

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

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Rose Festival - p 8

Rose Festival



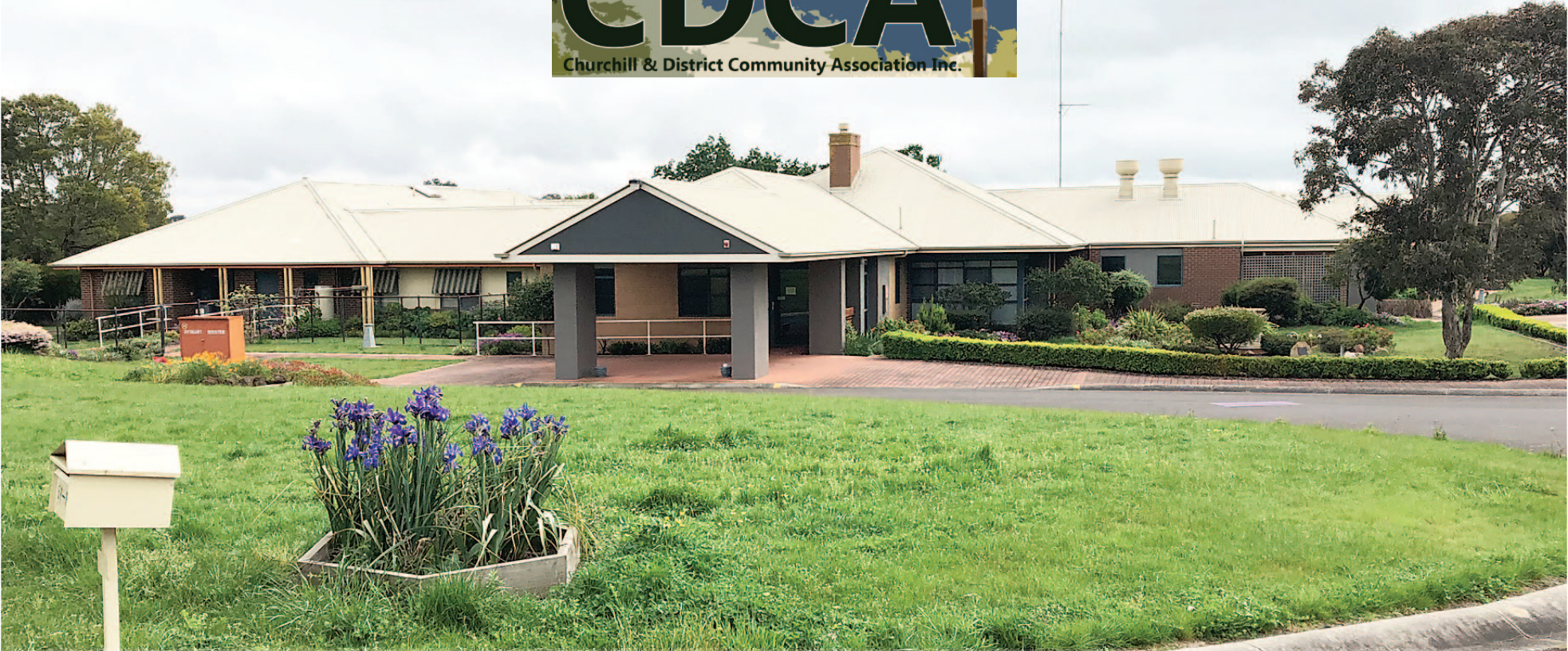
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Hazelwood House option purchase



Latrobe City Council has utilised its option to purchase the former Hazelwood House aged care facility in Churchill.

Under the original purchase agreement, Council had "First Right of Refusal to Purchase" which meant the facility would be offered to Council to buy before any other party. It is CDCA's understanding that the purchase price was \$1, this being the original price paid for the land purchased from the then Morwell Shire.

Many Churchill residents would know of the significant fund-raising conducted by

this community to build Hazelwood House and the sense of ownership many of us felt.

Council has stated that it is committed to trying to ensure that the facility remains as something that provides care or benefit to this community. However, to widen the options available for the facility's use, Council has removed the Caveat which ensured that Hazelwood House could only be used as an aged care facility.

Council does not operate aged care facilities itself and on-going attempts to find another approved provider to operate

Hazelwood House have failed, perhaps because the building has aged and needs upgrading to meet high needs aged care.

It is also too small to deliver aged care at scale which seems to be the current trend amongst providers.

The removal of this Caveat means that Hazelwood House could be used for a range of much needed services, such as palliative or respite care, short-term accommodation for mothers and babies, emergency or transitional housing, etc.

Council has decided to call for

Expressions of Interest from agencies wishing to operate community care services from the site. The former facility owner, Benetas, has donated much of the specialised bedroom furnishings (e.g. beds, drawers and chairs) to charity.

A lot of the general furnishings are still in place which would certainly help with the establishment costs for a new agency to set up within Hazelwood House.

Let us all hope that a suitable service can be found soon and the facility does not lie idle for much longer!

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

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

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The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the November edition is October 25, 2020

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Churchill & District News
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Or Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
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MEMBER 2020

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Boolarra Community Hotel Update

By Bronte Hillis Harland

The Boolarra Community Hotel is situated in the picturesque town of Boolarra, priding itself on being a family friendly and welcoming focal point of the community.

The hotel is slowly opening back up with the return to COVID normalcy with the atmosphere being warm, friendly and inviting. The Boolarra Community Hotel has a new chef running the bistro providing healthy and delicious meals on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

The hotel is also offering takeaway and delivery

services in wake of the pandemic so you can enjoy the delicious food Boolarra has to offer from the comfort of your own home, which is available at the same time as dining in.

There is an extensive range of meals available via the takeaway menu available on Facebook. My parents rang recently and ordered takeaway and enjoyed a meal of chicken parmigiana and vegetables, blue southern whiting with chips and salad and banana fritters. They were able to call, give the time the meal was required



and pick up the meal from the Bottle Shop. It was an enjoyable experience.

The bar also is once more open for normal service by the public from 3pm to 7pm Monday to Sunday. Although with seating restrictions of ten in the bar and ten in the bistro, bookings for the bistro and bar are now essential. The Boolarra Community hotel can be contacted on 5169 6420 to make a booking or order for takeaway.

Although campers have to be self-contained, the Boolarra Community Hotel is slowly opening up due to the lessening of COVID

restrictions, and if you have self-contained motor homes or caravans you can now be accommodated in the clean and presentable free camping available. There are some restrictions for accommodation still required for camping as tents/camper trailers and porta-potties can no longer be accommodated due to a current lack of amenities and facilities. Camping reservations can be made by phone on 5169 6420 or booking on YouCamp to make sure there is room for the nights you wish to camp with the Boolarra Community Hotel.

Al-Anon

The wife of an alcoholic

I arrived at my first Al-Anon meeting confused, angry, hurt and full of despair! My marriage was on the rocks.

Why couldn't my husband of many years just snap out of it and stop drinking?

Couldn't he see what it was doing to me? We had been to marriage courses and counselling but nothing seemed to make a difference.

I really didn't understand him, nor him me, even though I had thought we were expert communicators. What I didn't understand is that alcoholism is a disease: he is not drinking to hurt me, he has a compulsion to drink and it is really none of my business!

Walking into my first meeting was the first step to my recovery from being addicted to him and his drinking! I didn't realise that alcoholism is a family disease which affects us all. Al-Anon has given me a whole new life of hope and offers me the tools to get on with my life. I have learnt many things about myself since my first meeting. Best of all, I know I am not alone in dealing with this awful disease. Others are there too.

The Al-Anon program is a gentle and empowering program which offers me choices, one day at a time and is based on unconditional love. Who wouldn't want to belong to such a wonderful group.

RAINFALL

Churchill Rainfall for September 2020

The Churchill Rainfall for September was below average with only 48.5 falling. Only 13 mm fell in the first three weeks of the month, a wet end to the month saw 35 mm recorded during the last week. The total rainfall for 2020 in Churchill, to date is now 661.5mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South

September only had 56mm of rain, which is 62% of the average for September. As a result the ground water recharge is poor for the time of the year. The average for 2020 has reduced to 132%. Cleaning up ahead of the bushfire season has started. Mowing and weeding has replaced tree and firewood activities and it is time for the summer crops to be in the garden.



CDCA held a successful Zoom meeting in late August and has decided to hold our Annual General Meeting online via Zoom this year.

It was agreed that the seemingly ever-changing restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic were too difficult to predict and that the best option was a Zoom meeting as this would not be affected by restrictions.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday October 28 at 7pm.

All members and local residents are welcome to join us at our on-line Zoom meeting but you MUST register to attend in order to be provided with the meeting ID number or the on-line link.

Please note that you will

need to have the Zoom app downloaded to your computer, tablet or phone in order to join our meeting.

If you would like to attend our AGM, please RSVP to mgcdca@hotmail.com or text/phone 0407 876 443 by Friday October 23.

This will enable you to be provided with the information you will need to join our Zoom meeting.

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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Articles can be Emailed to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
- Mailed to: PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
OR put in one of our collection boxes at: Churchill Post Office and at the Co-Operating Churches.
Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au



Busy keeping everyone busy



COVID 19 hasn't stopped the tutors at Churchill Neighbourhood Centre from delivering fun and educational activities to keep learners' brains busy, and connected with others. They've been wriggling through cable, squeezing into the postbox, and riding radio waves to the mobile phone tower. What that really means is that tutors have been

over here... here... and here, connecting by computer, post and phone to students over there... and there... and there! Of course, Churchill Neighbourhood Centre usually runs classes face to face, but restrictions do not allow us to do so at the moment, so, for a while we are doing things differently, with lots of support to get students used to the changes, and the outcomes

are the same - great learning opportunities. For example, Pauline helps people in the community set up a new computer, and build their confidence in basic skills and more advanced ones. Noelene helps her students extend their cooking skills, with ingredients and instructions coming by post; Anne busies hers with

innovative patchwork projects; and Bronwyn keeps everyone knitting! Rachel helps students with study skills, including spelling and maths, and provides tech support to all the students as they access the classes on line.

You can join them, too, from the comfort of your armchair. It is easy to get involved. **What do you need to do?** Get access to a computer with the ability to connect to the internet, or a mobile phone. Interested, but not

certain about all that? Talk to Rachael on 5120 3850. Watch out for new activities in Term 4, including Digital Matters that will help people looking for work get savvy with on-line application processes that many organisations use now

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Latrobe City Council Elections
SOUTH WARD



VOTE 1 DARRELL WHITE

2 Antoinette Holm
3 Melissa Ferguson
4 Leanne Potter

I stand for:

- Continuing strong advocacy for Churchill's Hazelwood House future, and for the retention of Hazelwood Pondage, Latrobe City's "jewel" as an important water sports and recreation facility.
- Continuing to be a "good Councillor listener", as demonstrated by my recent decision to vote against the proposed Lead Battery Recycling Plant, because of overwhelming concerns of Hazelwood North residents.
- Strong advocacy for expansion of existing locally based businesses to create additional diverse job opportunities for all ages, including tourism and events.
- Strong advocacy for families support and community volunteers, as well as for "grass roots" sporting and community based organisations.
- Continuing support for affordable community services along with prudent financial management and balanced growth and development throughout the whole of Latrobe City.
- Being an experienced and effective voice on Council, through listening to and responding to the needs of our Latrobe City residents.

VOTE 1 DARRELL WHITE
FOR RESPONSIBLE, APPROACHABLE, EXPERIENCED AND ACCOUNTABLE REPRESENTATION
Authorised by Jenny Webb, 21 Howard Avenue, Churchill. 3842

Strzelecki Bushwalking Club



Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is based in Trafalgar with members from across Gippsland but mostly from Drouin to Traralgon. There are regular bushwalking and hiking activities in the Club program.

Cycling, paddling, snowshoeing and skiing are also included. Club meetings are held at the Scout Hall in Kitchener Street Trafalgar on the second Wednesday of the month. Since June the membership has increased by over 25% with members keen to be active whilst socialising and meeting new people.

The recent easing of Covid restrictions has allowed Strzelecki

Bushwalking Club to be back on the track in groups of ten. Club leaders have offered a number of varied walks which have been enthusiastically received by many members. Morwell National Park, the Baw Baws, Walhalla and Port Albert were the initial walk areas on the program with Wilsons Promontory, Mt Worth and some bike rides and kayaking among the activities on the near horizon. Further information is



available via the website, Facebook or email. sbwc.org.au facebook.com/strzeleckibushwalkingclub Jo at publicity@sbwc.org.

Churchill Lions keeping busy

Fishing & Fun Day Saturday November 28

Put Saturday November 28 in your calendar or diary. As we know all too well it's been a hard year for everyone with the tough Covid19 restrictions, but now that restrictions are eased it will be a good time to get out and have some fun times again.

This is exactly what the Lions Club of Churchill and District intends to provide the Churchill and wider community on Saturday November 28, when the Club will host the Churchill Family Fishing and Fun Day at Lake Hyland, Mathison Park.

It will give families and friends a fantastic opportunity to come together to catch a fish and join in some fun activities.

As well as fishing there will be a free jumping castle for the little ones, there will be a roving clown, face painting and live music, there will also be many other fun activities for young and old.

The Lions Club will be cooking bacon and egg sandwiches and sausages all day, as well as burgers and we also have cold drinks, tea and coffee available.

The day is all set for a great family day out.

There will be many prizes for the kids to win for those catching the biggest fish in their age groups, mystery weight prizes as well as a lucky ticket prize, plus more.

The day will cater for everyone, young and old and it will be a great day to celebrate the outdoors and our freedom to have fun

Peter Gray will again be master of ceremonies and Events First aid will look after those who hook themselves.

There is plenty of parking with a special area for disabled parking.

Unfortunately, Covid19 rules will apply on the day and wearing of masks will be mandatory unless restrictions are lifted.

Social distancing will most likely still apply, but Covid19 cannot stop us having fun, and that is what the Churchill Family Fishing and Fun Day intends to deliver to Churchill and district - a family day out fishing with the kids and having loads of fun.

Churchill and District Australia Day Nominations

The 2021 Churchill and District Australia Day awards nominations are now open for all local individuals.

These awards pay tribute to local individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Churchill and District community.

The Lions Club of Churchill seeks the support of the whole community to nominate members in our community who have made a significant contribution to our community or local sporting organisations, culture, arts, business or the environment, that made an impact and made the Churchill and district a better place to be, so that they can be awarded and recognised for the contributions they have made to our community.

Nominations are for

- * Churchill and District Citizen of the Year
- * Churchill and District Young Citizen of the Year
- * School Student Citizen of the year
- * Any individual, Club or organisation and school can make a nomination of a person they feel has demonstrated and made a significant contribution to the Churchill and district community.

Over a period of time, they have shown outstanding leadership skills and are role models for their community or organisation, or excel in the arts or culture, sport and recreation, business, the environment or community service, or have made a noteworthy contribution that has made an impact to the lives of those in our community

To be Eligible - All



individuals must be nominated, self-nominations will not be accepted.

All individuals nominated must be Australian Citizens and Nominees must be a Resident of the Churchill District.

All nominations must be on the official Churchill & District Australian of the Year form, and any information that supports the nomination can be attached to the form (see page 22).

Churchill Lions Lap of the Map Project.

Diabetes impacts the lives of a big proportion of people and this year for our Lions Diabetes Fundraiser we are holding Lap The Map 2020.

Churchill Lions are joining in with the Lions National Project and have already started documenting the distances they walk.

We are hoping as many people as possible will join in and help out, especially in these trying times of being stuck inside - what better than a good cause to get out and walk? It's free and it's fun!

Just keep a rough record of how far you, and everyone with you - yes kids as well - walk each time you go out.

Keep an eye on the Churchill Lions Community Activities Facebook Page for details of the final Fun Day which will be on November 14, - venue and times will be on the FB Community Activities page, so keep an eye on it.

Come along and join in, the more the merrier to help out with a great cause and have a fantastic fun filled day - see you all there.

Where does your car rank for car theft?

In the past year, 16,751 vehicles were stolen in Victoria. That's 8% more than the previous year, but 7% less than four years ago. The two most popular cars stolen were the Nissan Pulsar N15 and Holden Commodore VE. Seven out of ten cars are stolen with their own keys. Car thieves sneak into homes

through unlocked doors and windows and look for keys left in places that are easy to access, such as on a key hook or in a bowl near the door. The easiest way to protect your car is to pop your keys out of sight, lock all doors and windows, and make sure your family is doing the same.



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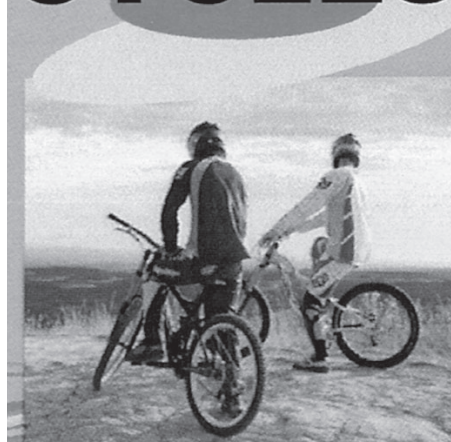
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Streetgames Return to Program Planning



by Jasmine Steger
We are currently planning for a phased return to program for Latrobe Streetgames.

GippSport is closely monitoring all the official advice out there so we're getting our plan ready for when we have the green light to get back out there.

Right Time, Place, Style Survey

We are seeking feedback on the Right Time, Place and Style for our programs over the coming six months.

It only takes a couple of minutes and can be completed by youth or any community member who would like to contribute feedback: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3XH95H2>

We are very interested in working with organisations to develop some niche and targeted programs for youth, so please get in touch if you would like to collaborate.

Latrobe Streetgames

Virtual

Our Virtual program continues to reach large numbers, proving highly popular for 18-25 year olds.

With this in mind and planning for a safe Return to Program, phase 1 is shaping up to be a hybrid of our Virtual program where Streetgamers can participate and connect with our Crew,

of course with required restrictions and hygiene measures in place.

In planning our Return to Program, we are monitoring advice from the Victorian Government, Health Department and Sporting Sector Authorities. We know it's a tough time for all and especially for our youth.

Increasing physical activity and social connection is a great strategy to help combat Mental Health issues so we're committed to getting back out there to help with this when we are permitted to.

Virtual Timetable

Our current timetable is on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/latrobestreetgames

Thank You!

July marked two years of Streetgames. We want to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of this program whether you're a funder, event partner, donator, promoter or participant, we appreciate you!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Keep an eye out on our socials for a celebration series!

Get involved!

Feel free to get in touch if I can clarify any of these points or if you would like to partner with us in the future.

Yinnar Community Garden



by Rosemary Abetz-Rouse

Spring is in the air and members of the Yinnar Community Garden have been busy mowing, weeding, mulching, pruning, and planting spring veggies. Although we are currently unable to hold public events, we have a few projects in the pipeline. We have recently received a grant from Latrobe City Council

through the Minor Capital Works program, to build the "YCG Welcome Centre", a sheltered blackboard structure which will be placed at the entrance to the Garden. The Welcome Centre will house informative flyers for visitors to take, a full-colour aerial photo / map of the Garden with accompanying plant species list, latest upcoming event information, covered

boxes which will hold some produce for donation, and a secure donations box.

Other upcoming projects include creating a mosaic design on the steps leading up to the gazebo, and holding an event featuring our wood-fired pizza oven when COVID19 restrictions allow.

With the lifting of restrictions, working bees have resumed with a maximum of ten. Wearing

a mask is required when working in the Garden, and please stay home if you have any symptoms however mild. If you would like to attend a working bee, please contact yinnarcg@gmail.com for the latest information. You can also visit the Yinnar Community Garden Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/yinnarcommunitygarden/>.

Thank you

Churchill & District News thanks Latrobe City Council for once again continuing its support of the Churchill & District News

with a community grant.

This enables us to cover shortfalls in paying our publication and distribution costs.



Churchill & District News

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Cooking with Noelene



Banana rice fluff

Place 1 cup of uncooked rice in 2 cups of boiling water. Stir occasionally over a low heat to a simmer, cover the pot until all the water is absorbed, this will give you 3 cups of cooked rice.

Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Separate 3 eggs. Beat the egg whites until firm with a hand held mixer, do not clean the beaters.

Place 3 yolks in a large bowl along with 6 tbs of castor sugar and 1 tbs of lemon juice.

Using the egg white covered beaters, beat the egg yolk mixture at the highest speed and gradually add 3 ripe and softened bananas.

Beat until the mixture is thick and frothy.

Using a metal spoon fold through the egg whites.

Spray / grease an ovenproof dish (casserole dish)

Place 3 cups of cooked rice into the prepared dish.

Pour the batter over the rice and cover with slivered almonds.

Place in preheated oven for 15-20 minutes or until set and golden.

Creole beef

The rice for Creole beef is a mixture of black, short, medium and long grain rice, equalling 1 cup of uncooked rice.

Heat 1/2 cup of rice bran

oil in a large pan or heavy based pot.

Add 1 tbs of minced garlic, 1/2 tsp of salt, 1/2 tsp of cracked pepper and 500 gm of lean minced beef.

Sauté till the beef is thoroughly browned.

Add 2 cups of warm water (500 ml) to the beef mixture and bring to a simmer.

Now add 1 cup of the mixed grain rice, adding 1 tsp of sumac, 1 tsp of paprika and 1/2 tsp of chilli powder (optional).

Cook slowly until the liquid is absorbed by the rice and the rice is tender.

Add 1 x 400 gm can of diced tomatoes, 1 onion, peeled and sliced, 1 avocado peeled and diced, 1 cup of chopped parsley and 1 grated carrot.

Stir through and cook slowly for a further 15 minutes.

Mascarpone biscuits

Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. In a food processor, combine 1 and half cups of castor sugar with 8 tbs of butter/margarine.

Add 1 lightly beaten egg, 250 gm of mascarpone cheese, 1 tsp of vanilla extract.

Mix until just combined, do not over process.

Add 2 and 1/4 cups of plain flour and 1/2 tsp baking powder and process for a few seconds to combine.

Turn the dough out into a bowl and stir in 1/2 cup of raisins and 1/2 cup of chocolate chips.

Use a tbs to scoop out the dough and drop rounded spoonfuls about

2" apart on a baking tray lined with baking paper.

Bake until the edges of the cookies are golden, about 25 minutes. Do not let them to brown. Allow to cool completely on the tray before separating. These are delicious.

Tuna surprise

When you are short of time and ideas, this is just the dish for you.

This dish can be prepared in a short time and best of all with just a few ingredients we all have in the pantry, and easily served with rice or noodles.

Melt 1/4 cup of butter/margarine in a medium sized saucepan over a medium heat.

When the butter melts add 1 large onion, peeled and sliced, 1 tbs of minced garlic and fry for 5 minutes until the onion softens.

Stir in 1 tsp of curry powder, add 1x 400 gm can of diced tomatoes, 1x 250 gm can of tuna, flaked, 1 tsp of ground basil, 2 tbs of sultanas, salt and pepper to taste.

Slowly bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes.

Remove from the heat and spoon tuna mixture over rice or pasta on serving dishes.



Chaplain

This is a story that's not new, but it is one told often in the Middle East - about how best to really help someone in need.

Briefly, the story concerns a man who can't swim who falls in a river and a crowd gather on the edge of the water each shouting to him, 'give me your hand!' The man is struggling to breathe and ignores their calls.

Then one man approaches and also wants to help, but calmly walks into the water goes near to the man and says 'take my hand' which the drowning man does.

The crowd was puzzled and asked the rescuer why he was responded to in that



way, to which the rescuer said 'You all asked him for something, his hand, I offered him something, my hand. A drowning man is in no position to give you anything'.

I have recently spoken

about the right hand, and specifically about God's right hand and our right hand and Him holding our right hand...so this story seemed appropriate.

Let's offer to help. Worth thinking about!

Church Times

Boolarra/Yinnar
Co-Operating Parish
Christ Church Boolarra
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays
11.00am
All Services



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

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

Churchill Christian Fellowship
CHURCH SERVICE TIMES
Sunday Service 2PM
at the Churchill Public Hall
Tuesday Home fellowship
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Phone 0409173747 or
0400690972

Fr James Fernandez/Fr Solomon Okeh
Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday: Mass: 9.00am
1st and 3rd Sundays:
Yinnar: Mass: 10.30am
2nd and 4th Sundays:
Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

Churchill / Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Motor vehicle roadworthiness

With the winter months behind us now, we need to look at the roadworthiness of our motor vehicles.

During winter, we tend to forget about tyre pressures and tyre conditions, and headlights and tail lights that may have failed.

We tend to have the lights on a fair bit during the day and the globes don't last forever.

It is handy to have a spare set of replacement lamps on board. Remember, if your headlights don't work, your car is unroadworthy!

Also, don't forget to turn off your fog lamps when there is no fog or extreme conditions.

Make sure you have your vehicle serviced regularly, and drive to the conditions.

Also, around the Latrobe Valley area, there will be road works done to fix pot holes and other road issues left over from winter conditions.

Remember to stick to the speed limits when travelling through these work areas and watch out for workers on the road.



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.



Annual General Meeting

7.00 pm,

Wednesday, October 28, 2020

via Zoom online meeting

Agenda items include:

- Presentation of Annual Report
- Annual Financial Statement
- Committee Elections

All members and local residents are welcome to attend but must register your attendance in order to be provided with the Zoom Meeting ID.

Please RSVP to mgcdca@hotmail.com or text/ phone 0407 876 443 by Friday, October 23, 2020.

Rental scams targeting more Australians during pandemic

Australians have lost over \$300,000 to rental and accommodation scams this year, an increase of 76 per cent compared to the same time last year. Scamwatch has received 560 reports of rental scams so far this year, an increase of 56 per cent, with many using tactics related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These scams target people seeking new rental accommodation by offering fake rental properties to convince people into handing over money or personal information.

"Scammers are offering reduced rents due to COVID-19 and using the government restrictions to trick people into transferring money without inspecting the property," ACCC Deputy Commissioner Delia Rickard said.

The scammer will post advertisements on real estate or classified websites or target people who have posted on social media that they are looking for a room. After the victim responds, the scammer will request an upfront deposit to secure the property or phish for personal information through a 'tenant application form', promising to provide the keys after the payment or information is provided.

The scammer may come up with excuses for further payments and the victim often only realises they have been scammed when the keys don't arrive and the scammer cuts off contact. Some scammers will even impersonate real estate agents and organise fake inspections, victims will then arrive to discover the property doesn't exist or is currently



occupied.

"The loss of personal information through rental scams is becoming more common, with scammers requesting copies of identity documents such as passports, bank statements or payslips," Ms Rickard said.

"Once a scammer has your personal information you are at risk of being targeted by further scams or identity theft. Many people are also experiencing financial difficulties due to the pandemic and the financial impact of falling victim to a scam can be devastating," Ms Rickard said.

People aged 25-34 reported the most rental scams so far in 2020, and the most reports came from NSW, VIC and the ACT.

A common rental scam operating in Canberra involves a scammer impersonating a doctor living in Sweden who only offers virtual inspections and then requests bond money.

"Try to view a property in person before paying any bond or rent money to landlords or real estate agents," Ms Rickard said.

"In areas of Victoria under COVID-19 level 4 restrictions this is not possible, but you can help protect yourself by doing an online search to confirm the property exists and, if dealing with an agent, checking that the agent you are dealing with is licensed. Scammers often rely on email communications to avoid

identification. Do an independent search for a phone number and speak to the property manager over the phone or arrange a meeting in person," Ms Rickard said.

"Before making any payments ensure you are dealing with the licensed agent, if a scammer has your details they may impersonate a real estate agent and attempt to 'follow-up' requesting money after an inspection."

Potential renters can contact their state consumer protection agency for information on bond requirements and tenants' rights in their state.

More information on scams is available on the Scamwatch website, including how to make a report and where to get help.

Background

Anyone who suspects they are a victim of a rental scam should act quickly to reduce the risk of financial loss or other damages.

They should contact their bank as soon as possible and, if relevant, contact the platform on which they were scammed to inform them of the circumstances.

IDCARE is a free government-funded service which works with victims of identity theft to develop a specific response plan and support them throughout the process. You can phone them on 1300 IDCARE (432273) or visit their website www.idcare.org.

Work starts on Churchill school upgrades



Students at Churchill Primary School are a step closer to getting the facilities they need for a great start in life, with an architect appointed to design the school's exciting upgrade.

Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing recently announced that Grove Architecture has been appointed to design the school's \$2.634 million upgrade.

The upgrade will see the delivery of a brand new architect-designed modular building that will feature general

purpose classrooms, an administration suite, and student and staff toilet facilities. The Victorian Government has invested \$7.2 billion to deliver more than 1,460 school upgrades, supporting over 7,500 construction jobs for Victorians.

Under the government's school building boom, a total of 100 new schools will open by 2026, ensuring every child has a great local school and a great start in life.

The government is building the Education State to ensure that every student

can access a great local school and get a quality education.

Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing said "As part of our ongoing school infrastructure funding, we're making sure that more schools across the region and the state have facilities that are bright, modern, accessible and fit-for-purpose."

Churchill Primary's school community is a step closer to having the great facilities that kids need to thrive, and that staff and teachers deserve."

Home Library offers lockdown lifeline

Latrobe City Libraries Home Library for All service has offered a lifeline to its more than 850 customers over the latest lockdown period. During August alone, the libraries loaned more than 10,000 items. Latrobe City Council Mayor Councillor Dan Clancey said the service not only delivered books, but hope too. "During this second lockdown, we extended our Home Library Service to everyone who wanted to borrow items, with no restrictions on age.

Pleasingly, the statistics show that more than 950 customers were aged in the 20 to 40 years age group, so the service has clearly been a big winner with younger people. Of course, our older residents are just as keen for the service as they always have been. More than 40% of borrowers are aged over 70 and we have almost 400 members aged over 90 receiving items," Councillor Clancey said.

The Home Library For

All concept included options for families and young adults, as well as 'lucky dip' packs where borrowers left the choice to library officers. "This is a great way to get people reading or listening outside of their usual genre preferences. While restrictions are still in place, the Home Library will continue to operate, and recently we were given the go ahead to resume our Click, Call and Collect service too. Items can be chosen using the online library catalogue, or by phone to a branch, and the customer can pick up their order at an agreed time. The collection is organised in a safe and hygienic way. Libraries are an invaluable asset in our community; usually a bricks and mortar pillar of equity and inclusion. It's been hard for the members and visitors during these closures, some of whom have lost their access to computers and free WiFi or a space for social connections. We feel that these services offer



continuity in an otherwise bumpy path we're all treading. For our library team, they have missed seeing our customers. However, receiving feedback from Home Library recipients, by way of letters and cards and phone conversations, has lifted their spirits," Councillor Clancey said.

The Latrobe City Libraries team also offers an 'Ask the Librarian' call-back service to answer any library related questions, and will start a regular program of online activities for families, adults and seniors in November. Bookings for Baby Bounce, Wiggle & Jiggle, Storytime, Book Chat, author talks and workshops will open shortly. Membership is free and you can sign up by phone on 1300 367 700 or online at www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/library

Churchill Police Report

by Phil den Houting

It has been an interesting few months and with the weather on the improve, I hope that we can continue to enjoy the easing of restrictions so that we can again enjoy getting out and about.

Unfortunately we have been directed to have the doors closed and locked to the public at this time.

This does not mean that we are not here and available. Generally we are only a phone call away, and can respond when required.

I am hopeful that we will soon be able to have our doors open again as Victoria continues to emerge from what has been a very difficult time.

For September (up to 22) in the Churchill Response Zone (Covering the areas of Churchill, Jeeralang Junction, Hazelwood South and Jumbuck) there have been

14 reportable incidents.

Of these, 11 were for

Family Violence related matters.

There was a burglary in Williams Avenue that was reported to police on September

18, where a garage attached to the house was entered and a chainsaw stolen from the garage.

An internet deception was reported where a couple had transferred money as a bond for a rental property in the Melbourne area. The property that they had hoped to rent was in fact not a rental property, and I understand that this is one of a number of investigations into this type of online fraud. It is probably a timely reminder to always be aware of making bank transfers or providing personal or banking details over the phone/internet.



There was a fire reported as having damaged some playground equipment in Watson Park on September 3.

Unfortunately, we have had quite a bit of hoon driving occurring in the industrial area of Webster and McCormick Streets. This was reported in the August article but it would appear that it is continuing.

There are very visible signs of vehicles being driven in such a manner that rubber and debris is being left on the road.

I would ask that if anyone hears or sees a vehicle being driven in such a manner, that they contact police through 000.



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New look Morwell Rose

Festival to go ahead

Not even COVID-19 will stop the annual celebration of the stunning blooms of Morwell's Centenary Rose Garden. Despite a change to the usual festival format this November, rose enthusiasts are still in for a treat.

The 2020 International Rose Garden Festival Morwell will be a hybrid event. Festival fans are guaranteed the event will still be bursting with the spring colour synonymous with roses. A creative program has been devised to make the festival accessible to people around Victoria, Australia and the world via the festival's website, on the weekend of November 14 and 15. Latrobe City Council is festival host and Mayor Councillor Dan Clancey is looking forward to this iconic celebration continuing despite COVID restrictions.

"Latrobe residents and visitors are treated to the sight of more than 3500 roses in the Morwell Centenary Rose Garden blooming every spring and it's important for our sense of community, now more than ever, that we celebrate our sense of identity," Councillor Clancey said. "The hybrid 2020 International Rose Garden Festival Morwell

will have all the usual features and activities festival fans appreciate, albeit in a new format, and this year, the festival will have global reach, as well as local appeal."

Online, visitors will be able to navigate a map of the Morwell Centenary Rose Garden and click on events and activities of interest. Workshops, music, children's entertainment, stalls and garden talks will be run online as free, interactive events. People will be able to comment, ask questions, and take part in polls, workshops and masterclasses all from the comfort of their homes – and even buy goods from stallholders as though they were there. The festival will showcase Gippsland food and wine producers and local musicians, and festival organisers will soon be announcing this year's special guests.

The AGL Mid-summer Night Lights Installation in the Morwell Centenary Rose Garden returns by popular demand on the Saturday and Sunday evening. AGL Loy Yang General Manager, Nigel Browne said AGL was thrilled to support this fantastic regional event showcasing our beautiful



region. "We know this event is more important than ever as local tourism works to recover from the impact of the summer bushfires and COVID-19," Mr Browne said. "It's wonderful to see the innovative approach taken to bring the Morwell International Rose Garden to the world, while still allowing our community to come together.

We encourage everyone to jump online, see what this event has to offer and take a look at the AGL MidSummer Night Lights Installation. You will not be disappointed." The festival will be viewable on a phone, tablet or computer via the festival website www.irgfm.com.au Participation is free but people must register on the festival website beforehand. The first 100 Australian residents to register will receive a festival showbag packed with goodies from local suppliers. For more information, stay tuned to the festival website.

Plants in my Garden



by Mike Beamish

Species: Hibiscus geranioides.

Family: Malvaceae.

Derivation:

Hibiscus: From Greek, hibiscos, the marshmallow, *Althaea officinalis*.

geranioides: Referring to the genus *Geranium*, with the suffix -oides, meaning 'like', thus like a *Geranium*, perhaps referring to the leaves.

Name: None.

Distribution: Widely distributed across northern Australia, in a variety of situations and habitats.

Description: An annual or biennial herb with erect stems to 60cm tall and 50cm wide, sparsely branched and covered with rigid stellate hairs and bristles. Leaves are dark green, up to 4cm long and 3cm across, deeply divided into 3-5 lobes with stiff hairs on both surfaces and toothed or lobed margins. Flowers occur in spring and summer, are up to 3cm across, are pink and solitary in the upper leaf axils, and have a deeply

divided, hairy, 1cm long calyx, followed by 1cm long globose capsule containing a few hairless seeds.

Opinion: My original specimen came as a gift for giving a presentation to the APS SE Melbourne Group a couple of years ago, and is still alive, though not looking as healthy as it did in its first year. This is probably why it is considered an annual, or biennial at best. I planted mine in a waterwell tub (about 45cm), which sits on the pathway along the western side of the house, where it gets a good amount of sunlight. I used a tub because I didn't expect a sub-tropical plant to enjoy being in the ground in Boolarra, but it seems to cope with the cooler climate ok and even tolerates the mild frosts it is exposed to within the protection of the garden – it's usually a couple of degrees warmer than outside the fence on a frosty morning. It is about the dimensions given in the description above and flowered very well in its first

year and I was able to collect quite a few capsules and extract some seed. Flowering in its second year was much sparser, whether due to age or the cooler, wetter summer, I do not know. It remains to be seen if the plant survives the winter and makes it into a third flowering season. I sowed some of the collected seeds at the end of summer 2019, and more during the summer of 2020 and had a mixed result. A few germinated in 2019, but only one survived potting up and it is now about 20cm tall, looking lush and healthy. A few more germinated this year and it remains to be seen if they survive the winter and/or potting up. I'm pleased though that some seeds did germinate, to prove there is some viability and that they will cope in a cooler climate than their natural habitat.

Sources: Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 5.

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Darrell White OAM

Hazelwood House – the future

At the recent September Ordinary Meeting of Council, consideration was given to a Council Report regarding the next steps, following Council's completion of the purchase of Hazelwood House on July 7, from the previous owners, Benetas.

Subsequently, the process of removing the restrictive covenant has been initiated.

When it became known that Hazelwood House was no longer in use, a number of organisations have expressed to Council an interest in the Hazelwood House facility and the surrounding grounds.

The proposed uses of the site have ranged from short term residential services for families needing early infant assistance, residential services for younger people with a disability who are currently housed in residential aged care facilities, and a retirement village.

Each of these options are congruent with the original intentions the Churchill and District community had for Hazelwood House, which included the capacity for people to age in community and potential local employment associated with this.

For Council, sale of the property was identified as the preferred option to pursue to:

Minimise any potential financial burden associated with maintenance of the property;

Encourage investment on the site, and by extension the township; and

Allocate revenue to agreed Churchill community projects that align with Council strategies and plans.

As a result, Council resolved at its meeting to adopt the recommendation

that Council undertakes an Expression of Interest process for the sale of Hazelwood House. This will allow the next exciting phase in the process of creating a new future for Hazelwood House which will benefit our community for the long term.

Hazelwood Pondage – Progress Update

Over recent months, a Sub-committee of Council including myself, Councillor Graeme Middlemiss, Councillor Alan McFarlane and the Mayor, Councillor Dan Clancy along with Council officers have been meeting to consider options to retain the use of the waterway of Hazelwood Pondage for the long term.

Clearly, Hazelwood Pondage has been a tremendous tourism and recreational asset over the years since the 1960's, and has been the location of the Latrobe Valley Yacht Club and the Aquatic Centre.

The Pondage has been the venue for many tourism events including the Yacht Club's annual Sauna Sail.

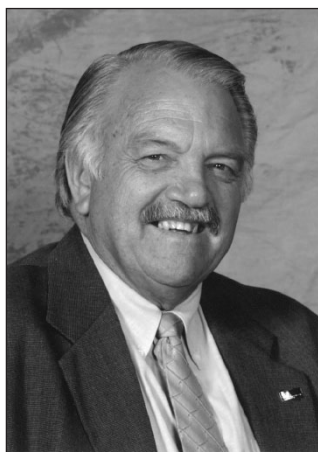
Programs such as Sailability have also happened there as well.

The Pondage has played a key role as a water resource for fire fighting purposes, especially for helicopters.

The Pondage remains a potential economic jewel for Latrobe City.

There have been numerous discussions and exchanges of correspondence between Council and the Victorian Government and Engie Australia over a number of years, looking for options to retain the use of the waterway of Hazelwood Pondage.

The most recent was



a letter written to the Hon Jaelyn Symes, Minister for Regional Development, Agriculture and Resources requesting financial support to undertake a feasibility study to better understand the economic options and viability for Hazelwood Pondage.

A subsequent response letter dated July 29, from the Minister indicated that the Government was not prepared to fund any studies.

As a result, at Council's September Ordinary Meeting, the following resolution was carried unanimously:

T h a t C o u n c i l :

Undertakes a high level desk top feasibility study that seeks to better quantify the immediate and long term costs associated with managing and operating Hazelwood Pondage and its associated surrounds and infrastructure;

Seeks to understand the potential uses for the waterways and surrounds and identify the community and commercial user groups;

Writes to Engie Australia seeking their approval to delay the demolition of the Aquatic Centre and Yacht Club buildings until the desk top feasibility study is complete; and

Informs the public as to the status of the negotiations to date and the proposed process to undertake a desk top feasibility study.

Thank You



Federation University

An open thank you letter to health and education providers and local communities.

Federation University Vice-Chancellor and President, Duncan Bentley has written an open letter of gratitude to those who have welcomed healthcare and education students for placements in 2020. During the COVID-19 pandemic, staff at hospitals, medical centres, aged care facilities, kindergartens, schools and childcare providers across Victoria have gone to significant lengths to ensure Federation University students could complete their placements.

Alongside the high-quality teaching experiences they have offered students, providers went out of their way to adapt to new restrictions and introduced additional hygiene processes and screening measures to ensure the safety of students, staff, and the community.

In Professor Bentley's letter he wanted all respective regional

communities to know – play in the community. While many of us were confined to our homes, these individuals continued to care for and educate the most vulnerable members of our community. Not only have they done that with grace and determination, but they have also helped to support our health and education students. At Federation, we are incredibly grateful that tomorrow's essential workers have been able to complete the placements that will ensure they can confidently and effectively take their places in the workforce of the future." Federation University Bachelor of Education student Stephanie Beekhuizen said "My placement experience was nothing but positive. The teachers who I was placed with were amazing and supported me the whole way through. I took a live mathematics and literacy session every day, planned units and used multiple online platforms."

Federation University Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Duncan Bentley said "In recent months, we have been left in no doubt of the crucial part educators and healthcare staff – our essential workers

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STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



Latrobe Valley and its connection with Australian stamps.

The connection goes back to the official naming of the river that flows through our valley.

It was named after the colonial superintendent of the Port Phillip settlement, Charles LaTrobe in 1841.

It had been discovered by white settlers a year before who had named it Glendenning River, but the honour to the superintendent of Port Phillip won out.

The aboriginal name for the river, Tanjil, was not considered at all.

Charles LaTrobe was a member of a French Huguenot family in London.

He trained in Switzerland for the ministry but was never ordained.

A keen abolitionist, his work in overseeing the end of slavery in the West Indies earned him his role of superintendent at Port Phillip, still a part of New South Wales in 1839.

His popularity waxed and waned for years as the settlement, starved of funds by the government in Sydney, struggled to expand.

The time taken for correspondence from Governor Gipps in Sydney to reach the rapidly growing settlement of Melbourne and vice versa caused many problems for LaTrobe

and the growing calls for a separation of the two settlements were growing all the time. His refusal to take further convicts from England in 1850 saw his popularity rise and when the colony of Victoria was granted partial self-government in 1850 he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor.

In 1851 he announced the discovery of gold in Victoria and was barely able to keep control of the Colony through the turbulent times of the gold rushes and the land apportionment acts.

He resigned in 1853 and went back to England in 1854, before the granting of full responsible government to the Colony in 1856.

He died in 1875. His greatest legacy to Victoria was the setting up of many religious, cultural and educational institutions, often at his own expense.

In 1951 a pair of stamps were issued to jointly commemorate the discovery of gold in N.S.W. and responsible government in Victoria. Edward Hargreaves' 1855 portrait is on the first and a profile of Charles LaTrobe is on the second. However, The Post Master General's Department had made a grave political error.

Full responsible government was not granted



until 1856.

The P.M.G. had to wait until 1956 to fix the error when they issued a second stamp recognising the centenary of the granting of Responsible Government to Victoria, N.S.W. and Tasmania.

The other connection to the Valley and stamps is the issue in 1965 which commemorated the birth and work of Sir John Monash.

The spelling of the name of the Latrobe River was a result of the Lands Department's simplification of place names in the second half of the 1900's.

It mainly had to do with the eradication of apostrophes in town names such as Hooper's Crossing and so on.

Most people didn't bother with the apostrophe so it was officially left out. The two worded name of the river was a further result of the simplification of place names.

St Matt's Op Shop



"Please follow the arrows one-way through the shop"

After closing due to COVID19 restrictions, St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar reopened its doors on Thursday October 8.

We have missed seeing everybody, and our volunteers and customers have been eager to know when we would be back on deck!

We will be resuming our usual hours of Thursdays and Fridays from 10am to 4pm, and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm.

Our safety precautions include offering hand sanitiser, limiting the number of customers in the shop to two at a time, and recording

the phone numbers of all customers.

Please follow the arrows one-way through the shop.

Our wonderful volunteers have spent a few days sorting things out ready to reopen.

We have plenty of Christmas items in the back room ready to put out in December.

During this difficult time, for the month of October most items will be priced at \$1.

This will help make way for new stock. Going forward, all books will be available at the discounted price of only \$1 each.

This includes hard covers.



"All recipe books 50 cents each"

Cook books are 50 cents each including hard covers.

For the latest information, please email stmattsyinnar@gmail.com or visit the St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar Facebook page.

Darren Chester

Federal Member for Gippsland



Proud to support our community

1300 131 785 www.darrenchester.com.au
 #lovegippsland #myvalley

A message about Recycling at the Churchill Hub



Recycle these items at the Hub:

- Bread tags
- Clean used aluminium foil
- X-rays
- Old bras
- P5 plastics
- Printer cartridges
- Household batteries
- Mobile phones & chargers
- All small e-waste items

Collection of plastic milk & juice bottle tops suspended until further notice – please continue to save these plastic bottle tops at home until we source an alternative recycling facility to send them to.

“Don't forget you can recycle your “scrunchable plastics” too – put them in the bin provided outside Woolworths.”





Churchill & District News Issue 98 - March 15, 2012. Includes articles on Jeeralang North Hall Re-Opens, Centenary House, and Beachcombing.

Churchill & District News Issue 99 - March 15, 2012. Includes article on Fiddlehead Fever!



Looking Back... 200 DIGITAL ISSUES

Churchill & District News Issue 100 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on A Great Success!

Churchill & District News Issue 101 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Junior Fishing Competition.

Churchill & District News Issue 102 - 17 September 2011. Includes articles on Scouts Remember ANZAC Day and Old Time Family Dance.

Churchill & District News Issue 103 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Tom Lawless.

Churchill & District News Issue 104 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Churchill lights up!

Churchill & District News Issue 105 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Grand Opening Bitchesy's.

Churchill & District News Issue 106 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Writing and Poetry Competition.

Churchill & District News Issue 107 - 17 September 2011. Includes article on Australia Day Celebrations.

Churchill & District News Issue 108 - 17 September 2011. Includes articles on Rotary News and Without a Travel Agent.

Smart Saver Discount Variety Store. OPEN 7 DAYS. 31st OCTOBER Halloween. Accessories, costumes, masks, decorations, lollies. Helium balloons from \$1. Phone 5122 2667. Shop 3, Hazelwood Village Shopping Centre, Churchill.

Welcome back for another wander down memory lane, with help from past copies of Churchill & District News beginning this month at issue 98.

The front page news of a very successful craft weekend held in the Churchill Town Hall and at the Neighbourhood Centre gained our attention.

Issue 99 began with news that the Jeeralang North hall was reopened after two years of hard work by the re-building committee. The keys to the completed hall were handed over and the official opening held in October 2011.

Also mentioned was the outstanding volunteer effort that resulted in Rotary Centenary House becoming one of the most important facilities to all Gippslanders receiving cancer treatment, was praised in Federal Parliament by the Member for Gippsland Darren Chester.

Also, remember your friend the late Tom Lawless, son of James and Anne Lawless, a pioneering family of this area on page 12. Tom was a 'thinker' and a great community activist.

Many happy photos of entrants in the annual junior fishing competition are captured on the front page of issue 100. Colourful Christmas lights in Churchill decorated the front page of issue 101.

The Churchill & District Lions Club, ably assisted by the Lionesses, again ran a successful Australia Day award presentation and breakfast. Approximately

200 people attended the Churchill Hotel car park for the occasion.

In March 2012, Victoria's Fiddlehead music festival was held at Yinnar, home of music makers the Strzelecki Stringbusters. Yinnar was host to more than 500 people from around Victoria who converged for a happy time of all things musical.

Further news detailed the official reopening of the Grand Ridge Rail Trail in South Gippsland, three years after it was severely impacted in January 2009 by the Delburn bush fires.

In May 2012, Channel Nine host Scott Cam, excited hundreds of shoppers at the grand opening of a new Ritchies IGA Mitre 10 hardware store in Churchill.

Major Wendy Jeffrey was the guest speaker at both Yinnar and Morwell ANZAC Day celebrations. This was the 70th Anniversary year of the formation of the Australian Women's Land Army.

In issue 107 an interesting article gives plenty of information how each edition of Churchill & District News arrives at your home every month.

Two Hazelwood Rotary Club members, Richard Henshaw and Leo Billington, were presented with the prestigious Paul Harris Fellow Award created for Rotarians who meet high professional and personal standards.

Highlighted also was the local Quilters and Craft Exhibition. Over 500 people attended. There were a total of 189 magnificent exhibits

on display, with plenty of stall holders in attendance.

In issue 111 refresh your memory of the time the Most Reverend John McIntyre, Anglican Bishop of Gippsland, with the Reverend Tim Angus of Gippsland Presbytery, installed Reverend Brenda Burney, into her new position as minister in Churchill.

Read again the very interesting four part life story of Churchill resident Don Di Fabrizio in issues 113 to 116, written as part of our "Looking Back" series.

On the second page of issue 114 our member for Morwell, Russell Northe, raised in Parliament the importance of the Ride2School program and also ensuring that local schools were supported in providing adequate bike parking infrastructure.

Students from Churchill's three primary schools had an exciting day of biodiversity activities with the town's first Bug Blitz field day. Read more on page 12.

Churchill resident, Marion Answerth was named Regional Victorian Volunteer of the Year for "Look Good Feel Better" program which provides support for women with cancer.

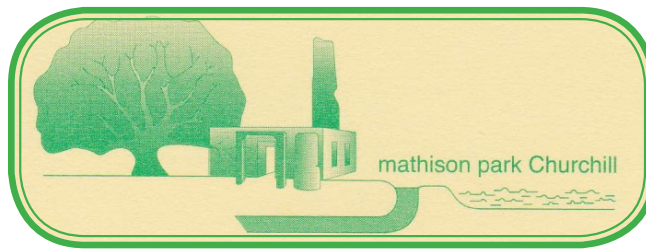
The redeveloped Boolarra multipurpose building was officially opened by Member for Morwell, Russell Northe.

Do hope that you have enjoyed this wander through your memories. Browse all past and current issues of Churchill & District News at our website cdnews.com.au for further reading.

Looking Back... Don Di Fabrizio - Part Four

Churchill & District News Issue 117 - June 21, 2013. Includes article on "Look Good, Feel Better" Volunteer of the Year.

rotary humanity in motion. Hazelwood Rotary Club. Contact: Ray Beebe, Secretary 0408 178 201. MEETINGS: Mondays 6.30pm - 8.00pm. MORWELL BOWLING CLUB. ALL WELCOME. Our club members are dedicated people who share a passion for both community service and friendship.



A new garden has been established around the Koori totem poles and seat just south of the playground.

It is a joint partnership with the Smith family, Landcare, Latrobe City Council and Mathison Park Community Asset Committee (yes we have had another name change).

The Mathison Park Committee arranged the spraying of the area, Landcare put in the edging, the Bush Crew from Latrobe City added the mulch supplied by Council to the area after they had done a clean-up of the area, and Landcare and Smith Family members did the planting.

More plantings are to come.

During stage 3 lockdown we have been unable to have working bees so we are hoping with restrictions being lifted we will be able to get back to work. Check our Facebook page for dates and times. Thank you to the Council mowing team which is helping to keep the park looking neat, and to the maintenance team doing some spraying for us.

A big thank you to Latrobe City Council for giving us a community grant to install another path in the park.

We think it will create a lot of interest for our walkers, as it will showcase western and southern sides of the park with a different view of Mathison park.



Don't go back to playing the pokies

How much money have you saved since Coronavirus closed pokies venues?

Life feels better when you are in charge. Keep saving. Build on the head start you have achieved, and call Latrobe Community Health Service.

We can help you stay away from the pokies when they reopen.

ADVERTISEMENT

Latrobe City Council Elections

SOUTH WARD

Conversation with Leanne Potter

Ryan Potter sat down with Leanne, candidate for South Ward in the upcoming Latrobe City Council elections, to get to know more about the person behind her campaign.

Can you tell us a bit about yourself?

Leanne: I am a born and bred fifth generation Budgeree farm girl. Living on a dairy farm operated by my father and his brothers. Hard work and working together was order of the day. Everyone had to pitch in and contribute to get the work done. I went to primary school at the beautiful old Budgeree School and then attended Mirboo North High School. At just 17, I headed to Melbourne to do a Bachelor of Teaching, Primary, at uni. I started working as a teacher in inner city Melbourne and realised I really wanted to work with kids with additional needs. I went back to university and did a Graduate Diploma of Special Education. After graduating I worked in a number of special schools in Melbourne with children with Autism and extreme challenging behaviours and later at Latrobe City Council as the Preschool Field Officer.

I met my husband Luke in Melbourne. We have been married for 26 years and have 3 wonderful children: Lauren, Ryan and James. When the kids were young we realised, we did not want to raise them as city kids and we moved back home onto the family farm in Budgeree. This was the best decision we ever made.

I love being surrounded by family and the rolling green hills. I love the community spirit and the stories only country people can tell.

Most folks would know you from the Budgeree Hall. How did you get involved there?

I was actually tricked into being on the committee. I was invited along to the AGM, "just to make up attendee numbers," they said. Somehow that night, despite my protests, I became Secretary. Five years on I think I'm doing an OK job. I have been able to secure just over \$200,000 in grants to renovate and refurbish the hall into a modern usable space. I have opened it as a thriving wedding venue and hosting regular musical events. We have a lot of weekend tourists who come up to enjoy a picnic in the beautiful natural gardens. I've still got a lot of exciting ideas I want to introduce.

What other work do you do for the community?

I am a member of the Boolarra Community Development Group, rural representative on the Latrobe Health Assembly, and a Telephone Crisis Supporter at Lifeline Gippsland. As the founding Chair of the Budgeree, Yinnar South, Jumbuk Bushfire Community Recovery Committee, I got hear from a wide range of the community about their concerns moving forward, and the difficulties they are facing



– everything from mental health issues through to more physical things, the clean-up needed and the removal of dangerous trees.

I also work part time as the Corporate

community. To be recognised by my peers and the community for the work I do was so humbling. The Hall committee is the most amazing group of people. They have embraced my new ideas and fresh



Trainer at Lifeline Gippsland raising awareness around mental health and suicide prevention and at Charlie Mac and Associates alongside my husband, Luke.

What was your proudest moment?

In 2019 I received an Australia Day Award for my contribution to the Budgeree

perspectives whole heartedly. The result, a total transformation of the hall and connection in the community.

Who inspires you the most?

My husband Luke. He has this "just go do it" attitude. My parents, Daisy and Ross Hall for installing in me a belief that with

hard work, integrity and honesty you can do anything. My Grandfather, Alan Hall, who demonstrated throughout his life the importance of contributing to community. He was our local councillor for the Shire of Morwell for 48 years. He always talked with me about the importance of family and the responsibility we have to give back to our community.

Why have you decided to stand for Council?

I have been listening to our communities and I've seen the challenges facing small business, rural communities, community groups, sporting clubs and individuals. As we move into the recovery phase of the pandemic restrictions every aspect of our community will need extra support to get back on their feet. I have new ideas and fresh perspectives. We need change and renewed energy. When I look at the current council, I don't see people like me or my neighbours.

I don't see many women, I don't see country people, I don't see diversity and I don't see independent councillors who will put community first. Now is the time for change.

If you have spare time, what are your hobbies?

I love gardening. I am very good at growing weeds. I have been doing pageantry for the past few years. In 2019 I won the national title of Mrs Classic Australia. I then went on to represent Australia in the Global competition in September last year.

Held in Manila, Philippines. I won the International title of Mrs Global Classic Platinum. Representing Australia in an international competition was so exciting. Like all international competitions it took a lot of dedication, hard work and focus. The same qualities I will draw upon as a councillor.

Favourite Book?

The children's book "Where the Wild Things Are" by Maurice Sendak. I love that Max can calm the wild beasts by saying "Be Still". I wish I could do that.

Adult book? "The Dressmaker" by Rosalie Ham. I didn't enjoy the movie as much.

Movie? "Edge of Tomorrow" starring Tom Cruise.

If people have questions or would like to show support, what should they do?

During the campaign I have absolutely loved hearing from our community when I have been out and about in our towns and districts.

I encourage people to come and talk to me what is important to you, concerns you have, frustrations and things that you want to see happen. Or you can contact me at:

Email: leannepo26@gmail.com

Facebook: search for Leanne Potter for South Ward

Website: leannepotterlive.com.au

Hazelwood - Hazelwood North – historical snippets



By Leo Billington

It's time to highlight parts of Hazelwood's history.

Previous items published in the CDN have covered the Hazelwood North Creamery, Hazelwood Railway Station and Hazelwood North's infamous morass.

There are, however, more lesser known items of interest.

One is reminded of a neighbourhood in Brunswick West where street signs are complemented with discreet finger signs indicating where small suburban businesses were once located at the turn of the century.

We're informed a butcher was down here, a grocer in this street, a church (now demolished) was on this corner and so on.

It's a real pity we seemingly have ignored past historical snippets, yet signage would adequately reflect and acknowledge a past not that long ago.

Jessie Shaw

There are old maps showing road easements reminiscent of earlier times. One of these is Jessie Shaw Lane, Hazelwood North.

Janet, who became known as Jessie, was Donald Shaw's sister. Other siblings were Sally, Neil, Coll, and John. With their parents,

Archibald and Ann, their Hazelwood North property was named Otterburn.

Donald was the first Morwell Shire President from 1892 to 1893.

Jessie came to this district with her parents when a young woman, in about 1867, having travelled by dray from Werribee.

She selected a block of land at Hazelwood North, but lived with her brother Donald, for whom she kept house until his marriage.

At 92 years of age, Jessie died in September 1937.

Jessie's obituary recalled that "when she arrived in the district, Rosedale was the nearest township.

The late Mr John MacMillan had a cattle run extending from Driffield to North Hazelwood.

Among his boundary riders were the late Findlay McKay and Bob Burrows, better known as Black Bob, an intelligent aboriginal, who was a fine rider and a popular chap, among the early settlers."

Today, Jessie Shaw Lane is rather overgrown with long grass and riparian vegetation growing along the edge of a drain which feeds into Waterhole Creek, where an elderly fence roughly defines one side of her



laneway.

Black Bob's Lane

Jessie Shaw's obituary brings our attention to Black Bob's Lane.

In that 1937 obituary, it's revealed "there is a property close to The Ridge, that is still known as Black Bob's paddock, formerly owned by the late John Macmillan."

Aboriginal man, Bob Burrows (also known as 'Black Bob'), worked as a boundary-rider for squatter John MacMillan at Hazelwood station in the 1860s. He was a popular figure in the district and was respected as a fine horseman (Traralgon Record May 1, 1914 – page 4).

Local personality at the time, Llew Vary, provided valuable historical insights through his series, 'Harking Back - recollections of early Morwell'. In Part Three, Morwell Advertiser (Thursday August 13, 1942), Llew wrote about Bob Burrows.

"Another local identity

who comes to my memory is Robert Burrows (Black Bob) a half cast, who later selected 320 acres, part of which is now occupied by Alf Bruce. He was a goodhearted fellow who could not read or write.

My mother once told me that he was sent by Mr Macmillan across the river, which was in flood, to enquire how my father was. He had been sick for about three weeks.

When mother saw him riding up the track she met him saying, "Bob I want you to catch another horse and ride to Sale and bring the Doctor," and without any questions Bob set off about 5 p.m. on a July evening, arriving back with the doctor, before 11 a.m. next day. I mention this to show what the women of those days (who are so seldom mentioned and who played such a big part) had to go through."

Today, public access is denied to what's left of Black Bob's Lane.

A locked gate seemingly stands guard over an interesting chapter of Hazelwood's history. Most of the lane is under the Hazelwood pondage anyway.

Plough Creek

Local maps will show



various creeks meandering towards Morwell.

Their origins are in the Jeeralang high country. Eel Hole Creek is well known as is Wilderness Creek.

Bennetts and Waterhole Creek seem to be mates, each running almost parallel in their haste towards town.

Plough Creek runs a sinuous route from the Jeeralangs, skirting Morwell's eastern boundary onward to West Traralgon.

Again, in acknowledgement of Llew Vary in his 'Harking Back - recollections of early Morwell'; Part Three, Morwell Advertiser (Thursday, August 6, 1942), Llew wrote an explanation of how Plough Creek came by its name.

"The mention of Plough Creek reminds me how this so-called creek came by its name.

In the very early days, a plough was borrowed from Merton Rush by a Traralgon Station and on returning, the party got bogged and left the plough by the side of the road to be picked up at a later date.

It laid there all the

winter and people travelling through began to call the place Plough Creek.

I would like to mention here that this plough was made solely of wood except for the share and was the only plough in the district at that time.

It also had a history, as it was brought from Sydney by John King, already mentioned and given by him to his man Charlie Farley, who had taken up Merton Rush.

I can remember as a boy seeing this plough behind the old stable, left to decay and what a relic it would be now if only it had been preserved."

Another theory about the creek's name was that Patrick McGauran, who had settled near the creek in 1869, immediately east of Morwell's boundary, was an innovative farmer.

Apparently, and how this story goes, Patrick or his son John was the first local farmer to obtain a plough.

He hosted a celebratory function on-site showcasing the newly acquired asset.

Many locals, all curious to see what had been purchased, agreed to name the creek in honour of Morwell's first plough.

Historical recollections such as this tend to converge.

The plough hypothesis is interesting in the least. It's great in the telling.

It does seem that the discarded plough was in the boggy creek adjacent to the McGauran's farm. One could conclude it was an acquired asset, resplendent in its derelict condition.

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Carol Cavanagh 0411 842 912

We are still taking orders but due to COVID-19 we are now working from home and offering FREE delivery.



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VOTE 1
INDEPENDENT

Melissa Ferguson

South Ward

Caring For You!

www.melissaferguson2020.com

To the Resident

We are proud and excited to give our support to **Melissa Ferguson**, a candidate for election as your Councillor in the South Ward in the upcoming Latrobe City Council elections.

Melissa is a dedicated community worker that has given the best part of her life to helping and supporting others particularly in the Latrobe Valley. She has commitment, drive and new ideas that would enhance and benefit our Council and particularly the residents of South Ward.

She is an award winning resident of the South Ward that lives in Yinnar South that has chaired and worked for a number of charities assisting many rural people, farmers and people with mental health issues in addition to being an advocate on many issues affecting our community. She certainly understands the needs of the Latrobe Valley and the South Ward local area. She was at the forefront coordinating emergency relief during the recent Bush Fire disaster in Gippsland providing on the spot assistance and goods to affected families during the initial days and long after the fires subsided.

Above all she is honest and trustworthy with integrity and honour that would be a Councillor for the people that all residents can trust and confide in.

Although we may come from various and different political persuasions cultures and organisations we collectively support Melissa who has no political affiliations or attachments. She would be a significant asset as the Councillor for the people of South Ward and to the Latrobe City Council

We strongly encourage you, on Election Day to cast your vote for **Melissa Ferguson**

Cr Dale Harriman
Councillor and Former
Mayor Latrobe City

Derek Amos OAM JP
Former Member of
Parliament for Morwell

Rachael Perrott
Board Secretary – Churchill
Neighbourhood Centre

Alan Coe
Gippsland Aboriginal
Leader

Mick Johnson
President Churchill
Football Netball Club

Michelle Halsall JP
Local Justice of the
Peace

Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare

One Cuckoo does not a summer make...

But, right on cue, and as seen in the September nature chart from last month, the cuckoos have arrived.

There was a shining bronze-cuckoo in the garden here for a couple of weeks, and a fan-tailed cuckoo calling up at our Billys Creek re-veg block. Fan-tailed cuckoos are often seen in Morwell National Park, especially along Billys Creek.

The arrival of the cuckoos is a sign that bush birds are breeding. Nests of birds such as blue wrens, fantails, yellow robins, silveryeyes, red-browed finches and thornbills can be quite close to the ground, or woven into the foliage of dense trees and shrubs, or in the middle of blackberry patches or piles of dead branches. To give the birds their best chance, it's especially important to keep cats indoors at this time of year.

One fascinating bird factoid:

Blue wren families each have a territory. Young birds are fed by adults in the family as well as by their parents. The female wren sings while she's sitting on the eggs, and when the baby birds are born they can sing their nest song. This identifies them to the family that feeds them and they continue to learn other wren songs from then on. A cuckoo nestling being raised by wrens, on the other hand, has a delayed capacity to learn songs. It waits until it's independent of it's wren hosts and then, when it's three months old, it develops the ability to learn cuckoo songs.

There is a theory that

we humans learned to use language from birds. Birds have been on earth for a long time, since the dinosaurs by all accounts. I hope we can keep our environment possible for them to stay around for much longer.

One of the genetically oldest songbirds in the world, is the lyrebird, and we're so lucky to live in an area where they aren't uncommon. The ones up near our Billys Creek block imitate yellow-tailed black cockatoos, as do others in Foster's Gully in the Kerry Road section of Morwell National Park.

When superb lyrebirds aren't singing, they're cultivating the forest floor, and a recently published study has quantified their contribution. They move more soil than any other land based animal in the world. In one year, one lyrebird foraging for food on the forest floor will displace something like 155 tonnes, or 11 standard dump trucks of soil and leaf litter. Where there are no lyrebirds, leaf litter builds up and increases fire risk.

The lyrebird population of Sherbrooke forest in the Dandenong Ranges increased dramatically when a sustained fox control program was implemented by Parks Victoria. There's now been some fox control undertaken at Morwell National Park, and hopefully this year's lyrebird chicks will survive as a result.

If areas of suitable habitat can be connected, then that's also beneficial. Lyrebirds aren't that good at flying. They seem to prefer to walk, and will more or less levitate straight up into a tree when

alarmed.

Snakes Alive! we've been working on our Billys Creek block

Our early September planting crew saw two tiger snakes enjoying the early spring sunshine. The crew also planted some tubestock and broadcast the last of the seed for that section of the block.

Unfortunately there were three sheep and a Hereford cow that had found a way to run away from home and come and trample and eat our plants.

There was also more evidence of destructive deer activity in the forest on the way in. There's just no place for these large and destructive animals in our few remaining fragile forest ecosystems.

We have people associated with our group who are licensed shooters, and anyone living along the Billys Creek valley who is prepared to allow or encourage deer shooting on their place can get in touch with Larry on 0420 310 743.

We're also trying to solve the problem of stray farm animals. Our biggest planting effort on that site will be next winter and by then we'd hope to have found and implemented a solution. We've already converted about three or four hectares of blackberry to native vegetation, but a lot of what we've grown has already been browsed.

We've now finished planting for the year at Billys Creek and along Upper Middle Creek where West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority was also working on revegetating the creek banks after the fire last year.

Seven ways you can beat the COVID-19 fatigue

Working from home. Home-schooling the kids. Eating at home. Exercising at home. Walking around the same block day in, day out. Needing 'me-time', just like everyone else in the house. Staying at home, because it's the right thing to do.

We feel for all the parents out there who are in this boat. It's exhausting.

The good news is, there are some simple steps you can take to change your thoughts, feelings and actions.

Our community outreach nurse, Corina, has provided this advice.

Write it down

When you wake up, write down one thing you can do to inspire yourself and the people around you. It might be based on a positive quote from your favourite family movie, or a photo that captures your perseverance or kindness. No matter where you draw your inspiration from, make it a habit to share your goal for the day with the family. Together, you can keep each other accountable and strive to be the best version of yourselves during these trying times.

Have a dance-off

Make sure you step away from the screen every hour for five to ten minutes. Put your favourite song on, turn

it up and get dancing around the lounge. The kids will get a kick out of seeing their parents dance to 80s music, and you can even learn how to bust a move or two from your kids! Laughter is a great de-stressor, can lower blood pressure and build your immunity.

Take a break

When you hit the 3pm slump, it's time to put on those walking shoes and mask, grab the dog and kids and blitz the block.

This is a great way to lower your blood glucose and cholesterol levels, clear your mind and move your body.

When you get back, it's time for a cuppa and a handful of nuts, piece of fruit or tub of yoghurt.

Remember: drink two litres of fluid (mainly water) throughout the day. Hydration is key to a clear mind and healthy kidneys.

Be present

It's dinner time. Try having a picnic in the lounge, or create your very own 'MasterChef' challenge. Turn off all the screens, put on some chill out music and break the lockdown routine.

A weekend treat

Start the day with a stretch and a breakfast you would normally buy at your favourite café. Smashed avocado, poached eggs and feta on toast, anyone? There are plenty of café-

style recipes out there – just search online!

Wind down

Sleep is important at every age. Adults need about eight hours a night and kids need about ten. Routine is the key to a decent night's sleep, so try and go to bed at the same time each night and cut out drinks containing caffeine a couple of hours beforehand.

Bedrooms should be dark, cool and free from TVs. Put your phones and tablets on 'sleep mode', and allow yourself to rest, ready for the next day.

Be kind to yourself

This gig isn't easy. Don't be too hard on yourself if you lose patience or you're struggling to get motivated. Tomorrow is a new day, and you're not in it alone. Reach out to your partner, your family, your friends and colleagues if you're struggling.

In fact, reach out to them anyway – a friendly voice is enough to cheer anyone up.

Professional help is also available.

Free counselling appointments are available at Latrobe Community Health Service. Phone 1800 242 696 for more information or to book an appointment.

For 24/7 crisis support, phone Lifeline on 13 11 14 or the Suicide Call Back Service on 1300 659 467.

Family Violence

What can you do for yourself and your family?

Many Australian women live with someone who is or has been violent, controlling and /or abusive towards them. One in three women will be affected by family violence at some time during their life. Every week a woman is killed by her male partner or ex-partner.

Family violence is any form of physical, psychological and /or financial abuse or control a woman experiences from her husband, domestic partner, de facto couples, gay and lesbian relationships, parents and children, relatives as well as family-like member, someone close to her or in a family-like relationship such as carers or flat mates.

Family violence is against the law

Under Victorian Law, family violence is defined as harmful behaviour that occurs when someone hurts or threatens a family member or a person they are in a relationship with, or controls

them through fear. Victim-survivors of family violence are entitled to the same rights as anyone else, irrespective

of their age, religion, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, ability or disabilities, sexuality, gender expression or occupation.

Women have the right to live free from fear and violence. Everyone has the right to be treated with respect and to live free from fear. Nobody has the right to abuse you or control you. Women are not responsible for the violent behaviour of men - not ever. They don't ask for it; they don't deserve it. Family violence is not your fault.

Family violence is when one person uses power and control over another and can take many forms.

It's not just physical.

You do not have to be physically hit or hurt to have experienced family violence.

Family violence is more than physical abuse. It includes behaviour that is threatening and controlling that can cause you to fear for your own safety or another person's safety.

Other types of family violence include

Emotional abuse- e.g. manipulation, isolation, put-downs, mind games

Financial abuse e.g. forcing you to hand over

control of income or assets, coercing you to take on debt or sign a contract, not allowing you to earn an income.

Sexual abuse e.g. any unwanted sexual activity

Social abuse e.g. insulting you in public

Threats of physical violence and revenge

Property damage e.g. smashing belongings

Harming or threatening to harm your pets.

Common methods used to coerce, control and dominate women living with violence include -

Telling you what to wear and where you can or cannot go

Forcing you into sexual behaviours that are unwelcome, painful, humiliating or not your choice

Putting you down, criticising you, insulting you in public

Not letting you see your friends and family

Saying you are crazy, causing you to feel like you are crazy, claiming you are imagining the abuse

Stalking

Complex forms of violence such as forced marriage, dowry abuse or trafficking/slavery

Family violence can leave

you feeling stressed, anxious and/or depressed and impact on your health and well-being.

It can be difficult, even frightening, to take action to protect yourself. It is important to know the many support systems in place to help you choose a new life that is free of violence, abuse and control. The law is on your side. Friends and family can be offered guidance to support and reconnect with you.

Support services available

Family violence and sexual assault services are operating and available to support you throughout the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond. No matter who you are or where you live, there is help and support available.

Support services

safe steps - for 24/7 family violence response centre for confidential crisis support, information and accommodation.

Call 1800 015 188

Email safesteps@safesteps.org.au

safe steps website with web chat support service available

Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm

Sexual Assault Crisis Line - crisis counselling service for people who have

experienced both past and recent sexual assault.

Call 1800 806 292 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Sexual Assault Crisis Line website

Men's Referral Service - free, confidential expert support for people at risk of using family violence.

Call 1300 766 491 (8am to 9pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday)

Men's Referral Service website

The Orange Door in Inner Gippsland - a free service for adults, children and young people who are experiencing or have experienced family violence and families who need extra support with the care, wellbeing and development of children.

The Orange Door website helps you find help and support near you

Victims of Crime Helpline - information and support for adult male victims of family violence and victims of violent crime.

Call 1800 819 817 or text 0427 767 891 (8am to 11pm every day)

Victims of Crime website - information for men

Kids Helpline - private and confidential 24/7 phone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 to 25.

Call 1800 55 1800 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Kids Helpline website

With Respect - resources, tips and advice for LGBTIQ+ people on having and maintaining healthy relationships as well as support for those experiencing family violence.

Call 1800 542 847 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and after-hours support Wednesdays until 11pm. 10am to 10pm on Saturday and Sundays)

With Respect website

InTouch - Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence - free and confidential support services for migrant and refugee women.

Call 1800 755 988 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

InTouch website

Seniors Rights Victoria - free and confidential support services to support older Victorians experiencing abuse.

Call 1300 368 821 (10am to 5pm Monday to Friday)

Seniors Rights Victoria website



Churchill - Shop Local

A big thank you to everyone who has been supporting our local retailers during the pandemic; your support has been vital!

We need our cafes, restaurants, hairdressers and all of our various local shops and businesses to be thriving in order for our retail centres to be attractive to new retailers, residents



now need your continuing support in order to provide the services we want close at hand.

Travel restrictions have encouraged many to stay close to home and buy what we need locally. Now that restrictions are easing, we want to encourage you to continue to support our local traders.

Many small businesses have suffered as a result of the restrictions on trading and in-store social distancing requirements. Now that things are opening up it's really important that we help local enterprises get back on their feet.

and visitors. An attractive, busy retail centre means new tenants may move into empty shops and current tenants can continue to provide services, employ locals and support our community.

Don't forget that the Festive Season is just around the corner - many local business will have a range of gift items and vouchers, stocking fillers, cards and wrapping paper, decorations and lights, festive treats and more. Set yourself a challenge - how much of your Christmas shopping can you do locally?

Please, support your community and Shop Local!



The Churchill & District News is looking for volunteers. We are looking for people who would like to be involved in advertising !! We would like to hear from you! Please ring Ruth on 5122 1961

Churchill Fire Brigade

Summer fire preparations

Although we have had quite a lot of rain recently, the brigade is again asking our community to prepare their properties for the coming fire season. This means cleaning up and getting ready to have your burn-offs soon.

To have a burn-off needs careful preparation. If you need advice or help you are welcome to contact the Churchill Fire Brigade or your own local brigade.

You MUST always register your burn-off with the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) by calling 1800 668 511, as this will assist in reducing the number of false alarm call outs to the brigade.

The following precautions are suggested to assist you in having a safe and successful burn-off.

1. Check and follow local CFA or Council regulations/bylaws. Some circumstances require a permit from Council or CFA.

2. Check the weather forecast for the day of the burn-off, and for a few days ahead. If it is expected to be hot, dry and windy, do not ignite your burn-off.

3. Establish a fire break of no less than three metres cleared of all flammable material.

4. Have sufficient people to monitor, contain and extinguish the burn safely and effectively.

5. Check if there are any fire restrictions in your area before lighting up.

6. Notify neighbours at least two hours before starting the burn.

7. Your burn, your responsibility. Never leave it unattended.

Farm Fire Safety

Farmers and those on small acreage have extra items to consider to make sure they are prepared.

1. Fuel Reduction. Keep fuel loads to a minimum around house blocks, sheds and other assets. Have one paddock heavily grazed

so that stock can be moved there on high fire risk days. Have maintained fire breaks of at least three metres around your property.

2. Hay season occurs during the fire season. To prevent fires in hay stacks use a probe to test for heat; look out for warning signs such as steam, unusual smells or slumping. Leave an air flow space between the top of the stack and the roof of the shed. Store hay in several different places to prevent large losses.

3. Machinery and harvesters. These should be checked and cleaned thoroughly before using the first time for the season. They should be equipped with fire extinguishers and a shovel. Think about the weather - is it hot, dry, or windy? Then say no to using slashers, grinders, welders etc. Make regular stops while using machinery to check for overheating and/or straw build up which could cause ignition.

4. Around your home. Have one smoke alarm for each level of the house and in each bedroom where someone sleeps with a closed door. Check chimneys and flues for bird nests, cracks, rust or damaged internal bricks. Replace damaged appliances such as heaters or power boards.

5. Check, service and recharge all knapsacks and extinguishers before the fire danger period. Phone 000 as soon as you detect a fire. Ensure everyone knows how to use the private firefighting equipment on your property.

6. Make sure your property name and number are clearly visible from both directions at the property entrance. Make sure a truck can turn around in access tracks near to the house block, sheds and fences. Clearly mark all water supplies and ensure water tanks have CFA compatible fittings.

7. Have essential items

ready to go - medications, bottled water, first aid kit, photos, valuables, personal documents (wills, insurance, birth and marriage certificates etc), a battery-



Flowering plant in our memorial garden.

powered radio, 100% woollen blankets. Have scans of important documents including current inventories of feed, stock and fencing onto a CD or memory stick and keep a copy stored off your property. Keep important contact numbers (family, neighbours, vets, stock agents and insurance) in an easy to access place.

In and around the edges of town fire safety

Residents in and on the outskirts of towns also need to get ready for the fire season, as embers from fires driven by the wind can travel several kilometres and land on the roof of buildings or find cracks or vents in which to lodge.

1. Clean out the gutters on houses/sheds to reduce fuel.

Also keep yards mowed

and dispose of leaves and bark.

2. Store fuel, petrol, paints, machinery, outdoor furniture away from the house.

3. Trim back trees and shrubs from around the house.

4. Cover vents and seal up cracks in walls.

5. Make sure you have hoses and buckets ready.

6. You can fill spouts with water by jamming a tennis ball in the down pipe.

7. Keep your eyes on the weather forecast during summer, especially when it is hot, dry and windy.

8. Check outside frequently on total fire ban days even though it is nice inside with the air conditioner on. Fire safety is a partnership between CFA and our community, and you have a responsibility too.

IMPORTANT CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

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In recent months we have supported each other in many important and positive ways, and shared care, resources, friendship, food, and help.

We've been tested in record numbers, and we've sacrificed special occasions and important milestones to safeguard others. So many Victorians have lost so much; and they will need our ongoing care, recognition and support.

And so as restrictions change, it's so important that we continue to take care of ourselves, and each other. That we practice physical distancing and good hygiene, wear a face covering when we're out and we can't keep our distance, and don't take chances with our health or the health of others.

It's a long road ahead, but we can recover, and we will recover.
www.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR EFFORTS & LET'S STAY SAFE, TOGETHER.

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MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

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Churchill CHATTER



How did the cormorants know Fisheries had stocked Lake Hyland for the school holidays?



Spring has arrived

These past weeks in Churchill, many gardens have been shown at their best with displays of yellow daffodils standing tall. Spring blossoms are now decorating the bare branches of fruit trees and other ornamentals. Enjoy a walk through our parks and gardens, or your neighbourhood where you will notice the changing seasons by spring happenings in the garden.



Churchill Health Care Pharmacy has relocated to Hazelwood Village shopping Centre.

We have been in Churchill for 8 weeks for home schooling and have taken loads of pictures. We like baking and eating the treats we have for morning teas in the garden. We love reading, learning to knit and we enjoy learning to play on the electric piano. We do all sorts of activities like gardening, roller skating, cleaning, lots of home-schooling work, and more fun things to do and see. There are kangaroos, alpacas, a pony and some magpies to see close by as well as walks around Lake Mathison. We love to run and play each morning before doing school things. We hope you stay well. By Annie and Moni



There are kangaroos, alpacas, a pony and some magpies to see close by as well as walks around Lake Mathison. We love to run and play each morning before doing school things. We hope you stay well. By Annie and Moni

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

SPORT

"Connecting Your Community"

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Saturday 19/9/20 Par

A Grade R. Scurlock (8) Sq. B Grade D. Byers (18) Sq. C Grade R. Zomer (34) -1. DTL R. Abel -2 M. Breerton -1, R. Madigan -2, B. Kilday -3, G. Blizzard -3 C/B, J. Barnes -3, J. Winters -3, T. Collins -3, Mamun -3. NTP 3rd R. Scurlock, 5th J. Butler, 12th R. Cleland, 14th R. King. Birdie 14th C. Thomas.

Tuesday 22/9/20 Stableford

Winner M. McConville 33 Pts. DTL S. Caldwell 28 Pts, M. McQuillen 22 Pts.

NTP L. Brent 12th, Birdies L. Brent 12th.

Saturday 26/9/20 Monthly Medal

A Grade C. Hogbin (14) 86 72, Medal Winner. B Grade A. Auld (20) 95, 75. Scratch Winner C. Hogbin 86. DTL P. Smart 78, A. Quinn 79, P. Kearns 79, D. Ellwood 80 C/B. NTP 5th J. Barnes, 14th M. Soppe. Putts M. Dear 27.

Tuesday 29/9/20 Par

Winner M. McQuillen -6. DTL J. Beck -8. NTP 3rd M. Mc Quillen, 5th M. McQuillen, 12th L. Brent, 14th S. Turner.



The round-a-bout garden has been completed.

We have started the Churchill Chatter page for our community to be able to share small pieces of news with our community. Here are some ideas for inclusion to help you be a contributor, a beautiful flower in your garden, a lovely garden you have seen and have permission to photograph, photos of a bird you have seen, births, deaths, marriages, photos of animals, spring in Churchill, something observed in Mathison Park etc.



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Hazelwood Cemetery



by Leo Billington

'The Times They Are A-Changin' – and they certainly had to change, and thanks to Bob Dylan for telling us.

In its 141 year's lifetime, Hazelwood Cemetery seemingly has been loved, neglected and misunderstood. This remains bewildering to current members of the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust.

Some background information first.

While cemetery trusts have 'trust' in their name, they are actually a cemetery board with trust members appointed. The term trust (for the board) and the now defunct reference to trustees for trust members were used in the Cemeteries Act 1958.

Prior to January 1, 1996, the Cemeteries Act 1958 made no provision for trust appointment tenure. Accordingly trust members appointed prior to January 1, 1996 remain in office until they resign, pass away, or are removed from office by the Governor in Council.

As a sweetener, these trust members were accorded life membership.

A collection of historical snippets illustrates our cemetery's trials and tribulations post World War 2.

In March 1951, the Morwell Advertiser published an advertisement for the then Trust. It promoted "grave maintenance" now being available for "£1 per annum per single grave and £1.10 per annum for a double grave.

Maintenance will be carried out four times per annum.

Applications for such service should be made to the Secretary of the Trust, Mr. A G Holden, 28 Commercial Road, Morwell."

(Grave maintenance is now a family responsibility, sometimes in consultation with the cemetery trust.)

With tremendous foresight, on April 17, 1952, the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust lobbied the then local state politician, Mr Herbert Hyland, for the procedure needed for the establishment of a combined cemetery and crematorium for the Latrobe Valley.

Imagine if this ideal had been pushed further along bureaucratic traffic jams. Apparently, the Trust felt it was "necessary because of the expanding population in the Valley and the distance to be travelled to the nearest crematorium."

In May 22, 1952, the Morwell Advertiser told our community that the "sole rights for the digging of graves and maintenance at the Hazelwood Cemetery have allotted by the Morwell Cemetery Trust to Mr. A. L. Smith of Morwell.

It is expected by the Trust that under this new arrangement relatives will be able to take advantage of Mr. Smith's services, who can either be contacted at his address or through the Trust Secretary, Mr. A. Holden, and that, as a result, the general appearance of the cemetery will improve.

Mr. Smith, for a fee, will carry out such duties as cleaning head stones or removing weeds from the area."

Times have changed. This is definitely not the case now, and there was never a Morwell Cemetery Trust in existence.

Then, in late February 1954, Morwell Shire Council "agreed to make available a Council employee for grave digging duties at the Hazelwood Cemetery, subject to suitable arrangements being made with the Cemetery Trust. Council was told that the Trust had sufficient funds to carry out any work, but was finding it impossible to obtain labour. Council was also assured that the use of Council labour on this work would not be allowed to interfere with any normal work, and that Council would be fully reimbursed financially by the Trust.

Shire engineer, Mr Connan, said that he was of the opinion that Council had some responsibility in these matters. Councillors also considered that some assistance could be given in the maintenance of the cemetery area."

Times have certainly changed. Please note this wonderful gesture was in 1954 – a long time ago.

More fascinating, and sometimes unbelievable, historical snippets about the cemetery in the next issue of CDN.

Book Review

"A World of Other People"

by Steven Carrol

Steven Carrol was born in Melbourne and still lives there with his partner and son.

He published his first novel "Remember Me Jimmy James" in 1992, followed by "Momoko" 1994, "The Lovesong of Lucy McBride" 1998 and then "The Art of the Engine Driver" 2001.

This was short listed for the Miles Franklin Award in 2002 and France's Prix Femina literary award for the best foreign novel in 2005. "The Time we Have Taken" 2007 won both the 2008 Commonwealth Writer's Prize for South East Asia and South Pacific Region and the 2008 Miles Franklin Award.

"The Lost Life" 2009 was short listed for the 2010 Barbara Jeffries Award and the ALS Gold Medal 2010 and "Spirit of Progress" was short listed for the 2012 Miles Franklin Award. "A World of Other People" was published in 2013.

The story is set in London during and after World War 2. It opens dramatically with a pilot bringing his burning plane in for a crash landing and him barely escaping with his life.

We then meet Iris, an aspiring author who is working in a government office. She is surprised and a little bewildered when her friend Frank, who is heading off to war unexpectedly gives her an engagement ring and asks her to write to him.

She agrees to write to him but commits to wear the ring only when he returns.

Out of a sense of duty Iris decides she will take on fire watching duties at night. The fire warden is T S Elliot and it is on his roof that they set up watch.

The night had been very quiet until they hear the drone of an engine and see an aeroplane heading straight for them.

They realise it is one of their planes and one engine is on fire: it passes so close they can see the pilot and crew and the white dove painted on the fuselage, then they hear a distant explosion. Iris is horrified that Mr Elliot sees this as an inspiration



and subsequently writes poetry about it.

During her lunch hour Iris likes to have her lunch in the nearby park. One day she notices a young man sitting on a bench, staring at the roof top on which she does fire watching duty.

A plane passes overhead and then she notices the man is crying. Iris approaches him and asks if he is all right. He answers "No, I am not". Iris sees that he is Australian and they strike up a conversation.

His name is Jim and he is a pilot, and he asks her if she will come back again next week. She does and a friendship develops.

Jim's story gradually unfolds and their relationship becomes more serious. When Frank is listed as missing Iris decides she needs to tell Jim about him and the engagement ring. Jim is devastated and the relationship is ended.

Then Frank returns and casually remarks that he had a cheek to ask Iris to wait for him. This frees Iris to contact Jim.

She has also realised that she actually witnessed Jim's crash and that there are inconsistencies in the account of what happened.

She then writes a piece about it and has it published in a university magazine.

The story concludes with Iris taking this to Mr Elliot to emphasise that what she has written is what actually happened.

This is a tragic love story, demonstrating the disastrous effects of war and the toll it takes, not only on the returned servicemen, but those around them.

The flashbacks that Jim suffered were totally disabling and one wonders if he would ever have been healed, even if the relationship with Iris had continued.

Sadly this is still relevant today with the high rate of mental illness amongst returned soldiers.

Most members of our group enjoyed this very sad story.

The characters were very well drawn and real and the book was easy to read.

The author used frequent repetition of certain phrases and sentences either for emphasis or to bring the reader back to a point in the story.

One member found this distracting but the rest of us thoroughly enjoyed this well written and believable story.



Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

will **NOT** be holding meetings for the foreseeable future due to the current health crisis. Members and the public will be notified when meetings resume.

For further information please contact the Secretary. **Phone 51631565**

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The Lions Club of Churchill & District

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Furry Fundraisers

Furry Fundraisers is an annual fundraising event which was going to be in its third year in 2020. Considering the event attracts around 100 people, and was scheduled to occur mid-October, it has had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. Furry Fundraisers began in response to seeing the high number of pets which are owned by homeless people in the Melbourne area. Instead of creating a new charity which would double up I instead chose to focus efforts on fundraising to support those charities which already existed. The idea of Furry Fundraisers is not just to raise money for animals in need, but to do so in a way which involves our beloved pets in the process.

There are so many worthwhile causes, like our local Grounded Paws Animal Rescue, but at this time Furry Fundraisers proceeds go to Pets in the Park and Pet Medical Crisis. Pets in the Park helps the homeless care for their pets by providing free medical care to pets of the homeless in the greater Melbourne area. Pet Medical Crisis assists with the costs of medical intervention where the owners' inability to fund it would otherwise result in death or significantly impact quality of life. Both charities often work together and instead of rescuing abandoned animals focus on animals who are already loved, but due to their owner's circumstances and disadvantage are unable to access the proper



The trio of two huskies and a terrier are Lexi, Kiera and Benny.

veterinary care needed to have a good quality of life.

One example of the work which Pet Medical Crisis does comes from Deanne and her 9-year-old Maltese cross called Nulla. Nulla has lived with Deanne her entire life and the pair are inseparable, but being on a pension Deanne was unable to pay for the surgery which was needed to deal with Nulla's severe dental issues. Deanne told Pet Medical Crisis that she "Would not have been able to pay for Nulla's surgery and the only other option would have been to say goodbye to her.

So, the gift from Pet Medical Crisis is the best and will never be forgotten." Having to put animals down because people are unable to pay for their care needs is an all too common tragedy, and one that Pet Medical Crisis does everything in its power to prevent.

In the first year we raised just over \$1,400 for Pets in the Park alone, and in the second year we raised just

over \$1,500 to split between the two charities. This year's fundraiser was meant to be a twilight market and a big screen movie at Old Gippsdown, which would have been lots of fun, but we look forward to doing this in 2021 instead.

Despite the havoc which COVID-19 has caused the needs of animal welfare have not decreased and both of these charities are still doing amazing work.

Please consider visiting their websites petsinthepark.org.au and petmedicalcrisis.com.au and perhaps donating directly to assist with their vital work.

Also, if you are interested in hearing about next year's Furry Fundraisers event then please check out our Facebook page 'Furry Fundraisers' and like to get further updates. If you have a passion for this area, and would like to be involved in next years fundraising event then please contact founder Geraldine McClure directly on 0447 351 295.



The terrible twins (two Labradors) are Poppy and Dusty



Volunteer Penny and her dog Barney

Russell Northe MP

Shop Local

These past months have been a rugged journey for so many people and of course this includes employers and employees across a number of industries and sectors.

A big shout out to the business community across Churchill and district, along with their families and staff for their resilience and determination.

It has been pleasing to see a slight easing of COVID-19 restrictions that allow a little more flexibility in how businesses cater for their customers.

As consumers it provides us with greater scope to support these same businesses who invariably provide local employment, and support our local community through various means.

It is imperative that we try and shop locally where we possibly can. It may be convenient to shop online and purchase goods or services from afar, but now more than ever it is critical to get behind our local businesses given the difficult time many have had. Churchill has many great outlets in the town including, cafes, supermarkets, food outlets, bakery, beauty and personal services and of course a great pub.

With restrictions somewhat eased, and the weather warming up and daylight saving here, why not get down to the Churchill Hotel and enjoy a great feed and a cold beer whilst enjoying some social interaction – within reason of course!!

Local grants

COVID-19 has also impacted community sport and recreation in a whole

range of ways with a number of activities not being able to operate at any or full capacity over the preceding weeks and months.

We know that this has subsequently had impacts physically, emotionally, socially and financially for individuals, clubs and leagues. I have therefore been long advocating to the State Government for the return of many sport and recreation pursuits within a CovidSafe environment for these reasons.

Also we know many clubs, leagues and associations have taken a financial hit due to the inability to generate any income through ticket sales, canteen revenue, or even through sponsorship from local business who have also been heavily financially impacted.

Most clubs will still have ongoing overhead expenses and costs despite generating little or no income, given sports were unable to be played. There has been some Government funding and other assistance on offer to try and support the sporting and volunteering fraternity during this period of time.

For further information and eligibility criteria in relation to grants that may assist sporting and recreation clubs, leagues and associations get through this difficult period please visit the web-links below.

<https://sport.vic.gov.au/grants-and-funding/our-grants>

<https://latrobe.grantguru.com.au>

Back to school

Who would have thought that 2020 would see students being home-schooled for much of the school year!! I



know it hasn't been an easy time for students, families and teachers but it seems everyone on the whole has done a terrific job over the last six months. Students who have adapted to learning remotely and I'm sure have missed the interaction with their friends, teachers who have not only done a remarkable job of online teaching but also completing welfare checks to ensure their students and parents are coping okay.

To parents who have helped to home-school your children with many also juggling working from home and other work commitments we acknowledge your efforts and commitment!

With the final term of the school year now underway, there may well be a few groans along with some relief and excitement depending on whether one is a student, teacher or parent!! Either way we recognise it has been a different and challenging school year and I wish everyone all the very best for the remainder of the 2020 school year, and look forward to attending local school graduations and presentations - restrictions and rules permitting of course.

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LIONS CLUB OF CHURCHILL & DISTRICT

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



Australia Day

2021 NOMINATION FORM

Nomination for: Citizen of the Year Young Citizen of the Year School Student Citizen of the Year

DETAILS OF PERSON/PERSONS/GROUP BEING NOMINATED

Full name of citizen/persons/organization/event: _____

Contact name (if nominating organization/event): _____

Residential address: _____ Town: _____

Postal address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

Email: _____

Date of birth of nominee (if nominating Young Citizen & Young School Citizen of the Year): ____/____/____

Please note: The information provided below will only be used by the Lions Club of Churchill in the selection process, if the nomination is successful in winning an Australia day award all or part of this information may be released to the media

Reason for Nomination:

Contribution/s to the community for which the person is nominated: summarize (In 100-150 words) the reasons why your nominee should be considered.

Other significant contributions and achievements:

If you require additional space, please write on a separate sheet and attach to the form.

Community / Professional bodies / Sporting or Service Groups your nominee has been involved with:

Background information about your nominee:

Referee in support of this application (this person may be contacted for further information)

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): _____

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Position/Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone (H): _____ (W) _____ (M): _____

Email: _____

Nominator (To be completed by person submitting)

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): _____

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Position/Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone (H): _____ (W) _____ (M): _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominations can be lodged at any time; however nominations for the Lions Club of Churchill & District Australia Day 2021 awards close on Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 5.00 pm.

Nominations should be addressed to:

Carol Kavanagh
Lions Club Secretary
Australia Day Awards Nominations
PO Box 110 Churchill Vic 3842.
or email Churchill.lionsclub@gmail.com.

Privacy Statement: The 'personal' details provided for the nominee will only be used to enable the Lions Club of Churchill & District to determine Award winners and to contact the Award winners. The winners of Awards and details of their contribution to the community will be disclosed to the media.

School News

HAZELWOOD NORTH PRIMARY

Pig the Pug Competition

Award

This certificate is awarded to Bryce Hahn for his overall presentation, story and reading aloud of Pig the Librarian!



Pig the Pug Competition

Prize Winner

This certificate is awarded to Macy Leahy for using detail and creativity in her front cover!



Pig the Pug Competition

Prize Winner

This certificate is awarded to Christian Miller for his overall presentation, story and reading aloud of Pig the Chef!



Pig the Pug Competition

Prize Winner

This certificate is awarded to Zac Gina for creating a great lesson for Pig the Basketball Player to learn!



Pig the Pug Competition

Award

This certificate is awarded to Declan Phoenix for writing an enticing blurb that made me want to read the story!



Hazelwood North had a competition for Pig the Pug. The reason why we did the Pig the Pug story is to celebrate the new Pig the Pug book. The different things each class did was writing a book, doing a front cover and a blurb.

Lucas 4/5/6

Pig the Loner

Pig was a pug and I'm sorry to say, he'd been so greedy and selfish, that he had no friends who would play. His old friend Trevor was playing with other dogs and what were they doing?

They were jumping over logs in their togs. "You've got some great skills there!" Poor Pig did say. But the other dogs grumbled, "There's some biscuits, now go away!"

"But it might be more fun," said Pig to dog, "If we all play together!" Well the dog threw a cog. "I have an idea!

We will all play fair! I won't be selfish and greedy! I won't and I swear!" But the other dogs ran off.

They ran away and left Pig all alone. They didn't even let him play! And then Pig had an idea, an idea that put him into gear...Pig went to the table, pulled up a chair, took treats from the cupboard, it was time to play fair!

Pig ran outside, he whistled with glee, called the other dogs over right by the tree. Then the dogs came right over and noticed it was

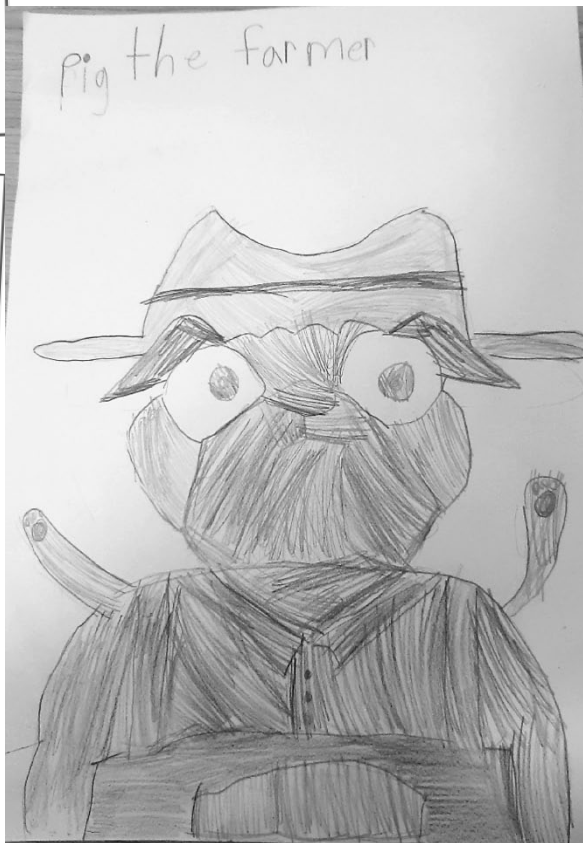
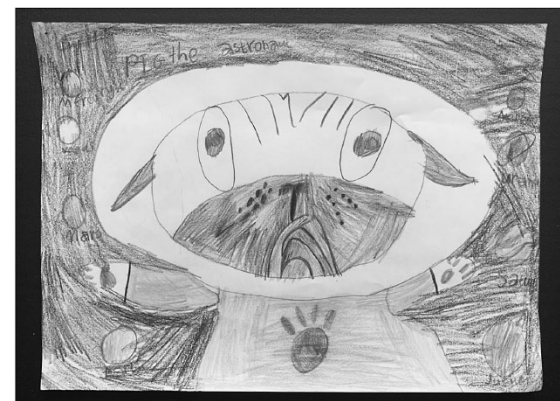
him. Pig looked happy and he had a huge grin.

"I have bought us some biscuits but it want me to share, you must promise me one thing: We must all play fair!" The dogs looked at each other, then they huddled up. After some time, they

turned to face Pig. They all said at once "Yup!" These days it's different, I'm happy to say. It's so very different, in most every way. Yes, they all play together, they play and they play until it's bedtime or at least the end of the day. And Pig still gets treats for everyone to share but however, sometimes....he doesn't share them fair!

By Charlotte 2/3

PIG the ASTRONAUT



School News

KURNAI COLLEGE UNI CAMPUS

The following are comments made by students in relation to remote learning which commenced in August.

This remote learning, I am learning that I get things done at home faster than at school. Something I found harder this time is that I couldn't really go anywhere and it was hard wearing a mask every time I went out to the shops.

Because we are not attending school on campus, I have missed seeing my friends. However, I am not missing being at school and getting up early. This lock down I am keeping entertained by walking my dog and talking to my friend.

When I watch the news lately, I wonder why people can't just stay at home when this all started. On the holidays I am looking forward to sleeping in more and maybe seeing friends.

Year 11 VCAL student

This remote learning I am feeling happy about online learning because I don't have to wake up as early to catch the bus to go to

school. I felt like the whole of online learning was easier this time because we had already done it before so I knew what to expect.

I am not missing being on campus or waking up early to catch the bus.

During lock down I have been keeping myself entertained by riding my bike and playing my PlayStation.

While I have been watching the news lately I have been happy because the number of cases have been going down and the restrictions have been reduced.

On the holidays I am looking forward to catching up with mates, getting out of the house on day trips and not having to do anything school related.

Year 11 VCAL student

Nothing gets easier with homeschooling and personally this time round I found it harder as I had just started some VCE subjects. My puppy has kept me entertained and on my toes this isolation, he's a very good boy.

I really hope we get back to school. This is the only time you will hear me say this, I

genuinely miss attending normal school.

Lily; Year 10 VCAL student

In this second time doing remote learning I am finding it better than the first one because I am kind of used to it now.

But I still do not like doing remote learning. At least it seems easier this time around then when we first had to do it.

Things that I miss about going to school on campus are; you get more help, getting out of the house for the day, doing PE, seeing friends and hanging out with people.

In lockdown I have been keeping myself entertained by playing games like Uno, Monopoly and the ps4.

There has been a couple of funny moments in lockdown like watching my little nephew trying to walk for the first time and that's about it really.

Year 10 VCAL student

This time I am finding remote learning harder for me because I don't generally have a teacher here to help me or motivate me to do anything. But this time I know what I have to

do now and have done it. What I miss about being on campus is the help and support from teachers and I complete more work while being on campus.

But I'm finding remote learning good because I get to sleep in and have more time to finish work.

I've been entertaining myself by working out, playing the ps4 and I'm still always talking to my friends on Houseparty.

Sarah; Year 10 VCAL student

Well to be honest I am finding online schooling this time around a lot better to deal with.

However, I have found some things more difficult this time, such as finding it a little hard to keep concentrating and staying interested. I'm definitely missing the face to face interaction and just being around my friends and outside on campus.

I'm not missing all the traveling there and back and wearing masks at school though.

Niamh; Year 10 VCAL student



EVERYTHING

WE'RE

DOING

IS

MAKING

A

DIFFERENCE

Thank you Victoria.

As hard as this is, every sacrifice we're making is making a difference. But we can't stop now, or lose everything we've worked for. We will get through this together.

For details go to vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

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