



CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

“Connecting Your Community”

Established 1966

Distributed Free

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NAIDOC Tree Planting - p 17

Looking Back 200 issues – p 22

Cooking with Noelene - p 24

Service clubs spread the spirit of Christmas

This year has been like no other in most of our living memories and lifetimes. Here we acknowledge that there have been severe restrictions on our lives, much apprehension, worry, the efforts of working from home, home schooling, not seeing family members, mask wearing and a lot of anxiety about if that cough was COVID or not. It also included guilt if you thought you had COVID and who you may have infected and how you would look after your family and what self-solation might entail, as well as a myriad of other conflicting emotions and concerns.

There have also been some positive outcomes and we would like to highlight those too.

There have been many garden make overs and veggie gardens established, house renovations and maintenance; technology usage extended into Zoom meetings and family catch ups, which allowed organisations to continue to work and have administration completed, after a small gap; it allowed doctors to use video conferencing or phone consultations (not always as satisfactory as face to face) as a way to stay in touch with patients and stay safe themselves, many caring acts were performed, and neighbours got to know each other better and offered support. Communities have supported those in need from students at university to families who lost a bread winner's income.

For Churchill & District News it meant cancelling the paper for three months until we worked out a way to work from home, which is slowly becoming more efficient.

We take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our advertisers and article contributors who readily and happily came back on board and our readers who told us how good it was to have the Churchill & District News up and going again. From our team we send our greetings and best wishes to you all for a Happy Christmas and a safe and satisfying 2021.

Lions Club of Churchill & District Inc.

It's almost Christmas time and nothing says Christmas more than the Lions Christmas trees and the Lions Christmas cakes!

Already our busy and dedicated Lions members have been out starting to harvest the Christmas trees for sale that are so popular every year.

Every house needs one and we hope to have them available as usual at the United Service Station in Churchill, selling at \$40 each.

Then of course there are the Lions Christmas cakes, these are so popular that they literally sell like hot cakes and at only \$17.00 each, as fast as we replenish them, they again sell out!



Lion Bob Lowick and Lion Geoff Brick on the first day of starting to cut down the trees

If you don't have one you might just miss out, as at the time of writing this there was just a few left at the Post

Office and the Health Centre. Lions Christmas cakes are not only incredibly tasty, but make fantastic gifts and they

can be kept in the cupboard for other special times throughout the year. *Continued page 7*

Hazelwood Rotary Club – Connecting with a festive community

By Leo Billington

Hazelwood Rotary will co-ordinate the ever popular 2020 Christmas

Wrap at Mid Valley – through until Christmas Eve. Funds raised will be distributed amongst various community organisations.

Gifts of every conceivable shape and size are able to be wrapped in exchange for a donation. The wrap has been going for over 18 years, raising thousands of dollars along the way.

The Hazelwood Rotary Club – Mid Valley annual Christmas Wrap is now a nation-wide fixture on all our calendars.

As a sign of confidence and pride, Hazelwood Rotary member, Margaret Palmer was last year selected to drive children and adults around Mid Valley in their Christmas festive train.

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

As the picture shows, adults from overseas were



drawn to sharing this period of fun, happiness and celebrations for everyone.

Wrapping will begin on Friday November 27, and be conducted every day up to and including Christmas Eve,

Thursday December 24.

Hazelwood Rotary will have their wrapping stand in the large central area near where Target previously was located. This will be very similar to previous years.

Thanks to Mid Valley Centre Management for assisting over all the 18 years to provide valuable space for such a worthwhile community project.

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributes

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

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- Treasurer: Delma Hodges
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Contributions

The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the February 2021 edition is January 25, 2021

EDITORIAL

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

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



Articles can be left in our Drop Off Box
 Located at:
 Co-Operating Church,
 Williams Avenue

MEMBER 2020

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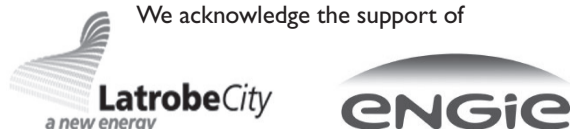
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We acknowledge the support of



Hazelwood milking sheds

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



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

Earlier, in March 1894, during a meeting of suppliers to the Hazelwood Fresh Food Creamery, a question was asked if there was a "system of cleanliness" that was to be observed by dairy farmers.

The answer was that "all milk that came to the creamery was clean and well-strained and that the cans were free from any appearance of untidiness."

It was also pointed out that "the company is arranging to employ an inspector who will visit every farm, inspect every supplier's milking yard and dairying utensils."

The Victorian Dairy Supervision Act [1905] was initially tested across farms

in Metropolitan Melbourne, Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo.

In part, the Act gives inspectors the right to confer with or advise such owner on matters connected with his farm, animals, premises, utensils, milk and dairy produce when requested to do so or when instructed to do so by the Minister: as well as inspect and examine all premises, utensils and appurtenances, and also all animals and their food and water supply. (Appurtenances referred to fencing, shedding, and a plot of land for instance.)

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

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

Jos Quigley was the Morwell Shire Dairy Inspector during a period when apparently blackberries, ragwort and snakes caused plenty of bother.

He reported to Morwell Shire Council meetings in July 1914, February 1916

and again in March 1916, that farmers in general were keeping their properties in good order.

Nevertheless, he was understandably quick to recommend prosecution for farmers who seemingly ignored his first warning.

Pictured is an early small farm dairy in Hazelwood North.

Many others unfortunately disappeared during rampant, serious bushfires which raced across our part of Victoria years ago.

Cancellation of community Carols by Candlelight

Regrettably, the small organising committee for Community Carols by Candlelight has reached the conclusion that to hold Carols by Candlelight this

year will be too difficult with restrictions in place. 2021 is another year and hopefully with God's grace we will have our Community Carols again in December.



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RAINFALL

Rainfall for November 2020

Churchill had a below average rainfall totalling 35mm for November, the second lowest monthly rainfall recording for the year; 3mm more than the March rainfall.

The 2020 Rainfall total to the end of November is now 795 mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South.

In the last 34 years there has only been one dryer November, that was in 1989. November

this year had 33.5 mm of rain, which is 45% of the average for November. This year started very wet, the average for 2020 has now dropped to 123%. The stored up ground water is reducing fast. December is starting with lots of dry grass and busy mowers. The expectation is for much needed above average rain during summer.

Best Wishes to all readers for a Great Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2021.

ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2021

No.	Size		B/W	COLOUR	10% Discount (6 issues)	
	Height x Width	Column size			B/W	COLOUR
			\$	\$	\$	\$
1.	58mm x 83mm	2 x 5.8 cm	29.00	NA	25.00	NA
2.	123mm x 83mm	2 x 12.3 cm	58.75	94.00	53.00	84.60
3.	93mm x 128mm	3 x 8.3 cm	67.00	107.00	60.30	96.50
4.	58mm x 260mm	6 x 5.8 cm	84.60	136.00	76.15	121.80
5.	138mm x 128mm	3 x 13.8 cm	98.70	158.00	88.85	142.10
6.	188mm x 128mm	3 x 18.8 cm	133.95	215.00	120.55	192.85
7.	188mm x 260mm	6 x 18.8 cm	281.55	450.00	253.40	405.00
8.	375mm x 260mm	6 x 37.5 cm	413.45	661.50	372.10	595.35

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PLEASE CONTACT

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Submission of Articles:

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

CDCA

Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

Our Year in Reflection

CDCA held its final meeting for 2020 at the Community Hub in late November. How nice it was to be meeting face-to-face, even with masks and the requisite social distancing!

Obviously, 2020 has been a challenging year. No face-to-face meetings, suspension of many activities, little or no volunteering for projects and activities, no public events and so forth. We all know what 2020 has been like – nothing we have ever experienced before!

Nevertheless, CDCA has continued, doing what we can:

an AGM and Committee elections held via Zoom

submissions to Council on a number of Council strategies and policies

attendance at several Fed Uni on-line forums

the memorial seat project (not quite completed yet)

successful funding application to LCC for a further outdoor project

further funding from HPV for 2020-21

attention to a variety of hazards and safety issues which have been satisfactorily resolved

regular columns in the C&D News

a presence, with increased followers, on Facebook

maintenance of CDCA website

on-going engagement with Recycling at the Hub

partners, CNC and C&D News

successful Shop Local campaign pre-Covid

pandemic with a view to reinstatement next year

continuing engagement with key stakeholders, such as Churchill police, Council and the University and maintenance of relationships with Ward Councillor and local State MP, amongst others.

Of course, given the pandemic, the real highlight is that we made it through the year, with no known



cases recorded in Postcode 3842!

Next year, Committee has decided to trial a different meeting night (to fit in with various commitments some of our member have) – so we'll be meeting on the first Thursday of every second month.

Our first meeting for 2021 will be held at 7pm on Thursday February 4 at the Churchill Community Hub in Philip Parade.

Our priorities for 2021 have been set:

Current Projects (like 'Shop Local')

Partnerships (e.g. Recycling at the Hub)

Recreational pathways, beautification and signage of significant places (including our Council funded outdoor furniture projects for sites adjacent to the Eel Hole Creek wetlands)

Membership Recruitment

Pleasingly, CDCA is to receive funding from Latrobe City Council for next year via the Community Grants Program.

Other successful applications from Churchill Inc

-Churchill Bowls Club

-Churchill & District News

-Lions Club of Churchill and District

-Latrobe Valley Triathlon

Club

-Traralgon Rovers Hockey Club (New Hockey Goals for LV Hockey Association at Federation Uni field)

-Mathison Park Advisory Committee

Additionally, the Lions Club of Churchill and District successfully applied for funding from Council's Community Support and Recovery Package. In fact, there were no unsuccessful applications from Churchill!

CDCA would like to thank former Councillor, Darrell White, for all his efforts over many years to benefit both this community and that of the wider Latrobe City. Darrell was a frequent visitor to CDCA meetings and we have appreciated the knowledge and experience that he was able to bring to our discussions.

Next year we propose to formally invite the new South Ward Councillor, Melissa Ferguson, to our meetings. One of the good things about CDCA meetings is the wide-ranging discussions and information that is tabled; info from Churchill Police, reports from Neighbourhood Watch, advice from Council, new projects at Churchill Hub and sometimes even a visit from our local State MP, Russell Northe!

As Australia adjusts to "Covid-normal" – whatever that is – CDCA will just get on with the work at hand: what we do and how much we achieve is the result of a dedicated handful of people who are committed to the ideal of having a formal community advocacy organisation in Churchill.

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.



It's great to be able to open our doors again – and we would love to see you. **What can we offer you?**

Maybe: a course. We run courses to help you build confidence and skills, courses to help you get into or back into employment or volunteering, and courses for fitness, fun and friend finding! If we do not have anything that is of interest to you, please contact us to discuss options or to help you find what you are looking for elsewhere.

*a coffee and a chat
*food to get you through a tough time

*a workshop
*information and support. We can signpost you to services and activities. We are impartial.

*volunteering!
We are open Monday to Friday, 9.30am – 4pm. Make sure you drop in to see us before we take a short break from 4pm on December 24! We will re-open at 9.30am on January 4, 2021. Food Bank will be closed during that time.

Contact us: on 5120 3850 on our Facebook page - leave a private message by email info@churchill.org.au

One of the people who we hope will be putting his feet up for a few days is our hardworking Vice President, Milton Shields. Here we find out a little more about him:

"I have been involved with the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre through the Churchill Community Garden for approximately six years. As well as the garden I am now the Vice President of the Neighbourhood Centre Board. The CNC exists to serve the people of Churchill to help connect them, share and develop their abilities, empower, and have a more fulfilling life.

I have been volunteering in various capacities for quite a long time. It gives me a lot of satisfaction when I volunteer. Living a life where you can make a difference no matter how small is my way of living my life.



Milton Shields

My Christian faith is very important to me so I am very involved in my Church. The Church I belong to is a Co-operation of the Anglican, Churches of Christ and Uniting Churches which is a very unique way of experiencing church.

My wife and I live on a lifestyle block so there is always something to do. Churchill is a great little

place to live. I have been part of a committee that runs the Lake Tyers Camp and Caravan Park at Lake Tyers Beach for around 25 years. So if camping/staying in a cabin is your idea of a holiday I can certainly recommend our caravan park."

Very best wishes from all of us at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

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Best wishes for a joy filled Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.

Remember to support local business, shop local and take care on the roads when travelling





Church News



Co-Op Snippets

Death of Rod Burney

Sad news for our church and the community is the passing of Rod Burney due to a motorbike accident on the Princes Highway at Fulham near Sale on Tuesday morning November 17. He was airlifted to the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne and passed away shortly afterwards.

We are all truly saddened by this tragic event and our thoughts and prayers go to Brenda, Sarah and Matthew, family and friends at this time.

Rod was a true friend, a great musician, always cheerfully helping others and a genuine person.

Brenda is on leave at this time with her family. All our hearts, and that of our community are heavy with grief from this news.

There has been an outpouring of messages of sympathy for this special family and prayers for them are said daily.

Services have been held outside the Churchill church and under the tree at Boolarra church with growing attendance as allowed by restrictions. We give appreciative thanks to Cathie Halliwell who is our supply minister and who is going over and beyond to have our

services continue face to face, or to provide emailed or hard copies of the services.

Christmas is coming up fast and it is a time to celebrate and be joyful. Christian believers know they are loved and are valued by God. They know this because of their belief that God sent Jesus at Christmas to show us just that. No matter what difficulties they have in their lives and especially those associated with the Christmas season they know God will be their rock.

A message from Cathie Halliwell

As we approach Advent—the four weeks before Christmas), there is a constant wrestling in my mind between encouraging others to enter into the joy of the coming of Jesus on Christmas day and the knowledge that, maybe even more than ever before, this year will be difficult to even acknowledge let alone celebrate. How do we support those people in our midst? It ponders me to think about how we can continue to live with a sense of hope when there have been such horrific and unexpected events this year.

Perhaps there are times in our lives when we need to look above our circumstances

for a few moments. Not to put emotions aside, or ignore them, but acknowledge what we feel is real and then just take our focus elsewhere for a short amount of time.

There are times in our lives, when those of us who call ourselves disciples of Jesus, only get through by the sheer strength of a single thread of faith that we hold onto deep in our soul; times when we cannot articulate what we are feeling, how we are angry, or sad or hurt and how we can ever possibly see our way out of that space. I truly believe that in times like these it is our faith that holds us together. We hold each other together.

What I am suggesting this year is that we look above our intense emotions of the year and spend some time celebrating our faith and looking out to one another and just checking in that people in our spheres of influence are all right.

We get so wrapped up in our own lives that we sometimes forget that there are others who are in desperate need of some help and support. It is important that we check in with people. It is one of the ways we show we care and value them. There may



Chaplain

As I write this, I am arranging to go to a wedding in just a few days.

Mention will be made of the difference between a wedding and a marriage; as well as the origins of the word 'husband' and the word 'wife' (more on that another time, if anyone was interested).

Plus, mention will be made of the Jewish tradition of breaking a glass at a wedding, which usually follows the placing of the ring(s).

In that tradition, the couple sip from the same glass to

symbolise their sharing of life together, followed by the groom breaking the glass underfoot.

This too is symbolic...it's a reminder that the Temple of old has been destroyed, and that to replace it, homes should be temples of purity and holiness.

What a picture!

A wedding is about a relationship...so too is the Christian life.

God longs for us to have a relationship with Him and asks if we are willing to enter that



relationship in a similar way to a couple saying, 'I will'. Worth thinking about!

be people like me who have been relatively unimpacted by the restrictions this year, other than navigating home schooling with a primary and secondary student. I have already worked from home for quite a few years so already had my boundaries and workspace set up. However there are many who just found getting the new equipment they need for remote working has been financially crippling. Families are trying to make things work in confined and difficult spaces. There are those who have no work now, or have less work than they need, maybe for the first times in their lives.

We need to be comfortable with the fact that this Christmas there are those who will really struggle with a range of issues. People who need support but dread being around those who are in full celebration mode. I want these people to know there is a way of acknowledging the birth of Jesus but in a more sombre way. Churches have what are called Blue Christmas services which are a way of connecting with God in amongst real pain, hurt and loss. Our Boolarra congregation has been providing these services for many years, always before Christmas, in an evening, in the quiet. This year's will particularly focus on the impact COVID 19 has had on our lives and our losses. If you are brave perhaps you would like to come on Thursday December 17 at 7:30pm at the Co-Operating Church in Boolarra. Or perhaps you could reach out to a trusted friend and say "I just don't feel joyful this Christmas" and

share that feeling. In amongst all these restrictions, we have had time to think. Perhaps we have changed our priorities and now see events in a different context or have reached the point where something deeper is more important: a grudge to be let go of, forgiveness to give. Maybe those issues that have always seemed important, are not as important as another year with a missing face around the Christmas table. I am hoping that we have all reflected on the fragility of life and the unexpectedness of loved ones no longer being with us. I hope we treasure those we

love in our lives and not wait to tell and show them how much we appreciate them being in our lives.

When you prepare for Christmas this year, spend some time thinking of others and if there are any ways that you could support another person or family. To all those families which are proud and private in the best of ways, it is not weakness to put your hand up to say you need some help. Giving to others and receiving support from others is at the core of our humanity.

Season's Greetings! May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you all.

Church Times

Boolarra/Yinnar
Co-Operating Parish
Christ Church Boolarra
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays
1.00pm
All Services



Co-Operating Churches of Churchill
Sunday Service: 10.00am
Williams Avenue,
Churchill.
Tel: 5122 1480

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

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

Churchill Christian Fellowship

With the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, Churchill Christian Fellowship has resumed 2pm Sunday afternoons at the Churchill Public Hall. Covid - normal precautions apply, including masks, social distancing, hand-sanitiser, cleaning and a sign-in page for all attendees.

On Sunday December 20, there will be a special family-oriented Christmas celebration, catering for all

ages but especially for children and families. Same time and place as the regular Sunday meetings, at 2pm.

Tuesday night meetings have also resumed and, depending on demand, another meeting may be commenced, perhaps during the day.

For people wishing to attend any of these meetings, it is still essential to call ahead. Call or text Steve on 0409 173 747.

Christmas Services

Churchill Christian Fellowship Churchill Town Hall 2pm Sunday December 20.

Lumen Christi Christmas Eve Mass 8pm Christmas Day 9am.

Co-Operating Churches December 17, Blue

Christmas Cathie and Robert 7.30 Boolarra

December 24, Crib Service 6.30pm Anglican HC Boolarra 8pm Boolarra

December 25, 10am Churchill and 10am Boolarra Service of the Word.

FMNP

November Activity report

For our planned November activity we had Matt, Mike, Beryl and Darren in attendance. We had apologies from Tamara, Ken, Cathy and Gordon.

A combination of factors resulted in us not running the planned activity.

The main task of the November activity is normally to measure the growth and health of butterfly orchid in our five test plots. The butterfly orchids normally flower best from the second half of November to the beginning of December. Since this activity was early in November, the butterfly orchids had yet to start flowering.

The butterfly orchid survey will still be done with a small group completing it before next activity (when the orchids are in flower).

Most of the group in for the activity were only there for the meeting not the full activity. Being on call for work and poor health made it difficult for some to be there for the full activity.

Matt reported that there are plans to put some new signage up in the Billys Creek part of the National Park. There are also plans to run a number of plant and animal surveys and a program of weed reduction as part of the Bushfire Recovery programs. The brush cutter needs a new blade (for the thicker undergrowth), so Matt will follow up on this.

This year the growth of local orchids has been spasmodic. This year there have been periods of dry



rains which have resulted in orchids growing and flowering both earlier and later than usual. Some orchids have had two flushes of grow when they normally have one. They are taking what opportunities exist to

grow, flower and reproduce.

The wild duck orchids have multiplied and flowered well this year.

Ten days after the planned activity, some of the butterfly orchids were found in flower.

Darrell White OAM

May I take this opportunity to express my grateful thanks and appreciation to all community members who favoured me with your vote in the recent Latrobe City Council South Ward election, and for your voting support over the years.

From the outset of becoming a Latrobe Councillor in 1997, I've always endeavoured to serve the best interests of the community which I have represented, including being a good listener, and I've always been focussed on solutions outcomes and balanced development. To have had the duty and responsibility of being Latrobe City's Mayor for four terms (1997, 2004, 2011, 2018) over these years has been a genuine honour, and presented many unique challenges for me in each term.

Over my time, Latrobe City Council has matured to become a dynamic organisation with a great people culture, and in that

time, has successfully faced many and varied challenges, adapting to changing economic and social circumstances. The range of matters that has needed to be addressed by Council has been broad and included economic development and events, the planning scheme, community services delivery, new and existing infrastructure, good governance, financial management and more.

Much has been achieved across Latrobe City, including the redevelopment of our Churchill Town Centre Precinct, creation of the Churchill Hub, provision of sporting facilities such as the Churchill Bowling Green and the regional hockey facility, along with the on-going development of Mathison Park. In addition, Boolarra's Multi-purpose Building renovation and the current Yinnar Memorial Hall renovations are important for community health and well-

being outcomes.

I would like to express my appreciation and especially acknowledge the dedication and on-going commitment of all our community volunteers who are making a positive difference through their involvement in various community Associations and Groups. It has been a privilege for me to be associated with people who are driven, and who take great pride in serving the best interests and outcomes for our Latrobe City community.

I also want to take this occasion to thank the Churchill News team for your tireless invaluable cooperation and assistance over many years which I have greatly valued and appreciated.

Thanks again to you all for your support over the years, including especially my team of helpers - I've always done my best to fairly represent all interests.

In closing - au revoir,

Churchill Hot Bread



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our customers



CHRISTMAS FARE

- * Pies
- * Salad Rolls
- * Cake
- * Coffee
- * Catering



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Churchill / Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Who do I call?

In the past month, we have been called by various people in town regarding matters that need to be relayed to the Police.

So, what does Neighbourhood Watch do?

1. Neighbourhood Watch is in the community to advise people about safety in and around the home.
2. We raise awareness about issues in our neighbourhood, and bring people together about what we should do to fix problems in the community.
3. We start projects in order to help people of all ages to show respect to the law. i.e. Art projects for schools to lessen graffiti issues around town and Number plate securing days

to prevent theft of number plates and Sausage sizzles to raise money for various events.

4. We note and report various issues around the district, like, graffiti, faulty street lighting, damages to street signs, broken telephone pits, road damage, etc, etc.

So, who do we call for Police assistance?

If you have an emergency, and need police assistance and attendance, simply call 000.

If you need to report an issue that does not need police attendance, call 131 444.

If you are on Facebook, look up Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe inc and hit the like button.

Till next time stay safe and enjoy life.



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.



Churchill & District Community Association wishes all residents, their families and friends a Safe and Happy Festive Season



Best Wishes and Good Health for 2021

Keep Covid-safe AND remember: get tested if you have any symptoms!

Contact CDCA at PO Box 191, Churchill 3842
 via our website: www.cdca.org.au or message us on our Facebook page - search for Churchill District Community Association

Next CDCA meeting: Thursday, February 4, 2021, 7.00 pm, Churchill Hub, Philip Parade, Churchill

Hazelwood Cemetery

By Leo Billington
 In its Thursday October 3, 1935 edition, the Morwell Advertiser highlighted an editorial which literally screamed at the local community telling them the Hazelwood Cemetery looked disgraceful.

At least suggestions to improve the cemetery's appearance were provided rather than just broadcasting a problem and hoping and wishing for a magical solution to drop from the sky.

It was suggested that the Cemetery trustees appoint a sexton at a small retaining fee. That is, budget accordingly to pay for a sexton.

In 1894, George Young was employed as caretaker/grave digger and was paid £5 per year. Historical records show Mr Young being the first employee although not officially being known as a sexton.

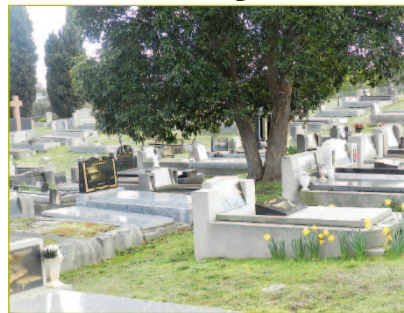
It's intriguing to note Mr Young's appointment

came 15 years after the cemetery was established. What happened in-between is anyone's guess.

Sketchy historical records make reference to an unknown person being employed as a sexton during 1881. It does seem as though Mr Young was known as a caretaker late in 1890.

George Young remained employed by the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust until about 1929. About 20 caretakers/gravediggers followed Mr Young between 1894 up to current times (2020). These days, the job title is split between two separate persons; this has been the case since about 1986.

Morwell Shire Council is listed as caretaker/gravedigger for six years, between 1954 and 1960. I am well aware that shire employees earn a few extra



pounds gravedigging on the side during this period. In fact, some employees shared the job in supposedly, an equitable manner.

During all these years, public pressure was maintained to ensure the cemetery was looking alright. One suggestion made in March 1963 was for Morwell ratepayers to be charged "an extra shilling or two on their rates which could be paid to the Shire gardeners to spend at least one or two days a month" doing cleaning-up work in the cemetery. Perhaps this idea could be nurtured in 2021.



STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



Another year rolls by and what a year it has been for everybody. It is my greatest hope that all my readers have escaped the clutches of Covid-19. One thing it has provided is a new collecting topic for stamp collectors as a number of countries world-wide have issued sets commemorating the virus. Most designs prominently feature a face-mask.

A personal milestone for the column also - 50 not out. My wife wondered how many more stories there are but with millions of stamps issued you could go on forever.

Story in a stamp

In 1983 Australia Post issued a set of four stamps featuring explorers of Australia. The set included a bust of Sir Paul Edmund de Strzelecki, who has a strong link with Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley.

He was the son of Polish aristocrats who became a geologist, studying at Heidelberg University in Germany.

After graduating, he spent four years exploring in western Canada, the U.S. and New Zealand before arriving in the colony of New South Wales in 1839.

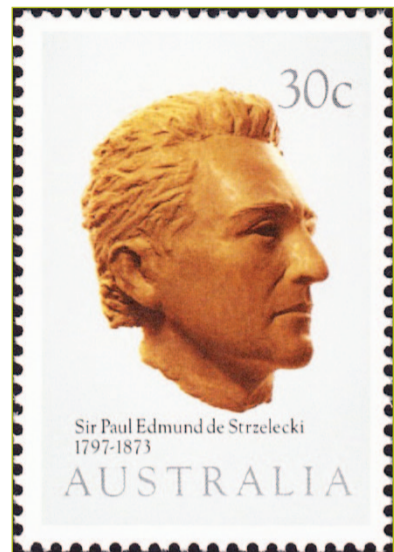
His early trips were to mid-western N.S.W. building up a geological map. He discovered traces of silver near Wellington and gold in the Vale of Clywd, near Hartley. His discoveries

were hushed up by Governor Gipps, who was afraid of unrest amongst the 45,000 convicts if a gold rush began.

He travelled on to the southern highlands in 1840 where he identified and named Australia's highest mountain, Mount Kosciusko. He moved on to the edges of settlement in Victoria, naming Gippsland and the LaTrobe River and pushed on across the Strzelecki Range to the coast. He then travelled on and carried out a geological survey of Van Diemen's Land. His book 'Physical Description of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land' was the recognised source on the area for more than 45 years.

He then went to England where he became a British citizen. His first great effort there was the administration of the relief fund for the potato famine in Ireland for which he was knighted. After this he joined the Family Colonisation Scheme, begun by Caroline Chisholm and became its Chairman in 1854.

He was a member of other Emigration Committees in England and also became a member of the Crimean Army Fund Committee, and



in this role helped Florence Nightingale in her efforts to set up nursing in army hospitals in the Crimea.

He had been elected to the Royal Geographical Society and to the Royal Society of London for his exploration work. He maintained a close interest in the future of Australia and was a champion of the wool industry and the large-scale irrigation of N.S.W. and Tasmania. There are at least 20 geographical features bearing his name in Australia, including the Strzelecki Track in South Australia and our local mountain range.

He died and was buried in England in 1873, a great man recognised for his discoveries and his philanthropy.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!



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The Management and Staff of Chemist Discount Centre Churchill would like to wish all their valued customers a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2021

Shop 7, West Place Shopping Centre, Churchill VIC 3842 T: (03) 5122 1390



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HVP Plantations will detect arson this summer with patrol vehicles, aircraft, drones and cameras watching for suspicious activity.

HVP Plantations ...

- Part of our community
- 40,000 ha of native vegetation
- 82,000 ha of plantations

Our home is your home and we are proud to be a part of Gippsland, which is why we take preventing and suppressing wildfires seriously.

Report any suspicious behaviour to Crime Stoppers on

1800 333 000

To report a fire Call triple zero

000

Lions Club of Churchill cont.



From Page 1

All the money that is raised from the sale of the Lions Christmas trees and Lions Christmas cakes supports the incredible work the Lions do in our local community. It also goes towards other local community projects such as providing hampers for those families who are struggling. It would be impossible to list all the projects and activities our Lions Club is involved with or runs year in and year out, that the sale of the Christmas trees and cakes doesn't contribute to.

How wonderful is this that we are now heading back to normal and nothing says that more than a Churchill Lions Bunnings Sausage Sizzle!

We were thrilled to be asked to do the first Welcome Back BBQ at Morwell Bunnings on November 14. The health rules were very strict but we were soon into the swing of it and had our usual fun day serving the public. They were equally happy to see us with comments coming all day along the line of: "Great to see the Lions back" and

"Good onya guys, we've missed you", one customer said he had driven in from Traralgon just to get a Lions Bunnings snag with extra onions!

We followed this up with another successful Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on December 5.

Sadly due to COVID we had to postpone our super popular Family Fishing Fun Day at Lake Hyland - but the great news is that it's still happening - the new date to put in your diary is February 27, 2021 - stay tuned for all the details which will be here in CDN and on our Facebook page 'Lions Club of Churchill Community Activities'.

Our Lap of the Map for Lions World Diabetes Day was a huge success concluding with a lap around Lake Hyland, collectively we walked 2460 klms, and raised \$510, another enjoyable helpful day for Lions.

Hopefully most people know all about the Lions Licola Wilderness Village. No? Well it's a diamond up in the High Country about two hours away via



Heyfield, where anyone can go, stay and have a magical time. Some of our members take regular trips up there to help out doing maintenance or whatever is needed. Recently there's been a lot of building and plumbing repairs, along with a concrete slab put down for the Flying Fox. The importance of Licola is that Lions run camps for Special Needs Schools and Disadvantaged kids, Churchill Lions also sponsors four children annually to attend a camp usually held in January.

December of course is the month when many primary school students graduate and head off to high schools or secondary colleges. Churchill Lions proudly supports them with the John Tipping Academic Awards. Unfortunately this year schools cannot have their Awards Presentation night, which the Lions really enjoy going to and presenting the Awards. However we wish all the

students leaving primary and heading off to high and secondary schools all the best with your educational studies and for a very bright successful future.

Next there's January and our Australia Day Awards!

Just a reminder not to forget this important day for our District, to recap: Nominations for the 2021 Churchill and District Australia Day Awards are now open.

Do you know someone in the Community who has made an outstanding contribution to the Churchill and District Community?

Why not nominate them to be recognised? Any individual, club, organisation or school can make a nomination of a person who they feel has demonstrated that they have made a significant contribution to the Churchill and District community.

Nominations are for: Churchill and District Citizen of the Year, Churchill and District Young Citizen of the Year.

Churchill and District School Student Citizen of the Year.

(See page 19 for the Entry Form).

The Club was also very proud of Member Lion David Cranwell who was awarded a special Edition Centennial Badge from Lions International for sponsoring a new Member during the 100th Celebration year, and we also inducted two more new Members who were sponsored into the Club by Lion Carol Kavanagh.

The Members of the Churchill & District Lions Club would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very joyous Merry Christmas and Happy New Year but above all - a very safe Festive Season.

Distribution Volunteer

Churchill & District News needs a volunteer to help with our distribution of Churchill News to our advertisers, sponsors, supporters, schools, etc., in Morwell, Yinnar and Churchill.

How often?
Once a month, 11 times a year.

How long does it take?
Approximately five hours.
Allowances? You can keep a record of travel and claim for the kilometres you travel.

When would I start?
In December 2020 with our existing volunteer to see how the run works.

Contact Ruth 0456 786 577 for more information.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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Commendation for Churchill & District News

The Community Newspaper Association of Victoria meeting was held on line this year which allowed many to join and learn from the excellent speakers.

“Regarding Churchill United Soccer Club 50th Anniversary front page story and four page spread on the club’s five decades, clearly

design looked fantastic and whilst it was a lengthy piece it was nicely balanced with the images and graphics. A top effort and one the club would no doubt have been thrilled with”.



The final session was the award for the various categories for which entries were submitted.

Churchill & District News entered several of the categories and we are thrilled to report that we were Runner Up in the Sport Reporting and gained a Special Mention in the History section.

The judges for the Sport’s award said

an amazing amount of research and work has gone into preparing this extensive spread including photos from over the years and Teams of the Decades. The overall

health scares. Churchill News’ Hazelwood Cemetery article looked back at the lives of three people who died from the Spanish flu in 1919”.

Latrobe 10,000 Steps Challenge

More than 165 million steps walked during the Latrobe 10,000 Steps Challenge

The annual Latrobe 10,000 Steps Challenge is over for 2020, with a collective 165,742,392 steps walked – the equivalent of walking from Melbourne to London more than seven times - over the four-week period.

In total, 552 people from 22 workplaces took part in the challenge, which ran from Monday, October 5 to Sunday November 1. The annual competition challenges workplaces to start stepping at least 10,000 steps a day. It was a bigger feat this time round with Coronavirus restrictions forcing the closure of gyms and community sports programs.

“Hitting the target of 10,000 steps per day was an even tougher challenge this year with COVID-19 restrictions making it harder for people to get out and exercise in the ways they normally would,” Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS) Health Promotion Officer Rob Preston said.

“With that said, it has been great to see each team get creative this year with how they got their steps in. The winning team from LCHS even added some cycling into the mix, both virtually and outdoors.”

After a modest finish in 2019, LCHS Executive Assistant – CEO and winning team leader, Natasha Hammond, said she was proud to overturn her previous result.

“As a health-promoting organisation it’s great to have activities and initiatives like this so we can practise what we preach. We are proud to overturn our sombre performance of 96th from last year, and we were pretty lucky to have some enthusiastic people in the team this year to help us do that,” Ms Hammond said.

Winning team members



Rob Preston walking with his two kids

Karen Pettifer and Andrina Romano-Whitworth were two of the highest steppers for the entire competition.

The pair amassed more than one million steps each. Karen did a lot of riding with her son, running and virtual challenges to help get her team over the line.

“My son James and I did a lot of bike riding together; we loved exploring the countryside. To add to that, our management group walked, ran and cycled the virtual Alps to Ocean circuit in New Zealand which is 289.7 kilometres. After that I ran the virtual Grand Canyon,” Ms Pettifer said.

Being able to put LCHS at the top of the leader board kept LCHS Executive Director Primary Health Andrina Romano-Whitworth motivated.

“My want to win is what kept me motivated during the 10,000 step challenge, and I’m incredibly proud to be one of the highest steppers in the



competition, alongside Karen,” Ms Romano-Whitworth said.

“It was great to be part of the team that won, but more than that we had a laugh and challenged each other along the way which is what it’s all about. For those thinking about doing it next year, I would say grab some team members and go for it!”

The Latrobe 10,000 Steps Challenge will run again in 2021.

In the meantime, workplaces can run their own challenge for free at www.10000steps.org.au

You can find out more about workplace health and wellbeing, along with the support Latrobe Community Health Service can offer, at: <https://lchs.com.au/community/healthy-places>

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We have worked so hard, and sacrificed so much, to bring case numbers down. And this hard work is paying off, and saving lives.

Our communities have looked out for each other and stayed the course together, and we remain united in our efforts to come through the biggest health and economic challenge of our lifetime, together.

As restrictions change and we move towards our Covid Normal, please continue to look out for each other, and to do what you can to reduce the risk of transmission for yourself, and for those who are relying on us all to do the right thing.

Information about the many changes that are occurring across Victoria, and the support that’s available for families, businesses and communities, is at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-restrictions-roadmaps

Coronavirus Hotline 1800 675 398

As always, if I can assist please call **1300 103199** or email me at Harriet.Shing@parliament.vic.gov.au

Please maintain physical distancing and good hygiene, and wear a mask when you leave home.

And if you have any symptoms at all, please get tested urgently and stay at home until you have a negative result.

This ongoing work means we can reopen, and stay open.

LET’S STAY SAFE TOGETHER.

Harriet Shing MP

MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

216 Commercial Road, Morwell VIC 3840

P: 1300 103 199 E: harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au

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CFA and Emergency Response - it's business as usual



Burning Off

Burning off grass, stubble, weeds, undergrowth or other vegetation is generally permitted outside the Fire Danger Period. Latrobe City has Local laws on burn-offs which apply year-round. Fires are not allowed in the township area at all, but are allowed on rural properties or farms.

Before burning off:

Check and follow local laws and regulations set down by Latrobe City

Check the weather forecast for the day of the burn and a few days afterwards

Check the fuel moisture conditions

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

Notify neighbours at least two hours before starting the burn. Notify the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) on 1800



668 511. Make sure there are enough people to monitor, contain and extinguish the burn safely and effectively.

Register your burn-off

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

Please provide the following information about your burn-off when registering:

- *Location
- *Date and expected start and finish times
- *Estimated size
- *What you intend to burn

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

Some information that you provide may be displayed on the Vic Emergency website. This may include the street name and area where the planned burn you are registering will take place. This information may be shared on the Vic Emergency website at the time of ignition, as well as the VicEmergency app and internal incident management systems.



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

Resumption of some CFA Activities

Under the Victorian Government's Roadmap for Reopening as announced on

Sunday 22 November, CFA has now eased a number of restrictions on brigade activities that had previously been in place.

We are pleased to announce that the brigade is now permitted to undertake the following activities, subject to COVID safe protocols being in place.

- run (see above)
- Brigade fundraising activities
- Letterbox drops
- Property advice visits (Community Safety requirements apply)
- Public/community/industry engagement activities including meetings, site inspections, fire safety visits etc.



FIRE DANGER PERIOD

has commenced in YOUR municipality.

The Fire Danger Period has been declared for the **City of Latrobe**

It commenced at

1.00 am Monday, December 14, 2020

and will remain in place till stated otherwise.



PHONE 1300 367 700 | WEB www.latrobe.vic.gov.au | FACEBOOK Latrobe City Council

LATROBE CITY COUNCILLORS AND STAFF EXTEND

Season's Greetings

The COVID-19 pandemic and evolving restrictions means that it is difficult to anticipate operating hours for the Churchill Hub at this stage. Up-to-date opening and closing times for the 2020/21 Christmas and New Year period will be announced on Council's website, social media pages and in the Latrobe Valley Express.



Christmas Present Appeal

Help us make a child's Christmas. Place a present under our tree.

See staff for details.

CHURCHILL HEALTHCARE PHARMACY

NOW OPEN

NEW LOCATION

next to IGA and Hazelwood Medical Centre

Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Saturdays 9am - 2pm

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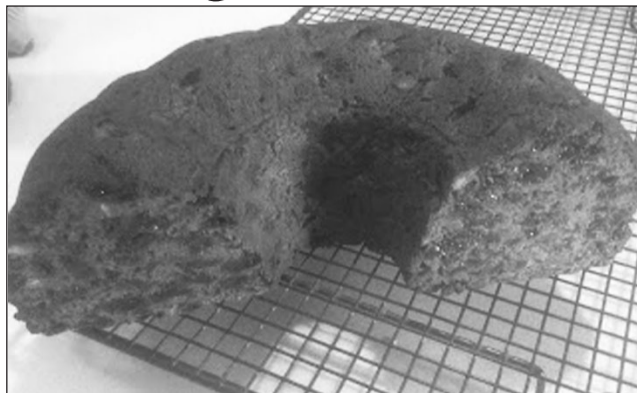
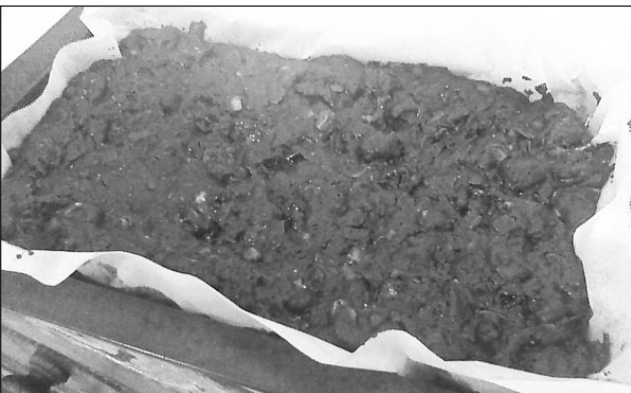
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FOR YOUR HEALTH

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or email churchillpharmacy@outlook.com

Cooking with Noelene



Panepatoa spicy Italian dairy free Christmas slice
 Preheat your oven to 170deg C
 Line a slice tray with coconut cooking spray and baking paper.
 Place - 100gm of whole cashews 100gm of slivered almonds, 2 cups of soft and juicy semi dried figs,

coarsely chopped 1/2 cup of mixed peel into a bowl.
 Sift 150gm of plain flour along with 2 tbs of Dutch cacao, 2 tsp of ground cinnamon, 1/2 tsp of ground cloves, 1/4 tsp of nutmeg, 1/2 tsp of ground black pepper in to the bowl with the fruit and nuts. Stir to combine.
 Bring to the boil in a small saucepan - 1 cup

of honey 80 gm of dark chocolate, chopped 110gm of castor sugar Pour the mix over the nut and flour mix, this is very dry but keep stirring it to form a dark sticky paste.
 Use a spoon to press it in the prepared slice tray. Bake for 30 minutes or until just set.
 Cool slightly and then turn out on to a cooling rack.
 Cut into slices and store in an airtight container at room temperature. Will keep for up to 4 weeks.

Three ingredient fruit cake
 Place 1 kg of dried mixed fruit (you can use sultanas) in a large bowl with 600ml of flavoured milk.
 The flavour is up to you, I have made this cake with strawberry milk, chocolate milk, mocha milk and salted

caramel milk.
 Cover and leave the fruit to soak in the milk for at least 8 hours in the refrigerator.
 When you are ready to bake, remove the bowl from the refrigerator and let it stand and reach room temperature.
 Preheat your oven to 180 deg C
 Using a wooden spoon mix through 2 cups of self raising flour into the fruit mixture.
 Pour the cake batter into a prepared sprayed and lined 22cm cake pan. I prefer to use a bundt pan.
 Place in a well heated oven and bake for 90 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean.

Combine 1 cup of chopped dates, 60 gm of butter/ margarine, 1 cup of soft brown sugar (firmly packed)with 3/4 cup of water in a medium saucepan.
 Gently heat until sugar is dissolved. Add 1/2 tsp of bicarb of soda. Now increase heat and bring the mixture to the boil.
 Remove from heat and allow to cool to room temperature.
 Once cool, stir in a flour mix of 1 cup of SR flour and 1/2 cup of plain flour. Finally add 1 lightly beaten egg. Mix well and spoon mixture 1/2 the mixture into your prepared nut roll tin.
 Bake for 1 hour, stand tins vertically.
 When cooked, stand tins with lids on for 10 minutes. Then remove from tins onto wire cooling rack.

Nook and Cranny Book Exchange

Celebrating our 8th Christmas in our New Larger Store

Seasons Greetings to all our valued customers

97 Buckley Street, Morwell

Celebration rocky road
 Grease a 23 cm bundt or ring tin.
 Mix together in a bowl 1 cup of mini marshmallows

1/2 cup of roughly chopped walnuts, 1/4 cup of dried cranberries, 125gm of roughly crushed shortbread biscuits
 Now pour in 500gm of melted dark chocolate and stir to combine.
 Transfer this mix to your tin and smooth over top. Cover with cling film and refrigerate till set.
 Remove from fridge and gently tap base of pan to release the rocky road.
 Drizzle 100gm of melted white chocolate over the top and dress with mint and raspberry lollies.
 Finish off with a border of marshmallows.
 Great gift for any occasion.
Date and Walnut Xmas Log
 Preheat your oven to 180 deg C Spray your log tins and line with baking paper.



2020/21 Churchill Businesses CHRISTMAS TRADING HOURS

Barber shed
 Christmas Eve: closed
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 Re-opening to be advised

Churchill Chemist Discount Centre
 Christmas Eve: 9-6
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: 9-2
 Sunday 27th: 10-2
 Monday 28th: 10-2
 New Year's Eve: 9-6
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Chinese restaurant
 Christmas Eve: 12-2, 5-9.30
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: 5-10
 Sunday 27th: 5-9.30
 Monday 28th: 5-9.30
 New Year's Eve: 12-2, 5-9.30
 New Year's Day: 12-2, 5-10

Churchill Fish and Chip shop
 Christmas Eve: 11-8
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: 11-8
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 11-8
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Healthcare Pharmacy
 Christmas Eve: 9-5
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed

Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 9-5
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Hot Bread
 Christmas Eve: 7-5.30
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 7-4
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill News Agency
 Christmas Eve: 7-5.30
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: 9-5.30
 New Year's Eve: 7-5.30
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Noodle Bar
 Christmas Eve: 12-2, 5-9.30
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 12-2, 5-9.30
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Pizza
 Christmas Eve: 4.30-9
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: 4.30-9
 Sunday 27th: 5-9
 Monday 28th: 4.30-9

New Year's Eve: 4.30-9
 New Year's Day: closed

Churchill Post Office
 Christmas Eve: 9-5
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 9-5
 New Year's Day: closed
 Reopens: 4.01.2021

Dainbridge Nicholson Financial Services
 Closed from 5pm Wednesday 16.12.20
 Re-opens Monday 18.01.21

Hazelwood Health Centre
 Christmas Eve: 8-5.30
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: closed
 Sunday 27th: closed
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 8-5.30
 New Year's Day: closed

Lifeline
 Closed from Wednesday 16.12.2020 at 3pm
 Reopens Monday 4.01.2021 at 9.30am

New Churchill Motors
 Closed from Monday 21.12.2020
 Reopens Monday 11.01.2021

Ritchies IGA
 Christmas Eve: 8-8
 Christmas Day: closed

Boxing Day: 8-7
 Sunday 27th: 9-7
 Monday 28th: 8-8
 New Year's Eve: 8-8
 New Year's Day: 8-7

Scissors
 Christmas Eve: 9-3
 Christmas Day: closed
 Re-opens: 4.01.2021

Sight and Sound Engineering
 Call to enquire re opening times over holiday period

Smart Saver
 Christmas Eve: 9-6
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: 9-5
 Sunday 27th: 10-4
 Monday 28th: closed
 New Year's Eve: 9-5
 New Year's Day: closed

Vintage C'hill
 Christmas Eve: closed
 Christmas Day Closed
 Re-open 12.01.2021

Woolworth
 Christmas Eve: 7-10
 Christmas Day: closed
 Boxing Day: 7-8
 Sunday 27th: 7-10
 Monday 28th: 7-10
 New Year's Eve: 7-10
 New Year's Day: 7-8





CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER

The ice-cream van has been making the rounds of Churchill streets. These children were indulging

happily in their cones. Vintage Chill has added al fresco dining to their repertoire. Situated outside

the old KFC in the cool it is attracting good custom.

A Different way to celebrate Christmas.

The Co-Operating Churches in Churchill have decided to arrange a self-walk Bible lesson and carols display in the windows around the church at 1 Williams Avenue.

Take your family and walk around the church. Look at and read the posters and use the QR code if you have one to hear the carols being sung.

We hope the community enjoys a different way of celebrating this year and remembering the reason for Christmas.



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Lifeline

Michelle Possingham CEO Lifeline Gippsland We acknowledge 2020 has been a challenging time for everyone in our community including Lifeline Gippsland staff and volunteers. The Lifeline Telephone Crisis Service has received a record numbers of calls this year dealing with many issues including calls from drought and bush fire affected regions as well as COVID-19.

thank you to all who have supported Lifeline Gippsland this year. You may have donated clothing, furniture etc. or shopped at one of our seven shops in Gippsland, supported us via a service club or another charity provider, undertaken a fund raising activity or even perhaps one of our landlords offering a way to help with this year's challenges. All your efforts of support have been overwhelming and importantly helped us maintain our vital services to the community.

Christmas will soon be here, perhaps a lot different to other years, but we hope that families and friends will be able to catch up with one another. If you know someone who will be alone or will be missing family at Christmas time, please consider offering an invitation to them to share in your festivities.

On behalf of our dedicated staff and volunteers at Lifeline Gippsland I would like to wish everyone a safe and festive Christmas and a Happy New Year and remind everyone that Lifeline Gippsland will be here for you in 2021.

At this time we would like to extend a huge

Lesson 9
John 1:1-5
 In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. Through him God made all things; not one thing in all creation was made without him. The Word was the source of life, and this life brought light to people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.

Carol 9
 O Little town of Bethlehem,
 How still and quiet
 How still and peaceful sleep
 The silent stars go by,
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Harriet Shing

The 2020 State Budget was released recently, where the Victorian Government outlined the plan for Victoria's post-Covid recovery. Churchill and the Latrobe Valley are an important part of that, and I wanted to briefly highlight some of the announcements most relevant to this community.

Projects such as the Secure Work Pilot Scheme and the Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program, as well as the \$465 million announced to attract visitors to regional Victoria through the Victorian Tourism Recovery Package, will all help to create new jobs in the Valley and continue to back a stronger economy for the region.

We've also brought forward additional funding for essential services; increased regional access to mental health services and home-based hospital care, upgraded equipment and facilities for our volunteer groups, and provided additional funding for disability services in our schools.

There's a lot of work to

be done over the next year to build up our communities, and I'm proud to have been in the room fighting for projects that benefit this community. I'm also excited to be part of a government that's prepared to make strong commitments and deliver on them, and make sure that Churchill benefits from those commitments.

One funding announcement that I'm quite pleased about; the Churchill North Primary school will be receiving \$3.45 million in funding to upgrade and modernise its facilities. More money for schools like Churchill North is always a great outcome, as kids (not to mention their teachers, too) get to enjoy better classrooms and more learning opportunities. The funding goes hand in hand with the funding we've provided for additional disability support in schools and the more than 4,000 new tutors who'll be employed across the state to help our kids in and out of the classroom.

On a lighter note, I hope



everybody is busy preparing for a great Christmas season! While there'll still be some restrictions in place, this Christmas season will be an extra-special one for all those having their long-overdue reunions with family and friends. Victorians will be able to host up to 30 people in their homes for Christmas Day celebrations (not counting those babies younger than 12 months). It's a great way to end a year like this one, and I'm thankful that we'll be able to celebrate with those close to us.

Thank you to Darrell White

The team at Churchill & District News wishes to express our sincere thanks to Darrell White, who over the years as our ward Councillor has been a great supporter of our community paper.

He has advocated for us with community grants, attended our functions

especially our Writing Competition Presentation Nights and contributed an article for the paper on a regular basis.

If there has been an issue for which we needed information or clarification, Darrell has answered the call to help.

Even though Darrell will not be our Councillor he will still be an active community member through several committees to which he belongs.

We wish him well.

Thank you Darrell for all you have done for Churchill & District News.

Police Report

Phil den Houting

For the period October 25 through to November 23, there have been 39 reported police incidents for the Churchill Response Zone.

Unfortunately, the majority of these are Family Violence related incidents (20)

We have had an attempted burglary on a house in Mulcare Crescent, and also a theft of number plates from a vehicle in Mulcare as well. It is unknown at this stage whether these are linked.

There have also been a number of thefts from machinery at the development in Philip Parade.

The phone box in McDonald Way was damaged with windows being broken, and another car was damaged in Howard Avenue.

There have also been four reports of fires, which is a concern coming up to the warmer weather.

One of these fires was in the HVP plantation on Monash Way which may have started from a discarded cigarette.

Another of the fires was a stolen vehicle that was set alight in the plantation area off Glendonald Road. This is of great concern not only



to Churchill, but the greater Latrobe area with a number of vehicles having been set alight in plantation areas.

The remainder of the reports relate to incidents where offenders have been interviewed and charged for offences.

As the weather gets warmer and we enter December, it is probably timely to remind people to ensure that their properties are fire ready and that fire plans are in place. I truly hope that we in this area never need to use a fire plan again, especially as those who were affected in the fires in East Gippsland continue their recovery, and the Yinnar South fire was not that long ago. I would urge people to check the Fire Services Victoria website for helpful and handy tips and

advice.

After what has been, shall I say, an interesting year (all the other expressions have been used of course) and the news that the Queensland border will be reopening to Victoria soon, we hope, people will no doubt be making travel and Christmas plans. Please when making these plans, log onto the Victoria Police website and complete an absence from residence. Make sure you either cancel mail or have your mail held while you are away, or have a trusted neighbour or friend collect on your behalf.

Don't advertise that you are away, particularly on social media.

I wish everyone a happy and safe festive period, and remember to look out for each other.



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Rose Garden Festival attracts international interest

The International Rose Garden Festival Morwell was truly a world-wide event on the weekend of November 14-15.

More than 800 patrons registered for the online celebration and the main stage section of the website received more than 14,000 visits. "The festival attracted participants from across the globe, including from such countries as Canada, New Zealand, United States, United Kingdom, Italy, Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates, as well as gardening enthusiasts from every state in Australia," Latrobe City Mayor Councillor Sharon Gibson said.

While the roses still bloomed in the world famous Centenary Rose Garden of Morwell, COVID-19 restrictions ensured the festival did not proceed in its usual format.

This provided Council with the opportunity to extend the reach of the festival to a wider audience through the internet.

International presenters included Jonathan Webster, curator of the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens Rosemoor (UK) and Rebecca Koraytem of David Austin Roses (US), who spoke about rose preparation



All pictures supplied by Latrobe City Council

in other locations.

This experience enabled local amateur gardeners to reach out to two of the world's most renowned rose growers.

Other speakers included leading rosarian Kelvin Trimper from Adelaide and local beekeeper Sean-Paul Smith from the Latrobe Valley Beekeepers Association. Costa Georgiadis, host of the ABC's Gardening Australia, and children's gardening entertainer, Dirtgirl, also performed.

In another first, Auslan interpreters were used for all presentations on the main

stage which made the event more inclusive.

More than 1000 local residents viewed the AGL Midsummer Night Light Show in the Rose Garden on Saturday night and almost the same number turned out on Sunday night.

"Social distancing was maintained throughout the garden and many families took the opportunity to finally have something to celebrate as they marvelled at the outstanding illumination installation,"

Central Ward Councillor Graeme Middlemiss said. "A lasting legacy from this year's International



All pictures supplied by Latrobe City Council

Rose Garden Festival is a virtual tour video of the Rose Garden which incorporates 360 degree panoramas, close ups of particular rose varieties and a host of interesting facts that beautifully showcases our magnificent Rose Garden.

This will be a valuable tool to assist in the marketing of Latrobe City."

Almost 200 people enjoyed outdoor dining in Morwell on the Saturday and Sunday as part of the festival.

Latrobe City is participating in the State Government's Outdoor Dining Initiative to encourage the community to support local cafés and restaurants in a COVID safe way.

"In a very short timeframe our Events and Business Development teams, with the help of staff from the Performing Arts team, established two outdoor dining areas in Tarwin Street and Church

Street, Morwell," Central Ward Councillor Tracie Lund said.

"These areas allowed the community an opportunity to capitalise on the nice weather, while enjoying food from Morwell eateries and entertainment by local performers. Patrons were then encouraged to visit the Latrobe Regional Gallery or wander through the beautiful rose garden. Morwell was certainly a hive of activity on both days as a result."

Latrobe Community Health Service wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Churchill centre will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

On all other weekdays, we are open Monday to Friday from 8.15am-5pm, except on Christmas Eve, when we will close at 3pm.

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Plants in my garden



pointed or notched. Flowers occur over winter into spring and are large, to 35mm long and 20mm wide, in a typical pea-shape (standard, wings and keel). Wild plants are usually bright red, white and yellow flowers are rare, but different colour forms have been brought into cultivation in recent years.

Opinion:
Honestly, my plant is a big disappointment, but I'm being unfair to the plant itself with this reaction! I've been trying to grow this species for years, for the spectacular red flowers, and have killed many a nursery-bought specimen. Not really surprising, for a species that normally grows on a limestone coastline, that I plant into my heavy, damp soils here in Boolarra. So, when the latest acquisition didn't die, started to put on growth and continued to look fit and healthy, I became optimistic of seeing some flaming red flowers lighting up the garden. Imagine the let-down when walking past the plant in spring 2019 to see a single, drab, apricot thing hanging there. It must be a bad year, I thought, or the plant is still too young, next year might be different. Nope! This year the plant put on a great display, absolutely covered in apricot flowers. Arrgghh! Deep breaths, calm, calm, don't think about how good it would have looked if it was red! The plant is now approaching 2m tall, but is fairly narrow as it is crammed into a spot on my northern fence-line and

its neighbours tend to want to overgrow it. There is plenty of cutting material available if anybody would like their own apricot Cockie's Tongue. I haven't checked yet to see if this year's substantial flowering has resulted in some seed pods. I wonder if it will give me some viable seed and whether seedlings would be true to the parent? Perhaps there's hope yet for a red flowered plant!

Sources: Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.
Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 9.
Costermans – Native Trees




and Shrubs of South-eastern Australia.
Flora of South Australia.
FloraBase – Flora of WA online.
eFloraSA - Electronic

By Mike Beamish
Species:

Templetonia retusa.
Family: Fabaceae.
Derivation: Templetonia: Named after John Templeton (1766-1825), an Irish botanist who specialised in mosses, fungi, lichens and algae.
retusa: From the Latin, retusus, meaning blunt and referring botanically to having a blunt, rounded apex with a central notch.
Name: Cockies Tongues.
Distribution: In South Australia from a single collection in the Coorong, to

Kangaroo Island, on the end of the Yorke Peninsula, into the Flinders Ranges between Telowie and north of Quorn, and widespread on the Eyre Peninsula. Then mainly near the coast right around the Bight to the far south-west of WA and north to Shark Bay.
Description: An erect, greyish-green shrub to 4m tall. Leaves are alternate on decurrent (angled or sometimes winged) branches, stiff and leathery, up to 40mm long and 15mm broad, and variable in shape from oblanolate to obovate to almost orbicular, with the apex

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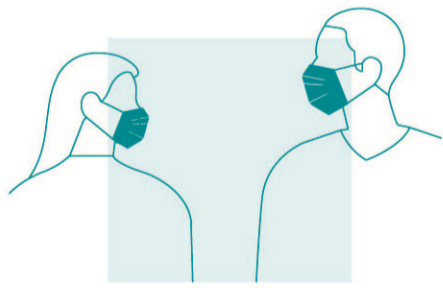
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Russell Northe MP

COVID-19

At the time of writing it has been pleasing to observe the easing of some COVID-19 restrictions that will be welcome to many. It has been such a difficult period and unique time and the impacts have been felt far and wide including right across the business sector, sporting and recreation clubs, community based organisations and associated services.

Getting back to some semblance of "normal" is going to take time, and indeed in certain situations we might be confronted with a new "normal".

Hopefully we see a rejuvenation and a new passion within many community groups and organisations, moving forward.

When one reflects on what we have missed out in these past months, maybe it will inspire many to pursue their passion which can only be a positive for Churchill, particularly given the

incredible breadth of groups, organisations and clubs in Churchill.

So I do encourage everyone to get involved in the myriad of opportunities that exist across the community and at the same time support local businesses where and when you can, given the tough time many have encountered in 2020.

End of year message

As I reflect on what an extraordinarily challenging year 2020 has been, I would like to take the opportunity to thank each and every person within the Churchill and district community for their resilience and indeed patience in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly given the strong restrictions that have been imposed.

The resolve of everyone has certainly been tested during these unique times.

One of the best aspects of my job is interacting with passionate and hardworking community members and liaising with organisations



and businesses who are striving to make where they live a better place.

The Churchill community is blessed with an abundance of those who are willing to give to their community, and I look forward to continuing to work with organisations such as the Churchill & District Community Association which does a great job in advocating for their town.

Christmas is something we are all looking forward to this year more than ever, and whilst some restrictions remain I do hope that having 30 visitors to your home across this special day ensures you are able to celebrate with your loved ones in a relative normal way.

As Christmas approaches, I encourage everyone to get along and support our local businesses, because remember they in turn employ local people, they provide local services and they also support the local schools, sporting clubs and organisations in our communities.

In closing, well done to Ruth and the team at Churchill & District News on another year of producing a terrific community newspaper.

It was terrific to see publications continue through their Facebook page when production had to cease for a few months due to COVID-19.

I wish everyone in the Churchill community and district a fabulous Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

St Matt's, Yinnar

Over the last month, St Matt's Op Shop volunteers have enjoyed helping customers find that special gift for friends and family.

If you need to do some last minute Christmas shopping, why not choose one of our good quality preloved items.

Check the St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar Facebook page for up-to-date opening hours, or email stmattsyinnar@gmail.com

We currently have a number of limited edition fine porcelain plates from the Franklin Mint on offer for the reduced price of \$10 each, including "Tulips and Lilacs", "White Tigers", and "Yellow Roses of Capodimonte". Please note these plates are not for food use.

We also have a Kawai keyboard and stool for \$40 the lot in excellent condition.

Most of our other items are priced at \$1 each including books, clothing, shoes and toys.

St Matt's will be closing for a well-deserved break over January, and we will reopen when school goes



Christmas fashion at St Matt's

back on Thursday January 28, 2021. lovely Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the shop again next year.

We hope everyone has a

shop again next year.

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Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year

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Churchill & District Lions Club

Meet 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each Month

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Carol Cavanagh 0411 842 912



First and foremost our committee wishes to express our sincere thanks to Darrell White who over the many years he has been on Council, has been our fierce advocate for funding and support for us. His knowledge of Council procedures and personnel has been invaluable.

We have appreciated his concern and devotion and wish him all the best as he continues his other community activities.

We were able to hold three working bees this last month which has seen the

park cleared up. The Gippsland Interchange members came and helped clear up some piles of tree prunings. The following Saturday further piles were cleared into larger ones and burnt. The next Saturday the remaining piles were dealt with along with clearing up of other fallen branches. It was great to welcome Kaelob to a working bee and have his enthusiastic help.

A Morton Bay fig was planted. Some mowing was done at the bottom of the

The council mowing team has smartened up the whole park with a great mow. Weeds have been sprayed.

The Bush Crew came back for a day and planted 400 trees in the south east corner of the park. This will help to complete our wildlife corridor.

Our little bridges on the east side are wearing out and will be replaced gradually.

All in all it has been a very productive month and has made the park look spiffy once again.

NAIDOC tree planting event lakeside at Churchill



Saturday November 14 saw many families gather for a community tree planting event at Lake Hyland/Mathison Park to mark this year's NAIDOC event with the theme "Always Was, Always Will Be".

The plants are part of

a wider landscaping effort around the existing Apology Seat and Totems which were installed at the lake two or three years ago.

Some planting with the support of Latrobe Valley Landcare took place a few months back.

These shrubs are already growing very well.

The weekends' feature shrubs and trees of grevillea, correas, acacias and callistemons were kindly donated by Bunnings and our thanks go to Barb Harvey for this.

RUSSELL NORTHE MLA

Member for Morwell



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Federation University alumni honoured at inaugural awards

Leaders in energy, education, community engagement and engineering are among the graduates to be honoured in Federation University's 2020 Alumni Awards.

The inaugural Gippsland awards formally recognise the achievements of distinguished alumni of Federation's Gippsland campus and its predecessor institutions.

Awards were presented at a virtual ceremony recently, celebrating the recipients' successes in their chosen fields of study and beyond.

The 2020 Alumni Award recipients are:

Mary Aldred

Alumna of the Year, Mary has been instrumental in securing state and federal funding for significant projects in the Gippsland region, particularly through her roles as Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Committee for Gippsland where she provided a united voice for the region.

Keith Hamilton

Alumnus of the Year, Keith's career has been dedicated to education, public service, and service to the community.

After teaching for many years Keith served as the State Member for Morwell in the Victorian Legislative Assembly for 14 years.



Since leaving politics Keith continued his service to the community on boards, committees and taskforces.

Christine Johnson

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Alumna of the Year, Christine is a proud Gunaikurnai woman who, in her role as an Education Engagement Worker with the Smith Family, has directed the Aboriginal Parent and Community Engagement project.

The project transitions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from primary to secondary, and from mid-secondary to senior secondary schools.

Barry Dunstan

Distinguished Alumnus, Barry has worked to promote and inspire the Gippsland community through his roles in education, management, and the scientific world.

He has a long association with Federation University and considerable experience in consulting and conducting research on a wide range of energy issues.

Ian Nethercote

Distinguished Alumnus, Ian has made

major contributions to the Gippsland region and the development of national energy policy and institutions.

As Chief Executive of Loy Yang Power, he was responsible for Victoria's largest power generation facility.

Ian served on the Federation University Council from 2014 to 2019 and in 2018 he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia.

John Sullivan

Distinguished Alumnus, John is a global automotive engineer who has designed motor vehicles concentrating on improving their safety performance.

Commencing work with the Ford Motor Company in Geelong he rose to the top of Ford globally.

John designed and delivered the first five-star New Car Assessment Programme NCAP vehicle in Europe.

Federation University Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Duncan Bentley said "Our alumni are the heart of Federation University and I am so proud and pleased to congratulate the award recipients who have worked tirelessly to excel in their chosen fields and serve the communities in which they live.

The Gippsland campus has a rich history dating back to the Yallourn Technical School in 1928 and we are delighted to honour our graduates' achievements though these inaugural awards."

The impact of family violence

Family violence has a big impact on the lives of victim-survivors. Often, victim-survivors are left feeling stressed, anxious or depressed. Many victim-survivors experience a worsening of a chronic illness due to the stress they are living under.

Financial abuse

Financial abuse is also often a significant part of a person's experience of family violence but it can be overlooked because of the other more visible forms of abuse taking place.

Many people think of family violence as either physical injury or emotional abuse.

However, withholding money, controlling all the household spending or refusing to include you in financial decisions can be defined as family violence. Typically, victim-survivors will not have much, if any, control over the household finances.

There are many ways that people using violence can cause financial abuse.

Some of the most common ways are by hiding money, controlling how much access you have to the money, using you to take out loans and debts in your name, preventing you from working or studying, making you work whilst the person using violence stays at home, or by forcing you to falsify claims for Centrelink payments.

Many victim-survivors of family violence find themselves struggling to regain control of their finances when they leave a relationship.

Responding to family violence

Once you have realised that what you are experiencing is family violence, you have decisions to make about how you will respond.

You are already doing things to keep yourself as safe as you can in the family violence situation you are in.

You may feel overwhelmed but now is the time to plan your next steps.

Make a safety plan

Whether you decide to stay or leave, it is a good idea to speak to a family violence support worker to discuss a comprehensive safety plan and to discuss how you might be able to regain some control.

Some services you could contact: » Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre: 1800 015 188 for support or visit their website for safety plans

www.safesteps.org.au/yoursafety/#SafetyPlanning » Orange Door: Victorian Government Family Violence Centres.

To find your nearest Orange Door go to the website: www.orangedoor.vic.gov.au/what-is-the-orange-door » Emerge Women & Children's Support Network. This organisation delivers 24/7 housing and support services.

Visit: emergesupport.org.au

What a safety plan might look like

Here are some suggestions of what your safety plan might include: Identify the actions you already take to protect yourself, for instance, when your partner is more likely to be abusive.

Ensure you always have petrol in your car and a spare set of keys handy, or a public transport plan, in case you need to leave quickly.

Plan where you can go that will be safe in an emergency and know who you can call: family, friends, neighbours and police.

Keep a mobile phone and a list of emergency phone numbers handy. Speak to a service such as WIRE Women's Information or a family violence service about your options. Make sure your children know what to do in an emergency. If you can, start putting aside a small amount of cash each week, ready if you need to leave at short notice; ensure you have access to money after you leave, e.g. a separate credit card or bank account. Take photos of bruises or injuries and give them to a trusted friend or doctor to keep. Find out whether an intervention order is right for you. Consider using a code language that the person using violence against you will not know. Talk to people and gather information about your options and the support available.

Keep yourself technologically safe,

so that you can not be tracked or monitored through online, mobile or location-enabled devices. For a comprehensive list of important documents, see WIRE's Leaving a Relationship information booklet.

Where you will store your safety plan?

Think about who you can leave your safety plan with and how you will let them know that it needs to be activated. Make sure they understand that it's important the plan is stored carefully. Do not discuss the plan with mobile phones turned on in case the phones are being monitored.

Technology and safety

Throughout these articles, there are suggestions to view websites. Internet, email and location features on your computer and mobile devices help connect you to support services. However, this technology can also be used by your partner or ex-partner to monitor you, control you and threaten your safety. The following are some ways to improve your safety on your personal phone and computer. Create new email, Facebook and social media accounts using an anonymous username and new passwords. Turn off the location feature on your mobile phone and your Facebook profile or other social media. Avoid using cordless phones or baby monitors to prevent eavesdropping. If you have moved, make sure that your private contact details are not available online. Check by Googling your full name.

Check settings on children's phones/computers and electronic games.

Use public access computers. These can be found at libraries, WIRE's Walk-in Centre, community centres and internet cafes. Get someone to check your phone for tracking software.

Learn how to delete your search history and web browser history.


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Latrobe Health Advocate



Latrobe Health Advocate

Thanks to the hard work of all Victorians we are now looking forward to a COVID normal Christmas and summer. As 2020 comes to an end I'm glad to again have this opportunity to reach out to you through your community newsletter.

While COVID-19 has been a focus of communities for most of 2020, there has been a lot going on in Latrobe. During the last quarter I have engaged with 390 people. 90% of these conversations involved elevating the voice of communities and advocating for systems change in response to community needs and aspirations. The activities and events I attended are highlighted in the quarterly update which is available on my website. <https://www.lhadvocate.vic.gov.au/>

Many people in Latrobe and across the country have been impacted by COVID-19 and I was not surprised to learn in this most recent quarter that the main community aspiration was to achieve a more socially connected Latrobe community. I have heard that people in Latrobe want to stay connected with each other and to enjoy an inclusive and safe place where everyone can be themselves.

For many of us, the

ways we connect with each other have changed due to COVID-19 restrictions. There has been an increased use of technologies which has helped people to stay connected, however there is a limit to digital connectivity and many people were experiencing fatigue. Some people have not been able to connect online and there has been a realisation that online human interactions are not the same as seeing people in person.

During this last quarter I was also able to report on my observance of systems change, where I am seeing better relationships between services; better services

including the COVID Helpline established by Latrobe City Council and better integration of community voice into the way services design and deliver their services.

I am very much looking forward to seeing my extended family in the coming weeks and hope that you all get the opportunity to be with your family and friends and enjoy a safe and happy Christmas.

My office will be closed from December 24, 2020 until January 5, 2021.

I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.

Jane

Community Grants Awarded

The first round of OSMI's pre-development grants has been awarded. The total funding available in 2020 is \$10,000 and this amount will be available each year during the planning and development stages of the project.

The Delburn Wind Farm Community Development Fund of \$150,000 each year will be activated after construction begins should the project receive planning approval.

The recipients for 2020 are:

* Yinnar Community Garden to develop an online educational and multi-media

tool covering sustainable gardening practices

* Mirboo North Community Energy Hub to conduct free or subsidised energy efficiency audits of homes and small businesses within the region

* Yinnar-Yinnar South Landcare Group to purchase indigenous seed collection equipment

* Boolarra Folk Festival - Healing Tent to enable the tradition of the Healing Tent to continue when the Folk Festival goes virtual in 2021

* Morwell Football Netball Club to contribute towards the upgrade of club kitchen facilities

We look forward to working with these community groups and are proud to support such wonderful community initiatives.

Thank you again to everyone who applied - over \$50,000 worth of funding was sought from community groups located all around the project site.

Unfortunately, we were not able to support everyone in 2020 but we encourage all applicants to keep in touch and look forward to building strong relationships with the community as our project progresses.

New energy and growth program for the Latrobe Valley

The Victorian Government is investing in the Latrobe Valley to increase the uptake of renewable energy, create local jobs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Lily D'Ambrosio, has opened the Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program (LVEGP), inviting applications for implementation-ready renewable energy and storage technology projects that will drive Victoria's transition to a sustainable energy future.

The Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program makes available \$3 million to fund both industry and community-led projects across the local Government areas of Latrobe City, Baw Baw, and Wellington.

The Latrobe Valley has extensive renewable energy resource potential, deep energy and engineering expertise, and a reputation as the centre of Victoria's energy sector. This Program will grow local businesses

and capitalise on Latrobe Valley's diverse clean energy resources, skilled workforce, and accessible transmission infrastructure connected to the National Energy Market (NEM).

This new Program has been made possible by funds re-allocated from the closure of the Solar Partnering around Regional Communities project (SPARC). SPARC received \$60,000 for an initial feasibility study to assess the potential for a series of microgrids within the Latrobe Valley.

By funding a wide range of renewable energy projects, the Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program will maximise renewable energy generation, economic growth, and employment opportunities in the Latrobe Valley.

The Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth program supports the Valley's aspirations for a cleaner energy future by providing

an investment opportunity that allows community, industry, and business to put forward projects that increase the uptake of renewable energy technologies and that draw on skills and services in the Latrobe Valley.

Applications for the Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program close January 29, 2021. Find out more or submit an application at: www.energy.vic.gov.au/new-energy-technologies

Member for Eastern Victoria, Harriet Shing said "The Latrobe Valley has been Victoria's energy powerhouse for the past 100 years and is at the heart of our strategic approach to the state's new energy transition."

Through the Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program, we're excited to be inviting new energy industry, including new and emerging businesses, to take advantage of all that the Latrobe Valley has to offer in the new energy space".

Fed Uni in top 100 global sports science schools

Federation University has jumped into the top 100 of the 2020 Global Ranking of Sport Science schools and departments as assessed by the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU). Federation's Department of Sport Science has improved on its previous top 150 ranking in 2018. For 2020, more than 400 universities were ranked. Sport science is the study of how the healthy human body works during exercise, and how sport and physical activity promotes health – physically, mentally and socially. The study of sport science references and uses many other academic studies and areas, such as physiology, psychology, anatomy, chemistry and engineering.

The ARWU uses five objective indicators to rank sport science schools and departments, including: the number of papers indexed on the Web of Science academic

website; total citations; citations per paper; papers published in journals such as Nature and Science; and the percentage of papers produced with international collaboration. Federation University performed particularly strongly in citations per paper and for international collaboration, indicating that the work of its researchers is widely recognised, and that the University connects strongly with the worldwide research community. Results in these categories were higher than those of several universities that are ranked in the top 50.

Federation's sports-related educational experiences include exercise and sport science; clinical exercise physiology; strength and conditioning; sport management; and from 2021, international sport management via a new bachelor's degree presented in partnership with the World Academy of Sport.

Students and the community have access to cutting edge facilities at the University's \$16.5 million health and sports precinct, which opened in March this year. Planning for a second stage to the precinct is currently under way. Federation University Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Duncan Bentley said "It's pleasing to see Federation University move into the top 100 in the ARWU's Global Ranking of Sport Science Schools in 2020, improving on our top 150 ranking in 2018. We look forward to continual growth in this area with the commencement of our Bachelor of Physiotherapy and Bachelor of International Sport Management in 2021. Our challenge now is to export not only our research and our programs but also the value of regional universities to Australia's reputation for innovation and creativity."



Do the best for your community when shopping this Christmas

Look for a local business
Shop local – your money stays to create local employment opportunities

Shop local ~ Buy local





Kid's Page

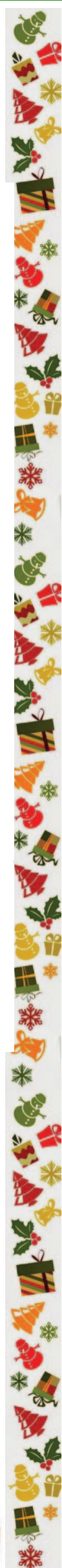
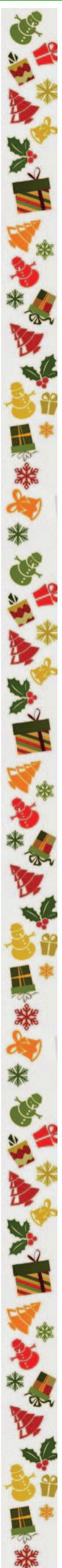
CHRISTMAS word search



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SANTA
HOLIDAY
TREE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
SNOWFLAKE
GINGERBREAD

MERRY
ELF
CANDYCANE
STOCKINGS
LIGHTS
REINDEER
RIBBON



Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare Group



A recent Photo shoot for Landcare Australia found some plants and Landcare members among the weeds at our Middle Creek project site



Jenny Wolswinkel from Seeds of Gippsland and Joelle from our group collecting at Mt Hooghly early this year

Since our group began collecting our own seed a couple of summers ago, we have found ourselves a bit out of synch with the rest of the community. Right now, as the year winds down for many organisations, we have to somehow find a turbo-charge button and gear ourselves up for the seed collecting season. It goes from November to April and the busiest time is around Christmas and New Year.

Because we have decided to plant a range of species instead of just canopy species on our revegetation site at Jeeralang, we need to collect an awful lot of seed this summer. Those readers who live out of town will no doubt pass us along the roadsides from time to time.

Fortunately we really like seed collecting. What is not to like about wandering around in the bush in good weather looking for plants and seed to create more lovely forests for the future? We do it with our buddies from Landcare – and a fine time can be had by all! We are only harvesting small amounts of the available seed, and we have permission to collect from protected species and to use the seed for nearby revegetation projects.

Once we have collected our seed, we need to dry it and clean it before it can be stored ready for use. Our group has recently been

successful in our application to the OSMI Community Benefits fund for some extra help with our efforts. The job of locating seeding plants (and ourselves) will be made easier with the purchase of a basic GPS unit. We will be able to pay for some expert help in making up our seed collecting lists; and will buy some seed-cleaning sieves that will do a better job than the odds and sods of op-shop kitchen ware that we use at present.

The better weather this year means there seems to be a lot of seed around. We may even be able to collect some to store for future use.

Warm wet spring weather also means that weeds are growing a bit too quickly as well.

Now is the time for people on the land to get after ragwort and thistles at the cabbage stage before they flower. Latrobe City has an excellent booklet on local weeds that says how and when they can best be controlled.

Our planting site on Middle Creek also has a slight problem, especially with wild radish. It's a weed, however it will be stopping soil from washing into the creek after the fires, and eventually the native vegetation will grow as a canopy and shade it out. Right now, however, it may be competing a bit too much with our little plants for light,

water and soil nutrients.

We may need to go down there and pull some of it out or cut it down. Not all of our plants are in browser guards, so this job needs a fair bit of care to be taken so as not to pull out plants that we want to grow.

One big threat to native vegetation on all our revegetation sites and to the bush generally is feral deer. The Gippsland Intrepid Landcare Group has started a monitoring project in Middle Creek, and we are looking forward to seeing what they find out. We are also hoping that private landholders will take advantage of the changed regulations and shoot, or arrange for others to shoot, deer on their properties. This can now be done at any time. It will not solve the problem of deer numbers increasing at an ever growing rate, but it may help save some local forests from accelerating damage being done by deer.

We met in late November to plan our program for the summer and into 2021. Now that it looks like we might be able to welcome more participation, we would love to hear from anyone who wants to volunteer with or to join our group.

Jay Duncan, 5163 1393
Secretary, Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare Group.

<https://www.landcarevic.org.au/groups/westgippsland/yinnar-south/>

Hazelwood Rotary Club

by Leo Billington
Sunday, November 22, 2020 was a significant milestone for Hazelwood Rotary to re-commence providing culinary delights – world's best cooked sausages at Bunnings Morwell.

Dedicated club volunteers plus some extra helpers were rewarded with a wonderful response from over 1000 customers.

It was wonderful weather and a huge thank-you must go to Bunnings Morwell staff for setting up their barbeque facility ready for us by 8.30 am.

Rotarians Colin Walker and Ray Beebe are pictured busily preparing final arrangements before a huge queue of keen customers began to flock in after 9.00 am.

All Covid precautions were taken with well established protocols, in place long before the actual day.

A Bunnings information notice some weeks ago helped to ensure public health and safety was paramount.

Bunnings, rightfully so,



utilise their infamous sausage sizzle as a strong feature of their overall promotions strategy.

It works for everyone – the wider public, community groups and Bunnings.

Hazelwood Rotary has

enjoyed a long association with Bunnings Morwell and is proud to continue with this into the future.

We'll be back again to deliver our famous cuisine of delicious, cooked-to-perfection sausages.



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**A message about
Recycling at
the Churchill Hub**



You can recycle CLEAN used aluminium foil at the Hub too!



PLUS ANY OF THESE ITEMS

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- P5 plastics
- Printer cartridges
- Household batteries
- Mobile phones and chargers
- All small e-waste items

“Don't forget you can recycle your “scrunchable plastics” too – put them in the bin provided by Red-cycle outside Woolworths (near bottleshop entrance).”



Issue Number 142 - September 17, 2015

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

Established 1966

Queen's Scout Award to Angus Saupe



Upcoming Events for Churchill's 50th Anniversary Celebrations

Churchill & District News Junior Fishing Competition

DANBROOGE NICHOLSON FINANCIAL SERVICES



Looking Back... 200 DIGITAL ISSUES

More memories revisited from past copies of Churchill & District News for you to enjoy this month.

Issue 142 September 2015
In September 2015, family and friends from Scouting gathered at Yinnar Scout Hall to congratulate Angus Saupe on receiving his Queen's Scout badge, the highest award in Venturing. At 18 years of age, Angus was the newest member of the Yinnar Rover Crew.

Late in 2013, a new rose garden was completed surrounding the gazebo at Hazelwood Cemetery. This garden has now been extended thanks to funding received through Hazelwood Rotary Club.

Prospective students voted with their feet by recording a ten per cent increase in Open Day attendances at FedUni's Gippsland Campus.

A National Tree Day event was to plant on a section of Eel Hole Creek around 2000 native trees, shrubs and grasses indigenous to the local area.

Issue 146 February 2016
In issue No 146 Eel Hole Creek was again in the news. Volunteers were asked to help out in March at the Clean Up Australia Day in Churchill.

A special feature page in this issue showed the amazing work of hobby photographer and local resident Andrew Franks. Issue 149 May 2016
The May 2016 issue highlighted the excellent crowd of people of all ages who gathered at the Town Hall civic space to remember and celebrate the ANZAC's sacrifice.

Hazelwood and District Rotary Club was the organiser of this year's ANZAC Day service in Churchill. Don George, a Vietnam veteran, was MC for the service and

introduced proceedings with a welcome, and quoting the ANZAC Requiem.

During the month of April, fire brigade members visited homes of Churchill's senior citizens who asked to have their smoke alarm battery changed and the alarm checked.

It was a perfect day for the Lions Club Community Market held at Churchill Hotel carpark. Unfortunately the people of Churchill did not support the market in numbers.

Issue 153 September 2016
The Junior Soccer season finished for 2016 in September issue 153, everyone looked back at a highly successful campaign, with increased numbers from 44 to 96 players.

Amateur photographers from across Gippsland were invited to enter Federal MP Darren Chester's "I Love Gippsland" calendar competition. The 13 best entries were to be included in Mr Chester's annual calendar. More than 20,000 copies would be distributed free of charge across the electorate.

The Grand Strzelecki 110km track was opened in 2012 as a bushfire recovery project. This track now provides a variety of walks of varying length and difficulty encompassing four Strzelecki Ranges water catchments.

Issue 156 December 2016
In December 2016, at the invitation of the Governor of Victoria decorations made by

the Latrobe Valley Flexible Learning campus were hung on the Christmas tree at Government House this year.

The 1st Yinnar Cubs, with Cubs from all over the state,

went on an exciting adventure to Melbourne to celebrate 100 years of Cubs in the Scouting movement, at an event called Baloo's picnic.

Dru Berryman represented Australia at the Enduro Mountain Bike world cup. He raced in Aspen Colorado USA, and Whistler, Canada.

Issue 161 June 2017
In issue June 2017 Latrobe City Council continued to ensure the Morwell power station and briquette factories would not become a burden on the community, whatever the outcome from the Heritage Victoria recommendations.

The Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare group enjoyed perfect weather for their stall at Churchill community market.

Churchill Bowls club was successful in acquiring a State Government shade shelter grant for twelve new shelters from the Department of Health and Human Services.

The month of May saw the launch of Wallaby Walkers, a new walking group for parents and carers of young children in Churchill.

As the New Year is fast approaching, we will be back with more Memories for you in February 2021. Until then you can access and read all past 197 digital printed copies of Churchill & District news at our website cdnews.com.au

Best wishes to all our readers for a happy, safe Christmas and New Year.

Issue Number 149 - May 19, 2016

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Churchill and district remembers ANZAC spirit



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DANBROOGE NICHOLSON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Issue Number 153 - September 22, 2016

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Churchill junior soccer a winner



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DANBROOGE NICHOLSON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Issue 149 May 2016

Andrew Franks - Hobby Photographer

First Yinnar Scouts visit Baloo's Picnic at Melbourne Zoo

October nappy collection

Christmas present

Ultimate Ride-On BRUSH CUTTER

Seasons Greetings

Best Wishes to all our valued customers!

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Book Review

“The Pea Pickers” by Eve Langley

Eve Langley was born in 1904 and grew up in rural New South Wales, having had a basic education. “The Pea Pickers” was written in the 1940’s and published in 1942. She shared the SH Prior Memorial Prize run by The Bulletin with Kyle Tenant’s “The Battlers”. She wrote “Topee” in 1954 and several other unpublished novels which are held in The Mitchell Library at the State Library of New South Wales. Eve spent seven years in a psychiatric hospital. She dressed as a boy and changed her name to Oscar Wilde. Some critics have suggested she was transgender. “The Pea Pickers” is semi-autobiographical with fictional elements, and narrated in the first person. Steve, the main character, also appears in several other works.

“The Pea Pickers” is set in the 1920’s, largely in Gippsland, but also in the Ovens Valley. Two sisters believe that men are able to lead a much more interesting life than women so they give themselves boys names, Steve and Blue, and dress as men. They take the train from Dandenong and head to Bairnsdale where they are going to work as agricultural labourers. They are attracted to Gippsland because their mother has told them a lot about it as they were growing up, so they feel a connection to the area.



In Bairnsdale they are treated with great suspicion and are wanted by the police for masquerading as men. They work picking apples and then head to Rutherglen to prune grapes, but they don’t find work there. They return to Gippsland

picking peas, living on Weeties and syrup. After a very brief romance with Kelly, Steve falls in love with Macca. She pines for him but he is quite bewildered by her.

Steve and Blue then go to the Ovens Valley where they pick hops and maize, and during a period of unemployment they steal food from other workers as well as raiding the orchards of local residents. During this time they live on bran and honey. On returning to Gippsland to pick peas Steve learns that Macca has gone

droving and has a girlfriend. She comes to terms with this and decides to stay in Gippsland while Blue returns home to marry.

This book was not easy to read and several members gave up after a few chapters. It is very wordy, interspersed with large tracts of poetry which sometimes has little relevance to the story. For the most part the men in the story are kind, courteous and respectful, but Steve and Blue are not likeable characters.

Despite wanting to experience the life that men lead they still expect the courtesies afforded to women and take advantage of the men in the story. They are racist, selfish and often spiteful. Despite this there are some hilarious experiences and there is much subtle humour and self-deprecation. There are also beautiful descriptions of the Australian bush, with the author clearly having a deep love of Australia.

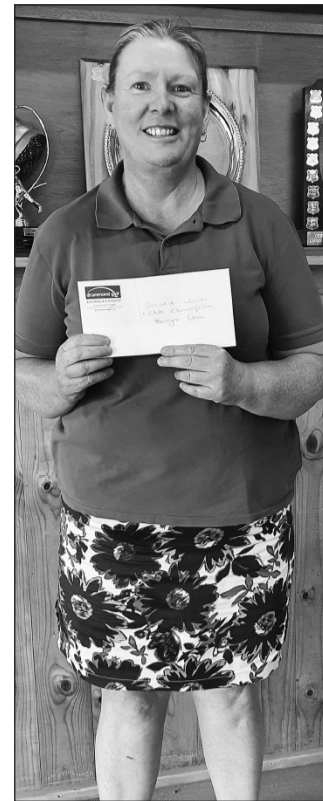
The book is also a documentation of the early history of Gippsland and the harsh conditions under which itinerant workers lived. There were many migrant workers, mainly Italian, Chinese, Indian and Afghan, who contributed to our early history, and parallels can be drawn with the plight of itinerant migrant workers of today.

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Saturday 7/11/20 - Stableford - A Grade: P. Kearns (16) 37. B Grade: R. Abel (26) 39. C Grade: K. Hogan (33) 38. DTL: J. Sterrick 37, W. Sutton 36, A. Quinn 35, R. Davidson 34 C/B. NTP: 3rd Magoo, 5th M. Allen, 12th J. Mc Cafferty, 14th R. Abel. Birdies: 5th M. Allen, 12th P. Kearns.

Tuesday 9/11/20 Stroke - 1st Round of Ladies Championship - Day Winner: V. Reid 106-35-71. Monthly Medal Winner: V. Reid (35) 71. Scratch Winner: S. Turner (26) 99. DTL: S. Turner 99-26-73. NTP: 3rd S. Turner, 5th J. Blizzard, 12th L. Brent, 14th M. Dear. Putts: S. Turner 26.

Saturday 14/11/20 1st Round Championships - Stroke - A Grade: P. Kearns (16) 87 71 C/B. B Grade: A. Auld (19) 89 70. C Grade: Rabel (25) 97 72. D Grade: C. Gilfillan (31) 100 69. Scratch: T. O’Reilly 80. DTL: D. Byers 71, M. Brereton 71, Mamun 72, R. Sands 72, T. O’Reilly 73, B. Cleland 73, A. Quinn 74, S. Sanders 74, S. Caldwell 74, N. Lugton 75 C/B. NTP: 3rd



T. O’Reilly, 5th R. Welsh, 12th I. Heppleston, 14th B. Barnes. Birdies: 3rd M. T. O’Reilly, 12th B. Mathieson.

Tuesday 14/11/20 Stroke - 2nd Round of Ladies Championship and Monthly Medal - Day Winner: L. Brent (27) 96 69. Star Medal Winner: L. Brent (27) 96

69. Scratch Winner : M. Dear (17) 91. DTL: M. Mc Conville (28) 101 73. NTP: 3rd M. Mc Quillen, 5th S. Turner, 12th M. Mc Quillen, 14th S. Turner.

Saturday 21/11/20 2nd Round C’ships - Stroke - A Grade: M. Brereton (11) 77 66. B Grade: J. Mc Cafferty (24) 88 64. C Grade: T. Collins (27) 100 73. D Grade: R. Zomer (33) 105 72. Scratch: M. Brereton 77. DTL: S. Caldwell 71, P. Smart 71, M. Soppe 72, F. Keighran 73, T. Lio 73, J. Sterrick 74, R. Abel 74, T. O’Rielly 75 C/B, B. Barnes 75 C/B, L. Marks 75 C/B. NTP: 3rd P. Smart, 12th T. O’Rielly, 14th Conehead. Birdies: 3rd R. Madigar, 3rd. J. Mc Cafferty, 12th B. Cleland.

Tuesday 24/11/20 Stroke - 3rd Round of Ladies Championship - Day Winner: M. Mc Quillen 72 C/B. Scratch Winner: M. Dear 75. DTL: V. Reid 72, L. Brent 73. NTP: 3rd V. Reid, 5th L. Brent, 12th V. Reid, 14th L. Brent. Club Champion 2020: M. Dear 103-91-95. H’cap Winner: V. Reid 71-74-72. Birdies: 5th L. Brent.

Al-Anon –

The husband of an alcoholic

When my wife began drinking alcohol during the day, I spent a lot of time trying to stop her drinking and trying to find out why she needed to drink so much. It was destroying our lives and my days revolved around whether she was drinking or not. There was no peace and I never knew what was going to happen next. I became ashamed of what was happening in our house. I isolated myself from neighbours, family and then our friends, refusing invitations and making excuses. I could not accept that she was seriously affected by alcohol until a friend asked me one day if my wife had a “drinking problem”. Then I was forced to face the reality: my wife had lost control of her drinking and now other people could see it. I had been in denial all this time. I felt angry, resentful and frustrated.

Finally, after years of futile activity, I realised that I could not handle this situation on my own - my life had become unmanageable. I needed help. I searched and found Al-Anon Family Groups. I went to a local meeting with some apprehension: who would be there? Maybe someone would recognise me.

But my fears were relieved when it was

explained that everyone in Al-Anon was in the same boat, so we maintained our anonymity outside of meetings. Those people at the first meetings knew all about what I was going through.

I learned new ways of coping from their shared experiences and with reading the wonderful Al-Anon literature. I found that there was hope, that I could have a life, and how I could best

support my alcoholic.

Eleven years on and thanks to regularly attending Al-Anon meetings and working with the literature, our lives are better than ever. My wife eventually found sobriety in AA and we found a new depth of understanding between us. Al-Anon kept me from going until my wife found sobriety. I wish I had sought the help of Al-Anon Family Groups much, much earlier.

New GERF President and Executive Committee announced

Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund has welcomed a new President and Executive Committee following the recent Annual General Meeting.

After 17 years of serving as Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund (GERF) President, John Mitchell announced his retirement from the position and the committee, to make way for a new-look executive. At the AGM, Andy Tegart was elected to lead as GERF’s new President, while outgoing Vice President Doug Caulfield and Secretary Robyn Dossett also announced their retirement from the committee. Mr Tegart, who has previously held the role of GERF Secretary, brings to the role his expertise in governance, leadership and emergency management gained from decades of experience in the industrial and safety space as a Chairman and Director. Earlier in his career, he was a Planning and Research Officer with the NSW Bush Fire Council (now NSW Rural Fire Service). “I’m pleased to have been

chosen to lead GERF as we continue to provide vital and immediate support to Gippslanders in need following natural disasters,” Mr Tegart said. “I’d like to thank outgoing President John Mitchell for his 17 years of service to GERF. During this time, John has overseen the distribution of millions of dollars to Gippsland families in their time of need, including during significant emergency events, such as the Black Saturday bushfires and the recent East Gippsland bushfires. John has shown great stewardship and is leaving the fund in a stronger position than it was when he commenced in the role. I’d also like to thank outgoing Executive Committee members Doug Caulfield and Robyn Dossett for their significant voluntary service to GERF over the years.”

Mr Tegart said GERF had recently secured \$375,252 in funding from the Australian and Victorian governments’ Bushfire Recovery Grants program. “This funding will allow us to modernise and digitise

our systems to make it even easier for locals to apply for funding and donate in the future. Seeing this upgrade through will be a key focus of the committee in the coming year.” Outgoing President John Mitchell said it had been a “privilege and honour” to serve as GERF’s President since 2005, and on the Committee of Management since 2003. “I have every confidence that the incoming Executive Committee and Committee of Management members will enhance and protect GERF’s reputation as a trusted Gippsland charity, run by locals to assist locals.” The new committee is as follows:

President: Mr Andy Tegart

Vice President: Ms Lynda Bertoli

Vice President: Mr Alan Wilson

Honorary Treasurer: Mr Rick Davies

Honorary Secretary; Ms Myra Krafft

Executive Members: Ms Margie Norder, Mr Chris Love, Mr Ian Whitehead, Mr Barry Whitehead.



CHURCHILL

Christmas Operating Hours

Thursday 24 December - 5pm close

Friday 25 December Christmas Day - Closed

Saturday 26 December Boxing Day - Closed

Sunday 27 December - Closed

Monday 28 December (Public Holiday) - 6am-12pm

Tuesday 29 December - 6am-12pm

Wednesday 30 December - 6am-12pm

Thursday 31 December - 6am-12pm

Friday 1 January New Years Day - Closed

Saturday 2 January - Normal operating hours resume

To book your spot please visit <https://bit.ly/2Ayxjq3>

Melina Bath

Acknowledging the efforts of central Gippslanders

As we move toward the end of 2020, we hope that COVID-19 will not have such a huge impact on our lives in the coming year. May I acknowledge the significant effort and sacrifices individuals have personally made because of the pandemic restrictions. Some in our community have not been able to properly farewell loved ones, while others have devastatingly lost jobs. Everyone has worked to protect one another from harm.

Calling for action on Latrobe Valley's Drug Rehabilitation Centre

Recently during State Parliament, I called on the government to provide a timeline for the completion of Latrobe Valley's promised drug rehabilitation centre. Construction on the rehab facility announced three and half years ago is yet to be started.

In the past 12 months we have tragically seen a 33 per cent rise in drug related offences, particularly possession and use.

On behalf of the community and along with Moe based drug support advocate, Dr Len Cairns, I have reiterated the need to prioritise a drug and alcohol facility to help break the cycle of addiction and support central Gippsland families.

Fighting the closure of Victoria's Native timber Industry

One year ago, I stood with Latrobe Valley haulage and harvest workers as the Victorian State Government announced it would close Victoria's sustainable native timber industry by 2030.

Ending the native timber industry in Victoria will destroy thousands of jobs, many of which are located here in Gippsland. Victoria's native timber industry is sustainable, produces high quality timber for the furniture, flooring and joinery markets. Importantly it delivers \$7.32 billion through Victoria's economy and supports many downstream jobs including builders and furniture makers.

Both our native and planation industries are vital sectors of our economy and I have continued to use parliamentary channels to advocate for Gippsland's timber workers and fight the closure of the industry. Victoria's hardwood supplies must come from somewhere and it is false environmental policy to import it from third world countries with inferior forestry standards compared to Victoria's rigorous regulations.

Christmas is nearly here!

As our focus turns to Christmas, the New Year and taking advantage of the warmer weather and longer days, I encourage you to look after your mental health and that of your loved ones by getting outdoors and visiting our parks and waterways. Staying active is not only good for our physical health but our mental wellbeing too.

If you feel you are able, I encourage you to support your local community charity, Christmas raffle or present drive.

Two Gippsland charities A Better Life for Foster Kids and Gippsland Motorcycle Toy Run are seeking donations for Christmas presents for children in need. My office at 181 Franklin Street, Traralgon is a designated drop off



point for donated presents. All presents need to be left unwrapped.

Gifts for Gippsland Motorcycle Toy Run are for children up to the age of 18 and can be anything appropriate – toys, clothing, sports gear, books, summer equipment.

Suggestions for gifts for A Better Life for Foster Kids include gift cards, toys and beach towels. The guide for gifts is keep it under \$40 in value or \$30 for gift cards.

During 2019 Heather Baird's Gippsland based charity A Better Life for Foster Kids coordinated gifts for more than 700 families with children in out-of-home care. We congratulate her on her efforts.

Alf and Stella of Yallourn North have been impressively supporting kids in need and coordinating the toy run in Latrobe Valley for 21 years.

While 2020 certainly has delivered many challenges, I wish you and your families a happy, healthy and safe Christmas and New Year period.

I look forward to continuing to represent you during 2021.

If I can be of assistance on any State Government issue, please call my office on 5174 7066 or email melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au.

SCAMWATCH

Watch out for online shopping scams this holiday season

Losses to online shopping scams have increased 42 per cent this year, and Scamwatch is warning Australians to be careful when buying gifts this holiday season.

Scamwatch has received over 12,000 reports of online shopping scams so far this year, with almost \$7 million in reported losses.

"More people have been shopping online this year due to COVID-19 restrictions and scammers are now targeting people doing their Christmas shopping, including in the Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said.

"Scammers create fake websites that look like genuine online stores, offering products at very low prices and victims will either receive a fake item or nothing at all.

They also post fake ads on classified websites, often claiming they are travelling

and someone else will deliver the goods, but the item never arrives and the victim can no longer contact the seller."

Losses on classified websites, such as Facebook, Marketplace and Gumtree, have increased by 60 per cent this year, to \$4.5 million.

Reports of online shopping scams involving consumer goods, such as shoes, phones, computers and toys, continue to be high. The most common thing people were trying to buy when they were scammed was puppies and other pets.

People aged 24 and under reported the highest number of scams involving phones and computers.

"Watch out for popular products being sold at prices much lower than on other websites and sellers requesting payment through direct bank transfer or cryptocurrency," Ms Rickard said.

"Take the time to consider who you are dealing with and don't be pressured by special offers.

Do your research by

checking independent reviews of online stores or the seller's history on classified websites."

Another scam to be aware of if you have made recent purchases online is fake parcel delivery notifications via text message or email.

"Australia Post will never ask you to click a link to enter your personal details, nor will they ask for credit card details or a fee to deliver your packages," Ms Rickard said.

"If you have been the victim of a scam, contact your bank as soon as possible and contact the platform on which you were scammed to inform them of the circumstances."

Most financial institutions offer a chargeback service for credit cards and will dispute a credit transaction with the merchant if they still exist.

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

Latrobe Youth Space

Latrobe Youth Space partnered with Mid Valley shopping centre and Bunnings Morwell to facilitate a youth art project for Youth Week.

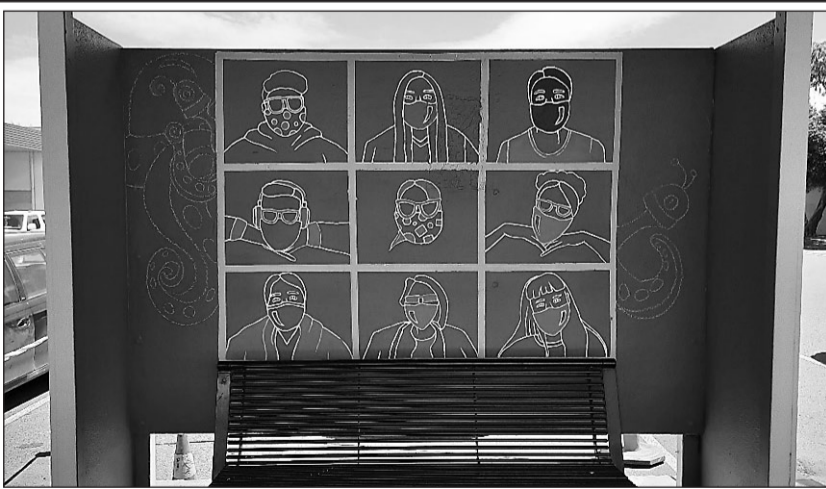
The project invited young people to come and paint murals designed by young local artists, Emily Headon and Michelle Prezioso, on Mid Valley bus stops. These

were outlined prior, all equipment was provided, and Latrobe Youth Space staff were there to help guide painters. Young people were also able to submit positive messages or quotes to be written on the back of the shelters.

Mid Valley also displayed a Youth Week window display at the "Fun

Zone" window space curated by Latrobe Youth Space, featuring local young artist's work.

Latrobe Youth Space is also hosting online content about Consent and Respect via the 'Latrobe Youth Space' Facebook and YouTube Channel.



Right - Artist Michelle Prezioso

Left - Emily Headon's Youth Week mural design which featured on the bus shelters





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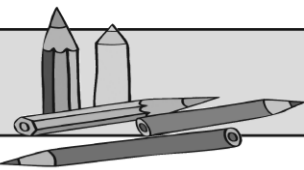
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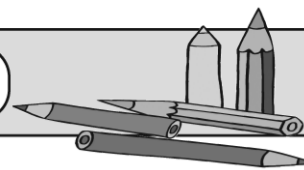
Contact CDCA via our website –
www.cdca.org.au or find us on Facebook!

Next CDCA meeting: 7pm Thursday February 4, 2021,
 Churchill Hub, Philip Parade

School News



Boolarra Primary



Licola Wilderness Village
Boolarra Primary School was lucky enough to be able to go on camp. The students in Grades 3 to 6 attended a camp at Licola Wilderness Village, where

favourite activity was the leap of faith. I climbed a ladder that was tied to a big pole with pegs in the side of the pole. You have to climb the big pole. When you get to the top, there is a platform

Logan
It was 11:27 am when we arrived at Licola Wilderness Village. First, we had a tour and we got told all the rules, I felt like it just made us more eager to do activities

Asha, Matilda, Georgia and of course MYSELF!!! This was the first day of three and I had so much fun. I really wanted to stay for two more days but we couldn't.

Kallarnie

Breakfast at School

School yards in the morning can be a noisy place. One sound you won't be hearing at Boolarra Primary School though is the sound of rumbling tummies! In Term 4, Boolarra introduced a daily School Breakfast Club to provide students with a variety of healthy, Victorian grown or manufactured breakfast foods.

Adjustments have been made to ensure that the food items and eating areas are Covid friendly. As Grade 2 student Angela says, "I think Breakfast at School is really great because they give you food that you would like and that is safe for people to have without spreading germs."

Another Grade 2 student, Ruby, commented on the fact that providing food in the mornings makes it easier for students to concentrate and learn in class. "I think breakfast at school is a good idea because people that don't have breakfast will complain that they are hungry in class."

Oats, muesli, Vita Brits, milk, baked beans, canned fruit, fruit cups, fresh apples, Vegemite and honey are some of the hunger-stoppers that are on offer each morning, courtesy of Foodbank Australia.

Apparently the

wholegrain cheerios are a winner though with Grade 2 student, Angela echoing the sentiments of the majority of her classmates when she said, "My favourite is cheerios. When I first saw them, I thought they were going to be disgusting but they taste really good!"

Walk Against Family Violence

At Boolarra Primary School we value child safety and are always looking for opportunities to educate our school community about child safety. On Friday November 13, we held our own Walk Against

dressed in orange to show their support for victim-survivors and helped send a message that family violence will not be tolerated.

Our walk took us along the Boolarra Rail Trail with students enjoying the opportunity to be out of the classroom and amongst nature. "On the orange walk we spotted some black cockatoos, a poppy flower and a whole bush of daffodils," James and Lucinda told me enthusiastically.

The students also felt proud to be sending a message to their community.



they were able to face their fears and take risks in a safe environment. Below are some comments made by our students.

On November 9, the 3/4/5/6s went to camp. My

that you have to stand on. An orange ball is hanging from a cable. You have to jump off the platform and hit the ball Layla, Isabella and I went on it. We also got to play gaga ball. It was super fun!!!

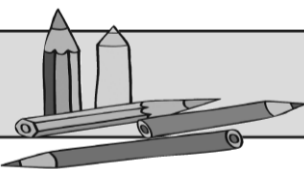
and find out our cabins. Then we had morning tea. I had a banana muffin and then two pieces of watermelon. After, exactly 30 minutes later we found out our activities group. I was in group 2 with Matilda. The first activity we did was rock climbing I was the 3rd person to go and the 1st to get up the wall, as well as Jake and then Sebastian. Then we had lunch, we had packed our own lunch for the first day so I had a vegemite and butter Salada biscuit. Eventually the teachers told us who we were sharing a room with, we had the COCKATOO cabin. In the cockatoo cabin there were three rooms and I was in a room with Laura,



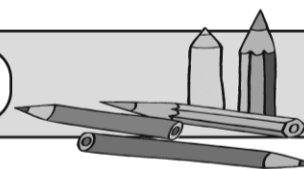
Family Violence. This event is usually held in the Melbourne CBD, although due to Covid-19, people were encouraged to hold their own "walk from home". On November 13, students

As Ruby said, "The orange walk is a good idea. If people see you wearing orange people will think "Oh saying no to violence is a good idea."

School News



Churchill North Primary



Recently the students of Churchill North Primary School

completed their school concert. It was a little bit different this year with it being filmed and recorded so that all of the parents would be able to see it. Students had a fantastic time, singing

and dancing to so many fun songs!

The costumes were amazing and all of the students helped to create amazing props for their classroom performance.

So many students had a fantastic time performing, here is what some of the students had to say - I liked to dress up in our favourite



outfit
- I liked that we got to do cool dance moves
- I liked how we got to dress up in cool costumes
- I liked the decorations
- I liked the decorations as well
- I liked the cool costumes and dancing

The kids did a fantastic job with their school concert and they are all so proud of the effort they put in. The weeks of practice and perseverance really paid off!

School News

Hazelwood North Primary



Hazelwood North Primary School celebrated NAIDOC Week with a fantastic morning of activities which were organised and run by our school leaders.

Students from across the school worked in mixed aged groups to attend several different sessions, where they listened to an indigenous based story and then undertook activities that matched with the theme or underlying message.

The students loved it and learned a lot!

It was great to see our school leaders stepping up and organising such a fantastic event.



School News

Kurnai College Uni Campus

The time has come to once again launch our Year 12 graduates into the world.

What an amazing journey it has been for our Year 12 students. Never before have our students had to contend with so much upheaval

in their final year of schooling. The staff at Kurnai College, University campus are extremely proud of our students and the perseverance and maturity that they have displayed this year.

Often we do not find our strength until we are

tested and the graduating class of 2020 have proven, beyond doubt, that they are resilient and adaptable. With the graduation of the students of 2020 we also wish to acknowledge the combined efforts of the Kurnai teaching staff and the vital support staff, from

the early years of high school to the senior level.

We would also like to extend our thanks to the students' support networks outside of school; family, friends and the broader community, particularly during the challenging times of remote learning.

Together we have worked to assist the students to achieve the success that they so richly deserve.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish our students all the best for their future and we hope that they look back at

their years at Kurnai with a well-deserved sense of pride and accomplishment.

They have now joined the growing number of Kurnai graduates of whom our school community can be very proud.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2020!

School News

Lumen Christi Primary

Lumen Christi brings music alive in 2020

The students at Lumen Christi Churchill were so happy to be able to participate in 'Music Count Us In' again this year. 'Music Count Us In' is a music program where the same song is sung all over Australia on the same day and at the same time. Every year Celebration Day is a national event with over 500,000 students from across Australia taking part in singing the program song, which this year was very appropriately titled "You Won't Bring Us Down".

Although the lead-up to Celebration Day, and the day itself looked a lot different

to previous years, when students returned to face-to-face learning they practised the lyrics to the song, instrumental and percussion parts and Australian Sign Language. On Celebration Day Lumen Christi watched a video of the song showing all the classes performing their parts, and then the school joined the live stream and countdown in their classrooms to the song that was live streamed from Cairns. Music teacher Mrs Janelle Szkwarek said "Although this year has been challenging, the 'Music Count Us In' program had so many amazing resources to use and really made it easy to participate despite the

many restrictions around. It was wonderful to see all of our students so enthusiastic about learning their parts and the pride they showed when successfully performing was wonderful. 'Music Count Us In' is a great way to bring music into the lives of so many students and is a really great initiative. Lumen Christi is already looking forward to next year's song and hopefully being able to celebrate, sing and play together for 'Music Count Us In 2021'.

Remembering on Remembrance Day 2020

On November 11, at 11 am the students at Lumen Christi Catholic Primary School were silent for one

minute in honour of our troops. School Captains and the whole school reflected together at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, a day which has become an annual event at the school. It was a different scenario this year, as classes reflected and prayed via Google Meet in their classrooms and participated virtually. Representatives from each room placed poppies at the school memorial and then each class visited the rose garden memorial site on the school grounds to pay their respects. Father Solomon gave a blessing and led the tribute along with the senior students of the school.

NAIDOC Week

Always Was, Always Will Be was the theme of NAIDOC Week this year. Usually held in July, it was postponed this year due to Covid 19. Lumen Christi had a day planned in July but didn't want to miss out on respecting our past elders and peoples.

They jumped back on board to show their support for our First Nations people who occupied and cared for our great continent for over 65,000 years.

The whole school Culture Day celebrates our great land and the school held a prayer service via Google Meet to give thanks and celebrate our rich history.

As part of our Catholic Social Teaching, the children learn to give back to others just as Jesus did.

The children went to school dressed in colours from the Aboriginal flag; red, yellow or black or colours from the Torres Strait Islander flag; blue, green, white or black. The children donated milk to the Gathering Place, a local Aboriginal Co-op that helps local people in need. They also donated to the Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, VACCA. They help Aboriginal children in need of shelter, clothing or education.

Always in our Prayers at Lumen Christi



Year 1 and 2 students participation via Google with 700,000 other students from around Australia

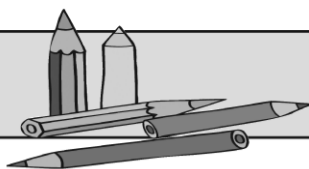


Zya Year 6 leader, Father Solomon, Principal, Mr David Cooper, and Cooper, Year 6 leader, praying in the rose garden

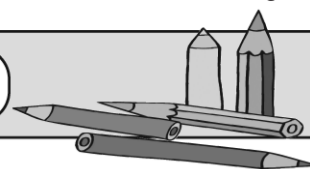


NAIDOC Week

School News



Yinnar Primary



Well...it has certainly been a very strange year. With two rounds of 'flexible and remote learning' much of our normal school year activities have gone on the backburner. We were lucky enough to have our swimming carnival at the beginning of the year and our house athletics sports were also able to be held. Beyond that all our sporting events were cancelled due to COVID restrictions.

The student leaders have been able to hold their annual "Yinnar's Got

Talent" by thinking outside the box. Auditions were held and then the finalists performed via video. The video was then shown to each class and voting was undertaken. Emilia Mills was the eventual winner and adds her name to a growing list of talented young performers on our school trophy.

The school was successful in receiving a 'Saluting Their Service' grant to install new flagpoles. This will allow us to fly the Australian flag, Aboriginal flag and the Torres Strait

Islander flag together outside. Until now we have been restricted to having them flying on our indoor flag stands.

With all our students back in the classroom in Term 4 there has been a very busy activity calendar. Our Grade 5/6s were able to attend the Summit camp at Trafalgar East for three days. Some very tired kiddies headed off to bed each night as they were well and truly stretched to their limits every day. The Grade 3/4s headed to Coolamatong for three

days of activities and our P-2's have had their day of adventure.

Bookweek was moved to Term 4 as well with all classes participating in book activities as well as the annual dress as a book character. The theme this year was 'Curious Creatures, Wild Minds'. There were certainly some clever ideas along this theme.

In the school grounds there have been some highs and lows. Unfortunately a fox got into our chook pen and decimated our hens.

Mrs Taylor, our Principal and Les, our maintenance officer kindly brought in some replacements. On a positive note though, there have been some revamping of garden beds and the frog bog has been installed. Trees have been planted to provide additional shade and attract birds and other fauna to our school. There is still more to be done and students are already planning for 2021.

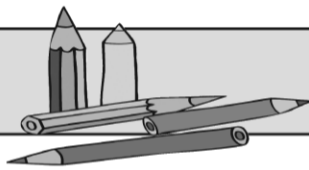
Our student leadership selection program is already underway with students writing applications,

attending interviews and making speeches to their peers. The big announcements will be made during the last week of term.

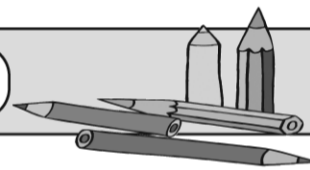
Our school staff, students and wider school community would like to thank everyone attached to our school for the magnificent support that has been shown in this most unpredictable year. There have been many challenges that our students and staff have approached head on and we have all grown in ways that were least expected.



School News



Yinnar South Primary



We're going on a Number Hunt, we're going to catch a big one!



Making our own volcanoes in the Junior class



Animal Dress Up Day!

Term 4 2020
The year is almost done but we still have so much to look forward to before we say goodbye to 2020. This term we introduced Passion Projects. The students began to look deeper into topics they feel passionate about. We have students choosing to research things like the first ever computer, venom, endangered animals, the African savannah food chain and other fascinating topics.

It has been great to get back into the kitchen to cook lunch for the whole school each Wednesday. We have harvested rainbow chard, garlic, beetroot, parsley, chives, lemons, potatoes, strawberries and raspberries so far this term for whole

school lunches. Last week the senior class made honey chicken with fried rice. Other meals we have made include spinach and fetta Gozlemes, baked spuds with coleslaw and pumpkin risotto. This week will be fish cakes with salad and we are looking forward to making cannelloni with our own ricotta, which we make as part of our Science class.

We have marked the term with special celebration days to make up for missing so much while we were at home. We have had Book Week Dress up Day, Footy Colours Day, Animal Dress up Day, Kindness Day and explored our Yinnar South neighbourhood hunting for

numbers. This year we had our first student compete in the Australian Maths Competition. She did exceedingly well achieving results in the top 20% in Australia. This fun, hands on problem solving competition is a fantastic complement to our Whole School Maths Program where we have done a lot of work on the maths proficiencies with particular focus on problem solving and reasoning. The Australian Maths Competition will definitely feature next year for all of the senior students.

We have three students graduating from primary school this year. Andrea Flake from Kurnai College

Churchill campus has come out to visit our senior classroom for three transition sessions where the kids have familiarised with reading timetables, finding classrooms on the school map, looking up teachers and staff on Compass and all importantly how to master the locker padlocks! Additionally, Lisa Benn from Mirboo North Secondary College has come to visit the senior classroom to share how things work up there and help dispel any of the anxieties that go with starting secondary school. Students can login into Webex chats as part of the Mirboo North Secondary College transition. Both Kurnai College and Mirboo North Secondary

College use Compass to communicate between staff, students and parents. To celebrate the Grade 6s time with us, we are having a school sleepover for the Grade 3-6s. They are looking forward to scavenger hunts and playing spotlight tiggy with some other surprises in store. This year's end of year production will look a little different; we are filming the students perform "A Muppet's Christmas Carol" and will narrowcast a series of the students' other work and performances to parents at home. Student performances such as our whole school drum beat, spooky writing pieces, letters to themselves, news reports will feature as part of our end

of year show. The Junior class have been learning all about volcanoes in Science, all about the magma chamber, lava, vents, craters and ash clouds. As well as about super volcanoes, the 'Ring of Fire', tectonic plates and active, dormant and extinct volcanoes and how people can predict when a volcano may erupt. The class have all designed and constructed their own volcanoes and tried to make them look as realistic as possible, next week they will create chemical reactions to make their volcanoes erupt.
<https://www.facebook.com/YInnarSouthPS/>
<https://www.yinnarsthps.vic.edu.au/>

Yinnar Community Garden



The Masked Gardeners

Growing Bush Tucker

Bush tucker plants are often described as low maintenance and easy to grow, as they are native to Australia and have adapted to the conditions here, but the reality is often quite different.

At the Yinnar Community Garden we have nurtured an aniseed myrtle by protecting it from frost and harsh sun, we have some murnong established in a ground bed with sea celery.

We are using pigface (katwort) successfully as an edge plant, we have rough coprosma doing well, and our round leaf mint bush 'prosanthera rotundifolia' has a magnificent fragrance smelt when sitting in the gazebo.

However, we have had failures either at the Garden or in members' home gardens with finger lime, chocolate lily and mountain pepper, and a small Illawarra plum is struggling to survive in a wicking bed.

The problem is that bush tucker plants may have very particular requirements which are met in a specific Australian environment, but which may be quite different in the place you are trying to grow them.

Murnong or yam daisy (sometimes called native parsnip) used to grow

plentifully in Victoria and other states before it was grazed out by sheep.

Nonetheless it is quite delicate and needs to be kept very moist when growing from seed, and will also die from too much shade. Murnong needs to be planted out in deep well drained friable soil, which needs to be kept free of weeds.

This may sound like a lot of effort, but there is an increasing number of growers dedicated to ensuring this plant's survival.

The murnong produces an edible tuber which is sweet and starchy, and used to form an important food source for the first Australians. It is also highly nutritious and sometimes called a superfood.

Muntries is another bush tucker plant with a specific set of growing requirements. Sometimes known as emu apple or native cranberry, they produce clusters of small berries which taste like tiny spicy apples.

Occurring in the wild from Portland in Victoria to Kangaroo Island in South Australia, they thrive in coastal gardens and prefer sandy soil rather than clay, with a pH between 6.0 and 8.0.

They can be grown up a

trellis for easier harvesting.

One bush tucker plant which is genuinely easy to grow is warrigal greens. Also known as New Zealand spinach, this was the first Australian native food plant to be introduced to Europe. Grown easily from seeds or cuttings, warrigal greens are not fussy and will spread into empty ground.

Unlike many other bush tucker plants, they really do need little watering except in very dry weather. Warrigal greens should be lightly blanched in boiling water before eating to remove the oxalic acid.

Try using them in pesto with macadamia or bunya nuts. Other easy-to-grow bush tucker plants include pigface with its edible fruits, and round-leaf mintbush or native oregano which can be used as a spice or in a fragrant herbal tea.

While bush tucker plants can be fussy, it is well worth making the effort to grow them in return for flavours you can't buy in a shop, as well as knowing you are nurturing some of our indigenous flora which may have become rare in the wild.

Bush tucker plants can be bought from Peppermint Ridge in Tynong North and seeds can be bought online from EdibleOz.



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