

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

**CHURCHILL
COMMUNITY
FESTIVAL**
MARCH 18,
2017
p10-11

Australia Day - p 14 - 19



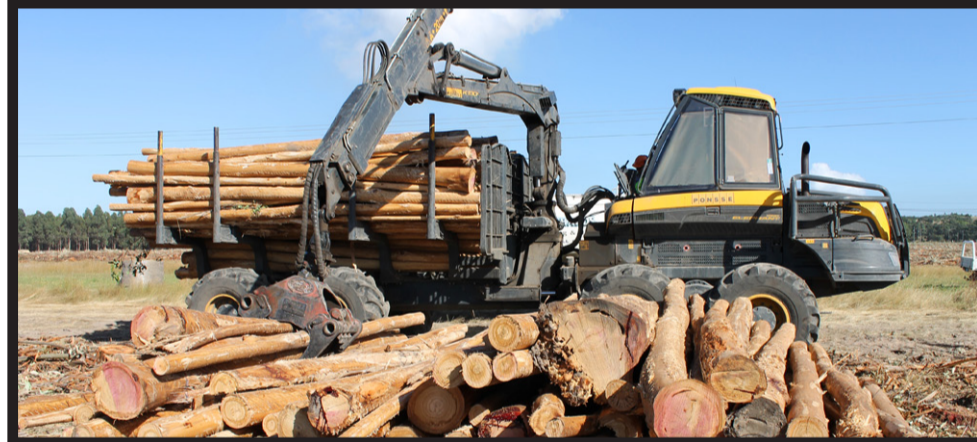
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Where have all the trees gone?



By Brenda Cheetham

As you will have noticed the plantations of mainly Blue Gums, along Monash Way, are being cleared.

I recently had a tour of the site with Stephen Wentworth, District Forester of HVP to see how it would be harvested, what the timber would be used for and what would happen to the land following the harvest.

I found the excursion very interesting.

After an induction to the site, required by Occupational Health and Safety, and noting the emergency evacuation

point, I was supplied with personal protective clothing. One hazard pointed out as a no-go zone was a bee hive in an old log.

The trees of this plantation were planted in 1992 on leased land. This lease is soon to expire so the trees are being harvested. The trees are mainly Blue Gum, specifically planted for paper, but a small experimental stand of Southern Mahogany was planted to see how it would be for paper too.

The coupe of 80 hectares will not be replanted but will

be resown as pasture. A gas pipeline and the overhead power lines running through the area are causes for concern. A special crossing had to be constructed over the gas pipeline, and extreme caution must be observed around the power lines.

DT Richards Pty Ltd has the contract to cut and transport the timber.

Two large machines make the job of harvesting and loading the timber for Australian Paper a much easier job than the felling of trees in the past.

A harvester grasps and cuts off the trees approximately 10 cm above the ground. The tree falls then the harvester strips off the bark and branches, at the same time measuring the diameter and length of the wood. It is all computerised. The logs are cut to length suitable for log trucks. Australian Paper will take timber down to 5cm in diameter.

A forwarder, driven on the day by Shannon, picks up the logs and carries them to a pick up point for the log trucks. The trucks weigh 18 tonnes

each, but loaded can weigh up to 45 tonnes. Shannon has been working in forestry for about 15 years.

There is an art in loading a log truck which is required for safety and economy. Each load must have a bow shape at top before it is chained down to make sure all logs are secure. Any bark or timber sticking out is removed by the log truck driver for safety reasons.

The plantation is expected to bring in 14,000 cubic metres of timber, 1 cubic metre = 1 tonne. Driver of

the log truck Col, explained that each log truck carries 30 tonnes. That will equate to many trips to the mill.

The branches left will be mulched, the stumps ground and the area returned to pasture.

Sam O'Neill, Operations Manager with Richards, explained that there are protocols around wildlife in plantations which must be observed, so early each morning people inspect the timber to see if any koalas are present. So far none have been spotted in this coupe.



Get carried away

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MARCH 18, 2017

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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Established 1966

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Churchill & District News

Contributions

The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the March 2017 edition is February 25, 2017

EDITORIAL

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 Churchill & District News
 PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
 Or Email: cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au
 All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



Articles can be left in our Drop Off Boxes Located at:
 Churchill Post Office, Co-Operating Church, Williams Avenue and The Churchill Hub

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We acknowledge the support of



Churchill food outlets encouraged to switch to healthier cooking oils

Latrobe Community Health Service is committed to improving the health of the local community. One way they are doing this is through the Healthier Oils Program.

There are different kinds of oils that restaurants can use to cook food. Some are high in saturated and trans fats, which are bad for you. These fats increase your risk of a stroke or heart disease.

There are other, healthier oils available.

The Healthier Oils Program helps local food outlets switch to healthier cooking oils. This reduces the

amount of saturated fat and trans fat in their meals.

Using healthy oils is an important step in helping reduce the risk of heart disease, which is one of the leading causes of death in Australia. In the Latrobe Valley, 5.6% of the population reported having heart disease in 2012.

The Healthier Oils Program recommends the use of canola oil, high oleic oil, sunflower oil, grapeseed oil, olive oil, corn oil, soybean oil, peanut oil or blended vegetable oil.

There is a way for you to

assess the types of oil you are using for cooking in your own home. Look at the Nutrition Information Panel on the bottle to see if it meets the criteria below:

Saturated fat should be 21.7 grams per 100 grams or less

Trans fat should be 1.1 grams per 100 grams or less

If the oils you are using at home have high levels of saturated or trans fats, consider shopping for one of the healthier oils listed above.

The other option is to steam, bake, grill, braise, boil or microwave your foods

instead of sautéing or deep-frying.

If you would like more information on helping local food outlets switch to healthier cooking oils, you can visit the Heart Foundations website for more information on the Healthier Oils Program <https://heartfoundation.org.au/programs/healthier-oils-program>. Alternatively, call the Primary Prevention team at Latrobe Community Health Service on 1800 242 696.

If you have concerns about diet or heart disease, see your doctor.

Boolarra Folk Festival

The 2017 Boolarra Folk Festival will again be staged in the town centre on Saturday March 4, 2017.

This will be the fifteenth festival featuring the friendly and relaxed atmosphere of music and market stalls throughout Centenary and Railway Parks.

The festival will open at ARC Yinnar on Friday night, March 3 at 7pm, where three acts will perform between 7pm and midnight.

There is a small cover charge of \$12 and tickets may be obtained through ARC on 5163 1310. On Saturday, the free main music event will begin at 11 am with the ever popular school percussion segment.

The Boolarra Primary School children are the first of 11 acts that look certain to

please the audience again. In the evening, the festival committee has joined with the Boolarra Community Hotel to ensure free entry to the hotel for the Strzelecki Stringbusters and the 350's Blues Band.

Music at the hotel continues on Sunday from 12pm with Borderline and the Devil Goat String Band. The festival committee, led by incoming president, Rick Teychenne, is hoping for strong support of this venue and the community initiative to revive the hotel.

Arts and crafts stalls, food stalls and a drumming circle will be present on the day. Boolarra Folk Festival wine will be for sale which may be consumed on site. (BYO alcohol in designated areas.) There will be free camping



at the Boolarra Recreation Reserve (about a five minute walk from the festival site) with free showers and toilets. Paddock parking is a \$2 donation to the festival and mobile ATM facilities will be available on the day.

None of this would be possible without the support of our many sponsors: Latrobe City, Russell Northe MP, Mirboo North Community Foundation, Narkoojee Wines

and Mirboo North Bendigo Bank are just a few of those we value.

Our average annual festival running costs are \$28,000 so all your support is appreciated. Like our Facebook page for updated info or www.boolarrafolkfestival.com.au has more information on the festival. If you would like to help as a volunteer on the day, contact 0467 080 921.

Rainfall

December 2016 and January 2017 - Churchill finished 2016 with a massive downpour for New Years Eve, recording 47 mil to 10.00 am on the 31st. This was the best one day rainfall for the year, making the months' total 88 mil. and a year's total of 844.5 mil. January 2017 rainfall has been below average with only 18.5 mil falling.

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03 5122 1961 or 0456 786 577

Submission of Articles:
 Articles can be Emailed to: cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au - Mailed to: PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
 OR put in our collection box at: the Co-Operating Churches.
 Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: cdnadvertising@aussiebb.com.au

Elise's Junior Kitchen

15 min Choc Chip Cookies

Ingredients:
Vanilla Cake Mix (but we are going to ignore those instructions on the packet today and make some cheap, easy and yummy biscuits instead!)

1 Egg
75g Melted Butter
1/2 Cup Choc Chips
(or any choc treat you like cut up!)

Method:
Ask an adult to help you melt the butter in the microwave and then put it to the side for a minute.

Empty the cake mix into a bowl then add the choc chips and give them a quick mix to combine them.



Add the egg and butter to the cake mix and stir until it makes a smooth cookie dough!

Eat the cookie dough! NO WAIT! DON'T eat the cookie dough... it has raw egg...

Put some baking paper on an oven tray and pre heat your oven to 170 degrees. Ask an adult for help with this one, too!

Roll small (or large, if you want big biscuits) amounts into balls and place on to the baking tray.

Bake for 12 minutes or until the biscuits are golden brown.

Let the biscuits cool, then count how many minutes until they're all eaten!!

Don't miss out!! I always miss out, that's why I eat the cookie dough!

New ideas sought to help the young to land a job

Young people at risk of long-term welfare dependency are the target of a new Federal Government initiative to break down the barriers they face to employment.

Innovative ideas that help move people from welfare to work will be funded by \$96 million Try, Test and Learn Fund.

The fund would initially invest in young carers, young parents and young students at risk of long-term welfare dependency.

Minister for Social Services Christian Porter is seeking ideas on how people

who may be at risk of being on welfare for the long term, can be supported through work and independence from the welfare system.

It is about investing in people who may need some extra help.

We expect proposals to come from industry, the not-for-profit sector, NGOs – any group with ideas about how we can help improve lives through self-reliance and employment. Check Department of Social Services website.

To submit an idea for the Try, Test and Learn Fund

visit: www.engage.dss.gov.au

A multifaceted approach to creating employment will be taken.

The government is committed to supporting small business as a major economic driver, to include measures like tax cuts for small businesses that earn up to \$10 million a year and lowering of the small business tax rate to 27 per cent.

Small businesses are the back-bone of regional economies like Gippsland and government will continue to represent their interests at the highest level.



Churchill Community Garden

It's an exciting time for our garden group with the terracing of the embankment underway. This will enable us to have more north facing garden space for winter crops and extend our plant selection. There will be paths between the terraces for easy access for all ages and abilities, a mini orchard and a sensory garden where one can sit and relax.

Excess organically grown produce is offered for a

donation in the foyer of the Hub. Members of the garden group can enjoy the fresh food for free. You can leave your contact details with the office staff at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre by ringing 5122 2955 or join the group on Monday mornings at 10am at the Churchill Hub, when we meet to discuss ideas for the garden, have a cuppa and sometimes do some gardening. Delicious community lunches are

offered for a coin donation at 12.30pm on Mondays and the garden provides some of the vegetables and herbs for these lunches. Members can decide their own level of participation.

With the Churchill Festival on March 19, we are aiming to have the Churchill Community garden looking great, so put that date aside for a visit to Churchill and our garden.

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Vol. 4



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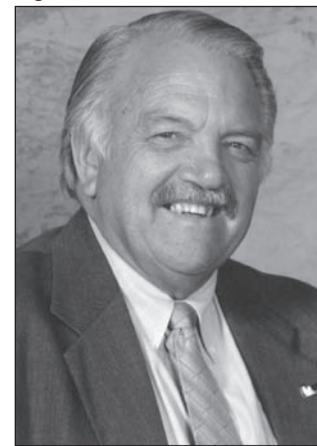
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Latrobe Regional Gallery upgrade to boost cultural tourism

Funding of \$770,000 from the State Government and a Council contribution of \$310,000 will see the Latrobe Regional Gallery in Morwell transformed into a thriving arts and cultural Centre, capable of attracting international exhibitions and boosting tourism to Latrobe City. The major renovations will begin early this year, with the partial closure of the

Gallery from January 2017. The new-look Centre will open in July 2017.

This upgrade will provide a regional facility, not just for locals but for visitors from around the nation. An art gallery that is designed to host major international exhibitions could potentially attract tens of thousands of visitors to Latrobe City.

The economic flow-on effect for our region is likely to be significant and will provide a positive shift in perception for Latrobe City's image beyond our region. Latrobe Regional Gallery would be positioned as the major Cultural Centre for the east of the state.

The refurbishment will provide professional signage for visitor orientation, Gallery layout, toilet facilities, café, cloakroom, public gathering points and a Gallery reception

area. The upgraded Gallery will also ensure that the collections can be stored safely, protecting their value and integrity for future generations.

The café will close for some weeks, with the exact dates to be confirmed nearer the time. The Gallery will remain closed until mid-July.

During this time, Gallery staff will be planning and preparing for large scale exhibitions starting mid next year, and working with tourism sectors and other stakeholders to garner support for incoming and future international shows.

The Gallery will continue to run professional development programs for local artists, students and teachers and its popular schools education program, off-site.

Darrell White

Council urges residents to recycle, not dump rubbish

Rubbish dumped illegally in Latrobe City's bushland is mainly recyclable and Council is urging residents to drop off their unwanted recyclable goods and waste at a transfer station this summer.

The environment is the most affected when the lazy minority choose to do the wrong thing. Not only does the dumped waste look unsightly, it can actually be dangerous.

Dumping rubbish where our native animals and plants live is environmental vandalism. During the fire season anything flammable left lying in our dry bush areas is simply more fuel.

The most disappointing aspect of the dumped garbage that has been attended to recently, is that the vast majority of it is recyclables.

Council's local bylaws team has found white goods like fridges and washing machines, televisions and even Christmas wrapping and cardboard, all of which are easily disposed of free of charge at any of our transfer stations.

Council has four transfer stations in our municipality – in Morwell, Moe, Traralgon and Yinnar.

Visit www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/waste for locations of transfer stations, details of hard waste and green waste drop off weekends and anything else to do with waste.

The following items can be taken to any Latrobe City Transfer Station free of charge:

- Computers/hard drives, monitors, computer accessories, tablets and televisions

• Whitegoods, power supplies and adaptors

• Glass bottles, scrap metal

• Paper and cardboard, providing it is flattened and free from plastic and waste. If cardboard is not flattened a \$5 fee will be charged

The following items can be taken to Morwell Transfer Station free of charge:

- Car bodies
- Domestic quantities of paint
- Fluorescent tubes and globes
- Household and car batteries
- Gas bottles

It is important to note that all other rubbish attracts a fee dependent on quantity and type of rubbish.

Russell Northe

As 2017 begins, I'd like to wish all community members a Happy New Year, and I hope that the festive season was an enjoyable time with family and friends.

On January 26, we had strong attendances across our region at local Australia Day events.

I made my way to a

number of community events during the course of the day including Churchill, Yinnar and Boolarra all of which were terrific services.

These events were well attended by people of all ages and it was wonderful to see all involved enjoying the festivities to commemorate our great nation.

A number of people were recognised on the day, and I would like to congratulate all those who were nominated for, and received Australia Day Awards this year, and commend you for your actions which led to your nomination.

Well done to Churchill Citizen of the Year

in Jacqueline McLure.

Jacqueline has been a volunteer with Gippsland Lifeline's Churchill shop for 24 years as well as many other community organisations including the Churchill Junior Football Club, Churchill Baseball Club and Churchill Neighbourhood House.

Jackie has also been involved in the running of the Gum Leaf Quilters Exhibition.

It's obvious with Jackie's extensive community involvement that she is a most deserving winner of this award.

Congratulations must also go to Junior Citizen of the Year Alicia Ewan, and School Citizens Charlotte Di Toro, Lucas Hobbs, Jasmine Croft and Hayley Caldwell.

I'd like to thank all service

clubs that were involved in putting on an excellent spread of food at various Australia Day events.

It is certainly appreciated by the community, and makes the day all the more Australian.

Your hard work and commitment is to be commended.

With the closure of Hazelwood occurring in around six weeks time and the subsequent loss of hundreds of local jobs, I've spoken with a myriad of workers, contractors and businesses over these past months, and many of these same people are extremely frustrated and angry about the lack of certainty for them and their families.

Our community wants and deserves real answers and real



action across a range of areas.

With the 2017 school year having just commenced, I urge all drivers to be careful on the roads, and ensure you obey all school hour speed limits.

To all the students, I wish you good luck for the beginning of the academic year, and every success in your studies.

Gippsland Carers

Gippsland Carers Association Inc works to support family carers of people with disabilities, aged frailty, chronic or mental illness.

Gippsland Carers free service includes information, support, advocacy, links to services and a sympathetic, non-judgemental ear for carers of family or friends.

Our drop in centre – Carers Place, 185 Commercial Road Morwell is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9am until 3pm.

Lorraine, our Carer Mentor is also available to come to you if you are unable to come to our office. Support groups are run across Gippsland and we can put you in contact with one near you.

The Carer support group in Morwell meets from 10 am till 12 on the first Wednesday of each month at the 'Rose Garden room'.

Lorraine Beasley Carer Mentor can be contacted - Phone - 03 5133 3343 Mobile - 0429 892 260 or carermentor@gippslandcarers.org

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Admission: \$8.00
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For more details please ring Judy 0402 923 897, Heather 5166 1494

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Churchill Neighbourhood House

Welcome to a new year at the Churchill Neighbourhood House. Watch this space for regular updates on activities and courses that we hope will tempt you to step our way!

Welcome to your community cafe which is open on Mondays for lunch. Come to meet someone you know, or someone new – we're a very friendly bunch! For a gold coin donation, enjoy a tasty meat or vegetarian dish prepared fresh by our great team of cooking volunteers. Stay on after lunch for a coffee, browse our book swap or the library's great collection, or look round the Community Garden.

There is real community spirit surrounding our café and we are very proud of that, so many people involved in order to get a nutritious and tasty lunch on the table.

Lunch is served at 12.30pm, but behind the

scenes, the cooking team arrives for the day at 10am. Hands washed, aprons on, menu discussed and the kitchen gets busy.

Why do they volunteer here? There's not much relaxing in armchairs sipping coffee, but that doesn't seem to deter them; they say they like the idea of giving something back to the community, and they have found that this is a great way to do so.

The community spirit spreads widely; civic minded Manny's Market offers vegetables at a discount and the Churchill Community Gardeners, who are also volunteers, provide seasonal produce from the garden when they can. The herbs are always picked from there and as the garden is just a few steps away from the kitchen door, you can't get fresher than that!

At 12 noon, gardeners,

cooks, office staff and other Hub workers pitch in to get the café ready for diners. Tablecloths are spread, cutlery laid, children's table and play area set, and on warm days the doors to the garden are opened wide to allow for outside dining. By 12.25 pm the café is ready to open, and there is already a queue!

Café staff take turns to serve, eat and clean up; the kitchen is spotless when they leave.....and they come back next time, as do the diners! Why not join us for lunch on Monday at 12.30pm?

If you are interested in joining the café team, call us on 5122 2955. Our fantastic Roster Coordinator, Chris, will discuss frequency with you (you don't have to work each week), and you will receive a very warm welcome from all of us.

Gippsland Australian Muslim Community Inc



On Saturday January 14, 2017 the Gippsland Australia Muslim Community Inc. (GAMCI) together with the United Muslim Sisters of the Latrobe Valley (UMSLV) commemorated the birth of the last prophet Muhammad (May peace be upon him). Now in its fourth year, the program was held at Kernot Hall in Morwell.

Attendees were from the Gippsland area as well as the outer eastern suburbs of Melbourne. In all over eighty were present. As with prior years a number of non-muslim guests were present including Mr Murray Lobley from Gippsland Ethnic Communities Council – Interfaith, and Senior Constable Kelly Hicks the youth resource officer from

Victoria Police, at Morwell.

The commemoration program focused on the life of the prophet Muhammad (May peace be upon him). After being welcomed to the event by the GAMCI President, Mr Tanveer Hassan, children recited sections of the Quraan, Surah's or sang a nasheed in respect of the prophet's life. MC for the proceedings was GAMCI Vice President Dr Zafar who also explained the significance of each child's contribution and expanded on the points raised. Up to 15 children aged between three and 16 performed. A quiz followed which asked questions of the prophet's life. This was followed by a

guest lecture from Mr Murray Lobley who spoke of the prophet in general terms and the positive contribution of the Muslim community to family life. All children presenters received a certificate of recognition. The function concluded with a lunch which was wonderfully coordinated by the UMSLV.

During the proceedings local pre-loved goods were sold by local family Fabian, Ida and Nur Marissa Hasna, and donations were collected which were sent to aid refugees in Syria. In total over \$500 was raised and sent to Islamic Relief Australia's "Give to Winterisation program".

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS
"Connecting Your Community"

CALLING ALL SECRETARIES!

Churchill & District News invites you to send your news to us for publication each Month
Next Publication Date:
March 16, 2017

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Is your home unhappy?

If your home is unhappy because of someone's drinking - We can help.

Just ask yourself these questions:

Because of someone's drinking -

Am I afraid?

Am I worried?

Do I feel sorry for myself,

inadequate or guilty?

Am I ashamed of myself and my situation?

Do I feel embarrassed by the drinker's behaviour?

Remember Al-Anon is anonymous within the fellowship so do not be afraid.

These questions have been asked for over 60 years

this year in Victoria. It has been wonderful for so many people.

Some stay and some pass through after some time. Over the years it has been good to help each other.

It's giving the message so people can change their life for the better.

Meetings:

Traralgon Monday 10am
Kath Teychenne Centre 11-13 Breed Street.

Newborough Tuesday 8pm or Wednesday 1pm at the Uniting Church or phone Al-Anon 03 9620 2166.

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Churchill Town Safety Group



Back-to-school speed zones

This month, we are looking at the start of another school year.

It is important to note that there will be a lot of school students making their way to school in the mornings and home in the afternoons.

Remember that the speed limits in the school zones are being enforced as per the times on the speed signs.

If you are not sure whether school is back or not, it is worth sticking to the limits on the signs as required just in case.

There will also be a lot of first time students walking to school and back, so be on the look out for them as they may cross the road without looking first.

Always remember, it's better to be safe than sorry.

FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000

FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE, RING 000



Police advise members of the public that, if you require police assistance, call 000. The police communications operator will be able to assess your need and either send a police vehicle, relay a message or find out when the police station will be attended.



Darren Chester

Federal Member for Gippsland

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www.darrenchester.com

Friends of Morwell National Park



VALE: Mary Austin

Mary was an inaugural member of Friends of Morwell National Park, joining at its inception in 1988, and retaining her membership over the last 26 years.

She was a very active member in the early days and was very proud of retaining her "top of the list" position in the membership list which occurred with the moving of the Aplin family (as she

reminded me just last year).

In the later years, she kept a low profile in the Club but was a well-respected and appreciated member even though age and agility kept her from 'manual labour' in her latter years. A lovely lady, she will be remembered and missed by all.

December Activity Report

At this activity we had Matt, Peter, Wendy, John, Rose, Mike, Cathy, Beryl,

Tamara and Darren. We were joined by summer ranger Bernie, who was keen to know the activities of the group. The group was happy to see a ranger at an activity for the first time this year.

The group met in the car park and caught up on the happenings from over the last month. Matt reported that since the last activity, the Butterfly Orchid survey was completed over two days by

himself and Tamara. Four of the five plots were surveyed. Matt stated that over the New Year he planned to put out the motion detection cameras as last time when they were on the Clematis Track they recorded a number of wallabies, echidnas and wombats.

The group started the nesting box survey. The group battled through the long, wet grass and found many of the boxes in use. Over the survey, 53 sugar gliders, four agile antechinus, three eggs and one ringtail possum were found. At a few of the boxes the animals came out of the boxes to greet us. It was good to see the new boxes being well used. The number of sugar gliders will increase when the video footage is checked more carefully with some boxes being a mass of furry bodies. John and Bernie were busy making repairs to boxes that needed to be refixed to the trees.

Matt, Peter and Wendy went to Stringybark Track to clear this of fallen branches. The chainsaw was used to remove a few obstructions. This was the second month in a row where this track has been cleared. All groups finished between 12.30 and 1.00 and moved to Kerry Road for the Christmas BBQ. We were greeted by the sight of Matt and John cooking away on the barbeque. Margaret had brought the food for the BBQ and the group enjoyed a wonderful meal to celebrate the end of the year.

January Activity Report

At this activity we had Matt, Peter, Grant, Darren and Ranger Shane. We had apologies from Ken, Tamara, John, Margaret, Wendy, Beryl and Rose. Mike, Cathy and Ranger Craig also joined us for the meeting in the carpark but not the activity. Over the last month, the Park's boundaries and track have been slashed. It is great now that most parts of the park are now accessible. The Grand Strzelecki Track has also been slashed within the park.

Over the last month, Parks have run their new Minibeasts program at Billys Creek. Fifteen children and parents investigated the little 'beasts' that inhabit Billys Creek. It was a successful school holiday program with more being planned.

Shane is keen to put together a tourism plan for the Park which encourages people to come to discover and use the Park. It is a wonderful space that many people in the Latrobe Valley do not know about. Many people are unaware of a National Park in the Latrobe Valley.

After meeting in the car park, the small group travelled in my vehicle past Billys Weir. The task for the day was to slash the Blue Gum Hill spur track. This track was not slashed along with the other tracks since it is too steep. The track was lost under the undergrowth, with the signage also not visible. Grant and Matt slashed the track with brush cutters while

Peter cleared up with the hedge trimmer. They worked up the track while Darren checked how overgrown the beginning of Blue Gum Hill track was. The slasher had not been there so this track will need work next month.

After clearing the track the group rejoined to drive along the Grand Strzelecki Track. We surveyed the track seeing that it was clear and walkable. The track is surrounded by a large collection of advanced weeds. Many thistle, tutsan, blackberry and foxgloves could be seen.

On the way back to lunch at Billys Weir, a Rock Shrink was found. Over the day we had seen a koala (in the car park), kangaroos, wallabies, goshawk and a variety of birds. It was great day for viewing the wildlife.

Over lunch at the weir, the group tried to determine what the concrete structures on each side of the weir were for, and what their original purpose was. This is something that may need some research.

February Activity

Sunday February 19
We will travel the Blue Gum Hill track to complete some track maintenance. The track is very overgrown and slashing will make this track walkable.

For these activities you will need to bring clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.



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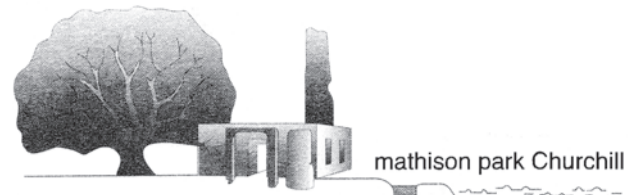


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Mathison Park



It has been rewarding to see all those who have enjoyed time at the park over these last holidays. There have been people picnicking, walking (some with dogs), pushing prams (some even running while doing so), running circuits, fishing, or just sitting and taking in the peace of the place.

Have you seen our facebook page - Mathison

Park Churchill and our web page of the same name?

They are filled with lots of information and photos of our special park here in Churchill which features Lake Hyland.

Special thanks go to Des for mowing, baling and removing a lot of the extensive growth of grass, Jim for spraying weeds, the Community Corrections team for mowing and whipper

snipping, Tim for mowing, members of Churchill Fire Brigade who managed to get some of our piles of rubbish burnt before restrictions came in. This has all helped to make the eastern side of Lake Hyland look presentable again.

Thanks, too, to the Latrobe City Council mowing team who do a magnificent

job keeping the rest of the park in order. It is such a large park to keep in order, with so many grassed areas.

We are looking for a person with a slasher and some who might like to help clear the paddock behind the house. Time would be needed to clear fallen branches and other obstacles before the area can be slashed. With an average of six to eight people attending working bees this job needs some help.

Our working bees have been moved back to the second Saturday of each month for 2017.

Our January working bee saw the last two bollards installed near the large picnic shelter, some fallen branches and trees cut up and disposed of to a pile waiting to be burnt

after fire season, and some much needed weeding around some of our new trees.

The sighting of a snake by a walker who warned us, put us on alert, but the offender did not show again. Thanks Fay for the yummy muffins

for our morning tea. We were ready for some refreshments. Our next working bee will be on March 11 from 9am-12.30pm.

This was the best Christmas

An organiser of Al-Anon reported this story to us about a person who attended their meeting.

"This was the best Christmas for many years and there was a good reason for it. I read the Churchill & District News for many months then decided to try Al-Anon family groups. It's been a journey of learning for me; learning to keep my mouth shut when I could have started a row.

I came to Al-Anon wondering how it would help me. I heard about situations just like mine. As I started to practise the program I learned

so much. If you don't find someone with circumstances like yourself, it is unlikely.

You will find many of those present who have learned about the disease called alcoholism and are striving to become better people. We can, each in our own way.

Well would you believe, after a month I changed myself. My husband saw the change in me and he decided to try Alcoholics Anonymous or 99 as most people call it.

What a miracle that he heard his own story. He found members just like himself, so

for the first Christmas there were no broken bottles, no fighting, there was money for gifts etc. It was amazing to see him not drinking. Most of our family didn't drink to excess either. How wonderful. It was the best Christmas."

Meetings:

Traralgon Monday 10am
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Newborough Tuesday 8pm or Wednesday 1pm at the
Uniting Church or phone Al-Anon 03 9620 2166.

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NBN in Churchill



NBN Now Rolling Out In Churchill

More than 2000 homes and businesses in Churchill will soon have access to the National Broadband Network (NBN).

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester said construction of the new fixed-line network was underway, providing 2100 homes and businesses in Churchill with faster and more reliable internet access.

Mr Chester said the NBN would open up a range of new opportunities for locals.

"There will be benefits for small businesses, students who study online and people who rely on the internet to stay in touch with family and friends," Mr Chester said.

Work building the NBN in Morwell and Heyfield

is already well underway, giving another 8400 premises the ability to connect to the network.

Final network designs for Churchill have been completed, meaning that NBN subcontractors are now connecting the area with new high-speed broadband technology.

"Having reliable access to fast internet is becoming a basic requirement of our everyday lives and the NBN will deliver this to residents in regional areas," Mr Chester said. Homes and business in Churchill, Morwell and Heyfield will be connected to the NBN using fibre to the node (FTTN) technology.

FTTN offers average broadband speeds of around 70 megabits per second (Mbps), with many premises

able to access speeds of up to 100 Mbps.

The NBN will ensure that at least 90 per cent of the fixed-line footprint will have access to download speeds of 50 Mbps – allowing at least ten home devices to connect to the internet simultaneously.

"The Government's mixed-technology roll-out of the NBN is being done in the fastest and most affordable way," Mr Chester said.

"Already, there are more than 31,000 premises in the electorate of Gippsland ready to connect to the NBN. By September 2018, more than 60,000 homes and businesses in Gippsland will be ready for the NBN or their connection will be under construction."

More information on how to connect to the NBN is available at www.nbnco.com.au.

Philip Parade Development Plan endorsed

The Philip Parade Development Plan in Churchill was endorsed by Latrobe City Council at its meeting on December 5, 2016. Council also requested that further consultation with Churchill community groups and relevant organisations takes place when plans to construct a crossing over Eel Hole Creek are considered.

Latrobe City Councils Mayor, Councillor Kellie OCallaghan, said planning permits for the land to be subdivided could now be lodged for assessment.

"The Philip Parade Development Plan presents an opportunity to activate a key area of Churchill for residential development, and

it is right next to the Churchill Town Centre," Councillor OCallaghan said.

"The site is located on the southern edge of the Churchill town centre and is generally bounded by Monash Way to the west, Canterbury Way to the south and Eel Hole Creek to the east. The concept layout for the plan shows how the land will be developed for residential land use as well as indicating where future residential lots, roads, pathways, open space and physical infrastructure should be located," Councillor OCallaghan said.

"With around 86 new housing lots, and an overall density of 13 lots per hectare, the development will generally

provide for standard sized lots as well as some medium density lots. Churchill has a lot to offer with its parks and gardens, shopping centre, preschool services, health services and the university and education precincts as well as sporting and leisure facilities. The Philip Parade Development Plan will provide further opportunities for those wishing to build in this Latrobe City township", Councillor OCallaghan concluded.

For more information on the Philip Parade Development Plan visit http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Building_and_Planning/Development/Endorsed_Development_Plans

New restrictions at Pondage

Restrictions introduced at Hazelwood Pondage

Latrobe City Council has introduced a five knot speed limit to all vessels operating on the waters of Hazelwood Pondage from Tuesday January 17.

As the waterway manager for Hazelwood Pondage, Latrobe City Council applied the safety rule under the Marine Safety Act 2012, which has been approved by Transport Safety Victoria, due

to low water levels.

This restriction will remain in place until water levels increase to a safe level.

Latrobe City Council CEO Gary Van Driel said the speed restrictions would not impact access to the waterway, only the speed at which vessels could travel on the water.

We appreciate the community and users understanding and adherence to the Hazelwood Pondage waterway rules, Mr Van

Driel said.

Latrobe City also has an alternative venue for boating at Lake Narracan. Lake Narracan has a surface area spanning nearly 300 hectares, making it perfect for power boating, waterskiing, jet skiing and any other recreational boating. It is also a great place for swimming, family picnics and walking, Mr Van Driel said.

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Carols by Candlelight



Carols by Candlelight was a huge success.

Well over 150 people attended the December 18 Carols by Candlelight which was held inside the Co-Operating Churches in Churchill.

Our unpredictable weather makes us always have Plan B and that was used again for the second time, as the rain stopped but the wind continued to blow wildly. Members of the church set up the seating and put up the decorations etc. Thank you folks.

The Churchill and District Lions Club generously cooked a sausage sizzle for us and people were able to have a sausage and drink for a gold coin donation.

This money raised along with money collected during the Carols, will be allotted to the churches of Churchill to help those in need and to support the Community Cafe being run at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre in the Hub, on Mondays at 12.30pm. Anyone can attend for a small donation. It is a way to connect with people and share a meal together. Volunteers cook and serve the meal.

Churchill and District Community Association provided the glow sticks

and money for the trinkets mentioned later. Thank you CDCA for your continued support.

Thank you so much Lions. Latrobe Community Concert Band and Destiny Performance provided the musical accompaniment to carol singing, pre-carols entertainment and items through the program.

Our thanks to the people in those two bands for your wonderful, generous community contribution to our event.

Rotary Club of Hazelwood and District provided volunteers to help with parking and anything else which need their willing attention.

Thank you Hazelwood Rotarians.

We had some much appreciated performances from some young people in our community - Thessa Kuipjers, and Joseph Darling. It is good to acknowledge their considerable talents.

The Lumen Christi singers also added items as did Allan Halliwell and his children Shallimar and Keiron. Members of the Co-Operating Churches presented the Wombat Divine story for the children.

Thank you to you all

for your contribution to the program.

Carols were sung after each Bible reading which told the story of Christmas. Thank you all for your readings and the audience for your hearty singing.

Congratulations to Peter Townsend for being MC for the night and doing such a good job.

We grant you a role again this year, now that you have had a practice run.

Thank you to our church leaders, Reverend Brenda and Linda, for your prayers and Father Francis for your message of hope to encourage our community.

Finally the night drew to a close to the lights and siren of the fire truck as Santa arrived to say hello to the children and pose for photos.

He also gave out candy canes and delightful small trinkets made by George and Barb to hang on their Christmas tree.

Thank you to the members of Churchill Fire Brigade for your willingness to help us with this aspect of the proceedings.

The organising committee would like to thank all those involved in any way for making this a special event in our calendar for Churchill.

Morwell Student Reunion

The Morwell High School Diamond Reunion

The Morwell High School Diamond Reunion on November 13 was a tremendous success.

With volunteers, community groups and sponsor support, a great time was had by all.

Donations of proceeds after expenses were made to Morwell Historical Society, LV Neighbourhood Watch and Kurnai College.

Winners of the Memorabilia competition on the day were -\$100 cash - Helen Guy, \$50 Gift Voucher

– Mr Liebrecht, \$25 Gift Voucher – Jenny Milner.

A video is available on youtube - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_vf9XidsMo&feature=youtu.be

Thanks to our sponsors and those who donated and supported us.

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Cooking with Noelene

Avocado Soup

This is so good on both levelstaste and nutrition.

Heat 2 cups of chicken stock in a medium saucepan until just warm.

Place one large onion that is peeled and roughly chopped into a food processor along with the flesh of 2 ripe avocados ...slowly add the chicken stock.

Stir in 2 tbs of lemon juice. Now add 4 tbs of hommus dip,

2 cups of milk,

6 tbs of cream,

a few drops of tabasco sauce, salt and pepper to taste.

This soup can be served warm or cold, take care not to boil the soup if reheating ...If serving the soup cold you may need to add a little water as the soup will thicken once refrigerated .

Serve in individual soup bowls with micro mint sprigs.

This serves 6-8

Yummy Tummy Fillers ...No 1

For a quick and easy light meal or snack

Combine in a medium sized bowl 1/2 cup of mozzarella cheese, 1 egg yolk, 1/4 cup of cream style sweet corn, a few drops of Worcestershire sauce, 1 spring onion chopped (green part only) 100gm of bacon pieces, cracked black pepper to taste. Mix together well.

Toast 2 slices of thick bread.

Spread a healthy amount of the cheese mixture over the toast.

Place under griller and cook until golden and bubbly.

Serve piping hot.

OR

Double up on the ingredients above and slice (lengthways) the top off a crusty Vienna loaf about a 1/4 way down, slice the top into fingers and set aside .

Scoop out enough bread from the bottom part of the loaf to hold the mixture.

Place the filled loaf in the oven and bake at 160 deg C until the mixture is golden and bubbly.

Place on a serving tray along with the crusty fingers which you can use as dipping sticks. Once cooled enough you can then slice the cheese filled bread into slices.

Yummy Tummy Fillers ...No 2

Toast 2 slices of bread.

Butter lightly.

Place slices of ham over the toast then place under the griller for 2 minutes.

Remove from the griller and top with drained crushed pineapple. Then back under the griller to heat through.

Finally top with a healthy amount of grated matured cheese and grill till golden brown. Serve immediately.

Yummy Tummy Fillers ...No 3

Pocket Pizzas

Heat 1 dsp oil in a small saucepan, add 1 dsp of minced garlic and 1 small onion chopped, and saute until onion is tender.

Then add 1 tsp of basil, 1/2 tsp of mixed herbs, 1 tbsp of chopped parsley and 425 gm jar of tomato puree.

Add salt and pepper to taste. Bring this mixture to a

gentle boil and then simmer till thickened. Cool slightly.

Split 4 Lebanese pocket breads in half. Place on a scone tray. Spread the tomato mixture evenly over the bread. Sprinkle with mozzarella cheese. Top with one or a mix of chopped ham, chopped capsicum, sliced mushroom, drained, crushed pineapple.

Bake in a preheated oven on 200 deg for 15 minutes.

Serve piping hot or cooled.

Yummy Tummy Fillers ...No 4

Holiday Savoury Rolls

Place 125gm of sausage meat along with 1/2 tsp of mixed herbs , 1/4 cup of grated carrot, 1 tbs of chopped onions, 1/4 cup of fine breadcrumbs, 1/4 cup of grated cheese and 2 tbs of tomato sauce in a large bowl.

Mix thoroughly.

Now add 1/4 cup of baked beans to the mix.

Cut 2 sheets of thawed puff pastry in half and spoon mixture along the edge of the pastry, fold pastry over the meat mixture, brushing the sides of the pastry with a lightly beaten egg. Press edges together. Repeat with remaining mixture and pastry.

Cut on the diagonal into 5cm lengths and brush with remaining egg. Place on a greased oven tray and bake in a preheated oven on 200deg C for 20 minutes or until golden brown. These are a favourite with children and adults, let the children in your house help in the preparation of the holiday savoury rolls.

50th ANNIVERSARY

BOOLARRA PONY CLUB TURNS "50" !!

Saturday, March 16, 2017,
11.00am – 2.00pm

All past and present members, family members and Instructors are most welcome to attend our celebration.

Our club is searching for photographs of past members and our pony club grounds. If you can help with any photographs or have any queries.

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CHURCHILL COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Get carried away

March 18
2017

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You're Invited

You are invited to the Churchill Community Festival 2017!

When: March 18, 2017

Where: Churchill Hub, 9-11 Philip Parade, at the Churchill Hotel for the Lions Market and around the shops.

Time: Market from 8.30am; Festival activities around Hub area 10.30am - 2pm and the shops at times advertised.

What's happening?

There's free activities for kids:

Jump about on the jumping castle, test your strength on the bungee run, get an airbrushed (removable) tattoo, play a musical instrument, plant patchwork flowers, dance wildly to great music, watch knights battle it out, ride a bike to make a fruit smoothie, see Beans the clown and have a balloon sculpting done for you, play a giant board game, look inside a fire engine, get a voucher for a free swim, eat popcorn and help grow a Giant Gippsland Bookworm!

Borrow four books from the library* and get a free sausage from Rotary for your trouble!

*You will need to be a member of the library to do this. It's easy to join and

FREE. Tell Mum or Dad to take two bits of identification (one with an address on) to the library because you want to join - if possible before the big day!

There's something for young people...

Awesome Battle of the Bands FReezA event in the Town Hall, organised and run by young people and Headspace.

...and adults, too!

Great bargains at the Lions Market, lunch out at a reasonable cost with Devonshire teas and low cost refreshments at the Hub, and Lions and Rotary both having food for sale, great music by the Strzelecki Stringbusters and other talented musicians, cool custom and classic cars to view, free number plate securing by the Town Safety Group, Wheelchairs for Kids demonstration, meet the team of Churchill & District News, learn about Mathison Park.

Before the event:

Check out the coloured ads in Churchill & District News for special offers at our shops, happening before and on the day.

There is more being arranged. Watch this space in the March issue of Churchill & District News.

Remember everyone to slap on some sunscreen and wear a hat!

See you there!



CHURCHILL COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Get carried away

March 18
2017



Student Connect

Snippets



Recently, someone pointed out an atheist poster to me. It said 'Yes, I am an atheist. But just because I do not believe in your god does not mean that I do not believe in anything!' It went on to say 'I believe in compassion, kindness, love, logic, equality, empathy, myself, integrity, honesty, and more.'

One of the interesting things about that, was that the poster gave no credit to the source of most of the values it listed.

Our society holds to these values, and rightly so; but we

forget that in doing so we are holding to Christian values. Values listed on that poster, together with the values of humility, forgiveness, respect and service (etc.) are all taken from Biblical ideas. They are passed down through the years to become a vital part of what is best about today's society. We see those values, often, when tragedy strikes. People rally to help others... it's great to see. These values are innate values. These values are Biblical values. Worth thinking about!



Christmas services went well with the Crib Service having visits from three angels to explain the Bible story of Christmas, invite the children to dress up and everyone to join in the re-telling of the story in words, actions and songs.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this an enjoyable night, including members of Churchill Fire Brigade who came with Santa at the end of the service, right on cue.

Other services were held on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

Blue Christmas service at Boolarra at 7pm on Thursday December 22, saw a growing number of attendees who find Christmas a difficult time of



year with the loss of a loved one, a family separation or some other trouble.

This service has become a regular fixture and is appreciated very much by those who attend.

Through January one service each Sunday has been held at 10am and we have enjoyed services taken by Margaret Sunderland (Yinnar second Sunday), Reverend Brenda Burney (Churchill first and third Sunday) and Robern Lubawski (Boolarra fourth Sunday).

A picnic was held at the Old Mill Park following the third Sunday service. The fifth Sunday the routine turned back to 9am at Churchill with George Telford doing a Churches of Christ Holy Communion and 11am Holy Communion at Holy Innocents church at Yinnar South.

The first Sunday was a communion service but also involved the team from Blue



Moose. A report about their activities during their stay is elsewhere in this issue.

This dedicated team of young people did the Bible readings, prayers and read a story for the children.

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 IAN & GLENDA
 www.combridgepestcontrol.com.au

Church Times

Lumen Christi Catholic Church
 Williams Avenue, Churchill
 Tel: 5134 2849

Father Francis/Father Antony
 Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm
 Sunday: Mass: 9.00am
 1st and 3rd Sundays:
 Yinnar: Mass: 10.30am
 2nd and 4th Sundays:
 Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am



Co-Operating Churches of Churchill
 Sunday Service: 9.00am
 Rev. Brenda Burney
 Williams Avenue, Churchill.
 Tel: 5122 1480

Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish
 1st and 2nd Sundays 11.00am
 Christ Church Boolarra 3rd and 4th Sundays 11.00am
 Yinnar 5th Sundays 11.00am
 Yinnar South

Churchill Christian Fellowship
 Maple Crescent, Churchill
 Sunday: 10.00am

Swordcraft



Swordcraft is a Medieval Fantasy Live Action Battle Game and LARP where players fight with reinforced, realistic looking foam rubber weapons and padded arrows. Some of us wear armour, but you don't need anything to play.

Think of it as paintball meets medieval/fantasy

battle - carnage with a dash of medieval re-enactment, roleplaying and cosplay. We are inspired by everything from history to Lord of the Rings, Warhammer, World of Warcraft, Game of Thrones and beyond.

Swordcraft Gippsland is a small chapter run more locally. New players are

always welcome, as we provide a loaner weapon and training. Further information can be found at our performance area. Our lovely photographers Amy and Martyn, have been kind enough to allow us to use their photos in the supplement. See Page 10 Churchill Community Festival

Penguins at Sea

The topic for discussion at the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists' Club meeting on Friday, February 24 at the Uniting Church Hall, Old Sale Road Newborough from 7.30 pm will be "Penguins at Sea".

The speaker, Dr Andre

Chiaradia, is a research scientist within the Phillip Island Nature Park (commonly known as the Penguin Parade). His research concerns the marine ecology of little penguins; the foraging behaviour of penguins that involves matters such as diet,

diving behaviour, etc and the penguins' response to environmental changes.

The following day's excursion is an associated excursion to Phillip Island.



Little Penguin almost fledged by Tamara Leitch

Lifeline Gippsland

Lifeline Gippsland relies on the generous donations from local community members to stock our seven op shops across the region. The money generated supports the 13 11 14 Crisis Line for people experiencing a difficult time. We only receive 12% state government funding, the rest we generate ourselves.

Unfortunately we have a problem with people dumping rubbish in and around our donation bins, which means that we bear the cost to dispose of these items. In some cases we have to remove our bins and lose

the opportunity to receive these valuable donations, this affects our stock levels and ultimately the income we can generate to support the local community.

We would like to send the message that giving unusable or broken goods and rubbish is not a donation - it is dumping waste. We are not alone. Australia's charity recyclers stand to lose millions of dollars each year disposing of rubbish and unusable 'donations'.

We urge the local community to make your donation count by following these simple tips:

1. Ask yourself, would you give this item to a family member or friend in need (i.e. it's clean, undamaged and of a good quality).

2. Donate direct to the op shop during operating hours or call to arrange pick-up for larger items.

3. Put rubbish and damaged items in your rubbish bin.

Please remember that using our donation bins to dispose of rubbish costs us money we would otherwise use to help others.

Wheelchairs for kids

A gift that gives twice

Imagine you're a child living in poverty who is unable to walk. You can't get to school, play outside or leave the house without help. Your mum is housebound too, caring for you. One day, you are given a wheelchair that is specially fitted, just for you. How would your life improve?

The gift of a wheelchair gives twice. It not only presents a child with freedom but also frees their carer to work and contribute to the family's income.

Since 1998, Wheelchairs for Kids has donated nearly 25,000 wheelchairs to needy families in poor and war torn countries. Our wheelchair has recently been re-designed to World Health Organisation recommendations. It has

a strong steel subframe and puncture proof tyres. Its greatest feature being complete adjustability to suit the different sizes and growing needs of children. It can also handle rough terrain and the rigours of use by young, active kids.

A Wheelchairs for Kids package includes an Adjustable Postural Support Device to assist the large number of recipients with cerebral palsy, and also contains a knitted knee rug, toy, cushions, removable tray, tool kit and a few spares.

Every cent donated to Wheelchairs for Kids goes directly to ensuring a needy child receives a wheelchair.

Our wheelchairs are made by a dedicated team of retiree volunteers in Perth, Western Australia



in a workshop managed by a Christian Brother and administered by the Rotary Club of Scarborough, Western Australia.

The Hazelwood Rotary Club fully endorses this project and is proud to be able to co-ordinate a demonstration at the 2017 Churchill Festival.

See Page 10 for Churchill Community Festival news.

ASIST 11

2 Day Workshop



Quality Improvement Council
'Yes ... we are a QIC accredited organisation'

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a two-day workshop that prepares professionals, volunteers, and informal helpers of all kinds to provide suicide first-aid interventions to people at risk of suicide.

Learn to:

Identify situations in which someone may have thoughts of suicide

Understand how your beliefs and attitudes can affect suicide interventions

Review a person's current risk of suicide and develop a plan to increase safety from suicidal behaviour for an agreed period of time

Follow-up on safety commitments and access further support as needed

Participation in the full two days is required.

The workshop includes lectures, videos, group discussions, group work and skills practise.

Lifeline Gippsland, partnering with Latrobe Regional Hospital Mental Health Services is running an ASIST Workshop on February 20 and 21 at Lifeline Gippsland, Cnr Church and Fleming Streets, Morwell. Bookings are essential.

Cost of the workshop is \$275 (GST inclusive), training materials, lunches

and refreshments are included for both days.

To book your place, or for further information please call the Lifeline office on 5136 3500.

Funding announced for Latrobe City synthetic sports field pavilion

Funding announced for Latrobe City Synthetic Sports Field pavilion

Latrobe City Council has welcomed the Victorian State Government announcement of funding of \$650,000 from the Community Sports Infrastructure Fund for the construction of the Latrobe City Synthetic Sports Field pavilion.

The \$1.3 million project, a partnership between the State Government, Council, Federation University and the Latrobe Valley Hockey Association, is expected to get underway soon.

Latrobe City Council's Mayor, Councillor Kellie O'Callaghan, said the pavilion would provide a facility to match the quality of the field, not just for the hockey association, but for the wider community.

"The pavilion will be a much anticipated addition to the synthetic field which was built by Latrobe City Council

in partnership with the State Government and Federation University in 2011. The Latrobe Valley Hockey Association and Federation University have advocated strongly for this project. Once built, it promises to be a high grade, well-appointed multi-use facility.

A pavilion at the synthetic field in Churchill will provide significant community benefits, not just in terms of access to change rooms and other facilities within the building, but in terms of boosting the profile of the sport locally and regionally. There is a league in Gippsland and this pavilion will hopefully help to grow participation in the sport once it is constructed," Councillor O'Callaghan said.

"A pavilion will also provide a comfortable and safe space for players and families who take part in games and tournaments. The change room provisions at the

moment are inadequate, with players required to change elsewhere.

The community benefits that come with this project are manifold. Along with increased opportunities to host more regional, state, national and even international hockey matches or training camps, there is the potential for other sporting and leisure clubs, and the wider community, to use the facility.

This project is much needed, long-awaited and now, with funding secured, a certainty for a prosperous future for hockey in Latrobe City," Councillor O'Callaghan concluded.

In addition to the State Government's \$650,000, Latrobe City Council is contributing \$230,000 towards this project, Federation University \$400,000 and the Latrobe Valley Hockey Association \$20,000.



Australia Day 2017

Australia Day Awards

CHURCHILL



Congratulations to all the award recipients.

Churchill Lion Bob Lowick was MC for the day's proceedings, welcoming all including MLA Russell Northe and Latrobe City Councillor Darrell White to the event. The 1st Churchill Scouts carried out the flag raising ceremony. Grateful thanks were expressed to the Churchill Hotel for allowing the occasion to be celebrated in the carpark and the use of the toilet facilities.

Darrell White on behalf of Latrobe City Council, welcomed a growing crowd to the Australia Day celebrations in the Churchill Hotel carpark acknowledging the GunaiKurnai, their elders past and present and the land on which the event was taking place.

He thanked the Churchill and District Lions for again organising the event so well. He said this day was an opportunity to take pleasure in this meaningful day; a day to spend with family and friends to celebrate our way of life, our resilience, our values and to acknowledge what a great place in which we live. It is a time to celebrate our great community spirit; to recognise the importance of the Latrobe Valley to the economy of Victoria; to enjoy the little things and share friendships this day.

Reverend Brenda Burney

Jasmine represented the dressed as Beans the clown and Ruth Place observed how lucky we are in this country and offered prayers for peace, guidance for our leaders and safety for our people.

Then the awards were presented as follows

Lumen Christi

Jasmine Croft

Jasmine was born at Traralgon Hospital on 11/2/2004 and lives in Churchill.

The Principal of Lumen Christi Primary School says of Jasmine:

In the classroom, she completed her work to the best of her ability and was always willing to help the other students. She also assisted with classroom organisation.

She often created the documents that were used to record data, she led the classroom spelling test and fixed many technical problems that her teacher could not. Outside the classroom, Jasmine proved that she was reliable and trustworthy with any job or activity.

She completed tasks she was often asked to do speedily and returned to the room unobtrusively, resuming her work both quickly and quietly.

She created the slideshows for many school presentations, particularly School Masses, and operated the computer during them.

Jasmine represented the

school in many sporting activities, and has been an exemplary example of sportsmanship and manners.

Jasmine showed initiative in her work and responsibilities, always taking pride in the Lumen Christi School uniform and being a responsible and trustworthy member of the Lumen Christi School community.

This year Jasmine has stepped up to the plate in every way.

She was awarded the Churchill Lions Club John Tipping Academic Excellence Award in 2016 after struggling during 2015.

She plays basketball, always within the rules, with handshakes at the beginning and end no matter what happens.

Jasmine is not one to promote herself before others but goes out of her way to help anyone who needs assistance.

Lumen Christi Primary School Motto includes the words Achieve – Succeed – Together.

Jasmine has fulfilled all the provisions of the school motto.

Churchill Primary School

Hayley Caldwell

The following comments are provided by Sue Gilmore and staff at Churchill Primary School -

The school expectations for students at Churchill Primary School are:

RESECTFUL – POSITIVE – LEARNERS.

Hayley Caldwell is an excellent example of a young person who challenges herself and has over the course of the past year, set herself specific goals, seeking feedback on how she was learning, then adjusting her actions and behaviours to attain these goals.

Hayley was chosen by her peers as School Captain in 2016 as an advocate of student voice at Churchill Primary School. Hayley set about learning what this role meant for her and gained understanding as to what she would have to do to be successful.

Her goals started with being able to speak to her school community when necessary, using a clear and strong voice during the weekly school assemblies. She took on the challenge to seek feedback and over the course of the year has become the most clearly heard and listened to School Captain, speaking for all students. She has also grown in so many other ways.

Hayley has represented the school at many community forums throughout the school year. The first major event was the school welcome to Russell North, Member for Morwell, when he came to present the school leaders badges at our presentation event. She has

also played important roles in representing our school at both celebratory and remembrance events during the year, and continued to lead our weekly school assemblies as well as write student leadership pieces for our school newsletter and the Churchill & District News.

Most recently, Hayley led the transition sessions for new parents to our community in 2017 conducting a tour of our school, speaking about learning and what our school offers for students. She did this in a confident and professional manner. She has grown by challenging herself, taking advice, managing her actions, and giving her all.

Hayley has offered new ideas for improvement within the school and is proactive in being a leader in her community with her school as the focus. We at Churchill Primary are very proud of Hayley's achievements and see her as the embodiment of someone who has a growth mindset and the right attitude to succeed in whatever she takes on in her future endeavours.

Hayley has an inner belief in her own abilities, learnt that it is not possible to please everyone as we are all different, has achieved success in public speaking, and is keen to learn, has grown in confidence and is willing to accept responsibility.

Her Dad's words 'Try your best – if you're not trying your best you are not trying hard enough', have been a good incentive.

Churchill North Primary

Lucas Hobbs

Lucas Phillip Hobbs was born on August 27, 2004 and has lived in Churchill since commencing preschool. He got along with all teachers and staff at Churchill North Primary School. Lucas was School Captain at Churchill North in 2016, where he went to great lengths to ensure that other students were supported and looked after, using his excellent communication skills.

He is well respected by his peers and sets an excellent example for others to follow and as such he achieves all the school goals such as:

To be safe

To be treated with respect

To learn and play without interference or harassment

To provide a well-maintained school environment

in accordance with the Students Code of Practice.

Lucas has played soccer with the Churchill Rams 8-10 years and currently plays football for Churchill Junior Football Club – Cougars. His coaches say he is an excellent young man who is a coach's dream. He readily helps at



Australia Day 2017

training to work with other boys to enhance their skills and hence those of the team.

Lucas has received numerous awards from coaches but never lets it go to his head.

He is an excellent artist and won a competition to design the Christmas Cards last year for Russell Northe – Local Member of Parliament and his parents see perhaps a career in art or similar.

Hazelwood North Primary School

Charlotte Di Toro

Charlotte was born on October 7, 2004.

She is very family orientated and loves to be involved in any family activity including spending time with her grandparents and eating Noona's cooking.

She also speaks fluent Italian.

She is a warm, caring, considerate person who steps forward when the need arises. She is also very supportive and inclusive of others who may be a bit different.

Charlotte commenced her primary school journey in 2010 at Hazelwood North Primary School, and has continually demonstrated all the school values, culminating in her current leadership position as School Captain in 2016. When challenged academically, Charlotte shows resilience by working

through the task methodically and responsibly. She always works hard at completing all components of an activity and displays a natural curiosity, which leads her to explore other avenues of research and develop a better understanding of the topic at hand.

In team and group settings, Charlotte is a great collaborator who is very supportive of her team members. Her success is demonstrated by her sporting achievements in netball where she has represented the Churchill Indoor Netball Association in Under 11s. She was part of the successful Hazelwood North Primary School (HNPS) 11 and Under team winning the Grand Final that year, as well as being awarded the most valuable player / best on court. She was selected to play for the Traralgon Football Netball Club (13 and Under), represented the Gippsland League (13 and Under) and has just been selected to represent the Traralgon Netball Association (13 and Under) for 2017.

Charlotte represented HNPS in a range of sporting activities at District, Divisional and Regional level, including netball, swimming, soccer, athletics, cross country and basketball.

In 2015 and 2016 Charlotte entered her written

work into the Churchill & District News Writing Competition. In 2015 she was recognised with an encouragement award for her short story and last year she was awarded third place for her poetry.

Charlotte has represented the school at various events including Remembrance Day and ANZAC Day ceremonies, and has regularly made speeches on behalf of the school and at times written her own well received speeches.

Charlotte has embraced community fundraising by having her hair cut which she had been growing since the age of eight. At this age, Charlotte told her parents she would like to cut her hair when she was in Grade 6 and donate it to make wigs for children with cancer. Last year she told her parents that she would also like to raise money for an organisation or charity that wasn't "popular" and she chose the Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health, which researches child dementia – in particular, Niemann Pick Type C disease.

Charlotte organised two fundraising events at school - a sausage sizzle lunch order day, and a crazy hair day, which coincided with the cutting of her hair in front of the students. Overall, Charlotte raised \$3,500 in six weeks for the Florey Institute, an amazing effort for someone so young, epitomising several of the school values including challenge, curiosity, and responsibility.

Young Citizen of the Year

Alicia Ewen

Born on March 4, 2000, she lives in Churchill, completing her Primary School education at Lumen Christi, where she got things done as a quite achiever.

Alicia is currently at Kurnai College University (Senior) Campus studying Year 12 VCE. Alicia is a very mature, hardworking and respected young student. She is performing very well in all her units and shows great potential for the future. Alicia is greatly respected by both her teachers as well as her peers and is very popular among the student body.

Alicia is enrolled in Scouts and has been with them for a long time. She has recently been awarded her Scout Medallion and is now working towards her Queen's Scout Medal, the highest Scout Award available.

She commenced her scouting adventure as a Joey Scout / Cubs and progressed attaining their highest award of Grey Wolf – Sixer and was a Patrol Leader and has continued in the scout adventure picking up awards as she goes.

Alicia played Netball for five years with the Churchill Cougars.

In 2013 Alicia was nominated by her school to visit China on an exchange program. Her parents commented that she returned with her rose - coloured glasses off as it provided her with a real-life experience of what life can be for others.

Alicia's ambition is to become a forensic scientist after studying at university.

Alicia works part-time at Woolworths in Churchill. She gave up playing sport when her involvement in Scouts and undertaking her VCE began to take up most of her time.

Kurnai asked Alicia to attend the Monash University School of Sciences and Services for three weeks to undertake a study into Forensic Sciences. Alicia has fallen in love with Forensic Sciences and now wishes to become a Forensic Scientist with the Police Department.

Alicia is a very caring person interested in what goes on around her. She cares about her friends and looks after them. They in turn speak very highly of her and care about her very much.

Jackie McLure Churchill Citizen of the Year

Jackie has been a volunteer with Gippsland Lifeline's Churchill Shop for 24 years, starting in March 1992.

In 1994 Jackie was elected as Shop co-ordinator for the Churchill shop, a position she held for two years.

When Jackie first started with Lifeline, the big recycling bins that were in the shopping centre were emptied and the goods were taken upstairs to the shop, which was then in the former Exacto factory on the first floor in West Place shopping centre. This became impractical so the goods were



taken to the Sharman property at Hazelwood Estate to be sorted.

For nearly ten years, every Monday morning, Jackie, along with others, would turn up to the "naturally air conditioned" old shed to help sort all the goods. The good articles were then packed for delivery to the shop. The clothing which was unsuitable for sale in the shop was cut up for rags by several ladies including Jackie.

Jackie and the late Nancy Sharman would load up the car with as many bags of rags they could and then visit varying businesses in the Valley selling and getting orders for the cut rags. This continued until 2001 when Lifeline Gippsland established their

central distribution warehouse in Morwell.

In 2003, Jackie stepped up to share the Shop co-ordinator's role with Annette Deppeler, who says she couldn't ask for a better person to share the role with. Jackie is very caring and compassionate; a dedicated and diligent fellow worker, who has become a valued friend.

Jackie continues to play an extremely important role, still working every Tuesday, and calling into the shop on other days, seeing if there is anything needed, and looking after the welfare of the shop volunteers. Despite all the



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Lucas Hobbs



Jasmine Croft



Evelyn Littlejohn



Jackie McLure

trials and tribulations, Jackie always has a smile on her face.

Jackie attends regular meetings of the seven Lifeline Shop Co-ordinators and contributes greatly, willingly sharing her knowledge and past experience, and also helps out at various other fund raising events for Lifeline Gippsland.

Now, with no recycling bins in Churchill, people tend to leave their donated goods outside the shop.

Unfortunately these goods can be thrown around the area or taken by others, so Jackie can be seen down there several times during the weekends picking up the goods and making sure the surrounds of the shop are clean and respectable.

Continuing to volunteer at the Churchill shop, Jackie and her Tuesday volunteers are responsible for the selection and pricing of the clothing that is put in the shop. (Other day volunteers are responsible for other "departments" within the shop.)

When Jackie was elected to the Co-ordinator role in 1994 the Lifeline shops did not have any paid staff specifically overseeing the shops and their business, so a lot of responsibility was

on the shop Co-ordinator to keep the shops operating successfully. When Lifeline Gippsland was contemplating establishing their warehouse and distribution Centre, Jackie was among a group of volunteers who travelled to Geelong and Warrnambool to gain first hand knowledge of the workings of such an enterprise.

In the aftermath of the 2009 Boolarra and Churchill fires, at the request of the Recovery Centre, Jackie opened the Lifeline Churchill shop outside of normal shop hours on a couple of occasions to assist victims who were either burnt out completely or who had evacuated at short notice with only the clothes on their back.

She has attended courses conducted by Lifeline to further assist in the role of a shop co-ordinator.

Other relevant background information about Jackie McLure:

Was formerly a Primary School teacher in Traralgon.

When her children were young Jackie volunteered for various school and sporting activities.

Was heavily involved with the Hazelwood Estate School and the publication of the book to celebrate the school

60 years Diamond Jubilee in 1986.

Churchill Junior Football-volunteered in the canteen etc.

Churchill Baseball Club – was a regular contributor to the Churchill News with the weekend baseball scores.

Being a former teacher was a tutor to many children with reading disabilities.

Has been a very active member of the Churchill Neighbourhood House for many years - Assistant Secretary, Secretary, President and Treasurer as well as being responsible for many of their displays in the foyer at the centre.

Jackie was a representative who conferred with the Latrobe City when the current building was being planned and worked hard to ensure the building would satisfy the Churchill public expectations.

Willingly passes on her knowledge to others wishing to learn quilting, patchwork etc.

Has been very active with the Gum Leaf Quilters where Jackie has been a strong and willing worker, not only sewing quilts, but selling raffle tickets, setting up for the famous Gum Leaf Quilters Exhibition, etc.

Evelyn Littlejohn 2017 Latrobe City Citizen Recognition award –

Evelyn is one of those unique people who makes the world so much better. She volunteers on a regular basis with CWA and a local Opp shop. She is involved in the Yinnar Lions Club where her

husband is the president.

She regularly checks in and makes meals for local Yinnar families who have three children with a serious health condition.

After the 2009 bushfires Evelyn worked tirelessly to cook for and clothe people in need.

She is a lovely person with a beautiful soul and will always lend a hand when asked.

Following the presentations the Lions Club invited the public to share in the delicious smelling food which they had willingly prepared.



Australia Day 2017

BOOLARRA



Another great Australia Day celebration at Railway Park in Boolarra with over 120 people turning out to enjoy the mild weather and an egg and bacon sandwich, and a chance to have a chin wag with friends they don't run into often. It was great to meet a number of the new residents to town in such a relaxed atmosphere.

It was perfect weather, and the trees look better every year.

The kids had fun with the games organised by Tanya Brown, including sack races, and gumboot throwing. The older crowd members were kept on their toes by Australiana Trivia questions. The volunteers on the BBQ started at 7.30 to ensure the hungry masses were very well catered for.

Councillor Darrell White spoke movingly of the significance of Australia Day, and the values it represents, and how these are reflected in our community. Russell Northe MLA spoke about the importance and the strength of the community spirit within Boolarra, the large number of clubs and organisations in the town, and the important role of the Community Development Group. Colin Brick spoke

briefly about a number of upcoming events being run in Boolarra, including a Men's Health night in March and a Community Garage Sale day on April 2.

After the presentation of the Boolarra Community Awards, we had the raising of the flag and singing of the anthem, ably led by a few members of BUG. Special thanks to Gary Mills and the Boolarra Pony Club for providing the use of their sound system for the day.

There were a large number of nominations for Community Recognition Awards this year. This reflects the enthusiasm people have for being able to have their friends' efforts formally acknowledged in front of an audience of their peers.

Once again it was a terrific range of recipients this year, with a number of the quiet achievers acknowledged, along with a number of people who have been closely involved in key community activities such as the Men's Shed and the Football Netball Club. It was great to see three nominations from the Boolarra Cemetery Trust; the committee there have done a fabulous job in improving the facilities and keeping the area

in pristine condition. There were also three nominations from the Budgeree Hall Committee of Management, which emphasises the point that our community does not only consist of the township of Boolarra but also the adjoining areas.

On a personal note, I'd like to congratulate my nephew, Colonel Malcolm Brick, son of Churchill resident Geoff Brick, for being awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross in the Australia Day Honours.

Congratulations to the following recipients in recognition of their significant contribution to the community:

Peter Richardson

Through his willingness to provide his time, expertise and equipment, without fanfare or fuss, to help out people in need within the community.

Geoff Owen

To the safety of the Boolarra community, through the great advocacy work he has done with VicRoads in improving local intersections, signage, removal of unsafe trees and road surfaces.

Rob Franssen

In providing his time, expertise and equipment

over the last few years in maintaining Jack Richards Park and the town entrance in a tidy condition.

Tony Snell

As Secretary of the Boolarra Bowls Club for the last eight years, he has performed his duties in sterling fashion, and has proudly and effectively represented the club in external forums.

Judy Webster

Through her efforts in the maintenance of the facilities at the Boolarra Cemetery, and the love and care put into creating and maintaining the gardens.

Merilyn Williams

Through her efforts in the maintenance of the facilities at the Boolarra Cemetery, and the love and care put into creating and maintaining the gardens.

Roger Pither

He goes over and above his official postal role as postman to provide a personal and welcoming approach to all he deals with. He is a great advertisement and asset for the community of Boolarra and district.

Natalie Roy

Through her tireless contribution to the Budgeree Hall and community over the

past 60 years, her inclusive approach has ensured a strong connection within our community, and her persistence has ensured the Budgeree Christmas Tree remains an annual feature.

Edith Owen

Through her twenty plus years on the Budgeree Hall Committee, she is a tireless worker always willing to do the cooking, cleaning, maintenance or whatever else is required.

Edgar Owen

Through his thirty plus years on the Budgeree Hall Committee, he has been an integral part of the committee, contributing quietly and without seeking recognition as he does the maintenance and upkeep of the hall and its grounds.

Karen Twomey

During her 27 years of service to The Boolarra Primary School and the Boolarra community, a popular teacher, she has always been keen to involve the children in community related projects such as the artwork for the Boolarra Welcome Pack, Australia Day decorations and the fire related art displayed in Railway Park.

Jeff Henderson

Through his active involvement in a wide range of community activities, he was the driving force behind the establishment of the Men's Shed and has been its President since its inception. He has actively sought to promote the good of the community through its activities. He is a Director of the Boolarra Community Hotel, and is a past chair of the Boolarra Community Development Group and has been on the Boolarra Memorial Hall committee.

Glenys Morgan

For her dedicated work as Secretary/Treasurer of the Boolarra Cemetery Trust, and especially her work on the "Poppy Tile" project. The condition of the cemetery and the improvements that have been undertaken are a credit to her and the committee.

Tania Brown

In providing wholesome and much needed recreational outlets for the youth of the town through her outstanding work with the Boolarra and District Youth Theatre Group and in organising discos and Halloween activities.



Australia Day 2017

Mac Wood OAM

Cathleen Dodds

With the passion and commitment she puts into her duties with the Boolarra Football Netball Club. As well as doing a great job coordinating the bar, she also “mans” the scoreboard during home games, and provides a strong voice on the committee.

Paul Dodds

Through his invaluable support to the Boolarra Netball Club this season in helping to gain a grant from Worksafe and in submitting a successful nomination for a state-wide Worksafe award.

Paul has been a tremendous contributor to the Boolarra Football Netball Club this year and is always willing to help out where ever

he can.

Colin Brick, OA

Boolarra Community Development Group
Mac Wood OAM

As someone once opined, it's a real pity our community is not made from the same recipe as Mac Wood.

Mac Wood - his name resonates right across a wide variety of community and professional activities within the Latrobe Valley. For hundreds, he is a “real legend”.

This is because of his humility and honesty. To congratulate him, as many have done so, on receiving an Australia Day honour is returned with “thanks but many others were there to help”.

This is the mark of the man known locally as Mac. His Order of Australia Medal (OAM) is testimony to years of unselfish, volunteer community work which has touched many.

The list is extensive – Scouting, Meals on Wheels, Hazelwood Rotary, Probus, Presbyterian Church, Latrobe City Council Positive Aging Committee and, in earlier times a member of the Morwell High School Council.

Names of committees is one thing, what's more important is “the doing of work” as required and Mac is always there. He is not known to sit back. There's no looking on.

“My Mum also received an MBE”, Mac says. “So I guess it's in the family.”

“Certainly I feel honoured, humbled but surprised. I do nothing more than what others do.”

And this is the mark of the man. Public adulation is far from being important. Others may bathe in their self-importance but not Mac.

“What you put in, you get back many times over. I have pleasure making a difference for others.”

Speaking about the delicate topic of volunteerism, Mac pauses, thinks and

provides wise counsel.

“If you want to get the best [from whichever community situation] you must be involved. Over the past decades, I have worked with inspiring people – all types in fact. That is, their self-commitment to what they do shows sincere, non-judgemental commitment.

I still believe volunteers work with trust and confidence although our contemporary love of materialism provides challenges. Group satisfaction is far more rewarding than self-satisfaction.

In my case, the whole family is fully supportive. My wonderful wife, Judy, is a tower of strength; naturally there's a certain balancing act.”

Mac smiles as he recalls one of his first volunteer jobs. Teaching at the former Hazelwood South State School, he was immediately recruited as secretary of the Hazelwood Sports Club. Eric Rowley was President.

A community sports day – picnic race meeting was planned to raise funds to help pay for a new hall adjoining the Hazelwood South sports oval. It was a registered picnic race meeting complete with bookies. The day coincided with Melbourne's Caulfield Cup meeting. Local identity



John Trevorrow organised a bike race from Morwell to Hazelwood South. Wood chopping and a gymkhana were other key attractions.

Often we hear “no-one is volunteering these days.” Mac is more circumspect on this.

“I think younger ones are helping, it's just there's such a larger community demand. A wider range of community activities around these days

and volunteers are there; they're largely unseen. They get in and help.

Those who do not volunteer miss out. We must shift our focus from me and instead, think about others.”

And, true to his word, Mac and Judy will still slice the onions for those famous Hazelwood Rotary sausage sizzles for which locals hunger.



Flag raising ceremony and the turn out for Australia Day at Churchill





Australia Day 2017

YINNAR



By Janette and Herb Smith
 Despite the overcast weather, Yinnar and District enjoyed another Australia Day celebration. A crowd of approximately 130 people were entertained by the music of Rod and Rhonda Owen together with their grandchildren, Lachie and Georgia with Phil Edwards providing bass guitar.
 Yinnar 2016 Primary School Captains Tamsyn Walker and Harri McColl, gave an excellent speech about the meaning of

Australia Day.
 The crowd was then addressed by M.P. Russell Northe and Councillor Darrell White.
 They spoke of the importance of community involvement in Australia Day celebrations, and the great work done by volunteers in small communities throughout the Latrobe Valley.
 Young Citizen of the Year was awarded to Annabelle Linton. She is an outstanding student at Kurnai College, a keen netball player and well

respected by her teachers and peers. Annabelle is very passionate about her friends, family and community welfare.
 There were three nominees for Citizen of the Year - Daniel Cook, Reg Stirling and Lloyd Wicks.
 Daniel is actively involved in the 1st Yinnar Scout group, Lieutenant with the Yinnar CFA and a valuable member of the Yinnar and District Lions Club - one of our quiet achievers.
 Reg Stirling has had

a lifetime of community involvement including Yinnar Football and Netball Club, CFA member for over 40 years, charter member of Yinnar and District Lions, Neighbourhood Watch coordinator, director of the Yinnar Community Co-op and provides a support vehicle for both Camp Quality and KidzFix rallies.
 The well deserved winner of the Yinnar Citizen of the Year was Lloyd Wicks.
 He is a fourth generation farmer in Yinnar and was an original member of the

Young Farmers and the Yinnar Dramatic Society. During the 60s and 70s, he entertained many people as Professor Ratbaggy, including at Moomba in 1971.
 Lloyd has been a Memorial Hall Committee member since 1974 and a member of Yinnar CFA for more than 50 years and continues to attend call outs when available.
 He was a committee member for both the Morwell Shire Centenary and 125 year celebrations

for Yinnar Primary School which prompted him, along with other locals, to form the Yinnar and District Historical Society.
 He has documented many community history events including the last train to Mirboo North and the Yinnar Centenary.
 He was awarded a certificate of recognition for his work by the combined Historical Societies. His passion for both the community and history is still as strong today - a very deserving winner.



Vale Sheila Hope Crookston

October 21, 1926 - November 17, 2016

Sheila Gardner was born in St. Kilda to parents Cecil and Violet (Vee) Gardner.

She was one of three children, Patricia and Desmond (dec) being the others.

Sheila married Robert (Bob) Crookston in Warragul in May 1953.

Sheila went to school originally at Thornton Primary School, but actually lived in Rubicon. It was a four mile walk to school. She then attended Wangaratta Primary school after her older brother Desmond was killed in a railway accident in 1933 aged eight (he was run over by a small trolley that they used to ride on sometimes to get a lift home from school). Sheila completed her schooling in Kyabram. Sheila met her husband in 1950 at Yallourn Tennis Club. The same year she travelled to England and Europe for a working holiday with a friend of hers Pat Hanna. Sheila and Robert later married on May 9, 1953 and had a son, Robert in 1955 and another son, Peter in 1957.

Robert and Colleen have three girls Melanie 1989, Stephanie 1991 and Leesa 1994. Peter and Kim have three boys Luke 1990, Dylan 1992 and Kyle 1994, giving Sheila six grandchildren. Luke and Heather have two boys Lee 2011 and Beau 2014, giving Sheila two great grandchildren.

Throughout her life she worked as a stenographer, worked at Yallourn Technical College, was the registrar at Morwell Technical College, was involved in setting up Kurnai College, sold Life Insurance with MLC (before it was common for women to work). The family thinks she was the first woman to do so and she won an award for her

work.

Sheila sacrificed a lot for her family.

She leaves behind a family saddened by her departure from this life, but thankful for the influence she has been and the support she has offered to each one. Sheila was so proud of them all and they thought she was precious to them; a very special person in their lives. She leaves behind Rob and Colleen, Peter and Kim, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Sheila was a faithful and much loved member of the Yinnar Anglican Church, then Co-operating Churches (Boolarra/Yinnar) and helped to see through the involved joining together of the Boolarra/Yinnar and Churchill Co-Operating parishes. She was a member of Parish Council at 80 years of age, until failing health saw her transition to Hazelwood House where she continued to attend the monthly service church for a long time.

Everyone who spoke about Sheila remarked on how full of life she was, how interesting she was to talk to, how informed she was about issues. She was a good friend and a good listener.

She loved to tell of her travel adventures from her younger years and her family are now enjoying reading some of those adventures in the diaries she wrote at the time.

To family she was known as Mum, Gran, Great Gran Gorilla, and Great Gran.

Sheila's six grandchildren, Melanie, Stephanie, Leesa, Luke, Dylan and Kyle shared their memories.

Luke who is the oldest grandson, has two sons Lee who is five and Beau who is two, Lee wanted to say something too.



Luke remembers his Gran who meant a lot to them in many different ways. 'She would say it as it was, she was a lady of wisdom, and a lady of love. One thing that stands out from every other memory is that whenever you held a conversation with her, you always had her full attention, she didn't only just listen with her ears, she listened with her soul.

Nothing else mattered to her at that time. Another memory is about going for a drive with Gran, you would know she would be distracted at some point by, cows, flowers, hills, or anything else that grabbed her interest, and then at that point you HAD to grab the wheel, or who knows where you would end up. One night she hit a cow, where it was most definitely the cows fault.

At Christmas time, whenever a present was opened, there would be this voice saying "oh wow". After a few presents were opened nearly everyone had picked up on this and brought it to her attention. Much to Gran's disgust it was also caught on video.

Gran would always be there for anyone who needed her, no matter what it was. I am so proud and honoured to have known you and for your two great grandchildren Lee

and Beau, to have met you. Our Gran was the backbone of this family, and will always be in our hearts through our life, watching us.'

Great grandson Lee says 'I liked how Gran gave me cuddles, I will really miss Gran.'

Another grandson Dylan shared his memories.

'One of my favourite memories with Gran is going up to her house early in the morning and having breakfast with her, marmalade on toast was the usual.

We would then play a game of Mastermind before heading out and doing some gardening and taking Sasha the dog for a walk, and staying up late watching the tennis.'

Kyles, also a grandson said, 'I remember how Gran used to love taking all her grandchildren anywhere and everywhere, like Narracan Falls for a swim, even though we had to walk through grass as tall as we were to get there.

She used to just get up out of bed and take us on adventures. She was always an adventurous person.

Gran was one of a kind. She somehow knew of everything that was going on in our lives, but she was always there for us no matter the circumstances. If she had something on her mind, she would say it straight out, no

filters or anything. Straight out. But she always had that cheeky smirk on her face. You could talk to Gran about absolutely anything. Even if she wasn't impressed with what we talked about, she still kept a straight face and pointed us in the right direction.'

The granddaughters continued:

'Gran has proved on many occasions, that she is indeed, a force to be reckoned with.

She was a woman that demanded respect, and got it.

Sometimes, she didn't quite get the respect she deserved...Gran adopted a ginger kitten.

Tigger and Gran instantly adored each other. But their relationship was not without its arguments. Like when it was bed time, Gran would stand at the front door and call for him. Normally he would trot out of the darkness and happily come inside. But on occasions he would appear on the other side of the road, look at Gran and walk away. On these occasions Gran would start having an argument with the darkness and eventually lock Tigger outside. Even if Tigger arrived 'after bed time' she refused to let him in.

Gran was an integral part of all family celebrations bringing life to the party wherever she went.

She was not a shrinking violet, having an opinion about almost everything, and she loved a good argument, accompanied by sweeping hand gestures which bade no good for the glassware!

After Pop passed away, Gran started to join our family on many holidays around Australia, joining in with gusto whatever activity was on offer. Holidays with Gran were very special to all of us.

Melanie and Steph both lived with Gran over a period of seven years, while doing their degrees. They noted that Sheila had a busy life being involved with church functions, tennis, bowls, bridge, volunteering at the op shop, book club, U3A classes and a constant stream of people popping over; she was a massive social butterfly.

Our friends were welcomed and she became friends to many, often being called Gran instead of Sheila.

'First luck white horse' -

this silly little game has been embedded in our heads since we were little. The game is, when you see a white horse you need to be the one to say 'first luck white horse', then you get a point. Every time we went out it would be a competition. We played it with or without Gran, even to this day.

Gran had a bucket list. There were only three things on it.

1) Go to a university graduation. I was lucky enough to have Gran attend my graduation at Monash University.

2) attend a grandchild's wedding. Gran attended Melanie's wedding almost two years ago but she was one of my flower girls.

3) meet a great grandchild. She was lucky enough to do this twice with the arrival of Lee and Beau, the gorgeous children of Heather and Luke.

Gran's life revolved around family. She was always there, feeding us tick tock biscuits, milo in our special mugs and mashed potato. She was the best babysitter, listener, photo shoot model, study buddy and friend we could have ever asked for.

We could always count on her to fall asleep in the cinema, stealing all the cheesy bit off the nachos, and taking a constant stream of teasing in her stride.

Gran, we would all like to thank you for being such an integral part of our lives.

You are a wonderful, inspirational, kind, smart and loving person, and we are all so lucky to be able to call you our family. You are a grandmother, but you are also our best friend.

I will always have this piece of my heart that smiles whenever I think about you... and every time I see a white horse.'

Those in the community who knew Sheila would echo those sentiments having a loyal and trustworthy friend who was eager to be helpful in any way.

Sheila lived her life with great meaning and purpose for herself and for all those who knew her.

Rest in peace thou good and faithful servant. Amen



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The Hub Christmas breakup



It was a very happy mood among the many visitors checking out the varied goods available for a Silent Auction on the day.

For an interest, a nautical theme was chosen for the afternoon. Two decorated ships were the centrepiece of the luncheon table, which was laden with many goodies for everyone to share. We all enjoyed a delightful smorgasbord luncheon which included many different savoury and sweet dishes.

Following lunch there was a parade of the wonderful people who dressed up for the occasion. There were some prizes handed out to the best of the best. Abigail with her shoulder parrot in a boat, Emma dressed in nautical colours, Jean in the good ship the "Hub Tub" with golliwog

companions and catch of the day, along with Captain Hook and Brenda Burney with her pirate headgear all looked marvellous.

This was followed with some community singing also with the nautical theme carried forward. Everyone joined in an old and well known favourite, "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" lead by Bronwyn, first we sang it all together, then in "rounds" which sounded loud and cheerful. Maybe we could have a singing group start soon at the Hub.

Many of the other visitors joined in the Christmas spirit of the day and sported Santa hats and other bright decorations about their persons.

It was great to see Julia Leonard, the past coordinator

visiting for the afternoon.

After all this excitement the silent auction goodies were handed out to those who had been lucky enough to make the winning bid on each article. There was much excitement as the patrons picked up their new goodies. However there were some things which had not recorded a bid and these articles were ably auctioned off to those present by Lorraine, who made an outstanding auctioneer. She was able to have a clearance of almost all the goods presented on the day. Well done Lorraine.

A very enjoyable time was had by all as a celebration for the closing of the year 2016, and now everyone is looking forward to a Happy New Year.

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helloworld Morwell *Our Team*

Irene O'Donnell

Beginning her travel career in 1979, Irene has seen many changes. Today, some 36 years on from her start at Billingsleys Travel, she feels many more people are choosing to spend their money travelling and making their dreams a reality. She believes helloworld Morwell's customer focus and unsurpassed experience has seen their loyal client base grow from one year to the next.

Irene is proud to be a small business owner with an incredible team working with her.

Kimberlee Stoll

Kim is helloworld Morwell's office manager and has been part of the team for more than ten years. She has travelled to over 45 countries

around the world. Her most recent trip took her to Northern California and included the beautiful Lake Tahoe, Sanoma county and San Francisco. Kim is most dearly loved by her clients for the time, care and love she puts into each and every booking.

Joy Martin

Joy has always had a love of travel, even before her travel career began more than 20 years ago. As part of Irene's team for more than 13 years, Joy has travelled to more than 78 countries around the world from Cambodia to Ethiopia, from Vanuatu to Peru and most places in between, Joy's knowledge and expertise is exceptional. She wants her clients to experience the places she has been and enjoys putting

plans into reality.

Antoinette Stokell

We have a fresh look in our store with Antoinette joining the team. The youngster of the team, she has already travelled through Bali, Vietnam, China and Europe. Recently returned from a Top Deck tour of Scandinavia, including Santa's workshop in Finland, Antoinette is full of enthusiasm and excitement to share with her clients. She has lots of experiences to share and looks forward to giving her clients the life time memories that come with travelling.




Hazelwood Rotary

Contact:
Leo Billington, President
0458 661 848

MEETINGS:
Mondays 6.30pm - 8.00pm

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"Hazelwood Rotary Club - supporting the 2017 Churchill Festival by co-ordinating various exciting activities."

Vale Mary Austin

In her 94 years Mary Austin had many adventures and worked as a nurse in many locations. She spent 43 years, almost half her life, in Churchill, where she contributed through her working life and her retirement years, to the very fabric of this town. She was an innovator and an inspiration to many. Mary dared to do many things out of the ordinary, and her life experiences have been exciting and fulfilling.

Mary and her twin sister Ruth were born at Leongatha Hospital on August 26, 1922. Their parents, Leslie and Iney Austin, were surprised as they were expecting only one birth.

Life on the farm awoke in Mary and Ruth a life-long love of natural history. Mary continued her love of nature and involvement with the Field Naturalists in Melbourne and locally.

The farm was also the foundation for Mary's own interest in and skill in producing excellent meals for herself and visitors.

The twins attended Mirboo North Higher Elementary School. Only four years of high school was available at Mirboo North, further education was done by correspondence courses.

Mary had completed her Intermediate Certificate in 1937, when there was a severe outbreak of poliomyelitis, which was a particular threat to rural children if they were to go to the city. She stayed at home to complete her studies.

Mary lived through times from horse and cart to bikes (a trend setter for Mirboo North) and later cars, the advent of electricity and radio to expand their world.

Church and Sunday School were part of life.

This fostered a great love of music, which continued throughout Mary's life, as did her love for the Lord and her regular attendance at church.

Mary started working life

at the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories (CSL) in Royal Park. Accommodation was arranged with her Aunt Margaret and Uncle Arthur at Willison, and she began work a few days later, aged 16.11 years. Her weekly wage was 22 shillings, increasing to 24 shillings at age 17. A few weeks later World War 2 broke out.

The Serum Laboratories were declared an essential service as extra vaccines were required by Australia's military forces and also to supply other countries. Mary spent two nights a week at night school studying chemistry (practical and theory) at Swinburne Technical School. It was a time of brownout with reduced city lighting.

Mary had gradually climbed the ranks till the last two or three years when she was working in the Penicillin Research Department.

By the end of the war Ruth was enjoying her general nursing training at Prince Henry's Hospital in St Kilda Road, Melbourne. Mary decided to join her - she would far rather be looking after humans by administering the penicillin which had been part of her life until now.

Three years general training came to an end all too quickly.

They were great and rewarding days for Mary.

In 1950 Ruth suggested they go to New Zealand to work as nurses, as there was a shortage after the war.

It was the first of many shared international adventures, where they nursed at various places, holidaying in between jobs.

Mary returned to



Melbourne to do her 12-month Midwifery certificate at the Queen Victoria Hospital.

Mothers and babies were so special to her.

In January 1953 Mary and Ruth sailed on the Himalaya bound for London. There was to be the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth on June 2.

Mary's first job was in Surrey as a special nurse, caring for a retired Boer War army officer who had suffered a stroke.

He and his wife lived in a gracious stately home set within a large great park full of wonderful trees.

Ruth also worked for the same patient, and this private nursing continued for 12 months in London, and also the Home Counties of Surrey, Berkshire and Norfolk, with holidays in Scotland.

Intrepid as usual, the twins and two New Zealand friends set off on a 14-week post-war camping tour of the

Continent.

Yugoslavia was a country under the harsh Communist rule by President Tito. The sight of four girls unaccompanied by a man, and driving themselves, was most unusual in those days.

A more frightening adventure began in the afternoon of their second day when their car's axle broke due to road works. They had to wait for the men to finish work and then were towed into the nearest town of Vrbosko.

While stuck there waiting for the axle to be fixed they tasted the harsh conditions under which the locals had to live. Fortunately, an elderly woman said she spoke a "liddle" English and was able to help them in their distress.

On October 17, 1954 Mary and Ruth sailed to Montreal, where they had two

weeks of winter to explore the area before starting work at the Montreal General Hospital.

Then they sailed back to Australia having been away for two years, and were welcomed home in dear Mirboo North by thankful parents and a great party of friends. It was 1955.

Family members looked on Mary and Ruth as exotic and interesting!

They loved books, the natural environment and were apparently afraid of nothing.

They showed them that girls could do anything.

Back in Australia the twins went bush, working at several Bush Nursing hospitals including Birchip, where Ruth became quite ill.

The specialist advice was to go north to warmer climes. This was excellent advice that shaped their work and their holidays for the rest of their lives.

In 1959 Mary took charge of the night duty at Box Hill Hospital. Returning to more study in 1960, she did a four-month Infant Welfare Training course, which led to her appointment to Melbourne City Council Health Department.

She was allocated Kensington Infant Welfare Centre.

Mary loved all children and in 1965 she took up a position in charge of 13 family group homes at Melbourne Family Care Organisation.

House Parents, often with children of their own, were employed to care for children who were unable to be cared for by their own parents.

Most were Wards of the State. She enjoyed this work but nursing called and after eight years decided to return to her calling.

Mary was one of 20 nurses

in the first Community Health Nursing Course established by the Australian Government in the early 1970s as part of a more preventive approach to health. She was awarded a scholarship in Aboriginal Health.

In 1965 much was happening in Churchill. A steering committee had been set up to put a submission to the National Hospitals and Health Commission for funding for a Community Health Centre in Churchill. The submission was successful.

The new Community Health Centre opened in March 1975 and Mary started duty in June having completed her Diploma Course a few weeks earlier. She stayed there for 12 years until reaching retirement age of 65.

During that time Mary introduced and developed the totally new role of Community Health Nurse to staff, committee and community. The idea of nursing well people was a new concept. Wellness starts with preventative actions. First Mary had to find out what made Churchill tick.

There were children everywhere and furniture vans unloading people's possessions into brand new houses. Many of the residents were from overseas countries, bringing with them their country's mores and having to learn to adjust to Australia's more relaxed style of living.

Mary began visiting and listening to people's needs and anxieties. From these visits many needs became apparent, especially of new residents moving in. So a Senior Citizens Club was required.

The great electricity strike of June 1979 saw the formation of You Can Make It group as many women had husbands on strike.



Les Austin, Mary & Ruth Austin
Emily Stuart
About 1928?



August 26, 1922 - December 22, 2016



A need to help overweight children resulted in the formation of a Junior Health Watchers group.

Her role involved her as a member of the Latrobe Valley Community Health Co-Ordinating Committee which received federal funding for a special pilot program. Mary's proposal that it be used for a smoking control program was accepted

Mary did a lot of visiting on foot, and found that residents were happy to invite her in. They were relieved to have someone to talk to.

With the co-operation of the CHC (Churchill Health Centre) committee Mary approached the hotel publican to supply a low cost lunch for the new residents. Mary set about introducing them to each other and having them share details like places of origin, families, interests etc.

Young mothers needed more knowledge about home nursing, so a Home Nursing

course was established and First Aid courses were arranged.

A Ladies Discussion Group was formed where women could discuss and share their menopausal problems.

An ante-natal group began to help couples having babies. These were held in evenings so husbands could also attend.

A post-natal group of women was formed in late 1982. The women made friends with each other as they sat, as did their children.

As the babies grew playgroups were needed to continue the support network. So the "Owl and Pussy Cat" Play Group was developed.

A Special Play group was also formed for disabled children.

An Adult Eating Awareness Program called "Operation Bikini" functioned for many years.

Mary also helped out voluntarily on weekends and

public holidays when Hobson Park mental hospital was short staffed, and psychiatric patients resident in Churchill needed help.

Among Mary's other initiatives were Meals on Wheels, Health Screenings at Monash, a school dental program, health assessments at Morwell River Prison, parenting skills, podiatry for the elderly, relaxation classes, Human Relations courses for the Grade sixes, with a Parent's Night information night.

A home phone line was available for people to ring Mary after hours when doctors were not available.

Later with the help of the Anti-Cancer Council in Melbourne, a Mastectomy Support Group was formed. After 27 years the group is still functioning, operating from Traralgon.

Using self-evaluating pamphlets obtained from the National Heart Foundation people attending "Operation Heart Beat" could estimate their risk of heart attack. This inspired Mary to organise an opportunity for attendees to have their blood sample taken and sent to pathology for cholesterol examination. There was an alarming number with high levels. People were notified and invited to attend a healthy cooking course. Most of Mary's groups were held after hours in a voluntary capacity for she felt that the operation of the groups was

of paramount importance.

Mary formally retired in June 1987 age 65, after taking her due long service leave. She was awarded a Life Governor of the Community Health Centre 'for her outstanding contribution and dedicated service to the Churchill community'.

After retirement Mary continued her interest in many activities, including the Field Naturalists with Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists. Her garden was a picture and this was open to the public on a couple of occasions in the 1980's.

Love of crafts involved her with several groups, not only to do the craft but to enjoy being involved with a social network of friends - Boolarra Wool Group and Vagabond group. Attending Church was important to her. She loved Coffee Connections and Bible

studies.

Other activities included the Yinnar Book Club, Morwell Rose Garden, and more recently membership of Morwell Probus Club, and learning to use her computer.

Travel had taken Mary many places, often with twin sister Ruth, until she passed away. Mary continued her annual visit to Kinka Beach, Queensland, for the winter months to meet up with winter friends. She enjoyed her last visit this past winter.

One important involvement for Mary shortly after her retirement was being a member of the Fundraising Committee for Hazelwood House. It seems appropriate that this was the place where she peacefully went to be with Ruth, after a short period of ill-health left her needing some help to manage.

Mary realised what a

wonderful experience life had afforded her, especially in her working life. There was always a great deal of co-operation and mutual consideration which made her jobs and play so enjoyable and fulfilling.

Mary Austin has lived life to the full, and has been very interested in all that is going on in this world and locally. Her family and friends were all-important and special to her. Mary's compassion and initiatives deserve the honour of this community, which is still benefiting from several of the groups she instigated. Her family too have benefited from her presence in their lives

Thank you Mary for your dedicated work for this community and your family. We are the better because of it. Rest in peace. Amen



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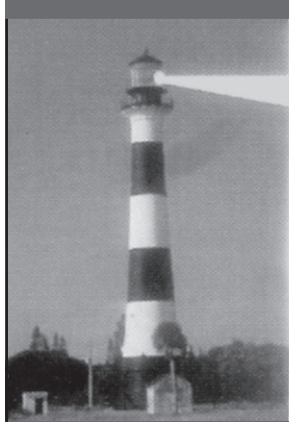
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Plants in my Garden



By Mike Beamish
Species: *Malva preissiana*
(Syn. *Malva australiana* and *Lavatera plebeia*)

Family: Malvaceae

Derivation:

Malva: The Latin word for 'mallow'.

Lavatera: Named for members of the Lavatera family, physicians and naturalists from Zurich, Switzerland.

Preissiana: Named after Johann August Ludwig Preiss (1811-83), a botanical collector who collected upwards of 2700 species of plants, often with Drummond, in WA from 1839 to 1841.

australiana; The Later Latin word for 'Australian'.

Plebeia; The Latin word for 'common'.

Common Name: Native or Australian Hollyhock.

Distribution: Distributed along the southern coast from Geraldton in WA, through SA, to Victoria (west of Melbourne) and Tasmania (Bass Strait islands), extending into the arid interior in outback WA, SA, NT, Qld, NSW and Victoria. It usually grows in low-lying ground where water will pool temporarily.

Description: A medium shrub to 3m tall, sometimes herbaceous and short-lived,

probably where it does not receive sufficient moisture. Leaves are up to 15cm long and broad, 5-7 lobed, alternate, with finely toothed margins on a long stalk. Flowers can occur whenever conditions are suitable and are up to 75mm across, white, pink or lilac, often with darker venation, each petal with a broad notch at the end. They occur in axillary clusters and are initially enclosed in a 5-lobed, hairy calyx, followed by round fruits containing 10-15 flat, kidney-shaped fruitlets.

Opinion: My plant is in the north-east corner of the backyard, is about 3m tall and, being in the corner formed by the boundary fences and partially overtopped by its neighbours both inside and outside the yard, receives mainly dappled sunlight. It originated from an APS Victoria quarterly weekend in September 2014 and spent a few months in its' pot sitting on the ground in my nursery area. Hence, when I got around to trying to plant it out in the autumn/winter of 2015, I found it firmly rooted into the ground beneath the pot. So, it received a fair bit of rough handling in my attempts to lift it out of the ground and get it out of

the pot, without doing fatal damage to its root system. I managed to get it into the position I had earmarked for it, but it wasn't happy and drooped significantly for a few weeks, despite plenty of moisture. I didn't expect it to survive the summer, but it surprised me by putting on a little bit of growth, up to about 60cm, which was quite soft and flimsy and needed staking. Then our six months tour of WA happened, so imagine my surprise to return home in November to find a robust, three metre tall plant bursting out of the ground and overgrowing all its neighbours! A month later and I noticed some pink colouring appearing amongst the foliage, on closer inspection the plant was covered in buds about to burst. It is still covered in flowers six weeks later and is putting all other plants in the garden to shame. I'll certainly be collecting seed if it sets any and there will be plenty of material for cuttings down the track.

Sources: Moore – A Guide to Plants of Inland Australia.

Elliot and Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 6.

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

Skills to last you a lifetime

Applications have just opened for members of the public interested in becoming Lifeline Telephone Crisis Supporters.

The Lifeline network took over one million calls last year and the demand is set to increase in coming years as people become more aware of issues like mental health, suicide, domestic violence and the services like Lifeline that can help during a crisis.

Lifeline Gippsland acting CEO, David Rohde highlighted the lifesaving work of Lifeline's volunteers across Australia, as well as the vital role that the Gippsland community can play.

"There is currently one suicide every three hours in Australia, which is the highest rate of suicide deaths recorded in the past ten years,

according to ABS statistics. The figures are double the road toll!" Mr Rohde said.

"Across Gippsland and the country, there has been an increase in the number of people seeking help.

Whilst it is extremely positive that more people are reaching out, we need more volunteers to support these Australians going through tough times."

Mr Rohde also said that volunteering for Lifeline Gippsland gives people the opportunity to build new skills that are useful in all parts of their lives, and give something back to the community.

"There is no greater gift that someone can give than to be there for another human being in their time of need," Mr Rohde said. "Whilst calls to Lifeline are all unique,

there is one thing they all have in common – they are about connecting people with care and emotional support in their time of need."

Applications have just opened for members of the public interested in becoming Lifeline Telephone Crisis Supporters.

Volunteer Telephone Crisis Supporters come from all walks of life and as full training is provided, they do not need any prior qualifications.

To learn more about becoming a Telephone Crisis Supporter, please contact the Lifeline Gippsland office on 5136 3500, visit www.llg.org.au/volunteer or email Reception@llg.org.au



www.thorpdalepotatofestival.com.au
thorpdale.potatofest@gmail.com

Fun for the Young and Young-at-Heart

The Thorpdale Potato Festival will return on Sunday March 12, 2017 to the Thorpdale Recreation Reserve in the beautiful Strzelecki Ranges, West Gippsland and it's only one month until the fun of the Festival.

Whatever age you are, we have something for everyone at the Festival. For the active, we have sack races, a jumping castle, potato decorating and potato and spoon races (Children's activities are free!). There is also a petting zoo for the children.

The Spud Challenge is a sight to see and there is potato

picking and stacking for the hale, healthy and brawny. The Tug-of-War is back again and we're looking forward to seeing some thrills and spills. 'Hessians on the Field' attracted a huge amount of interest in 2015 so it's back and the photography competition will continue to bring out the artistic talents of locals and not-so-locals as well. For the domesticated in all of us, we have so much to offer in the way of potatoes – team mash eating competition, cooking demonstrations and tastings as well as spuds for sale of course.

For just all-round entertainment, we have

dancing displays, vintage tractors, machinery and cars, the Quick Shear competition, sheep dog trials and wood chop as well as lots of music and heaps of laughter.

For more information, contact:

Barbara Butterworth
Marketing and Public Relations Officer

Thorpdale Potato Festival Committee

thorpdale.potatofest@gmail.com

www.thorpdale.potatofestival.com.au

Ph: (03) 5634 6242



FRIENDS OF LATROBE CITY LIBRARIES

Short Story and Poetry Competition 2017

Use your imagination to write a short story or compose a poem.



Categories:

Age Groups: under 12; under 18; and adult.

Short Story: length limited to a number of words per age group.

Poetry: free or rhyming verse

Please restrict your entries to not more than two per category.

A separate entry form is required for each contribution.

Entry forms and conditions of entry with further details about submission requirements can be obtained at your nearest Latrobe City library or downloaded from the Latrobe City website at www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/library/home

Entries close on 31 March 2017 and can be mailed to:
The Secretary, J. Beck, Friends of Latrobe City Libraries,
32 Canfield Crescent, Traralgon 3844.
or dropped in to your nearest Latrobe City library.

Prizes will be presented during the annual 2017 Latrobe Writers Festival and published in the Latrobe Valley Express.



The School of Hard Knocks and Latrobe Valley Community Choir proudly present



Latrobe Valley Project

You are invited to attend the No Excuses! Latrobe Valley Project, which aims to bring a sense of respect, peace and hope through music to those struggling to come to terms with family violence in our community. Audiences will be empowered by messages of solidarity and hope.

SATURDAY 4TH MARCH 2017 from 5pm
Sound Shell, Victory Park, Traralgon
featuring

NO EXCUSES! Women's Chorus led by Christina Green & Dr Kathleen McGuire

MEN ALOUD! Men's Chorus led by Dr Jonathon Welch AM

STREETBEAT Youth Percussion Group led by Levi McGrath

NO EXCUSES! School Children's Choir led by Christina Green & Dr Kathleen McGuire
plus performances by local artists and musicians, exhibitions, displays, food vans and much more

No Excuses! is a new song suite, composed by Christina Green and Dr Kathleen McGuire for the School of Hard Knocks, focusing upon family violence and domestic abuse, with real stories from women of struggle and inspirational resilience.

For more information, please contact ph: 0427 955 009 or email: info@lvchoir.com.au



STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



Early picture of Churchill Post Office, located on the Western side of the shopping centre.

Hazelwood – Churchill Postal History

Hazelwood in 1877 as described in the Victoria Gazetteer – A population of 300, with a school-house in which the Presbyterian and Wesleyan ministers preach alternate fortnights. Situated on the Eel Hole Creek, at the base of the Hoddle Range, the country is marshy but thickly timbered and very scrubby in places. There are indications of coal in the ranges. The district is agricultural and pastoral. Morwell is four miles (6.4 km) reached by horse and dray.

In May 1877 the first post office opened in Hazelwood, 5 km from Morwell, with John Gooding as Postmaster.

His allowance was £15 (\$30 in today's currency) per annum based on the amount of business. Horses were used to transfer the mail from Hazelwood to the railway station at Morwell as a three days a week service. Two years later this was upgraded to six days a week and Mary Gooding became Postmistress, and shortly her salary was raised to £21 (\$42), increasing to £23 (\$46) in 1886 with the number of letters handled being 1,677.

In 1883 a twice weekly service commenced between Yinnar (to the State School) and in 1884 this was extended to Boolarra.

The location of the Hazelwood post office is unknown up to 1889 when

it was located at the railway station which opened in 1888. There is a clue however, as the Victorian Post Office Registry for 1893-4 lists 3 names at Hazelwood – Alfred Firmin, Carrier, John Jones, Teacher and Bessie Waldon, Teacher. This indicates that the mail was handled at the school by the teachers. This was common in small country communities where there were no public buildings. Mr Firmin carried the mail. So we can confidently say that the early Post Office was located at the school called Hazelwood Ridge.

The office cancelled mail with two handstamps – one obliterated the stamp with the numeral 994, and the other was a normal circular date

stamp but was unframed (no circle around the outside.) The post office was closed in 1893 and Hazelwood was without a post office for 30 years.

In the early 1920s a soldier settlement project saw the subdivision of the Hazelwood Estate and three post offices were opened in the district:

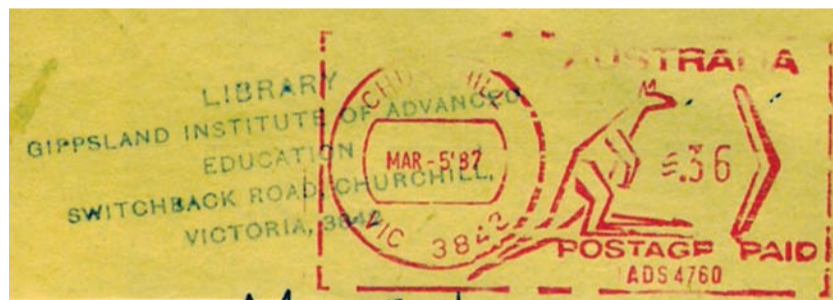
Hazelwood's second opening was on May 1, 1924, but this office was closed on December

31, 1951 and never reopened. Hazelwood North opened on November 23, 1923 but closed on January 26, 1928. The third post office, named Hazelwood South, was barely opened on February 5, 1925 before it closed on June 30, 1925, a life of only five months. Once again Hazelwood was without a post office.

The population slowly declined and a census in the early 60s showed Hazelwood had a population of only

125, not enough to support a post office. In the late 1950s the SEC purchased land for the construction of a new power station with its cooling pond. Land was compulsorily acquired for the establishment of a township called Hazelwood, 8km from Morwell, which was eventually renamed Churchill.

The Post Office opened on April 11, 1966 with the name Churchill.



Prepare for grassfire

THE REASONS ARE BLACK AND WHITE

If you live in a suburb near grasslands, you're at risk of fire. If you live directly next to parks or paddocks and a grassfire starts, walk at least two streets back. If you live two or more streets away, stay where you are, grassfires are unlikely to spread into built up areas. Stay alert and monitor conditions. Don't drive, visibility may be poor, accidents are likely, and you could block emergency services.

emergency.vic.gov.au

Download the VicEmergency app



Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



Churchill & District Lions

The Lions Club Community Christmas market was a great success and it was well attended. The windy weather late in the day spoilt things a little but it was a great day. Santa came and gave out free lollies, there was free face painting and jumping castle for the kids, and music provided by Bob Cooper and local duo Rod and Rhonda Owen, again entertaining with their special brand of music which everyone enjoyed.

There was no market in January but the market will be back this month on Saturday February 18. We have some new stall holders as well as our regulars, and will again have several of our Community Sporting groups there. The big feature at this month's market will be the Gippsland Vintage Car Club display, it promises to be a beauty, so car enthusiasts come along for a look. For the kids there will again be face painting and the jumping castle. We hope to see lots of local people out and about supporting and enjoying the market. Our focus is to provide Churchill with a great vibrant market that is a community event, where Churchill people and families meet, chat, listen to some great music, have a bite to eat and pick up a bargain. See you all there.

The Club presented end of year academic achievement

awards to students from all local schools.

Congratulations to:

Hayley Caldwell from Churchill Primary school

Ebony Webb from Churchill North Primary School

Jasmine Groft from Lumen Christi Primary school

Lleyton Rowe from Hazelwood North Primary School

Teia Abbot Year 7 Kurnai College

Shelby Love Year 8 Kurnai College

Precious Doherty Year 9 Kurnai College

Lachlan Berryman-Lambert Year 10 Kurnai College.

The Lions Club first meeting for the new year was an informal meeting at our Switchback Road compound where members and guests enjoyed a relaxed BBQ tea. The club had as special guests, a number of people who have given their time and support to the Club when it needed assistance. Also present were representatives of the Churchill Junior Basketball Association and the Gippsland Life Education committee, to which the Club has recently given financial support. A great night was had by all.

The Club has also given \$1000 to the Latrobe Regional Hospital from funds raised by

catering at the Barry Sheene Tribute Ride last year.

The Club ran a BBQ at Bunnings Morwell in January and catered at the Hazelwood Pondage Open Fishing Weekend on February 4 and 5, for all those eager fishermen hoping to catch that elusive barra before the closing of Hazelwood Power Station.

On Australia Day the Club again hosted a free breakfast for the community and presented awards to the Churchill Citizen of the Year, Jacqueline (Jackie) Louise McLure and Churchill Junior Citizen, Alicia Ewan. Member for Morwell Russell Northe attended along with Councillor Darrel White. Around 300 people enjoyed the festivities and of course those bacon and egg sandwiches.

The Club also recognized community minded students from all the local schools:

Charlotte Di Toro won the Hazelwood North Primary School Citizen of the year

Lucas Hobbs won the Churchill North Primary School Citizen of the year

Jasmine Croft won the Lumen Christi Primary School Citizen of the year

Hayley Caldwell won the Churchill Primary School Citizen of the year

Congratulations to everyone, well earned.

In March the Club will be celebrating 40 years of service. Over that time we have helped the local community in many ways, especially the youth of the town. This includes junior sporting groups, scouts, guides, the elderly citizens and the underprivileged of the area, as well as fulfilling our commitment to our Lions District projects and Lions International.

We have carried out many projects in the surrounding district as far away as Woodside. Lions Village Licola is a major ongoing project, and the towns of Boolarra, Thorpdale, Yinnar and Morwell have all received our assistance at varying stages.

The Club presented a cheque for \$1500 to Helen Hoppner and Les Hunt from the Life Education Victoria committee. This money will sponsor the Life Education Mobile Van to enable the Van to attend Churchill



Club President Ross Norman presents a cheque for \$1500 to Helen Hoppner and Les Hunt from the Life Education Victoria committee.

North Primary School later this year, which will deliver a great learning experience for students. Life Education is the largest, independent, Australian health and drug education provider for school children aged 5-13 years.

The Club assisted the Churchill Junior Basketball Association at

the associations' Junior Basketball Tournament, running a BBQ over the two days of the event which attracted players from as far as Lakes Entrance. A great event well run and one the Lions Club is proud to support. The Club also presented a cheque of \$1200 to the Basketball Association.

While we're upgrading our facilities, we're still here for you.

Some services are still available while works are underway at our community health centre at 20-24 Philip Parade, Churchill.

You can still see a doctor, a psychologist, be assessed for services or apply for emergency relief.

When our centre is completed in late 2017, it will feature a dental prosthetics laboratory, student learning centre, and more health services.

Thank you for your patience.

For more information about services at Latrobe Community Health Service, visit www.lchs.com.au or phone 1800 242 696.



baseball Open Day



All Ages Welcome!

Come & Try!

Learn the Rules!

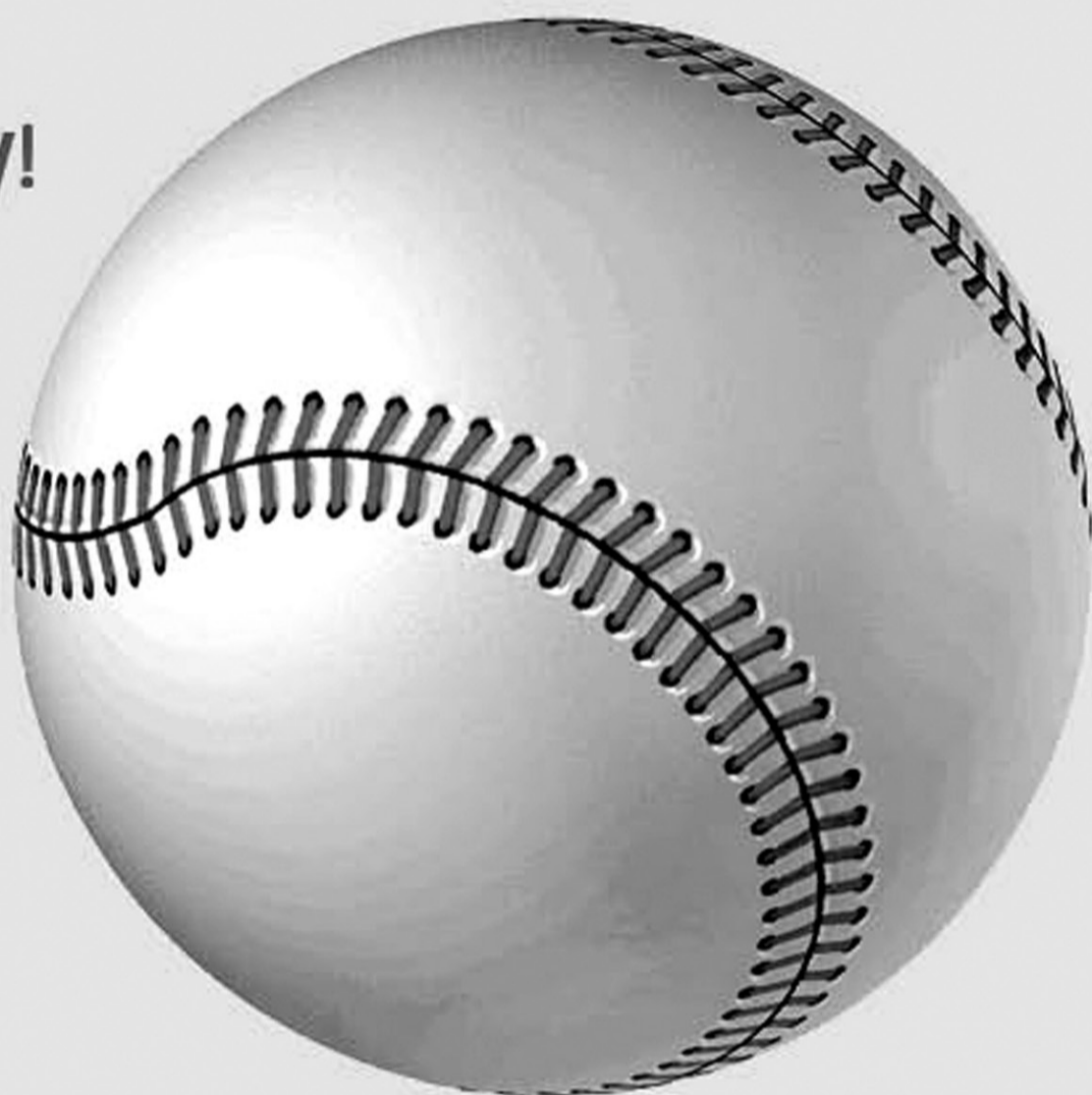
Train Your Skills!

Meet the Coaches!

Make Friends!

Have Fun!

Registrations will
commence at 10.30 am
and activities will start
at 11.00 am



BBQ lunch provided.

Sunday, March 19, 2017
Andrews Park,
Birch Drive, Churchill
Everyone welcome

Blue Moose Summer Youth Group

From December 29 to January 7, Blue Moose was run each evening in the Churchill Community Hall from 8pm-11pm. Blue Moose is a drop-in centre run for the young people of the town, but people of all ages came and had a great time. This is the second year that Blue Moose has run. The team running Blue Moose this year was made up of 13 young people from various churches in Melbourne as well as three Queenslanders who came down especially for Blue Moose. It was organised by

Youth Dimension, an inter-church organization based in the suburbs of Melbourne, in conjunction with the Churchill Co-operating Church.

On the first day in town, the team ran a sausage sizzle at Woolworths to advertise Blue Moose. Although the team was intending it to be a free bbq for the community, they were overwhelmed by the generosity and friendliness of the people.

Each night around 20 locals joined the team for music, chats, games of table-tennis, fozzie ball and UNO

and snacks. Each night also included a couple of special segments, featuring either some fun interactive games, showing of a short dvd, or different team members sharing about their life journey and relationship with God. The team was also happy to chat with locals about life and faith in a friendly and relaxed environment. During the day, team members enjoyed hanging out with some of the locals informally.

A highlight of the time was New Years Eve with Blue Moose staying open till

12.30 for team and locals to see in the New Year together. It was a fun time, leading up to midnight with Karaoke (including discovering some great voices amongst the locals!!) and then having a Dance Party.

The team also ran a Kids Club, at the Co-operating Church on two consecutive days. The program included songs, crafts, games, puppets and snacks. It was a fun time both for the leaders and the children who came.

During their time in Churchill, the team was

kindly accommodated in the Co-operating Church building and had showers at the Churchill Football Club, Gaskin Park. Many thanks to Brenda Burney, minister of the Co-operating Church for her hard work and invaluable assistance to the Blue Moose team, and also to the broader church community who helped the team in many different ways. Thank you too to Simon Clark from Churchill Council for his support and assistance both in the lead-up and during Blue Moose. Liz and

Richard Henshaw and Geoff and Cathie Curwood from Churchill cooked for the Blue Moose team and provided amazing and delicious meals for a very hungry crew, which was greatly appreciated. The Blue Moose team was so thankful for the friendliness and warmth of the Churchill Community as a whole and take away some great memories of their time in the town.

It is hoped that Blue Moose will run again at the end of this year.



Above: The Blue Moose team
Top Right: Canteen available at Blue Moose
Bottom Right: Kids Club Puppet Show



Term 1 2017, 30 January - 31 March



Churchill
Neighbourhood
Centre



Neighbourhood Houses
The heart of our community



Learn
Local

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

Term 1 2017 classes & activities

Health, Wellbeing & Creativity

Community Café

All community members welcome to come along, share a meal and meet new people.

Mondays 12.30pm

Knitting & Crochet

Share & learn skills, swap ideas, get help & inspiration, share stories, bring your UFOs. Work on your own projects or knit for a cause.

Wednesdays 10am - 12.30pm

\$6 per session

Patchwork

Learn patchwork, material choice, techniques and design. Learn new skills as well as share tips and tricks.

Wednesdays 6.30pm - 9pm, Thursdays 10am - 12pm or 1pm - 3pm

\$96 for 9 weeks or \$80 concession

Casual \$12 or \$10 concession

English For Parents

Practise pronunciation, improve comprehension, understand Australian slang, bring your children! Improve your English in a child friendly environment. Any level of English welcome.

Wednesdays 12.30pm - 2.30pm

\$64 for 9 weeks or \$56 concession

Casual \$8 or \$7 concession

Singing

A few breathing and vocal production exercises, a little music theory and learning to read and write music, but mostly a lot of singing, in unison and in harmony. For beginners and the more advanced - all welcome.

Mondays 2pm—3:30pm

\$90 for 9 weeks or \$72 concession

Family Yoga

Share time together learning to relax, breathe, balance and stretch. Take away easy and fun exercises to practise at home!

Fortnightly on Saturdays starting 11th February

\$15 one adult/one child per session. Extra child \$5

Concession \$10/\$2

Country Kitchen Cooking

Learn basic principles of cooking country style using fresh produce. For beginners and the more advanced cooks. Contact us for weekly menus.

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10am-12pm

\$120 for 9 weeks or \$96 concession

Casual \$15 or \$12 concession

Visit www.churchill.org.au for our full program and find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChurchillNeighbourhoodCentre

Computer Courses

In most classes you can bring your own laptop or ipad/tablet, check with us first.

Intel® Easy Steps Basic Computer Skills



If you've never used a computer, or are unsure about the online world, the idea can be daunting. But it doesn't have to be. Intel® Learn Easy Steps is designed to give you the help you need.

Tuesdays 9.30am - 12.30pm \$80 for 9 weeks \$64 concession Casual \$10 or \$8 concession

Intermediate Computers



Learn to use Microsoft Office 2010 programs: Word, Excel, Publisher, Access, Power Point, Outlook, Windows 8 and QuickBooks. Internet, email, iPads & tablets can also be covered. For students with basic computer skills.

Tuesdays 1pm - 3pm, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am - 12pm

\$64 for 9 weeks \$56 concession Casual \$8 or \$7 concession

Photo Editing & Digital Scrapbooking

Using ACDSee photo editor learn how to edit and enhance photos. Create calendars, photo books, greeting cards, and photo DVDs.

Mondays 9.30am - 12.30pm

\$70 for 8 weeks \$56 concession

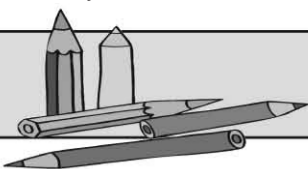
Casual \$10 or \$8 concession - Materials extra

Located at the Churchill Community Hub,
9 - 11 Philip Parade, Churchill

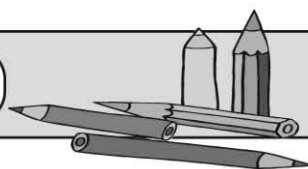
Churchill Neighbourhood Centre
acknowledges the support of the Victorian
Government and Latrobe City Council.



School News



Churchill North Primary



2017 Transition
 On Tuesday December 6, all students state wide went to meet their teachers for 2017. At Churchill North some of the classes had to do some getting to know you activities. I had to create name tags to help my new teacher know who I am and the things I like. We also played games like Splat and Pacman. I thought the day was awesome because I had some of my friends from 2016 who I now get to be with for 2017. I also was able to learn something about my new teacher for 2017 and make some new friends. I am looking forward to next year because I hope to be a leader and a role model to the rest of

the school.
 By Ethan B
Grade 6 Graduation
 On December 15, Churchill North Grade 6 students had their graduation. At 5:30 we arrived, took photos and had dinner. We had schnitzels and chips for dinner that were absolutely delicious. Then at 6:40 our ceremony began. We started off with student speeches, then we danced to "The Best Day of My Life", showed our photos of us growing up, had awards presented and then we finished with the last dance called "Pump It". We thought the night was nerve racking and very exciting at the same time. Our favourite

part was the graduation cake and receiving our graduation awards. We would like to congratulate these students for receiving the following awards:
 CNPS Award - Tayeisha Galea
 Kurnai Award - Alma Doherty
 RSL Bill Brennan Award - Lucas Hobbs
 Lions Club Award - Ebony Webb
 Russel Northe Award - Riley Franks
 By Freya and Riley in 5/6P
School Fete
 On Thursday November 24, Churchill North Primary School participated in their

school fete. The children were involved in organising, manning and in some cases running stalls.
 Parents and community members joined in the fun with their family members. Some of the activities on the day included, mystery jars, water rockets, tattoos, face painting, lucky dips and Devonshire teas.
 Children also guessed the amount of popcorn, purchased show bags and made smoothies on the smoothie bike. Students and family members thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.
 Thank you to Ms Backhausen for all of the organising that went into

making the event such a success.
Swimming Carnival
 The swimming carnival was on Monday December 12. We got to swim and have races at Churchill Leisure Centre. We were all able to go in house colour races where we even had a noodle race in the pool.
 We also had a sack race and egg and spoon race outside. Our favourite part was the egg and spoon race because we were really good at it.
 We thought the day was fun and exciting.
 By Skylia and Brayden in PIC

Prep, 1 and 2 dinner at school
 On Thursday December 8, the children from Grade Prep, 1 and 2 at Churchill North Primary School participated in dinner at school.
 The children arrived at school at 5:00pm and participated in a variety of games. This was soon followed by a dining experience outside in our undercover area. The children feasted on chicken and salad, which was followed by ice cream for dessert
 At 6:30pm the Grade Prep and 1 children left for home and the Grade 2 children stayed overnight for a sleepover at school.



Top Left: Grade 6 Graduation award winners
 Top Right: School Fete Smoothie bike
 Left: School Swimming Carnival

Below: Dinner at school for Prep /1 with the Grade 2s sleepover



Churchill Preschools

The Hub and Glendonald Preschools in Churchill welcome all preschool aged children to their fun-packed learning programs that are tailored to meet each child's individual needs.
 Preschool begins a new chapter of learning for the children.

The experienced staff at both preschools are qualified and enjoy working with the children to help them understand more of the world around them.
 Fun, learning and play in a planned setting is a great way to commence a life-long habit of trying to put the best

into each day.
 If you haven't already enrolled your child please contact Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700 or email to Latrobe@latrobe.vic.gov.au

Russell Northe proudly servicing the Churchill and District Community.



Russell Northe MLA
 Member for Morwell
 russell.northe@parliament.vic.gov.au www.russellnorthe.com.au
 66 George Street, Morwell VIC 3840 PO Box 214, Morwell VIC 3840
 ph 03 5133 9088 fax 03 5133 9388
Authorised by Russell Northe, 66 George St, Morwell VIC 3840
 Funded from the Parliament Electorate Office and Communication Budget

SPORT

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Churchill & Monash Golf Club results

Saturday December 3, 2016. Mens Stableford 4bbb. Winners: J. Barnes (18) and B. Barnes (33) 50 Points. R/Up: J. Sloyan (22) and B. Mathieson (27) 48 Points C/B. Dtl V. Verheyen and M. Dear 48 - M. Allan and T. Davies 46 - B. Rowley and B. Kilday 44 - B. Baldock and Fabian 43c/B. NTP: 3rd H.

Martin 5th D. Elwood 12th T. Davies 14th B. Baldock. Target Hole G. Spowart. Birdies: J. Tettman.

Tuesday December 6, 2016. Ladies Stroke Star Medal : M. Dear (16) 69. Day Winner: M. Dear (16) 69. DTL: D. Stait (33) 70 B. Beebe (33) 70. NTP: 3rd A. Hibbert, 0-29. M.

Dear. 30-45. H. Croft Eagle. 16th M. Dear.

Tuesday January 3, 2017. Ladies Stableford. A Grade: 0 - 30 V. Verheyen (29) 35 Points. B Grade: 31-45 J. Armstrong (45) 35 Points. DTL: B. Beebe (32) 33pts C/B M. Munckton (27) 33 Pts J. Beck (32) 33 Pts.

Churchill Bowls Club

The Churchill Bowls Club is looking forward to an exciting 2017 with the club organising barefoot bowls and twilight bowls, planned to commence early in February and running through to March/April. The club will also be fielding teams in the West Gippsland Bowls Pennant competition starting later this year. Any person interested in joining the Churchill Bowls Club, can contact the Bowls Club on 5122 1860, there are a number of membership packages available.

Our popular Thursday night Indoor Bowls which is open to the general public, recommenced on Thursday February 2, starting at 7pm.

The cost for the night is \$4.00 and a light supper with tea or coffee is served.

The club would like to congratulate the winner of our Christmas Hamper raffle W. Brown, who hails from Chadstone, Melbourne. On behalf of the club I like to thank all those who supported our fundraising venture by buying tickets, thus contributing to the successful outcome of our fundraiser.

The Churchill Bowls Club website is nearly complete with just some minor issues to be ironed out. We hope to have our site up and running by next issue.

We are currently working on the construction and

installation of shade shelters and seating around the perimeter of the green for health, safety and comfort of our members and guests. We hope to have four of these shelters up by the end of February.

The club is currently dealing with a clothing manufacturer who is in the process of designing and making the clubs uniforms which are necessary for the clubs participation in lawn bowls pennant competition later this year. It is envisaged our uniforms will be available in July this year.

Until next issue - good bowling.

Welcome boost for local Cricket and Football in Yinnar



Cricketers have played their first matches on a new synthetic wicket installed at Yinnar Recreation Reserve.

The new pitch, which has a protective cover for the football season, was re-positioned away from the western oval's centre circle to preserve the integrity of the playing surface.

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester said the \$20,000 project was partly funded with a \$5000 grant from the Federal Government's #lovegippsland Stronger Communities Program.

Project partners included the Yinnar Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and Latrobe City Council through its Community Grants program.

"I hope the higher quality

playing surface will enhance players' enjoyment of playing at the western oval," Mr Chester said.

"I also hope it will draw more football and cricket matches to Yinnar.

Greater involvement in local sport helps to create healthy, connected communities, while local businesses will always welcome the trade created by visiting teams, their supporters and other spectators."

Yinnar Recreation Reserve project manager Peter Quigley said footballers would also benefit from the relocation of the wicket.

"The old wicket was covered in soil and grass in the football season.

Unfortunately, the grass didn't have enough time to get well-established, so the

centre circle was always the boggiest part of the ground," Mr Quigley said.

"As part of this project, we've levelled the centre bounce area and off-set the pitch.

We hope the improvements to the ground's surface will help us attract more football matches, such as finals and interleague matches, as well as providing a better surface all year round.

We are hoping these improvements to our local sporting infrastructure will also help us to boost player numbers and community involvement with the Yinnar Football and Netball Club and the Morwell Tigers Yinnar Cricket Club, which call this reserve home."

Mid Gippsland Darts Association Summer Competition 2017



DARTS ASSOCIATION LADDER after Round 3

Team Name	Played	Won	Lost	For	Against	%	Pts
COYOTEZ	3	3	0	21	6	233.3	6
BULLSHOT	3	2	1	17	10	188.9	4
YINNAR TIGERS	3	2	1	16	11	177.8	4
JOKERS	3	1	2	14	13	155.6	2
REAPERS	3	1	2	8	19	88.9	2
MUSTANGS	3	0	3	5	22	55.6	0

Round 2: Yinnar Tigers played host to Jokers winning 6-3 on the night. Highest score on the night was 140 from Mark Taylor and Reno Borg (YT). Reno also had the most "tons" for the game with 10 scored. Highest Men's Finish was by Brian Casey Jnr with 124 scored. With one round to go for the Christmas break Yinnar Tigers were sitting well on the Mid Gippsland Darts Association ladder in second place.

Round 3: Played at the Morwell RSL due to a close in venue. Mustangs gave Yinnar Tigers a scare early in the match but the tigers were able to tough it out winning 6-3. A well scored highest Ladies score of 140 by Sharon Taylor (YT) was a highlight of the match. Reno Borg with a Men's Highest Finish of 118 and scoring 140 Men's Highest Score twice also contributed. Ladies

Highest Finish also went to Sharon Taylor (YT) with 48 scored. Mark Taylor (YT) had his own Highest Men's equal score with 140 and also finished with 6 pegs on the night.

Mid Gippsland Darts Association Christmas Drawn Doubles event was played on December 15. Congratulations to Mark Taylor (Yinnar Tigers) and Wendy Rippie (Coyotez). Runners Up were Dale Burton-Pye and Jessica

McDonald. Mens Highest Score was Mark Taylor (YT) with 145. Men's Highest Finish was Brian Casey Jnr with 146. Ladies Highest Score was 121 by Jessie McDonald. Ladies Highest Finish Wendy Rippe 40. 180s on the night to Mark Taylor and Ricky Bennett. Thank you to everyone who supported the night, everyone had a lot of fun.

HATE THE GYM?

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- **Core** - Stability, mobility, strength and power.
- **Boxing** - Pads & gloves, a fantastic stress relief.
- **Yoga Meets Sport** - Combined with strength, power, athleticism, muscle lengthening, muscular definition, increased range of motion, circulation and breathing.
- **Group Fitness Classes** also available.

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Power Outages

As the summer heat continues, the Victorian Government's summer campaign, Your Guide to Power Outages, is seeking to help Victorians keep safe during a power outage in bushfires and extreme weather conditions.

While Victoria has very reliable electricity supply, power outages can happen particularly during heatwaves, bushfires and grassfires.

A guide has been produced 'Your Guide to Power Outages' with a call to action: It only takes a few simple things to prepare.

Energy Plan and Kit

You should have an energy plan and kit, which includes:

- *Access to a phone, such as a charged mobile phone or land line that doesn't rely on electricity to operate.

- *Alternative lighting, such as a torch or a battery operated light.

- *Alternative cooking facilities and heating. Keep in mind that some gas appliances may still require electricity to operate them. Always ensure gas connections on portable appliances are maintained and in good working order.

- *A battery-powered radio. Stay tuned to news services to get updates on weather conditions and power outages.

- *Access to fresh water. If you use electricity to run a water pump, make sure you have an alternative source of fresh water.

- *Important contacts. Complete

the list provided in this brochure and keep these numbers somewhere safe and easy to find in case of a power outage.

Power Outages

- * Important Contacts: include Faults and Emergencies number of your electricity distributor, local council for information on emergency services available in your area, particularly if you are elderly, disabled or need special help, your electricity retail company to report special needs if you require uninterrupted power. Make sure they have your up-to-date contact details.

- * SES for storm and flood emergency assistance 132 500.

- * VICSES Flood and Storm Information Line, for general information on storms and flood - 1300 VIC SES Or 1300 842 737. Emergency Services for life threatening emergencies 000.

- * Department of Health and Human Services for information on food safety 1300 364 352.

What if you have special needs?

- * If you require an uninterrupted supply of power because you:

- * are on life support equipment; have a medical condition that requires continuous power supply; or

- * have any other special needs

You should:

- * Advise your electricity retailer of your needs (the company you pay for your electricity) and make sure they have your up-to-date telephone numbers and contact details.

- * Make sure you have a plan in place, in case there are prolonged power outages.

What to do when you lose power:

- * Be energy safe

- Keep clear of fallen powerlines and keep others away. The powerlines may still be live, so you should call your local electricity distributor (see the "Faults and Emergencies" number on your most recent electricity bill).

- * Check your neighbour's house to see if they have also lost power. If your neighbour has power on, then check to see if your safety switch has been tripped.

- * Be careful when using candles and other open flames keep naked flames away from flammable material.

- * Make sure appliances are turned off (because they could come back on when you are not there).

- * Don't try to connect temporary generators to household wiring.

- * Engage a licensed electrician to do all electrical work. 'Do It Yourself' electrical work is very dangerous and illegal.

- * If the power has been cut due to storm damage to your house, get a licensed electrician to ensure it is safe before any repairs are carried out.

Be safe with food

- * Try to keep cold and frozen food cold. If food is still cold to touch, less than 5 degrees C, it is safe to use.

- * Move food from the fridge to the

freezer.

- * Once cold or frozen food is no longer cold to touch, 5 degrees C or above, it can be kept and eaten for up to four hours and then it must be thrown away or, if it is raw meat, it should be cooked and eaten.

- * Eat hot food within four hours of it being hot or throw it away.

- * If power is restored when frozen food is still solid the food is safe to refreeze.

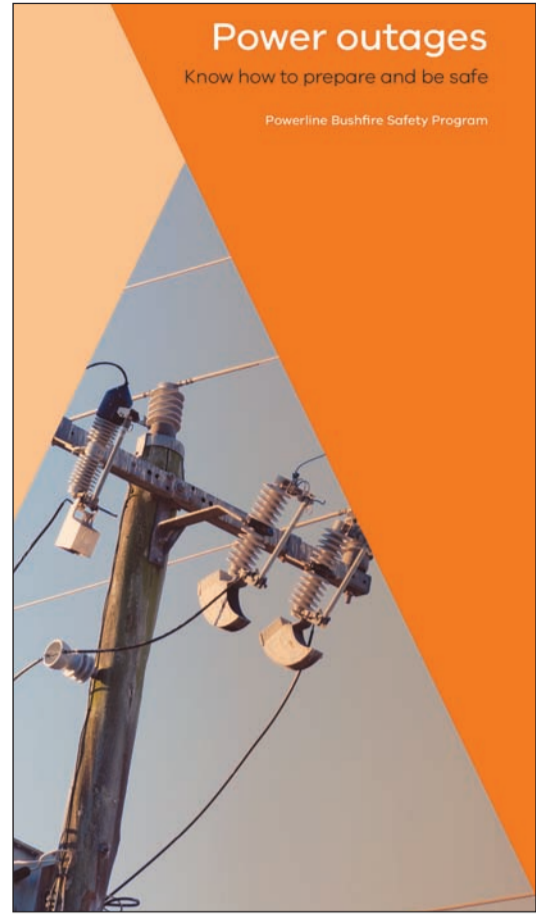
- * If available, put bagged ice under food packages and trays stored in freezers and fridges if power failure lasts more than one hour.

- * Place an insulating blanket over cold or frozen food where possible.

- * Only open fridge and freezer doors when absolutely necessary, this will keep the food and air temperature colder for longer.

Be a good neighbour

- * Check and offer support to neighbours and relatives particularly those with special needs, such as elderly people and people with



disabilities.

There's a lot of useful advice online on how to be energy safe with resources to download.

Visit delwp.vic.gov.au/poweroutages for more information on how to get prepared, or call the Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Hard copies of the guide are also available at your Council offices.

THERE'S NOTHING GOOD ABOUT DADS WHO ABUSE WOMEN.

You might think you're a good dad, that you spend quality time with your kids and are a good role model. But if you are abusive in your relationship, in any form, you're not a good role model. You're harming your partner, and you're harming your children.

For help, or someone to talk to, go to vic.gov.au/familyviolencesupport

RESPECT WOMEN FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

VICTORIA State Government