and on-screen. -BD



A huge crowd turned out to watch the Yea Races last Saturday. -BD



Glorious weather settled on Yea for last Saturday's horse races. -BD

FSA/DETS/2045

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](http://vic.gov.au/pre-prep)

# ON THE LAND

Agriculture, Horticulture, Viticulture, Aquaculture and Silviculture

## Big yarding for Blue Ribbon Weaner Sale in Yea

by Bailey Dixon

THE Elders Yea Blue Ribbon Weaner Sale took place last week over two days for a total of 6159 cattle yarded and \$7.6 million turnover.

Wednesday saw 2842 cattle yarded, with the focus on Euro X steers and all breed heifers. The vast majority of the cattle sold on the day were Angus X heifers, numbering almost 2000. There were also around 350 British breed heifers sold, and over 150 Euro X steers and 150 Euro X heifers sold.

The top steer pen on Wednesday was Charolais breed and fetched around 397c/kg or \$1700, with a weight of 427.9kg. The top heifer pen sold for around 392c/kg or

\$1590 with a weight of 405.3kg, marking a 42c increase over the top heifer pen in Yea on January 10.

These pens both sold for more and were weightier than the averages for the day, with average price per head coming in at \$1082 and the average weight being 316.5kg, meaning the average was 342c/kg.

Even more cattle were yarded on Friday, with a total of 3317 mixed Angus and British steers.

Prices rose over Wednesday, perhaps due to the heavier weights and popularity of Angus cattle. Average price per head was \$1410 and the average weight per head was 347.3kg, around 30kg heavier than the Wednesday

sale. This meant the average price per head was 406c/kg.

Given there were only steers, the top pen fetched 406c/kg or \$1830 per head. These cattle were well clear of the average weight, pushing the scales to 450.4kg.

Members of the Victoria Police Eastern Region Proactive Unit visited the Yea Saleyards on both the Wednesday and the Friday to discuss farm safety with attendees, and Yea and District Memorial Hospital provided free skin checks on the Friday.

Coming off such a big annual sale, this Friday will see the Elders and Nutrien Combined Store Sale for January take place, starting at 9.30am.



Gemma and Stella looking vibrant at the Elders' blue ribbon sale. -BD



Some of the Charolais cattle on offer at the Yea Saleyards last Wednesday. -BD



Participation in the Euro steers and all breed heifer sale in Yea last Wednesday was healthy. -BD



Angus and British bred steers were sold last Friday, with a similar, if not better, turnout than the Wednesday sale. -BD



Members of the Victoria Police Proactive Unit were talking to cattle sale attendees about farm safety. Pictured are Leading Senior Constable Chris Di Ciero, Neil Beer, Senior Constable Donna Thompson, Jan Beer, and Leading Senior Constable Lisa Atkinson.

STOCK REPORT 17 JANUARY 2025			
Elders Yea 38th Annual Blue Ribbon Weaner Sale   Day 2	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers
Number of head	3,317		
Average \$ per head	\$1,410		
Average weight per head	347.3kg		
Top price per head		\$1,830	N/A
Top weight		450.4kg	N/A
Turnover	\$4.64 million		

STOCK REPORT 15 JANUARY 2025			
Elders Yea 38th Annual Blue Ribbon Weaner Sale   Day 1	Total Yarding	Steers	Heifers
Number of head	2,842		
Average \$ per head	\$1,082		
Average weight per head	316.5kg		
Top price per head		\$1,700	\$1,590
Top weight		427.9kg	405.3kg
Turnover	\$3.02 million		

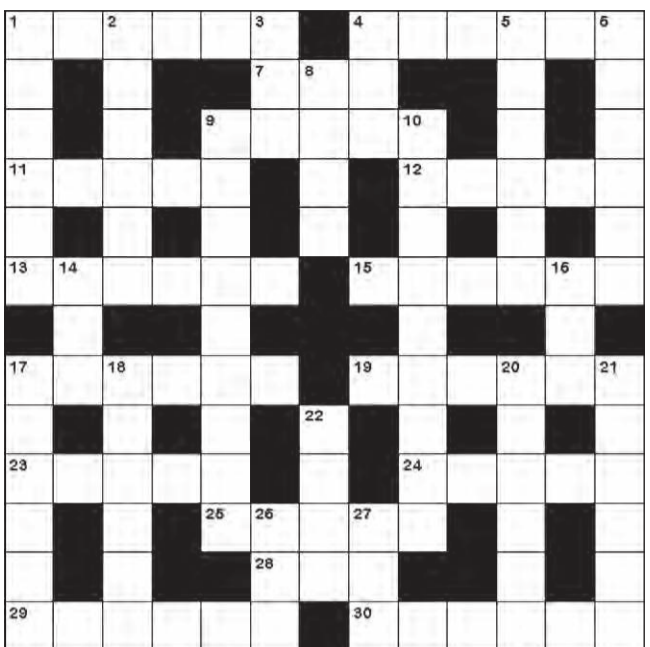
# PUZZLES

**SOLUTIONS**  
Page 13

## Crossword

**ACROSS**

- 1. A small tasty bit of food.
- 4. Full of high-spirited delight.
- 7. Be obliged to pay or repay.
- 9. The permanent end of a life.
- 11. A daughter of your brother or sister.
- 12. Come to an understanding.
- 13. Capable of causing death.
- 15. The most unusual.
- 17. Trainees a military academy.
- 19. Feel remorse for.
- 23. Large black bird with a straight bill.
- 24. Maliciously setting fire to property.
- 25. Person who makes a gift.
- 28. A limb used for walking.
- 29. Run naked in a public place.
- 30. A severe or trying experience.



**DOWN**

- 1. Burrow a way through.
- 2. A misleading falsehood.
- 3. One of the digits of the foot.
- 4. The blackest of black.
- 5. Violently agitated and turbulent.
- 6. Right down at the bottom.
- 8. A baton used by a magician.
- 9. Moving away from one place to another.

- 10. The shaped bar used to steer a bicycle.
- 14. A distinctive period of time.
- 16. Take legal action against another.
- 17. A travelling company of entertainers.
- 18. Eat everything up greedily.
- 20. Save from danger or harm.
- 21. A thread with glittering metal foil attached.
- 22. A teeming multitude.
- 26. A certain type of person.
- 27. An exaggerated sense of self-importance.

## Word Search

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

## Australia Day

- AUSTRALIANFLAG NT
- CANBERRA QUEENSLAND
- CRICKET SOUTHAUSTRALIA
- KANGAROO TASMANIA
- KOALA VICTORIA
- NEWSOUTHWALES WA

## Cryptogram

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
12				1				

J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
								3

S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

$$\frac{A}{12} \frac{A}{4} \frac{A}{15} \frac{A}{12} \frac{A}{19} \frac{A}{16} \frac{E}{1}$$

$$\frac{A}{12} \frac{A}{25} \frac{A}{24} \frac{A}{14} \frac{R}{3} \frac{A}{12} \frac{A}{23} \frac{A}{6} \frac{A}{12}$$

$$\frac{A}{20} \frac{A}{12} \frac{R}{6} \frac{R}{3}$$

## Math Square

	-		-		-11
x		-		+	
8	x		+		77
-		x		+	
3	-		x		-1
13		-3		16	

**Fill in the missing numbers.**

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

## Sudoku

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

**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.



The players for the singles final at the Yea Bowls Club, Jeff Green and Neil Rieschieck. -S

## Men's finals for singles and pairs at Yea Bowls Club plus Barefoot Bowls

by Viv Cavanagh

DURING the past week the men's finals for both singles and pairs have been played. The singles format is the first to reach 25. The pairs is played over 15 ends with the highest scoring pair the winner.

### Men's singles championship final

The singles final was played between defending champion Jeff Green and Neil Rieschieck in a race to reach 25.

Jeff got away to a good start leading by five shots after just three ends. Neil won the next two ends to get to just one shot down but Jeff then got on a roll, winning six of the next seven ends to take a very handy eight shot lead.

Neil, not to be denied, fought back to win four of the following five ends and reduce the margin to just two shots.

For the last seven ends, there was never more than one shot between the two players. The last two ends saw classic bowling with Neil holding two shots which would have seen him win the match, but Jeff held his nerve to draw the shot with his last bowl on both of these ends, to win what was one of the best game of bowls you could wish to see.

It was an epic contest over a marathon 31 ends, with some brilliant bowling by both players.

Congratulations to Jeff who is now a three-time club champion.

### Pairs championship final

The pairs championship final was played by defending champions Mick Barrott and Rob Marks against Cliff Sinclair and Maurie Finn.

The game was very even early on and after seven ends the score was four all. Mick and Rob then dominated the next three ends to go to a 10-4 lead. Cliff and Maurie then staged an amazing fight back to win the following four ends and move to a two-shot lead going into the last end.

Cliff and Maurie were holding two shots on the last end when a brilliant drive by Mick took the jack to the ditch and turned the tables, to bring the scores level after 15 ends.

In the required tiebreak end, Cliff and Maurie came out three shot winners. Congratulations to all bowlers in what was another thrilling game of bowls.

### Barefoot Bowls

Yea Bowls Club is holding their Barefoot Bowls program at the Bowls Club on the four Sunday evenings in February commencing at 6pm.

Nutrien Harcourts Yea, have kindly offered to sponsor the program again this year. Anyone interested in learning how to play lawn bowls is invited to come to the Yea Bowls Club at 63 High Street Yea on Sunday, February 2 at 6pm.

Instruction will be given to all participants by the Yea Bowls Club members. All equipment is provided but flat-soled shoes or bare feet are required. A sausage in bread will be supplied and the bar is open for those wishing to have a drink.

For any enquiries, contact Viv Cavanagh 0448 124 050, Maurie Finn 0417 103 127 or email yeabowls@bigpond.com



Pairs winners at the Yea Bowls Club, Cliff Sinclair and Maurie Finn. -S

## Merton Cricketers take victory in Mulwala

MERTON cricketers travelled to Lonsdale reserve in Mulwala to take on the undefeated Yarrowonga Mulwala lakers in perfect cricket conditions on Saturday. After a disappointing performance the previous week against Greta the Merton side was keen to show at the very least a competitive showing against the top side. Yarrowonga won the toss and batted on a well prepared turf wicket and quick outfield.

Young Merton quick Noah Whittall had a day out bowling a perfect line and length taking 3/8 off six overs Jai Lerch-Mackinnon also took an early wicket with 1/14 to put the home side under early pressure G.Montgomery 38 stood up for his side as the wickets fell around him. The lakers all out in the 31st over for 99 R.Berriman 4/16 Harry Craddock and Henry Berriman the other wicket takers Luke Berriman with three catches and one stumping had a good

day behind the stumps. Merton's openers didn't look comfortable on the Mulwala turf against the home sides pace attack with king nine and Mackinnon six falling cheaply. Luke Berriman steadied the ship somewhat making 20 navigating some tight bowling. A few quick wickets in the middle order saw the 100 run target an unlikely achievement for the visitors however Luke Benton and Tyson Garlick had other ideas combining in a perfect seventh wicket partnership of 46 under pressure to steer their side to victory in the 32nd over. Benton 29 not out was the top scorer with Garlick solid in defence helping his side to a memorable win. H.Frauenfelder 3/45 the leading wicket taker for the lakers.

All sides have the bye next Saturday for the Australia day holiday, Merton then travel to Benalla with another big test versus the Bushrangers.

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Recipients of personal best medallions on Saturday, January 18. -S

## Levi Campbell shines at Colgate Games in Hawke Bay

LOCAL athlete Levi Campbell has returned home after an action packed time at the Colgate Games held in Hawke Bay on New Zealand's North Island. The prestigious event ran from Friday, January 10, through Sunday, January 12, bringing together budding track and field youth stars from across New Zealand as well as other countries.

Levi arrived a few days early with the Development Squad to prepare for the big meet. Training sessions, an impressive opening ceremony, and a traditional Marchpast set the stage for three days of competition.

Day one saw Levi kick off his campaign with the 400m, finishing ninth out of a strong field of 22 athletes. He then took to the track for the mixed medley relay, running the 800m leg, where his team secured sixth place out of 15 teams.

On the second day, Levi pushed himself to new personal bests in both the 200m, where he placed 12th, and the long jump, finishing 13th. His efforts and determination were a testament to his hard work and commitment to improving his times.

The final day brought plenty of excitement as Levi competed in the 100m and 800m before rounding out the games with the 4x100m relay. It was in this event that Levi and his team truly shone, racing to an outstanding silver medal finish, a definite highlight of the experience.

Reflecting on the adventure to New Zealand, Levi shared that meeting new friends and the relay success were among his favorite moments. When asked what valuable lesson he'd bring back to his club, Levi emphasised the importance of proper body positioning at the start of a race and optimising arm movement for a powerful start.

After the competition, Levi enjoyed some well-deserved downtime, exploring beautiful beaches with new friends he made during the games.

Congratulations, Levi, on your achievements at the Colgate Games, we can't wait to see what's next for this rising star.



Four x 100 metre silver medal team, Max Coll, Cooper Mayer, Levi Campbell, and Hayden Jeffrey. -S

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The Yea Chronicle



# PUZZLES SOLUTIONS

## CRYPTOGRAM

# ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

## SUDOKU

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

## CROSSWORD

T	I	D	B	I	T	J	O	I	F	U	L
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R		R									
C	A	D	E	T	S	R	E	G	R	E	T
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C	O		G	I	V	E	R		C	S	
U	U		L	E	G						
S	T	R	E	A	K	O	R	D	E	A	L

## MATH SQUARES

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x		-		+	
8	x		+		77
-		x		+	
3	-		x		-1
13		-3		16	

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### Deadline - Noon Monday

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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.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE AN EXISTING TELSTRA MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION IN DEVILS RIVER**

Telstra plans to upgrade a telecommunications facility on the existing 30m monopole at Skyline Road, Devils River VIC 3714 (RFNSA No. 3713002)

- The proposed facility consists of the following to improve Telstra's mobile phone network, including 4G / 5G:
  - Removal of Six (6) existing panel antennas (RPX310B-V1) from the existing triangular headframe
  - Installation of Six (6) Three new panel antennas (RVVPX310.11B-T2H) on the existing triangular headframe
  - Internal works within the shelter
  - Other ancillary equipment including Remote Radio Units (RRUs), Tower Mounted Amplifiers (TMAs), hybrid cables, feeders, signage.
- Telstra regards the proposed installation as a 'Low impact' Facility under the Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination 2018, based on the description above. The proposed infrastructure will comply with the ACMA EME regulatory arrangements. Note: No increase to overall tower height.
- In accordance with Section 7 of C564:2020 Mobile Phone Base Station Deployment Code, we invite you to provide feedback about the proposal. Further information and/or comments should be directed to: Planning Consultant on behalf of Telstra, via email to [planning.vic@servicestream.com.au](mailto:planning.vic@servicestream.com.au), phone: via +61 401 646 546, via post to Planning Consultant, Servicestream, Level 7, 25 Smith Street, Parramatta, NSW 2150 by 5pm, Thursday 6 February 2025.

Service Stream Ltd ABN 46 072 369 840 Telstra Ltd ACN 086 174 781

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**Standard**  
The Yea Chronicle

**Book your classified ad by 12 noon Monday.**

**PLEASE NOTE: All classifieds must be paid by cash, cheque or credit card at the time of booking.**

**Ph 5772 1002**

## DEATH NOTICES

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.  
'Ronnie'  
22/01/1964 - 14/01/2025

Adored husband, soul mate and best friend of Laurinda. Proud Dad, best mate and mentor to Jake. Beloved son/step son of Doc(dec) and Bev, Pat and Barry. Much loved brother, brother in law, step brother and uncle/funcle of Sue, Helen, Laurene, Lana, Kylie, Brett and families. Loved and respected son in law of Linda and Bob, friend of Ron Peterson. Loved nephew and cousin. Here for a good time, not a long time.


Forever in our hearts.  
"Hoo roo"

## DEATH NOTICES

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.  
'Ronnie/Funcle'  
22/01/1964 - 14/01/2025

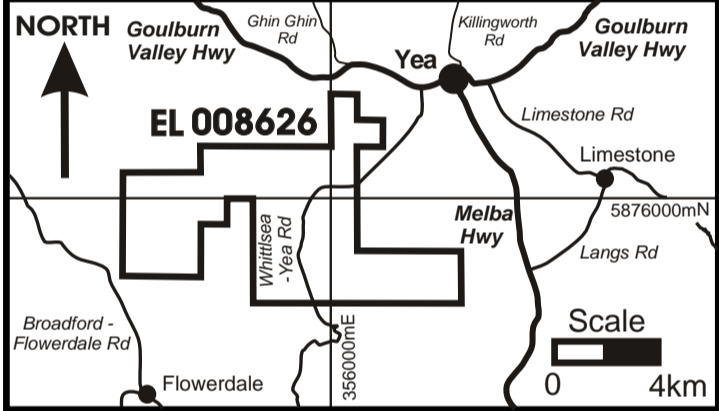
Much loved brother in law, mate, big brother to Lana and Mick. Adored funcle of Eva and Asha. Your memory we will always treasure, in our hearts you will stay forever.

Cheers Func and hoo roo



## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR AN EXPLORATION LICENCE Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 – Section 15(5) Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) (Mineral Industries) Regulations 2019 – Regulation 22(1) and Schedule 1**




- Name and address of applicant(s):** CLONBINANE GOLDFIELD PTY LTD, Level 21, 459 Collins Street, MELBOURNE, VIC 3000 Telephone 0413 605 155
- Contact details of applicant** (for map and other information requests): Telephone No – 1800 717 638 Email – [community@southerncrossgold.com.au](mailto:community@southerncrossgold.com.au) Applicant's website: Further information about this application is available at the following website: [www.southerncrossgold.com.au](http://www.southerncrossgold.com.au)
- Details of the application:**  
Application Number: EL008626  
Locality of the land to which the application relates: Approximately 3 km southwest of Yea in Central Victoria  
Approximate area of application (Graticular Sections): 52 grats  
Date of the application: 9 January 2025  
Term the licence is applied for: 5 years  
Outline of the proposed program of work: Clonbinane Goldfield is exploring for gold and antimony mineralization. Proposed work includes historical research, structural modelling, mapping and surface sampling, geophysical surveys, drilling of targets. Community engagement is to be undertaken through all stages of exploration.
- Objections or Comments:**  
Any person may object or comment to a licence being granted. (Sections 24 and 24A, Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990). A person who objects or comments must:  
(a) put the objection or comment in writing; and  
(b) include the grounds on which it is made.  
All objections or comments must be lodged within 21 days after the latest date on which the application was advertised and can be lodged online or posted to: The Minister for Energy and Resources, c/- Manager Licensing, Earth Resources Regulator, PO Box 500, East Melbourne VIC 8002. It is recommended that objections or comments are lodged online at [rram-vic.gov.my.site.com/ObjectionSubmission](http://rram-vic.gov.my.site.com/ObjectionSubmission) to ensure timely consideration. Enquiries can be made by writing to the Manager Licensing at the above address or by phoning the Earth Resources Information Centre on 136 186.
- Other Information:**  
(a) Subject to other requirements being satisfied, an exploration licence, if granted, entitles the holder of the licence to explore and search for minerals in the relevant land, but does not entitle the holder to undertake mining.  
(b) Further information regarding the requirements that must be complied with prior to work being undertaken is available at the department's Community & Land Use page: [resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use](http://resources.vic.gov.au/community-and-land-use)

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.  
'Ronnie'  
22/01/1964 - 14/01/2025.

Babe, 26½ years of a beautiful life together full of fun and so much love and adoration. We had everything, now it feels like I have nothing. What was left of my heart is now with you. Life is so unfair. It isn't goodbye as you are with me every minute of every day.

True love is forever. Until we meet again, Laurinda. xx



PS. You are in good company where I'm sure the VB is cold and plentiful.

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.  
22/01/1964 - 14/01/2025.

To my dad and best mate, you've shown me what it takes to be a great dad, husband and friend. I only hope that I can do the same. You'll be dearly missed and continue to influence every part of my life.

Love you dad, Jake.

**BELLMAN, Ron.**

Beloved nephew of Betty and Steve, cousin of Tony, Jeff, Matt and Melissa.

Passed too early, will be sadly missed.

*Gone but not forgotten.*



**COURT,**  
Anthony Robert.  
3757262

The President, Committee and members of Yea-Kinglake RSL regret the passing of our respected member Tony on January 1, 2025.

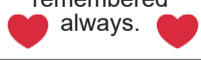
Condolences to the family.

**Lest We Forget**

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.

Son of Pat and stepson of Barry. Brother of Sue, Helen, Laurene and Coby. Uncle of Jordan and Lily, Allie and Darcy.

Loved and remembered always.



**BELLMAN, Ronny.**

Loving brother to Laurene, brother in-law to Coby, kind and caring Funcle to Darcy. He is a piece of us that we will never be able to replace. We thought we had many more years together. Life just feels so unfair. But we will hold onto the memories and raise a VB or two to you. We will forever miss you. Love and thoughts are with Laurinda and Jake.

**LISTER, Alice.**  
02/04/1925 - 09/01/2025

She potters no more in her garden, or walks her puppy down the path. Her 99 years were extraordinary. You will forever live in our hearts.

Cherished wife of Doug(dec). Dear mum of Ian(dec) Fay and Wayne. Adored grandmother of Kerrie, Sally and Scott, Karlie and Jason, Andrea and Kevin, Daniel. Great grandmother of eight. Great great grandmother of two.

# Classifieds

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## DEATH NOTICES

## DEATH NOTICES

## FUNERAL NOTICES

## FUNERAL NOTICES

**McEVOY, Michael**  
Paul  
11/01/1948-04/01/2025  
Michael passed peacefully at Aurrum Aged Care Healesville. Michael was eternally grateful for the caring staff of Aurrum and Darlingford and thankful for the wonderful and exceptional care extended to him during his stay with them. Michael will be sadly missed by his family and friends  
Rest in Peace.

**SEATON, William**  
Duncan (Bill).  
31/08/1935 - 12/01/2025  
Passed peacefully at Alexandra District Health. Brother to Fiona. Husband of Eleanor (dec). Loved partner to Sue. Best mate and dear friend to Pete, Lisa, Jaymie and family. A true gentleman now at rest.  
  
In keeping with Bill's wishes, a private cremation has been held.

**BELLMAN, Ron**  
Geoffrey Allan.  
'Ronnie'  
A gathering to celebrate Ronnie's Life will be held at The Rubicon Hotel, Thornton on Friday, February 7, 2025 commencing at noon.  
Casual dress code.

**McEVOY.**  
A graveside service will be held for Michael on Friday, January 24, 2025 at Alexandra Lawn Cemetery commencing at 11am  
McCormack FUNERALS Inc. BARRFOOT Murrindindi  
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## PETS & LIVESTOCK

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beckysfreerange@gmail.com

**LISTER, Alice.**  
A funeral service celebrating the life of Alice will be held at Murrindindi Chapel 21 Johnston street, Alexandra on Thursday, January 23, 2025 commencing at 10.30am followed by a private burial.

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**SEATON, Bill.** Friend and neighbour of the Swanton family.

## GARAGE SALES

**ALEXANDRA, 5 Aitken Street.**  
Saturday, January 25 from 8am - 3pm. Collectable, vintage items, vintage cream separator, electric scooter, motor oil bottles, ginger demijohn, antiques and heaps more.

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## SITUATION VACANT

## SITUATION VACANT



# NOW HIRING FINANCE OFFICER.

The Reddrop Group is looking for a Finance Officer to join our Finance Team based at Alexandra FoodWorks.

The position is full-time (38 hour week) with hours normally 9am until 5:30pm, however some flexibility is available. Part-time hours may be considered for the right applicant.

As a Finance Officer you will be responsible for a broad range of tasks including supplier invoicing, balancing daily sales, data management and problem solving.

Ideally we are looking for a reliable person with good computer skills, that can work well as part of a team or unsupervised and have good communication skills. An ability to multi-task and prioritise work, as well as be attentive to detail and accuracy is also vital.

Experience or knowledge of the finance area, such as knowledge of GST and general ledger accounts would be an advantage, however, it is not essential and we are happy to provide training to a candidate that shows enthusiasm and willingness to learn.

To apply for this position, please email your covering letter, resume (with references), and contact details to [jobs@reddrop.com.au](mailto:jobs@reddrop.com.au)



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**Job Opportunity: Station Team Leader**

**Location: Eildon Power Station, Victoria**

**Apply By: February 3, 2025 to [Apocock@agl.com.au](mailto:Apocock@agl.com.au)**

About Us: AGL is seeking a skilled Station Team Leader to manage operations and maintenance at Eildon Power Station and Rubicon hydroelectric infrastructure.

### Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and motivate a multi-disciplinary team for daily operations and maintenance.
- Ensure safe, efficient work practices and adherence to HSE standards.
- Promote effective use of SAP for maintenance planning and execution.
- Oversee routine and unplanned maintenance activities.
- Assist in planning and managing HSE hazards and risks.

### Requirements:

- Relevant trade or engineering qualification.
- Leadership experience in remote sites, preferably in hydro or gas power plants.
- Strong commitment to safety and operational excellence.
- Experience in contracts and budget management is a plus.

### Benefits at AGL:

- Discounts on energy, telcos, and solar plans.
- Participate in Energise - our reward and recognition program.
- Access 20 weeks of paid parental leave for the primary carer.
- Play an active role in our diversity and inclusion initiatives.
- Novated leasing and Electric Vehicle subscriptions.
- Access to study assistance, AGL's share purchase plan, and insurance deals.
- Relocation packages available for the right candidate.

\*Benefits may change over time and vary based on role type and location.

# The Chronicle Sport

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Sports Editorial: sports@alexandranewspapers.com.au



## Good turnout for Yea Cup

The huge crowd for the day took refuge against the heat in the shade. -BD



'Beatrice Cranach' ridden by Grant Seccombe and 'Bulletproof' ridden by Jack Virgona going toe to toe towards the finish line. -BD

THE Yea Races were on again last Saturday, this time for the Nutrien Ag Solutions Yea Cup, with warm conditions and large crowds in attendance.

Newly elected Yea Racing President Alister Tait, who took up the position at the end of last year, spoke positively about the meeting.

"It was one of our better cup meetings that we've had for a long time. The official figures aren't in yet, but we well and truly believe we had our 1500 spectators there, including our industry staff," Alister said.

"That was good for us. That's a very good number for a picnic country meet. And being our cup meet it was great. Great to see the crowd there.

"The track rode in good form all day, which is a credit to our track staff. We had plenty of prior bookings, so our umbrella packages and more were booked well and truly in advance, so we had a good idea of how many were coming. Sacred Heart Primary School, they were catering, and they had a heads up for the barbecue and all that sort of stuff. It was good to have the early bookings, which is always a good thing."

The club had a number of activities for children at the event as well.

"We are a family-friendly club. There was free face painting, free pony rides, and then also Kelly sports which go around to all the Country Racing Victoria tracks and do the activities with all the kids," Alister said.

"And every kid got a race day pack, which is a backpack with an assortment of stuff, water pistols, towels, water bottles, a lot of stuff. That was great for them.

"Apart from the cup, which the cup was the biggest part of it, there was also fashions



Anne Belyaeva resplendent in her orange dress and hat. -BD

on the field, which is getting up there as one of the bigger ones in the area now. Credit to my wife Lyndal Tait who organised that, she coordinated that."

Alister also thanked his fellow committee members for their hard work, in the form of secretary Sarah Austin, treasurer Pauline McDowell and vice-president Denis Smith.

"It was a great result. The feedback from it is phenomenal. It was a really, really good day. There were no issues, crowd control was not a problem, there were still people

sitting there at 6pm and we had to say sorry we need to shut up now, and they were still sitting there under their umbrellas and under the trees having a great time," Alister said.

"Jack Vigora was the jockey that rode the cup winner for Jason Bridgman. That was his first picnic country cup win, so that was a great thing for him to get his first win at a picnic cup. And Grant Seccombe retired, he had his last ride ever as a jockey. He's moved on to a new career. So, he finished up on

Saturday, riding out his career at Yea. That was another highlight."

The next round of the Yea Races will take place on Sunday, February 23, in the form of the LAWD Agribusiness Sister Olive St Pats Cup.

More information can be found at [country.racing.com/yea/calendar/2025/02/23/ultima-st-pats-sister-olive-handicap](http://country.racing.com/yea/calendar/2025/02/23/ultima-st-pats-sister-olive-handicap)