

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

*“Connecting Your Community”*

Established 1966

Distributed Free

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## Something unique in our backyard



By Richard Appleton

Churchill sits on the edge of one of the core habitat areas for a rather unique animal, the Strzelecki/South Gippsland koala.

It is not a separate species, but the sole survivor of the original wild population that thrived in Victoria prior to European settlement.

By the 1930s, koalas had virtually disappeared from Victoria due to land clearing, fires and hunting for pelts. In an effort to preserve some of their numbers, a few animals were captured and released on French Island and Phillip Island where they bred so successfully that they began over-browsing the limited habitat available to them. A success story in one sense, perhaps, but due to the original introductions consisting of as few as six animals, these koalas were quite in-bred, or in scientific terms the population had very low genetic diversity.

Low genetic diversity can have long-term detrimental impacts on the survival of a species. The more diverse the gene pool, the better chance it has of adapting to the impacts

of disease and the stresses of climate change.

All koala populations throughout Victoria, with the exception of the Strzelecki Ranges and South Gippsland, are now descendants of the French Island and Phillip Island koalas, which were eventually transferred back to the mainland to repopulate areas where koalas had disappeared and to alleviate overcrowding on the islands.

Somehow, a viable population of wild koalas survived in the Strzelecki Ranges and nowhere else in Victoria. It has long been thought that we have an intact and diverse gene pool here and some brilliant research over recent years has confirmed that to be the case. Monash University Gippsland and now Federation University, have been at the forefront of this research and Fed Uni continues to facilitate cooperative management and ongoing research into what is now widely recognised throughout Australia as one of the most, if not the most, important populations for the long-term survival of the species nationally. The ongoing decline of koalas in New South Wales and Queensland, combined with the

devastating impact of the 2019 fires through much of their range, has only contributed to this importance and the urgency to look after our special animals.

Apart from genetic research, a lot has been going on in the background including habitat mapping, population monitoring, regulatory controls, habitat and wildlife corridor restoration, health and disease studies and more, conducted by a wide range of organisations including State Government, Councils, HVP Plantations, Friends of the Earth, Friends of the Gippsland Bush, wildlife carers, various tertiary institutions, Landcare, friends groups and many others.

The Jeeralang core area is one of two in the Strzelecki Ranges that supports a concentration of koalas because its two most preferred food species, mountain grey gum and blue gum, are abundant. This core extends approximately from Yinnar South in the west to Traralgon Creek in the east and includes Morwell National Park. Koalas also like the endangered Strzelecki gum which is present along some creeks around Churchill.

We can all help to look after these unique

animals in various ways, even if we live in an urban area:

- Watch out for koalas on roads, especially late at night when they typically move around.
- If you find a sick, injured or orphaned koala, contact a local rescuer/carer such as Jumbuk Wildlife Care and Rescue (0409 3467 14) or get help through [wildlifelifevic.org.au](http://wildlifelifevic.org.au) (03 8400 7300) or [wildlifevic.gov.au](http://wildlifevic.gov.au) (136 186). If an orphaned joey is smaller than a football, it will need help to survive. Do not try to handle injured koalas yourself.
- Keep dogs on leads or under close supervision whilst walking them in areas with any native habitat.
- If you have property, you can contribute to koala habitat and welfare by planting their preferred local food species in windbreaks and along creeks, fencing off bush areas to keep cattle out (cows will attack koalas), keeping bush free of weeds like blackberries and not using barbed wire on fences.

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

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**The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the October edition is September 25, 2021**

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 PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842  
 Or Email: [cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au](mailto: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:  
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We acknowledge the support of



**Our New Committee**

CDCA held a record-breaking Annual General Meeting this year – the quickest in our history! This was because the meeting, scheduled for a 7pm start-time on August 5, had to be completed before Victoria went into a state-wide lockdown at 8 o'clock that night!

To expedite proceedings, and with the consent of the out-going Committee and other members present, it was agreed that the new Committee, including Office Bearers, would be re-elected for the 2021-22 term of office. There was no hint of contested elections for positions, with no new nominations forthcoming!

Like many community groups, CDCA finds it difficult to recruit new volunteers to Committee positions and we are therefore most grateful to those who put their hand up to do the work involved on an on-going basis.

Our new Committee consists of President (Margaret Guthrie), Vice-President (Linda Reid), Secretary (Michael Thompson), Treasurer (Ian Gibson), Neighbourhood Watch Representative (Peter Gray), Federation University Representative (Erik Eklund) and Ordinary Committee Members, Jeff Kemp and Abigail Brown.

CDCA has welcomed a handful of new members in the last 12 months and it has been great to have new people participate in our discussions and bring new issues and information to our meetings.



There are also several long-standing CDCA members who attend our meetings on a regular basis and the Committee is grateful for their support of CDCA and their interest in this community.

Our meetings are open to all residents of Churchill and district, who are most welcome to attend and observe. We invite general participation and discussion in our meetings. Of course, voting rights are reserved for members only.

Membership of CDCA is free and the membership application form is easily completed. Like all Incorporated Associations, CDCA is required to keep a Membership Register, so membership applications, once approved by Committee, fulfil this requirement.

Our meetings are often attended by selected Guest Speakers of interest to the wider community and, if COVID restrictions allow during the months ahead, we plan to invite a representative of the Hazelwood Mine Rehabilitation Authority, the new Loy Yang Community Engagement Officer and the Latrobe Health Advocate to speak at forthcoming CDCA meetings.

We are often joined by a representative from Latrobe City too. Councillor Melissa Ferguson has attended, as has Community Liaison Officer,

Audrey Matthews. Our State Government representative, Russell Northe MP, has been known to attend also, when our meetings don't clash with sittings of Parliament!

CDCA meetings have been scheduled for the first Thursday of every second month for the next twelve months. We start at 7pm and make every effort to finish by 9pm. Two hours is long enough!

Meetings for the remainder of 2021 are to be held on Thursday October 7 and December 2. We will meet in Studio 1, downstairs at the Churchill Town Hall (enter from Philip Parade) unless COVID restrictions prevent us meeting in person. Meeting details can be confirmed by checking the Home Page of our website: [cdca.org.au](http://cdca.org.au)

We are 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.

In the current climate of lockdowns and restrictions, it pays to stay up-to-date via websites and social media.

Our widely advertised Winter Market, set for late August, had to be cancelled with only a week's notice, due to the announcement of yet another state-wide lockdown. This was far too

late to withdraw our advertising; the best we could do was advise of the cancellation via Facebook.

There is some hope that we will be able to facilitate a Spring Market at the Churchill Shopping Centre next month

(October), but at the time of writing it's impossible to know whether we will be out of lockdown by then.

There are also plans to hold a Christmas Market on Saturday December 4. These Market Days are part of our "Churchill – Shop Local" program, in partnership with Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News.

Did you know there is a "Churchill Shop Local" Facebook page? We post dates and information here, respond to queries about booking market stalls for our events and pass on some information about retail businesses in Churchill and sales or activities they may be hosting.

If you are a Facebook user, check out the "Churchill Community Noticeboard" page too. Lots of local interest matters pop up there!

Please support our local businesses, especially our small retailers who must close during lockdown and our dine-in eateries which struggle when it is 'take-away food only'. Shopping locally is another way of supporting each other and our wider community during these tough times.

For more information about CDCA, visit our website at <http://cdca.org.au/>

**Rainfall**

The rainfall for Churchill was 83mm for the month of August. There were 23 days with rain. The day with the most amount of rainfall for August was the first, with 12mm. The total amount of rainfall so far for Churchill in 2021 is now 526mm.

The year of 2021 is continuing wet at Hazelwood South. August is the fifth month of the year with above average rainfall with 91mm

and 9% above the average.

The year so far is 40% above the average. In August Hazelwood South had 29% more rain than the Latrobe Valley weather station. The COVID-19 lockdown is an opportunity for many people to be busy with chainsaws, mowers and burn offs, to improve the fire safety for summer. The weeds are starting to wake up, some require controlling now.

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5.	138mm x 128mm	3 x 13.8 cm	98.70	158.00	88.85	142.10
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# STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



**Golf**  
Golf is one of the most popular sports/pastimes in the world today. Its devotees laud the challenges the game provides, both at a competitive level between a group of players and at a personal level.

Over time the implements have expanded in number and in performance, each trying to make the game less frustrating and easier for the golfer.

still played in the interim on the sly. Courses varied in length, up to 22 holes and there are even two different types of course, the ordinary course in open countryside and those on the seashore which are known as links.

same on every course around the world. However, they can be condensed into the tenet known by every golfer, play the ball as it lies, play the course as you find it, and if you cannot do either, do what is fair.

Every player strives for perfection in every shot but perfection is hampered by any number of obstacles. Besides the personal physical attributes of each person, terrain, weather conditions, grass length, noise, and a myriad of other conditions can all affect the outcome of every shot.

Clubs can hit the ball further and with greater control, the ball can travel further and straighter and the course can be in immaculate condition, mown to within an inch of its' life and still the golfer is plagued with bad lies and worst of all, a ball sitting, quivering on the lip of the cup with no strong wind or an earthquake in sight.

Obstacles such as watercourses and bare patches were part of the hazards of the individual hole and are often incorporated into modern golf courses by sadistic professional course designers. Courses were limited to 18 holes in 1764, although 9-hole courses are allowed for recreational players.

The home of golf is regarded to be The Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews and it was here that all rules were deliberated upon and set, from examples of problems that were faced by golfers all over the world. Today the USA has its own set of rules and governing body, as it does.

On the other hand its detractors look at the game as a nice walk spoiled. The basic idea of golf is to hit a ball with a curved stick into a series of holes in as few shots as possible.

The modern game originated in Scotland before 1457, when it was banned by the king because it took men away from archery practice. The ban was overturned in 1502 when a later king took up the game. We can only suppose that the game was

Over time the game developed and rules became necessary as competition increased. The first documented rules appeared in 1744 and today are the

## A Thing of Beauty

By John Keats

A thing of beauty is a joy forever: its loveliness increases; it will never pass into nothingness; but still will keep a bower quiet for us, and a sleep full of sweet dreams, and health and quiet breathing.

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Recovery efforts continue and all levels of government are working to support local communities as they recover and rebuild over the coming weeks and months.

My office is here to help as this work goes on.

**Harriet Shing MP**  
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## Chaplain



The phrase 'working from home' has become either a threat or a joy for so many.

Some have found, especially with children at home, that they've spent more time with each other and became closer, whilst the opposite of some of that is the case for others.

Mixing work and home can make it hard to separate the one from the other, with the home feeling crowded at times and harder to disengage from one mindset to the other.

Then, some recent surveys have shown that 33% prefer working from home most of the time, and 20% prefer it half of the time.

The long-term effects are said to be fewer young parents actively seeking to join the workforce, when compared with a survey 20

years ago where this was the thing to aim for, yet only 1% were achieving it.

One comment on a recent survey was saying that coping with working from home has been around learning to take one day at a time, and about holding things loosely.

We are certainly not guaranteed tomorrow, making the one-day-at-a-time thinking seem appropriate.

But it was the holding-things-loosely comment that made me think of being grateful for what we have and not being greedy for more.

The two ideas together make for us seeing that time is short, and we are not clinging on to what doesn't last, that we're to look at the bigger, eternal, picture!

Worth thinking about!

## Co-Operating Churches Snippets



### NAIDOC and Celebrations

The first Sunday of August we were able to worship in church. We welcomed Aboriginal priest Kathy Dalton to take our Anglican Holy Communion.

Kathy incorporated into the service some information about her culture and the history of white invasion facts. It was eye opening and we did appreciate her non reproachful approach saying

we are one people under God.

Kathy had part of her family come too and it was lovely to see her son join in with presenting part of the service. His children joined in for the talk Kathy gave to the children where she presented some of her Aboriginal artifacts. The children were given the task of creating a decorated boomerang and showed their creations at the end of the



service.

Our second Sunday service we enjoyed on line due to the lockdown. We thank George Telford for the provision of his service for on line viewing.

The third Sunday Cathie Halliwell our part time supply minister gave us a beautiful Uniting Church Holy Communion service using thoughtful and beautiful words.

At the end there was

surprise cake and balloons to celebrate Marion Ireland's 80th birthday. A small speech was made outlining the special person Marion is. It was so special to have cake and coffee following the service all served in a COVID safe manner.

Then it was back to lockdown restrictions for the fourth and fifth Sundays. However Cathie and George emailed out their lovely services.

## Cathie Halliwell Supply Minister

To say that it has been a rough year would be a great understatement for most of us. There seems to be a

constant exhaustion that goes beyond the need for a good nights sleep. I have been feeling a tiredness that is hard to shake and I am sure that I am not alone.

The pressures we have been feeling through lockdowns and the inability to have our normal lives can be wearing. Each of us needs to find the thing that helps us keep going and cling to that as we wait to be free again.

"This is my command – be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" Joshua 1:9 NLT.

I encourage you to take this scripture to heart and find the strength in God that you can struggle to find within yourself.

There are days that are long and weary but even in those there are glimmers of God's blessings, we just need to adopt a perspective of gratitude that helps us see them.

It can be the littlest thing – a bird bathing in a puddle, an eagle soaring

in the distance, the wind flowing through the grass causing it to shimmer in the sunlight. Yes, I find much of my comfort in God's creation, even if it is through a window.

However, there are blessings in other small ways – learning a new skill, revisiting a hobby you enjoyed in your youth, speaking to a friend on the phone. I have also been reminded of the wonders of technology, sharing a cooking lesson with a friend and our daughters on a zoom call.

We all need some help from time to time. We are not alone in the feeling of being isolated and not knowing what to do next. Jesus gave us the example of what to do. Take time to be on your own and pray.

It does not take special words or a formula of items you must pray for. It can be as simple as 'Lord I come to you for strength to keep going – please give me strength and let me listen to you now'. The quietness of waiting on God can heal and



restore. God speaks in many ways, the words of a friend, the beauty in creation, the words of a song, a melody in your heart. These are the things to cling to when we are finding life tough. Just remember that we too may be the words that someone else needs to hear so reach out and check on your friends and family.

Be there for each other. "God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble" Psalm 46:1 NLT.

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Boolarra



# Cooking with Noelene



## Five Day Challenge Day 1 - Nut flavoured pumpkin soup

I chose a large butternut pumpkin, peeled and cut into chunks, placed in a saucepan along with 2 medium onions peeled and sliced, 2 potatoes peeled and sliced, 2 stalks of celery trimmed and sliced, 1 dsp of dried nutmrg.

Cover with water and boil till the vegetables are soft then add 1 tbs of minced garlic, 2 tbs of honey and 1 tbs of peanut butter.

Now use a stick processor to puree the

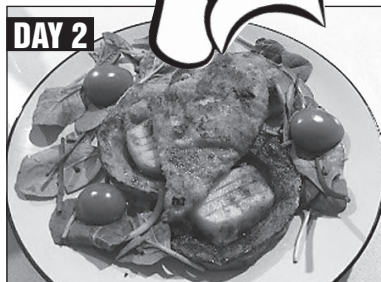
contents of the pot. Season to taste with cracked black pepper.

## Day 2 - Crumbed chicken

I used 2 skinless chicken fillets sliced in 2. I placed 1 soup ladle of the nut pumpkin soup into a bowl and filled a wide brimmed bowl with panko crumbs.

I used paper towel to pat dry the chicken fillets and then dipped them in the pumpkin soup mix and then coated with panko crumbs.

I oven baked the crumbed chicken fillets in a pan with a good drizzle of peanut oil.



## Day 3 - Vegetable pasta dish

I now have 1/2 the original amount of pumpkin soup remaining.

Today I steamed 500gm pack of broccoli and cauliflower florets with a thinly sliced red capsicum, and boiled 3 cups of spiral pasta.

I drained both the pasta and vegetables, then stirred them through the refrigerated pumpkin soup base with a dsp of dried lemon myrtle.

## Day 4 - Chicken ragu

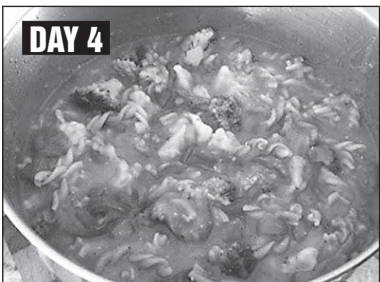
The pasta and vegie

dish for tea last night was delicious. Today I am adding 510 gm of cooked chicken fillet shred.

The chicken fillet was cooked and seriously cooled before adding to the pasta and vegetable base. Only add cooked and cooled ingredients to the 5 day evolving pumpkin nut soup which is kept cold and covered in the refrigerator.

## Day 5 - Satay chicken

So here we are onto the fifth meal all evolving from my primary ingredient - pumpkin.



I made a simple satay sauce with peanut butter, a little chilli powder, ground coriander mixed with soft brown sugar and 200ml of coconut milk.

I heated these and stirred till the sugar dissolved and the sauce thickened slightly.

I let it cool then stirred through the cold chicken ragu and topped with chopped walnuts.

This end meal is delicious, remember the longer a meal sits in the refrigerator the greater the flavour.

## Latrobe Health Advocate meets with older locals



Thursday August 19 saw the meeting of a group of older locals to talk with Latrobe Valley Advocate Jane Anderson about their issues and concerns in health for the future.

Jane has been undertaking engagement with older people in Latrobe over a number of months and she was keen to hear from as many people as possible.

As part of her 2020/21 Statement of Intent, Jane Anderson, has sought to understand how people in specific communities can best have their voices heard and what makes engagement meaningful for them.

Jane is currently seeking an opportunity to meet with older people aged 60+ to hear about how the Advocate, local services and governments can best engage with older people, how those engagements can be meaningful and lead to improvements in health and wellbeing for communities in Latrobe.

The aim of these conversations is to hear about older people's experiences and use these to help design, develop and implement ways of engaging that will support them to participate more fully in systemic changes to improve their own health and

wellbeing.

Thank you to all those who made the effort to offer their issues regarding health needs of older people in the Valley and especially to those who took the time to attend the meeting.

Jane Anderson our Latrobe Health Advocate was very pleased with the outcome of the meeting.

Many issues were aired with several common themes emerging.

People shared thoughtfully and truthfully from their experiences and concerns for the future.

Some useful suggestions were made.



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# Churchill & District Lions Club



Well, lockdown, shutdown, cancelled, these are all words that shoot an arrow through Lions hearts, as it prevents us from getting out there and giving and helping – things we Lions do best.

We did manage to get in a few Bunnings sausage sizzles again in between more lockdowns on and off. Hopefully we will be back there again soon!

However, we still manage to do a lot in the background, supporting other Clubs and helping out where we can.

For example we sent another two huge boxes full of old glasses up to our 'Ride For Sight Glasses Recycle Project' based in Queensland.

We have almost enough stamps collected to send off another box full to the Stamp Project.

As written last month, we were all very disappointed that the Lions Skin Cancer Testing Caravan had to be cancelled, but sadly with the current COVID situation it was impossible to be able to run it.

The plan had been that after leaving

Churchill it was to go to the Korumburra Dairy Expo, so when that was cancelled (it is run by Strzelecki Lions Club) due to COVID restrictions, the Board had to reassess the situation.

As all the volunteers and Dermascopists were coming from Melbourne 'hot spots', it became too risky – and of course the on/off lockdowns.

The hardest part was having to phone everyone and advise them it was cancelled, everyone was so disappointed.

We are hoping it is just a postponement but because it had been so heavily booked up all across the state, it may now not be until mid 2022 or even 2023 before it can come back this way again.

We will let you know!

On a happier note our Club purchased and sent nine pairs of Crocks shoes to Licola towards the Special Needs Kids Camps, then Lion Catriona MacKinnon-Rojko from Traralgon Lions visited our last meeting bringing along a large variety of handmade items such as beanies, scarves etc., also to go up

to Licola for the kids.

Our Member Lion Brooke Jackson volunteered to take them up to the Licola Village.

Last month we had a month of birthdays with the big one being President Reg Grisotto turning 75.

Wife Merrilyn sent him on a ghost errand to IGA where the staff surprised him with a huge hamper of goodies.

VPI Lion Peter Savage turned 77 and on the same day Lion Bob Lowick's wife Sue turned 72, then there was Lion Dave Cranwell's wife Sylvia who turned 73. Happy Birthday to all.

Remember, if anyone is interested in joining a fabulous community minded Club – here we are – just ask.

Our contact phone numbers are 0411 842 912 and 5182 6995, just phone Secretary Carol and have a chat.

Or if you prefer email : churchill.lionsclub@gmail.com



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

# This month, we are talking about "Hooning".

At various times of the day and night, you may hear cars doing "burnouts" or speeding around your neighbourhood.

Whilst this may appear to be a bit of fun to the driver and the passengers, it can be dangerous to pedestrians, particularly children who cannot get out of the way in time if the particular car gets out of control and crashes.

It is most important to report these people to the Police.

It will help to note the type of car and colour and most importantly, the

registration number. Call 000 if the situation goes on for some time.

If you notice hooning on a regular basis, call Crime Stoppers Hoon Hotline on 1800 333 000 or you can report it on Crime Stoppers Victoria website on: [crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)

The more times we report these issues, the more chance that they will be successfully dealt with.

Remember -

**"If you see something, Say something"!**



**FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000**  
**FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE, RING 000**



SAFER COMMUNITIES GROUP

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

# Hazelwood Cemetery



## Survival of cemetery rabbits

By Leo Billington

In late June 1896, it was reported that, in reply to a request for Morwell Shire Council to join the Gippsland Rabbit Suppression League, Council decided against joining. It seems as though our then councillors thought the League was "too far away."

Such intelligence! The League was supported by other councils including Baw Baw, Narracan, Buln Buln (Warragul), Mirboo, Woorayl (Leongatha) and Poowong. There was also strong support from East Gippsland.

At a meeting of Traralgon West residents in September 1914, it called for wider involvement of the League against rabbits – being tagged as "the greatest scourge the landowner had to contend with, and they had been fighting them for 40 years or more."

Mr O'Connell (local vermin inspector) explained to this meeting "the apple and carrot system of poisoning. He showed how the culling should be done and said that 12lbs of apples should make about 3,600 cubes.

To this weight of apples one ounce of soluble strychnine should be added. As carrots did not contain an acid, powdered sugar was sprinkled over them before adding the poison."

Morwell's council was still not jolted into action. In fact, the Gippsland Rabbit Suppression League unsuccessfully sought funds from council.

About one year later, the League wrote to council asking for co-operation to help reduce increasing numbers of rabbits.

Council was asked in October 1901 to support formation of a Rabbit Suppression League. All to no avail.

Perhaps Morwell Shire Council was swayed by a report from Maffra Shire, which upon receiving a report from a local police constable that he had seen a rabbit, Maffra Shire Council

President, Councillor Lee, clearly announced it was a hare, and no rabbit had been seen since.

But alas, Mr F. E. Allan, Chief Inspector Vermin Destruction Act reported in January 1912 that a number of rabbits had been shot within two miles of Morwell. He also said rabbits had done damage in the Hazelwood Cemetery where they had burrowed throughout grave sites.

Then locals became vocal – telling about considerable damage in the cemetery by rabbits, and it was necessary "to put up wire netting to keep them out. The Cemetery Trust however, was short of funds."

As if rabbits obey fences, irrespective of whatever material is used!

Even though Morwell's civic leaders were frustratingly apathetic, at least the Jeeralang Rabbit Destruction League acknowledged the effective work of Mr Allan when he retired in February 1915.

Before he retired, Mr Allan tried in vain to explain "the rabbit breeds as long as there is warmth and green feed, and it will take full advantage of unusual and extraordinary conditions. Usually the breeding stops in the summer when the green feed has gone. This gives us an interregnum in which we have a chance of coping with the pest" (Morwell Advertiser, January 1912).

The Hazelwood Cemetery Trust invited tenders for erection of a wire netting fence in May 1943 – 30 years after the suggestion was made public.

Eleven years later,

Morwell Shire Council "considered that some assistance could be given in the maintenance of the cemetery area."

Ironically, the Morwell Advertiser in May 1890, reported that under supervision of licensed surveyors, Hazelwood Cemetery had been "subjected to a major overhaul. The tall rank grass and stunted shrubbery providing a safe haven for rabbits hitherto covering the ground and obscuring the graves from view has been cleared."

Rabbits happily remained ensconced at the cemetery, and they still remain in large, ever increasing numbers. In February 1942, it was reported that "some boys lit a fire to burn out rabbits" resulting in a large grass fire surrounding the cemetery.

During the early 1950's, there was spasmodic interest in applications for a maintenance person to work at the cemetery. Mr Smith was eventually employed in May 1952, guaranteeing to undertake duties such as cleaning headstones, removing weeds and keeping rabbit numbers down.

One idea to control rabbit populations was canned, pickled in brine, rabbits, mainly for export markets. One notable cannery was at Honeysuckle, just outside Wyndham, south west from Bega. Hindsight is easy sometimes and hindsight is convenient. However to ignore an onslaught (a pandemic) of rabbits was rather hideous. Rabbits know no boundaries.

Unfortunately, they feel safe in our cemetery.

# CDCA

Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

supports Churchill & District News

We love our community newspaper!

Contact CDCA via our website - [www.cdca.org.au](http://www.cdca.org.au) or find us on Facebook!

Next CDCA meeting scheduled for 7pm,

Thursday 7th October.

Venue dependent upon covid restrictions - visit our website for more details closer to the date.



# Churchill Fire Brigade



The latest weather data shows parts of Victoria are forecast to have a wet spring.

This is predicted to lead to continued strong grass growth and the potential of increased grassfire conditions once the vegetation dries out.

Released recently, the quarterly national Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for September to November, was developed by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC), the Bureau of Meteorology and State fire services agencies. AFAC is the national council for fire and emergency services.

The outlook shows this year's average to above average rainfall across much of Victoria is likely to result in continuous grass and crop fuels growth through most areas west and north of the Great Dividing Range.

Across pastures in the southwest fire district, upper and lower soil layers are already saturated meaning the average to above average rainfall forecast for spring will likely lead to normal to above normal pasture growth conditions.

As a result, the northwest and west of the state (Wimmera and the Mallee fire districts) may see an increase in fire potential in late spring, prior to harvest.

For many forest areas, conditions are currently normal or wetter than normal.

The forecast indicates above-average rainfall during spring, leading to a below average fire risk for summer across the eastern, north-east, central ranges and Otway ranges.

Along the coastal and foothill forests of Gippsland, the monthly rainfall in July

was below average. Given spring's outlook of higher than average temperatures and average rainfall along the coast of eastern Victoria, the Gippsland fire season is likely to start in early summer.

However, the bushfire risk will remain lower across fire impacted areas of East Gippsland and north east Victoria as forests recover from the recent fire seasons.

Emergency Management Commissioner Andrew Crisp said the spring outlook gives the emergency sector an early indication of what Victoria could expect this season.

"New growth resulting from high rainfall raises the potential for grassfires which can move quickly and threaten properties and life," he said.

"We're never complacent about the risk of fire and severe weather throughout the year. We treat each season with the same high level of preparation to ensure community safety."

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan added:

"Like last year, we can expect a grassfire-dominated start to the fire season, particularly in the west and north west, while the risk of campaign bushfires in forested areas is substantially reduced.

Victoria is one of the most bushfire-prone areas in the world, and even a normal fire season can present a high risk to communities.

I encourage all Victorians

to plan and prepare for their safety and ensure that everyone in their household knows what to do on hot, dry, windy days when fires can start and spread quickly."

Acting Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) Commissioner Ken Brown said no matter where you live, you must be aware of the risk of fire, especially if you live on the urban fringe.

"If you live near grasslands, you need to understand the risks with fast moving grassfires.

If a fire starts in grasslands near your home, walk two streets back and keep clear of responding trucks," he said.

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) Chief Fire Officer Chris Hardman said: "Despite a wetter than average winter in some parts of the state, it only takes a few days of extreme weather conditions for the fire risk to rapidly rise.

Thanks to our year-round approach to bushfire risk management, we're well prepared for bushfire season, but all visitors to our parks and forests have a role to play to reduce the risk.

With a greater number of visitors to our parks and forests, it's crucial the community work with us to prevent bushfires from starting and pay attention to campfire safety. Unattended campfires can spread quickly and have devastating impacts on communities and the environment."

Spring is historically a more challenging time of year for large scale planned burning due to less predictable weather conditions, such as wind.

However, the higher moisture levels in forest areas may provide opportunities to carry out planned burning this year.

Planned burning works are supported with an increase in mechanical fuel management including slashing and mulching, as well as creating and maintaining fuel breaks to reduce the bushfire risk for communities and the environment.

Preparations by the emergency management sector for the 2021-2022 spring and summer season will incorporate planning for the risk of fire and extreme weather, with the added complexity of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Emergency Management Victoria will continue to work closely with the emergency services sector to ensure the safety of Victorian communities.

Read the full Seasonal Bushfire Outlook by going to afac.com.au and choosing the Spring 2021 Seasonal Outlook tile.

# Churchill CHATTER

## Coming Events

The Women's Big Bash League will be held at Ted Summerton Reserve at Moe on October 23 and 24. Some of Australia's best cricketers will be playing, including Australia's Captain Meg Lanning. The Melbourne Stars will play on both days.

\*\*\*\*\*

A walk in support of women in our community and country who have experienced domestic violence and mistreatment. This is a free event to be held at Gippsland Immigration Park Morwell, at 10.00a.m. October 2. Contact details Guss Lambden 0498 593 446 or hip7pie@hotmail.com

\*\*\*\*\*

Men's Health Special Presentation, three obstacles to getting the support you want. To be held at Regional Sports Stadium Traralgon on November 16. More information from Latrobe City 1300 367 700.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CDNews website directory

Are you looking to contact a local sporting or community group? You can access many contact details in our updated directory from our website. If you require your club or organisation details to be included on this list, contact CDNews at cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au

\*\*\*\*\*

## One left standing

Boiler House 2 at the former Hazelwood Power Station was successfully felled in August using explosive

demolition methods. A small hotspot within the structure was contained in the late afternoon, using the equipment in place as part of extensive planning for such an eventuality. Demolition of the only Boiler House left standing is scheduled for later this year.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Hawthorn Crescent

Workmen have been busy renewing sections of both kerb and channel where necessary in the street. Repairs have also been completed to the road surface in Hawthorn Crescent during July and August.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Parent Support Program

Kathy Ryan from Anglicare, works with Victoria's Parent Support Program (PSP) and is co-located at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre but currently is working remotely due to COVID.

The Parent Support Program supports families within the Churchill community by providing short term intervention to build parenting capacity, increase parenting confidence and enhance

connection to the local Churchill community.

If you would like to talk with Kathy, feel free to contact her at Parent Support Program, SafeCare Educator, phone 5135 9555 or 0499 005 141 or anglicarevic.org.au

\*\*\*\*\*

## Local Fire Brigade

Our volunteer fire brigade members have been busy this year attending call outs when required. For the first seven months of this year there have been 65 callouts, an average of nine per month.

Local emergency service crews were called to Sheoke Grove in Churchill on August 20 in response to reports of a house fire. Residents of the street were greeted by a cloud of smoke, as crews quickly went about extinguishing the fire.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Thought for the month.

Never let the things you want make you forget the good things you already have.

\*\*\*\*\*

Churchill Community News next edition will be available on October 18.



**Trevor Whelan**  
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LIONS CLUB OF CHURCHILL &amp; DISTRICT

# AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



Australia Day

## 2022 NOMINATION FORM

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

### DETAILS OF PERSON/PERSONS/GROUP BEING NOMINATED

Full name of citizen/persons/organization/event: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name (if nominating organization/event): \_\_\_\_\_

Residential address: \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

#### Reason for Nomination:

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

#### Other significant contributions and achievements:

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

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

#### Background information about your nominee:

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

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (M): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Nominator (To be completed by person submitting)

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (M): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominations can be lodged at any time; however nominations for the Lions Club of Churchill & District Australia Day 2022 awards close on Wednesday December 15, 2021 at 5.00 pm.**

Nominations should be addressed to:

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

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



# Harriet Shing

What a trying, tiring year we are having! COVID, storms, floods, restrictions and lockdowns. It has been such an unpredictable and challenging 2021, and people are understandably exhausted by what has been happening in Victoria, interstate, and all over the world.

Thank you again to everyone for doing the right thing to stay safe during this pandemic. Outbreaks in regional Victoria, including in the Bass Coast, Mildura and Shepparton, have shown just how quickly the Delta variant moves, and how quickly case numbers can grow.

Lockdowns and restrictions have been devastatingly tough for families, workers, businesses and local industries across our state and around Australia.

The modelling, data and public health advice all confirm that the combination of testing, isolating, quarantining and vaccination will give us the best chance to open up the economy, our facilities, schools, and restart the activities that are so important to our wellbeing and quality of life.

One of the things that has really shone this year, as it always does, has been the sense of community and kindness.

The care, support, generosity, and friendship that has been so freely exchanged is making a really positive difference in the way people are supporting local businesses, looking out for neighbours and friends, masking up and checking in with those who may be struggling.

If you are struggling with your finances, health or wellbeing, there are lots of supports available to assist you, so please don't feel that you have to weather this storm alone.

I would also like to give a huge shout-out to our incredible frontline and health workers, teachers,

and those who are caring for others. Your contribution has been nothing short of extraordinary, and you have consistently gone above and beyond in the service of others. You are the best of us.

As at August 22, 56% of Gippslanders have received their first dose of either Pfizer or Astra-Zeneca, with one in three having received both doses.

This is a huge step towards the levels of vaccination that will enable us to reduce our reliance on restrictions and lockdowns to respond to cases.

So please think of your own health and the health of those you love, chat to your doctor or pharmacist about any questions, read through the information we have published online at [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au) and book your vaccination.

I am someone who has always hated needles, but my two shots were painless and really straightforward.

The staff were wonderful and it was a big relief to know that I have a measure of protection from COVID and will be much less likely to transmit it to others.

Recently, my office was contacted by locals wanting to know about the proposal from the Australian Energy Market Commission to allow energy companies to place a charge on solar energy exported back into the grid.

Victoria's solar uptake is one of the highest in Australia, and around one in five Victorians now has solar panels.

On average, around 6% of Victoria's energy consumption is generated by rooftop solar.

These are fantastic numbers and we want to see them continue to increase over time.

Our Government has no plans to allow Victorians to be charged for extra power they send into the grid.

Instead, will continue to support battery storage projects such as the Yallourn



Battery Project and the Victorian Neighbourhood Battery Initiative, which will store and feed power back into the grid when it is needed, supporting the national grid without charging Victorians for choosing to transition.

Finally, I would like to encourage everyone to consider donating to a local Neighbourhood House.

Neighbourhood Houses are community run, not for profit, and offer a range of volunteer services and support to support those in need, much of which is provided without charge or condition, and all of which is provided without judgement.

If you can help with much-needed supplies including long-life milk, sanitary and bathroom products, and tinned or dried food that is not out of date, please get in touch with your local Neighbourhood House.

### Numbers to call for Support & Care

Churchill Neighbourhood House - (03) 5120 3850

Morwell Neighbourhood House - (03) 5134 5488

Anglicare - 1800 286 260

Community Housing Ltd - (03) 5120 4800

Good Money Morwell - 1300 770 550

Latrobe Community Health Service - 1800 242 696

Lifeline - 13 11 14

Victoria Legal Aid - 1300 792 387

Harriet's office - (03) 5134 6655

# How is your heart health?

Within our region, the Heart Foundation Australian Heart Maps show that the Latrobe-Gippsland region has the following statistics.

### Latrobe Gippsland (SA4) region snapshot;

The rate of coronary heart disease deaths in Latrobe-Gippsland is 71 per 100,000, which is 16% higher than the Victorian state average.

The rate of heart attack hospitalisations in Latrobe-Gippsland is 13 per 10,000 which is around the state's average.

66.9% of people living in Latrobe-Gippsland are physically inactive, which is 2% higher than the state average of 65.7%.

38.2% of people living in Latrobe-Gippsland are obese, which is 22% higher than the state average.

20.3% of people living in Latrobe-Gippsland smoke, which is 31% higher than the state average.

23.5% of people living in the Latrobe-Gippsland have high blood pressure, which is 4% higher than the state average.

Some worrying statistics

supplied by the Heart Foundation, which they hope will inspire people to become active e.g. walk, quit smoking, watch what they eat to reduce cholesterol and regularly visit the doctor to ensure their blood pressure is under control, so that the incidents of heart attacks and hospitalisations can be reduced. COVID restrictions which allow for two hours of exercise per day is a great way to start.

### Population Snapshot

The City of Latrobe in Victoria has an estimated population of 75,211 and according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics Index of Relative Socioeconomic Disadvantage (IRSD), disadvantage, Indigenous status and low educational attainment are all associated with a higher risk of heart disease. This is along with the known risks of smoking, obesity, a lack of physical exercise, high blood pressure and high cholesterol.

The proportion of people aged 65 and over living in Latrobe is 19% compared to the national average of 16%. The proportion of Aboriginal

and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Latrobe is 2% compared to the national average of 3% and the proportion of people who left school before year 10 is 17% compared to the national average of 11%.

The rate of heart-related hospital admissions in Latrobe (50 per 10,000 persons) is significantly higher than the national average (43 per 10,000 persons). Latrobe has a prevalence of high blood pressure (23%) which is not significantly different from the national average (22%). Latrobe has a rate of physical inactivity (69%), which is significantly higher than the national average (66%). The prevalence of smoking in Latrobe is 21%, a rate significantly higher than the national average (15%). The prevalence of obesity (41%) in Latrobe is significantly higher than the national average (31%)

Latrobe has a heart disease mortality rate of (86 per 100,000 persons) compared to the national average (66 per 100,000 persons)

## 50 Years: 50 Artists

September 4 to November 7

50 Years: 50 Artists is a major exhibition to commemorate 50 years of Latrobe Regional Gallery.

The show will feature works from our collection by artists who have made a significant contribution to the development of art in Gippsland.

The exhibition will also include artworks borrowed from artists who are living or working in Gippsland.

The final group of artists will be three artists commissioned to create new work for inclusion in the exhibition.

The exhibition is forward-looking with an eye to the future and with an emphasis on contemporary art.

Land - an Exhibition by

### Local Art Societies

Moe, Morwell and Traralgon Art Societies stage an exhibition on the theme of 'land'. The show is an annual showcase of the work of artists from these societies.

In 2021, the exhibition is scheduled to coincide with the 50th anniversary

exhibition.

### Education and public programs

Our Spring events calendar offers a variety of opportunities for the public to be inspired by the creative legacy of some of Gippsland's most prolific artists.

## Aaron Pearce

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# Churchill & District Lions Club



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Contact Secretary Phone:  
**Carol Cavanagh 0411 842 912**

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# Hazelwood Rotary-help and guests



## Hazelwood Rotary remains active during COVID

By Leo Billington

COVID and its associated restrictions have had minimal impact on Hazelwood Rotary over past weeks.

Guest speakers have attended, providing interesting information adding to our knowledge and awareness of current trends.

One casualty of COVID restrictions has been our famous, highly desirable

sausage sizzles held at Bunnings, Morwell. While unfortunate, we all understand why there are policies in place to maintain community and personal health standards. Our club is not by itself in this regard.

Bunnings management has generously supported Hazelwood Rotary as a consequence of sausage sizzles being cancelled and subsequently re-scheduled for later dates.

We remain indebted to Bunnings Morwell for their selfless assistance to community groups.

Peter Keenan was one guest speaker in recent weeks.

Well-known throughout our community for business as a monumental mason and leadership of Morwell's Fire Brigade, Peter provided insight into his business.

For over 50 years, Peter worked his trade across

Gippsland, becoming well-known for exacting, quality workmanship.

Earlier this year, Peter sold his business and now intends to enjoy retirement, as he tries to slow down.

Team Leader Gippsland of The Smith Family (Morwell, Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance), Jan Henry was another guest speaker.

Jan's outline of responsibilities and community work undertaken

by The Smith Family was revealing and quite amazing.

Jan explained in detail, that as Australia's largest national education-oriented charity, The Smith Family supports disadvantaged Australian children to participate fully in their education, giving them the best chance at breaking the cycle of disadvantage.

The learning support and mentoring programs help children in need to fit in at

school, keep up with their peers, and build aspirations for a better future for themselves.

One revealing fact highlighted by Jan acknowledged The Smith Family was founded on Christmas Eve, 1922 in Sydney.

For further details about joining Rotary, please contact Hazelwood Rotary Club on 0408 178 261.

**Darren Chester**  
Federal Member for Gippsland

Proud to support our community

1300 131 785 [www.darrenchester.com.au](http://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**

**DON'T BIN THEM - RECYCLE THEM IN THE FOYER AT THE HUB!**

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

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

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre  
Churchill & District News  
CDCA

# Churchill & District News FLASHBACK

## 1971 News

### Churchill Darts Club

A ladies dart club has been formed in Churchill. Ladies interested in playing come along to 4 Firmin Road, Monday nights or contact Les Donohoe, phone 221415 as we are trying to form another team to enable us to play competition.

Membership fee 50c plus 25c each Monday night. An enjoyable night for all.

### Churchill Teenage Club

Who forgot the meeting on Tuesday? No meeting, no opening this week. Adult committee will be meeting on Friday and if we can find sufficient adult leaders to help, we hope to reopen the club on February 13. We may call a general meeting next week, and if we do we shall put a notice on the Notice Board in West Place.

If there is anyone in the Community prepared to help with the Teenage Club will they please contact Mrs. Miller. Signed Peter Arch.

### Car Parking

Many complaints have been heard regarding breaches of parking laws at the shopping centre. It is an offence to park along the rear of shops unless you are loading or unloading. Some shop keepers who have vehicles coming into their yards to unload, are often shut off by an illegally parked vehicle. Please observe the parking notices and save yourself a fine.

### Sewing bee

There will be a sewing bee held at the home of Mrs B Chalmers, McDonald Way Churchill next Thursday. This is to make things for the fete so come along and enjoy yourself along with other members of the club.

### Institute of Advanced Education

It is only a few months before we shall see students and staff occupying buildings on the hill opposite. They will become part of us; some of them living alongside us. Already, I gather the Director is planning to build in this area himself. As we look forward to this new venture, we prepare to welcome them into our community.

At the moment of writing, I cannot remember who said it, but the other day someone said, "I have never lived in a more friendly community, among people who are so willing and ready to help." My hope is that all of us find this true, and that our friendliness will go out to the new comers next year.

### Letter of appreciation

Dear Mr. Arch, Please find enclosed a cheque for \$20 from our Committee. It is a donation towards the cost of printing the Churchill News.

Thank you for such a beautiful paper, most of us look forward to every new edition and of course our committee rely on it to take the Kindergarten news into each Churchill home. Elizabeth McQuillen Secretary

### Junior Miss Victoria Quest

Raelene Joy Walker, entrant in the Junior Miss Victoria Quest would like to thank everybody who helped her raise \$187.40 in the few weeks she was in the Quest. The final judging was in November. Raelene won Princess of Charity, and an instamatic camera.

Thanks to everybody who helped, and a special thank you to Mrs. Sherry Jones.

### Sports Stadium

This sporting facility is being erected by voluntary labour. One in every 100 Churchillians has assisted. Where are the other 999???

### Gaskin Park

This was officially opened last Saturday.

The sporting facilities in our town are certainly increasing, and the number of sporting clubs for a small town is amazing.

Soccer, football and hockey seem to be in full swing and the amenities in and around Gaskin Park are being used to their maximum. It is a hive of activities at the weekends.

Elsewhere in this paper you will find other matters relating to the Park, dangers on the road, and misuse of the adjacent land and useless annoyance and frightening of stock by children and dogs.

We have a wonderful oval let's keep it that way, clean and tidy and used for the right purpose.

### "First" wedding

On January 15th Daryl Pobjoy and Lynette Chamings are to be married. In many ways this is the "first" Churchill wedding. I have married five couples in our centre in Churchill, and another two or three in Churches in Morwell.

But Daryl and Lynette met after they moved here six years ago, and all their courting days have been in Churchill.

### Jeeralang Junction Rural Fire Brigade

Starting in March 1971 the local fire siren at Churchill will be tested each Sunday. A member will be required to attend at the Fire Tanker Shed each Sunday to reset the alarm after the test.

I also wish to draw attention to some folks to the fact that they are now covered by the Police Offences Act, which takes over when the CFA Summer Period finishes. You are still liable to a very heavy fine as well as gaol for some offences.

It has come to my notice that some people, particularly farmers, are lighting fires without notifying their neighbours of their intention to burn. This in itself is an offence apart from leaving any fire unattended.

A special thanks to the Editor of Churchill News for his interest in Fire prevention at Churchill. Thank you to Mr. Editor for allowing space in your paper for our fire news. G. Farley, Captain, Jeeralang Junction Rural Fire Brigade.

## Book Review

### "The Shepherd's Hut" by Tim Winton

Well known Australian author Tim Winton was born in Karrinyup, Western Australia in 1960. He has written novels, children's stories, non-fiction books and short stories. He has won the Miles Franklin Award four times and has been declared a National Treasure. Several of his books have been made into films. He is known for his "down to earth" writing and "The Shepherd's Hut" 2018 is an example of this.

This story is set in Western Australia, the main character being Jaxie Clackton. He is a troubled youth from a dysfunctional family. His father, a butcher in a small country town, is extremely abusive and violent to his mother and Jaxie and after his mother dies of cancer he is left at the mercy of his father. He works in the butcher's shop and after one particularly vicious assault he decides to leave home and search for his cousin Lee, who he feels is the only person who understands and loves him.

He stays away from home for a few hours, hiding in parkland until dark and when he thinks his father will be too drunk to bother him, planning to gather what he needs to leave. However, when he returns he finds his father dead. The car he was working on has fallen off the jack and his father has been killed. In a panic, he thinks that he will get the blame so goes into the house and gathers some supplies and a gun and takes off, heading for the town of Magnet, where Lee lives.

This means trekking through the Mulga scrub, and as he thinks the police will be looking for him he stays well away from civilisation. It is not long before he realises that his supplies are woefully inadequate, running out of food and water. However he manages

to shoot a kangaroo and finds a run-down shack with a water tank, but becomes



violently ill after drinking the water. He sets up camp there for a while, until on one of his forays he sees a windmill. He discovers another hut, which is inhabited by Fintan, a priest in exile. Fintan befriends him and he stays there for a time in a mutually supportive relationship.

One day, when the wind is blowing from a different direction, he hears an unfamiliar sound and on exploring he discovers an underground drug laboratory. The story becomes quite harrowing from this point but sees a change in priorities from Jaxie.

This was a compelling story, easy to read but quite bleak. Some members found the language offensive but others felt it lent authenticity to the character of Jaxie. The setting for the story is the harsh and unforgiving Mulga country of Western Australia where an ill-prepared youth almost comes to disaster due to hunger and thirst, but Jaxie's home was also harsh and unforgiving and from the start one felt he was heading for disaster.

The story never really explains why Fintan is exiled into this environment but he is a wonderful sounding board for Jaxie and helps him on his journey of self-discovery.

This book received a mixed reaction from members of our group.

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"Connecting Your Community"

# Churchill & District News team birthday celebrations



Two of our Churchill & District Team recently turned 80 - significant milestones. Barbara and Marion are amazing team members. What a huge help they have been and still remain. To celebrate and thank them we held an afternoon tea at Café Alpha with the excellent help and support of the staff of Café Alpha.

The café looked after us so beautifully with drinks and nibbles. Then a cake made by Ruth, a past member of the team, was cut and distributed. It was so delightful to be able to meet together between lockdowns and have a chat together and say thank you to these two special people; to recognise their contribution and

tell them how much we appreciate their efforts. It was such a pleasant get together and we were so blessed to be able to do it as shortly after we were back in lockdown. Marion and Barbara each received cards and a plant to add to their gardens as both are keen on gardening as well as helping Churchill & District News.



**SHOP LOCAL WINTER MARKET WAS CANCELLED!**  
(Due to Covid Lockdown)

If restrictions permit, we aim to hold a

# Spring Market

next month.

Please follow our Facebook page – Churchill Shop Local – to find out if/when the next Market Day at Churchill Shopping Centre is on . . .

A **Christmas Market** is also hoped to be held on **Saturday 4th December**

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# Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish  
 Species: *Polystichum proliferum*.  
 Family: Dryopteridaceae.  
 Derivation: *Polystichum*: From Greek polys, meaning many or abounding in, and stichos, meaning rows, and referring to the sori (clusters of sporangia, which contain the spores, which in turn are the reproductive units of ferns that do not contain an embryo), which occur in many rows.  
 proliferum: From Latin proles, meaning offspring, and the suffix +fero, meaning to bear, and used botanically to suggest the production of many progeny from offshoots.  
 Common Name: Mother Shield Fern.

Otways and around Portland.

Description: A fern which forms a densely scaly, short, fibrous trunk with age.

Fronds are 2-pinnate, furred when young, uncurling to a length of up to 150cm and width up to 30cm, forming a spreading tussock.

A bulbil or plantlet is often present towards the ends of the fronds, by which the fern can spread vegetatively to form extensive clumps.

The pinnules are dark green above, paler beneath and are asymmetric with the mid-vein closer to one side than the other and the margins shortly serrate (toothed).

Rows of light brown sori may be present on the underside.

Opinion: I have several of these ferns in Cathy's rose garden.

I didn't plant them, they came up on their own, so presumably they were present on the block before the town arrived.

They get plenty of light and sun, particularly in



summer when they tend to brown off a little, but otherwise don't seem to mind the exposure.

Odd, considering that their normal habitat is understorey in cool, wet, shady forests!

There used to be others in the back garden years ago, but these have all disappeared over time,

possibly due to too much shade and/or too dry in summers past.

They are easy to propagate, as the means to do so is sitting on the ends of many of the fronds, in the form of miniature plantlets.

They can be detached and planted separately in pots or in the ground,

but I find they are more successful if you leave them on the frond, bring the pot to them.

Cover the end of the frond in the potting mix while leaving the plantlet exposed and allowing the plantlet to establish before separating it from the frond.

If you would like some, let me know.

Sources: Elliot & Jones – Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 7.

Jones & Clemesha – Australian Ferns and Fern Allies.

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

Online – Flora of Victoria.

# Home Care Packages for Churchill

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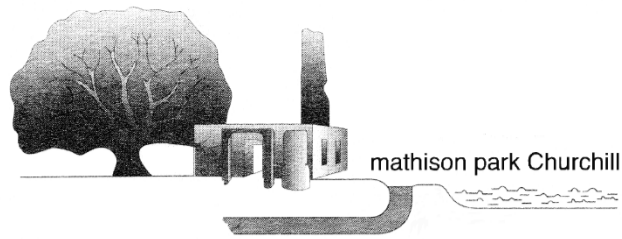


## Live at home for longer

Latrobe Community Health Service has worked as a trusted provider of Home Care Packages for 23 years.

If you live in Churchill or the surrounding area, we can help you live at home for longer.

- ✓ Gardening and home cleaning
- ✓ Home nursing services
- ✓ Caring local staff
- ✓ Transport for medical appointments
- ✓ Personal care



## An outstanding working bee



What an outstanding working bee we had with a record fourteen people turning up.

Three of those were volunteers from the Latrobe 4W Drive Club who had rung up earlier in the week to say they would like to come and help with the clear up after the weather event.

They had qualifications with chainsaws and used them effectively.

Where uprooted trees were, some lying in the creek, were now just piles

of branches and empty spaces.

The rest of the crew worked flat out in the Koori plantation north of the old house dam along the incline.

There two large trees had been uprooted by the storm and the many plantings needed to be examined for survival.

Lots of tree guards and stakes were removed as well as fallen branches, dead blackberries and other rubbish.

We were so grateful for

the extra help from these much younger volunteers.

Thanks heaps to Steven, Rob and Bruce.

They have decided they like to see the work they can do making such a difference. They will return. Our Gippsland Interchange crew have been regular visitors who help do many jobs.

This last month they have helped install pipes under the path and cleaned up branches left from clearing fallen trees. They are a great asset to us.

## Small business – Melina Bath

It is no secret that small businesses in regional communities are doing it tough.

Collectively they have been hardest hit throughout the pandemic.

Sadly, many of our loved businesses have been forced to lay off staff, while others have made the heartbreaking decision to close their doors for good.

The mental stress of yo-yo restrictions is taking its toll on everyone.

During this ongoing period of uncertainty, I encourage all Gippslanders to buy local and support small businesses owners in your local community whenever you can.

Buying local will assist our much-loved businesses remain open into the future.

Collectively small business owners are the largest employers in the country. They hire our young people and sponsor our sporting and community clubs, and deserve our courtesy and understanding as they implement COVID safe protocols.

An example of small business stress was recently highlighted, after all Gippsland based mum and dad dry cleaning businesses learned their 20 year agreement to wash local Ambulance Victoria uniforms had been revoked, after the state

government decided to go with a centralised state wide procurement policy.

This decision resulted in excess of 50 small businesses losing regular income when they could least afford it.

Understandably times are tight for many however if you have dry cleaning needs or your family is able to enjoy a take away meal, get behind your local retailers and suppliers.

### State Parliament Shutdown

During the August sitting of state parliament, the Victorian Government exercised its powers under the ongoing State of Emergency to again close down public debate at Spring Street.

Before the closure I advocated for the adoption of rapid antigen testing to be used in a variety of settings such as education, transport and logistics and health settings.

Rapid antigen testing should form part of the toolkit to help regional communities to stay open.

Rapid testing sites provide a result in just 15 minutes and are being used worldwide.

I recently took part in a rapid testing demonstration before state parliament with my fellow Nationals colleagues to demonstrate the ease with which it can be administered.



### Book your Vaccine Appointment

Everyone wants to see an end to the lockdowns. Getting vaccinated is a vital step we can each make toward permanently opening up Victoria.

From August 25, all Australians aged 16 and above are eligible after the federal government secured more Pfizer vaccine.

People aged 16 to 18 years will receive Pfizer, 18 to 59 will have the choice between Pfizer and AstraZenca, while over 60's will continue to receive AstraZenca.

Throughout September the Moderna vaccine will also start to become available for adults.

The Doherty Institute, which provides the epidemiology modelling advice to National Cabinet, confirms that we can move past lockdowns progressively as we get to 70 and 80 per cent of the adult population vaccinated.

**CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS**

*"Connecting Your Community"*

**Churchill & District News is looking for volunteers.**

We are looking for people who would like to be involved in all aspects of our operation !! We would like to hear from you!

**Phone Ruth on 5122 1961**

# Home care packages explained



Living at home without any support or moving into a residential aged care facility – these are the options people think they have to choose between as they get older.

Neither is an appealing choice, and both carry the risk of lost independence.

However, there is a third way that offers safety, comfort and independence. That option is home care packages.

“We all love living at home – we’re happy there,” Paula Gibb, Acting Home Care Services Manager at Latrobe Community Health Service, said.

“However, as we age, some tasks become a bit harder to manage.

A home care package can help you stay happy and healthy in your own home by funding a range of home and personal care services.”

A home care package is funding to pay for a ‘bundle’ of services that are tailored to meet a person’s specific care needs.

Subsidised by the Federal Government, home care packages are available to eligible Australians over the age of 65, and to



A home care package can help you live the life you want to, on your own terms and where you feel most comfortable.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders over the age of 50.

The aim of a home care package is to help older Australians continue to live full and active lives, safely and independently within their own home. Any service or equipment that

helps achieve this may be purchased using home care package funds.

“Through a home care package, you may be able to receive help around the house, such as vacuuming and gardening, or home modifications to make your

house safer and easier for you to move around in,” Ms Gibb said.

“Home care packages can pay for nursing and personal care, and they can also help you remain active in your community by funding transport to and

from social activities.”

Other services and equipment may include pharmacy accounts for non-PBS, health-related items, walking frames, medical assessments, continence products, and personal safety alarms.

“Home care packages pay for services that keep you well, safe and active, so receiving one doesn’t lead to a loss of independence or freedom – it’s actually quite the opposite,” Ms Gibb said.

“With a home care package, you can live the life you want to, on your own terms and where you feel most comfortable.”

All aged care services in Australia are now run through the Federal Government’s ‘My Aged Care’ website: [www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au)

Latrobe Community Health Service can help you navigate My Aged Care and understand whether a home care package is right for you.

Phone the friendly Latrobe Community Health Service team on 1800 242 696 for free and impartial advice.

For more information about how to apply for a home care package, visit: [www.lchs.com.au/services/home-care-packages/](http://www.lchs.com.au/services/home-care-packages/)

## Get Down Low and Go, Go, Go!

Ask your family members, ‘Who remembers Get Down Low and Go Go Go?’ Remind them of the Get Down Low and Go, Go, Go! method for escaping a fire at home.

**Explain to them that they should:**

\* Get down low close to the floor (because heat and smoke rises, it is easier to breathe near the ground where the air is cleaner).

\* Crawl towards an exit door as quickly as they can,

yelling to alert others as they go.

\* Use the back of their hand to feel if the door is hot. If it is, they should choose another door or window because there could be fire on the other side.

Explain that you must always use the back of your hand rather than the palm, as the back of your hand is more sensitive, especially to temperature.



Leave the building and find a safe place to wait for help.

Never go back inside a burning house.

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# Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare Group

By Jay Duncan,  
**The grunt work continues**  
 Our group has been bumping along in and out of COVID lockdown along with everyone else in the community.  
 It certainly isn't easy. We found a window when travel was allowed, to retrieve our seed supplies from refrigerated storage at Maffra; but then our planned group event to clean it all up and get it ready for planting was unable to go ahead.  
 No matter, we got our Billys Creek project site done, and the biggest seeding area we have tried so far has now been planted.  
 We are also very fortunate to have found planting contractors who are willing to hike up and down hills and then work on the very steep slopes to do this job. Having funds to pay them is both necessary and welcome.  
 The very best thing this time is that it has rained immediately after each seeding excursion to date.  
 The rain washes the seed into the soil which protects it from birds, snails, rodents and anything else that might feel like making a meal of it.  
 We had another brief window to go to Allambiee South and collect tube stock

that we bought.  
 We have planted fewer plants in tubes than we have in other years due to the difficulty of guarding the plants from animals.  
 With our usual volunteers in lock down, the simple difficulty of carrying them in to the bottom of the site meant that many were planted in positions other than where they were intended to go.  
 This coming growing season, we will have a chance to try growing some species that we have had to buy in tubes because they don't grow well from seed.  
 We do not yet have enough experience in growing them reliably from cuttings to have been sure of the quantities we've needed for this site.  
 Our three-year Biodiversity Community Action grant for the Billys Creek project is about to finish, but we have other opportunities now to keep going with work there.  
 Our next job is replanting our Middle Creek project after the recent flood.  
 Hopefully it will be all done and we'll be out of lock down by the time this edition of Churchill News is published.  
 We are trying to achieve maximum biodiversity on our planting sites.

More than forty plant species went in to Billys Creek this year and the plants were different for the different levels of the site.  
**Workshop Series – growing stuff and promoting bio-diversity**  
 We are hoping that our September 12 workshops in Yinnar on Attracting Native Butterflies and Bees and on Propagating Native Plants from Seed were able to go ahead as planned.  
 These workshops are part of a series funded by Latrobe City for fire recovery and community strengthening after the 2019 Yinnar, Yinnar South and Jumbuk bushfires.  
 We are collaborating with Yinnar Community Garden and Food for All Latrobe Valley on this project.  
 Our Landcare group has found that running our greenhouse and growing our own plants has been and is still a great way for people to connect with each other, have a good time and see the results of doing something worthwhile.  
 It is also something that everyone can do.  
 We are delighted that these free workshops are happening and that others can share the love.  
 These are the planned dates for 2021:  
 October 31: Morning:

Soil Afternoon: Weeds second new date for this one  
 November 28: Morning: Vegetables Afternoon: Frogs  
 The series will continue into 2022:  
 February 27, 2022 Morning: Organic Gardening Afternoon: Climate  
 March 13: Morning: Harvesting Afternoon: Native plants from Cuttings  
 Date to be confirmed: Indigenous food, fibre and medicine.  
 All sessions are free. Booking will be on line and places limited.  
 There is a booking link at: <https://bit.ly/2Xw8Zk3> Pollinator Project.  
 Now that our two big re-vegetation sites are started, planted and growing, our group will not be quite as occupied with them as we have been for the last three years; and we can have a go at growing some different plants.  
 COVID restrictions have forced us to decentralise our growing.  
 Not as much fun as doing it together, but what else can we do in a pandemic?  
 The good thing is that we now have three greenhouses on the go in

different locations.  
 We hope to be capable of providing bottom heat for cuttings very soon.  
 The challenge for a pollinator project is to identify and grow enough plants to have a continuous source of both nectar and pollen available from early spring to late autumn.  
 It is desirable that at least three different plant species should be in flower at any time.  
 Native bees in our area are all solitary and stingless and they die in winter.  
 A new generation hatches in spring.  
 Some native bees can't fly more than 50 metres, so links between pollinator plant sites are important.  
 Here at Yinnar, we have just started to see the first butterflies (White Imperials), so it looks like we will have flowers from early August.  
 There is currently a fascinating project in Melbourne, The Melbourne Pollinator Corridor that aims to create an 8km long pollinator corridor from Westgate Park to the Botanic Gardens.  
 They plan to establish 200 street gardens and plant 18,000 indigenous plants. You can read about it on the Rotary District 9800 website or listen to an ABC Radio National program

explaining the project at these links:  
<https://rotarydistrict9800.org.au/Stories/the-melbourne-pollinator-corridor-increasing-indigenous-biodiversity-in-our-city>  
<https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/blueprintforliving/melbournes-community-led-pollinator-corridor/13502652>  
 That project is huge, and a bit more ambitious than our initial plan, but with enough people interested, who knows how big we could get or how far we could go?  
 Pollinator plants range in size from the biggest eucalypts to the smallest lilies. We will look at easier to grow, locally indigenous, garden-worthy plants first.  
 Strange and fascinating factoid: many of our native orchids have their own specific pollinator insect.  
 The flowers may have attributes such as their shape, colour, size and/or smell that have evolved to lure these insects into pollinating the plant.  
 All the more reason for us all to do whatever we can to maintain biodiversity and try and keep these amazing plants and their insects alive for future generations.

## Federation launches Australia's first hybrid TAFE and university degree

Federation University is launching an Australian-first degree in food sustainability that combines practical TAFE skills training with the critical thinking and analysis skills of a university degree. The new Bachelor of Sustainable Food Systems has been designed with significant industry consultation to equip students with the

skills to improve food production and tackle food sustainability issues in Australia and internationally.  
 The new undergraduate degree is the first of its kind in Australia as it allows students to graduate with dual qualifications – both a TAFE qualification and a higher education degree studied as an integrated degree.



The first half of the degree embeds a Diploma of Food Science and Technology to develop student's knowledge and core practical skills across food testing, quality and sustainability.  
 For the second half of the degree, students will focus on either food processing or sustainable food production and gain valuable workplace

experience through an industry placement.  
 Working closely with industry professionals in the region, students will understand how to solve problems with local sustainability, which in turn will help address a global problem.  
 As one of only a handful of dual sector providers in Australia, Federation is uniquely placed to develop this new style of hybrid degree that meets the needs of both students and employers.  
 Making sure students graduate into full-time jobs with the skills employers need is a key focus for Federation, which is

ranked the number one university in Victoria for undergraduate employment in the Good Universities Guide 2022.  
 Graduates of the new Bachelor of Sustainable Food Systems can expect to work in food safety, product research and development, regulatory affairs and quality assurance, and contribute to activities which promote a circular economy.  
 The degree will be offered from 2022 at Federation University's Ballarat and Gippsland campuses, as well as online to give students flexible study options. For more information or to

apply, visit: <https://study.federation.edu.au/course/DF55>  
 Federation University Pro Vice-Chancellor (Vocational Education and Training) and CEO TAFE, Liam Sloan said "This is the first degree of its kind in Australia and offers a blended learning mode of knowledge and practical skills that points to the future of higher education.  
 We listened to industry partners about what skills and values they needed in employees. With their input, we designed a program that gives our students the best possible chance being work ready as soon as they graduate and pursuing meaningful careers.

We expect our graduates will drive change and innovation across the food industry. They will gain the knowledge and skills required to feed a growing population, and to do so through in the most ecologically sustainable and financially sound way."

## Hazelwood Rotary Club

Contact: Ray Beebe, Secretary 0408 178 201  
**MEETINGS:**  
**Mondays 6.30pm - 8.00pm**  
 MORWELL BOWLING CLUB  
**ALL WELCOME**

*Rotary is helping health authorities communicate lifesaving information about COVID-19 and donating protective gear and other supplies to clinics and hospitals that are under strain because of the pandemic.*

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# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



## Sometimes hindsight is wonderful

By Leo Billington

Poet and painter, William Blake (1757 – 1827) once wrote, “Hindsight is a wonderful thing but foresight is better, especially when it comes to saving life, or some pain!”

During the early hours of Thursday January 10, 1935, a massive fire totally consumed Morwell’s Mechanics Institute, a rather formidable, wooden building located at the corner of Tarwin and George Streets.

As often was reported, residents of Morwell had their slumbers interrupted – people yelling, a tired old fire bell vigorously ringing (located opposite today’s Morwell Post

Office), “tongues of red flame” and dense smoke. Basically, the locals were completely stunned.

The Morwell Mechanics Institute was a valued asset. It was used for public functions, Council meetings, formal occasions and also housed a public library containing approximately 2,000 books. Moreover, this was where films were shown – otherwise called “talkie machines.” The Clerk of Courts was housed here alongside a Masonic Lodge room and a basic welfare centre. The only other hall in Morwell, albeit a lot smaller was the Morwell Fire Brigade shed opposite today’s Post

Office.

Morwell’s social hub was razed to the ground. A community was bewildered, wondering how it was to function effectively. Community cohesiveness was shattered. At least that is how Morwell’s community and business leaders saw it.

Even Morwell’s billiard room with its magnificent, full sized table was partially burnt.

During November 1934, it was announced new books had been added for all library subscribers to enjoy. Titles were listed, including ‘Black Heart’ author S Horler, ‘Hermit of Far End’ by M

Pedler, ‘Runaway Horse’ by Gary Marshall, ‘Sunset Range’ by Lawrence Keaton and many others.

Two weeks later, the Morwell Advertiser reported that “the needs of library subscribers must be catered for until such time as a library is opened in a new building.”

A temporary library was located in the old billiard room, still standing and quite convenient. Opening hours were Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons; also, each evening except on Mondays. Mr Smithers took charge as supervisor.

One month later, after the fire, Mr E Pearson, Chairman of the

Mechanics Institute Committee, at the annual meeting of library subscribers, suggested “alternate schemes to replace the lost hall and library – one, to combine with the Council Chambers and one to rebuild on the present site corner of Tarwin and George Streets.”

Later in February 1935, it was mooted that a new library be combined with the Shire Council in a new Town Hall building suggested for the corner of Hazelwood Road and Commercial Roads.

It is uncertain whether this idea grabbed the imagination of residents – rate payers as they were known back then. Whatever, public debate started, mainly through the Morwell Advertiser, but also on the streets. Factions were formed, and, roughly became united although passionate arguments fizzled out, only to be ignited again. Much depended on which Councillors said anything. Prominent Morwell Shire ratepayer, Alf Ronald, for instance called for a chief public building, to set a high standard which, he believed, would have “a considerable influence on the prestige of a community.”

Alf did seem to waver between the two options, maintaining that a public poll should be conducted.

Occasionally, in letters to the editor, Mr W S Mackenzie presented another view – mainly that “here are Councillors, elected to look after the business of rate payers, shutting their eyes to the splendid opportunity of establishing an administrative centre comprising Post Office, Council Chambers, Court House, Public Library and Town Hall” (Morwell Advertiser, March 7, 1935).

Throughout April and into May 1935, debate raged. (Readers may recall recent debates over siting a new Latrobe Region Entertainment Centre.)

Around this time,

letters to the editor flourished; even one local resident writing in June, “...rise up Oh Morwell Mussolini, inspire your townspeople with civic pride and selfless endeavour to build a centre, worthy of Gippsland; the garden of Victoria.”

At their meeting on Wednesday June 19, a petition signed by 325 residents eventually shifted councillors to a sensible outcome – “that a suitable Town Hall be erected on O’Rourke’s corner (corner of Hazelwood and Commercial Roads) and that Council take the necessary steps for the floating of a loan.”

Council’s decision also included an invitation to the Mechanics Institute to co-operate “with a view to pooling resources and becoming a portion of a committee of management to the proposed new Town Hall.”

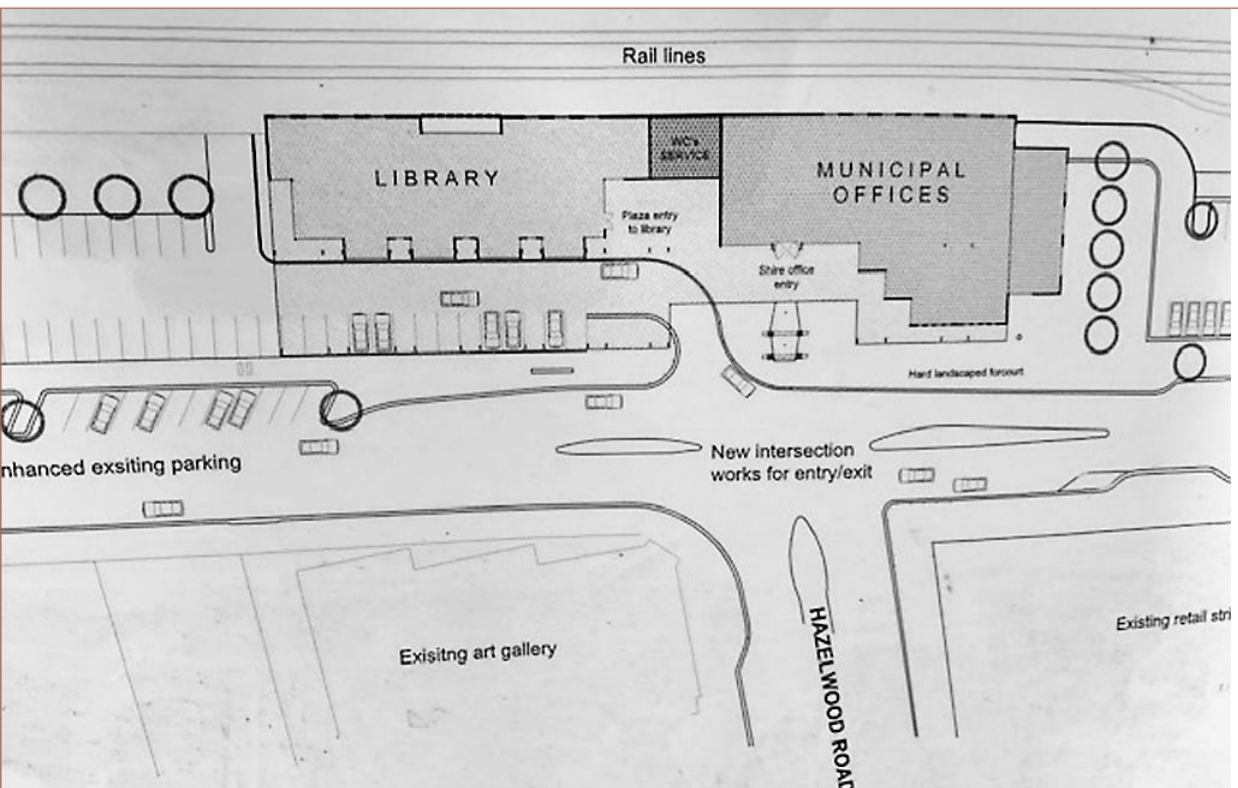
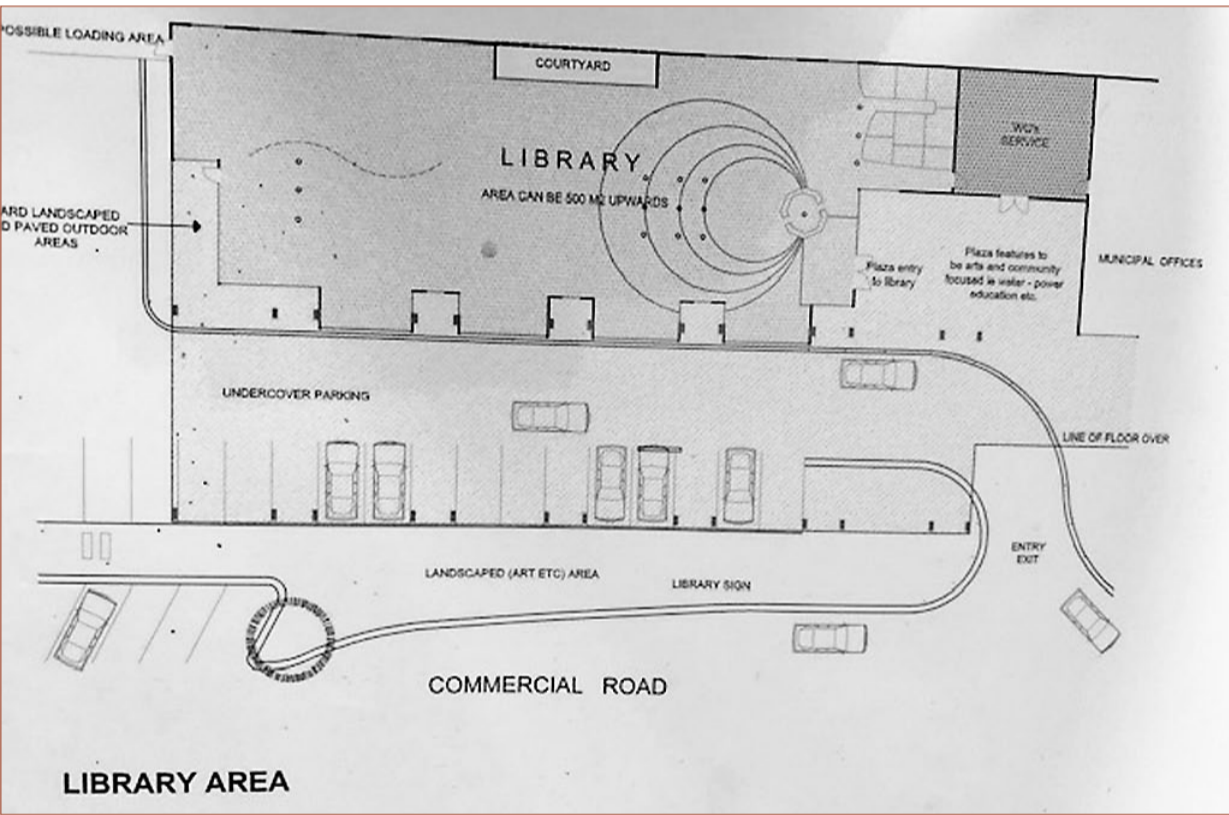
At least five months after Morwell’s library was destroyed, the way was clear to “build a centre, worthy of Gippsland.” Procrastination seemed to disappear, at least for this time.

Here was an opportunity to create a civic centre as suggested by Mr W S Mackenzie several months earlier.

But alas, this vision slipped well away over the ensuing years; and the accompanying plans recently surfaced during a COVID lockdown inspired clean-up of stuff from a local garage.

The concept of combining a new library with Council’s central administrative centre was presented to Latrobe City Council when plans for a new Morwell based administrative centre were being determined. The Morwell Commercial Road offices opened in 2005.

As William Blake wrote, in part, “Hindsight is a wonderful thing but foresight is better...”



# Nappies Collected



We decided that due to COVID-19 we would not have another nappy collection this year, but others did not allow this to happen.

Abigail at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre set up a collection box that had been delivered anyway.

Lo and behold within a few days the box was full.

Abigail contacted Barbara, our team Nappy Collection Co-ordinator as to what to do.

After consultation we arranged for the nappies to be presented to Kathy Ryan from Anglicare, Victoria's Parent Support Program (PSP.)

Kathy is co-located at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre but currently is working remotely due to COVID and was overjoyed at the response, as she can always pass these nappies onto her clients and said she would also share the nappies with the Maternal and Child Health Nurse.

The Parent Support Program supports families within the Churchill community by providing short term intervention to build parenting capacity, increase parenting confidence and enhance connection to the local Churchill community.

If you would like to talk with Kathy, feel free to contact her at Parent Support Program, SafeCare Educator, phone 5135 9555 or 0499 005 141 or [anglicarevic.org.au](http://anglicarevic.org.au)

# Pain Education Group

If you live with chronic pain then you will understand how insidious it is.

How much it can take over every area of your life, emotions, social life, hobbies, work, mental health and physical stamina.

You will know the 'ins and outs' of every quirk, and every whim that the pain carries you on.

You will know the consequences of every medication you take, but better to have them than be left with nothing at all.

You will also know the frustration of being on the roundabout of the medical system, getting conflicting diagnoses or no diagnosis at all.

How much do you understand the way chronic pain physically and chemically alters your body?

How chronic pain interacts with your inbuilt survival systems?

Or how chronic pain functions differently than acute pain from an injury?

In my own experience of chronic pain, building my knowledge around these topics has allowed me to change my relationship with the pain, and has therefore been vital to moving forward.

Receiving quality education around these topics was without a doubt the most positive and empowering thing I have engaged in during my entire recovery. However, whilst coping with the everyday chaos that chronic pain can bring, there is not much energy left over for learning, and so the Pain Education Group aims to create a place where this can start to happen for people.

The Latrobe Valley Chronic Pain Education Group is not a therapy group, nor a support group, and it will not advocate for one treatment over another.

The group is dedicated to education - learning how chronic pain functions in our bodies, and therefore the most effective ways to interact with it.

The focus of the group is education with the goal of empowering people to change the relationship with their pain.

There is a growing body of evidence based studies and resources available to assist with managing chronic pain, however it is not always easy to know how to access them.

The Pain Education Group focuses on helping people access these resources and connecting in with clinical

professionals where appropriate.

The Pain Education Group aims to be a conduit to help people access well researched and evidence based information that can assist in daily management of chronic pain and therefore complement their ongoing clinical treatments.

Since forming in 2019 some examples of literature we have looked at include the Neuro Orthopaedic Institute (NOI Group) with David Butler and Lorimer Mosely, Michael Moskovitch's Neuroplastix literature, Norman Doidge literature and Rewire Your Pain by Dr. Stephanie Davies, Nicholas Cooke and Julia Sutton.

We have also had clinical guest speakers as appropriate encompassing topics such as nutrition, counselling and medicinal cannabis.

The Pain Education Group was set up in conversation with the Pain Management Clinic, in cooperation with the Pain Support Group and is run by a local volunteer through the Australian Pain Management Association (APMA) who provide both training and support.

There are no fees associated with the Pain Education Group, there are no referrals needed to access it as it is a non-clinical support group run by volunteers under the APMA.

Other services to assist with managing persistent pain in the region include multidisciplinary Pain Management Clinic at the Latrobe Regional Hospital which requires a referral from your GP.

Also, the Latrobe Valley Pain Support Group is available for people who are actively managing their pain and are seeking social support, but it is preferred that participants have first attended a Pain Management Clinic prior to attending.

One participant of the Pain Education Group said "I'm really enjoying the education meetings and I really like the format.

Between the printed handouts, screen projections and your round-table discussions, I come away from each meeting feeling like I have more tools in my bag, when it comes to dealing with chronic pain." If you have any questions at all then please don't hesitate to reach out to Geraldine on [latrobevalleyeducation@painmanagement.org.au](mailto:latrobevalleyeducation@painmanagement.org.au)."

## Al-Anon

A newcomer called last night.

Her voice was filled with the excitement and joy of someone who has hope.

Her enthusiastic response to her first Al-Anon meeting has filled me with a rush of memories.

I had called about help three times before I was

willing to leave my name and address for them to send me some literature.

Oh, the fear of coming out of my denial was intense!

Then I went to my first meeting. I was greeted warmly by the woman at whose home we met.

The children played outside and I do not

remember anything that was said.

However, I do remember knowing I would be back.

During the closing prayer I collapsed in tears.

The hugs helped comfort me and I could feel some of the fear leaving me.

It was so wonderful to be touched by strangers with love and acceptance.

Eighteen years have passed since I went to my first Al-Anon meeting with a wig and sunglasses firmly in place.

Why did this particular newcomer create such an emotional response? This newcomer was my daughter.



## 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.

New members are welcome to attend For further information contact the Secretary Phone 5163 1565



## WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND READ ON . . .

### The importance of public relations

Let Churchill & District News help you. If you are a member of a sporting, community, or other group, it is important that you emphasise to your committee, the value of public relations through publicity.

Publicity can involve letting the public know what your group does, where it meets (days/times) and the benefits of being a part of it. It can increase interest and promote it for new membership. It also lets the community know the variety of groups we have.

A regular report of your activities

including special occasions and highlights with photographic coverage, is recommended.

There are many new people moving into Churchill & District News distribution area, and we find that it is through reading the paper that new arrivals find out about the activities in the region and who to contact to join.

We at Churchill & District News look forward to helping you promote your group in our well-read and esteemed monthly newspaper.

# 80th and 81st Celebrations



Don and Marion Ireland recently celebrated their eighty-first and eightieth birthdays at Café Alpha with two sittings of friends and family to cover COVID restrictions.

A lovely meal was served with drinks during and after the meal.

A delightful slide show of their lives was shown on the big screen and brought many happy responses

from those present.

Last year when Don was 80 COVID restrictions prevented his celebration so together this year they celebrated their years together.

# St Matt's, Yinnar

At the time of writing, regional Victoria has now joined Melbourne in lockdown, so unfortunately the Book Week celebration scheduled for August 26, had to be cancelled.

We have plenty of books for children and adults ready and waiting, and hope to open our doors to customers again soon.

We were also planning a September Sale, with our ever-popular offer: fill a bag with clothes and shoes for \$5 all throughout the month of September.

To find out whether we are back open again and this can go ahead, head to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StMattsYinnar>

We would like to thank all our customers for their kind cooperation with our COVID19 safety measures, including wearing a mask in store, signing in via our QR code, and courteously checking whether shop



capacity limits have been reached before entering. during these stressful times and hope to see you back soon.

We appreciate your patience and understanding

## Better mobile coverage for Gippsland

Gippslanders are safer, and the economy has prospered because of more than \$15 million being spent to reduce mobile phone black spots, according to the Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester.

Mr Chester said the Federal Government had committed \$5.47 million under the mobile black spot program which had leveraged co-contributions from the telecommunications sector, state and local governments and community organisations.

"To date we have seen 23 mobile base stations funded to be deployed across Gippsland, of which 16 base stations are now complete and on air," Mr Chester said.

"These base stations are saving lives, boosting jobs in the visitor economy and making businesses more productive as they cover from Benambra to Austins Hill, and to Carrabung Lower and Licola."

Mr Chester said improved connectivity, whether it be mobile phone or internet coverage, was essential throughout our region for communication and economic growth.

"Phone coverage, especially in rural areas like parts of Gippsland, is vital for day-to-day communication, during emergencies and when travelling," Mr Chester said.

"It is important we

continue to identify black spots and improve connectivity throughout Gippsland for both locals and visitors.

While it is great to secure this funding there is still more work to be done and I will continue to work with my parliamentary colleagues to get better mobile coverage for our region."

Mr Chester said Gippslanders can have their point of view heard as part of the 2021 Regional Telecommunications Review now underway.

Written submissions are being accepted until Thursday September 30, 2021 and can be lodged at [www.rtrc.gov.au](http://www.rtrc.gov.au)

## Latrobe City's Taskforce

Building on Latrobe City's strengths to transform an economy fuelled by coal-fired power generation to a new diamond standard was the focus of the first Latrobe City Transition Taskforce meeting recently.

Council established the bi-partisan taskforce to plan for economic diversification and investment opportunities as the region transitions from traditional power generation and a reduced timber industry.

With the expected loss of 500 direct jobs, 200 contractor roles and significant indirect jobs when Yallourn Power Station shuts down in 2028, combined with a similar fallout still being felt following Hazelwood's closure in 2017, the taskforce will focus on new investment to generate employment.

Latrobe City Mayor Sharon Gibson said a key goal was to establish a diversification of industry to future proof our economy.

"Our community has suffered from the severe and sudden impact of major industry closures

and the loss of skilled, highly paid work," Councillor Gibson said.

"With less than seven years until Yallourn closes and the anticipated Loy Yang closure by 2048, we must lay the foundations for a thriving regional city now, capitalising on our local knowledge and expertise.

We are thrilled to have State and Federal representatives on board to help us lead this transition and set the course for generations of Latrobe City growth and prosperity, because we cannot do this alone."

Council will target investment in fields including: technical education, advanced manufacturing, regional and rural health, renewable energy, food and fibre, defence engineering, geothermal energy, recyclables, and a circular economy.

Other opportunities include developing the Gippsland Logistics Precinct, Latrobe Regional Airport, Centre for Australian Automotive Futures and unlocking various barriers to Latrobe City's further economic growth, such as infrastructure restrictions.

Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy Chris Bowen, Senator for Victoria Kim Carr, Deputy Leader of the Opposition Peter Walsh, Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester, State Member for Narracan Gary Blackwood, Member for Eastern Victoria Melina Bath and Member for Morwell Russell Northe attended the first meeting.

Council thanks the commitment of the taskforce members to date and welcomes future participation from State and Federal officials from all sides of government.





**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

## St Vinnies

# SOUP VAN

## EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

**5.45 pm - 6.10 pm**  
**Churchill Community HUB**

**6.15 pm - 6.45 pm**  
**Glendonald Park**

*\*\*Note these times are approximate*

# Australians lose over \$70 million to bogus investment opportunities

Investment scams reported to Scamwatch have cost Australians over \$70 million in the first half of this year, more than the total losses reported to Scamwatch for all of 2020, and projected losses are set to reach \$140 million by the end of the year.

Data from Scamwatch shows a 53.4 per cent increase in reports about investment scams received so far, up from 3,104 in the first half of 2020 to 4,763 reports so far in 2021.

In addition to taking victims' money, scammers often commit fraud or identity theft using the information they obtained from the victim.

## Cryptocurrency trading scams

"Investment scams are more prevalent than ever, and scammers are capitalising on interest in cryptocurrency in particular," ACCC Deputy Chair Delia Rickard said. "More than half of the \$70 million in losses were to cryptocurrency, especially through Bitcoin, and cryptocurrency scams were also the most commonly reported type of investment scam, with 2,240 reports."

Scammers pretend to have highly profitable trading systems based on individual expertise or through algorithms they developed. Many of these scams also use fake celebrity endorsements to try and enhance their legitimacy.

Victims will initially be able to access small returns sourced from other victims' initial deposits but the scammers soon claim problems with making withdrawals and cut off contact.

"Be wary of investment opportunities with low risk and high returns. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is," Ms Rickard said.

Losses to investment scams involving Bitcoin have already reached \$25.7 million this year, compared to \$17.8 million across all of 2020, representing a 44 per cent increase.

Losses to other types of investment scams, including imposter bond scams, Ponzi scams, and romance baiting scams are also increasing, while traditional investment scams are also still very



common.

## Imposter bond scams

In imposter bond scams, scammers impersonate legitimate companies and offer victims the opportunity to purchase fake corporate bonds.

In the first half of this year, there were over 58 reports and losses of more than \$6.8 million reported to Scamwatch.

Older Australians looking for well-known respected companies to invest their money in have been the most impacted, making up 43 per cent of reports and accounting for almost half of the losses.

"These scams are particularly hard to detect because scammers use the companies' legitimate prospectuses which are registered with ASIC, link to the actual websites and have the correct ABN/ACN details. However, the scammers change key details such as contact information and bank details," Ms Rickard said.

"That's why it's really important to contact the company using details you source yourself from doing a search online or visiting the company's website directly, and to seek independent advice no matter how confident you feel."

## Ponzi schemes

Ponzi schemes have also increased. In the first six months of this year, Scamwatch received over 400 reports and more than \$1 million in losses to the Hope, Business and Wonderful World scams.

These scams used advertising on social media sites and had their applications available via official app stores. People invested their money and were able to make small withdrawals in the beginning before the scammers cut off contact.

The ACCC contacted the Google and Apple apps stores and had the Hope business app removed. The main Wonderful World scam app has also been removed from the stores.

These scams disproportionately affected members of CALD communities including

recent migrants from Burma and Sri Lanka.

Overall, more than 13 per cent of losses (\$9.6 million) to investment scams were from people who spoke English as a second language.

## Romance baiting

Investment scams originating through dating apps and websites are also becoming increasingly common. In these scams, a scammer develops a relationship with the victim and convinces them to invest, usually in cryptocurrency or bond scams.

"These scams predominantly impact younger people, who might be seeing these 'investment opportunities' through social media, recommendations from friends, or by registering their interest in cryptocurrency on questionable websites," Ms Rickard said.

"Remember, never take investment advice, send money or give credit card details, online account details or personal information to anyone you don't know or trust, and never to someone you have only met online or over the phone, as you never know who you might be dealing with."

The ACCC is urging everyone to seek independent advice from a qualified financial advisor before making any investments.

The MoneySmart website run by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) has information on different types of investments and how to spot investment scams.

What to do if you think you have been scammed

People who think they have been scammed should contact their bank or financial institution as soon as possible. They can also contact IDCARE on 1300 IDCARE (432273) or via [www.idcare.org](http://www.idcare.org) if they suspect they are a victim of identity theft. IDCARE is a free, government funded service that will support individuals through the process.

# Police Report



By Jordan Atkinson  
Sergeant - Churchill Police Station

Hello all, my name is Jordan Atkinson and my usual place of work is the Traralgon Police Station. I am filling in as the Station Commander for Sergeant den Houting who is taking a well-deserved break.

After 180,000kms of policing the Churchill Holden Colorado Divisional Van was returned to be decommissioned in July and replaced by a new Ford Ranger Divisional Van, featuring increased safety technology and more stable members are most grateful.

At the time of writing for the month of August, the Churchill response zone which includes Jeeralang and Hazelwood had 23 reported incidents.

Sadly many of these continue to relate to Family Violence.

The positive we can draw from this is the continual increase in the willingness of people to report and help to break the cycle.

It opens the door to support for people in need which can take many forms not just holding offenders to account.

There were nine incidents relating to theft and/or damage, mostly in the Churchill CBD with retail business suffering as a result.

The young persons responsible have been identified and received Official Cautions.

On July 31, Churchill Police intercepted a 49 year old man from Morwell for travelling at 129km/h in a 100km/h zone. He received a penalty notice and his licence was suspended for three months.

On August 20, Churchill Police intercepted an 18 year old Jeeralang man for travelling at 145km/h in a 100km/h zone. He will face Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Court at a later date and his vehicle was immediately impounded for 28 days.

On August 21, Churchill Police charged a 33 year old Churchill woman relating to a number of hoon offences including Reckless Conduct Endangering Serious Injury and Driving in a Manner Dangerous in the Churchill area. She will face Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Court in September 2021.

As we emerge from COVID lockdown and traffic increases again, I urge everyone to drive to the conditions and take care on the roads.

COVID continues to be a challenge for all and the behaviour of people in the Churchill Response Zone is to be commended, with pleasing efforts by most people for the good of the community.

Disappointingly in Boolarra two \$1800 penalty notices were issued to two people from the western side of the state who intended to visit the Morwell River Falls in breach of the state wide

lockdown. Thankfully they were caught prior to their arrival.

In the Boolarra response zone made up of Boolarra, Yinnar and Delburn there were five incidents reported.

Some good work by Leading Senior Constable Ryan has seen a decrease in theft offences for Yinnar and Boolarra over the last three months.

These theft type offences, which thankfully have reduced, were almost all related to unlocked vehicles being accessed overnight.

Offenders often travel from other towns and take advantage of situations like this.

Opening unlocked cars to not draw attention and moving on.

I ask that people continue to be vigilant in removing valuables and locking their vehicle no matter where you live.

A recent increase in staffing across the Latrobe Valley is allowing the Churchill Police Station to be open to the public for enquiries more often, however if the station is unattended it is likely the crew are out on the road.

You can call 131444 and speak to The Police Assistance Line who can help with reporting crime, general enquiries and passing messages to Police Members.

As always - 000 for any emergencies.

Take Care.

## Churchill and District News

Like us ...



Website: [cdnews.com.au](http://cdnews.com.au)



# Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

Hello from Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, based in the Churchill Hub, 9-11 Philip Parade.

Even though Victoria is in lockdown at the time of writing, we are open by appointment for emergency food from 9.30 - 4pm Monday to Friday.

Please call us on 5120 3850 and we can arrange for you to collect a hamper, or we can deliver within the local area.

We can also help you get your COVID 19 vaccine organised!

It is the way we can protect ourselves and get everyone out and about again.

We are not qualified to give advice, but we certainly know someone very friendly who can.

We can put you in contact with them, and can help you book your job.

Call us! The Breast Screen trip is on Thursday October 7.

If you have been putting off a breast screen, join the friendly group of women, lady chauffeur driven in a COVID safe way to

Traralgon Breastscreen to have a quick breast screen, lunch and chance to win movie tickets.

Call us to book your seat.

We are also available to talk on the phone if you are feeling isolated and alone.

Please call and we can set up a regular chat with you.

However, we are not a 24 hour service.

Services that offer help 24 hours a day are listed at the end of this article.

As soon as lockdown allows, we will be back.

We usually run face to face classes at the Churchill Hub.

You may already know about what we offer: friendly discussion over coffee or some artwork you are doing, building your computer or cooking confidence, learning the art of patchwork, reviewing your money skills or spelling and reading, to name a few.

Perhaps you have joined us in one of those classes or activities.

If you don't know us, we

would love to know you!

Usually, too, we are open to have a coffee and a chat with you, help you find out information and refer you on to services, and provide access to a computer.

If you are receiving one of these benefits:

\* Centrelink Pensioner Concession

\* Jobseeker, Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy

\* Department of Veteran's Affairs Gold Card or Pensioner Concession

Drop in when we are fully open again with a current electricity bill and we can help you apply for the \$250 Power Saving Bonus, \$250 into your bank account, not off the next bill.

We are here to help and support you: please let us know if we can.

24 hour help:

Lifeline 13 11 14, Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636,

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800

Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence 1800 737 732,

Mensline 1300 789 978.

# Russell Northe, MP

As was noted in the previous edition of Churchill & District News, I along with others, have been advocating to the State Government for the former Hazelwood House aged care facility in Churchill to be utilised as a palliative care hospice.

Since highlighting this initiative publicly, my office and I have been approached by many members of the local community who have likewise thrown their support behind this idea.

Subsequently I have now taken steps to establish an e-petition with the objective of demonstrating to the State Government how passionate local residents and families are about the need for a hospice in our region.

It is well-recognised that those who work in the palliative care space are angels to individuals and families enduring end of life care, but the reality is this care at the moment can only be delivered in the home or in hospital.

Many people strongly feel that a dedicated hospice setting is required to provide greater options for locals going through end of life situations with the support of specific health, spiritual and emotional interventions.

My petition which is currently open for people to sign states the following:

"The Petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Assembly the absence of a dedicated hospice facility in the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland region.

Improvements to end of life care were highlighted in 2019 by the Latrobe Health Advocate with the number one recommendation being to establish a dedicated

hospice for the Gippsland region.

The former Hazelwood House aged care facility located in Churchill currently remains vacant and would be ideally placed to be converted into a hospice.

Other Latrobe Valley based localities could also be considered.

With an already established care facility available and overwhelming community support, the petitioners call upon the State Government to deliver a dedicated hospice that would benefit Gippsland residents and the loved ones of those receiving end of life care.

The petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Assembly call upon the Minister for Health to explore the option of converting the former Churchill Hazelwood House aged care facility into a dedicated hospice facility, or to find another suitable location within the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland region for the purposes of building a hospice as recommended by the Latrobe Health Advocate".

I truly hope the e-petition which is open until October 13, will be supported by hundreds of local individuals and families to send a strong message to the Government that a hospice is needed in our region.

If you would like to sign the petition and share amongst your networks details can be found at the following link.

<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/assembly/petitions/e-petitions/view-sign-e-petitions/details/55/93>

In COVID news, and as we are all acutely



aware, Regional Victoria has endured another lockdown in late August early September which came as a bitter blow to many individuals, families, businesses, community and sporting organisations.

It really has been a tough and challenging year for so many, including children who are missing out on education, social and sporting activities.

Regional businesses were given less than two hours to close their doors on Saturday August 21, leaving many to throw out or donate significant amounts of food, produce and perishable items.

Whilst some business supports have been made available there is often a shortfall between the Government support provided and the actual loss incurred by business during lockdown.

Unfortunately some businesses are missing out altogether. There is hope with Governments now stipulating that strong vaccination rates will be the key to keeping communities open.

There has been good uptake for vaccinations in our community and for those wishing to get vaccinated I encourage you to visit the following website, <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment>

# Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Saturday 17/7/21  
Monthly Medal: A - Grade: D Byers (15) 86. B - Grade: D Cluderay (18)96. C-Grade: L Watkins (22) 94. D - Grade: W Sutton (27) 101. Scratch - D Byers 86 C/B. DTL: J Langstaff 74, T

Lio 74, R Scurlock 75, G Sanders 76, T Renwick M/N, G Harvey 76, T Welsh 77, T Webb 77, A Quinn 77, B Cleland 78, P Smart 79 c/B. NTP: Propin 3rd, T Lio 5th, L Watkins 12th, J Wangstaff 14th, C Gillfian. Target

Hole: J Sanders. Birdies: A Quinn 5th, J Langstaff 12th. Monthly Medal Tuesday August 3: Scratch Merryn Dear 99: Medal Merryn Dear (14) 85 Nett. Putts Sandra Caldwell 31.

# Spring

Spring will come and so will happiness, hold on, life will get warmer

The best things in life are free, the second best are very expensive

Let your joy burst forth like flowers in the spring

The screenshot shows the Parliament of Victoria website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for Home, Legislative Council, Legislative Assembly, Committees, About Parliament, Education Zone, Visit Parliament, and Tell Parliament. Below this is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: You are here: Home > Legislative Assembly > Petitions > E-Petitions > View & Sign e-petitions.

The main content area is titled 'Legislative Assembly E-Petitions'. It displays details for a specific petition:

- E-petition Number:** 2021081801
- Title:** Hospice for Gippsland residents
- Grievance:** The Petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Assembly the absence of a dedicated hospice facility in the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland region. Improvements to end of life care were highlighted in 2019 by the Latrobe Health Advocate with the number one recommendation being to establish a dedicated hospice for the Gippsland region. The former Hazelwood House aged care facility located in Churchill currently remains vacant and would be ideally placed to be converted into a hospice. Other Latrobe Valley based localities could also be considered. With an already established care facility available and overwhelming community support the petitioners call upon the State Government to deliver a dedicated hospice that would benefit Gippsland residents and the loved ones of those receiving end of life care.
- Action:** The petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Assembly call upon the Minister for Health to explore the option of converting the former Churchill Hazelwood House aged care facility into a dedicated hospice facility, or to find another suitable location within the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland region for the purposes of building a hospice as recommended by the Latrobe Health Advocate.
- Closing Date:** 2021-10-13
- Signatures:** 248
- Join:** Click here to sign
- Contact principal petitioner:** Russell.Northe@parliament.vic.gov.au

At the bottom of the page, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube, along with the name of the electorate, Morwell.

# SCHOOL NEWS

# CHURCHILL PRIMARY



### 100 Days of Prep!

On Thursday August 5, Foundation students celebrated 100 days of being at school and therefore being 100 days smarter! Students were encouraged to dress up as someone who is 100 years old, and they had fun throughout the day doing activities based on the number 100.

As a special treat both lunch and snacks were provided for all of our Foundation students, and they had a wonderful day!

### Good on you Desi!

Recently, Grade 6 student Desi, sat at the hairdressers and bravely cut his lovely long hair to donate to charity.

Desi had been growing his hair for several years and thought it would be nice to donate it to be used in wigs for people who might have lost their hair for medical reasons.

Good on you Desi!

### Basketball

On Thursday August 19, some of our Grade 5 and 6 girls represented the school in the Yinnar & District Basketball Round Robin.

The girls worked really well as a team and did a great job upholding our school values of being kind and positive throughout their games, and although they didn't come away with a win, we are all proud of their efforts.

A special thank you goes to Miss McDonald, Mrs Kimpton and Adam for training and coaching the girls on the day

### Prep enrolments 2022

A reminder to families that Prep enrolments for 2022 are now open.

If you have a kinder aged child at home who will be ready to go to school next year, please phone the office on 5122 1343 to request an enrolment pack.

School tours can also be arranged for parents wishing to come and see for themselves exactly what our school has to offer for their



child's individual needs and learning journey.

Unfortunately, due to COVID lockdowns and restrictions we were unable to start our Ready, Set... PREP! program earlier in Term 3 and we thank our 2022 Prep families for their understanding.

We are hopeful that we will still be able to run the program in a modified version once all restrictions ease again.

This program is designed to help kinder aged students make the transition to Primary School easily and helps relieve any fears they may have about going to school.

They will begin to feel comfortable in the school surroundings and build a good rapport with staff and teachers.

Please contact the school if you would like to know more.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## YINNAR PRIMARY

Just as we had settled back into having students in the classrooms we returned to lockdown and remote learning for the seventh time.

We are very aware that learning from home places a range of demands on families and I would like all of our families to know that we understand that you are trying to make the best of the situation.

It is important to acknowledge the range of emotions you and your family may experience during lockdowns. Whilst it is easy for us all to become negative during these times, trying to focus on the positive emotions, sharing happiness with others and being grateful for the good things in our lives proves to be much more helpful.

*Before Lockdown 7.0 we had:*

**Curiosity in the Classroom**  
Our 1/2 classes showed their curiosity for learning. The students have been learning about the solar system in particular about light refraction and reflection. They were discussing how the sun makes shadows on the earth. One student posed the question "how come sometimes there are shadows in the night when the sun is not out?" This led to a team of curious learners researching, wondering, questioning and exploring.

Jack and Jayden were keen to share their research. The boys concluded that "even though the surface of

the moon is not smooth, it has volcanoes and craters, they determined that the sun is so big that it would still reflect off the moon's bumpy surface and bounce back the light (12%) to earth to make shadows."

It is the feeling of curiosity that makes learning attractive. It is curiosity that creates engagement with things that are currently strange, unpredictable, or problematic.

As a school we aim to develop powerful learners who have the balance of curriculum requirements with the deliberate stimulation for their own appetite for learning.

### *Gippsland Regional Cross Country*

Before lockdown was announced four of our students travelled to Lardner Park, Warragul to compete in the Gippsland Region Cross Country event. They were very lucky with the weather on the day however students still had to deal with a very muddy and hilly course. Nic, Paddy, Abbey and Zoe represented Yinnar and themselves with pride and gave their best effort against the top cross-country runners from all over Gippsland.

Congratulations to all four students, with a special congratulations to Abbey who has qualified for the Victorian State Cross Country event to be held later in the year.

### *Splash of Green and Gold*

Over the past weeks our classes have been

capitalising on the enormous learning opportunities provided by the current Olympic Games and we were fortunate to have three-time Olympian Belinda Snell join us for a Webex session.

The session was competently hosted by our school leaders, Cooper, Gracie, Levi and Zara. Belinda modestly and humbly shared her many triumphs, including being part of the Australian Olympic teams in Athens, Beijing and London, as well as her challenges throughout her basketball sporting career.

Belinda's advice to us all was.... "to enjoy your sport and follow your dreams."

It will be hard work, there will be challenges and setbacks, but it will be worth it in the end."

### *District Basketball*

Recently some of our students competed in District



basketball. Everyone had a great day and displayed fabulous sportsmanship. The boys team won three out of four games and were unfortunately defeated by Hazelwood North who now go on to play Division finals.

The girls team won all of their games and will play Division finals.

We look forward to competing when the Division finals are re-scheduled after lockdown.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## KURNAI UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

### **Soccer team qualifies for state finals**

On Thursday August 19, the senior girls soccer team competed at the Gippsland championships.

The girls won three to one in their final and have now qualified for the state finals!

A fantastic effort and we hope the team is very proud of themselves for playing so well and representing their college. Congratulations.

### **Return to remote learning**

Once again campus staff and students have done a fabulous job at adapting to remote learning, not once but three times this term.

These changes have been achieved with very little turn-around time for staff and they are to be commended on their effort and resilience.

Students, too have proved that they are adaptable and able to reach academic targets even when they are learning in difficult circumstances.



# Safe demolition of Boiler House 2



By Ian Needham  
The demolition of Boiler House 2 on Tuesday August 17, 2021 was carried out successfully and safely, with the engineered controlled collapse taking place just after 1.30pm.  
In keeping with the commitment to the

community, workforce and local environment, the demolition date was delayed for a few days to ensure favourable weather conditions and mitigate any risks.  
The good results of the environmental monitoring program proved the wisdom

of this approach.  
The monitoring results confirmed, with reference to the EPA AirWatch Criteria, that the air quality at the boundary monitor locations was good with reference to PM2.5 and PM10.  
With respect to asbestos monitoring, all results

were below the laboratory detection limit of 0.01 fibres/mL of air.  
In other words, there were no positive asbestos detection results anywhere onsite at those sites outside the immediate boiler fell exclusion zone.  
The measured noise level

at the town boundaries of Morwell and Churchill was 130 dB(L) and 132 dB(L) respectively, below the recommended OHS Noise standards.  
Work will now begin on processing the Boiler House 2 metals and other materials.  
Two short videos

of the Boiler House 2 demolition are available on the Project website [www.hazelwoodrehabilitation.com.au](http://www.hazelwoodrehabilitation.com.au)  
With the success of this week's fell, attention turns to Boiler House 1, scheduled at this stage for demolition later this year.

**CHECK IN NOW**

**CHECK IN EVERYWHERE EVERY TIME**

Victoria, every one of us needs to check in, everywhere, every time.

Checking in helps us stop the spread of coronavirus, and protects our businesses, our communities and each other.

So, let's all check in. Everyone. Everywhere. Every time.

For more information visit [CORONAVIRUS.vic.gov.au](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

