



CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

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Distributed Free

Inspirational leaders in Australia Day Awards



Australia Day Churchill

A beautiful sunny morning greeted everyone who attended the Australia Day awards organised by the Churchill & District Lions Club in the car park at Churchill Hotel.

The day's proceedings began with a welcome by the MC, Lion Peter McShane. The 1st Churchill Scouts did the flag raising. This was followed by the singing of Advance Australia Fair.

Reverend Peter Carter of the Co-Operating Churches of Churchill, Boolarra, Yinnar read a prayer for Australia Day which acknowledged our entire history.

Councillor Darrell White, on behalf of Latrobe City Council, began his words with an acknowledgment that we were meeting here today on the traditional land of the

Braiakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation and paid respect to their Elders past and present. We also acknowledge other Elders present with us today.

Darrell said that Australia day was an opportunity to show our pride in Australia – the Lucky Country. It is an opportunity to enjoy being together and celebrating as well as an opportunity to pause and reflect on what being Australian means. This includes thinking about how we can make this great country even better and help Latrobe City Council to accomplish this by giving positive feedback.

He acknowledged the important role volunteers play in our communities, making special mention of the volunteer firefighters who have done such an amazing job with the horrific fires we have experienced this fire

season. He said such tragedies bring us closer together and help each other in the difficulties as we forge forward.

Australians come from all walks of life - we are a multicultural country. The afternoon celebrations would see fifty people become Australian Citizens.

Darrell finished by thanking the Lions Club for all the work they do, and particularly for the day's efforts.

The awards were then made to the following:

Jacob Dickinson – Nomination for Churchill Junior Citizen Award – Australian 2019

The Churchill Baseball Club would like to nominate their member Jacob Dickinson for the 2019 Junior Citizen of the Year.

Jacob is 16 years of age, born on October 24, 2003 and lives in Churchill. Until the past year Jacob was struggling at all levels with very few friends, and he has now turned his life around.

He is currently studying Outdoor Education under the banner of Sports Education, while performing Community Service at Traralgon Technical College. Next year Computer Sciences.

Whilst this was occurring, his parents suffered various medical issues and his grandparents have stepped up to help him. Jacob is also a volunteer teacher's aide and is undergoing work placement in this field. He attends gym three days per week

Jacob's weekends are spent travelling
Continued Supplement pages . . .



Looking Back...

200 DIGITAL ISSUES

See Page 7

Our Memories

Digitally printed edition No 1 of Churchill & District News began with twelve pages in 2002. Look out for more memories next month as we move toward the printing of our special edition numbered 200 in December this year. Or read back issues on our website cdnews.com.au

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Churchill's "Lucky Shopper" – December /January Winners

The Churchill Shop Local Campaign is an initiative designed to support local businesses by encouraging shopping locally. This supports the Churchill community as local businesses not only employ local people, they also support local schools, community organisations and sporting clubs, therefore enriching the entire community. This year long campaign will reward local shoppers with monthly Lucky Shoppers vouchers and prizes to be won throughout the year. The Shop Local campaign is one which works to help support the entire Churchill community, through supporting local businesses such as the Churchill Newsagency, Smart Savers and the Churchill Discount Chemist.

The Lucky Shopper prize is randomly selected by a participating business to be entered into the main prize draw. Participating stores have been displaying the Churchill Shop Local sticker in their windows, with entries for the monthly prizes made within the store at the time of purchase. The winning Lucky Shopper in December was Sonia from Mirboo North who received her prize on January 22 at the Churchill Newsagency. Sonia regularly shops in Churchill and entered the prize draw by shopping at a Shop Local Participating

Business. Sonia is appreciative of the Churchill community, "It's quiet, everyone's real nice. A nice little community. You can have a chat and there's a really good view from the shopping complex. I like that you can walk around and see Aussie bush. There's also a good variety of stores which makes shopping easier." She was also excited about having won the draw, "I can't believe I never win anything."

Local manager Rachel representing the Churchill Newsagency, presented the prize. The Churchill Newsagency is a purveyor of newspapers, magazines giftware and lottery which serves as a hub for the local Churchill community. Rachel is from Yallourn North and is happy to support the shop local campaign on behalf of the business. Rachel is appreciative of the advantages of the local Churchill shopping centre, "I like that it's not a shopping complex and that the stores are individual so that you can walk around. I also like how all the shops band together and how everyone's friendly."

The winner of the Lucky Shopper prize in January from Smart Savers, was Helen who was presented with a prize basket on January 23. Helen is supportive of the campaign and enjoys shopping in Churchill and the Churchill township, "I like everything – we've got

everything. The local university, the shopping centre and a good sense of community." When asked what she likes most about shopping in Churchill, Helen replied that she was appreciative of the convenience, "You can get most of what you need without leaving town."

The prize basket was presented by Smart Saver's employee Pauline, on behalf of the business. Smart Saver is a business which serves as a general proprietor of gifts, hardware, party and stationary items to the Churchill and district community.

Pauline is from Morwell and is happy to support the local shop campaign on behalf of the business. Pauline is also appreciative of the convenience of the Churchill shopping centre, "You get a bit of everything."

The Churchill Discount Chemist is another business supporting the Lucky Shopper awards. Second pharmacist



Nathan was happy to talk about the Churchill Discount Chemist and Churchill community.

"What I really like about Churchill is how everyone knows each other, we're a close community which looks out for each other. Especially after the bushfire, we've had fundraising in the chemist for the bushfires and

everyone's been really supportive and raised a lot." When asked what he liked about the local shopping centre and what it has to offer the Churchill community he replied, "I like how everything's compact – there's no time wasting."

With other shopping centres you can go in and get lost. With the Churchill

shopping centre, you know where everything is."

Remember for your chance to win a \$50 voucher to spend at your local Churchill retailer and be as lucky as Sonia and Helen, you must 'Shop Local' at a participating business. Enquire in-store to support your community by entering the draw and trying your luck to win a prize.

Harriet Shing MP

After the devastating fires in East Gippsland, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage people to assist the community there by continuing to visit the area and support businesses located in the region. With the Labour Day weekend, Easter and school holidays not that far away, accommodation owners, produce providers, wine growers, artisans and retail outlets could all do with our assistance.

The beaches of East Gippsland are some of the finest in the country and are still able to be enjoyed, no matter what the weather. The public and school holidays all provide a perfect opportunity to show our support. For further ideas on where to visit and ways you can support the community there see:

- <https://www.visiteastgippsland.com.au/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/LoveEastGippsland/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/emptyesky/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/S2SBFC/>

On a brighter note, it is wonderful to see the level of building activity in the Valley. From the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre emerging from the old site, to the new Latrobe Performing Arts Centre, the works being undertaken can't help but build confidence and pride in

our area. Here in Morwell, the Latrobe Valley GovHub is taking shape.

The Victorian Government is investing in the future of the Latrobe Valley by bringing hundreds of public sector jobs to the region with a new GovHub Office in the Latrobe Valley.

A \$30 million project, the Latrobe Valley GovHub will be a three-storey regional employment hub supporting economic growth, creating jobs and driving the industries of the future.

The Latrobe Valley GovHub will house 300 workers and bring a mix of new public service jobs for the region and existing government roles from Melbourne.

This will include 200 new public sector jobs from the Victorian public service, including Earth Resources Regulation staff, who will establish a new head office in the Latrobe Valley, Parks Victoria staff working in environment, research and other service functions, and the head office of Solar Victoria.

There are 100 construction jobs and 75% local materials and labour used in the building of the Gov Hub

Information sourced from the RDV website. If you would like to read further about this exciting

initiative: https://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1875910/LatrobeValley_Newsletter_Summer_V02-web.pdf

With the start of the school year being such an exciting time for Preppies and parents, I am very pleased to announce that library bags are being provided by the Victorian Government to every Prep student at school.

The bag will also contain the following selection of books and valuable information for parents as well:

'Edward the Emu' by Sheena Knowles, 'Where is Galah?' by Sally Morgan, 'Silver Buttons' by Rob Graham, 'The Dress-Up Box' by Patrick Guest and Nathaniel Eckstrom, 'Hello from Nowhere' by Raewyn Caisley and Karen Blair

I would like to pass on my thanks to everyone across the region who has been part of the firefighting, relief and recovery efforts that have been happening around the clock since November, and the extraordinary community support that has been shown to people and communities in their greatest time of need.

Just a reminder that my Electorate Office is situated at 216 Commercial Road, Morwell and my staff will be only too happy to assist you.

Until next time Harriet

Al-Anon – Morning Thoughts

This morning while sitting in my favourite place and reading my "Courage to Change", I realised that I had, in the old days, given the alcoholic complete power over me and my life. I gave him power over every thought and action I had, who I associated with, what our meals would be, how I was raising the children, what money I spent, how the children and I reacted to him. I never asserted myself in any way and yet I was constantly 'in trouble' for not carrying out his dictums correctly

or otherwise. I became a person I did not want to be. I now know that I gave my alcoholic this power and he didn't always want it, but that was the way I existed in those days.

So what happened? I was introduced to Al-Anon and my life changed immediately. New ideas began to come through the fog. The first great idea that registered with me was that I was not responsible for my husband's drinking.

It was not my fault that he was an alcoholic. I can remember clearly the feeling

of a great burden being lifted off my shoulders when I was told this great piece of Al-Anon wisdom.

This gave me my first glimmer of the freedom I could have with the Al-Anon program. I no longer had to give someone else total control over something as important as my life.

Even now, after many years as an active and very grateful member of Al-Anon, I still shudder when I recall the person I was before I found this wonderful way of life.

A message about

Recycling at the Churchill Hub

Recycle Bread Tags at the Hub



PLEASE NOTE

Collection of plastic milk & juice bottle tops suspended until further notice – the recycling facility has been overwhelmed! You can continue to save these plastic bottle tops at home until we source an alternative recycling facility to send them to.





Russell Northe MP



Ushering in 2020

I would like to wish everyone a very happy 2020 and I hope it's a great year for everyone in the Churchill community. Churchill has many wonderful groups and organisations which contribute enormously to the success of the town.

One of the pleasures of my job is to work closely with these amazing people and advocate for initiatives and projects that benefit the local community, and I look forward to doing precisely that in 2020.

Australia Day 2020

I was privileged indeed to attend a number of Australia Day ceremonies on January 26, including services in

Traralgon, Toongabbie and at Kernot Hall, Morwell, whereby no less than 54 people became Australian citizens. Australia Day is a wonderful opportunity for us to reflect upon what a magnificent country we live in, and celebrate our Australian values of mateship, freedom, respect, diversity and equality.

I feel incredibly blessed to be Australian, and to also represent our diverse local community in the State Parliament of Victoria.

Whilst I was unable to attend the Churchill ceremony this year I pass on my sincere congratulations to Allan Larkin for deservedly being awarded Churchill's

Citizen of the Year. Allan has been a CFA member for 38 years, eight of them with the Churchill Brigade. He has also been an active volunteer in a number of roles including with the Churchill & District News, St Vincent de Paul Society and the Parish Council for Lumen Christi Parish. Allan is the epitome of what it means to be Australian – well done Allan!!

The Churchill Junior Australia Day recipients were Jasmine Thompson from Churchill Primary School who was recognised for her commitment to leadership, education and school values, Arabella Baker from Churchill North Primary school was acknowledged for her role as Vice-Captain and for her compassion and respect for other students. Hazelwood North Primary School's Riley Alko received an award for doing his best at school and for his sporting pursuits, whilst Shallimar Halliwell from Lumen Christi Primary School was recognised for her outstanding contribution to the community and for her volunteer role with several community service groups and charities.

Jacob Dickinson was the recipient of the Young Citizen of the Year award for his outstanding achievements and contribution to the Churchill Baseball Club, his dedication to the sport and for his unselfish giving of his time and service to the club. Congratulations to Jacob and all our youth recipients.

We are very fortunate to have young people of this calibre in Churchill – their contribution and dedication



to the town of Churchill and its community is very much valued and bodes well for the future leadership potential of the town. Thank you to all members of the Churchill Lions and other organisers for this great Australia Day event.

East Gippsland fires

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all our brave volunteer firefighters, including members of the Churchill Fire Brigade, who, together with their peers, fought so hard to fight the fires recently experienced in East Gippsland and interstate. Words are simply inadequate to express the respect and admiration I have for the men and women of the CFA, for the support crews and for the everyday Australians who banded together at a time of extreme anguish and difficulty. It has been amazing to observe the compassion and generosity of local individuals, organisations and businesses who have played a part in the response and recovery efforts of those impacted by these devastating fires. Thank you to one and all!!



STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



A Happy New Year to all my readers and to all the people of Churchill and district.

A Story in a Stamp.

At a recent auction I bought a lot containing a number of Maltese mint and used sets which filled in a number of gaps in my collection. My wife, who is not usually interested in what I buy, cast an eye over the new arrivals and a stamp featuring a goat caught her eye. Our grand-daughter has two pet goats, hence the initial interest, but on closer inspection of the set, she grew quite excited. "Do you know who that is?" she asked. I said that I did. "Well," she said, "He's an ancestor of mine." "Which one?" I asked, since two men were featured. "Him. Sir David Bruce. He was a cousin of my Grandmother." She went off to the telephone and called all her brothers and sisters about my 'discovery'. I consulted the family history, and sure enough, there he was.

His parents came to Australia during the gold rush and made a fortune crushing ore. David Bruce was born in Melbourne in 1855 and went back to Scotland as a child with his parents. He studied medicine before joining the British army as a doctor. While on a posting to Malta, an outbreak of Malta Fever caused a great deal of sickness within the ranks of the garrison. He and a Maltese laboratory assistant, Thermistocles Zammit, went about trying to find the cause of the outbreak. While testing the staple foods eaten on the island, they discovered that the milk from the island's goats carried the microscopic bacteria which caused the



disease. They went on to develop a cure for the disease which is known today as brucellosis. The disease still exists but is more of a scourge to animals than to humans.

Sir David Bruce went onwards and upwards in the Army. In 1894 he was sent to Zululand in Southern Africa to study the causes of sleeping sickness which was decimating the British troops and their horses. He was able to find a parasite carried by the tse-tse fly, a local insect. His final report on the disease in 1903 proved the parasite named Trypanosoma brucei was the culprit. Several strains of the disease exist. At the same time he carried out studies in the spread of dysentery in army camps, a problem which is still to be solved. Altogether in his Army medical career he wrote over 90 medical papers. His wife Mary worked alongside him in his later medical research and they published thirty technical medical papers together. He rose to the rank of Major General in the RAMC and was knighted in 1918. He retired in 1919 and he and his wife died within a few days of each other in 1931 in London.

The stamp issue he is featured on celebrated the Brucellosis Conference on Malta in 1964 which was sponsored by the FAO.

Discussion Group

Are you interested in meeting new people, discussing everything under the sun and maybe eating cake?

If so we would love to see you at our social discussion group at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre. We are a friendly bunch who always start our sessions with a good cup of coffee (but some prefer tea and that's ok) and something good to eat.

We talk about many different issues brought to the group by our leader, Isabel but anyone can raise a topic that has caught their attention recently, or that is of specific interest to them.

We have covered all sorts of subjects from local to global, from historical to the present, from political to personal.

Often we use articles

combed from newspapers, magazines and the Internet to kickstart our discussions and sometimes documentaries and film too.

But we are in no way an intense, super intellectual group and we have lots of laughs along the way.

Afterwards we usually relax over lunch at a local eatery although this is entirely optional and not everyone comes.

If this appeals to you please give us a try. We meet 10 - 12 every Friday (except the last one in the month) at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre in Philip Parade. If you would like to talk to one of us first, please call the Neighbourhood Centre, and then Isabel or one of our other members will get back to you, Tel: 5120 3850 or email: info@churchill.org.au

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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

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Contributions

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Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
Or Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au

All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



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

MEMBER 2020

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Hazelwood Rotary Club

– Connecting with community

By Leo Billington
Hazelwood Rotary co-ordinated the ever popular 2019 Christmas Wrap at Mid Valley – through until Christmas Eve. Funds raised were distributed amongst various community organisations.

Gifts of every conceivable shape and size were wrapped in exchange for a donation. The “wrap” has been going for over 16 years, raising thousands of dollars along the way.

Hazelwood Rotary member, Margaret Palmer was selected to drive children and adults around Mid Valley in their Christmas festive train.

Congratulations to Margaret for doing a marvellous job as well as highlighting the community link between Rotary and a wider community.

With the catastrophic fire destruction across East Gippsland, Rotary is joining with other agencies as part of a significant recovery effort to rebuild communities over an extended period.

Throughout Gippsland, all Rotary clubs belong to Rotary District 9820 – and

District has committed \$10,000 to the new East Gippsland Rotary Fire Aid Committee.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a leadership program coordinated by Rotary Clubs world-wide.

Each year, thousands of young people participate in this program. Young people, ages 13–30, are sponsored by Rotary Clubs to attend the event run by the club’s district committee.

The RYLA program means that participants can qualify for a Certificate IV in Business from Swinburne University.

Daniel Brick from Boolarra was recently sponsored by Hazelwood Rotary to attend the 2019 RYLA program held at Rawson Village over six days from December 9.

According to Daniel, the occasion provided several new experiences. He mixed with a “great group of young people who care about making a difference in their respective communities.

In so doing, we all became fast friends.

Secondly, RYLA covered



a wide range of sessions including public speaking, conflict management, team leadership, personal values and motivations.

Also, I now qualify for a Certificate IV in Business from Swinburne University.

I encourage others to participate in the RYLA program.”

For those interested to join Hazelwood Rotary, please don’t hesitate to contact Ray Beebe on 0408 178 261.

Local Rainfall

Churchill rainfall for December 2019

The rainfall for Churchill for December began very well with 18.5 mm in the first week but then we only had another 6.5 mm for the following 26 days, making the Churchill rainfall total for December a very poor 25mm. Since 1993 there have been three recordings in December in that range – 1994, 25 mm, 1997, 20 mm and 2019, 25 mm.

The 2019 Churchill rainfall total was 646 mm, 104 mm better than in 2018.

Churchill has had three days with temperatures of 40° C or more making it one of the hottest Decembers on record; however Marble

Bar in Western Australia has recorded only four days in December that were under 40° C.

Churchill rainfall for January 2020

Churchill enjoyed an excellent month of steady, regular rain, totalling 90.5 mm; this was the second highest reading for January in Churchill since 1992. The January highest since then was in 2000 when 94.5 mm was recorded.

Hopefully 2020 will see an above average rainfall for all areas of Australia.

Happy New Year to all Churchill and district residents.

Rain at Hazelwood South.

Rain in December was

disappointing. In the first two weeks we had 30mm, and then nothing to the end of the year, giving a disappointing 64% of the average for December, and for the year 863mm, right on average with 100.4%. The grass has started browning at the end of December. As predicted by climate scientists, we now have a band of intense lows passing south of the continent. These lows have moved too far south during December, to continue to bring significant rain from the south. By the start of January, no cyclones have formed to the North West of the continent, to bring much needed rain from the North.

The rain in January,

started with cyclone Blake, sending moist air from the north west, with it came bushfire smoke, to badly contaminate water tanks, followed by clean rain from the south. Later more rain from the north, contaminating the tanks with dust from a dust storm. The January total was 89mm and 168% of the average for January. At the end of January, the grass was green and growing, needing weeding and mowing. The water tanks are again disconnected, expecting smoke contaminated rain from the monsoon, north of Queensland. If left long enough, the ash and dust settles to the bottom of the tanks, clearing the water.

ADVERTISING RATES

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			\$	\$	\$	\$
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2.	125mm x 85mm	2 x 12.5 cm	58.75	94.00	53.00	84.60
3.	95mm x 129mm	3 x 9.5 cm	67.00	107.00	60.30	96.50
4.	60mm x 262mm	6 x 6 cm	84.60	136.00	76.15	121.80
5.	140mm x 129mm	3 x 14 cm	98.70	158.00	88.85	142.10
6.	190mm x 129mm	3 x 19 cm	133.95	215.00	120.55	192.85
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Friends of Morwell National Park



Looking Ahead - Shop Local

CDCA will be facilitating a meeting in the near future between local retailers and community groups to review the commencement of the Shop Local campaign and plan further activities at the Churchill Shopping Centre for 2020.

Despite the dreadful weather, the Launch last October generated interest and excitement and some traders reported an increase in business on the day. The Christmas market generated lots of positive feedback and suggestions for a similar market to be held in the lead up to Christmas this year (but perhaps earlier in December).

Both retailers and shoppers expressed some delight in seeing market stalls around West Place and Hazelwood Village, reporting that the Shopping Centre seemed a great place to host a market and, with a little more time and planning, could be a winner for our district. CDCA would like to thank Boolarra and

Churchill CFA for supporting the market, along with our local retailers and partner community organisations, the Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News.

The Churchill - Shop Local programme, of which CDCA is a partner organisation, aims to encourage Churchill and district residents to support our local businesses, keeping services local, providing employment opportunities and continuing the community support local businesses provide.

You can show your support by 'Liking' the Churchill Shop Local Facebook page and keeping up-to-date with the Lucky Shopper prize draws and other planned activities.

Don't forget - to win one of the monthly \$50 vouchers on offer from the Lucky Shopper prize draw, you must shop at a participating business in Churchill - ask in-store for entry details.

Already there have been winners who shopped at Cafe42, AAAccounting

and Ritchies IGA, who've variously won vouchers to use at Churchill Pharmacy, Churchill Newsagent and Smart Saver.

The Lucky Shopper Prize Draw will continue throughout 2020. Also during the year ahead, CDCA will be working on some other projects, not least of which is our Recycling/Waste Reduction initiative in partnership with the Churchill Hub and Churchill & District News. This month we are introducing Recycle your bread tags at the Hub (which will be sent away to be turned into new goods such as bowls and door knobs).

Thanks to Latrobe City we have secured some funds for the construction of a seat to be placed along the pathway at the Eel Hole Creek ponds between McDonald Way and Northways Road. We'll keep you informed once construction is underway.

New ideas and project suggestions to improve our town and district are always welcome and our meetings provide a forum for residents to discuss local issues of concern. We frequently have guest speakers attend to provide information on current matters concerning Churchill and/or Latrobe City.

All local residents of Churchill and district are welcome to attend CDCA meetings. These meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the second month, so our first meeting for 2020 was held on Tuesday February 11. Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 14 in the Board Room at the Gippsland Enterprise Centre in McDonald Way.

You can find more information about CDCA on our website: www.cdca.org.au We're also on Facebook - search for Churchill District Community Association - leave a message if you wish to contact CDCA or you can write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill.

December Activity Report

At this month's activity we had Beryl, Mike, Cathy, Graeme, Matt, Tamara, Rose, Hayley, Jay, Joelle and Darren. We had Maria and Miguel come for their first activity. They had located us via Parks Connect. We had apologies from Ken, Grant and Wayne.

We met in the carpark and Matt updated us upon the news from the last month. He has recently met our new ranger Gabrielle Browne, and will show her around some of the more remote parts of the Park soon. The grass in the car park area has been cut and hopefully Parks will be able to slash the tracks and boundaries soon, since some tracks are lost in the long grass.

The work on the Gippsland Biolink continues with meetings between the major stakeholders occurring. The Biolink aims to provide a wildlife and wilderness corridor between the Alps and the Strzelecki Ranges. The Biolink runs across a range of both private and public lands. The Biolink aims to help reverse the impacts of landscape degradation, habitat loss and fragmentation by restoring and relinking strategic parcels of land. From pioneering large-scale restoration offsets for habitat gain, to working on 2,000ha with over 500 landholders and 25 schools.

The current efforts in relation to the project are mapping the corridor which will link to Morwell National Park at its western boundary.

The focus of the day's activity was to be seed collection for future activities. Jay spoke to the group about seed collection techniques including the need to collect from a variety of trees and she highlighted the range of trees that could have seed at this time of the year.

The group divided up for the day's activities. Matt, Tamara, Joelle, Maria and Miguel drove to the base of Blue Gum Hill to look over the direct seeding sites from our August activity. They walked up Blue Gum Hill to find that in some sites, some of the seeds have shot and grown into small seedlings. The grass at some test sites is very thick so it was hard to determine the seedling strike rates at these sites.

The rest of the groups worked on seed collection with Mike, Cathy and Darren walking down Billys Creek Track to find very few trees with viable seed. The group collected some seed and also cleared sticks from the track. A patch of very large mushrooms was found. Jay, Rose, Hayley and Beryl searched for seeds around the car park and council reserve opposite the car park. They later looked along Billys Creek for other seed species. There were not many seeds

to collect with our wet spring resulting in the seeds not developing yet.

After the morning activities, most of the group travelled over to Kerry Road for our year ending BBQ. We tested the BBQ to find that it was not working. Shane had tested it and reported that it was working. Sadly it did not work when we needed it. Another group also came wanting to use the BBQ. They needed to relocate their gathering to a Morwell park with a working BBQ. Matt needed again to bring his BBQ to cook our lunch.

Mike and Cathy had done a great job in bringing everything we needed (plus a little more) and Beryl did a great job of setting up extra tables and chairs.

These were useful because recently we lost one of the park benches in the picnic area when a branch fell on it and the safety fence. The safety fence was repaired and broken table removed. For the BBQ, Ken, Faye, Wayne, Joan, Harry and Chris joined most of the group from the morning activity.

Over a range of nibbles the group caught up on any missed news from the year. Mike cooked up a selection of sausages, hamburgers, chicken and vege-burgers which people ate with a choice of salads. Later a large selection of desserts was enjoyed. There were too many yummy choices.

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Bingo Tuesday eyes down at 8.00 pm



Peters ponderings

I was communicating with a person over this summer break and I said something about another person's left socialist beliefs. Instantly came the statement that "you're a Minister and that you're pretty 'judgy' and doesn't the Bible say not to judge people?" I have heard this used a lot over the years, usually by people who want to stop me having an opinion. So let's clear up a misunderstanding, the Bible does say 'Do not Judge', and it's found in the New Testament of the Bible in the book of Mathew chapter 7:1. But as with all things context is KING.

The context is that we should not judge a person to condemn that person, a theme that is repeated throughout the Bible because it is not our place to do that, but God's alone. The words found in Mathew say more than "do not judge" it goes on to say "for by the same judgement we will be judged and the measure you use will be used against us".

So if we condemn someone personally for their actions then we will be condemned if we do the same.

In other words we should also as the saying goes "never judge a book by its cover". Why? Because the cover might look good but the person underneath is horrible, likewise the cover may be bad but the person is really great.

Does this mean that I as a Christian, cannot make judgements about a person at all? The answer is yes I can.

The context in which I can judge is found in the book of Matthew.

It says "If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you.



Rev. Peter Carter

If they listen to you, you have won them over."

You can't do this unless you make a judgement that what they have done is wrong. So yes, I can correct someone when I think their opinion, politics, behaviour or understanding is wrong, what I can't do is condemn them for it. So yes, a Christian can make judgements and they can have opinions about a range of things. I for instance really don't like the socialist left reporting from the mainline news papers and TV news shows. In Australia, at least for the moment, we have free speech and all Australians are entitled to communicate their opinions. That means that even Christians can, and should have a say, and be free to make and communicate informed judgments on our politicians and media. I hope everyone had the best Christmas and New Year, and please remember our fire fighters, and help the people who are badly affected by the bushfires.

Reverend Peter Carter, Minister of the Co-Operating Churches of Churchill, Boolarra, Yinnar.

The weather determined that Carols by Candlelight was held inside the Co-Operating Churches in Churchill on December 14, 2019.

The Lions Club cooked sausages in bread with onions and sauce, and provided drinks, all for a gold coin donation.

Singing of the carols was hearty accompanied by the Latrobe Community Concert Band and the Latrobe Brass Band. The Bible readings were placed to illustrate the carols sung.

Items were provided by Peter and David Duo, Heidi Hunter, Allan and Keiron Halliwell, which added to the night's entertainment. Reverend Peter Carter brought a message of hope and joy.

Raffle draws proved popular.

A collection was taken

Christmas services went well with the Carols and Lessons service at both churches, Churchill and Boolarra. Everyone enjoyed the hearty singing of all the favourite carols and listening to the Christmas story.

Crib Service on Christmas Eve saw a lively crowd of folks willing to join in and enjoy the Christmas story told differently with songs and active participation from everyone.

At the end, the children sang Happy Birthday to Jesus and after blowing out the candles on the beautifully decorated cupcakes made by Ruth C, they sat to eat one. Then Santa arrived on the fire truck and they happily exited the church to receive a lolly.

Carols by Candlelight



during the evening and the money, plus the takings from the sausage sizzle, were given to the churches for their welfare work, and FedUni for its student food bank, as well as initiatives at the Neighbourhood Centre.

The darkened area of the church and the glow sticks activated produced an ambient atmosphere.

Santa arrived on the fire truck and listened to the children's wishes while giving them a trinket for their

Christmas tree. Thank you to everyone who braved the weather and turned out to attend. You were the reason the program was arranged and the general consensus was that everyone enjoyed the occasion.

Co-Operating Churches Snippets



The final service for December was taken by George Telford and it was lovely to welcome him back after a long absence. His message is always one to challenge and inspire us.

During January we have

had only one service per Sunday, alternating between Churchill and Boolarra. It has been a good time to get to know each other further.

During January, long time member of the Boolarra congregation, Bill Armstrong

died. His funeral service and wake were held at the Boolarra church and Boolarra Hall respectively. The service and wake were a wonderful tribute to Bill's life and service. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Chaplain

"Accedrnig to rsearh at an Elingsh uinervtisy, it deosn't mtttaer in what oredr the lltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteers are in the rghit plcae. The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae we do not raed ervey lteter by itslef but the wrod as a wlohe."

Even typing that out was difficult as 'spell-check' wanted to correct so much. Whilst this sort of thing has been around for some time, I thought it interesting to be reminded how the brain works.

It has been argued that it is the brain that senses, perceives, thinks, reasons, etc.; with the other side of that asking how then can we change our minds about how we think (etc.) if the brain does all of that? Surely then the brain just makes it possible for us to do all of

those things... Researchers (2016) supposedly found that humans suppress the analytical areas of their brain in order to believe in God. Some others (around 2008) said that our brains are actually 'wired' for belief, seeing the quieting of the right parietal lobe as the spot where belief starts; in suppressing selfishness, leading to selflessness.

So...picture a brain in a jar in a classroom or laboratory. Do we only look at that brain for what it teaches us about itself, or do we also ask whose brain it was?

This sort of 'framing' of questions makes a lot of difference, because we move from just looking at it academically, to looking at it in a more personalised way. This has been referred to as the 'what if' style of approach.

Applying the 'what if' can be very useful in learning in



a history class for instance, if the focus is more on the experience of history in different ways by different people, especially with how decisions affect others. This focuses more on the personal affect that decisions have on us in today's society and teaches values, as well as showing us how we may affect others in the future too.

Often, we can be detached from the person and the effects we have by viewing things dispassionately, or only looking at the 'mechanics' of something. Worth thinking about!

Church Times

Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish

1st and 2nd Sundays

11.00am

Christ Church Boolarra

3rd and 4th Sundays

11.00am

Yinnar

5th Sundays

11.00am

Yinnar South



Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

Sunday Service: 9.00am

Williams Avenue, Churchill.

Tel: 5122 1480

Lumen Christi Catholic Church

Williams Avenue, Churchill

Tel: 5134 2849

Churchill Christian Fellowship

Sunday: 10.00am

Meeting in homes.

For more details please ring Linda - 0400 690 972

Fr Edwin Ogbuka/Fr James Fernandez

Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass: 9.00am

1st and 3rd Sundays:

Yinnar: Mass: 10.30am

2nd and 4th Sundays:

Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

Recycling of bread tags



Those little bread tags used to secure the ends of the plastic bags that bread comes in can be recycled, but because they're so small they often end up as land-fill. However, it's their size that makes them so easy to recycle! Because they're tiny, a recycling facility can skip the shredding process and go straight to melting and extruding the plastic. Also, unlike most other plastic waste, bread tags are usually clean. They don't take up much space at all to save them at home, are easy to transport and now you can deliver them to the Churchill Hub for recycling.

From here, they'll be sent off to South Australia. A company, Transmutation, is turning bread tags (high impact polystyrene, type 6 plastic) into a range of products, such as bowls, door knobs and coasters. Some readers may have heard of the Bread Tags for Wheelchairs project but this doesn't mean that donated bread tags are actually turned into wheelchairs. Bread tags are not turned into wheelchairs!

The recyclers make a donation for the tags and these donations fund the wheelchairs. In South Africa there is a well-established relationship between Bread

Tags for Wheelchairs and a plastics company called Zibo. They make seedling trays out of recycled bread tags. South Africans who cannot afford a wheelchair can apply to the organisation and get in the queue for a basic wheelchair. There is nowhere near the level of funding for disability services in South Africa as there is in Australia, so someone who cannot afford to buy their own wheelchair may not be able to get one at all.

Bread Tags for Wheelchairs has been running in South Africa since 2006. The plastics company, Zibo, buys them for a small amount per kilo and the proceeds are used to provide wheelchairs for the needy. At present about 500kg is collected per month in South Africa, funding two or three wheelchairs. People who were aware of this program had been collecting tags for this cause in Australia for many years, and either taking them to South Africa when they visited or posting them. In August 2018, an Aussie arm of Bread Tags for Wheelchairs was established in order to promote the program, increase collection, look into local recycling and streamline the transport of the tags.

There is a significant

community of South African ex-pats in Australia, so the Bread Tags for Wheelchairs program here was finding it quite easy to get tags back to South Africa with travellers taking a few kilos in their luggage. As Bread Tags for Wheelchairs is so well established over there, there are many collection points in most areas, so very easy for travellers to drop off tags.

As of February 2019, a recycling company in South Australia (Transmutation) is handling bread tags from S.A., Victoria and Tasmania and it is hoped that other recycling manufacturers can be found in Queensland/NSW and W.A. (In the interim, these tags will still accompany ex-pats travelling back to South Africa).

So now you can recycle your bread tags in Australia by dropping them off at Churchill Hub, whilst helping fund a program that provides wheelchairs for those in need in South Africa. Find out more at <http://www.breadtagsforwheelchairs.co.za/index.html> or visit Transmutation at <https://www.transmutation.com.au/> to learn more about the range of products being produced from recycled waste materials such as bread tags.



Looking Back...

200 DIGITAL ISSUES

Our Memories

Digitally printed edition No 1 of Churchill & District News began with twelve pages in 2002.

Front page news that day was a call for the local community to support the campaign to keep an engineering school in Gippsland. The call came after Monash Gippsland Pro-Vice Chancellor, Professor Brian Mackenzie who told a public forum held at Monash that the decision had been made to transfer students to Clayton and Caulfield in 2004.

Churchill News held a writing competition, which attracted 248 entries.

A successful Gala Day was held at the old shopping centre here in Churchill. "It was a great success with the number of people interested and asking questions and great input from the youth." Ken Hull, Quantum Support Services said.

It was a perfect spring day for the Associated Angling Club's annual Junior Fishing Competition on Saturday at Lake Hyland. There was an excellent turnout with 99 young anglers taking part.

Bushfires were news in the Jeeralangs in February 2003, edition no. 3. One resident spoke of how she felt while the Jeeralang bush fire was raging near her property that week. Her husband was away from home with the family car. She was alone. As the wind freshened she smelt smoke and could see the oncoming flames. She said she was terrified.

Stage 2 water restrictions were announced by Gippsland Water which covered Boolarra and Thorpdale for both private and public gardens: lawn areas could not be watered at any time and sprinklers only used on garden areas.

International Power and St Paul's Anglican Grammar School were two organisations striving to raise our awareness of the environment and the adverse affects we have on it. Clean Up Australia Day was in business.

This is the day when everyone can make a difference! According to Clean Up Australia, we are the second highest producers of waste per person in the world. We each produce almost 16kgs of rubbish for collection every week in our bins.

Front page headlines tell us in issue 10 that a new Bionics and Cognitive Science Centre was opened at Monash University by Federal Science Minister and Member for Gippsland Peter McGauran.

news from a rhythm and blues club, co-operating Churches Snippets, news from Yinnar and Boolarra Parish, combined Francis

and Latrobe orchestras, Hazelwood North activities, Walkeley Park Childrens Centre, and unveiling of the 'Lest We Forget' mural that took place at Boolarra Memorial Hall.

Wheels around town and seen in Churchill was an all black and chrome café racer style classic NorVin motor bike owned by Ken Phelps.

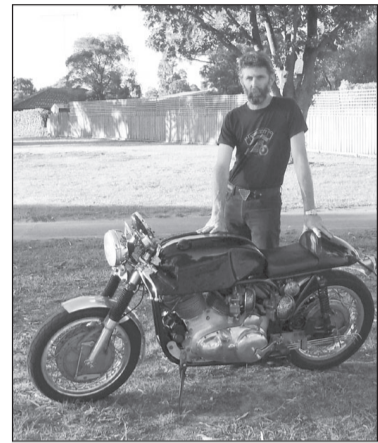
Glancing through the pages there have been photographic, art and writing competitions organised by Churchill News for local readers.

This has been a trip of memories through the first ten issues, from our first digital printed edition in 2002. Look out for more memories next month as we move toward the printing of our special edition numbered 200 in December this year.

Remember you can access and read all copies of Churchill & District News at any time, from issue number 1 to the current edition, and more information by accessing our website at cdnews.com.au

Other items included personal notice columns,

Other items included personal notice columns,



"Phiggles the flying scientist" was headline in issue 17 and those who attended Saturday Breakfast heard a very interesting talk and stories by Phil Higgins, otherwise known as "Phiggles", the flying science teacher.

QUANTUM Support Services had presented a grant of \$3250 to Churchill Primary School's Human powered vehicle team to build a human powered vehicle in 2004 to be entered in a competition that year.

Other items included personal notice columns,

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meets

1st and 3rd Wednesday of each Month

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Cooking with Noelene

Roasted vegetable moussaka (v)

Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. This is a vegetarian moussaka which is just as delicious as the meat version. You will need 1 aubergine (eggplant) cut into slices (about 5mm thick). Rinse the aubergine slices under cold water and pat dry with paper towel. Slice 2 medium sized courgettes, peel and slice 2 onions and slice into thin wedges, 2 red capsicums, cored, sliced and chopped roughly. Roughly chop 2 garlic cloves. Place all the chopped and sliced vegetables into a baking tray.

Drizzle 5 tbs of rice bran oil over and toss together. Now sprinkle 1 tbs of fresh thyme over the mix and season with cracked pepper. Roast in the well preheated oven for 30 minutes until golden and tender. In a large bowl beat together 2 eggs, add 300ml of Greek yoghurt and season with cracked black pepper. Set aside. Remove the roasted vegetables and lightly grease an ovenproof dish and layer 1/2 the vegetables over the dish. Now spoon over 1 can (400gm) of diced tomatoes and add the remaining vegetables over the top. Pour the egg and yoghurt mixture over and crumble over 60 gm of Greek feta. Sprinkle with nutmeg. Bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes or until golden.

This can be served hot, warm or cold. I don't add salt to this recipe as the feta is salty enough.



The heavier winter moussaka is cooked and flavoured with minced lamb in addition to the vegetables in the recipe above.

Jelly slice

Line the base and sides of a slice tin (25 x 16 cm), make sure you leave plenty of excess around the sides. Crush 200 gm of plain biscuits and crush them until they resemble fine bread crumbs. Melt 225 gm of butter and add

whisk. While whisking pour in the dissolved gelatine mixture and the juice of 2 lemons. Continue to whisk until mixture is smooth and combined. Remove the set biscuit base from the fridge and pour over the condensed milk mixture. Place the tray back until just set in the fridge (35 minutes). While the slice is setting, make your jelly (your choice of colour / flavour) as per packet



to the biscuit crumbs. Pour the mixture into the lined pan and press down with back of a metal spoon. Place in the fridge to chill and set. Begin to prepare the filling. Add 2 1/2 tsp of powdered gelatine to 3/4 cup of boiling water and stir until dissolved. Place 1 x 395 gm can of condensed milk in a separate bowl and

instructions adding an extra tsp of powdered gelatine. Allow jelly to cool to room temperature. Remove the slice from the fridge and carefully pour the jelly over the slice and place back in the fridge to completely set, 6 - 8 hours. Remove the slice and use a warm knife blade to cut into squares.

Rotary Gippsland Fire Aid

Many Gippsland Rotary clubs have supported East Gippsland Rotary Fire Aid [EGRFA] and their work. Some examples are:

- Rotary Foundation has provided a US\$25,000 grant for high energy stock feed pellets;
- \$15,000 has been given by the Rotary Benevolent Society (Dick Smith) Fund;

- A large number of 20ft and 40ft containers at a discounted \$500 cost, delivered to site; ideal where all secure storage has been lost in the fires;

- Thousands of P2 facemasks have been provided to EGRFA via Donations In Kind (DIK);
- King Gee workwear donated to DIK has been



supplied to EGRFA, and - Bairnsdale Rotary's existing hay project for drought affected farmers is receiving 364 large bales of hay donated by Melbourne Water.

GMACI Sports Week



Pictured is Mayor Dan Clancey presenting trophies at the GAMCI sports week.

Over two weekends, the Gippsland Australian Muslim Community held the "GAMCI Sports Week 2019". The GAMCI Sports week 2019 was the continuation of an annual sports festival.

This year the tournament comprised of a tournament of badminton and table tennis, and a T20 cricket game.

The festival is unique in that all the players live and work in Gippsland.

On November 24, there were 16 players in the badminton competition, with the doubles winners being Dr Abdullah al Mamun and Dr Aynul Kabir. For the table tennis there were 18 players and the winners were Dr Kamrul Islam and Dr Aynul Kabir.

These competitions were held at the Churchill Leisure Centre.

On December 1, the cricket game comprised two

teams from a combination of Sri Lanka/Bangladesh and Pakistan/India. This was played at the Traralgon West Cricket Complex. The winning team was Pakistan/India. Man of the match was Mubtassim Murshed (Sri Lanka/Bangladesh), while the best batsman was Obaid Mustafa (Pakistan/India), and the best bowler was Ibrahim Faisal (Pakistan/India).

The cricket game was part of a festival of activities where there was a food truck, music and activities for children and families. GAMCI has initiated and fostered this Sports festival as a way of bringing communities together through sport, and creating social cohesion amongst all.

GAMCI would like to thank the Gippsland community for supporting these events, and making this sports festival part of

the Gippsland Multicultural Calendar every year.

GAMCI was fortunate to have gained sponsorship and support from many organisations. These include: Fair Price Furnitures (Platinum sponsor of the event); O'Halloran Davis Barristers and Solicitors; Victorian Multicultural Commission; Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY); Traralgon West Cricket Club; the Latrobe Valley & District Cricket League; Latrobe City Council; Gippsport; Make Your Move; Latrobe Street games; Traralgon and District Cricket Association; Traralgon District Umpires Cricket Association.

A good crowd attended the games and also in attendance were major sponsors, Mayor Dan Clancey, from the Latrobe City Council and local businesses.

A tribute to Roy Orbison

A Tribute to Roy Orbison with Strings - Golden Anniversary of 'Only the Lonely'

2020 marks the Golden Anniversary of legendary Roy Orbison and Joe Melson's classic hit, 'Only the Lonely' and to celebrate, Damien Leith will perform a strictly limited run of dates of his stage show, 'Roy - A Tribute to Roy Orbison with Strings'.

Leith has a very close affiliation and connection with the Big O, having recorded and worked with the late Barbara Orbison and continues to write with legends who worked with Roy Orbison, regularly in Nashville.

"Very few voices excite me, but I fell in love with Damien's voice when I heard it.

His unique voice has inspired me to write again, much in the same way Roy Orbison's voice inspired me to write.

I believe Damien is going to be a big star." Joe Melson (co-writer of 'Crying', 'Only the Lonely', 'Blue Bayou', 'Running Scared')

Performing in an intimate setting, accompanied by a sublime String Quartet, audiences will hear all their favourites beautifully arranged by celebrated composer Jessica Graham. Songs like 'Pretty Woman', 'Only the Lonely' and 'You Got It' will have you tapping your feet while haunting ballads like 'In Dreams', 'Leah', 'Running Scared' and of course 'Crying' will have you yelling out for more.

"Damien, I applaud you for doing a 'Roy' Album! Thank You!

We wish you every bit of luck and success! You got it!" Barbara Orbison

Damien Leith's album

'Roy - A Tribute to Roy Orbison' stayed in the Aria top 20 charts for 22 weeks, was nominated for an Aria award and has sold multi-platinum.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear one of Australia's finest voices, pay tribute to one of the world's most celebrated voices, Roy Orbison. Mercy!

When: Saturday May 16, 2020, 7.30pm

Where: Latrobe Performing Arts Centre

Admit \$60.00

Bookings Online:

www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/ LPawhatson or Phone: 5176

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Hazelwood Rotary Club



Contact:

Ray Beebe, Secretary
0408 178 201

MEETINGS:

Mondays 6.30pm - 8.00pm

MORWELL BOWLING CLUB

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"Hazelwood Rotary assists development of leadership skills in our younger community leaders through RYLA program."



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Churchill Fire Brigade



Churchill Brigade helps out in East Gippsland fire fight

Churchill Fire Brigade members have been called out to assist a number of communities in East Gippsland over the last two months during the ongoing fire activity. Members have participated in Strike Teams that have been sent to help when fire has impacted communities, having worked mostly in the Buchan, Orbost, Nowa Nowa, Swifts Creek and Sarsfield areas.

Crews have worked to a pre-prepared plan to help prevent fires impacting on community infrastructure. One example of this was to protect the Stony Creek Trestle Bridge with a foam coating to assist in preventing the bridge from burning down if the fire had impacted that area. Luckily, the situation

and winds pushing the fire changed direction, and we are pleased to report the Trestle Bridge is still standing.

The brigade also worked hard around the Nowa Nowa area, doing work to protect the community and their properties, and the local saw mill was also given attention as it provided significant economic benefit to the surrounding community.

In more recent times, the brigade has been crewing the specialist Compressed Air Foam tanker housed at Churchill, which has been assisting for over a week at the Sarsfield peat fire which is now very close to being extinguished.

This work has been assisted by a Strike Team of five additional tankers, and for a few days the Tasmanian Fire Service supplied a specialist pumper also equipped with

Compressed Air Foam.

The brigade has been honoured to receive some marvellous support from the community of Gippsland and beyond through the donations of supplies, care packs and snack packs, and wishes to extend our gratitude for the kind support offered to our firefighters.

For those wishing to donate to assist those who have been impacted by this large series of fires in Gippsland, the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF) has been helping Gippslanders since 1978. GERF is a registered charity, and provides immediate short-term funds to Gippslanders affected by natural disaster events.

It is completely funded by donations from businesses, community groups and individuals.

Run by volunteers, all donations are returned to the community. Contact the Fund by email at info@gerf.org.au or PO Box 508, Traralgon Victoria, 3844.

To donate to GERF, donations can be made via post (made out to Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund, PO Box 508, Traralgon Vic 3844), in person at Alan Wilson Insurance Brokers 40 Argyle Street Traralgon or through direct donation at any NAB branch.

Churchill / Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Donation Scammers

The start of 2020 has not been an easy one for Australia, particularly those impacted by the bushfires.

There is a **warning to all Australians** to be on the lookout for fundraising scams and do their research when donating so that money can get to those who are in need, rather than those who would take advantage.

Following every disaster it is natural to want to help and donate as quickly as possible. However, scammers also follow disasters in order to take advantage of the generosity of Australians.

These scammers will most often pretend to be associated with well-known charities, large businesses or government departments to make them look legitimate.

Calls and text messages impersonating businesses or government organisations seeking 'donations' that they will be sending on to well-known charities.

Ensure your money gets to those who need it by following this advice:

- Do not donate via fundraising pages on platforms that do not verify the legitimacy of the fundraiser, or that do not guarantee your money will be returned if the page is determined to be fraudulent.
- Be careful about crowdfunding requests as these may be fake and also come from scammers. Check the terms and conditions of funding platforms and ensure you are dealing with official organisations. If you are unsure, make your donation to an established charity instead.
- The best way to avoid scams and make sure your dollars get where they are needed is to do your research and donate directly to registered charities.
- You can look up registered charities on the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commissions website

FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000

FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE, RING 000



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

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97 Buckley Street, Morwell

Latrobe Chorale

Latrobe Chorale is planning a fun program with Gilbert and Sullivan's music. If you love Gilbert and Sullivan and want to sing some of their famous choruses, you may be interested to join our choir to sing as a chorister or as a soloist in our next concert. The Latrobe Chorale began rehearsal for its July performances "Gilbert & Sullivan Spectacular" on

Tuesday February 4, at 7.30pm at the Presbyterian Church hall, Morwell. If you are interested in participating call Mary 0437 568 011.

RUSSELL NORTHE MLA

Member for Morwell

Proudly representing **our** local towns and communities including: Boolarra, Callignee, Churchill, Cowwarr, Glengarry, Hazelwood, Jeeralang, Koornalla, Morwell, Newborough, Toongabbie, Traralgon, Traralgon South, Tyers, Yallourn North and Yinnar.

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 e. russell.northe@parliament.vic.gov.au
 w. www.russellnorthe.com.au

Authorised by Russell Northe, 12-14 George Street, Morwell VIC 3840.
 Funded by Parliament's Electorate Office and Communication Budget.



Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists

"Biodiversity with a focus on invertebrates"

The President of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, Maxwell Campbell will be guest presenter at the meeting of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists' Club on Friday February 28, at the Uniting Church Hall, Old Sale Road Newborough from 7.30 pm.

Vertebrates, animals with backbones, comprise only a small fraction, 1% of all animal life. Whereas invertebrates, animals without backbones, comprise 99% of the Earth's biodiversity and their importance is grossly underestimated.

Max is very committed to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems,



and will discuss aspects of biodiversity as they pertain to small invertebrates.

His presentation will be supported by his extensive macro and micro videography of cryptozoic organisms.

These organisms are small invertebrates living on the ground and hidden under leaf litter, wood and stones.

You will be introduced to

many aspects of the cryptozoic world that you never knew existed.

The following day's excursion will be to Wirrida Environment Park, near Tyers.

Visitors are most welcome to both activities; there is no charge. For more information phone 0410 237 292

Photograph: A native Jewell Bug by Max Campbell

Latrobe Community Health Services

South Gippsland residents sport new smiles thanks to dentures, night guards and mouth guards made right here in Gippsland

Public dental patients from across the Bass Coast and South Gippsland regions are smiling brighter, knowing their dentures, night guards and mouth guards are designed and made in Gippsland.

Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS) and Bass Coast Health (BCH) finalised a service agreement in 2019, which means most dental prosthetics for BCH clients are now made at LCHS' Churchill laboratory. Previously, the only option for BCH public dental patients was to have a voucher to visit a private clinic if they required dental prosthetics such as dentures.

This new partnership between LCHS and BCH ensures public funds are reinvested into local, low-cost healthcare and Gippsland's health workforce of the future continues to grow.

"Our publicly-funded dental prosthetics laboratory is the only one of its kind in regional Victoria and provides much-needed services to the Gippsland community," LCHS Acting Dental Services Manager Anita Pither said.

"We train aspiring dental technicians in partnership with RMIT University at our Churchill lab, operate within an accredited, best practice environment and use the latest equipment and cutting-edge technology to produce high quality, affordable dental prosthetics," Ms Pither said.

"We are excited by the employment, economic and healthcare opportunities our partnership with BCH will bring, and look forward to working with many other public dental agencies across Gippsland."

LCHS' dental prosthetics laboratory opened in December 2017 with one senior dental prosthetics technician and two apprentices.

In just two years, the team has grown to 12 staff, including four apprentices who work on real cases under supervision. LCHS has hired two more qualified dental technicians following its signed agreement with BCH, taking the Churchill team to 14 people.

Since October 2019, LCHS clinicians visit the Wonthaggi Hospital every Tuesday to take initial impressions and provide people with their finished dentures, mouth or night guard. These onsite

appointments not only expand BCH's dental service delivery, but provide future opportunities for upskilling BCH clinicians.

"Our collaboration with LCHS aligns with BCH's vision to improve accessibility and quality of care to our community members," BCH Dental Team Leader KyShen Tang said.

"Many rural residents find it difficult and overwhelming to navigate through the various health services in the region.

This collaboration provides Bass Coast and South Gippsland residents with quality dental care, starting from their initial dental check-up to their final picture-perfect smiles," Mr Tang said.

"This partnership has delivered and will continue to deliver high-quality dental prosthetics, particularly to the people who might otherwise find it difficult to maintain social relationships and balanced nutrition. Providing excellent, local healthcare is a strong point of our vision at BCH."

BCH and LCHS are members of the Gippsland Oral Health Consortium, an alliance made up of the region's public dental agencies.

COME & EXPLORE THE FINAL FRONTIER

Irene O'Donnell extends an open invitation to join her when she escorts a small group journey to THE FINAL FRONTIER. This in a truly spectacular once in a lifetime memorable journey to Antarctica and South America departing Tuesday 26th January 2021. Although this may seem a long time in the future, we have opted to get in early to secure the best cabins, itinerary and value possible.

For further details please contact Irene 5134 3388 or irene.morwell@helloworld.com.au



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Sue Clutterbuck OAM

Sue Clutterbuck is a diminutive person in height but not in action, to which her citation and the following article give testimony.

Not only has Sue worked tirelessly at her job as audiologist, but she has worked overtime to improve the outcomes for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. It is for this work that she has been recognised in this Australia Day award of OAM Citation: For service to people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Audiology
 Founder and Audiologist, Gippsland Audiology, since 1983.

Co-Founder and Vice-President, EARtrak, since 2000 (commercial survey tool for measuring outcomes for hearing professionals) Audiology Australia Member, 1970 - present. Australian College of Audiology. Founding Audiologist Member, Australian College of Audiology, 1996 - present.

Fellow, 2002 – present.
 Independent Audiologists Australia (formerly the Australian Association of Audiologists in Private Practice) - Member, 1983 - 2002. Life Member, 2002 - present. President, 1991 -1993. Vice-President, 1990. Secretary, 1989 -1991 1993 - 2002.

Awards and recognition includes:

Certificate of Outstanding Service, Audiology Australia, 2016.

Inaugural Award for Outstanding Service, Independent Audiologists Australia, 2002.

Sue has worked as an audiologist for over fifty years. Commencing at the Commonwealth Acoustic Laboratories (now Hearing Australia) in late 1969, she has since worked at The Royal Children’s Hospital, in specialist diagnostic clinics, and in independent private practice.

She and her audiologist husband Neil, have lived in Boolarra since moving from Melbourne in 1976. They founded Gippsland Audiology Services in 1990, with the aim of providing the highest standards of independent private audiological care. Although she retired as a clinical audiologist just over twelve months ago, she is still heavily involved in collaborative research projects and on-going representation to government and professional organisations to improve treatment outcomes for the deaf and hearing impaired.

Sue discovered audiology by accident, but it has remained a passionate interest. This interest led to exploring how the outcomes for hearing services might be measured, to ensure that people with communication problems caused by loss of hearing received the quality of treatment that best met their needs. Eventually this work led to the development of EARtrak, a survey process

used by clinics in Australia and overseas to measure their treatment outcomes, and for each clinic to benchmark their performance against other clinics. As Sue often says “You don’t know if you could be doing better if you don’t measure your performance, and compare your results with other clinics. EARtrak is like an independent audit of the work done by a clinic. I often compare it with running a race – you might think you’re a great runner, but until you compete against others you don’t really know how good you are.” The EARtrak process enables each participating clinic to receive a performance rating (up to five stars). This has proved a useful tool to guide consumers to those clinics achieving the highest levels of successful outcomes.

A by-product of this work is a very large database of client outcomes, which has proven a valuable resource for research. Sue has individually and collaboratively published and presented research findings in professional journals, seminars, workshops and conferences in Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the USA.

Sue has worked for many years representing professional organisations and consumers in improving standards of hearing care, but says her work will not be finished until outcomes measurement becomes standard practice. “Our

research shows that the most important factor in achieving successful results is who provides the treatment. Yet few providers have their performance independently assessed. This means that consumers can find it difficult to make an informed decision when trying to choose where they will seek hearing care.”

Giving consumers the opportunity to report their experiences of the care they receive is a key element of outcomes measurement. Their collective experiences can be used to inform hearing care providers, manufacturers, researchers and third-party funding bodies. This

information can drive more effective treatment outcomes for individuals, more responsible government spending, more informed decisions in developing government policy, and more confidence that people seeking hearing care will have their needs met.

Not only is Sue passionate about hearing services, she is also a passionate and diligent

volunteer in her local community of Boolarra, where she is held in high regard.




Melina BATH

“I encourage you to contact me if i can be of assistance on any State Government matter.”

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- Melina Bath MP
- 5174 7066
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Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare



The plants we need for our Middle Creek restoration project and the next stage of tubestock planting at our Billys Creek re-veg block have

now germinated successfully and are growing in our greenhouse. More are being grown for Middle Creek by Mirboo North High School,

and the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority is also providing tubestock and working alongside us on this project. Most of the seed we've planted was collected locally by our group members.

Middle Creek

We are very glad to have project funding for Middle Creek and another nearby fire-affected property from the Commonwealth Government's Communities Environment Program.

This came to us through quite an unusual process, in that we'd been invited to lodge an expression of interest through Darren Chester MP's

office in late April / early May last year. At that stage, from memory, there were no available program guidelines except for a dollar amount that we could request.

When the program itself was ready to accept applications, groups that had expressed interest were invited to apply, and applications were channelled through our local member's office.

As you can imagine, we were very relieved that we had taken the opportunity to put our hands up for the mystery box, and our success was eventually notified to us just before Christmas.

Watch out for Middle Creek planting days from July to September.

If your organisation would like to be involved as volunteers, let us know and we can work with you to find the best opportunity.

Seed Collecting

Our project funding allows us to run some expert-led seed collecting sessions.

We've had to organise these at very short notice to coincide with the seed being ready to collect.

Our first session was a site visit to one of the sites that we plan to plant. Our visit was to learn what was already growing, and to work out which species will be suitable for the site.

Session two will be a foray to find seed and learn more about how we can ensure that we collect a genetically diverse seed sample in locations that match our planting sites.

In a few weeks, we'll run Session three which might involve using our pole pruner so we can harvest eucalypt seeds from the best spots on trees. (Our current reliance on dropped branches limits the total number of parent trees we can collect from.)

We'd also like to look more closely at local eucalypts and collect from a



few more of the less common species. Our leader for these sessions is Jenny Wolswinkel from 'Seeds of Gippsland'.

Jenny has published an excellent guide to identifying our local species, but it's currently out of print, unfortunately.

Billys Creek Project

We're now half way through the original time given to our other big re-veg project in Billys Creek.

We've managed a six-month extension which has taken the pressure off for this winter, as we'll now have winter 2021 to work on the last and most difficult section of the site.

We gave a presentation about our Billys Creek project to the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club at their January meeting.

The Field Nats have been a terrific help to us as we learn to identify local species. They also, on occasion have helped us to collect seeds during an excursion. (Since you asked...Naturalists clubs go out in the field and study birds, plants, animals, insects,

reptiles, fungi etc. Naturalists clubs are the ones where people don't wear clothes.)

Our group is trying direct seeding on sites where tubestock and treeguard transport and management will be difficult.

If we can get this method to work for us, it'll also be cheaper and much less labour intensive.

So far we're working on sites that need to be planted using hand tools.

If anyone would like to try using a machine to plant seed on flatter country, there are a few options available.

For example, it would be great to try a belt of flowering plants for pollinators ...but we've got a bit to do right now.

These photos show:

1. A visit to assess the vegetation and treatment needed on our next direct seeding site at Yinnar South
2. Doughty souls with hoes planting a [steep] trial site in August 2019
3. Blue Gum seedlings coming up on the trial site in December 2019



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 ford460v8@hotmail.com
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GARAGE SALE

Saturday March 21, 2020
9.00am - 2.00pm

The Co-operating Churches
 1 Williams Ave Churchill

Heaps of Garage Sale items

Furniture* *Books* *Toys

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Email: tony@aaaccounting.com.au & office@aaaccounting.com.au

Soroptimists International



SOROPTIMIST

Best for Women



Stephanie McKelvie centre; Soroptimists Wendy Ritchie on(L) and Samantha Brick on (R)

Local trainee doctor to speak on her Vanuatu medical research project

In 2019 Soroptimists International of Gippsland (SI Gippsland) supported young trainee doctor, Stephanie McKelvie, with her Master's in Public Health research project, which entailed looking at the effects of intimate partner domestic violence during pregnancy on pregnant women in Vanuatu. Stephanie, a Gippsland woman who hails from Trafalgar, spent two months last autumn setting up and coordinating her project in Vanuatu and then writing up her results for her Master's thesis which she presented to Monash University in October. Her research aimed

to determine the prevalence, patterns, risk factors and some health outcomes of intimate partner violence during pregnancy in Vanuatu.

Stephanie, now in her final year of medical training, is returning to Traralgon to speak to the Soroptimist group about her findings at their first meeting for 2020. Her talk is entitled 'Violence in Vanuatu - exploring intimate partner violence during pregnancy'. SI Gippsland has decided to make this a public meeting, inviting those interested in the topic of maternal health and wellbeing of pregnant women to attend. It is also open to anyone who wishes to find out more about the work of the Soroptimist group, which has been actively working in

Gippsland for nine years.

Soroptimists work at both a local level and at an international level, supporting the wellbeing of women and girls all around the world. It was felt that Steph's research project was a very worthwhile, groundbreaking initiative to look at the maternal health of women in a neighbouring Pacific country. The group has been keen to find out the results of the survey and hear about Steph's experiences in Vanuatu, and to see if there will be any ongoing changes in the healthcare of women.

This event is being held at Traralgon Neighbourhood Learning House, 11-13 Breed St Traralgon in the Kath Teychenne Centre, on Tuesday February 18, 2020, at 7pm, with the expected duration being one hour, after which will follow a normal Soroptimist business meeting.

There is no charge but anyone interested in attending is asked to text or phone President Angelika Lieshout to indicate attendance on 0402 528 429 or Judy van Beek on 0407 533 643. If further information is required, people may phone Angelika or Judy for details. The meeting room will be open from 6.45pm, parking available.

SI Gippsland has decided to trial opening up their guest speaker meetings to the public throughout 2020. These occasions will occur bi monthly as from February 18, on the third Tuesday of the month. Information about Soroptimists is available through their Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/SIGippsland/> and their website, <https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/>

Book Review

"The Dream Daughter" by Dianne Chamberlain

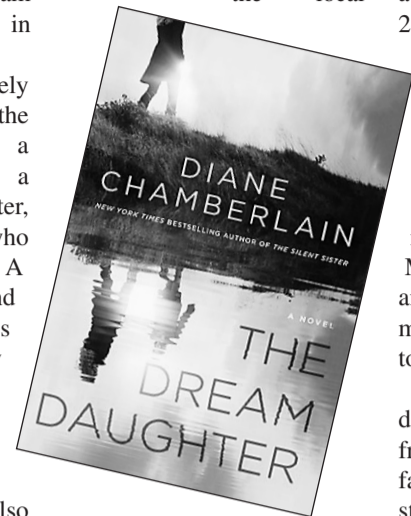
Dianne Chamberlain lives in North Carolina and is a prolific writer of novels, often combining romance, intrigue and suspense. "The Dream Daughter" was published in 2018.

The story is set largely in the 1970's and the main character is Carly, a physiotherapist, who as a student cares for Hunter, a reluctant patient who has broken his ankle. A friendship develops and Hunter eventually marries Carly's sister Patti. Carly has since married Joe who is fighting in Vietnam and just as she finds she is pregnant she is informed Joe has been killed. She also discovers that her baby is unlikely to survive birth.

The story then takes a twist when Hunter tells Carly that he is a time-traveller who was really born in 1985, but has travelled back in time to the present. His mother is an astrophysicist who has discovered how to travel back and forth in time, with a person being able to take up to four trips - unfortunately everyone who has taken a fifth trip has disappeared.

Carly's initial reaction is disbelief, thinking Hunter has gone mad, but he convinces her he is telling the truth, and that if she is willing to travel

to 2001 her baby would be able to have life-saving fetal surgery. Hunter and Carly decide not to tell Patti, and Carly eventually works up the courage to jump off the local



and goes to the hospital to collect her baby, only to find that she has been fostered out and would now be twelve years old. Carly then decides she must find her daughter and Myra becomes very angry and frustrated with her for missing all the opportunities to return to 1970.

Carly tracks down her daughter and establishes a friendship with her and her family, even contemplating staying in 2013, but an unexpected turn of events convinces her that Joanna is well cared for and she must return home. This book received a very mixed reaction from the members of our group, some really enjoying it and others not at all. Everyone agreed that the book was easy to read but it was more fantasy than science fiction. It did demonstrate how far medicine has come, how much technology has improved, how social mores have altered and of course how fashion has changed and the story came together very neatly at the end.

Morwell to host 2020 Australian bocce championships

The Morwell community has been given a major boost, with Bocce Australia receiving funding from the Victorian Government's Significant Sporting Events Program to host 2020 Australian Bocce Championships.

Member for Eastern Victoria Region, Harriet Shing recently announced the event will be held from June 4 to 8, 2020, at the Italian Australian Sporting Club in Morwell.

The 50th Australian men's and women's bocce championships will involve over 140 players and

30 coaches, (60% from interstate) and is expected to attract 700 spectators over the five days of competition.

This will be the 50th anniversary of the Championships and the first time the event has been held in the Latrobe Valley. The Championships will be staged by Bocce Australia in partnership with Bocce Victoria as co-host, along with the Morwell Bocce Club.

The championships were last held in Victoria in 2015.

The \$17.7 million Significant Sporting Events Program supports

return in just a few days but once she has gone he realises he has her arriving in New York on September 11, 2001. However, due probably to the atmospheric disturbances at that time Carly arrives in 2013. She is unaware of this and goes to the hospital to collect her baby, only to find that she has been fostered out and would now be twelve years old. Carly then decides she must find her daughter and Myra becomes very angry and frustrated with her for missing all the opportunities to return to 1970.

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organisations to deliver sporting events that are national or international in focus, or have regional significance and are recognised by a relevant sporting body.

Since 2010, the program has supported more than 700 sporting events in Victoria, of which more than half have been held in regional Victoria.

They bring competitors, officials and supporters to our communities, stimulate the local economy and inspire more people to stay active and healthy through sport.

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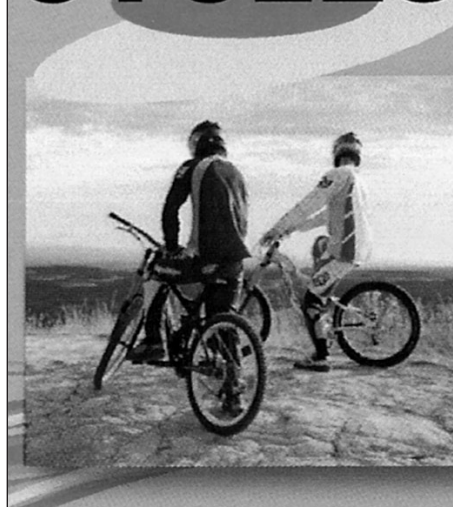
Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

supports Churchill & District News
We love our community newspaper!

CDCA meets at 7.00 pm on the second Tuesday of every second month, usually in the Board Room at the Gippsland Enterprise Centre in McDonald Way, Churchill.
All local residents welcome.

Forthcoming meeting dates are: April 14, June 9 and August 11.

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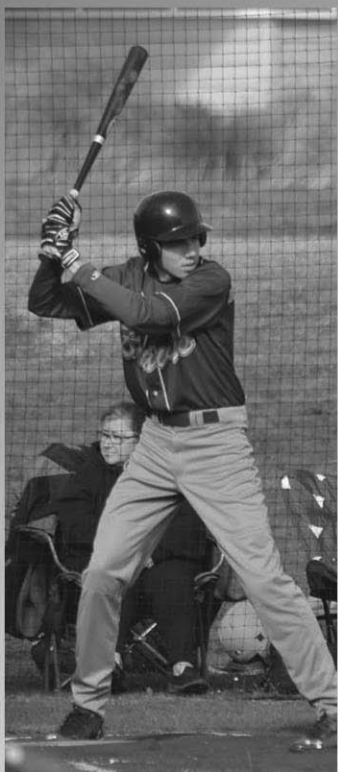


OPEN DAY

Sunday, March 22
11.00 am start
Andrews Park West



COME AND TRY
BASEBALL



Assistance Dogs

Information for different organisations and some of the roles a working dog has.

We are known as a team, I'm the handler and my dog is my aid just like a wheelchair is an aid to someone who can't get around.

There are different categories of dogs:

An Assistance Dog: is an aid for a single person, this dog is trained specifically to the needs of the handler, they are protected by Law to go anywhere the handler goes.

A Therapy Dog: is trained and used as help for many people, they can be assigned to help in nursing homes, schools and hospitals. Some psychiatrists have therapy dogs to help relax their patients during sessions, as do some dentists.

A Companion Dog: is similar to a pet, they give comfort to a person or family, they have NO legal rights out in public areas.

Different Organizations

Mind Dogs Australia (www.minddog.org.au),

Assistance Dogs Australia, Guide Dogs Australia, Lions Hearing Dogs, Kids for Dogs, A.W.A.R.E., Epilepsy Alert Dog (www.cstda.com.au), Diabetic Alert Dog, Mobility Assistance Dogs, Autism Support Dogs, Allergy Detection Dogs, Some Legal Rules.

By the Disability Discrimination Act:

When entering a premises staff can only ask two questions -

1) Is the dog an accredited Assistance Dog.

2) May I see his ID accreditation card.

Sadly there are unscrupulous people out there using fake assistance dogs, causing difficulties for true assistance dogs and their handlers. These people think it's ok to buy a fake harness off the internet, put it on their dog and claim it is an assistance dog. If you run a business of any type you are in your rights to ask to see the ID and Accreditation card. If they can't produce one you can refuse entry.

It is illegal to refuse entry to an accredited assistance dog, the assistance dog is an aid to a person with a disability, no different from a person who is in a wheelchair, or someone who is oxygen dependent.

You wouldn't say to them 'sorry you can't bring your wheelchair or oxygen tank into our premises.'

The only two areas my dog can't go are in a commercial kitchen and an operating theatre.

He's allowed in national parks and zoos, but there are some areas of the zoo he can't enter because of quarantine requirements.

The zoo is very helpful if I wish to enter, and a staff member will stay with my dog while I enter the area.

Service dog eligibility

To be eligible for a service dog, an individual must:

* Be at least 12 years of age unless the assistance dog is needed for a child with autism.

* Have a diagnosed physical disability, anxiety disorder such as PTSD, debilitating chronic illness, or neurological disorder affecting at least one limb.

* Reside in a stable home environment (mind dogs do cater for homeless).

* Be physically and mentally capable of participating in the process of training, up to one hour per day (different for children on the Autism spectrum).

* Be able to independently command and handle a service dog.

* Be able to meet the physical, emotional, and financial needs of a service dog.

* Have no other dog in the home (other animals as pets are permitted. Mind dogs again can have exceptions to this rule).

* Documents required to obtain or train assistance dogs

When the organisation receives a request to consider either finding a potential assistance dog or training the family pet for a specific service, they begin the process by telling the clients that to certify any dog for service you must first produce a letter from a doctor or specialist, somewhat like a prescription for medicine.

In other words, a qualified doctor or specialist who has treated a patient with a disability in the past six months in the field of the disability, stating that the patient has a specific disability and would benefit from an assistance dog.

The doctors/specialist letter must state exactly what specific tasks the dog is required to master to provide the needed assistance.

This letter from a doctor/specialist stating that someone has a disability and requires the specific services of an assistance dog, is similar to someone who applies to Centrelink for disability benefits, and the NDIS requires this same letter when you apply for funding towards your assistance dog.

This signed and dated letter (prescription) is presented along with the downloaded

application form from the organisation you would be using and submitted to the organisation for review. The organisation may possibly ask for follow-up information and determines the urgency of the service need, etc. and begins the process of locating a suitable dog for training. If you don't already have a suitable dog, they

set up a meeting with the recipient and the dog to determine compatibility.

Not every dog is suitable for every recipient. If the recipient requires a mobility dog for stability, retrieval, etc. then most likely they would lean toward a match with a larger dog. If the recipient has peanut allergies and needs a dog to sweep a room for traces of allergens then they might match that recipient with a smaller dog. Just as size of dog is important, a dog's natural, inherent traits are taken into consideration when matching a dog to an individual.

Most organisations are not-for-profit registered charities whose mission is to facilitate the use of all types of assistance and therapy dogs for the education, rehabilitation, healing, and aid of distressed, ill or disabled individuals. The aim is to help enable the person to lead a fuller life with a greater degree of independence and well-being.

Sadly commonplace with assistance dogs we hear when in public (from the dogs perspective)....

I know I shouldn't but....

More often than not, while out in my harness, I will get people giving me a pat or try and do a sneaky pat while walking past us. If mum can see what you're doing, we will inform you that I'm working and not to distract me. Then comes the comments, 'I know I shouldn't but he's cute', or 'but I love dogs, a pat won't hurt'.

Well, if you knew not to give me a pat or distract me, then please don't! My job is very important, and that sneaky pat just because you love dogs, could distract me and I could lose focus on what I'm meant to be doing.

Remember my job can be a life or death situation should



I be distracted.

So, if you see an Assistance Dog out in public, please ignore me and talk to my handler first!

Also don't be rude and ask what is wrong with my handler, medical conditions are private!

If we have time, there may be a chance mum will take my harness off so I can have a pat, but if you pat me without asking, my harness will stay on. Respect the uniform. Remember not all assistance dogs are guide dogs or labradors.

Some information on my dog and how he helps me:

My dog is with Mind Dogs Australia, I have had my dog since January 7, 2015, originally he was going to be a pet, but I fell quite ill and he soon started showing signs of his ability to become an assistance dog. He has saved my life on two occasions when I had severe infections, he knew I needed help and wouldn't settle until I got help. My dog's main role is helping me cope with my PTSD, he will distract me if my anxiety starts to build, he wakes me when I have night terrors and uses pressure therapy on me to help calm me and get me back to a peaceful sleep. He has given me the confidence to be able to go out on my own and interact with people again and feel safe.

When we are out my dog knows some of my triggers, as an example I'm wary of people behind me so my dog may stand behind me, leaning on the back of my leg in a queue. If someone gets in what my dog considers my

safety zone, this is called blocking.

If my dog can sense my anxiety is high and if it's not going to settle he will lead me out of the situation.

My dog knows what time I need to go to bed and about 15 minutes before he starts to give me signals like bringing out his teddy bear (called Dum-dum). He will sit in front of me and if I'm ignoring him he will give a woof.

Misconceptions about Assistance dogs...

Assistance dogs also work at home:

No they don't! Once home, my dog is a normal dog, he gets to play with our friends' dogs when they visit, run around the backyard, and sometimes when ripe, he picks a strawberry for himself from the garden. He gets plenty of down time! But in saying this my dog can still sense if I'm in need, and he will go into work mode of his own free will.

Assistance dogs don't like working:

Wrong. If they didn't enjoy it, the trainers wouldn't make the dog continue with it. My dog enjoys working, when he sees me get his harness; he knows that it's time for another adventure together!

All assistance dogs are labradors:

No, any breed can be used but common sense prevails, someone who has seizures would use a larger breed of dog for both their safety and the dogs safety,

They know when to cross at pedestrian lights:

No! That's still up to the handler to decide when it's

safe to cross. We still have to listen to the traffic around us and we make the decision to cross or not. During training, we practice 'intelligent disobedience', which is when the assistance dog will ignore our command to go if there's an obstacle or an oncoming vehicle. Pretty clever hey!

The dog is different in harness/vest:

Yes! When my dog is wearing his harness/vest he is in work mode, and he knows it. He does his best to ignore people and focuses on me, but once the harness is off, he is an excited dog, just like a puppy really!

The dog knows where to go: Not always

In a familiar area, I'm teaching my dog to find things in shops I regularly go to, but this takes time and consistency. As an example I've been telling him to find things like milk since I got him.

An assistance dog handler still needs to know some familiar routes and know where they are; this is where routines come into action, just in the off chance you get disoriented the assistance dog is there to help.

If you are ever approached by an assistance dog in uniform without a handler and the dog is trying to get your attention, please follow the dog as he is attempting to get help for his handler who may need your assistance.

References: Assistance dogs: Health direct, Mind Dogs Australia, Assistance Dogs Australia and CSTDA



Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Meetings held on
2nd Wednesday of each month.
Fire Station, McDonald Street, Morwell
Contact: Secretary 5163 1565
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

St Vinnies Soup Van EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

5.45 pm

Churchill Community HUB

6.15 pm

Glendonald Park

****Note these times are approximate**

'Churchill - Shop Local' Christmas Market



As part of the on-going 'Churchill - Shop Local' campaign, a Christmas Market was held on Saturday December 21, at Churchill shopping centre. In addition to the usual Saturday morning retail trading, a number of craft and gift stalls were set up at West Place and at both ends of the pathway along Hazelwood Village. The weather could have been a little warmer and a little less breezy, but it wasn't a bad day to be outdoors. Just as well, as Santa arrived on the Churchill CFA truck just after 11am and took a stroll in and around the shops and stalls. Santa had lollies to give away and was accompanied by volunteer helpers from our local CFA.

commented on how good it was to have some activity and excitement at the Churchill shopping centre, and stall holders were pleased that there was no fee to be paid in order to have a table set up to sell their wares. Churchill & District Community Association financed the cost of the free food items and made a donation to both Churchill and Boolarra CFA for their voluntary support of the 'Churchill - Shop Local' campaign.

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre did a great job of organising the market stalls and the team at Churchill & District News handled publicity and provided volunteer helpers on the day. The 'Churchill - Shop Local' campaign is a partnership between local businesses and community groups which aims to encourage residents to shop locally and assist in keeping local services and employment thriving.

Boolarra CFA volunteered to cook the free sausage sizzle outside Ritchies IGA, and many locals left a donation in the tin provided. Free popcorn was also distributed at West Place, thanks to the efforts of Rosemary Twyerould at Churchill Laundry.

Feedback on the day was positive - many locals



Plants in my garden

By Mike Beamish
Species: Grevillea paradoxa

Family: Proteaceae
Derivation:

Grevillea: Named after Charles Francis Greville (1749-1809), one of the founders of the Horticultural Society (now Royal HS), who introduced and grew rare plants at Paddington, London.

Paradoxa; From the Greek paradoxos, meaning 'unexpected, strange, marvellous', referring to the characteristic of the inflorescence that flowers open from the top first, rather than from the base as usual.

Name: None.

Distribution: Endemic to Western Australia, where it is widespread and common in the area roughly bounded by Mullewa in the north, south and east through Wubin to Mt Jackson to Kalgoorlie, then southwest to Hyden and northwest to Northam, usually on dry, gravelly rises in Mallee scrub.

Description: An erect, open, prickly shrub to 2m tall by 1.5m broad, with dull green to blue-grey foliage.

The leaves are up to 5cm long, pinnatisect (once-divided almost to the midrib, but not forming leaflets), divaricate (widely spreading and straggly), then divided two or three times again, with each lobe up to 25mm long and 1mm wide, terete (cylindrical), rigid and pungent (sharply pointed).

The flower spikes form

terminally during winter and spring and have a grey, woolly covering. Flowers open into a bottlebrush-like head, up to 10cm long and 5cm across, consisting of many cream, pink and red individuals. Unusually, the flowers open from the tip of the head first, down to the base.

Opinion: I'm probably lucky to still have this plant, as I have not treated it terribly well over its lifetime.

It is planted in the bed on the northern side of the house, in front of the dining room windows and I have allowed it to become overgrown by its neighbours on at least three different occasions, to the point where it has become very leggy and maybe two thirds of the branches have died.

But it still struggles along and puts out a flower every now and then to remind me to look after it a bit better.

It is grafted, presumably onto Silky Oak rootstock, and this is probably why it's still alive, as it is very unreliable on its own roots in this part of the country.

Currently it's less than a metre tall and surrounded by an annual outbreak of Kangaroo Apples (*Solanum aviculare*), but they are fairly sparse this year and not shading the Grevillea too much.

There is not enough material to try propagation

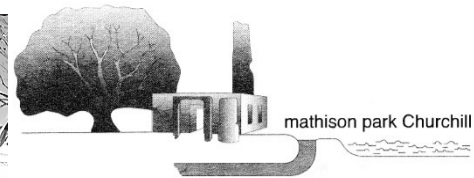


from cuttings, but the occasional flowers do form seeds, self-pollinated I'd reckon, so I should sow some to see how they go. My thumbs aren't green enough (and my facilities good enough) to attempt grafting myself.

Sources: Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings, Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 5, Olde & Marriott – The Grevillea Book, Volume 3.

The Australian Plants Society Latrobe Valley Group meet on the second Thursday each month at 7.30pm, at the Horticultural Buildings of Federation Training, on the corner of Prince's Drive and Monash Way, Morwell. All guests welcome, please let us know you are coming by calling Mike on 0447 452 755.

Mathison Park



Wasn't it awful when our towns were shrouded in the bushfire smoke. A photo of what the park looked like on those days are included.

With the rain we have had and the warm days, the grass

has grown a lot over summer. The Council mowing team has been through and what a difference the cut grass makes to the overall presentation of the park. Thank you to the mowing team.

Many of the new plants put in the ground at the Kurnai end of the park have done very well. It is so good to see them popping up over the top of the tree guards.

Friends of Morwell National Park

January Activity Report

At this month's activity we had Ken, Beryl, Mike, Graeme, Matt, Tamara, Rose, Joelle, Wendy, Wayne, Grant and Darren.

We had Maria and Miguel along for their second activity and Kim came for her first.

They had travelled from Melbourne for the day. We had apologies from Hayley and Gordon.

This was a great rollout for the first activity of the year.

Over January, Parks Rangers have run a few Junior Ranger activities which get children into the park to discover the plants and animals found in the park. The Minibeast Discovery allowed the children to get their hands wet and peer into the world of minibeasts.

The Climate Watch Trail Walk encouraged the children to become citizen scientists and help the Rangers learn how climate is affecting our plants and animals.

The Parks contractors have been in the park and they have recently slashed the tracks and park boundaries.

The main activity for



the day was to complete the nesting box survey. The group started at the car park and worked down Billys Creek Track.

The pole mounted camera was used at each nesting box to view what was inside each box.

While most of the group worked together to locate boxes, view inside each box with the camera and record the findings, others worked on removing some weed species.

Rose followed the survey crew and removed weeds from this area while the 'ivy league' of Beryl, Graeme and Darren worked on some patches of ivy, foxgloves, thistles and tutsan.

This group was happy that there were not large numbers of tutsan in the sections of the creek they worked upon.

Most tutsans were older bushes with much fruit.

Before 1pm the groups joined up and lunch was taken. Rose, Wendy, Joelle and Graeme left during lunchtime.

After lunch the groups reorganised to survey the remaining boxes and tackle a few more weeds.

Over the day, many mobs of kangaroos were seen and at least 48 sugar gliders were found in the nesting boxes.

These numbers could be revised upwards when the video footage is checked and a clearer picture of how many animals were in each box is established.

No other species were found in the nesting boxes. A few boxes had come off their trees, while a couple of boxes will need follow up maintenance.

February Activity Sunday February 16, 10am

The group will meet in the Junction Road car park to complete track maintenance and weeding.

You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

Old Time Family Dance Jeeralang North Hall Jeeralang North Road

Friday, February 28.

Dancing from 8.00 pm to 11.30 pm

Admission: \$8.00
Door Prize

For more details please ring Judy 0403 493 751, Heather 5166 1494



A nostalgic piece of history

Holden cars

By Leo Billington

On December 10, 2019, Holden announced the Commodore would be pulled from Australian showrooms 12 months from then – three years after switching to an imported model following the end of local car manufacturing in 2017.

Such a fixture in Australia's evolving post second World War culture, owning a Holden was almost everyone's dream.

By 1958 sales accounted for over 40 per cent of total car sales in Australia, and four years later, it was announced one million Holden vehicles had been sold in Australia.

Realising a shift in demand for a family car, in 1960, the first Ford Falcon was produced.

By 1962, the 100,000th Falcon was produced, and in 1966, the XR Falcon was named Wheels Car of the Year.

During the same year, a \$31 million expansion

with his brother Brian.

After selling the bicycle business, he set up Kelly Brothers Motors with both his brothers, Brian and Don.

The company was appointed as a General Motors dealer for the area, and the business grew into the Kelly Brothers Group of companies that operated throughout the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland into the 1980s.

Participating in "The Australians at War Film Archive", an Australian government initiative during 2002-2004, Don Kelly's interview explains more about winning the General Motors franchise during the 1940's.

As Don explained, it (the franchise) was a license to print money in this country. "I had motorbikes as well. My oldest brother had done an engineering course and had been working in Melbourne so he came back, worked for a local garage and then joined me. We began what became Kelly Brothers Motors.

We became the youngest General Motors dealers in Australia [in 1948], even before I had a licence to drive a car. We had an agency for Standard cars and the famous DKW, the little twin cylinder air cooled motor car, and we sold more of those in six months than the Melbourne distributor managed in Melbourne.

That brought General Motors up to see us and they spent 'til after midnight talking us out of these two franchises we had, and to take theirs on which was Chev, Pontiac, Buick and others.

We just had a motorbike shop, but we're smart, went from there, became quite a big business in the finish, we had all the General Motors, Mercedes, Toyota and Honda franchises and I branched out into the aviation side after all.

I wasn't 18, and my brother was two years older than me, so we were very young but we were very enthusiastic, and very soon put the local General Motors

dealer out of business; it had been there for donkeys years.

Put him out, so he got the Ford franchise because he'd only sold half as many of the whole range in six months as we sold these DKWs.

In fact, the Standard chap representing the Standard franchise from Melbourne, a very nice chap called Cooper, we told him about General Motors coming to see us and we hadn't made a decision and he said "You take it, it's an opportunity of a lifetime.

I said to my brother, "Look, the war looks like coming and I don't fancy myself with a rifle and a bayonet on the end facing a 6 foot 3 German".

We were similarly equipped, but I said, "I think I'll be much happier if I was sitting in the cockpit of a Spitfire or Hurricane", General Motors had just been talking about it.

I said "If the business pays my flying lessons, you'll have the racing bike to race."

The rest is history. 'The New Holdens Arouse Widespread Interest. Big Gathering at Local Preview'. Morwell Advertiser Thursday, November 5, 1953. The first of the new Holden models (just released) to be seen in Morwell, was presented to an interested gathering of over 200 people by Kelly Bros. Motors, Morwell at a special preview in the R.S.L. Memorial Hall on Monday night.

The three models on show - special, standard and utility - were subjected to keen scrutiny and the reactions to the new features embodied were plainly evident.

During the evening Mr Des Kelly detailed the improvements and modifications introduced, and expressed the confident opinion they would have the effect of making a "mighty car mightier still".

A special model, not available at the display, has been designed to stand up to the hard wear and tear of passenger transport, and one of these models will be delivered to Mr Noel Dale in the near future for taxi work.

In a brief official ceremony, Mr Des Kelly, on behalf of his firm, welcomed the large gathering and expressed his appreciation of their interest in the preview of the new types of Holdens.

He trusted that all would enjoy the evening and share in the hospitality provided.

He asked Cr W. J. Pettigrew to officially open the function. Cr Pettigrew congratulated Kelly Bros on their enterprise in arranging such a well organised



display, which it was a privilege for him to open.

Looking back over the progress they made in a comparatively short time, he felt that the culmination of their effort – the display that evening - must be highly gratifying to them.

The firm had commenced business in 1937 in a small way and in 1939 moved to new premises in Tarwin St., where it won a prize in a State-wide competition for selling motorcycles.

It also handled D.K.W's and, with good service, created goodwill and a favourable impression with the motor trade.

He believed that their enterprise, salesmanship and standing in the motor world impressed General Motors who asked them to handle their products.

They agreed and moved to larger premises on Princes Highway.

With the outbreak of war two of the present members of the firm, Des and Don, enlisted for active service, while Brian carried on and developed the business during an extremely difficult period.

Since the war, the firm

had made great strides in the motor trade through its qualities of efficiency and organising ability which were evident from the display presented that night.

He had much pleasure in declaring the display of the new Holden models open.

Mr Des Kelly thanked Cr Pettigrew for performing the function, and expressed the view that the new models were the most improved Holden yet.

He recalled his presence at a large gathering at Fisherman's Bend in November, 1948, called together to see a new unnamed Australian car.

When the curtain was drawn back to display the car he felt that the gathering was not impressed and, as salesmen, wondered how they could sell it.

The G.M. sales executives did their best to sell the new Holden to them, emphasising that judgment must be reserved until the opportunity was presented to drive one.

Later that day he had the privilege of driving the new model and discovered that it outperformed any previous car he had ever handled. So

popular had the car become with motorists that by May of this year 100,000 had been delivered, and the rate of production had risen to 200 a day.

This figure would be increased to 250 a day next year. Mr Kelly said that a Gallup Poll conducted by General Motors - Holden among Holden owners, had revealed that 90 per cent of Holden owners had indicated that they would buy another Holden as a replacement.

Mr Kelly went on to describe the new features of the latest models, and said his firm would be glad to take any interested persons for a demonstration drive by arrangement.

The gathering was later entertained at an outstanding buffet supper, catered for by the Open Cut Cafe. Postscript: Kelly Bros Motors was located on the former Princes Highway opposite today's Morwell Railway Station.

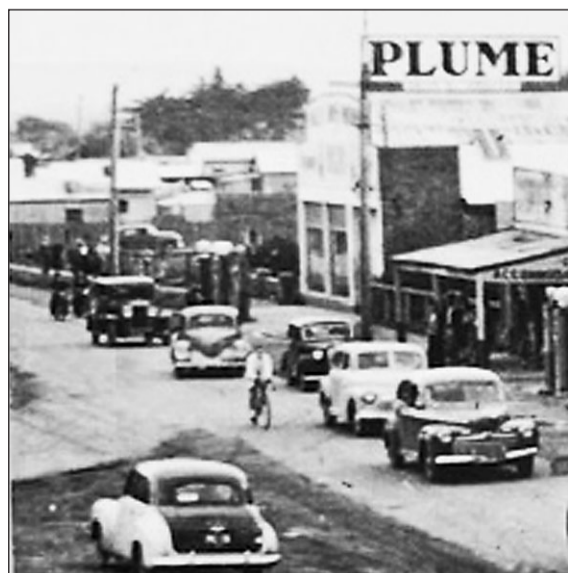
The accompanying photograph, although quite old, shows the PLUME oils sign immediately above their building. The site is now occupied by Advantage Pharmacy.



plan was announced by the company and capacity almost doubled from 50,000 to 90,000 units per year.

Locally, in Morwell, the Kelly brothers were quick to see a future in selling Holdens.

Born in Morwell, Des Kelly showed early drive when, at age 16, he started a bicycle business (then located in Tarwin Street, Morwell)



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SCHOOL NEWS

LUMEN CHRISTI PRIMARY

During Advent and Christmas time, the St Vincent de Paul Society of Victoria encourages us to give to those in need.

Christmas holds a very special space in our hearts as we prepared for one of our busiest but most rewarding times of the year, but for many, we find that some families feel the pinch even more.

We need to reflect during Advent and remember that for us, it is a time for giving, reflecting and being with those we love.

Sadly, for some of our

families in our community, this isn't solely what is on their minds. Thankfully, the tremendously talented Year 5/6 class from Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School, recently held a Bethlehem Bazaar event.

This event is a major fundraiser that supports the St Vincent de Paul Society Churchill. The Bethlehem Bazaar event is a market day whereby the senior students set up the school hall to simulate the streets of Bethlehem.

The staff and students then dress up and sell items

and organise games for the whole school. The money raised goes to St Vincent de Paul Society Churchill, so that they can create Christmas Hampers for families in our local area. "I love helping other people", said Izzy from Year 1. Catherine Campbell from St Vincent de Paul, Churchill, said, "The school always shows great generosity during Christmas time and kindly supports us with no hesitation".

The school extends their thanks to their generous families who sent money and items along to school to

support local families.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was recently celebrated at Lumen Christi Catholic Parish. This Sacrament focuses on forgiveness and saying sorry. Father Solomon presented the children with their certificates.

Grandparent's Mass was recently celebrated at Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School. The children celebrated Mass then participated in a special morning tea with their grandparents.

Lumen Christi Primary

School Year 2 / 3 students recently participated in a session with Lea from Liv Cor, Australian First Aid. Lea from Liv Cor, taught the children how to administer CPR. The children were provided with practice mannequins, and in groups they took it in turns to administer CPR on the mannequins. The children gained vital knowledge about the importance of CPR and different emergency scenarios they may face both at home and school. The children were reminded to call 000 any time they may be faced with an emergency. Lea shared

stories of other children who have had to call 000. Liah said, "I've never had to call 000 but I will if I have to". Liam said, "I'm glad Lea came as now I know how to save someone's life".

The school hopes to continue to provide the students with these sessions annually and all staff participated in a CPR class and First Aid Training before the end of the school year with Lea. A spokesperson from the school said, "We hope we never have to administer CPR but we know that staff would in a heartbeat if needed".



Top left: Children dressed up to celebrate the Christmas Story
Middle left: Father Solomon presented the children with their Sacrament of Reconciliation certificates.

Bottom left: Marion and Catherine from the St Vincent de Paul Society of Churchill with students from Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School, happy with their tremendous generosity.

Top right: The girls practice their CPR on the mannequin



St Vinnie's Soup Van

Traralgon Vinnies Soup Van began visiting Churchill in February 2019. The food prep team arrives at 3 o'clock and begins the tasks of soup and sandwich making and many other tasks to prepare for the van run.

The Soup Van leaves Traralgon at 5.20 pm and visits two street stops each Friday evening, firstly The Hub car park at 5.45 followed by Glendonald Park at 6.15. On board we have a variety of delicious home-made soup,

fresh sandwiches, pies, cakes and savouries, yoghurt, cordial and often a variety of miscellaneous goods. By arrangement, the Soup Van serves the elderly, the sick and people with disabilities in their own homes.



Hazelwood North Cloggers

By Leo Billington

It was their Christmas celebration, and dance music was audible as the Hazelwood North Cloggers stepped it out. Christmas inspired costumes added extra spirit. To one side, a food laden table seemingly bowed under added pressure. It was a night for festivities.

Clogging has been conducted at Hazelwood North's community hall for many years. Robyn Dossett is the main coordinator, and her enthusiasm is unparalleled. Clogging is an expressive style of American dance with origins in the folk dances of the British Isles, Africa, and pre-Columbian America. Settlers in the American South took elements of these styles to form a unique American dance style, Appalachian clog dancing.

To first-comers, clogging looks like a cross between tap dancing and line dancing, yet it sounds like a noisy Irish stepdance.

Dancers wear jingle taps and percussively strike their heels and toes against the floor to create a loud rhythm.

One devotee described clogging "as a fun animated way of walking with a mixture of Irish music, a bit of German, English, some African stomping — a hot pot of steps and action mostly with the feet."

Resplendent, with a Merry Christmas shirt, Robyn calls the steps, encouraging and motivating dancers to "get

into the spirit."

"Cloggers often dance in groups, usually in a line formation, with each dancer doing the same steps at the same time. Tap dancers are generally solo dancers and their dance form is more intricate than cloggers.

Clogging is performed to a wide variety of music ranging from country through rock, pop and rap. Initially the music is fairly slow, but as dancers progress, it can become quite fast."

No partner is required for clogging which means anyone may learn at their own pace, without affecting anyone else.

The Australian Clogging Association (ACA) offers services and advice to its members with the aim of promoting and supporting clogging in Australia.

The ACA explains any comfortable enclosed shoes may be worn to classes and as cloggers progress through their lessons, taps are bought and added to shoes to produce the distinctive clogging sound. Clogging is "cued" similar to square dancing or aerobics; therefore, dancers learn steps not routines.

According to the ACA, clogging is better exercise than jogging as it has lesser impact on joint muscles.

On April 17, 1987, 28 interested people gathered for a meeting at Deakin University, Geelong — at which the name, Australian Clogging Association



Coordinating Committee was endorsed and accepted.

The Australian Clogging Association's Hall of Fame was established in 1998 to honour those members who had made significant contributions to the Association and to clogging in Australia.

The ACA will conduct its 25th National Clogging Convention in Adelaide from October 8 - 11, 2020. There are other national events planned for this year, including a Red Hot Summer Clogging Camp, at Port Sorell in Tasmania from February 21 - 23, 2020 - for workshops and social dancing.

For any follow up enquiries, please contact Robyn on 0419 335 072.

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Australia Day Awards 2020

CHURCHILL



include 'fang' and 'bottomless pit'. He is definitely a big strong country lad who has proven on many Melbourne visits that he is a growing boy who never says no to seconds. He certainly has had his fair share of injuries and we hope he has gotten them all out of the way. Undoubtedly those who play hard can expect some injuries along the way. The Latrobe Valley medical professionals have certainly enjoyed many holidays at the Dickinson's expense without a doubt!

We know this is just the beginning of Jacob's journey in baseball and very much look forward to his progress within the Victorian, Australian and International baseball industries. Jacob is truly a great young ambassador for sport and a fantastic contributor to the community. We are very thankful Jacob chose the Berwick City Cougars Baseball Club as his summer club

Jacob your input is inspirational. Your efforts after struggling for so long are a credit to you.

Please don't give up".

Junior award recipient-Lumen Christi Shallimar Halliwell



The following is a brief spiel by teaching staff at Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School, which clearly shows that she is a young lady who is prepared to put in where her efforts are required. Enquiries reveal that she does not have to be asked to help. - it just happens. It speaks to the person she is.

"Shallimar has been an outstanding member of our school community here at Lumen Christi. She has enthusiastically participated in many extracurricular activities at the school.

She has been actively involved in our school choir, leadership team, peer learning program just to name a few. She recently participated in the Lions Clubs 'Peace' competition and her piece was chosen for final selection.

Shallimar has always shown compassion and kindness to her fellow students. Her social capacity to make others feel welcome has been noticed. Her initiative to volunteer around the school has always been a great asset to our school community. We wish her every success with all her future endeavours."

Shallimar plays basketball, successfully because of her height.

Helping - It does not all stop at school -she has a sense of compassion and social justice.

Whilst at school she stepped up to coordinate all at the Minni Vinnie (St Vincent de Paul Society) fund raising activities. She is also a key helper at the weekly breakfast club and knows all the children at the school, interacting with her and choosing to interact with her after school hours. During school

holidays she helped fundraising for overseas charities, most recently for the Vanuatu Children's Eye and Dental Care Program. She always assists at home looking after pooches, dishes, mowing the lawn and vacuuming.

She also teaches Sunday School at the Co-Operating Church, Churchill. She loves Lego.

She has also taken on the role as Purple Poppies Ambassador which relates to humans wearing purple poppies on Anzac Day to remember the impact of animals, such as dogs and horses, have made to the operation of the military.

Dressing up in character costumes, such as Black Widow, Gamora and the Painted Green Gradians of the Galaxy performing acting roles. (Acting roles during Melbourne Conventions).

Another unusual item she is interested in is African Wild dog research at the Werribee Zoo and is a junior member of the Zoo.

Junior award recipient- Hazelwood North Riley Alko



Matt Berry – teacher at Hazelwood North Primary School supplied the following details relating to Riley Alko –

"This student, who is starting Year 7 in 2020, is an extremely driven and caring individual who often puts the needs of others over himself. At Hazelwood North Primary school in 2019, he was a member of the school leadership team for Yellow House and represented the school at a number of school wide events.

He is always first to help teachers and parents at events where volunteers are vital and is always able to deliver on these occasions. He is always wanting to step out of his comfort zone and play sports he has never tried before, such as football for the Hazelwood North School Football Team, when the team was short on numbers. He was also able to kick his first goal on this day, which was a classy finish for a first gamer. His strut was that of a little boy. No muscle but a ton of guts.

Outside of school, he is an avid tennis player and Formula 1 fan. He has already challenged himself to be a part of a mentorship program, helping younger people achieve their goals through his guidance and helping out adults with setting up activities so that students can have activities to do during their holidays.

His driven personality assures that he will always achieve goals that he sets out to do, and at such a young age is already a fantastic member of the community."

Riley was born on the June 26, 2007 and was a surprise for Mum and Dad. They obviously love him to bits. He never gets ill

but was born with a cleft palate which causes him no issues now. They couldn't stop him. Have a go at anything mum says, he takes on everything in his stride.

He is a Mad V8 supporter due to grandparent's influences. Dad corrupted him into supporting Collingwood.

Sports - loves tennis and has some ability. Rock-climbing and caving do not faze him.

Rock Hound – gemstones with his Mum.

Mountain Bikes - adrenalin junky. He has a Honda CRF 110 - four stroke and rides with Mum and Dad on their bigger bikes. He will eat anything and enjoys spicy food such as curry goat and rare steak.

He is actively involved in a School Holiday Camp as a mentor assisting other youngsters to achieve success.

It appears that nothing can stop this young man. We urge some caution but please don't change Riley. Be who you are. Be true to yourself

Junior award recipients – Churchill Primary School Jasmine Thompson



Jasmine was born at Traralgon on May 28, 2007 and resides in Churchill, the eldest of three - one sister and one brother. During 2019 she was a student at Churchill Primary School completing Grade 6.

At her school Jasmine was Yellow House Captain during 2019. The school elects two students as House Leaders one of whom was Jasmine, who ultimately led by example as House Captain, at all times complying with the school's culture and rules:

Be Respectful

Be Positive

Be Understanding

Be your best not only at school but in life style

As a House School Captain Jasmine demonstrated strong leadership skills, with the belief that she would offer to assist anyone who needed help, no matter where the help was required.

Jasmine's teacher commented:

"She is a model student in the way she engages not only with her learning but all school activities and does this with such a positive outlook. Jasmine can be seen building relationships with her classmate and is happy to work with and have a chat with and laugh with anyone. Jasmine has a terrific work ethic and is always first ready to get on with her learning and offer assistance to others around her and ensure everyone feels included.

Her work ethic was excellent and she was always first to step forward to help as may be required, while always first getting on with her personal learning which was always of a high standard.

She presents as a role model for the



Australia Day Awards 2020

CHURCHILL continued

students of Churchill Primary School, striving to work for the school's betterment and working hand in hand with teaching staff when required to deal with school issues relating to other students' welfare etc.

She lives by the schools values by challenging herself within her learning.

Showing resilience by taking on feedback to improve, seeing this as a learning opportunity.

Showing curiosity by asking questions and exploring topics.

Showing responsibility by always trying her best.

Showing collaboration by caring for those around her.

Truly a role model to the younger students who always puts in a 100% effort in her learning, had a positive attitude, was friendly to all, and as a result of her efforts she was nominated for the Churchill Lions Club Australia Day award, as well as receiving the Russell Northe -Values Education Award, using the guidelines as indicated below.

The Russell Northe award is presented to students who the school determines are;

Somebody who consistently displays the most consideration for the greater school community.

She could always be relied on to be a team player when working with her fellow students, continually considering the thoughts and opinions of others before making decisions.

Jasmine is also prepared to step up to the plate at any time when it comes to competing in sports such as basketball and hockey, she loves art and often sits in her room drawing in her sketch book.

As part of her class Graduation Ceremony Jasmine was asked the following question -

What is something you accomplished this year that you are proud of?

Reply - Something I accomplished this year that I'm proud of is improving my artistic skills and making it look realistic and then teaching others to do the same.

Which persons have had a great impact on you at Churchill Primary School?

Reply - People who had a great impact on me from the time I've been at Churchill Primary School, are Vivian and Ella for always staying by my side and being true friends, and Mr Fitch for helping me improve my maths and writing for the years he's been my teacher.

What was something that was hard for you at the start of the year but easy now?

Reply - Something that was hard for me at the start of the year but now easy, was trying to get out of my safe space, and getting out in the open and communicating with others, and making new friends in my class, and Mr Fitch's Class.

Jasmine has played hockey for the past seven years, starting with the under 8's and has now moved onto the under 13's, and as such she has been the recipient of numerous awards, such as Latrobe Valley Association best and fairest, and for her club she received the best and fairest and most improved and determined, in addition to playing basketball and participating in a Grand Final.

All of the above comments highlight clearly Jasmine's dedication to any task she undertakes, and even though some are outside her school environment her efforts are always the best she can achieve at the time. These comments also highlight that all efforts she undertakes are well and truly in line with Churchill Primary Schools' culture and rules.

Jasmine don't change anything you are doing. I am sure your experiences are going

to help you deal with any issue. Well done - you are an excellent example of what can be achieved if you try. We are all so proud of you.

Junior Recipient Award- Churchill North



**Primary School
Arabella Baker**

Arabella Baker resides in Churchill and lives with her mother and her four sisters, and all attend Churchill North Primary School. In 2020 she will be furthering her studies at Kurnai College Churchill.

She talks and asks lots of questions. Is a friendly girl who sticks up for the down trodden - or anyone who needs her help.

Her work ethics as disclosed by her teachers reveal that in all her school Vice Captain duties, she performed excellently in effort, behaviour, working independently, planning, while accepting feedback and respect for others.

Arabellas' school reports clearly indicate that her leadership and organisation skills as school Vice-Captain developed significantly when preparing for assemblies, helping and running school programs. Her confidence improved dramatically which in turn developed her ability to listen and take part in discussions, to clarify content and challenge assorted concepts.

The following comments supplied by her class teacher are as follows:

"Arabella has been a pleasure to teach this year. She has continually shown the school values across the year and always demonstrates a positive attitude to her learning. A highlight for Arabella was being awarded the Learning Power Consistency Award Semester Term 3. She was also selected to attend a sports camp. She has shown a great sense of responsibility in her role as Vice School Captain this year, preparing for assemblies and helping to run and organise the sports shed at lunchtime. I would like to wish Arabella all the best as she goes off to secondary school in 2020."

One of the most important behavior policies at Churchill North Primary School it to promote the development of self-discipline, self-direction, awareness and respect of self, others and the values of listening, respect, cooperation, teamwork, patience, trust and responsibility as well as to develop personal skills required to be part of the School Council.

It is clear that Arabella's abilities to promote the fore mentioned school values by her personal actions, leadership and organisation skills have enhanced the image of the entire school including its' teachers

and fellow students. Well done Arabella.

As part of her school Physical Education program Arabella was introduced to basketball where she learned the basic skills of the game, resulting in her representing her school in the Yinnar and District Basketball tournament, something she has desired to do for many years, and which she has expressed a desire to continue with and to play with her friends.

Reading and research - This appears as one of her favourite areas of study, in that she has proven to be an avid reader and researcher into any issue, reading to ascertain facts and answers to the problems we all deal with and enjoys drawing.

She volunteers to help all the time with advice. She just wants to help

Arabella, your input into everything you take on is a credit to you. Please keep on keeping on.

Australia Day Award Allan Larkin- Churchill Lions Club – Senior Australia Day Nomination.



Allan Larkin was born in Brunswick and spent his early years living in Korrumburra. He won the heart of his wife Geraldine, and ultimately settled in Swan Hill where they raised their family of two girls, and laid his foundation as a man of the community.

This is where he first joined the CFA as a volunteer firefighter and in doing so he became involved as part of a strike team fighting the Gosford Fires in 1994. He has now been involved in the CFA volunteering first at Lake Boga Fire Brigade and ultimately to the Churchill Fire Brigade.

Allan also had a long career in printing before he retired and moved back to the Gippsland area. Here he began to work for

Telstra in Moe. Following this he re-trained and worked as a Carer for those in need and speaks passionately about his clients and their achievements.

Allan as a person:

Strong sense of community - big heart, will do anything for someone in need.

Sees an opportunity to help - goes the extra mile for people - leads by example.

Driven by a vision of community and an interest in helping and supporting others.

Shares his expertise willingly - at the centre of his heart is his family.

Devoted husband, father and grandfather - genuinely cares about people he works with.

Hates public speaking, but will always do it if asked - believes in the work he does.

Always friendly and jolly- and says he is the luckiest man alive that his wife chose him 40 years ago.

Achievements

CFA 38 years volunteering first at Lake Boga Fire Brigade and currently at Churchill CFA

Churchill CFA firefighter of the year 2019
Churchill Shop Local logo design and launch

Churchill & District News ads, layout, production and much more.

St Vinnies volunteer

Active member of the Lumen Christi Church and Church Council

Volunteers as requested

Has had his share of Santa costume moments over the years

Awarded Nation Medal 1997

Churchill CFA

On arrival in Churchill he joined the Churchill Brigade and Is currently President of the Brigade and has served in the role for several years.

He has completed multiple CFA Training programs plus numerous tasks as required

Named Firefighter of the year 2019

Approximately eight years ago Allan joined Churchill & District News team after having some 30 years' experience in the game, took over preparing the advertising, layouts, posters and other business needs for the paper, keeping tabs on the advertising income.

What can you say about a man who has put himself at the front all the time when called upon to do so?

I believe that Allan Larkin is well and truly a worthy recipient of the Churchill Lions Club Churchill Senior Australian Citizen Award for 2019.

Thanks for your service Allan.





Australia Day Awards 2020

BOOLARRA

Australia Day 2020: A Big Day for Boolarra

Another great Australia Day celebration at Railway Park in Boolarra with around 140 people turning out to enjoy the perfect weather, an egg and bacon sandwich and a chance to have a chin wag with friends they don't run into often. It was great to meet a number of the new residents to town in such a relaxed atmosphere.

The large group of kids had fun with the games organised by Daniel Brick, including sack races, gum boot throwing and egg races. The older crowd members were kept on their toes by Australiana Trivia questions. The volunteers on the BBQ started at 7.30 to ensure the hungry masses were very well catered for. Thanks also to Tim Ryan for allowing us the use of his "Truck'n with Tim" sound gear. Good gear makes it a lot easier for the presenters and the crowd. Well done also to Chris Wareham for bringing the Koffee Kart along and providing free coffee to the masses.

Councillor Darrell White arrived from his prior commitments at Churchill and Yinnar, and spoke of the significance of Australia Day, and the values it represents, and how these are reflected in our community and the strength of the community spirit within Boolarra, the large number of clubs and organisations in the town, and the important role of the Community Development Group.

We then had the presentation of the Boolarra Community Awards, the raising of the flag and singing of the national anthem.

Overall it was a very big day for Boolarra.

Sue Clutterbuck, a local audiologist, was awarded the OAM for her services to the deaf and hearing impaired. Sue is also prominent for the great volunteer efforts she puts in at the Boolarra Community Hotel. The whole community congratulates Sue on her achievements.

Later in the afternoon at the Australia Day ceremony at Kernot Hall, the Boolarra Community Development Group and the Boolarra Community Hotel were awarded Community Event of the Year for the Tom Curtain 'Speak Up' tour concert held at the pub in February 2019. The 'Speak Up' tour was focused on combatting the effects of bullying on young children, and really touched a chord with the local community which supported the event in droves, and made it a wonderfully successful event.

In her acceptance speech Kathy Ryan, on behalf of the Community Hotel, made the following points:

"This is truly a wonderful award for Boolarra.

Bullying, whether it be at school, in the community or in the workplace causes so many deep rooted problems that can have long lasting or disastrous ramifications.

Tom Curtain experienced this firsthand when a young neighbour of his in the Northern Territory, Amy 'Dolly' Everit, took her own life as a result of bullying.

Many of us here today will recall the photo of Dolly wearing her akubra hat.

Tom was so touched by this disastrous event that he penned a song titled "Speak Up" which he and Sara Storer produced. "Speak Up" gives children the united courage and strategies to stand up for their friends who are being bullied.

Our team was able to arrange for the 'Speak Up' song to be taught in local schools which also encouraged conversations to occur about bullying.



Local service clubs and organisations sponsored more than 40 families experiencing layers of vulnerability who would have previously been unable to attend the event. This experience in turn gave children and their families the strategies and confidence to better manage bullying.

Tom and Annabel were so inspired by the actions of the service clubs that they kindly sponsored another 20 families to attend.

It was so very rewarding to see many local children join Tom in singing the 'Speak Up' song at our event.

Events like this don't happen without assistance whether it be in the form of financial grants such as AGL, Latrobe City and Latrobe Valley Authority to name but a few. To the Express for sponsored advertising or from the likes of Pro Rent, Willatons Transport and Coates Hire who supplied equipment free of charge such as lighting towers, and Pantech for the stage and a generator.

We say thank you.

Tom returned to Boolarra on February 8, as part of his "We're Still Here Tour" that is specifically about the resilience of Australians on the land and the hardships they frequently enduredroughts, floods and fires.

Boolarra Community Recognition awards

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

Once again it was a terrific range of recipients this year, with a number of the quiet achievers acknowledged, along with a number of people who have been closely involved in key community activities such as the Bowling Club and the Football Netball Club. There were also two nominations from Budgeree which emphasises the point that our community does not only consist of the township of Boolarra but also the adjoining areas.

Congratulations to the following recipients in recognition of their significant contribution to the Boolarra community. Unfortunately Meg, Kelly and Jeanette were unable to make it to the presentation.

Terry Parker

For his tremendous efforts in ensuring that the Boolarra Bowls Club continues to grow and improve in all areas. Terry serves on the Board, undertakes the computing and

reporting of pennant results and is a friendly and welcoming face to new members.

Roz Carstairs

For her hard work and commitment to enhancing the Boolarra Bowls Club in her role as Secretary. She has exercised her skills and experience to ensure the club runs smoothly and efficiently; has updated processes including establishing computerised files, and been an effective liaison with WGBD and other bodies.

Jeanette Teague

To the staging of the Tom Curtain Speak Up event at the Boolarra Community Hotel, Jeanette's tireless energy, enthusiasm and organisation prowess was a key factor in making the event a magnificent showcase for Boolarra.

Rob Franssen

For his hard work and commitment to the survival of the Boolarra Community Hotel.

Rob's efforts in coordinating the cooking of Friday and Saturday night pizzas, and his personal time contribution were key factors in getting the pub through a very difficult period.

Adria Turner

Adria has been instrumental in project managing the refurbishment of the Budgeree Hall, sourcing and scheduling local trades people to get a range of different work completed on time and on budget. Adria has volunteered hundreds of hours, overcoming

the challenges associated with refurbishing an historical building through innovative solutions, and by rolling up her own sleeves to get in there and get the work done.

She was always challenged with unexpected situations occurring at every step. Adria took these in her stride and worked through each complication, coming up with innovative solutions.

Kelly Van Den Berg

Kelly has worked tirelessly over the duration of the East Gippsland fires to co-ordinate and arrange delivery of feed, transport and accommodation for displaced animals.

She has organised feed drops, including a helicopter load to Mallacoota, and has provided ongoing support to a vast number of impacted people and their animals.

The thanks of Boolarra and the broader community go out to her for her wonderful contribution.

Meg Francis

For her tireless efforts in working to ensure a strong future for netball in our community through the development of junior netball in Boolarra. Her friendly, easy going nature makes her a delight to have around the club and a huge asset to our community.

Colin Brick, OA

Boolarra Community Development Group





Australia Day Awards 2020

YINNAR



Once again the Yinnar and District Lions Club cooked a free breakfast for the gathering and the Yinnar and District Historical Society provided the tea and coffee.

A great start to the day with fine weather which I think was a result of John Butler's brilliant organisation.

Jay and Patrick McGown set the scene for the day with some great Australian songs.

This was followed by a welcome by YDCA President Herb Smith and a moment's reflection to remember those lost in the recent bushfires as well as the loss of the inaugural Yinnar Citizen of the Year, Bill Welsh.

The Yinnar scouts then raised the flag which was followed by an enthusiastic rendition of two verses of Advance Australia Fair.

Yinnar Primary School Captain, Grace Schill and Vice-Captain, Bailey Beecher, addressed the gathering on "What is Australia Day?" – a great presentation as usual. Local Councillor Darrell White OAM then spoke on behalf of Latrobe City about Australia Day celebrations and their importance to the community.

Award presentations were then made. Unfortunately, there was no nomination for

Young Citizen of the Year.

There were three nominations for Yinnar Citizen of the Year – Phil Williams, Glenys Webster and Peter Quigley. All three people were worthy nominees.

Amongst his many community activities, Phil Williams was the 1st Queens scout in Yinnar and a scout leader for 30 years. He was also a long term and valued member of the Australian Axeman's Club which saw him inducted into the Axeman's Hall of Fame.

Glenys Webster was nominated for her tireless work on the refurbishment of the Yinnar and District Memorial Hall together

with the establishment and funding of the popular Health and Wellbeing program.

Yinnar Citizen of the Year was Peter Quigley for over thirty years of commitment to the Yinnar recreation Reserve, during which time he instigated major improvements to this venue.

Peter was also instrumental in setting up the Yinnar and District Community Association which continues to provide many benefits to our community.

The contribution of these nominees to the community of Yinnar has been exceptional.

YINNAR SOUTH



The Yinnar South community celebrated Australia Day with a barbecue breakfast at Martin Walker Reserve. Around 60 locals and former residents attended for a good old catch up chat.

The weather was perfect and the Reserve along the banks of Middle Creek was looking at its very best.

At last year's breakfast we hosted a couple from Ireland who were visiting family at Yinnar South. This year we hosted two backpackers from France who were working in the local area. Not bad for a little rural community.

Yinnar South resident Julie Albutt enjoyed the breakfast with four generations of her family. Julie's mum, Bev Munday, is 86 years old and her grandson, Harry, is just three years old.

The breakfast was sponsored by Latrobe City as part of the Fire Recovery Program following the bushfire on March 2, 2019.

Thanks to the local community residents who catered for this event and made it happen.

Good job Yinnar South!!

