

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

Writing Competition

Cooking with Noelene – p 4, 6

Plants in my garden– p 8

March Lucky Shopper - p 9



Therapy Dogs connect with people

By Geraldine McClure

Mr Maxie started out life as a tiny little puppy from a rescue group in Poowong Victoria. Because of his unique looks and 'questionable parentage' I had him DNA tested and discovered that he is a Bullmastiff x American Staffordshire Terrier x Russian Wolfhound.

I have raised him to think he is a lap dog, which has some issues now that he is 47kg, but I wouldn't have it any other way. Max is an incredibly smart and sensitive dog who adores any affection from his 'people friends'.

Due to these traits I always thought that it would be great to work him as a therapy dog.

In 2019 I was accredited through Lead The Way Institute as a visiting therapy dog team, and started volunteering at Hazelwood House in Churchill.

Once Max adjusted to the foreign sounds and smells he loved his visits, and would run in with a big smile on his face. Adored by staff and residents Max was a welcome visitor who would lap up all the ear scratches, and crumbs on the floor.

Depending on needs we would visit residents who were confined in their rooms, visit people in the shared living room areas or walk with those who were up and about.

It is a great opportunity to meet with people and Max is a great ice breaker who opens up conversations.

Many residents have had to leave behind dogs when

Many residents have had to leave behind dogs when they moved in . . .

they moved in, or have fond memories of their old family dogs which they love to discuss.

When Hazelwood House shut we decided to continue at Dalkeith Gardens instead of starting again at a different nursing home.

When we arrived at Dalkeith there were a number of old friends who were very pleased to see Max's friendly

face in their new home.

Moving with the residents is only one small part of making the transition smoother, but it has been greatly appreciated by those who look forward to his visits. Now we are at Dalkeith Max has made some new friends too, and it is a great opportunity for the residents to access during our weekly visits.

The focus is on connecting with people and providing a therapeutic benefit through both conversation and the presence of a dog.

Max loves meeting everyone, but staff are also able to point out residents who may be in need of extra encouragement. We are able to make use of the whole premises and walk in the garden with people too if it will encourage them to get out of bed and be active.

Pictured is Max having some time with one of his favorite residents, Russell. After the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted we look forward greatly to returning to our normal visiting schedule.



Due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus COVID-19 this will be our last issue for the duration of the contagion. We are sorry for this inconvenience to our readers as we take into consideration the danger to our volunteers, advertisers and everyone concerned in the production of Churchill & District News. Keep well. Keep safe.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS
"Connecting Your Community"
The Churchill & District News Team

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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Established 1966

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The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the next edition will be advised

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Articles for publication and Letters to the Editor can be sent to:
Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
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All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



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MEMBER 2020

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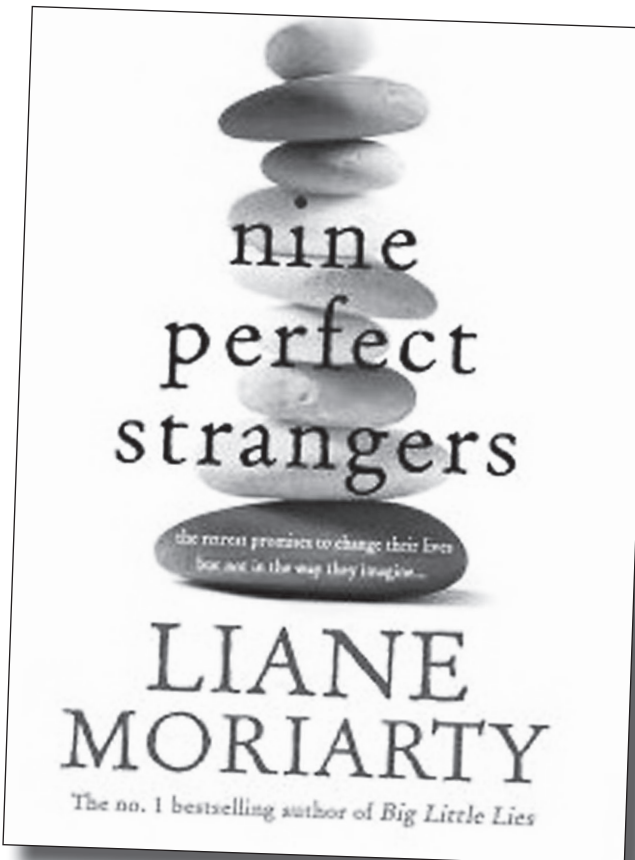
BOOK REVIEW

'Nine Perfect Strangers' by Liane Moriarty

Liane Moriarty is the author of the best-selling novel "Big Little Lies" which our book group read recently and thoroughly enjoyed. Born in Australia and living in Sydney, she has also written six other internationally acclaimed novels which include "The Husband's Secret", "Totally Madly Guilty", "Three Wishes", "The Last Anniversary", "What Alice Forgot" and "The Hypnotist's Love Story". "Nine Perfect Strangers" was written in 2018. She has also written the Space Series for children.

"Nine Perfect Strangers" is set in the Tranquillium House Health and Wellness Resort in an isolated Australian location. However the story begins with the collapse and near-death experience of Masha, a corporate high-flyer. As a result she has completely reinvented herself and now runs the health resort with the help of Yao, the devoted paramedic who brought her back to life and Delilah, her former personal assistant. Masha promises guests that their experience will transform their lives forever.

The story introduces all of the participants in the program and gives their back-story in their own words, so we get to know them and their reasons for attending Tranquillium House. They include Frances, an author of romance novels



who is menopausal and just had a bad review, Ben and Jessica, a young couple who have recently won twenty million dollars in the lottery and are attending to save their marriage and Tony, the ex-football star who wants to get his life back on track.

The Marconi family, Napoleon the ex-teacher, Heather his wife who is a mid-wife and Zoe their daughter, are attending so they can be together but away from society to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of Zoe and her twin brother Zach,

who committed suicide. The numbers are rounded up by Lars, a gay family law solicitor who dabbles in illicit drugs for recreational use and Carmel, a seemingly unremarkable housewife and mother whose husband recently divorced her and married a younger woman.

The rules at the resort are very rigid with participants monitored closely through closed-circuit television, activities organised to the minute and food and beverages closely controlled.

The story takes a turn

when guests are locked in the yoga room without food and sometimes in complete darkness, and believe this is a challenge. No-one can work out the code to open the door but a package is noticed near the ceiling. Attempts to get it down are fruitless and the participants are becoming more and more concerned. It is Heather who works out that they are all being drugged and threatens legal action. From here the tension builds with Masha becoming more and more irrational, visions of Yao in her office seemingly unconscious and no sign of Delilah. When smoke begins seeping under the door and they can hear what sounds like the mansion on fire it seems like the participants are doomed. The author ties up all the loose ends in the final chapters and we discover the fate of all the guests as well as Masha and Yao. We hear no more of Delilah.

This book is typical of Liane Moriarty in that it is very easy to read and even though it seemed to take a long time for much action to happen, when it did it was riveting.

The characters were all well drawn and quite believable although the story tied up a bit too neatly. The book covered many issues and how people dealt with them, including grief, anger, guilt, the effects of drugs, both illicit and prescribed and forgiveness. We all enjoyed this book.

Rainfall

Churchill rainfall for March 2020

Churchill had a below average rainfall totalling 31.5mm for March. In the last three weeks only 8.5mm fell.

This gives us a total rainfall of 213.5mm for the year so far.

Rain at Hazelwood South

Early in March we had 25mm of rain, as a result of the remnants of cyclone Esther. The remainder of

March only had light showers from passing cold fronts. The total for the month was 36mm, which is 86% of the average for March. After a wet January and February we are still 58mm above the average for the year, or 138% of average. The lawn mowers in the neighbourhood are kept busy, cutting green grass, but deeper in the soil it remains dry. Watering of some plants is still necessary.



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Looking Back...

200 DIGITAL ISSUES

More Memories for you...

Time to enjoy a cuppa, read and remember the news brought to you from past editions of your Community News. Issue 40 held news of the new radiotherapy team at the Gippsland Cancer Care Centre at Latrobe Regional Hospital.

Identity related fraud was a growing concern in Australia at this time.



Completely false documents could be created using stolen personal information.

A new development of interest to Churchill residents was the proposed Safeway supermarket on land that was the Churchill Hotel/Motel.

The proposal included several small specialty shops and car park.

Issue 43 had front page photos of Hazelwood North Primary School. Churchill Neighbourhood Centre's Inaugural Quilt and Craft Exhibition was voted a huge success with over 200 outstanding exhibits.

More past news items to have you remembering are included on page 3, where Yinnar Primary School was celebrating 125 years, and page 14 told an interesting history of Hazelwood North Primary School.

November 2006 began with headlines which read, 'Drive like a hoon and lose

your car."

International Power Australia warmly welcomed the announcement that it will receive \$80 million of Government funding to develop an innovative retrofit low emission technology project at its brown coal-fired Hazelwood Power Station in the Latrobe Valley.

Churchill Urban Fire Brigade held their 29th annual presentation night. Darren Devlin was awarded Fire fighter of the Year.

"Lions Club of Churchill & District, What A Month!" said the headlines in issue 45.

The Camp Quality crew visited local schools, supported the Junior Fishing Competition, organised Citizen of the Year, catered for Barry Sheene riders to Phillip Island, computer show Traralgon, letters to Santa and much more.

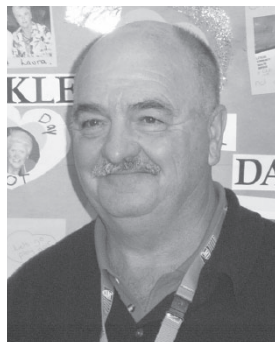
December 2006 was the first time that digital print had included some colour in Churchill News, this certainly brightened up the pages.

"Local Larrikin Churchill Citizen of the Year!!" greeted readers of issue 47.

Tom Lawless was awarded Citizen of the Year status in January 2006 at the local Australia Day ceremony.

With the recent appointment of architectural design company Prior Cheney Pty Ltd, the Churchill Community Hub project was moved from 'concept' to planning phase.

In issue 51, Joe Kus had won the Latrobe Community Health Service Volunteer of the Year award for 2007. Joe had been volunteering at the Wattle Club for many years and was all smiles when he received his certificate and



Joe Kus

plaque to mark the special occasion.

July was a busy month with National Tree Planting Day. An activity was held at Glendonald Park where participants shovelled dirt, dug holes, planted seedlings and potted up tube-stock.

Yinnar Scout group travelled to Nyora to take part in the Eastern Region campfire celebrating 100 years of scouting.

There was plenty of our usual sporting news throughout the pages with results from golf, tennis, bowls, basketball, and Cougars football/netball club.

The First Butchers in Churchill - Tony and Kay Radford. This story is a great read in issue 55. Read the problems of a new business in early Churchill with no phone, no bank, no car, and meat being delivered around town in a pram. They hid sausages at the back of the refrigerator from the Health Inspector because they contained too much meat.

As usual in issue 56 we have all local schools participating each month. Read what Hazelwood, Churchill North, Boolarra, Lumen Christi and Churchill Primary Schools have to say about their school activities, games, excursions and fun that they had each month.

Look for more memories next time we print as we move toward the printing of our special edition numbered 200.

You can read all past copies of Churchill News at any time, from issue number 1 to the current edition by accessing our website at cdnews.com.au



Churchill Lucky Shopper monthly prize draw suspended

Due to the range of closures and restrictions we are faced with as we all grapple with the corona virus pandemic, the monthly Lucky Shopper prize draw has been temporarily suspended.

A number of our local businesses have already been affected by new restrictions and more may be ahead.

Local businesses donated prize vouchers for our monthly prize draw in good faith, but now is not the time to be asking them to honour those vouchers.

We don't think it's fair to be asking volunteers to be collecting entries from all the shops that remain open either, or to be offering



prize vouchers for businesses that have had to close their doors.

So, for the next few months at least, we've suspended the monthly draw.

We propose that when the current restrictions are lifted at a future time, we will re-launch the Lucky Shopper prize draw. We'll have a

number of vouchers to give away to local shoppers, so we might do a draw each week for a month or more.

We are also hoping that we can run a couple of market type events at the Churchill Shopping Centre much later in the year in the lead up to Christmas.

Meantime, stay home and stay well. If you do have to go out for supplies, please support our Churchill businesses while remembering to keep your distance (of 1.5m) as much as possible, use a card rather than cash if you can and wash your hands often.

We want our retailers and staff to stay well too!



Time to Take Care of Each Other

CDCA cancelled our April meeting - now is not the time to be holding face-to-face meetings of groups of people.

We all need to be observing the restrictions around social gatherings and doing our best to stop transmission of the corona virus. Covid-19 is highly contagious, so the less we are out and about, the less chance we have of becoming infected and passing it on to others. For this reason we have, in consultation with our partner organisations, Churchill & District News and Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, also suspended our 'Recycling at the Hub' program and the Churchill 'Lucky Shopper' monthly prize draw. We know we can't be saying "go out and shop" or "visit the Hub" when the responsible thing to do is to stay home as much as possible.

CDCA hopes the folk of Churchill and district are staying safe and keeping well. Go out only if really necessary - for medical appointments, grocery shopping, to walk your dog, etc - and don't congregate in groups. The best way we have of protecting our near and dear ones and our whole community is to minimise contact with other people. We need to take care of each other in this way so that we all

get through this and can, at a future time, be together again.

There's lots of information going around about the things we need to do, but it's fairly simple - don't go out; if you have to go out don't touch anyone or anything (as far as possible); keep 1.5 metres apart; don't touch your face and wash your hands (with soap). For goodness sake, don't cough or sneeze on anything other than a tissue or your elbow!

It's going to be tough on a lot of people over the coming weeks and months. People are without jobs, businesses have had to close, some folk will get ill and we're all a bit worried to some degree - if not for ourselves, then for the folk we know who are more vulnerable.

So be kind, be patient, be compassionate. Keep in touch with people via the phone, email, Facebook or any of

the multitude of apps that technology provides - this may not be the time to visit, but it is the time to be asking "are you ok?"

CDCA wishes all Churchill and district residents and their loved ones good health; keep well everyone!

Our next meeting won't be until later in the year, at a date yet to be determined.

Let's just all tend to our family, friends and neighbours for the time being and get through this difficult period.

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.

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Harriet Shing MP

I would like to take the opportunity to provide some useful links to information about COVID19. It is at times like this we need the support of our family, friends and wider community.

To inform any decisions we make, we also need reliable and accurate information.

As the situation is ever changing please go to this link - <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-daily-update> for the most current information.

The health and welfare of Victorians is of paramount concern to the government and as your local representative, it is mine also.

Many people who contract COVID-19 will suffer only mild symptoms. However early indications are that the elderly and people with pre-existing medical conditions are more at risk of experiencing severe symptoms.

The most common coronavirus symptoms reported include:

- Fever
- Breathing difficulties such as breathlessness



- Cough
- Sore throat
- Fatigue or tiredness.

If you, a family member or friend start to display these symptoms, please contact the hotline on 1800 675 398.

The start to 2020 has certainly been a trying time, both worldwide and locally.

Despite "social distancing", there are many ways we can still support our local businesses in the Latrobe Valley.

This may be via buying gift vouchers for meals, ordering online, helping promote businesses through social media.

The State Government has set up a dedicated hotline for businesses dealing with the significant challenges that COVID-19 is creating.

For up-to-date information on:

- * How to keep workplaces safe;
- * How to plan for future changes; and
- * The details of financial support available through the government's economic survival package.

Business owners can call the Business Victoria Hotline on 13 22 15 or access information at www.business.vic.gov.au.

My office is currently closed but my staff and I are contactable on the office number 1300 103 199 or via email, 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

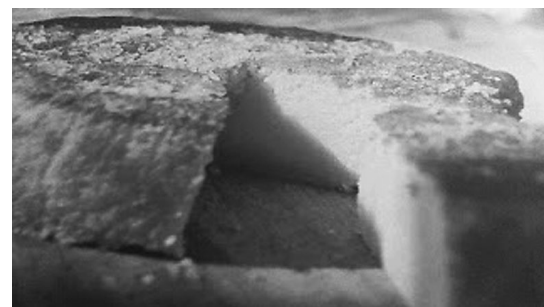
If there is anything I can do to assist you please don't hesitate to contact me at harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au or via social media at any time.

Look to Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/harrietshingmp/> and Twitter <https://twitter.com/ShingvWorld> for more frequent updates.

Cooking with Noelene



Halvas - semolina and almond cake



Halvas is the name of rich blocks of sesame seeds but it is also the name of this orange and lemon flavoured semolina cake. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Grease and line a 9 - 23 cm cake pan with baking paper. Now beat together 225 gm of softened butter / marg with 225 gm of castor sugar in a large bowl, until light and fluffy. Separate the 6 eggs. Add 6 egg yolks (1 at a time), beating really well after each addition. Add 115 gm of fine semolina (ground), 175 gm of ground almonds, the grated rind and juice of 2 oranges, mix together well.

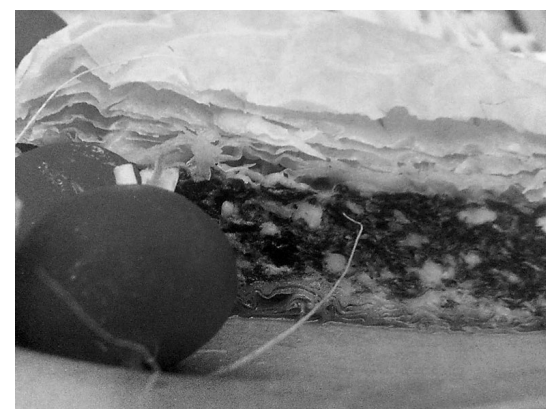
In a separate bowl beat together the 6 egg whites until stiff and then fold into the

mixture. Turn the batter into the prepared tin. Bake for 50 minutes or until golden and firm to the touch.

While the cake is baking place 125 gm of castor sugar in a pot with 50 ml of water and 1 cinnamon stick. Heat gently until the sugar has dissolved. Remove from heat and now add the grated rind

and juice of 2 lemons. When the cake is cooked, let stand for 5 minutes in the pan, and then very carefully remove from the pan and place on a cooling tray. Prick the top of the cake all over with a fine skewer. Remove the cinnamon stick from the lemon syrup and spoon over the warm cake and leave to cool. *Delicious.*

Spinach and feta pie - spanakopita



Preheat your oven to 200 deg C. To make the filling, heat 3 tbs of oil in a large saucepan and add 1 large onion, peeled and freshly chopped. Fry until the onion is softened. Add 1 kg of fresh spinach leaves, cook until wilted. Add 1 large finely chopped clove of garlic. Remove from heat and allow to cool. When the spinach mixture has cooled add 1 bunch of chopped flat leaved parsley, 2 tbs of dried dill and 3 well beaten eggs. Crumble in 200gm of Greek feta cheese, season with salt and pepper to taste. You will need a packet of filo pastry 225 gm. Unfold the pastry sheets and cut them in half (width ways). Lightly grease a

30 x 20 cm baking tray. Line the tray with 1/2 the filo sheets , brushing each sheet with melted butter before layering. Spread the spinach and cheese mixture over the filo pastry sheets. Now top with the remaining pastry sheets, brushing each sheet

with melted butter, folding in the edges. Using a sharp knife score the top layers of pastry into 6 squares (optional). Bake in the pre heated oven for 40 minutes or until golden brown.

Serve hot or cold. *This is delicious !!!*

Gippsland Furniture House

After 44 years in the business Gerry and Rhonda van Dyke are closing the doors on their furniture business, which has serviced the community's furnishing needs with good quality items. They are retiring to enjoy a well earned rest.

Not only did they have the furniture shop in Commercial

Road Morwell, they also acquired the old Eriksson's factory in Winifred Street where they manufactured people's requests. However to do that now is not practical as times have changed.

The furniture business has changed dramatically since they began with very few Australian companies

now making furniture. Most comes from overseas. Many people buy on line.

Churchill & District News would like to wish Gerry and Rhonda all the best in their retirement and thank them for the many years they advertised with us and thus supported the paper.

St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar

Re-Opening when allowed

The shelves are full of books at St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar, all very reasonably priced at between \$1 and \$3 each. Come in and stock up in case you have to self isolate for 14 days.

We have plenty of hefty Bryce Courtenay hard-covers to keep you going, as

well as thrillers, teen fiction, biographies, and children's books. We also have lots of cook books at the bargain price of 50 cents each.

If you would rather watch movies and TV than read books, we also have shelves full of DVDs for \$1 each. By the time of printing we

will have had our Easter Sale, giving customers the opportunity to fill a bag with goods for \$5. To keep up with future events, follow "St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar" on Facebook or pop in to the shop at 26 Main Street Yinnar (in the church building next to Smees's garage).

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact

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Churchill and
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Churchill / Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Report Scamming

Australians should be aware scammers are adapting existing technology to play on people's fears around coronavirus and selling products claiming to prevent or cure the virus.

Unfortunately, scammers are using the uncertainty around COVID-19, or coronavirus, to take advantage of people.

Other scams include people receiving misinformation about cures for coronavirus and investment scams claiming coronavirus has created opportunities to make money.

There has been a wide variety of scams reported, including fake online stores selling products claiming to be a vaccine or cure for coronavirus, and stores selling products such as face masks and not providing the goods.

There is no known vaccine or cure for coronavirus and a vaccine isn't expected to

be available for 18 months. Do not buy any products that claim to prevent or cure you of COVID-19. They simply don't exist.

Scammers are impersonating official organisations such as the World Health Organisation and the Department of Health or legitimate businesses such as travel agents and telecommunications companies.

Understandably, people want information on the pandemic, but they should be wary of emails or text messages claiming to be from experts. For the most up-to-date information about the coronavirus, visit the Department of Health and the World Health Organization websites directly.

If you think you have been scammed, contact your bank or financial institution immediately.



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.

Friends of Morwell National Park



March Activity Report

At this month's activity we had Ken, Mike, Cathy, Graeme, Matt, Tamara, Rose, Darren and ranger Craig. We had Shelena along for her first activity. We had an apology from Beryl.

Around the park some signs need to be replaced or added. At the beginning of Foster Gully Track the sign has rotted out of the ground while around the top of Stringybark Track some of the directional signs need to be replaced. After the bushfire the signage was burnt away and with the undergrowth growing well (obscuring the track), many walkers are missing the turns and getting lost. Some of the neighbors have rescued lost walkers and helped them to return safely.

There are plans to replace the signage but approval from Cultural Heritage is required to dig any holes. This approval has yet to be received so a plan was made to laminate some signs and put them on a few well-placed trees. Craig and Matt will look into this and fortunately no approval is required. Hopefully this

will help walkers from getting lost.

Ranger Gabby is collecting animal sighting evidence and wants to go through the past collected nesting box survey data and motion camera footage. She wants to continue collecting and wants to look at animal movements before and after the bushfires. She may use our motion cameras to collect some post bushfire animal sightings.

For the day's activity we did track maintenance. Matt and Rose went around Foster's Gully and used the brush cutter to remove undergrowth which had encroached into the track. Parks staff had over the last month removed some fallen trees. Craig, Cathy and Graeme used the hedge trimmer and brush cutter to remove undergrowth and trees around Stringybark Track. Ken, Mike, Tamara, Shelena and Darren drove in via Brewsters Road to Silvertop Hill. They found that after the bushfire the undergrowth is growing back strongly with many small seedlings and eucalyptus

are growing powerfully in some areas. They found that the Muttonwood Track was totally lost to the undergrowth and fallen shrubs.

The first step for this team was to find the track across the ridge. They then started to remove the larger obstacles from the track. All teams joined up at Silvertop Hill for lunch. After lunch everybody slashed this track across the ridge. At different stages the hedge trimmer, brush cutters and chainsaw were used to create this track where it was previously only bush.

The following photos show Muttonwood Track before and after the day's work.

April Activity

Sunday April 19, 5.30pm

The group will meet in the Kerry Road picnic area for a BBQ, spotlight walk and moth survey. You will need to bring a torch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the evening outdoors and the weather conditions. For the BBQ: a seat, cutlery, plates, drink, etc. would be very useful.

Latrobe Community Health Service



Let's work together to stop the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

The COVID-19 virus remains at the forefront of everyone's minds. As a community, we can work together to stop the spread of this disease.

This is the latest advice from the Department of Health and Human Services on the simple steps you can take to protect yourself and those around you.

Practise good hygiene. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.

Cover your cough and

sneeze with tissues or your elbow. Dispose of your tissues and wash your hands.

Avoid touching your face.

Stay at home if you are unwell.

Keep a distance of 1.5 metres between you and other people. Avoid physical contact, like shaking hands.

There are only four reasons you should leave your home. These are:

To buy food and supplies

For medical care and care giving

Exercise

To attend work or education if you cannot work or study from home.

For the latest information

on the COVID-19 situation in Victoria, please visit www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

If you are unwell and suspect you have COVID-19, please call the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398, open 24 hours, 7 days a week. Please keep triple zero (000) for emergencies only. Do not attend a GP clinic without calling ahead first.

If you have any questions about our services at Latrobe Community Health Service, please call us on 1800 242 696.

Take care and stay safe. Together, we can stop the spread.

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Contact: Ray Beebe, Secretary 0408 178 201

MEETINGS:

Mondays 6.30pm - 8.00pm

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GAMCI donates to GERF



Church News

Chaplain

Nowadays, it's easy to be anxious.

It has always amazed me that the phrase "do not fear" appears in God's Word as often as it does. Some years ago it was stated that the phrase appears in one form or another as many times as there are days in a year, though that amount is not easily found. The number is not as important as the fact that the phrase is there. Especially as that's an encouragement to do



exactly what it says. Worth thinking about!

Co-Op Church Snippets

Coronavirus has huge consequences for those gathering, so services have been suspended following our AGM.

Parishioners will be emailed or phoned so they can be kept in contact with what is happening and to ensure they

are managing okay.

On Sunday March 22 we farewelled Reverend Peter Carter who has resigned due to illness. We wish Peter and his family God's blessings as they leave and as they travel the road ahead to healing and peace

GAMCI donates to GERF

On February 29, the Gippsland Australian Muslim Community Inc held a function to aid the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF). The guest speaker was GERF president Mr John Mitchell.

Mr Mitchell presented an overview of how GERF provided major financial donations to fire-affected East Gippslanders during the recent bushfires.

The history of the GERF was also presented as well as the other disasters that the group has supported. Mr Mitchell particularly noted the overwhelming support of the multi-cultural communities during the tragedy of the bushfires.

GAMCI committeeman Dr Arif Arif Kozgar then presented an Islamic perspective of charity in the normal life of Muslims and at times of disasters.

The night was held at the Federation University Student Lounge.

After the speeches, GAMCI then presented a cheque for \$4,000 raised by the Gippsland Muslim community. Mr Mitchell then enjoyed a wide range of international food prepared by the community at the dinner which followed.

As well as the \$4,000 donated that evening, GAMCI and the Light of

Hidayah Mosque in Morwell contributed over \$700 to the Islamic Council of Victoria (ICV) bushfire fund. A cheque for \$43,000 was given by the ICV to Minister for Multicultural Affairs The Honourable Richard Wynne, after Friday prayers on February 7 from all the Mosques in Victoria.

Pictured are GAMCI committee members presenting a cheque to Mr John Mitchell

Cooking with Noelene



Citrus and olive oil cake

Preheat your oven to 170 deg C. Grease a 20 cm round cake pan and sprinkle lightly with castor sugar. Separate 3 eggs at room temp. Whisk the yolks with 45 gm of castor sugar until light and thickened. Add 1 tsp of finely grated lemon zest and 1 tsp of finely grated orange zest. Whisk in 65 ml of extra virgin olive oil and 60 ml of sauterne. Mix together 80 gm of plain flour with a pinch of salt and gently fold through the egg mixture until just combined. Whisk the 3 egg

whites with 1/4 tsp of cream of tartar until soft peaks form. Add another 45 gm of castor sugar, 1 tbs at a time and beat until stiff. Spoon the batter into the prepared pan. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes, then reduce heat to 150 deg C and continue to bake for 15 -20 minutes (until golden). Turn off oven and leave the cake



in the oven for 10 minutes before removing. To serve, remove the cake from the pan

and serve with mascarpone or thickened cream, orange segments and strawberries.

Almond paste pears



Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Oil a baking tray. Place 200gm of almond meal into a bowl with 100 gm of castor sugar and 2 tbs of semolina. Stir in 1 beaten egg and 1 tbs of rose water or orange flower water.

Knead to a smooth dough. Break off small pieces of the mixture and form into pear shapes.

Insert a whole clove in the

top of each to form a stem. Place on the prepared baking tray. Bake the almond pears in the preheated oven for 20 minutes or until lightly coloured. Leave to cool.

When the almond pears are cold, brush lightly with rose water or orange flower water and dust with icing sugar.

These were a success in class.

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

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

Sunday Service: 9.00am
Williams Avenue, Churchill
Tel: 5132 1480
Lutheran Church
Catholic Church
Williams Avenue, Churchill
Tel: 5134 2849
Fr Edwin Ogbuka/Fr James Fernandez
Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday: Mass: 9.00am



ALL SERVICES SUSPENDED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

Churchill Christian Fellowship
Sunday: 10.00am
Meeting in homes.
For more details please ring Linda - 0400 690 972

Russell Northe MP



The impact of the Coronavirus is being felt worldwide and no-one has been immune, everyone has been affected in one way, shape or form. Now more than ever Latrobe Valley and Gippsland residents need to stick together, look out for one another and support each other including our local businesses!!

It's difficult to know what to write in this article, because by the time you are reading this month's edition of Churchill & District News much will have evolved with COVID-19. These are unprecedented, unfamiliar and uncertain times for individuals, families, employees, employers, organisations and communities. There are so many valid concerns, issues and questions that have arisen and people are generally trying to do their best in the most difficult of situations. The reality is people have been terribly impacted and people are hurting, and we have to provide as much support and assistance that we can.

We have experienced many challenges in the Latrobe Valley over previous years, and we are a resilient bunch who can come out the other side positively, but it will take time and it will take strength and good decision-making. It is imperative that we all heed the health advice that is being handed down as COVID-19 is real and it is extremely serious. The State Government has established a Coronavirus website which contains a variety of information, supports and advice, and I encourage people to view this on a regular basis. <https://www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

In the initial stages of COVID-19, unfortunately the bulk purchasing of essential items really placed pressure on many sections of our community including the vulnerable, businesses and even employees who were not able to attend supermarkets until later in the day and when the shelves were empty. In Question Time on March 19, I asked the Premier and the supermarkets to intervene in such practices, particularly given there was enough to go around for all of us if people just shopped normally. I also raised the lack of GP services in the region particularly as the towns of Churchill, Morwell and Traralgon all have recognised GP shortages in their respective communities. With the onset and concern surrounding COVID-19, local health services will become further strained as a result.

In Parliament I had also requested greater supports for businesses and their employees as the pandemic meant the forced closure or partial closure of so many businesses and industries. Whilst both State and Federal Governments have announced

substantial packages for businesses and their workers it is vitally important that those same supports hit the mark so they are able to survive this tumultuous period. A Victorian Business hotline has been established on 13 22 15, in addition to a Business Australia hotline on 13 28 46 whilst a dedicated COVID-19 business website <https://business.gov.au/> lists the latest information and advice to businesses including how to access financial support available through State and National stimulus packages.

Small businesses make an enormous contribution to the economy and to our community, so if your business is dealing with challenges during this time, please reach out for help. In addition to the business hotline numbers mentioned above, it is important to seek advice from your financial advisor and/or accountant to understand precisely what assistance your business and your employees might be eligible for. Employees impacted by the loss of work during this period should contact Centrelink directly or visit the following website. <https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/subjects/affected-coronavirus-covid-19>

In closing, these extraordinary times call for extraordinary care and generosity for those around us. Call up or check in on family, friends and neighbours and make sure they are okay. Support local businesses where we can, they are going to need our support. And just as importantly, look after yourself during this period of time. Take care everyone.

Churchill Fire Brigade



CFA and Emergency Response - it's business as usual

We want to reassure our community that CFA is continuing to respond to emergencies and deliver core services as we have always done.

While we have temporarily scaled back on non-essential face-to-face events, training, and meetings to protect the health of our members, these measures are only precautionary and won't impact our delivery of vital emergency services in our community.

End of the Declared Fire Danger Period

The Fire Danger Period in Latrobe City ended on Monday March 16, 2020.

Burning off grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or other vegetation is generally permitted outside the Fire Danger Period. However, Council local laws on burn-offs can apply year-round, so check with Latrobe City before lighting up.

Although conditions have eased since the warmer summer months, it is still essential that any landowner who is undertaking a fuel reduction burn take the following precautions:

- Check and follow local regulations or laws set down by CFA or your local council.
- Check the weather forecast for the day of the burn and a few days afterwards.
- Check the fuel moisture conditions.
- Establish a fire break of no less

than three metres cleared of all flammable material. - Make sure there are enough people to monitor, contain and extinguish the burn safely and effectively. - Notify neighbours at least two hours before starting the burn. - Notify the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) on 1800 668 511.

Register your burn-off. All burn-offs should be registered with ESTA on 1800 668 511.

Please provide the following information about your burn-off when registering: Location, date and expected start and finish times, estimated size, what you intend to burn.

Unregistered burn-offs can cause brigades to be called out unnecessarily.

LV Field Naturalists

Ferdinand von Mueller in Victoria's Alps

In January, 1853, Ferdinand Mueller was appointed the Colony of Victoria's Government botanist.

Little was then known about the flora of Australia's Alps, so during his first three summers Mueller included the Alps in epic expeditions and made the first substantial plant collection from there.



He had some cultivated in Melbourne's (not yet Royal)

Botanic Garden so he could observe their buds, flowers and fruit more easily than in their distant habitats.

His original specimens are preserved in the Victorian government herbarium.

Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club's general meetings are cancelled until further notice.

Photograph: 1861 photo of Mueller (before he became Baron von Mueller).

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Writing and Poetry Competition

The Churchill & District News invites you to enter our Short Story and Poetry Competition. There are some great prizes, with all entrants under 12 receiving a certificate of participation and a small gift. If you have any queries or require information, conditions of entry and entry form please do not hesitate to contact us by email at cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au or ring Bushy Park on 03 51 42 1234 or Carol 0409 326 769.

CANCELLED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

- 7 and Under - Short Story (illustration)
- 8-11 yrs - Short Story/Poetry
- 12-14 yrs - Short Story/Poetry

1. All stories completed entry manuscript with (or staples). Please name, address and number or email address. **People must clearly indicate which category they are in.** For age groups 15 years and over please also email a copy of your manuscript to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au

2. The author's name must only be on the entry form and not on the manuscript.

3. Entries must be original.

4. Entries will not be accepted, unless otherwise specified, permission to reproduce entries in the Churchill & District News or for publicity purposes will be assumed. Copyright remains with the author.

7. Writers will be credited whenever their writing is reproduced.

8. Entries must be received by Friday, July 31, 2020.

9. All pages should be numbered.

10. People entering in the Open category must give their address.

11. Length of stories is to be: 1000 - 2500 words

Children: up to 500 words

12. Entries will not be returned and participants should keep a copy of their work.

13. The Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

14. Signing of the entry form for this competition constitutes acceptance of these conditions of entry.

Entries to be mailed to: Churchill & District News Writing Competition, PO Box 234, Churchill Victoria 3842. Electronic copies of 15 years to Adult

also emailed to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
Closing Date: Friday, July 31, 2020.

Entry Fees:
\$3.00 Per Short Story/Children's Story
-\$3.00 Per Poem
7 & Under, 8-9 yrs, 10-11 yrs and 12-14 yrs. Categories - 50c.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:
Postage stamps preferred.
Cheques or Postal Orders payable to "Churchill & District News".
NO CASH PLEASE.

Churchill & District News Short Story and Poetry Competition 2020 Entry Form

Name: _____ Age: _____ Tick M F

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

I have entered: Short Story _____ Poem _____

Title of Story(s): _____ Category _____

Title of Poem(s): _____ Category _____

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

Signature: _____

NOTE: Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form.
Please make Cheques or Postal Orders payable to Churchill & District News.
NO CASH PLEASE. Postage stamps preferred.
Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au Mail entries to: PO Box 234, Churchill 3842



Change your clock, check your smoke alarm

Daylight Savings ends Sunday April 5th
 When you change your clocks back, remember to check your smoke alarms are working

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Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish



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Harriet Shing MP

WORKING HARD TO DELIVER FOR GIPPSLAND



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Authorised by Harriet Shing, 216 Commercial Rd, Morwell. Funded from Parliamentary budget.

Species: Arthropodium milleflorum.
Family: Asparagaceae (formerly part of Liliaceae)
Derivation: Arthropodium: From the Greek arthron, meaning 'joint', and podion, meaning 'a small foot', referring to the jointed pedicels (flower stalks) in this genus.
milleflorum: From the Latin words mille, meaning 'thousand' and floris, meaning 'flower', thus lots of flowers.
Name: Pale Vanilla Lily.
Distribution: Widespread on or near the Great Dividing Range in Queensland, NSW and Victoria, throughout Tasmania and in the far south-east of South Australia, near the Victorian border. It grows in moist, well drained soils, usually on hillsides and rocky situations.
Description: A tufted, perennial herb with tuberous roots and linear, strap-like leaves to 40cm long and 3cm wide. Flower stems are leafless and branched, up to 1m tall and bear multiple flowers from each node, each on a stalk to 1.5cm long, and

each up to 2cm in diameter with six tepals (three sepals and three petals that look similar) and six bearded stamens hanging beneath. They can be white, pale mauve or pink in colour. A more robust form, double the size of the norm, that occurs in the upper Macalister, Tambo and Snowy River catchments, is listed as Arthropodium sp. 1 in the Victorian Flora.
Opinion: This is a common plant on the hillsides and in the road cuttings along the Wellington River (Tamboritha Road) north of Licola, right up to the snow plains in the high country, and that is where the seeds for my plants originally came from, back in 2004. I originally had them in a waterwell tub, which moved around the garden according to my whims at the time and where they sprouted, grew, flowered, seeded and died back each year as part of their normal life cycle. They have dropped seeds in a couple of spots and new plants have introduced themselves into the beds on the western side of the house and into the

eastern end of my frog pond bed. Most of my plants only form small, limp clumps of leaves, but occasionally one will find more sustenance and form a more robust clump that puts up a flower stem. They must be really tasty, because their leaves always show the teeth marks of the many and varied critters that dwell in my garden.
Sources: Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.
 Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 2.
 Corrick & Fuhrer – Wildflowers of Victoria.
 APS Tasmania – Tasmania's Natural Flora.
 Online – Floras of Victoria and South Australia.
 The Australian Plants Society Latrobe Valley Group meets on the second Thursday each month at 7.30pm, **when allowed** 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.

A message about Recycling at the Churchill Hub



Temporary Suspension of Churchill Hub Recycling Program

Please save your Bread Tags, Printer Cartridges, Clean Used Aluminium Foil, Old Bras, Batteries, Mobile Phones & Chargers, etc., at home whilst we are all under temporary COVID-19 restrictions.


When the restrictions are lifted, you can drop off your collections at the Hub.

Right now, we want you to stay home and stay well!






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Churchill Lions Club



Our club's month of March started with the elections of the Office Bearers and Board for the coming year of 2020/2021.

This was followed by our favourite catering day at Bunnings in Morwell. The weather turned on a beautiful day and we were joined by a new prospective member, Cassandra Carn. As always another fun day with hungry shoppers munching away as fast as we could cook! At our next club meeting on March 18, we were thrilled to induct yet another new member, Brooke Jackson, sponsored by Lion Carol Kavanagh. Brooke is well versed with Lions as she also works at Lions Licola Wilderness Village - and to show how keen she is, she drove down after work and then headed back up there after the meeting. Welcome Lion Brooke. The Lions Peace Poster project for 2020 has just started with this year's theme : Peace through Service. Children think about what Peace means to them and express their thoughts creatively by painting a picture. These kits are delivered to all four Primary Schools so please - if

you have kids at these schools aged 11-13 encourage them to participate, if they don't know about it, ask their art teachers. Last year was a great success and the kids always tell me they love doing it. On another note - do you know that Lions collect used postage stamps, reading glasses and bread ties? These are projects that provide walking frames for children who have cerebral palsy and wheel chairs for children.

Lions Recycle for Sight Australia is part of the Lions Clubs International worldwide eyeglass recycling program, the glasses are refurbished and sent over to third world countries that would never be able to afford glasses. Do you have any old glasses lying around not needed? Can you take a few seconds out to save postage stamps and bread ties? If yes - when you have some that need collecting or you can drop off - please phone or send a text message to 0411 842 912. Or send a message to the Churchill & District Lions page on Facebook and we will organise either pick up or drop off. We thank you in advance. Some of our Members

continue to go up and down to Licola to lend a helping hand with things that pop up now and then and need doing. We also have members working tirelessly to assist with bush fire victims in the small forgotten towns way out in the bush, trying to ascertain what their immediate needs are and how we can help them. Now to the sad part of course is the corona virus, this has halted our catering events until further notice - however we ask that in this current uncertain and yes - a little scary time, please remember to follow the rules to be safe, but also remember those who may be more vulnerable and might need a helping hand. Is your neighbour elderly and/or alone? Do you know someone who might need a helping hand but won't ask? Now is the time to ask them, a knock on their door and chat at a distance, a phone call, a note in their letter box, an email, a message on Facebook. Now and always - kindness matters. Photograph above is the night we inducted Brook Jackson : President Geoff Brick, Sponsor Lion Carol Kavanagh and Brooke Jackson

Churchill's "Lucky Shopper" – March Winner

By Bronte Hillis Harland



Last month's Lucky Shopper prize was randomly selected by a Participating Business to be entered into the main prize draw. The participating business which presented this month's prize was Churchill Private Dental Clinic, which presented the winning Lucky Shopper award for March to Bernice van Rossum from Monash Way. She received her prize on Tuesday March 17.

Bernice was happy to support the shop local campaign and to talk about what she liked about the Churchill community, "I love being in the country, it's a really nice country town. It's also convenient and easy, especially for the basics that you need." Bernice is also appreciative of what the Churchill community shopping centre brings to the Churchill community, "The

Shopping Centre has really brought a face lift to the area. There are always familiar faces and someone to say hello and have a chat with. It's a great community and all the shopkeepers are so friendly and know your name. So wonderful. They really go out of their way to help you." The Shop Local campaign has now been suspended until further notice due to the corona virus.



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Federal Member for Gippsland

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Yinnar -Yinnar South Landcare Group



At the time of writing, our group seems to be facing a sudden stop to our usual group activities as a result of the covid 19 health crisis.

That would seem to be as good a time as any to take a look at what our group is for, and what aspects of our program we can undertake with our own households.

These are the purposes that our group has arrived at:

Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare / Landcare 3869

Our group is interested in habitat protection, revegetation, weed control, water quality, and increasing knowledge and awareness of the environment and its sustainability. We look for opportunities to work within broader scale environmental management plans.

We are a member group of Landcare Victoria Inc. We welcome new members and we aim to be a well run, active, child safe and enjoyable organisation that works to improve our local environment.

Landcare 3869 covers us for Yinnar, Yinnar South and Jumbuk – we also have members as far away as Hazelwood North, Churchill and Jeeralang as well as some members and volunteers who don't live locally.

Habitat Protection.

We're learning more about this every day. It's pretty clear that the best action any landholder or land manager can take to protect habitat is to preserve remnant native vegetation. The larger the remnant, the better it is as habitat. The closer to a circle or square a patch is, the better it will function as habitat for a range of species

Paddock trees can be protected from further damage and may flourish again when fenced. Damage can be physical such as stock

rubbing or eating bark and trampling or compaction by machinery; but the main damage is nitrogen overload from urine destroying the soil fungi from which the tree gets its nutrients. If understory plants can be added inside the fence, improvement is more likely as balance is restored more quickly.

Koalas and greater gliders eat only eucalypt leaves. As well as gum trees, they need other vegetation for shelter and for shade on hot days. The home range of one Strzelecki koala is three hectares. The closer together individual trees are, the easier it is for the koala to move between them. It's not possible to like koalas but dislike gum trees. We need to find ways for both to flourish.

Leaving fallen timber in place contributes to building the complex habitat that best supports a range of native flora and fauna. One of our members recently learned that for every ten large logs left lying there is a 30% increase in birds. Birds pollinate many plants, and many species need insects to eat. Often they eat pest insects thus alleviating the need to use insecticides.

Insects need habitat too. Ants and fungi are the only agents capable of breaking down cellulose and returning it to the soil as nutrients. Without pollinator insects, most of our human and animal food crops can't continue to produce fruit or seeds.

There is emerging evidence that insecticides, particularly the neo-nicotinoid class, are having a devastating effect on insect populations world wide. You don't need to actually like insects to respect the fact that they play a critical role in the ecosystem and we need a functioning ecosystem in order to live. Leaf litter provides many ecosystem

services such as habitat for insects, water filtration, prevention of evaporation and erosion and food for fungi and invertebrates which in turn provide nutrients to plants and animals.

Water Quality

All of our local waterways at some point end up at the coast. The better the water quality, the better it is for riverine and coastal life forms. Members of our group currently participate in the Waterwatch program that provides monthly water quality assessments of five key indicators. Turbidity readings show when sediment is reaching waterways. This sediment was once and will never again be local productive soil. Instead it will be found silting up river channels and /or the Gippsland Lakes. Electrical conductivity is a measure of salinity. Dissolved phosphorous can be an indication that too much fertilizer has been applied to surrounding land. This may cause algal blooms in the Gippsland Lakes and make them toxic. The ph value is an indicator of acidity and is important for the various aquatic life forms that live in the rivers and streams. Water temperature is also critical for aquatic life, and anything we can do to keep the water cool will be of benefit.

Revegetation

Our group's re-vegetation activities have often been concentrated around rivers, creeks, or dams. These are areas where vegetation cover can prevent sediment entering waterways, provide shade and provide habitat close to a source of water. Excluding stock from all waterways would be ideal, but that may take a very long time as funding trickles in slowly for fencing, willow removal and off-stream watering points for

farm animals.

Weed control

Our group encourages landholders to control weeds on their properties with signs around the district during the spring and summer months when control measures are most effective. As a group activity we have been removing montpelier and cape broom infestations along Whitelaw's Track near the transfer station, and trying to eradicate sycamore maples from the Budgerie Bush Reserve.

Organisational aims

We aim to be a well run, active, child safe and enjoyable organisation, and believe we are making progress in all those areas.

At our meeting in early March, two new households were accepted as members of our group.

This summer we enjoyed four expert-led seed collection events, and we've collected more than eighty batches of seed for the four re-vegetation sites that we're currently working on. Two of these sites will use direct seeding as a method and all four will involve planting tubestock this winter. Another well-supported group activity is growing more than 1,000 canopy trees in our greenhouse.

We've been looking at alternative access tracks to our re-veg block along Billys Creek and have also recently started a species survey on a neighbouring property. So far we've identified: six significant weeds; three sedges, two grasses, nineteen herbaceous plants, four ferns, three climbers, one epiphyte, fourteen shrubs and eight trees. That's a total of 60 species of which only 10% were undesirable. If we can emulate this rich diversity in our planting, it will be a fine thing. (many thanks go to Ken Harris for his help with plant ID.)

We're also working with West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority on identifying tasks and planting sites in the fire affected areas along Upper Middle Creek in Yinnar South. Our planned winter planting days will need to meet the social distancing protocols in place at the time, so we need to keep re-making our plans.



Old Time Family Dance Jeeralang North Hall Jeeralang North Road



CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Dancing from 8.00 pm to 11.30 pm
Music by Rhoda Richards

Admission: \$8.00
Door Prize

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Zelma Mildenhall retires from Guiding



I became involved in Guiding in 1971 when two of my daughters joined the First Hazelwood Brownie Pack. I was a member of the Local Association (parents and friends support group) and was President for three years, then Publicity Officer for a year. Our third daughter joined the Brownie Pack in 1974.

Shirley Simpson (Wallaby) was a neighbour and friend, who had a daughter in the First Hazelwood Guide Company, and she invited me to join her in training to be a leader of the Brownie Pack. Our first training weekend was at Thorpdale. I made my Promise on August 10, 1976 and the Brownie Guides gave me the name Kangaroo. Weekly Pack meetings were held in the Hazelwood South Hall on a Tuesday at 4.00pm. Car rosters assured girls could attend regularly. Most families had only one car and often a parent worked shift work. Now most transport is individual.

I arrived home after Pack meetings at 6.00pm. The family quickly adjusted and a child cooked the evening meal - the youngest two children were at primary school. The only rule was 'We eat what is cooked'. We enjoyed some great food.

My late husband, Bob, made, repaired, painted and did many other things to help with my leadership. He was patient and

kind, only occasionally raising his eyebrows at a particular request. He enjoyed his time at the Burnet Park Guide campsite which is in Glengarry West. He attended working bees and built the 'Burnet bench'.

Leaders from surrounding units were very supportive, helpful and encouraging and many have remained friends.

I gained my Pack Holiday (indoor camping) qualifications and over the years must have attended at least forty camps. I was First Aider for a Pack Holiday at Burnet Park and it began to rain Friday evening. It continued to rain all night, and early Saturday the farmer knocked loudly on the door and shouted for us to move our cars to higher ground. Leaders looked outside to see water almost covering the campsite! During the morning the water continued to flood the campsite and reached the third step of the building. Rintoul Creek was overflowing and large trees were being swept along. Brownies were glued to windows watching the scene and the level of the water. We were safe, but isolated, as roads were closed. We were unable to be outside due to the danger of falling limbs. We did exercises

on the front veranda and indoor activities on Saturday and Sunday. The Guider-in-charge reported to the police twice a day and also our District Commissioner, who kept parents informed. Monday morning a roster of parent cars arrived to collect Brownies but leaders stayed longer to do the cleaning. Parents were concerned about the situation but the girls had a great time and I'm sure many families grew tired of hearing all about being stranded at Burnet Park!

During the 1980s Churchill was growing and girls wanting to join Guiding increased. New Brownie Guide packs, Guide companies and a Ranger Guide unit were opened. The District became the Hazelwood / Churchill Guide District. Shirley retired in 1990 and Faye Foley (Quokka) joined me and we had fifteen wonderful years together.

Guiding gave me the opportunity to abseil, enjoy flying fox rides, a ropes course, sleeping in a cardboard box at Lardner Park to raise money for the homeless of Gippsland, knit trauma teddies for children in hospital, and knit squares for rugs.

I attended swimming days, Thinking Day services and picnics, bus trips to Gumbuya Park and Walhalla, and April Action, which is doing service in the community. There used to be an annual event called Brownie Revels that most Brownies thought was the best event, and I thought so too. A range of activities was offered on a theme e.g. Circus.

Celebrations in 2010 for 100 years of Guiding were great and lasted for weeks. We had a wonderful day in Melbourne with guides from all parts of Victoria celebrating together. The Region celebrated at Old

Gippstown.

In 1982 the eight point program was introduced requiring the re-education of leaders. To remain qualified, training had to be done regularly including First Aid. Now there are a few other requirements including a Police Check and Working with Children Check. I thought the girls found the eight point program easier to follow and it was a good framework for planning meetings.

After the Hazelwood Units closed in 2004 I did sixteen years with different age groups in Traralgon. I had the privilege of having a Guide gain her Queens Guide Award and I attended the ceremony at Government House. Amanda Clark (Gumnut) moved to Traralgon from Bairnsdale and as a trained Unit leader quickly settled into the Adventure Guide Unit. Amanda was young, enthusiastic and brought with her many new ideas. It was a joy to work with her until she went to England last year. Sally Yates (Swan) also a leader from Bairnsdale, is now with the Adventure Guides. I enjoyed the few months I was helping her in the Unit.

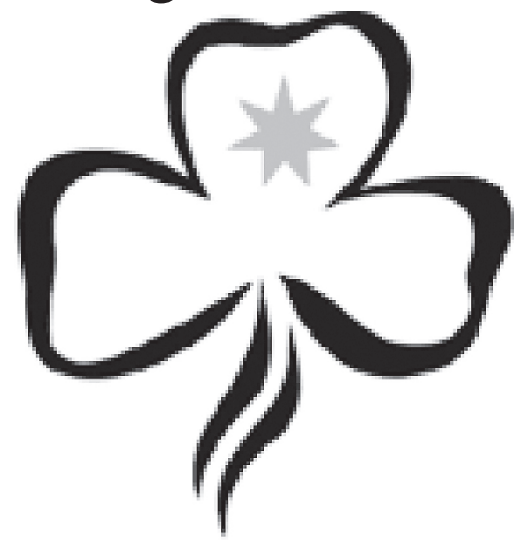
It was the girls who encouraged me to stay. I am not sure I needed much encouragement as I had many fun times with Guides. When I began in guiding it was the main activity for girls outside school, and many of the activities were not offered by schools. Now girls have a variety of school and after school activities; sport, music, gymnastics, dance etc.

Once I had a girl who did both Guides and gym on the same evening! I decided it was time to leave when I realised I was older than all the grandparents! The drive home on winter nights has also created a few problems - water across the road, fallen trees....

Over the years there have been many changes - The Promise and Law, uniforms, programs, activities and badges. Guides do more of the planning and preparation for weekly Unit meetings and often run an activity.

An early style of the leader's uniform was a pale blue dress that was very smart and comfortable. I still wear mine to the Burnet Park working bees. Uniforms now are separates, skirt or pants with a shirt.

Guide Mission Statement: 'To empower girls and young women to grow into



GIRL GUIDES AUSTRALIA

confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.'

It has been a privilege to see girls become more confident, keen to give service and take on more responsibility. At times when walking along the street a woman says, "Hello Kangaroo." I don't always recognise the speaker but they quickly identify themselves and I love it. Some of the Brownie Guides are now grandmothers.

Churchill and District News



Like us ...



MORWELL

**RSL
CLUB**



**Lunch
12-2 pm
Dinner
6-8 pm**

Victoria Cross Bistro

TUESDAY NIGHT PARMA NIGHT



KIDS EAT FREE WITH ANY MAIN MEAL PURCHASED ON TUESDAY NIGHT

**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT
BURGER NIGHT**



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NIGHT
STEAK NIGHT**

**SUNDAY CARVERY LUNCH
2 COURSE ROAST LUNCH
(SOUP AND MAIN OR MAIN
AND DESSERT)**

SENIORS SUNDAY NIGHT

2 COURSE SPECIAL

*ALL MEALS COME WITH CHIPS AND SALAD OR VEGETABLES

**PARMA NIGHT, STEAK
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A LARGE SELECTION OF SENIORS MEALS AVAILABLE - 2 COURSE SOUP AND MAIN OR MAIN AND DESSERT

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL
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Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Meetings cancelled until further notice

2nd Wednesday of each month.

Fire Station, McDonald Street, Morwell

Contact: Secretary 5163 1565

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME



Bingo Monday eyes down at 12.00 pm

Bingo Tuesday eyes down at 8.00 pm



A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



Hazelwood North Creamery

By Leo Billington

There was once a creamery (or a milk factory) at Hazelwood North.

This piece of history contradicts a widespread view that such a facility never existed.

The accompanying photographs show where this enterprise was located, basically in the middle of Hazelwood North.

To start, it was on July 22, 1891 when a meeting (at the Hazelwood North Mechanics Institute) was held to determine whether sufficient numbers of local dairy farmers could guarantee enough milk to sustain a creamery.

The Morwell Advertiser was happy to report the meeting was successful. "The farmers gave a written guarantee of over four hundred cows and a promise of another hundred; there will be about 600 cows milked."

A central site was fixed – that being Jersey farm, owned by Mr W H Dunstan. The meeting concluded by agreeing the proposed creamery "will be one of the best creameries in the colony when it gets in working order."

In June 1892, the Morwell Advertiser reported that "A large and representative meeting of farmers and dairymen was held at Davey's Hotel Morwell, on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of considering proposals from the Fresh Food and Frozen Storage Co, of Melbourne, to erect a creamery at North Hazelwood. There were about 50 present, the meeting being presided over by Mr. H. Dunstan."

Those in attendance were informed about refrigeration being a "new innovation" therefore enabling butter to be exported to London.

Debate tumbled between questions over the price of shares, how many shares would be sustainable for a new enterprise, the price paid for milk, was the Fresh Food and Frozen Storage Company reputable, proposed location; even were there enough cows.

Answers were given and a resolution was carried that "the Fresh Food and Frozen Storage Company be asked to erect a creamery at a site known as Charles Watson's corner North Hazelwood and that the farmers interested be requested to take up shares."

Promises were given in the room to take up 500 shares and the milk of 300 cows be guaranteed. The company saw this as sufficient to proceed "at once with the erection of the creamery asked for."



In November 1894, the Morwell Advertiser informed its readers that "The creamery at Eel Hole Creek which has been erected as a branch of the Morwell Butter Factory is now finished and it is expected that it will be in full working order on Monday next."

With management experience gleaned while employed at the Warragul Co-operative Butter and Cheese Company during 1888, David Wilson mapped out his Victorian dairying master plan. That was to establish a widespread network of creameries associated with a centralised factory to place dairy farmers in a position to achieve top prices for their cream and therefore obtain maximum government bonuses.

David Wilson registered the Fresh Food and Frozen Storage Company on May 25, 1889. In February 1896, in its annual report, the company had over 80 creameries dotted across Victoria. Hazelwood North was one of these.

Located about midway between Churchill and Morwell in Tramway Road, the creamery sourced milk from small farms throughout Hazelwood North. Many of these straddled Church Road, Tramway Road, Boldings Road, Bonds Lane, the Jeeralang foothills and in-between.

Mr Bert Walsh was apparently the first manager. He was followed by Mr Gooding – described as a most "genial chap." Mr R McKenzie when manager, said the price for the milk had been very satisfactory.

Mr H. H. Hobbs was another manager for 10 years and 10 months before being lavishly farewelled at a huge function held at the Hazelwood North Mechanics Hall.

It was at this function that one comment was made against Mr Hobbs when he became manager – and "that was by his friend the chairman, who reckoned the butter milk (which he used to buy) was too poor because it did not fatten his pigs."

Fattening pigs for sale mainly in Melbourne was a great source of income alongside milk and cream.

The Morwell Advertiser was often proud to give public recognition to "model farmers."

Robert Porter was known as an innovator – giving credit to his "seed drill and fertiliser" enabling the district's best crops to be grown. Mr Graham (who lived at 'Walnut Park', purchased from Mr Leon Wuttrich in Church Road) was credited with a newly "completed up-to-date cow shed, tiled throughout, capable of holding 30 cows".

George Bolding scored admiration with having "one of the finest properties in Hazelwood North." During the 1900's George was

milking over 100 cows, separating his milk and manufacturing the cream into butter on the farm.

By 1899, "Bolding's butter" had become a household word. Made by George Bolding and his wife, and marketed as 'Grasspan Butter', it was sold locally, in Melbourne and in London. George had selected 395 acres at Bennett's Creek – the property was first called 'Grasspan', then renamed 'The Grange'.

The Bolding farm was also into pig breeding, mainly for an expanding Melbourne market.

Mr D Shaw was known as "a keen judge of dairy stock, and one can see some fine specimens among his herd."

His contention is, that to bring about this result, one must build up his herd from pure bred sires with the infusion of new blood from time to time, and thus maintain a high standard that would otherwise degenerate."

Another "model farm" was owned by Mr Bill Medew about three miles from Morwell. Working with his two sons, Albert and Norman, Bill's farm comprised only 90 acres, which was subdivided into 20 small paddocks.

Before the creamery closed, there were apparently "58 large framed cows with huge udders, from which gallons of milk are extracted every day."

In May 1901, the Victorian government announced its intention to appoint two dairy inspectors to 'secure the requisite conditions in the dairy factories, milking sheds and yards, and generally in the structures and processes in connection with the dairying Industry.'

Contamination from bird feathers, bracken, lack of washing water, over-ripe milk, warm milk – a real problem in summer – were all recognised as health problems.

Local dairy inspector, Mr C Walsh, in October 1908, reported that "there are some of the milking sheds and dairies in the Morwell Shire conducted in a dirty and careless manner."

To those of us who are familiar with dairy farming, it is undeniable that many people who follow the occupation are lamentably weak and dense as far as a sense of cleanliness is concerned."

Wood was required to fire up boilers and, on several occasions, tenders were advertised for 50 tons of "fine wood, 4 feet long, from 3 inches to 6 inches diameter, straight and sound." Another tender was for "supply and stacking 80 tons of wood, must be sound and dry, not more than 5 inches in diameter."

In June 1902, Mr Chas. Berg was announced as one of many successful tenderers to supply 50 tons of wood.

Competition between small and larger creameries intensified during the next few decades. Wood and Company was one of the big "players". I

In January 1912, local dairy farmers were asked to consider a branch of the Trafalgar Co-operative Butter and Cheese

Factory Company Ltd being established at Yinnar. It was realised that there were plenty of suppliers from Morwell, Yinnar, Boolarra, Hazelwood North and Darlimurla.

Wood and Company already controlled creameries in South Gippsland and elsewhere. Late in 1912, the company announced their purchase of the Morwell and Yinnar butter factories. They were then prepared to receive milk and cream in any quantity, assuring top prices.

Another emerging company at this time was Holdenson and Nielson, who collected cream from milk skimming stations set up in various Victorian country areas. In 1908, the business merged with Fresh Food Pty. Ltd to become Holdenson & Nielson Fresh Food Pty. Ltd.

In November 1927, a tender was advertised for the sale of a "quantity of bricks at the old Hazelwood North creamery site."

Unfortunately, the history seems to stop here. There isn't anyone around now who can fill in missing pieces. More research is required when time permits.

But, today, the former site boasts some remarkable trees – seemingly its legacy to Hazelwood North.

If you've enjoyed dishes with pine nuts in Europe, they probably came from the Italian Stone Pine. In Italy, they are called pignoli or pinoli and were used at least as far back as the Roman Empire. It is one of a few pine tree species from which these seeds are harvested for eating.

On the former site, there's an Italian Stone Pine alongside three marvellous peppercorn trees; one boasting a magnificent, gnarled trunk – definitely worth listing in any heritage history of Hazelwood North. The photograph at the top shows the old dairy sheds in Hazelwood North. At one stage during the early 1900's there was a state government blitz on untidy and dirty cowsheds.

The photo below shows a very old peppercorn tree at the old Hazelwood North creamery site. Isn't the trunk amazing?



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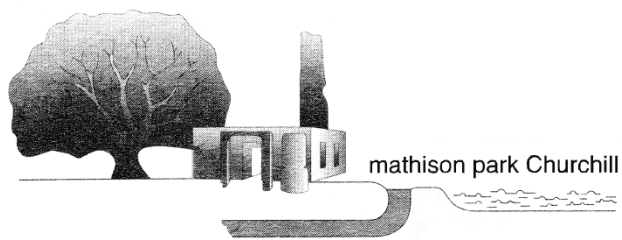
CDCA
Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

supports Churchill & District News
We love our community newspaper!

Due to the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions, CDCA has cancelled our April and June meetings.

There may be a CDCA meeting in August.

Contact CDCA via our website – cdca.org.au or find us on Facebook



Have you tried walking our new pathway which goes from the old house west up between the trees and then diverts south to join up with the concrete path going down towards Kurnai College.

Thanks to Bill for organising this project. It adds another dimension to the parks accessibility.

We hope you enjoy using it.

The working bee was again a success with some dead trees felled and cleaned up, new trees planted, whippersnipping and mulch spreading done. All in all it was a very good morning's work. Thank you everyone who came and gave their time.

SCAMWATCH

Warning on COVID-19 scams

Australians should be aware scammers are adapting existing technology to play on people's fears around coronavirus and selling products claiming to prevent or cure the virus. Since January 1, 2020, the ACCC's Scamwatch has received 94 reports of scams about coronavirus, but warns figures are starting to climb. Scamwatch has received multiple reports of phishing scams sent via email or text message that claim to be providing official information on coronavirus but are attempts to try and obtain personal data. "Unfortunately, scammers are using the uncertainty around COVID-19, or coronavirus, to take advantage of people," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said. Other scams include people receiving misinformation about cures for coronavirus and investment scams claiming coronavirus has created opportunities to make money. "We've had a wide variety of scams reported to us, including fake online stores selling products claiming to be a vaccine or cure for

coronavirus, and stores selling products such as face masks and not providing the goods. There is no known vaccine or cure for coronavirus and a vaccine isn't expected to be available for 18 months. Do not buy any products that claim to prevent or cure you of COVID-19. They simply don't exist. Scammers are impersonating official organisations such as the World Health Organisation and the Department of Health or legitimate businesses such as travel agents and telecommunications companies," Ms Rickard said. "Understandably, people want information on the pandemic, but they should be wary of emails or text messages claiming to be from experts. For the most up-to-date information about the coronavirus, visit the Department of Health and the World Health Organisation websites directly." If you think you have been scammed, contact your bank or financial institution immediately. More information on coronavirus scams is available on the Scamwatch website, including how to make a report and where to get help.

Churchill Bowls Club



After three seasons of pennant competition in the West Gippsland Bowls Division, the Churchill Bowls Club has taken out the 6th Division Pennant Grand Final which was held at Traralgon Bowls Club on February 29, 2020, with a 10-shot win over Longwarry. This historic win elevates us into the West Gippsland Bowls Competitions 5th division for the 2020/21 season, which commences in October 2020. Although this promotion will require us to increase our team numbers from 8 to 12, we are confident we can field both a 5th and 6th division team for next season.

The club recently conducted its Club Singles and Pairs Championship events with the winner of the Men's Singles being S. Peter who defeated W. Brown in the final. Winner of the Ladies Singles was S. Turner who defeated G. Turpin in the final. The two Club champions, S. Peter and S. Turner went on to represent the club at the W.G.B.D Championship events which were conducted

at the Warragul Bowls Club in January 2020. Both players put in very good performances against higher ranked opponents, however the pressure finally told at the end, with both going down in closely fought games. The Clubs Men's Pairs Championships were won by C. Thomas and S. Filjak, who overcame a dogged effort by S. Peter and A. Van Den Ham to win an entertaining game. The Ladies Pairs were won by S. Turner and D. Thomas who were just a little too good on the day, defeating G. Turpin and H. Dyson who courageously fought the match out to the end. Congratulations to the winners and to all who participated in these events.

To assist our club in remaining viable and to provide Churchill with a lawn bowls club/venue into the future, we are urgently seeking new, past and current players, interested in joining and playing for the Churchill Bowls Club. We are especially appealing to the generation who are now past playing the

more robust sports and would like to play something a little less physical. Once perceived as a game for old fogies, lawn bowls is now being pursued by a younger generation of both genders, who are recognising that lawn bowls is a sport that can be played socially or competitively, requires skill and dexterity and is able to be played all year round. Being a Gippsport Welcoming Inclusive Club, we also offer the opportunity for all diverse members and cultures in our society, the chance to participate and be

involved in the sport of lawn bowls. This also applies to people with disabilities who are encouraged to be part of our organisation either as a player, or part of our governance team. Enquiries - D. Thomas Secretary 0407 182 967 or W. Brown President 5122 1860 or email: churchillbowls@hotmail.com

Please note - Due to the Corona virus pandemic, our Thursday night Indoor bowls programs and all other lawn bowls related activities, have been postponed till further notice.

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Saturday 14/3/20 Monthly Par

A Grade A. Quinn (14) Sq C/B. B Grade P. Junker (20) + 1 C/B. C Grade T. Lio (34) +7. DTL W. Sutton +3 V. Reid +2.

I. Heppelstone +1 C. Stevens +1 G. Spowart +1 C. Gilfillan Sq. NTP 3rd A. Quinn 12th G.

Spowart. Birdies 3rd A. Quinn Tuesday 17/3/20 4BBB

Winners M. Dear (14) and J. Beck (36) 46 Pts.

DTL C. Cunningham and L. Casey 45 Pts.

NTP 3rd J. Blizzard 5th S. Caldwell. 12th M. Dear. 14th S. Caldwell.

AA ACCOUNTING

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SCHOOL NEWS

BOOLARRA PRIMARY

Sports Day

I woke up to the sound of Mum banging on my bedroom door and yelling 'wake up!' I was trying to still sleep peacefully until Mum said it was sports day. Before you knew I was up and raced to the kitchen bench. As soon as Ryleigh and I were ready Mum drove us to school and the music was going.

I went to the Multipurpose room and a couple of minutes later, I heard Mrs Duncan saying Kallamie's and my name. I looked at Kal and walked to the front and got my badge. When I walked up and got my badge I started to feel sick in the tummy but then I realised that it was a good thing so I proudly stood up at the front until she said it was time to sit down.

First thing we did was long distance. I came second last or last I don't know! The second thing we did was sprints. For the first time in forever I came 3rd and got a three! Yay!!!! Next we did our chants. They were all good (especially Strzelecki my house).

Then it was play time. After play everyone split into age groups and did our

activities.

After all the activities there was assembly to see who had won sports day. Irving got sportsmanship award. Irving came last, Penaluna came third which leaves two houses- Strzelecki and Morrow. Strzelecki came second and Morrow came first! Even though my house came second I was still proud of how far we came. Afterwards I was tired but I am pretty sure everyone was too!

Georgia Being School Captains.

It was a great privilege to be elected as the 2020 School Captains this year. We have always wanted this job, and we are excited to pursue this important role. The cool jobs that we get to do are running assemblies, help set up events, set a good example to others, and at the end of the year we get to interview the next School Captains for 2021. There is great responsibility when it comes to the job and we highly recommend the role to others willing to take it after us. Looking at previous School Captains we were inspired by their dedication to this amazing school, and we chose to

extend this dedication by doing it ourselves. This gave us something to be extra proud of, and gave us an opportunity to end the year with a smile on our faces. Another asset to being the school captains is that we get to be on the student leadership team where we get to promote students' voices so the school can be the best it can be. This makes us super confident about the school's bright future! We love being at Boolarra Primary School, and being a leader makes it better! We encourage others who are up to it to follow in our footsteps, and every School Captain before us, and make Boolarra Primary School even better!

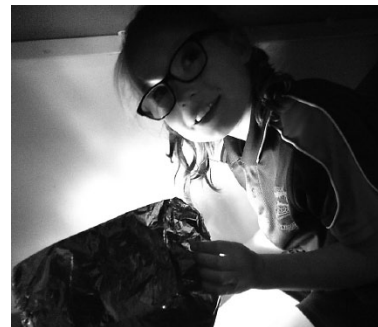
From your School Captains Isabella and Bree. Breakfast at School

Every second Wednesday we are really lucky to have breakfast provided by a local church. It is nice to come and help cook toast and chat to all of our friends in the morning. We have porridge, toast and orange juice, which is prepared in our Life Skills Kitchen. Members of our Junior School Council always help with the cleaning up too! If

there is any toast left over, which there usually is, then we take it around to the classrooms and the really hungry kids finish it off!! We love 'Breaky at School' mornings!

Science Fun

During science this term we have been investigating lots of things about light. We measured shadows, made light bend and coins disappear! We also learned about how light helps us to see images. One of the activities was to test different types of materials to see if light would go through them or not. The foil made the light reflect but the light went through the plastic which means it is transparent. We worked in groups and tried each activity. Some stuff we had to do under a table with a sheet over it to make it dark. It was fun.



SCHOOL NEWS

CHURCHILL NORTH PRIMARY

Congratulations to our new School Captains and Vice Captains and to all of our new House and Vice Captains of 2020!

All of these students are so excited to be a leader in their school and really want to be able to support each other and other students. The students had many positive things to say about their new role as a leader at Churchill North Primary School.

Chantel said she is glad to be School Captain because she gets to keep people safe and she gets to boost her confidence speaking at assembly. Liam

said he enjoys being School Captain because he hasn't missed homework once since starting his new role, and that he enjoys helping out in the school and being a good role model.

Blake said he likes being a House Captain because it's a nice feeling to have a badge, and he has always wanted to run games and sports shed. The other House Captains Liam, Leah, Ryan and Boden all agree with Blake and are excited to have the opportunity to run the sports shed, help others in the yard and have the opportunity to run games.

Special Authors Visit.

On March 5, 2020 Churchill North Primary School had two special visitors, Phil Kettle (author of 'Too Cool') and illustrator Mark McBride (artist of the 'Deltora' series). Students were shown how to draw a dragon in the same style from 'Deltora Quest' and they all had a great time participating and designing their own dragon. The

students were highly engaged and loved hearing about how Phil first became interested in reading, and how he decided to publish his first ever book. Mark spoke about how he first started reading the book 'Jaws' and how this helped him to get into being an illustrator. The kids have had the best time and can't wait to get their noses into a good book!



SCHOOL NEWS

KURNAI COLLEGE UNI CAMPUS

Inter House athletics carnival

A perfect autumn day hosted Kurnai College's Inter House Athletics Carnival at Joe Carmody Reserve in Newborough on Tuesday March 3, 2020.

Students from across the College came together and participated in various track and field events, novelty events such as limbo, longest footy kick or the balloon toss or simply spent a relaxing day catching up with their friends.

Forsyth once again prevailed and took out the Kurnai College House Athletics Championship Cup winning by a margin of 148 points ahead of runners up Freeman.

Topping the efforts from the Swimming Carnival, the Campus again experienced its highest participation rate, a credit to all our students and to our parents for getting onto compass to provide consent for the students to attend.

It was fantastic to see the students competing, striving to do their best for their house and get into the spirit of the

day by getting involved and dressing up in their house colours. Congratulations to all our competitors and we wish our top performers all the very best on their efforts for the Wellington Athletics Carnival that will be held later in the term.

A huge thank you to all of the staff and students from Kurnai College for their efforts and to the Health and Physical Education staff for their professional running of the day.



Above: Claire Irving, Lachlan Roberts, Ben Bremner & Tom Hoghton

Left: Timothy Hutchinson, Riley Drummond, Jordan Gillespie, Patrick Carte, Tristan Blaney and Thomas Lappin



Patrick Carte



Anna Solomon

SCHOOL NEWS

LUMEN CHRISTI PRIMARY

Andrew Chinn, from Butterfly Music recently visited Lumen Christi Primary School. Since 2000, Andrew has been recording Christian music for children for use in Religious Education classes and Masses. Andrew has an extensive background in Catholic education having taught in Catholic primary schools in Sydney for twenty years.

The mission of Andrew and Butterfly Music, is to provide quality resources to enhance the teaching of Religious Education lessons, with a particular emphasis on the Catholic faith. His aim also is to create and perform music to enhance the celebration of liturgies in schools. At Lumen Christi, Andrew involved the whole school. He then invited some of the children to lead a choir for a whole school assembly. "I loved singing with Andrew Chinn", said Reed. "The choir was awesome", said Lily. "I loved being involved", said Sophia from Year 2. The teachers, already big fans of Andrew's music, are now eager to use some of the new songs that Andrew sang. His affiliated Butterfly Music co-writer, Jane Mitchell, wrote the Lumen Christi school song, "We Shine", which the children proudly sing at their school assembly each week.

Lumen Christi gets Marketfresh!

Lumen Christi students recently had a visit from the MarketFresh Schools Program. They learnt about the origin of fresh produce followed by tastings of fresh fruit and vegetables direct

from the Melbourne Market, Epping.

The Market Fresh Schools Program, run by the Melbourne Market Authority, is designed to teach students about the importance of eating fresh fruit and vegetables as part of a healthy balanced diet.

The visit to Lumen Christi students complements the work they are already doing on healthy eating via the Victorian Curriculum.

Teacher, Cathy Colaciello from Lumen Christi, said "The program affirms our commitment to promoting healthy eating".

Carolyn and Teisha, the Market Fresh School presenters, were impressed with the attentiveness of the children. Teisha said, "It is great for the children to try fruit and vegetables that come from a variety of colours". Carolyn said, "It's great to share with the children that their taste buds do change, so if they didn't like a food when they were five, they might like it when they're ten if they just taste it". Teisha said, "Some kids are quite amazed that they do like certain fruit and vegetables when they retaste them". "It was great to see a change in their mindset", one staff member commented. Anne from Year 1 said she loved eating the free fruit. "I loved the watermelon and oranges", she said.

The children enjoyed a range of fresh seasonal produce, with the emphasis on continuing to try a range of fresh produce as taste buds grow and develop. Kingston from Year 2 said, "I loved

eating banana as I have never had it before and now I'm going to ask my mum to buy it".

The Market Fresh Schools Program is supported by growers and wholesalers of fruit and vegetables from the Melbourne Market in Epping and is available Victoria-wide for both primary and secondary students.

For more information on the Market Fresh Schools Program visit www.marketfresh.com.au.

Above - Andrew from Butterfly Music with the choir

Right - Cooper, Carolyn from Marketfresh and Kaylah

Far Right - Pippa, Kionie and Addi from Year Prep and 1, enjoying their yummy fruit and veggi samples

Right - Alexandra and Ava from Year 6 eating their healthy treats

Below - Matthew, Zayd and Kingston enjoying their healthy snack. Kingston was so proud of himself trying banana for the first time.

Below Right - Andrew and the choir





STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



Aboriginal art

The indigenous people of Australia have a long tradition of artistic endeavour in many and varied mediums. They were looked on as inconsequential oddities by the early white settlers and were collected or preserved not as works of art but as curiosities. Many were destroyed in the bid to assimilate them into our culture or to drive them from areas desired by settlers for farming. Recently, a number of pieces of rock art were bulldozed to stop native title claims.

Despite our efforts, there are a lot of examples remaining in remote or hidden places or hidden in plain sight, like the rock carving of a whale on a large rock in a National Park in the northern suburbs of Sydney. It is so large that it can only be viewed by standing well back. Close up, it is just a continuous groove in a rock.

Aboriginal art has a number of unique forms. Firstly, we have what are called the x-ray portraits of native creatures. These were generally painted in ochre and charcoal on surfaces of caves. They are found right round Australia and differ only in



the subject matter, the native animals found in the local areas.

The second group feature the spirit beings which are part of the religious beliefs of each tribe. They vary from place to place, and their significance within the local tribes is profound. They were and sometimes still are used as educational tools by the elders to advance the members of the tribe from one level to the next in the hierarchy of the tribe. There are also separate women's and men's spirit beings and often these are kept secret from one another.

The third group type of art is body decoration, used at times of various rituals such as funerals and at corroborees. The decoration is always the same for the individual dancers.

Women wove various patterns in baskets fashioned

from reeds or string for general use and the decoration of utensils was a common practice. Weapons were decorated for ceremonial purposes.

There are some forms of art which are decidedly local such as the decorated grave posts on Melville Island.

In the modern era we have the development of what can be called dreaming art, where the individual paints a picture of their country as they see it, or a picture that explains the habits of local wildlife. There are as many examples as there are painters. Some use dots and patterns, others use lifelike depictions, but once you hear the story, the dreaming, the picture comes to life in a whole new way.

The first example of Aboriginal art was that of a crocodile on a 2/- definitive stamp in 1946. A set of four appeared in 1971, depicting four types of Aboriginal art and two booklets featuring Aboriginal crafts were issued in 1987. Other sets have been issued since and provide a small window on a long-neglected part of our Australian heritage.

2/- chocolate-coloured picture of a crocodile as an example of Aboriginal art.

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