

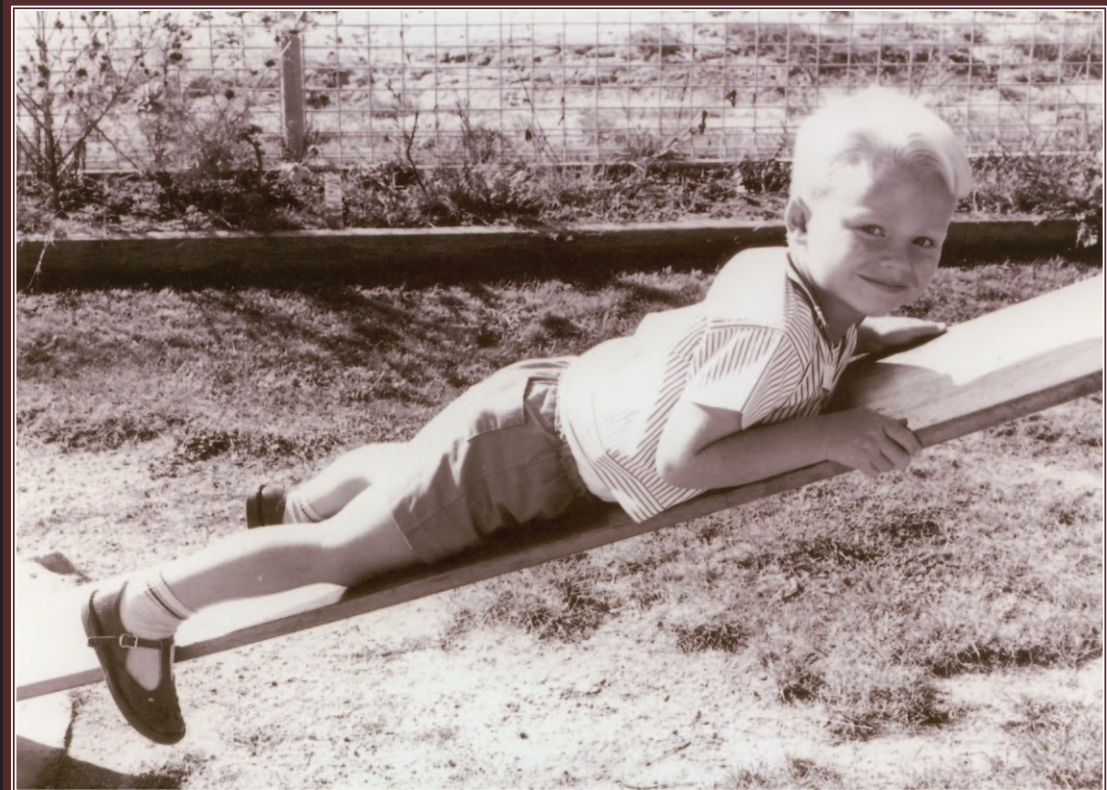
CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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Looking Back at Watson Park Kindergarten



Imagine Churchill forty-three years ago. There were few houses occupied and the population was about 25. In the next couple of years the population grew quickly. Most families were young, with little children, babies, or with thoughts of increasing the population in the near future. There were very few facilities in Churchill in those times. The people were very keen and pro-active in setting about securing the facilities they needed. A kindergarten and infant welfare centre was a priority.

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Christine Nixon Visits

Those in the surrounding fire affected areas were invited to meet with Christine Nixon, Chair of the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority, at the Hub on Sunday 23rd May. She was welcomed by Councilor Ed Vermeulen. Also present were two other representatives of Latrobe City Council.

Many turned up to hear what had been achieved, what still needed to be addressed and to voice their concerns. It also was an opportunity to hear of some of the possible changes to procedures in future fires.

In late January and early February 2009, bushfires swept across Victoria, devastating 78 communities and 400,000 hectares of land. A total of 173 people lost their lives. The devastation resulted in 2029 homes destroyed along with 61 businesses, 5 schools and kindergartens, 3 sporting clubs and numerous other buildings.

"On 10 February 2009, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments established the Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority to oversee and coordinate the largest recovery and rebuilding program Victoria has ever faced. The Authority is working with communities, businesses, charities, local councils and other gov-

ernment departments to help rebuild communities affected by the bushfires.

Each affected community has different needs and the priority is to help regions, towns and individuals to rebuild and recover in a way that is safe, timely, efficient, cost effective and respectful of those different needs.

Each and every community will be supported to help people recover and rebuild in the way that they want."(1)

The fire period is inclusive of November 2008- April 2009. Apart from those who lost their lives there were many more who were seriously burned. 800 people were given medical assistance.

Of the 400,000 hectares burnt, there were farms, bushland, National Parks and urban areas all badly affected. It is estimated that one million bush animals were lost.

Of the predicted outcomes of the Royal Commission the recommendation of having fire refuges, better mobile coverage improvement, better preparedness as we experience harsher climate conditions, an overhaul of registration practices, and a national warning system, may be included. Also flagged was a study of how best to deal with arsonists.

Continued on Page 9



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The Churchill and District News is a community newspaper staffed by volunteers.

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 Editor/Treasurer: Val Prokopiv

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The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the July 2009 edition is June 30 2009

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

All articles must be submitted by the 30th of each month for publication in the middle of the following month.
 Advertising enquires can be

addressed to:
 Peter Prokopiv
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 Tel: 03 5122 2589 or 0402 406 376

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Thursday 16th July
 Thursday 13th August
 Thursday 17th September
 Thursday 15th October
 Thursday 12th November
 Thursday 17th December
 Special Schools Edition
 Thursday 26th November

Please ensure your articles are submitted on or before the deadline.
 Guidelines for the submission of articles and photographs are available on our website at cdnews.com.au or contact the Editor on 0411053546.
 If you are unable to meet the specific deadline please contact the Editor on 04110 53546

**Articles can be left in our Drop Off Boxes Located at:
 Cafe Le Mac's, Churchill Primary School, Churchill Library and the Co-Operating Church**

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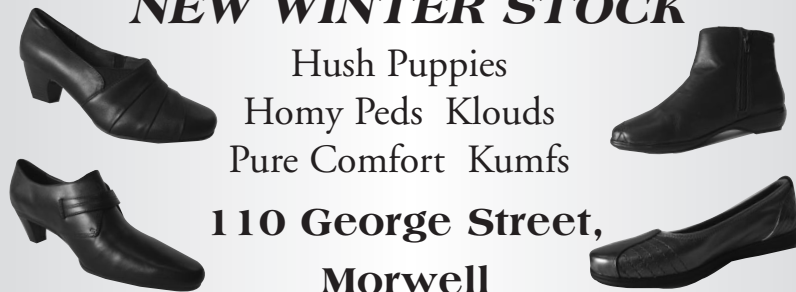
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Kurnai College - Music Department

Kurnai Idol '09

The quest in searching for this year's finalists is almost over. Across four weeks auditions were held at both junior campuses in Morwell and Churchill and for one day at the Precinct campus. The number of those who auditioned have been overwhelming, even more so was the quality that was presented.

This year, the judges of the auditions were nominated campus teachers. On several occasions, the quality of the performers has been so great that the judges had a really difficult time in selecting a winner from the heat. The quality of the auditions has been so great that all those that participated in their particular heat went through to the final. This has happened not only on one occasion, but on three separate occasions.

To date, those who are in the final are:
 From Morwell Campus
 Sarah Darling, Jessi Hester, Stephanie Cassidy, Sheeny Whadcoat, Emily Ferguson, Kathy Dierickx, Sara Lobb & Katie Ferguson
 From Churchill Campus
 Ashleigh Meddings & Michaela Wilkie, Rhiannon Pilcher & Shyla Anderson, Kayla Elgan, Renee Jelze, Chantel Bosma & Ayla Rogan, Kayla McCarthy
 From Precinct Campus
 Paigen Stoertebecker & Libby Welhem, Ken Teng & Kevin Zhang,

Rebecca Callahan & Ellie Dungey
 Up for grabs is:
 1st Prize -
 *\$200 voucher from music store A&P Electronics - Traralgon,
 *Name inscribed on the Kurnai Idol Champion Shield (to be housed at the winners campus) and
 *Recording of the winning song on the Kurnai College Music CD.
 2nd Prize -
 *\$100 voucher from music store A&P Electronics - Traralgon
 The final is on Tuesday 16th June at 7pm in the Performing Arts Theatre at Kurnai Churchill Campus (Cnr McDonald and Northway Roads, Churchill).
 Tickets are \$5.00 adult and \$2.00 child.

Seating is limited. Contact any campus to pre-book seats.
 Kurnai Idol is a College Event that allows all students attending Kurnai College the opportunity to have fun, overcome their fears in addressing a crowd, show their vocal (and instrument) prowess, and to basically have a go.
 For information about the Music Program and Sponsorship/Advertising, contact Mr Joseph Bonnici - Head of Music on 041 7355 048.

Community Helpers Need Help

The recent spate of bushfires in the Churchill area brought an immediate and rapid response from agencies such as the Red Cross. Like a well oiled machine, from the first activation on January 29th at Boolarra and Yinnar, through relief centres at Churchill, Traralgon and Mirboo North, to ongoing recovery work, the Red Cross volunteers, are working for the benefit of the community.

A response like this does not just happen. Volunteers train and practise their skills throughout the year to be ready for incidents such as the 2009 Bushfire response. In the local area, Red Cross First Aid volunteers

assist at community events such as the

Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund Concert, Churchill Festival, fishing competitions, school sports, motor sports, the L.V. Air Show, Pony Club events.

At present there are no Red Cross First Aid Volunteers from the Churchill area.

A level 2 First Aid Certificate and a Police Check are all that is required to work as a first aid officer. All volunteers receive initial and ongoing training and a uniform.

An extensive range of first aid equipment is also supplied for use at posts.

Volunteering is a great way for students to gain first hand experience in working with people and can add another dimension to your CV.

If being a First Aid Officer does not interest you, there are many other avenues for volunteering within Red Cross such as catering, registration, personal support and fund raising. Experience the sense of achievement and camaraderie that comes from being part of a dynamic team.

For further information about becoming a Red Cross First Aid volunteer Ph 0408 595 074.



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Brigades in Schools



The Brigades in Schools program has been running in the Churchill area for about 9 years. It is run by trained presenters, all of whom are volunteers, like all members of the Churchill Brigade.

It is a graded program for Preps to Grade 6 children. Included in the program are units of work in which the children learn about safety with fire, home fire hazards, preparing home fire escape plans and being bushfire prepared, as well as gaining an appreciation of what a firefighter wears, training involved, the trucks, equipment used, and the CFA history.

Lumen Christi was the recipient of the program in May. Because of the Black Saturday bushfires, it started with an assembly of the 3/4s, followed by the 5/6s, in which an explanation of where the fires started, and spread to was explained with the aid of large maps. John Henshaw of CFA, who is involved with Fireguard Groups, was the initial speaker, but was supported by firefighters from Churchill Brigade. Many questions were asked and answered, with the firefighters saying what their involvement had been.

The program then progressed through two more weeks with classroom lessons, and a visit by the fire truck for the Prep-4s, to learn about the equipment transported on it.

The 5/6s were treated to a visit to the Fire Station where they were able to experience some of the things a fire fighter does, under supervision. They connected hoses, learnt how the pump on the pumper truck worked, sent water from one truck to another to be able to squirt water through hoses. A tour of the station was also included, with a time for questions. Judging by the happy faces this was an interesting experience.

The Brigade will host the Pre-schools groups at the station as well. The assemblies have also been arranged for Churchill North and Yinnar South schools.

Churchill Primary School will have their turn in Term 3.

Thanks go to Andy from Hazelwood North Brigade (pictured below) for bringing their truck and helping out with the program.



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Old Time Family Dance

Hazelwood North Hall

Church Road, Hazelwood North

Friday 26 June

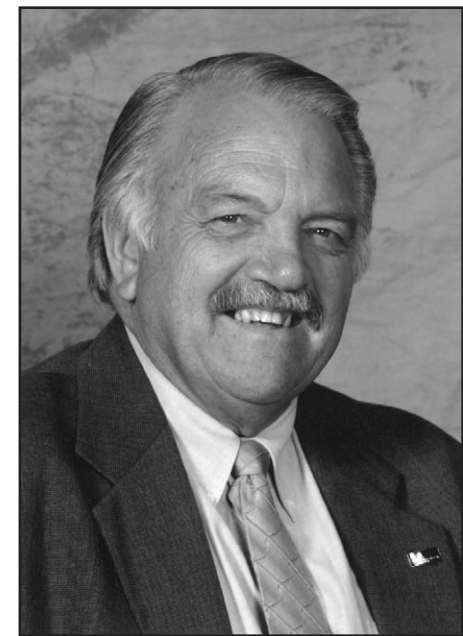
Dancing from
8.00 pm to 11.30 pm
Music: Harmony Plus

Admission: \$5.00
Door Prize & Novelties
Please bring a plate



For more details please ring Zelma Mildenhall 5166 1264

Tour of Gippsland - Cycling Road Race Via Churchill, Hazelwood, Yinnar and Boolarra Cr Darrell White



Traralgon South Primary Schools to promote health & fitness and road safety.

The Tour of Gippsland is part of the "Scody Cup"; one of Australia's most competitive cycling tours. The "Scody Cup" is endorsed by the Victorian and Australian Cycling Federations and forms part of the Australian Cycling Federation's national cycling program.

SBS Television will subsequently screen a half hour documentary of the event. For further information, please contact Latrobe City's Coordinator, Events and International Relations, David Elder, Tel. 5128 5646.

Council Endorses Plans for 'Heritage Overlay'

Latrobe City Council has recently adopted the 2008 "Latrobe City Heritage Study" and, as a result, this has enabled the beginning of the process of preparing an amendment to the Latrobe Planning Scheme to introduce a "Heritage Overlay" to cover sites recommended by the study.

Latrobe City's "Heritage Study" includes a history of the municipality and citations for 139 individual places and 14 heritage precincts of local heritage significance within the municipality.

The citations are those suggested by local historical societies, those with a specific interest in heritage and the public at large. The study includes recommendations for statutory protection and other measures to conserve and manage heritage places that form the basis of a conservation program.

Some of Latrobe City's "heritage icons" such as the Traralgon Post Office and Courthouse complex, the Toongabbie Mechanics Institute, and the prefabricated iron house "Loren" at Old Gippsdown in Moe, are already afforded protection through their listings in the Victorian Heritage Register or Latrobe Planning Scheme. However, there are a number of other well known "heritage icons" such as Airlie Bank Homestead in Morwell, Glengarry Railway Station, the Tyers Mechanics Institute and a number of

buildings at Old Gippsdown that are not currently listed. These will be given an element of protection through the proposed planning scheme amendment.

The 2008 "Latrobe City Heritage Study" includes significant trees and infrastructure such as the well known oak tree near Moe Railway Station; the elms at Sandbanks Reserve beside the Latrobe River and the nearby Bluff Causeway Bridge; and the Washington Palms located on the site of the former Morwell Butter Factory manager's residence off the old Princes Highway.

It is recognised that "Heritage places" contribute to the character, amenity and identity of Latrobe City and enhance the municipality's appeal as a place to live, work, play and visit. The introduction of policy to the Latrobe Planning Scheme will therefore have a positive social and economic benefit for the community of Latrobe City and the historical significance of the wider Gippsland area.

The heritage overlay now being sought aims at preserving the memory of key periods which have shaped the development of the Latrobe Valley, represented by those sites which remain across Latrobe City today.

The commencement of the Planning Scheme Amendment to introduce the "heritage overlay" to recommended sites, required authorisation from the State Minister for Planning.

In accordance with section 8A(3) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, the Minister for Planning has authorised the Latrobe City Council as Planning Authority to prepare the Planning Scheme Amendment.

The land affected by the amendment is land within the municipality which is proposed to be included to the Heritage Overlay. The proposed properties are listed in a revised Schedule to the Heritage Overlay.

During the exhibition period, all landowners and statutory authorities likely to be affected will be notified in writing, and public submissions will be invited for consideration by an independent planning panel appointed by the Victorian Government. The exhibition and submission process will also provide the opportunity for fur-

ther review of places recommended for inclusion within the heritage overlay.

The community may inspect the Amendment, any documents that support the Amendment and the explanatory report about the Amendment, free of charge, at the following locations:

During office hours, at the following locations:

Latrobe City Council, Corporate Headquarters, 141 Commercial Road, Morwell 3840

Moe Service Centre, 44 Albert Street, Moe 3825

Traralgon Service Centre, 34-38 Kay Street, Traralgon 3844

Churchill and District Community Hub, 9-11 Phillip Parade, Churchill 3842

The Department of Planning and Community Development web site www.dpdc.vic.gov.au/planning/publicinspection.

Any person who may be affected by the Amendment may make a submission to the planning authority.

The closing date for submissions is 14 August 2009. Submissions must be sent to Lorrae Dukes, Strategic Land Use Planning Officer, Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell VIC 3840.

Latrobe City's 'Events Team' Here to Help the Community

Latrobe City's Events team has several key focus areas, including event facilitation and event attraction. Whilst working with local community groups the "Events Team" assists event organisers to not only raise the profile of their event but also provide advice so that they are managed as safely and smoothly as possible.

Another area of focus is event attraction. The Latrobe City "Events Team" actively seeks to attract events to the region to help raise the profile and maximise the economic benefit these events contribute locally through visitor tourism.

By way of example; recently Latrobe City has secured the 2010 Victorian Cricket State Under 18's Championships to be held in January, with 140 competitors plus support crew staying for five days. In addition

the Football Federation Victoria Under 11, 12, and 13's Boys Country Championships will be held in July 2010 with 650 competitors plus support crew staying for three nights.

The "Events Team" is keen to work with members of the community to improve the "calendar of events" within Latrobe City. If you're planning an event or have suggestions as to what events Latrobe City should be looking to attract the "Events Team" is keen to assist. With extensive knowledge in event planning, risk management, traffic management and advertising of events, Latrobe City's "Events Team" is a resource available to all of the community.

The "Events Team" can be contacted at events@latrobe.vic.gov.au or by contacting Latrobe City's Coordinator, Events & International Relations, David Elder, Tel. 5128 5646.

Free Movie Screening: 'The Children of the Silk Road'

Latrobe City, in conjunction with the National Film and Sound Archive and Big Screen, will show the moving drama 'The Children of the Silk Road' at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon, on Thursday 18 June at 7pm. Tickets are free but will be strictly limited.

Latrobe City's Coordinator, Performing Arts and Venues, Kathleen Roberts said that the movie was inspired by true events. Critics describe the film as a story of hope and courage against a background of war, with a good old-fashioned helping of love, heroics and sentiment.

The film tells how a young English reporter, George Hogg, came to lead sixty orphaned boys on an extraordinary journey of almost a thousand perilous miles across the snow-bound Liu Pan Shan mountains to safety on the edge of the Mongolian desert. Directed by Roger Spottiswoode, the supporting cast includes Radha Mitchell, Chow Yun Fat and David Wenham.

Bookings are essential and can be made with Latrobe City's Box Office on 5176 3559.

The Tour of Gippsland is the opening event on the prestigious Australian Cycling Federation's National Teams Series, attracting top-flight competitors from all Australian States and some from overseas. The event runs for 5 days and is considered a breeding ground for future Australian international cycling team members and Tour de France riders and is a vital lead-up event for Olympic and Commonwealth Games. Now in its 5th year, the Tour of Gippsland opening day will be held in Latrobe City on Wednesday 29 July 2009.

STAGE 1: TRARALGON TO BOOLARRA

Start: 10:30am Road Race, Finish: 11:45am Via Churchill, Hazelwood, Hazelwood Pondage, Yinnar.

DISTANCE: 51.5 kms

SPRINTS: 4

HILL CLIMBS: 2

STAGE 2: TRARALGON SOUTH TO YARRAM

Start: 2:30pm Road Race, Finish: 3:50pm. 2 laps of the town circuit then via Balook, Tarra Bulga National Park, Fernholme, Devon North

DISTANCE: 57.7 kms

SPRINTS: 4

HILL CLIMBS: 2

Loy Yang Power and Latrobe City Council are the major sponsors of Day 1. The course route will provide opportunities to engage with our bush-fire affected communities, particularly those where the race starts and finishes (Traralgon, Boolarra and Traralgon South).

Riders will also visit Boolarra and

Celebration BBQ



On Sunday 24th May a group of around thirty members of the "Save Our Park" group and their supporters, celebrated the abandonment of the link roads proposal with a BBQ in the Walker Parade Park.

Excellent weather and plenty of food, generously provided by Ritchie's Super IGA of Churchill, made for an enjoyable day. The gathering hopes to be able repeat to the event in the future.





Janet and John Lee present the cheque to Peter Prokopiv (centre), Churchill News Business Manager.

Donation to Churchill and District News

Trevor Strangward, known as Taffy, died last year aged 80 years. Trevor was often seen walking to and around the shopping centre with his little brown dog, a mini pincer. John and Janet Lee were appoint-

ed Trevor's executor. In conjunction with a solicitor, his estate was dispatched according to his wishes. Some investments were realized and converted into cash. Several charities have been the recipients of

this cash. Churchill and District News was one, and proudly and thankfully accepted the donation.

Francis and Latrobe Orchestras Concert



The Latrobe and Francis Orchestras held a special benefit concert at the new auditorium at Monash University on Sunday 17th May at 2pm.

The reason for the concert was to raise funds for those members of the orchestra who had lost instruments during the Black Saturday Bushfires, so that new ones could be purchased.

To aid the cause, Monash gave the auditorium free of charge.

A wonderful program of diverse musical types from Franz Liszt to Vaughan Williams to George Gershwin,

was presented. The conductors of the orchestras, Alison Teychenne -Francis and Fiona Deneys- Latrobe, did a marvelous job. It was a treat for the 150 people who attended to see so many young musicians involved and playing at such high standards. Two duets for trumpet and flute were well executed by these young people.

The day raised \$522. Further donations can be given by contacting Alison Teychenne on 0402 125 848.

The Orchestras will hold another concert on Sunday 14th June at Boolarra Memorial Hall at 2pm. This will be in aid of the Boolarra Fire Brigade.



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Choruses: 9.20am

Lumen Christi Catholic Church

35 Walker Parade, Churchill
Tel: 5122 2226
Rev. Hugh Brown
Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday: Mass: 9.00am
1st and 3rd:
Yinnar: Mass: 10.30 am
2nd and 4th Sundays:
Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

Churchill Christian Fellowship

Maple Crescent, Churchill.
Sunday: 10.00am
Ladies Meeting: Tuesday 10.00am



Church Snippets

May has been a very busy month. A successful Coffee Connections meeting was held with people sharing with all present the significance of an ornament they own.

The Anglican Synod was held at Sale. The representatives from Boolarra/Yinnar and Churchill attended with Rev Bob Brown.

Motions passed at Synod include parishes being aware of, and implementing ways they can make environmentally friendly improvements as well as a motion to set in place a means of support for respondents of abuse and bullying claims was also dealt with.

South Korea, the divisions in the Christian church and the divisions between the peoples of the this land.

Our objective should be to heal wounds and unite divisions that we may all become one. To symbolize that two sticks were tied together during the service.

A very productive working bee was held on Saturday 23rd May when about 15 people turned up and spring cleaned the church inside, cleaned window inside and out, unblocked pipes to allow for proper drainage, and tidied the gardens.

It was delightful to sit down at the finish of work and be served with some very tasty and appreciated sand-



Boolarra members of Synod with Rev Bob Brown

Bishop John McIntyre was the President, and John Del Zoppo was the Chairman of Committees. It was a well run and happy synod. The food was delicious, and the interaction over it showed marvelous fellowship.

A beautiful service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held at Lumen Christi. Members of both congregations had parts in the liturgy, which was delivered with dignity and reverence.

The Church of Korea was responsible for writing the service, and was based on Ezekiel 37:17 in which it mentions this year's theme "that they may all become one."

This theme was taken up in the sermon when Rev. Bob Brown alluded to the divisions between North and

wiches. Thanks to everyone who participated and made it a worthwhile day workwise and socially.

A No Frill Garage Sale was held on the last Saturday of the month. Among the offerings was a good selection of garage sale items as well as cakes, plants and hot dogs. Thank you to all who came and spent generously. The grand total was well over expectations.

To end the busy month, Hospitality Sunday was held when about 30 people shared lunch at several church members' homes. Each person brought food to share. It was a happy time of getting to know each other and share in a time of unrushed fellowship.

Thanks goes to all those who offered their homes and hosted the day.

Prayer for Christian Unity Service at Lumen Christi



Sermon for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Rev. Bob Brown

The resources and liturgy for the 2009 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are rooted in the experience of the churches in Korea. In their context of national division which was clearly established with the truce that ended the Korean War 56 years ago, these churches turned for inspiration to the prophet Ezekiel who also lived in a tragically divided nation and longed for the unity of his people. In 2007 and 2008 when North Korea's main nuclear reactor at Yongbyon was shut down and its nuclear programme dismantled the hopes for reunification of North and South Korea intensified, but with this week's underground nuclear bomb test followed by the testing of three short-range missiles in the Sea of Japan such hopes have once more been fractured.

The context of the passage from Ezekiel 37 is the Kingdom of Israel divided under different rulers. This was the Kingdom that once had been united under the Kingship of great rulers like David and Solomon. This was the land that had been inextricably tied up with the Covenant given to Abraham and renewed through Moses and the return to the land of promise. But this land of promise had become the land of division - even the land of disintegration. This is the theological tragedy that lies at the heart of Ezekiel.

Yet as he grappled with this tragedy, Ezekiel's love for his people only grew. He criticized leaders who acted against God's commandments and sought to guide the people back to God, emphasizing God's faithfulness to God's covenant and solidarity with God's people. Above all, in this apparently hopeless situation Ezekiel did not despair but proclaimed a message of hope: God's original intention for the renewal and the unity of God's people may yet be realized. Ezekiel was encouraged in his efforts by two visions, the first being the familiar vision of the valley of dry bones which, through the action of God's Spirit, are restored from death to life (Ezekiel 37: 1-14).

This year's week of prayer materials are based on Ezekiel's second vision which depicts two pieces of wood, symbolizing the two kingdoms into which Israel had been divided. The names of the tribes in each of the divided kingdoms (two of the original twelve in the North, and ten in the South) are written upon the pieces of wood. The two pieces of wood are held by the prophet as if they were one single piece, symbolizing that God would bring his people back from their scattered exile, bringing back into one the two former Kingdoms of Israel and Judah, binding them together in the one covenant: "Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God" (15:23).

The uniting of the people into one Kingdom is not just about restoring the exiles but also the laying aside of pre-exilic divisions that led to the downfall of Israel. But as well as there being 'one nation', there will also be 'one King'. This is identified as one like King David.

In the reading of this text from the Old Testament, Christians may reflect on how we understand its application to our own situation of division both within denominations and between denominations. In particular we see how God is the one who restores unity, reconciles people, and brings a new situation into being. The role of Israel united, forgiven and purified becomes a sign of hope for the entire world.

As noted above, this prophecy of the two pieces of wood joined into one is the second prophecy to be found in Ezekiel 37. The first, which is probably more familiar to us because it occurs as an Old Testament lesson for Pentecost Sunday, is that of the dry bones which come to

life again through the action of God's Spirit. In both prophecies God is seen to be the originator of life, of a new beginning. In the first prophecy God's Spirit is the spirit of life. In the second, God himself brings about unity, reconciliation and peace within a divided nation. In other words, new life is given through the union of the two divided parts.

For the churches in Korea it is not difficult to see the resonances both political and ecclesial with this Ezekiel passage: a nation with a proud, ancient history stands divided - one part prosperous, the other less so. The Southern part expresses a western democratic orientation, the Northern a communist and isolationist ideology. In the midst of all this is a Christianity which is divided both denominationally and in many respects because of those same political realities both internal and external.

In our Australian context some issues to ponder are also particularly pertinent to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We live in the reality of a church divided for a variety of complex reasons - both theological and historical - in great need of reconciliation and looking for spiritual renewal.

Having just celebrated National Sorry Day on the 26th May, many Australians are also mindful of how we as a nation continue to struggle to find effective, practical and non-patronizing ways of walking together - Indigenous people and later migrants to this land - as one people who respect and value each other's cultures and work together to create a reconciled nation. In the year 2,000 we watched the Olympic Games on television and when Cathy Freeman won the 400 metres in Sydney. She carried both the Australian and Aboriginal flags. This was symbolic of reconciliation in Australia. After her win Cathy also said it was for herself, her family, for her indigenous people and for her Nation. What Cathy achieved was not achieved in a single day. There was hard work, suffering and misunderstanding. She had to pursue her goal long and hard and today still travels along the road to reconciliation.

Ezekiel's vision of two pieces of wood, inscribed with the names of the divided kingdoms of ancient Israel, becoming one in God's hand, is a powerful image of the power of God to bring about reconciliation, to do for a people entrenched in division what they cannot do for themselves. It is a highly evocative metaphor for divided people, prefiguring the source of reconciliation found at the heart of the Christian proclamation itself. On the two pieces of wood which God has turned to form the cross of Christ, the Lord of history takes upon himself the wounds and divisions of humanity. In the totality of Jesus' gift of himself on the cross, he holds together human sin and God's redemptive steadfast love. To be a Christian is to be baptised into this death, through which the Lord, in his boundless mercy, etches the names of wounded humanity onto the wood of the cross, holding us to himself and restoring our relationship with God and with each other.

Christian unity is a communion grounded in our belonging through Christ, to God. In being converted ever more to Christ, we find ourselves being reconciled by the power of the Holy Spirit. Prayer for Christian unity is an acknowledgement of our trust in God, an opening of us fully to that Spirit. Linked to our other efforts for unity among Christians - dialogue, common witness, mission outreach and service activities in local communities - prayer for unity is a privileged instrument through which the Holy Spirit is making that reconciliation in Christ visibly manifest in the world Christ came to save.

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre the heart of the community

We are midway through term 2 and all is going well. All classes are steaming along, and participants are learning all sorts of skills, sharing their skills with others and having fun along the way. Our computer classes are expanding to meet the needs of the community. If there is a particular computer course you would be interested in come along and let us know so we can organise it for you. MS publisher, Excel, Word, Basics, MS Digital Imaging and Photo Editing and, E learning are all on the go at the moment. Creative Writing is a strong, creative and stimulating group. Come and discover your hidden talents, put pen to paper, enjoy and share your stories. If you have any UFO's around

and you would like help to finish them, then Monday morning is the time slot for you in the Stitch and Chat group.

For those who have trouble with spelling, reading, writing or every day maths, let us help you get up to speed and make life a little bit easier as these basics are so much a part of our everyday life. For the more artistic, there's the Folk Art group who are producing magnificent paintings on all types of medium.

For those who like to cut up materials and then sew them back together to create wonderful quilts, then the patchwork classes are for you. These classes run all day Thursday and now we have a Wednesday night class from 6.00

pm to 9.00 pm. If you would like to learn to use the quilting machine and finish off your own quilts, ring the centre and make a booking. Cake decorating, a class introduced this term, is run on Tuesday nights and it is a big success. Wonderful cakes and decorations are being delicately produced and put together. They are absolutely magnificent. These are a smattering of classes that are on offer. Challenge yourself and make the time to do something for yourself, or your family and friends, and have fun while making new friends. Come to the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre - the heart of our community.

DID YOU KNOW?

New Zealand is often overlooked as a close neighbour. Its beauty and amazing experiences are underestimated. I recently travelled to New Zealand on a short coach tour, one of the perks

very entertaining with talents shared between the sheep, shearers, dogs and the audience. Heading further north, the Waitomo Glow Worm Caves lit up in their glory in a spectacular that cant be



described. Our tour finished in Auckland with a relaxing harbour cruise.

What can I say, the scenery is so diverse, the flight to New Zealand is short, the exchange rate is good. If you are looking for a holiday closer to home give New Zealand a go. In July we have a luxury coach that tours New Zealand passing through Morwell. We invite you to come

and experience the coach with a FREE two hour information session and experience coach travelling first hand. Please call us for more details.

of working in the Travel Industry. Part of the tour was the Trans Coastal Train between Christchurch and Picton. The scenery was spectacular with mountains on one side of the train and ocean on the other. Even the journey between the South and the North Islands showed the glorious views of Marlborough Sound. As each day progressed the camera kept clicking, city after city from Wellington to Taupo to Rotorua. Ahh, the mud! We have nothing like it in Australia and the Thermal Pools need to be seen and experienced. The Agrodome Sheep Show at Rotorua was

and experience the coach with a FREE two hour information session and experience coach travelling first hand. Please call us for more details.

Regards,
Joy Martin



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Wattle Club

The Wattle Club (Churchill Planned Activity Group) members are moving towards being self-sufficient along with helping the environment by planting a vegetable garden at the Churchill Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS) site. The vegetables will be used by the group for their lunches at LCHS.

volunteers who will be sadly missed. Liz Black attended this special occasion with one of her delicious and much loved morning teas.

Over the past couple of months the group have been busy with a visit from Anne Collins, Occupational Therapist to discuss Falls Prevention, they participated in carpet bowls and other activities with local Planned Activity Groups (PAG) and went on a wonderful outing to Cowwarr Weir stopping at the Loy Yang Lookout and travelling along the George Bates Scenic Drive on the return trip. The group also visited the Robin Hood Motel where they enjoyed a two course lunch followed by a cuppa in the garden. They were able to have a look at how close the fires had come to the motel and the surrounding area.

The groups also participated in exercises, balloon tennis, optical illusions, crosswords, shuttles, cribbage, trivia, golf putting and snakes and ladders. All activities provide stimulus for the body and mind as well as lots of laughs and much fun.

Planned Activity Group (PAG) provide socialization and recreation for consumers as well as respite for carers. Activities are designed around the needs and interests of the individual and are delivered by qualified staff, along with a dedicated team of volunteers.

A two course meal and morning tea is supplied for a nominal cost, or attendees may bring their own lunch if desired. Transport is available on request.

The group also had a farewell for Laura, one of the Wattle Club's faithful

If you would like more information on joining this group please call LCHS Churchill 51220444 and ask for Kerri or Kelly from the PAG Team.

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“Whilst the centre is new and furbished with new toys and equipment, one thing remains the same and that is the high level of caring and professionalism practiced by all our Staff at Pooh Corner”

Christine Nixon Visits

Continued from Page 1

The Victorian Bushfire Reconstruction and Recovery Authority (VBARRA) has 60 people employed, takes in 23 local council, State and Federal Governments and 75,000 people who volunteered to help. It was established to ensure an orderly organisation of administration to help people get back into their homes, review infrastructure needs, and help co-ordinate the huge amount of goods donated.

The main aim of the VBARRA is to get people back into homes built to Bushfire Attack Levels (BAL) standards. This is entailing talking to builders and building centres to arrange help. One of the ways this help can be obtained is to hold Building Expos. One is planned for the Latrobe area, where several builders are keen to be involved.

Insurance has been a taxing issue with only 75% of people insured and with 70% of those under insured. Insurance companies have attended to about 90% of assessments.

Another huge issue has been the fencing. Only 15% of fencing was insured. The insurance bill will pass \$500,000,000.

Fencing is being done as quickly as possible so people can bring their stock back to their properties and begin farming practices again.

Many, many volunteers are required to help with the re-fencing of properties. Ring the VFF to volunteer.

It was realized early on, that the clean up needed to be done in an orderly and safe manner. Many building had asbestos in them, and thus presented a hazard. Grocon was appointed as the official clean up agents. The company is dealing with 300 properties a week. Clean up in this area should be completed by the middle of June. Trees close to homes will be included as part of the clean up. Grocon is being funded by State and Federal governments. Local people are being appointed to help.

Tonnes and tonnes of fire affected materials are to be cleaned up and this involves finding safe places to then dump them.

Another very grave issue is the number of trees which have been marked for felling.

It depends on the colour of the cross on the tree as to which organisation is responsible for its removal. Many people expressed their concerns about the situation, saying they were afraid of accidents occurring, especially with the wetter weather on the way.

If a tree has a pink cross- DSE, a yellow cross- SP Ausnet, an orange cross- Vic Roads and a green cross- Latrobe City Council.

The three months since the fires period has been reached. This is sometimes a time when the disaster and the impact really hit and depression can set in. It was stressed that communities should get together and support each other, as that is the way to overcome problems.

Each family affected is entitled to have a case worker to help them sort their issues. 400 have been appointed so far.

A local CRC- Community Recovery Committee was formed on the 27th March. Tony Ferguson is the Chair.

Tony was asked to speak. He said the local people were able to do a lot for themselves but needed some funding to help. This included hiring of equipment such

as petrol operated posthole diggers and excavators to support fencing and clearing initiatives. These issues need immediate response due to the wetter weather approaching and the safety of operating equipment on muddy slopes.

Tony also mentioned that a committee had been formed to undertake to establish if the Jeeralang North Hall should be re-built.

The group produces newsletters and these are available at the Churchill Lifeline Shop or Churchill Hub.

Christine listened to other concerns from the floor, and assured the CRC that she would endeavour to have all their enquiries acknowledged whether positive or negative

In response to a question from the floor, it was confirmed the DSE is responsible for the rehabilitation of the tracks it put in as fire breaks during the fires.

Another sad but important consideration is the fact that 38 children lost both or one parent during the fires. These children need special support to ensure they have the possibility of an education and other welfare needs. Money from the Red Cross fund will go to this need. The Red Cross is paid by the State government to manage the fund. Not a penny will be used for administration.

Christine acknowledged the efficiency of the GERF-Gippsland Emergency Fund, qualifying that by saying it was hampered by less bureaucracy.

Christine Nixon said she had a two year contact to see this situation through to a satisfactory conclusion. She has a good line of communication with her committee, and with the three levels of government. Already, as she has listened to communities and taken back their concerns, alterations to policies have been made. One example is that those who didn't loose their house, but lost fences and sheds, and previously were falling through the cracks, can now receive the Living Rough allowance of \$3,500.

These updates in funding allowances are being made almost daily. Christine encouraged those present to seek information on web sites, in newspapers or by ringing.

1) www.wewillrebuild.vic.gov.au



Creative Gippsland

As an adjunct to Creative Gippsland which is enjoying such success at the moment in the region, the Coalfields Gallery at Wonthaggi would like to present an outstanding joint exhibition of mixed media artworks by well known local artists Valda Cooper and Wayne Ferguson.

The exhibition will display over 50 paintings and drawings of a contemporary vein and reveals a world of incredible colour and texture.

Both artists pursue a common interest in the choice of media they choose to work in, however, Ms. Coopers work largely follows a long

standing interest in floral art although currently diverging into subjects that celebrate the ethnic diversity of the world.

Mr. Ferguson on the other hand, centres on the Australian landscape, celebrating its diversity and uniqueness.

He uses colour and multiple images to expound the many faceted character of the land in which we live. The viewer whatever their taste will be delighted with the ever present vitality, energy and individuality of the works on display.

With this show these two artists earmark themselves as amongst the leaders of a regeneration occurring within the region.

The opening is on Sunday the 31st. of May at 2 pm at the Coalfields Gallery, Wonthaggi.

Those wishing to attend are asked to advise the Directress Janice Orchard on 56724004 prior to the date. The exhibition will continue till the 29th June. The gallery is closed Tuesday and Wednesday of each week.

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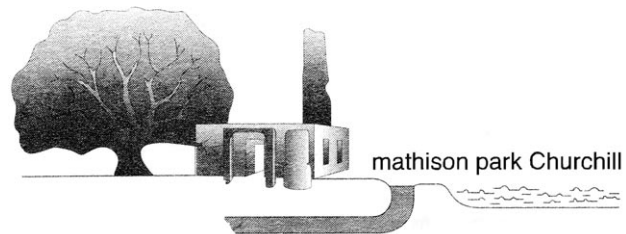
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mathison park Churchill



Many Facilities at Mathison Park

Mathison Park now has many facilities. It is a wonderful to visit and spend time there.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Family Fishing Day was held on Saturday 2nd May. Weather wise it was delightful, with the sun shining and the crisp morning air warming before it. The park looked very busy with large white marquees, music playing, children with their families arriving, and lots of activities located around the car park area. However, that was not the main reason for the day. The DPI was conducting one of its five Family Fishing Days, because Lake Hyland in Mathison Park is one of five Premier lakes in Victoria. That means that it is stocked with trout two to three times a year, and the DPI hold their fishing functions at each lake. The idea is to have many eager volunteers from fly fishing and angling clubs, Fish Care folks, with DPI staff, assist children learn how to look after the waterways, how to put a fishing line together, bait the hook, cast the line and hopefully catch a fish. Some 154 children did just that. Unfortunately, even though the children were very excited to see some large trout released into the water, the fish mostly managed to avoid being caught!

A relaxed atmosphere was present

Nominate NOW for Prestigious Awards!

The statewide search has begun for individuals, businesses, environmental groups, towns and community groups that are making a difference in regional and rural Victoria through their hard work, dedication and innovation.

We invite you to nominate, or alternatively nominate someone you know that deserves recognition for their commitment and community contribution. Nominations are now open in the following categories:

*Regional Development Victoria Business Achievement Award

*Regional Development Victoria Trade and Career Achievement Award

*Parks Victoria Regional Achiever Award

*Parks Victoria Environment and Sustainability Award

*Bartercard Local Hero Award

*RACV free2go Youth Community

throughout the day. After trying their hand at fishing, the children could enjoy Seaweed Sally who had a wonderful collection of marine life, have their face painted, bounce in the Bouncing Castle, enjoy Flathead Fred's show, or have a magnificent balloon sculpture made for them by Pirate Pete. There was also a cooking demonstration which was well attended by the adults. The Lions Club was selling sausages.

The volunteers, including Friends of Mathison Park, had a delicious breakfast and lunch provided which was most appreciated.

The DPI have been very generous in their allotment of resources to Mathison Park, having provided the funds through fishing license fees, to erect the fishing platforms and the new picnic shelter, which was officially opened by Councillor Darrell White on the day.

A new fence has been erected on the eastern side of the lake, and the dam has been filled with water thanks to the Churchill Fire Brigade. These have been done so that the cattle can be grazed in that area and keep the grass down to a safe level. The Mathison Park Advisory Committee and Friends wish to thank Des Farley, for his help in constructing the fence.

Involvement Award

*Kleenheat Gas Community of the Year Award - Population under 5,000

*Kleenheat Gas Community of the Year Award - Population over 5,000

Great prizes are on offer including a share in \$12,000 in Bank Accounts from the Commonwealth Bank and airtime packages on Prime.

Nominations close Friday 17th July 2009 and winners will be announced at a Gala Awards Presentation Dinner held on Saturday 10th October at the Ballarat Mercure.

For more information or if you have any questions call the Awards office on 9870 0622 email: vic@awardsaustralia.com or via www.awardsaustralia.com/RACA_vic.html

Churchill & District News Short Story and Poetry Competition 2009

THE Churchill & District News invites you to enter our Short Story and Poetry Competition. There are two special categories this year - 'Phantoms and Spirits - A Ghost Story' and 'Bushfire Stories', we would like to hear about your experiences. The cate-

gory is open to writers of all ages and we are looking forward to some extra scary stories! There are some great prizes, with all entrants under 12 receiving a certificate of participation and a small gift.

If you have any queries or require information, conditions of entry and entry forms please do not hesitate to contact us by email at cdnews@dcsi.net.au or tel: 03 5122 2589 Entry forms and conditions are available online at www.cdnews.com.au

Categories & Conditions of Entry

CATEGORIES

1. Children's 7 and Under Short story/poem or picture story
 2. Children's 8 - 10 yrs Short Story (illustrations welcome)
 3. Children's 8 - 10 yrs Poetry (illustrations welcome)
 4. Children's 11 - 13 yrs Short Story (illustrations welcome)
 5. Children's 11 - 13 yrs Poetry (illustrations welcome)
 6. 14 - 18 yrs Short Story
 7. 14 - 18 yrs Poetry
 8. Adult Short Story
 9. Adult Poetry.
 10. Local History - My Story. (This category will be judged on content alone and there are no restrictions on length of story, i.e. they can be under 1000 words.)
 11. A Children's Story: A story written for children
 12. Phantoms and Spirits - A Ghost Story
 - 12a. 8 - 12yrs
 - 12b. 13 - 18yrs
 - 12c. Adult
 13. Bushfire Stories
- *Categories 1 - 5 will include prizes for best illustration and best presentation

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. All stories must have a completed entry form attached to the manuscript with a paper clip (no pins or staples)
2. The author's name must only be on the entry form and not on the manuscript
3. Entries must be original, previously unpublished work.
4. Each entry must include a title.
5. Multiple entries will be accepted.
6. Unless otherwise specified, permission to reproduce entries in the Churchill &

District News or for publicity purposes will be assumed. Copyright remains with the author.

7. Writers will be credited whenever their writing is reproduced
8. Entries must be received by 19th June 2009
9. All pages should be numbered
10. Length of stories/ poems are to be:
 - *Adult: 1000 - 2500 words
 - *Under 18: 500 - 2000 words
 - *Children: up to 500 words
- Poetry, free or rhyming verse to be:
 - *Adult: min 8 lines and max. 48 lines.
 - *Under 18: min 8 lines and max. 48 lines.
 - *Children: up to 20 lines
11. Entries will not be returned and participants should keep a copy of their work.
12. The Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into
13. Signing of the entry form for this competition constitutes acceptance of these conditions of entry

Entries to be mailed to:
Churchill & District News Writing Competition, PO Box 234, Churchill 3842
Closing Date: 19th June 2009

Entry Fees:
\$3.00 Per Short Story/Children's Story - \$2.00 Concession or Student
\$3.00 Per Poem - \$2.00 Concession or Student
Children, Under 7, Under 12 and U18 Categories - 50c.
Special Categories: Local History and Bushfire Stories - no entry fee

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS SHORT STORY & POETRY COMPETITION 2009 ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I have entered: _____ Short Story(s) _____ Poem(s)

Title of Story(s):	_____	Category	_____
	_____		_____

Title of Poem(s):	_____

I have read and understood the conditions of entry and agree to abide by them. I certify that this is an original unpublished story or poem, written by myself. This entry form can be completed on behalf of U12's by a parent, guardian or teacher.

Signature _____

Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form. Please make Cheques or Postal Orders payable to the Churchill & District News. No cash please: Mail entries to: PO Box 234, Churchill 3842

Vale

Dave Sargeson 1935 - 2009

David Henry Sargeson passed away on Saturday 4 April 2009, 3 months sort of his 75th birthday.

Dave was a bit of an enigma and certainly a man of contrasts; at times a gregarious larger than life persona who loved to be the centre of attention and the life of the party yet at other times very introverted enjoying sitting in the background enjoying watching his grandchildren.

Dave embraced the Australian way like it was made for him but never forgot his English origins and need for his fix of pommy beer and pork pies right up until stumps were drawn.

He was no saint but nor did he ever pretend to be. On the contrary he relished in being a bit of a rogue and Yvonne his wife, often called him her lovable rogue. But Dave didn't like to keep the fun to himself; on the contrary he took it as his mission in life to ensure that those around him had plenty of fun. Even when a struggling family he always made sure they had a beach holiday even if it meant borrowing the school principal's caravan!!

Dave had a lot of mates over the course of his life who he loved and would do anything for, even if it meant giving them the shirt off his back.

He was a proud man who also took a lot of pride in his family's achievements and never missed an opportunity to brag to others about the achievements of his kids, Gary, Julia and Darren, his grandkids and his wife's tremendous growth and achievements.

Dave was born in Leeds in Yorkshire, England on 11 July 1934, younger brother to Peter and son of Tomas Henry and Edna Olsen.

He did it tough in his early years with his father passing away when he was only 10. He had to go to work to support his family at an early age, whilst his brother received the education that he never did. He never forgot this and was determined that this would never happen to his kids.

He moved to the northern England holiday resort of Blackpool in his teens and the temptations of a holiday resort lifestyle in the 50s were certainly enjoyed. Dave did his National Service in the Army in a vain attempt to settle the wild beast within. He served as a butcher but this was not the career he wanted, but that career was never found.

He was a keen ice skater and had some good prospects as an ice hockey player until a bad knee injury reduced his prospects to refereeing. Then along to ice hockey came Barbara Yvonne Robinson, and they met.

At the age of 23 'dashing Dave' as Yvonne referred to him, swept the 17 year old Yvonne was off her feet. It was also the start of a strong friendship with his soon to be brother in law Derek. Yvonne and Dave did almost everything with Yvonne's older sister Joan and her hubby to be Derek, so much so that the 4 of them got married together in a double wedding. So began almost 50 years of union that produced 3 kids and 5 grandkids; a family that Dave was so proud of and loved to brag about

In the early 60s Yvonne and Dave gave birth to two boys, firstly Darren then Gary two years later. He was a proud father and determined that his kids would have all the things he never had. He lived through his kids achieving the things he didn't achieve.

Dave developed itchy feet and decided to move his young family to Australia in 1965 following his best mate Ray Sacomani and his young family. There was a fair bit of moving about when the family first arrived, moving from a farm in Tanjil South to a house in Latrobe Road in Morwell before settling in their long-term home in Churchill in August 1966. Dave was very proud to own his own house in Churchill. The move to Churchill also saw him embrace the local community with a lot of gusto

In the late 60s Churchill did not have a fire brigade so he got involved in setting up Churchill's first fire brigade in late 1966 and early 1967. There were about eight members and they used a trailer on the back of a car and a stepladder. It took two years before they got a stepladder that could reach second stories. Obviously there were not the same OH&S requirements in the late 60s!!

In October 1969 came the birth of his first and only daughter, Julia. 1969 also saw the arrival in Australia of Dave's in-laws Vin and Flo for a holiday.

The arrival of the 1970s saw the start of his involvement in a wide variety of organizations that mutually benefited from his social skills.

In 1969 Churchill Soccer Club was formed and 1970 saw the start of Dave's long involvement with the club in multiple capacities, providing junior players with firstly Gary joining in 1970 and Darren in 1971, playing himself, being a committee member, President and supporter. The soccer club provided many new friends and a good social circle in a new town.

Dave also changed jobs a fair bit in the early years before settling in at Simon Carves in the late 60s early 70s and commencing his step up into management. Around this time he joined the Morwell Men's Club and the family remembers that as a treat they would have meals there. These were good years with a balance of good times, family times, sport, and best of all beach holidays at Merimbula, New South Wales.

However in 1972 Dave had to go away and work in Millicent in South Australia in a nearby Paper Mill. So, in August the family all set off bound for South Australia for a holiday in Millicent. The beauty of Dave working away was, the kids recall, that they were spoilt rotten with the most presents they had ever received.

In the early 70s Dave was also involved in setting up the Churchill Model Aero Club, as part of his new found passion

for model planes that you could fly. Once, all the family went down to Moorabbin for the State model aeroplane championships.

A memorable big beach holiday was to Cape Patterson. Dave had bought a tent for family holidays, but the first Camping trip just about put them all off camping for life, with him running around in the pouring rain banging tent pegs in at 4 in the morning with the strong wind nearly blowing the tent away.

In 1977 Dave realised a dream and took his family to England. Yvonne had not quite settled into the Australian way and both still missed England with their family and many friends there.

The late 70s also saw Dave become friends with the DiFabrizio's and join the Italian Australian Social Club and the Morwell Falcons Soccer Club. His time at Morwell Falcons Soccer Club started off with a bang with a trip to Hong Kong.



In the mid 70s the family got rid of the tent and got themselves a caravan for their regular trips to Merimbula in New South Wales. Gary and Darren lived in it for almost two years when in 1978 Yvonne's parents Vin and Flo migrated to Australia. Yvonne and Dave graciously put them up in their house for 18 months and Gary and Darren lived in the caravan out the back.

The arrival of Vin and Flo also saw the arrival of the organ, which provided the centrepiece for many sing-alongs and parties that provided a lot of fun for friends and family.

In 1978 Dave left Simon Carves and commenced work with S.J. Industrial Supplies.

He was inspired to join the Latrobe Light Opera Society working his way from usher boy, to chorus, to a lead. He never stopped loving to sing, later joining the Latrobe City Choir and the Co-Operating Churches Choir.

In 1986 Gary was the first to settle down and get married to Sue.

Ray Sacomani had introduced Dave to wood turning and in 1988, along with a few like minded mates formed the Latrobe Valley Woodworking and Woodturning Club Inc affectionately called "The Woodies" which gave him a lot of joy, good mates and support for the rest of his life. He shared the spoils of his woodturning prowess with all his family, many of his friends and the church. The "Woodies" also saw the start of his friendship with his best mate Ken Hepplestone.

The change in decade also saw changes in Dave's life. His beloved Yvonne developed cancer and decided to go back to study doing a Welfare degree at Monash University. He lost his job at S.J. Dave also became a Grandad with the birth of his first grandchild, a grandson named Jason.

The 90s were a tough time for Dave, with two heart attacks, Yvonne commencing her long battle with cancer, and limited work opportunities saw him, by the end of the decade retired and Yvonne the breadwinner. All the kids had left home and by the end of the decade had produced



four

grand-
kids.

The study

had given Yvonne

a new lease of life as it developed a stronger sense of self worth it increased Yvonne's self confidence. But it was also the start of her battle with cancer.

In the early 90s Gary and Sue, with their infant son Jason, left for a new life in Western Australia. Julia left for Townsville to go after her man Grant who was in the army.

Two years after relocating to Mandurah in WA Dave had a second grandson, as Sue gave birth to David.

In 1996 Julia finally got her man as she married Grant with a very proud Dave giving his only daughter away. By the end of the 90s Dave had his third grandson- Alex who was Julia and Grant's first child. Jacinta arrived right at the end of the decade in November 1999.

During the 90s the void of absent grandchildren was filled by Dave's niece Sheryl and her hubby Craig with Sarah and Benny making great extra grandchildren.

Dave retired in 1999 and Yvonne in 2000 and despite being quite ill, this was one of the happiest times of their lives as they had time to enjoy each other's company again.

They purchased a four-wheel drive and a caravan and off they went visiting nephew Alan and Son Darren in far north Queensland; across the Nullarbor and up the west coast visiting Gary, Sue Jason and David, as well as up into NSW many times.

Dave had his third heart attack in 2001, and despite the look of things, survived.

In early 2003 his best mate Ken Hepplestone introduced him to the Walhalla Freemasons and after joining up Dave approached this with the gusto he approached all his ventures in life. The Masons and Ken in particular provided him with an outlet and a lot of support later in life, particularly after Yvonne passed away.

In October 2003 the family had its first get-together since Jacinta was born and what a great two weeks it was as they travelled around NSW, Canberra and Victoria. It also gave Dave the opportunity to share some handy man skills with his grandson David who was fascinated with his woodturning.

July 2007 saw the passing of Yvonne. This was a very tough time for Dave and for a while he was quite lost. He found some solace by joining the Central Gippsland Wine and Food Club and hosting wine tastings. He survived three heart attacks, diabetes and numerous other ailments, but then he was struck by a very aggressive cancer which finally ended Dave's life, but not before knowing that Darren and his wife Donna had given birth to a son, Ethan, an event on which Yvonne missed out.

What is Dave Sargeson's legacy? He made significant contributions to his community and church over the many years of residence in Churchill. As a father Dave leaves three children, all different but all with a piece of him inside them and all determined to be good providers for their own families, with the ability to move to new places and settle quickly, to make new friends and a life for themselves. Dave was a loving generous Grandad of 5 grandchildren who all show that they too have some Dave Sargeson in them.

Dave and Yvonne are now together again.





Northe's Natter

Proposed changes to the Youth Allowance have caused significant angst to young

members of our community and their families. Economic barriers are often the biggest hurdle to low-income students studying at tertiary level and it is disgraceful that the Rudd government is about to make life even harder. I implore young people to take a stand – email or write to your paper, your local MPs (myself included), and to Deputy Prime Minister Julia Gillard. We must ensure that there are adequate opportunities for students who are living away from home to further their education; be they local kids who have to leave the area for their course of choice, or those that move to the valley to study at Monash Gippsland.

The tireless effort of community members will finally see the synthetic hockey pitch at Monash come to fruition. Confirmation the project will be funded by Latrobe City Council and the state government is indeed welcome and I commend those who have persisted to push the proposal.

The addition of a Churchill route to the NightRider service has proven a success and I have taken the fight for ongoing funds to Parliament, as the trial is now drawing to a close. The trial has been conducted without incident, a credit to all patrons, and should certainly bode well as we appeal for support.

The Brumby government community cabinet will roll into the Latrobe Valley this month. I am extremely disappointed to hear that locals will not be afforded the usual Q&A session that is the trademark of such events. I can only encourage members of the community to attend the open reception at the Traralgon Little Theatre on Tuesday 16th June (3.00 – 4.30pm) and demand answers to your concerns from those ministers present. I also encourage you to register your disappointment over this glaring omission by emailing the Premier on john.brumby@parliament.vic.gov.au

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To contact Cr. Vermeulen for matters concerning Gunyah Ward

0428 148 585

or Email:

edve@latrobe.vic.gov.au

Hazelwood House Happenings



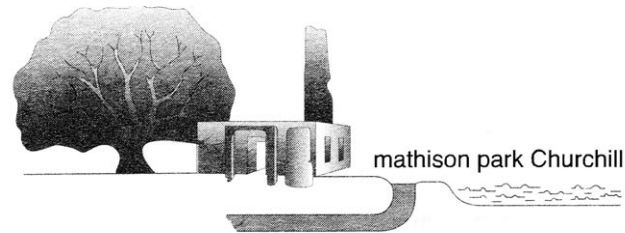
A group of residents and staff enjoy a walk around the hostel. When the weather permits everyone takes the opportunity to enjoy the sunshine.

Left: The entertainer at Morning Melodies at the Traralgon RSL club serenading one of our residents Peg Morgan



Above: May Wilson celebrates her 90th birthday with family, friends and residents at the hostel on the 18th of May





mathison park Churchill

Spoonbills in Mathison Park

By Ken Harris

Australia has two species of Spoonbill, tall white wading birds that feed by side-ways sweeps of their spoon-shaped bills through shallow water.

Both species are occasionally seen in Mathison Park, although neither is at all a common sight in the park.

The first I saw in the park was the Yellow-billed Spoonbill - *Platalea flavipes*. Back in December 2006, three yellow-billed spoonbills turned up in the park. Not as one might expect, wading about in the shallow end of the lake, but walking about in the pastures at the northern end of the lake. I can't see their spoon-shaped bills being very good for hunting insects among grasslands, but maybe they had recently been disturbed from the lake.

This year, another one appeared during our April working bee. This was a single bird and it was wading from one side of the lake to the other, back and forth, most of the time we were working in the Park. It had the spoon of its yellow bill immersed in the water most of the time and was busily sweeping it from side to side through the water, filtering small animals out of the water as it fed.

The other Australian spoonbill is the Royal Spoonbill - *Platalea regia*.

I first saw a Royal Spoonbill in Lake Hyland just 3 days after first sighting the Yellow-billed. I have seen single birds in the Park on several occasions since, the most recent in April this year. I was walking through the Park, having passed the lake heading west, when I saw a large white

bird flying overhead, heading for the lake. I thought it was a spoonbill, so I turned round and headed back to the lake and I was pleased to find that the bird was a Royal Spoonbill and had landed in the south-west corner of the lake, quite close to the path. I got the unusual picture left, with its black bill wide open and then it dipped its bill in the water and proceeded to feed just like the yellow-billed, sweeping its bill from side to side in the shallow water.

The two spoonbills are easily separated from each other as the Yellow-billed Spoonbill has an all yellow bill and yellow legs, whereas the Royal Spoonbill's bill and legs are black.

Both are very welcome if occasional visitors to our park.

Left: *Platalea regia*Above: *Platalea regia*Right: *Platalea flavipes*

Health and Wellbeing - Swine Flu

Swine flu, also known as swine influenza or influenza A (H1N1) virus, is a contagious respiratory disease. Symptoms of swine flu include a fever (temperature over 38° C), cough, sore throat, aches and tiredness.

Swine flu is usually found in pigs. Humans are not usually infected by the swine flu virus but it does happen. A new strain of the swine flu virus which affects humans, also called H1N1 influenza, was recently identified. It is thought to have started in Mexico.

It is not known how easily this new strain of swine flu spreads from person to person. If swine flu is highly contagious, a widespread influenza pandemic is possible.

A new strain of influenza A

Swine flu appears to be a new strain of influenza A. Various flu viruses can infect pigs. Those of the H1N1 subtype are most common, but there are also other types. Occasionally, a pig is infected with two different viruses at once. This can increase the chance of the two viruses combining to create a new type of infectious virus. This is known as a 'mutation', and the new virus which is the result of this mutation is known as a 'reassortment' virus.

Usually, viruses are species-specific, that is animal viruses generally don't affect people, but a reassortment virus may spread to other species, including humans.

Symptoms

Swine flu, when it affects humans, sometimes doesn't cause any symptoms. It usually causes a short-term illness similar to seasonal flu. Symptoms of swine flu may include:

- *High temperature
- *Cough
- *Sore throat
- *Body aches
- *Running nose
- *Headache
- *Chills
- *Fatigue

*Sometimes, diarrhoea and vomiting

Severe pneumonia is a dangerous complication

Swine flu, like human or seasonal flu, can make underlying medical conditions worse. A potentially life-threatening complication of swine flu is pneumonia (a type of lung infection). Some of the symptoms of pneumonia may include:

- *Fever
- *Loss of appetite
- *General malaise
- *Rapid breathing

- *Breathing difficulties
- *Cough
- *Abdominal pain
- *Blue coloured skin around the mouth (cyanosis) caused by lack of oxygen.

How the swine flu virus is spread

The ways in which swine flu can spread include:

*Pig farmers can be infected directly from infected pigs, for example, by handling sick pigs and not washing their hands.

*A person infected with swine flu is contagious from the day before they develop symptoms to at least seven days after they develop symptoms. It is thought that young children may be infectious for longer.

*A person caring for someone sick with the swine flu can become infected from inhaling infected sneeze or cough droplets. This is known as direct contact.

*The swine flu virus can live for about two hours outside of the body. Infection can occur when a person touches a contaminated object (such as a dirty tissue) and then touches his or her own nose, eyes or mouth. This is known as indirect contact.

*In some cases, swine flu is asymptomatic, which means the infected person feels fine and has no symptoms. However, they can still infect other people.

Swine flu is not spread by eating pork

The swine flu virus is not spread via food products. It is safe to eat pork, bacon and ham. The World Health Organization advises that swine influenza has not been shown to be transmissible to people through eating pork and pork meat products. Even in those countries where there has been an outbreak of swine flu.

Eating properly handled and cooked pork and other pork products is safe. Cooking pork to temperatures of 70°C (160°F) kills the influenza virus.

Diagnosis

If your doctor suspects you may have swine flu, the medical staff will wear gloves and masks and will isolate you from other patients to reduce the risk of passing the virus on to other people. Diagnosis methods may include:

- *Medical history
- *Travel history

- *Physical examination
- *Nose and throat swabs (for laboratory analysis).

Treatment

There are no drugs or vaccines specific to swine flu. It is not known if current flu vaccines offer any protection against the swine flu; most doctors believe they don't. Treatment options may include:

*Various antiviral medications such as Tamiflu and Relenza. These may help to reduce the symptoms and speed recovery.

*Resting and drinking plenty of fluids.

*Avoiding public places to reduce the risk of transmission. Staying home from school or work until you are completely recovered.

*Taking steps to reduce the risk of transmission to others in your household. For example, disposing of your own dirty tissues, and washing your hands regularly, particularly after coughing or sneezing. In particular, avoid contact with children or the elderly, who tend to be more vulnerable to infectious diseases.

Reduce your risk of infection

Good hygiene is very important and can reduce your risk of getting swine flu or passing it onto other people. Remember to:

*Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the garbage bin after you use it.

*Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.

*Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

*Avoid public places and close contact with others if you have the flu.

*Look after yourself and don't get run down, for example, get plenty of sleep and eat a healthy diet.

*Consider having the Australian seasonal influenza

vaccine if you are over 65 years. While this probably won't provide any protection against swine flu, it will reduce your chances of getting seasonal flu.

*Avoid travelling to areas where outbreaks have occurred.

*Avoid sick pigs or sick people if possible.

*Be very careful to wash your hands if you are caring for a sick person or a sick pig.

Where to get help

*Call your GP - if you have an Influenza-like illness (fever, cough and fatigue) and have travelled to Mexico, USA, Canada, Japan or Panama in the past seven days.

*Call your local hospital only - if you are seriously unwell with flu like

symptoms and have travelled to Mexico, USA, Canada, Japan or Panama in past seven days, or have been in direct contact with a confirmed case of Human Swine Flu. If you have a mild form of flu like symptoms visit your GP.

*Swine Influenza Hotline Tel. 180 2007 - for the general public and people returning from the overseas with flu-like symptoms

*Nurse-on-Call Tel. 1300 606 024 - for expert health information and advice (24 hours, 7 days)

*To report a suspected case call Department of Human Services - Communicable Disease Prevention and Control Unit Tel. 1300 651 160

*Smartraveller - for travel advice

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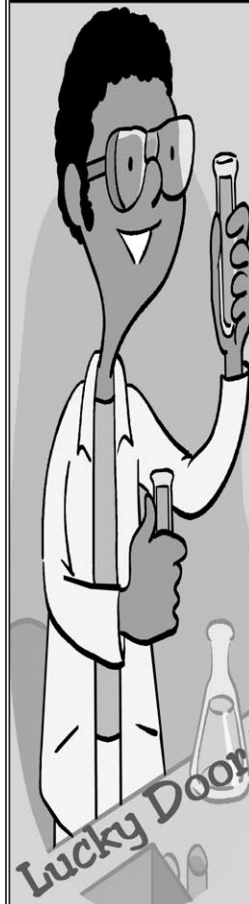
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Watson Park Kindergarten

By Ruth Place



Imagine Churchill forty-three years ago. There were few houses occupied and the population was about 25. In the next couple of years the population grew quickly. Most families were young, with little children, babies, or with thoughts of increasing the population in the near future.

There were very few facilities in Churchill in those times. The people were very keen and proactive in setting about securing the facilities they needed.

A kindergarten and infant welfare centre was a priority.

The Shire Secretary Mr. Lord thought so too. This appeared in the Morwell Advertiser on 12/4/66.

"Infant centre needed for Churchill"

Planning for a combined infant welfare centre and kindergarten at Churchill is a matter of urgency, the Shire Secretary, Mr. R. J. Lord, told the Morwell Shire Council last Thursday.

On present indications there would be at least 100 children of infant age and about 120 in the three to four years age group by February next.

He asked Council to formulate a policy at an early date, as appointments of kindergarten staff must be made in August this year if the kindergarten is to function at the opening of the 1967 school year.

Mr. Lord suggested that in view of the anticipated population figures it would be undesirable to set up the services in temporary accommodation.

"The proper course would be to start plan-

ning now on the understanding that the finance would be available from loan funds in the 1966-67 budgets," Mr. Lord said.

Council decided to defer the matter to a later meeting".

At a following Council meeting a debate took place. Following are extracts from that debate as reported in the Morwell Advertiser on 21/4/66.

"PLAN FOR CHURCHILL KINDER-WELFARE."

Plans are to be prepared now to give Churchill its first kindergarten and Infant Welfare Centre in the 1966-67 financial year.

This was decided by a 6-4 vote by Morwell Shire Council yesterday.

To councillors, who maintained that it was "too early yet" to provide such amenities for Churchill, the Shire Secretary said it was vital to start now otherwise they could not be obtained until 1968.

The council would not require to seek money for the project in the current financial year.

Cr. A. L. Hare said council policy with regard to Infant Welfare Centres and kindergartens in Morwell had been to get a committee to raise the money.

Mr. Lord said: "I have no doubt the Churchill people will form a committee but at present it is rather a different picture to Morwell. There are only ten families there at the moment."

Cr. Liddicut supported the Shire Secretary.

He said there was no question there would be a considerable population at Churchill and these facilities had to be provided sooner or later.

Providing temporary facilities was a waste of money.

Cr. Alan Hall seconded Cr. Liddicut's motion that the Shire Secretary proceed.

He said he was always a believer in an early start sooner than making mistakes in rushing later.

Cr. L. W. Bond said the wishes of the ratepayers must be anticipated.

Mr. Lord said: "Every kindergarten in Morwell is full, and there are waiting lists for next year. The people of Churchill could not get them in anyhow if they travelled to Morwell."

Cr. Gordan Duncan said making temporary arrangements was spending money unnecessarily.

Cr. J. Bennett said the new town should start off on the right foot by having essential facilities.

Shire President Cr. Keith White said planning ahead was always a good policy, and an important factor here was getting in early for staff.

And, closing the debate, Cr Liddicut made the plea- "Let us not have parochialism in the Shire of Morwell.

The people of Churchill, he said, "Were going to have to wait some time for normal amenities".

Surely they were entitled to something for the rates they paid, and an Infant Welfare Centre was essential".

Shire Engineer Mr. J. W. F. Connan, following the 6-4 resolution was asked to select a site to serve two of Churchill's 'neighbourhood units'".

So the Council called for the first kinder committee to be formed, and fundraising was started in earnest. Rhonda Dunn was on that committee. She remembers the committee was told they had to raise a certain

amount, (it is thought it was \$15,000) and Council would match it. Harry Menther was the first President. Margaret Eldridge was also a President. Rhonda describes the committee as a real community committee of very community minded people which then branched out into other fund raising ventures like schools. There were lots of people on the committee.

Someone suggested that a carnival be run in the small reserve between Fraser and White Parades. There were the usual things like a merry-go-round, Knock 'em Downs, (tins stacked three, two, one, and you had three balls to knock them all down to win a prize), and laughing clowns (the head would rotate from side to side and balls were placed in the open mouth. The balls would go down a chute and into a numbered box to win a prize). But there were also toffee apples. They were very popular. One time they decided to double the recipe to make more. It didn't work, as the toffee was too runny. Toffees in pattie pans were also popular. Hot dogs were sold.

Wendy Brown was on the committee, and she remembers making those famous toffee apples.

Carol Kemp was not on the committee, but she was a willing helper. She volunteered to bag the mixed lollies that were purchased to be sold, as she was the only one who wouldn't eat them as the bagging was being done. Carol says they also held progressive dinners and casserole lunches.

Willa Martin was on the committee and helped on the carnival days. Willa says there was

lots of excitement, lots of kids and lots of great fun. Cake stalls down in the shopping centre, were also held.

Johanna Schopp had two boys who went to Watson Park. Timothy was in the second year 1969 and had fulltime kinder. Nicholas was two years later in 1971 and could only have part time kinder. Hannah remembers the kindergarten teacher Margaret Ikin, who had Mrs. Dart as assistant. She also remembers Mrs. Ellie Tulloch who was an assistant at a later stage.

The enthusiasm was so great that Rhonda believes the required money was raised so quickly as to astound Council. The money was raised not only for the building, but also the outfitting of the kindergarten with equipment, cupboards, tables, and requisites.

When it came to letting the contract for the building, the committee had input into its design. But Council stipulated that it should be so designed that it could be a library, or put to some other use, should it no longer be needed as a kindergarten, or in the event that the grants were not forthcoming.

On Monday 12th February 1968, Watson Park Kinder opened. It was reported in the Latrobe Valley Advocate and Advertiser on Friday 16, 1968 as follows.

"New Kindergarten provides training and lots of fun."

The new Churchill Kindergarten, which opened on Monday, provides an outstanding avenue for training and fun for the "littlies" of the area.

And the children attending the kinder enjoy the most modern facilities available in the training centre which prepares them for their primary school days.

The building itself is a masterpiece in design with a striking spire in the centre which rises from the ceiling inside and lets sunlight in from the square where the peak of the roof meets the base of the spire.

Inside there are facilities for painting, clay modelling, finger painting, and many other activities.

Special sessions for music and reading are held and the whole centre is operated under the "self-selective program" scheme.

This scheme allows the children to do whatever they like, under the supervision of Directress Miss J. Atkinson, and her assistant Mrs. S. Dart.

Outside the children can play in a water tank, a sand pit or on the wooden structures which include a hut, ladders and platform.

Toilets, washrooms and towels are provided which ensures the hygiene of the centre.

There are two sessions held each day with 25 children attending each session."

Joan Atkinson: Watson Park's first Kindergarten teacher in 1968

Joan was a new graduate from the Melbourne Kindergarten Teacher's College having completed her studies on a Health Department scholarship, and thus bonded to go back to the country when she completed her training. Joan saw the Morwell Shire (as it was then) application and successfully applied for the position. She says she was hired by the Shire President, Councillor Reg Lord, who paid her above award wages- \$2 a week more, which was quite a bit in 1968.

The building was still incomplete in January, but come February, the site was cleared, the building cleaned and Kindergarten could begin.

Joan says her mother, Doris Atkinson, helped with the cleaning to enable the service to open. Joan typed up notices and walked over the paddock (now Watson Park) to the school to deliver them and then hand delivered others to houses in the vicinity- many fewer than today.



Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



So began Watson Park Kindergarten with two groups of children, between 24-25 children in each group. Shirley Dart was Joan's assistant.

Being a first year teacher held its challenges confessed Joan, but her Pre-School Advisor, Mrs. Hume, rendered her much help. The two of them visited a firm in Cranbourne to purchase wooden furniture which has been in use up until the time of closure. They also went to Kindergarten Supplies in Glenferrie Rd. Hawthorn, and purchased everything they needed. (Morwell Shire Council paid for everything remembers Joan. They were very generous and all the kindergarten wanted was provided. Parents raised most of this money before the building was completed and the Shire administered and kept accounts of where the money was spent.

Joan remembers the fees were not very high, but they wanted for nothing.

A close association with Churchill Primary School. developed, especially with Cath Fernbach who was the first Infant Mistress at the school. Cath provided Joan with a ride to work each day until she got her licence. Shirley Dart's husband was the Principal.

The first rainstorm saw the Kindergarten flooded, because there was little proper landscaping around, and water just ran into the building. Dust storms also saw the Kindergarten filled with dust. In winter the heating bills were enormous because the heat just went straight up the centre spire and disappeared. The pinning boards for displays, were on the cupboards which opened down towards the floor!!! Each time the cupboards were opened, the pictures on display, fell off!!!

The Kindergarten was built to also accommodate an Infant Welfare room - also used as the Kindergarten's Office. This was never used by an Infant Welfare Nurse in Joan's time.

Joan emails, "I remember my first teaching role as a happy/challenging time and memories of parents who were very supportive and children who were eager to be involved in the program."

After twelve months, Joan's husband was sent to Melbourne with the SEC. So Joan broke her bond and went with him and worked in Kew for two years before returning to the Trafalgar Kindergarten.

But such was the impact of her time at Churchill, that Joan enthusiastically returned to Watson Park Kindergarten in November 2008, to say hello, reminisce, and have some photos taken for this publication.

Joan had been working in the TAFE sector for the past 15 years but was "coerced" into returning to the "coal face" in February 2008. The Pre-School where Joan is now working is in WAUBRA which is a small rural town on the Sunraysia Highway west of Ballarat. Joan says this is a most delightful appointment.

Churchill News Reporting

These following reports in Churchill News show how active the committee was as they tried many different ways to raise money and provide fun activities

Churchill News 1st November 1968 reports:

"The Garden Party held last Saturday was a great success in spite of the bad

weather. The Committee wish to take this opportunity of thanking all the mothers and fathers who helped in so many ways to make the Garden Party such a success. We would also like to thank Mr. Jones (Newsagent), Mr. Radford (Butcher), Streets Ice-Cream, Sunicrust Bread and Mrs. C. Aktinson for judging....." [type is missing]

Our next Committee Meeting is on Thursday 14th November at 14 McDonald Way at 8pm. These meetings are open to anyone who cares to come along and join in."

Churchill News 22nd November 1968 reports:

"At our last meeting it was decided to hold a BABY SHOW on Thursday 12th December above the Churchill Shops. Entry forms are available from the Churchill Pharmacy or any Committee member.

Members please note the next meeting is on Thursday 5th DEC. which is the first Thursday, not the second."

Churchill News 28th February 1969 reports:

"No notes this time. We sympathise with the Committee over the rain which spoiled their carnival. But we understand they took over \$160.00. The next meeting should be on March 13th at 8pm."

Churchill News 3rd December 1971 reports:

"Our fete will be held tomorrow Saturday December 4th and it is hoped that all Churchill people will support the Kindergarten by coming along to the fete. There will be many bargains on sale and lovely fresh home made cakes. Mums don't bake a cake this weekend, come along and buy one from our cake stall. There will be numerous things on sale, eg: children's clothes, novelties, toys, sweets, drinks, cakes, white elephant lines and second hand clothing. There are quite a few bargains among the clothes; all have been washed and ironed."

Bev Crane: Local Resident

Bev remembers her daughter Julie, sitting on their fence post in Heesom Crescent, and saying, "I'm watching my kinder being built". The Cranes lived only a few doors from the kindergarten site.

Julie attended the first intake of Watson Park Kindergarten. Her brother John did so a couple of years later.

Fees were ten shillings. Those children who lived close by and could run up to the kinder by themselves, were able to have their parents pin the fees, in an envelope, to their child's back.

Bev served on the roster for fruit and milk for both of her children who attended Watson Park.

One of the yearly highlights was the visit of Santa on the fire truck every Christmas. Bev says she would stay home just to watch the event, even when she had no children attending any more.

She also remembers making hand-knitted or sewn toys for the stalls to raise funds.

Joan Kimberley and Mrs. Ikin are the kindergarten teachers remembered.

Bev sadly says that she misses the sounds of the kinder- the little ones, and the "busyness" of the mums and dads as they dropped off, and picked up their

child. It is silent, where once there were the screams and laughter of happy children playing, and then odd unhappy moments.

Comments from a 1978 Grede 6 reunion class on their time at Watson Park

Mrs. McIntyre was remember in kindergarten.

Kevin remembers going to Watson Park Kindergarten and using finger paint and play dough.

At kinder Paul remembers the shared oranges, bananas and milk.

Cheryl Towers - Kinder Kid

I remember when I was going to kindergarten that there was no signing in of children and my best friend and I were sent off with our sisters. They were supposed to take us to kinder on their way to school but most of the time they only dumped us at school and told us to go to kinder by ourselves. Of course we never told our mothers.

Lynda McCowan- Kinder kid

Lynda's memories of kinder are of their dog Goldie, following her to kinder. She remembers lining up for needles and being scared. There was a milk and fruit time followed by a nap or quiet time in the afternoon. Lynda is able to identify several of the children in her kinder photos.

Margaret Ikin and Mrs McIntyre

Unfortunately, these two have not been able to be contacted.

.Margaret Ikin, stayed during 1969-1970. Then there was Mrs. McIntyre who may have been at Watson Park during 1971-72. Next came Gwen Webster who was at Watson Park for about 7 years.

Gwen Webster

This is what Gwen has sent to me by fax.

"I was the Kindergarten Directress at the Watson Park Kindergarten for many years, with each of the full time groups having four sessions per week, and the third group taken by Ila Hainsworth, having two sessions a week. A local girl by the name of Debbie Fox, was the assistant and worked the whole 10 sessions.

The community of Churchill was very supportive of the kindergarten, and we had a strong kindergarten committee made up of parents and Shire representatives. Each kindergarten meeting would see a group of at least 35 parents in attendance, and any item of equipment that was needed was quickly purchased through a strong fund raising committee.

Each group of 25 children was extremely special to me, and as the session was nearing close-time, we would always have a story followed by lots of kinder songs. The children loved me playing the piano, and their excited little voices sang loud and clear. On occasions we would sing for the parents, like on "Father's Night" or "Open Night", etc.

Each child learnt to write his or her name, count to 10 and tie shoelaces. But their main achievement was to gain confidence and learn social skills of sharing and mixing.

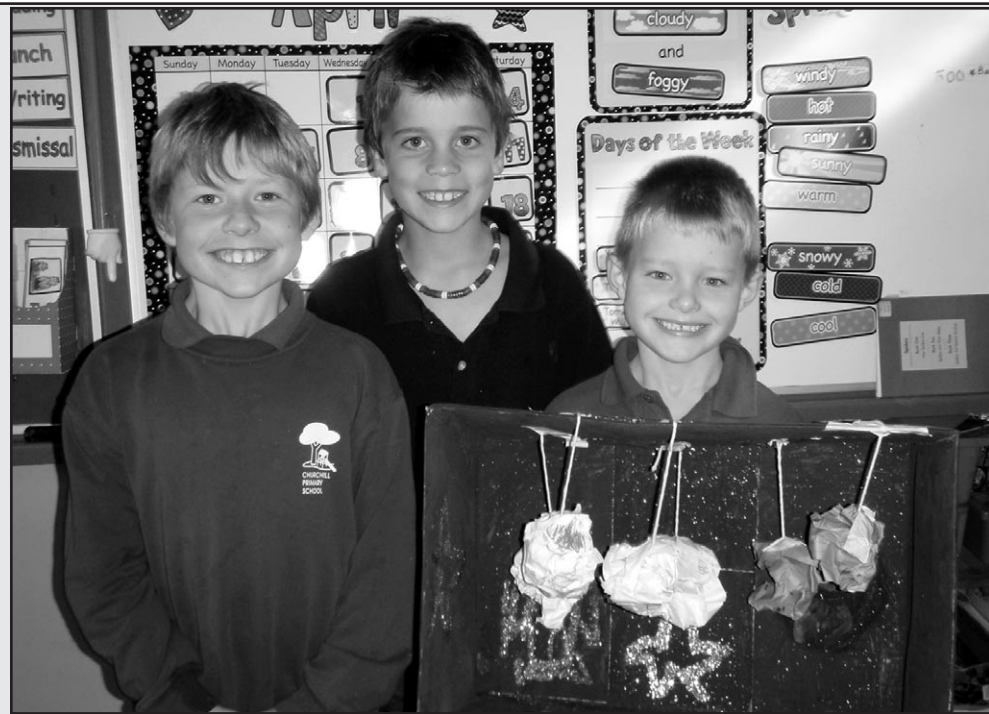
Lots of my students have gone on to achieve university degrees and jobs in large companies, and I believe the kindergarten year is a starting point to a successful primary and secondary education."

Continued Next Month



Churchill Primary School

Arts 2 Go



Star Lab

The huge dome was inflated in the General Purpose room. Charles was the knowledgeable presenter, who was good at interesting the children and imparting his knowledge at their level. The Star Lab is like a portable planetarium which allowed the children to see the night skies of the

southern and northern hemispheres. The whole school has had a focus this term on Space, and this was a fitting inclusion in the curriculum.

Much follow up work was done in Developmental Curriculum, with the children writing, making poster, and models.

Wow! What a Camp

The camp was held at Lions Village in Licola and the participants were the Grade 5/6s. It was a splendid camp site with such marvelous facilities. It was so good that the teachers said the children were excited, engaged and smiling all the time. Proudly, they tell that the kids were marvelous.

Canoeing was great with 2-3 pupils per canoe. They had to paddle in a flotilla. Each of these activities relied on teamwork, and the teachers were very proud of the kids and their efforts. "It was a pleasure to go away with them," said one teacher.

It was a wonderful camp with fantastic meals, great supervisors for the activities, and a wealth of free time activities in which to participate. The teachers who attended described it as faultless and would highly recommend it. They said they had a relaxing time because all the kids were so busily involved.

The free time activities included giant snakes and ladders, chess and connect 4 games, and a giant swing.

The night hike was also a hit, with a walk around the surrounding hills.

The kids thoroughly enjoyed it too and were very happy to be involved.

Raft building was a favourite with the kids using pieces of wood, rope and plastic containers to make a raft. Eight children were then selected to test the raft on the river. Most kids ended up in the very cold river, but with grins all over their faces.



This program was presented to the school courtesy of the Australian Children's Theatre Foundation and Alcoa. It was free to the schools in bushfire affected areas.

rhythms were engaging and the men made the show very interactive, including the kids in a fun, light-hearted way.

Councilor Sharon Gibson of Latrobe City Council was on hand to welcome the men and thank them for the show.

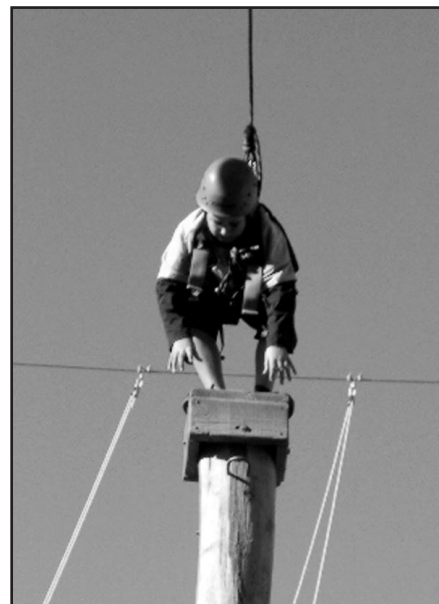
The program was On Safari- Valanga and Leo. Valanga played drums and percussion and Leo the saxophone and flute. The

Cross Country At Gaskin Park

Twelve Churchill Primary School students succeeded in progressing from the Yinnar and District level to Zone Finals. These Zone Finals were held at Gaskin Park and two students will now be going on to represent the school at a State level in Melbourne.

They are Brandon Scott who won his event, and Ellis Hayes-Hills who came third in his event. The school wishes the boys every success.

Thanks go to Miss Henry for her part in organising of the days.



Computer Extension Program

The school is trying very hard to achieve its goals of academic excellence. To this end a nominated group of students will be participating in a special computer extension course. This will involve making of movies using technology in their learning. This will then in turn be shared with other students to expand the use of the knowledge gained.

University Of New South Wales (UNSW) Tests

A number of children have elected to do these tests. They are an International competition and assessment for children Australia wide. The aim is to test their skills in computer work, Science, spelling, writing, English and Maths.

NAPLAN: National Assessment Program in Literacy and Numeracy

These tests are completed by most grade 3 and 5 students, under test conditions, in areas of English and Maths. The school is proud of the effort put in by each student, who did their best. Parents will be notified when the results will be available for collection, in the fullness of time.

Junior School Council

This valuable means of student interaction with the staff for the good of the school, is up and running. Two representatives from each grade have been elected. They, along with House and School Captains will form the Junior School Council.

Last Wednesday week, they held a casual clothes day with a gold coin donation going to school based projects.

Churchill North Primary School



Bright Sparks

The current focus of the bright sparks program is science based; each Wednesday those students in Grades 1 - 6 who have shown a special interest in science are withdrawn to challenge and explore various scientific concepts.

Students explained that "we did dazzling things like the 'Harry Potter snuff out' experiment. We stuck candles in water with blue tack and lit

the candles and put different size jars over them. We timed how long it took until the candle was snuffed out. We noticed that the water level in the jars increased after the candle was snuffed out. We could feel the pressure when we tried to move the jar. It was great fun and we are looking forward to it next time."



Resuscitate a Mate

The children from grade 4, 5 and 6 took part in the yearly visiting workshop of Resuscitate a Mate. Children learnt important skills involved in managing emergency situations and CPR. The program is

offered each year to children in the senior grades and teaches them vital skills needed to deal with emergency situations.

Sound of the week

The children in Prep, One and Two continue learning the different sounds of the alphabet each week with fun and involving activities. This week children have been concentrating on the letter 'c'. Children had

special colour days and shared items from home for each colour. The week was wrapped up on Friday with a special rainbow party, where children shared food and dressed in all colours of the rainbow.



Weather Dress-up Day



Teacher join in dress-up day

Special Activities Day

To celebrate Education Week and coincide with the term's Integrated Studies theme of Weather, the school held a special activities day in which all children and teachers were encouraged to dress up in anything to do with Weather or the Seasons. It was great to see the number of children who participated with fancy dress, among them a weather man, a storm cloud, rainbow,

and sunshine as well as those dressed for each season.

Children were split up into multi-aged groups and took part in a number of weather related activities including music, art, craft, orienteering and science. Children had a chance to parade their outfits and were awarded with a participation certificate. A great day was had by all.



Paralympian Gold Medalist Visits

Paralympics gold medallist, Don Elgin visited the school at the end of May to share his experiences with the children. All children from Prep to 6 were treated to an hour long visit from the current Pentathlon record holder.

Don talked about his struggles as a child with a disability and how he found happiness and acceptance by finding something he loved

and doing it well - in this case Athletics. At the end of the day, children learnt that those with disabilities still have the same hopes and dreams as you or I and that everyone should be accepted for their differences. Grade 3 student, Tyler commented that "Today I learnt that it is not what you look like, its what you do that matters". This is the second time Don has visited the school.

Junior Grades Visit Hazelwood House

Grade Prep, One and Two have made their second visit to Hazelwood House this month. The children sang a variety of different songs using different movement and props.

After a small presentation the children had the opportunity to meet and greet the residents

and enjoy a morning tea. The two grades plan to learn some news songs for term 3. However they are currently working on their acts for the school production, to which the residents are invited to watch.

At Churchill North Primary School we work hard to ensure that: All students:

- *Feel safe
- *Are treated with respect
- *Learn and play without interference or harassment

Have a well maintained school environment.

An Open Day is scheduled in Term 3, for Friday July 17th 2009. During this time we invite you to view our Prep grade in action:

9:00 - 10:45: Experience an Early Years Reading & Writing Class. 11:15 - 12:15: Experience our Early Years Mathematics program. 12:15 - 1:15: Whole School tour

For further information and a school tour, contact Principal Debbie Edwards on 51221976.

Parents Association

Our parents have been busy this term with the coordination of a Mother's Day stall, hot dog day, breakfasts and morning tea for students. Special thanks to our wonderful Mum's who assist in so many ways. This term Craft, Cuppa & Chat for our parents has involved further scrap booking and recipe sharing. These are always a great time for parents to catch up and relax.

Grandparents Day

In late April children celebrated their sound of the week 'G' with a grandparent's day. Children did some cooking during the week and presented their grandparents with afternoon tea, while their grandparents brought along an object to talk about. The children also performed several songs to finish up the afternoon.

SIS (Scientist in Schools)

Churchill North was successful in its

application to be a part of Scientists in Schools program. The program aims to raise interest and involvement in Science. We have been fortunate to have the experience and involvement of Mr Michael Barbagallo. He is undergoing major research at Monash University Churchill. Mr Michael Barbagallo is currently working with Ms Scotson's Grade 5/6 and Miss Midgley's Grade 3/4 on Mondays.

It is truly inspirational to see and hear the questions (e.g. atoms, magnets and forces, natural disasters and other mind expanding concepts). Students are keen to ask questions, stop to ponder and consider, talk about what they see & evidence, put forward ideas about "why is it so?" Mr B is just as enthusiastic to share his knowledge and skills in as many hands on, real life situations and encourage students to think about science in a deeper and positive way.

It has also challenged a few thoughts and perceptions about "what is a scientist" and "what do scientists do". We are looking forward to building stronger links with Monash University through Scientists in Schools.

Grade 5/6 visit Monash University

Grade 5 & 6 students from Ms Scotson's and Mrs Hunter's classes attended Monash University to discover for themselves the vast range of options available to them as careers. It is never too early to begin thinking about the future.

School Concert

The theme for this year's concert is 'The Never Ending Story'; students are busily preparing costumes, rehearsing their scripts, songs and dances for the big day

Hazelwood North Primary School

SOCCER

On May 6th Hazelwood North, Years 3 & 4 went to Morwell for a soccer clinic. Seven other schools were there.



Yinnar were a hard team to beat.



There were four competitions- juggling which Alice and Noda went in.

There was a penalty shootout that Rose and Peter went in.

We had three teams. There was a boy's team, a girl's team and a mixed team. Chris Arena from Melbourne Victory was there.



She showed us some juggling and gave us some tips. We enjoyed the day and learnt a lot about soccer.

Cross Country

Seventeen students through to the next stage. From our school went to From there, Riley got 9th



the Yinnar and District Cross Country at Gaskin Park in Churchill. People placing in the top 6 in each age group progressed onto Zones.

and Jessica came 4th so she will go onto the next Zone at Baringa. On the day everyone did a fantastic job and ran their hardest.

Jessica Norwood and Riley Akers got

Action Squad

For several months now, our grade 5/6D have been training with the Kurnai Action Squad.

They go by the names of Chris, Rodney, Josh and Kieran. It's a very enjoyable activity and the entire grade really gets into it. We have played many different sports soccer, obstacles courses and much more. Every Wednesday we train with the action squad and we would like to thank them for making Wednesdays so enjoyable. They make every little thing fun. We really do appreciate it. Thanks.

By Tahlia Taifer.

Murder under the Microscope

Grades 5/6F and 5/6D are doing a program called Murder under the Microscope. It's a mystery environmental crime we have to solve by researching a possible victim (eg. lacy tree fern, spotted tail quoll), a place (eg. Caboolture River) and a villain (eg. genetically modified crops, bird flu). We have been given hints along the way to help us narrow it down to the possible place, villain and victim. Both grades have enjoyed the program and are looking forward to finding the answer to the mystery. By Rachael

Melbourne Camp

Recently we went to Melbourne for our 5/6 camp.

We left from school at quarter to eight on Monday the 4th of May with a lot of tired faces!

We arrived at Science Works first and had a look around. There were a lot of interactive things to do and one of the highlights was Sportworks! We had some lunch at Science Works, then we watched a show called the "Cool Stuff Show." It was about how liquid nitrogen works.

We jumped back on the bus and arrived next at the Aquarium. We split up into the two groups and had a tour around the aquarium. We saw many fascinating creatures such as jelly-fish, sharks, sting rays and star fish. There were penguins too!

We hopped back onto the bus and drove to where we were staying. We all stayed at Urban Camp which is located near the State Netball Hockey Centre. We had a short run through of the rules and then we were allocated to our rooms. We had a beautiful roast tea that was enjoyed by most.

Then we went to the Rialto Tower. We came back and went to bed ready for the next day!

The next morning we got up bright

and early ready for an action packed day (7:30 actually).

We jumped on the bus and Sudsy took us to the centre of Melbourne. 5/6D went one way to the Old Melbourne Gaol and 5/6F went to the Electoral Commission.

At the Electoral Commission there was lots of stuff to see and do and at the end we had a chocolate bar election! At the Old Melbourne Gaol we discovered how people were hung and when Ned



Kelly was executed.

We then went to the Parliament House in Spring Street. A tour guide showed us around and on the way we met a very special guest, Russell Northe! He also showed us around some of the way too.

Next we swapped places. 5/6D went to the Electoral Commission and 5/6F went to the Old Melbourne Gaol.

We left Melbourne at around 2pm and got back to school around 4pm.

We had a great time and thanks to all the teachers and parents for helping out with the camp!

By Zoey and Jade!

Open Day!!!

Last Wednesday our school had an open day to show our

parents and relatives some of the work we do at school. Some of the grades had special classes such as art, music and library. Some of the parents brought their kids a special lunch like fish and chips or enjoyed a picnic lunch. Many people attended. Some of the parents helped out in the classes, participated in our Bluearth program and



enjoyed playing with their kids in the play ground.

By Aaron and Joey

Descriptive Writing By 5/6F

Fraser Island

As I sit on the picnic blanket I watch the world go by- my dad and my brother playing in the crystal clear water, my mum and Ella making sandcastles on the white sand. Time for a swim, I think. I pull off my sweaty t-shirt and run down to the water. I feel the soft sand slipping through my toes with ease. I jump into the clear refreshing water and take a deep breath. I swim to the top of the water and my family is there to greet me. Mum, Dad, Jacob, Uncle Geoff, Aunty Larni and my cousins, Riley and Ella. Their faces are tinged with yellow from the zinc cream. I dive again and taste the salty water on my lips. We jump and dive and play, until the sun is down and our toes are like prunes. Fraser Island is a great place. By Zoey.

Oak Tree Park

I walk through Oak Tree Park I can smell the freshness in the

air of a lovely autumn morning. As I walk through the park I can hear the soft wind blowing through the branches of the trees and the leaves slowly hitting the ground. As I walk I can see all of the lovely old trees and their red, orange and brown leaves swaying in the breeze. I love oak tree park. By Jessica N.

The Water Fountain

I can hear the water splashing down to the bottom of the fountain as I drink my latte. I'm just sitting back watching the fountain that looks like heaven. It's so shiny, so bright, so sparkly. I've never seen anything so magical. I can smell the shimmering water from the sunlight. It's so refreshing and makes me calm. I walk over to the beautiful fountain, I pick up a handful of water. I slurp it up with my mouth. My face scrunches up. YUCK, it's foul it's all warm. Oh well people are sup-

posed to look at it, not drink it. I come forward again, put my hand under the water, I give a little chuckle. It tickles but it's relaxing. I think I will sit back, and admire my brand new water fountain again. By Jade Stevenson!

The Desert

I'm in a big, hot desert looking like it will never end. I smell the aroma of the desert sand. It feels soft. The snakes and the shrubs are hissing and crackling. The air looks like the air on top of a BBQ on a hot day. I walk a bit more. I find some water. I taste it. It tastes like the water back home. I walk back to my big camel, get on and we walk off. THAT'S WHY I LIKE THIS DESERT. By Jordan C

The Restaurant

I walked into a big red room with hundreds of brownish black chairs and

tables packed with people wearing blue jeans with black jackets and hundreds of other colours. I can smell the beautiful and exotic dishes coming out of the kitchen. Chicken, rice, beef, vegetables- it's all so beautiful. When we sit down the chairs are as hard as steel but smooth as glass. There's hundreds of blue and green striped and spotted cushions. I grab one and sit on it. The cushion is so pleasant and comfortable I could nearly fall asleep on it. But I can't because of the wild laughter and loud talking and the clattering of the white shiny plates in the kitchen when they touch each other. Then when I bend down to sneeze, I don't because can smell the beautiful pine in the table. It's like I'm in a pine forest. That's why I like this restaurant! By Cooper.

Amazon Rainforest

I'm on my way to the Amazon Rainforest with my family. We have come on a holiday from Melbourne, Victoria in

Australia. It took us a 30 hour plane trip and a 3 hour drive to get to our destination. When we got there you could hear the loud Ribbet! of the beautiful green tree frogs. We walked down the riverside, bark and leaves crunching beneath our feet. As we walked down the crystal clear water in the river was shimmering. We heard the loud splashing sound of the white bubbling water falling from the high up rock ledge. I walked over slowly, staring up at the water plummeting down to the ground. I walked over and stood next to it and stuck my tongue out and moved my head closer. I lapped up the pure and fresh water from the water fall. The Amazon Rainforest is a wonderful place! Tyler 5\6\F

Kurnai College Junior Campus Churchill

Bullying

Bullying is when someone or group of people, upset or create a risk to another person's health and safety- either psychologically or physically- their property, reputation or social acceptance on more than one occasion.

Kurnai, like any school, has its share of students with challenging behaviours, including bullying. Students come from different backgrounds where bullying behaviours are overlooked or the norm. The school, however, has a policy which says this sort of behaviour is not acceptable, and has taken steps to put in place a policy of zero tolerance towards bullying.

The school is being asked to deal with problems which start outside of school but end up as incidents in the playground

Regular surveys assess the type of bullying that is occurring, who is doing the bullying and who is being bullied.

Where a student has been identified as a bully, the parents of the student are asked to come to the school, so that a discussion can take place between the teachers, parents and the student.

This can be an extremely hard time for the parents who find out that their child is a bully. This behaviour may not be displayed at home and it is a shock to learn that their child is bullying. It is also a very unnerving time when parents find out that their child is being bullied.

The school has devised several strategies for dealing with the situation, and asks parents to be patient as these can take time to work through. But be assured the school wants to do all it can to prevent and put an end to such occurrences.

To that end, the staff has been asked to be very vigilante and responsive to what is said by students, or what they see. The school also asks the community to be vigilante and report any incidents. Parents are asked to let the school know of any incidents so the staff can be watchful. Students are implored and

encouraged to tell if they are being bullied. There is a lot of fear of retribution, but this must be overcome to put an end to such anti-social behaviour to ensure that students feel and are safe at, and on their way to and from school.

Teachers and team leaders have done training to identify and deal with low level bullying examples.

The staff have also been teaching the students how to stand up for themselves in an assertive not aggressive way. Students who are bystanders to a bullying incident have been urged to be proactive in reporting the event. It is great to report that the level of bullying in the school has dramatically dropped this year.

Cyber bullying has created a huge growing problem. The use of mobile phone to SMS another person in the middle of the night is reprehensible and invasive. It is a subtle way of undermining anyone's confidence. Cyber bullying brings the problem to a whole new level. Schools are not equipped with resources, time and know how to be part in preventing this. Kurnai does however, ask that no student bring a mobile phone to school, so that it cannot occur during school hours.

The school will continue to re-visit its Bullying Policy and implement it to the best of the school's ability- BUT- the school needs to know of the events before it can act. It urges all concerned to be pro-active and report the incidents so the zero tolerance policy can be effective.

ALPS Testing

The results of the 49 students tested, were that 32 went to interview stage, and of that group 26 will be selected. This program is making an impression on teachers, and parents of primary students, through word of mouth and is hotly contested. It stands Kurnai is good stead. The first intake of ALPS students are in Year 11 at the Gippsland Education Precinct and are doing extremely well.

Inter-School Annual Ethics Debate

Kurnai and Lowanna College students went head to head recently, formally debating "Is the Environment more important than the Economy?"

This inaugural event was organised and presided over by Rotarian members at the Morwell RSL club. It provided an excellent opportunity for both Kurnai and Lowanna students to enhance their public speaking skills in front of a knowledgeable crowd. Guest speakers discussed the ethics of society, and in particular debating, before the Year 11 students were welcomed to centre stage. Kurnai College's Ben Huke, who has already made a name within RSL and Rotarian circles through his volunteer work, introduced the Kurnai team and their position in the debate.

The Precinct team consisting of Corey Carter, Robyn Moore and Alex Jones spoke extremely well

about the effects of globalisation on an ailing environment; a topic and contention that is very close to the heart of a lot of Latrobe Valley residents.

Guest of Kurnai College, Wayne Reynolds from the Australian Sustainable Industry Research Centre was very impressed with the evening and with the students' performance in discussing this key topic.

"Sustainability and industry are often uncomfortable partners but we have seen lately that government is recognising the importance of developing sustainable practices for the future. Our country is uniquely positioned to be at the forefront of environmental research and it was pleasing to see representatives of the younger generation debating this very important issue".

The evening's importance was strengthened by the presence of local MP Russell Northe. The Member for Morwell commended both the students for their efforts over the evening and Rotary in creating a platform for young people to voice their thoughts. Mr Northe continued his support of the evening, spending valuable time and dispensing advice to the debating students.

The evening concluded with the inaugural winners of the debate between the two schools falling to Kurnai College. Corey, Robyn and Alex graciously accepted their certificates and the annual plaque presented by Mr Northe. An excellent platform for future debates was created by Rotary with the two strong local colleges looking forward to more enjoyable encounters in the coming years.



Russell Northe MP congratulates the winning team

Hands on Learning Program

The program originated in the Frankston area and has seen some very good results.

This is a pilot program in this area, being offered at Kurnai Churchill (one day and Morwell (three days), as well as Lowanna (one day) and Traralgon (two days) per week. Mondays are planning and equipment collection days.

The program is overseen at Kurnai by teacher Paul Radford, and with Artisan Dave Frendo who helps out with technical knowhow and experience, to carry out the projects.

Paul is the one who does the paperwork, liaises with the parents, and mediates between the teachers and the students.

This program seeks to engage students who may be disengaged or not enjoying classroom work, are withdrawn, or students wanting to get into a trade at higher levels.

The purpose of the one day a week program is to give the students a break from classrooms, to build self-esteem as they observe their completed projects, and increase their experience of hands on work.

The program works closely with Celine at Workways, in a category called Youth Pathways.

This is a means to help the students decide, if they are not sure, where they want to go and what they want to do after leaving school.

The students chosen at Kurnai are identified and referred by the year level team leaders.

At present, the Year 8, 9, and a few 10s are involved. In semester 2 the Year 7s will become involved.

Each student pays \$5 a day to participate, with the school subsidizing the additional costs.

This includes starting the day having breakfast at school, as well as lunch and brew time.

This is reminiscent of the workplace situation. Dave and Paul buy the food, and stick to a mostly healthy diet regime.

The students cook for themselves, including a hot lunch, and then do the clearing and washing up.

Part of the requirements of the program is that the school provides a place they can call a base, so this is where they can cook and clean up.

The place provided at Kurnai is affectionately called the Dungeon and was a storage area, but is now a useful and homely place for the kids to share.

Plans are afoot for winter months, to re-decorate the Dungeon, and improve its look. There is also talk of adding a verandah outside to extend



the available space.

The O.H. & S considerations are a major hurdle at times, and being a pilot program is presenting a challenge.

So far the students who really enjoy the program, and work hard, have completed installing

a set of shelves in the music room, landscaping work in preparation of the school ground for the fire season, including clearing of leaf litter, and fixing a place which was a hazard.

At present they are working on preparing the ground for a volleyball court. The ground was being leveled in preparation for the edging to be put in place, before the sand was delivered. The existing gate needs relocating to be accessible and landscaping of the surrounding area is being planned.

Projects are decided by Paul and Dave in consultation with the schools and their needs. The next project is to install a garden in the Year 7 area. It may also include some community engagement with work of clearing up in Mathison Park, or elsewhere.

Paul has taught for six years, and has now taken on this program. He says he enjoys it, as it's lots of fun and very engaging for the participants.



Kurnai College Junior Campus Churchill

Kurnai Precinct Students Hike Wilsons Promontory



As part of the Outdoor Education program at the Gippsland Education Precinct Kurnai College, 17 Year 11 and 12 students, 3 teachers and 2 trainee teachers recently completed a 3 day hike at Wilsons Promontory National park.

The hike included some of the most beautiful coastal scenery in the world.

The walk was completed in two groups with the girls staying the first night at Waterloo Bay and the boys going in the other direction and staying the first night at Sealers Cove.

The next day both groups met at Refuge cove for lunch.

The walk was 35 kilometres and students completed the walk carrying all their equipment with no great prob-

lems although the final hill was an effort on the last day.

It did rain both nights but all the tents held out and students all proved their bushwalking skills.

The students will all write a journal of the walk and include descriptions of the unique scenery of the Prom and discuss some of the conservation values of the National Park.

These Outdoor activities are an important part of the Outdoor Education Program at Kurnai College and contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the outdoors and also helps develop outdoor skills and independence in the students.

Thanks to all the Students and Teachers for contributing to a great Trip.

Lumen Christi Primary School

Responsible Pet Owners

Grade Prep, 1 and 2 were visited by Liz Ballard and her dog Kade to give them information about how to be responsible and safe around animals.

Liz talked to the students about how to look after their own animals and how to be safe around animals they don't know.

She taught them how to recognise if a dog could be dangerous and what to do if they are around a dangerous dog such as keep still, keep hands by your side, be as quiet as a mouse and look at the ground.

The children also learnt how to approach a dog they don't know and were able to use this



information to ask Liz if they could pet Kade.

Fire Safety

During May, the Churchill Fire Brigade visited the school to discuss fire safety.

Over three weeks, each grade spent time with the firefighters who helped the children to recognise good and bad fires and to know what to do if they come across or are caught in a fire.

The children were also able to explore the fire truck and have a go at holding and squirting the fire hose.

Grade 5/6 also did a tour of the fire



station and were able to see some of the equipment at work.

A big thank you to all at the Churchill Fire Brigade



Lumen Christi Primary School



Cross Country

On Friday the 1st of May, students competed in the Yinnar & District Cross Country event at Gaskin Park.

Fabienne Schoutens came 1st in her age group 11 years, Kaitlin Nardino 2nd in 12/13 years, Liam Hutchinson 8th and Jessie Justice and Olivia Morgan came 9th and 10th.

All participants ran really well on the day!

Fabienne, Kaitlin and Liam went on to the Zone Cross Country and Fabienne came 2nd in her age group, an outstanding achievement!



Childrens Corner

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

LIONS BIRTHDAY CLUB

Proudly sponsored by the
Lions Club of Churchill and District

Hi Kids,

If you are under 13 years old "JOIN THE CLUB". Ask Mum, Dad, Guardian or Carer to ring the Editor of the CHURCHILL AND DISTRICT NEWS on 5122 2589 or fill out the application below.

Each month two lucky Birthdayites get to win a \$15.00 voucher to spend as they like at the Churchill Newsagency. It's that easy, join up now and be in it

BIRTHDAYS IN JUNE

Rebecca McCord - 9 on June 1st	Kieran Marriott - 13 on June 26th
Dylan Bedford - 3 on June 17th	Teegan Marriott - 13 on June 26th
Rachael Cusick - 9 on June 20th	Ryan Marriott - 13 on June 26th
Tenielle May - 11 on June 23rd	Riley Flanigan - 11 on June 30th
Shayla Smith - 7 on June 25th	

HAVE A GREAT DAY KIDS

THE LUCKY BIRTHDAYITES FOR JUNE ARE

SHAYLA SMITH & DYLAN BEDFORD

Congratulations to the lucky
"BIRTHDAYITES

You have each won a \$15 voucher for
Churchill Newsagency.

We will contact you soon.

BIRTHDAYITES

LIONS CLUB OF CHURCHILL BIRTHDAY CLUB FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

BIRTHDATE: _____

Please Circle: BOY or GIRL

PARENT/CAREGIVER: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

**Please Note all information is strictly confidential

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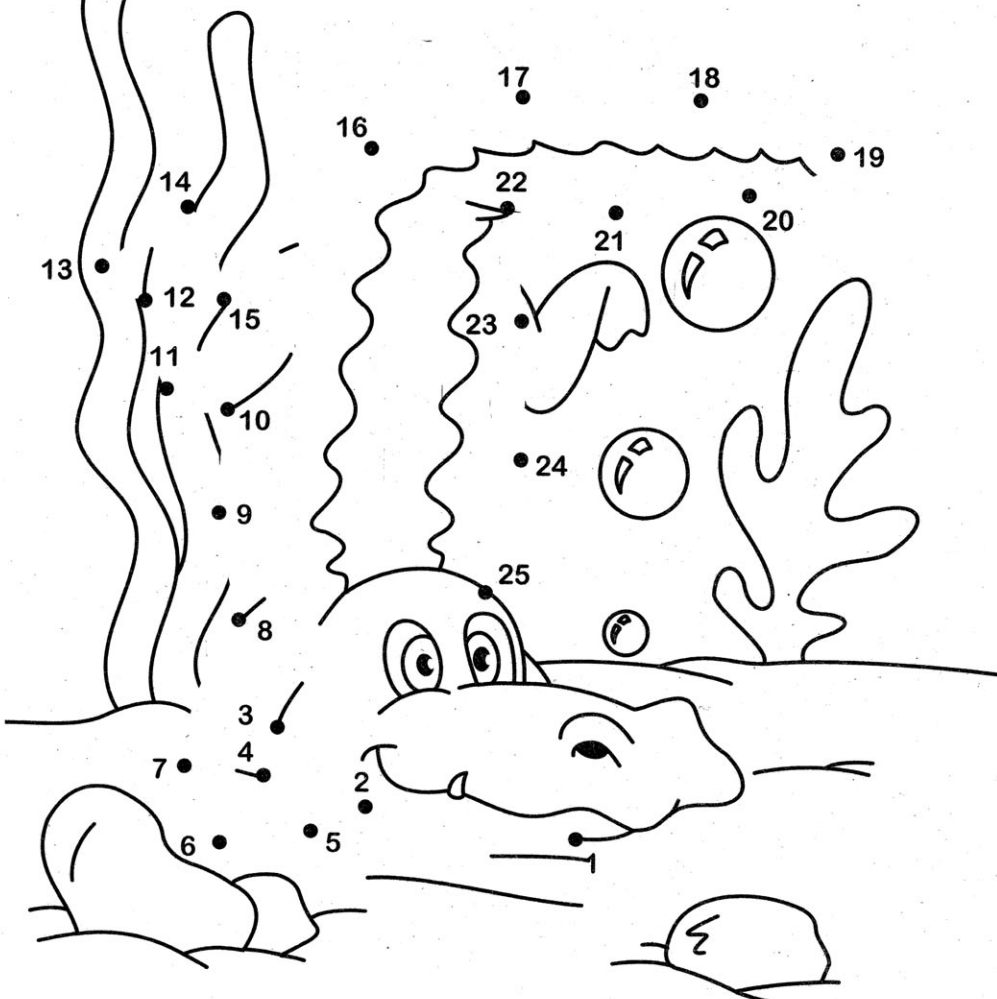
Riddles

What do you do when your pig has a sore hoof?
Put some oinkment on it.

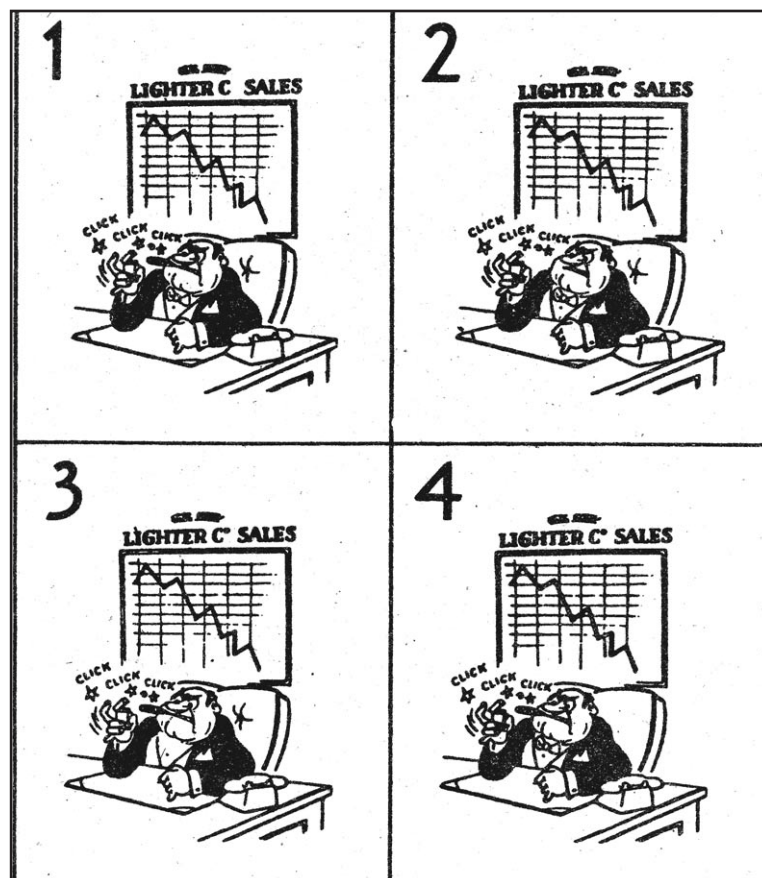
Why does the bee keep his legs crossed?
Because he can't find a Bee Pee station.

What do you get when you cross a kangaroo with
a sheep?
A woolly jumper

JOIN THE DOTS FROM 1 TO 25.
THEN COLOUR THE PICTURE



FIND THE MISSING DETAIL



Each Picture has one detail missing that appears
in the other three. Can you find which details.

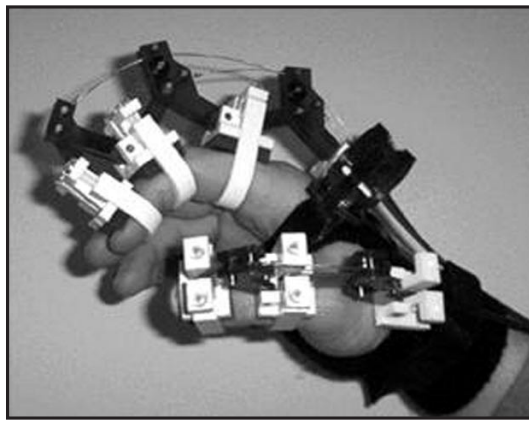
Monash Researchers Consider Temperature in a Virtual World

Monash University Gippsland Campus researchers are undertaking a unique project to better understand how temperature contributes to our perceptions of the world.

In the first study of its kind, Gippsland researchers have been looking at whether "cold" felt at the fingertips increased an individual's believability of a "virtual" can of coke. By using the "Exograsp", a piece of equipment exclusive to Monash University's Bionics and Cognitive Science Centre, it has been discovered that temperature does contribute to the realism of virtual objects.

The Exograsp is a hand-based force-feedback exoskeleton that allows the user to grasp a virtual object with the thumb and forefinger. Temperature and pressure at the fingertip provide additional cues to simulate contact with the virtual object.

Dr. George Van Doorn of Monash University's Gippsland Campus has brought together researchers from the Monash Bionics and Cognitive Science Centre, as well as the Faculty of Information Technology to



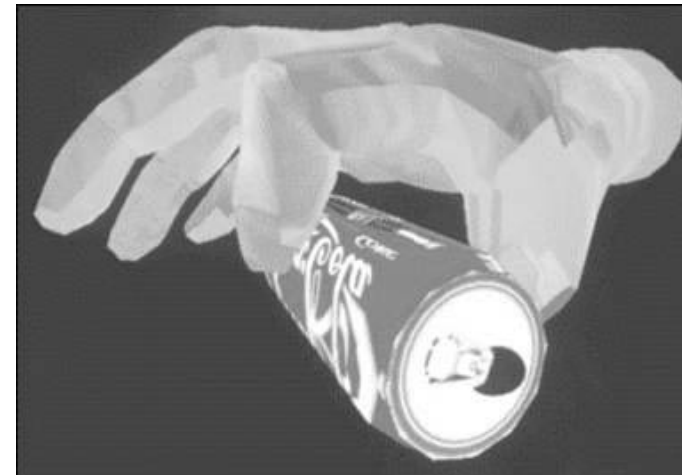
undertake the project.

Dr. Van Doorn said the research may eventually lead to science fiction marvels coming to life, such as the "Holodeck" virtual reality device made famous in the television series Star Trek.

"There has been a lot of interest in creating believable virtual worlds, especially in computer gaming," he said. "However, the importance of temperature in adding to the believability of virtual worlds has been overlooked."

He added that touch was becoming an increasingly popular area of investigation with more scientists contributing to this important, yet under-acknowledged, sensory system.

Dr. Van Doorn will be flying to Adelaide in June this year to present the research to attendees at the SimTecT conference which will look at simulation applications and technology advancement.



Churchill Monash Golf Club: Results

LADIES

Tuesday 12/5/09 Foursomes Championship Round 1

Handicap Winners: J Blizzard/C Barnes 68. DTL: B Beebe/J Leslie 73, L Peake/J Beck 75.

Sunday 17/5/09 Stableford

Winner: E D'Alterio 33 pts.

Tuesday 19/5/09 Foursomes Championship Final Round

Day Winners: D Judkins/Y Wotton 77 1/2. DTL: J Beck/L Peake 78, H Croft/M McConville 79 1/2.

FOURSOMES CHAMPIONS: Scratch B Beebe/J Leslie 207. Handicap C Barnes/J Blizzard 150. Runners Up J Beck/L Peake 153 c/b.

Tuesday 26/5/09 Stableford - Mary Mitchell Day

Winner: J Beck 42 pts. DTL: C Barnes 39 pts, M Mitchell 39 pts, S Cooke 37 pts c/b. NTP: 3rd D Scurlock. 5/14th (33-45) C Barnes.

Sunday 31/5/09 Stableford.

Winner: M Munckton 37 pts.

Tuesday 2/6/09 Stroke-Monthly Medal, Round 1 Club Championships

Winners: Scratch Y Wotton 96. A Grade/Medal Y Wotton 71. B Grade M McDonald 73. DTL: V Verheyen 74, J Leslie 75, C Barnes 75. NTP: 12th L Casey, 5/14th (33-45) L Welsh. Putts: M McDonald 30 c/b.

MEN

Saturday 9/5/09 Club Championships Round 2

Winners: A Grade M Smith 67. B Grade G Hornsby 69. C Grade D Beyer 63. DTL: B Murphy 68, J Jeffrey 68, P Smart 69, P Rickwood 69, D Taylor 70, T Gabbett 70, B Kilday 70 c/b. NTP: 3rd

B Baldock. 5th M Smith. 12th P Williams. 14th G Hornsby. Birdies: 5th M Smith. 12th L Stein. Eagle: 13th M Smart.

Saturday 16/05/09 Stroke - Club Championships Final Round CCR 70

Day Winners: A Grade T. Webb 67. B Grade M Fletcher 69. C Grade J Jeffrey 71. DTL: W Judkins 72, G Spowart 72, P Williams 73, P Smart 74, G Beyer 74, R Scurlock 75 c/b. NTP: 5th M Fletcher. 12th C Flanigan.

2009 CLUB CHAMPIONS: Scratch R Scurlock 244. A Grade G Beyer 213. B Grade C Flanigan 205. C Grade D Beyer 211.

Sunday 17/5/09 Stableford

Winner: B Kearns 34 pts.

Saturday 23/5/09 Stableford - Hemmingway

Winners: A Grade T Webb 43 pts c/b. B Grade G Hornsby 39 pts c/b. C Grade J Jeffrey 44 pts c/b. DTL: B Kearns 44 pts, P Williams 43 pts, B Murphy 42 pts, A Percy 41 pts, A Sharrock 41 pts, R Welsh 39 pts. NTP: 3rd B Piekaar. 5th T Webb. 12th B Downie. Birdies: 12th B Downie, A Auld.

Saturday 30/5/09 Stroke-Monthly Medal CCR 70

Winners: Scratch T O'Reilly 78. A Grade/Medal G Hornsby 67. B Grade R Welsh 70. C Grade V Sammut 70. DTL: A Sharrock 70, G Beyer 71, G Fraser 71, A Casey 71, P Williams 72, H Martin 72, W Olsen 72. NTP: 3rd I Wilson, 5th W Peter, 14th T O'Reilly. Birdies: 12th T Gabbett. Putts: L Stein 25.

Sunday 31/5/09 Stableford

Winner: B Downie 39 pts. DTL: L Stein 38 pts c/b. NTP: 5th B Barnes.

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Home of Hockey in Churchill

The new home of Latrobe Valley University Hockey will be based at Monash University Churchill from next year.

University it will truly be a first class regional facility.

The Minister for Sport James Merlino visited Churchill on Tuesday May 19 to announce funding for a synthetic pitch to be constructed at Monash University Churchill in partnership with the State Government, Monash University and Latrobe City.

Linda also thanked Johann Scheffers (Member for the Upper House - East Gippsland) for his assistance and to Crs Loughed and Middlemiss for their ongoing support. Monash and the previous council in particular need to be congratulated for embracing this project

Spokesperson for Latrobe Hockey Linda Reid said that the Hockey community was very excited at playing modern hockey on the new pitch instead of in glorified paddocks. Linda also stated that with the terrific facilities at Monash

For Churchill Hockey club it will mean that it will again be able to play in Churchill. It is currently based at Maryvale Reserve Morwell as the Churchill ground has been dangerous and unplayable for a number of years.

Rams Continue Run of Wins

Champs keep pressure on ladder leaders

In a battle between third and fourth on the ladder, Churchill United scored a goal in each half to defeat Monash 2-0 at Hazelwood South Reserve on Sunday.

It was Monash who fired the opening salvo, with Rayvel Whiting smacking the crossbar with a fierce drive in the opening minutes.

Neither side was able to take the ascendancy, with the ball constantly being turned over across both midfields due to the high pressure game of both teams.

Churchill found an opening after 34 minute with a slick attack as Shane McColl burst down the left flank and slotted away past Russell Musgrove in the 34th minute after being released by Taylor Jackson.

Both sides continued to press with Trent Felici and Chris Noppert keeping the Churchill strikers quiet as the Rams headed into the break with the lead.

Churchill's superior height was telling across the park with set pieces becoming prominent and it was the height of Jamie Robson, whose front flick from a corner found McColl to add his second in the 51st minute with a close range volley after going unchecked in the six yard box.

The Generals were missing the drive of Coen Slaughter who was out injured, however they still created enough problems for the Rams defence who were found wanting on a few occasions.

Both sides continued to push hard throughout the remainder of the second half, with neither able to add to the score line. The win helps the

Rams maintain their pressure on undefeated front runners Fortuna and Falcons.

- In other matches:
 Moe United 3 Falcons 3
 Tyers Lightning 2 Traralgon City 2
 Traralgon Olympians 4 Drouin Dragons 1
 Newborough/ Yallourn 3 Sale United 1

Rams Reserves title hopes dashed after loss

The Reserves match was also a battle between third and fourth, but this time the lower placed team prevailed with Monash holding on for a 1-0 victory.

The Generals scored on the half hour with a headed goal from Troy Thomson after a succession of Churchill defensive errors handed the ball to him on a plate.

Despite its best efforts and several guilt edged chances the Rams couldn't break down Monash's stone wall defence.

The loss puts Churchill two games behind ladder leaders Fortuna and Falcons.

Both Churchill teams win in second division
 Churchill United defeated Monash 5-0 in the second division to continue its unbeaten run this year. Goal scorers were Mark Atherton (2), Matthew Calabrese, Vaughan Reimers and Ian Sands.



Shane McColl volleying home his second goal past the outstretched arms of Monash keeper Russell Musgrove

Churchill Rams also had a win accounting for Moe United 3-1 with goals to Kevin Riess, Jamie Boyle and Ash Ypellan. The Red Devils goal scorer was Frank Monacella.

Mixed results for Churchill women

The Churchill Reds had a big win over Trafalgar Victory 8-0 with four goals in each half. Alisha Huizer and Mary Capone were

amongst the goals.

Churchill Silver lowered its colours to ladder leaders Monash 5-2; however it was the first time the Generals have conceded this season. Laura Jackson capped a best on ground performance for Silver with two goals. Goal scorers for Monash were Jade Charnock (3) and Sarah Briggs (2).

