

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

Celebrating 200 DIGITAL EDITIONS

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Trauma Teddies bring comfort



You may have read about, or seen, a Trauma Teddy, being used in a crisis situation. It has become known as a way to calm and comfort those experiencing a difficult situation.

Red Cross Trauma Teddies were first used in Campbelltown NSW. In 1990 also by Richard Hamilton, the Superintendent of Campbelltown ambulance service. He had seen a teddy bear given to a child being treated by the ambulance service in Camden. He watched the calming influence of the bear on the child and so the idea was born. Richard asked his mother Vera Hamilton to encourage the Red Cross to provide more bears for children treated by the ambulance staff. Red Cross took up the challenge and the Red Cross Trauma Teddy was born. Norma Elder organised a suitable pattern, a team of knitters, wool and stuffing a n d

production began. The rest is history.

Across Australia tens of thousands of Trauma Teddies are given out each year to a diverse range of support services, and to people affected by fire, floods or other disasters. The teddies play a role in comforting people in times of distress and anxiety. Each year hundreds of Trauma Teddies arrive all year round at doctor's surgeries, children's hospitals, women's hospices, bushfire evacuation centres and more to find forever homes with someone who loves them. They are constantly handed out by Red Cross staff and volunteers to people who are in need of a little knitted hug.

While knitters come from throughout the community, every Trauma Teddy must undergo a strict quality inspection for safety. Only a safe and strong teddy can become a Red Cross Trauma Teddy as those teddies will be hugged and chewed by a distressed little child, or held hard by someone in pain. It must be made of clean, safe materials and must not fall apart.

That project was started 31 years ago and last year was the thirtieth anniversary. Members of Morwell and District Red Cross Branch began their involvement a few years ago and at present have totalled over 200 in different stages of completion. The COVID lockdown allowed for more to stay at home

and knit more often. Five members knit, others sew them up and others do the stuffings, the faces or sew on the badges. The team says it is great working together to complete such a useful and desired end product.

Morwell and District Red Cross has distributed theirs to our local hospitals, dentists, pathology centres, Ambulance Stations, Fire Brigades, Police Stations, Anglicare, Quantum Support Services, the Red Cross shop in Traralgon and other appropriate places. Some of the branch members are also Red Cross Emergency Service Volunteers. They take Trauma Teddies when activated to Single Incidents, Outreach Events, Relief and Recovery Centres. Significant quantities were distributed at Relief Centres during the 2020 Wildfires.

The influence of the Trauma Teddies is not confined to Red Cross members. Others in the community have noticed the efforts, or experienced the positive effects of the teddies and have eagerly joined the makers. Many special people have offered their help.

One lady is her husband's carer so she spends a lot of time at home and finds the knitting gives her a sense of doing something worthwhile. She particularly knits small teddies to give to little children whose mothers are in care.

Continued Page 17...

When I first got my teddies I felt comfortable and warm. The teddies made me feel happy and safe. I loved cuddling up with them in hospital. And I still love cuddling up with them now as well. Thank you very much

Millie Righett



MAY DAY MARKET

SATURDAY, 1st MAY

See Page 12 for details

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

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

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- Treasurer: Delma Hodges
- Assistant Treasurer: Sally Kohler
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- Production: Tracey Burr, Carol Scott, Ruth Place, Allan Larkin
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www.cdnews.com.au



Contributions

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the May edition is April 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 2021

ADVERTISING

Advertising enquiries can be addressed to:
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We acknowledge the support of



Family Violence

(reproduced with permission from WIRE - Women's Information and Referral Exchange)

Where can I get help with money?

Financial abuse is often a hidden aspect of family violence and can affect you long after you have left the abusive relationship.

See WIRE's information booklet 'Money Problems With Your Partner? Dealing with Financial Abuse' (www.wire.org.au/resources/money-problems/) on ways you can keep your money safe from the person who uses violence.

You can also use WIRE's Money and You conversation kit to store your financial information safely and prepare for conversations about money.

See www.wire.org.au/my-moneyconversation-kit/ 9 WIRE Information Booklet 28 WIRE Women's Information Booklet any woman any issue

The MoneySmart web site is also useful: moneysmart.gov.au/financial-abuse Centrelink

If you are planning to leave a violent or abusive relationship, or the person using violence leaves, you may be eligible for a crisis payment from Centrelink.

To be eligible, you must contact the department within seven days of separation. A family

violence worker can inform you in greater detail about Centrelink eligibility criteria and crisis payments.

You can also call a Centrelink social worker to discuss the payments you are entitled to in a crisis.

If you are on a Newstart Allowance call 132 850 Monday – Friday from 8am–5pm. If you are on a Parenting Payment or Family Tax Benefit Payment call 136 150 Monday – Friday from 8am–5pm.

Flexible Support Packages

Flexible support packages are available to assist you in meeting the financial costs of leaving a violent or abusive relationship.

These packages are available from many of the services responding to family violence in your area.

Read more about flexible support packages for family violence here: providers.dhhs.vic.gov.au/familyviolence-flexible-support-packages-program-requirements-word

Victims Support Agency (VSA)

If you have reported family violence to the police, the Victims Support Agency may be able to provide financial assistance to help with your immediate

safety and medical expenses, as well as support and counselling.

A person who has been a victim of a crime in Victoria within the past two years, has suffered either a physical injury and/or a psychological injury and has reported the incident to the police may be eligible for compensation.

See victimssofcrime.vic.gov.au/victimssupport-agency

Financial Counselling

You can also access free financial counselling to help you untangle your finances from your partner and to manage your own finances in the longer term. To find a financial counsellor in your area contact Financial Counselling Australia.

See financialcounsellingaustralia.org.au or contact the National Debt Helpline on 1800 007 007 any woman any issue.

Employment

All employees are now entitled to family violence leave, which can help during a crisis.

You may also find yourself looking for work for the first time if you have left your relationship.

There are services that can help you find your way.

Telling your employer

Although it might be confronting, it's a good idea to tell your workplace what is going on.

All workplaces should now provide at least five days of family violence leave each year, so you can take time off to deal with moving house or with court appointments without using up personal or annual leave. It might also be important for your workplace to know if there is an Intervention Order in place in case the person using violence tries to contact you at work or tries to ask your workplace about your whereabouts after you have moved house.

Finding work

It's not uncommon for a person leaving a violent relationship to find themselves unemployed or underemployed and looking to support themselves for the first time in a long while. Recovering your financial and professional confidence can take time.

Centrelink and other employment services may also make it seem more complicated to access support — although there are family violence guidelines these services should follow.

Organisations like WIRE run employment workshops and there may be other programs that run from time to time that you can be referred to that will help with resume writing, interview skills and more. Call 1300 134 130 to discuss what programs might suit you.

Rainfall

Churchill Rainfall for March 2021

The first three weeks for March were very dry with only 12mm of rain falling on our gardens and surrounding areas; however, the last week saw excellent soaking rain of 56 mm falling.

The Churchill total for the month of March was 68.5 mm, which gives Churchill a total of 161 mm so far for 2021.

Rain at Hazelwood South.

March started with little

rain. One rain event took March to 218% of the average, with 96mm. Hazelwood South had 24% more rain than the Latrobe Valley Airport BOM records.

The tanks are near full, the grass is greening, but the ground water is still low.

The effect of "La Niña" has kept temperatures mild during summer, and for the first three month of the year Hazelwood South had 34% above average rain.



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ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2021

No.	Size	Column size	B/W \$	COLOUR \$	10% Discount (6 issues)	
					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

TO BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENT PLEASE CONTACT RUTH PLACE 03 5122 1961 or 0456 786 577

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



Supporting our community

Support for our News

Congratulations to the Team at Churchill & District News on this, the 200th digital edition of our monthly community newspaper!

Community newspapers, whether in print or on-line, remain an important part of the fabric of life in regional areas, allowing us to read and share news of local events, projects and matters of interest.

Our community is stronger and better connected through the opportunities a real local newspaper provides.

CDCA has been supporting the News since its relaunch in 2002, not just by being a regular contributor, but by purchasing paid advertising space.

We recognise that, to have a free community newspaper, printing and distribution costs have to be covered and that this can only be achieved through paid advertising, sponsorship and the occasional grant.

Latrobe City Council has regularly supported the CDNews with small annual grants over the years.

This type of support is vital and Council is to be commended for its continuing support of community groups.

We would like to commend all those local businesses, individuals and community groups who advertise in, or provide sponsorship for, the Churchill & District News.

Regular income makes it a little bit easier for the team at the News to get the paper

out each month.

We would also like to encourage more local businesses to advertise in the News – get your message out through the Churchill & District News wide distribution area and remember, it's cheaper than the LV Express!

CDCA values the publicity that Churchill & District News provides for us and particularly when it comes to projects of community benefit.

One such project has been our on-going partnership to provide a convenient drop-off and collection point for items that can be recycled.

This month, CDCA is proud to announce that we are introducing another recycling initiative at the Churchill Hub – recycle your old pens, biros, textas, marking pens and hi-lighters.

Look for the new tub in the Hub foyer outside the office of the Neighbourhood Centre.

Instead of putting these items in the bin, drop your old biros and textas, etc in the tub and we will ensure that, once the tub is full, these will be delivered to a larger recycling collection centre.

The plastics from these items will eventually be used for the manufacture of goods produced from recycled plastic.

This means less plastic going into land-fill sites.

Churchill's next 'Shop Local' event will be held on the morning of Saturday May 1.

'Churchill – Shop Local'

is another example of how the Churchill & District News supports this community, by encouraging folk to support local businesses and through partnering with CDCA and Churchill Neighbourhood Centre to have Shop Local events at Churchill Shopping Centre.

Due to the likely prospect of cold weather, Craft and Market Stalls will be located upstairs in the Town Hall from 9am to 1pm.

Saturday May 1 is just one week before Mothers Day, so this might be just the place to find that special gift.

We hope to see lots of local residents shopping in Churchill CBD that day and supporting our local retailers.

You can park in the central car-park, visit the stalls in the Town Hall (enter from Marina drive) and then do your shopping; don't forget to grab a free sausage from the BBQ that will be located nearby.

We also hope to provide some free entertainment around the shopping centre during the morning.

As an incentive for residents to support our event and 'Shop Local', there will be a random prize give-away of a \$50 supermarket voucher for one or two people who make purchases at our local retail stores but you will need to Shop Local for your chance to win.

CDCA has completed our Memorial Seat project to honour the legacy of the late Rob Whelan.

We held a ceremony to formally unveil our project in



late March.

Despite the wet weather, a small crowd attended and was greeted with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony by local resident and respected elder, Aunty Doris Paton.

A number of people paid tribute to Rob and his work in Latrobe City particularly in Churchill and the artist, Gunai man Ronald Edwards Pepper, spoke about the symbolism of his artwork walking together and meeting places on the seat.

We'd like to thank all those involved in this project,

particularly Latrobe City Council who provided the funding, and all who attended the unveiling.

We hope that this seat, located on the pathway adjacent to the Eel Hole Creek wetlands (between McDonald Way and Northways Road) will be well utilised by the community as a place to pause, rest, reflect, or to simply watch the bird life that comes and goes on the wetlands that Rob designed.

In 2021 CDCA meetings are on the second Thursday of every second month.

Our next meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday June 3, in the Churchill Community Hub.

All local residents are welcome. Note that some COVID 19 restrictions may apply.

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.

Darren Chester

Federal Member for Gippsland

Proud to support our community



1300 131 785 www.darrenchester.com.au

#lovegippsland

#myvalley

Authorised by Darren Chester MP, National Party of Australia, 126 Franklin Street, Traralgon VIC 3844

A message about Recycling at the Churchill Hub



New Things to Recycle at Churchill Hub:
PENS, BIROS, TEXTAS, MARKING PENS & HI-LIGHTERS
Look for the new bin outside the Neighbourhood Centre office



PLUS ANY OF THESE ITEMS

- Toothbrushes, Toothpaste Tubes & Dental Floss Containers
- Bread Tags (the little plastic squares)
- CLEAN used aluminium foil
- X-rays • Mobile phones & chargers
- Printer cartridges • Household batteries
- All small e-waste items

(Note: The Hub is no longer collecting old bras or P5 containers – thanks to all those who brought them in – sorry; we can longer recycle these items through our program)

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





A Message from Cathie

To me it seems like time has altered, been altered changed a little.

This time last year we were in the midst of Victoria's lockdown.

Preparing for Easter, not being able to gather or attend churches, preparing for an ANZAC Day that was probably the most different since WWII.

It was a time that was isolating and confusing but also a time that demonstrated the resilience of our community and the very best of us as people coming to the surface.

When it was proposed a few days before that people could gather in their driveways at dawn to remember those who have sacrificed so much for our country, I had mixed feelings.

I was excited that someone would share a practical way we could still be a community, I was heartened that we could get a service from the National War Memorial sent to all our phones on an app and I was apprehensive to see if people still did really care, given what we were facing with COVID19.

As we gathered on our driveway at dawn on a very



foggy, cold morning, I was privileged to experience our community at it's best. One neighbour had put a fire pit on their front lawn and had their speakers up loud for anyone who may not be able to get the app to work.

As we strained our eyes up and down our streets we saw flickers of candles everywhere in the fog.

The moment was profound.

My heart swelled as I realised that my community values ANZAC Day commemorations, not just the free breakfasts and footy matches but when

everything is stripped away, our understanding of sacrifice is resolute.

As we prepare for ANZAC Day in 2021, we have more freedoms to gather and commemorate, I have the feeling that we will see a resurgence of people attending.

Many of us have now experienced probably the toughest circumstances since the armed conflict of that first ANZAC Day.

Hopefully, we all have a deeper appreciation of those who made the ultimate sacrifice that have no descendants to honour them and tell their stories.

May we as a people seek the stories of those who did not return and support those who did return.

May we never forget the ongoing trauma returned servicemen and service women face.

This ANZAC Day I pray that we as a nation have a deep resolve to support our veterans, particularly their mental health. LEST WE FORGET

Chaplain

I recently re-read part of a book that I have (written in 1907 and printed in 1908) about short addresses given at Harvard University.

One quote particularly caught my attention. "We live in a time of extraordinary publicity.

Gossip, scandal, praise, and blame beset every life, and many people are tempted to watch for applause or for censure as though they were tests of success.

Politicians with their ears to the ground, journalists pandering to popular passion, preachers tickling the public ear – these are signs of the times which reveal the itching for popularity.

Even in our sports we talk of supporting players by organised noise, as though one could not even play a game at his best without dependence on applause.

Yet in our time, as always, there is but one kind of (hu)man which in the end wins a worthy victory.

It is the man who depends neither on praise nor blame."

The writer Francis Greenwood Peabody speaks so up-to-date for our



times.

He goes on to write of having "Palm Sundays of appreciation, but they do not stir Him to self-esteem...Gethsemanes when friends desert Him, but they do not depress Him to despair...and finally He is remembered, not because He was popular or unpopular, but because He accomplished the work... saving others..."

In doing so, the writer (obviously) speaks of Jesus Christ, God the Son being unflattered by the accolades of Palm Sunday, as well as being undisturbed by the cries of 'Crucify Him!'

so soon afterwards...all because He came to save!

This Easter especially, it was worth us stopping to see the Cross as the offer of salvation from One who knows what it's like to suffer as we do...the depth of His experience reaches across to us with understanding, and offers to help us bear what we are carrying, as well as so much more, if we'd but trust Him.

Worth thinking about!



Co-Operating Snippets

The month of March was a busy month with preparations for our Annual General Meeting.

It was held on March 21 and was a celebration of what we achieved from March 2020 to March 2021.

There was lots achieved despite COVID restrictions keeping us away from our churches.

We have stayed connected and are happy to be back in our churches worshipping together and having a chat.

Two other occasions have been held at people's homes to re-unite us and renew that fellowship we have so missed.

One was for the men who had a breakfast BBQ

and a long chat, the other for those who had been our regular Coffee Connections folks. Both places have lovely gardens so that was also a drawcard.

Thank you to those who hosted and organised those occasions. They were greatly appreciated.

Churchill Christian Fellowship

Is Christianity still relevant in the twenty-first century?

Why do we need churches when our government looks after everything?

The government works hard to keep us safe.

They tell us how to behave in all the various scenarios of life.

When disasters happen, or pandemics, they take charge of things.

They help us when we lose our jobs. We look to them for affordable health care and to do whatever is necessary for the health of

the planet on which we all live.

They organise our lives and make complicated laws to prevent us from, heaven forbid, offending anyone.

So why do we need churches when our government looks after everything?

Because there is a spiritual dimension to life that governments have no jurisdiction over.

Knowing God and following Jesus is a deeply personal lifestyle but one that is joyfully shared in the community of believers.

The teachings of Jesus

are as relevant in these times as they ever have been.

The Good News of the Gospel is still changing hearts and lives in ways that no government can ever do!

Churchill Christian Fellowship has changed its Sunday meeting time.

We now meet at 3pm on Sundays in the Community Hall. Visitors always welcome.

Bible-based, Christ-centred, Spirit-empowered.

That's what you can expect at CCF.

Find us online or call Steve on 0409 173 747.

PEST CONTROL SERVICES
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www.combridgepestcontrol.com.au

Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

Sunday Service: 10.00am
Williams Avenue,
Churchill.
Tel: 5122 1480



Churchill Christian Fellowship

Sunday: 3.00pm
Churchill Community Hall
7.30pm MidWeek
Bible Study/Fellowship meeting
0409 173 747

Lumen Christi Catholic Church

Williams Avenue, Churchill
Tel: 5134 2849

Fr Edwin Ogbuka/Fr James Fernandez

Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm
Sunday: Mass: 9.00am
1st and 3rd Sundays:
Yinnar: Mass: 10.30am
2nd and 4th Sundays:
Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

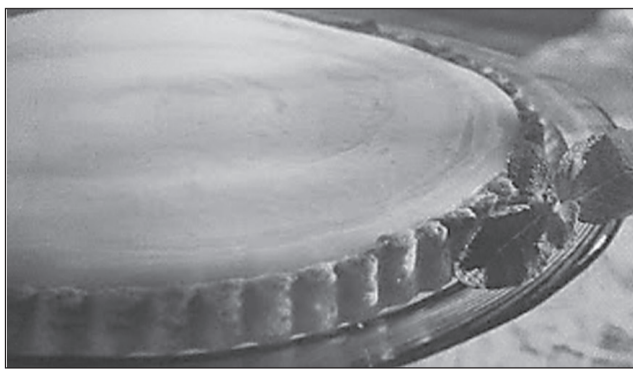
Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish Boolarra/Yinnar

Sundays
1pm

Christ Church Tarwin St. Boolarra

Five tips for successful preserves

1. Use dry, slightly unripe fruit. Under ripe is richer in pectin and acid than fully ripe fruit.
2. Gently simmer fruit until soft.
3. Warming the sugar before adding it to the fruit, the sugar will dissolve quicker, to warm the sugar place in a preheated oven 100 deg C for 10 minutes.
4. Once the sugar is dissolved you can increase the heat, which will thicken and aid in setting the preserve.
5. Pour the hot preserve into hot, dry sterilised jars, filling to the neck and seal immediately.



Cornmeal crusted lemon tart

Preheat the oven to 180 deg C. In a separate bowl whisk together 1 egg and 1 egg yolk. Mix 1 and 1/2 cups of plain flour with 1/2 cup of

yellow cornmeal (polenta).

Mix in 8 tbs of chilled butter, cut in to small pieces along with 3 tbs of chilled

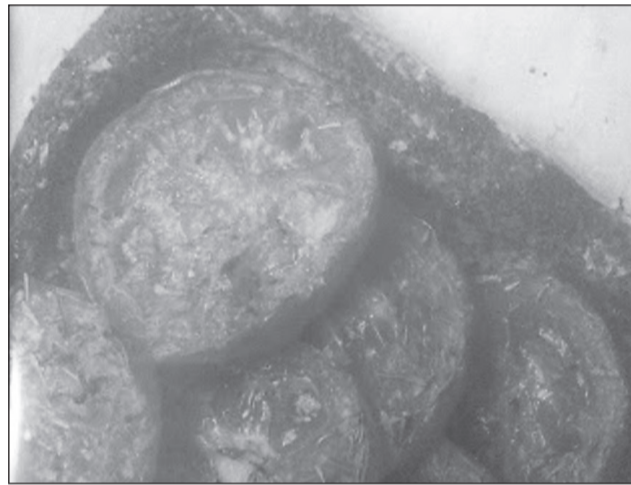
water.

Gradually add the egg mix to the dough, working with your hands until it comes together.

Roll out between 2 sheets of plastic to about 1/4 inch thickness.

Spray a 20 cm flan pan and mould your dough into the base and sides of the flan pan. Chill the dough covered flan in the refrigerator.

Weigh down the pastry with dry rice or pastry



weights and bake in the preheated oven for 20 minutes or until golden at the edges.

Remove the weights and return to the oven till the bottom is cooked. Let shell cool.

For the filling

Place 2 eggs lightly beaten with 2 yolks lightly beaten in a large bowl with 3/4 cup of castor sugar, the zest of 2 lemons finely grated and 1/2 cup of lemon juice.

Mix till sugar has dissolved. Pour into a medium saucepan and heat slowly over a low heat, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon until the mixture thickens and coats the back of the spoon.

Do not allow to boil or you will end up with scrambled eggs.

Remove from heat and whisk in 100gm of butter /marg until it is all incorporated.

Pour into the shell and refrigerate until set. When chilled, the pie is ready to be enjoyed.

Apple and pork belly hotpot

This recipe is for my son Paul.

Cooking with Noelene

You will need 1 kg of pork belly chopped into 3 cm cubes.

Roughly chop 1 brown onion. You can use a pressure cooker for this recipe and decrease the cooking time by 2 and 1/4 hours, or you can use a heavy based/cast iron large saucepan with a lid.

An ovenproof dish will also work. Now place the pork cubes, chopped onion, 1tbs of minced garlic, 1 tsp of fennel seeds with 1 litre of water, into the saucepan / pressure cooker.

Bring to the boil, then reduce heat to low and simmer for 3 hours. (If using a pressure cooker, continue to cook for 30 minutes once it has reached high pressure).

Meanwhile chop 800 gm of peeled pumpkin into cubes along with 2 peeled and cored green apples (cubed).

Once the pork is ready add the pumpkin, the apples and 2 cups of shredded cabbage, 2 tbs of marg / butter, 1 tbs of apple cider

Mix these through the pork and simmer for 25 minutes or until the pumpkin is soft, stirring occasionally. Taste and season accordingly - you are ready to serve.

Tomato and mustard tart

Preheat your oven to 180 deg C.

You need 500gm of tomatoes. Remove the peduncle (the end that was attached to the stalk) of each tomato. Cut the tomatoes into 1/2 cm slices.

Lightly oil the baking sheet and sprinkle with polenta.

I used 1 sheet of commercial puff pastry and spread 60 gm of wholegrain mustard generously folding in 1/2 cm of the sheet edge to form a border.

Place the tomato slices over the pastry (overlapping) and sprinkle with dried

180 deg C. Spray a 22cm springform tin with cooking spray and sprinkle with polenta.

Shake to discard excess polenta crumb.

Bring 625 ml of milk to the boil and stir in 150gm of aborio rice and 1/4 tsp of salt.

Reduce heat and simmer, stirring from time to time until the milk has been absorbed by the rice.

Transfer to a bowl, allow to cool slightly, then stir in 30gm of ground almonds and the finely grated zest of 1 lemon.

Beat 4 egg yolks and gradually stir them into the rice mixture and stir in 75 gm of castor sugar.

Beat the 4 egg whites in a clean dry bowl until stiff peaks form, then fold into the rice mixture.



thyme and cracked pepper, drizzle with honey.

Cook in the hot oven for 12 minutes, then another 3 minutes with the oven door slightly open so the humidity can evaporate. Delicious!

Lemon rice cake

Preheat your oven

Pour this into the prepared cake pan and bake for 30 minutes, or until a skewer inserted comes out clean.

Cool completely on a wire rack, dredge with icing sugar and cut into wedges to serve.

Contact Council before you build or renovate

Latrobe City Council is reminding home-owners and builders to engage a private building surveyor to gain the necessary building permits and ensure they do not undertake illegal construction works. Council has successfully pursued legal action against a property-owner in relation to breaches of the Building Act 1993. Charges were brought as a result of the property-owner failing to obtain a building permit and failing to comply with a building order in relation to the extensive construction of a dwelling extension and alterations.

The property-owner undertook these works without first obtaining a building permit. Council issued a building order to stop work until the matter was resolved by bringing the extension and alterations into satisfactory compliance with the Building Regulations. The property-owner failed to comply with that order as the work on the extension and alterations continued during the enforcement process. The property-owner was found guilty on both charges and incurred fines and costs of \$26,500, including a criminal conviction for failure to comply.

"Council officers have

the responsibility to ensure home renovators comply with the Building Act to ensure that buildings meet minimum safety standards. This reassures the current and future owners of a home that any works have been done properly and safely," Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson said. Building surveyors issue building permits, and are tasked with protecting building occupants and owners by ensuring that a project complies with minimum building and safety standards.

"This case is a reminder that before any home-owner, building developer or handyman decides to initiate building works, they should check with Council or a private building surveyor to confirm if a building permit is required," Councillor Gibson said. "While some may feel that this could be seen as Council playing Big Brother, Council has a role to play in ensuring the community's safety." The Building Services team at Latrobe City Council can provide information and assistance to those who have any queries. The team can be contacted by phoning 1300 367 700.

Aaron Pearce Plumbing Services

PO Box 408 Churchill
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Churchill / Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Community work on many different levels



Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe Inc is a group of volunteers that work on many different levels within the community to ensure a safe and secure environment to all people in the Latrobe Valley region.

From Sausage sizzles to "Secure number plate" days and supporting the Police in a number of ways.

We assist the Latrobe City Council at

various events to make a safer community for all people.

We meet at the Morwell RSL on the 2nd Monday of each month from 6pm and we would welcome all people who would like to volunteer in our very active group.

Check us out on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nhwlatrobeinc> or email us for more information: nhwlc@speedweb.com.au



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St Matt's Op Shop

BOOK REVIEW



Did you know Australians throw out 6,000 kilograms of clothes every ten minutes? According to the ABC's series "War on Waste", this could fill the MCG with clothes over two and a half times every year. To help reduce the environmental impact of our clothing, the best solution is to buy pre-loved.

St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar has a wide range of good quality pre-loved clothing for adults,

children and babies, including jeans, pants, t-shirts, blouses, dresses, scarves, jumpers and jackets. Look out for our next sale, where you can fill a bag with clothes and shoes for \$5

(our Easter Sale will be finished by the date of printing). To keep up to date with our latest events, drop into the store or follow the St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar Facebook page.

"The Vanishing Half"

by Brit Bennett

Brit Bennett, an American woman of colour, was born in 1990 and raised in southern California. She attended Stanford University. Now based in Los Angeles, her debut novel "The Mothers" 2016 was a New York Times best seller, as was "The Vanishing Half" 2020.

This story is set in the deep south of America in a hamlet called Mallard, so small it is not recorded on any maps. The founding father of Mallard is Alphonse Decuir who inherited his sugar plantation from his white father, who once owned him. He married a Mulatto woman, even lighter in colour than himself, and his aim was to establish a town for people light in colour, hoping that each generation would become lighter than the last.

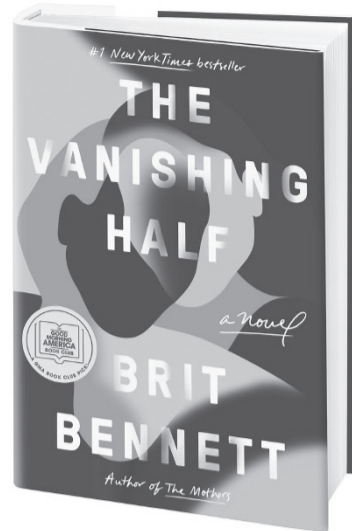
The main characters in the story are the identical Vignes twins, Desiree and Stella, who are the great-great-grand daughters of Alphonse Decuir. As small children they witnessed the lynching of their father by a group of white men and he is later murdered, leaving them deeply traumatised. They desperately want to escape the town, and at sixteen their mother Adele finds them work where they are put into service cleaning the home of a wealthy white family.

This is not what they want, so at the Founders Day Picnic they escape to New Orleans to start a new life. Desiree gets work in a laundry and Stella is able to get a secretarial job. Without warning Stella disappears and Desiree is devastated, not knowing where she is or why she left.

Desiree eventually moves to Washington DC where she gets a job analysing fingerprints, marries Sam and has a daughter Jude. Unfortunately she is the victim of domestic violence and decides to return to Mallard with her daughter until she plans her next move.

There is some tension when she returns but she eventually settles in to life in Mallard, working at the local diner. Jude attends the local school but because she is so much darker in colour than the other pupils she is bullied and always on the outer.

An old acquaintance, Early Jones arrives in Mallard and he is a bounty hunter, paid by Desiree's husband to find her. He sees the bruising on her neck and decides not to go through



with the job. He also offers to help find Stella. He falls in love with Desiree and each time he is in the area he visits her.

We then go to Stella's story. Her boss in New Orleans, Blake Sanders, asks her to accompany him to his new position in Los Angeles. He is unaware she is coloured and Stella realises she can pass for white. She marries Blake and they have a daughter, Kennedy.

The family lead a very privileged life but the secret of Stella's identity is always with her. She reaches crisis point when a coloured family wants to move into their exclusive estate.

The family does move in but they are shunned by the rest of the community. Stella goes along with the community outrage, but is fascinated by the comings and goings of Loretta Walker and her family.

She is horrified when her daughter is found playing with the Walker's daughter and overreacts, but eventually apologises and the girls occasionally play together with Stella even visiting Loretta. However there is always an uneasy truce between the pair.

In the meantime, Jude has been accepted into UCLA to study medicine and has a relationship with Reese, who is transitioning from female to male. They have a very loving and supportive relationship. By chance, when Jude is

waitressing, she sees Stella and realises who she is – she also remembers the daughter who is with her and seeks her out. The girls, whilst from very different backgrounds, keep in touch, and gradually Jude discloses Stella's true identity to Kennedy. This results in Stella returning to Mallard to ask Desiree to keep Jude away from her daughter because she is afraid of being exposed. There is a tense meeting at the diner but when they return home their mother barely bats an eyelid, and accepts Stella just like old times. However Stella does not stay long.

This book was easy to read, enjoyed by us all and full of interesting characters. It centres on the tensions of race and racial discrimination and the belief that being white leads to an easier life. It was interesting that the people of Mallard are not accepted by white people yet they discriminated against Jude because she was darker than them.

The issue of gender was also raised with Jude being very accepting of someone different to herself. She has grown up to be tolerant, with a more realistic view of life, she is accepting and supportive of Reese and she has a strong work ethic, studying to become a doctor.

This is an interesting comparison to Kennedy who is superficial, lacking in real ambition and has always expected life to be easy for her. However she is less judgemental than her mother.

In many ways life has been much easier for Stella, but she has had to live with the underlying tension of her real identity. She has been quite self-absorbed but also very lonely.

On the other hand Desiree has been a good mother and also a good daughter, as she has cared for Adele in her later years. Throughout the book the importance of family and of honest and open relationships ties the story together.

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Carol Cavanagh 0411 842 912



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EST. 2021

Well, Just like that we are 3 weeks in and still smiling, we would love to thank those who have come in and ensure you all our coffee won't stop grinding and display fridge will stay illuminated.

7:30AM till 3:00PM Tuesday to Friday & 8AM till 2PM Saturday to Sunday – our doors are open and ready to welcome you with a big smile and positive attitude. From local suppliers to employing local, we will continue and play our part in ensuring Churchill continues to grow and expand well into the future.

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal, it is the courage to continue that counts" – Winston Churchill

Hazelwood Rotary Club

by Leo Billington

ANZAC Day in Churchill – April 25, 2021
ANZAC Day in Churchill is a special community event co-ordinated by the Rotary Club of Hazelwood in conjunction with the RSL.

This year the 9.00 am ceremony will be preceded by a recreated Gunfire Breakfast at 8.00 am. Catering will be provided by the Hazelwood Rotary Club

and the Churchill Lions Club. Following the ANZAC Day ceremony, tea and coffee will be available.

Back in April, 1917, the Morwell Advertiser reported that:

“Anzac Day was celebrated at the local State School on Wednesday, when a lengthy program was gone through including addresses by President of Shire Councillor Dunbar,

Councillors Radburn, Kneebone, Buckley, Reverend Adeney, and Mr Aherin. Mr G. Watson presided.”

Up in the hill country at Jumbuk, there was a “large attendance at the Jumbuk Road State School number 3867 on Wednesday April 25, 1917.”

It was reported that: “The gathering assembled in the school and

enjoyed a short program of songs, recitations, and a short address by the head teacher on the Landing at Gallipoli.

After the program was concluded the visitors adjourned to the hall, where sumptuous refreshments, kindly provided by the ladies, was partaken of. A collection, amounting to about 25/- was taken up, and run off for by the school children, ladies and gentlemen, who were enthusiastic and out to win.

Many thanks are due to the donors of gifts in food, lollies and peanuts, which were handed round in bags to the children. The gathering dispersed after giving cheers for the King and Empire.”

At an ANZAC Day ceremony in Morwell



on May 3, 1918, the Morwell Advertiser proudly reported that, “the reason of the gathering was to commemorate the glorious feats achieved by the Anzac heroes, who landed on Gallipoli that day three years ago.

The boys had made

a name for Australia that would never be forgotten. The lads knew they were going to fight a relentless foe, but they also knew that they were fighting for liberty, justice, and all we hold dear, and for this they were prepared to lay down their lives.”



Volunteers urgently needed



LCHS volunteer Jan Knox drives client Jennifer Jones to and from medical appointments.

Latrobe Community Health Service is in urgent need of volunteers.

The COVID-19 pandemic dealt the community health centre a double-blow in 2020 – many volunteers are at high-risk of serious illness if they contract the virus, and most volunteering services were suspended due to social distancing restrictions.

“Although our volunteering services – including transport to medical appointments and serving meals to social activity groups – are back on deck in 2021, we’re now experiencing a shortage of volunteers,” LCHS Volunteer Coordinator Hayley Jarvis said.

“Volunteers help keep the doors open and our services running. Their contribution allows us to invest in more free or low-cost services for more people.

Without their help, we wouldn’t be able to provide as many people with

affordable and accessible healthcare and social activities.”

In 2018-19, 132 active volunteers dedicated 24,187 hours of service at LCHS. This equates to a \$1 million monetary contribution to the organisation.

LCHS is on the lookout for transport drivers, simulated patients, experienced seamstresses, drivers and helpers for our social activity groups, and people who provide companionship to palliative care patients and their families.

Transport drivers help people get to and from their medical appointments, while social activity helps drive groups to community activities or serve meals and socialise with LCHS clients.

Those experienced on sewing machines create ‘buddy bears’ for children who need comfort during their dental, doctor’s or counselling appointment.

Simulated patient

volunteers pretend to be clients, to help students learn how to interact with people in a clinical setting. LCHS palliative care patients also benefit from the dedication and kindness of volunteers. Specially-trained volunteers provide companionship to those receiving treatment recording biographies of people who are nearing the end of life or support families who have lost a loved one.

“Our volunteers find the work quite rewarding. They have a sense of purpose and feel deeply happy knowing they are giving back to the community,” Ms Jarvis said.

“No matter your interest or expertise, we have a volunteer role for you.”

To express your interest or to find out more, visit lchs.com.au/volunteer, email volunteers@lchs.com.au or phone us on 1800 242 696 and ask to speak with a volunteer coordinator.

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We congratulate Churchill & District News on their 200th digital issue

Memorial seat unveiled

Rob Whelan was a significant person in the recent development of Churchill and other areas of Latrobe City.

He is remembered as a brilliant engineer, a quiet but determined achiever who could persuasively bring about the right outcome.

Rob was an art lover, a person keen to see reconciliation of our population with our First Nation's people and a lover of nature and the environment.

It was with these attributes in mind that Margaret Guthrie and the Churchill & District Community Association decided to honour Rob by having a memorial seat installed below the Gippsland Enterprise Centre (Green Inc) building, looking to the ponds which Rob had been instrumental in designing where there is increasing bird life. This seat would be painted in Aboriginal artwork.

A grant from Latrobe City Council was secured

and the project began with Theo Tewierik from the Churchill Men's Shed constructing the seat where Aboriginal artist Ronald Edwards Pepper did the art work. Permission was secured from FedUni to use the land on which the seat was to be installed and CDCA volunteer, Jeff Kemp, poured the concrete block and installed the seat.

The event began with a gathering of about 20 people at the site of the seat - family and friends of Rob, Aboriginal community members including elders, and representatives of the partners in the project and other invited guests.

Margaret Guthrie began by introducing Aunt Doris Paton to do a Welcome to Country and explain the Smoking Ceremony which was to follow. It was appropriate that our Koori community was present as this is what would have pleased the heart of Rob Whelan.

Aunt Doris spoke of the local Braiakaulung people of

the Gunaikurnai nation. The Gunaikurnai area extends from West Gippsland near Warragul, east near Orbost to the Snowy River, north to Mount Buller and south to Port Welshpool. It also includes 200 metres of sea country offshore and the rivers of the area. She welcomed everyone to their land on which the unveiling would take place. Then she explained that the smoking ceremony was to send away any evil spirits, demonstrated how each person should walk through the smoke as a cleansing and invited all to follow.

Margaret then explained the project and those involved before the unveiling of the seat was undertaken by Theo Tewierik and Margaret Guthrie, Jeff Kemp being unavailable on the day.

Because of the inclement weather the party then retired to the board room of the adjacent building where speeches followed.

These included Councillor Melissa Ferguson Latrobe City Council,



Angela Mazou FedUni, Jacki McLure Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, Darrell White, Mike Answerth, and a read tribute sent by Russell Northe as he was an apology.

Each one mentioned it was a privilege to be involved with the occasion to honour Rob. Their praise and admiration of Rob as an engineer, a person who quietly but determinedly progressed works and dealt with difficult situations with unwavering and resolute patience, was very evident. He was claimed as a special community minded Churchill resident.

Ronald Edwards Pepper spoke about his artwork, saying the spirals were not typically Aboriginal art but that he used them as symbols of all the Australians working together. He also included some traditional

symbols to represent meeting spaces, for which the seat will perhaps be used.

Rob's partner Bev then responded, thanking everyone and saying how delighted and impressed she was with the ceremony.

The final part of the occasion was raising a toast to Rob with orange juice or water with the instruction to imagine it was a glass of red or white wine, of which Rob was fond, which everyone did with enthusiasm.



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TO ALL YALLOURN POWER STATION WORKERS:

Energy Australia's decision to close Victoria's oldest coal-fired power station in 2028 will have a huge impact on workers, families, industry and communities across the Valley.

The Andrews Government is determined to support workers, families and communities across the Valley as this seven-year notice period gets underway.

EnergyAustralia has agreed to:

- Keep Yallourn operating until 2028
- A \$10 million fund for worker support and transition
- Retain all current employment conditions until closure
- Continue to train apprentices and deliver trainee programs until closure
- Maintain existing regional support programs in local communities

There is a lot of work to be done in the next seven years. It will take discipline, resources and cooperation between all levels of government. **And we will do all we can to plan and implement a transition that does justice to the Valley's history, workforce and opportunities.**



Harriet Shing MP

MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

216 Commercial Road, Morwell VIC 3840

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Friends of Morwell National Park

March Activity report

In our March activity we gathered to enjoy twilight in the park. This month we had the prospect to enjoy some of the riches of the park. For the activity we had Cathy, Mike, Ken, Matt, Tamara, Beryl, Gordon, Kerry, Darren, Joelle and Jay. We had an apology from Rose.

We started with a barbeque and were joined by four community members mostly from the Plants Society. The event was advertised in a few different publications, so it was great to have others join us. Cathy had done an amazing job of preparing the food including making two varieties of homemade hamburgers and salads. Mike cooked a range of hamburgers, different varieties of sausages and chicken pieces on the barbeque and a feast was enjoyed by all.

After the barbeque, with twilight approaching many more people joined us for the night time activities. Two further activities were planned for the night – a spotlight and a moth survey. Ken, David and Cathy set up three different sheets for the moth surveys. Ken set up beside the return leg of the

Fosters Gully track, while

David set up his moth sheet across the track near the toilet and Cathy was in the picnic area. David was to use a black light to see whether it would attract different moths.

When it was dark, Tamara, Gordon, Jay, Joelle, Kerry, Darren and Mike from the Friends' Group and 15 additional community members undertook a spotlight walk along Foster's Gully up to Landon's Landing. It was a great rollout with some locals and regular park users keen to observe what can be seen at night. At the beginning of the walk it was great to see that the signage at the start of the Fosters Gully Walk had been repaired. A tree had fallen across the track, so that provided the group an early challenge, to climb over the tree in the dark.

Tamara led the walk while Gordon was the back



marker. With some high powered torches and an infrared torch, a range of animals were found. Over the walk multiple greater gliders, bats, mountain brushtails (southern bobcats) and koalas were found in the treetops. Some of the walkers were very happy to see these animals for the first time in the wild. Also a wallaby and a bobble frog were seen.

On returning from the walk the walkers got to see the array of different moths that had come to the mothing sheets. Many photos were taken of some of the colorful and/or unusual moths.

Sadly one group had recently taken photos of a

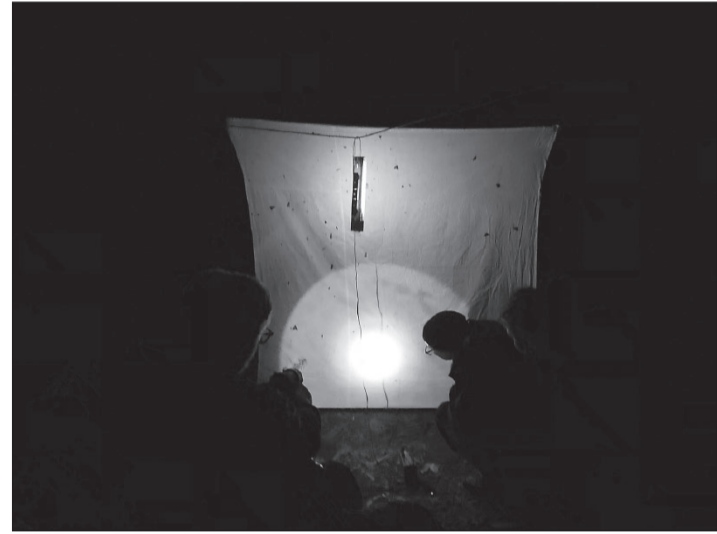
bee hive in one of our nesting boxes. We will need to investigate this at a later activity.

Some of the community members enjoyed the night so much that they were keen to join the group at some future activities. More helpers are always welcome. Anybody from the community is welcome to come to any of our activities which run on the third Sunday of each month.

April Activity

Sunday April 18, 10.00am

The group will meet in



the Kerry Road car park to complete track maintenance on the Silvertop Hill Track. You will need to bring your

lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

Hazelwood Cemetery



by Leo Billington

Searching for history

In the February 2021 Churchill & District News, I wrote that extra land known as Crown Allotment K2 in the Parish of Hazelwood, would soon be transferred from the former State Electricity Commission of Victoria, a process that commenced almost 32 years ago. In those early days, forward planning by the then Trust deemed it necessary to procure extra land to meet a future demand for interments. This week, a successful outcome was announced – that K2 is now officially known as Crown Allotment 2068. Next is to have the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust recorded as the land manager. Currently, a state

government funded program is supporting a consultancy to develop, and set up to operational standard, digitalisation of all burial, ashes placements and interment records currently recorded in Microsoft Access file format.

It's not surprising for a cemetery which is over 140 years old, that identification of unmarked graves is slow work, although a slow process for various reasons. Generally, identification is sometimes, a logical next step if and when a recollection, a story or even an old newspaper editorial prompts a lead.

The consultancy has mapped all identifiable graves although it is now revealed that approximately 1500 burials at Hazelwood

Cemetery are not mentioned with names on either plaques or headstones.

Apparently, across most of Victoria's well-established cemeteries, about 25% of burials are not mentioned on plaques or headstones, Hazelwood included.

Our project aims to scan all burial records back to the 1880's and further information will be sourced from the office of Births Deaths and Marriages [Victoria] for the period 1870 to 1991. Eventually there will be an accurate record of all burials and their locations – which anyone will be able to access from anywhere in the world

It's important for Trusts to open their registers to the public and make online information accessible.



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Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: *Melaleuca teretifolia*
 Family: Myrtaceae
 Derivation: *Melaleuca* – from Greek *melas*, meaning black, and *leucos*, meaning white, and referring to the black burnt patches seen on the white bark of some species or alternatively, to the black trunks and white branches of some Asian species.

teretifolia – from Latin *teres*, meaning rounded, and *folius*, meaning a leaf, referring to the circular cross-section of the leaves of this species.

Common Name: None.

Distribution: Western Australia, along the coast and ranges from about Busselton, north through Perth to Dandaragan and Moora, in sandy soils and clay, usually associated with winter-wet depressions and swamps.

Description: Shrub or small tree to 5m in height. Leaves are terete (cylindrical, slightly tapering and without furrows or ridges) and alternate to 6cm long, soft, not prickly. White, cream or pink flowers occur in loose bottlebrush-like groups

along the stems in spring and summer. Capsules persist on the branches until the death of the branch releases the seeds and can make the shrub look a bit “woody”.

Opinion:

My specimen came from a cutting off my Mum’s plant, in her Morwell garden. If my memory is correct, this original plant came from David Grant’s Davallia Native Nursery at Tyers, and so must be well over 20 years old. The ten cuttings were taken

in 2003 and potted up into five tubes in June 2004 and then apparently neglected for a number of years. The only survivor of the batch was potted up again into a 150mm pot in January 2010 and planted in the northern bed of the front garden in May 2010 presumably after the autumn break, in amongst what is now a fairly dense patch of plants. Now it would receive a small amount of morning light but spends



most of its time in full shade from the surrounding vegetation.

After planting, the cutting grew to about 60cm tall and promptly died. It was about to be ripped out and disposed of when I spied two tiny green leaf buds right at the base of the stem, almost under the soil surface. I left it there and it has slowly but surely continued to grow, now having two main stems, one about 1.5m tall, the other shorter because the initial leader also died and re-shooted. First flowering was in 2018, with a few more appearing in November 2019. It is probably wise to knock the young capsules off after the flowers have withered, but before they mature, otherwise they will turn into knobby lumps on the old wood, making the plant less attractive in the long run. The alternative is hard pruning every few years.

Sources: Online – ANPSA Website.

Online – FloraBase: the WA Flora.

Wrigley & Fagg – Bottlebrushes, Paperbarks & Tea Trees, etc.

Holliday – A Field Guide to Melaleucas.

Elliott & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 6.

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.



STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



Children’s Literature

In 1985 Australia Post issued a set of 5x33c stamps in a strip formation in a bid to encourage children to take up the hobby of stamp collecting. In addition to the usual First Day Covers and Maximum Cards they produced posters of each stamp and printed copies of the books which were issued in a boxed set. These were sent out to school libraries upon request. The idea was only partially successful as the literary interests of the children of the day had moved on from the styles in the featured books.

The first book was titled ‘Elves and Fairies’, written by Annie Rentoul, illustrated by her sister Ida Rentoul Outhwaite and published in 1916. At the time it was enormously popular and was appealing to children whose fathers and older brothers were involved overseas in World War 1. It provided an escape from the day to day anxiety felt by the families left at home into a fantasy world where all was well. The second stamp featured the most popular of the books, Norman Lindsay’s ‘The Magic Pudding’ featuring Bunyip Bluegum, Bill Barnacle and the puddin’ thieves, a possum and a wombat. The story of the everlasting pudding was published in 1918 and remains a favourite today. The third stamp featured a young boy Ginger Meggs who was excellent at all sports, but was the victim of the perennial bully, Tiger Kelly. The book was in a comic form and was the brain-child of Charles Bancks. The strip is still in production and is syndicated across the world.

Over time, other cartoonists have taken the reins as their predecessors retired or passed away, and many different lifestyles



have come and gone but Ginger and the love of his life Minnie Peters soldier on. The fourth stamp features the book ‘The Adventures of Blinky Bill’ by Dorothy Wall which was published in 1931 at a time when the koala was thought to be on the verge of extinction in Australia. It tells the story of a mischievous young koala and his friends who get into all sorts of scrapes in the bush but always come out on top. The story was adapted as an animated movie and later as a series on television. The fifth and last book was a contemporary of the first. It was entitled ‘Snugglypot and Cuddlepie’ and featured the adventures of two gumnut

babies. The author, Mavis Gibbs, had been designing patriotic postcards during the early part of the war and one of her most successful was a card featuring a kookaburra wearing a slouch hat. Another was a line of animated gumnuts armed with gumleaf shields and stick lances. This provided the inspiration for the book.

The cartoon adventures lasted in the comic pages of the Fairfax Sunday papers until the 1990s. The book was followed by others featuring other gumnut babies. Three of the books are still in the hands of publishing houses and appear from time to time on the shelves of bookshops.

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Russell Northe MP

News that Energy Australia is to shut down the Yallourn Power Station by mid-2028 will be a bitter blow for many in our community. Like Hazelwood Power Station, Yallourn has been synonymous with our community for many decades. Yallourn was scheduled to operate until 2032; however it will now close approximately four years earlier than previously scheduled. Thankfully there is a seven year window to manage what I hope is a fair and just transition for workers, contractors, sub-contractors and businesses that provide services to Yallourn Power Station.

I also extend my personal best wishes to these same people and their families who may be impacted by this announcement. There is still much to play out, but EnergyAustralia has announced plans to construct a utility scale 350 megawatt battery by 2026, which will hopefully provide some local employment opportunities whilst also ensuring energy security in Victoria is not disrupted.

These are big changes for the Valley with two of our largest employers and major generators of electricity in Hazelwood and Yallourn power stations closing down in the space of 11 years of each other. This won't be easy for our community to absorb, and it's imperative that new and emergency industries and opportunities are supported in the Latrobe Valley moving forward to help create jobs and keep our economy moving. All levels of government have a crucial role in this regard.

With the cricket season now behind us, I also commend all the Churchill Cricket Club for their efforts over the 2020/2021 season in senior and junior ranks. Both the Premier A Grade and B Grade teams made their respective Grand Finals but unfortunately both teams were unable to lift the trophy

this season. To everyone who plays a role or volunteers their time to ensure players have the opportunity to participate we say thank you and well done for your extraordinary efforts.

As new sporting seasons commence I wish everyone at the Churchill Football Netball Club all the best in the 2021 season. I'm sure the Cougars will be more than competitive across all levels of football and netball in what will be an exciting time for coaches, players, committee members, sponsors, volunteers and supporters of the Club.

In March, the Churchill and District Community Association hosted an event that saw the community service of Rob Whelan recognised. Rob was a magnificent advocate for the Churchill community and a memorial seat was unveiled in his honour. A quiet, unassuming and humble gentleman, Rob was enormously respected for his advocacy and his desire to make a positive difference in the community he loved. I know he is sorely missed by family and friends, but I do hope the tribute bestowed upon Rob provides some comfort to his family that Rob's community service was valued, respected and not forgotten.

It's hard to believe that Easter 2021 has already been and gone. But I do trust everyone had a fabulous and safe Easter and that the Easter bunny was kind to all. It's always a terrific time of the year to catch up with family and friends or visit some of our local attractions. Don't forget ANZAC Day on April 25, and to which I hope a number of local services will be held. At the time of writing there is still some uncertainty as to what local events will proceed, but I do encourage all community members to continue to support this important day on our calendar.

Lest we forget.

Yinnar Yinnar South Landcare

Just in time for the National Pollinator Count

Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare group is starting a project to propagate plants that will help wild pollinators to keep a toe-hold in the eco-system.

Base-line data is important for those who are doing research in this field and anybody can contribute.

You can join in the National Wild Pollinator Count this autumn by watching any flowering plant for just ten minutes sometime between April 11 and April 18.

You don't need to be an insect expert.

You don't need fancy gear.

You may be surprised by what you see!

If you get your Churchill News too late for the autumn count, there'll be another chance in spring between November 14 and November 21.

More information from: <https://wildpollinatorcount.com/>

Carbon Concerns

West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority has just completed a community survey to gauge community concerns in relation to land, water and biodiversity across the West Gippsland Region.

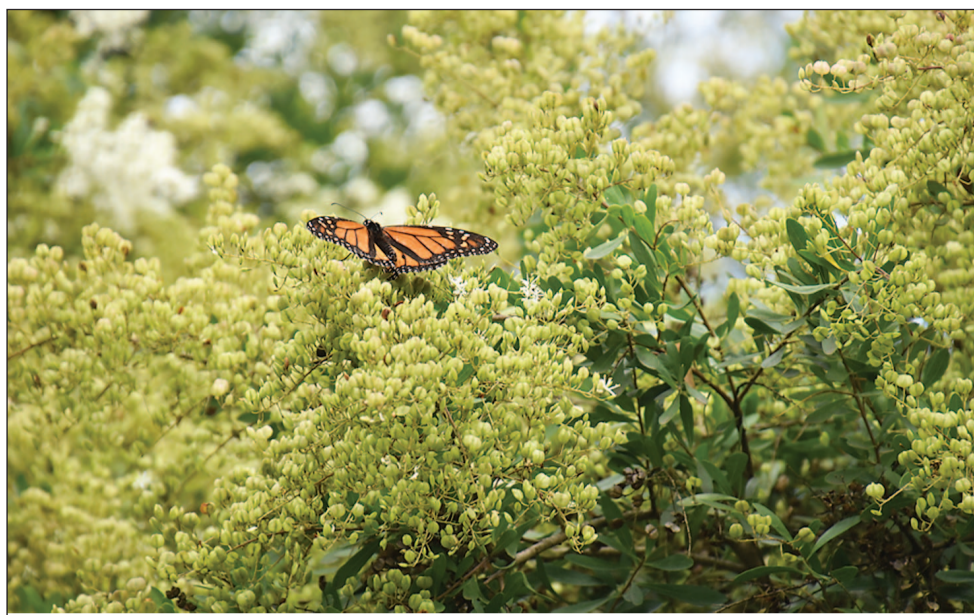
Climate change was a concern for most survey participants across the region, especially as, among other effects, it is expected to result in:

Increased fire risk

A warmer and drier climate

More frequent storms and floods, including coastal storm surges

Obviously, stopping carbon emissions is the number one way to try and prevent the earth from reaching a forecast tipping point. This will occur when catastrophic warming won't be able to be stopped. It's currently forecast to happen around 2030, but may



Monarch butterfly on sweet bursaria (bursaria spinosa) – a top plant for pollinators



Peter and Josh Ronalds drilling soil cores on a landcare members' property to get base line data for soil improvement and carbon farming.

happen sooner.

With this in mind, we thought that readers might welcome some news about what some landholders in our area are doing on their farms to help to take carbon out of the atmosphere and lock it up in forests and the soil.

Bio-Diverse forests for carbon sequestration

There are many schemes now that will plant trees on private land as carbon offsets for industries that haven't yet made the transition to renewable energy.

For example, Greening Australia is running a scheme that aims to keep bio-diversity central to its

planting regimes.

They are looking for property owners wishing to establish carbon forests on some or all of their land. Total areas of greater than 20 hectares per farm are needed to make the projects economically viable, and there is no cost to the landholder in establishing the forests.

The agreements that are signed at the beginning of each project run for 25 to 100 years and a caveat is placed on the property title to ensure that these agreements continue if a property is sold during this time.

There is a much more extensive fact sheet available

from our group and/or from our local Greening Australia point of contact: Drew Liepa 0439 557 304 dliepa@greeningaustralia.org.au

Greening Australia's Biodiverse Carbon contact is: James McGregor 0437 629 081 james.mcgregor@biodiversecarbon.com

Regenerative agriculture and soil carbon sequestration This is a big topic and we'll write it up at greater length for the May edition of Churchill & District News.

J. Duncan
Secretary, Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare Group
<https://www.landcarevic.org.au/groups/westgippsland/yinnar-south/>

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Churchill Fire Brigade



In Memory of Darren McLean

Just prior to our March meeting, the brigade gathered around our memorial to Darren McLean to remember one of our own members who lost his life in service of this community on March 7, 1982.

Brigade Chairman Allan Larkin read the Fireman's Prayer before members observed a minute of silence to remember Darren and other firefighters who have given their lives while serving their community.

On February 14, 1982, the brigade was called to a grass and scrub fire up the Middle Creek Road in Yinnar South. Darren McLean was a crew member on the Churchill Jeeralang tanker, and whilst

returning from the fire for water, the tanker stopped to let another tanker past. While stopped, the road collapsed and the Churchill Jeeralang tanker rolled over into Middle Creek with a number of the crew being injured. Darren was the most seriously injured, and was taken to the Traralgon Hospital along with other injured crew members. The doctors stabilised Darren before having him airlifted to Melbourne for further treatment.

Darren succumbed to complications as a result of his injuries, and died on March 7, 1982. Darren McLean was a dedicated volunteer firefighter who gave his life in the service of his community. He was only 17.

Register your burn

Fire Restrictions in Latrobe City have now been lifted

The Fire Danger Period in Latrobe City has ended on Monday March 15, in line with other fire districts in West and South Gippsland, and East Gippsland.

While the Fire Danger Period will come to an end, it is still important that residents check that local conditions are safe for any burn-off they were considering undertaking.

You must register your burn-offs, check weather conditions and follow local council laws and regulations.

Registering your burn-off ensures that if somebody reports smoke, the incident will be cross-checked with the burn-off register, which will then prevent CFA crews wasting resources and showing up unnecessarily at your door.

Landowners can now register their burn-off online at www.firepermits.vic.gov.au. Alternatively, you can register with the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) by calling 1800 668 511 or emailing burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au

When conducting burn-offs, remain alert and always have resources on hand to



extinguish the fire.

Brigade Training

Now that the COVID-19 restrictions have been eased, the brigade is back to conducting our regular training every Monday night.

Recently, we practised

undertaking a water relay where instead of carting water by using a number of trucks to ferry water, we pumped water between appliances using over 200 metres of hose.

This is particularly

useful when a reticulated fire service main is available, but can also be very effective when large amounts of water are needed in rural areas for house or shed fires, and a water source such as a dam is located nearby.

Register your burn

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

- Check fire restrictions and fire danger ratings.
- Check local laws in regards to when & where you can burn off.
- Notify your neighbours.
- Never leave your burn unattended.
- Monitor weather conditions.
- Access to adequate water, at least 10 litres.

For more information visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au/burnoff



MAY DAY MARKET

SATURDAY, 1st MAY

(A week before Mothers Day)

CRAFT MARKET & STALLS

CRAFT MARKET & STALLS

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Upstairs in the Town Hall
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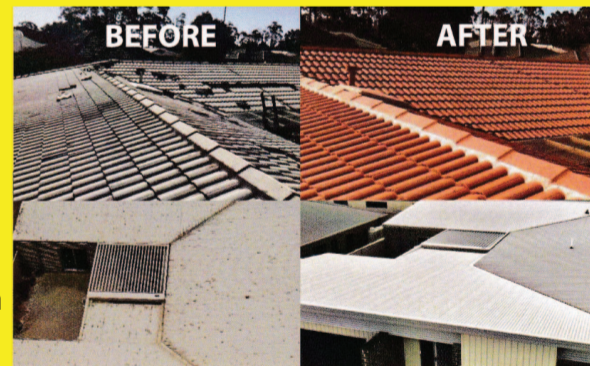
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Latrobe Health Advocate

As the first quarter of 2021 draws to a close I'm thrilled to be able to provide updates from my office about the work we are doing on the ground. I was recently able to resume my On the Buses tour of the Latrobe Valley after a 12-month hiatus due to coronavirus restrictions. These trips serve as an opportunity for me to strike up meaningful conversations with people about the value of social connection and what it looks like for them, particularly in the aftermath of COVID-19 and as we work towards recovery from the pandemic. On the Buses is part of the Human Connections project, which is designed to identify opportunities to increase social connection across Latrobe. As part of my 2020-21 State of Intent, I have been seeking out conversations with people in specific communities to better understand their needs, concerns and aspirations. At the moment I am looking to speak with people who have experienced or may be experiencing family violence. The aim of these engagements is to hear from people about their experiences. These conversations are then used to help design, develop and implement ways of engaging, and are also a way to ensure

that people experiencing family violence are getting the supports they need to recover. I also recently met with some remarkable members of our community about their experiences surrounding access to services in Latrobe. We discussed their needs and expectations, concerns and suggestions about improved service delivery. Some spoke of desires surrounding accessibility and availability of services, continuity of care and the importance of building relationships with medical practitioners to improve health outcomes. We are seeing improved training and accreditation pathways for doctors in the region, with the expansion of Latrobe Regional Hospital's Gippsland Regional Intern Program. Efforts to enhance and promote the liveability of Latrobe are also well underway as part of our work with Eastern Victoria GP Training to strengthen local GP recruitment systems, and we can't wait to share these insights soon.

My office continues to hear about the importance of offering better and more comprehensive end of life experiences for communities across Latrobe. In looking at evidence of systems change in my most recent quarterly report, we are seeing an



increased commitment from organisations to improved service delivery. Latrobe Regional Hospital has made minor upgrades to a sub-acute ward and created a small dedicated space for end of life care with access to a garden, family room and reflection area. For more information, visit: <https://www.lhadvocate.vic.gov.au/publication/quarterly-update-october-to-december-2020>. You can also follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram: @LHADvocate

If you would like to share your experiences with me, please contact Kylie on 1800 319 255 and we'll make a time to catch up. This can be done face-to-face, providing COVID restrictions can be maintained, and we can also chat over the phone or via video chat if you prefer. I look forward to hearing from you.

1st Churchill Scout Group

2021 has started with a bang, with our Scouts enjoying hiking, camping and lots of skill building at our weekly meetings.

Congratulations to one of our Cub Scouts, Anabel, who was awarded the Strzelecki District Cub Scout of the Year at our recent District Activity Day. Congratulations also to Alyse Day, one of our Cub Scout Leaders, who was also awarded the Rover Scout of the Year award. Well done also to the other Churchill nominees – Joey Scout Thane and Venturer Scout Kelly.

With our membership having doubled in the past 12 months, we are now in need of some additional adult volunteers to join our leadership teams. Full training is provided, and volunteers can earn nationally accredited VET qualifications in Business Administration, Leadership, Outdoor Recreation or Creative Industries, just to name a few. For more information, please email groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au

We have a few vacancies

The best days end with marshmallows
Unplug and go outside



for new Scouts to join at the start of term 2.

Joey Scouts for girls and boys aged 5 (and at school) to 8

Cub Scouts for girls and boys aged 8 to 11

Scouts for young people aged 11 to 15

Venturer Scouts for young people aged 15 to 18

Rover Scouts for adults aged 18 to 26

For expressions of interest to join Scouts, or for more information, please email groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au.

Churchill and District News



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A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



Establishing gender equality and justice



by Leo Billington

History records the first National Woman's Day being observed in the United States on February 28, 1909. The Socialist Party of America designated this day in honour of the 1908 garment workers' strike in New York, where women protested against working conditions. However, the first milestone in US was much earlier - in 1848.

Following a second International Conference of Working Women, held in Copenhagen in 1910, International Women's Day was honoured the first time in 1911, in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on March 19.

As far as history records, in Australia, International Women's Day has been informally celebrated since the early 1920s. The first Australian IWD rally,

organised by the Militant Women's Movement of the Communist Party of Australia, took place on March 25, 1928 in the Sydney Domain. IWD marches in Sydney and Melbourne occurred in 1931.

IWD gained momentum in Australia around the time of the Second World War. Activists such as Jessie Street campaigned for women's rights as workers, as women at the time were often paid only 54 per cent of men's wages.

During International Women's Year in 1975 large marches marked International Women's Day. The Whitlam government supported a series of events throughout the year including the Women and Politics Conference in September, which examined how women were represented in Australian politics.

IWD marches in Sydney and Melbourne began about 1931. In Melbourne, 50 women led a march of approximately 150 from the corner of Victoria and Russell Streets, with a lead banner declaring "Long Live International Women's Day".

These days, International Women's Day is marked in Australia with a diverse array of events including marches, rallies and fundraising events.

In the recent Women's March 4 Justice, thousands marched at rallies around Australia to protest against gendered violence.

Let's have a quick glance at two articles printed by the Morwell Advertiser - January 1910 and May 1936 - which resonate with a search for respect, fairness and equality.

On January 7, 1910, the Morwell Advertiser had as part of its front page editorial:

"Spanish Women of To-Day.

She Abounds in Life and Action. The "gentle, languorous, beautiful women of sunny Spain" played a large part in the uprising which has been quelled in Barcelona. Crowds of them with their children in their arms or hanging to their skirts led the workmen and urged them on.

Like the women of the French revolution, the Spanish women were in the front line of battle each day. The men raised the barricades and fired revolvers, but the women stood in front of them whenever they could and threw stones.

Anti-war rallies sprang up across the country, and talk of a general strike could be heard. Military reserves were to be called up to fight in Morocco.

The university woman is to be reckoned with, and many women practise as doctors, though the feminine lawyer has not so far found her opportunity. In art, as painters, actresses, singers, dancers, Spanish femininity distinctly holds its own, and in literature the name of Countess Pardo Bazan ranks very high, since both as novelist and political writer she is famous.

Emilia Pardo Bazan - Spanish novelist, playwright, novelist, professor, translator - introduced feminist ideas into her literature such as women's rights for education. Emilia believed in intellectual equality of men and women.



The modern office affords opportunity for the woman clerk and typist. Shops and telephone offices also employ women, while it is probable, they will soon be introduced into the telegraph and postal services. Yet this employment of woman has not changed the home atmosphere of Spain."

The Reverend T D Beyer was inducted before a "very reverend congregation filled St. Mary's Church" in Morwell on Tuesday, October 1, 1935. He was later accepted as a chaplain to the Australian Air Force later in 1940.

During his Mother's Day sermon on Sunday, May 10, 1936, Reverend Beyer, imparted the following:

"Now is the accepted time, and the greater Preacher in His dying moments, remembers His greatest earthly gift - His

Mother. The first preacher spoke of divine ties and duties. Christ spoke of the human ties of this world. Our first great duty is to observe the Divine ties of life, of man to his Creator, all the worship and homage that is due.

The second great duty is to remember what links lives so much together in this mortal life. Is it pleasure, or wealth, or position, or any material thing? No, it is a mother.

Someone has said that the three best words in the English language are Mother, Home and Heaven. You can fold them into one big word, MOTHER.

It is mother who makes a house, a home; and mother and home make heaven upon earth.

Recall her unselfish devotion, her unfaltering love through good and evil report, that grows stronger with the

years; and she asks nothing in return for herself -only that we be good men and women. If we fail she does not love us less, wonderful, constant mother's love. No man can fulfil his God given mission on earth if he casts aside the memory of her faith and blessed example. "Son, behold they mother."

It is a strange fact, that our mothers, the moulders of the world, should get so little credit for the world's success, and should be so seldom mentioned among the world's achievers. The world sees only the successful son.

His mother is but a rung in the ladder up which he has climbed. Her name, or face, is not seen in the papers; only her son is lauded and held up to public admiration."

It seems both writers were well ahead of their time.



St Vincent de Paul Society

good works

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RE-COMMENCING FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2021 AT CHURCHILL

5.45 pm Churchill Community HUB

6.15 pm Glendonald Park

****Note these times are approximate**

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Recognition of Apology Day at Lake Hyland/ Mathison Park



On Saturday March 27, a small but engaged group of families gathered lakeside to acknowledge the 13th Anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generations. February 13 was the actual date, however due to COVID restrictions the event had to be postponed.

The rain kept a few families away but for those who did attend it was a great time with a range of activities provided. Ronald Edwards helped with creating a canvas which each attendee signed with their handprint.

Anthea from Street Games provided a fun and energetic game of soccer.

Bel from VACCA provided refreshments and an echidna puzzle to decorate. Indigenous flags were made and there was even an Easter egg hunt. Dan helped to provide a BBQ lunch.

A highlight of the morning was when Grade 6 Churchill Primary School student, Larni read part of Kevin Rudd's Apology to the group.

This was followed by a heartfelt reflection of what being part of the Stolen Generation meant for the grandmother of Year 12 Kurnai student Tahlia.

Tahlia reflected that yarning with her grandmother about this time



of her life was an opportunity for which she is very grateful, as it has given her a much deeper understanding of the impact for these people and also brought her closer to her grandmother.

We were also able to

return to the Apology Seat, student painted Totems and Indigenous garden there, and hear the Creation Story of Nerrin the Moon and the Southern Cross, which is depicted in the art on the totems themselves.



The event was organised by Christine Johnson from the Smith Family's Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) group. Christine reflected that it was a great day despite the wet weather and it was terrific

to have people just walking by to come and join the gathering.

"The Lake is such a special and peaceful place to reflect and also appreciate our beautiful natural environment."

Yinnar Community Garden



Yinnar came alive on Sunday March 21, for the opening of the Gippsland Sculpture Exhibition, and our fundraising stall attracted plenty of visitors.

As well as offering home produce, garlic, plants, and bunches of herbs for a donation, we also sold hand printed calico bags featuring

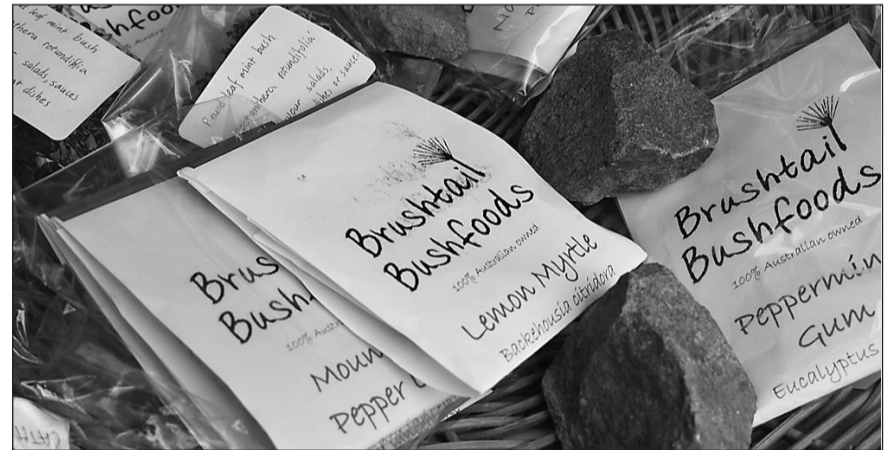
a design by Sari Anderson.

Another attraction at our stall was a variety of native spices grown by Brushtail Bushfoods, based in Boolarra South.

These were offered to customers as inspiration for our Bush Tucker Feast on March 27, where guests were invited to bring along a

native-inspired dish.

Only a small amount is needed to give a unique bushfood flavour, so small packets of lemon myrtle were given out to be used in cake recipes, roundleaf mint was offered for chocolate-based recipes, and for savoury recipes we offered native thyme, mountain pepper



leaf, and ground up mountain pepper berries.

Funding for the Garden's Bush Tucker Feast has been gratefully received via a community food grant from Food for all Latrobe Valley, an initiative of the Latrobe Health Assembly, and we look forward to publishing photos of the event in the next edition of Churchill & District News.

Alternatively, you will be able to see them on the Yinnar Community Garden Facebook page by the date of printing.

The Yinnar Community Garden is run solely by volunteers, and relies on income from memberships to cover running costs.

Membership is now due and costs \$15 per person per year. For further information, contact yinnarcg@gmail.com.

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Al-Anon – A phrase to remember

I came to Al-Anon meetings when our 17 year old alcoholic/addict son went into treatment for the first time in 1987. I was forever grateful for the loving guidance and acceptance that I felt from the members. I was so angry and confused, and gradually came to believe in myself and my ability to parent.

The Al-Anon literature continues to help. Just when I think I have learned it all, I realise I need to relearn certain things.

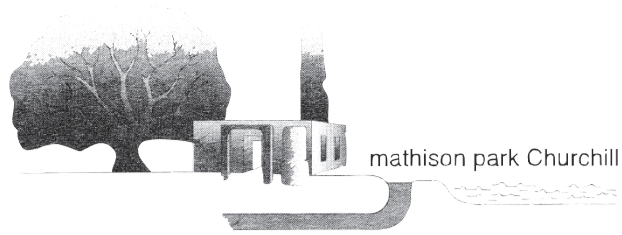
Shortly after our son's second treatment, he relapsed and was spending less and less time at home. I increased

the number of meetings I attended. On my way out one morning, my eight year old daughter said, "You know what Mum, a meeting a day keeps the madness away".

One could see that my actions were benefitting others in my family as well as myself.

Meetings, literature and especially practising the Third and Eleventh Steps have sustained me since my son ran away to another state in August 1988.

I am grateful we received a Christmas card and phone call from him and I will continue to live the Al-Anon program one day at a time.



Thank you to the many people who are now keeping their dogs on leads as they walk in the park.

Thank you too to those using the doggy bags to clean up their dog's droppings.

Our new snake signs have been appropriate as there have been several sightings of the slithery creatures.

Our working bee was a great success and was held on a very warm sunny Saturday morning in March.

Fence wire was taken down, trees were trimmed and piles to burn were created or added to.

A new grove of conifers was marked out and small holes dug to plan the space.

More weeding was done in the bed beside the long boardwalk.

All the volunteer's faces were red and hot with sweat running down cheeks as the work progressed.

During the week, the Gippsland Interchange crew did some weeding there and spread some mulch around the weeded area near the trees. Thank you crew for your excellent and enthusiastic work with us.

It is most appreciated. It was a warm day too but they continued on. As the folk do a cooking class in the morning they have been bringing some delicious samples for the crew, Reg and Andy to renew their strength. Reg provides water. Autumn is evident in the park with many of our deciduous trees turning lovely colours.

Our working bees are usually held on the second Saturday of each month.

You can find out more by contacting Ruth 0456 786 577.



Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Members will meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm at Morwell RSL, Elgin Street, Morwell. New members are welcome to attend. For further information contact the Secretary Phone 5163 1565

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Rotary for years has provided water tanks, running water, clean toilets, water harvesting systems and importantly education about the importance of good hygiene.

We truly have made a difference to communities that we serve.

Trauma Teddies cont.

From Page 1...

Another lady who has low mobility says she reaps a sense of appreciation that people like what she does and that she knows how worthwhile the outcome is. Wool is delivered to her.

One lady's granddaughter Millie, was in hospital seriously ill. To help her through her treatment. Millie

was comforted and cheered by two Trauma Teddies. Millie was so appreciative that she wrote a letter to the Red Cross. It reads "When I first got my teddies I felt comfortable and warm. The teddies made me feel happy and safe. I loved cuddling up with them in hospital. And I still love cuddling up with them now as well. Thank

you very much". This is just one example of the lovely impact trauma teddies have. Millie's grandmother saw the enormous benefits of the teddies and has set about knitting them too.

Congratulations to our Morwell and District Red Cross Trauma Teddy team who have contributed so much to this special project.



Inquiry into Latrobe Valley jobs established



Melina re jobs and the early closure of Yallourn Power Station.

The economic transition of Latrobe Valley will face a comprehensive Parliamentary Inquiry after my motion was upheld by State Parliament's upper house.

Following the announcement Yallourn Power Station is to close four years earlier than expected in 2028, I raised the motion and opened debate successfully seeking the Inquiry's establishment.

This comes after the challenges faced as a direct result of the closure of Hazelwood, Carter Holt Harvey, and the government's decision to close Victoria's native timber industry by 2030.

Each of these industries has been important to jobs in Latrobe Valley and you cannot keep withdrawing industry without a plan for the future.

Latrobe Valley is a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family, but this latest announcement that Yallourn will close early is creating more uncertainty.

The Inquiry aims to build a comprehensive vision and action plan for economic growth and prosperity in the Latrobe Valley, and tackle unemployment and disadvantage. It also gives the community, business and industry an opportunity to help decide the Valley's future.

Any plan must resonate the Latrobe Valley's wishes – it's time to let the community decide on what its future looks like.

It's important that community concerns are addressed.

While the establishment of sustainable jobs is incredibly important in Latrobe Valley, the community wants a say in the establishment of industries.

The Inquiry will ask our community what they want and need for the future in terms of jobs, industries and liveability.

It's important that local jobs and local industries are not continually decimated without new industries and jobs that align with our skilled workforce to replace them.

While I am delighted the economic future of the Latrobe Valley will finally be scrutinised and locals given a say in their future, it's disappointing that some tried to block the establishment of the jobs Inquiry.

Anzac Day Regional Ceremonies

Anzac Day is widely recognised as one of our most important national commemorative occasions in Australia.

It represents so much to many Australian's, young, old, men and women

of all backgrounds. Its significance is passed from generation to generation. As each year goes by the sense of gratitude and respect we have for our troops and their sacrifice continues to grow within our communities.

Last year Anzac Day was commemorated during an incredibly challenging and uncertain time in all our lives.

Even though we could not stand as one in public, many of us came together in spirit, safely gathering at the end of our driveways to honour the Anzacs at the beginning of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic.

Planning is well underway for April 25 commemorations, but country service clubs remain in the dark on how, or if, the Government expects them to comply with restrictions on crowd limits, social distancing or mask wearing. I have raised my concerns with Minister for Veterans in State Parliament and sought a path forward so Anzac Day can be commemorated across Gippsland.

Clarity and controls around COVID-19 have been achieved through the hard work and sacrifice of our community and our local RSLs are ready and willing to ensure local Anzac Day ceremonies go ahead in a COVID safe manner.

2021 Volunteer Grants program now open

Gippsland community organisations can apply for Federal Government funding to support the work of their volunteers.

Local MP Darren Chester recently announced the 2021 Volunteer Grants round was now open for Expressions of Interest (EOI) and encouraged local volunteer organisations to apply.

“We are lucky in Gippsland to have so many fantastic volunteer and community organisations,” Mr Chester said.

“Volunteers dedicate a lot of time to helping the community through community events, fundraising, support services and more.

This funding is designed to assist the

organisations to ensure they can continue to provide for and support the community safely and appropriately.”

Mr Chester said volunteer organisations can apply for grants between \$1,000 to \$5,000.

“These grants can help pay for equipment, reimburse fuel costs, expenses associated with training and transport or for promoting awareness and increasing participation in volunteering,” Mr Chester said.

“Volunteers are the lifeblood of our community and by continuing to help each other and work together, we are building a stronger and safer Gippsland.”

Interested organisations must submit an EOI to

be considered for a grant. Expressions of Interest must be submitted by 5pm, Tuesday April 20, 2021.

Successful applicants will be then invited to complete a full submission.

Volunteer organisations can submit an EOI form via Darren Chester’s website, which can be found here: <https://darrenchester.com.au/2021-volunteer-grants-now-open/> Completed forms must be submitted by 5pm, Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

For grant program details, including guidelines and eligibility visit: <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/volunteer-grants-activity-2021-volunteer-grants>

Gippsland rail line upgrades underway



The next stage of works along the Gippsland line will soon be underway with a contractor being appointed. Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester announced that VicConnect, a consortium comprising of UGL Limited, Decmil and Arup would deliver the upgrades. “The Gippsland line is well overdue for these upgrades which will provide more reliable and frequent services for Gippslanders,” Mr Chester said.

“Improvements include duplicating track, extending the Morwell crossing loop, upgrading level crossings and signalling and reactivating the second platform at Traralgon.

These works will enable trains at Traralgon to run every 40 minutes between peaks and provide a more reliable service. Upgrades

to drainage structures at Morwell and a trial of solar-powered wireless level crossing detection technology at Farrells Lane in Stratford will also take place.”

Mr Chester said improving connectivity was essential for Gippslanders to travel throughout the region and into the city.

“Many Gippslanders use our train network on a daily basis and having reliable, efficient and regular services is essential,” Mr Chester said. “Gippsland is a fantastic place to live and this work ensures our connectivity meets the needs and helps to improve the liveability and accessibility of the region.

Mr Chester said VicConnect would host industry briefings for local contractors and suppliers to become involved in the

project. “A project office will be established in Morwell to ensure community engagement and local businesses are able to benefit from the project,” Mr Chester said. “I look forward to seeing works get underway over the next few months.”

The \$530 million Gippsland Line Upgrade is being delivered as part of the Regional Rail Revival Program. Mr Chester secured \$504 million for the project as the then-Minister for Infrastructure and Transport in June 2017. The Victorian Government is contributing \$26 million and is responsible for delivering the project.

Photo: Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester said the upgrades would provide more reliable and frequent services for Gippslanders.



Fed Uni boosting Allied Health education

Gippsland’s future allied health workers will have access to specialised laboratories and teaching spaces to equip them to enter the local workforce, following the opening of Federation University’s new Allied Health and Activity Centre.

The \$4.4 million facility will feature modern teaching spaces designed to simulate a clinical setting and be home to Federation University’s occupational therapy and

physiotherapy students.

The project involved the transformation of a disused area of the Gippsland campus to create a state-of-the-art space that can be customised to suit the lesson.

The centre will support interprofessional learning, with a section of the building featuring high-tech exercise equipment for sport science students. Nursing students will also be able to use the new facility.

The Gippsland campus

is preparing to welcome a full cohort of physiotherapy students in 2021 – the first year of the program’s delivery.

Physiotherapy and the Occupational Therapy course - now in its second year - were introduced in response to growing local workforce demand and were supported by a \$500,000 grant to Federation University from the Victorian Government’s Regional Skills Fund.

The number of physiotherapists in Gippsland is projected to grow from 167 in 2016 to 237 by 2036, according to the 2019 Gippsland’s Future Health and Community Services Workforce report commissioned by the Latrobe Valley Authority in partnership with Latrobe Regional Hospital and Latrobe City Council.

The same report projected the number of occupational therapists would grow from 150 in 2016 to 212 in 2036.

Federation University Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Duncan Bentley said “We are proud to be providing programs that will lead to meaningful jobs that are in desperate demand in the Gippsland region.

This state-of-the-art facility will help give our students the practical experience they need to enter the workforce and enrich their local communities.”



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SCHOOL NEWS

BOOLARRA PRIMARY

Sports day

It was the morning everyone was waiting for Monday March 15, Sports Day. We were all in our house groups wearing our group's colours when Mrs Duncan made the announcement that we were starting off with long distance and it was starting off with the little kids.

Everyone was excited because they all wanted to see who was the fastest out of the 5/6 year olds so when the teacher said GO everyone watched closely to see who would win the race.

It went for about 1 minute before they had finished with little Jake coming out on top with the rest right behind him. Just after that it was the 7/8 year olds then the 9/10s then the 11/12/13s and then long distance was over and it was sprints. This time the 7/8 year olds ran first then the 9/10s then the 11/12s and the 13s, and then it was the 5/6s.

The events were long jump, high jump, shot putt,

discus, bean bag throw and we also did egg and spoon and sack race in between. Strzelecki won the team spirit award and Irving won the overall points. It was a great day and everyone enjoyed it.

Jasper

Sports Day at Boolarra PS

On Monday March 15, was Sports Day. I liked the sack race. There was no coffee cart. Dad was sad. I did the races on my Yoshi bike. I had a happy day.

Cooper

BPS 2021 German classes

On Thursday March 11, the Grade 5-6 had their first German class for 2021.

It was hosted on WebEx by Frau Flake from Mirboo North Secondary College. Frau Flake is one of the German teachers from that school.

We sat at tables and joined the WebEx with Frau Flake. We had some difficulties hearing each other as both were on mute. After we worked out what the trouble was we could

continue with our German class!

Firstly, we learnt greetings which were: Good day (Guten tag), good morning (Guten morgen) and good evening (Guten abend).

We found out a few facts - kindergarten is a German word and there is a word used in Austria which is German but is mainly used by Austrians: Servus - means hello and goodbye.

On March 25, we had our second German lesson and we learnt a few more words which were: "What is your name?" (Wie heiÙe du) Then you respond with "Ich heiÙe Brock (your name).

(Wie alt bist du?) How old are you? Then you respond with "Ich bin 12 jahre alt" your age.

(Wo wohnst du?) Where do you live? Then you respond with "Ich wohne in Australien" Where do you live? We learnt a lot of words these sessions and they were pretty challenging. We did (Welche farbe haben deine haare?) What colour is

your hair "Meine haare sind braun, blond" My hair colour is...

Lastly we did (Welche farbe haben Augen) What colour are your eyes? "Meine Augen sind Blau" My eye colour is... I enjoy German and I'm sure the people in Mirboo North Secondary College like it too and I'm happy doing German.

Brock

Boolarra Primary School House Athletics Day

By Gage

It was a crazy start to the morning at Boolarra Primary School. We huddled up in our houses. I am Captain of Penaluna House. I headed my Team House Chants. We stood up house by house. It was our turn. We all had shocked faces as word after word after word came out of our mouths.

Penaluna Penaluna

We can make a roar

Penaluna Penaluna

We can take some more

We had finished, our legs had dropped.

Teachers took us group

by group to our activities. I started at long distance. It was my turn. I cried deep inside my soul. I heard a booming sound, my adrenalin slowly left my legs. I was running in last place and I began to fall even further behind. It felt like a nightmare. I saw the finish line. I was right on Jake's tail, not even 30cm away. I failed to keep up. Jake jogged the way ahead, I followed him. We both sped up. He got there first, I came last. But, oh well.

Next was more running, sprints. I was first. I ran and finished. We then completed long jump, high jump, discuss and shot putt. We can't forget the most hilarious sack race. We started jumping normally and then a two legged race. Jake and I won the first time. All of a sudden it was lunch time.

Kyden and I had hot chips and potato cakes for lunch.

The bell rang then we all went to the multipurpose

room and everyone got their rewards. Strzelecki won Team Spirit and Irving won the Athletics.

Responsible Pet Ownership Program

On March 4, Boolarra Primary School had a pet ownership talk with a nice lady called Berry and her dog called Polly.

We started by meeting Polly and Berry. We said, "Hello," and Berry got Polly out of her dog kennel. Polly is so cute.

Next we watched a slide show. It showed us what good owners do - like give dog's clean water. It also showed us how to pet a dog we don't know.

Lastly, five of us (that our teacher chose) got to pat Polly and I was one of them! Then Berry chose another five!. We said thank you and got our snack.

I want to do it all again.

By Georgia



SCHOOL NEWS

CHURCHILL NORTH PRIMARY

On March 16, Churchill North Primary School was lucky to be able to spend the day at Gumbuya World! The children were all so excited to spend the day swimming, feeding the animals and

going on all of the rides as well as getting a lovely lunch supplied by Gumbuya World. You can see the excitement on the students faces!

Churchill North Primary would like to thank all of

the parent helpers who came along on the day and Gumbuya World for hosting us for the day! All of the students and staff had a wonderful day and appreciated all of the help!

The Junior School Council is a group of students who aim to understand the issues impacting us as students and our school. The purpose of Junior School Council is to

problem solve and come up with solutions. The Junior School Council is made up from two representatives from each grade.

The following students have been selected as

representatives for their grades:F/1 T: Ebony and Theo F/1 M: Sophie and Bailey 2/3M: Bella and Zach 3/4S: Ava and Tanjim 3/4H: Shilah and Maddy



SCHOOL NEWS

CHURCHILL PRIMARY

House Sports

What a wonderful Sports Day we had on Thursday March 11, with the weather being lovely and some fantastic organisational skills by Ms McDonald, it all went off without a hitch!

A big thank you to all our parents and grandparents who came along to cheer all our sports stars on the day.

The students really do get so much out of having you all there to watch them trying their best!

Thanks also to all the CPS staff who got out in House Colours and ran the events, cheering with all the

students.

The students looked great in their house colours and many went to great lengths to colour hair and faces to cheer their teams on.

It was also fantastic to see so many parents and families also dressing in house colours to support their kids.

The high spirit of the day was very evident and all participants ran, cheered and supported each other with Green House being our final winner.

Congratulations to all the Houses for your wonderful sportsmanship and respect

for each other on the day, and the House Captains who did a wonderful job - we are very proud of your efforts.

The final placings for the day were as follows:

- Green 10.15
- Yellow 9.78
- Red 9.60
- Blue 7.54

Congratulations to our Age Group Champions - this is a fabulous achievement for you all. Our Age Group Champions are as follows:

- 5/6 yrs Indian Burkitt, Layla Head and Charlie Kerslake
- 7 yrs Kaylee De Pater,

- George Galletti and Kai Tanti
- 8 yrs Masey Webb, Adriana Draper and Bailee Leitch-Vanzanten
- 9 yrs Ellameira Hood and Josh Heffer
- 10 yrs Natalie Baker and Tyson McInnes
- 11 yrs Sienna Caldwell and Kai Seddon
- 12/13yrs Evie Hughes and Cohen Hasson

It was also wonderful to see the fabulous sportsmanship displayed by many of our students.

Congratulations to the following students who received Sportsmanship Awards for their age groups

on the day:

- 5/6 yrs Mia Minster and Mason Caldwell
- 7 yrs Caroline Hicks and Kaden McCarten
- 8 yrs Mayla Dawe and Mason Caldwell
- 9 yrs Ada Wakefield and Jeremy Melanie
- 10 yrs Alana Parkes and Eize Klein
- 11 yrs Dani James and Marcus McArthur
- 12/13yrs Milla Towers and Anthony Meers

Buddies

At CPS our Grade 5 and 6 students are teamed up with new Foundation (Prep) students as Buddies.

The buddy system is designed to give our new students a connection with some of our older students who act as role models and help them establish themselves in their new school environment.

Our buddies spend time together each week doing different activities and it's a very rewarding experience for everyone involved. Recently our buddies have enjoyed story time together and also completed some Easter craft activities together.



Dani J reading a story to her buddy Dean M



CPS Age Champions



Mia J and Dani J help Phoenix with his Easter craft activity



Stephanie W, Mikayla M, Ella W, Sienna G and Larian W compete in the long distance race



Kaylee M clears the bar in high jump

SCHOOL NEWS

YINNAR SOUTH PRIMARY

Wow, what a busy term and it has been fantastic to have our students on site at school for this entire term.

Our new Foundation students have settled in nicely and have adjusted to being here all week and have loved participating in our cooking program.

Baseball

Twice a week we have had Sam from the local Baseball association come out and teach our students the fundamentals of baseball. They have been learning lots about throwing and catching and how to use the glove when catching. They have

been learning about fielding and base running. These lessons have been highly engaging for all our students and has provided them with a regular opportunity to get physical and active.

The Red Cross

The Red Cross came to our school and ran an incursion around being resilient during an emergency. Working with the students they examined what kinds of emergencies there are. How to prepare in advance for an emergency and also what to do to help keep yourself stay calm during an emergency. This

session helped the students feel more in control and they also provided them with a pillowcase which they were able to decorate. They also gave them a list of what to pack if there was an emergency.

CASEA (Child and Youth Mental Health Service and Schools Early Action)

At the end of 2020 Yinnar South Primary School started a partnership with CASEA, where this organisation which is run through the Latrobe City Council, will come out and support the mental and

physical wellbeing of our students. We were so excited to get this opportunity to develop these areas to help our students become the best they can be.

Our sessions with CASEA have just started and have a strong focus on building resilience and wellbeing.

This week they explored the benefits of breathing and using a breathing buddy to help us bellybutton breath as a way of regulating our emotions.

Such a powerful activity which gave students a lot to think about. We will be

continuing our work with CASEA throughout the year to continue to support our students.

Andy Griffith

We were so excited to be able to be part of a live webchat with the incredibly famous author Andy Griffith, most well-known for the Treehouse book series.

He met with us and several other schools to discuss how he gets his ideas for his books.

"He was so inspiring to listen to and gave us so many different ideas on how to get stories" - Willow (Year 6). Students have taken these

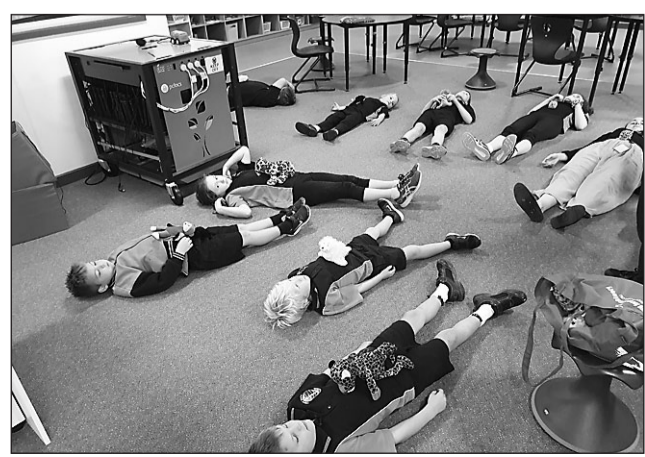
ideas from Andy Griffith and brought them back into the classroom and into their own writing allowing them to develop even more as authors.

Nature Playgroup

The nature playgroup that runs from our school hall has been quite busy this past term.

Run in association with Latrobe City Council we have had many new families come and see what our amazing school and playgroup have to offer.

It runs on a Wednesday from 9:30am and it would be great to see you all there.



SCHOOL NEWS

KURNAI UNI CAMPUS

Holocaust Museum Reflection writing

On Thursday March 11, Year 12 VCAL classes went on a school trip to the Jewish Centre in Melbourne. On this excursion we were asked to examine some artefacts (not real ones of course) and determine what they were and what their purpose was.

This included things like ration cards to newspapers and passports. We were also asked to listen to the stories of people who survived and some who didn't survive the Holocaust.

To prepare for this trip we looked at the Holocaust and did some research online to answer some simple questions. Questions of when it happened, where it happened and how many people died. This research

was done in class in the days before our trip. This was so we had at least a simple idea of what happened during the Holocaust. Of course, when we went to the museum, we learnt a lot more, like the different uniform identification patches people were given in the concentration camps and their meanings.

During our excursion we saw and heard some pretty amazing or even terrible things about the Holocaust. Two things that stood out for me were that every Jewish person's passports and forms of ID had to have a big J printed on it. This made it very hard for them because if they tried to travel to a different country, they were denied entry and also discriminated against

terribly. What also stood out for me was the ways people hid. Some were hidden behind walls, in roofs, even behind animal hutches. One story we heard of was a family was hidden behind a rabbit hutch. The smell of the rabbits would throw the scent hounds off and they didn't get found.

But also, the story from the survivor, Sarah, who changed her whole identity and left her family to hide. She lived a lie for many years, but she was lucky, and she survived. Sarah's story was quite emotional, it made you really feel sympathy for all those people, all the men, women and children who lived through hell to survive but even more for those who didn't survive. It really makes you think how

lucky we are today, but also how we can stop this from happening again. Hopefully, it doesn't happen again. I think everyone in VCAL learnt something from this excursion.

This excursion links everything we have done in class. We did research about the topic but we also watched a film, 'Freedom Writers'. This idea of separate groups whether they are grouped by skin colour, eye colour, religion or even who you choose to be in a relationship with.

With these groups each one thinks they have superiority over the other, but they don't, they are all the same. They are all people. I think we really need to learn to accept each other for what we are, that is something

we need to take away from the film and the museum visit. No one is superior, no one should have more rights than anyone else. Yes, some people have different privileges; they might have more money or a different job title but that doesn't make them any better.

This has me wondering how we decide who's better. How has society decided who's cool and who's not, who's privileged and who's not, who has superiority over others?

How did these moulds get formed? But also, why is it so hard to stop thinking someone else is superior just because they get a bigger pay cheque or come from a privileged family.

A powerful phrase

'Education has the power to change people's lives' has a lot of meaning behind it. If we can educate people to show them what happens when we discriminate against people, we can hopefully get them to stop and to treat everyone equally. Education is a powerful thing, if you train a dog the wrong way it can be a deadly weapon.

If you educate a worker the wrong way then others can get hurt. But if we educate and help shape their minds, help them change their views to positive things, it can make the world so much better and hopefully we won't have history repeat itself.

Written by Alyssa Wells
Year 12 VCAL student



SCHOOL NEWS

HAZELWOOD NORTH PRIMARY

It has been a productive month at Hazelwood North Primary School! There have been plenty of engaging whole school events that have happened this month that we would like to share.

House Sports Day

We began this month with our annual House Sports Day. During this

day, students participated in a rotation of athletics events including the long-distance run, sprints, relay events, long jump, high jump, shot put and discus throw. Students dressed in their House colours (red, green, yellow or blue) and were able to compete for the House Sports Trophy. The

top winning House colour for the day was Green House!

Harmony Day

Harmony Day was celebrated on Monday March 15. Classes each learnt about the meaning of Harmony Day through whole class focuses and collaborative learning tasks. Pictured below is the F/1's Everyone

Belongs art piece!

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is currently open and running at Hazelwood North Primary School. Kaye Stockdale our school's librarian has been running the Book Fair. Some enthusiastic senior students have been working with Kaye during the book

fair. They have been selling books and assisting with the running of the Book Fair competitions.

First Aid Workshop

Students at Hazelwood North Primary School were given the amazing opportunity to learn about First Aid with professionals from St Johns Ambulance

Victoria. Students learnt how to appropriately respond in an emergency and/or manage an injury.

It was great fun! The image below show 3/4A participating in some role play exercises.



Left to right: Sport's day 1 and 2
Harmony Day poster
Learning First Aid



SCHOOL NEWS

LUMEN CHRISTI PRIMARY

Da Vinci Fun!

The children at Lumen Christi recently visited the Latrobe Regional Gallery in Morwell. The exhibition was titled 'The Da Vinci Machines Exhibition', which comprised over 60 interactive machines created from original DaVinci drawings. The iconic inventions included the bicycle, the scuba suit, spring powered car, as well

as flying machines. Among Da Vinci's innovations were automatons (the precursors to robots), nautical, hydraulic and architectural tools, ground-breaking applications of civil engineering and fear-inspiring machines of war like the tank. Curator Dave, along with Gabriella, Christopher and Jenny led the children on guided tours of the gallery.

An addition to the exhibition is a set of life size replicas of iconic Da Vinci paintings. These made many links to the Catholic identity of the school with replicas such as the 'Last Supper' being an integral part of the school Easter Story. Here Jesus is having his final meal with his disciples, a story the children know well. The children were also fascinated by the 'Mona Lisa'.The

replica of the 'Mona Lisa', the original being in France, was beautiful. The children were amazed with it's value being well over \$850 million. Abigail from Year 1 said 'that is my favourite painting ever. I wish Leonardo was still alive to paint more'.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the Da Vinci art exhibition as the exhibition was very hands-on with over 60 interactive machines.

They were interactive and hands on for the children to manoeuvre and try which they loved. Klancy from Year 4 said; 'I love the machines you could move the most. They were awesome inventions'. "Leonardo was so smart", said Kai from Year 4.

Da Vinci was considered a genius being an inventor, scientist, anatomist, artist, engineer, mathematician and

architect, thus making it a teacher's dream being able to make links into so many teaching areas. Italian, art, mathematics, history and science were key areas that classes touched on at school. Many of the children have mentioned that they'd like to go back to the gallery in the holidays, 'I'm going to ask mum to take me back' said Shaki from Year 6.



Top left to right Lumen Christi children at the Da Vinci Exhibition at Latrobe Regional Gallery. Greg with Year Prep,1 and 2 studying the Last Supper by Leonardo Da Vince
Bottom left to right Mason from Foundation studying one of Da Vinci's inventions
Nino and Edward from Year 6 studying one of the Da Vinci's inventions.
Children outside the Latrobe Regional Gallery



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Winner of Mary Mitchell Perpetual Trophy - Christine Stevens (L) Presented by Cate Hackett, Mary Mitchell's Daughter (R).

Saturday 27/2/21 - Monthly Medal: A Grade - R. King (17) 83 66. B Grade - R. Welsh (26) 96 70. C Grade - L. Watkins (29) 94 65. Monthly Medal Winner - Scratch - P. Smart 80. DTL - T. Collins 68, R. Zomer 70, R. Sands 70, F. Keighran 70, P. Smart 70, J. Mc Cafferty 71, T. Webb 71, J. Barnes 71 B. Kilday 72 C/B. NTP - 3rd T. Webb, 5th B. Kilday, 12th T. Webb, 14th P. Smart. Putts - R. King 23. Birdies - 3rd C. Thompson, M. Soppe, D.

Byers, 12th D. Byers Tuesday 2/3/21 - Monthly Medal: Scratch Winner - M. Ryan 102. Medal Winner - M. Ryan (30) 72. DTL - C. Stevens (45) 73. Putts - C. Barnes 28. NTP - 3rd V. Verheyen, 5th M. Mc Conville, 12th M. Ryan, 14th S. Caldwell. Saturday 6/3/21 - Stableford: A Grade - D. Byers (15) 37. B Grade - M. Soppe (19) 39. C Grade - R. Zomer (30) 39. DTL - R. Welsh 37, B. Kilday 36,

K. Hills 36, R. King 36, T. Sterrick 35, L. Heppleston 35, C. Stevens 35, D. Chapple 34. NTP - 3rd. D. Taylor. 5th D. Byers. 12th A. Quinn. 14th T. Sterrick. Birdies - 12th M. Brereton, R. Welsh, A Quinn 14th, T. Sterrick, K. Hills. Tuesday 9/3/21 Stableford Mary Mitchell Day: Winner - C. Stevens (45) 41. DTL - J. Beck (37) 41 C/B NTP - 3rd M. Dear, 5th M. Dear, 12th J. Beck, 14th M. Dear.

Churchill Bowls Club

The West Gippsland Pennant season has concluded with the Churchill 5th Division team having a good win over Neerim Districts in the first semi final which was played at Traralgon on Saturday March 13. The club then progressed through to the preliminary final the following week, where the club played out a draw against Newborough at Traralgon, eventually losing by four shots in a sudden death play off.

Not to be outdone, the clubs Division 6 team also made the finals playing Yinnar/Boolarra in the semi final at Yallourn North on Saturday March 13, in an extremely close game. The final result saw Churchill Division 6 team go down by two shots in a real nail biter.

Both teams are to be congratulated on the dedication and hard work put

in over the past 12 months, which was evident by their performances and the goals achieved over the 2020/2021 bowls season. Well done.

The end of the current pennant season has culminated in an excellent year for our club, with both teams making and participating in the finals.

This has been a notable achievement as a number of players in these two teams have only been playing bowls for a short period of time.

With another year of competition under their belts, combined with the experience of our more senior players, it should give us an air of optimism going into 2021/2022 season

The club will be running its popular Winter Triples events again this year commencing on Tuesday April 13 and running through to September under manager

M. Newton. This has become a popular event and draws players from all over the Gippsland area.

The Churchill Bowls Club will be entering a mixed team in the Traralgon Bowls Club Winter competition commencing in April which runs for approximately 16 weeks.

Our Thursday night Indoor Bowls is still attracting good crowds, If you're looking for some social interaction and a fun night out, come along and be part of the action. To enable games to get underway by 7.15pm it is requested participants be there by 7.00pm. The night generally concludes around 9.30pm. Cost for the night is \$5.00 with a light supper served with tea or coffee.

The club can be contacted on 5122 1860 or email churchillbowls@hotmail.com

Churchill Tennis Club Season Wrap



Above: Tammy de Souza Daw, Lucinda Appleton, Joel Lambourne, Jordan Taylor and Wayne Reynolds Below: Taylor Elfring, Josh Hocking and Macen Stole



The 2020-21 season has been a successful one for the Churchill Tennis Club.

The club had three junior teams and one senior team competing in Latrobe Valley Tennis Association.

The seniors had a great season, finishing on top of the table.

The senior grand final was played in very blustery conditions at Morwell Tennis Club.

Churchill (5-45) defeated Willow Grove (1-23).

The team consisted of Tammy de Souza Daw, Lucinda Appleton, Joel Lambourne, Jordan Taylor

and Wayne Reynolds.

In Junior's, section 9 (Taylor Elfring, Josh Hocking and Macen Stole) had a strong season and made the grand final but Traralgon South were too strong on the day.

Traralgon South (5-23) defeated Churchill (1-8).

Lions Club of Churchill & District Inc.



Another busy month for our fantastic Lions Club!

How wonderful it is to have the Bunnings BBQ's up and running constantly with no interruptions and lockdowns. Our members are having so much fun cooking and serving sausages with the public also so happy to see us there in return.

As you would have read all about the gorgeous little Winnie in the March edition, our last part of involvement was to purchase and install a large drinking trough for the cattle the family plan to run. We would also like to say a special thank you to our Lion Robin King and the Churchill Golf Club for their generous donation, which contributed to our work on the farm. It certainly was a pleasure to be able to help such a lovely young family and we wish them all the best for the future - and Winnie - please stay out of the wars!

We have also had some fantastic awards presented to some of our wonderful and very deserving members of our Club.

Each year there is a Changing of the Guard and a new District Governor is installed. He or she will visit every Club in our District of 201v3 or the next in line, the District Governor Elect will fill in. Last year of course

the visit was postponed due to COVID, but eventually we were lucky enough to host DGE Steve Boyce, who was extremely interesting and talked a lot about what is happening around our area and that of East Gippsland, following the shocking bushfires where Lions, including our Club, were, and still are, very involved.

DGE Steve was then thrilled to be asked to present an Award of Life Membership from LCI (Lions International) to Charter Member Ray Medew, a truly deserving recipient.

At our next meeting our President Reg Grisotto then had the pleasure of presenting Service Awards from LCI to the following Members : Lions Ross Norman for 40 years, Ron Bell for 30 years, David Cranwell for 25 years and Bill Hurenkamp for 15 years as Lions - well done guys!

Then of course there have been a few more trips to our Licola Lions Village for ongoing works, mostly plumbing, where one trip went awry and there was an explosion of a waste tank. President Reg Grisotto was covered in - well you can imagine - so if you bump into Reg, just ask him and you will get the full colourful

story. So be prepared for a good laugh. However with much thanks to our Lion Peter Tait, due to his work as an electrician, all the electrics are computerised and now working to perfection - another job well done!

Moving on, due to age, wear and tear Licola was desperately in need of whipper snippers - Churchill Lions to the rescue - and due to contacts of Lion Peter Savage, two big top of the range Stihl whipper snippers were purchased by Churchill Lions and donated to Licola, much to the delight of Manager Trevor Carstein.

As always, we like to remind you - do you have any time to spare, do you think you'd like to have fun and help out alongside a great bunch of guys and gals? Just keep it in mind - we're always looking for new handy people as members, so - please give us a call and have a chat, send a message, send us an email - we promise they will be answered asap!

Secretary : Lion Carol Kavanagh 5182 6995 or 0411 842 912.

Message on Facebook : Lions Club of Churchill Community Activities.

Email : churchill.lionsclub@gmail.com



DGE Steve Boyce with Lion Ray Medew.



(L - R) Lions Ross Norman, Ron Bell, David Cranwell and Bill Hurenkamp.

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Celebrating 200 DIGITAL EDITIONS

How we have changed!



Very noticeable changes have been seen at the shopping centre, Mathison Park, Community Health Centre, our Hotel. Walkeley and Watson Parks preschools are now gone, The Hub has been established and is well used by several occupants, Leisure Centre, Neighbourhood Centre, Churchill P.S., Churchill North P.S., Lumen Christi school and church grounds, Hazelwood North P.S. all have new buildings and improvements. Gippsland Education Precinct has been dissolved, the Binishell has gone, the special Hockey Field has been established and their club rooms built, and more residential housing estates have been opened, Monash University has become Federation University, noticeable changes to the environment have been caused by bushfires to name a few.



Formation of CNAV (Community Newspaper Association of Victoria)

It is now 18 years since a group of citizens held a Small Rural Communities Health Conference in Omeo in late 2003.

There was a panel presentation by the three community newspapers (Churchill, Mirboo North and Trafalgar) on the role and importance of community owned newspapers / newsletters to the local community. Discussion following, agreed to the formation of an association, but decided a wider representation was required before making a final decision. Neil Smith and Mick Bourke worked tirelessly and Margaret Guthrie played a part. We are grateful that Margaret through C&D News and Quantum Support Services was able to attend and represent us as a panel member at that conference in November 2003.

CNAV was formed in 2005 after the first conference was held at Monash University Gippsland campus at Churchill.

Seventy people gathered on campus on November 19 and 20, 2004 for what the organisers believe was the first community newspaper conference in Australia.

The conference consisted of an awards dinner on Friday night and presentations and workshops on Saturday.

National and local media coverage before and after the conference attracted interest from Tasmania, Queensland, and New South Wales as well as across Victoria, and contact details appeared on the ABC Radio National website. Responses came from community, commercial, and academic sources.

After much discussion, it was agreed unanimously that an association of community newspapers be formed.

Thank you to those early office bearers and committee members who took on the enormous task of forming CNAV. Some of you are still serving. Well done.

It showed how important community newspapers are for their local communities- it is their news, put together by their community members for the benefit of their community. What do new residents do to learn about their new town? They seek out the community newspaper!

Since then some members of our team have attended

conferences if they can. At present one of our team – Tracey - is on the CNAV committee.

Conferences are always great places to meet with others of like mind, share in excellent workshops and hear keynote speakers. Our team members have always found something new to add to our mix through attending.

By being part of a community newspaper you are showing empathy and sympathy for your community members. Many of us joined a community newspaper with a desire to help; some of us have had little or no training in journalism or layout and design publishing programs etc; some have been fortunate on that score; but we have joined to share our skills and learn new ones. For some it is a steep learning curve- the older you get the harder it is to catch on.

We are providing a voice for the people, written from the heart, using understandable language, not the poli speak of daily newspapers. We are also importantly recording local history. Community newspapers are a wealth of information.

CNAV Awards Churchill & District News has won.
2004 Best Sports reporting. Best Young People's column
2006 Best Historical article
2007 Best Community Reporting
2008 Finalist Best Community Reporting. Best Historical Writing.

2009 Best Sports Article
2010 Best Young People's writing
2014 Best News Feature Story Finalist
2015 Best History Story
2017 Best Community Content Finalist
2019 Best Feature Story
2020 Best Sports Reporting

Other Award
2005 Australia Day award for Churchill Festival

200 Digital Editions Milestone – a tremendous community contribution. Congratulations to all at Churchill & District News on your significant milestone of having reached the outstanding achievement of producing your 200th digital edition of Churchill News.

As I'm sure we all appreciate, Churchill & District News has played a key role over the years within the community for both old-timers and newcomers, providing a broad array of information from which our Churchill and district community has been able to be kept well informed about what's happening.

It's important to understand that Churchill & District News operates as a result of the magnificent efforts and support of a team of dedicated volunteers who have tirelessly worked together over the years – and years - to create the monthly editions so that current community issues can be aired, and the broad range of community groups and organisations which operate within Churchill and district have a medium through which to share their stories and achievements.

For me, in my time as the local Councillor, I commenced providing articles to Churchill & District News in June 2007, and have been a regular contributor over the years. This media medium provided the means for me to regularly communicate with the local community on

matters, not only those currently before Council for consideration, but also it afforded me the opportunity to report on important decisions of Council, which I believed were likely to impact on residents of Churchill and district. It also resulted in me receiving excellent feedback on key issues.

It is interesting to note that Churchill & District News commenced in 1965 soon after the town had its first residents. As I am aware, it was in 2002 that Monash University Gippsland played a key role in providing facilities and support at the time for Churchill News to go digital. In more recent times the support of the Co-Operating Churches of Churchill in providing a home base has been crucial.

With a readership nowadays of over 10,000, Churchill News has matured as a communication medium with the quality of each publication being of the highest order and the support of advertisers clearly evident.

Finally, to all of the volunteers who have been involved over the years with the production of Churchill News in a variety of roles, I once again say sincere congratulations and thank you for your outstanding community service which has been very much valued and appreciated by the community. Best wishes for a continuing long-term future for Churchill News.

Darrell White OAM.

Celebrating 200 DIGITAL EDITIONS

OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM



Ruth
Place

Ruth is the team leader and secretary. She secures advertising, writes articles, interviews folks, attends events to represent the paper, chases those who have lagged in their ad payments, takes the meeting minutes, helps with the writing competition and makes sure the administration of the paper is carried out. Ruth is the one original member of the team.



Carol
Scott

Carol was an original citizen of Churchill, joined the paper years ago. She is our editor. This involves reading all the articles which come in and compiling the editorial list. Carol helps with the production of each issue. She also co-ordinates the Tennis Come and Try Day and is very involved with the writing competition.



Tracey
Burr

Tracey helps to collate the editorial, production of the pages of the paper, looks after our computer needs and software, keeps the register of our assets, collates the writing competition mail out, helps with the writing comp certificate production and is our Chairperson. Tracey has been a part of the team since 2003.



Marion
Ireland

Marion is our advertising person for the businesses in the east part of Morwell. Marion faithfully visits the shops each month and reports to the advertising co-ordinator. Marion is also very happy to be involved in the writing competition work.



Shelley
McDonald

Shelley joined to help out the team and courageously volunteered to take on some of the advertising. Shelley does a great job contacting our Churchill Shopping Centre businesses. Added to this Shelley also helps with proof-reading and also agrees to help in any way needed.



Allan
Larkin

Allan joined the paper about 10 years ago and uses his 30 year experience in the newspaper game to help us. He also helps with production. Allan also makes our posters, business cards, ad rate sheets, postcards, writing competition certificates and collated the fourth in our series of local history books.



Barbara
Cheetham

Barbara is our researcher. She loves delving back in past issues of Churchill News and other local publications to remind us of our historical past. Barbara also helps by mailing out copies of the paper issues and delivering some to FedUni. Barbara co-ordinates our Nappy Collections when we hold them.



Sally
Kohler

Sally Kohler is our assistant treasurer and works with Delma to keep our finances up to date working on Quickbooks/Reckon programs. Sally joined the team about three or four years ago and is very efficient in doing and presenting our financial reports and keeping the team informed of when to follow up payments in arrears. Sally produces our budget. Sally and Delma work very well together.



Geraldine
Larkin

Geraldine helps with proofreading, sells our postcards to the local shops and helps with the writing competition. She joined our team 10 years ago.



Delma
Hodges

Delma has lived in the Churchill area for close on 40 years. She joined the CDN team some years ago to help with the book keeping, proof reading and also with our annual writing competition.

Gary Weston

Gary put up his hand and helps us with proof-reading too.

John Sunderland

John Sunderland has recently joined Churchill & District News as our main web site manager. He is backed up by Sam Gillett who has done the web site for many years and also has contributed articles to the paper.

Bronte Hillis Harland

is our youngest member of the team and joined us a few years ago. Bronte writes articles for us. It is good to have a younger member for our team as the majority of us are over 70.

Rebecca Barry

Rebecca helps Tracey to post our Facebook posts. It has been a big help to have someone to share that task.

Carl Hood and **Charlie** Rawlinson

Carl Hood has recently joined our team as our distribution person. He has taken over from Charlie Rawlinson who has done it faithfully for an enormous number of years. Carl picks up the extra copies of the paper that do not go in as inserts of the Express and delivers them to our advertisers, Council HQ, sponsors, schools/preschools/day care centres and Churchill Shops.

Celebrating 200

DIGITAL EDITIONS

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

“Connecting Your Community”

Established 1966

Distributed Free

Welcome to Churchill News
200th digital edition
April 2021

Churchill is a thriving Latrobe Valley town with 5000 people, the centre of a district of Hazelwood South, Hazelwood North, Jeeralang Junction and Jeeralang. Located near the Strzelecki Ranges, Churchill is home of Federation University's Gippsland Campus.

We are proud to deliver to you this month, our digitally printed 200th edition. We began with this new method of digital printing at issue No 1 in November 2002. Churchill News is very similar to a buried time capsule, the news stored here is so interesting and like our weather, always a challenge, very different from month to month, season to season, edition to edition.

It is your paper from this district with local news that keeps the paper in monthly circulation.

There are so many sporting and community organisations that made news in 2002 when we began to use digital technology to print this paper. Now as we print issue 200 many of these same organisations and sporting clubs continue to contribute and support frequently to this our paper. We thank each and every one for your contributions over this time.



Churchill News began in 1966 as a one page leaflet to advise all residents of the new town of Churchill to be aware of facilities that were available. The paper gradually increased in size and content until what you see before you today.

The first digital edition in 2002 started out with 12 printed pages, the same tabloid size as you see before you today, and quickly grew to 20 pages, some months up to 32 pages, with special supplements as a celebration of local events.

A quick look through the 2002, 2003 editions has covered many and varied stories, reports, information and news. These include gardening, Hazelwood Rotary Club, local Fire Brigade, Church News, Letters to the Editor, Children's Corner, Mathison Park reports, Churchill Lions Club, Hazelwood Cemetery, and much more.



There are now many perennial stories that continue to be published today which include notes, items and many photos of interest from all the local schools. The schools include Lumen Christie, Churchill Primary, Churchill North Primary, Boolarra Primary, Yinnar Primary,



Kurnai College Junior and Uni Campuses, Monash and Federation Universities, Hazelwood North Primary, and Yinnar South Primary.

Reports from Churchill & District Community Association (CDCA) appear regularly working towards making Churchill a better place to live.



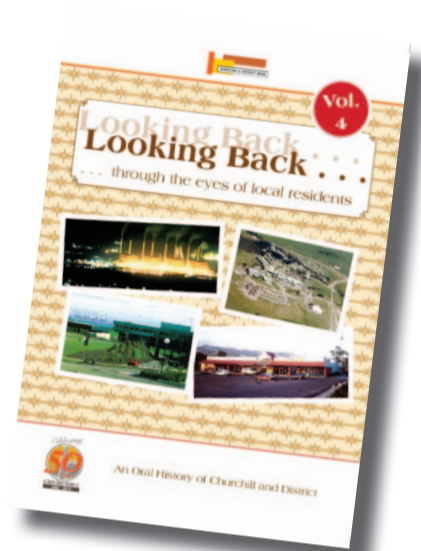
The monthly rain records which appear every month are of interest to many readers.

Each year we print regular stories of Citizen of the Year presentations, Anzac Day services, Australia Day celebrations held throughout the district.



Churchill News has conducted many annual fishing competitions at Lake Hyland for junior fishers. Other annual activities sponsored by Churchill News are Come "n" Try tennis and baseball days, giving new juniors a chance to participate in local sport. The annual writing competition for all ages has been a resounding success.

In 2003 the first in a series of "Looking Back through the eyes of local residents" stories began to appear. Many have now been published in a series of four local history books



which are available for purchase now. Purchase costs are \$6 per book, contact cdeditorial@cdnews.com.au for more information.

Churchill CFA has continued to play a very important part in our lives through the paper and safety of residents. There are many reports of family days, tragic bush fires, tips to keep us safe, and times they have participated in community activities.



The local Lions Club is always busy working for the Community. They cook, sell and/or give away thousands of their famous sausages each year. They sponsor school students, donate their time to Licola Village, post Santa letters,

ADVERTISMENT

Melina BATH MP
MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

Congratulations to the Churchill & District News on reaching your 200th digital edition

2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon
melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au
5174 7066

Funded from Parliamentary budget

CDCA
Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

Congratulations to C&D News on a fabulous achievement – 200 digital editions!
Thank you to the Team at the News for your valued support of our community.

RUSSELL NORTHE MLA
Member for Morwell

Congratulations to the team at Churchill and District News on your 200th digital edition
What a terrific achievement!!!

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w. www.russellnorthe.com.au

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Celebrating 200 DIGITAL EDITIONS



sell Christmas trees, and have organised local Sunday markets, raise and donate cash to others, plus many other activities.



Street Names in Churchill by Rob de Souza-Daw

Many of the original names are of Councillors of the Shire of Morwell and others are of people associated with the Housing Commission of Victoria at the time of



Churchill's establishment in the 1960's. Other themes include the botanical theme of streets between Birch Drive and Wattle Crescent, and Victoria Cross winners were the theme for the original streets south of Canterbury Way. Later Aboriginal words were the theme used in Glendonald Estate.

Churchill News has been self supporting throughout the years as many local advertisers, businesses and sponsors have been loyal to us for which we thank them so much.

Many of our advertisers have been with us since the digital re-start and others have joined to help support our paper production. Thank you all. We would be so pleased if you the readers would consider supporting our advertisers as they support the paper and thus the community.



Issue 1 to Issue 200 news

Our sky line has changed forever. We have seen the fall of all eight chimneys and closure of Hazelwood Power Station, and the fall of four chimneys from Morwell Power Station. We have seen a new car park at Hazelwood Village and opening of Woolworths and a new cafe. We have a new synthetic bowling green in town. Churchill Men's Shed built us a noticeboard stand in Woolies plaza. The Neighbourhood



house has developed a Community Garden. The loss of our branch of the CBA bank was a nasty surprise to all. At last the demolition of the United Service Station has happened. What will become of that real estate site? What will happen to that big hole in the ground known as Morwell coal mine? We have a new hockey club with a grand new viewing and change pavilion. We have lost the video shop, as videos are now out of date and irrelevant. We have heard of the demise of Hazelwood Pondage, seen the closing and transfer of residents of Hazelwood House to Traralgon. We see the future happening before us as we watch the development of a new housing estate on



Philip Parade and elsewhere.

All this and more is recorded in each and every copy of the Churchill News over time.

The year 2020 was the year of "COVID" where we spent time being at home much more

than usual and not being able to participate in our normal routines.

The team from Churchill and District Community News sends to you many good wishes for the future and thanks you for wandering down memory lane with us.

Contributors to CDN

Schools, Rotary and Lions, Neighbourhood Centre, Morwell National Park, Mathison Park, Churches and University Chaplains, Churchill District Community Association, Churchill Fire Brigade, Australian Plant Society Latrobe Community Health Service, and many more.

Competitions and events we have run.

Competitions – Art, Photography, Writing Events - Churchill Festival, Pondage Pursuit, Fund-raising for Gippsland Cancer Care centre through garage sales and trivia nights.



Churchill is famous for many reasons: a university, the big cigar, a caring community, and the Churchill and District News.

On behalf of Latrobe City Council, I wish to congratulate this delightful community publication for reaching its 200th digital edition – and the volunteers who make it all happen.

The newspaper has recorded the history of the community, celebrated its achievements and advocated for a better lot for all Churchill residents since the town was established in 1965.

As newspapers change to seize the opportunities offered by the digital age, it's remarkable to see the popularity of the Churchill and District News remain – and in fact grow – reaching not only people who still call Churchill home, but also all those people who have lived, worked and studied in Churchill over the years through the publication's online reach.

I have been fortunate to be a part of the Churchill and District News community not just as an avid reader, but also as a former advertising manager, during which time I met many local residents, business people and community group members, and still cherish those relationships.

From everyone at Latrobe City Council, well done on surviving and thriving in the digital age, and I look forward to seeing the community of Churchill commemorated for another 200 digital editions – and more.

*Cr Sharon Gibson,
Mayor, Latrobe City Council.*

It is a remarkable achievement for a community publication to reach 200 editions and continue to provide accessible and local news to the community.

I wish to congratulate the team at Churchill & District News for doing just that and creating a wonderful publication month after month.

The last year has been difficult for many and we have seen many news publications fall victim to the coronavirus pandemic, but it is a testament to the dedication of the volunteers and the support of the community that Churchill & District News has come out the other side.

As a former journalist, I am passionate about local news and the importance of keeping locals informed with what is happening in the community. The Churchill & District News is a fantastic example of this.

Congratulations again to all those involved and I look forward to seeing more editions for many years to come.

*Federal Member for
Gippsland, Darren Chester.*