

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

Est. 1966

Eel Hole Creek Wetland



Above: artists impression of the Eel Hole Creek wetland development.

Below: Eel Hole Creek before work began.

Far Right: Work in progress on the installation of the litter trap.



WORK has begun on the construction of a wetland at Eel Hole Creek in Churchill. Situated behind the Green Inc. building between McDonald Way and Northways Road it is "the most exciting environmental project Monash University Campus has ever been involved with" said Brian Stark Facilities and Service Manager, Gippsland Campus.

The project, costing \$260,000, is a joint venture between Monash University, Latrobe City Council and the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority.

"It complements what has already been done with the Land for Wildlife Project and Mathison Park" continued Mr. Stark.

Stage one, which is now in progress, includes the installation of a litter trap at the entry point of the Churchill storm water drain, the construction of two ponds approximately 90 meters long by 30 meters wide and a filtration pond of approximately 600 square meters, the building of embankments and landscaping of the surrounding area.

Stage Two will see more landscaping that would create a natural setting. It includes the installation of footpaths, outdoor furniture, lighting, boardwalks and landings. The University will be seeking corporate support

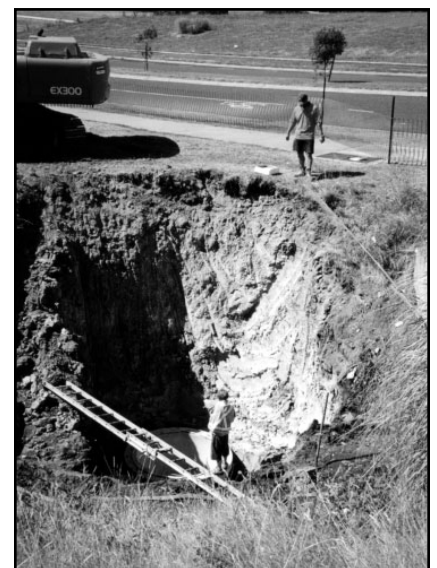
to assist with this stage.

There are many benefits to this project. As well as providing an attractive recreational area, the environmental effects are positive.

The installation of the litter trap will reduce the amount of rubbish entering the system. The ponds will reduce the erosion of the creek bed by dispersing the flow of storm water entering the system at McDonalds way. This will reduce the amount of sediment that enters Lake Hyland and Hazelwood Pondage that will in turn help in minimising the outbreak of blue-green algae in these areas.

It is hoped that the creation of habitat for birds and animals in stage two will lead to an increase in the diversity of plants and animals found along this section of the creek.

The project, according to Mr Stark, has been in the planning stage for four years and links in with the developments in Mathison Park. The University "already has a good track record in environmental development" he continued. "We already have cleaned up the eastern boundary of the University which helped us to gain the Land for Wildlife Accreditation. We hope this project will lead to works further upstream."



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EDITORIAL

Welcome to our April edition which we hope has something for everyone in it.

Many thanks go to the Churchill Lions who have started a Birthday Club for the children.

On page three there are details of the Royal Childrens Hospital Good Friday Appeal. Please join us (I will be "motivating" all the volunteers at the News to come on the walk!). Whether or not you are able to come along please, wherever you happen to be, give generously to the appeal. The Hospital does tremendous work, of which my family has had experience.

When you have a spare five minutes make a cup of tea, sit down and turn to page 14! There you will find a delightful story written by a freelance writer from California, who while visiting Victoria got lost on the Princes Freeway and ended up in Churchill for the evening.

Palm Sunday is this week. On page

five there are details of the Palm Sunday Gathering hosted by the Latrobe Valley Peace Network as part of nationwide gatherings to promote 'peace and community'.

Our congratulations go to all the nominees and winners in the Latrobe Valley Youth Awards! Congratulations also to the hard working team that put together the BMX Demonstration day which was a huge success and extremely well attended by young people from as far afield as Maffra.

Finally we would all like to say a huge thank you to Guojon Lu, Head of the Department of Information Technology for the donation of a second computer. It will make a huge difference to our work.

From us all at the News, have a happy and safe Easter, and if you are going away take a look at page seven - Neighbourhood Watch has some sound advice. Editor



Guojon Lu, Head of Department of Information Technology and Ruth Place with the new computer.

Second Computer from Information Technology

CHURCHILL & District news is greatly indebted to Guojon Lu, Head of the Department of Information Technology at Monash University Gippsland.

As production has increased the need for a second computer became very evident.

Guojon answered a request for the donation of a computer.

We are most grateful to Guojon for the computer and large monitor.

Thanks also to Simon Strack and Stacey for their help in putting the computer together and installing it for us.

Contributions

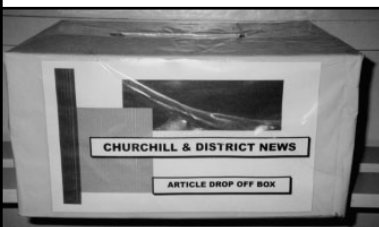
Articles for publication and letters to the Editor can be sent to: Churchill & District News PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842 Or Email: prokopiv@dcsi.net.au.

All articles must be submitted by the 30th of each month for publication in the second week of the following month.

Advertising enquiries can be addressed to:

Peter Prokopiv, Churchill & District News PO Box 234, 3842

Tel: 03 5122 2589 or 0402 406 376



Look out for our Article Drop Off Boxes Located at: Foodworks, Churchill Primary School, Churchill Library, Co-Operating Church and Monash Uni Reception.

Personal Notices

Wedding, Engagement, Birth and Death notices = \$5.00 for 30 words and \$5.00 for a photograph. Please send clearly written notice with a cheque or money order to Churchill & District News, PO Box 234, Churchill.

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Churchill & District News 'Views of Churchill' Photographic Competition Entry Form

Name

Address

Telephone Category

Title of Photograph

The Photograph was taken at

I have read and understood the conditions of entry and agree to abide by them. I certify that this is an original photograph, taken by myself.

Signature

Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18

Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form:

\$5.00 per photograph \$3.00 per photograph concession or student

Please make cheques or postal order payable to 'Churchill & District News'. No cash or stamps. Entries to be mailed to:

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PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842

Closing Date 30 May 2003 Attach a consent form if necessary

Churchill & District News

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 'Views of Churchill & District'

The Churchill & District News invites you to take part in our Photographic Competition

All proceeds will go towards the costs of publishing the Churchill & District News which is run by volunteers and is a non-profit making organisation.

The theme of the Competition is VIEWS OF CHURCHILL & DISTRICT

TWELVE PRIZE WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE PUBLISHED AS A CALENDAR FOR 2004

CATEGORIES

Entries will be accepted in 4 categories:

1. Prep - Year 6 2. Year 7 - Year 12 3. Under 21 4. 21 and over

For more information and/or conditions of entry please send a stamped addressed envelope to: Photographic Competition, Churchill & District News, PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842

Fun of the Fair!



CHURCHILL
Community Fair was held on Saturday 5 April. The weather was perfect for all the fun and games.

There was a variety of stalls, plenty of games, including archery, a colouring competition, information stalls, and food provided by Churchill Lions Club



For the Kids

By RENE ZOMER

Secretary, Churchill Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) Appeal Committee.

EASTER. A time that people in Churchill will celebrate in many different ways. Some will remember Jesus and others will enjoy the holiday.

For a group of people from the Churchill Hotel, they will be finishing off their fundraising efforts for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal.

Since the early eighties, patrons, staff and management of the Churchill Hotel have supported the Royal Children's Hospital.

During the heyday of power station construction the group managed to be one of the top ten country Victorian pubs for seven years.

The commitment and effort of the current committee hopes to see the Hotel back in the top ten very soon.

The Royal Children's Hospital has directly helped many children from Churchill and surrounding areas. Their world leading research and medical technology helps many more children indirectly.

If you find yourself on Good Friday with little to do, please come and participate in a part of the organised activities, or support the "Tin" rattlers who will be out and about on the day.

Whatever you find yourself doing on Good Friday, whether in Churchill or elsewhere, please remember the Royal Children's Hospital and support them in supporting our children.

Morrison Veterinary Services

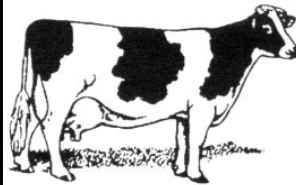
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Well Done!

By JANICE REDMOND
KEITH DAVIES (pictured left), resident of Glendonald Estate in Churchill, is an amazing person.

He has been collecting aluminum cans for nearly 15 years. He sells the cans and donates the money to the Royal Children's Hospital each year.

He walks all over Churchill raising between \$2,000 and \$3,000 each year.

Keep up the good work!



CHURCHILL HOTEL ROYAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL APPEAL GOOD FRIDAY 18TH APRIL

GOLF DAY

AT CHURCHILL MONASH GOLF COURSE 7.00AM

* PRIZES TO BE WON * PERPETUAL TROPHY TO BE PRESENTED

COST \$15.00 (LUNCH INCLUDED)

"WALKATHON"

AROUND LAKE HYLAND

STARTS 10.00AM AT HAZELWOOD VILLAGE CAR PARK GOLD COIN TO ENTER

PRIZES FOR ANSWERING QUESTIONS

GAMES FOR KIDS OR KIDS AT HEART

AT CHURCHILL GOLF COURSE (MONASH UNI)

LUNCH (INCLUDING FISH) AT REASONABLE COST LIQUID REFRESHMENT ALSO AVAILABLE

FROM 11.00 AM (GAMES FROM 1.00PM)

THE DAY WILL FINISH AT CHURCHILL HOTEL WITH RAFFLES AND A

SURPRISE AUCTION

STARTING FROM 3.00PM.

A FINAL TOTAL FOR 2003 WILL THEN BE ANNOUNCED.

The Churchill Hotel Committee would like to thank everyone for their support during the year and hope we can see you on Good Friday



Lumen Christi 'Hi Lights'

By MARION ANSWERTH

OUR Alpha Introductory Dinner was a huge success – great food, great fellowship and over seventy people attended.

The course is now well under way with sessions each Thursday evening at the Parish Centre.

On Friday 21 February we were saddened to hear of the passing of a much revered and loved parishioner, Zeta Haycox.

Zeta was well known and respected in the Churchill community as well as the Parish Family.

Bishop Jeremiah Coffey, together with past Parish Priests Fathers Andrew Wise and Peter Bickley and new Parish Priest Father Malcolm Hewitt, concelebrated Zeta's Requiem Mass.

Bishop Coffey spoke of Zeta's warmth and concern for others – especially the young mothers of the Parish in the early days of Churchill. Zeta's son Phillip, gave a moving

eulogy on his mother.

She will be sadly missed by all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

During Lent, discussion groups have been meeting regularly and preparation for our Easter ceremonies is now taking place.

On Tuesday 15 April at 7.30pm the Co-Operating Churches and our parishioners will jointly celebrate the Tenebrae, also known as the Service of Shadows, at the Co-Operating Church.

A group of men from the Parish travelled to Tamboritna last month for their annual Men's weekend. A great time of reflection and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Lumen Christi Catholic Church



EASTER REFLECTIONS

By IVY GOODWIN

Churchill Co-operating Churches

AS I write this, the Christian church is about mid-way through the period of Lent. That is, we are in a period of study, discipline, prayer, reflection and repentance leading up to the celebration of Easter.

When I was a child, 'giving something up' for Lent was a common practice. There were deeper reasons for doing this but, at its simplest level, it was a tangible way to observe self-discipline and a level of self-denial.

It was common to ask 'what are you giving up for Lent?' and then keep an eagle eye on friends to make sure that they didn't slip up!

I had a sweet tooth and remember trying (unsuccessfully) to go without sugar in any form throughout the six and a half weeks of Lent.

I doubt I lasted more than ten days before deciding to switch and 'give up' something else more achievable!

These days, at least amongst the people I know, it is not as common to 'give something up' for Lent. I was reflecting on this recently and thinking it would be good to reintroduce the practice.

For instance, wouldn't it be wonderful if the whole world gave up violence for Lent?

Maybe, after six and a half weeks of non-violence every year, we might begin to learn how to get along with one another.

Think of it – no violence, no war, no planning for war anywhere in the world for six and a half weeks every year. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if everyone looked at the cross – I mean really looked – and remembered how hatred, and jealousy, and prejudice, and intolerance only lead to suffering and death and achieve

nothing worthwhile?

Wouldn't it be wonderful if all the armoured tanks could be turned into agricultural tractors, and all the aircraft built to carry bombs were fitted out as ambulances and all the scientists employed to develop weapons which kill could concentrate on finding a cure for cancer or even the common cold?

These are not new thoughts but they are definitely worth repeating.

It has often been pointed out that with a tiny fraction of what we now spend on war we could feed, house and educate all the people everywhere.

There could be clean drinking water for everyone. It surely would be wonderful.

Sadly we're not able to influence what happens world-wide. It's all a bit too complicated for most of us.

But we can influence what happens in our small corner of the world. We can resolve to tell the members of our family that we love them.

We can try to heal some of the old hurts, bite back the angry retort, give a friendly wave, say a friendly word, listen to the other point of view.

We can show more patience as drivers and we can hug our children more often.

And we can pray. We can sing, grow flowers, plant trees – and pray.

And if enough of us do this, then we will bring about change – in our homes, our streets, our communities, our municipalities, our state and eventually our country. It really is achievable.

It begins in the heart of each one of us and with the simple prayer:

Loving God, help me to be a peace-maker. Amen

Wishing you all grace and peace this Lenten season,

Ivy Goodwin

Church Times

Co-operating Churches of Churchill

Williams Avenue, Churchill.
Tel: 5122 1480
Glenda and Ian Combridge
Tel: 5166 1819
Sunday Service: 9.30am.
Choruses: 9.20am
Sunday School: 9.30am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church

35 Walker Parade, Churchill
Tel: 5122 2226
Father Andrew Wise
Saturday: Mass: 7.30pm
Sunday: Mass: 9.30am
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays: Yinnar:
Mass: 11.00 am
2nd and 4th Sundays: Boolarra:
Mass: 11.00am

Churchill Crusade Centre

Maple Crescent, Churchill.
Pastor Tony or Hermanna Marsden:
5122 2777
Sunday: 10.00am
Ladies Meeting: Tuesday 10.00am

Easter Week

Lumen Christi Catholic Church, Churchill

Tuesday 15 April
Tenebrae 7.00pm at Co-Operating Church.
Wednesday 16 April
Mass 9.30am.
Holy Thursday 17 April
Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm.
Good Friday 18 April
Solemn Commemoration of the Lords Passion 3.00pm
Holy Saturday 19 April
Reconciliation 10.30 - 11.00am.
Easter Vigil 7.30pm
Easter Sunday 20 April
Mass 9.30am at Churchill and 11.00 at Yinnar

Co-operating Churches of Churchill

Easter Tuesday 15 April
Tenebrae 7.00pm. Other denominations welcome
Good Friday 18 April
Service 9.30am and 10.00am – Walk of Witness.
Morning tea and hot cross bus on return
All Christians welcome.
Easter Sunday 20 April
9.20am Choruses
9.30am Service

Boolarra/Yinnar Parish

Palm Sunday 13 April
Service at Yinnar 10.00 am, includes a short procession with palm branches.
Maunday Thursday 17 April
Tenebrae service at Boolarra 7.30pm
Good Friday 18 April
Combined Churches Walk of Witness in Yinnar 10.00am
Easter Day 20 April
Dawn service at Boolarra park 7.00am and Sung Eucharist at 10.00 am at Christ Church Boolarra.
For details of services ring Rev'd Russell Jones on 5169 6224.

Boolarra/Yinnar Harvest Thanksgiving

By RAE BILLING

IN early February we held a Harvest Thanksgiving and donated quite a quantity and variety of non-perishable groceries and some cash donations to Anglicare. Fun was had swapping the fresh produce (apples, tomatoes, lemons, plums, etc) and all the goods made the altar and Church look very decorative.

There are several fun/fund raising events coming up. On April 6th at Christ Church Boolarra there will be a

Parade of Hats at 2.20pm.

Then on April 27 a group of entertainers from Melbourne will present a concert of Gilbert and Sullivan favourites, again at Boolarra. The cost will be \$10.00 per head, which includes a delicious afternoon tea.

A trivia night will be held at Yinnar Hotel on 23rd May and I will put a reminder in the May issue. Ring Win on 5163 1222 if you have any queries.

Snippets from the Co-Operating Churches

By RUTH PLACE

FOR two weeks in April students from Churchill Primary School grades 1/2 and 3/4s attended an Easter Club at the Co-Operating Church. The students were given an explanation of Christian Easter symbols and participated in a variety of craft activities.

Each student who attended received a wooden cross. Bert Penco (pictured bottom right) made over 60 crosses, for which we are very grateful.

The Church participated in the Clean Up Australia Day Campaign. Pictured below is the happy band of volunteers with full rubbish and recycle bins.



From left to right: Ruth Campbell, Carol Roedin, Jill Tabart, Burce Campbell, Ken Tabart
Below: World Day of Prayer Map of Lebanon



The World Day of Prayer was held on Thursday 6th March. The program this year was prepared by the Christian women of Lebanon.

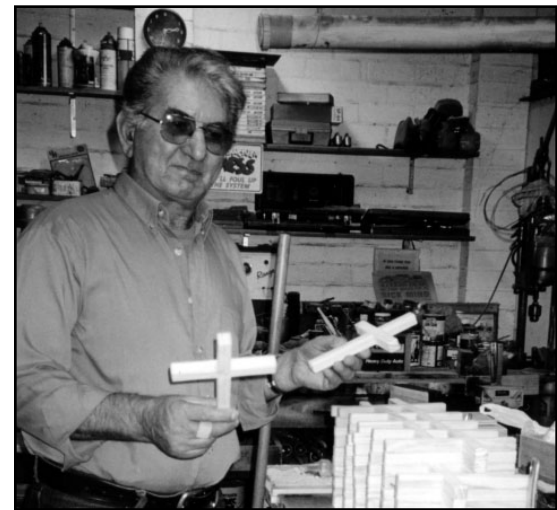
The theme was Holy Spirit, Fill Us. During the service the women of the Ladies Fellowship placed cards around a map of Lebanon, outlining the fruits of the Spirit as written in the Bible – Galatians 5:22-23

On the altar was a vase containing sprigs from an olive tree. Jill Tabart gave a very enthralling and challenging talk. Hymn singing, prayers and Bible readings completed the service program.

A delicious supper was served which included many samples of Lebanese food.

This service is held annually and is shared with Lumen Christie Parish.

Saturday Breakfast was held on 29 March. Stuart Reid was the guest speaker. He gave a very interesting talk about his experiences working with the Rural Ambulance Service.



James Mauger Plays with Youth Alive Band

ON Saturday 22 March, ten prime locations right across Victoria hosted Youth Alive Concerts. Kernot Hall, Morwell was the venue selected for the Gippsland concert.

We were fortunate to have a Youth Alive Band from



Melbourne playing to a large and enthusiastic audience.

Local teenage guitarist James Mauger from Hazelwood North was invited by the Melbourne Youth Alive Band to play electric guitar with them.

As well as the Melbourne Youth Alive Band, the local Valley Christian Centre Church band "Virus" played. James is also a regular member of this band.

A keen guitarist from the age of four, James is an accomplished player of bass, electric and acoustic guitar. He studied under two local guitar teachers and has since taught himself from this solid grounding.

Left: James Mauger and the Melbourne Youth Alive Band



Folk n' Drum Festival Huge Success

By RUTH PLACE

ON Saturday 22 March Boolarra held their inaugural Folk n' Drum Festival.

The Festival was organised by the Boolarra Community Development Group.

Beginning at 11.00am the daytime entertainment included 19 professional and amateur musical performers and groups from throughout Gippsland and Melbourne.

The Davidsons were unable to play as one of the group had joined Lee Kernaghan's travelling show.

During the evening both the Pub and the Memorial Hall had entertainers, the latter also having a dance.

There was a variety of foods available and local crafts on show.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the combined schools of Churchill/Churchill North/Boolarra Percussion Band under Steve Schultz, a local musician. Though the students had previously had only two hours of tuition from Steve they played a variety of percussion instruments and rhythms, which amazed the audience. This was the first time that all the 100 students had performed together.

Steve, a drummer, has been performing in schools around Australia for the last five years. Using his extensive collection of instruments he involves his audience in a percussion extravaganza, which has proven extremely popular.

When asked how he achieves such remarkable results with students he says that he tells them to listen and feel the rhythm. It is like the current in water, he says. The current doesn't always flow so well, so observers would have noticed Steve diving here and there among the students to "repair the current". It is a matter of instinct to know where the current is breaking down, he adds.

Steve has had up to 600 students performing at one time.

Steve is no stranger to this area, having grown up in Yallourn North and attended the local primary school. After leaving school he became a mechanical electrician, serving his apprenticeship at Hazelwood Power Station and later contracting at Loy Yang Power Station.

He was full of praise for the students who performed at Boolarra as well as the organisation of the Festival.

The inaugural Boolarra Folk Festival was a great success!

Above: Crowds at the Festival. Below: Steve Schultz



Lions Club - Another Busy Month

By JOHN BARKER, SECRETARY

OUR Youth have been the highlight during the past month:

* One of our members Trent Kooyman took part in "Shave for a Cure" and raised \$2000 for the cause by canvassing his friends at work. Our Club donated \$200.

* More time was put into our sponsored house at Licola Village, a camp primarily for disadvantaged children. The extension is almost complete, needs vinyl to be laid and some minor finishing off.

* Another of our members Bob Lowick is again taking in an exchange student through our Youth Exchange program.

* A donation of \$500 was made to the Churchill Scout Group to remedy their water run-off and drainage problems at the Scout Hall.

* The Pub Raffle is going strong and proceeds are being used to sponsor our youth programs in particular. Please support our members.

* I have taken part in two Scouting activities - a Cub Pack Holiday at Buchan which was thoroughly enjoyed by 13 Cubs from the 1st Churchill Scout Group, and a special District Camp at Bermingham Park which kept 28 Cub Scouts very busy for 2 days.

Cleanup Australia was well attended and with other community groups our members took part in a cleanup of our roadsides and parklands. It was disappointing that such a large amount of rubbish is "dumped" in our community and needs an activity such as this to clean it up.

The annual Outdoor Expo is a great event patronised by thousands of people each year. Our catering raises a

lot of money; major disbursements this year were to the Children's Mobility Foundation for a third Hart Walker device and the substantial amount of \$3000 going to the Bush Fire Relief project to restore damaged fencing. The Salvation Army were granted the rights to tea and coffee this year and raised \$600 for their cause. We are greatly indebted to Parkinson Wholesale Foods for the use of a freezer truck for 3 days to store food. The Club is continuing to grow with our latest new member being Bruce Cassidy. This brings our membership to 32 and makes us one of the largest clubs in the area.

Churchill & District News is starting a Children's Birthday Club sponsored by our Lions Club. All children under 12 are eligible to join - free of charge - and each month a lucky "birthdayite" will be chosen at random and receive a \$10 voucher for both Churchill Future Flicks and Churchill Newsagency. An application form is printed in the News this month; fill it in and have it signed by a parent/guardian and post off to the address shown. The first list will be published in the May issue.

Our next catering projects are

* Saturday April 12 at Bunnings where we will be part of "The World's Biggest BBQ" effort for the Guinness Book of Records. Please come and register and enjoy a snag or two.

* Sunday April 13 again at Bunnings, a sausage sizzle for Camp Quality.

To all the families in our community of Churchill and district, we thank you for your support. Need to contact us? Our address is PO Box 110, CHURCHILL 3842.

Palm Sunday Peace Gathering

THE Latrobe Valley Peace Network is hosting a local Palm Sunday Gathering and Family Picnic Day at Kernot Hall ground, Morwell on Sunday 13th April.

Palm Sunday is a traditional day of remembrance and celebration. The Christian tradition of Palm Sunday celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem the week before he was crucified.

The Peace Network is hosting the day as part of nationwide gatherings that will celebrate liberation and community harmony.

Spokesperson for the Peace Network, Mr Peter Thain, said that it was hoped that Latrobe Valley residents would come along and share their picnic lunch together.

'We've been a community divided for so long', Mr Thain said, 'that the Peace Network hope a day like this can unite

people from all walks of life'.

Speakers will include religious leaders and others who will speak on the significance of Palm Sunday in today's world.

'We can't ignore the current world events', Mr Thain said. 'The problem we have is bringing the relevance of old teachings to the present day situation.'

Families are encouraged to bring a picnic lunch and, if possible, an extra plate of 'goodies' to share with others in a spirit of peace and community. There will be balloons, face painting for the children and music for everybody.

The lunch-time activities will commence at 12 noon and will finish at 3.00pm. They will be held on the front lawn of Kernot Hall, Princes Drive, Morwell.

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PUBLIC INTERNET FACILITY IN YINNAR

The Internet is now available to the public at

Yinnar General Store, Main Street Yinnar.

All computers have Microsoft Office software and are Internet ready.

A laser printer is also available.

Membership to the Facility is Free

There will be a fee of \$2.00 per half hour block (or less) and \$3.00 per hour. The fee includes access to the Internet or to use the computers for other purposes.

Printing costs 10c per page

The facility is open from 7.00am until 5.00pm on weekdays and 9.00am until 11.00am on Saturdays.

Bookings are advisable if training is required.

Telephone Yinnar General Store on 5163 1261.



Present this advertisement to a volunteer at Yinnar's Public Internet Facility and receive ONE HOUR FREE INTERNET ACCESS. This offer is valid until 30 June 2003.

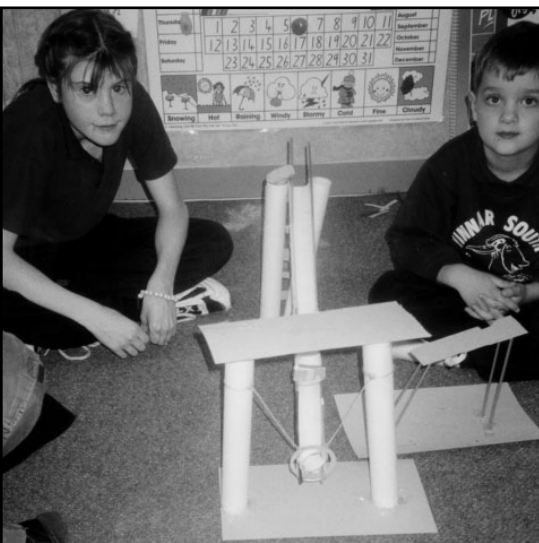
The Public Internet Facility is supported by the Yinnar & District Community Association.



Schools

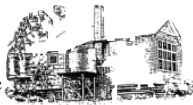


Work in Progress: Students working on their models. Above: left to right - Vanessa, Josephine and Lisa. Below: left to right - Ashley and Lous.



Construction Work

By MARK ANDERSON
Principal



The construction workers were out in force recently at Yinnar South Primary School where grade 4, 5 and 6 students have buddied up with Prep and grade 1s. As part of a classroom theme on schools and technology, groups of children were challenged to design and build a model of a piece of playground equipment they would like to see in the school.

Each student in the younger class was partnered with someone from the senior class to take advantage of cross-age tutoring strategies. Older students were able to model techniques for construction and joining and assist younger students to create the playground they had designed.

The activity had a lot of benefits for all concerned. The older students gained a sense of confidence and pride, as they were able to help younger students.

The younger students were able to learn some new techniques for construction activities while at the same time getting to know the older students who they see in the yard.

This in turn will lead to a greater sense of caring and connectedness in the playground.

When finished, each group shared their model with the other students in their grade who provided some feedback on their construction.

Kurnai Kids in the Water



Kurnai College Churchill and Morwell Campuses enjoyed a combined swimming sports day on Monday 24 February at the Traralgon Pool. Although the weather was hot and humid, everybody had a great day competing in both the competitive and novelty events.

The novelty events included a coin hunt, a lilo race and a bathroom race which consisted of students wear-

ing shower caps and carrying toilet brushes, swimming and weaving under and over the lane dividers.

In addition, a beach volleyball competition was held where Churchill campus competed against Morwell campus. The Year 7s competition ended in a draw and a good time was had by all.

In March, Mr. Reusch took 20 students for a fun day surfing at Smiths Beach on Phillip Island. This is part of the VCE Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies Course, Units.

Students learnt about surf awareness, water safety skills in the surf and personal fitness. They also practised the skills required for surfing and had a very enjoyable time learning to stand on their boards. The remainder of the day was spent doing coastal observation at Smiths Beach and along the Inverloch foreshore.

Riding the Waves:
Kasey Heeremans



Lumen Christi Celebrates Multi-Culturalism



By DENISE MCKENNA

THE study of Indonesian language and Asian Studies across the curriculum have been priority areas at Lumen Christi for several years. This year in Term 1 Asian Studies unit on China, Prep to Grade 6 children participated in the making of a Chinese Dragon.

It is quite a work of art with a handprint on fabric from every student to make up the body and an elaborate head to frighten off any bad spirits. It was a real community effort with children and parents involved for the final product.

We held an Asian Study assembly during "Cultural Diversity" week in March and all classes performed dances they had learnt in Asian Studies classes with Mrs Foster. There were Ribbon and Sword dances as well as costumes and drums and bells as the dragon paraded into the hall.

Our program is about education for understanding as we endeavour to pass on values of tolerance and respect for other cultures as a way to contributing to a more peaceful and harmonious world. At this time, we realize how important such values are and we will continue to offer hope for the future to our children.

As we move through the season of Lent, we

traditionally support Project Compassion which is the Aid agency of the Catholic Church around the world through Caritas Australia. We held a Rice Day where all children had a simple lunch of plain rice and made a donation to Project Compassion. All children have Project Compassion Mission boxes and are encouraged to be generous for those in need around the world.

We also focus on the Royal Children's Hospital in the lead up to the Good Friday appeal. We have held a Casual Clothes and Crazy Hair day this term to add to our total to send off by the end of term.

Chinese Dragon: Students at Work



Gippsland Pacers Visit

By IAN DRYSDALE, Principal
HAZELWOOD North Primary School Students have been enjoying extra curricular activities as well as their classroom and specialist activities.

Some of these activities included:

- *A whole school puppet show
- *A basketball clinic for Years 3 and 4
- *Bike education for Years 5 and 6
- *The Yinnar and District Athletic Sports



Gippsland Pacers Visit: Year Three and Four students with Vashon and Chris from the Gippsland Pacers basketball team.

From Churchill Primary



The new fence has been constructed in the central part of the buildings. This is the first stage of an exciting new development under way at the school to improve our work and play environment.

Just a reminder that nobody is allowed in the fenced area outside of school hours.

Principal News

By MARG CORNELL, School Council President

As president of Churchill Primary School Council, I have great pleasure in announcing that Rob Higgins has been appointed Principal of our school. After 2-3 years of uncertainty and instability with our Principal position, I look forward now to our school really starting to consolidate and move forward in many areas.

I know Rob will give us great leadership in this regard. Rob has worked really hard in his six months in the acting role, and I am sure he will continue all the

hard work. Congratulations Rob.

H.P.V. (Human Powered Vehicles)

Grade 6 students were recently told about the Human Powered Vehicle race Churchill Primary School will be competing in later this year. This is an exciting program combining engineering, fitness and team spirit. We will require lots of parent support if we are to compete.

We particularly need parents with engineering/welding skills and also catering/organising skills.

Shave for a Cure

What a fantastic effort! At the time of publication of this paper we have raised \$1073.00 for Leukaemia Research. This means:

*Mr Higgins's hair, beard and moustache gone! *Mr Twomey's hair gone! *Mr Pavey's hair gone! *Mr Turner's hair gone!

A special thanks to Hayley Giles from Kats Hair Design in Churchill.

Internship Program at Lumen Christi

By DENISE MCKENNA

OUR school was very pleased to welcome two Fourth Year Bachelor of Education students from Monash University to our staff this year. Mrs Catherine Bastiani is working in Grade 5/6 with Mrs Lorraine Glowacki and Miss Nicole Fenech is working in Grade Prep/One with Miss Kellie Arend.

Our Interns have participated in a host of school activities from planning and teaching and staff meetings to 'sitting in' at Parent teacher interviews. The Internship program is about assisting potential teachers by giving them the opportunity to learn on the job with a Mentor teacher before they start full-time teaching next year.

"I like feeling like a colleague and being part of the school community right from the beginning of the year" said Nicole.

We are fortunate to have such high quality students complete their pre-teacher training with us and they will be with us for two days per week in Term One and Three.

The end of term will see our traditional school Easter Paraliturg where the students enact the events of Easter Week. This will be held on Friday 11 April at 11.00 in the Parish Centre.



Interns: Catherine Bastiani, above, and Nicole Fenech, below.



Churchill & District Lioness Club

By BEV HOOPER

DID you know that there is a small group of women working in your community? Probably not. This small group of nine members is known as the Churchill & District Lioness Club.

The Lioness Club raises funds mainly by catering, for example at the Dog Show held in Morwell in January and the Gem and Collectable Show in Kernot Hall in November of each year.

Funds raised by catering at these

shows have been donate to organisations such as Camp Quality, Drug Awareness, Hearing Dogs, Candy Lions, Cord Blood, Ronald McDonald House, Lymphoedema Support Group and Lifeline.

Not only does this hardworking group make donations, it works within your community.

The Lioness Club planted and is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the rose garden at Hazelwood House. It is a sight to behold when the roses are in bloom.

They also assist with maintenance working bees at Licola Village but their main claim to fame is the provision of "hospital packs" for patients attending the Casualty Department of the Latrobe Regional Hospital.

These "hospital packs" are made up of toiletry items (comb, soap, shampoo, toothbrush, etc) for the use by patients in emergency situations.

So if you see these hardworking Lionesses around your community, stop and say hello as they all enjoy a chat. The club members attend a statewide weekend for Lionesses at the end of February.

It was held at Tocumwal amid much fun and laughter. We participated in interesting forums and swapped ideas with other clubs gaining valuable information assisting in local communities.

Left: Lionesses working at Hazelwood House



"Burning Eddy"

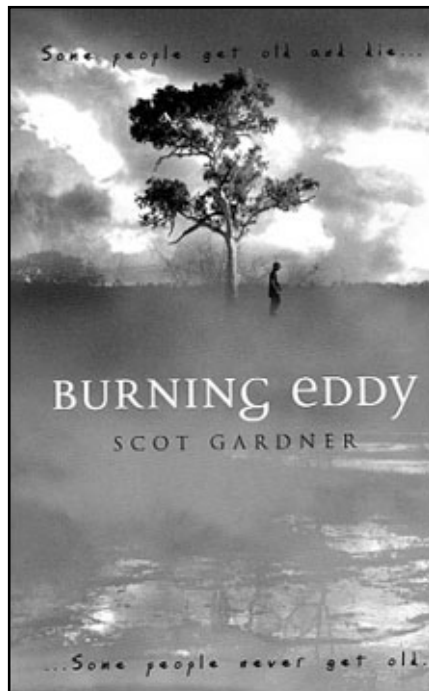
CONGRATULATIONS to Scot Gardner of Yinnar South on the launch of his 3rd novel called "Burning Eddy". Although Scot's novels are aimed at teenagers that does not mean the oldies or younger people do not enjoy them also.

"Burning Eddy" is the story of 15 year old loner, Daniel, who, while working in the garden of the local Mayor is recommended to an elderly Dutch woman "Eddy" whom he ultimately befriends. She helps him overcome his awkwardness

around people. He reaches a stage where he can relate to friends his own age and he eventually falls in love.

There is a bit of Scot in most of the characters. Like Daniel who struggles with the transition from Sydney to a fictional town of Bellain Scot moved from the hustle and bustle of Melbourne to Yinnar South as a 12-year-old.

Scot's other books are "One Dead Seagull" and "White Ute Dreaming". These books and "Burning Eddy" are available in newsagents and bookshops.



Letters to the Editor

WHERE ARE THE FLAGPOLES?

LAST year my family and I attended a public meeting at the Churchill Public Hall. This public discussion was along the lines of 'what did the community want to see happen within Churchill'.

All suggestions were written up on butchers paper and voted upon. Suggestions from the adults ranged from assisting the Churchill Fair, gardens, to the war memorial. Suggestions from the youth (10 to 15s) were a water fountain at the skate Park, shade cloth at the Skate Park, mobile bike shops and so forth. It noted that although it was said that all were to get a vote when the time came those under 18 were told they were not to vote and indeed were not given the stickers enabling them to cast their votes.

Money was to be allocated to what was in end voted in. Voted in was the 'garden beds'. Noted at the time that at a later date there would be the suggested War Memorial in this garden place.

I feel the community voice has effectively become a muted voice. Lost or stalled somewhere in the wilderness.

At one time I saw plans for the gardens. These were to be in the park between Walker parade and McDonald Way and involved the removal of trees on the park side of the main road. I was of the understanding that they would involve at least two flagpoles. The gardens were to be completed by 2003. These gardens would be created through voluntary help, ostensibly so that 2003 Australia Day would be celebrated there.

These gardens were to be placed there as the community felt that they could be seen and utilized by all. The ground was council ground and open to all at any time of the day or night. Safety was an issue as well as easy access.

This year there was an Australia Day celebration at the Cigar. Here both young, old and 'in-betweeners' crammed together. Celebrations were disrupted as parents chose to care for their children. Meanwhile the road, only a few meters away, still had vehicles travelling along it. This included emergency vehicles, cars and at least two trucks. It was said then that the 2004 Australia Day celebrations would occur on the Monash University Grounds.

Roughly a year has gone by. Churchill people are still isolated from botanic gardens, areas where we can sit and reflect on where our loved ones were, are, or may be in the future. Another year of ANZAC marches will slide away. Unless you have a car Morwell or Yinnar are too far for both the disabled, young and the older families to walk to and from so that we join in the celebrations and days of reflections in a safe, peaceful and respectful way.

I would like to read that is happening to the garden in the park opposite the cigar. Where are the flagpoles and later the War Memorial to be? Can we, the public sit there and contemplate where we have been or are going to while enjoying the open, innocent and carefree laughter of little Australians playing near our feet?

Susan Connor



For all your website needs, go to
www.Messenger.com.au

Visit your local Neighbourhood Watch Website at
www.nhw.gippslander.com

Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch Inc. NoA0037920V
newsletter
website: www.neighbourhoodwatch.com.au email: nhw@neighbourhoodwatch.com.au

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CONCERT

Have you ordered your tickets yet for the Neighbourhood Watch Concert this year on June 18? It commences at 7.30 p.m., so pencil the date & time in your diary, get babysitters, organise a group to share the transport arrangements and the enjoyment of the night.

You can preorder your tickets by contacting Sheryn Gray on 51222341 or Peter McShane on 51221745. For \$6.00 per head to have top class musicians entertain you, it has to be the best value going around!

EASTER IS NEAR

No I am not promoting Easter Egg sales, I am again advising those of you heading off for a break to remember the rules that we printed before the Christmas holidays. Lost them from the fridge door? Here they are:

- Have your mail redirected or picked up,
 - Have your morning paper delivery cancelled,
 - Have a neighbour regularly clear out the junk mail deliveries and pick up the LV Express Monday and Thursday deliveries,
 - Arrange to have your lawns kept tidy during your absence,
 - Secure all doors and windows with quality locks,
 - Use sensor lights around the exterior of your house,
 - Use timers on lights to give the appearance of somebody being home,
 - Trim trees and shrubs so that burglars cannot hide behind them,
 - Turn down the ringing volume of your phone,
 - Don't leave tools and ladders outside for burglars to use,
 - Have a neighbour park a car in your drive during your absence.
- And finally - fill in an Absence from Residence Form and drop it into the Police Station before you depart. P.S. Enjoy your holiday!

NEXT MEETING

Due to the rapid approach of the Easter Bunny, we will not be having an April meeting, so our next meeting will be at 7:30pm on Thursday 15 May at the Neighbourhood House Room at the Churchill Leisure Centre. We hope to see you there.

Area Manager Peter McShane 51221745

e-mail: petergmshane@yahoo.com.au

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Lifeline Half Price Sale

By EVA TURRA

Little do people know that when they shop at Lifeline, they are helping their own community.

The first Lifeline Churchill Shop opened in 1988 to raise funds for Gippsland's 24-hour telephone counselling, information and referral service. The shop, located at 9 Marina Parade, offers great bargains.

Shopping at Lifeline guarantees customers will find great value for their money especially at the store's two-week half price sale on all garments beginning 7th April and ending on Saturday 19th

April 2003.

Staffed by a dedicated band of volunteers, who provide efficient and friendly service, the shop provides quality clothes, books, bric-a-brac and toys to the Churchill community.

The Churchill community can also support this important service by donating goods to the shop including clothing, toys, bric-a-brac and household lines.

Without the Lifeline Business Operations volunteers, the organisation would not be financially viable and the telephone counselling service could not function.

Morwell Art & Framing

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Your artwork is handled & framed
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Present This Coupon and Receive

15% Discount

A Vale for Hazel Mary Prater (nee Bush) 17 April 1916 – 28 February 2003



"A real lady all her life"

HAZEL Mary Prater was one of the six children of Florence and Alf Bush, dairy farmers of Trafalgar South.

Her mother passed away when Hazel was 6 years of age so she was brought up by her father and brothers on the dairy farm milking cows and doing dairy work, etc, but it did not take long before she was chief cook and bottle washer.

In 1936 at the age of 20 she met Walter Thomas Prater (Wally), who worked at the sawmill. In 1937 they were married in Trafalgar and set up home in Buln Buln East.

Wally worked in sawmills and on dairy farms in the Erica area until they settled in Euroa on a poultry farm.

Hazel and Wally loved the Gippsland area and brought a dairy farm on

Whitelaws Track, Yinnar South and later moved to a home in Yinnar.

Hazel is survived by her husband Wally and five of their six children, Dennis, Lynette, Charline, Graeme, Neville and Florence (deceased).

Hazel wasn't afraid of work. She loved being married to Wally for 66 years and her family. She loved life and always wanted to thank everyone.

Hazel passed away peacefully at St Hilary's Nursing Home where she was cared for in her latter days.

Wally maintains that Hazel was the best wife and Mum anyone could have had and is now at rest.

The Local Conveyancing Company

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5176 0955

MORWELL
3, 32 Hazelwood Road
Phone Maryanne Duncan
5135 6222

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PH: 5122 1808

GOOD FRIDAY APPEAL

ROYAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL

Auction: 4.00pm

- * Meat and Seafood Trays
- * Fruit and Vege Boxes
- * Jim Beam Products * Golf Jackets
- * Cabinet Dart Board

ROUNDERS BISTRO

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY TO EASTER MONDAY

Happy and Safe Easter to all

MOTHERS DAY
LUNCHEON BUFFET
\$25.00 PER PERSON
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Hazelwood Guides

By ZELMA MILDNEHALL
PLANNING a special presentation ceremony for Faye Foley (Quokka) to receive her Ten Year Long Service Award and Georgia Mangano her Junior BP Award has kept us busy. The Baw Baw Region leader, Mrs Gwen Williams was invited to make the presentations.

Again this year we have been invited to participate in the ANZAC Day March and Service in Yinnar on 25th April. We will assemble in Main Street at 9.10am and move off to the Cenotaph at 9.30am. The service will be held in the Yinnar Hall.

There have been a few changes made regarding the Lorraine Glazebrook Shield Day. We will

have the Lorraine Glazebrook Afternoon of Fun from 1.00pm to 4.00pm at Hazelwood South Hall, Tramway Road. The date remains the same – Saturday 24th May.

The day will be non-competitive this year, and will include rope activities with the Region leaders who have special skills in this area.

The Shield was named in memory of Lorraine Glazebrook (nee Porter).

Guides began in Hazelwood in 1965 when Mrs Clarice Murray, Captain of the first Morwell Guide Company, enrolled Lorraine as a Lone Guide. Lorraine's mother had been a Lone Guide herself and thought that taking part in such an activity would benefit her eleven-

year-old daughter. Soon other friends of Lorraine from the Hazelwood North Primary School wanted to be guides.

The Victorian State Headquarters of Guiding then suggested to Mrs Porter that a guide company be formed. On 17 August 1957, the First Hazelwood Guide Company began with nine girls and with Mrs Porter as Captain and Miss Jean Moody as Lieutenant.

Our unit meets on Tuesdays from 4.00pm to 5.30pm in the Hazelwood South Hall, Tramway Road.

For further information contact Zelma Mildenhall on 5166 1264 or Faye Foley on 5122 1249.

Churchill Guides

By SUSAN CONNOR
OVER the last month of Monday Guide meetings the girls have undertaken a variety of activities. They have been Ice Blocking, arriving home muddy, wet but happy.

They created a mobile first aid kit and learnt safety measures.

Congratulations to the Guides who received their badges and are now learning the art of sewing them onto their sashes!

The Thursday evening Guides spent the last month preparing for their stall at the Churchill Fair, going swimming and to the cinema, and practising CPR with the Gipps

Guides. The Lorraine Glazebrook Shield on the 24 May has a theme of "Links of Unity". It recognises that we need to work together to achieve our ideals.

This is a goal to be encouraged, fostered and enriched as we go through our lives gaining skills and experience.

We are looking for anyone who has previously had contact with the Girl Guide Movement in Australia. If you have been within the Girl Guiding or Girl Scouting World please contact Susan Connor on 5122 3567 or Zelma Mildenhall on

5166 1264.. The Gipps Guides this month have presented a ten-year award for two youth members. Previous District leader, Kath Tanian, attended the ceremony and spoke of what Guiding had achieved for her over the years.

They have also had a CPR night. Thank you to the Royal Lifesaving personnel for your assistance.

The Churchill Guides meet at the Maternal Health Centre, Churinga Drive in Churchill. For information and bookings please contact Susan Connor on 5122 3567.

Wattle Club Answers the Call

IN the Latrobe Valley Express last month, Rawson Wild Life Shelter carer Colleen Wood asked for help to make knitted or blanket pouches young animals that are found in the pouches of their parents after road accidents or bush fires.

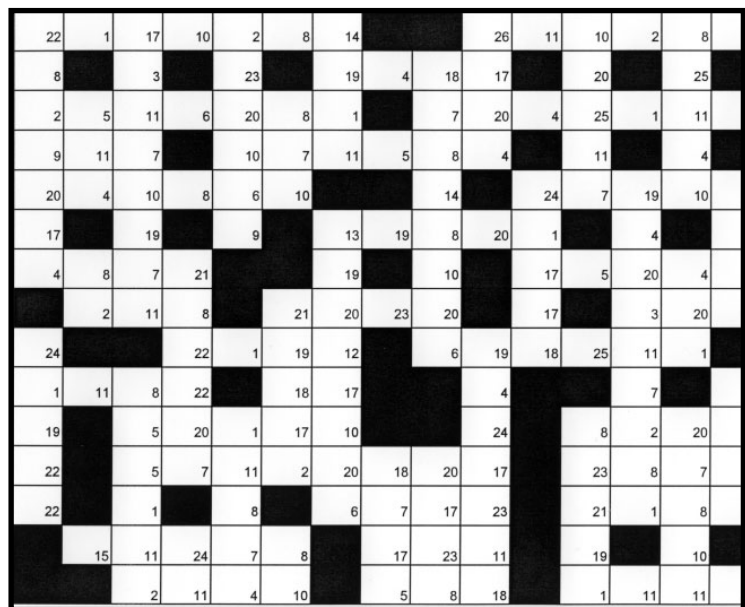
Wattle Club Adult Day Care Activities Co-ordinator, Joan Gardner put the challenge to the craft group, which they accepted. They started making pouches as part of their activities.

Last week they presented Colleen and Pat McDougal from Jeeralang shelter with 200 pouches which was a great effort from the Club. The pouches will be distributed throughout the area. Well Done!!



Members of the Wattle Club with the pouches for injured wildlife

Jacko's Jumble Words



Solve the puzzle by working out which number equals which letter. 5 = P

1	2
3	4
P 5	£
7	£
9	10
11	12
13	14
15	16
17	18
19	20
21	22
23	24
25	26

L	1	E	2
P	3	N	4
F	5	C	6
S	7	Q	8
R	9	O	10
B	11	Z	12
M	13	U	14
Y	15	X	16
W	17	A	18
J	19	G	20
D	21	H	22
K	23	T	24
V	25	I	26

Last Month's Solution

Churchill Cutting Corner

SHOP 4, WEST PLACE, CHURCHILL
 Phone: (03) 5122 3233
 Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm
 Saturday 8.30am - 1.00pm



Our flair is your Hair



West Side Rock



Can teach you to Rock 'n' Roll in MORWELL
 Monday Nights at the Morwell RSL
 (Elgin Street Morwell)

Times: Beginners 8.00pm Intermediates/Advanced 9.00pm
 Cost: \$6pp \$5 Latrobe Rockers Members
 Under 16 \$3
 No partner necessary, Tea & Coffee provided:
 Contact: 5194 2254 or 0407 955 359

Talents, Passions and Glories

C.F.A.



NATIONAL Youth Week 2003 was celebrated with the Talents, Passions & Glories Awards Night: Showcasing Youth of today.

Master of ceremonies Leanne Vella said that the evening was an "opportunity for young people's achievement to be recognised by the wider community".

The evening showcased local talent and included excellent performances by Traralgon Secondary College's Rock Eisteddfod Group, the "Very Dodgy" Jazz Band, and a Percussion Group from Luke's Place led by Steve Schultz.

Art work was also displayed in the foyer

There were four categories for the awards: Creative Vision, Expression, Community Spirit and Unrewarded Trooper.

Paul Smith was the winner in the Creative Vision Award. Nominations for this category included Emma Welsh, Margaret Walters, Rani Jory, Laura Stelter, Nichole Van Rysbergen, David Goldsmith, Hayley MacKinnon, Aaron Duggan, Jessica Jennings, Nicole Hooton, Shannon Killeen, Josh Balcome, Travis Sim, Craig Norton and Samantha Berry.

Jan Lavender Begolo was the winner of the Expressions Award. Nominations included Brooke Soutar, Naomi Conabere, "Very Dodgey" jazz band, Bridie Tomkins, Kellie Scoot, Nora De Bono and Traralgon Secondary College Rock Eisteddfod Group.

Julie Ann Watts was the winner of the Community Spirit Award. Nominations included Owen Guthrie, Katie Galbraith Evans, Kylie Freeman, Joshua De Bono, Danielle Evans, Erin Taylor, Kate Johnson, Kathryn Bartlett, Jeramie Distefano, Emma North, Jamie Beth Blundell, Kylie Bawden, Terri Ewen, Amy Ryan, Michelle Warren, Peter Evans, Lisa Parr, Rachael Conabere, Joshua Lebroc, Berndan Murphy and Amanda Hughes.

Margaret Walters was the winner of the Unrewarded Trooper Award. Nominations included Jayleen Osborne, Brooke Jeffries, Steve Chircop and Hayley MacKinnon.

Congratulations to all winners and nominees!

Above: Winners and Nominees
 Right: Owen Guthrie nominated for his commitment to the Churchill & District News



WITH the fine, cooler days there is a golden opportunity to do some tidying up, maintenance and planning around your property. The fire risk has decreased but it is not past for this season. Dead branches, leaves and twigs need to be raked up and kept away from your house. Better still, they should be taken to the tip.

Wood stored under your house or lying around should be relocated. Houses should have a clear space around them.

Clean out gutters, spouts and leaves off roofs. Trees and shrubs growing next to or over hanging houses need to be trimmed. Trim lower branches so fire cannot climb to upper ones.

Check your hose and fittings and see they are in good working order. Some people may be looking at installing a sprinkler system. If so make sure you have a no fail water supply.

Concentrate your efforts on the vulnerable side of your house, from where you think the fire is most likely to come. Plan and grow your vegetable patch and install your pool in between you and the possible fire front.

For further information contact your local fire brigade.

Churchill CFA acknowledges gratefully the wonderful assistance given by the Red Cross Volunteers when they were fighting the fires in East Gippsland.

The Glendonald Residents Group

and

The Neighbourhood Renewal Project

Congratulations Julie Ann Watts Winner of the Community Spirit Award and Owen Guthrie

The Glendonald Residents Group Neighbourhood Renewal Project meets on the last Tuesday of each month at the Maternal Health Centre, Churinga Drive, Churchill at 6.30pm. All residents of Glendonald are welcome to come along and be involved in shaping your community!

Working Bees for Glendonald Park are held on the Second Saturday of each month, starting at 10.00am. All are welcome to come along and help maintain and develop the Park, regardless of whether or not you attend the Residents Meetings!

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

RESIDENTS GROUP GENERAL MEETINGS 2003

29th April

27th May

24th June

29th July

26th August

30th September

28th October

25th November

December (to be decided)

WORKING BEES FOR GLENDONALD PARK 2003

12th April

14th June

9th August

4th October

6th December

CHURCHILL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS 2003

21st April

19th May

16th June

21st July

18th August

15th September

20th October

17th November



National Youth Week, Talents, Passions & Glories Awards Night: Showcasing Youth of Today was held on Friday 4 April in Morwell.

Winner of the Community Spirit Award was Julie Ann Watts who was nominated for her work with the Morwell East Neighbourhood Renewal Project.

Owen Guthrie from the Glendonald Neighbourhood Renewal Project was nominated for his work on the Churchill & District News.

Congratulations to Julie and Owen!
 Pictured Above are Julie and Owen with their Awards



Looking After Your Pets:

An Interview with David Morrison

Churchill Veterinary Services

By MARGARET GUTHRIE

Q. WHY should a person have their dog or cat de-sexed?

A. Firstly, to prevent unwanted puppies and kittens being born. Not all can find good homes, so many become strays or have to be put down.

Then there are other health benefits – de-sexed animals have a lower incidence of prostrate tumours in males and ovarian tumours in females.

De-sexing often helps with behavioural problems in male animals, such as spraying by tomcats and embarrassing “mounting” behaviour in dogs.

Ideally de-sexing should be done around 5 – 6 months of age, before male hormones “imprint” a pet’s behaviour permanently, and before a female has her first litter.

Finally, pet registration costs less (one-third of the full fee) if your dog or cat is de-sexed!

Q. Why register your dog or cat with the Council?

A. It is a Council By-Law that all dogs and cats over the age of 6 months must be registered. Failure to do so could lead to a fine of \$200.00. Registration fees are now due.

Council conducts random checks of properties to find unregistered animals and owners of unregistered animals are often fined if their pet roams and a complaint is made.

Animals that have their registration tags on their collars can be easily identified and their owners contacted, should they get lost or escape from their home.

For more information on pet registration contact the Council on 1300 367 700.

Q. How do you de-sex an animal?

A. The animal should be fasted from mid-night and brought into our surgery between 9 and 10.00am. (having made a booking first). I give the animal a thorough clinical examination to check its health and then, if all is well it is given a pre-med, followed by an anaesthetic.

The surgery doesn’t take too long, nor is it complicated. A male animal has its testicles removed (castration) and a female has its ovaries and uterus removed (hysterectomy).

The cut (incision) is stitched together and the animal is placed in the recovery room where it is monitored so see there are no ill effects from the anaesthetic. Generally, animals are able to be collected around 4 – 5pm the same day. All animals presented for surgery are given post-operative pain relief to keep he patients comfortable after their operation. Owners are advised to keep an eye on the stitches for redness and signs of irritation.

Animal often try and remove their stitches by scratching or biting, so if this is a problem I advise the owner to use an Elizabethan collar – really just a bucket or a plastic container of some sort over their head. The stitches are taken out some 7 – 14 days later (there is no extra charge for this consultation).

Phone David Morrison Veterinary Services on 0429 436 048 (or the clinic on Tuesday and Thursdays on 5122 1122) for quotes and bookings. There are “very competitive rates for locals”.

Park Signs

By RUTH PLACE

AS you may have noticed the signage for Mathison Park is slowly being installed. Ken Harris has taken some excellent photographs of plants, birds and other animals. There are also pictures of Hare House when it was occupied around 1958.

Brian Stark Manager of the Facilities and Services Department at Monash University, who is the University representative on the Mathison Park Development

Committee, volunteered the support of the Department. This allowed David Newberry at the University to set up a large format printer and electronically scan the photographs. Printed using UV resistant paper they are now displayed at the Park.

The Mathison Park Development Committee would like to thank them for their invaluable support.

Right: David Newberry with the photographs for Mathison Park



Your C.D.C.A.

By PETER MCSHANE

WELL our article requesting feedback got a lot of comment. Not too sure that we would all agree with the tenet of the Letter to the Editor but at least it is a point of view. I would hope that the writer would avail himself of our invitation to put his comments in person and help us to broaden the range of opinions on our committee.

Our new Latrobe Council is now in place with a number of new Councillors including our own Bob Smith from Churchill Timber & Hardware who will now be increasing the range of assistance he provides.

Congratulations to Bob and also to our re-elected Cr. Darrell White. New Mayor for the next 12 months will be Cr. Middlemiss from Morwell.

On behalf of all residents a sincere thank you to all candidates who put their names forward and gave us

a true choice for our representatives in all but one ward.

Now that the new Council is in place we will endeavour to move forward on a number of issues including the provision of a public toilet facility in Churchill and additional walking trails in the Churchill area.

Need more information about the CDCA, like to pass on your comments and feedback on what has been achieved and what is still needed in our town, then write to us at P.O. Box 191 Churchill 3842 or contact Secretary Peter McShane on 51221745 or e-mail petergmcsane@yahoo.com.au .

We extend an invitation to you to attend any of our meetings, and look forward to seeing a number of you at our May meeting at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 6 May 2003 in the Link room at Monash University.

HAZELWOOD VILLAGE

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PHONE: **5122 2555**

EASTER OPENING TIMES

- Cafe Le Mac's**
Closed Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Monday
- Churchill Chiropractic**
Closed from Good Friday to Monday 28 April 2003
- Churchill Florist**
Closed Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Monday
- Churchill Hot Bread**
Closed Good Friday and Easter Monday Only
- Churchill Newsagents**
Closed Good Friday. Open Saturday. Closed Easter Monday
- Federation Pharmacies**
Closed Good Friday and Easter Monday Only
- Foodworks**
Good Friday: 9.00am - 8.00pm (No Liquor)
Easter Monday: 9.00am - 8.00pm
ANZAC Day: 9.00am - 8.00pm (Liquor after 12 Noon)
- Future Flicks**
Normal Opening Hours Throughout Easter
- Kats**
Closed Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Monday
- Hazelwood Health Centre**
Closed Good Friday, Easter Monday and ANZAC Day
- PDP Computers**
Closed Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Monday

SHOPPING CENTRE

----- Youth Yard -----

Human Rights

By PAUL METLIKOVEC, Year 9, Kurnai College
 ROBERT Mugabi is the President of Zimbabwe. He does what he wants and if any in his own country disputes him they are immediately put up for charges of treason. The penalty for treason in Zimbabwe is death.

Zimbabwe took place in the recent cricket world cup in South Africa and because of what is happening in Zimbabwe only 10 games out of a possible 25 were played because it just wasn't safe in Zimbabwe.

Henry Olonga has played cricket for Zimbabwe over the last 8 years playing 30 test and 50 ODI's and to a lot of Zimbabwean's he is considered as a bit of a hero, but when the world cup began Olonga and team mate Andy Flower wore controversial armbands that clearly stated "Death 2 Democracy" as a protest to the Zimbabwean government. After the 1st match of the world cup Henry Olonga was told by Zimbabwe's secret police that they would escort him back to Zimbabwe, where a likely charge of treason awaited.

After Henry Olonga was practically told he was going to be killed he fled Zimbabwe and took no further place in the world cup and is believed to be in England, as he will be granted political asylum.

On the 10th October 2002 the Zimbabwean Opposition Leader, Morgan Svangarii, spoke to the United Nations about the growing number of incidents of torture in the country. "We are witnessing an alarming rise of cases of torture, electric shocks and beating by the police", Mr Svangarii said. Mr Svangarii also said that the army, central intelligence organisations and the militia are being used to inflict violence and brutality against the people and they are on a campaign to crush one political party. More than 1050 cases of torture had been reported during 2002 before October.

Linos Mushonga, a Harare City Councillor was going to work one day when the police pulled him over, attached electrodes to his fingers and toes and continually gave him electric shocks until he lost consciousness.

Mr Mushonga said that the torture took place at the end of August and he was not released until the 17th September. He was then in hospital for eight days. Doctors reports confirm that Mr Mushonga 's injuries were from electric shocks and beatings.

If this can happen to Linos Mushonga, a city councillor and Henry Olonga...



By ADRIAN CONNOR

YAC Report

By OWEN GUTHRIE

Over the last few weeks we've had a few different things to eat - hot dogs (puke flavoured), toasted sandwiches (passable) and pizza (the really good take-a-way sort).

The girls have been having fun (I think) with hair care and makeup

demonstrations that went for a couple of weeks.

But the boys still haven't had the bike maintenance and repairs demos that we were promised. (Not Happy Jan!!!)

The police have told us all that anyone riding their bike after dark

should have lights on, or they risk getting an on-the-spot fine of \$50.00 if caught without them.

Karen and Tanya are the Youth Workers at the YAC, which is on every Wednesday at Gaskin Park from 4 to 8pm.

GAME SMASHER'S HINTS, TIPS AND CHEATS

I AM a 200-pound mass of muscle and brain; my sole purpose in life is to conquer games! If you're stuck in a game or just want to cry about something write in and I might help you out.

Send all questions to: Game Smasher, PO Box 234, Churchill.

The Simpsons Skateboarding PS2 1-2 Players

Rated: G

Simpsons fans should get ready to shred and grind with 9 of your favourite Simpson characters including Bart, Homer, Marge, Lisa, Krusty and Nelson. This game is basically a Simpson version of Tony Hawk. Each character has their own gnarly signature move and unique boards to ride. There are tons of moves to master and five furious

Dear Game Smasher,

I recently brought a copy of "Age of Empires II" for my computer and I am really stuck. I was wondering if you know how to get past Level 5 of the Barbarossa Campaign. The problem is if I get transport ships from the port of Gallipoli they get destroyed by the Saracen Navy, but if I try to use Constantinople's ships, they attack me! So if you know what I should do, please tell me.

game modes, including Trick Contest and Freeskate.

Score: Graphics: 90, Sound: 88, Lastability: 87, Overall:88.

Cheats

To use the cheats go to the Character Select Screen. Then hold down L1, L2, R1 and R2 buttons and enter the following codes for the desired effect:

- Unlock All Levels
Triangle, Cross, Square, Circle
- Unlock All Skaters
Circle, Triangle, Cross, Square
- Unlock All Boards
Cross, Triangle, Circle, Square
- Unlock All Fuzzy Skaters
Cross, Triangle, Square, Circle
- Get the \$99.00
Triangle, Cross, Circle, Square
- Unlock Big Head Homer

Cross, Circle, Triangle, Square

Unlock Underdaks Homer

Triangle, Circle, Cross, Square

Unlock Big Head Lisa

Square, Triangle, Cross, Circle

Unlock Gangster Lisa

Square, Triangle, Circle, Cross

Unlock Ballerina Nelson

Triangle, Square, Cross, Circle

Unlock Big Head Bart

Cross, Square, Circle, Triangle

Unlock Gangster Bart

Circle, Cross, Square, Triangle

Unlock Demon Marge

Cross, Square, Triangle, Circle

Unlock Cool Shades Otto

Square, Cross, Circle, Triangle

Unlock Business Suit Krusty

Circle, Triangle, Square, Cross

Unlock Big Head Nelson

Triangle, Square, Circle, Cross.

Dear Burner,

You need to learn what the Objectives Button on the game does. Select this and read the text. You'll find it tells you how to overcome the problem passing this level. You will need to protect your siege weapons well as you need them to destroy Constantinople's walls and towers. Also protect your Monks so you can heal your troops.

SPOT THE WHEELIE BIN!

GREEN WHEELIE BINS! They get in everywhere! They have appeared in every issue of the Churchill & District News this year. Are they just so much a part of our landscape that we just don't notice them any more! We invite you to play SPOT THE WHEELIE BIN! Can you find them all. If you can send the page num-

ber and description of the photograph to SPOT THE WHEELIE BIN, PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842 and you can win a \$10.00 gift voucher.



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A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



'Best move we ever made'

Cyril and Margaret Beechey

By CATHY COCHRANE

THE SEC assisted some of its employees to purchase a house in Churchill on the condition they stayed at the power station for three years.

But Cyril Beechey stayed with the SEC for a total of 35 years before retiring eleven years ago.

"If I had've known it [retirement] was so good, I would have retired before I started work," Cyril laughed.

Cyril came to Churchill with his wife Margaret and their daughter in April 1966. They were the tenth family in the town and recall many vacant blocks with pegs and number boards hammered in.

Like others, their path to Churchill was through the waiting list. New houses cost around \$10,400, Cyril recalls.

They describe shifting to Churchill as a "shock to the system" but nevertheless "the best moved we ever made."

They recall their daughter sitting in the clay outside while they moved in.

The mud and dirt became a key feature of life in Churchill. Margaret recalls having to clean the mud off the pram wheels while Cyril remembers hosing the mud off the station wagon when he returned from simply taking the children to school at Hazelwood South.

"The pot holes would lose a truck into it," Cyril says. But things started to improve once the bridge went up, according to Cyril.

The residents worked hard in the early years with many having two jobs. Shift work was common.

Cyril also hunted rabbits and sold them for three shillings and their skins for five cents.

Margaret worked at the Exacto Knitwear Factory on the top level of the Churchill Shopping Centre after it opened in around 1974 and has the distinction of being the only employee to take long service leave before it closed. She worked there for eleven years.

Cyril was the first secretary of the Churchill Citizens' Association and counts

the start of the mail delivery as probably his best achievement in that role.

The golf course also took a lot of community work, Cyril said.

Cyril recalls card nights at the Hazelwood Hall and was also involved in the local cricket club.

The shopping centre was a good development when it eventually came, although the Beecheys still had to travel to Morwell for some things.

Indeed, Margaret argues the shopping centre may have been better back then than it is now.

"I just don't like the car park down there," she said.

There were also good delivery services for items such as bread, vegetables and briquettes.

The cigar draws a mixed reaction from the Beecheys. Cyril calls it "the starlings nest" while Margaret argues, "It was something for the town. Every town has to have something."

The town was a friendly area and everybody talked to everyone else, until the town got bigger, Margaret said.

"Everybody got to know everybody," she recalls. "It was a while before there was a community spirit."

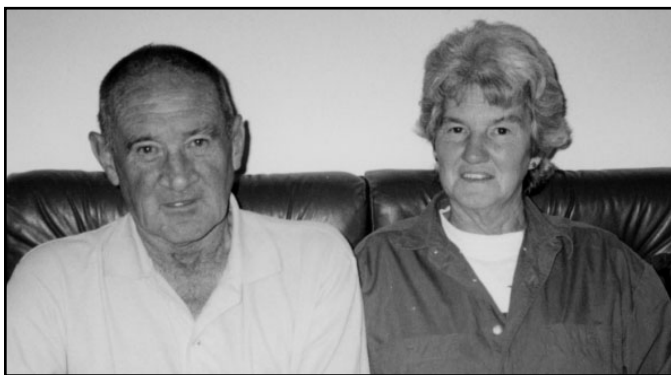
An improvement for the town would be providing more facilities for the younger generation.

"There's no such thing as entertainment for the young ones out here," Cyril said.

The Beechey's have travelled widely but as Cyril says, "There is still no place like home."

"It's been a good town," Margaret added.

Below: Cyril and Margaret Beechey



Exacto Knitwear Pty Ltd

From the Churchill News, 24 July 1975

EXACTO Knitwear Pty. Ltd. commenced operations at Churchill on 21st January 1974 with 22 employees. This has steadily increased to 43 at the present time.

The factory specialized in the making of T Shirts for some time, but recently Exacto Summer Tops were introduced so that flexibility amongst the employees could be achieved. The girls adapted themselves readi-

ly to the change in styles. This we believe results from our training scheme which set out to train girls step by step rather than the "sit next to Flossie" principle. The training is conducted by a competent Instructress.

We are looking for suitable experienced machinists or persons who wish to be trained.

Anyone interested should contact the Manageress, Mrs. Jean Cook.

Notes from a New Councillor

By BOB SMITH, Gonyah Ward

CAN I start by thanking all of those people who voted for me at the recent Latrobe City Elections, and also by reminding those who did not that I am here on their behalf as well.

I have been asked by many people since the election just what it is like to be a new councillor.

Well, I was warned by almost everyone that there would be a steep 'learning curve' involved with this process, and this is only too true.

The sheer volume of reading material presented to an incoming councillor such as myself is, to put it mildly, a little disconcerting, but it is probably a true reflection of the fact that the City of Latrobe is a very substantial enterprise.

I would especially like to comment upon the helpfulness and willingness to please displayed by those Council staff I have had dealings with to date. Their atti-

tude is most professional, and can only assist all councillors in being much more effective.

I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of people who have approached me already about various issues they have with Council. I see my role as councillor as providing an essential interface, or linkage between citizens and Council and this can only work if I am aware of the concerns which members of the community may have, so I welcome the chance to become more informed on local issues.

Obviously it is very early days for me, but I do look forward in future issues of the Churchill & District News, to providing feedback to the residents of Churchill on the progress being made on various improvements which should be happening here. After all, Churchill is a great place to live, but why can't it be greater?

Tel: 5169 1633, mobile: 0428 1484 53.

Rock n'Roll

By RUTH PLACE

ROCK & Roll music and dancing is alive and well! The Latrobe Rockers Gippsland has a membership of over 170 and they are eager to welcome new members.

They are a group that loves to dance and have fun.

The Rockers are a family oriented club and have members from very young to quite mature.

The club is friendly and helpful. Singles should not be reluctant to go, whether you have a partner or not club members will soon have you up and dancing.

Group dances are also a great favourite.

The club has lessons on Monday evenings, from 8.00pm - 9.00pm for beginners, and 9.00pm til late for intermediates at the Morwell RSL. Alan and Jo from West Side Rock conduct the lessons.

Not only is rock & roll good fun but it is also excellent exercise and a great way to meet new people.

Occasionally on Friday evenings a practical dance session is held at the Gormandale Hall where members help each other learn to dance. All are welcome and it is a good opportunity to find out about the group.

The music is provided by CD. During lessons on Monday's Alan and Jo organ-

ize the music but at Gormandale anyone can bring their favourite to play.

The Club also has outings to other rock & roll dances. They will also be celebrating Christmas in July.

Members are so keen on their dancing that they like to share their talents with others. They regularly stage rock & roll dancing demonstrations.

They have performed at St. Hillarys in Morwell, Park Land Day Centre, Traralgon, Scope in Morwell, Flynn Ward at the Latrobe Regional Hospital, for Youth Week at Kernet Hall and the Girl Guides at Yallourn North.

One of their biggest functions was the organising of a 60/40 dance to raise funds for the Catholic Bishop's Family Foundation.

Demonstrations are performed free of charge and the group are happy to visit any club or fundraising event.

Worried about being suitably dressed? Sandra is able help you. She has made many of the costumes worn by the members.

For further information contact Glen (Club President) on 5197 7326 or Ian (Club Treasurer) on 5122 1486. The Club also has a website: www.latrobe-rockers.asn.au.

You can email latroberockers@hotmail.com or write to PO Box 2117, Traralgon, 3844.

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Unique Scholarship

By MIKE ANSWERTH

HAZELWOOD Rotary Club, after over 18 months of negotiations and working with the Department of Human Services, has implemented a unique scholarship scheme in Victoria to assist indigenous students to complete University courses in medicine and health-related studies. The objective of the scholarships is to encourage and empower young Koories to complete tertiary qualifications that would enable them to deliver health services to their communities.

Applications were called last year and interviews have been conducted to select the scholarship recipients. The selection panel comprised of representatives from DHS, Monash University School of Rural Health and Rotary. Local Rotarians Ken Peake, Ross Ollquist and Mac Wood have been working on the project since its inception and are looking forward to seeing the fruits of their work. Recently retired local State Member for Morwell, Keith Hamilton in his role as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, assisted in gaining State Government approval of the project.

Three scholarships have now been awarded in medicine, nursing and pharmacy, and all applicants demonstrated a strong commitment to the betterment of their communities' health. Financial assistance has been provided by Silcar and the Rotary Clubs of Drouin, Warragul, Trafalgar, Morwell and Traralgon Central.

The project has now been adopted by

the Australian Rotary Health Research Fund with the objective of introducing the project in all Australian States and Territories.

Rotary District Governor Alan Lyall has called on all Rotary Clubs in the region to assist the people of East Gippsland who have been affected by the bushfires. Hazelwood Rotary has responded by donating \$1,000 to the appeal for the purchase of fencing materials, tanks and other desperately required needs. The Club has also undertaken to participate in hands-on activity in the area devastated by the fires. District hopes to raise over \$100,000 to assist farmers and local East Gippsland Communities devastated by the fires. Donations can be sent to the "District 9820 Bush Fire Appeal", PO Box 164, Morwell, 3840, care of the Rotary Club of Hazelwood.

The members of Rotary recently visited the Italian-Australian Club to learn some of the finer points about Bocce, the Italian bowling game. A good social night for members and their partners was appreciated by all.

The club has received regular updates from Rotary Exchange student, Jodie Rhodes, who is currently living and studying in Bremen, Germany. Jodie was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hazelwood and will be on her exchange program for twelve months.

Anyone wishing to learn more about Rotary can contact Club President Mark Nestor 51222984 or Club service Director Peter Liepens on 51 353013.

Latrobe Valley Peace Network

ON February 14 Morwell resident Mr Peter Thain joined some 200,000 concerned Victorians at a Peace Rally and Anti-War March in Melbourne, organised by the Victorian Peace Network. Inspired by speakers such as Senator Bob Brown, Peter Garrett and a young Iraqi girl with family members still in Iraq, Mr Thain was so moved that he decided to do something similar locally.

Assisted by a couple of friends Mr Thain arranged a Public Meeting in Morwell inviting interested residents from the Latrobe Valley and surrounding districts to form a Peace Network here in the Valley.

Exactly 4 weeks after the Valentines Day event in Melbourne, some 2000 people attended the LVPN's first Peace Rally and Anti-War walk through the streets of Traralgon.

Residents both young and old, school teachers, small business people, retired people, unemployed citizens, university students, people of the Islamic or Muslim faith, public servants and union officials were joined by people from as far as Drouin, Warragul, South Gippsland and Bairnsdale.

A range of guest speakers including retiring Mayor Tony Hanning, a spokesperson for local indigenous people, a

Greens Party candidate and a veteran from the war in Vietnam all spoke of the horrors of war and the waste of human lives.

Members of the LV Peace Network presented a poem and a song they had written and live music was provided by members of local band the Boola Boolas.

Prior to the event, representatives of the LV Peace Network travelled to Warragul to attend a Peace Picnic and met with members of local Peace Groups from the Warragul/Drouin area and South Gippsland. Members of the Latrobe Valley group have voted to affiliate with the Victorian Peace Network.

Members are kept informed via regular meetings, weekly candlelight vigils and extensive e-mail network.

A Palm Sunday Peace Gathering and family Picnic day is to be held on April 13 at the Kernot Hall Garden area from 12 noon to 3 pm. Free music, balloons and face-painting for children will be provided. Families from the Latrobe Valley and surrounding districts are invited to bring a picnic lunch to share with others.

Weekly meetings are held at the Migrant Resource Centre, 100 Buckley St Morwell, commencing at 5:30 pm Wednesdays.

Candlelight Vigils are being held each Sunday night throughout the Valley, starting at 6:30pm

For further details of the Peace Networks activities phone: Peter Thain on 0409 689 043 or Joan Good on 5174 4454.



Peace Rally, Traralgon

CHILDREN'S CORNER

MY BIRD KEY!

By RACHEL MARCUS.

HI. My name is Rachel Marcus and I have a bird named Kev. He is my responsibility. He shares a cage with my brother's bird Kate. I'm glad that I have a bird because I get really bored and have no one to talk to. He talks all the time. He also talks to my foot. Gary and I clean out their

cage and sometimes I have to clean their perches. I am glad that I have a bird because it is fun to teach him stuff.

He also loves giving me kisses.

It took me and my family 2 days to find a name for him. But the best part about it is that it always puts a smile on my face.



MY BIRD KATE!

By GARY MARCUS.

HI. My name is Gary Marcus and I have a bird called Kate. She is my bird.

Kate is my responsibility. My bird Kate shares a cage with my sister's bird. His name is Kev.

I help my sister Rachel clean out the

water and refill their food.

It's really fun when you hear her talk. I was really happy when my Dad and my sister came home with a box. It had my bird Kate. It took me 2 hours to find a name for her. I reckon it's the best thing I have ever got plus I have something to call my own!

CHURCHILL NEWS BIRTHDAY CLUB -

Hi Kids,

If you are under 12 years old you can join the CHURCHILL NEWS BIRTHDAY CLUB. Each month we will publish a birthday list for that month and a *special birthday person* will be chosen to receive a gift of a \$10 voucher at CHURCHILL NEWSAGENCY and a \$10 voucher to CHURCHILL FUTURE FLICKS VIDEO.

To join, fill in the form below, have it signed by a parent or guardian and send it to -

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LIONS CLUB OF CHURCHILL & DISTRICT INC
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CHURCHILL 3842

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ADDRESS _____

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BIRTHDATE _____ BOY GIRL

SIGNED _____

Rodeos, Raffles and Right-hand Drive

By David Knoles, Redondo Beach, California

It was only while chasing taillights down this straight, seemingly endless country road in the pouring rain, trying desperately to stay on the left side of the road, that I realized I was lost.

Which is not to say that I actually knew where I was going in the first place.

It was my first trip to the Land Down Under, so I figured there would be no better way to see it than by auto. So after landing in Melbourne I rented a Ford and took off on Highway One, expecting breathtaking ocean vistas, rugged interiors and magnificent blue summer skies. What I got instead was exactly what someone from the United States would expect in March – rain. I cruised through towns with names like Moe without seeing much more than the swishing windshield wipers. I was headed for a place called Traralgon, but with night falling fast and no apparent end to the torrential rain in sight, I decided to stop at the first place I found. That was when I saw the sign for Morwell – a town I at least recognized from the map – and turned off the freeway.

I got on this two-lane road with a lot of twists and turns. Around each corner there was a new curve, but no Morwell. In fact, there wasn't much of anything except a lot of trees and a lot more rain. But there were lots of other vehicles – mostly pickup trucks – passing me on the curves.

And most of them seemed to be filled with Cowboys.

My first thought was that my method of zen navigation had gotten me so lost this time that I had ended up in the Twilight Zone. Still, there was no mistaking the hats and plaid western shirts, and even though the colorful tourist brochures in the glove box said nothing about cowboys tearing around in the rain, they at least seemed to know where they were going, so I decided to follow.

The road straightened and for a long time all I could see was taillights. Then, off in the distance to the left, I saw what looked like a large, squat, white structure with some sort of pinnacle rising into the rainy sky just beyond it. Maybe, I thought, I'd finally come to Morwell.

So I pulled off the road and parked in a paved lot in the middle of what looked like a pickup truck convention, got out of the car wrapped in a long blue raincoat and followed a sea of dripping cowboy hats towards what looked like a bar in the middle of a small shopping center. Two guys ahead of me were talking and laughing about bulls or something, and one of them was slapping a folded up newspaper against his leg every time he laughed. Finally he dropped it and I bent down to pick it up. It was open to an advertisement for what unmistakably had to be a rodeo. I'd never heard of anyone holding a rodeo in a bar, but it certainly explained all the cowboy hats. So I folded up the newspaper, stuffed it inside my raincoat and followed the crowd inside.

There was a name on tavern window that read, "Truckin' Jims." Didn't know it that was the name of the bar or the name of a band. Just

inside the door was a lady behind a cash register waiting for the cover charge. So I fumbled out some of the unfamiliar currency I'd exchanged in Melbourne, and then walked up to this big, burly guy who stamped my hand. Then I followed the bobbing cowboy hats down a corridor lined with booths and up a flight of eight steps into a bar. There was a fairly large dance floor to my left. But there wasn't a rodeo on it or a band either, so I followed a few guys through the bar and down some more steps to a door leading outside into the interior courtyard of the shopping center.

Sure enough, there was a rodeo going on out there.

It wasn't a particularly big rodeo, mind you. There weren't bucking broncos and guys on horseback chasing calves with whirling lariats. But there was a bullring fitted into a rear area of the center with rows of seats and cheering fans facing it. Fortunately, a partial roof that extended the length of the entire courtyard kept the rain mostly out. So there weren't a lot of wet, angry competitors who could later claim that the short duration of their ride was because the bull was not only cranky, but slick with rain as well.

Not that the difficulty of the task needed any help. If bull riding is one of the most popular rodeo events, it's probably because it's also arguably the most dangerous. The only thing connecting the rider to a usually really angry and totally unpredictable animal is a loose rope strapped to one hand. To keep position and balance, riders desperately pull on that rope while trying to hold on with their feet while the bull bucks and spins. In fact, the more a bull bucks and the faster he spins the more points the ride is worth.

By way of history, the rodeo began as a bunch of informal cowboy competitions in the mid-19th century and then became a sport when the first official rodeo was held in Denver, Colorado in the United States in 1887.

Obviously, it has spread in popularity since then, and not just across the western United States. Because here I was on the other side of the Pacific Ocean in another country on another continent watching a wild west spectacular in a shopping center in Australia.

In typical rodeo fashion the bulls in this show were bad-tempered, and the riders exceptionally bold. But the rodeo wasn't the only thing going on in that little courtyard that night as I learned when I wandered around the makeshift stage facing the pit.

On the other side was a contemporary-looking fountain surrounded by an iron fence. Standing in front of it was this odd statue that looked like a nude, bald, female store mannequin painted in sort of sideways rainbow colors.

While I was standing there wondering about it, this girl with long brown hair approached me. She had an oval face with high cheekbones, a distinctly English nose and sparkling green eyes. She wasn't very tall, just over five feet, and at first I thought she was a lot younger. It was only

I saw the badges pinned to the pocket of the black suede jacket she was wearing that I looked at her face and realized she wasn't some kid wandering through the crowd.

"Hi, I'm with the Girl Guides," she said brightly. "And we're holding a raffle to help raise some money."

"Uh huh..." I said, still thinking about the absurdity of the statue I was looking at.

"We are raffling off a 20 dollar note," she continued. "The tickets are going at 50 cents, and we only have one book of tickets running."

I turned to look at her.

"Girl guides?" I said. "What are they?"

A look of surprise came over her face as soon as she heard me speak.

"Oh," she said. "You're from America, aren't you?"

I nodded.

She looked around at the crowd. "So what are you doing here?"

"I was looking for Morwell," I said.

"Morwell? This is Churchill. Morwell's up the road a bit. You must have taken a bad turn. Horrible night for driving, this."

"Especially on the wrong side of the road," I muttered.

She just blinked at me.

"Well, the Girl Guides are like your Girl Scouts," she said. "So would you like to buy a ticket? They're only 50 cents. You'll help us and you could win the note."

I'd never heard of a raffle like this one. But she explained that the Girl Guides started with a \$20 note. Then she sold a single book of raffle tickets, keeping the odds low. The winner won the note, but the profits from the tickets paid for an even bigger note for which she sold even more tickets.

It was actually a very clever idea. Besides, I thought she was cute, and I liked her accent. So I smiled back and said, "Why not? It's for a good cause, after all."

I reached into my pocket and brought out several coins. It was fairly dark by the fountain, and I didn't really know one from the other anyway. I looked up, smiling weakly.

She looked back with the same patient smile, pointed at the coins in my hand and said, "It's that odd shaped one with the number 50 stamped on one side."

"Oh," I said, drawing it out of the pile and handing it to her in exchange for a raffle ticket. "Thanks."

"No worries," she said, and turned with a saucy flip of her long hair, disappearing into the sea of damp cowboy hats.

When I went back around to the pit, the action was going on hot and heavy. I watched one skilled rider – whose name I failed to catch – hang on to that rope and proceed, with one hand high in the air, to take every buck and twirl the bull could dish out. He took it practically to the limit, staying on so long that I thought he was going to wear that poor bovine down to a steak.

Of course, not everyone was quite that good. Some other poor guy got thrown nearly as soon as the bull was let loose, and if not for the presence of the traditional rodeo clown, he would have wound up with permanent hoof marks on his forehead.

It's always interesting watching rodeo clowns, since in a way their job is more dangerous than the rider's. A rodeo clown has to attract the attention of an already enraged animal, putting himself in the position of being seriously injured, while making it all seem funny. I have no doubt that if he made a mistake and got himself gored, everyone would laugh since they'd think it was part of the act.

Of course, I did see a look of fear on this clown's face. But it had nothing to do with teasing a bull. It was teasing the woman who sold me the raffle tickets that put that there.

It happened later in the evening during the second drawing – which was now for a \$50 note. She was up on stage holding the clown's cowboy hat, which was holding all the tickets, and he had climbed out of the pit to draw the winning ticket and announce the winning number.

Then, grabbing the announcer's microphone, he did something I doubt the Girl Guide leader had expected.

"Who is our lucky winner?" he asked, mugging and panning for the audience. "If it's a girl, I get a kiss. But if it's a guy, she gets a kiss."

And he turned to point at her. She looked as shocked as if she'd just been bucked off a bull. Obviously she had no intention of kissing anyone, winner or not. She immediately started waving her arms, shaking her head and mouthing the word no. But the clown was undaunted. He jumped back down into the pit and repeated, "Come on folks. If it's a girl, I get a kiss. If it's a guy, she gets the kiss."

There was a wide smile on his face until he turned around and looked back up at the Girl Guide. Then his face froze. She had a look on her face that would have stopped a bull dead in its tracks. If looks could kill, he would have keeled over there and then.

I never laughed so hard in my life.

And, of course, on the next drawing the clown didn't mention anything about kissing.

I thought about that as I was negotiating the road back to Morwell to hopefully find the Australian equivalent of a Holiday Inn. As much fun and as unusual as the rodeo had been, the look on that girl's face was the highlight of the evening. I looked over at the raincoat on the passenger seat to my left and realized my raffle ticket was still in it. I'd been laughing so hard I hadn't even checked it. I wondered if I'd won.

Then I decided it would be better to concentrate on staying on the right side of the road.

The left side, I mean.

The Girl Guide with 'the sparkling green eyes' is Christina Healy from Churchill!
Ed

"Cleaning with Care"

Ken and Janine are celebrating 10 years of providing Personalised and Quality service to the residents of Churchill.

Ken & Janine's Carpet Cleaning
KEN HILLS
JANINE HAYES
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CHURCHILL 3842
Phone: (03) 5122 2324

Monday 5 May

By MARITA MCDONOUGH
THE 1st Churchill Scout Group would like to announce that they will be hosting a Party Plan night on Monday 5th May at the Churchill Football Club, Manning Drive, Churchill. Doors open at 7.00pm to 9.30pm. Entry is \$2.00.

Everyone is most welcome, so bring your friends and family members along.

There will be a lucky door prize, plus lots of raffles throughout the night.

Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Also drinks can be purchased at bar prices.

Over 20 exhibitors will be present on the night. This is a fundraising event not to be forgotten. All money raised will help buy new scouting equipment so please come along and support your local Scout group.

For more information contact Marita on 5122 1006.

Party Plan Night

MONDAY 5 MAY
7.00pm
Churchill Football Club

* JIGSAW * MARY KAY
* CRAFT WARE * ENJO
* ESSENTIAL ADDITIONS
* BODY SHOP * AVON
* GARFIELD LAVENDER
* INTERIOR FOCUS

EVERYONE WELCOME

Sports News

Churchill Swimmers

THE Churchill Swimming Club is a group of enthusiastic young people dedicated to improving their fitness levels, improving their swimming times and making certain they have fun doing this.

The age of swimmers is from 6 – 16 years, the ability of swimmers ranges from those who have just completed swimming lessons through to those who were finalists in the recently held Gippsland Championships.

Although one of our aims is to produce 'champions', our main goal is for the swimmers to enjoy training, competing and being part of a team that supports each other continuously.

The club has, for the past 9 months, trained a 'development squad' – a group of 14 young swimmers aged 6 – 10 years. The main aims of this squad are to improve the stamina and fitness of these young children and to initiate them into the joys of competing and representing their club. A great sense of team spirit prevails with many 'potential' champions among them.

If your child is interested in becoming a part of this

great family-oriented club phone Bill Ypelaan on 5122 2969 for further information and details.



In the Swim: Competitors at the Gippsland Championships held in March. From left to right: Jessica Webster, Jessica Ypelaan, Claire Watson, Hannah Ypelaan, Annie Brewer, Jessica Mayo, Ashley Ypelaan and Emma Watson

Evonne Goolagong Cawley

By VICKI SCHILLING

SATURDAY 29th 2003 was an exciting day for the Churchill Tennis Club. We were fortunate to have Evonne Goolagong Cawley on the courts and in action with 35 young tennis players, all in a buzz to see their idol and study here prowess on the court.

She put them through drills and gave her expert advice on techniques and skills. After phot sessions with Evonne and an autographed poster she quietly departed

for other commitments with other clubs.

Churchill Tennis Club put on a sausage sizzle for the children and adults. Everyone enjoyed the day, and went home happy to tell of how they met a famous person. Thanks must go to Sally Kirstine for organising to have Evonne at the Club.

The next edition of the Churchill Tennis Club's news will outline the winners of the Championships for the 2002/03 season.



BMX SUCCESS!

THE BMX Demonstration Day at Glendonald BMX Track was a major success. The Glendonald Residents Group were instrumental in co-ordinating and running the event that will be remembered for a very long time. Glendonald Resident John Zomer put in a tremendous amount of hard work to ensure the day was a success. Without the support of John and the Residents group on the ground, doing the hard work these events would not happen

More than 500 people attended with a total of 86 young riders aged between 3 and 19 with varying skill levels taking part. They came from Maffra, Traralgon, Hazelwood South and North, Morwell, Yinnar, Tyers, Glengarry as well as Churchill.

Quantum Support would like to thank everyone who was involved in this event, including Glendonald Residents Group, St. Johns Ambulance, Department of Human Services, Latrobe City Council, Mallard Cycles, Scouts, Millard Plumbers, Monash University, Hazelwood Power, Monash University Student Union, Spikes Bikes, RTL Transport and Halo Bikes



Gordon's
Gents Hairdressing

25 Church Street Morwell
(Opposite Monacellers)

Appointments

Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday - Friday

8am - 9am

5134 4785



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- ☉ Traditional Training and Olympic Sport
- ☉ Suitable for all ages
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Fosters flexibility, balance, fitness, self-discipline and confidence while teaching self-defence

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For Further Information, Phone: 5174 1460

SANTOSHI YOGA CENTRE

* Hatha Yoga & Relaxation Classes

* Ajna Healing™ * Reiki

* Swedish Therapeutic Massage * Pregnancy Massage

GREEN Inc. Room B4

Northways Road, Churchill

Beginner's Yoga Classes commence week of May 5th

For Bookings and Further Information

Contact Heather Batza

Telephone 5122 2583 or 0408 512 387

The Strut Specialist

PAT and Lynda from Strut Re-Gas (Gippsland) have been operating in our area for the past 14 months and would like to make people aware that they are the sole operator, and fully backed, by the original company established over 12 years with approximately 33 franchises Australia wide.

Struts from car boots, bonnets and hatchbacks, tractors, buses, trucks, industrial machinery, office chairs, photocopiers, to name just a few applications, can be fully reconditioned bringing them back to new or better than new with the correct pressure for the application.

The struts return fully reconditioned with the oil replenished and seal checked with a 12-month warranty on re-gassed struts.



New struts are also available for purchase and you can have your tradesman trailer or horse float etc, fitted so ring now for a quote.

Don't put up with struts not working properly and risking injuries. Get them to us and you will be happy with the quality and service received at a reasonable price.

Phone us on: 5166 1665 or mobile: 0407 542 122.

STRUT RE-GAS

Tel: (03) 5166 1665 Mob: 0407 542 122

"The Strut Specialist"



- ☉ Automotive applications: cars, 4wd, trucks, buses & tractors.
- ☉ Office/Medical Equipment: chairs, photocopiers etc.
- ☉ Boats, Trailers & Industrial uses.

Struts are not throw away items.
They can be RE-GASED!

COUNTRY NIGHT

First Saturday of Every Month

From 9pm

"Truckin' with Tim"



CHURCHILL SALOON PRESENTS

LEE & TANYA

KERNAGHAN

May 11th 2003

12 Noon



Tickets \$35.00

U18 Must Have Parental Supervision or no Entry

CHURCHILL SALOON PH 51221225



fast, fresh & friendly

Dine in - Take away
Ph. 51222609

Shop 2A West Place, Churchill

Bookable Function Room

Fully Licensed Restaurant

Kids Menu

★ EASTER ★

Normal Trading Hours

Starters

Parmesan and Garlic Bread	2.50
Sundried Tomato and Olive Bread	2.50
Prawn Crackers	2.50
Bowl of Fries	2.50
Garden Salad	4.50
Chicken and Sweet Corn Soup	4.50
Our Spicy Miso Broth	4.50
Wedges with Sour Cream	4.50
Nacho's and Sour Cream	6.00

Our Famous Noodles!

Hokkien Mee - pork, shrimps, bean shoots, caps, bok choy	8.95
Satay Chicken - onions, caps, spring onions	8.95
Singapore Chicken - baby corn, carrots, bok choy, shallots, caps	8.95
Chilli Beef - onions, capsicum, bok choy, spring onions, mushrooms	8.95
Mediterranean - salami, sundried tomato, olives, onions, capsicum	8.40
Vego - basil, chickpea, zucchini, onions, caps, sundried tomato	7.50
Laksa Lemak - coconut curry, onions, sweet pork, shrimp, bok choy	8.70
Stir Fry Beef - cahews, snowpeas, caps, mushies, spring onion	9.95

Rice's of the World!

Beef in Black Bean - onions, caps, cauli, brocc, carrots, bok choy	8.95
Thai Fish Curry - caps, snow peas, onion, cauli, brocc, carrots	9.95
Szechuan Chilli Chicken - onions, caps, carrots, cauli, brocc, bok	9.95
Combination Fried Rice - pork, bacon, onion, carrot, egg, shoots	8.95

World Famous Pasta's

Gnocchi, Fettucini, Tortellini, Penne, Spagetti, Risotto	
Bolognaise - home made rich tomato bolognaise sauce	8.20
Thai Chicken - coriander and coconut milk, onion, caps, bok choy	8.40
Carbonarra - bacon, onion, garlic, pepper, parmesan cheese, egg	8.75
Vego - basil, chickpea, zucchini, onions, caps, sundried tomato	7.50
Cajun - chicken, onions, capsicum, tomato wedges, spring onions	8.75
Con Pollo - chicken, onion, bacon, mushroom, parmesan, egg	8.90
Sweet Soy Beef - marinated beef, caps, onion, mushies	8.95
Traditional Lasagne - with Noodle Bar fine salad and crispy chips	9.60

Our Famous Schnitzel's

Beef or Chicken	
- All served with Noodle Bar salad and chips - Small	Large
Parmie - onions, caps, herbs, tom, concasse, melted cheese	8.95 10.95
Satay Cheese - spicy satay sauce and melted cheese	8.95 10.95
Bolognaise - topped with bolognaise and melted cheese	8.95 10.95
Hawaiian - topped with pineapple, bacon and cheese	8.95 10.95
Ozi Outback - bacon, onion, egg and melted cheese	9.45 11.45

Home made Dessert's available 4.00

Hearty Favourites

Hamburger with the lot and chips	5.50
Chicken Schnitzel Roll with bacon, cheese, onion and mayo, with chips	7.00
Lamb's Fry' bacon and vegies	9.50
Roast of the Day	10.50
Fish and Chips with salad	10.00

Kid's Menu

Dim Sims or Potato Cakes or Chicken Nuggets or Fish all with chips	5.00
Milkshakes	3.00
Ice Cream with Topping	3.00



OPEN MOTHERS DAY 12PM - 2PM

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

BOOK NOW AND TREAT MUM TO A GREAT LUNCH