

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

Est. 1966

Distributed Free

Student saddles up - P 3



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## Fiddlehead Fever!



Community Music Victoria's Fiddlehead Festival on February 18 exceeded all expectations. The tiny township of Yinnar in Central Gippsland, home of inspiring community music makers the Strzelecki Stringbusters, played host to over 500 people from across the state and the local area, who converged for a musical picnic, music-making and singing workshops, and a concert, bringing their voices, instruments and passion for making music together.

Their recreation Reserve came alive with people strumming, singing, chatting and eating together in informal jams and organised workshops.

The event was a celebration of the power of music-making in strengthening communities and building community resilience. All the participants in the concert came from communities that had in some way been affected by the 2009 bush fires, and the crowd was visibly moved by their powerful testimonials and uplifting music as they spoke and sang of places and resilient music-making communities.

Kerry Clarke from the Whittlesea Township Choir said: "On the February 7, 2009 our community was devastated by the bushfires that began in Kilmore East. We were determined to sing on, no matter what, as it gave us all the lift

we needed. Psychologist Rob Gordon spoke recently about recovery in the third and fourth year after the fires. He talked about stress resulting from disruption and how this was underrated.

He explained this disruption causes the cancellation of activities that give our lives their complexity and richness. He stressed the importance of resuming recreational activities – the 'joyous' activities – which for us is singing."

Participants dug deep and donated over \$1200 to support the festival, which was organized by volunteers from Community Music Victoria, the Strzelecki Stringbusters,

Mirboo North Vocal Nosh, Gippsland Acoustic Music Club, the Boolarra Folk Festival and Yinnar and District Community Association.

Latrobe City and media partner ABC Gippsland gave great assistance with publicity and the event was generously funded by the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal.

Our enormous thanks to everyone who traveled to the event, to our workshop leaders: Betty McLaughlin and Mirboo North Vocal Nosh, Aaron Silver, the Strzelecki Stringbusters, Phil Melgaard, to all our volunteers and to the fabulous Liyin Weckman who fed everyone!

Roll on Fiddlehead 2!

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# Churchill & District News

## Editorial

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The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the April 2012 edition is March 30, 2012.

Articles for publication and letters to the Editor can be sent to:  
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# Tribute Paid



Member for Morwell Russell Northe, last night paid tribute to those impacted by the Black Saturday and January bushfires which affected the Gippsland region in 2009.

Mr Northe spoke in Parliament about the 3rd anniversary of the fires that affected the lives of so many Victorians, including those residing in the Morwell Electorate.

"Today is the 3rd anniversary of the catastrophic Black Saturday bushfires and it's a time for reflection as we remember the 173 lives lost, along with the many other Victorians who were impacted by that terrible event. Prior to Black Saturday, Gippsland experienced the Delburn complex of fires in late January 2009 which destroyed many homes and assets in and around the Boolarra and Yinnar district, and those communities are also in our thoughts today."

On Black Saturday many communities across the Latrobe Valley were devastated with 11 fatalities and countless assets, stock and wildlife lost. "One cannot underestimate the role

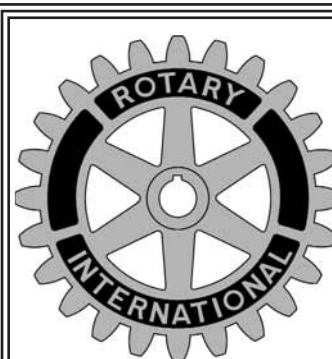
of our various emergency service personnel along with recovery agencies, service clubs, local businesses and the respective community recovery committees that have played such an integral part in the response and recovery phase," said Mr Northe.

"On Sunday I was pleased to join with the Premier and Deputy Premier to launch the Callignee Memorial Project which contains the contributions of many local community members of all ages who have been able to convey by way of "artistic tiles" their own personal stories. It is a credit to all involved and in particular Leanne Crowe and the Callignee Memorial Group for their tireless efforts".

"These attributes are reflective and typical of the leadership displayed across all our bushfire affected communities and on the 3rd anniversary of the Black Saturday fires we salute those who have played a key role, as our communities recover whilst we also remember the lives lost and the families and communities who endured this tragedy" he continued.



Russell Northe MP, with Premier Ted Baillieu, Deputy Premier Peter Ryan and Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester at the Callignee Memorial Project event on Sunday February 5, 2012.



## Hazelwood Rotary

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CONTACT:

Carol Crewe, President

PHONE:

5171 1626





## Gippsland medical student saddles up for year-long charity ride

Gippsland to commence his graduate medical degree in February 2013.

The journey fulfils Sam's long-held ambition to not only take a gap year from university study, but to do something a little different than backpacking around the globe.

"Ever since finishing secondary school, I've wanted to take a year off, but something has always seemed to get in the way," said Sam, who completed a Bachelor of Science at Bond University before successfully applying to study graduate medicine at Monash University's Gippsland Medical School.

"Having said that, I'll be taking three medical textbooks on the trip, and looking for medical and health placement opportunities in some of the communities I'll be passing through."

Alongside his own personal goals, Sam will use his year-long ride to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and help promote the significance of rural medicine.

"As anyone living in the country can tell you, there is still a great need for doctors and other health professionals in rural Australia. In many of our most remote communities however, it's simply not possible to have permanent medical staff, so supporting the work of the RFDS is absolutely essential.

By undertaking a journey such as this, I'm confident I can help raise awareness of the need for medical care in rural and remote Australia, while stimulating much needed donations to the RFDS."

For more information, or to track Sam's progress as he follows the 5,330 kilometre Bicentennial Trail from Healesville, Victoria to Cooktown, Queensland, visit [www.headingnorth2012.com](http://www.headingnorth2012.com).

When most students defer university, they head overseas or find work for a year, but Monash University Gippsland medical student, Sam Alexander is doing things a little differently, riding on horseback from Victoria to Far North Queensland – a journey of over 5,000 kilometres – to raise funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Starting in Healesville, east of Melbourne, Sam will follow the Bicentennial Trail through Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland, before finishing in Cooktown, around 300 kilometres north of Cairns.

While covering Australia's east coast by horseback is a challenge for experienced riders, it's even more so for Sam, who has only been riding horses for the past five years, and will be racing against the seasons to avoid spending winter in the Snowy Mountains.

Travelling at an estimated speed of 40 kilometres each day, Sam and his three horses – Marda, Ranger and Laddy – aim to complete the 5,330 kilometre trek by the end of the year, and in time for Sam to return to

## Morwell Fire Brigade prepares to celebrate 100th birthday

As the Morwell Fire Brigade prepares to celebrate their 100th birthday, the search is on for material to be used in a book to commemorate the occasion.

As part of a range of activities being planned for January 2015, the book will detail the life of the brigade from when it was first formed after a public meeting held in August, 1914. There are also plans to hold a dinner dance, an open day at the Fire Station in McDonald Street as well as hosting the Eastern Districts Running Competition.

According to Terry Ainsworth, Morwell Fire Brigade Centenary Committee Chairperson, the brigade was first formed following a public meeting convened by the then Morwell Shire President, Councillor Edney in August 1914.

"It appears that several major fires in 1912 and 1913, when a number of shops were destroyed, created strong community support to lobby for a fire brigade to be formed. The 1912 fire destroyed about six shops which prompted the editor of the Morwell Advertiser to campaign for a permanent water scheme," Terry said. "Moreover, there are historical records of a larger fire in March 1890 describing how destruction by that fire was limited to four buildings because many of the town's tradesmen actually turned out to save many other buildings.

Therefore, townsfolk gathered in the Mechanics Institute Hall to hear about plans to establish a brigade. Volunteers came forth, a Grand Ball in September managed to raise 40 pounds to buy equipment. In November 1914, the first brigade officers were appointed. The fledgling brigade affiliated with the Country Fire Brigades Board and officially became the

Morwell Fire Brigade in January, 1915."

The register of members compiled on January 1, 1915 included names such as William Henry Budge, John Vivian Wear, William Harold Lobley and Percy Robinson. Local journalist, George Watson was another member as was Leslie Davey, a local farmer.

"The first Morwell Fire Station was located on the Princes Highway, opposite today's Post Office. In 1953, a new station was built in Church Street. Several years ago, a new, much larger station was built in McDonald Street," Terry explained.

"To compile our proposed book, our committee would like to collect as much information as possible. We have a certain amount and now there is an appeal for more. We would like newspaper items, photographs, memorabilia, or anything similar to make our book as complete as possible.

We wish to involve as many people as possible – ex-members, family and friends, ex-committee members, even relations of ex-members.

We are excited about our centenary year which is going to be well and truly celebrated.

These occasions do not come about too often. Any material available can be left at the Fire Station in McDonald Street. If people wish to have the material returned please label with ownership details and it will be under the committee's strict care and attention.

The centenary committee guarantees that all material will be recorded and returned immediately after use.

Alternatively any enquiries can be emailed to [mufb@wideband.net.au](mailto:mufb@wideband.net.au) for our immediate attention and action," Terry added.

## Old Time Family Dance

Jeeralang North Hall

Jeeralang North Road

Friday March 23

Dancing from  
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Cr Darrell White

The reconstruction of Churchill Town Centre continues to take shape. I'm aware that traffic changes have caused community disruption and frustration from time to time. Scheduled works have periodically had to be postponed mainly because of rain throughout the construction period, meaning that the patience of all users of the Town Centre has been tested. There are still substantial works yet to be built, such as works on the new alignment of Georgina Place and the northern car park, plazas and footpaths through the centre, new bus stops, landscaping and the rebuilding of Balfour Place.

The good news is that the implementation of the Churchill Town Centre Plan is continuing, and that a much-improved Town Centre is taking shape. Over the next month, the "truck turning area" on the "old" alignment of Georgina Place will be completed, landscaping along Philip Parade is scheduled to be planted, and the first stages of the Georgina Place and

I trust the 2012 school year has commenced well for teachers, students and parents alike. I wish the best of luck to all Monash University students who have just finished their O-Week festivities and are now getting into their studies.

Monash University Gippsland played host to the Gippsland Major Projects and Opportunities Summit, which was a great day. This event has been conducted four times now, and provided a showcase of six key projects in the Gippsland region worth more than \$1 billion combined to the Victorian Economy. This event displays the many benefits of Gippsland as an attractive location for business investment, relocation or establishment.

I also had the pleasure this month of officially reopening the Grand Ridge Rail Trail which runs from Boolarra to Mirboo North, and it is great to see the work that has been undertaken to restore this marvellous track after it was severely impacted by the January 2009 Delburn Complex fire.

The two 66-metre steel span bridges which have been installed along the trail as part of the fire recovery project look magnificent and I pass on my thanks to all those community members involved in its re-establishment. Their

## Welcoming the New Year at Monash University

By Robyn Heckenberg

Monash University Gippsland is in a unique position in being a rural campus, which is part of an international higher education institution with campuses overseas as well as Victoria.

An even more unique aspect of our local campus relates to some of the innovative and entrepreneurial endeavours which staff demonstrate in our local region.

As another year begins at the Churchill campus, this article brings to mind some of the recent activities that engage in local initiatives that are best practice models, specific to regional development and capacity building. These examples demonstrate the vigour for which our local campus has a tradition.

northern car park works should be commenced.

The northern car park works involve:

Realignment of Georgina Place between the Monash Way traffic lights and Marina Drive

Realignment of parking areas, with significant changes near Hazelwood Village and immediately east of the service station

Development of plaza and concourse areas linking the West Place mall with Hazelwood Village

Planting of trees along traffic aisles

Significantly improved public lighting

Shift of the bus stop and construction of new shelters along Georgina Place.

Philip Parade to Monash Campus Master Plan

On another matter relating to the Churchill Town Centre Plan, CPG Consultants have begun work on master planning for the area between Philip Parade and the Monash Gippsland campus.

One of the initial opportunities for residents to talk with the consultants will be at the CDCA General Meeting to be held at 7.00 pm on March 28th at GREEN Inc, McDonald Way, Churchill (opposite the Leisure Centre) – I encourage everyone with an interest in the precinct to attend.

### Glendonald Preschool Recommissioned

After two years in recess, Latrobe City has recommissioned the Glendonald Preschool in Churchill to be a base for Preschool, family day care, playgroups and toy library services.

With an increase in demand for Preschool places in the Churchill area, it has resulted in the Glendonald Preschool being reopened. It will also be the base for additional family-orientated services as well. Being able to provide these additional services at the Glendonald Preschool Centre means that many

dedication and passion has been amazing and I encourage community members to walk, run, or ride the track in the near future.

I also attended the memorial for Churchill Fire Brigade's Darren McLean which was very moving and very heartfelt. This was the 30th anniversary of Darren's passing whilst on active duty and I pass on my thanks to Darren's parents in Barry and Val McLean for allowing me to attend this ceremony. Congratulations must go the CFA and in particular the Churchill Brigade for hosting such a fitting tribute.

It was pleasing to visit both Churchill Primary School and Churchill North Primary School this month, to congratulate school leaders including School and House Captains along with Junior School Councillors. This provided me with the opportunity to visit the new Community Building at Churchill North Primary School which is a fantastic facility and provides many services to the local community, including playgroup and after hours care. I'd like to thank the teachers, staff and students from both schools for their exceptional community service and for the hospitality they demonstrate to guests and visitors such as me.

Speaking of leadership opportunities within

members of the Churchill community can be reached. It means getting full use from the facility and providing access to Preschool services to those families who may have been on the waiting list for the other centre in Churchill. It is very important that no child misses out on these activities during the vital early years. Learning and social skills developed at Preschool and Playgroup are just the beginning for these young minds.

Council is operating a four-year-old Preschool session on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 1pm. Enrolments for places are still being accepted.

A family day care playgroup is also operating each Monday during the school term. Latrobe City's family day care is an accredited child care service, funded by the Commonwealth Government and offers quality care for children by qualified providers. Playgroup sessions are a great way for the children in the family day care system to meet other youngsters, and for the providers to get together to discuss activities, excursions, training and strategies.

In addition, a Lilly Pilly Steiner Playgroup is operating at the Centre from 10am to 12noon each Friday and the Churchill Toy Library will open its doors every second Saturday from 10am to 12 noon.

The Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) will also hold their meetings at Glendonald Preschool community room every third Friday of the month from 10am to 12noon. To enquire about Latrobe City's Preschool services, or family day care services, call 1300 367 700.

For the Lily Pilly Steiner Playgroup contact Carly Leviston on 0427 536 181 or Ruth Kelly on 0437 048 701.

For the Churchill Toy Library (formerly

located at Watson Park Preschool) contact Jessica Somerville on 0439 978 859.

For the Australian Breastfeeding Association, contact Kate Schulz on 0433 091 956.

### Community Fun Day at Mathison Park, Churchill

The Latrobe Valley Neighbourhood Alliance (LVNA) Resident Network Group delivered its annual Community Fun Day event this year, at Mathison Park on Wednesday, January 18th last. The Resident Network Group is a collective group of representatives from Glendonald Estate, Morwell East, Traralgon East and Moe Heights. Families and other community members from throughout these four communities involved in the LVNA Program were invited to participate with a bus picking up residents at Moe, Morwell and Traralgon to take them to and from the event.

Families were able to participate in face painting, sporting activities and a barbecue. GippSport's Program Coordinator, Chris Stanlake, hosted the sporting activities. The Mathison Park playground equipment also proved to be very popular. Each family contributed \$10 which provided them with bus hire, BBQ, bottled water and various fruit platters. The Smith Family donated reading books and there were great interactive prizes for every child to take home that were provided by the Smith Family, Latrobe Leisure and GippSport.

This event was fully organised by the Resident Network Group, with Latrobe City, GippSport, Latrobe Community Health Service and the Smith Family, being the supportive agencies throughout the planning of the event, and help on the day which is aimed at increasing pride and community participation.

## Northe's Natter

the community, I had the privilege of announcing \$600,000 of Victorian State Government funding over four years to secure the future of the Gippsland Community Leadership Program which is renowned for delivering great results to local businesses and the broader community.

This funding will support up to 25 emerging leaders around the region, and has already supported 400 participants since it was established in 1996. It is aimed at building the leadership skills and capabilities of people working in small businesses, medium sized businesses, community organisations, government agencies and local government authorities.

I encourage any future leaders to have a look at the Gippsland Community Leadership Program and consider applying in the future. For more information, visit [www.gclp.asn.au](http://www.gclp.asn.au).

Finally, Latrobe Valley community members are invited to get a glimpse inside Victoria's historic Legislative Assembly and Council chambers at this year's Parliament House Open Day on Sunday March 25. I encourage you to make the most of this opportunity to see inside and outside the



Russell Northe, MP

historical Parliament House building, one of Melbourne's best known landmarks. The Open Day will run from 10.30am until 3.30pm and admission is free. For more information visit or phone: 9651 8567.

online on the Vichealth website.

The project shows the personal sense of commitment and good community values that reflect leadership in research supporting community outcomes. Dr Laming described the walk "as a beautiful example of young Aboriginal men standing up in public and challenging all of us to have respect for relationships".

Another initiative that continues to inspire and had its beginnings at the end of last year, is the Regional Education Network, modelling itself around outcomes related to education research for regional needs.

The launch of this enterprise resulted in a lively gathering of educationists at a campus

conference with delegates from as far afield as Newcastle and Tasmania.

The opening Keynote Speaker Professor John Williamson, University of Tasmania, remarked on the success of the conference and that it "has the foundations of a very positive inter-disciplinary collaboration underway". This collaborative conference was across universities as well as across disciplines and was Chaired by Associate Professor Bruce Waldrip, Faculty of Education.

In times where there are some concerns of the position of our campus in the larger education environment, we continue to see excellence and innovation within Monash Gippsland campus.



# Hazelwood House Happenings



Jean Gilchrist celebrated her birthday at the hostel with friends, residents and staff.



Hazelwood House hosted an afternoon of Musical Bingo with Latrobe Valley Village. Bingo was followed by a yummy afternoon tea.



Staff and families checking out the specials on the trading table. \$220 was made from the sales.

## Churchill Toy Library

The Toy Library has moved to Glendonald Kindergarten Facility in Churinga Drive Churchill, and will be open for business on the dates below.



There is a need for some new volunteers to help out.

Your attendance would be most welcome.

The dates for Term 1 are as follows

Saturday March 24: 10-12, Saturday April 14: 10-12

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# Church News

## Saturday Morning Breakfast with Amanda Curwood

By Robyn Heckenberg

With a great start to 2012, February 25th launched the first Saturday Morning Breakfast for the year. A healthy gathering of twenty-two interested folk were endeared with a narrative of a local young person's success.

Amanda Curwood, as the guest speaker, represented the kind of citizenship qualities and achievements that demonstrate the quality of a local upbringing. Amanda recalled her own happy time as a child in the halls and congregation of the Churchill Co-operating Churches. Amanda discussed with delight her work with Youth Dimension based in leafy Warrandyte South, Melbourne, where she is involved with pastoral care in local secondary schools. Amanda's work is a vocation, and involves not only lateral thinking in implementing curriculum suitable for robust twenty first century school students, but also being active as an administrator for Youth Dimension in its growing investment in the future of our youth.

Youth Dimension, for example, prepares over 160 resource kits, on a 2 year rotation, for church volunteers to use in delivering a positive message and esteem building philosophy to their area schools. The energetic Amanda also participates in an extensive training programme for Youth Dimension which enables volunteer school instructors to attend their school workshops "ready to go". The resource kit supplied to the instructors includes a number of games popular with school kids and other tools such as a series of stories which teach life skills and empowering philosophies on life's challenges. These stories are based on Biblical sources, but have a contemporary message, quite valued by school principals and students alike. Amanda's own work includes regular interaction with school students.

Her home school is Ringwood Secondary College, which has been active in the Youth Dimensions programme for some years. Amanda continues to be inspired by the achievements and milestones of the programme, especially in relation to aspects such as one-on-one mentoring, where she has seen the change that this value-adding ministry has on young lives. She has seen for herself young people's lives change for the better, and yet sometimes the interactions can be



as simple as a regular game of cards and the sharing of a hot chocolate. As well as that, she has worked in a youth drop in centre called Blue Moose in Bendigo, which includes live music and other youth centred activities to give local kids something to do. Amanda has a Diploma of Church Ministry and Theology, gained from study at Youth Dimension.

Youth Dimension is part of the Australian College of Ministries Training Network and delivers transformative courses for existing year 12 students, as well as one and two year courses with training outcomes related to practical, spiritual and character development. The feeling by the Saturday Breakfast audience was that it would be great to see something similar in the Latrobe Valley. To find out more Youth Dimensions is having a BBQ on March 26, 2012 at 58-64 Hall Road, Warrandyte South Victoria, 3134. Other information through [www.youthdimension.org.au](http://www.youthdimension.org.au)

The next Saturday Breakfast will be held on March 24, and the Rev Marilyn Obersby will be the guest speaker.

Marilyn has been a Tour Guide Leader, taking groups from Victoria to Ireland, Scotland and part of England on Celtic Pilgrimages.

People interested in attending should contact Keith Enders by THURSDAY MARCH 22 on 5122 1148 or by email at [kbenders@net-tech.com.au](mailto:kbenders@net-tech.com.au)

## Co-Operating Churches Snippets

The Ladies Fellowship is a small but very active group of ladies who do a marvellous job of catering, providing interesting guest speakers on important topics, fund raise for the church, keep vital supplies in store (tea, coffee, toilet paper etc) and provide a special support network and friendship for each other as well as the church family.

One particular ministry they have is sending out cards to people letting them know they are being thought of in any difficult or otherwise situations.

The Ladies Fellowship had a planning day in February and a Dedication Service a few days later.

Their busy month did not end there. They also catered for our Pancake Night on Shrove Tuesday, providing zucchini slice with salad followed by as many pancakes as you could eat with a multiple choice of things to add.

Thank you to the ladies who do a wonderful job in our church, quietly without fuss.

Coffee Connections was held with the theme of "Catching Up".

A group of parishioners gathered to do show and tell and enjoy a tempting morning tea.

We are pleased to have the Rev Marilyn Obersby with us.

Marilyn was the initiator of our pancake night and the Ash Wednesday

service.

The beginning of Lent is celebrated on Ash Wednesday with a communion service and the anointing of ashes. These ashes are the remains of burnt palm crosses from the previous year and are used to put the sign of the cross on the foreheads of those attending. Marilyn took a solemn and moving service.

She is also conducting a series of Lenten studies in the Celtic tradition, on Thursdays throughout March; 10am at Yinnar and 7.30pm at Churchill.

Saturday Breakfast guest was Amanda Curwood.

Amanda with her family attended the Co-Operating Churches as a child and grew to faith in Jesus.

She now spends her working life with Youth Dimensions, helping in high schools with lunchtime groups and mentoring.

You can read more about Amanda's work in the Saturday Breakfast Report.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on the last Sunday of the month where the reports of all our groups were presented.

It is very positive and satisfying to reflect on your year's work and to appreciate all that has been achieved.

## Lumen Christi Snippets

### Wednesday evening Mass during Lent.

There will be an evening Mass on Wednesday evenings at 6.00pm. It is hoped that this will continue throughout the year and that you may make the effort to celebrate the Eucharist at that time each week.

### Lumen Christi Reconnect Program

Please consider providing support to this important venture through prayer and/or participation in one of the teams: Program, Communication, Social, Hospitality or Follow-up.

### March 16 - 18 - Bishop Prowse's Parish Visitation

Celebration of Sunday morning Eucharist at Lumen Christi at 10.30 am followed by a Bring-Lunch-To-Share in

Eco Centre. (This will mean that there will not be a 9.00am MASS AT LUMEN CHRISTI on Sunday morning and no 10.30am MASS AT YINNAR that same Sunday).

### St Vincent de Paul - Churchill Conference

We would like to ask parishioners and their families and friends to consider donating their Community Benefits points at Ritchie IGA in Churchill to St Vinnies. They do make a difference!

Thank you very much for your constant support throughout the year. God bless and keep you all close to His heart.

New Members welcome!

Contact Lou Ven Eyk -

ph 0402 103 136

## Chaplain's Reflections

I attended the 2012 JCMA Women's Conference last month and enjoyed listening to some excellent speakers from the three Abrahamic faiths addressing and discussing the theme of Peace. The discussions, while always respectful, were not always easy. Differences were acknowledged while commonality was sought. Many people are needlessly fearful of interfaith dialogue as a threat to their own faith. One of the wonderful functions of interfaith dialogue is that the opposite is usually the norm. As people look for ways to respectfully dialogue and gain understanding of another's faith, so understanding of their own faith usually increases also. Within the relating there comes the possibility to appreciate and celebrate difference.

The psychologist, Eric Fromm claimed that we all live with two conflicting tendencies: to 'move out of the womb' into freedom and responsibility and to 'return to the womb' to find certainty and security. Reaching out to others of different faiths requires us to move out of our comfort zones into the bigness of God 'who hates nothing that (s)he has made'.

Yesterday I had the privilege and pleasure of attending the GECC (Gippsland Ethnic Communities Council) Interfaith-Multi faith inaugural meeting in Morwell.

It was good to make contact with a variety of people from this area of Gippsland who believe interfaith dialogue to be an essential process in our increasingly ethnically and religiously divergent Australian society.

If any of you are interested in finding out more about interfaith activities in the Gippsland area, contact the GECC chairperson, Dr Graham Dettrick at [Chairperson.GECC@gmail.com](mailto:Chairperson.GECC@gmail.com)

There are also some very helpful sites online that give information locally, nationally and globally. These include: Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions; Huffington Post; The Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue and JCMA (Jewish, Christian, Muslim Association, which is Victorian based and runs many interfaith programs including two conferences each year).

There are many more sites to explore if you have the time and inclination.

## Church Times

### Lumen Christi Catholic Church

35 Walker Parade, Churchill

Tel: 5122 2226

Father Hugh Brown

Father Francis Otobo

Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm

Sunday: Mass: 9.00am

1st and 3rd Sundays:

Yinnar: Mass: 10.30 am

2nd and 4th Sundays:

Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

### Boolarra / Yinnar

#### Co-Operating Parish

Week 1 - 11am at Boolarra

Anglican H C

Week 2 - 11am at Boolarra

U C A

Week 3 - 11am at Yinnar U

C A H C

Week 4 - 11am at Yinnar

Worship Service

Week 5 - 11am at Yinnar

South Anglican H C

### Co-operating Churches of Churchill

Rev. Marilyn Obersby

Williams Avenue,

Churchill.

Tel: 5122 1480

Glenda and Ian

Combridge

Tel: 5166 1819

Sunday Service: 9.00am.



### Churchill Christian Fellowship

Maple Crescent, Churchill.

Sunday: 10.00am

Ladies Meeting:

Tuesday 10.00am

## PEST CONTROL SERVICES - I & G COMBRIDGE

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## Welcome to Father Francis Otopo

Father Francis Otopo, Assistant Priest for Morwell and Churchill.

Father Francis is from a family of 15 - 8 boys, 7 girls. He says he is number 12. His mother is a shopkeeper and his late father was a businessman. He is 37 years old.

Life in Nigeria for him was quite simple. He did not have an affluent life but there was always plenty of food to eat on the table and he lived well.

Father Francis was brought up in a country area, went to primary school and then secondary college. He was baptised at 14. After baptism he then became active in parish life and at 17, in secondary college, some seminarians came to his town for a one year spiritual experience and he became interested in their calling. One thing he noticed early on was his local priest and the cassock he wore.

"I liked the sway of the priest's cassock and this was the first impression that struck me of the priesthood," Father Otopo says.

When he joined the seminary he had to go to the city, the city of Makurdi, and then moved to Jos. He spent three years of philosophical studies in Makurdi and four years of theological studies in Jos. He had two years of extra-curricular training, and was ordained after nine years of training.

Father Francis is Assistant Priest to Father Hugh Brown, Parish Priest for the two parishes - Morwell and Churchill, and feels welcomed by parishioners. He is getting on very well with everyone. He says he has a wonderful time with students at the school Masses. He is known to break out in song during Mass services and has an amazing smile for everyone leaving after the service.

Father Francis says he misses all his family and friends and his life in Nigeria but has answered the call from his Bishop, through Bishop Prowse in the Sale Diocese, to help with ministering to the parishes of Morwell and Churchill for a period of three years.



Fr Francis Otopo

There may be a further 3 year extension if all goes well and it is approved by his Bishop in Nigeria and by the Bishop of the Diocese of Sale.

Father Francis' ministry continues even though he is a long way from home. Francis considers the call from Bishop Prowse to be like transferring from one diocese to another regardless of the huge distance he has come. As each day unfolds there are new challenges for him to meet. He takes it one day at a time and enjoys the challenges put to him.

One of his goals is to work with the youth of the Parishes to come back to the church, believing that modern influences and publicity have created a loss of interest in religion. He believes people feel ridiculed and ashamed to belong. Therefore, he invites our youth and all, not to feel bad by the past experiences and media publicity, but to warmly embrace God and his love for us all. It is a challenge that we all face today.

## World Day of Prayer

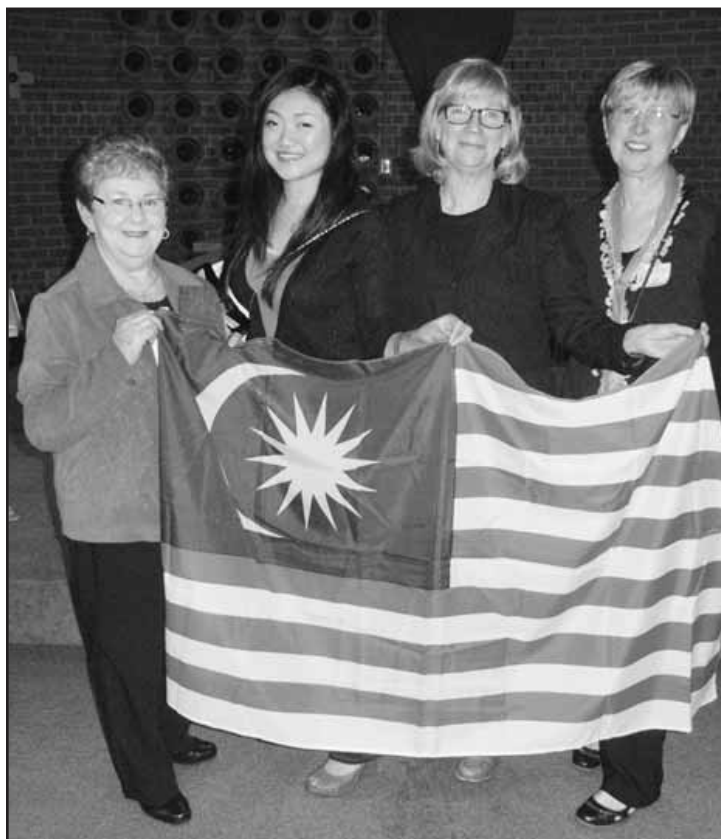
The Annual World Day of Prayer Service was hosted by the Lumen Christi Parish and about 40 people attended. The Women from Malaysia prepared the Service and the theme they chose was "Let Justice Prevail"

During the service an address was delivered by a young Malaysian Student from Monash, Pamela Ng. She has completed three years of study and is currently working in Monash Residential with the overseas students.

She talked of the culture in her country, the different foods, various celebrations and customs. She remarked on the fact that in her country all students hold their teachers in very high esteem and respect for the elderly is so important.

We were joined by Dr. Pene Brook, Monash Chaplain, who led us in prayer and commissioned Ros Jackson from the Co-operating Churches of Churchill, who will lead the Service in 2013.

Supper and fellowship followed.



### Australia Day Apology:

It was stated in last months issue, that Young Citizen of the Year for Yinnar, was Adrian Quigley.

In fact that should have read Aiden Quigley.

Our sincere apologies, for this unfortunate mistake.



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# Bridges breathe new life into the Grand Ridge Rail Trail

The official reopening of the Grand Ridge Rail Trail in South Gippsland was cause for celebration, three years after it was severely impacted by the January 2009 Delburn Complex fire.

Russell Northe MP, Member for Morwell, representing the Hon Peter Ryan MP, Deputy Premier, and the Hon Ryan Smith MP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change, along with Darren Chester, Federal Member for Gippsland, was present to cut the ribbon at one of two 66-metre steel span bridges installed along the trail as part of the fire recovery project.

“These magnificent bridges are much bigger than their predecessors and have been installed at points where steep gullies had previously made the trail impassable for the mobility impaired and those on bicycles – the trail is now accessible for all, for the first time,” said Mr Northe.

“Reopening the Grand Ridge Rail Trail today restores it back to its rightful place as a key tourism drawcard and recreational asset for this area - it is an exciting day for the Boolarra and Mirboo North communities and for the whole area,” Mr Northe said.

Mr Northe noted that the redevelopment was assisted with State Government funding of \$1.6 million from Regional Development Victoria and the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

The bridges were designed, manufactured and installed by local companies Chris O’Brien and Company (based in Traralgon), Strzelecki Engineering (based in Mirboo North), and Hourigan and Walsh (based in Traralgon).

Mr Northe also took the opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of the Wednesday Warriors Volunteers who worked tirelessly to re-instate and upgrade the track as part of the Bushfire recovery. They were ably assisted by

other local groups such as the Junior Landcare Group.

In addition to the installation of the bridges, rehabilitation works included clearing dangerous trees and vegetation from the trail, reforming the drains, installing pipes in wet areas, and trail realignment in some areas.

“Resurfacing the entire 13km trail with a thicker surface has also made it more durable during wetter weather,” Mr Northe said.

The project has not been without its challenges – the discovery that telecommunications cables ran directly under the location of the proposed bridges meant they had to be re-designed to avoid expensive relocation of the cables.

“In addition, ongoing wet weather in 2011 hampered our efforts to resurface the trail, which caused additional delays. We are elated to finally officially reopen the trail,” Mr Neal Trease, Chairperson Rail Trail Committee Management said.

“Working with local companies to get the work done was also a huge bonus – their local knowledge made getting the job done so much easier,” Mr Trease said.

The Grand Ridge Rail Trail is a 13km rail trail that runs from Mirboo North to Boolarra in the Strzelecki ranges in South Gippsland. The new bridge crossings are near the half way point, just east of Darlimurla. For more



Russell Northe and Darren Chester with Peter Hourigan from Hourigan and Walsh on one of the new bridges

information on the Trail, visit [www.grandridgerailtrail.com.au](http://www.grandridgerailtrail.com.au)

The project has been delivered in a partnership with the State Government and a Steering Committee made up of the trail’s Committee of Management, volunteers, community reconstruction committees, the Latrobe and South Gippsland Shire Councils, and other stake holders.

On February 1, 2012, the Government released the Victorian Bushfire Recovery Three Year Report which highlights the achievements of the past 12 months in supporting communities around reconstruction efforts and the continuation of support programs for the coming year.

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# Lions Youth Of The Year Winner

By Peter McShane



Peter McShane, President, Naomi Matthyssen, Youth of the Year Winner, with Leslie Hogan.

The Churchill and District Lions Club recently hosted a Club final of the Lions NAB Youth of the Year competition at Churchill.

The deserved winner was Naomi Matthyssen from St. Paul's Anglican Grammar School in Warragul, after an entertaining and exciting competition with Kristina Psinas of Lavalla Catholic College.

Lions Club President Peter McShane said "This competition is a continued endorsement of the abilities of our youth and our club who are proud to have been able to be part of the competition. This competition enables participants to showcase their leadership – community, sport and cultural, their personality, general and academic achievements as

well as their public speaking prowess. It provides wonderful opportunities for youth, and Lions is proud to have the National Australia Bank as their sponsors."

Participants faced an interview for approx. 30-40 minutes before three judges and then spoke before the Lions Club members, partners and friends.

This section comprised two impromptu questions of two minutes duration and then their prepared speech of five minutes duration.

Mr. McShane praised the contributions of the participants, their families and the judges who had all contributed to the success of the event and wished Naomi further success in the next stage of the competition.



NAB Representative Tammy Hender, Kristina Psinas, Ruth Place, Naomi Matthyssen, with Leslie Hogan

## Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet  
1st and 3rd  
Wednesday  
of each Month

CONTACT  
Bill Hurenkamp

PHONE:  
5174 4221

# Lioness Club of Churchill



The Lioness Club of Churchill and District have again been very busy over the past months.

On October 13, 2011 a few of their members assisted the Churchill Lions when lunch was provided for the several hundred motor cycle riders who were taking part in the Barry Sheene bike run from Bairnsdale down to Phillip Island.

Also a couple of Lionesses again helped the Lions Club at the annual fishing competition at Lake Hyland.

A pleasant night was enjoyed when the Lion's District Governor, Ken Blay attended the club meeting held at the Morwell R.S.L. On the weekend of November 19 and 20, they catered for the Rose Show at Kernot Hall. It was wonderful to see the interest

people take in the showing of their prize blooms.

On Friday November 25, five of the Lionesses travelled to Rosedale to partake of a High Tea at the Victoria Rose Tea rooms in the company of Lionesses from Maffra and Trafalgar, a very enjoyable afternoon.

The weekend of November 26 and 27 saw them once again at Kernot Hall, this time catering for The Collectables Expo.

The Rose Garden at Hazelwood House is looking magnificent. They are sure it delights all who visit.

The photo shows Lioness President Merrilyn Grisotto with the District Governor Ken Blay and Lions President Peter Mc Shane exchanging bannerettes.

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# BUS TIMETABLES CHURCHILL-MORWELL

## Morwell to Churchill

**Route 2** via Monash University

**Zone 11**

**Description of route**

**Morwell to Churchill**  
Departs from Morwell bus interchange (bay 2) in Commercial Rd and runs via Commercial Rd, McDonald St, Princes Dr, Centre Valley Rd, Midvalley Cct and Midvalley Dr to Mid Valley Shopping Centre; then via Saskia Way, Tramway Rd, Northways Rd to Monash University; then via Northways Rd, Phillip Pde, Churinga Dr, Amaro Dr, Phillip Pde to the terminus at Churchill Shopping Centre in Georgina Pl.

**Churchill to Morwell**  
Departs from the terminus at Churchill Shopping Centre in Georgina Pl and runs via the reverse of the route described above to Saskia Way; then via Centre Valley Rd, Midvalley Cct, Midvalley Dr to Mid Valley Shopping Centre; then via Saskia Way, Centre Valley Rd, Princes Dr, McDonald St and Commercial Rd to Morwell bus interchange (bay 2).

**Customers please note**

- Buses operate to a Sunday timetable on public holidays.
- This service from Morwell turns into Churchill Town Service route 30.
- From time to time bus schedules may change or be delayed without notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Timing points**

- Morwell bus interchange - Commercial Dr
- Mid Valley Shopping Centre - Midvalley Dr
- Monash University - Northways Rd
- Glendonald Park - Amaro Dr to Morwell, Coolaroo Pl to Churchill
- Churchill Shopping Centre - Georgina Pl

**Customers please note**

- Buses operate to a Sunday timetable on public holidays.
- For an additional Churchill town service please refer to Route 2 - Morwell to Churchill on page 22.
- From time to time bus schedules may change or be delayed without notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

**Timing points**

- Churchill Shopping Centre - Georgina Pl
- Roy Ct - near corner of Switchback Rd and Howard Av
- Ritchie Rd - Firmin Rd
- Monash University Gippsland Campus - Northways Rd

Ticketing zone: Single zone, V-Line train station, V-Line coach stop, Connecting bus, Train line, Terminus, Timing point.

For public transport information call 136 196 (TTY) 9619 2727 or visit [viclink.com.au](http://viclink.com.au)

MAP NOT TO SCALE

## Churchill town service

**Route 30**

**Zone 11**

**Description of route**

**Churchill town service**  
Departs from the terminus at Churchill Shopping Centre in Georgina Pl and runs via Georgina Pl, Monash Way, Canterbury Way, Williams Av, McDonald Way, Howard Av, Switchback Rd, Monash Way, Acacia Way, Coolabah Dr, Switchback Rd, Firmin Rd, McDonald Way, McLean Av, Manning Dr, Canterbury Way, Monash Way to the terminus at Churchill Shopping Centre; then via Georgina Pl, Phillip Pde, McDonald Way, Northways Rd to Monash University; then via Northways Rd, McDonald Way, Georgina Pl, Phillip Pde to the terminus at Churchill Shopping Centre in Georgina Pl.

**Customers please note**

- Buses operate to a Sunday timetable on public holidays.
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For public transport information call 136 196 (TTY) 9619 2727 or visit [viclink.com.au](http://viclink.com.au)

MAP NOT TO SCALE

**Monday to Friday Route 2 - Morwell to Churchill**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM					
Morwell bus interchange	6.40	7.40	8.45	9.45	10.45	11.45					
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	6.47	7.47	8.52	9.52	10.52	11.52					
Monash University	6.59	7.59	9.04	10.04	11.04	12.04					
Glendonald Park	7.03	8.03	9.08	10.08	11.08	12.08					
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.07	8.07	9.12	10.12	11.12	12.12					

**Monday to Friday Route 2 - Morwell to Churchill**

	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Morwell bus interchange	12.45	1.45	2.40	3.40	4.40	5.40	6.55	8.05	8.45F	9.45F	
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	12.52	1.52	2.47	3.47	4.47	5.47	7.02	8.12	8.52F	9.52F	
Monash University	1.04	2.04	2.59	3.59	4.59	5.59	7.14	8.24	9.04F	10.04F	
Glendonald Park	1.08	2.08	3.03	4.03	5.03	6.03	7.18	8.28	9.08F	10.08F	
Churchill Shopping Centre	1.12	2.12	3.07	4.07	5.07	6.07	7.22	8.32	9.12F	10.12F	

**Monday to Friday Route 2 - Churchill to Morwell**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM					
Churchill Shopping Centre	6.40	7.40	8.40	9.40	10.45	11.45					
Glendonald Park	6.44	7.44	8.44	9.44	10.49	11.49					
Monash University	6.48	7.48	8.48	9.48	10.53	11.53					
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.05	12.05					
Morwell bus interchange	7.07	8.07	9.07	10.07	11.12	12.12					

**Monday to Friday Route 2 - Churchill to Morwell**

	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	12.45	1.45	2.45	3.40	4.40	5.40	6.40	7.25	8.35	9.15F	10.15F
Glendonald Park	12.49	1.49	2.49	3.44	4.44	5.44	6.44	7.29	8.39	9.19F	10.19F
Monash University	12.53	1.53	2.53	3.48	4.48	5.48	6.48	7.33	8.43	9.23F	10.23F
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	1.05	2.05	3.05	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	7.45	8.55	9.35F	10.35F
Morwell bus interchange	1.12	2.12	3.12	4.07	5.07	6.07	7.07	7.52	9.02	9.42F	10.42F

**Saturday Route 2 - Morwell to Churchill**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Morwell bus interchange	6.40	7.40	8.40	9.45	10.45	11.45	12.45	1.45	2.40	3.40	4.40	5.40
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	6.47	7.47	8.47	9.52	10.52	11.52	12.52	1.52	2.47	3.47	4.47	5.47
Monash University	6.59	7.59	8.59	10.04	11.04	12.04	1.04	2.04	2.59	3.59	4.59	5.59
Glendonald Park	7.03	8.03	9.03	10.08	11.08	12.08	1.08	2.08	3.03	4.03	5.03	6.03
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.07	8.07	9.07	10.12	11.12	12.12	1.12	2.12	3.07	4.07	5.07	6.07

**Saturday Route 2 - Churchill to Morwell**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.40	8.40	9.40	10.45	11.45	12.45	1.45	2.45	3.40	4.40	5.40	6.40
Glendonald Park	7.44	8.44	9.44	10.49	11.49	12.49	1.49	2.49	3.44	4.44	5.44	6.44
Monash University	7.48	8.48	9.48	10.53	11.53	12.53	1.53	2.53	3.48	4.48	5.48	6.48
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.05	12.05	1.05	2.05	3.05	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00
Morwell bus interchange	8.07	9.07	10.07	11.12	12.12	1.12	2.12	3.12	4.07	5.07	6.07	7.07

**Monday to Friday Route 30 - Churchill town service**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.10	8.10	9.12	10.15	11.15	12.15	1.15	2.15	3.10	4.10	5.10	6.10
Roy Ct	7.16	8.16	9.18	10.21	11.21	12.21	1.21	2.21	3.16	4.16	5.16	6.16
Ritchie Rd	7.23	8.23	9.25	10.28	11.28	12.28	1.28	2.28	3.23	4.23	5.23	6.23
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.30	8.30	9.32	10.35	11.35	12.35	1.35	2.35	3.30	4.30	5.30	6.30
Monash University Gippsland Campus	7.34	8.34	9.36	10.39	11.39	12.39	1.39	2.39	3.34	4.34	5.34	6.34
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.37	8.37	9.39	10.42	11.42	12.42	1.42	2.42	3.37	4.37	5.37	6.37

**Saturday Route 30 - Churchill town service**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.10	8.10	9.10	10.15	11.15	12.15	1.15	2.15	3.10	4.10	5.10	6.10
Roy Ct	7.16	8.16	9.16	10.21	11.21	12.21	1.21	2.21	3.16	4.16	5.16	6.16
Ritchie Rd	7.23	8.23	9.23	10.28	11.28	12.28	1.28	2.28	3.23	4.23	5.23	6.23
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.30	8.30	9.30	10.35	11.35	12.35	1.35	2.35	3.30	4.30	5.30	6.30
Monash University Gippsland Campus	7.34	8.34	9.34	10.39	11.39	12.39	1.39	2.39	3.34	4.34	5.34	6.34
Churchill Shopping Centre	7.37	8.37	9.37	10.42	11.42	12.42	1.42	2.42	3.37	4.37	5.37	6.37

**Sunday and public holidays Route 30 - Churchill town service**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	8.10	9.10	10.15	11.15	12.15	1.15	2.15	3.10	4.10	5.10	6.10	
Roy Ct	8.16	9.16	10.21	11.21	12.21	1.21	2.21	3.16	4.16	5.16	6.16	
Ritchie Rd	8.23	9.23	10.28	11.28	12.28	1.28	2.28	3.23	4.23	5.23	6.23	
Churchill Shopping Centre	8.30	9.30	10.35	11.35	12.35	1.35	2.35	3.30	4.30	5.30	6.30	
Monash University Gippsland Campus	8.34	9.34	10.39	11.39	12.39	1.39	2.39	3.34	4.34	5.34	6.34	
Churchill Shopping Centre	8.37	9.37	10.42	11.42	12.42	1.42	2.42	3.37	4.37	5.37	6.37	

**Sunday and public holidays Route 2 - Morwell to Churchill**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Morwell bus interchange	7.40	8.40	9.45	10.45	11.45	12.45	1.45	2.40	3.40	4.40	5.40	8.30
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	7.47	8.47	9.52	10.52	11.52	12.52	1.52	2.47	3.47	4.47	5.47	8.37
Monash University	7.59	8.59	10.04	11.04	12.04	1.04	2.04	2.59	3.59	4.59	5.59	8.49
Glendonald Park	8.03	9.03	10.08	11.08	12.08	1.08	2.08	3.03	4.03	5.03	6.03	8.53
Churchill Shopping Centre	8.07	9.07	10.12	11.12	12.12	1.12	2.12	3.07	4.07	5.07	6.07	8.57

**Sunday and public holidays Route 2 - Churchill to Morwell**

	AM	AM	AM	AM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM	PM
Churchill Shopping Centre	8.40	9.40	10.45	11.45	12.45	1.45	2.45	3.40	4.40	5.40	6.40	9.00
Glendonald Park	8.44	9.44	10.49	11.49	12.49	1.49	2.49	3.44	4.44	5.44	6.44	9.04
Monash University	8.48	9.48	10.53	11.53	12.53	1.53	2.53	3.48	4.48	5.48	6.48	9.08
Mid Valley Shopping Centre	9.00	10.00	11.05	12.05	1.05	2.05	3.05	4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	9.20
Morwell bus interchange	9.07	10.07	11.12	12.12	1.12	2.12	3.12	4.07	5.07	6.07	7.07	9.27



## Art workshops for older people a big hit across the Valley



Monash University is running a series of art workshops for older people in communities in the region affected by the 2009 bushfires. The workshops are taking place in five locations across the Valley – photography in Churchill, drawing in Boolarra and Callignee, pottery in Mirboo North, and printmaking at the Monash campus in Churchill. The workshops are being provided free of charge thanks to funding that has been provided through the Health and Wellbeing of Older People program, an initiative of the Victorian State Government, funded through the Victorian Bushfire Appeal Fund.

There has been strong interest in the workshops with around 60 older residents participating across the five topics. Photography was particularly popular with over 20 people attending the first session. The last workshop series to start was printmaking which was limited to 10 participants because of the greater technical requirements of the topic. Werner Theinert and Michelle Murden are running the photography and pottery workshops respectively with Kate Zizys having the herculean task of running the two drawing workshop streams and the printmaking workshops.

“As a Churchill resident myself and someone who was in the area during the fires, I was particularly pleased to be asked to run these workshops. It has been a great experience running the first workshops in Boolarra, Callignee and now here on campus and I am really looking forward to seeing the artworks that are produced” said workshop leader Kate Zizys.

According to Monash Researcher Dr Matthew Carroll who helped to organise the workshops, the aim of the workshops is to build social connections by bringing older people together from across the region.

“I have been pleased at how well received the workshops have been, with people travelling from across the Valley and a number attending multiple workshops. The participants have been very keen to start their artworks, with several bringing mementos from the fires to use as the inspiration for their work” said Dr Carroll.

Monash Gippsland Pro Vice Chancellor Professor Helen Bartlett and Director of the Gippsland Centre for Art and Design (GCAD) Mr Rodney Forbes were

both involved in the application for the workshop funding and were pleased to see the campus supporting such a community activity. Both took the opportunity to attend the printmaking workshop on campus to chat with the participants and see the start of the creative process.

“It was interesting to see the range of designs that participants were producing. Imagery of nature was common, reflecting our location in Gippsland and how important the natural environment is to us, particularly after the fires” said Mr Forbes.

“The participants here today all came with different experiences and different reasons for coming. Some came for the social opportunities, others to build their skills, and one participant even came with the aim of developing art works with a view to selling them to raise funds for wildlife caring. Whatever reason they came, we are glad that they did” said Professor Bartlett.

The workshops will continue to run in each location for several weeks, enabling the participants to build their skills and hopefully, to build stronger links between the individuals and their communities.

“The point of the workshops is to build social connections so we have made sure that there is plenty of time for the participants to chat over lunch or afternoon tea. We hope to run a lunch where the participants can come together across all five groups to share their stories and show off their artworks. We are also keen to show the artworks to the wider public in different community settings” said Dr Carroll.

While previous bushfire-related activities have targeted other age groups or the broader population in Gippsland, the Art Workshops for Older Residents project is part of a batch of activities targeting the specific needs of older people in smaller rural communities.

The participants were hard at work making their designs. One person said they had always wanted to do something like this but couldn’t afford to. Others voiced their pleasure in being able to express themselves in that medium.

A delicious lunch was served as part of the social inclusion aspect of the day.

## Open Invitation To Visit Parliament

Latrobe Valley community members are invited to walk the corridors of power and get a glimpse behind Victoria’s historic Legislative Assembly and Council chambers at this year’s Parliament House Open Day on Sunday March 25th.

Nationals Member for Morwell Russell Northe is encouraging members of the community to make the most of this opportunity to see inside the historical Parliament House building, one of Melbourne’s best known landmarks.

“Whilst undertaking a self-guided tour through Parliament, visitors will get to explore areas of the building not usually open to the public, with Parliamentary members and staff on hand to answer any questions,” Mr Northe said.

“Thousands of visitors take advantage of visiting Parliament House every year and the Open Day provides members of the public with a unique opportunity to learn more about the colourful parliamentary characters that have left their indelible mark in the state’s history books.

The day finishes with a stroll through Parliament House’s magnificent gardens, providing views of the city not ordinarily seen by visitors to Melbourne, and entertainment will be provided and refreshments available for purchase,” Mr Northe said.

The Open Day will run from 10.30am until 3.30pm and admission is free.

For more information visit [www.parliament.vic.gov.au](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au) or phone: 9651 8567.

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## Welcome from MUGSU and your 2012 student President Ben Rogers

MUGSU welcomes all new & returning students to the Monash Gippsland campus & wishes everyone a successful year.

March is when many of the Post-Graduate students also begin arriving, sometimes bringing their families to Churchill & settling here for a year or two. You might notice that we have a new logo for the Student Union - the new design represents the cyclical environment of both MUGSU and student life. In the centre of the logo you'll notice a speech bubble as MUGSU is the voice of students. Our last logo had been with us for over a decade and was beginning to look a little tired. Our new logo is fresh, innovative and imaginative, it represents the new invigorated MUGSU.

Students and staff from Monash Gippsland spend their money at many of Churchill's local businesses shops, fuel outlet, take-away food, MUGSU does too. Many Monash students utilise the Latrobe Leisure Centre and some students get involved with local sporting clubs e.g. Churchill United Soccer Club, Indoor Netball.

We like to shop locally & contribute to the Churchill community - and not just financially: we intend to again hold our annual 'Clean Up the Creek' Day along Eel Hole Creek later this year and are considering other ways to make a positive difference. If you have any ideas please contact us!

MUGSU asks that you share a smile & make our students welcome, particularly some of our International students who find Churchill a very different environment to their home country



**MUGSU**

MONASH UNIVERSITY GIPPSLAND STUDENT UNION

Phone: (03) 5122 6498 | Email: [union@mugsu.edu](mailto:union@mugsu.edu) | Website: <http://www.mugsu.org.au>



# At the Hub

## THE BLUE TABLE

BY Bill Jordan

Sing Lee was propelled forward by the force of a heavy hand on the back of his head. An outstretched hand clutched a door handle, steadying him. The door swung open revealing a neat, tidy cabin at the centre of which stood a blue table, laden with food.

Sing Lee wished he could be near the blue table.

The same heavy hand wrapped around his skinny, seven year old arm, lifting him then hurling him down the companionway stairs into the bowels of the small craft.

In the blackness, a dozen hands gripped him, lifting him to his feet. Filthy bilge water dripped from his body and clothes.

Whispering broke out. Relief washed over Sing Lee. They were speaking his language!

'Nothing broken?' an anxious voice asked.

Sing Lee ran his hands over his legs before answering. His knees were sore from contact with the wooden stairs.

'No, ' he replied, 'Nothing broken.'

The group huddled together when a powerful torch beam shone down the

companionway stairs.

'Food!' a harsh voice called out in English.

Several plastic bowls were thrown down, then a bucket of hot, spicy soup was lowered. The light went off and the group of political refugees searched in the dark for the bowls. A yellow electric light bulb suddenly glowed, barely piercing the gloom. They finished the food in silence. The bowls and bucket were collected and the light was turned off. This procedure was repeated over the next several days.

A heavy squall sprang up tossing the boat about as if it were a ping pong ball. The watch above was flung back. A voice in their own language called "Abandon ship! The ship is sinking.". Sing Lee found himself in the freezing water. His lungs filled with water. His flailing hands clutched hold of something. He heaved himself from the water.

In the dim sunlight off the coast of Christmas Island, he saw he was clutching the blue table.

## MEMORIES

BY Molly Keeley

Memories live longer than dreams

They're so much stronger, it seems.

This old saying I've found to be true.

The years have proved there's nothing new.

Broken hearts mend in their given time.

Opportunity lost makes life a hard time

To get the satisfaction one hopes to achieve,

Making our marks on the earth when we leave.

It all comes to nothing as we stand at God's door.

We are more equal as never before.

Has life on earth been a very hard task?

Have you helped others? I'm sure He will ask.

My memories then, to Him I'll confide.

He'll open His arms and say "Come inside."

In this kingdom I know I will see

All of my loved ones who preceded me.

## SHAPES

BY Kevin Jackson

Shapes

and sizes

from tiny babes

through to adulthood

changing form many times

from plump youngsters playing

to youths standing tall and straight

in adulthood middle age spread comes

despite dieting, waistlines quickly stretch

double chins and spare tyres abound

old age brings further changes

wrinkled faces are common

walking the dog helps

ease aching joints

twilight years

old and

bent

# Rotary Club of Hazelwood



The Rotary Club of Hazelwood participated in the annual Clean Up Australia Day.

The area behind the fire station and along Eel Hole

Creek was the focus of their attention. They had some students from Monash University come to help them with the large job of cleaning up a very messy area.



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## Mathison Park

An excellent working bee was held on the third Saturday in February, when nine dedicated supporters turned up to clear more overhanging branches from pathways, and to cut up lots of fallen trees and branches and take to piles to be burnt later.

This last year has seen a large number of trees and branches come down, so it has kept the workers very busy.

These areas will still require clearing out when possible.

Also through the month, blackberries have been sprayed.

It is wonderful to compare the level of the small dam with two years ago when it almost completely dried up.

Summer has ended and the park looks green and lush compared to other years.

Our next working bee will be on Saturday March 17 at 9.30am.



Please meet at the Mackey's Rd car park to find out where we are working for the day.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir/Madam,

To all of you people who walk your dogs around Churchill and Lake Hyland, "Clean up your poo".

When others walk for their health or the love of exercise, it is spoilt by your dog droppings.

After the flies land on them they land on our faces! NOT NICE!

I appeal to everyone to keep an eye out for the people without a shovel and bag.

I haven't seen any!

Yours faithfully,

Gwen Brien, (address supplied)

## Rotary Club Of Hazelwood

By Leo Billington  
Club Program Director



A visit to the Monash University Gippsland Medical School and School of Nursing on January 30 has started a series of interesting guest speakers for February for the Rotary Club of Hazelwood.

This visit was conveniently followed by an evening of basic training in CPR organized by Annette Blythman from the Latrobe Regional Hospital. Annette provided a timely and relevant reminder of the fundamentals of CPR while providing actual "lessons" using manikins. Members from the Rotary Club of Moe were our guests on this occasion.

On February 13, Mirboo North Year 12 student, Scott Marriott was guest speaker.

Scott described his unique experience at the January 2012 National Youth Science Forum over two

weeks in Canberra. The Rotary Club of Hazelwood proudly sponsored Scott.

Club President Carol Crewe organized a Rotary Cluster meeting several weeks ago involving six other clubs - from Moe, Morwell, Trafalgar, Mirboo North, Warragul and Drouin.

Guest speaker, Jenny Gray, CEO Zoo Victoria provided an inspirational talk on the animal kingdom and its relationship to our (human) modern fast world beleaguered by time constraints, being too busy and wanting more than we really should have.

Last week, guest speaker, Brian Grist from the RACV spoke about careful driving habits for seniors.

The general point here was based on the aging generation who need to be diligent in driving vehicles.

## Scott Marriott and the National Youth Science Forum

Local resident Scott Marriott was sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hazelwood to attend the January 2012 National Youth Science Forum, which is the only program in Australia that offers students currently in Year 11, the chance to experience and learn about a wide range of universities and careers in the sciences and engineering.

Scott, now a Year 12 student enrolled at Mirboo North Secondary College, was interviewed for pre-selection by Rotary club officials last year before learning of his successful application. Scott was selected to attend the forum in Canberra.

According to Scott, the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) is a prestigious Australian program dedicated to giving a huge range of experiences to Year 11 students who are thinking about a career in science, engineering and related disciplines through to major institutions and researchers. This exposure enables students to make more informed career choices for their future.

"In addition to this, the most important aspect coming from my NYSF experience is establishing a wide network of friends, colleagues and support groups throughout Australia who will be of immense value in my academic and career pursuits," Scott said.

"During my time in Canberra I stayed at the Australian National University and visited the CSIRO, the Australian Defence Force Academy, Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian National University School of Physics and the Royal Australian Mint.

A visit to see the construction of a larger, higher wall at the Cotter Dam was one highlight. They are expanding the dam from a capacity of four gegalitres to 76 gegalitres.

It's a massive, rather unique civil construction site and made me more enthusiastic to pursue civil



engineering as my preferred career choice".

Scott met students from all parts of Australia as well as from overseas. He enjoyed learning about overseas lifestyles and how a variety of cultures are reflected through a desire for tertiary level education.

"We also visited Questacon, the Tidbinbilla Tracking Station, Old Parliament House and the new Parliament House. I would definitely recommend that students learn more about NYSF through our local Rotary clubs," Scott explained.

"I am now considering applying for a related Rotary International program scheduled for mid-year, to be held in Pretoria, South Africa. Interstate seminars are also attracting my attention".

Scott will now direct his focus on a Bachelor Degree in Civil Engineering although Environmental Engineering is another probable favourite.

For students and families interested to learn more about NYSF, please contact the Rotary Club of Hazelwood President, Carol Crewe, on 5171 1626.



### Australia's Open Garden Scheme

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# Friends of Morwell National Park

## Snakes in Morwell National Park

By Ken Harris

During our February working bee pulling Tutsan out of Billy's Creek, we gathered together for lunch at the top side of the Potato Flat.

John drew my attention to a snake basking in the grass behind the Blackwoods.

I went across immediately and took some photos of the snake, first with my telephoto lens and then got closer and used the macro lens. It was a very dark snake, but proved to be a Copperhead.

The Copperhead (*Austrelaps superbus*) is the commonest snake to be seen in Morwell National Park. It is a fairly common snake in SE Australia and its bite is poisonous like most Australian snakes. It is not considered as dangerous as the Tiger Snake however and is generally considered not to be aggressive.

When I tried to get one more close photograph it slithered away into thick grass. I have 19 records of copperheads in the park and I was interested to see how they are distributed through the park.

The distribution is interesting in that nearly all the records are close to Billys Creek and only two are from the Fosters Gully side of the park. The other snake often seen in the park is the Tiger Snake (*Notechis scutatus*), so I had a look at its distribution as well. There are slightly fewer records, I have 12 records from the park, but there are a lot more from the Fosters Gully side. Generally the Tiger Snake sightings are more widely scattered through the park than are the Copperheads. All snakes within the park should be treated with extreme caution.

Below is a picture of a Tiger Snake taken on the Western Boundary of the park in May last year.

There are two other snakes recorded from the park.

One is the Red-bellied Black Snake.



I have accepted one record, but I am not sure that this snake is really in the park.

Very dark copperheads like the one we saw on the working bee are often misreported as Red-bellied Blacks.

The other snake in the park is the White-lipped Snake (*Drysdalia coronata*).

This is a much smaller snake, although still poisonous. We know of only one sighting in the park.

Sometime in the 1990's, we were planting trees just below the top stretch of the Zigzag Track, close to Jumbuk Road. I dug a hole for a tree and saw what I thought was a very fat worm in the hole. Thinking of giant earthworms, I grabbed hold of it, only to quickly realise my mistake. I didn't let go however, I quickly slid my hand up to hold it just behind its head and then realised that it was a White-lipped Snake.

I called out to other tree planters to come and look and half of them did, but the rest moved as far away as they could instead!

### March Activity

10.00am Sunday March 18

The group will meet at 10.00am at the Junction Road car park to complete some track maintenance along Billy's Creek. We will need Craig (if he is working this weekend) to bring the waders and weed spray. If you have your own waders or gumboots bring them along for the walk in the creek looking for Tutsan. You will need to bring your lunch and clothing suitable for the weather conditions on the day.



This month's activity had Wendy, John, Margaret, Ken, Peter, Emma, Rod, Darren and another Wendy in attendance. Wendy is a local living near the park and she was along for her first activity. Emma and Rod were along for the second time. New people are always welcome and everybody can do something to help.

Ken and Peter went to collect the waders and poisons while the rest of us organized ourselves.

The group drove to Potato Flat where we donned waders. Wendy, Wendy, Margaret and Darren worked upstream from the second creek crossing while Peter, John, Emma and Rod worked downstream from Billy's Weir.

Ken stayed on dry ground and removed weeds along the bank. Both groups found many Tutsan plants, with the downstream group finding many advanced plants in fruit and flower, while the upstream group found many smaller plants. Many bags of flowers and berries were collected.

While the groups came together for lunch, Ken located a snake. His report follows.

Over lunch we found that Ken had removed 3 small seedlings, but had managed to stay clean and not fall into any holes.

Over lunch the group discussed which people were to undertake poisons and chainsaw training.

At the end of the activity Wendy was happy to locate some tree guards to remove. These are currently at the top of Potato Flat.

The photo beside shows the group kitted out ready for the creek. The photo at top shows a few advanced Tutsan plants. Tutsan is a problem weed since it spreads quickly by seed or root runners. Many grow them in their home gardens for the pretty yellow flowers and red and black berries.

Tutsan is an erect shrub, commonly about 1 m high where it occurs on damp, shaded sites and forest edges.

Tutsan infestations spread rapidly and often form dense closed stands.

## Nationals announce scholarship for young leaders 2012

State President of The Nationals, Mr Peter Schwarz today announced The Nationals Scholarship for Young Leaders will run again in 2012. The scholarship will assist students from rural and regional Victoria in their chosen tertiary pathway.

"The Nationals are committed to ensuring that regional and rural young people continue to reach their potential through higher education and training opportunities," Mr Schwarz said.

"The scholarship winners will be chosen based on their academic endeavours, local leadership qualities, community involvement and their commitment to rural life."

The total value of the scholarship is \$5,000 which may be shared amongst one or more successful applicants.

"The Scholarship for Young Leaders has been a great success in the many years The Nationals have committed to run the bursary.

The response from students across the state has traditionally been of a high calibre and the quality of the applications shows the strength and resilience of young people from across country Victoria," Mr Schwarz said.

Deputy Premier and Member for Gippsland South Peter Ryan said the Scholarship was a fantastic initiative and encouraged eligible students in Gippsland to apply.

"The Nationals are proud to support regional and rural students pursuing their tertiary studies and promoting exceptional leadership qualities from future leaders, especially those committed to the future development of regional and rural Victoria," Mr Ryan said.

The selection criteria for The Nationals Scholarship includes the applicant's academic record, leadership qualities and community involvement.

It is intended that The Nationals Scholarship be awarded to students who are intending to return to or remain in the country after their course and demonstrate a career commitment that will ultimately benefit rural/regional Victoria. Special consideration may also be given to students in hardship situations.

"I would encourage all school leavers and young people progressing with tertiary studies in 2012 to consider applying for the Young Leaders Scholarship," Mr Ryan said.

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## Churchill Gardening Group - Things to do in March!

There are always the never ending jobs to do like weeding, mulching, preparing beds for upcoming plantings of vegetables and flowering plants, with continuation of planting of winter flowering bulbs such as anemones and ranunculus from now until later in autumn.

Plant bulbs about six inches ( 15 cm) apart and two inches (5cm) deep. Sparaxis (Harlequin or Wand Flower) can also be planted in early autumn.

Daffodils, probably the most widely grown bulb, need no introduction. There are dozens of different types, sizes, shapes and colour combinations from which to choose.

A beautiful terracotta pot full of daffodils is a sight worth seeing. It can even be brought indoors for a short while when in flower.

There are so many varieties; they could not all be listed here, so if you are looking for something different, why not attend Gippsland Rare and Unusual Plants Fair for 2012.

It will be

Australian Bulb Company, Country Farm Perennials, Tek Marco Succulents, Post Office Farm Helliboers, The Salvia Society, Dis Delightful Plants, Bass Valley African Violets, Candy Bell and Jindi Hills Nursery, to name but a few.

Over the road is The Jindivik Country Gardener, a nursery of rare and unusual plants. This nursery is a favourite of mine together with my very good friends.

Seeds to plant now:

Why not try something of an old style favourite, namely clarkia.

They come in shades of pinks, mauves, rose and white, and can be used as a border plant, but I think they are most effective in clumps.

Seed is readily available at good seed merchants. Another unusual flowering plant is godetia. It is well worth growing.

March is upon us and it is time to cut back all geraniums, give them a good feed and tidy up and they will reward you well. Geraniums in pots appreciate fresh soil and a good feed and tidy up too.

It is also time to prepare for this year's sweet peas. Remember St. Pat's Day (March 17) is sweet pea planting day.

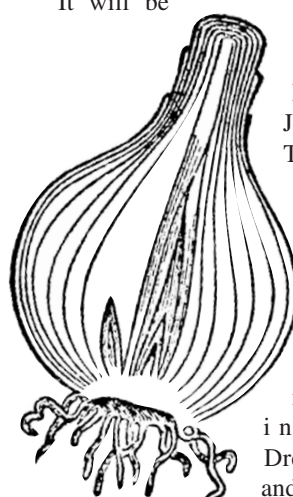
My vegetable garden is almost at its end, although I am still harvesting tomatoes, zucchinis, silver beet, and beans.

You can still continue to plant beans, lettuce and radish.

We can also be preparing ground ready for winter crops to come.

All for now, folks.

Talk to you next month, from the Not So Gardening Guru



held at Jindivik Public Hall, Jackson's Track, Jindivik on Saturday April 14 from 10am to 4pm. There will be many stalls including Drewitt Bulbs and the

## Don't risk your life on a last minute decision.

Be prepared for a bush or grass fire, wherever you are.

Just a grassfire or a deadly inferno?

**A wet year means a greater threat of grassfires across Victoria.**  
Rain encourages growth. It only takes a few weeks of hot, dry weather to turn grass into fuel for a fire. Grassfires start quickly and spread rapidly, they generate large amounts of radiant heat that can kill anyone caught out in the open. Now is the time to build fire breaks in and around your property. Mow, slash or plough grass.  
**Write or review your Bushfire Survival Plan and practise it.**  
Even if you've already written your plan it's no time to be complacent. Give yourself and everyone you love a better chance of survival by thinking

through your decisions and reminding everyone of what they should do. Before you travel check the Fire Danger Rating at [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au).  
**You think that you are ready, but are you really ready?**  
Do you have a good understanding of the risk around you and have you thought through all of the possible scenarios and what you will do? Find out more about grassfires by visiting [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au). Download the FireReady app to just about any smart phone to access accurate fire danger information and receive alerts and warnings.

Make your plan at [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) or call 1800 240 667. It could save your life.

PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.





# First Churchill Scouts Receive Funding



The First Churchill Scouts are thrilled and excited that they can now go ahead and do a much needed upgrade and extension.

Churchill group Leader Peta Whelan said: "I am so excited. It was a wonderful surprise to have a response from our application, and so quickly. We have written other applications but this one seemed just the right one for us and our needs. We are very grateful. The great part about it is that Scouting Australia will be matching the amount of \$25,000 so we effectively have \$50,000 for this upgrade."

Member for Morwell, Russell Northe was on hand to make the announcement. "The Churchill Scouts do a marvellous job within our community. They provide an opportunity for our younger members to be active and involved with others with similar interests, and also teaches many life skills such as leadership, co-operation and volunteering."

The upgrade will include removing a condemned shed, which will then be re-built as a user-friendly facility to make better access, and to give the Rovers a place of their own.

Peta Whelan said she hoped that the new building would encourage an increase in Rover numbers.

At present the Scout troop has 40 kids and 8 leaders. Yinnar Scouts also come and join in with the Churchill Scouts.

When asked why the application had been successful, Peta replied that they were the only group in the District to get a grant.

They had a lot of help to write their grant from Scouting Hierarchy, but they were also the most worthy of an upgrade.

On hand with Russell Northe were Scout's Churchill Group Leader Peta Whelan and Leader Dr. Michael Spisto.

**CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS**

**COPIES NOW AVAILABLE**

each month from the front counter  
**Woolworths Supermarket in Churchill**  
 West Place Shopping Centre

## Glendonald Preschool back in business

**Latrobe City preschool**  
 Four-year-old kinder session on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 1pm. Enrolments for places are still being accepted.

**Latrobe City family day care playgroup**  
 Each Monday during the school term. For preschool and family day care playgroup call 1300 367 700.

**Lilly Pilly Steiner Playgroup**  
 Each Friday from 10am to 12 noon, contact Carly Leviston on 0427 536 181 or Ruth Kelly on 0437 048 701.

**Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) meetings**  
 Every third Friday of the month from 10am to 12 noon, contact Kate Schulz on 0433 091 956.

**Churchill Toy Library**  
 Every second Saturday from 10am to 12 noon, contact Jessica Somerville on 0439 978 859.



# Churchill North Primary School After School Care & Playgroup

**After School Care**  
 Qualified Coordinator  
**Jillian Keenan**

**Fees & Charges**  
 Each hour block is \$5.00 per child.  
 Families may claim Child Care Benefit with respect to this program.

**Hours of Operation**  
 Monday—Friday during the school term.  
 Hours of operation are between 3:15—5:15.  
 Sessions may be booked for an hour at a time.



**Playgroup**  
 Your child can have fun playing with others while you meet other parents and share the joys and challenges of parenting.  
 Playgroup allows children to:

- Learn through play, listen to stories, sing & play musical instruments
- Have fun inside & outside, making friends and developing new skills
- Interact with other adults, learn simple rules & routines

**Activities include:**  
 Painting & pasting, Sandpit play, Climbing equipment, Play dough Home corner, Construction, Music & movement, Stories & much more

**Where:** Churchill North Primary School Coolabah Drive, Churchill.

**When:** Wednesdays & Fridays (during school terms)

**Time:** 9.00—11.00 am

**Bring:** A healthy snack & drink

**Cost:** Gold coin

**Contact:** 5122 1976





# Get Fit - Play Tennis!

## Churchill Tennis Club supported by

# ROUND ROBIN and TOURNAMENT

\*\*\* School Holiday Fun \*\*\*

Monday April 2, 2012

Churchill Tennis Club, Manning Drive, Churchill

Heaps of Trophies to be Won  
Lucky Door Prizes  
Sausage Sizzle

**Only \$2 To Enter (\$5 Family)**

### Never Played Before?

Come along and have a go in a relaxed and friendly environment  
Racquets and Balls Supplied

9.00am - 11.00am

Non Competition Players

(have never played competition before or played Section 8 and 9 in Latrobe Valley Tennis Association or C Grade and B2 in Loy Yang Tennis Associationss)

11.30am - 3.00pm

Competition Players

To Register: Fill in the Entry Form and Mail to  
PO Box 270, Churchill by Monday 26th March 2012

Entry Forms also available online at [www.cdnews.com.au](http://www.cdnews.com.au)

More Information:

Contact Carol Scott: 0409 326 769



### Churchill Tennis Club Get Fit

#### Play Tennis/Round Robin

Monday 2nd April 2012: 9am - 11am

#### Beginners Entry Form

Players Name: .....

Phone Number: .....

Date Of Birth: .....

(Tick the event that you would like to enter. Age as of 2nd April 2012)

Under 8	Under 10	Under 13	Under 15

#### Conditions of Entry

\* Players enter at their own risk

\* The referees decision will be final (Referee: Sally Kirstine)

I understand the conditions of entry:

Signature of Parent or Guardian: .....

For further information contact: Carol Scott 040 932 6769

Entries close: Monday 26th March 2012

Post Entries to: Churchill Tennis Club, PO Box 270, Churchill 3842



### Churchill Tennis Club Get Fit

#### Play Tennis/Tournament

Monday 2nd April 2012: 11.30am - 3pm

#### Competition Entry Form

Players Name: .....

Phone Number: .....

Date Of Birth: .....

Section Played		
Latrobe Valley	Loy Yang	Other

#### Conditions of Entry

\* Players enter at their own risk

\* The referees decision will be final (Referee: Sally Kirstine)

I understand the conditions of entry:

Signature of Parent or Guardian: .....

For further information contact: Carol Scott 040 932 6769

Entries close: Monday 26th March 2012

Post Entries to: Churchill Tennis Club, PO Box 270, Churchill 3842





## Open Gardens Scheme at Hazelwood North



The Australian Open Garden Scheme is showcasing "Raesowna Park" garden at 257 Jeeralang North Road Hazelwood North for Saturday and Sunday 5th and 6th May from 10 am-4.30 pm.

Visitors are welcome to come and share the 'tranquil showplace' which is this garden.

There are many pathways meandering gracefully through the garden, past the pond and the dam, where the birds delight to flit to and fro among the branches of the trees and in the seclusion of the scrub.

Little bird baths are located at various places where they drink and splash.

The garden is a garden for all times of the year, with a variety of plants being evergreen and others deciduous, with colours of flowers always present.

Sixteen years ago this garden was a cow paddock in which the Rae's built their new home.

The garden was laid out with no special plan but a bit like Topsy- it grew; from near the house at first until now it fills the whole eight acres.

The hayshed was turned into a fernery which on hot days is a haven from the heat.

The special part about this garden is that it is filled with plants which were cuttings or gifts from friends. Alice Rae who does most of the gardening says she doesn't know the names of the plants but for her that is not important. What is important is that she knows who gave her each one. The garden contains exotics as well as natives which co-habitate without any problems.

Placed throughout the garden are seats for people to sit and just take in the beauty and the peacefulness of the surroundings.

People are welcome to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy it on the lawns, under a tree, by the dam or tucked away in a secluded nook.

Ken and Alice are warm-hearted people who are very welcoming and hospitable.

As well as the garden to see there will be goodies in which to indulge with Devonshire teas, a sausage sizzle and other stalls.

The cost of entry is \$7.

Bus loads are welcome, but please let them know you are coming.

*If you would like more information please ring Ken and Alice on 5166 1263.*



## Rainfall for February

By Bruce Stephenson

Total rainfall for the month: 80 mil

Number of wet days: 10  
Total Rainfall for the Year to Date: 152 mil.

Summary: Good rainfall spread over the month has kept the countryside and gardens looking fresh and green.

Churchill only received 28 mil in the last 2 days from the wet that came from the north.



## Churchill's next 'big' development!

By Margaret Guthrie  
The 'East Link' project, as it's called, will aim to improve connections between the Churchill town centre and facilities on the eastern side of Philip Pde.

Key elements are to be the upgrade of the Eel Hole Creek surrounds, and new pedestrian links between the Town Centre and the University that include all the facilities in between, such as the CFA station, the Leisure Centre, the synthetic sports field and the GEP.

CDCA is inviting all residents to attend our 'Open Forum' General Meeting on Wednesday 28th March (7pm at Green Inc.), to begin planning for Churchill's next 'big' development – the area between Philip Pde and Monash University.

This new project – Churchill's East Link – was identified as part of the east-west development that was needed to better connect Churchill's facilities, residential areas and the town centre.

The new Town Centre Plan is well under way with the reconstruction of Philip Parade almost complete. Much of the detailed planning required to reconfigure Georgina Place and the central car park has been done, and jobs such as the lighting cable splicing works are ready to proceed.

Latrobe City Council has appointed Urban Design Consultants, CPG, to prepare a master plan to guide staged development and upgrades to the new project area. CDCA invited the consultants to attend our meeting in order to begin the community consultation process that forms part of the project brief.

CDCA, the consultants and Latrobe City are very keen to ensure that residents have an opportunity to put forward their ideas and suggestions.

CPG will provide a brief presentation on the scope of the project at our meeting and then listen to, and take note of, the comments made by residents.

Cr. Darrell White will chair the night's proceedings. The second half of the meeting will be an 'Open Forum' for residents to raise 'Churchill matters' and inform the CDCA Committee – and our Ward Councillor – of the local issues that are of most concern to this community.

If you are unable to attend on the night, but would like to raise a particular issue, make a suggestion or have an idea that you'd like to see included in the planning for Churchill's future, we'd like to hear from you.

Put your thoughts down and email them to mgcdca@hotmail.com or post to CDCA, PO Box 191, Churchill 3842 before March 20th. All items received by March 20th will be tabled at our meeting.



At our February Committee meeting there was some discussion about appropriate vehicle restriction speeds along Philip Pde and Glendonald Rd, as both have new residential developments planned.

CDCA has written to Latrobe City Council about these roads and have been advised that the Council is taking the matter up with VicRoads.

Also discussed was the Council's draft 'Public Open Space Strategy' that is being prepared at present.

CDCA has the view that there is a need for local (neighbourhood) parks and open/green spaces to be retained and maintained, and that 'links' (walking tracks and bicycle paths), are a priority.

CDCA made a submission to the Victorian Electoral Commission about the current review of the Latrobe's Municipal electoral representation.

We were very clear in our submission that it only represented the views of the CDCA Committee, as we had not widely consulted over this matter.

The final 4 options presented in the VEC's interim report are: a retention of the current single councillor, 9 ward model; a 9 councillor, one ward model; and two multi-councillor, 3 and 4 ward models.

Although our particular suggested model was not one of these final 4 options presented in the VEC's interim report, we have made a further submission seeking the right to speak at the VEC panel hearing in March.

Whilst not endorsing any one of the particular options being debated, we wish to impress upon the panel the importance of selecting a model that ensures that the concerns of smaller communities are heard by local government.

Further information about the review and copies of all submissions and the interim report can be viewed at [www.vec.vic.gov.au/reviews/Latroberr.html](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au/reviews/Latroberr.html)

For more information about CDCA, write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill, email mgcdca@hotmail.com or phone 5122 2997.

Our next meeting is our quarterly General Meeting – an 'Open Forum' for all residents – to be held at Green Inc (Mc Donald Way, enter 'Module D' from northern/Kurnai end of building) at 7pm on Wednesday March 28th. A light supper will be provided.

Our next regular Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 25th, 7pm in Studio 1, Churchill Hub, Philip Pde.



Churchill & District News

is looking for volunteers.




We are looking for people who would like to be involved in advertising. We would like to hear from you!

Please ring Ruth on 5122 1961

### New Churchill Motors


Lot 8 Phillip Parade,  
Churchill, Vic. 3840.  
Tel. (03) 51221380




AUTHORISED SERVICE

**Specializing in General repairs and Servicing of 4WD and Passenger Vehicles Including:-**

- Brake and Clutch Machining & Replacement
- \* Cylinder head and Flywheel machining
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- \* Specialist Diagnostic equipment for current models



All repairs covered by Repco Authorized Service Nationwide Warranty.





## AIRLIE BANK HOMESTEAD

### A brief History by Keith Brownbill

Part 2.

#### Day-to-day Life on the Farm

The Bridles ran sheep, milked cows, kept pigs, had a large number of fowls, grew oats and possibly some barley, kept bees, and looked after an extensive orchard. The orchard was on the north side of the homestead and included mulberries, quinces, five or six varieties of pears, two lemon trees, several different types of plums and apples, and two cherry trees which eventually died from the frosts. The whole family used to pick the fruit, pack it and store it in the four timber rooms to the north of the homestead. The fruit was sold fresh, most going to local people,

but some was taken by horse and jinker to the railway station to be sent to outside customers. The family did not preserve fruit except to make jam - one of the aunts was a great jam maker. Jim Bridle was an enthusiastic beekeeper and had 35-40 hives. He used to rob the hives and work on his honey in the four detached timber rooms where the fruit was stored and also used the old brick cheese house. Although the bees crawled all over him he was never stung. Most of his pure honey was sold to Mr. Gels and became very popular, but he also sold other types in special tins ranging in size from one to four gallons.

Using a bent piece of wire as his rod Jim had great success as a water diviner, and because he often also estimated the depth correctly, his services were in great demand from farmers. Not only could he find water - on one occasion with his divining rod he located his wife Ida's wedding ring which had slipped off her finger in the long grass near the cowshed.

#### Farm Sheds and Equipment

Before the days of sophisticated headers the oats were cut by scythe, bound into sheaves, stacked, and then threshed to get the grain for feed. (A reaper and binder machine came later, and when the farm was sold it was still stored in the shed.) Bob remembers the thresher well - it was owned by Rileys from Hazelwood North and they employed an army of men to work it. In the early days the Bridles used to cut the oaten sheaves into chaff. A big, roofed rotunda called the horseworks, housed a large gear wheel connected to a smaller wheel which drove a belt transferring the power to run the chaff cutter. The power was produced by two horses walking round and round the horseworks structure, a building that was still standing in 1959. The thresher left quite a lot of chaff with the grain and when the time came to choose the best possible seed for sowing the next year's crop, a machine called a winnower was used to get rid of impurities.

Before the days of tractors all the heavy work was done by draught horses. They pulled the seed drill and the reaper and binder. They also hauled the sled which was used to carry the cream cans to the highway to be picked up by the carrier and taken to the butter factory. The sled was also used to cart water from Waterhole Creek on the few occasions when the tank supply was inadequate.

In the early days pigs were a better proposition than sheep. The sheep didn't come into their own till the land was more fully cleared and pasture established. Jim Bridle used to kill his own meat, put the carcasses in a bag and raise them by means of a chain on a branch of either the large pepper tree or the pine tree just down from the western edge of the homestead. Because of the resins and turpentine from the trees there were never any blowflies under them. The meat would hang for some days and when the family wanted a few

cuts of meat they would lower the carcass, remove the bag, cut what they wanted, replace the bag, and then raise the carcass up off the ground again.

The Bridles sold large quantities of eggs. Miss Emma was in charge of the fowls and was proud of her birds - Black Orpingtons and Rhode Island Reds - she would have nothing to do with white hens. As her free-range birds didn't always lay in the same place, egg gathering was a daily task. One of the main customers was Mr. Cundle, manager of the APM camp then situated where the Morwell Campus of Kurnai College stands today.

Protecting the hens and the sheep from foxes was a constant problem. (The two prize kelpie sheep and cattle dogs would have made short work of the foxes, but they had to be kept chained when not working the stock.) A number of posts were put up about the farm with a wire hook on each, and at night Mrs Bridle would go round the posts and hang a lighted lantern on each of the wire hooks. This seemed to deter the foxes and the sheep learned to camp around the lighted lanterns. The fowls were locked up at night but occasionally some missed out and roosted in the wagons and up trees; they were the ones in most danger of being taken by foxes.

Airlie Bank had a shearing shed and the areas only plunge sheep dip. Local farmers, including the Hourigans and the McGaurans, brought thousands of sheep to the Bridles' place to have them dipped. The Misses Bridle were great cooks and they would go out with billies of tea and massive baskets of food covered with serviettes for shearers and other workers.

The shearing shed was still standing when farming operations finished but is demolished now and for safety reasons the plunge dip has been filled in.

#### Troubled Times

##### Fires

Bob cannot remember much about the 1939 fires - he was only 6 years old at the time - but he has a vivid recollection of those in 1944. He was home from school recovering from skinned knees after having been thrown over the handlebars of his bike when a stick became stuck in the wheel. He climbed up on the windmill near the creek and could see the fire coming. It did not seem to be burning on any defined front but came hurtling through the air in great burning balls over the hill where the Housing Commission houses are today.

Stacks of flax along Latrobe Road were destroyed in sheets of flame which seemed to soar hundreds of feet into the air.

##### Floods

The biggest flood occurred in 1934. In later years the Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board people doing a survey were shown the flood's high water mark at a spot shown in the photo below taken at the height of the flood.



Emma



Essie





# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



The bridge across the creek was washed away and neighbours from all around came in to help rebuild it.

A gravel road followed the line of the creek from the highway and continued past the bridge up to Crinigan Road where the Misses Crinigan lived. Another gravel path led from the bridge to the homestead. Margaret remembers the bridge being washed away twice. In dry times the Bridles and neighbours held working bees to clear snags and increase the flow.

## Snakes

Snakes were common about the farm, and although they were approached warily, the family was not unduly concerned by them. They would know when a snake was about when one of the healthy cats around the place was found dead, and would keep a look out till it was killed. (Miss Laura, known as the cat lady, had dozens of cats, many running wild and living on the huge numbers of rabbits on the property.

Although wild, the cats knew Miss Laura and crowded round her, but when anybody else came near they would be gone in an instant. The only feed she gave them was milk and many died from feline enteritis.) One time, a snake came up from the cowshed and was seen to enter the living room.

Despite the best efforts of the family, no trace of it could be found and they presumed it must somehow have gone outside. Some days later Miss Emma decided to play the organ, seated herself on the stool, and nonchalantly rolled back the keyboard cover,

There was the snake stretched peacefully across the keys. Despite being unable immediately to get out of the way because she was sitting on the stool with her legs on the pedals, Miss Emma didn't panic. She gently stood up and moved out of the way. The snake had slithered up through an aperture around an organ pedal. It was quickly dispatched.

## Leaving the Farm

By 1950 problems were emerging: Harry had died in 1939, Jim, Ida and the maiden aunts were getting on in years and neither of the two children wanted to continue on the land. With the coming of the State Electricity Commission to Morwell the whole character of the town changed.

The Housing Commission had expanded the Morwell town boundary almost to the edge of the farm, making running sheep difficult; dogs were killing the sheep and many others were stolen and butchered. (It is said that many a freezer was filled with lamb stolen from the farm.)

The farm land which consisted of 263 acres and extended north along Waterhole Creek half way to Crinigan Road and east to Alexanders Road, was subdivided and later sold completely. Local real estate agent, Russ Billingsley, and Melbourne developer Kurt Barry then conducted further sub-division and Airlie Bank farm became the present Bridle Estate. After the subdivision Jim Bridle, Ida, Bob and Margaret, moved to 20 Catherine Street in Morwell.

The three maiden aunts - Misses Laura, Emma and Essie - had continued to live in the old homestead after the death of their mother in 1923. Miss Laura died in 1952 and in 1959 Misses Emma and Essie went to live in Latrobe Road Morwell. Morwell historian, the late Ivan Maddern, spent hours with Miss Emma who had a wonderfully retentive memory - much of the information on the early days of Morwell came from her. Unfortunately there is not a great deal in his history about the Bridles themselves or the farm,

For the last years of her life Miss Essie was a patient in St. Lawrence Hospital and died in 1967. Miss Emma died two years later in 1969 at the age of 90. They, like most of the family, are buried in the Hazelwood Cemetery.

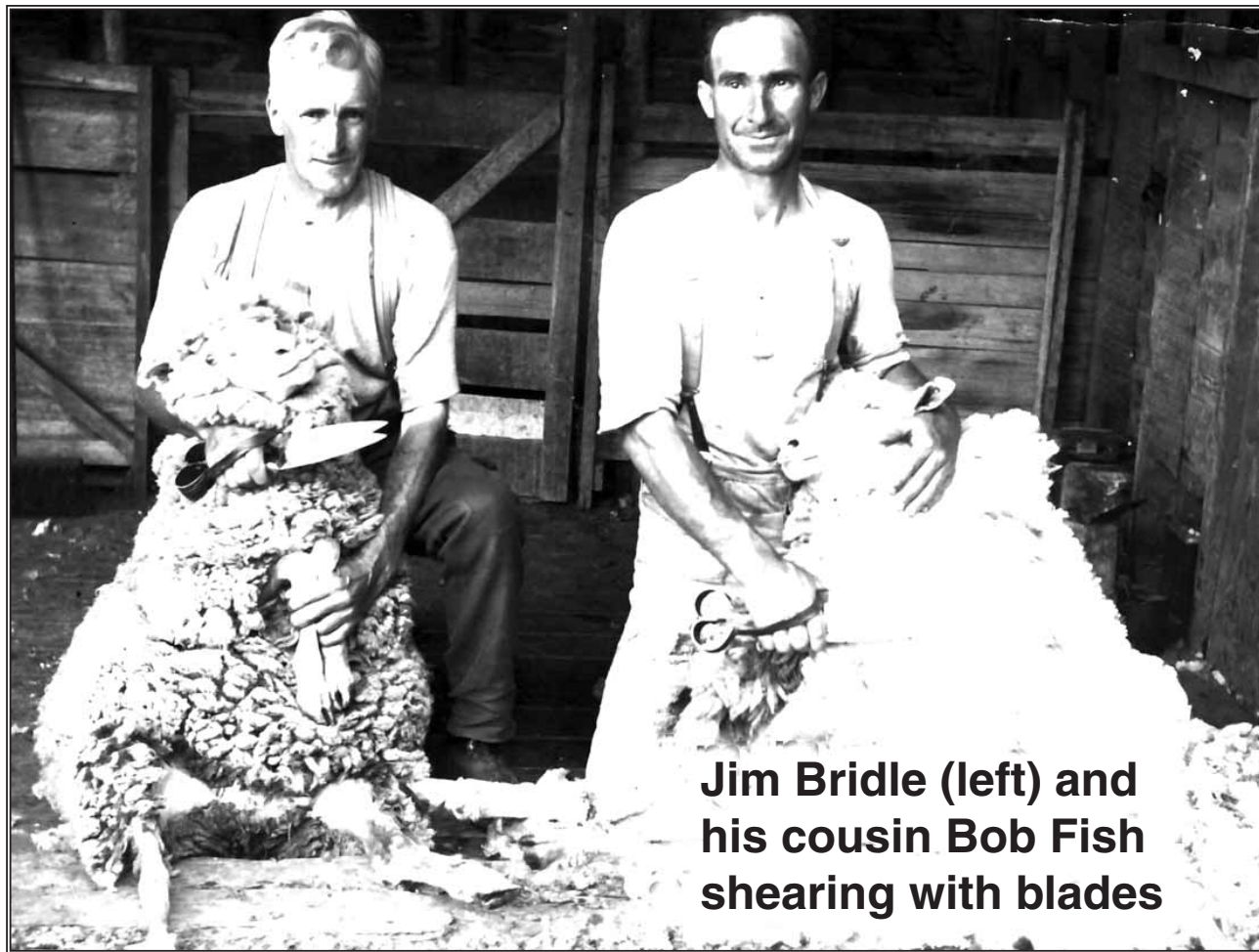
During her lifetime, Miss Emma gave away many of the family possessions. The family had wanted her to donate the property to the National Trust, but she wished it to remain in local hands, and when leaving the old home in 1959 to live in Latrobe Road, she decided to give it to the Morwell Shire Council.

The Council accepted the gift. The buggy, many items of farming equipment such as the chaffcutter and the reaper and binder - all still in immaculate condition - were removed. It is believed some of the implements are now held at the Gippsland Heritage Park in Moe. After the Bridle aunts left the homestead in 1959, a friend of the family, Mr. Mario Caille, lived in the house for about seventeen years and looked after the premises. When he left, however, the building was occupied by a series of people who did little to care for it. It fell into disrepair and eventually was left empty, neglected and a target for vandals.

*The final part of the Airlie Bank Homestead History will be published in the April edition.*



**James and Harry loved playing music**



**Jim Bridle (left) and his cousin Bob Fish shearing with blades**



**Farm sheds and equipment**



LUMEN CHRISTI

# PLAYGROUP



**EVERY 2ND THURSDAY  
DURING SCHOOL TERM**

**\$2 FOR FIRST CHILD, \$1 FOR EVERY OTHER CHILD  
PLEASE BRING A SNACK AND DRINK FOR YOUR CHILD**

**Lumen Christi Playgroup  
Eco Centre @ Lumen Christi Primary  
35 Williams Ave, Churchill.  
A registered playgroup with  
Playgroups Victoria**



A PLACE FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN TO SOCIALISE  
WONDERFUL ACTIVITIES EVERY SESSION!!  
ACCESS TO GREAT QUALITY TOYS, CRAFT SUPPLIES AND JUNGLE GYM!!

Term 1 Dates:  
22nd March  
5th April

Term 2 Dates:  
3rd May  
17th May  
31st May

## Head south this Easter at Wilsons Prom

Parks Victoria is delighted to announce that access to the majority of the southern hikes at the Wilsons Promontory National Park will be available from Easter 2012 onwards.

The team have been working at a ferocious pace to restore and repair walking tracks that were severely damaged during the one in 300 year flood event in March 2011.

Parks Victoria Chief Ranger Wilsons Promontory, Ms Helen Dixon, said the team has been working on the severely damaged Oberon Bay Track to again reinstate access to the southern hikes via Oberon Bay, which will be available from Easter onwards.

Visitors will have access to most of the southern hikes including

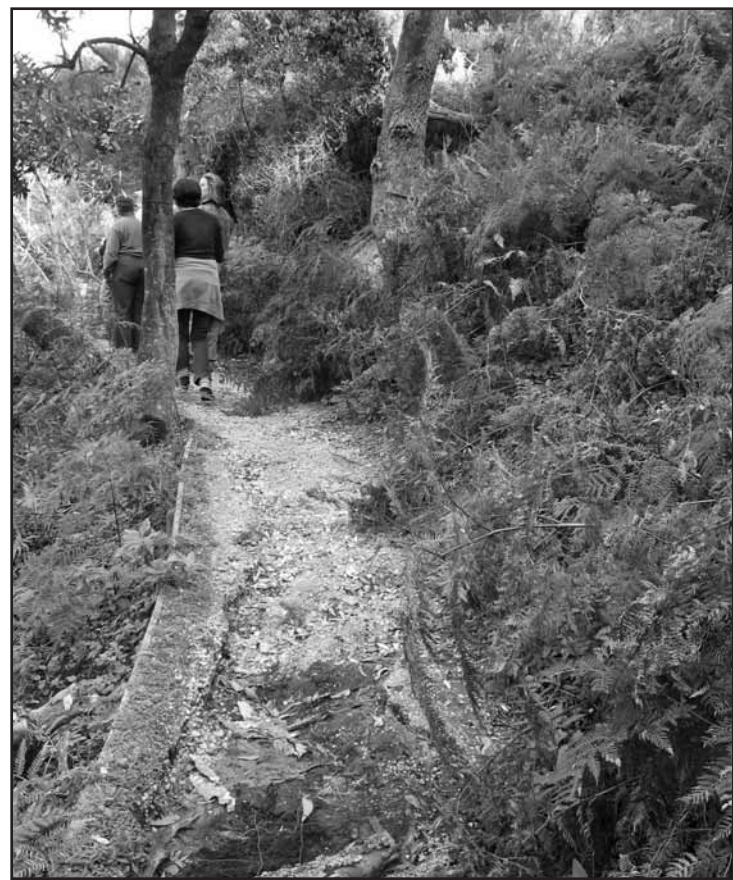
- Norman Bay to Oberon Bay
- Oberon Bay to Telegraph Junction
- Telegraph Junction to Waterloo Bay
- Waterloo Bay to Refuge Cove
- Refuge Cove to Sealers Cove
- South Point Track
- Halfway Hut and Roaring Meg via the Oberon Track and Telegraph Track

• Lightstation via Telegraph Track and the South East Track

• Waterloo Bay via the South East Track

“The campsites including Sealers Cove, Refuge Cove, Halfway Hut, Roaring Meg, Waterloo Bay, Oberon Bay and the Lightstation will still have a two-night maximum stay to ensure all visitors have the opportunity of camping at the southern outstation locations”, said Ms Dixon.

Visitors are advised the Tidal River campsite ballot has closed and is fully booked for Easter, though there are now spaces available for those wishing to camp at the outstation locations including the Lightstation.



Bookings can be made by contacting 13 19 63.

The Telegraph Track from Telegraph Saddle through to Telegraph Junction (including access to Sealers Cove from Telegraph Saddle Car Park) and Mt Oberon will continue to remain closed due to the significant flood damage incurred, and will continue to be the sole focus of the engineering team over the coming months.

“We are reminding visitors that they will be walking through a highly altered environment and that some Tracks are not fully repaired and therefore we request that they follow the new signage in place for their own safety, as well as adhering to areas that remain closed to the public”, said Ms Dixon.



# We Want Your Ideas!

Open Invitation to all residents to attend CDCA's next

## General Meeting - 7pm, Wednesday 28th March

at Green Inc - Module D (enter from northern/Kurnai end of building)

### Churchill's next big development: the "East Link"

A project to improve the link between the town centre and facilities east of Phillip Parade, including Churchill Hub, the skate park, CFA, Eel Hole Creek, the Leisure Centre, the Synthetic Sports Field, Gippsland Education Precinct and the University Campus. Key elements of the planning will be defining a new and upgraded pedestrian link between Monash and the town centre and upgrading the Eel Hole Creek environment.

Urban Design company, CPG, have been engaged by Latrobe City Council to prepare a master plan for the area between Philip Parade and Monash Campus and will provide a brief presentation on the scope of the project. They will be seeking initial ideas from the community regarding design and use of the area.

***Tell us your ideas for this project!***

This meeting will be chaired by Cr Darrell White

## Have Your Say!

The second half of the meeting will be an open forum opportunity for residents to advise CDCA and Cr White of the local issues that are important to the Churchill community.

If you are unable to attend on the night, please submit your ideas or concerns in writing to CDCA by 20th March, so that your input can be included at the meeting.

Write to CDCA at PO Box 191, Churchill 3842 or email: [mgcdca@hotmail.com](mailto:mgcdca@hotmail.com)

**A light supper will be provided at the meeting**



# Southern University Games 2012

By Jessica Lloyd

Southern University Games Coordinator  
Three regional events are held each year as a part of Australian University Sports commitment to providing sporting opportunities to all university students.

These events are held across the country to ensure all metropolitan and regional based students have the chance to attend.

The 2012 Southern University Games will be held in Latrobe City from 2 - 6 July 2012.

This regional event will be contested in 16 sports and is expected to attract over 1,800 competitors.

The 2012 Southern University Games is looking for enthusiastic individuals to join the volunteer workforce needed to deliver this fantastic event.

The volunteer roles available cater for a range of skills, responsibilities and time commitments providing an opportunity for everyone to get involved.

As well as gaining valuable industry experience in a large multisport event, the volunteer experience provides an opportunity

to develop new skills, make new friends, achieve personal satisfaction and most importantly have fun!

As a volunteer for the 2012 Southern University Games you can expect to receive:

- \* Valuable work experience and references
- \* An opportunity to develop skills and knowledge
- \* Thorough induction and training programs
- \* An opportunity to play an important role in the delivery of a multisport event
- \* Great opportunity to meet new people
- \* Access to all social events and activities
- \* Uniform and lunch supplied (Games time)

### Volunteer Opportunities:

Volunteer roles available include:

- \* Volunteer assistant
- \* Registration assistant
- \* Marketing and media
- \* Catering and transport
- \* Special events
- \* Sponsorship

- \* Medal ceremonies
- \* Sports administration
- \* Results
- \* Accreditation
- \* Administration volunteer
- \* Journalist
- \* Photographer
- \* General sports volunteer

### Volunteers Recruitment:

The 2012 Southern University Games will be recruiting volunteers in three stages.

These stages are determined by the level of commitment required by the volunteer and are broken down as follows:

- \* Stage one: key volunteers - 125+ hours, April to July
- \* Stage two: event time volunteers - 70+ hours, May to July
- \* Stage three: general volunteers - 40+ hours, June to July.

### For more Information:

For more information on the Southern



University Games and ways you can be involved, go to [www.unigames.com.au/events/SUG](http://www.unigames.com.au/events/SUG) or email Jess the event coordinator at [sug.coordinator@unisport.com.au](mailto:sug.coordinator@unisport.com.au).

## Gippsland Family Carers Support Group

The Gippsland Family Carers Support Group has been established by carers for carers, and welcomes anyone providing unpaid care and support for a family member, friend or neighbour who has a mental illness, is frail aged, or who has a dependent physical or acquired disability.

The Group meets between 10am-12pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month at Carers Place, 185 Commercial Rd, Morwell. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 28, with guest speaker Vivianne Everett,

Program Development Manager Gippsland at the EW Tipping Foundation. Vivianne will talk about the availability of EW Tipping managed services in Gippsland.

Group meetings are relaxed and informal and are an opportunity for family carers to share and benefit from each other's experiences, take some time out from caring and access information and resources.

More information on the group is available from the Gippsland Carers Association 03 5133 3343.

## Neale Stratford Art Exhibition

Local artist Neale Stratford's exhibition now on show at the Cowwarr Art Space is entitled "Small Reminders of Non-existent Events"

The exhibition was opened by Simon Gregg, Curator, Gippsland Art Gallery on Sunday 4th March.

The exhibition will run until April 9th at the gallery which is open Friday,

Saturday, Sunday and Monday 11am-5pm.

The Cowwarr Art Space is located at 2370 Traralgon Maffra Road, Cowwarr 3857. Ph 51489321

Neale is currently completing a Master of Fine Art at Gippsland Centre for Art and Design, Monash University.



Neale Stratford  
Small Reminders of Non-existent Events

# Postcards

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

**NEW 2nd Edition CHURCHILL POSTCARDS**

2nd Edition of 8 in a series of scenes in and around Churchill. Available in Churchill from the Churchill Hub, Churchill Post Office, Asian Grocery, Churchill Newsagency, Life-line, Ritchies IGA, Advantage Pharmacy  
Photography from entries in CD News Photographic Competition and by CD News Staff.

A great gift idea . . . Send to your friends, family or overseas or just as a keepsake for yourself . . .



# Boolarra Primary School

### Camps

Thorpdale PS will organize the camps this year as we organized them last year.

The 5/6s will go to Melbourne in April. The grade 3/4s will go to Allambee in May.

This year we plan to undertake a major review of our outdoor education program.

### Swimming Sports

Twelve swimmers represented us brilliantly at the Yinnar and District Swimming Sports.

Congratulations to Lydia Reiske and Rivan Aveling who will now go on to represent the Yinnar and District schools at the Zone Swimming Sports.

Rory Peter and Jorja Oddy and our relay team comprising Airtrea Cupples, Daina Howard, Ella O’Kane and Lydia Reiske also did really well and are emergencies for the next level.

### Pancake Tuesday

We all enjoyed some delicious pancakes thanks to the efforts of local church members John & Robern Lubawski, Liz Black and others.

### Junior School Council (JSC)

At our most recent meeting we decided to support the Cerebral Palsy Education Centre (CPEC).

To this end we had an out of uniform day on Feeling Fabulous

Friday, March 9th, where everyone dressed as something starting with F.

We asked everyone to bring a donation for CPEC on this day. We also hope that someone was able to come along and share some information with us about the wonderful work that is done at CPEC.

Our Junior School Council will also be selling icy-poles for this good cause throughout this term. In accordance with our healthy eating policy, icy-poles are 99% fruit juice.

### Swimming Lessons

Currently we are exploring if it is viable to offer swimming lessons in our school pool.

Local swimming teacher, Tineka Stratford will assist in this regard if we have sufficient interest.

### Welcome Get Together

To provide an opportunity for us all to meet and greet new families and staff, we had a Welcome Gathering in Boolarra Memorial Park on Wednesday February 22nd .



School Captains Bella and Harri with Russell Northe and Mandi Peter

Our School Council President, Mandi Peter and local member, Russell Northe presented our student leaders with their badges of office.

Boolarra Community Development Group Secretary, Col Brick presented a special Australian Day Community Award to Michelle Hassett for the excellent support she provided to our school for over 12 years.

It was lovely to have lots of our families attend.

### Forthcoming Events

Today: Thursday March 15 our Athletic Sports (weather permitting).

Thursday March 22 Yinnar and District Athletic Sports.

Friday March 30 Last Day of Term 1.



A photo of our team that placed 3rd in the relay, with two younger students swimming up an age group.



Grade 6, Jaz with her Prep Buddy, Brooke

# Yinnar South Primary School

### Maths in Action

Yinnar South Primary School students are embracing a ‘hands on’ approach to learning. Students have been learning about measurement while improving their long jump skills.

“Making learning opportunities authentic assists students to retain what they have learnt.”

Katy Grandin (Principal)

### Creative Capers

Performing Arts encourages imagination and assists students to develop their creative

writing skills. Students are creating characters and building profiles for them. Speaking and Learning curriculum is achieved as well as building literacy skills.

“Best of all the children are having fun while they are learning” Julie Reggardo (ES staff)

### Pancake Day

The students made pancakes in the school’s kitchen. Multi-age classrooms create opportunities for older students to develop strong leadership skills.

Younger students benefit from the

modelling that their older peers provide. Positive communication forms part of our daily learning.

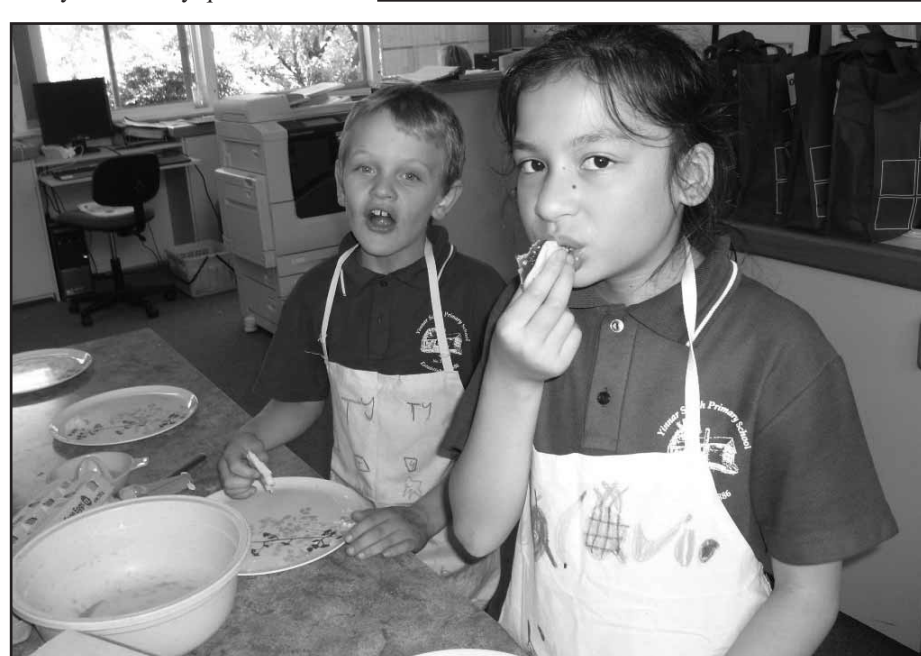
“The students really care and support each other” Kylie Ainsworth (ES Staff)

### Yinnar South Primary School Playgroup

We are delighted to announce the reopening of playgroup at YSPS. Playgroup will begin on Friday March 2nd , 9.30am till 11.00am.

New families are most welcome.

Please contact the school on (03) 5169 1540 if you have any queries.





## Churchill North Primary School

### Great Start to the Year

The return to school for staff and students at Churchill North Primary School has been most exciting; we have welcomed many new families and prep students into our wonderful school.

We currently have 6 composite grades and a highly dedicated team of teachers.

Specialist programs offered at Churchill North include; Art, ICT, Blue Earth & German, with a special focus on Asian studies to be integrated this year within the Art program.

We are extremely fortunate to have such highly skilled and dedicated integration staff – programs delivered include additional support to students, language expression and articulation programs for students with speech difficulties.

Our play group continues to grow and develop, catering for families requiring additional stimulation and support, we are now offering playgroup on Wednesdays and Fridays.

After school care continues to operate each night from 3:15 – 5:15; all school age children in Churchill are able to register at this service.

This term has many exciting events scheduled:

- JSC disco
- Opening of our New Community building
- Swimming
- Parent Teacher Interviews
- School Camp to Woorabinda
- Yinnar & District Sports
- Whole school special activity day

### Leadership Program

Recently all the Grade 5 and 6 students at Churchill North Primary spent 4 days completing a new initiative called 'Young Leadership Program'.

The students, under the guidance of their teachers, Gwen Hunter, Nicole Bond and Stacey O'Brien, explored in detail the key building blocks of leadership, which included presentation skills, responsibility, organisation and teamwork.

Principal of the school, Ms Debbie Edwards said 'The timing of the course was designed to fit in with the choosing of new positions of responsibility at Churchill North Primary such as school captains, but the course is designed to encourage all students to be able to recognise and display the attributes of effective leadership.

Another benefit of the program was to allow the new senior grades a chance to connect and take pride in themselves both as individuals and as part of a team. As well as key learning time devoted to embracing these new concepts, the students also spent time in team related sporting activities such as swimming, basketball and aerobics.'

Ms Edwards added, 'The support of the Churchill Leisure Centre was invaluable to the school in providing us with a venue to hold the course and with the support of their fitness professionals in running the aerobics classes and supporting our swimming efforts'

She finished by saying 'The feedback from the students has been overwhelmingly positive, and the program is sure to have ongoing benefits for the senior students at the school as they complete their final years of primary school and look to being future leaders of our community.'



## Monash Halls of Residence

### Halls of Residence create home away from home for Gippsland students

Local and international students alike have quickly found a home away from home in Monash University Gippsland's new halls of residence – a purpose-built, energy-efficient initiative that has set new standards for sustainable building design and student accommodation. The new Halls of Residence – which were completed late last year – feature a mix of rooms, including full en-suite accommodation and specific facilities for students with a physical disability.

Alongside existing student residences, the new Halls of Residence take the total number of accommodation places at Monash University's Gippsland campus to 410. In supporting Monash University's commitment to environmental sustainability, the new Halls meet the Green Building Council of Australia's five-star rating through a number of energy efficient design features, including hydronic heating, double-glazed windows, solar orientation and water recycling.

Fifty students from communities throughout Gippsland and around the globe will be the first to enjoy the benefits of the new Halls, with the first residents moving in last weekend.

"Already, the feedback from students living on-campus in the new Halls of Residence has been overwhelmingly positive," said Ms Den Lim, Manager of Gippsland Residential Services.

"As well as recognising the university's own

requirements for increased energy efficiency, the new Halls help us respond to the growing demand for high-quality student accommodation at the Gippsland campus. This includes an expectation from students that buildings were not just 'clean and green', but connected with the latest communication and networking technologies. Each room in the new Halls includes access to the university's high-speed broadband network, allowing students to keep in touch with friends and family, and take advantage of high-quality video chat services. This is particularly important for our international students on campus."

Pro Vice-Chancellor of Monash University Gippsland, Professor Helen Bartlett, said the completion of the new halls of residence was an important step in supporting a broader objective to grow the campus and attract more students to Churchill and the Latrobe Valley.

"The completion of a major project like the Halls of Residence shows the commitment Monash University is making to further expand our position in Churchill, and attract more students to study in the region," Professor Bartlett said.

"Ultimately, Monash University Gippsland aspires to be one of the world's best regional university campuses. Ensuring high quality, affordable accommodation is available for students – whether they are from Gippsland or around the world – is the first step in achieving that." by Robyn Heckenberg



## Churchill Primary School

### Russell Northe Visit

On Monday February 20th, Mr. Russell Northe came to our assembly. He congratulated our School Leaders, House Captains and JSC students and spoke to them about the responsibility they had undertaken. He presented them with their badges and encouraged them to wear them with pride. Russell then spent some time with the student in a workshop on leadership.

Mr. Northe asked us how we would behave and what we would do in leadership positions. He talked about good leadership making us successful. If we are good role models and help other people then we would be good leaders. I learned a lot because there is a lot more to being a leader than just wearing a badge. I learned how to talk to a public figure like Mr. Northe and that we should not be nervous when we are talking in front of people. I found this talk really helpful and he gave us information about his job as well.

Tyler Wilk Clark, School Captain 2012

### Swimming Sports.

Five of our students participated in the Yinnar and District Swimming Sports. Hannah Dal Pozzo, Tayla Kely Roberts (freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke), Taylah Whelan (freestyle and backstroke), Eliza Bruerton and Shannon Stark (backstroke) represented CPS very well and they really enjoyed the competition. Although we had a couple of firsts, seconds and thirds in heats, the times meant the girls do not proceed to the

next level. Good luck to all the Yinnar and District representatives in the Zone sports.

### Run To London

We have begun the monumental task of running to London to complete the thousands of kilometres from Churchill to London by July when the Olympics begin. All grades are going out on the oval and running laps. We count the laps that everyone does and grade 5/6 S have a system of recording the laps. Parents have also joined in the effort, walking with grades and in their own time. In the two weeks since we began, we have completed over 5000 Kilometres.

### Programs and Happenings at Churchill Primary School

The students have settled into routine very quickly. Testing is nearly completed for our Preps, who have been coming in on Wednesdays.

Testing of various kinds has been happening in other grades also, and this is used to inform teachers about what the student knows and where to start teaching. Brekky program is up and running with about 30 children coming each day. Mrs. Jo Whitelaw and her band of very dedicated volunteers always serve with a smile to start



the day off well for the students. Mrs. Ruth Place has begun CRE with the Preps and Ones. We thank all the volunteers who help make our school a great working environment for our students. Our Active After School Program is also up and running 2 days a week. While at the AASP, Grades 3-6 students are involved in tennis and grades 1-2 are involved in athletics. Our playgroup meets on Friday mornings from 9-11 a.m. It is a fun time for the children when they meet new friends. The mums also get to meet other mums and socialise.



## Lumen Christi Primary School

### Walking Is Man's Best Medicine.

Hippocrates (Greek physician c.460-377BC)

This maxim is as true today as it was in Ancient Greece. Walking is used to tire us out to induce sleep. Likewise, if we feel a bit slow and drowsy, a brisk walk will brighten us up. Need to clear the cobwebs from your mind? Need to concentrate on a particular topic? Go for a walk. It will do all of these and a bit more.

The students of Grade 5/6W at Lumen Christi Primary School, agree with Hippocrates and weather permitting they walk around the school perimeter every school day.

Ethan is the time keeper and although it is not a race, they do try to keep a brisk pace and encourage each other to do the walking without the talking.

Mrs Bugeja and Anneke measured the perimeter with a trundle wheel. They had to go out on their own so that the rest of the grade did not interfere with the counting...the trundle wheel is the basic model...no odometer.

### Rhyme Time at Lumen Christi

Each Tuesday morning at Lumen Christi, we will be having Rhyme Time. Babies, toddlers and mums are all welcome to come along to the library and share rhymes, songs and stories. Nursery rhymes, songs and counting rhymes are so important for oral language development. If you would like to join in, please ring the school for details or just come along each

Tuesday morning at 8.40.

### Conversations with Parents and School Barbecue

On Tuesday February 21st, all the staff met with the parents for a casual "get to know you" session. It was lovely for the teachers to meet with the parents of the children whom they will be teaching this year, and similarly for the parents to meet the children's teacher. This was followed by a school barbecue where the staff and parents came together to share a meal and meet others in the school community.



### Inter School Swimming

Our School Sport Victoria inter-school competition has started off with swimming. We had several students compete against Hazelwood North, Churchill Primary, Boolarra and Yinnar schools, at the Churchill Leisure Centre. Several children received a placing and the following children will compete in the Division Final which will be held at the Traralgon Outdoor Pool on February 29th:

Freestyle - Chelsey Van Rossum, Vincent Schoutens  
Breaststroke - Georgia Hutchinson, Corey O'Shea, Bridget King

Backstroke - Skye Wilson, Jade Nehls-Iversen, Vincent Schoutens, Chelsey Van Rossum, Cameron

Bianconi

Butterfly - Bridget King  
4x50m 9.10 Girls Relay - Chelsey Van Rossum, Courtney Howell, Bridget King, Jade Nehls-Iversen

We congratulate Hazelwood North on the terrific organisation of the swimming competition and we especially have to thank those parents who willingly helped out in some way on the day.

### It's fun in Preps at Lumen Christi!

The Preps at Lumen Christi are having lots of fun at school. They love spending time with their Grade six buddies each week.

Every morning they enjoy their different fundamental motor skills activities.

They love dressing up in Investigation Time.

Making and eating pancakes was a real favourite on Shrove Tuesday!



## Hazelwood North Primary School

### JSC Interviews

Today at Hazelwood North Primary School we interviewed some Junior School Councillors and asked them about their role in the school.

First we interviewed Bridie from 5/6 B and she told us that the other JSCs in her grade are Ben and Joel. She also told us that JSC is currently planning a Crazy Hair Day to raise money for Fezlie, our sponsor child. We are sponsoring her so she can have a good education and have stationery to work with.

Next we interviewed Leyton from 1/2A. The other JSC person in 1/2 A is Bonnie. He told us another thing JSC can raise money for is to get new sports equipment so we can have more fun in the yard.

Then we interviewed Jack from 1/2 B. He told us the other JSC in his class was Allie. He told us he wanted to raise money for Fezlie so she can learn.

Michel from 3/4 A was the last JSC we interviewed. Hannah, Harry & Kiara are the other three JSCs in his grade. He told us another good reason we are sponsoring Fezlie is because she and her family need the money to survive.

I believe we can safely say that we are lucky to have such wonderful, dedicated people here, looking after us and people all over the world.



By Natalie & Bella

### Miss Waite Interview

On Tuesday February 28th, we did an interview on our newest 3/4 teacher, Miss Waite. We found out that her favourite colour is green. She is 21 years old and she likes horses.

Miss Waite wanted to become a teacher so she could help kids reach their learning goals. When she was a kid, she went to Gippsland Grammar and for university she went to Monash in Churchill.

She likes teaching the younger kids because they have more goals to achieve and likes teaching the older kids because they listen well. She likes teaching English because she loves to read. Miss Waite thinks our school is very warm, caring, friendly and fun!

By Lori and Ben

### Melissa Anne Rock

On February 28th we interviewed Mrs Melissa Anne Rock, our new principal. We asked her if she had kids. She said, "Yes I have two. They are Olivia who is six years old and Lachlan who is 9 years old"

She also follows Western Bulldogs and her favourite colour is purple. She always wanted to be a teacher. She went to Newborough High School and she has been teaching for 15 years. She studied to be a teacher at Monash University.

We also asked her if she is enjoying it at H.N.P.S. She said, "Absolutely, the students really value relationships and the whole school community is welcoming and wants the best for their students".

Mrs Rock likes to spend time with her family in her spare time and enjoys iced coffees and Thai food.

Her favourite animal is a butterfly and also her favourite year in school was year 12.

We asked why she prefers being a Principal rather than a classroom teacher. She replied, "It's a challenge to influence

students learning beyond just one classroom, and also I enjoy working with a range of people within and outside of the school."

Mrs Rock is a big fan of Pink. She is also planning on getting a dog. She has also been to Thailand.

She prefers to work in a school about the size of H.N.P.S because, "I have the opportunity to get to know people very well."

By Byron and Joel 5/6B

### Prep Buddies

On February 28th we interviewed Imogen and Matthew from prep.

We asked the preps a few questions. So far they both enjoy school, and they like their new friends, they also like sport and reading.

Imogen likes buddies, she thinks it's fun and exciting. Matthew doesn't really like buddies. To make it better he would like more sport.

Matthew's buddy is Lauren and Imogene's buddy is Natalie. They both like their buddies.

They both like playing with their friends at recess and at lunch play. Matthew likes to play tennis and soccer at recess and lunch play. Imogen likes to play horses and fashion designs.

Both the preps like music and sport as well as art. In their free time they like building. Imogen likes to play Barbies and Matthew likes to play lots of sport.

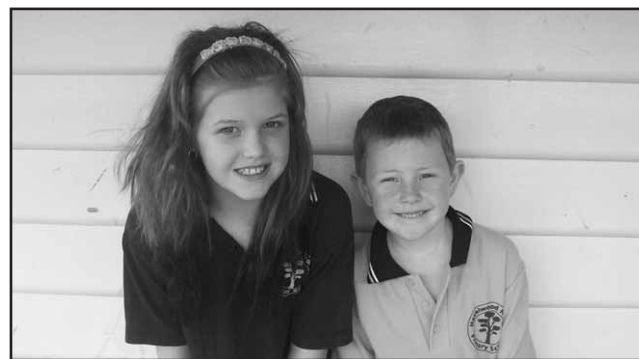
The preps enjoy school and can't wait for the times ahead.



By Bree, Chloe and Maddi

### Prep interviews

Today we interviewed Ryan who is from prep about beginning school. We asked Ryan questions and he answered them.



What is your name? Ryan

How old are you? Five.

Who is your favourite teacher? Mrs Vesty.

What's your favourite part of school? Play time

Do you like school work? Yes, numbers.

Who is your Buddy? Chloe

Do you enjoy buddies and why? Yes, because we do computers.

Who are your friends at school? Ally.

What do you like to play with them? Sport and playing in the sandpit.

Today we interviewed Ally from prep about beginning school. We asked Ally questions and she answered them.

What is your name? Ally.

How old are you? Five.

Who is your favourite teacher? Mrs Vesty

What is your favourite part of school? Art.

Do you like school work? Yes because I like reading.

Who is your Buddy? Sarah

Do you enjoy buddies and why? Because they help me make stuff.

Who are your friends at school? Talia.

What do you play with them? Playing in the playground.

### School Captains - Thomas and Libby

At Hazelwood North Primary School eleven students stood up in front of the 5/6's and made a speech to try and persuade the 5/6's to vote for them as School Captain. It was very close but in the end Thomas and Libby got the role of the School Captains.

They were overwhelmed because they didn't expect to get the role. They felt happy that they got the role because they can use their brains to help improve the school and help organise events for the school. One of the reasons they wanted to get the role of School Captain is so they can improve their leadership skills ready for high school.

### House Captains

Recently also we had our House Captains and vice House Captains chosen by the teachers. The houses are Red=Kurnai, Blue=Latrobe, Green=Hazelwood, Yellow=Strzelecki. They announced it unexpectedly. We didn't expect it because we didn't vote for them. House Captains are going to be running a whole school sports day.

By Nonda, Patrick and Lara.

### Swimming Sports Day 2012

We interviewed two people who went to the swimming sports and they were Bridie Kimpton and Jack Macfarlane.

Bridie did two events which were freestyle and two relays. Her favourite part was racing in the relay.

Her favourite stroke was doing the freestyle. Bridie placed 3rd in the freestyle event and 2nd in both of the relays.

Bridie liked it because she placed in three of her events. Bridie came to the swimming sports because she wanted to represent our school.

Bridie is going through to the next round in the relay.

Jack had a handful of events because he participated in freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and the relay.

The best part that Jack liked was going through to zones in the relay and backstroke, which was also his favourite event.

He placed in two events and they were 2nd in backstroke and 1st for the relay.

Jack likes the sports because he said swimming is fun and he likes swimming.

Jack is going through to the next round in backstroke and the relay.

Hazelwood North came third in the sports behind Lumen Christi and Yinnar.

Everyone enjoyed the sports this year.

By Blake, Lauren, Shelby and Thomas

### Swimming Sports-Bridie Kimpton

Q. What strokes did you swim in?

A. I swam in freestyle and 2 relays.

Q. What was the best part of swimming sports?

A. Winning the relay was the best part.

Q. What is your favourite stroke?

A. Freestyle.

Q. Did you place 1st, 2nd or 3rd in anything?

A. I came 3rd in the freestyle and 2nd in both relays.

Q. Did you like the swimming sports or not? Why?

A. Yes because I placed in 3 events.

Q. Why did you come along?

A. I came along because I wanted to swim for the school.

Q. Are you going through to the next round? In what strokes?

A. Yes in the relay

Swimming Sports by Jack McFarlane

Russell Northe proudly supports  
Churchill and District Schools.



**Russell Northe** MLA

Member for Morwell

Authorised by Russell Northe, 66 George St, Morwell VIC 3840





## Kurnai College Junior Campus

### Well Done Samantha Hogarth.

Last year as a Year 7 student, Samantha participated in the Global Poverty Project. The students were asked to take one aspect of the United Nations Millennium Goals and study it and produce a project about it. Samantha, with two other students, chose Child Mortality. However



Samantha's part was asking a book about it. When asked why she chose a book she said she wanted to do something different which would increase awareness.

Through this project Samantha gained an understanding of how people live and what they have to deal with. She said it made her feel sad because we get it so lucky living in Australia.

The school was 'most impressed' by Samantha's work that they sent her book to World Vision. Rev Tim Costello sent a letter and a Certificate of Appreciation to Samantha thanking her for her work on publicising this issue.

World Vision chose four pages from the book and have posted them on their Facebook photography pages.

There has been much positive feedback from this posting. The school is very proud of Samantha's efforts.

### New Staff: Adam Hogan

Adam was born in Dandenong but grew up here in Churchill. He attended Churchill P.S. and for secondary education, Kurnai Churchill, followed by time at the Maryvale Campus.



From there he went to Melbourne University where he studied Chemical Engineering and Science. His objective had always been teaching, but he was advised to get another degree first. In

between Adam joined the Victorian Police Force, which he found challenging but enjoyable. While there he studied for a Diploma of Education, and finally moved to do what he set out to do.

Three years ago Adam started at the Gippsland Education Precinct as a Physics teacher. He was also assigned to be the Year 11 Advocate. Last year he moved to be the Year 12 Advocate. This year he has moved to the Junior Campus where he has been given the position of Team leader for the Year 7s.

Adam's goals are to continue to improve student outcomes through staff development and evidence based practice.

### Celeste Hardy

Celeste was born and grew up at Yinnar, attending Yinnar P.S. and Chairo Christian School.

She then went to Monash University Gippsland, where she completed a Bachelor of Arts, then a Diploma of Education.

For the last three years, Celeste has taught at Bairnsdale S.C. living on Raymond Island and in Paynesville.

Seeking a change, she applied for a posting nearer home and has been welcomed on to the staff, teaching Maths and Humanities. Celeste says the staff are very supportive and there is a nice atmosphere at the school.



### Linda Harkness and York Yu.

Both Linda and York are from China and work in the Language and Cultural Centre teaching Chinese. They both trained at University in China as Language Teachers. Both have learnt to speak English very well.



Linda came to Australia after marrying her husband who was working in China as an English teacher at her school.

Linda worked with the International Student Program and as a Library Assistant, but now with a career change has come to be a teacher at Kurnai.

York came to Australia last August. He said it was a big change for him. The differences between China and here are marked. The school system is different and here the class sizes are much smaller. Here the students are interested in classroom activities and games, and he is developing a program which will focus on those aspects to help raise their interest in China and speaking Chinese.

### Julie Garden

Julie was born and grew up around Melbourne. She attended Melbourne University, gaining her qualifications and then moved to Gippsland in 1990 to teach at Kurnai College Senior Campus. Next she moved to Churchill in 1992.



From there Julie set off overseas to travel, teach and do administrative work with the London Borough hiring teaching staff. She was away for four years, returning to Churchill mid 1996, staying until the end of 2007. The following two years were spent at Morwell campus. Then there was another two year period of travelling overseas, and working the first half of 2011 at Latrobe Financials as a mortgage underwriter, and the second half of the year working at Flemington Race Course as a Corporate Staffing Co-Ordinator. Julie decided to return to teaching and was warmly welcomed back to Churchill where she is enjoying teaching again.

### Year 7 Information Evening

On Thursday February 16th, Kurnai College Churchill Campus held an information evening for new Year 7 students and their families. The evening, held in the new Language Centre, was very well attended despite the adverse weather conditions. Parents were provided with an overview of the Year 7 Integrated Program, before having the opportunity to speak with individual teachers over a barbeque dinner. Team Leader Adam Hogan was particularly pleased with the support shown by many families for their child's education. "As a team we work very hard to help our students achieve the best educational outcomes they can, but we can do so much more with the support of families reiterating the importance of education at home" he said. "We encourage parents and families to be involved with the school and to maintain regular contact with their child's teachers". For further information about the Year 7 program please contact the school on 5132 3700.

### German Exchange Students

Four Year 10 students from Bavaria in Germany are currently on exchange at Kurnai College for a ten week period.

They are being hosted by four families from here. Students from these families will be going to Germany for ten weeks at the end of the year. The students attend classes at Kurnai the same as the Kurnai students.

They enthusiastically report that they are having a great time; that it is really a fun time in a very nice school. They find that in comparison with school in Germany, school in Australia is much more relaxed; not as strict as where they come from.

They are enjoying doing work in groups, having more interaction with the other students and the teachers, having more options for finishing work compared to Germany where school work must be finished and then home work done as well.

These happy students have a good command of English having started to study it in Grades 3 and 4, then more seriously from Grade 5.

Comments about Australia include very nice countryside, and interesting animals.

While here they will visit such places as Healesville Sanctuary, Phillip Island to see the penguins, Queensland and attend a camp at Tathra, to name a few.

When asked if they were homesick they all said no they felt very much at home among friendly people who had made them feel welcome and were enjoying being part of the family and school life.

### School Captains and Vice Captains.

Hayden Stephens and Emma Telford have been elected School Captains, with Katelin Lugton and Tom Lindsay being the Vice Captains.

Along with the Year 10 media representatives, Jaye Andrews and Eli Van Rhine, they represented the twenty-eight members of the Student Representative Council (SRC).

Teacher Cheryl Taylor is their staff facilitator.

They are enthusiastic and hopeful of making some changes to increasing the effectiveness of the student voice. To be more pro-active, the SRC has been divided into three working parties- Fund raising, Events and Media.

Their goals include encouraging the students to be more engaged with their sporting houses. They plan to draw up tallies of winners and present awards in an effort to increase desire among the students to do their best for their house and develop teamwork.

The houses have been redrawn over the three campuses. They plan to rename them with names of significance to this age level. They have also bought 400 wrist bands in four colours to be sold on sports days.

The money raised will go towards their fundraising project which will be a sleepover in the gymnasium to raise money to help homeless teenagers through Red Cross.



Three of the four German Students on exchange. Max Ulreich, Franziska Brenninger and Philipp Haas. (Absent for the photo- Valentin Leeb)



## Kurnai College Junior Campus (continued)

They would like to involve the whole community in the sleepover.

Participants would pay to take part and buy soup from a soup kitchen.

The experience would heighten their awareness as they would be sleeping shoulder to shoulder on the floor of the gym in winter.

This project came about as the students discovered that 22,000 teenagers sleep outside their homes on any one night just in the Melbourne area.

To promote this, the media group has a regular page in the SRC newsletter to keep the students informed of their actions.

They also plan to walk around the school yard and engage with the students to help obtain their ideas and feedback.

The SRC has been given more power and responsibility this year.

They will be involved in policy and procedure

making in the school, by taking their votes to School Council.

In 2011 the SRC acquired new polo tops and spray jackets as part of the uniform.

This year they hope to change the thickness and style of the pants.

In their efforts to be more proactive they have contacted Latrobe City Council Youth CO-Ordinator, Andrew Legge, to find out more about Youth Leadership Programs and the Youth Council, to investigate what else is available in this region for the students.

Umpires from the SFL will be coming to the SRC to do a motivational talk about Leadership.

They also have explored ways that the SRC can operate in a more professional way, running meetings formally with office bearers selected from the membership.



## Gippsland Education Precinct

### Welcome back to school!

We would like to welcome all of our students and staff back to a new and exciting year at Kurnai College Senior Campus. We are looking forward to a year filled with achievements, hard work and, not to forget, a bit of fun.

We recently organised a fun team-building day at "The Summit" in Trafalgar to welcome our new year 11s. Some of these students have come from our junior campuses in Morwell and Churchill, and others from a variety of other schools and environments.

During the day, students and teachers participated in activities that were designed to challenge teams and individuals in different ways.

Not only did those involved have to overcome their fears of narrow

spaces by crawling through tight tunnels, they also had to work together to solve problems like, "the treasure chest on the island" or "the lava walk". Students displayed great determination to overcome obstacles and some seemed to enjoy the opportunity to lead others.

The weather was perfect on the day and students, as well as teachers, really enjoyed their time at The Summit. We would like to thank the staff at The Summit for a well-prepared and fun day and would also like to thank everybody else who was involved in making this day happen.

### Year 12 Outdoor and Environmental Studies

On February 20th and 21st, the Year 12 Outdoor and Environmental



Studies students went on a trip to Wilson's Promontory to learn about the past users of the 'Prom' and how its outdoor environment has been altered over time. Students also participated in two days of surfing lessons where they were taught how to surf, as well as

some knowledge of surf awareness.

Sadly, there was very little surf present for our visit, however, the students did a wonderful job of making use of the small waves they had been provided with by developing new surfing skills.

The trip was a great success with all students participating to the best of their ability and working well together, whether it was cooking on

the camping stoves or setting up tents for the evening. Even with the rain, the students' attitude continued to stay positive allowing them to make the most of the experience.

I would like to thank the Year 12 O.E.S. class for their involvement and look forward to our next adventure together.

Mrs White. Kurnai College, Gippsland Education Precinct.



Proudly sponsored by







Churchill & District News invite you to enter our 2012 Short Story and Poetry Competition.

There are some great prizes, with all entrants under 12 receiving a certificate of participation and a small gift.

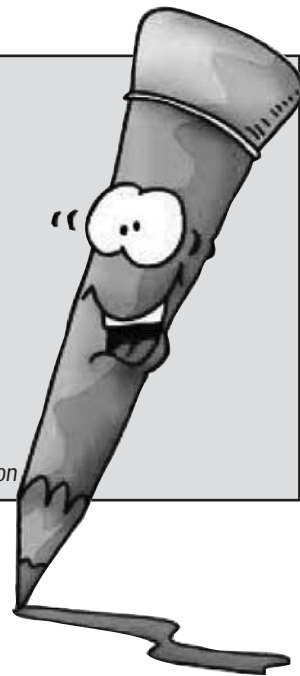
If you have any queries or require information, conditions of entry and entry forms, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au or tel: 03 5122 1961, 03 5134 1717.

Entry forms and conditions are available online at www.cdnews.com.au

### Categories

1. Children's 7 and Under Short story/poem or picture story.
2. Children's 8 - 10 yrs Short Story (illustrations welcome).
3. Children's 8 - 10 yrs Poetry (illustrations welcome).
4. Children's 11 - 13 yrs Short Story (illustrations welcome).
5. Children's 11 - 13 yrs Poetry (illustrations welcome).
6. 14 - 18 yrs Short Story.
7. 14 - 18 yrs Poetry.
8. Adult Short Story.
9. Adult Poetry.
10. A Children's Story: A story written for children.

\*Categories 1 - 5 will include prizes for best illustration and best presentation



## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. All stories must have a completed entry form attached to the manuscript with a paper clip (no pins or staples). An emailed copy may **ALSO** be supplied for categories 6 - 10 above to cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au
2. The author's name must only be on the entry form and not on the manuscript.
3. Entries must be original, previously unpublished work.
4. Each entry must include a title.
5. Multiple entries will be accepted.
6. Unless otherwise specified, permission to reproduce entries in the Churchill & District News or for publicity purposes will be assumed. Copyright remains with the author.
7. Writers will be credited whenever their writing is reproduced.
8. Entries must be received by June 22, 2012.
9. All pages should be numbered.
10. Length of stories and poems -

**STORIES are to be:**

- \***Adult:** 1000 - 2500 words.
- \***14 - 18 years:** 500 - 2000 words.
- \***Children:** up to 500 words.

**POETRY, free or rhyming verse to be:**

- \***Adult:** min. 8 lines and max. 48 lines.
- \***14 - 18 years:** min. 8 lines and max. 48 lines.
- \***Children:** up to 20 lines.

11. Entries will not be returned and participants should keep a copy of their work.
12. The Judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
13. Signing of the entry form for this competition constitutes acceptance of these conditions of entry.

**Entries can be mailed to:**

Churchill & District News Short Story and Poetry Competition,  
PO Box 234, Churchill 3842  
or **Emailed to:** cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au

**Closing Date:** June 22, 2012

**Entry Fees:**

**\$3.00** Per Short Story/Children's Story (Concession or Student \$2.00)  
**\$3.00** Per Poem (Concession or Student \$2.00)  
Children, Under 7, Under 12 and Under 18 Categories - 50c.



### Churchill & District News Short Story and Poetry Competition 2012

# ENTRY FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

I have entered: \_\_\_\_\_ Short Story(s)      \_\_\_\_\_ Poem(s)

Title of Story(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Title of Poem(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understood the conditions of entry and agree to abide by them. I certify that this is an original unpublished story or poem, written by myself.

This entry form can be completed on behalf of U12's by a parent, guardian or teacher.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE**  
Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form.  
Please make Cheques or Postal Orders payable to Churchill & District News.

**No cash please**

**Email:** cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au

**Mail entries to:** PO Box 234, Churchill 3842

**Closing Date**  
**June 22**  
**2012**





## Churchill Fire Brigade - Darren McLean Memorial Service

A fittingly solemn ceremony was held at the Churchill fire station to remember Darren McLean, on Sunday February 12, 2012.

Darren was a keen young 17 year old volunteer with the Churchill Brigade who responded to fight a fire near the Upper Middle Creek in Yinnar South on February 14, 1982.

While assisting with the fire fight, the Churchill tanker came out to fill with water and pulled to a stop on the edge of Middle Creek

Road to let another tanker pass. The road collapsed beneath the Churchill tanker and it rolled into the Middle Creek pinning Darren underneath the truck.

Darren was seriously injured in the accident and was transported by ambulance to Traralgon and then on to the Austin hospital due to the severity of his injuries.

Tragically, Darren did not recover from his injuries and passed away on March 7, 1982.

The ceremony to remember Darren on the 30th anniversary of his passing included words from the CFA chaplain, Shirley Millard, and a brief description of Darren and his life by his father, Barry McLean. Mark Read, regional manager for Gippsland, also spoke on behalf of the CFA.

Mark spoke, saying he remembered the incident. It was one of the defining moments of CFA history. Others included Ash Wednesday, Linton fires, and February 7. These are the times which have brought forth the need to put many things in place to ensure they do not happen again. One of the good things is the peer support team and chaplains who are available for de-briefing sessions,



as well as the burn-over facilities for trucks.

Mark also spoke of the family feel which exists in brigades and said how wonderful it was that this brigade gathered to remember one of it's own.

The gathering included Russell Northe MP, mayor Ed Vermeulen, councillor Darrell White, past and present members of the brigade, peer support members of CFA community members and friends and neighbours of the family.

Barry and Val McLean then laid a wreath in memory of their son Darren, and others present were invited to place an evergreen in remembrance.

A bbq lunch followed which provided another chance for old friends to catch up and remember.

### Planned burns

The Churchill Fire Brigade has for some time been planning for a number of fuel reduction burns in the Churchill area to assist Latrobe City Council in meeting their land management responsibilities for these tracts of land.

The first burn to be conducted will be the

triangle of grass land on the south western end of Manning drive (area immediately south of the scout hall). This burn is primarily intended for ecological reasons to create the necessary conditions for the kangaroo paw to re-germinate, but there are also strong fuel reduction grounds now. The fuel reduction will also assist in meeting strategic fire protection strategies.

CFA and Latrobe City have done a letterbox drop with information advising local residents of the intended fuel reduction activity, and notification signs will be placed at each end of the planned area to be burnt.

Subject to weather conditions being suitable, the burn in Manning drive is at this stage expected to occur in early March. A further burn to clean up in some bush near Ikara way, and some bush on the land behind and south of the scout hall in Manning drive will be undertaken in late March/April as weather conditions allow. For further information please contact, Lance King, coordinator emergency management Latrobe City, phone 1300 367 700 or John Crane, vegetation management officer CFA, phone 1800 665 954.

## Churchill & District News

## SPORT

### Churchill Monash Golf Club Results

11/2/2012: Mens Par - A. Grade - J. Thornby (11) +4, B. Grade - P. Coad (19) +6, C. Grade - K. Garlick (31) +4 c/b, NTP - 3rd P. Smart, 12th P. Coad, 5th P. Junker, 14th P. Coad. Birdies - S. Wotton 3rd, P. Junker 5th, P. Coad 12th, R. Scurlock 12th. DTL - G. Blizzard +4, W. Peter +3, R. Scurlock +2, T. Gabbett +2, P. Junker +2 c/b.

12/2/2012: Stableford - Kick Butt Day - Mens Winner - P. Smart (10) 42 pts c/b, DTL - D. Taylor (29) 40 pts, W. Peter (18) 40 pts, NTP - 3rd R. Timbs, 12th P. Smart, 5th W. Judkins, 14th R. Timbs - Birdies - D. Taylor, R. Timbs.

12/2/2012L: Ladies Winner - D. Thomas (29) 40 pts, DTL - A. Hibbert (34) 38 pts, NTP - 5th D. Judkins, 14th D. Judkins - Kick Butt Trophy - "The Beauties"!

14/2/2012: Ladies Stableford - Winner - D. Judkins (36) 36 pts, DTL - Y. Wotton (26) 35 pts c/b, S. Jeffery (37) 35 pts, NTP - 5th L. Peake, 14th D. Judkins.

25/2/2012: Mens Monthly Medal Stroke - A. Grade - A. Sharrock (17) 66 net, B. Grade - W. Judkins (23) 63 net (Monthly Medal), C. Grade - G. Down (27) 69 net, DTL - D. Beyer

68, E. Hayes-Hills 68, P. Coad 68, P. Smart 68, T. O'Reilly 69, D. Byers 70, N. Pedler c/b NTP - 3rd I. Wilson, 12th D. Beyer, 5th P. Williams, 14th P. Smart. Birdies - V. Monument 14th, E. Hayes-Hills 5th, P. Smart 14th, D. Beyer 12th. Scratch Winner - T. O'Reilly. Count Putts - E. Hayes-Hills 25.

26/2/2012: Stableford - Green Keepers Revenge - Mens Winner - G. Harvey (21) 34pts, DTL - R. Dent (14) 33 pts c/b, NTP -

3rd P. Smart, 12th P. Smart, 5th P. Williams. Ladies Winner - J. Beck (29) 36 pts.

28/2/2012 - R.W.H. 4 BBB - Winners - S. Turner (22) D. Judkins (35) - 53 pts, DTL - A. Hibbert (33) D. Scurlock (16) - 46 pts NTP - 12th V. Verheyen, 5th 35-45 (2nd shot) D. Judkins, 14th 35-45 (2nd shot) D. Judkins.

3/3/2012: Mens Foursomes Championships - Scratch Winners - T. Webb & N. Lugton 83 c/b Runner Up - P. Smart & R. Madigan 83 -

Handicap Winner - T. Webb (10) - N. Lugton (11) (10 1/2) 72 1/2 - Runner Up - W. Judkins (22) - P. Shields (26) (24) 73 - NTP - 3rd R. Welsh, 12th G. Spowart.

6/3/1012: Ladies Monthly Medal - Scratch - D. Scurlock 96, Medal Winner - D. Judkins (34) 74c/b, DTL - B. Beebe 74, L. Peake 74 - NTP - 5th (2nd Shot) L. Peake, 14th (2nd shot) L. Casey, 12th L. Peake - Count Putts - M. McConville 29.

### FUNCTION ROOM FOR HIRE

Churchill United Soccer Club  
Reasonable Rates

Ideal for:

- ☛ Birthdays
- ☛ Engagements

To Book Call Jenny  
Ph: 5122 2884



Come and Try  
Soccer this year!

Training has started and is every Tuesday and Thursday from 4.30pm at Tramway Road oval for boys and girls aged 5-16.

Plus join in on our

"Come and Try Day"

Saturday March 17, 10am-1pm

Including a FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE for all juniors from midday.

Every player who registers for the Small Sided program (Under 11 & below) will receive the following:

- A gym bag with a built in boot compartment
- A pair of shin guards
- Their very own soccer ball (size 3 for U7s - U9s, and, size 4 for U10s - U11s)
- A pump to ensure their ball is always good to go
- A participation medal (presented at the end of the season)

This pack provides the basics for all young soccer players, but it will also alleviate some of the associated costs incurred by parents. The pack ensures that parents and children alike receive more value for their money.

Fees 2012: Small Sided Program (under 11's) \$115; Juniors (under 12's thru to under 16's) \$135

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** to get your Small Sided value pack parents must pay and register on the day: Saturday March 17, 10am-1pm

### Genuine Surplus Sports Apparel Sale

The club has secured a large consignment of soccer apparel which was donated by a local business that is now closed. All items are priced to sell with a large selection of soccer tops on offer. With all income going to the club this is our major fundraiser for 2012 so please browse for a bargain and support the club.

The sale is the same time as the "come and try" registration session

Saturday March 17, 10am-1pm in the clubrooms.

## Calling all Secretaries!

Churchill and District News invite you  
to send your news to us for  
publication each Month

### Publication Dates

(Deadline for submission of copy and sport results is the 30th of each month)

April issue published Thursday, April 19

Copy and advertising can be dropped off to Churchill Post Office or the Co-Operating Churches

Articles and photos - Email: [cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:cdneditorial@aussiebb.com.au)

Advertising - Email: [cdnadvertising@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:cdnadvertising@aussiebb.com.au)



# First Churchill Scouts Host Founder's Day



On Tuesday 21 February, 1st Churchill Scout Group hosted Founders Day, celebrating the founding of the scouting movement.

They were joined by over 200 children and adults from other scouting groups within the

Strzelecki District for a night of fun and games. There was a BBQ dinner and a night of fun which included bottle rocket launches, games of "stop / go", puzzles to solve, first aid, bush trail signs, and many more.

Joey Scouts, Cubs Scouts, Scout, Venturer Scouts and Rovers all came together for this celebration of scouting.

If you would like to join Scouts or would like more information, please contact Peta on

5122 1832 AH or come along to the hall on Manning drive.

Venturers meet on Monday from 7-9 pm; Scouts meet on Tuesdays 7-9 pm and Cubs meet on Wednesday 6.30-8 pm.



## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

### Italian Australian Club

499-501 Princes Drive, Morwell

Phone

# 5134 3541

[www.italianaustrianclub.com.au](http://www.italianaustrianclub.com.au)

## Friday 23rd March 2012



### Troy Cassar-Daley



Also Appearing:

### Harmony James

Doors open: 7:30pm

Showtime: 8:30pm

Adults: \$35, Children (4-15): \$15



## Friday 13rd April 2012



### Beccy Cole



Also Appearing:

### Lyn Bowtell

Doors open: 7:00pm

Showtime: 8:00pm

Adults: \$30, Children (4-15): \$15

