

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

Brigade Awards - p 6, 7

Sheep Dog Trials - p 15

Scouts - p 17

YYS Landcare - p 19



Heavy rain causes flooding



The heavy rain in early October caused flooding of Northways Road near Kurnai school crossing.

Council and Gippsland Water workers were busy knee deep in water trying to unblock the culvert.

The overflow for the Green Inc ponds was covered with debris while water rushed over it under the road and down in Mathison Park where it further eroded the bank of Eel Hole Creek and the waterway to the lake, where it commenced to flood the seated area.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS
"Connecting Your Community"



The Lions Club of Churchill & District

THE CHURCHILL COMMUNITY FAMILY FISHING & FUN DAY SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2023

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FISHING FROM 10.00 am—2.30pm

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CDNEWS COMMUNITY DIRECTORY AND
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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS


"Connecting Your Community"

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

The Team

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- Assistant Treasurer: Rachael Perrot
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- Distribution: Carl Hood
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www.cdnews.com.au

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Contributions

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the December edition is November 25, 2023

EDITORIAL

Articles for publication and Letters to the Editor can be sent to:

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

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



the voice of the community

MEMBER 2023

ADVERTISING

Advertising enquiries can be addressed to:

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Churchill & District News

PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842 or email:

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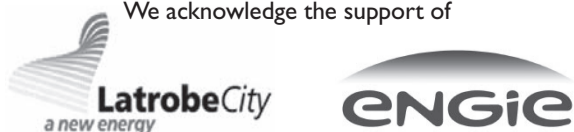
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We acknowledge the support of



Gippsland Performing Arts Centre

32 Kay Street, Traralgon
Box Office 5176 3333

Friday November 24 at 7:30pm

Tickets from \$35
Lior makes his Melbourne Chamber Orchestra debut with a new song cycle, celebrating musical traditions across centuries. For as long as there have been people, there has been song.

Saturday November 25 at 4pm, GPAC Main Theatre

Welcome to the Latrobe Indian Association's Diwali - Festival of Light (indoor)! Join us for an unforgettable evening of entertainment. Enjoy Bollywood and Classical dance, mesmerising instrumental music.

The evening of November 25, 2023 will encompass Classical and Folk dance performances from different part of India, Bollywood and fusion dance performances and classical music showcasing rich and diverse cultural heritage of India.

Diwali symbolises the victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance. It is a festival that is celebrated with immense joy and enthusiasm across various communities in India and around the world. Considering the growing diversity of Traralgon and the wider



Latrobe Valley, this event aims to foster understanding, camaraderie, and a shared sense of community among its residents.

Saturday November 25 at 7:30pm, GPAC Little Theatre

The Gippsland Youth Drama Workshop again produces an original play featuring the talented and enthusiastic youth of Latrobe.

The Haunted Hills Cemetery is under threat, and not by the ghosts, zombies and other spooky residents! The cemetery custodian Miss Sarcophagus must stand up for the misunderstood creatures of the night, against some corrupt real estate agents!

With ghosts, zombies, vampires and a host of character send-ups from Scooby-Doo, The Addams Family and Van Helsing, the play promises to be an entertaining night for the whole family!

Will the cemetery be saved and the undead rest in peace?

the first four days of October to exceed the monthly average. The monthly total of 201mm was 2.44 times the October average of 37 years, and exceeded the previous maximum by 20 mm.

The ground water has been fully saturated all month, good for keeping the bush in a healthy condition during summer. Hazelwood South was 7% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station. For the year, October changed the year's average from 16% below to 1% above average. La Niña is cooking the East coast, and causing bush fires, but Hazelwood South is still receiving rain from the Southern Ocean during October.



RAINFALL

Churchill Rainfall

The rainfall recorded for Churchill in October was 182 mm; making it the highest recorded month's rain since I have been keeping records in 1992. The previous highest month's rainfall recorded was 177 mm in February 2011. The very wet October began October 4 when 80 mm was recorded, followed by another nine days of rain for the month.

The 2023 total rainfall to the end of October is now 700 mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South

Record rain. It only took

Sunday November 26 at 2pm, GPAC Town Hall

Latrobe Orchestra-Nostalgia

Experience the power of music as we pay homage to the timeless tunes that evoke a sense of nostalgia.

Relive the classics and immerse yourself in the enchanting melodies that have shaped our hearts and minds. Featuring the world premiere of Dani Maree Ashmore's delightful Remember the Night, as well as Offenbach's Ballet Parisien, and special performances by our Beginner Strings Program musicians.

Tuesday December 5 at 11am, GPAC Main Theatre

Join The Promac Company to 'Sing In' Xmas 2023

To wind up a fantastic year of Morning shows, Promac Productions Australia Company, led by Australian Music Theatre and television star Ian Stenlake along with award winning singer actress Michelle Fitzmaurice and the sensational Kym Dillon on piano, will bring their highly acclaimed Christmas production to Traralgon this December

This show will be packed with all your Christmas favourites with a wonderful mix of classic Christmas Carols blended with some contemporary Christmas songs

to get everyone in the true Christmas Spirit. "O Holy Night", "White Christmas" "The Holy City", will be just some of the hit songs sung in this joyous production which will also have plenty of laughs along the way!

Saturday December 9 at 7:30pm, GPAC Main Theatre

A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland


An all-singing, all-dancing, family-friendly treat!

Captivating audiences in Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom 'A Taste of Ireland' is finally set to tour Victoria and is coming to Gippsland Performing Arts Centre in 2023! Watch two star-crossed lovers twirl beneath the mistletoe as award-winning Irish musicians complement the world's best Irish dancers to deliver an exciting mix of traditional tunes, heartfelt ballads, carols, and red-hot rhythms in an unforgettable night of Irish charm and spectacular entertainment.

Saturday 16 December 16 at 7.30pm, GPAC Main Theatre

Ian Moss: Rivers Run Dry Tour

Ian Moss, who Cold Chisel bandmate Don Walker once described as "The most gifted musician I've ever seen", will hit the regional road from October 2023 to support his new studio album, 'Rivers Run Dry'.? The Rivers Run Dry Solo Tour will feature songs from 'Rivers Run Dry' and the songs you love - 'Bow River', 'Tuckers Daughter', 'Telephone Booth', 'My Baby' and many more in an intimate solo setting.




CDCA
Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

supports Churchill & District News
We love our community newspaper!
CDCA meets on the 2nd Thursday of every 2nd month

Next CDCA meeting will be 7.00 pm Thursday, December 14.
downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (park and enter from Phillip Pde).

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



ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2023

No.	Size		B/W	COLOUR	10% Discount (6 issues)	
	Height x Width	Column size	\$	\$	\$	\$
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2.	123 mm x 83 mm	2 x 12.3 cm	65.00	103.00	58.00	93.00
3.	93 mm x 128 mm	3 x 9.3 cm	74.00	118.00	66.00	106.00
4.	58 mm x 260 mm	6 x 5.8 cm	93.00	150.00	84.00	134.00
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
7.	188 mm x 260 mm	6 x 18.8 cm	324.00	517.00	291.00	466.00
8.	375 mm x 260 mm	6 x 37.5 cm	475.00	761.00	428.00	685.00

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Submission of Articles:

Articles can be Emailed to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
- Mailed to: PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842

OR put in our collection box at: the Co-Operating Churches.

Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au

1976

Churchill & District News FLASHBACK

1976



Maryvale High School

Conceived in the 1960's as an alternative to the authoritarian approach to education, Maryvale High School was seen by many as too radical, too far off the beaten track to survive.

Foundation Principal, David Schapper, backed by an enthusiastic staff and parents, set out building a new school with a new approach. The individual was all important, personal relationships were emphasised, the Maryvale family grew.

Churchill Cricket Club

Cricket has come to a close for 1975-76 season. All four grades performed well. A Grade in its first year fared very well and finished in 6th position and B Grade made 9th spot on the ladder. C Grade won Churchill's first Pennant by defeating Morwell East in the Grand Final. D Grade boys managed two good wins in the last games. Well done everyone.

Churchill Amateur Swimming Club

The Club has had an excellent year and thanks to all the swimmers who made it possible.

They not only won the C Grade open shield for the second time but also won the C Grade pennant for the first time and came second in the combined B and C Grade Relay. Jenny Simpson was our champion over the three day Gippsland Championships winning two Bronze medals.

Churchill North Primary School

A major fund raising effort for the school is a WALKATHON. Funds raised will be used to purchase a wide range of reading material that is urgently required by the pupils.

The route will be controlled by parents, teachers

and Mr Hatley, our local policeman. We look forward to your support.

Churchill Citizens Association

An important meeting has been convened for all interested in the tidiness of the town. Groups interested in youth are invited to attend a meeting to discuss involvement of youth in keeping the town tidy.

The continued success of your Association's initiative in having the shop keepers stop selling non returnable bottles, to reduce the litter problem, now rests with you and your children. Please support the shopkeepers in this matter, and ensure that your family does not litter Churchill.

Our radio station 3GCR-FM

This is to go on the air for the Latrobe Valley in October 1976. This was announced today by Gippsland Community Radio Station Society president Brian Butler. Gippsland Community Radio Society was issued with a licence to broadcast basically community educational programmes.

The local amateur radio operators have begun to build the main transmitter, and to form circuits supplied by 3MBS-FM.

New Church Complex Churchill

The Co Operating Churches in Churchill have finalised plans for their new Church and Community Centre to be built at the corner of McDonald Way and Williams Avenue. It is hoped that construction will commence before the end of this year.

Very first "Churchill Chatter."

Let me explain what I would like to do, or at least

try to do. Churchill as a community has an interesting social life, and I would like to write about it, Balls, Dinner Dances, Holidays, Births, Anniversaries, etc., or just a party you have held for fun. Things that should help brighten up our paper.

Softball Club

The senior Softball Club team have their first game next week after three weeks lapse. The first week rain cancelled the game, the following week the eclipse caused the game to be cancelled and last week we had a bye.

After our enforced rest let us hope we can win our game on Saturday.

Location of Trash Trailer?

In September the Trash Trailer will start at Coleman Parade, then move around Churchill to be at Heesom Crescent, Edney Court, Catterick Avenue, Daly Court, McInnes Crescent, Howard Avenue, Williams Avenue, McDonald Way, McInnes Crescent, Fraser Crescent, Williams Avenue, and Rae Crescent.

New style Churchill News

The rapid growth in the town has meant that we must now produce 1,000 copies of each issue.

This has become an impossible task on our worn out duplicator, which had to handle 20,000 sheets for the last issue.

This new format has of course produced some changes, one of the most unfortunate being an increase in advertising charges. However we can now include group emblems and photographs.

We thank the management of the Express for their co-operation in this new venture.

Independent and happy at home: all smiles from LCHS Home Care client Dorothy

For the most part, Dorothy was managing okay without any at-home support. It wasn't until the 87-year-old had a few falls - and tasks like the vacuuming and gardening became too hard for her to manage - that she thought about getting some help.

While close to her adult children, they all lived too far away to help Dorothy regularly. However, today she is living a very independent and happy life at home, thanks to her Home Care Package from Latrobe Community Health Service (LCHS).

"I had friends who had packages and they suggested I apply for my own," says Dorothy.

"I called LCHS immediately and they were great. My Care Advisor Jodie is very supportive, and I trust her wholeheartedly. She helps me navigate my Home Care Package and get the most out of it.

I originally thought I'd just get a bit of help with the

cleaning, but it's so much more."

Through her package, Dorothy had rails installed in her home, receives cleaning and lawn mowing, podiatry visits, Lite n' Easy meals, and much more.

"It was a little tricky to adjust at first. I didn't know what to do with myself when the cleaner came, so I went and hid while they worked. Now I have gotten to know them, I can sit and relax knowing I am getting the help I need.

I am a very independent person, probably a little too independent for my own good. Having the package allows my kids to feel comfortable knowing I'm supported, especially because they can't keep a physical eye on me."

In her working years, Dorothy was a personal assistant and was in charge of the typing pool. She had a keen interest in technology and gadgets, a passion undiminished with age.

"I just love gadgets and learning new things. It keeps me mentally with it. That is important to me, particularly

after losing my husband who had dementia.

I Facetime my daughter daily, pay for my groceries using my phone, and love to use my Google Home throughout the day. My grandkids help me learn about tech advancements, but I think I'm doing okay for my age!"

If you couldn't tell, the most important thing for Dorothy is her independence. Like many of our Home Care Package clients, she wants to stay at home - where it is comfortable and familiar.

We take great pride in seeing our clients like Dorothy maintain their independence, so they can live happily at home.

If you would like to know more about LCHS Home Care Packages for yourself or a loved one, we can help!

You can call our friendly team of home care package consultants on 1800 242 696 - they live and breathe aged care services, and can cut through jargon and complexity. You can also enquire online by visiting lchs.com.au.

pump is needed to draw water from an independent supply.

Leaving early is always the safest option to protect yourself and your family."

Residents should consider storing water in the fridge, or in jugs and bottles, to make sure they have enough drinking water in the event of a nearby fire.

For resources to help prepare for a bushfire visit cfa.vic.gov.au and for emergency alerts and warnings, visit emergency.vic.gov.au.

Customers are encouraged to update their phone number with Gippsland Water to receive SMS notifications if their service is affected by an emergency.

In an emergency call 000.



Locals encouraged to prepare for bushfire season

With a warmer than usual summer predicted, Gippsland Water is encouraging people to prepare for bushfires.

Managing director Sarah Cumming advised customers to include an alternative water supply in their bushfire plan.

"In the event of a bushfire emergency services may need to access our water supply," Ms Cumming said.

"While we do have back up water supplies, it is important to plan for a range of different possibilities as

emergencies can continue to evolve.

People who intend to defend their homes from bushfires should follow advice from the CFA and ensure they have at least 10,000 litres from a separate water source and suitable firefighting equipment.

Alternate water sources could include a water tank specifically for firefighting purposes, a swimming pool or dam, multiple rubbish bins, wheelie bins, bathtubs, laundry troughs or 200 litre drums.

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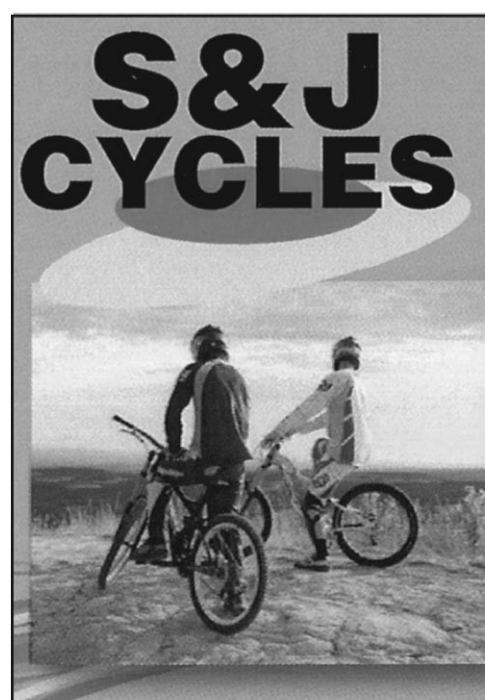
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Church News



Co-Operating Church Snippets

AAW service was taken by the Cambridge team

The children's lesson was based on 'instead of trying to find our identity and worth in the things that we do particularly, we need to find ways to obtain our strength and place our hope in Christ'.

For his message Ian quoted from The Reverend Dr Amy Richter's sermon on making connections.

Jesus told a lot of stories, parables, and he told them for the same reason: to change our expectations, to get us to look at the world and ourselves in a new way, to make some connections we might not make otherwise.

Jesus told stories to upend our assumptions. To help us not to just think "this is just the way things are" or "I know how this turns out."

When we take Jesus' stories apart, we may have several aha! moments, but unlike a riddle or a pun, they leave us with a time of decision.

Like "Okay, now what? Does the parable really impart a message?"

Now how will I live? Does the parable affect my Christian life?

Now what will I do? Does the parable affect the decisions I make?"

The parable this time is The Parable of the Wicked Tenants. Matthew 21:33-46.

So, does God respond to Jesus' death in the vengeful and angry way we might expect—in the way the people say the story will end? No.

The story of Good Friday and Easter shows us this is not what God did.

Despite the ways Jesus was abused, despite his death as an innocent man, despite the ways those who serve God have been mistreated throughout time, God refuses to meet our expectations, go by our assumptions, play by our rules. Violence and death will not be the end of the story. Rather than revenge, God chooses resurrection.

Isn't that amazing? Not just that God has the power to raise Jesus from the dead, but that God is willing to do that, not just for love of Jesus, but for love of the whole world. That God has any affection left for people who treat one another and even God's own son with such brutality is astonishing. That God has any hope left for the world is absolutely, well, divine.

We can marvel at what must have been in the heart of God on the night of Good Friday, or all day long on Saturday. There is Jesus lying dead in the grave, his body broken and cold. There is the whole human family, most not even realizing the gravity of what they've done, and some of them smug that they've killed the son.

However, here's God who gives new life to the Son and says to him, "We cannot stop now. This is not the end. They are still my children, still your brothers and sisters. It is not my will that any of them should perish.

It's time to make their salvation complete." God can't even wait for the sun to come up on Easter morning before the risen Jesus Christ is stepping forth from the grave, going ahead to meet the disciples who had

abandoned him, to send them on his behalf into the world, to give us all another chance to remember the story God is writing, a story where we can throw aside our expectations, and instead, expect good to defeat evil, forgiveness to heal guilt, unity to overcome estrangement, joy to conquer despair.

That is the ending God wrote to the parable of the wicked tenants.

Today, Jesus asks us, "Now how do you think the story should end?"

Do you have any stories in your life that need a different ending than just the same old thing? Any ongoing drama in your life where instead of just meeting expectations of more of the same old, same old, you might allow God to write a new chapter? A new ending?

Cathie's message focused on four words- love, help, hope and pray from this passage from Philippians 4:1-9.

Love - stand firm in the Lord

Help - people be of the same mind in the Lord

Hope and Pray - The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Cathie challenged us to share Jesus by our action and behaviour.

Thessalonians 1: 1-10 was the reading Cathie chose to speak about the following week.

In this reading Paul gives thanks for the way the Christians at Thessalonica have responded to the

Good News despite their persecutions and difficult times with the Jews not being happy about this. Paul was with them for only three weeks but how amazing has been the result of that small time.

With a handful of Christians, standing firm, unwavering, they were able to build a committed power house of a church. The power of Holy Spirit was present. They were an example of faith, hope and love; being an influence.

Cathie asked, can we in this day, with our congregation turn our community upside-down? Love she said was the greatest of all qualities; love was the first step to caring for each other.

We are chosen by God to share the message and the Holy Spirit is the empowerer. Jesus is walking with us. In times of stress and turmoil we must remember to stop and pray.

Coffee Connections

Emma gave a very interesting talk on flowers, their meanings and their uses for various occasions.

Emma's garden is planted with only useful things which she can use as food. She also loves to use flowers like nasturtiums in her cooking.

The flowers, stems and seed are all used. The seeds are made into a dip. Some plants she brews for cups of tea.

Liz brought some of her native plants that she has acquired which she also uses in her recipes. She uses plants to eat but also as companion plants.

There was then a sharing of people's memories of gardens, sharing of plants, cuttings, flowers and seeds. Gardens are special places of refreshment relaxation and mental health giving.

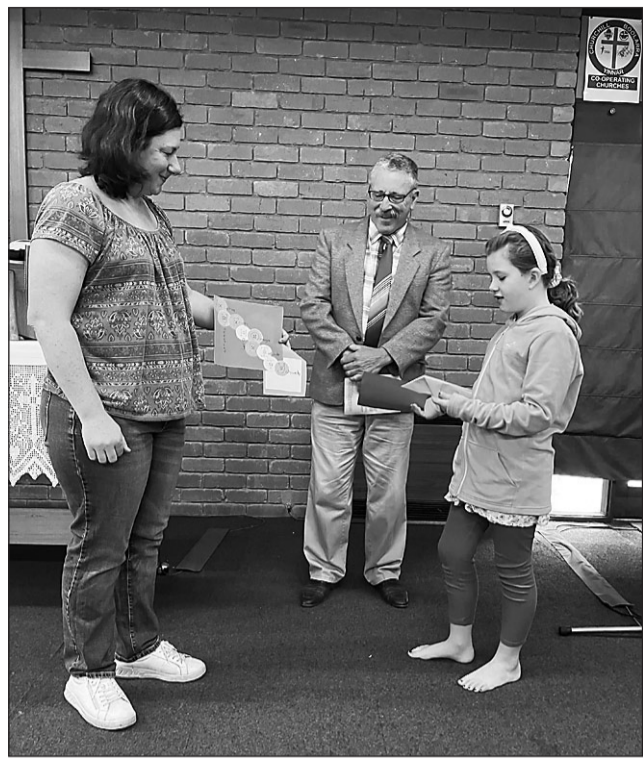
This poem resonated with the group:

The kiss of the sun for pardon

The song of the birds for mirth

One is nearer God's heart in a garden

Than anywhere else on earth.



 <h2>Church Times</h2>	<p>Churchill Christian Fellowship 3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall 762 Tramway Road Churchill (next to the soccer ground) Everyone Welcome 0409 173 747</p>
<p>Co-Operating Churches of Churchill Sunday Services: 10.00am Williams Avenue, Churchill. Tel: 5122 1480</p>	
<p>Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish Boolarra/Yinnar 1st and 3rd Sunday 10am Christ Church Tarwin St. Boolarra</p>	<p>Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes Tel: 5134 2849 Fr James Fernandez Saturday 5.00pm St Vincent's, Morwell. Sunday 9.00am Lumen Christi, Churchill. Sunday 10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell. Every 4th Sunday alternates Yinnar/Boolarra. September - St Francis de Sales, Boolarra</p>

Church Christmas Services

<p>Co-Operating Churches of Churchill Boolarra Yinnar COMMUNITY CAROLS: Churchill Dec 16 from 6pm BBQ followed by program at 7pm THURSDAY DEC 21 Blue Christmas at Boolarra at 7.30pm DEC 24 Crib Service 6.30pm Churchill Anglican HC at Boolarra 8pm DEC 25 Christmas Day service Churchill Cathie Halliwell, Robern Lubawski Boolarra Contact Cathie on 0428 223 094</p>	<p>Churchill Christian Fellowship Contact Steve on 0409 173 747 Christmas Celebration service Wednesday DEC. 20 at 6.30pm. CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE Sunday Dec 24 at 3pm</p> <p>Lumen Christi Parish To be advised. See December issue for services. Contact Marion 0418 200 771</p>
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Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: *Correa eburnea*.

Family: Rutaceae.

Derivation:

Correa: Named after Jose Francisco Correa de Serra (1751-1823), permanent secretary, Royal Academy of Sciences, Lisbon, Portugal.

eburnea: From Latin *eburneus*, meaning "resembling ivory in colour", referring to the ivory-white or cream-coloured hairs on the leaves and calyx.

Common Name: Deep Creek Correa.

Distribution: Restricted to the Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia, where it occurs in coastal areas between Deep Creek Conservation Park and Waitpinga and in the Gorge River between Second Valley and Yankalilla.

Description: A large spreading shrub to 4m tall in ideal conditions. The mid-green, papery, ovate leaves are up to 50mm long, with a smooth, glossy and indented upper surface and covered in fine cream-coloured hairs underneath. Flowers are up to 25mm long, tubular, with barely recurved tips and exerted anthers, held



between a pair of apple-green, round to heart-shaped, leafy bracts. Flower colour is pale green fading to cream towards the tips.

Opinion: My specimen is in the front garden bed in quite heavy shade, underneath the White Cedar. It was given to me as a gift for providing a presentation to a sister Australian Plants Society group a few years back and is now about 1.5m high and spreading a couple of metres, including over the adjacent pathway. Yes, it is on the list for pruning, along with a lot of other plants growing along that pathway, so there will be an opportunity for a bunch of cuttings in the not-too-distant future. Apparently, cuttings will strike fairly easily in the warmer seasons, but there is not a lot of information out there on its cultivation requirements, as although

it was known of back in the 1930's, it was only collected and described in the 1990's and only a few enthusiasts are growing it. My plant looks healthy enough but seems to be a bit brittle, with some branches splitting from the main trunks.

Maybe it is the weight of the foliage or perhaps it is the neighbourhood wandering cats jumping all over it in pursuit of the honeyeaters that come in for a feed.

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: Hitchcock: Correas – Australian Plants for Waterwise Gardens

Community Newspaper Association of Victoria Awards

Churchill & District News Shortlisted

Judge: Jeanette Severs, Journalist -

Thank you once again for giving me the honour to judge this award.

But, seriously, what are you doing to me?

There were 20 entries. They were all excellent. Excellent. Every entry was excellent.

There is a long short list of 12 mastheads. That is how close the results are. Just because a masthead wasn't shortlisted doesn't mean it

wasn't worthy. There is not much between those on the short list and those on the long list.

You should all commend yourselves.

Short listed papers:

3781 News
Boronia & The Basin

Community News
Chewton Chat

Churchill & District

News
Ferntree Gully News
Gisborne Gazette

North & West Melbourne News

SpringDale Messenger



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- Exercise physiology
- Planned Activity Groups



Latrobe
Community
Health Service



Churchill Fire Brigade



Churchill Fire Brigade celebrates with annual awards night



2023 Award recipients



Firefighter of the Year - Craig King



Captain Shane Renwick



Steve Shankland - 20 year Service Medal

Photos: Rob Bonfield Media

Fire Safe Kids



The Fire Safe Kids team was welcomed to Lumen Christi Primary School for three sessions across all grades.

The Prep/1 and 2/3 Grades learned about what to do if your clothes catch on fire- Stop, Drop, Roll. Also

the importance of smoke alarms, how to safely escape a smoke filled house by crawling low in smoke, the way to report a fire and how to be safe with fire in the home.

The 3/4s and 5/6s learnt about preparing for the

summer months activities, fire warning signs, bushfire preparedness, home fire safety and home fire escape plans.

The teachers were also very engaged and provided follow up activities after the Fire Safe Kids lessons which were given over two days.

A third day saw the pumper and tanker trucks visit the school so the students could learn about the equipment and uses of the two different vehicles.

A big thank you to Lumen Christi Principal Sally Darby for allowing the brigade to visit and impart some fire safe knowledge to the children.

Each year the Churchill Fire Brigade holds a celebratory Presentation Night. The Churchill Hotel hosted the gathering of members, guests and representatives from other local brigades. It was a night for chatting, watching a very comprehensive slide show of the brigade's activities over the years, including the old original shed located on Switchback Road.

Following the meal, Captain Shane Renwick spoke, thanking everyone for coming to the brigade's special night.

With 101 call outs to fires attended so far this year, he noted that the brigade had been much busier than in 2022.

The brigade is going along well, with trucks out of the door for most fires/incidents. Training has been very regular, and he thanked the members for their energy and enthusiasm.

Shane highlighted several teams and individuals including the Fire Equipment Maintenance team of Graeme, Allan and Jack who work tirelessly to create financial income for the brigade. The Community Engagement team was praised for their

work effort in building community engagement such as the Shop Local events, Fire Safe Kids program in schools and articles in Churchill & District News. The brigade's social pages are also getting constant news and activity updates to share the brigade's current activity and educational focus.

Neighbouring brigades were commended for their readiness and support, and the Churchill Brigade looks forward to working with them in the coming fire season which was advertised as being very hot and dry with increased levels of fire risk.

Shane pleaded with all to stay safe during what is expected to be a challenging year for fire activity, given the current El Nino and higher temperature predictions.

Alanah Shankland was sincerely thanked for her role in organising the Presentation Night, as well as the upcoming Open Day to be held on Sunday October 29 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Fire Station.

Acting Assistant Chief Fire Officer Ian Bounds acknowledged the commitment of members, also highlighting the promise of a bad fire season,

with three significant fires already occurring in mid-October. He passed on thanks to all brigade members from Regional and District personnel for their recent support of the Gippsland fires, including Shane and the Churchill brigade members.

Ian and Shane then presented the awards for the night.

CFA Service Awards

- D'Artagnan Simpson - 5 Year certificate
- James Cannon - 10 year Medal
- Paul Kelly - 10 year Medal
- Craig King - 10 year Medal
- Jacob Last - 15 year Medal
- Steve Shankland - 20 year Medal

Brigade Awards

- Firefighter of the Year - Craig King
- Captain's Trophy - Matt Lindsay
- Recognition Award - Matt Lindsay

To conclude, Captain Shane Renwick made public the fact that after four and a half years as Captain, he will be standing down from the position due to a change of personal circumstances. He thanked the members and other brigades for their encouragement and support over that time, saying he would cherish the advice and support he was given.

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Churchill Fire Brigade

Tribute to Darren McLean



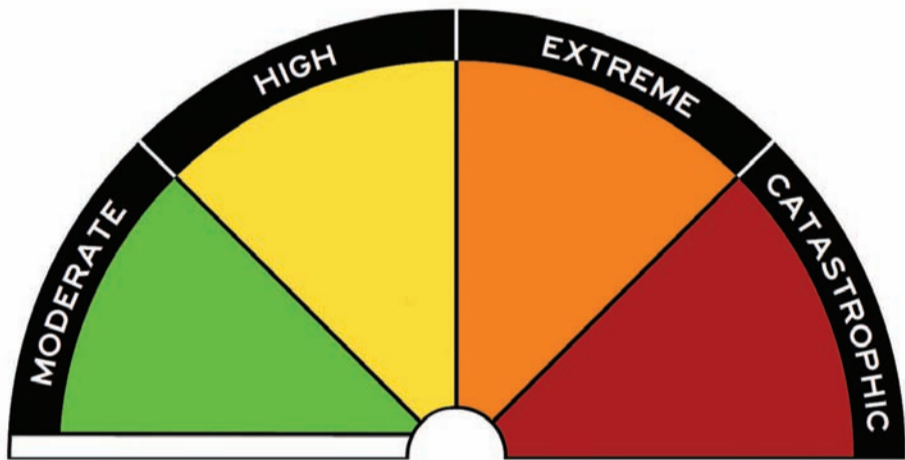
Photo: Rob Bonfield Media

Churchill Fire Brigade Captian Shane Renwick unveiled a special tribute to Darren McLean who died on March 7, 1982 following an accident during a fire on Middle Creek Rd Yinnar South.

The tribute, a lovely picture of a painting of Darren beautifully framed with explanatory plaque, was presented to the assembled folk at the awards night with the help of Darren's father Barry.

The tribute will be hung in the Brigade's meeting room at the fire station, and will be a wonderful reminder of Darren McLean and his service to the local community.

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Carols at Christmas

Surprise, surprise it is time to think about filling in your Christmas diary already. A combined Carols will be held on Saturday evening at the Co-operating Church on December 16 from 6.00 pm.

Shop Local Christmas market

Another Shop Local market will be held in the car park between Hazelwood Village and West Place on Saturday December 2. There will be many stalls for you to find that perfect Christmas gift for family and friends. Enjoy a free barbequed sausage on the day as you meet and greet friends and neighbours during the morning.

Lions fishing day

The Churchill Lions Club invites all young family fishers to come along with family and hopefully catch a fish or two from Lake Hyland on November 25. The Churchill Lions will be there to organise everyone and help to make your day at the Lake Hyland a very memorable one.

Evacuation

The Churchill Hub and Pre-school in Philip Parade was evacuated on Monday October 16 after a threat was discovered in the front garden. The Victoria Police bomb squad was called in to the Churchill Hub and the threat was safely removed later that day.

No one was injured in the incident. The Hub returned to normal operations the next day.

Recycle textiles

Latrobe City Council

has now introduced textile disposal chutes at their transfer stations. Old clothes, shoes, underwear, and soft toys, can be dropped off free of charge. This will save a lot of rubbish going to landfill.

of 6170 residents and visitors who have passed through the park in one of the coolest months is pleasing to see. We look forward to many more visitors as summer arrives.

Special news to share

If you have a special family event and would like to share it with the community, please contact us at cdeditorial@cdnews.com.au or ring Carol 0409 326 769.

Thought for the month

No matter how big your hammer is, you cannot pound common sense into some people.

The latest monthly count

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Bushfires and Flooding

This month, we are looking at bushfires and flooding.

As we have seen, bushfires can start fairly early in the spring and summer, due to many factors. It is important to keep an eye out for suspicious behaviour in the bush areas. People who are camping, who have lit a camp fire and have not extinguished the fire before leaving the camp site are often responsible for major fires that end up ruining properties, rural buildings and taking lives.

It is important to keep track of the district "Rules and Regulations" especially when burning off on your property and as we have found out recently, fires can be swept into

heavy terrain by extreme winds that makes it very difficult for fire fighters to control. With the changing of the seasons, flooding can also be a major issue and it can be quite dangerous for people trying to negotiate from one place to another.

Make sure you do not drive through flooded places, especially over bridges that may be damaged by excessive amounts of water. Download emergency apps on your phone so that you can keep up to date with emergencies that are occurring anywhere in Victoria, and tune into your local radio stations to keep up to date with things going on in your area. Stay safe and look after your environment.



FOR EMERGENCIES, RING 000
FOR NON URGENT POLICE ASSISTANCE OR ATTENDANCE WITH NO SIRENS, RING 131444

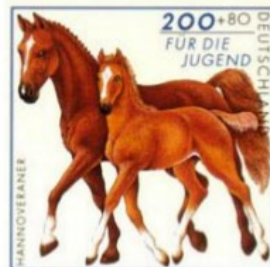


Police advise members of the public that, if you require police assistance, call 000. The police communications operator will be able to assess your need and either send a police vehicle, relay a message or find out when the police station will be attended.

SCAN TO VIEW:
CDNEWS LATEST AND PAST EDITIONS.
CDNEWS COMMUNITY DIRECTORY AND
COMMUNITY ARTICLES, ETC.,

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"



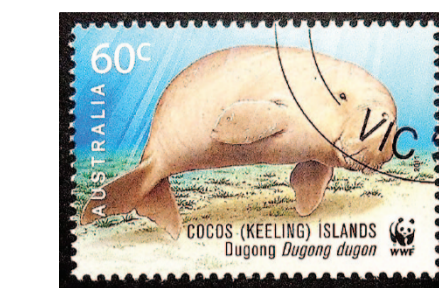
STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE Dugongs



Dugongs

Australia has a wealth of odd creatures, many of them unique and some only related to only one or two other species living close by. There is one animal however which has three cousins living far away in America and West Africa. These three are called manatees but ours is the dugong. They are collectively known as sea cows today but scientifically they are of the Order Sirenia, which loosely translates to sirens. These sirens are not those which alert people, but are the water spirits which lure sailors to a terrible fate. Some would call them mermaids, but a sailor would need to have been at sea for a long, long time to be attracted to these creatures.

The sea cow lives in warm, shallow seawater, where there are copious amounts of seagrass on which they graze. In Australia the dugong has many populations from



Moreton Bay in Queensland across the top of the continent to Shark Bay in Western Australia. Their only predator in the wild is the saltwater crocodile which will attack the young calf but not the adult. The main threat is man's fishing nets and his watercraft.

There are other populations around New Guinea, Indonesia and the Philippines and along the coasts of the Indian Ocean and even the North-Eastern Pacific, although these populations are dwindling.

The dugong averages between 400 and 550 kg in weight and about three metres in length although there are odd larger

specimens. Females are usually larger than males. They are air-breathers and need to breathe about every six minutes.

They sleep underwater and rise and fall to breathe automatically. They converse using grunts and whistles like porpoises and whales and propel themselves using their flippers and moving their tails up and down like the porpoises and whales also.

The tail shape is the way to tell the difference between the dugong and the manatee. The dugong has a fluked tail like a whale while the tail of a manatee is paddle shaped. They are migratory and can move long distances to better pastures. Their young are born live, and the dugong produces milk to feed its young like other mammals.

There are many folk stories among the fishermen who inhabit the lands bordering the homes of the dugong, most of which venerate the docile and slow-moving creatures. The dugong features on a stamp from Australia's dependency, the Cocos Keeling Islands.

2023 Latrobe Valley Stamp and Coin Fair.

On Saturday October 21, the local stamp club held its annual Stamp and Coin Fair and what a great day it was. Dealers from Melbourne and across the state provided new material to collectors from all over Gippsland who turned up in their usual numbers to add to their collections. The member's displays were popular, showing a large collection of railway-related items, a collection on Olympic Sports, Christmas postcards from the past, Scouting and Guiding covers and a collection of the Australian Antarctic territories.

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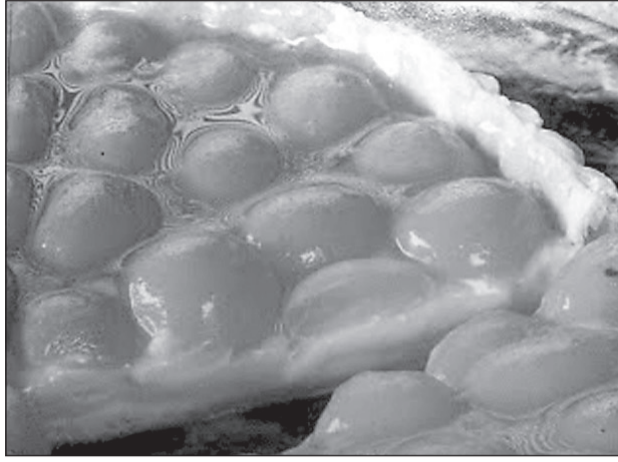
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Cooking with Noelene

Grape Flan



Preheat your oven to 200deg C. Line a lightly greased 20 cm flan dish with 1 sheet of thawed shortcrust pastry, trim the edge and blind bake (line the pastry with baking paper and fill with uncooked rice) in the preheated oven. Remove the paper and rice. Reduce the oven temperature to 180 deg C and bake the flan for another 20 minutes or until the pastry is light golden. Remove the pastry and cool. To make the filling beat 250gm of cream cheese until soft. Mix in 2 tbs of lemon curd (if you have some home made preserve is best, if not use store bought lemon curd) and 1 tbs of icing sugar. Spread the cream cheese mixture over the base of the pastry case. Separate the grapes from the stems and cut in half vertically. Arrange the grapes in a circular pattern over the cream cheese mixture. Now prepare a glaze - heat 3 tbs of apricot jam and 1 tbs and 1 dsp of water in a saucepan, stirring until the jam melts. Stir in 1 dsp of apera and cool slightly. Brush over grapes. Refrigerate till you are ready to serve.

Chicken with spinach, ricotta and lemon filling



Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Chop baby spinach leaves. Place the spinach leaves in a pan over a low heat and then turn out onto paper towelling and wring out the moisture. Combine with 1 dsp of minced garlic, 125 gm of ricotta cheese and 1 dsp of grated parmesan, 1 dsp of grated lemon rind and a 1/2 tsp of ground nutmeg. Now carefully loosen the skin on the chicken Marylands with your fingers. Push the spinach filling gently under the skin down to the drumsticks. Lightly spray an ovenproof tray and arrange the Marylands, spray the chickens lightly with cooking oil. Bake in the preheated oven for 40 minutes, if the skin is colouring too much (dark) loosely place a sheet of baking paper over top. To prepare the serving sauce, process the contents of 1 x 400gm can of diced tomatoes with 1 tbs of Worcestershire sauce, 1 tbs of minced garlic and 1 dsp of oregano. Heat the sauce in a pot over a low heat, simmer till well combined. Spoon over prepared chicken Marylands to serve. Enjoy !!

**Will
prepare
it one
day ...mmmm !**



Reading about food is endlessly reassuring. There is always a predictable outcome, a vicarious pleasure and no one is ever threatened.

It is early hours of October 7, 2023, I have just read the last page of my favourite storyteller and my mind is remembering today would have been my youngest brother Michael Grunberg's 60 th birthday.

I am lying here in bed making plans to visit the memorial plaque that he shares with his dad Jackiw Grunberg.

Happy birthday Michael.

Sleep doesn't come, so I reach for a story book that covers chef and food writer Stephanie Alexander's odyssey into south west of France.

At the unlikely time of 3.20 am, I am reading her mouth watering preparation of making a traditional peasant dish called poule avec sa mique (chicken with dumpling)and it is really inspiring. First you bone a chicken and make a rich stock from the bones.

The flesh is then stuffed with tarragon, chopped ham, pork mince and bread crumbs.

The boned and stuffed chicken is then wrapped in muslin and poached, along with a large tasty, juicy dumpling, in the stock heavily laden with vegetables.

I am fascinated by the difficulty, the boning, the stock, the dumpling and the finished dish when it all comes together in a slow simmer until it is ready to be served, sliced in the broth along with the juicy dumpling and vegetables.

I read and reread the recipe - I will prepare this dish one day.

Panzanella (v)

You will need 4 large tomatoes (about 1 kg), cut into 1 cm (1/2")slices, 100gm of assorted cherry tomatoes cut in half, 4 mini bell capsicums, cut into quarters lengthways, 8 baby cucumbers, sliced in half lengthways, 1 small red onion, thinly sliced, 3 slices of sourdough (200gm), toasted and cut into chunks, 40gm of pitted kalamata olives, sliced in half. Arrange all the above salad vegetables on a platter. Now place 1 tbs of minced garlic in a processor with a large handful of torn basil leaves and 1/3 cup of virgin olive oil, and pulse until you have a smooth sauce. Drizzle the sauce over the salad. Finally sprinkle with 2 tbs of balsamic vinegar and season to taste with cracked black pepper.

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Lemon seed cake



Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Lightly grease and lightly sprinkle with polenta a traditional bundt pan. Mix together 1 and 1/3 rd cups of plain flour with 3 tbs of cornflour and 1/4 tsp of baking powder. In a separate bowl cream together 175gm of butter / marg with 175 gm of castor sugar, then stir in 1 tbs of grated lemon zest. Now beat in 3 eggs lightly whisked, adding a little of the mixed flour mixture to prevent curdling. Now fold in the remaining flour. In a small bowl pour over a tbs of hot water on 1 dsp of caraway seeds and add to the cake mixture. Pour into the prepared bundt pan and bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes, or until well risen and golden. Cool in the pan for 10 minutes before turning out onto a wire rack.

Sweet potato gnocchi with burnt butter sage



Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Leaving the skins on cut 2 cleaned sweet potatoes and 2 cleaned all rounder potatoes in half lengthways. Drizzle the potato halves with canola / rice bran oil and season with 1 dsp of salt. Place the cut side down on the baking tray and bake for 25 minutes or until a skewer passes through the potatoes easily. Remove from the oven and leave to cool. Using a spoon, scoop out the potato and sweet potato flesh, discarding the skins. Use a fork to mash and combine the two potatoes. Stir in 1 dsp of salt, along with 35 gm (1/3 cup) of finely grated parmesan cheese, 1 beaten egg and 1 tbs of honey. Working slowly add 300gm (2 cups of plain flour) in batches, mixing thoroughly until a dough forms that doesn't stick to your hands (you may not need all the flour). Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and roll into a small log shape. Using a sharp knife, cut the log into 8 equal pieces. Roll each piece into 1 cm (1/2 ") thick rope, then cut each one into 1 cm (1/2") pillows. If you like, you can roll the gnocchi pillows with a fork to create the classic indents. Bring a large saucepan of water to the boil. Working in batches, cook the gnocchi for 30 seconds or until they float to the surface. Remove with a slotted spoon onto a sheet of baking paper and set aside. For the sage burnt butter, melt 140 gm of butter / marg in a large frypan over a medium heat until it begins to foam. Add 20 sage leaves and cook until crisp. Remove the leaves and set aside on paper towel. Continue to cook the butter / marg until brown. Remove from heat and add the gnocchi, 1 tsp of ground nutmeg, 1 dsp of minced garlic and 60ml (1/4 cup) of warm water. Place the pan back over medium heat, tossing to coat the gnocchi and warm them through. Serve immediately, dressed with the fried sage leaves and a sprinkling of cracked black pepper and a scatter of thinly sliced parmesan.



LIONS CLUB OF CHURCHILL & DISTRICT

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS



2024 NOMINATION FORM

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

DETAILS OF PERSON/PERSONS/GROUP BEING NOMINATED

Full name of citizen/persons/organization/event: _____

Contact name (if nominating organisation/event): _____

Residential address: _____ Town: _____

Postal address: _____

Suburb: _____ Post Code: _____

Telephone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (M) _____

Email: _____

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

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

Reason for Nomination:

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

Other significant contributions and achievements:

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

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

Background information about your nominee:

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

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): _____

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Position/Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone (H): _____ (W) _____ (M): _____

Email: _____

Nominator (To be completed by person submitting)

Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss): _____

First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Position/Organisation: _____

Address: _____

Suburb: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone (H): _____ (W) _____ (M): _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Nominations can be lodged at any time; however nominations for the Lions Club of Churchill & District Australia Day 2024 awards close on Wednesday, December 15, 2023 at 5.00 pm.

Nominations should be addressed to:

Lions Club Secretary
Australia Day Awards Nominations
PO Box 110 Churchill Vic 3842.
or email lionsclubchurchill@gmail.com

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

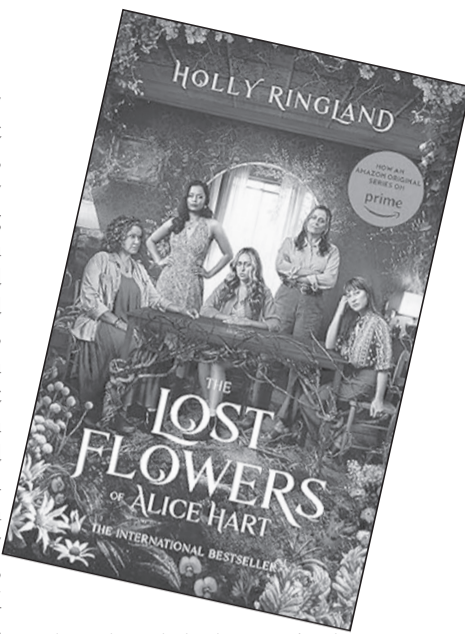
Book Review

The Lost flowers of Alice Hart

By Holly Ringland 2018
Holly Ringland grew up in tropical south east Queensland. When she was nine years old her family spent two years travelling through North American National Parks. This created an interest in cultures and stories. She spent four years in the central Australian desert living amongst indigenous communities. In 2004 she moved to England where she obtained an MA in Creative Writing from Manchester University in 2011. She now divides her time between the UK and Australia. She has been published in various anthologies and journals and in 2019 received the ABIA for General Fiction. "The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart" 2018 is her debut novel and has been published in more than thirty countries. It is also streaming globally as a record breaking seven-part series. Holly also starred in a television series "Back to Nature" with Aaron Pederson. She has written two more books, "The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding" 2022 and "The House that Joy Built" 2023.

Alice Hart is nine years old and lives with her pregnant mother Agnes and abusive, manipulative father Clem. She and her mother are forbidden to leave the property and she does not attend school, although she is an avid reader. Her best friend is her dog Toby, made deaf by one of her father's angry outbursts. She has read about fire and wonders if setting her father alight might renew him, like the phoenix.

After a violent episode her father always retreats to his locked shed and Alice is curious to know what goes on there. When he is out one day she takes the key and enters the shed which is dark, so she lights a lamp. She sees many wooden sculptures of an old woman and a girl. She decides to take some small figurines and practice lighting a fire. When her father arrives home she rushes to the house and forgets to blow out the lamp. When he sees the shed door open he savagely attacks Alice. There is a fire and Alice awakes in hospital to find that both of her parents have died and she has survived both the fire and the beating. Unbeknown to Alice



the unborn baby has survived.

After a long period of recovery Alice is taken to live with her paternal grandmother, June who is her guardian but unknown to Alice. June has had the baby adopted out as she feels unable to cope with it. Alice is devastated at her new situation and does not speak for many months, such is the trauma she has experienced.

June owns and runs Thornfield, a native plant farm, which is also a refuge for women who have experienced hardship and pain. The employees are extremely kind, patient and encouraging to Alice, and she has befriended the resident therapy dog, Harry. She also meets a local boy, Oggie, when she goes to the river for a swim and they become friends. Alice is enrolled at school and this cements her friendship with Oggie even further.

Alice eventually finds her voice and June decides to teach her the business, to learn the language of flowers. June has followed the Victorian tradition of attributing meaning to each of the native flowers. Because she is reluctant to tell Alice the dark family history June uses flowers to speak the unspeakable. Tension builds because Alice senses there is much that June is keeping from her.

At eighteen years old, Alice is in love with Oggie and he wants her to leave with him. Alice packs her bag and waits for him but he does not come, and she believes he has gone without her. She settles down to become the manager of Thornfield, using flowers to express the words she cannot say.

At twenty-six she finds the truth about why Oggie left without her and leaves Thornfield in a rage, heading inland. She finds a sick puppy and takes it to the vet in an outback town, then collapses due to dehydration. Fortunately the vet calls for help and Alice recovers. She gets a job as a ranger in the National Park and makes friends with other workers, but falls in love with Dylan, well known as an abuser

of women. Their relationship becomes more and more toxic until she gradually reads the signs and realises she is confronting the same situation as living with her father.

After two of the women from Thornfield come to tell her that her grandmother has died she decides to return home and meets the brother she knew nothing about. The story ends at Thornfield.

Everyone in our book group enjoyed this book. It was easy to read and the characters were well drawn and mostly likeable. Those who were not likeable were despicable. The women who worked at Thornfield were all carrying hurt so they were able to understand the grief and loss that Alice suffered, but also that which June had to deal with. They also understood why June betrayed Alice, thinking she was protecting her, although they didn't condone it, as they were able to take a more pragmatic view.

The story highlighted the fact that abusive relationships are often self-perpetuating - Alice had spent her early years in such a relationship and she very nearly found herself, as an adult, in another.

Those of us who are gardeners especially enjoyed the lovely sketches at the start of each chapter, with botanical names and a description of the plant with its' attributed meaning. The meaning of the flower gave a hint as to the contents or theme of each chapter.

The first half of the book was heart rending, the conclusion a bit predictable, but generally this was a good read.



CDCA Business

Each year, as per our Rules, CDCA sets some priority items to address through the year. In recent years we have been focussed on funded projects, recreational paths and spaces, town beautification, signage and membership recruitment.

Members have decided that, at our December meeting, we will have an informal workshop to review our priorities and determine some action plans.

Whilst this might sound a bit dull, such discussions are generally animated and interesting.

We also have a fairly practical view of what's achievable, given that our members and stakeholder representatives are involved with, and knowledgeable of, a wide range of other organisations in Churchill and Latrobe City.

Residents of Churchill and district are welcome to attend CDCA meetings and participate in discussions (although only members can vote on Motions i.e. decisions).

Our December meeting, to be held on Thursday December 14, will be a great opportunity to have your say on the matters which you think CDCA could be advocating on for improvement.

Please note that CDCA's mission is to address local issues, with realistic potential for positive outcomes; whilst we would probably all like to see falling grocery prices and world peace, such things are beyond CDCA's circle of influence!

Special guest at our last meeting, held in October, was Martin Cameron MP, our

new local State Member of Parliament. This was his first visit to a CDCA meeting.

Martin advised CDCA that he is particularly keen to see more police and PSOs (Protective Services Officers) assigned to Latrobe City and is collecting signatures for a Petition he intends to present to Government.

Of course, while Government funds our Victorian police force, it is the Police Commissioner who determines where need is greatest and resources are allocated. Judging from some of the information available on police resourcing, it is possible that, currently, local government areas such as Baw Baw Shire have greater need than Latrobe. Nevertheless, it is good to hear that our local MP is advocating for his electorate.

Unfortunately, our Latrobe City Council Liaison Officer (Kathleen Roberts) was an apology for our October meeting, but Kathleen is working on our behalf to try and sort out the glitches that keep happening with the lighting of the Churchill Town Symbol.

The Town Symbol is supposed to be lit at night, from dusk to dawn, as it were. Yet CDCA keeps receiving reports (easily confirmed!) of the lights being on during daylight hours and going off during the night.

Obviously the lights work, so we think there is a programming issue, as the lights on/lights/off timings are set remotely at Latrobe City HQ in Morwell. The programming has been re-set on several occasions and works accurately for a brief period - and then doesn't. Very frustrating!

We are advising locals who spot the Town Symbol lights on during the day and off at night to take a photo and report the issue via the Snap Send Solve App that can be easily downloaded (for free) to your smartphone. Just make sure your report is being sent to Latrobe City Council, not AusNet (where street light fault reports are sent).

CDCA encourages locals to use the Snap Send Solve App to report faults to the responsible authority. It is very simple to use and generally produces a good result.

You can report dumped rubbish, vandalised street signs, graffiti, pot-holes, faulty street-lights, damaged play equipment in parks, and all sorts of faults in public areas that need to be fixed.

All these seemingly minor things can be rectified if they are reported.

If they are not reported, they don't get fixed and the public spaces in town begin to look uncared-for and derelict. We all have a role to play in ensuring things get done.

CDCA meets on the second Thursday of every second month. All local residents are welcome to attend. Our next meeting will be held at 7pm on Thursday December 14, downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall - park and enter from Philip Parade.

Our first meeting in 2024 will be held on Thursday February 8.

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.

Aaron Pearce Plumbing Services

PO Box 408 Churchill
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Churchill and District News



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Morwell RSL

OPEN 7 Days

LUNCH and DINNER

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MONDAY Kids eat free with each main meal purchased.

NEW Come in and check out our **NEW Sports Bar and BIG Screen TV**

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

SCAN TO VIEW:
CDNEWS LATEST AND PAST EDITIONS.
CDNEWS COMMUNITY DIRECTORY AND
COMMUNITY ARTICLES, ETC.,



We will be watching ...

HVP Plantations

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

HVP Plantations ...

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

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

Report any suspicious behaviour to Crime Stoppers on

1800 333 000

To report a fire Call triple zero

000



HVP Plantations prepares for this fire season

The HVP Plantations team is again working hard to ensure the company is well prepared for the threat of fire during the upcoming warmer months. We continue to invest in, and develop, the skills of over 120 company firefighters through a structured CFA Forest Industry Brigade, and actively participate in regular training and skills maintenance. We have an additional 150 firefighters located throughout Victoria, with more resources available from throughout Queensland and New Zealand if required.

HVP has ten fire tankers and over 25 slip-on units located across the Gippsland estate. These resources are continually maintained and prepared in the event that they may be needed at any time. The local community also benefits from our dedicated resources and the skills and abilities of our staff and contractors, with more than half the fires that HVP Plantations crews have attended in recent years

starting outside plantation boundaries.

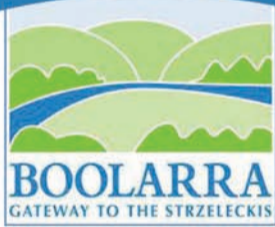
We will again be contracting a dedicated firefighting helicopter for the period of the highest fire risk. The light helicopter is based in the Latrobe Valley, supporting other State Fleet aircraft that CFA and DEECA have available to fight fires throughout Victoria. On days of higher fire risk, two HVP fire towers will be manned and fire vehicles will be patrolling plantation areas to ensure any fire is detected quickly and responded to in the shortest possible time. Fire prevention activities will continue throughout spring, including firebreak and track maintenance around plantations and checking fire dams to ensure they are accessible, signed and mapped.

A continuing problem for our community is the issue of arson. Statistics indicate that a significant proportion of fires that affect our plantations are started "by the hand of man". Some fires may be accidental, but many are deliberate

www.cdnews.com.au and avoidable. Through the Gippsland Arson Prevention Program (GAPP), HVP Plantations actively partners with 21 other government agencies and private companies including Victoria Police, CFA and DEECA to reduce the incidence and impact of bushfire arson across Gippsland.

Arson is a crime no matter how big or small the damage, and the local community plays an integral role in the reduction of arson related crimes. Research indicates that a community that is paying attention to what occurs within it can play an important part in assisting Crime Stoppers and Police through reporting suspicious activity.

This may include, but is not limited to, dumped cars, rubbish and unattended campfires or burn-offs. Reports can be made direct to HVP Plantations on (03)5122 0600, anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, or by contacting your local Police station. Even the smallest piece of information may be a vital link in either solving a crime or preventing another one. The Crime Stoppers message is a simple one: "If you've seen something, if you know something, say something". When it comes to fire for HVP, every person counts and every tree counts.



Briagalong Bush Band

appearing at Boolarra Memorial Hall

Saturday 18th November

Bush Dance featuring the Briagalong Bush Band will be held at the Boolarra Memorial Hall, from 6.30pm till 9.30pm.

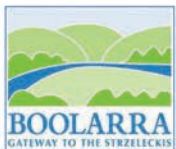
Check out the Sheep Dog Trials, then come along to the Bush Dance.

Tickets are \$20 p/h, \$50 a family, to be purchased at the door.

BYO plate and drinks (Premises are licenced), Light refreshments supplied

Victorian Sheep Dog Arena Champion Boolarra Recreation Reserve 17-19 November 2023

More than 100 dogs will be competing, accompanied by their handlers. Over the three days they will take on more than 400 sheep, each dog having to work three sheep at a time around a set course. The pressure builds as each dog has only 15 minutes to complete the course and is judged on its ability to handle the sheep through the obstacles.



Everybody welcome

Gold coin donation

COME AND CELEBRATE THIS YEAR'S

Carols by Candlelight

brought to you by

The Combined Churches of Churchill

Saturday, December 16

Held outside at the Co-Operating Churches, 1 Williams Ave, Churchill

BBQ at 6.00pm. Gold coin donation. Proceeds to FedUni chaplaincy.

Carol singing, items and the Christmas story from 7.00pm

If the weather is inclement, Carols will be held inside the church.

Supplied - carols booklets and some candles and holders. Bring a chair, or picnic rug, your carols booklet from the Latrobe Express and some money for the collection to go to FedUni chaplaincy.

SANTA will make an appearance during the evening

Proudly supported by



Churchill and District Lions Club

The Combined Churches of Churchill (Lumen Christi, Co-Operating Churches in Churchill and Churchill Christian Fellowship)

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"



Further information? Contact - Ruth 0456 786 577 or Sue 0418 357 673

Latrobe Regional Health

Free LRH program teaches teens how to party safely

Latrobe Valley and surrounding secondary schools are being encouraged to jump aboard a program that teaches teens about the reality of trauma-related death and injury.

The Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related Trauma in Youth, or PARTY, is a free, one-day program run by Latrobe Regional Health (LRH) and sponsored by Loy Yang B.

The program aims to give students a blunt and no-holds-barred account of trauma and often preventable risk-taking behaviours.

It raises the consequences of drink driving, not wearing seatbelts, unsafe partying, fighting, or even 'death by selfies'.

LRH Emergency Department Associate Unit Manager and PARTY co-coordinator Andrew Simmons said the program did not "sugar coat anything".

"Some kids leave in tears. We are not saying don't go out and have fun, but learn how to make safe choices," he said.

"We simulate what it's like arriving in an ambulance, kids get to cut the clothes off a mannequin. They learn what it means to be sedated or



LRH PARTY coordinator and ED nurse Andrew Simmons teaches Foster Secondary Students how to cut the clothes off a mannequin in a simulated emergency department session.

paralysed.

They learn about inserting tubes and lines, or pelvic slings to stop internal bleeding. In ICU we show them how a patient is fed or toileted while on life support."

The PARTY program was developed at a large trauma hospital in Canada in the late 1980s and is now licensed in 100 countries. It is run in all Australian states and territories.

LRH has run several PARTY sessions this year after a successful pilot program in 2022.

Surveys provided to students before and after they took part in the program indicate a shift in attitudes

towards risk-taking behaviour and activities that are considered dangerous.

LRH Clinical Nurse Specialist and PARTY co-coordinator Janet May said young people in regional Victoria are over-represented in trauma statistics.

"We aim to teach teenagers who are about to start driving and hit the party scenes, that it can happen to them, and the flow on effect to their families, friends and community is huge," she said.

"If we can save one life, it is worth it."

For more information, or to book your school, email Janet May at party@lrh.com.au or call 5173 8542.

Lachlan's Legacy

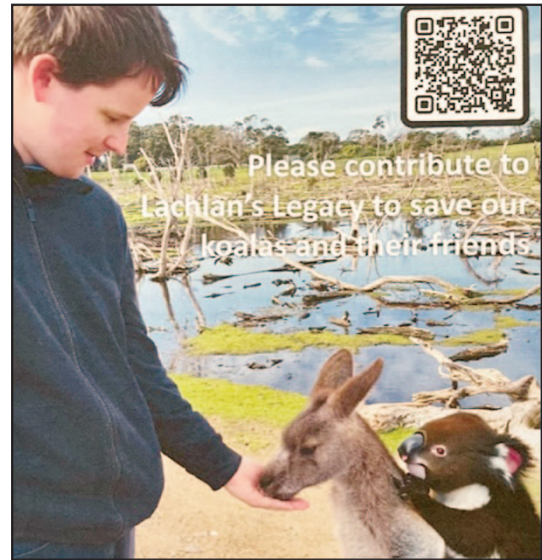
By Anne Abbott Why the Strzelecki Koala is so important

Almost all of Victoria and South Australia's koalas are descendants of a handful of animals sent to Phillip Island and French Island in the late 19th century. Essentially they are inbred.

As far as we know, the only relic population remaining is located in the South Gippsland region, most notably the Strzelecki

Ranges. They are genetically robust meaning that they are more likely to survive changes in the environment. Friends of the Earth's Strzelecki Koala Action Team (SKAT) has created this map to show the extent of the Strzelecki Koala - <https://strzkoala.australianmap.net>

New science has revealed that the core of this population survived the almost complete destruction of their environment and managed to hang on in and around the small Morwell National Park. From this area they slowly managed to disperse through the region. Their numbers are low though. Possibly as low as 2,500 animals. For the past decade citizen science



Please contribute to Lachlan's Legacy to save our koalas and their friends.

has been involved in locating where animals have survived and where they have dispersed to.

A major find occurred in 2022, when researches from the SKAT found a relatively large population (possibly 500 animals) in the Mullungdung State Forest, located north east of the town of Yarram.

SKAT has been busy over the past two years finding the extent of the Mullungdung koalas and what habitat they prefer. This involves walking, mapping and identifying core areas. So far about 10 core areas have been found at Mullungdung, 5000 hectares of forest has been surveyed by SKAT. SKAT hopes to finalise their surveys and send the information to qualified

experts in order to scientifically validate the work. In this way SKAT hopes to get Mullungdung State Forest reserved and protected from logging and fire. The validation work is costly as it relies on expert analysis.

The Victorian and Federal Governments have done nothing to protect the Strzelecki Koala and its habitat. We hope that our work will pressure the government to list the animal under registration and protect its habitat accordingly.

The article was written by the mother of the young man in the photograph. He died suddenly and to help the family cope with the loss of their son, the parents decided to start a foundation. They chose the Strzelecki Koala because the family are members of the Strzelecki Koala Action Team and their son was interested in wildlife.

Tax-deductable donations can be made here:

https://www.melbournefoe.org.au/lachlan_abbott_legacy

Latrobe Regional Gallery

Spring is definitely here and we are loving the warmer weather! With new exhibitions, events and workshops happening we are ready for a change!

Thank you to all of our on-going supporters. We hope to see you at the gallery enjoying our exhibitions or perhaps at one of our workshops!

Relay, Rewind, Replay

Featuring: Chaco Kato, Karina Utomo, Owls of Nebraska (Anthea Williams, Pezaloom, Kate Zizys, Kim McDonald, Anthony Brandon)

October 7, 2023 – January 28, 2024

Latrobe Regional Gallery, Galleries 4, 5 and 6



The artists in Relay, Rewind, Replay broadcast a kaleidoscope of channels of connecting, being and becoming. Through a series of live and recorded movements, mediums and gestures, this group

exhibition spans several galleries at Latrobe Regional Gallery, pushing the potential of individual and collective art processes.

Giving space to poetic interventions in place and time, this show seeks to map out a wide range of innovative and experimental artistic practices, providing us with unique windows into future modes of distribution, communication, and exchange.

This event is part of Craft Contemporary 2023, an annual festival delivered by Craft Victoria.

Speeding drivers won't get far.



If you think you can drive over the speed limit, think again. Speeding drivers face a minimum fine of \$240 and 1 demerit point. So with police and speed cameras across Victoria, chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.



BECOME A CHURCHILL FIRE BRIGADE VOLUNTEER WE ARE RECRUITING

WE TRAIN ON MONDAY EVENINGS AT 7:30PM AND SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:30 OUR BRIGADE MEETS EVERY 2ND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30PM

APPLY NOW



CONTACT: Churchill Fire Brigade e. secretary.chur@gmail.com



<https://applications.cfa.vic.gov.au/eol/>



A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington
Let's remember 1892

If for no other reason, 1892 was a significant year.

The Collingwood Football Club was established in 1892. Since then, the "maggies" have won 16 VFL/AFL premierships, and have contested more Grand Finals than any other club.

(Obviously, my bias is quite apparent.)

One story is told of magpies frequenting the large area where the club's home, Victoria Park, was located. Therefore, choosing club colours was not difficult - black and white. Over time, Collingwood has become affectionately known as "the magpies", "the pies", "the maggies", "good old Collingwood", "the woodsmen", "the woods", and, there are other less salubrious tags. Non-believers sometimes resort to "Colliwobbles" - but they just do not understand.

The Magpie - while an obvious choice, it is recorded that the Australian magpie was first described in scientific literature collated by English ornithologist, John Latham in 1801 as Coracias Tibicen, the type collected in the Port Jackson region, New South Wales.

He published descriptions and scientific names of many Australian birds; some common and well-known examples being the emu, white cockatoo, wedge-tailed eagle, lyrebird and magpie.

Joining with Collingwood in 1892, the Morwell Advertiser (Friday May 27, 1892), in its front page headlines literally yelled out "Severance is granted!"

On this date, Traralgon Shire and Morwell Shire became two separate entities. Documents of the time describe various tensions growing between the two. "We have won" was a strong sentiment concluding several years of badgering, arguing, and failed attempts to have an equal share of financial resources.

The editorial was strong: "For two years we have badgered away at our



neighbours in Traralgon. We pleaded, we reasoned, we abused, but all in vain, we could not shake off the incubus. The governors of Traralgon clung to us with a tenacity worthy of the possum".

Meanwhile, life in and about Morwell continued.

Around this time, with an increasing membership, the Morwell Hunt Club was rather active. Keen members were quick to sign up for "The Paper Chase", as it was called. On Wednesday afternoon February 24, 1892, about 30 horsemen gathered for the chase. It seems as though only about ten went the distance.

Afterwards, they all adjourned to the pub.

Sporting activities were popular in Morwell during 1892. A meeting at Davey's Hotel on Tuesday November 8, 1892 was planned as a major effort to garner community support for the Morwell Race Club.

Murdoch's Hotel was

a well-known hotel in Morwell. Mr Chas Davey was once the licensee, (who had previously been with hotels in Albury and Yea).

According to the Morwell Advertiser, there was strong attendance and new office-bearers were elected - Chas Davey was now President, Vice-Presidents were Messrs Murdoch, Cavanagh and Millet, Mr J Harris was chosen as Secretary, and Mr John Jensen as Clerk of Course. Doctors William Moir and William Fisher were nominated as Stewards.

A crowd of football enthusiasts gathered at Morwell's Mechanics Institute on Friday June 3, 1892, to form a football club. Mr J Graham was appointed as President, Mr Banks was Vice-president, Secretary was Mr Sheffield and Mr Murdoch became Treasurer.

The Morwell Brown Coal Minstrels gave a performance on Friday December 9, 1892, in the Morwell Mechanics

Hall in aid of the Morwell Cricket Club. The Minstrels held their meetings in Murdoch's hotel, and he was also their president. Around town, the singers were known as "dusky savages" although their performances were always well attended.

Murdoch's hotel was apparently a welcoming location for community meetings.

Alternatively, meetings were held in the Mechanics Institute, but alas, here there was a paucity of opportunities to drink to

one's health. On Wednesday evening, July 15, 1892, the hotel hosted a meeting to ultimately form a Liedertaefer group. (This is a society or club that meets to practise male part songs.)

Catherine Ogilvy passed away on Friday July 22, 1892. Her brother passed away on Thursday August 11, 1892. Catherine was aged 46 during a local 'flu epidemic', and her brother Patrick, aged 42, died of the same cause. Brother and sister are buried together in the Catholic section of the Hazelwood Cemetery. David Ogilvy then married Patrick's widow, Emily McNamara (nee Turner) in 1893 at the Presbyterian Church Maryvale. They had two children - Elizabeth (1894) and Emily Beatrice (1896), both born in the Airlie Bank homestead.

David is credited with building the Airlie Bank homestead in Morwell and was regarded as a handy cricketer. After leaving Melbourne, he worked on various properties around Victoria before settling in Morwell. At the Wesleyan Parsonage in Sale on September 5, 1879, he married Catherine.

Charles Adolphe Junier passed away on Friday May 6, 1892, aged 58. He was one of the oldest settlers in the district, having first come here from Switzerland in 1873. Just before his death, he had complained to his wife about short breath. Dr. Montgomery, who made a post mortem examination, concluded that death arose through syncope (fainting), and this verdict was made official.

In editorial on Friday

May 6, 1892, the Morwell Advertiser offered advice:

"To the girls.— In these days when husbands are at a premium we think it only right to give the girls a hint of a sure way of getting a husband.

It may seem strange but it's a fact, and three ladies have already dropped to it — j o i n the Morwell Presbyterian choir".

During this slice of 1892 life, at a Morwell Council meeting in May 1892, it was decided Councillor Edmond Kelleher J.P attend a rabbit conference to be held at Bairnsdale as a representative of the new Shire Council. During this particular year, concern about rabbit infestations was paramount. It was felt all Gippsland Shires should combine to provide funds to carry out extermination of rabbits - under a group known as a Rabbit Defence League.

Business - wise, an advertiser in the Morwell Advertiser (Friday May 8, 1892) promoted Skating, Skating and Skating at the Morwell Mechanics Institute. In July, Alfred Noar was telling his customers that wholemeal bread is a specialty. Alfred, at age 87, died while visiting relatives in Nagambie in October 1932. When he retired, the Wilson family took over the bakery.

In the Coffee Palace advertisement, (Morwell Advertiser, Friday, 22 July, 1892) visitors were informed that 'board and lodging was available at the Morwell Coffee Palace.' Coffee palaces did not serve alcohol.



TEMPERANCE

Coffee Palace,

STATION STREET, MORWELL.

BOARD AND LODGING only 16s per week.

☞ Every comfort and a good table.

Working dogs take over Boolarra

The popularity of working dogs like Border collies and kelpies is on the rise. Their instinct and skill for mustering livestock is second to none.

The value they bring to safe and effective farming is once again being realised. They are also fierce competitors when put to the test in competitions.

From November 17 to 19, 2023 the best working dogs from Victoria and interstate will be taking over the Boolarra Recreation Reserve to compete in the Berryden Working Sheep Dog Trial. The top performing dogs will then compete to become the Victorian Sheep Dog Arena Champion.

More than 100 dogs will be competing, accompanied by their handlers. Over the three days they will take on more than 400 sheep, each dog having to work three sheep at a time around a set course.

The pressure builds as each dog has only 15 minutes to complete the course and is judged on its ability to handle the sheep through the obstacles.

Spectators will be mesmerised as dog, sheep and handler work in synergy to combine instinct, skill, and patience to find out who will be champion dog. The dogs are the stars of the show at this event. While they may seemingly look alike, each one is a character unto their own and it shows as they contend with the often-

uncooperative sheep.

The sport of working sheep dog trials arose from healthy competition between farmers and their dogs and, over time, has become a worldwide sport.

The purpose of the sheep dog trial is to demonstrate the skill of the handler in positioning the dog to where it is required and guiding the dog's natural instincts while it is herding three sheep around a course consisting of three obstacles and a pen.

The course is intended to show the heightened skills of the sheep dog required in a typical working environment. Sheep dog trials are used by farmers and working dog handlers to hone the instinct and skill of their dogs so they become valuable workers for herding and mustering livestock.

The Berryden Working Sheepdog Trial is a staple event in Gippsland. For many years it has been held at the property of the late Jean Moir in Berry's Creek. This year the opportunity has been taken to bring the event to a broader audience and engage with the local community of Boolarra to stage the event over three days in November.

Support from the local community has been outstanding and there are already plans for complementary community events to coincide with the trial, including a Bush Dance on Saturday evening at the Boolarra Memorial Hall, with the highly regarded



Briagalong Bush Band providing the music and dance calls. A great night guaranteed.

The Victorian Sheep Dog Arena Championship is a prestigious event that has working dogs scoring points towards The Australian Dog of the Year finals. Finalists from the Berryden trial will fight it out this year at Boolarra to become the Victorian Sheep Dog Arena Champion.

The event will be held at the Boolarra Recreation Reserve, November 17 to 19, 2023, and is a community event that welcomes all spectators to see the dogs in action. The event is being coordinated by the South Gippsland Working Dog Group.

The South Gippsland Working Dog Group is a non-profit community group dedicated to fostering the safe, efficient, and humane handling of livestock by educating stockmen, farmers, and dog owners in the effective use of working dogs.

The group has been supporting the development of good working dog training and handling for nearly 20 years.

It is affiliated with the Victorian and Australian Working Dog Associations and has members from all over the Gippsland region. Colin Brick, Chair, Boolarra Community Development Group
M: 0444 121 259
E: colin.brick@hotmail.com

Christmas - Shop Local



Saturday December 2, 9am to 1pm at Churchill Shopping Centre – that is when the Shop Local Christmas Market will be held.

Lots of craft and market stalls, free sausage sizzles, entertainment and voucher give-aways.

But wait, there's more!

Did you know that the Churchill Lifeline store will be open on the morning of the market? Usually open only on weekdays, volunteers make a special effort to open the Lifeline store on market morning. For those who work on weekdays, this is an opportunity to have a browse of all that is on offer. You will find plants, good quality second hand clothing, pre-loved books, craft materials, crockery, jewellery and all sorts of knick-knacks in store.

When you are browsing the market stalls, don't forget to browse our small retailers too – many have a range of goods suitable for Christmas gift-giving.

You will find different things in different stores – our new Post Office at

Hazelwood Village has an assortment of goods and lovely gift items, while our Newsagent has an expanding range of giftware, clothing and confectionary, along with traditional cards, calendars and diaries.

Both these businesses are open on a Saturday morning, as are the two pharmacies in Churchill (each stocking a variety of gift items).

Do not overlook stores like Scissori Hair Salon, with a range of specialist hair-care products for sale, or Sight & Sound Engineering (in Marina Lane) for phone covers and tablet cases, or the Churchill Hot Bread Shop for some pretty plants in pots.

If you have not been into Smart Saver for a while, it is worth another browse before Christmas. They have new stock arriving regularly, including a large range of decorations, toys, photo frames, craft materials and much more.

Of course, our big shops – Woolworths and the Reject Shop – have a range of pantry, bathroom and laundry products that we will

all be needing for the festive season, along with special buys for table, home and gift-giving.

Please remember that when you shop in Churchill, you are supporting local employment and are helping to sustain our local economy. If you are shopping in Churchill at our Market on the morning of Saturday December 2, you might just be presented with a free voucher to spend in-store at a nominated business! We have more than \$300 worth of vouchers to give away to randomly selected customers shopping in Churchill between 10am and mid-day at our Christmas Market.

Shop Local for Christmas, come to our market, browse the stalls and shops, bring the kids, have a couple of free sausages, catch up with friends and neighbours.

Rumour has it that Santa will be attending, along with a children's entertainer and maybe even the Pistons Car Club – something for everyone!

Recycle with BRAD

What is BRAD?

It is a recycling program for many of those plastic items unsuitable for putting in your home recycling bin.

There are many things that could be recycled but, for one reason or another, aren't accepted by the kerbside recycling bin program.

Empty beauty and skin-care containers, plastic razors, coffee pods, soy sauce 'fishies', single use cutlery, plastic tubes, pumps and sprays, toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes and floss containers, old pens and markers, tablet blister packs – all these are just some of the many things you can Recycle with BRAD.

BRAD stands for Banish Recycling and Disposal Program which commenced in 2020.

It is a Sydney based scheme and works in partnership with multiple recycling programs such as Terracycle, Transmutation and Panel Cycle.

To recycle with BRAD, collect any or all of the accepted plastic items and fill

a shoe-box sized container or a used Express Post (or similar) satchel or pack a sturdy plastic bag into a large paper envelope.

Such a shoe-box sized package can weigh anything from approximately 500g up to 3kg maximum, depending on the assortment of items you have collected.

Purchase a \$15 BRAD collection (recycling) label on-line at banish.com.au/pages/recycling-program and your pre-paid postage label and collection form will be emailed to you.

The \$15 fee covers both your postage and some of the sorting and recycling costs.

Once your package is received, you will be emailed a \$15 voucher to spend on-line at the Banish website. (There is a minimum spend of \$50 to sustain the recycling programs and continue to turn recycled items into useful goods).

Banish is in the business of sending less to landfill and finding ways of repurposing used items that might otherwise be considered waste.

Banish is also focused on reducing the amount of plastic being used by consumers whilst increasing the recycling of plastics.

Many eco-friendly items for use in the home kitchen, laundry, bathroom and garden can be found on the Banish website, manufactured by a range of companies aimed at the environmentally conscious consumer.

There are reusable coffee cups, stainless steel pegs, compostable loofahs, reusable bread bags, refillable deodorant sticks and compostable pet waste systems, to name just a few.

If you need some plastic containers, Banish sell containers and lids made from recycled plastic!

It is worth browsing the Banish website just to see how many environmentally friendly products and goods made from recycled materials are readily available (if you know where to look).

Find out more about Recycling with BRAD at banish.com.au



Every Tuesday

10am to 12 Noon

Co-Operating Churches
Corner Williams Ave and McDonald Way Churchill

Churchill & District Lions Club



Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Bill Hurenkamp 0418 327 287

Hazelwood Cemetery



**By Leo Billington
Granite memorial gates
remember bushfire victims**

It is 80 years since the 1944 bushfires raced across our community.

Starting from, or near Richard Murnane's farm close to the Latrobe River on February 12, 1944, fires ravaged an area between Moe, Morwell, Hazelwood and Yinnar.

The number of casualties seems to vary according to some newspaper reports, nonetheless, names of 13 victims are listed on memorial granite gates at Hazelwood Cemetery.

The Morwell Advertiser, Thursday April 27, 1944, reported that 'A Coronial Inquiry into Death of Bush Fire Victims found that Richard Murnane did not have an authorised permit to burn off a small area of scrub and rubbish'.

It was concluded by the Deputy Coroner all the deceased died as a result of burns received in a fire that swept the district on

February 14, 1944 and which started at or near Murnane's on February 12, 1944'.

As reported by the Morwell Advertiser, Thursday March 9, 1944, when the Royal Commission inquiring into the fire outbreak at Yallourn on February 14 resumed, Judge Stretton, Commissioner, advised a witness that, as he was not represented

by Counsel, he need not answer any question which he thought would or might incriminate him. The witness was Richard James Murnane, farmer, living near Latrobe River, about 21 miles from Moe.

Justice L. E. B Stretton was appointed on February 14, 1944 to chair the Royal Commission. This time, his final report returned to earlier themes about which he had been quite vocal - highlighting the lack of cohesive firefighting ability outside the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade area.

The main outcome from Stretton's report - that after nearly six months of debate in State Parliament, legislation to establish the Country Fire Authority (CFA) was finally given Royal Assent on December 4, 1944. On April 2, 1945, the Country Fire Authority Act came into existence.

It is well recorded the 1943-44 Victorian bushfire season was marked by a series of major bushfires following severe drought conditions. For Melbourne, the 1943-44 summer was the driest summer ever recorded, with just 46 mm falling, a third of the average rainfall for the period.

From the S.E.C Magazine March 31, 1944 - 'Monday February 14, 1944, broke cloudy and cool at Yallourn. A light easterly

wind was blowing and the conditions contained no threat of a hot day. After noon, the weather changed in an extraordinary way; the wind now gusty had now changed to the north-west and had become hot. By 2.30 pm it was reported that a fire a few miles away was visible and the wind had become a gale'.

Richard Murnane's idea of burning off during such weather conditions, and

thinking remaining logs and embers would extinguish themselves was careless and thoughtless.

Memorial gates at Hazelwood Cemetery lists the following names of 13 victims:

- Harry Cook - Morwell - no grave
- Mrs Elsie Dyer - The Ridge - yes 56 years
- Jim Flitton - Hazelwood - yes 43
- Miss Grace Hare -

"unmarked" refers to their internment at Hazelwood Cemetery. For example, there are two unmarked graves.)

In editorial Morwell Advertiser, Thursday March 2, 1944, it was made clear Mr Harry Cook was not a victim of the fires. A resident of Morwell, Harry died from his burns and a fractured skull in Yallourn Hospital, following a fall on the bitumen road from a truck moving to continue firefighting on the Maryvale Road. Earlier in the day he was one of the army of fire beaters on The Ridge area near Mr Ern Hare's homestead.

From all reports, it seems Mrs Elsie Dyer, Miss Grace Hare, Mr and Mrs Jones and Frank Walker were caught in flames while fighting fires on The Ridge. Apparently, Miss Hare refused to be driven to a safer location at the Hazelwood Cemetery, preferring to remain helping others.

Alex Walker was a Yinnar farmer who went to help his brother, Frank, at The Ridge. It was

others, he was intent on saving a hay stack. However, he was overcome by thick smoke and tried to shelter in the middle of a dry dam. It was here John was badly burnt and died soon after in Yallourn Hospital.

Hazelwood North resident, Charles Tanner attempted to fight the fire at his Church Road farm. Together with his wife, he went to shift some sheep, but was unable to run fast enough to safety in their washhouse. Mrs Tanner made the distance but Charles did not - his clothes had been entirely burnt off.

Helping others fight the raging fire at Nadenbousch's farm, Richard (Dick) Thomas was caught in flames and his body stripped of all clothing. His burns were horrendous.

Mr Arch Thompson, who lived in Church Road, Hazelwood North, looked for his cows. With a change of wind, the fire came back, and burnt his house down, but missed the shed where Mrs Thompson was sheltering.

This fire was the one that trapped Arch. His clothes had been burnt off entirely.

With assistance from his wife, William Woolacott was helping fight a fire at Charlie Jones' property in Church Road, Hazelwood North. As the fire approached, William decided they should seek safety by driving away in their car.

However, as reported, Emily was about to get into the car, when a "tremendous blast came and blew her against a hedge." Her clothes caught alight; William was unable to extinguish the flames.

A public appeal raised donations totalling £151.00, plus interest at £3/10/-, therefore allowing the granite memorial gates to be erected in memory of 13 brave and courageous people.

At 11.00 a.m. on Saturday morning, February 14, 1948, at the office of Mr. H. W. Gay, secretary of the Hazelwood Cemetery Trust, the granite and iron gates erected in memory of the bush fire victims of February 14, 1944, were officially handed over to the Cemetery Trust.



- Morwell - yes 47
- Percy Jones - Morwell - yes
- Mrs Vera Jones - Morwell - yes
- William McNair - Traralgon - unmarked
- John Robinson - Jeeralang - yes 16
- Charles Tanner - Hazelwood - no
- Dick Thomas - Hazelwood - yes
- Arch Thompson - Jeeralang - unmarked
- Frank Walker - Yinnar - yes 35 years
- Mrs Emily Alice Woolacott - Morwell - yes
- (*** The place of abode and age at death have been included for this editorial. The words "yes", "no",

Frank who died when he left in his car to obtain extra help; never to return. Jim Flitton was caught in flames from a rapidly approaching fire at Nadenbousch's farm. He took refuge in a water trough, however, later died from his burns.

William McNair struggled to seek refuge with the Mele family at Jeeralang Junction. His body was found near a fence with most of the clothes burnt off. A resident of Traralgon, William was actually visiting his block of land when the fires took hold.

John Robinson was also firefighting on Nadenbousch's farm. With



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1st Churchill Scout Group



A term of adventure at 1st Churchill Scout Unit

After our overnight hiking trip to McMahon Lodge on Mt Erica last term, 1st Churchill Scout Unit is working on our strategy and team building skills while preparing for their next camp, this time to Phillip Island.

Their first two nights this term have been about fire safety and first aid. Be Prepared is the Scout Motto, and our Scouts wanted to know more about how to be better prepared for the hotter months ahead.

On a recent joint night with 1st Churchill Cub Scout Unit, we worked together on construction, building catapults and teaching the Cub Scouts how much fun can be had working as a team.

Our Scouts also recently attended a showing of Strzelecki Showtime's 'Our Community, Our Place' at the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre and had a ball watching their fellow members, and Scout Leader, singing, dancing and acting on stage.

Upcoming events include swimming at the local pool, a spooktacular Halloween night where we learn about the origins of Halloween and a media night learning what it takes to write, direct and produce a movie.

1st Churchill Scout Group currently has limited

vacancies:

Joey Scouts for girls and boys aged 5 to 7, meets Thursdays 5.30pm to 6.30pm.

Cub Scouts for girls and boys aged between 8 and 10 years, meets Wednesdays 6.30pm to 8pm.

Scouts for girls and boys aged between 11 and 14 years, meets Tuesdays 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Venturer Scouts - for

young adults aged between 14 and 18 years, meets Mondays 7pm to 9pm.

Rover Scouts - for adults aged between 18 and 25 years of age, meets Friday evenings.

For more information please contact the Group Leader Tammy Napier via groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au

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SATURDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2023

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REGISTRATION STARTS FROM
9.30am and closes at 1.45pm

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All children that register will receive a free sausage and drink

There will be fishing activities all day.

Hot food and hot and cold drinks will be available all day.

THERE WILL BE LOTS OF PRIZES TO WIN

To participate and win prizes you must register and be present on the day to collect prizes.

All juniors must always be accompanied by an adult.

Come along drop in a line, catch a fish, have a great day out with the family. There will be something for everyone.

For further information See us on Facebook



Friends of Morwell National Park



October Activity Report

For the first activity of the day, we had our regular group along with five members of the community to join in the search for orchids.

In a meeting before the activity Jay told the group that the work on the bird book is progressing well, and they have received seed funding from Field Naturalist Victoria of \$1,000. A list of birds to be included has been made and there will be 106 bird species within the book. A person can now be employed to generate layout ideas and work upon enhancements to the better layouts.

Matt reported that he recently attended a day at Morwell National Park hosted by Friends of the Earth (FOE Melbourne). They have a group called Strzelecki Koala Action Team, or S.K.A.T.

They had come down from Melbourne to meet up with local Suzie Zent and

discuss the Strzelecki Koala. As the FMNP have been counting koalas in the Park since 1986, we felt that it might benefit the S.K.A.T. people to have one of our group along. There was quite a good turn-out with many making the trip down from the city and a few locals also coming along. We had a lengthy discussion in the car park regarding the local koalas, their importance in terms of genetics, the numbers left and the possibility of linking up areas of suitable habitat. We also discussed a few other things for those who did not know a lot about koalas in general, such as size, behaviour, diet etc.

After the discussion, they went for a short walk along Fosters Gully where they were able to show the group three koalas. This was a bit of a thrill for those who rarely (or never) get to see them and it even seemed to impress the S.K.A.T. people, especially as all three were

in very close proximity to each other. I was asked if this was usual for the area and I told them that it was quite normal to see them in such numbers. While our best FMNP count was 16, I have counted 16 in one single lap of Fosters Gully. That was an exceptional day but it goes to show the importance of the local population, and Morwell National Park in particular, as far as koala survival goes. Anthony Amis (S.K.A.T and FOE) told me that in some NSW locations, researchers would be lucky to see three in a year!

At the end of the meeting the group introduced themselves to each other. The large group then moved towards Stringybark Track, while Ken saved his energy for the afternoon walk, Caitlin took photos of the koala above the picnic area and Jay investigated other parts of the park.

The walk around Stringybark was pleasant although the number of

orchids located was down on previous years. Even with the skilled younger eyes who found many orchids, the number of orchids on show for our walk was not high.

When we returned from Stringybark, we found that many people had come early for the koala count. Lunch was had in the picnic area in preparation of the upcoming koala count.

For the koala count we had most of our group along with 11 members of the public so that greatly improved our ability to spot koalas.

The group divided with most deciding upon Fosters Gully since it was the shortest walk, the likelihood of seeing a koala was high and it was different to the morning's walk. The group divided into the following groups:

Fosters Gully – Ken, Cathy, Anita and all members of the public
Stringybark Track – Tamara, Joelle and Mike B

Jumbuk Road Track – Matt and Darren

Matt and Darren were fortunate enough to have Gordon drive them to the start of their track. It saved having to collect a vehicle later. At the top of hill the view was great but sadly they saw that a number of pinus radiata have grown where many larger trees were removed five years ago. They scrambled down the hillside and saw two koalas and a wallaby en route.

Surprisingly they were the first group to return to the picnic area. Later the Stringybark group returned excited in seeing a tawny frogmouth and five koalas.

The Fosters Gully group took the longest but sighted the most koalas. The attentive eyes of the children were great at spotting koalas. It was great that Caitlin had taken photos of the koala above the picnic area because it could not be found when the survey started.

Thanks is extended to

Caitlin, Joelle and Anita who each sent brilliant photos they collected during the day, which are included here. Overall, it was a very successful day with a high number of koalas spotted.

Fosters Gully
14 koalas seen and one heard
Stringybark Track
5 koalas seen and one heard
Jumbuk Road Track
2 koalas

Total
21 koalas and two additional koalas heard

November Activity
Sunday November 19, 10am

The group will meet in the Kerry Road car park to complete the Butterfly Orchid Survey and some track maintenance. You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

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Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare

By J. Duncan

The birds and the bees and the flowers and the trees and the weeds of course!!

Weeds first

If you are lucky, there is still time to pull or hoe ragwort and hoe thistles at the cabbage stage before they flower. You can also spray them. If the ragwort already has flowers, it is best to manually remove the flower heads first and bag them for green rubbish or to leave them covered in black plastic in the sun to cook. Our group's weed signs will be rotated around various locations in the district over the coming months. It is still a bit early to spray blackberries, but not a bad time to cut and paint the stems.

Bees and Flowers

National Pollinator Week will be from November 11 to 19 this year. It is a time to observe and celebrate all the wonderful insect life that we need to keep our eco-system working as it should.

To participate in the National Pollinator Count you simply need to observe some flowers for 10 minutes and record the types of pollinators that you see.

To register your results you will need to learn to identify the nine groups of insects, do a test and register your results. There are learning resources on line.

For those so inclined, in conjunction with the pollinator count you can learn a waggle dance and/or be part of a photography competition.

<https://www.australianpollinatorweek.org.au/>

Learning to love Australian Mistletoes

A lot of the concerns people have about Mistletoe are a carry-over from European thinking. There is only one species of Mistletoe in Europe, and, yes, European Mistletoe is a true parasite and will kill trees. The

Mistletoe species that we have in Australia are very different.

There have been some interesting and successful projects to establish Mistletoe to improve habitat for native birds and other fauna. The best known of these is in the City of Melbourne where Mistletoe was established on deciduous street trees. The addition of Mistletoe will add biodiversity; provide winter food resources for birds; and have a local cooling effect on the atmosphere in hot summers. Creeping Mistletoe *Muellerina Myrsinoides* was the species used for this project.

In Australia there are many Mistletoe species, and they are classed as semi-parasitic plants. That is, they do their own photosynthesis and take only water from the parent plant. In return, they will turbo-charge the leaf litter for the invertebrates and fungi that live in it. These organisms in turn break it down to replenish the soil. The improved soil health and availability of nutrients benefits the host tree.

If a tree has a massive infestation of Mistletoe it is usually a sign of stress and the tree will probably die unless some of the Mistletoe is removed, and biodiversity restored to its surrounding environment. e.g. excluding stock will stop further soil compaction; adding understorey and establishing wildlife corridors will allow beetles, lizards, possums and other fauna to reach the tree and keep populations of damaging insects under control.

For birds and native fauna Mistletoes provide flowers over a longer period than most flowering trees and their leaves are apparently delicious for possums and gliders. Birds that forage on the ground are more likely to be found in areas that have

Mistletoe, because better leaf litter has more of the insects and invertebrates that they eat.

Mistletoe is destroyed by fire, and it has been shown to be possible to re-establish it in fire affected areas for the benefit of birds, the soil and native fauna.

Some people in our group are keen to start experimenting with trying to grow it.

Mistletoe is spread by the tiny black, white and red or pink Mistletoe birds and a few species of Honeyeater. It is the food plant of the beautiful Imperial Jezebel Butterfly (*Delias Harpalyce*). These are white on top and coloured underneath their wings and much, much bigger than the introduced Cabbage Whites.

There was a Birds Australia webinar on Mistletoe recently, and this is now available on YouTube.

The Ecological Importance of Mistletoe. - YouTube

There is also a project to record Australian Mistletoe plants on the iNaturalist Citizen Science app. It would be very handy to know where it is growing locally, when it fruits and when it flowers.

There are expert reviewers on the platform who can identify the species from photos that are posted.

iNaturalist is an online social network of people sharing biodiversity information to help each other learn about nature.

If you visit Morwell National Park, there are currently signs with QR codes linking to iNaturalist on the gates that invite you to record the birds that you see in the Morwell National Park project. This information will help the Friends of the Park with compiling their planned bird book.

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



Recycle right at Churchill Community Hub

Look for the 'Recycling Centre' in the Churchill Community Hub - near the entrance to Childcare & Kindergarten.

DON'T BIN THESE: RECYCLE THEM CORRECTLY AT THE HUB -

- PLASTIC bread tags (no cardboard tags please).
- WASHED plastic milk and juice bottle tops (no other types or sizes please).
- X-rays (no paper envelopes please).
- Printer Cartridges (no plastic, foil or cardboard packaging please).
- All small e-waste items, including mobile phones & chargers.

Sorry, we are no longer accepting:

- ▲ Aluminium foil (Scrunch your foil into golf-ball sized lumps and put in your recycling bin at home).
- ▲ Pens, Biro's, Textas, Marking Pens and Hi-lighters (Recycle these items by dropping off at Officeworks).

Please take your plastic bags home to re-use - dont leave them in our containers.



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SPORT

Churchill & Monash Golf Club



Winners of our annual Churchill & Monash Golf Club Bowl held on Monday October 9 with a total score of 94 pts, were Marianne Ryan, Christine Stevens and Shirley Turner. Well done ladies.

4 Person Ambrose Saturday September 30

Winners: T. Sanders, S. Sanders, D. Byers, C. Gilfillan 54.75. D.T.L : 1. P. Flanigan, G. Spowart, R. Madigan, I. Fortune 56.125. 2. G. Bevis, A. Wright, R. Noordam, Pommy 56.25. 3. J. Langstaff, L. Anderson, R. Zomer, P. Kearns 56.5 C/B. N.T.P : 3rd W. Sutton, 5th C. Hogbin, 12th Pro-Pin C. Hogbin, 14th I. Fortune.

Monthly Medal Tuesday October 3, 2023

Medal Winner: L. Brent 26 74 nett Day Winner : M. Hutchinson 27 74 nett. D.T.L : J. Sanders snr 77 nett Scratch: J. Sanders snr 94 Putts : C. Stevens 27. N.T.P:

3rd L. Brent, 5th L. Brent, 12th J. Sanders snr, 14th C. Sterrick.

Stableford Saturday October 7, 2023

A Grade Winner : R. Dent 11 37 B Grade Winner: Ad. West 19 38. C Grade Winner : As. West 34 35 D.T.L : 1. T. Sterrick 36, 2. R. Vesty 35, 3. R. Madigan 35, 4. P. Flanigan 35, 5. R. Welsh 35, 6. G. Sanders 33, 7. P. Kearns 32, 8. J. McCafferty 31 C/B. N.T.P : 3rd Pro-Pin : R. Madigan, 12th G. Barnes, 14th M. Soppe. Target Hole : D. Burridge Birdies : I. Heppelston 12th, C. Sterrick 14th.

Stableford Tuesday October 10, 2023

Winner : S. Turner 27 32

D.T.L : V. Reid 30 32 N.T.P : 3rd M. Dear, 5th L. Brent, 12th C. Carder and L. Brent, 14th L. Brent.

4BBB Saturday October 14, 2023

Winners: D. Byers and Ad. West 41 pts Runners Up : J. McCafferty and J. Barret 39 Pts D.T.L : 1. I. Heppelston and I. Fortune 38 Pts, 2. A. Auld and J. Cahill 36 C/B, 3. R. Madigan and P. Smart 36 C/B N.T.P : 3rd. J. Banfield, 5th R. Dent, 12th Pro-Pin : D. Byers.

4BBB Tuesday October 17, 2023

Winners: S. Gosling and M. Hutchinson 41 pts. D.T.L: S. Turner and M. Ryan 40 pts N.T.P: 3rd S. Gosling, 5th C. Carder, 12th J. Clegg, 14th

M. Ryan.

Stableford Saturday October 21, 2023

A Grade winner : D. Ellwood 14 33 pts B Grade winner : M. Soppe : 19 37 pts. C Grade winner : W. Sutton 28 38 pts D.T.L : 1. P. Junker 37, 2. C. Sterrick 35, 3. As. West 34, 4. G. Corponi 33, 5. T. Lio 32, 6. J. Barret 32, 7. M. Hutchinson 32 N.T.P : 3rd R. Vesty, Pro-Pin, 12th D. Burridge, 14th M. Hutchinson. Target Hole : M. Soppe.

Stableford Tuesday October 24, 2023

Winner: M. Hutchinson 27 31 pts D.T.L: Ad. West 30 pts, T. Sterrick 29 pts. N.T.P : 3rd L. Van Rooy, 5th M. McQuillen, 12th Ad West.

Churchill Cobras



Churchill Cobra's 50th year playing cricket in the Latrobe Valley got off in the best possible way. The newly created ladies outfit taking the field against Morwell on Thursday October 19 at Andrews Park to a large and festive atmosphere. With the dads on baby duty in the clubhouse, the women strutted their stuff and chalked up a win against the more experienced Morwell team.

Morwell batted in the first innings and lost quick wickets to Jemelle Keighran, one rattling the stumps and one from a solid catch to the youngest member of the team, Alexandra Forbes.

Simone Forbes chipped in with the next wicket, a great catch from Sarah Birch and Morwell was struggling to build partnerships. Churchill's fielding led the way with Simone Forbes running out the next batter leaving Morwell four down. Zoe Treloar's two overs and two maidens gained reward with the last wicket of the innings breaking the stumps and setting the score at 5/61 from 16 overs.

Churchill started positively with Christine Roach slapping the first ball to mid-off. However, she hit it too well allowing the fielder to gather and leave her short of the crease

desperately searching for that first Churchill run. Simone Forbes and Poppy Wheeler built momentum ticking over the scoreboard and putting pressure on the Morwell fielders. Simone missed a well placed ball which saw her bails fall, although Poppy continued nicely, eventually retiring with a well made 19. Zoe MacNaughton and Zoe Treloar looked comfortable adding further runs to the score and Churchill's win was complete with five overs to spare. The Cobras could not have asked for a better opening. Women's cricket on a Thursday night adds a whole new flavour to the club and is well worth the watch.

The Cobras are fielding teams in A Premier, Women's Premier, B Premier, C Grade, Under 16's and Under 12's but are always looking for new players. Our mini cobras will be on Saturday mornings at 9.00am at Andrews Park West in Churchill beginning November 4 through to December 16, and then starting up again on February 3. Free registration for 6 - 10 year olds includes a free Churchill Cricket Club Polo. If you wish to be part of the club this year in any form, follow us on Facebook, email us at churchillcc@hotmail.com, or simply pop down on a Tuesday or Thursday night to say hello.

St. Matt's Opportunity Shop



26 Main St. Yinnar
Open Monday, Thursday, Friday 10am - 4pm

The shop now has Christmas items on display with plenty of decorations and gifts. We hope you all enjoyed the Halloween dress ups, there are still some left for end of year parties. Summer stock is out now and there are some lovely party dresses for sale.

We would like to have more volunteers. If you can help for a day or half day call in and ask us about joining.

St. Matt's will close

on Friday December 22 at 4pm for two weeks, reopening Monday January 8. Please do not leave donations while the shop is closed.

Thank you all for your patronage. We have been able to donate to the children's September camp held at Lake Tyers Beach. Warm clothing has been given to overseas students at Federation Uni and homeless people via the Gathering Place in Morwell. We hope to be able to make further donations in the future. This would not be possible without your help.

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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

SCHOOL NEWS

Boolarra Primary



a mine tour, then we gold panned a little bit. After that we had dinner at a café. We had spaghetti and meatballs. Finally, before we went to bed, we went to the Royal Victorian Theatre where we watched two hilarious skits.

On the second day (September 5), we had an action-packed day. We started off with an all you can eat breakfast. Afterwards, we went to the shops

because we had money. I bought a harmonica from a souvenir shop, and I also got a necklace with pure gold in it. Then, we went to a gold purifying session. Some people got to hold the 3KG bar, but someone kept pretending to run off with it. Next, we went to a school to learn more about the history of Sovereign Hill. Lastly, we saw and heard guns going off.

The last day was chaotic but fun. We had to pack up, have breakfast, then leave as soon as possible. The train and bus rides back were calmer than the first day but still filled with chatter and fun.

The experience was wonderful. It was so much fun that I can't put it into words. 9/10, would go again.

Ryleigh

Clubs

On Friday October 20, four clubs have started up. Run by some students,

including some of our student leaders, the clubs are Art, Gardening, Cooking/Baking and Sports and are run every second week. Sports club was not on this week because the pupils who were running the club were away. People who picked sports were temporarily moved to different clubs. In Gardening, run by Sophie, students were weeding to supposedly make way for some delicious strawberries. Art club, run by Isabelle and Ryleigh, was making cute and creepy paper pumpkins for Halloween. Finally Cooking/Baking, run by Scarlett, Ruby and Logan, was cooking some experimental honey joys out of Wheaties and Gluten-free Cornflakes instead of normal Cornflakes. Apparently, they taste very good! Everyone is looking forward to eat them. All of the clubs were a great success.

Isabelle

Responsible Pet Ownership - Kinder Visit

On Wednesday October 24, the F/1/2 class went to the Boolarra Kinder for a special visit. We went to see the lady with the dog who taught us all about keeping safe around dogs. We learned when not to pat a dog and how to ask the owner if we wanted to pat their dog. If a dog is sleeping, eating or hurt we should leave it alone. It was fun and the dog was very friendly.

F/1/2 class



Sovereign Hill

From September 4 to September 6, Boolarra Primary School and Yinnar South went to Sovereign Hill together. The bus ride there wasn't super exciting but when we got there, we went straight to the cabin and put our bags in our room. When we finished setting up our rooms, we went to the café and had lunch.

Then we went to the gold pan lake and looked for gold, but sadly I didn't find any. Afterwards we went to the old gold mine and had a tour, it was super fun. At the end of the first day we all went to the Royal Victoria Theatre and watched super funny skits. On the next day, we woke up, had breakfast and went to the lolly shop.

After the lolly shop, we went to have a walk around and meet new people. Next, we went to the gold purifying show, and I got to hold \$300,000 worth of gold! It was so cool. We also got

to watch someone making lollies. After all that and when it was the afternoon, we went to go see a light show. The light show was split into three parts. The first part was a 3D experience, the second part was an outside light show, then we went into a cinema and started watching the last part until the walls separated and showed a big prop town that got engulfed in flames.

On the last day we woke up, packed up and went to have breakfast, and waited for the bus, then we hopped on and left. The ride back was pretty boring though. In conclusion, it was SUPER fun and I would totally go back there again.

Toby G

Sovereign Hill

On September 4, our school and Yinnar South went to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat. We went via bus and train.

The first day was sort of eventful. First, we went on



SCHOOL NEWS

Yinnar South Primary

On Wednesday October 25, our junior and senior students participated in their fortnightly cooking session.

The students have been working hard over the previous week to design and plan tasty recipes to try out

and add to our cookbook. The students have had to use their research skills to find inspiration and use their mathematics skills to shop and calculate quantities. After a whole school vote, the students elected to

make choc chip and M&M cookies.

Our junior and seniors students worked together in small groups to follow a recipe, gather and measure their ingredients and follow along a method. The

students all have a delicious snack to take home and we are so proud of all their hard work!

Yinnar South Primary School has also welcomed our 2024 Preps for our Ready Set Southies

transition program.

They have participated in a range of activities like construction and imaginative learning, and joining in with a variety of songs and stories.

Our new Preps have

thoroughly enjoyed their first experiences at our school.

If you would like to see what a small school can offer your child in 2024, enquire by contacting the school on 5169 1540.

SCHOOL NEWS

Hazelwood North Primary

It is not every day you get to throw slime at the school Principal, but this is exactly what some of the students at Hazelwood North Primary School got to do on Friday October 20 to celebrate their Colour Run! Making the most of a sunny day, the students enjoyed an obstacle course creatively set up by the Parents and Friends Club. They were sprayed with colourful powder as they tackled the track, with plenty of rainbow faces at the end. We could not run days like this and raise money for our school without the huge efforts of our Parents and Friends Club – thank you!



SCHOOL NEWS

Kurnai University Campus

'Great Big Thank You' event hosted by The Smith Family

It was an honour for Michael Eastman (Teacher and VCE Coordinator) to take part on a panel for The Smith Family's 'Great Big Thank You' event in Melbourne. This event is held to showcase the positive impact of educational partnerships with The Smith Family. Former Kurnai graduates Alira and Jade Smith acted as MCs for the event and Nathan Britt spoke and performed beautifully. We are very grateful for all the work that The Smith Family do with Kurnai and it was a fantastic opportunity to spend some time to reflect on the positive outcomes of this ongoing partnership.

Year 12 VCE/VM Community Projects: Beach Clean Up

Beach litter is something that happens too regularly and is affecting our planet. This issue raised concern among me and my peers which is why we wanted to help out and make a difference. As a result, for our end of year community project our group, myself, Bella and Oakleigh, organised a trip to go to the beach for a beach cleanup. We gathered around at Inverloch and wandered

off into groups collecting as much rubbish we could.

Although it was only the one day, any removal of litter is better than none and knowing we could have saved much sea life was such a rewarding experience. I am hoping that I have convinced the future VM students to go back to help the environment.

Leah Hughes-Year 12 VM Student
Year 12 VCE/VM Community Projects: Mitchell House Visit

Bellarose and Dani planned an outstanding excursion to Mitchell House as part of their Year 12 VCE/VM Community project.

The two students had high ambitions of creating an enriching and meaningful experience between two very different age groups - adolescents and elderly. They also enlisted the help of another VM group who planned and cooked an amazing spread for both the residents and teenagers to enjoy. They all worked together to plan activities to ensure a successful afternoon.

The group of ten Kurnai students headed to Mitchell House, in the first week of Term 4, with a lot of good will and some beautiful treats.

The afternoon was a complete success. Feedback from the residents was

phenomenal and the teenagers loved it too.

Some quotes from residents:

"They don't have to worry about getting old because they can see us enjoying ourselves".

"Yes I thought it was a good day".

"I had a good conversation with one of the young boys and he was quite good".

"That young fella I was talking to was alright, he could sing".

"I think they got as much out of it as we did, yes I think it was a very good day".

"I'll have them back, I thought the ones I met were nice enough".

"Oh yes I had a very good time".

"It was a nice informal interaction, everybody looked like they had a good time".

Some quotes from the teenagers

"Pretty cool, pretty fun".

"A very well-planned day".

"Was nice singing to them".

"I really enjoyed it".

"Everyone was in high spirits".

"I was just very happy there, it is a really calming place".

Katrina Bosch, the Leisure and Lifestyle Coordinator was integral to the success of the program. Katrina supported the students wholeheartedly and encouraged their project from the very beginning. Without community support for these projects and a lot of faith in their skills, these VM projects could not happen.

The final quote from Katrina encapsulates the overall project;

"Thank you again to Bella and Danielle for thinking of Mitchell House for their year 12 project and they should get 10/10 for all they did."



SCHOOL NEWS

Yinnar Primary

100 Days of School - Foundation

On Tuesday August 1, the Preps celebrated 100 Days of School. Some of us dressed up in lots of colours to match our theme of '100 Days Brighter', some came with 100 objects on a t-shirt, and others were in costume as a 100-year-old man/woman. We had so much fun completing a range of activities all about the number 100. We made necklaces with 100 fruit loops on them, and also made biscuits with lollies for the number 100. We created a collaborative mural depicting 100 things we love about our school. It was so much fun and well worth tracking each and every one of our school days since the beginning of the year.

Yinnar's Got Talent

Congratulations to everyone who went out of their comfort zone and tried



out for Yinnar's Got Talent this year! We had a variety of acts this time around. Even if you did not win a prize, everyone did an amazing job. The winners of Yinnar's Got Talent were:

- 1st place Jackson and Tom with Bottle Flipping
- 2nd place Annie with some Magic Tricks
- 3rd place Sonny who timed himself to solve the Rubik's Cube.

especially seeing as none of us play football outside of school. I really enjoyed playing football and would like to play again some time.

By Ivy
Every single one of us



Girls AFL Team: Ivy, Taylah, Amira, Leila, Ebony, Elyse, Dakota, Pippa, Izzy, Emily and Lily

Congratulations to everyone involved. By Billy and Taylah Girls AFL On Thursday August 3, some Grade 5/6 girls were selected to play in a girls AFL tournament in Traralgon. In the lead up to the tournament our team did lots of drills and training sessions with Mr Twomey during lunch times to prepare us for the day.

We played five games on the day and won two. Our team played so well together,

girls played our best and pushed ourselves out of our comfort zone. It was a very rough game, but we all pushed ourselves to our limits and didn't stop. We all encouraged one another to do our best and had fun while doing it.

By Bonnie and Pippa Matchbox Gallery Exhibition

The students from all grade levels have been collaborating with Mr. Twomey to produce original portrait paintings.

These paintings will be showcased at the charming Matchbox Gallery on Main Street in Yinnar. All the paintings will be available for purchase through a silent auction. The proceeds generated from the sales will be utilised to enhance the sports facilities at the school.

The exhibition commenced on Friday, October 20, at 4 pm. It remained open from Friday to Sunday, between 11 am and 4 pm, for a duration of three weeks.

Regional Athletics Championships at Joe Carmody Reserve Newborough

Congratulations to Morgen, Eleanor, Elliott, Jayden, Zoe, Emma, Amira, Vienna, Beth, Mikinlee, Lily, Henry, Jaz and Alice who qualified and represented Yinnar Primary School at the Regional Athletics Championships at Joe Carmody Reserve on Wednesday October 18, 2023. All performed very well in a higher level of competition. Congratulations to Amira who came second in the individual shotput for her age and also to Eleanor, Zoe, Beth and Alice who set a new Regional Championships record in the girls relay for their age group. Amira, Beth, Eleanor, Zoe and Alice will all travel to Melbourne to represent Yinnar Primary School at the State Championships in a few weeks time. We wish them well and know they will

give their best efforts. Well done to everyone who competed.

Building Upgrade

A great deal of work has been happening behind the scenes, and soon we will start to see some work happening at the school.

Fi m m a Constructions was the most competitive tender and has indicated a strong understanding of the project requirements.

They have a high knowledge, capability, and relevant expertise in completing education projects.

We expect preliminary work to take place in mid-November. The project will begin with builder's site sheds/early building services works to existing Block A/shed construction/installation of temporary toilets/temporary works to existing



Amira 2nd Place Shotput winner

Block A - south side.

This would start on-site around mid-November. The demolition of Block A - north side is likely to happen in early 2024, or potentially over the summer school holidays."



Relay Winners Zoe, Eleanor, Alice, Beth

SCHOOL NEWS

Churchill North Primary

On Thursday October 19, Mad About Science came to Churchill North Primary School. Throughout the morning students in Grades F to 2 participated in a Light and Sound workshop and after lunch the whole school got to enjoy a Mad Science Show.

In the Light and Sound workshop students learnt how light and sound travels through various experiments and activities.

The students' favourite activities were using tuning sticks to investigate the vibrations of sound and exploring how light makes rainbows.

The Mad Science Show showcased different areas of science, from flame throwing to hair raising experiments. Several lucky students were even chosen to be involved in various demonstrations. Trey, Connor, Anastasia and Will kicked off the show by making ping pong balls levitate, followed by Josh

and Lilly blasting patty pans off one another's heads with a giant airzooka gun.

The presenter Ken closed the show with super static electrical demonstration using his special Van de Graaff generator.

Darius from 4/5H was invited

up to participate in a thrilling act, showcasing how the electrons from the generator transfer to the human body to make your hair fly (literally).

The students absolutely loved

the Mad About Science visit and it was so wonderful to see so many asking questions, making predications, and developing their critical and creative thinking skills.





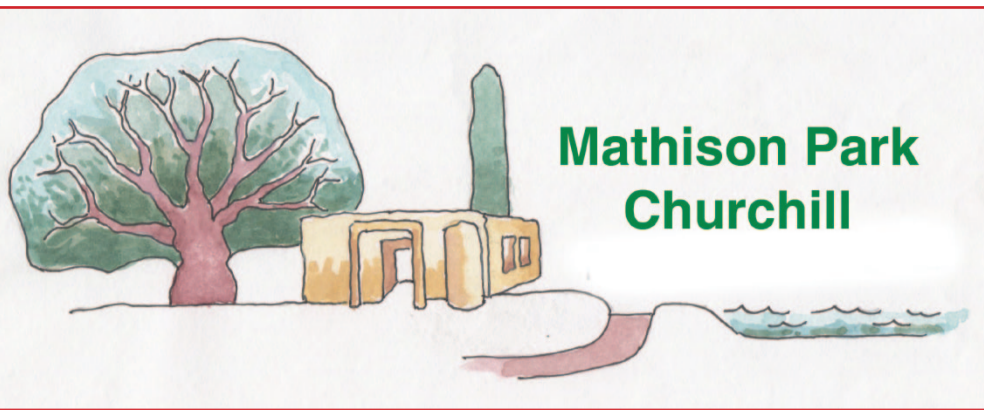
Due to the awful weather forecast and previous rain, making conditions too wet in the park, the working bee of October 14 was cancelled. The following Saturday was to take its place.

The Interchange crew were not able to come and help either due to the rain.

However, park volunteers managed to install five nesting boxes for birds and other creatures. These boxes were made by the Interchange crew while attending a Bunnings workshop. Bunnings supplied the materials and the supervision for the making of the boxes. It is hoped these boxes will supply safe and secure homes for our wildlife. Our sincere thanks to Bunnings and the Interchange crew for these donations.

Another huge thank you to Barbara Harvey at Bunnings who has so very generously supplied potting mix, fertilisers and tree ties for our numerous tree planting days in the park. It is good to report that the trees are doing well, helped by the potting mix and fertiliser, as well as being tied up securely by the tree tie.

Towards the end of October, the Interchange crew came and three



Mathison Park Churchill

large trailer loads of fallen limbs, bark and leaves were collected and piled ready to burn.

The re-scheduled working bee on October 21 saw a good turn out of volunteers allowing us to go in three different directions to achieve our objectives. Two of our original tree plantings on the east side of the park, on the top fence line, had fallen over. These were cut up and disposed of. The boardwalk netting has broken down in places so some new material was laid and places which were broken were stapled down. Weeding around several trees was done on the east side.

In the arboretum, alongside Monash Way, near the pedestrian crossing, tree fall debris was scraped away from under each tree and old weed mat was taken out from around some of the original plantings of over twenty years ago. Some broken

branches were taken down.

All in all it was a very productive day sustained by a very nice morning tea which was well earned.

New "Beware of Snake" signs have been put up around the park in places where snakes have been sighted. Please keep your dogs on leashes to avoid them being bitten and dying.

The new brightly coloured table tennis table is installed in the park beside the large picnic shelter. It has a built in net. All you need to bring to use it are balls and

bats. The table has been supplied by the Latrobe Health Assembly to which we give our grateful thanks.



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