

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

## "Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

GIAE 50th - p 5



Fishing Day - p 14, 15



Xmas Shop Local - p 16, 17



Australia Day Awards - Centre



# Australia Day citizen awards



ROB BONFIELD MEDIA

### Lions Club of Churchill 2023

Australia Day Awards

The Churchill Australia Day Community Citizen of the Year award ceremony was held at the Civic Space in Philip Parade.

The always popular local entertainer Bill Rowlings played some great Australian songs prior to and during the proceedings, and there was a car display by the Local Piston Club.

Lion Bill Hurenkamp welcomed everyone to the award ceremony then asked the 1st Churchill Scout group to do the flag raising ceremony, followed by an invitation to all to join in with the singing of the National Anthem.

Cathie Halliwell said a prayer which included a remembrance of those who feel pain on this day.

Our new Morwell Member of Parliament Martin Cameron attended and said a few words of welcome. This was his first event attendance he said, and explained that he was settling in and was ready to support our local community. He presented some of the awards.

Reg Grisotto read out the achievements of each recipient.

Latrobe City South Ward Councillor Melissa Ferguson attended the ceremony. She gave a welcome to country and expressed Council's wish that people enjoy the Australia Day celebrations.

She too, presented awards to the remaining award winners in recognition of the exceptional contribution they make to...  
*Continued Australia Day Supplement . . .*



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**CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS**

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Established 1966

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**The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the March edition is February 25, 2023**

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 Or Email: [cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au](mailto:cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au)  
 All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



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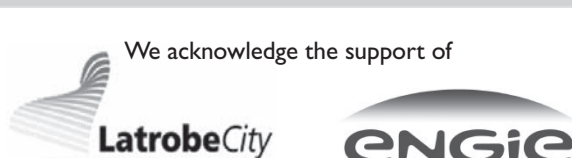
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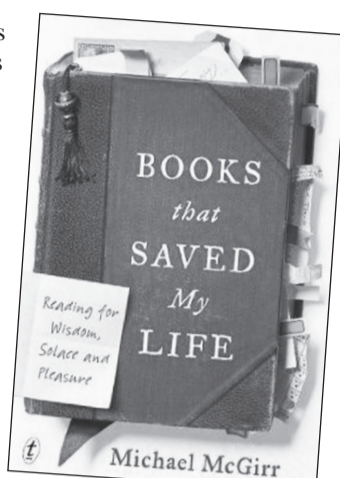
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**Book Review**

**"Books That Saved My Life" 2018**  
 by Michael McGirr

Michael McGirr was born in 1961 and lives in Melbourne with his wife and three children. The former Jesuit priest and secondary school teacher has reviewed almost one thousand books and written several including "Things You Get for Free" 2000 and "Snooze" 2017. His short fiction has been published widely and he is the publisher of "Eureka Street" and fiction editor for Meanjin.



"Books That Saved My Life" is a collection of essays written about books that the author has read.

He discusses a little about the author and the book but also the impact the book has had on him. The books he chooses range from contemporary authors such as Tim Winton, Margaret Attwood and J. K. Rowling to Shakespeare, Chaucer and Homer. For many quite serious works he is able to inject humour into his assessment, although much of it is through the lens of his religious beliefs.

The author obviously loves literature of all kinds and is a learned man but the writing is quite academic, so

the book was met with a very mixed reception.

Some members read a few chapters and decided it was not for them.

Those who did persevere were often surprised by his comments on books they had read and some chapters whet the appetite to follow up on others for new reading experiences.

We thought the title was a little melodramatic – perhaps books that influenced or enriched my life would have been more appropriate, and there was rather a lot of "name dropping". We would not recommend this for a holiday read but handy if you were researching a book or an author.

**St Matt's**



Toys for sale at St Matt's.

After a well-deserved summer break, St Matt's Op Shop reopened on Monday January 23.

We are open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturday mornings.

We have lots of summer clothes thanks to generous donors going through their wardrobes, and some fabulous toys that children have outgrown.

A reminder that we only

accept donations of clothing and small items in good condition, so nothing ripped, torn, damaged or broken. Please only give it to us if you would give it to a friend.

You can find us at 26 Main Street Yinnar, next to Smee's Garage. For more information, visit the "St Matt's Op Shop Yinnar" Facebook Page or email [stmattsyinnar@gmail.com](mailto:stmattsyinnar@gmail.com).

**Rainfall**

**Happy New Year Rainfall for Churchill in 2022.**

Churchill's December rainfall was a month of mixed weather, with a week of dry sunny days, then a week of rain.

Overall, a rather average monthly rainfall of 69 mm.

The Churchill total rainfall for 2022 was 925 mm making it the fourth highest rainfall recorded in Churchill since 1992.

The highest Churchill rainfall recorded in the 31 years was in 2011 when 1058 mm of rain was recorded.

**Rainfall in Churchill for January 2023**

January commenced with very dry days, no rain fell until January 18 when 6 mm was recorded.

Further rain resulted in a total of 31 mm for the month.

**Rain at Hazelwood South**

The first half of

December 2022 started wet followed by little additional rain, right past the end of January. December had 21% more rain than December average, with 76mm, and Hazelwood South was 28% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station. The ground water level remained very high, well into January keeping trees green and growing. The year of 2022 had 17% more rain than the average of 36 years.

January 2023 had 14.8mm of rain and only 28% of the January average. The stored soil moisture kept much of the grass green, for the wallabies and wombats to enjoy.

The Latrobe Valley weather station measured only 9.4mm, making Hazelwood South 57% wetter. Despite not having the La Niña effect, this summer is mild so far.

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5.	138 mm x 128 mm	3 x 13.8 cm	109.00	174.00	98.00	156.00
6.	188 mm x 128 mm	3 x 18.8 cm	154.00	247.00	139.00	222.00
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8.	375 mm x 260 mm	6 x 37.5 cm	475.00	761.00	428.00	685.00

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 OR put in our collection box at: the Co-Operating Churches.  
 Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: [cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au](mailto:cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au)

# Christmas Carols by Candlelight



After a two year gap Carols by Candlelight was again held at the Co-Operating Churches in Churchill on Saturday December 17 by the Combined Churches. Approximately one hundred people attended. A shortened program was designed to finished earlier so the children were still there

when Santa arrived on the fire truck.

Churchill Lions once again agreed to cook a sausage sizzle for a gold coin donation for patrons prior to the program.

Parishioners from the Co-Operating Churches, with help from Lumen Christi and the Churchill Christian Fellowship set up the venue,

provided the MCs and sound system.

Coal Valley Male Choir led the singing and provided one item.

Allan Halliwell and son Keiron entertained the children with Australian Christmas songs.

Latrobe Community Concert Band backed the carol singing.

Lots of carol singing, Bible readings to tell the story of Christmas, prayers, a message and two items filled the program.

Santa arrived on the fire truck with his helpers just in time for the last songs. Santa and the children joined in the singing.

The money raised through the gold coin

donation and the collection was amazing. It will be divided between the FedUni Chaplaincy Food Cupboard and Anglicare Food Hampers prepared by the Churchill Christian Fellowship.

From the Combined Churches Carols by Candlelight committee we

extend our special thanks to the Lions, the Churchill Fire Brigade, Coal Valley Male Choir, Latrobe Community Concert Band, the Co-Operating Churches in Churchill and all who came to support and enjoy the night.



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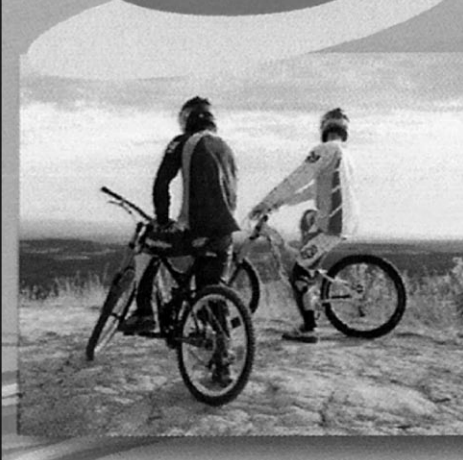
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# Church News



## Co-Operating Churches Snippets

### Chaplain

Happy New Year

Within the last year, in the election of a country's political leader, the wrong person was congratulated on one social media platform because of a similar name.

The person had truncated their surname for their social media account, which caused some leaders of other countries to send messages to this person, rather than to the elected person.

It was all smoothed over, with some humorous exchanges, and little embarrassment.

However, it reminded me of living and working in Kenya for over three years, where almost all families believed it possible that their child could grow up to be their country's leader.

Children were brought up with that aspiration, despite any perceived hindrances.

Even working in the Children's Home there was still that thought in children - the possibility of being such a person to one day attain high office.

Which is also like what the Christian Faith speaks to...the possibility of being a child of the King of



Kings. This is the essence of that well-used (maybe misunderstood) phrase, being 'born again'.

To be in such a position, not as any mistaken identity though, and not just as any aspiration that may seem afar off, one day, but a real possibility now for each of us to have such a relationship with God through God the Son, Jesus Christ (making us heirs with Him).

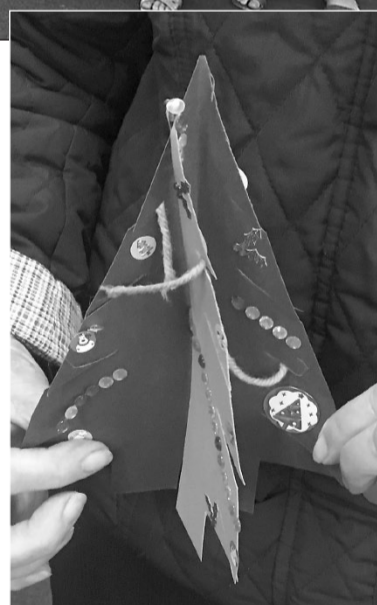
What a thought!

Yet that is really the bottom-line of Christianity.

Worth thinking about!



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Cathie organised a special set of Advent services starting at the end of November.

The set up of church was different with tables and chairs set up with information about each week's service, a mandala to colour or craft material to make items of choice about the theme of the day or something personal.

Each week a picture of a house representing a gospel was displayed with copies also on the table.

Included in the service was a Bible passage. After the message there was on the table a set of questions for a small group discussion.

Carol singing, a

children's talk and prayers added to the service.

If your preference was to sit in normal seating or just sit at a table and not participate in the craft during the service it was okay.

There was a very relaxed social atmosphere.

At the end there was a show and tell of the craft that people had made and what a marvelous variety there was from our creative parishioners.

Each week those who wished could select the token of the week and add it to a bauble which they could take home at the end.

The series ended on Christmas Day.

During January we

alternated as usual between Boolarra and Churchill. At Boolarra Reverend Dr. John Morgan took Anglican Holy Communion.

At Churchill Margaret Sunderland took Anglican Pray Praise and Proclamation.

At Boolarra back from holidays, Cathie took the Uniting Church Holy Communion.

Back at Churchill Cathie took relaxed worship.

Special thanks go to Cathie for the amazingly great amount of work which she put into the services.

Cathie and the church invite you to come and join us as we explore doing church in different ways.



### Church Times

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

**Churchill Christian Fellowship**  
 Sunday: 3.00pm  
 Tramway Road  
 (next to soccer ground)  
 Everyone welcome  
 0409 173 747

**Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish**  
**Boolarra/Yinnar**  
 1st and 3rd Sunday  
 10am  
 Christ Church Tarwin St.  
 Boolarra

**Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes**  
 Tel: 5134 2849  
 Fr James Fernandez  
**Saturday 6.00pm St Vincent's, Morwel. Sunday 9.00am Lumen Christi, Churchill. Sunday 10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell.**  
 Every 4th Sunday alternates Yinnar/Boolarra. **September - St Francis de Sales, Boolarra**

# GIAE Churchill's tertiary facility turns 50 GIAE



50th Anniversary Past Alumni



Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Duncan Bentley



Official opening of GIAE 1976 attributed to Federation University Historical Collection



50th Anniversary Mary Aldred



Past staff



50th Anniversary Leigh Kennedy



50th Anniversary Unveiling of new display board

Churchill was chosen in 1969 to be the higher education facility for Gippsland. It was called the Gippsland Institute of Advanced Education, GIAE or the Institute for short.

Technical and higher education had been available for students at Yallourn Technical School since 1928. It began as a cluster of three cottages and a laboratory but in time and with much lobbying and funding acquisition, the impressive building was erected and completed on the site in 1936.

However, demand for education was growing also so a new school was planned and constructed on John Field Drive in Newborough in 1957.

The name was changed to Yallourn Technical College to reflect the growing number of diploma courses on offer at both venues.

At the same time the coal reserves under Yallourn were required which meant the demolishing of the town including the Technical College

Following soon after, a push for more available tertiary education was made across Australia. New colleges of advanced education were planned so a greater range of courses could be offered. As Latrobe Valley had a large number of people involved in the coal and other industries, it was chosen and formed in 1968, and formally

opened in 1970.

By the end of 1975 there were six courses, and the development of external studies for students throughout the region was called distance education.

The architecturally designed building slowly began to be erected on this site which is surrounded by peaceful views of hills, gardens and the lake.

The Institute was a source of employment for many local people. It also did a lot of research which focused on Gippsland and its issues. Local students, many mature aged, or part time had the opportunity to do advanced learning without having to go to Melbourne. Weekend schools were a feature.

In 1985, further funding for full time places was secured, giving Gippsland students the incentive to stay at school longer and go on to qualify for tertiary acceptance. Extra courses were added to the curriculum.

The iconic binishell was constructed in 1979, watched by many curious people including lots of school children excited to see the construction of this special building, which became the venue for graduation ceremonies of students and other community functions. Due to construction concerns it was demolished in 2009.

An amalgamation with Monash University saw the site renamed Monash University College Gippsland, with a further name change in 1993 to Monash University Gippsland Campus. Courses were expanded, PhD students were accepted, research was done, postgraduate studies and

honours courses were offered. International students arrived and off-shore teaching was instigated.

The university's main aim was education with a focus on Gippsland for students of Gippsland.

That led to another amalgamation in 2014 when Monash and Ballarat University combined. The new university was called Federation University and aims to have students learn courses which will enable them to help their regional businesses and economies. This is particularly important in the Latrobe Valley with the phasing out of coal.

A large gathering of people attended the special event to celebrate the 50th anniversary.

Leigh Kennedy Deputy Associate Vice Chancellor, Engagement began proceedings welcoming those present and thanking them for coming.

Mr. Simon Hood gave a welcome to country.

Mary Aldred a well-known alumni was the guest speaker. Congratulations and a motivational speech were offered. "Take each opportunity that our regional facilities and their partnerships have to offer, front up and contribute to solve problems, lean into the challenges, focus on what is going to make the most progress, be accountable, respectfully disagree with one another, be flexible, humble, adventurous and kind" she encouraged, "so the best outcomes for our area are achieved."

A video presentation of the history of the university was shown, documenting the campus history.

University Vice Chancellor and President Professor Duncan Bentley spoke of the special relationship which has developed with our Aboriginal First Nations people and how that is valued.

The connections with industries and health support networks is very important as that is driving the types of courses needed and instigated for this area. Skills are being learnt for future energy growth with many jobs on offer. Scholarships are being offered. Students can stay close to home, saving time and money.

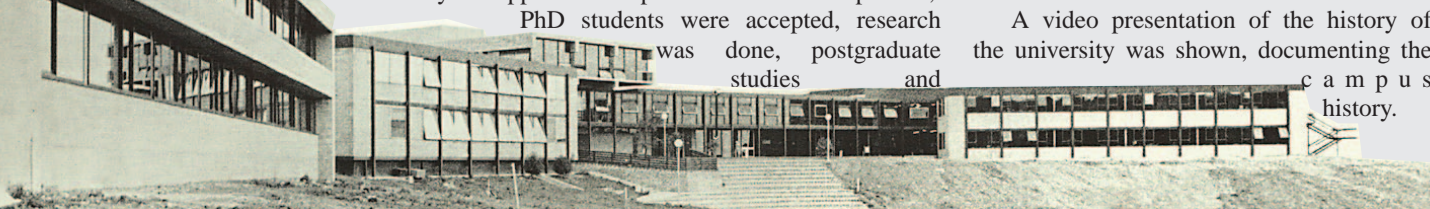
An attendance of 93% of students from local areas shows the value of this. This, it is hoped, will stop the brain drain to Melbourne or the world. There are certain criteria where HECs fees are waived. There are many opportunities and much support offered to students.

The university has a global reach with international students welcomed to learn and take back their knowledge.

A FedUni degree is as valid as any other university in Australia. There is close collaboration between universities and shared expertise. Professor Duncan enthusiastically celebrated our wonderful diverse region.

He finished by saying the past has grounded the university for a very bright future which is in good hands. We can contribute, co-create and deliver our courses for useful partnership.

A new display board was unveiled which shows more of the history of the campus before an excellent afternoon tea was taken. There were about thirty past alumni who sat for a photo. Others who had worked there had a lovely time catching up to renew friendships and reminisce. It was a special celebration.



GIAE 1976 attributed to Federation University Historical Collection

# Priority Primary Care Centre opens

Gippsland residents seeking urgent medical treatment will have better access to care thanks to the opening of the region's second Priority Primary Care Centre (PPCC) in Moe.

Gippsland PHN is working in partnership with LCHS to establish the Latrobe PPCC. This GP-led clinic opened on January 23, 2023, and is supported by Latrobe Regional Hospital (LRH).

The Latrobe PPCC will run from the former Moe After Hours Medical Service (MAHMS) site, operated by Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS), as part of the Victorian Government's initiative to give Victorians a free alternative to visiting a busy emergency department.

The new services at Latrobe PPCC will ensure people have continued access to free medical care with extended opening hours.

People suffering conditions such as mild infections, fractures and burns will be able to receive treatment instead of having to wait in emergency at the hospital.

A nurse will triage and admit patients to the PPCC if suitable. PPCCs do not provide ongoing treatment for patients. Once a patient



Pictured (from L-R) are LCHS Executive Director Primary Health Andrina Romano, LRH CEO Don McRae, GPHN Acting CEO Angela Jacob, and LCHS CEO Ben Leigh at the new Latrobe PPCC.

has been seen at a PPCC, they are referred back to their GP who is provided with a discharge summary.

There is no charge for patients visiting a PPCC and patients do not need a Medicare card. Children over the age of three months and adults of all age groups are eligible.

LCHS Chief Executive Officer, Ben Leigh, said he welcomed the opportunity to play an expanded role in providing this new service.

"Latrobe Community Health Service is a known, trusted provider of healthcare services in Gippsland," he said.

"The new Latrobe PPCC is great for the community;

it will reduce waiting times for those in need of urgent care and reduce the pressure on the LRH Emergency Department. It also brings new jobs to the region, which is always welcome."

LRH Chief Executive, Don McRae, confirmed the health service's Emergency Department and staff had been under significant and sustained pressure since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Latrobe PPCC, located at 42-44 Fowler Street, Moe, accepts walk-ups, referrals and pre-booked appointments. Phone 5127 9111 or lchs.com.au/latrobe-ppcc for up-to-date information.

# Churchill & Monash Golf Club

## Championships Round 3 Saturday 26/11/2022 Star Medal Monthly Medal

A Grade D. Burridge 13 85 72 M/M. B Grade T. Sterrick 20 98 78, C Grade L. Anderson 27 103 76, D. Grade M. Hutchinson 29 105 76. Scratch D. Beyer 82, D.T.L 1. D. Byers 73 2. M. Brereton 77, 3. D. Beyer 77 4. R. Dent 78, 5. T. Collins 78 6. P. Ellwood 78, 7. C. Gilfillan 79 8. W. Sutton 79, 9. B. Barnes 79 10. M. Allen 80 C/B,N.T. P 5th D. Ellwood, 12th B. Sebire, 14th D. Byers, Pro-Pin 3rd R. King, Target Hole D. Byers, Putts L. Anderson 26, Birdies R. King 3rd.

## Championships

A Grade D. Burridge 212. B Grade C. Gilfillan 75 75 80 230, C Grade T. Collins 77 75 79 251, Handicap Winner: D. Burridge 67 74 71 212, Scratch Winner and Club Champion D. Beyer 82 82 82 246,

## Stableford Tuesday 29/11/2022

Winner M. Ryan 29 C/B, D.T.L L. Brent 29, N.T.P 3rd L. Brent, 5th V. Reid, 12th L. Brent, 14th V. Reid, Birdies L. Brent 3rd, L. Brent 14th,

## Saturday Stableford 3/12/2022

A Grade F. Keighran 28 Pts, B Grade M. Soppe 34

C/B, C Grade M. Hutchinson 34, D.T.L. G. Harvey 34 2. T. Sterrick 34. 3. M. Write 33 4. W. Sutton 32. 5. S. Ainsworth 31 C/B 6. D. Radnell 31 C/B. 7. A. Sharrock 31 C/B 8. P. Bolding 31 C/B. N.T.P 3rd. D. Radnell, 14th B. Kilday, Target Hole T. Sterrick, Birdies P. Flanigan 12th,

## Monthly Medal Tuesday 6/12/2022.

Scratch Winner Sandra Caldwell 07, Medal Winner Marianne Ryan 73 Nett, D.T.L Christine Stevens 82 Nett, Putts Sandra Caldwell 34, N.T.P 3rd Lia Brent, 5th Lia Brent, 12th Marg McQuillen, 14th Lia Brent, 4.

## Person Ambrose Saturday 10/12/2022

Winners R. Harvey, G. Harvey, D. Dunne, D. Burridge 55.8.75, Runners Up P. Smart, R. Madigan, P. Kearns, L. Winter 59. D.T.L 1. M. Soppe, J. Soppe, N. Doig, S. Sanders 60. 2. J. Sanders, M. Brereton, J. Woodbridge, P. Bolding 60.375. 3. P. Auld, G. Tatterson, B. Kilday, M. Allen 61. 4. S. Ainsworth, M. Johnson, M. Ainsworth, J. McCafferty 61.25. 5. G. Corponi, B. Matheson, P. Chapple, C. Gosling 61.625.

6. B. Beams, Stu, Ray, C. Helmuth 61.8.75. 7. J. Lang, C. Cummings, G. Barnes, B. Rowley 62. N.T.P Pro-Pin 3rd. M. Brereton, 5th D. Dunne 12th Mumun.

## Monthly Medal Saturday 17/12/2022

A Grade B. Skinner 12 87 75, B Grade A. Sharrock 23 95 73, C Grade L. Anderson 25 95 68 Medal, D. Grade C. Stevens 45 119 74, Scratch P. Smart 86, D.T.L 1. T. Collins 73 2. M. Allen 73. 3. M. Soppe 75 4. A. Auld 75.5. A. West 75 6. P. Bolding 75. 7. M. Hutchinson 75 8. P. Smart 76. 9. D. Byers 76 10. S. Sanders 76. N.T.P 3rd R. Welsh, 12th D. Ellwood, Target Hole N. Lugton. Putts M. Allen 25.

## Stableford Tuesday 20/12/2022

Winner Tom Sterrick 20 40 Pts. D.T.L Chris Stevens 45 36 Pts. N.T.P 3rd Chris Stevens, 5th Jan Blizzard, 12th Sue Gosling, 14th Lia Brent.

## Stableford Tuesday 27/12/2022

Winner Jim Sanders Snr 18 38 Pts. DTL Chris Stevens 44 36 Pts. Sandra Caldwell 24 35 Pts. NTP 3rd S. Caldwell, 5th V. Reid, 12th J. Sanders Snr, 14th L. Anderson.

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# Where we live

## STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



**Mountains**  
 Firstly, may I wish everybody a Happy New Year, the Year of the Rabbit. I hope you have a successful year with your collecting.

This month I am going to explore mountains from the comfort of my desk chair and my stamp collection.

Many countries feature the mountains from their countries with a great deal of pride, because they form a part of the landscape which is seen as pure and pristine.

It does not matter if the mountains are extremely high or relatively low, they are a place to go for a healthier lifestyle.

Everybody knows that the world's highest mountain is Mount Everest, which is making sure it holds its place in the rankings as it grows higher each year by some millimetres.

The same can be said of other mountains because they occur at the meeting place of two plates of the earth's surface.

Others grow smaller because of erosion caused by weather events like rainfall or freezing ice, or

more spectacularly, volcanic eruption.

Volcanic action works the other way as well. In Central America in the early 1900's a farmer noticed a small pointed stone in his field.

It is still growing and is now a mountain in its own right.

We can also look at the island of Surtsey in Iceland which rose above the waters off the coast in 1963, and has now reached the height of over 175 metres, despite erosion by wave action.

Chains of volcanic mountains caused by volcanic hotspots over a long period of time are another form of mountain formation.

We have one such down the east coast of Australia. Australia, because of its age, has only low mountains, but they hold a wealth of interest in them.

Some hold examples of the most ancient lifeforms on the planet. Once they were mighty mountains, pushed up by cataclysmic forces but time and weather have reduced them to what we see today.

The highest mountains occur where two plates have collided.

We look at the Himalayas in Asia, The Andes in South America, the Rockies in

North America, the Alps and Pyrenees in Europe and the Southern Alps in New Zealand for some examples of this.

At the other end of the spectrum, where the crust of the Earth is splitting apart, we also see mountains forming.

Most of these are undersea mountains but some are in plain sight, like Mount Kilimanjaro in Kenya. Others poke their noses up out of the water at odd points across the Earth's surface.

Mountains on stamps have been a common design for over a hundred years. Tasmania featured Mount Wellington in its Pictorial issue of 1899. More recently, a series of mountain views have been used on International stamps, including Mount Kosciusko. Switzerland regularly pictures peaks in the Swiss Alps on their stamps and India produced a set of two showing Mount Everest in 1953 when it was first climbed.

Canada and the U.S. feature some of their peaks also.

### 1998 Shop in Churchill

Advertising in Churchill & District News by Hazelwood Village Shopping Centre 1998.

A toasted sandwich with tea or coffee could be purchased from Café Le Macs for \$3.50.

Churchill Hot Bread had for sale Christmas mud cakes, fruit mince pies and were open seven days a week.

PDP Computers Pty Ltd had a bargain give-away of 50 hours free internet access with every system sold over \$1,500.

Mike's Churchill Pizza was the best in town and would be delivered at no cost to your home.

Cafe Innovations was open late seven days a week, with bookings taken for buffet, banquet, and bistro functions.

Kats Sunlounge suggested you start your summer tan with one of two great tanning bed specials.

Churchill Laundry Service had a special with two garments ironed for FREE with every wash, dry and folded.

Hazelwood Village Nursery was selling Christmas trees available from \$10, and was open seven days a week.

At Churchill Chiropractic you could access dietary counselling, therapeutic massage, and chiropractic care.



At Future Flicks Video you could hire out seven weeklies for only \$5 or hire one new release and one free. Open every day of the year.

Churchill Newsagency and Tattslotto asked us to check out their toy catalogue and see them for our Christmas supplies.

Churchill Amcal Pharmacy would develop a 24 exposure film and give away a free 24 capacity photo album.

Food Works one day specials available, Rump Steak \$5.99 per kg, V/B stubbies \$26.99, Coke 2 litre range \$1.88, and Castle Bacon \$5.99 kg.

Hazelwood Health Centre wished us all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## Churchill Discount Pharmacy



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Health advice



Andy Gergis  
OWNER

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Authorised by H Shing, 216 Commercial Rd, Morwell. Funded from Parliamentary budget.



# Strzelecki Bushwalking Club

It is hard to believe but we are nearly through the first month of 2023!

The Strzelecki Bush Walking Club has an active and hard-working committee which is dedicated to coordinating many exciting and enticing outdoor opportunities for the coming year.

On January 22 our "walks co-ordinator", Adrian Crawford, led a group from the Mount St Gwinear car park to the Mount Erica car park.

This walk was approximately 15 k.m. long.

On January 28 our club President, Jim Rowley, led a group from Tidal River via Oberon Bay and this was



approximately 17 k.m. long. Our first club night of

the year was a BBQ dinner commencing at 6pm in

McGregor Park, Trafalgar on Wednesday February 8.

This is always a fun social night and a good way to get

back into the Club after the Christmas holidays.

The theme of the night was a demonstration of e-bikes and a display of equipment available for members' use.

The focus of our March Club evening will be kayaking around Hinchinbrook Island and will be on March 8 in the Trafalgar Scout Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

As always, guests are welcome on these evenings, and it is a good way to introduce yourself to the club and to meet other members.

Further information is available on the website at sbwc.org.au, on our Facebook page or by contacting publicity@sbwc.org.au



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## Churchill CHATTER

Welcome to Churchill Chatter, our first for the new year.

We hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday with family and friends.

If you enjoy these notes, perhaps you would like to send in some local items for this column.

It would be much appreciated.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Churchill fire brigade

Last year the Churchill Fire Brigade was called to a total of 116 turnouts.

This is an amazing amount of time for volunteers to be available and help keep our community safe from danger.

Thank you all so much.  
\*\*\*\*\*

### Grass cutting

Due to the heavy early summer rains, the Churchill parks were very overgrown as mowers could not be used in the wet conditions.

It was noticeable that Council has had a difficult time in returning the parks to their usual mown condition.

As the ground dried out and mowers were busy, the cut grass looked to be enough to make into hay bales.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Mathison Park

Mathison Park is a very popular visitor place over the Christmas and New Year holiday time. Hidden among the surrounds of the park is

a counter to keep a tally of visitor numbers who visit and enjoy the facility.

Since the counter was installed the number of visitors has reached 221,570 in total.

We will have some monthly totals this year. Many thanks again go to the volunteers who help out with work at the Park throughout the year.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Hail storm

One hot steamy Sunday afternoon in late January Churchill had a severe hail storm. From thunderous-looking black clouds at first large spots of rain fell, then only hail, larger chunks of hail followed and then came the heavy rain.

The hail caused damage

to many resident's properties, mostly to the roof of verandahs and patios. Trees and other garden plants were stripped of leaves, flowers and fruits.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Gippsland Rugby

Gippsland sports historian Laurie Williams is on the trail of Gippsland Rugby clubs.

Churchill club won a premiership twice in three years 1995-1998. Contact Laurie at lauriefooty@hotmail.com

\*\*\*\*\*

Thought for the month

If you are serious about changing your life, you will find a way.

If you are not, you will find an excuse.



## Recycling right at Churchill Community Hub

Don't bin these; Recycle them correctly at the Hub

- PLASTIC bread tags (no cardboard tags please)
- Scrunched up CLEAN used aluminium foil (no tablet blister packs please)
- WASHED plastic milk & juice bottle tops (no other types or sizes please)
- X-rays (no paper envelopes please)
- Printer Cartridges (no plastic, foil or cardboard packaging please)
- Pens, Biro's, Textas, Marking Pens & Hi-lighters
- All small e-waste items, including mobile phones & chargers

Look for the "Recycling Centre" in the  
Churchill Community Hub near the entrance  
to Childcare and Kindergarten

And take your plastic bags home to re-use; please  
don't leave them in our containers!

Recycle your HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES (including small Lithium  
batteries) in the container at the Library/Council Service Desk  
- kept "out of reach of children".





# Darren Chester

Federal Member for Gippsland



## Proud to support our community

1300 131 785    www.darrenchester.com.au

#lovegippsland    #myvalley

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



1998

arrangements, contact Heavenly Motorcycle Burials.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**New students**

International students are now arriving at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University. Students are arriving from South East Asia, Europe and the United States. Students involved in their first year at Monash University, have also arrived from all over Australia and taken part in Gippsland Campus's Orientation Week.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Magic carpet**

Hazelwood Junior Guides will need their magic carpet for transport to Guide Centres in Switzerland, England, India and Mexico in the next five weeks. Passports have been made and preparations are well underway for their fun games.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Business blooms**

The florist in Churchill is now under new management. The new proprietor, Josephine Jones, has lived in Churchill for over 20 years. She has in stock a new range of products including crafts, gifts, dried flowers, plants and of course fresh flowers.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Abattoir bid falls through**

After a lengthy discussion Mr Gardin

Churchill & District News



withdrew his proposal for the abattoir to be built on the industrial estate to the west of Churchill on Switchback Road.

Over 100 citizens of Churchill and the surrounding districts turned up to the meeting.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Lucky escape for milk bar owner**

A man armed with a knife robbed the Blackwood Crescent milk bar in Churchill.

The offender produced a knife and stabbed Mr Demitriou in the hand. The man then escaped with the money and was seen running through the Churchill North Primary School grounds.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**New walking track**

Work has commenced on construction of a 1.5 kilometre pathway along Eel Hole Creek. The gravel pathway will involve three creek crossings and construction of boardwalks will provide an important link to Kurnai College, Churchill Leisure Centre,

Shopping Centre and Monash University.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Three new golf holes**

The Churchill Monash Golf Course is on track to open its three extra holes in November of this year. The Victorian Golf Association will then rate the course and welcome us into affiliation with its other member courses in the state.

The entire project has extended over more than five years and has been a wonderful example of co-operation between Monash University and Churchill Social Golf Club.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Underage rage**

Due to a lack of public transport between Churchill and the rest of the Latrobe Valley after sundown, and the boredom experienced by Churchill youth, a small group of concerned parents organised an Underage Rage.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**To the editor**

I just wanted to say how pleased I am with the

progress in beautifying my town. Not only are we getting new paths and walkways through our parks and creeks, we are better able to appreciate the natural surrounds of Churchill.

I am also happy to see the creek finally getting cleared out.

Thank you.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Canterbury Way East**

There has been much discussion throughout Churchill on the deteriorating condition of Canterbury Way East in Churchill. This was initially constructed as a temporary road linking Monash Way with Philip Parade, with a nominal pavement depth. It was anticipated to be converted to an overpass as traffic volumes increased.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Police group on "look out"**

The Churchill Police Youth Liaison Committee is looking for new blood!

One of their aims is to establish and build ongoing relationships between young people and the police through activities and pastimes. Ideally these activities will be ones in which young people can play a major organising and overseeing role.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Landlords and chickens**

Well, I have just finished my last exam and now have nothing else to do except clean the house in time for the bond inspection.

Over the year we have had some great parties, avoided the police, neighbours and our parents, but now it is time to come face to face with the scariest person ... THE LANDLORD! It is time to clean the house!

**Members wanted**

New members are wanted to join the Yinnar Book Club. They are a group of women but men are also welcome, who read, then discuss a set book once a month. Books are supplied by the Council of Adult Education, and come with discussion notes.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Epilepsy may affect your life**

Free, confidential support and information is available for individuals, family, friends and carers in the Morwell area.

Call in for a cuppa and a chat each month.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**A "Heavenly" ride**

At some time death will come to all of us, it is difficult to accept the passing of a loved one close to us.

With funerals changing more to suit families individual needs a local family has set up a unique way for departing with your loved one.

Laurie Howell started up his business with a design for a motor cycle hearse.

He would like to thank all those in Churchill for their input.

For a professional yet dignified service adding to your normal funeral

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**Neighbourhood Watch Latrobe Inc. and Churchill Town Safety Group**

**Security for kids on the Internet**

It is a great time for parents and carers to remind or teach their children tips to be more secure online.

We are encouraging Australian families to strengthen their children's cyber security online by taking the following five steps:

1. Use strong passphrases to secure gaming, social media and all other accounts.
2. Activate multi-factor authentication to add multiple layers of protection.
3. Turn on automatic security updates on all devices to fix weaknesses.
4. Check settings and set portable devices to require parental approval before software is installed. Parental controls can also be used for this purpose.
5. Report and recognise scams.
6. Keep an eye on the kids activities on the computer and try to keep yourself up to date with new things happening on line.

Cyber criminals aren't kind to kids. They search for easy targets to steal data, including personal and financial information, making it vital for even tech-savvy children to be aware of potential dangers.

Check out:-  
<https://www.cyber.gov.au/cyber-security-kids>

The Cyber Security Instruction Manual: A kid's guide to using the internet securely provides simple tips and fun activities for primary and high school aged children, to help parents and carers teach their children about basic cyber security practices, and about staying secure online.

What can you do?

**Churchill & District Lions Club**

Meet  
1st and 3rd Wednesday  
of each Month

Contact Secretary **Phone:**  
**Bill Hurenkamp 0418 327 287**

**FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000**  
**FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE, RING 131444**

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

SAFER COMMUNITIES GROUP

A Churchill & District History Series

# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington  
**Let's think about our National Day**

On Friday May 26, 1905, Empire Day was first celebrated in Morwell and Yinnar.

Empire Day was instigated to celebrate Queen Victoria's birthday, which was actually May 24. Nevertheless, a birthday had to be celebrated in a big way so it is written that the day "was introduced to promote loyalty among the dominion countries of the British Empire."

School children were the target market and teachers were encouraged to "promote special steps to develop a feeling of pride in the British Empire and the achievements of the British race."

Through direction of the Victorian state government, a type of program was distributed – an all-day affair with a morning consisting of short addresses, some recitations and patriotic songs. Naturally these included 'Rule Britannia' all of which was generally followed by a half-day holiday to signify Australia's strong ties the British Empire (or, as many in those early days, spoke of "the Mother Country").

Bonfires and fireworks in the evening often completed a wonderful occasion.

The last Empire Day celebration in Australia took place in 1958.

Let us go back to Yinnar first. The Morwell

Advertiser, Friday May 26, 1905 provided a comprehensive coverage of Empire Day that 'was celebrated in a manner not likely to be forgotten for a long time, being quite a "red letter" day. A picnic, which proved one of the most successful and enjoyable that has ever taken place in Yinnar, was held in Lavina Park, which was kindly placed at the residents' disposal by Mr Coleman.'

There were foot races, with prizes awarded, for married ladies, married men, young ladies, and bachelors. A bun eating contest apparently drew a massive audience with Tommy Vagg being declared the winner. Buns were covered with treacle and suspended by string from a pole.

A high jump competition and an infamous three-legged race added extra fun.

An evening concert was held in the Yinnar Mechanics Institute Hall – singing, dancing, games, and whatever else – amidst decorations of flowers and flags and plenty of food. The night was concluded with a hearty rendition of the National Anthem and cheers.

Morwell's first Empire Day seemingly "passed off very quietly in Morwell" Morwell Advertiser, Friday May 26, 1905.

The weather was pleasant, delightful with local residents using their afternoon holiday in various ways including fishing and

shooting rabbits mainly. A football match with a Traralgon team excited some and an evening euchre party and dance were held in the Mechanics Institute Hall. A house warming function was held at the Methodist Parsonage.

Remaining with the main objective to have school children develop a feeling of pride in the British Empire and the achievements of the British race, Morwell's school children were given a half-day holiday. Before being dismissed from school (formerly known as Commercial Road State School), they were assembled to salute as the Union Jack was hoisted upwards. With hands placed on their left breast, they recited:

"I love God and my country; I honour the flag, will serve the King, and cheerfully obey my parents, teachers and the laws."

Cheers were then given for the King (Edward VII) followed by the first verse of the National Anthem:

God save our gracious King,  
Long live our noble King,  
God save the King.  
Send him victorious,  
Happy and glorious,  
Long to reign over us,  
God save the King.

The local paper added that "At the North Hazelwood and other schools the children also sang patriotic songs."

As a contrast, on May

25, 1906, Morwell State School pupils remained in classrooms with one special occasion before midday where "a selection of patriotic songs" was rendered. At noon, the Union Jack was raised, and in the afternoon, "the children were dispersed to do whatever pleased them." That is, the children remained at school.

Our local community remained loyal to the Mother Country in those early years.

The Royal Patriotic Fund (RPF) was created in 1854 by Queen Victoria to assist families of British soldiers sent to war, and others from the dominions.

In January 1900, at what was heralded an "enthusiastic meeting" of the Morwell and District Patriotic Fund and knowing there were local young men involved in the South African wars, £42.9s 6d was raised to be sent abroad.

The Reverend Frewin from Morwell's St Mary's Anglican Church said this wonderful collection "will intensify the affection of the Motherland for her colonies."

Alexandra Park is, or was, the narrow strip of land (now under railway reconstruction work and a skateboard rink) between the railway line and Commercial Road, in vicinity of Commercial Road Primary School. This area was the site of Morwell's first bowling club (1913), and swimming pool (1925).

This convenient, though narrow open area was called "Alexandra Park", so named after Queen Alexandra, consort of King Edward VII, although she never visited Australia.

We pushed onwards seemingly to "intensify the affection of the Motherland for her colonies." With political correctness in 1958 Empire Day was re-badged as British Commonwealth Day, and still later in 1966 when it became known as Commonwealth Day. The date of Commonwealth Day was also changed to June 10, the official birthday of the former Queen Elizabeth II. However she was born on April 21 1926. In Britain, the weather during April is generally cold, and she could not let her subjects stand out in the cold to cheer her on. Hence, she celebrated her official birthday for the nation on another day in June.

Many readers will recall marching along Commercial Road to commemorate Commonwealth Day.

School children were the prime target market once again albeit, for instance, the Morwell Fire Brigade was a strong supporter of these annual processions.

On one occasion in June, their display highlighted our community "served through five reigns." That is, Queen Victoria, King Edward VII, King George V, King George VI and

Queen Elizabeth II. The other photograph depicts a moment in Morwell's history celebrating our connection to the Mother Country with a huge procession in the main street.

The first "Australia Day" was actually held on July 30, 1915 to raise funds for the World War I effort.

It wasn't until 1935 that all states adopted a common date and name for Australia Day to be held on January 26. It took until the 1940s for Australia to get its national holiday in place and it wasn't until 1984 that the National Australia Day Committee was federally funded.

In recent years there have been growing calls for Australia Day to be held on a different date, to encompass a wide range of contentious occasions.

In closing however, there needs to be a reminder of the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948 – marking for the first time, that the term 'Australian citizen' had been used in any legislation, including the Constitution. The Act created the new status of "Citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies" (CUKC) for people born or naturalised in either the United Kingdom or one of its colonies. Provision was also made in certain circumstances for citizenship to be acquired by descent from a CUKC, or by registration.



Top left: Queen Victoria

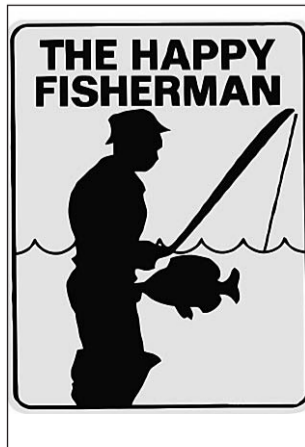


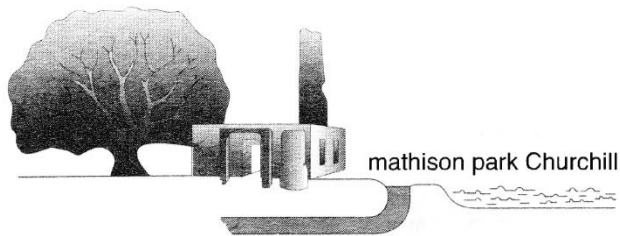
Top right: fire trucks in procession celebrating Queen Elizabeth 1 becoming Queen. The trucks are turning from Commercial Road into Hazelwood Road en-route to the Morwell Football Oval.

Bottom left: Commemorative flag.

Bottom middle: Some celebrated the day by going fishing.

Bottom right: Banner illustrating the service of five monarchs.





**Mathison Park swimmers warning**

One hot evening what appeared to be a blow up boat was seen on the lake with some swimmers nearby towing it. This is a warning. The water of the lake is not suitable for swimming and it may make the swimmers ill. There is also the likely chance there are broken bottles, sharp objects and

snags hidden in the water. The water entering a cut can have adverse outcomes.

**Signs indicate no swimming.**

From wet and boggy the park has gone to dry and grassy. This has meant that the grass can finally be cut. Some piles of rubbish could not be burnt due to the grass load, and the fire restrictions have come in.

Despite all this many people have visited the park and enjoyed the walks, particularly in the cooler evening times.

The doggy bag dispenser which was located on the display board is now relocated on the path side of the toilet block.

Thank you to all those who use the supplied bags to keep our park clean.



**Good News**

After such a successful Shop Local Christmas market last December, CDCA has received some very good news to kick off 2023. Our submission to Latrobe City Council's Economic Development Unit for some funding towards the cost of this year's Shop Local program has been successful!

The funding we receive has to be matched by CDCA but it will certainly help us to continue funding the Shop Local market events in 2023. Dates of this year's Shop Local community markets will be announced in March.

In other good news, we have been advised that works will commence in February to upgrade the lighting of the Churchill Town Symbol.

CDCA wrote to Council last year, requesting Council upgrade the lighting, formally register the Town Symbol as a Place Name and consider erecting a plaque detailing its construction.

We were pleased to have a Council representative at our December meeting who presented a draft design for new coloured LED lighting to be installed in the structure.

The draft design did not light the Symbol all the way to its full height but, at CDCA's request, Council's contractor provided a quote for additional lighting at the top which will now be part of the works to be undertaken.

A new switchbox will also be installed by the contractor and there will be an ability to program the lighting for different colours and mixes of colours. CDCA specifically asked about this as, with coloured lighting, it would be quite something to be able to change colours to reflect different occasions during the year.

Local residents have previously suggested that the Town Symbol be lit red and green at Christmas. Other significant dates have themed colours too (e.g. White Ribbon Day) so the ability to program coloured lighting will

certainly add to the visibility and symbolism of our Town Symbol. Additionally, having it lit to its full height, as it was originally, will restore the symbol to a night-time landmark.

At the time of writing, CDCA is awaiting confirmation that our guest speaker at our February meeting will be a newly appointed Council Project Officer tasked with delivering community art installations in various locations around Latrobe City, including Churchill.

This particular program has been funded by the Latrobe Health Assembly which has been working with Council and other stakeholders on a diverse range of projects aimed at increasing the health and well-being of the Latrobe community.

CDCA meetings often have guest speakers attend, in order to provide information or updates on matters which affect residents of Churchill and district. Additionally, a representative from Council

is generally there; sometimes the Officer-In-Charge from Churchill Police Station is able to join us; occasionally a representative from Federation University is present; perhaps our new State MP, Martin Cameron, will come along to a meeting (when Parliament is not sitting), as did his predecessor.

CDCA welcomes interested guests, local residents and new members to our meetings and we really like to hear ideas, suggestions and discussion about local matters.

Our meetings are held on the second Thursday of every second month in Studio 1, downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (park and enter from Philip Parade).

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 13. We start at 7pm and like to be on our way home by 9pm.

You can contact us via our website - cdca.org.au - or our Facebook page (search for Churchill District Community Association) or you can write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill.

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# Rotary

DINNER MEETINGS:  
1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays  
6.30pm - 8.00pm

MORWELL BOWLING CLUB  
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

Contact: Paula,  
Secretary  
0455 584 072

humanity  
in motion

## Hazelwood Rotary Club

# Recycling at the Hub

## Such a Chore!

Imagine a large pot filled with hundreds of small plastic bread tags. Somewhere amongst those little squares of plastic are a couple of handfuls of cardboard squares – the same size and colours as the plastic ones. Now it is your task to find all the cardboard squares and remove them!

Such a time-consuming and laborious job, but one which the volunteers who look after our Recycling Centre at the Churchill Hub have to do each month.

That is because people are bringing cardboard bread tags, as well as plastic ones, and putting them in our “Plastic Bread Tags Only” container.

Similarly, our volunteers have to sift through the tub of aluminium foil and remove plastic backed foil packaging, medication blister packs, lolly wrappers and coffee pods. Everything gets covered in coffee grounds, including our hands!

Another volunteer has to sort through the bin of plastic milk bottle tops and remove

all the jar lids, lemonade bottle caps, even beer bottle tops (!) that people drop in the bin.

Recycling items through the Hub Program only works with pure products e.g. printer cartridges without packaging, foil without plastic, plastics without cardboard and so on.

Please, do not make extra work for our volunteers. Check what you are collecting and make sure it is the right item for our Recycling Program at the Hub.



# Calls to Lifeline Gippsland

Calls to Lifeline Gippsland continue to be answered by local volunteers thanks to the support of Latrobe City Council.

Following last year’s electrical fire at Lifeline Gippsland’s office in Morwell, which resulted in damage to the crisis support centre, Council has provided Lifeline access to a temporary venue to house the organisation’s call centre.

About 30 members of the crisis support staff have relocated to a room within the Latrobe City Council Service Centre and Library in Traralgon where they will answer calls from the 13 11 14 crisis support line.

In the past financial year, Lifeline Gippsland volunteers answered 20,997 calls supporting vulnerable Australians.

Mayor of Latrobe City, Councillor Kellie O’Callaghan said it was important for Council to support the Lifeline team who play a pivotal role in supporting the community.

“When Council became aware of Lifeline being displaced from their premises we reached out with the offer

of an alternate space. Latrobe City Council’s Property Team worked closely with Lifeline Gippsland to set up the training room to ensure the volunteers had a comfortable and safe space to receive calls”, said the Mayor.

“Lifeline provides mental health support for Australians and helps up to 3,335 people per day. They are a crucial service that changes the lives of many people.

Suicide is the leading cause of death for Australians aged between 15 and 44. The Gippsland region has higher rates of suicide than average, so it is vital that Lifeline has a space from where to operate.

We warmly welcome Lifeline Gippsland to our library training space and encourage community members to volunteer or donate to Lifeline if they can”.

Lifeline Gippsland’s Chief Executive Officer Michelle Possingham thanked Council for the use of the facility.

“As soon as Latrobe City Council heard about the fire in our Morwell office, they

reached out to identify ways they could help”, said Ms Possingham.

“Responding to the 13 11 14 crisis phone line is crucial to our vision of an Australia free of suicide, where no one has to face their darkest moment alone, so our highest priority was getting the phone room back in operation to enable our volunteers to continue this service.

We are grateful to Latrobe City for helping to ensure our crucial service can continue”. Crisis support staff are available to answer calls and messages at any time of the day.

Members of the public are unable to visit Lifeline directly but can call crisis support 24/7 on 13 11 14.

If you want to support Lifeline, they are always looking for volunteers. Volunteers are provided with some of the best mental health training in the world and you do not need a background in mental health to become a volunteer.

Learn more about volunteering or donating on the Lifeline website: [www.llg.org.au/volunteer](http://www.llg.org.au/volunteer)



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# Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

**Species:** Pterostylis pedunculata.  
**Family:** Orchidaceae.  
**Derivation:** Pterostylis: From Greek, pteron, meaning "wing", and stylos, meaning "pillar, pole or column" and referring to the broad wings found on the upper part of the column in this genus of orchids.



pedunculata: From Latin, pedunculus, meaning "a little foot", with the suffix -atus, designating the possession of something and referring to the characteristic of this species in having a flower stalk.

**Common Name:** Maroonhood.

**Distribution:** The south-eastern corner of the continent, from the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia to Fraser Island in Queensland, including Kangaroo, King, Flinders and Lord Howe Islands and Tasmania, and as far inland as the ACT and the Warby Ranges in north-east Victoria.

**Description:** Arising from an underground tuberoid, a ground-hugging basal rosette forms, consisting of 2-6 ovate to oblong leaves, up to 7cm long and 2cm wide with entire, flat or crinkled margins. A single stem up to

25cm tall can arise from the centre of the rosette, bearing a single flower. The flower consists of six highly modified tepals (three sepals and three petals) arranged around a central column comprised of the reproductive parts of the flower. The dorsal sepal and two petals are fused into an open-faced 'hood' shape, while the two lateral sepals are fused for enough of their length to cover the open face of the hood and for their free points to form 'horns' over the hood. The third petal is called the labellum, is very sensitive to touch and sits inside the hood where its tip is only just visible through the opening in the hood.

When a potential pollinating insect enters the hood, the labellum is triggered to trap the insect inside the flower and force it to exit the flower via a route past the column that will assist pollination of the flower. Ingenious!

**Opinion:** Orchids are great little plants, but keep in mind that they are all protected in the wild, some are very sensitive to disturbance and hence, are vulnerable/threatened/ endangered. Never collect plants from wild populations and take care if you are undertaking activities around their habitats. My plants are obtained from reputable and legal sources, with the aim of taking the pressure

off the wild populations and hopefully increasing their numbers in cultivation. The Maroonhood is one of the easier orchids to grow and maintain in a garden and I keep mine in a hanging basket, to provide excellent drainage and prevent the soil from staying too damp, which will cause the tubers to rot, particular in the hot weather when the tubers are dormant.

Hanging also keeps the pots off the ground and away from a lot of the pests and bugs which live in our gardens but are not so prevalent out in the wild. It is amazing how much damage a single slug or snail can do to your greenhous in a very short time! But as you can see from the photo, it doesn't keep them all at bay, 'tis a leafhopper nymph I think!

The Australian Plants Society Latrobe Valley Group hosts monthly activities, excursions and / or meetings. Interested persons are welcome to join in, please contact Mike for more information, email mcandcjb@gmail.com or phone 0447 452 755.

**Sources:** Backhouse – Bush Beauties, The Wild Orchids of Victoria, Australia. Online – Google, AVH: The Australasian Virtual Herbarium, VicFlora: Flora of Victoria.

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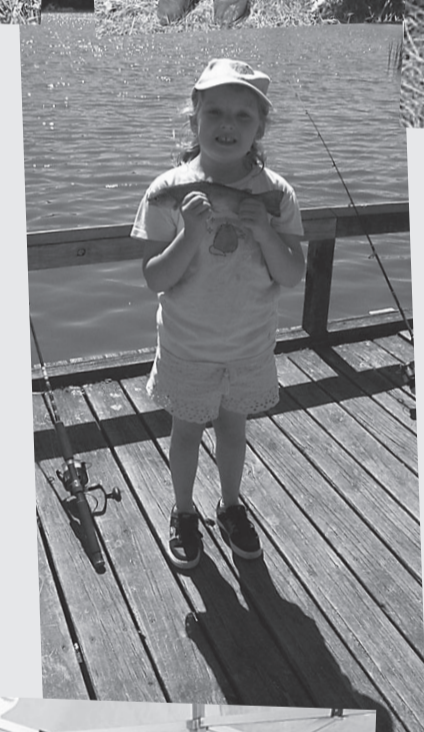
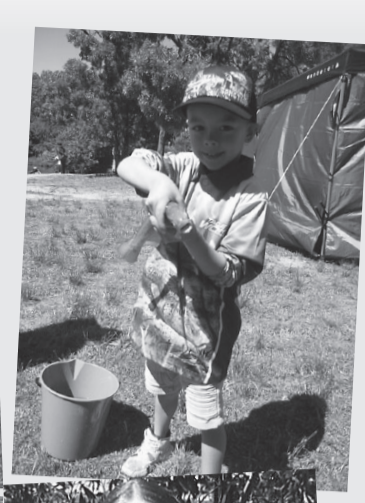
Q police careers



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# The Lions Club of Churchill & District CHURCHILL COMMUNITY FAMILY FISHING & FUN DAY



Finally after three years of cancellations due to the dreaded COVID 19 virus, the Churchill Lions Club Community Family Fishing and Fun Day was held on Saturday December 10 at beautiful Lake Hyland, Mathison Park. The weather was perfect to be outdoors and to go fishing, and 154 children and their parents did just that. They came along, fishing gear in hand, for a day of fishing together as a family, having fun

and a day out to enjoy the outdoors. The registration and weigh-in station were kept busy all day with 54 fish caught on the day, with rainbow trout, redbfin, bass, and carp caught, as well as a couple of eels and a turtle. The smiles on childrens' faces when bringing in their catch was just magic. Registration started at 9.30 am with many keen anglers arriving early to be ready to start fishing at 10.00 am, the scheduled

start time for fishing. All children who registered on the day received a free sausage in bread and a drink as well. There were also plenty of other free giveaways such as fishing lures and fishing information. No fishing licence was required thanks to Fisheries Victoria who waived the cost of an event Fishing Licence for the day. The Community Family Fishing and Fun Day was well supported by both

Fisheries Victoria and Latrobe City, with grants to assist with running the fishing day. Fisheries Victoria also provided free tackle boxes and other goodies to give away on the day. Eastern Fisheries Officer Lauren McDermott, mingled and talked to the kids as well as adults about fishing in fresh waters, licensing and fishing rules. At the completion of fishing Lauren helped with giving out prizes to the lucky winners

# The Lions Club of Churchill & District

## CHURCHILL COMMUNITY FAMILY FISHING & FUN DAY



and there were many lucky winners. Lauren commented on what a great day it had been, with the number of children who came out to fish and how well the community supported the day.

Fishcare Victoria was also in attendance providing games and activities for kids to play and enjoy as well as providing fishing

material to give away. They talked to the children about fishing in general, the different types of fish in our waters, the fishing environment and how we should look after it.

There were plenty of other activities on the day, with a jumping castle for the little children, face painting, and Peter Gray,

MC, keeping everyone informed as well as providing some great live music singing with his band, the 360s.

The Lions Club was kept busy all day cooking up egg and bacon sandwiches, sausages in bread, and serving up cold drinks. Local baristas, Liam and Mandy from Expresso Lab Coffee Cart, came along

to serve great coffees and other sweet treats

There were lots of great prizes won by children in the different age groups for hooking the first fish, the biggest etc, as well there were lots of lucky door prizes.

There was something for everyone to enjoy on the day and at \$5 per family, it was great value.



# Christmas Market



### Shop Local Christmas Market 2022

What a great day we had last year on Saturday December 3 at our Shop Local Christmas Market at the Churchill Shopping Centre!

Good weather, market stalls, sausage sizzles, give-aways, entertainment and a surprise visit from Santa brought out lots of folk to enjoy the event.

With a display by Pistons Car Club and BBQs by Churchill Lions Club and Churchill Fire Brigade the car park was fairly full all morning.

Music by Bryce (outside Café Alfa), carols by Kelly and Tim (at West Place) and even a roving outdoor face-painter, all added to the cheerful atmosphere created by friends and families strolling around, browsing the market stalls and getting their Saturday morning shopping done.

Great work by our volunteers from Churchill Neighbourhood Centre, Churchill & District News and Churchill & District Community Association ensured the event ran smoothly.

A special shout-out of thanks to Tony

Antonelli of AA Accounting for a financial contribution to the cost of all those free sausages that were cooked for attendees.

Thanks also to Woolworths Churchill for their donation of fruit to distribute, to Gippsland Water for quality water bottles to give away and to Darren Chester for providing plenty of 2023 Calendars to hand out (always a popular item!).

Former MP, Russell Northe, checked his stationery cupboard and found a last box of his printed note-pads for us to give away too – just the thing for writing shopping lists!

That is the point really. Our Shop Local Markets are designed to encourage residents of Churchill and district to Shop Local.

We aim to bring a crowd to our shopping centre, support our local retailers and provide an opportunity for local artisans to sell their wares, and a venue for community groups to do a bit of fundraising and/or PR.

We look forward to seeing you at our Shop Local Markets in 2023. Dates will be included in the March edition of the News and will also be posted to our Facebook Page (Churchill Shop Local) in March.



# Christmas Market



# Hazelwood Cemetery

By Leo Billington  
1898 - 125 years ago

During 2022, in a series of editions of the Churchill and District News, Hazelwood Cemetery editorial focussed on how people are remembered and not forgotten. Photographs, showing family graves – some marked with a simple wooden cross, others with granite headstones – highlighted just how much care and attention is and isn't given to these situations as the years roll on by.

As someone once said, "the passing years seem to have wings." Time flies past fast.

On April 7, 1879, ten acres of then crown land was gazetted as a cemetery, 144 years ago. Let us look back 125 years to 1898 and highlight some burials.

According to a Victorian census conducted in 1881, Morwell's population was estimated to be 75. John Fitzpatrick opened his hotel in Commercial Road about 1879, on the site now occupied by Manny's

Market. John died at 45 years of age in 1892. He suffered from consumption, now known as tuberculosis and never saw Morwell begin to develop beyond being basically a shanty town.

To go back, 1898 started with local bushfires. Several families near Morwell lost everything by the fires during mid-January and fled for their lives.

Many cattle were also burnt. The flames spread over the densely timbered country so rapidly that nothing could be saved. Local Morwell identity, Arthur Green apparently shot a rabbit and foxes were becoming a nuisance.

The Boer War was looming. Morwell township survived.

Mr George Thomas Derham, aged 22, died on Tuesday evening, December 6, 1898. George's parents lived at Latrobe (Morwell North) and he passed away at Braybrook.

He was staying with his grandparents when he underwent an operation at

Melbourne's Alfred Hospital. Unfortunately, he developed symptoms of tuberculosis, which according to doctors, was brought on by drinking unscalded milk. His condition worsened and his body was returned to his parent's place.

George's obituary in the Morwell Advertiser, December 9, 1898 read: "Deceased was a most promising young man, 22 years of age, straight as a rush in figure, and as upright and honourable in character, admired by all who knew him, and dearly loved by all relations."

Mr Andrew Gay, aged 61, died on Saturday evening April 30, 1898. Andrew's obituary praised those "who left comfortable homes in the "old country," some fifty or sixty years ago, to try their fortunes in a new land, and to whom all honour is due for their worthy efforts, which now bear such abundant fruits. Mr. Gay, was born in Polmont, Falkirk, Shropshire, Scotland, where he served his apprenticeship of five years, before he sailed for Victoria which he reached in 1856."

Andrew was initially interested in mining pursuits, however, soon turned his attention to being self-employed in his own businesses. He conducted a business in Woods Point, then in New Zealand where he remained for seven years, then to Rosedale and eventually settled in Morwell. In Morwell, Andrew purchased land in Tarwin Street, upon which was built John Green's "Iron Store" and an adjoining dwelling. Andrew managed this business until his death from

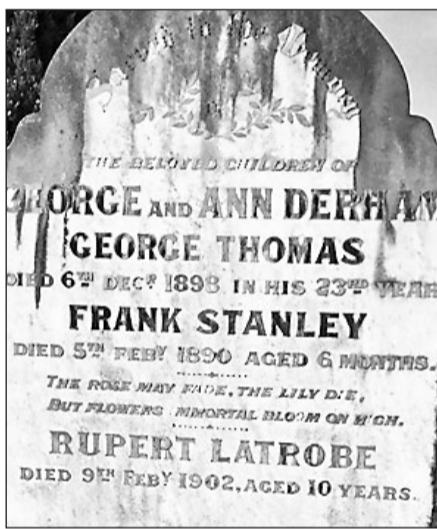
throat cancer. Apparently, he had previously felt a "peculiar tickling in his throat about 18 months earlier."

Following a medical examination in Melbourne, cancer was diagnosed. As he continued to work, eventually he was unable to eat, and could only swallow liquids with great difficulty.

Reported in the Morwell Advertiser, Friday August 26, 1898 was the death of David Rahill.

Aged 63, David was employed as a farm worker for Mr John Derham at Morwell North and was found dead in his hut.

A magisterial enquiry was conducted the following day. Mr Derham was deeply shaken by David's sudden death yet a diagnosis showed no signs of external violence.



Nonetheless, David's left lung was congested, his heart was fatty degenerated and he suffered from Bright's disease - which is described as chronic inflammation of the blood vessels in the kidney with protein, specifically albumin, in the urine.

David had been employed by Mr Derham for about 11 years and was originally from Finland.

His body is interred at the Hazelwood Cemetery; unfortunately to this day, in an unmarked grave in the Church of England Old section.

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# Strzelecki Koala

## Summer time and the Strzelecki Koala

Imagine having to wear your winter clothes throughout the summer and not being able to perspire. How would you manage to stay cool and survive the heat? What would you do?

The Strzelecki Koala like all koalas has this challenge of trying to keep cool during the heat of summer. It does not shed its fur nor does it sweat. Scientists have observed various ways the koala adapts its behaviour to survive the summer temperatures and dryness.

To help cool itself, the koala will sometimes lick its fur and pant just like a dog does when hot.

The Strzelecki koala's fur serves many purposes. The fur protects the koala from predators by camouflaging it and making it look bigger. The thickness of the fur changes with location. The Strzelecki koala's fur is much thicker and different in colouring to the Northern koala species. Its fur insulates the koala from the extreme weather conditions. The oils in the fur stop the koala from becoming saturated and the change in thickness over its body enables the koala to regulate its body temperature. The back and especially its bottom area are the thickest whilst its front and chest area have the thinnest layer of fur. The scent gland area has no fur. (koala.info.com 16.1.23.) The koala uses this difference in fur thickness with changes in body position to aid cooling its body during the hot days of summer.

The koala also changes how it sits in the trees. Sometimes it will face forward so that the air breeze is on its chest and front. (koala.info.com 16.1.23.) If this is not enough, it will use the coolness of a tree and place its chest against the tree's trunk. To increase the exposure of its body to the coolness of a tree and air, the koala will lay down on the branch of a tree and let its limbs dangle loosely (royalsociety.org 04June 2014, Journal Biology Letter "Tree-hugging koalas demonstrate a novel thermoregulatory mechanism for arboreal mammals"14.1.23).

Microclimates that are present in the forest and on individual trees aid the koala to regulate its body temperature. The koala will usually visit a home tree, in its range, that offers the most shelter from the heat and sun. It will position itself midway in this tree because this is usually the coolest and safest place. The canopy above provides cover and cooler temperatures. This tree is not

necessarily a food tree but a resting tree that the koala will regularly visit. Moving slowly, resting and sleeping during the day helps the koala maintain its energy and hydration.

Though one tree can provide some shelter, a forest of trees is even cooler and more beneficial. Trees that are isolated or on the edge of a forest are more exposed to the sun and the elements of weather. In summer this means more light and heat. Trees in gullies or beside waterways provide the coolest and moistest area in the forest. A forest environment containing a variety of suitable trees provides more protection and more nutrition for koalas. (deceew.gov.au "Effects of Fire on Koalas and Their Habitat. 15.1.23)

Hydration can be a concern for all living things in summer. Because the koala obtains water from eucalyptus trees, the koalas excellent sense of smell helps it to select trees with the most nutritious and water containing leaves. Their preferred food trees are the larger ones and the leaves eaten are mostly found in the high canopy. The larger trees tend to have a wider and deeper root system



which enables the tree to reach the underground water and so maintain moisture in its leaves. To save energy and maintain hydration the koala will eat at night and move slowly. It is safer and healthier for the koala if it does not have to travel too far within its range to find food and resting trees.

Summer is the season when there is a lot of movement by koalas. It is still breeding time so males and females are roaming their home ranges to mate. It is also the time when young koalas are experiencing life on their own, establishing a home range and hopefully avoiding dangers particularly vehicles and dogs.

Even though the genetically diverse Strzelecki koalas have developed bodily attributes and behavioural

characteristics to adapt to the many challenges in their environment, like summer heat, they still need our help if there is to be a viable and healthy koala population.

How can we help our precious Strzelecki koala survive and thrive during the summer months?

Drive carefully and watch out for wildlife especially the koalas. In many areas they have to cross roads to access their habitat and to mate. Many koalas cross in the same places so let others know about these sites.

If you know that a koala visits certain trees in your area, leave a shallow bowl of fresh and clean water near the base of the tree. Koalas will drink water when they cannot get enough moisture from their diet of leaves.

Ensure dogs are contained as koalas are in danger of attack whenever they are on the ground.

If you observe a koala "on the ground for a long time or if it drinks for a long time", contact a wildlife rescue person. (akawc.org.au 15-1-23 ) The koala could be suffering heat stress.

wildlifevictoria.org.au (03) 8400 7300

If you have a pool, provide a means of exit for a koala by placing a wooden pole or "rope attached to a floatation device". (akawc.org.au 15-1-23 )

If possible, keep any home trees on your property. It is very distressing for a koala to find a bit of their habitat gone.

Protect and maintain habitat, wildlife corridors and the trees that are important to the Strzelecki koala like mountain ash, blue gum, Strzelecki gum, mountain grey gum, messmate and manna gum.

Contact and join wildlife organisations who research and support the protection of the koala particularly our unique Strzelecki koala. These are:

Strzelecki Koala Action Team [www.melbournefoe.org.au](http://www.melbournefoe.org.au)

Friends of the Gippsland Bush (Facebook Page )

Friends of the Strzelecki Koala (Facebook Page)

Landcare Victoria ([www.landcare.vic.au](http://www.landcare.vic.au))

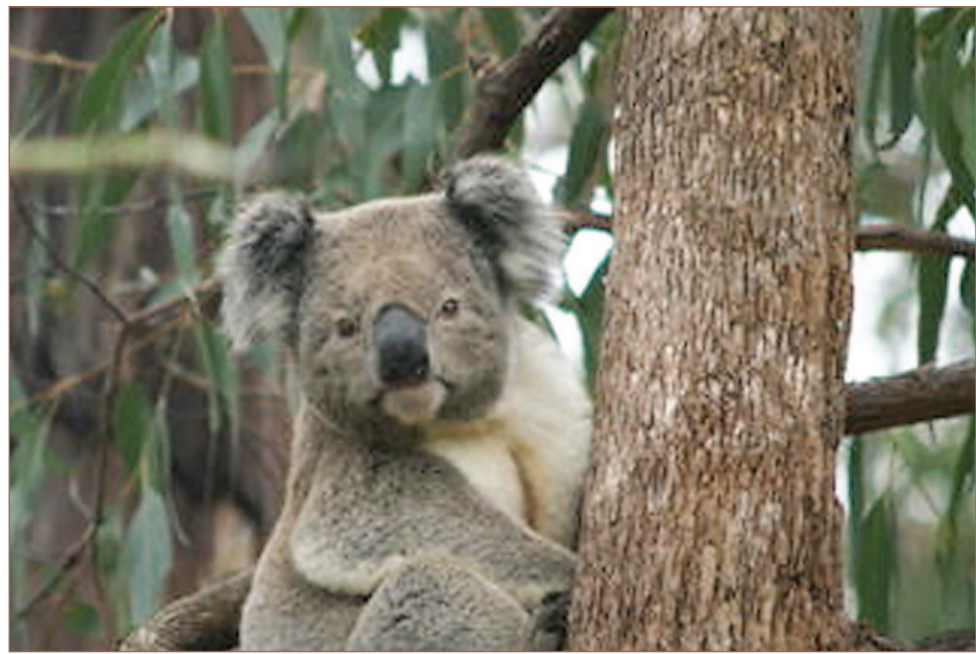
Contact and ask politicians to ensure protection of the Strzelecki koala and its habitat.

For further information, read "A Guide to living with Koalas in Sandy Point". (Internet Search)

### Some Interesting Facts

The koala only urinates about two times a day in order to prevent dehydration. (koalainfo.com 17.1.23)

The flying fox also uses the trunks and branches of trees to help keep it cool. (royalsociety.org 15.1.23)



# BASEBALL COME AND TRY DAY

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# COOKING with Noeline

## Chicken Baked with Lemon



This is on the books for Country Cooking Class 2023. The secret to the success of this dish, is the aromatic salt which we will prepare, and from then on a jar of this will always be found in your fridge as it goes with everything, meat, fish and vegetables giving an instant Italian flavour. First let us make the aromatic salt. Place together in a processor, finely chopped 2 whole garlic cloves, 1 cup of sea salt ( 275 gm ), the zest of 2 lemons finely chopped, 1 tbs of freshly chopped rosemary leaves, 1/2 tsp of fine black pepper and finally 2 bay leaves, and pulse until the salt is just slightly ground. Store the mixture in an airtight jar and bury 1 whole peeled clove of garlic in the salt mixture and refrigerate. Now that you have prepared the salt let's add it to the chicken. You need 6 chicken thigh fillets, bone in and skin on. Season the chicken thighs with the aromatic salt but be warned do not use all the salt mixture, 1 tsp is enough !!! Arrange the chicken thigh pieces on a plate and cover with cling wrap and refrigerate overnight. The next day spray your slow cooker generously with cooking oil and heat on HIGH. Layer the base of your slow cooker with 1 thin skinned lemon, thinly sliced. Heat a non stick pan over a medium heat add 1 tbs of rice bran oil and add immediately the chicken thighs, skin side down, brown well on both sides ( about 5 minutes ). Arrange the chicken thighs in your slow cooker, skin side up. Now add the juice of 1 lemon to the pan you browned the chicken thighs in, along with 1/3 rd of a cup of water and deglaze the pan, pour this over the chicken in the well heated slow cooker. Cover the slow cooker and continue to cook on high for 3 hours or until pierced with a skewer the juices run clear.

## Cathedral Window Jelly Dessert



For this dessert you will need 3 separate bowls to prepare 3 different coloured jellies. Completely dissolve 1 box of jelly powder ( 65 gm ) in each bowl with 1 cup of boiling water then stir in 1/3 rd of a cup of cold water to each bowl. Now transfer the liquid of each bowl into individual square or rectangular containers and refrigerate until they are set. In a medium bowl, combine 1/2 cup of pineapple juice, 1/2 cup of condensed milk, 1/2 cup of cream, 4 tbs of castor sugar and finally 1/4 tsp of salt. Stir with a whisk until incorporated. Set aside. In another mixing bowl, combine 1 and 1/2 cups of water with 3 tbs of unflavoured gelatine powder. Stir until the powder completely dissolves ( the mixture will thicken ), add 1 cup of boiling water to the thickened gelatine mixture until the mixture is clear. Pour the gelatine mixture into the milk mixture, whisking until well incorporated. Now slice the set jelly mixtures into cubes and place in a lightly oiled mould or aluminium tray, pour the gelatine / milk mixture over the jelly cubes. Allow to set overnight in the refrigerator. To serve turn out onto a serving plate.

## Berry and Rhubarb Trifle



It is summer and a lot of people like a trifle. There are so many versions of trifle, but because I always have access to fresh rhubarb, this is my favourite version of trifle. Combine 2 cups ( 500ml ) of black coffee in a bowl with 60 ml of Apera, set aside to cool. Place 1 cup of water ( 250 ml ) in a medium saucepan with 60gm of castor sugar, heat gently until the sugar dissolves. Now add 3 trimmed stalks of rhubarb sliced into 10cm ( 1/2 inch ) lengths, simmer until the rhubarb is tender. Drain and set aside to cool. Place 3 egg yolks and 2 tbs of castor sugar in the bowl of your electric mixer and beat until light and creamy. Add 500gm of mascarpone and 300 ml of cream and beat until smooth. Dip 16 lady finger biscuits ( savoiardi biscuits ) in the coffee mixture , one at a time until just moist. Arrange them in the base of a serving bowl or divide 1/2 of them between individual parfait glasses. Divide some of the rhubarb over the biscuit base and then add a scatter of fresh blueberries, then some of the mascarpone cream on top and a scatter of fresh hulled strawberries. Refrigerate overnight before serving. This will give you a bowl of trifle to serve 10 people or 10 single parfait glass serves.

## Warm Tuna Pasta Salad



This warm tuna salad is all about preparing a cost effective filling meal, most of the ingredients come in cans. If you do not like tuna replace it with tinned salmon. Cook 500gm of spiral pasta in a pot of salted boiling water, uncovered, until just tender, then drain and rinse under cold water. (Spray lightly with cooking oil). Set aside. Now open 2 cans of tuna in oil and drain in a colander

(reserve 2 tbs of the oil). Place the pasta and the tuna together in a large bowl along with 1 can (440 gm of corn kernels (drained) , 1 red capsicum finely sliced, 2 stalks of celery finely chopped. In a separate bowl mix together 1/4 cup of mayonnaise (75gm ), 1 tbs of Greek yoghurt, 3 tbs of minced garlic, 1 dsp of grated lemon rind and lemon juice and 2 tbs of wholegrain mustard. Add this mixture to the pasta mix and toss gently to combine - the warmth comes from the warm pasta. Enjoy.



## Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Members will meet on the second Wednesday of each month from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.  
New members are welcome to attend  
For further information contact the Secretary  
**Phone 0427 273 910**



## St Vinnies

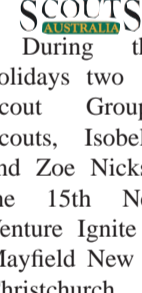
# SOUP VAN

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

**6.00 pm only at Illawonga Court**

*\*\*Note this time is approximate and will be reviewed when Daylight Saving ends and depending on the weather conditions.*

## 1st Churchill Scouts



During the summer holidays two 1st Churchill Scouts Group Venturer Scouts, Isobel Georgeson and Zoe Nickson, attended the 15th New Zealand Venture Ignite '23, held at Mayfield New Zealand near Christchurch.

The event saw 1,000 14-18 year old Scouts from New Zealand, Australia, Canada and The Netherlands come together for two weeks of amazing experiences and adventures across the Eastern coast of the South Island of NZ.

A particular highlight was spending time in the adventure capital of New Zealand, Queenstown, going skydiving, completing a sensory maze, visiting the

Ice Bar to escape the sun, and the Queenstown luge with its amazing views. Other highlights included rock climbing at Mount Somers, where Venturers were able to cool off during the heat of the day by swimming in local water caves.

1st Churchill Scout Group provides age-appropriate leadership, life skills and outdoor adventures for young people from age 5 to 26. Limited vacancies exist to join Scouts in Term 1 2023. To express interest or for more information, please contact the Group Leader Tammy Napier via [groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au](mailto:groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au)



Venturers enjoying Queenstown views



# Churchill Fire Brigade warnings to heed

## Fire Danger Period for Latrobe City Municipal District now in force

The Fire Danger Period for the Latrobe City Municipal District came into force at 1:00 am on Monday January 16, 2023.

The Fire Danger Period is when CFA restricts the use of fire in the community. This is to help prevent fires from starting.

The Fire Danger Period typically remains in place until the fire danger lessens, which could be as late as May.

To find out more about restrictions, go to the CFA Website [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au) and look on the Warnings & Restrictions tab.

## Fire restrictions during the Fire Danger Period

Once the Fire Danger Period has been declared, fire restrictions come into force. This means you cannot light a fire in the open air unless you have a permit or comply with certain requirements.

If you do not obtain a permit, you could be prosecuted.

To find out more about what you can and cannot do, go to the CFA Website [cfa.vic.gov.au/can](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/can)

## Gordon Bolwell Memorial Trophy Truck Judging

On Sunday January 22,

2023, fire brigades from across the CFA Merton Group came together at the waterway across from the Churchill Fire Station to participate in the annual Familiarisation Day and Gordon Bolwell Memorial Trophy Truck Judging.

The familiarisation part of the day involved brigades parking up their appliances near the lake, taking water from the lake, and showing other brigades how their appliance worked as not all fire trucks are built exactly the same.

Also on display and available to discuss their specialist functions were:

District 27 Field Operations Vehicle (a mobile communications and control van)

Yallourn North Rehabilitation Unit (helps with health monitoring and managing firefighter fatigue, rest and recovery, especially when working hard in very hot conditions)

Hazelwood North Portable Automatic Weather Station (trailer mounted to be deployed to any location for capturing local weather conditions)

HVP contracted helicopter Firebird 329 that supports fire operations with water bombing and observation capability.

The Gordon Bolwell Memorial Trophy judging is an activity undertaken to determine the best presented and prepared fire truck and crew. Elements of the judging can include appliance readiness, truck presentation and cleanliness, accuracy of record keeping, and stowage of equipment.

For 2023, the brigade judged to have the best presented truck overall was Morwell Fire Brigade, which will now also have the pleasure of organising and conducting the next annual competition.

The morning finished off with a BBQ lunch, and trophy presentation. Congratulations and our thanks to all brigades who participated in a very worthwhile preparedness activity ahead of our developing fire season.

## CFA Warning to Farmers and Road Users

CFA has warned Victorians to avoid driving vehicles, farm machinery, mowers and motorbikes through dry grass in the coming weeks as conditions heat up and vegetation dries out.

Following a string of hot weather over recent weeks, grassland areas around Gippsland are drying out quickly. Significant rain

leading up to our fire season has meant grass growth has been prolific, and where uncut, the drying off has left a heavier than normal grassland fuel load.

CFA has responded to a number of significant grass and stubble fires started by mowers, vehicles or machinery over the past fortnight.

CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan said the recent fires across the state serve as a timely reminder for people to be aware of the fire risks associated with using vehicles and other machinery in and around dry grass.

“Victoria is expected to experience a grassfire dominated fire season once again but we’re asking the community to do all it can to prevent these fires from starting,” he said.

“In many areas across the state, the risk of starting a fire from hot exhaust systems or other hot parts of farm machinery is high,” he said.

“Even pulling over onto tall, dry grass on the side of the road during your travels could start a significant grassfire.

Awareness is key to preventing grass and crop fires. We also want farmers to ensure their machinery and equipment are regularly inspected, maintained and

cleaned.”

High risk and agricultural activities such as harvesting, grinding, welding, slashing or mowing can quickly ignite fires in hot, dry and windy conditions.

In the right conditions grassfires can move at speeds of up to 25km per hour and spread across roads and highways.

Victorians should stay prepared and informed this fire season; this means downloading the VicEmergency app and getting familiar with the new Fire Danger Rating System by checking the rating in your area.

For your safety, you need to understand your risk and plan ahead. Know what to do on hot, dry, windy days and plan for all situations.

To learn more about the risk of grassfires on the CFA website at [cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/am-i-at-risk/grassfires-rural](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/am-i-at-risk/grassfires-rural).

## Safety Tips

If you are using farm machinery or vehicles, ensure it is free from any faults and mechanical defects, fitted with an approved spark arrestor and carrying a water fire extinguisher.

Be aware hot exhaust pipes, mufflers can start grassfires.

The accumulation of grass around the underbody of vehicles can create a fire risk.

If you live next to grassland and a grassfire starts, walk at least two streets back from the fire.

If you live two or three streets away from grassland and a grassfire starts, stay where you are. Grassfires are unlikely to spread into built-up areas.

Never drive if you can see smoke or fire. Thick smoke will make it hard to see and traffic jams and accidents are likely.

Keep roads clear for emergency services.

The most common cause of machinery and mower fires is material collecting on hot engine components such as the manifold, exhaust and turbocharger.

The key to avoiding machinery fires is diligence in clean-down and inspection.

Check the Fire Danger Rating by visiting [www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-and-ratings).

Download the VicEmergency app for real-time updates about emergencies across Victoria.

Photos courtesy Robert Bonfield Media



**FIRE DANGER PERIOD**  
**RESTRICTIONS APPLY**  
What you can and can't do: [cfa.vic.gov.au/can](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/can)

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CDCA NOW MEETS ON 2nd THURSDAY OF EVERY 2nd MONTH  
Next Meeting: 7pm, Thursday, April 13, 2023,  
downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (park and enter from Phillip Pde).

**Trevor Whelan**  
Shop 16 West Place Churchill  
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# SCHOOL NEWS

## CHURCHILL NORTH PRIMARY

**Glasses for Kids Program**  
 We were delighted to have State Schools Relief deliver the Glasses for Kids program at our school in Term 4. This meant students from Foundation to Grade 3 were able to have their eyes tested at no cost; 73 students in total. Twenty-three students were provided with glasses at no cost from the program and they were able to select the colour of glasses they wanted. Glasses for Kids program

believes that all students deserve the opportunity to participate in their school's educational activities without barriers. The Glasses for Kids program is managed and delivered by State Schools Relief, a charitable non-government organisation, and several program partners (optometry providers). The Department of Education and Training (DET), which includes all

Victorian government schools, central and regional offices, is providing funding to State School Relief to support this program. **Food Scrap Recycling** As part of an exploration into the human impact on our environment, Grade 2/3 students noticed that there was a lot of food waste going into landfill. They researched alternatives and wrote a persuasive letter to the

Principal requesting to put worm farms into the school. The Latrobe City Council provided free worm farms for us to get started. Each classroom now has food scrap bins and students take it in turn to empty the bins, turn the compost over and water the worms. They have so many ideas, we can't wait to see what other initiatives they will do next year. **State-Wide Transition Day**

On Tuesday December 13, it was State-Wide transition, an early start session for the children who will attend kinder this year. They were able to attend the primary school which they will be attending in 2023. Students were allocated their grade for 2023, met their teacher and received their free school uniform. Each Early Start session supports students in learning school routines and

behaviours. They allow students to experience a literacy and numeracy session at school. Being part of Early Start supports children in settling into school and thriving when Prep formally begins. If you would like additional information about the school, please feel free to contact the school 5122 1976 and we would be happy to answer any questions you have or organise a school tour.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## YINNAR PRIMARY

The last week of the 2022 school year was a busy one especially for our Grade 6 students who graduated from Yinnar Primary School. They have been a fabulous group of children and have continued to develop into extremely capable learners and people. We will miss them, but they are well and truly

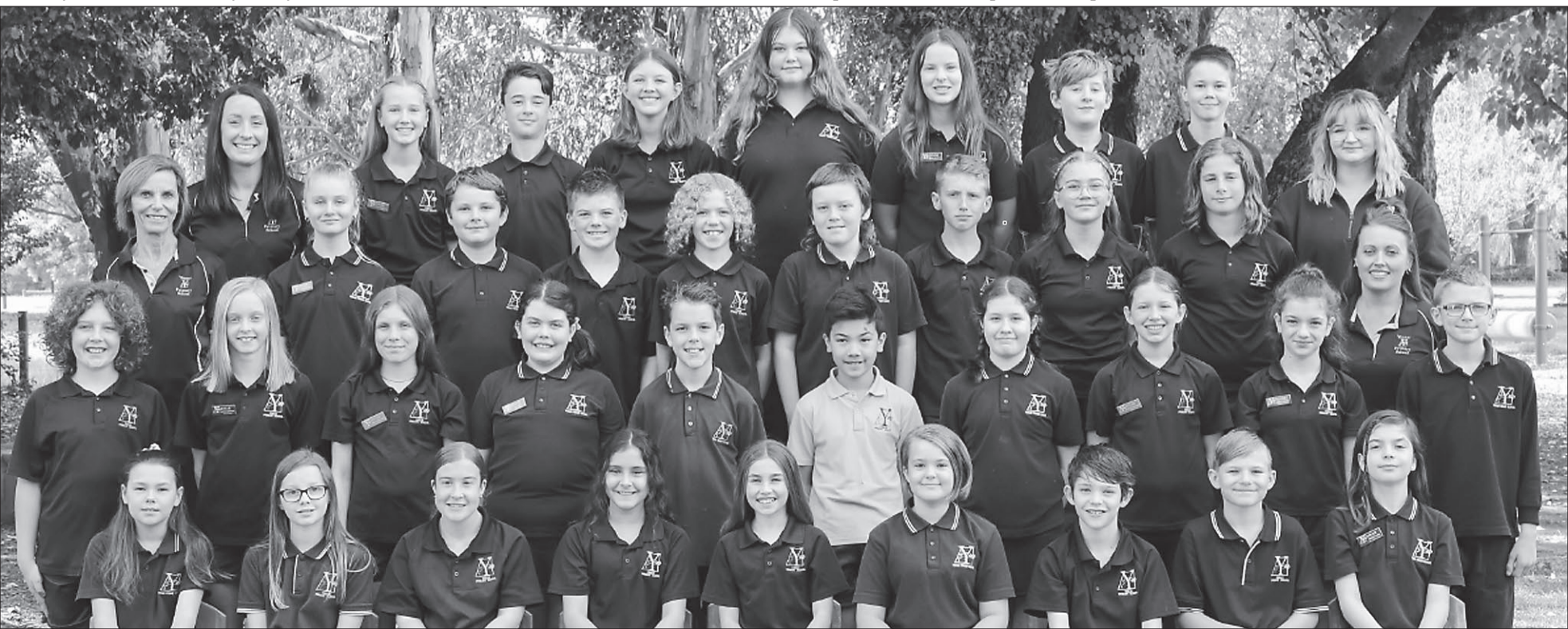
ready for the excitement and challenge of secondary school life. Each one is leaving with our thanks and the very best of luck for their future years of learning. Our end of year excursion was held at the Mirboo North swimming pool. We were very nervous in the week leading up to the day as the weather had been

very cool and rainy. The day arrived and while it wasn't perfect swimming weather, it was a nice day to be out and about. The students still managed to get some swimming time in the solar heated pool and had a great day playing games in the beautiful grounds. In the last week of school we announced

our 2023 student leaders. Congratulations Elyse, Taylah and Billy for being selected as the 2023 School Leaders. We also congratulate our house leaders, GRACE Team and Junior School Council and hope you enjoy your roles in 2023. Your badges have been ordered and will be presented at a special

assembly early in Term 1. We also congratulate each of the students who stepped out of their comfort zone, to put themselves in the running for a position. This takes courage and a growth mindset. This is exactly what we value here at Yinnar. Welcome to 2023 and a special welcome to our Preps and new students

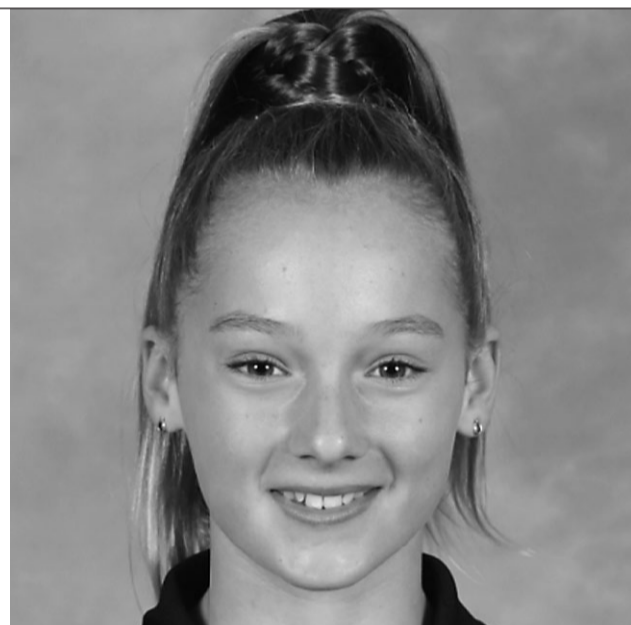
and families. We hope you enjoy your time as part of the Yinnar Primary School community. To all students and families we look forward to working together for a successful year of learning. Below - Grade 6 graduates





Above - students enjoying some fun at the Mirboo North swimming pool

Below - School leaders, Taylah, Elyse and Billy



## Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare

By Jay Duncan

Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare Group finished last year with a couple of convivial events.

At the beginning of November we had a very busy day at the Yinnar Market meeting people and selling some plants from our greenhouse. The weather was kind, and we had our Landcare Network's display trailer set up on a lovely shady site on the road reserve.

The plants we had at the market stall are all useful to provide nectar and pollen for insects that also pollinate food crops. We also had free information booklets, a few books to sell and plant watering bottle-tops as a fundraiser for our group.

Our group's financial situation has changed, and fundraisers like this are going to help our group to deal with a sudden increase in the cost of our annual public liability insurance which has recently doubled. Another couple of hundred bottle-tops sold, and all will be sweet! We could even buy

some potting mix with the change.

We will be back at the market in Yinnar on the first Sunday in May. We should have some different plants available if nothing bad happens to them between now and then.

In December, we decided to let what is left of our hair down and have a party with our last group meeting for the year. We were able to meet some new members and spend some social time with each other. Heather and Lawrie hosted us. The weather was fine to enjoy the wonderful garden surrounded by bushland.

### It is good to have Friends

In both December and January our members worked with the Friends of Morwell National Park to collect seed to store for future plantings in the Park. As the climate changes, we are finding some seed increasingly difficult to find, so collecting it when it is present seems like a worthwhile strategy.

Our concerns about diminishing seed stocks are

shared by our colleagues at Bass Coast Seed Bank, who are much more experienced, knowledgeable and systematic seed collectors than we are.

Our landcare group's Good Neighbour project with Parks Victoria continues into 2024. After that our seed collection permission will have to be re-applied for. Meanwhile seed collecting will go on into February and March as different plant species are ready.

Meanwhile, back home in the habitat garden bugs and butterflies have been the feature item for January. The sweet bursaria where I live is flowering profusely. On a sunny day it is covered with every kind of pollinator insect, and a few more.

At a guess, European honeybees are outnumbered about 5 to 1 by native beetles, wasps, bees, butterflies, hoverflies, other flies and bugs. This is a local plant, and the local insects are all over it during the few weeks that it flowers.

I should mention that the blue wrens just hop around

in there eating up big – what terrible predators those little birds are! They had better not eat Alexander, my pet beetle! Another predator seen in action was a native wasp catching and flying away with a harlequin or stink bug.

New butterflies seen this month are the summer hatching of Imperial Whites/White Jezebels. Caterpillars of this species eat mistletoe. This is their second generation after the ones that hatched in spring laid eggs that hatched and grew into new, slightly larger, adults.

Also seen have been native Australian painted ladies, ringed xenica, and many common browns. I've seen but not yet identified maybe three species of skipper butterflies just on the sweet bursaria.

Introduced (i.e. not native) butterfly species spotted include cabbage whites, European vine moths and the spectacular big orange and black monarchs.

I am trying to learn my insect groups to pass the test that will allow me to be part

of the Australian Pollinator Project annual pollinator count next November. The pass mark for this test is 80% and my score so far has been six out of twelve - twice! I might need to live for a long time to complete this lifelong learning project. The idea seems to be that if we pass a test, our citizen science observations will be scientific and admissible as evidence. We just do not have enough professional scientists to do all the research that is needed.

New factoid: I thought that people study butterflies because they are pretty. (That one works for me.) I recently found out that resources are going in to butterfly research because it may be seriously useful.

The theory is that butterflies are easier to find and see than some other insects, so studying them should give an indication as to how other herbivorous insects might be getting on as our environment changes.

There are lots of anecdotal reports to say that insect numbers are declining

worldwide. However, so little quantitative research has been done in the past that baseline data on insect numbers is missing. Scientists can only agree that there are fewer of something if they know how many there were before. Governments making environmental policy only recognise proper scientific information, except of course when they choose not to - as is often the case with climate science.

As average punters, we can recognise that insects are critically important to our environment and, indeed, life on earth. We can take action right now that will make it easier for them to survive. "Just don't use pesticides" seems to be the first piece of advice we get and would do well to follow.

Second on the list could be to leave some untidy stuff around, and especially do not get rid of all that precious leaf litter that insects and other organisms need to survive.

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

# Friends of Morwell National Park

Over summer the Friends of Morwell National Park have had two activities.

## December Activity Report

For the last activity of 2022 we started with some seed collection, track maintenance and the completion of Butterfly Orchid Survey. We had Rose, Beryl, Tamara, Anita, Matt, Ken, Peter, Caitlin, Gordon and Darren, and apologies from Jay, Joelle, Graeme and Wendy.

The group met in the car park to plan what was to be attempted during the morning. With the wet spring the expectation of finding trees with ripe seed was low, so dividing the group was decided. Matt, Tamara and Gordon completed the Butterfly Orchid Survey (started last month). The final two plots were surveyed but few butterfly orchids were found since within these plots, land slips and fallen trees have made these plots not very suitable for butterfly orchids. Overall the health of the butterfly orchids was good in 2022.

The rest of the group went to Stringybark Track to look for seed and complete some track maintenance. On the side track we saw some wonderful butterfly orchids in full flower. The group travelled along the return leg

of the Stringybark Track and then travelled back via the west boundary. Not many seeds were collected, since not many plants had set seed. Varnish wattle was the species most collected and now Peter has the homework to label and record each seed variety. Wendy has kindly offered to store and maintain the seed collection. Thank you Wendy.

On the return leg of the Stringybark Track there is a small tree across the track and on the last section of the track from the West Boundary there is a large tree tree down, so hopefully Parks will get to clear these trees to return full access.

## January Activity Report

For the activity we had Rose, Beryl, Anita, Ken, Jay, Joelle, Graeme, Gordon, Darren and Leonie. We had apologies from Caitlin, Peter, Tamara, Mike and Cathy.

In the week before the activity, Caitlin and Peter went out to collect mature seed in the National Park.

They collected more varnish wattle from West Boundary and prickly moses from Jumbuk Track. Along with seed collected previously the group should now have enough of both species. They observed that the silver wattle has little seed on it this year and the

pomaderris at Junction Road and Kerry Road was looking close to ready, so that would be collection focus for this activity.

The group met in the car park and planned the tasks to be done in the day's activity. There were two activities planned for the day – the nesting box survey and seed collection. Jay, Joelle, Rose and Graeme worked upon seed collection along Billys Creek Track. They collected pomaderris seed by snipping the tips laden with seed into a large bag. The timing was right for the group to collect lots of seed from multiple plants and locations near the track.

The rest of the group focused upon the nesting box survey. Anita and Leonie took charge of the camera, while Beryl looked after the record keeping (both animals sighted and boxes needing repairs). Darren scouted out boxes to be surveyed. There are many weeds around the boxes, so Ken and Gordon worked on removing some of these and keeping the gear close to the working groups.

At a few of the nesting boxes, the sugar gliders were active and came out when we came close to inspect the box. At some boxes the sugar gliders came out and climbed the tree, another

glided to an adjacent tree, while another poked its nose out of the hole.

After a few hours both groups stopped together for lunch. Rose left after lunch and the groups separated again. Over the day all boxes were surveyed and at least 40 sugar gliders, one ringtail possum and one agile antechinus were sighted. Also in two of the boxes eggs were found (five in total), which is a rare find in the nesting boxes. When the video is studied more sugar gliders could be found since the boxes with moving sugar gliders were only given a quick survey not to overly disturb the animals.

Next month we will use the list to make repairs to some boxes and replace others lost in the falling of trees during the storms.

## February Activity

Sunday February 19, 10.00am

The group will meet in the Junction Road car park to complete repairs on the nesting boxes and collect some seed for future planting. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.



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# AUSTRALIA DAY 2023

## CHURCHILL



ROB BONFIELD MEDIA



RUTH PLACE

Margaret Guthrie



RUTH PLACE

Gabrielle Bonnici

From Front page . . .

people, their situations and the Churchill Community in general.

The good weather turned cooler for the occasion with even a light drizzle later in proceedings, but it did not dampen the community social gathering of good numbers of people.

The Latrobe City again arranged for a dedicated cleaner on the day to keep the toilets, tables, chairs, and handrails clean and sanitised.

### **Margaret Guthrie Churchill Citizen of the Year**

Margaret is a long time Citizen of Churchill who has been going about helping and doing good for others without fanfare or looking for public recognition for a long time. She has served her Churchill and the Churchill wider community with distinction over 21 years with a strong passion and commitment to performing charitable work, that helps and makes other people's lives and her community better.

Whether helping struggling needy families, as part of her work with St Vincent De Paul or through her work with the Victorian Public Tenants Association, she achieved great results and gave assistance to needy families, overseas students, those who were destitute or in danger of eviction and becoming homeless. Margaret's ability to interact and support and get results and solutions for people in the most challenging circumstances has been amazing.

From the time Margaret came to live

in Churchill she has always been a very active passionate member of the Churchill community, getting involved with the various community groups, including Churchill & District Community Association, leading the group as president for many years. She also led the Victorian Public Tenants Association as Chairperson for many years, her leadership of both organisations invaluable.

Margaret has also made a huge contribution to the Churchill shopping precinct through her work with the Shop Local day campaigns where she is fully engaged and involved with everything, doing anything from planning the event to making sure everything is in place so the day runs smoothly. She is certainly not scared to ruffle a few feathers if needed. She is also involved with the Churchill Hub recycling program showing her care for the environment in her community. Most people would have no idea the amount of work she does serving the Churchill community. Her empathy with people and her willingness to assist those in need are qualities to be admired.

Margaret is a remarkable woman, determined, and committed to her community who makes Churchill a better place to live.

Congratulations Margaret.

Margaret responded talking about how she was encouraged to become part of Churchill when she arrived and started to attend organisations. She said Churchill was from the start a place she wanted to call home and become a part of.

### **Gabrielle Bonnici Churchill Young Citizen of the Year**

Gabrielle (better known as Gabby) Bonnici is an extremely active and passionate community member and young person, who always strives for the best in everything she does. She is actively involved with and plays in the local community band, performing regularly at the Churchill ANZAC Day



RUTH PLACE



# AUSTRALIA DAY 2023



RUTH PLACE

Aston Makepeace



ROB BONFIELD MEDIA

Mia Castrillon



ROB BONFIELD MEDIA

Hunter Bonfield

Ceremonies as well as being a member of a local Taekwondo Club where she has achieved her Black Belt helping with teaching others at the lower levels.

At school, Gabby is extremely dedicated to her studies and always strives for high standards. Academically she is of a high standard and tests rank her at the higher end of her year level. She was one of Kurnai College's 2022 School Captains, and a Peer Support Leader, where she mentored and supported younger students, led group activities and discussions, and was an active and contributing leader within the school community. Gabby is also an active member of Australian Air Force Cadets, which has seen her participate in several community ceremonies and services. Gabby hopes to one day join the Air Force as a pilot or navigator.

As a person, Gabby has a great personality, is confident, and is a friendly, caring, and compassionate young lady, who demonstrates maturity beyond her years. She looks out for others and has an ease of making them feel welcome and included. Gabby has proven to be a constructive, contributing, active member of society and someone who strives and is determined to succeed at everything she does. Very deserving of recognition.

### Aston Makepeace - HNPS

Aston was nominated by his school Hazelwood North Primary School where he attended and completed Year 6. Aston was nominated by the school for his commitment to his education, respect for school values, leadership qualities and his compassion for

giving of his time to assist and help other students.

Aston is a confident well-spoken, very likable young man who gets on well with others and is a role model for other young people. He is one of three siblings who are all close. The three brothers love hanging out together playing footy, swimming in the pool or riding his one-wheel. Being with family is important to him.

Aston's main interest is in starting year seven at St Paul's College in Traralgon this year, and is excited by the challenges which lay ahead and is determined to do well in his future academic studies. He has a very keen interest in electronics and technology.

Aston has many other interests including animal welfare, especially looking after his golden retriever and three alpacas at home at Hazelwood North. He is also very keen on sports, and is very dedicated and committed to his gymnastics for Reach Gymnastics Pakenham, where he trains three days per week, also his football which he plays for Tedas Junior Football Club.

Like most young students Aston has his own computer, PlayStation and iPad for work and play. He loves being outdoors and on camping holidays with the family, having travelled to many places, the highlights including Cape York at the top end of Australia, Tasmania and the Flinders Rangers in South Australia.

Aston is a young man who knows where he wants his life to go, and is determined to succeed in everything he does, and has great support from his family as well as his brothers and is a very worthy Australia Day

award recipient.

Well done, Aston.

### Mia Castrillon - CPS

Mia was nominated by her school Churchill Primary School. Mia will be starting Grade 6 this year and is looking forward to the year ahead and being House Captain. Mia is very committed to her education, and has great respect for school values, always having time to assist and help others.

Mia is confident, polite, and well-spoken, and a leader and role model for other students. She plays sports, loves the outdoors, likes soccer, and hopes to start playing this year. She does Taekwondo and is presently at blue belt level and starting to help out with instructing at the lower levels, Mia is an active member of the community and is always a fantastic participant in school events. Mia likes to help out whenever she can, whether it is at home helping her mum or at school helping the teachers or helping other children in the class, Mia is popular and respected. She participated in the Victorian high ability expression program where she took part in Zoom meetings helping other students in how to express themselves and talking to students in different places. She loves reading and is a creative writer.

Mia likes rollerblading and hanging out with her friends.

Mia is a determined young person who always strives to succeed in everything she does.

Congratulations Mia

### Hunter Bonfield - CNPS

Hunter was nominated by Churchill North Primary School where she will complete Grade 6 this year. Hunter loves school and learning new things, being creative and artistic. She likes to read and learn and was recognised by the school for her commitment to her education, and respect for school values, her leadership qualities, and for her compassion, giving of her time to assist and help other students. She has hopes of becoming a House Captain.

Hunter loves the outdoors and is into storm chasing and photography with her dad, especially during storms capturing spectacular photos. Hunter likes sports especially soccer which she hopes to pursue further this year.

Hunter is a determined young person who sets high standards for herself and achieves what she sets out to do.

She enjoys hanging with friends but also at the fire station where her dad works.

Hunter is a kind and compassionate young person who is always willing to help others, a role model to other students and contributes to her school community by assisting in school activities and teachers when required.

Great work Hunter

### Isabel Barling - LCPS

Isabel was nominated by Lumen Christi Catholic School Churchill where she will start Grade 5 this year with high hopes of becoming a School Captain.

Isabel is a very confident polite young



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# AUSTRALIA DAY 2023



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Isabel Barling



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person who loves sport, playing field hockey which she started at a very early age, and now assists with the new younger players who struggle or have problems, helps out with scoring, plays netball for Churchill, swims and does Taekwondo.

Isabel is a very happy and creative person who loves to help and be involved whether at school or at home, or helping out with giving out hampers at Easter and Christmas to young disadvantaged people and people with disabilities.

Isabel is a popular member of the Lumen Christi school community and was nominated by the school because of her commitment to her education, her leadership qualities, and for her deep compassion, giving of her time to assist and help others in need.

Isabel loves music and art and really likes First Nations music and First Nations artists and is into making up music playlists and being a DJ. She has built up quite a following of her playlists.

Singing is loved, including singing in the school choir and at Mass.

Isabel is always willing to help and assist others who need help. She helped with the Breakfast Club setting up tables and chairs, and helping teachers when required and looking out for the younger junior students.

Isabel is a definite role model to other students in the way she conducts herself at school not only academically but also for her care and her desire to help others whether at

school or away from school, with a strong will to make a difference.

Congratulations Isabel

Isabel Barling responded with this small speech.

“Before I accept this great honour, it is very important to me to acknowledge the Gunnai Kurnai people who are the traditional custodians of the land we are standing on and pay my respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.

I feel sorry that this is a day of sadness and sorrow for First Nations People and I look forward to seeing our country heal together and build a better future for all people.

I am grateful that my school has given me this amazing opportunity by nominating me. Thank you to the Churchill Lions Club for this wonderful award and to all the inspiring people who have encouraged me”.

After all the awards were presented the traditional Churchill bacon and egg and sausage breakfast was served up by Lions Club members. People lingered for a good while chatting, eating and families enjoyed time together that such social community times allow.

Great feedback was received from people attending the awards ceremony and breakfast. Importantly great citizens were recognised for the contributions they made to others and their community.



ROB BONFIELD MEDIA



# AUSTRALIA DAY 2023 BOOLARRA

## Australia Day 2023 in Boolarra

Another enjoyable and sociable Australia Day for Boolarra.

After the run of hot weather we had been experiencing, it was good to get a cooler day for the event, although we weren't expecting the slight drizzle we had for half an hour or so. Speaking to Ian Gibson, who had done a bike trip up to Mirboo North, he said that it was quite heavy rain, and quite cool up there, so as in all things in life, perhaps we should count our blessings.

Numbers seemed to have been down a bit from normal with between 80 and 100 people. Speaking to other organisers in other towns, this seemed a bit across the board, possibly because of the day falling on a Thursday, with people making a long weekend of it, and parents preparing for the return to school on Monday.

Certainly early on the number of kids seemed to be down this year, and those that were there were happily ensconced on the playground, so we didn't stage the kid's games this year, although by the time the presentations were being done the numbers had increased.

However a lovely time was had by all who attended, and it was great to meet some people new to town, and to catch up with some who used to live here and had come back for the event. With the assistance of the



Recipients are, L to R, Lyrinda Carter, Ann Morgan and Rob Franssen.

sound system from the Boolarra Memorial Hall, we were even able to present a reasonable rendition of the National Anthem.

The volunteers on the BBQ started at 7.30 to ensure the hungry masses were very well catered for, and everything went very smoothly.

A special thanks to the Rotary Club of Traralgon, who provided several volunteers, they were greatly appreciated. Well done also to Chris Wareham for bringing the Koffee Kart along and providing free coffees to the masses, and to the Boolarra Football Netball

Club for allowing us the use of their trailer BBQ.

A big thank you also to the staff at Latrobe City, especially Wendy Hrynyszyn, for their assistance in working through the approvals maze to stage the event in a COVID-compliant manner and supplying a range of extra signage, bins, and even a cleaner for the day.

Boolarra Community Awards are nominated by people in the community who like to take the opportunity for recognising the efforts of people who have in their own individual way worked for the benefit of the community.

Ann Morgan has been a stalwart of the Boolarra Historical Society for many years, and has made a significant contribution to the quality and accessibility of the historical records and material maintained by the Society.

This knowledge and experience have been put to great use on behalf of the community this year, in collating the stories and photos that make up the entrance signs for the Grand Ridge Rail Trail.

Lyrinda Carter has been nominated

for her hard work and commitment to the Boolarra Community Hotel.

Through difficult times, Lyrinda has put in hundreds of hours of unpaid labour at the hotel, and always provides a friendly, down-to-earth presence, and this award reflects our appreciation of the efforts she has put in.

The volunteers of our local CFA brigade play a critical role in keeping our community safe, and their efforts are greatly appreciated by the whole town. Rob Franssen was chosen by his peers in the brigade for recognition for his hard work and commitment to the Boolarra CFA Brigade over many years as most worthy of this community recognition award.

Another summer season done and dusted, with a very successful Christmas Carols and now Australia Day. Now we move onto the 20th Boolarra Folk Festival on March 4. Then on Easter Saturday, April 8, we have an Easter Egg hunt in Railway Park for the kids, and a Community Garage Sale and Car Boot sale, along with music in the park.

Finally on May 13, there will be a Dolly fundraiser at the footy ground (Boolarra Memorial Park), with stalls, activities, music, car displays and much more. So plenty coming up to look forward to in Boolarra.

Colin Brick, OA

Boolarra Community Development Group

# YINNAR



## Yinnar and District Australia Day 2023

Our usual group of supporters helped us to get underway. Yinnar and District Lions club provided a great breakfast washed down with tea and coffee from the Historical Society.

This year's entertainment was delivered by two ex Kurnai College students, Azriel Halge and Lucas Hobbs. The duo did a fantastic job of keeping the crowd entertained with an extensive and varied repertoire of music.

"Welcome to Country" began the formal proceedings and was followed by Yinnar scout leader, Jess Cook, raising the Australian flag.

At the conclusion of the national anthem, the Yinnar Primary School captains Elyse James, Taylah Savige and Billy Bremner, delivered a heart warming rendition of "What is Australia Day?"

Councillor Darren Howe gave a short address on behalf of Latrobe City.

Herb Smith then proceeded with the

Citizen of the Year presentations.

Unfortunately there were no nominations for Young Citizen of the Year for 2023. Herb mentioned what a pity this was as past winners have left a great legacy for others to follow.

The Yinnar Citizen of the year recipient was Sandy Hegarty.

She has been a valuable member of the school community. Sandy has been heavily committed to the safety of our local children on the roads and has been actively involved in establishing and improving the school crossings.

Sandy is also involved in the Yinnar and District Community Association where she has organised Christmas in Yinnar and Easter in Yinnar for the past two years.

This was a mammoth task because of the COVID restrictions which were in place at the time, making organising and planning more difficult.

Not only have these events brought the community together at a difficult time, they



have also attracted thousands of visitors to our town for fun and entertainment. A worthy winner!

Following the formal proceedings, thank you speeches were made, photos were taken and all those present left with a great start to Australia Day 2023.

The 1st photo (above left) is Cr Howe, Sandy Hegarty, Herb Smith and Luke Townsend. The 2nd is Yinnar Primary School Captains Elyse James, Taylah Savige and Billy Bremner. The 3rd is the musicians, Azriel Halge and Lucas Hobbs.