

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

Established 1966

Distributed Free

Australia Day 2024

Berry Dairy - p 14

Line Dancing - p 19

Cricket - p 20



Action at Churchill parkrun



The festive season has been an active one at Churchill parkrun, with four events in nine days.

In addition to the usual Saturday mornings, events were held on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

There were 60 finishers on Saturday December 23, 36 on Christmas Day, 56 on

December 30, and 43 on New Year's Day.

A highlight of Christmas Day was completion of the course in record time by Australian representative Andre Waring, who ran the five kilometres in the remarkable time of 15 minutes and one second.

Churchill parkrun is held at the

Churchill Hub at 8:00 am every Saturday morning. It is a free and timed event, organised each week by groups of volunteers. Like all parkruns, Churchill is a 5 km event, with a mix of runners, joggers and walkers.

Churchill's parkrun has been conducted weekly since January 2016,

with a short break during COVID restrictions.

All that is needed to take part in parkrun is to complete a free registration with parkrun Australia, and bring a barcode to the event. Those interested should arrive for a briefing at the Churchill Hub at 7:45 am any Saturday morning.



CHURCHILL SHOP LOCAL MARKETS 2024

SATURDAY, MAY 4th
SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th

RGM

Winner of the 2022 Federation University Gippsland Business Awards 2022

Accountants & Advisors

- Tax Preparation
- GST & PAYG Compliance
- Tax Planning Strategies
- SMSF Compliance

Financial Planning

- Retirement Planning
- Insurance Advice
- Self-Managed Super Funds (SMSF)
- Investment Advice

Wealth for life



Drouin, 25 Princes Way | Moe, 33 Kirk Street | Traralgon, 18 Hotham Street

T: 03 5120 1400

rgmgroup.com.au

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"
Established 1966 Distributed Free

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

The Team

- Editor: Carol Scott
- Team Leader/Secretary: Ruth Place
- Treasurer: Maureen Schenkel
- Assistant Treasurer: Rachael Perrot
- Advertising: Ruth Place, Shelley McDonald, Allan Larkin
- Layout: Carol Scott, Ruth Place, Allan Larkin
- Production: Aaron Xuereb
- Proof Readers: Ruth Place, Shelley McDonald, Gary Weston, Geraldine Larkin, Carol Scott, Virginia Reid, Delma Hodges, Lorraine Peake
- Distribution: Carl Hood
- Team Members: Jubin Raju, Oscar Ewen, Barbara Cheetham, Lorraine Glowacki
- Webpage: John Sunderland,

www.cdnews.com.au



Facebook page: Rebecca Barry

Contributions

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the March 2024 edition is February 25, 2024

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.



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

the voice of the community

MEMBER 2024

ADVERTISING

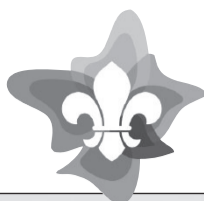
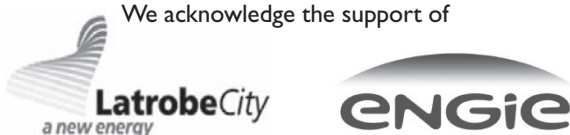
Advertising enquiries can be addressed to:
Ruth Place or Allan Larkin
Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842 or email:
cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au
Telephone: Ruth 0456 786 577
Allan 0427 372 517

Disclaimer

The Churchill & District News wishes to advise that the views or remarks expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the Management Team and no endorsement of service is implied by the listing of advertisers, sponsors or contributors.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS IS PRODUCED UNDER THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF THE CO-OPERATING CHURCHES OF CHURCHILL. THE CO-OPERATION IS MADE UP OF THE ANGLICAN AND UNITING CHURCHES.

We acknowledge the support of



Three Weeks for Free at Churchill Scout Group

1st Churchill Scout Group



Throughout first term, Churchill Scout Group is offering a free three week membership trial to come along and try scouting!

Scouting is all about providing an adventurous, fun, challenging program to young people which teaches life skills and leadership. Our age-appropriate sections meet weekly during term time, as well as enjoy weekend outdoor adventures camping, hiking, canoeing, abseiling and more.

Our Joey Scout Unit for young people aged 5 to 8, meets Thursdays from 5.30pm. to 6.30pm. Our Cub Scout Unit for young people aged 8 to 11, meets

Wednesday from 6.30pm to 8pm.

Our Scout Unit for young people aged 11 to 14, meets Tuesdays from 6.30pm to 8.30pm.

Our Venturer Scout Unit for young adults aged 14 to 18, meets Mondays from 7pm to 9pm.

Our Rover Scout Unit for adults aged 18 to 25, meets Fridays from 7pm.

For more information or to register to come and enjoy a three week free membership trial, please contact the Group Leader of Churchill Scout Group Tammy Napier via groupleader@1stchurchill.com.au

Rainfall



Churchill Rainfall 2023

Churchill's rainfall for December was above average for the month with 91mm being recorded, from rain falling on 13 days.

The green growth in lawns and paddocks nearby has been evident to the end of the year.

The 2023 Yearly Rainfall Total for Churchill is 875mm, which is also above the yearly rainfall average.

Churchill Rainfall for January 2024

Churchill's rainfall for January 2024 was above average for the month with 83 mm being recorded for nine days of rain. It was not as high as several other areas in Victoria, including Melbourne and Bendigo, where well over 100 mm of rain fell for January.

Rain at Hazelwood South, 2023

During December 2023, the effects of the warming oceans was stronger than the El Niño effect, switching from the Southern Ocean to the Pacific Ocean and later, the Timor Sea and Indian

Oceans, resulting in 93.8mm. This is a massive 47% above the December average, the tanks staying full, and the ground water level remaining high, and lots of grass to cut. Hazelwood South was 9.3% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station.

Hazelwood South had 863mm of rain for 2023, and was only 4.2% wetter than an average year, and 17% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station.

Hazelwood South Rainfall for January 2024:

Before the oceans warmed, it was usual for the grass to brown off and the weeds to shrivel during the summer months, which has not happened for five years. During January, the grass and weeds kept on growing, and the mowers mowing. The 77mm was 46% more than the average for January. Only two days made it to 30 degrees. Hazelwood South was 4% wetter than the Latrobe Valley weather station. The soil moisture remained good, and the tanks close to full.

Churchill Town Symbol Lighting

Latrobe City Council has recently completed lighting upgrades to the Churchill Town Symbol.

The upgrades were delivered as part of Council's Annual Building Renewal Program and saw lighting reinstated to the town monument, affectionately referred to by locals as the 'Big Cigar'. The upgrades to the lighting infrastructure offer a randomised light colour program, in addition to the standard warm yellow streetlight colour.

The randomised coloured lighting sequence of the

Churchill Town Symbol does not have any particular significance, even if by chance they align with a celebration day linked to that colour. Where Council illuminates the monument for a purpose, this will be publicised through Council communication channels.

Council is currently creating a 'Days of Significance and Awareness Campaign' Policy. Until this Policy is finalised, the Churchill Town Symbol lighting will remain programmed to a random colour function.



Trevor Whelan
Shop 16 West Place Churchill
(Access from Marina Drive)
ABN 57 719 482 063
Mob 0448690757
ford460v8@hotmail.com
www.sightandsoundengineering.com.au

Sight & Sound Engineering

Custom Electronics - Mobile Phone / Pc Repair Sales and Service - Cases for Mobile Phone/Tablet - New PC systems / Upgrades - Home Theatre /Projector - VHS to DVD Conversion



ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2024

No.	Size Height x Width	Column size	10% Discount (6 issues)			
			B/W	COLOUR	B/W	COLOUR
			\$	\$	\$	\$
1.	58 mm x 83 mm	2 x 5.8 cm	32.00	NA	28.00	NA
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

TO BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CONTACT
RUTH PLACE
0456 786 577

Submission of Articles:

Articles can be Emailed to: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
- Mailed to: PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
OR put in our collection box at: the Co-Operating Churches.
Advertising enquiries can be emailed to: cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au

CDCA

Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

Looking Ahead

It is a bit difficult, as I am sure most readers agree, to look into the future and 'know' with any certainty. This piece is being written a couple of weeks in advance of publication in February, so it can be challenging to be completely accurate!

With that in mind, it is difficult to predict what will happen at CDCA's next meeting (February), which will have been and gone by the time this edition of the Churchill & District News is being perused by readers.

Unfortunately, our scheduled December meeting was cancelled, due to the unavailability of several key members. The proposed planning workshop (a bit of brain-storming by members) was postponed to our February 2024 meeting.

It will be next issue (March) before we can publish any sort of report from our meeting or information about our plans for the year ahead.

What has been decided is that CDCA will continue to facilitate the Shop Local Market Days in partnership with Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News.

Dates have been set: Saturday May 4, (Mother's Day Market); Saturday August 24 (Winter Market); Saturday December 7 (Christmas Market).

All three markets will be held at Churchill Shopping Centre, from 9am to 1pm.

Bookings for market stall sites can be made on-line at churchill.org.au/events

CDCA was very pleased that, in December of last year, Council agreed that the lighting of the Churchill Town Symbol should be a "randomised coloured lighting sequence". The changing colours make a good night-time display; something that highlights Churchill!

Many in the community were surprised that, having witnessed the trial of the attractive display made by the programmable coloured LED lights that were installed last year, Council chose initially to utilise only the "standard warm yellow streetlight colour" for display. CDCA was told that coloured lights were only for special occasions!

In a Media Release issued on December 19, Council states that "the Churchill Town Symbol lighting will remain programmed to a random colour function, unless otherwise communicated."

According to said Media Release, "Council is currently creating a 'Days of Significance and Awareness Campaign' Policy, which will aim to guide when Council-owned facilities will light up in relevant celebration or commemorative colours".

A range of interested people, from Councillor Fergusson to various CDCA members and friends,

advocated to Council that the Town Symbol lighting display should comprise the utilisation of the coloured lights – great that we have had a collective win! Let us hope we can keep our bright lights at the Town Symbol.

What is now needed in Churchill's town centre (and has been needed for a long time) is a Council owned and maintained accessible public toilet that is open seven days per week.

According to Council's "Public Toilet Plan" (released last September), one will be designed and constructed in the 2024-25 financial year – not that far away! Looking ahead, let us hope that this necessary facility is built sooner, rather than later.

CDCA meets on the second Thursday of every second month. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday April 11, at 7pm, downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall. All residents of Churchill and district are welcome to attend.

A meeting agenda and minutes of the previous meeting are usually available on our website a day or two in advance (cdca.org.au/about-cdca/) and hard copies are available on the night.

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.

BRAD is in Churchill!

Council has provided a BRAD box at the Churchill Hub.

BRAD stands for "Banish Recycling and Disposal" program, aiming to improve plastic recycling practices and reduce the amount of plastic that is going into landfill.

You can drop off a range of plastic household and beauty containers for recycling, simply by taking them to the Hub and placing

them in the new BRAD box in the foyer (next to the e-waste disposal box).

Items such as tablet blister packs, plastic toothbrushes, pens, coffee pods, lip balm containers, plastic razors, eyeshadow and mascara tubes, soy sauce fishies, plastic cutlery, disposable coffee cups and lids and much more!

However not your soft (scrunchable) plastics, unfortunately.

This is an exciting initiative from Council, as it will divert more plastic waste from landfill.

It provides Latrobe City residents, keen to recycle, with the opportunity to recycle small items that are not recycled through the kerbside recycling (yellow bin) program.

Small plastic items you put in your recycling bin at home end up as landfill, as the sorting facility cannot deal with tiny and/or very lightweight things (such

as plastic bottle tops, pens, toothbrushes, etc)

For a full list of what's accepted by BRAD (and what is not), visit www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Latrobe_City_Council_Supports_Better_Waste_Management

Please note – the box is made of cardboard, so make sure there are no wet or liquid things amongst the items you are putting in the BRAD box!

Council will arrange collection of the full BRAD box (and a replacement empty box) and ship the contents off to Banish in Sydney, where the items will be sorted and either processed in house or sent off to partner organisations (such as Terracycle and Transmutation) for recycling within Australia.

For more information about Banish, visit their website at banish.com.au/pages/recycling-program

Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: Hakea verrucosa.

Family: Proteaceae.

Derivation: Hakea: Named after Baron Christian Ludwig von Hake (pronounced 'hark', 1745-1818), a German patron of botany.

verrucosa: From Latin, verrucosus, meaning covered with warts, referring to the lumps on the fruit capsules, which are not particularly warty compared with other Hakea species and is probably an error of confusion with another species.

Common Name:

Usually none, but if any, Warty (-fruited) Hakea.

Distribution: South coast of Western Australia, mainly around Ravensthorpe, but with a couple of records further west towards the Stirling Ranges and east towards Esperance.

Description: A dense, prickly shrub up to 2.5m tall and 3m broad, with linear, terete leaves to 5cm long and 2mm wide ending in a sharp point. Red/pink and cream flowers occur in winter, in clusters in the leaf axils, very showy when in full flower, followed by woody capsules to 3cm long and 1cm wide, with a long neck and two horns.

The literature is contradictory with regard to the presence of a lignotuber, in my opinion this species doesn't have one.

Opinion: Like a lot of Hakeas, this species is not a friendly plant if you want to get close and personal!

Thus, it needs a position where it is not going to take your eye out, but where it can catch your eye when it is in flower. Mine is on the western nature strip where it is fully exposed to the elements and all things that come its way from that direction, including the occasional vandalistic schoolkid/passersby who likes to leave a record of their passage around the neighbourhood. Maybe this



plant will fight back! I hope it does not blow over in the next south-westerly buster, like a lot of WA plants have done in my garden over the years. They just don't seem to be able to get a good grip on our heavier soils in this part of the world. I am not sure which rendition this particular specimen is - I know I have attempted to grow this species from seed before as they are easy to germinate, but not so easy to keep alive in outdoor pots over the colder months. I have also had a couple of plants in 6" pots given to me, but my poor record keeping has failed me on this occasion and I don't know its' heritage. It is currently about a metre tall and broad and has been pruned back on the side growing out towards

the road so it doesn't take pieces off me while mowing the grass that I optimistically call lawn. It has flowered lightly for two years in a row now, so I am looking forward to it really getting going.

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: Elliot & Jones - Encyclopaedia of Australian Plants, Volume 5.

Holliday - Hakeas: A Field and Garden Guide.

Sharr - WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

Online - WA FloraBase.

Resin Animal Statues

- PR049: 17CM 2/A RESIN ROOSTER POT
- PR059: 9.5CM 2/A RESIN ROOSTER
- PR070D: 34CM RESIN HANGING LIZARD
- PR058B: 33CM RESIN CORGI
- PR060: 7CM 2/A RESIN HEN
- PR053: 53CM RESIN LIZARD

SmartSaver Churchill

SHOP3, HAZELWOOD VILLAGE SHOPPING CENTRE CHURCHILL

✓ Freshly baked bread daily: Savoury breads, Sourdough

✓ Croissants, Danish pastries ✓ Focaccias ✓ Gourmet pies

✓ Salad rolls ✓ Cakes ✓ Celebration cakes

✓ Tea and coffee ✓ Cold drinks ✓ Lollies

✓ All to have-in or takeaway

Mon - Fri
6am - 6.30pm
Sat - Sun
6am - 6pm

Yinnar BAKERY

Coffee Shop

44 Main Street,
Yinnar
Ph: 0408 540 609

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"



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

Church NEWS

CO-Operating Church Snippets

Co-Op Snippets

December services were largely taken by Cathie Halliwell, who arranged the services to be an opportunity to have worship coupled with craft activities for all ages and a Bible study if chosen instead of the message of the week.

The pre-Christmas time is called Advent and is a time to prepare ourselves for

the coming of Jesus into the world at Christmas. Cathie's messages included finding time to sit still and listen to God, finding ways to be of service, and enjoying the times of peace, love hope and joy and sharing those with others.

During that time Christmas Club was held with approximately 80 children from Churchill

Primary School coming in two groups to hear the Christmas story and do craft activities.

A special thank you goes to Faye for organising the craft and to the helpers who set aside the time to come and be with the children so they could hear this amazing story.

Coffee Connections held a Christmas break up morning tea and shared memories of Christmas and holidays. The first one for 2024 will be February 20.

Craft Connections gathered for one last time and enjoyed refreshments together. They started again on January 16.

Blue Christmas happened at Boolarra on the Thursday before Christmas. It is a quiet reflective service for



those who find Christmas a not so enjoyable a time.

Carols by Candlelight happened at the church on December 16 with a good attendance of enthusiastic participants.

At the third Sunday service Daniel was blessed and prayed for as he took his journey home to Nigeria. Daniel is studying at FedUni. Elder Heather organised some Christmas gifts for Daniel to take with him.

One was for his new daughter born while Daniel has been here in Australia.

Crib service happened on Christmas Eve with a lot of fun and laughter as well as energetic singing of old favourites.

A donkey and camel puppets helped to tell the story. Children in costumes and plenty of movement with our donkey and camels helped all to remember Christmas is Jesus' birthday.

The children eagerly ate a cupcake before Santa arrived on the Yinnar South Fire brigade truck to share lollies.

Later that evening an Anglican Holy Communion was held at Boolarra.

Christmas Day services were given at Churchill and Boolarra.

A short while before Christmas we were told our dear parishioner Pat Hunter had died.

We were all shocked and

saddened by this as Pat had been a wonderful, treasured member of our congregation involved in so many ways, making her presence felt in a firm but kind and inconspicuous way, a welcoming and supportive person. A beautiful

service was held at the Crematorium on January 9, with folks then invited to come to the church for refreshments following the service. The church family provided a delicious spread and a beautiful array of flowers to honour Pat.

The family's tributes spoke of a loving caring person who was always there for

them, setting high standards and values which they will adhere to always. These words resonated with us parishioners as well.

Dr Yanlin Zhang has been a parishioner of our parish for many years beginning with us when he was doing research work at Monash University Churchill then Melbourne. His Mother was still in China so he decided to go back to see her as she was aging.

COVID hit and Yanlin was unable to come back to Australia until a short while ago, but this time for a visit.

In the time he has been back in China he has been working in research to help medical problems and is progressing well.

His work should be seen in medical practice soon.

Heather one of our Elders, interviewed Yanlin at church about his work and also about his being a Christian in China. It was very interesting.



Chaplain

With thanks from Fed Uni Chaplain

Prior to Christmas, the churches of Churchill organised the annual community Christmas Carols. This was a free event but there was opportunity to give a donation, with the money to go to chaplaincy at Fed Uni. Many of you who attended clearly gave generously because over \$500 was raised. The money went partly to buy Christmas goodie bags for the six students staying on campus

over summer, and then with the bulk of the money I have purchased Woolworths gift cards to give to students struggling with the cost of living. These I have distributed among the well-being staff for them to give to students at their discretion.

I thank you again for your generosity.

Photo shows Larissa Ingabire, residential Well-being officer, delivering Christmas bags to the students.



Churchill Christian Fellowship

Our Christmas celebration on December 20 was a great success. We were especially blessed to have several members of the Coal Valley Male Choral giving their rendition of popular Christmas songs. In between sets of songs, we ran a quiz, with questions mainly about Christmas songs.

We also enjoyed participating with the other churches at the carols event on Saturday December 16.

The New Year does not feel quite so new anymore. Lots of things are already happening. Some of the ladies have organised back-to-school packages to help families in what can be a difficult time.

At the Hazelwood South

Hall at 762 Tramway Road, we now have an operational hot water system for the first time since we took on the project of renovating the old hall. We are also in the process of setting up a community garden which we hope will benefit the community. At the time of writing, it looks like Fridays from 10.00 - 2.00 will be the regular time for working in and on the garden. Volunteers are welcome for this project. Just give us a call.

Sunday afternoon church services are going well. On January 14, Rob and Sue McCracken came from the Moe Church to lead the worship time. Quite a few Moe people visited for the

day to join in singing some old favourites.

In my preaching, I am still working my way through the Book of Daniel although we did look at some other topics over the Christmas/ New Year period. Even with Lynn Fowler away on an extended ministry trip in Africa, we still have three or four regular preachers, as well as occasional visitors from Moe or elsewhere.

As stated on our A-frame sign that goes out every week, we aim for Bible-based teaching, Christ-centred worship and Holy Spirit ministry. I hope that is what we would be known for.

Enquiries welcome. Call Steve McNeilly 0409 173 747.



Church Times

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

Churchill Christian Fellowship
 3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall
 762 Tramway Road Churchill
 (next to the soccer ground)
 Everyone Welcome
 0409 173 747

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

Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes
 Tel: 5134 2849
 Fr James Fernandez
Saturday 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**

Carols by Candlelight



An east wind and cool forecast saw Churchill Community Carols by Candlelight, organised by a committee from the three churches, held inside the Co-Operating Churches church.

Ian Combridge, assisted by Chris Foley delivered and set up the public address system. Glenda Combridge, Ron Bell and niece, set up the church space in readiness. Sue Townsend, Marion Answerth and Ruth Place took care of the other preparations including candles, carols booklets, trinkets for Santa to give out and Santa's special chair.

The Latrobe Community Concert Band warmed up and provided attendees with a variety of music before the program began when they accompanied the singing of carols.

The Churchill and District Lions cooked the sausages and onions giving people an easy dinner for the cost of a donation which

was added to the entrance donations and collection, to be given to FedUni chaplaincy for her expenses to help the students.

The Coal Valley Male Choral led the singing and gave an item. Steve and Sandie McNeilly from the Churchill Christian Fellowship provided an item which had everyone counting the number of songs included. They also led a bracket of carol singing. Sue Townsend from Lumen Christi led the singing of Mary's Boy Child.

Allan and son Keiron Halliwell from the Co-Operating Churches presented two children's Christmas songs which the other children accompanied with percussion instruments.

Members of the three churches delivered the readings with beautifully selected pictures to illustrate the stories portrayed in the readings. The leaders of the churches, Father

James, Steve McNeilly said prayers and Cathie Halliwell delivered the message.

The carol singing was excellent. Candles were waved in time with the music and the atmosphere was warm and cheerful.

Santa arrived on the Churchill tanker just in time to say hello to the eagerly awaiting children.

A very big thank you to everyone who helped and contributed on the night. A heartfelt thank you to all those who came and joined in the proceedings with happiness and enthusiasm.

To L.V. Express, Churchill District Community Association, St Vincent de Paul, Churchill & District Lions, Coal Valley Male Choral, Latrobe Community Concert Band, Churchill Fire Brigade, the parking attendants and the three churches' parishioners who helped and contributed a big thank you for your support.

ADVERTORIAL

HARWOOD FUNERALS

"Above and Beyond"

Julie Harwood, Managing Director and Owner of Harwood Funerals, has been a Funeral Director most of her working life and has managed high-end Funeral business in Melbourne.

She was instrumental in establishing White Lady Funerals in Victoria in the late 1990's. Seven years ago she brought Harwood Funerals to Gippsland and has since established facilities that can service across the entirety of Gippsland, with focus areas in Traralgon, Pakenham, Churchill and Korumburra, aiming to bring choice and sensible cost structures to local families.

Harwood Funerals is 100% family owned with a select group of caring and professional staff.

We are not affiliated with any corporate entity, or overseas investors.

We can offer all-female funerals if required.

We don't outsource any of the operational funeral process. Our phones are answered 24/7 by us personally. We don't employ call-centre staff after hours. The people who bring your loved one into our care are actually members of our team. We work with a hand-picked group of local celebrants, local florists, and local caterers. All our unattended cremation clients are taken to Traralgon Crematorium. We don't cut costs by sending your loved one to Geelong or Interstate.

We always offer to deliver ashes personally. We strongly believe our role is to ease the load for you and your family. We offer Pre-Paid Funeral plans - all monies are invested with Melbourne-based Foresters Financial in order to comply with current government regulations.

Our Traralgon office is at 3/12-13 Nefertiti Court, Traralgon. The office is open by appointment.

Our consultants are happy to answer questions and offer free advice. Call for a chat and a cuppa!

We offer Cremation packages from \$2750.00.

Our all-inclusive service packages and costs are available on our website, with no hidden fees - www.harwoodfunerals.com.au

harwoodfunerals.com.au



Claire

Julie

Angie



"Above and Beyond"

Servicing Gippsland:

**TRARALGON
CHURCHILL
KORUMBURRA
PAKENHAM**

❖ Family owned business

❖ 24/7 advice

❖ Visit our website for pricing

❖ All female funerals available



Julie Harwood
Managing Director



Claire Gaffney
Funeral Consultant



Trevor Martin
Funeral Consultant

1800 427 966

www.harwoodfunerals.com.au

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS
"Connecting Your Community"

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



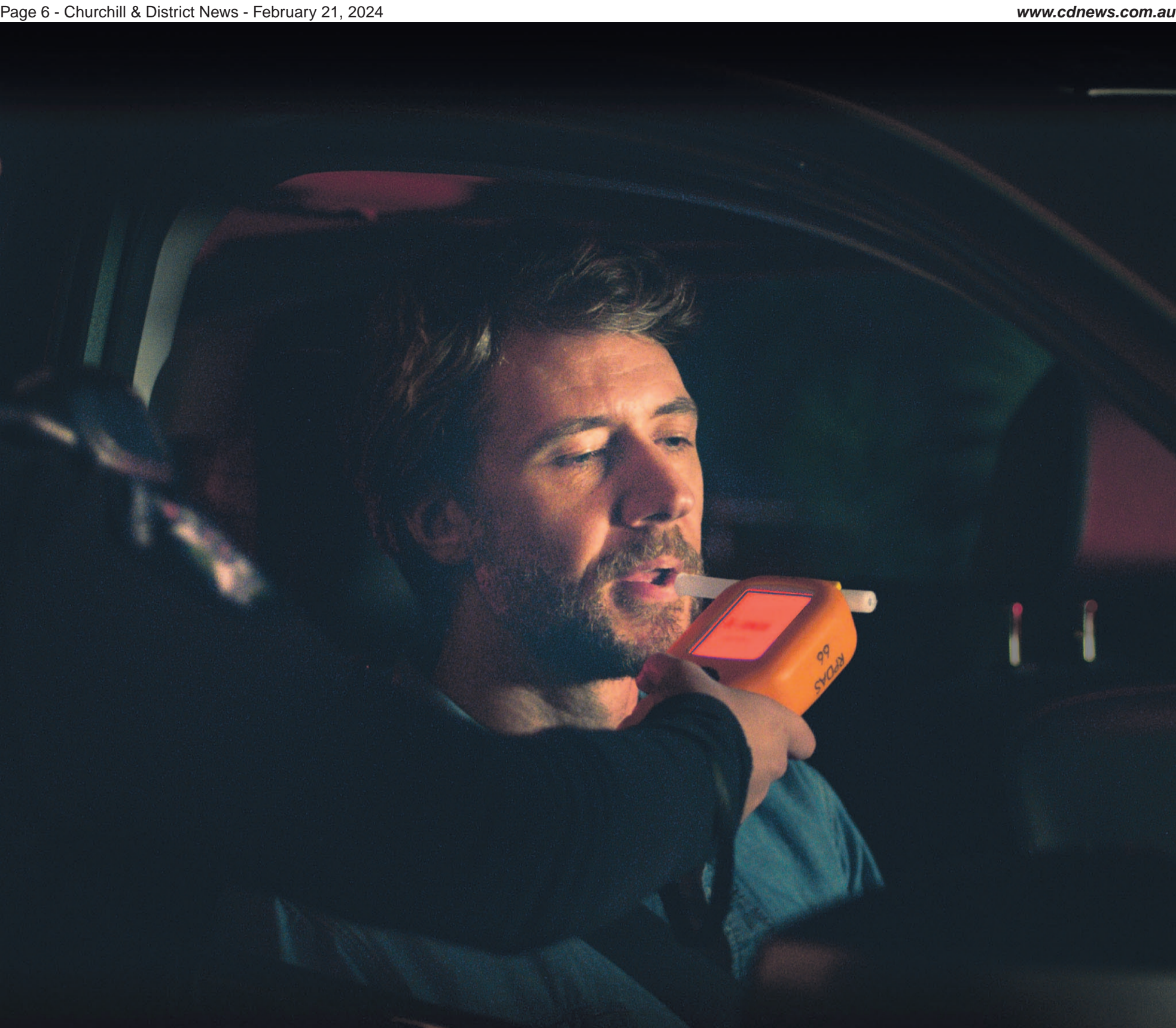
www.cdnews.com.au



Facebook: Churchill and District News

Email

cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au



Stop kidding yourself. If you drink, don't drive.

Thinking about driving after a couple of drinks? Think again.
If you blow .05 or over, you could face serious penalties,
including fines, losing your licence, getting an interlock installed
in your car and having to blow zero for three years.



New Business for Yinnar



Theresia Gailberger and Stuart Booth are the proud owners of the recently opened and renovated Yinnar Bakery and Coffee Shop, which is on the premises of the former Yinnar General Store at 44 Main Street.

When the site became available the couple recognised that the town was really missing the convenience of a local store and decided to take on the site and develop it into a bakery, alongside providing basic grocery items. The conversion has not been

without its challenges but now that the business is up and running the couple are finding it totally satisfying, especially as they feel really well supported by the Yinnar community.

Both Theresia and Stuart have long experience of running businesses. Theresia was a book keeper but gave this up to look after her elderly parents some years ago. Sadly they are now deceased but with more time Theresia is able to devote herself to the new business. Stuart too

has run various businesses including fuel and oil, fish and chip shops and dairy farming. He is currently chief baker which means early starts and Theresia is front of house. They have a policy of employing all local people.

Now they are local themselves, having moved to Budgeree three years ago. Stuart's family is from Rochester and Theresia's family background is British/Austrian - perhaps those Viennese pastries have helped propel her in to the bakery business! The couple is very excited about the future of the bakery and coffee shop. They already have an area for groceries and will be expanding this to include fresh vegetables and fruit with an emphasis on local produce. They also plan to have pizza and roasts available along with fish and chips eventually. Theresia and Stuart believe the future is bright and certainly many Yinnar residents would endorse that.



LCC Award Winner

John Harris is a beloved figure in the Yinnar community, having been a stalwart for many years.

Initially a teacher in Yallourn, John later moved to Yinnar after working at the international student area at the former Monash University in Churchill.

Since moving to the rural township of Yinnar, John has actively contributed to, supported and inspired the community as a leader in the Yinnar and District Community Association for around 16 years.

John's accolades include leading an 11-year project to install lighting along the road to the Yinnar Recreation Reserve.

He has also been an active leader on recovery committees following bushfires, floods and storms in the area and currently leads the South Ward Community Disaster Recovery Committee.

Much of his work also focuses on improving water tank accessibility in smaller towns in the region to support CFA access.

In his community leadership role, John has led initiatives such as establishing the Jeeralang Junction emergency phone tree, the Driffield memorial site, and a skate park in Yinnar's main street.

These projects are all valuable assets for the South Ward community and further showcase John's commitment to enhancing infrastructure for the community.



MATCHBOX GALLERY LEADLIGHTING & FINE ART



Pip Nikodemski
Marie Ward

36 Main Street, Yinnar 3869
Opening Hours: Friday - Sunday
11.00 am - 4.00 pm
or by appointment
0429 432 896

Local artists encouraged to use gallery space to display their work.

www.matchboxgallery.com.au

[pipnikodemski](#)

[Matchbox Gallery - Yinnar](#)



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; WASHED plastic milk & juice bottle tops; X-rays; Printer Cartridges; All small e-waste items, including mobile phones & chargers

USE THE BRAD BOX:

Numerous items, such as coffee pods, tablet blister packs and assorted plastic household and beauty containers, can be placed in the BRAD box at the Churchill Hub's Recycling Centre. For a full list of acceptable items, visit the Centre in person or view on-line at www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Latrobe_City_Council_Supports_Better_Waste_Management

Household Batteries (including small Lithium batteries) go in the container at the Library/Council Service Desk (kept "out of reach of children")

Churchill Hub is an Over-The-Counter return point for the container deposit scheme. Take your returnable cans & bottles to the Hub and see the Neighbourhood Centre staff



Darren Chester

Putting Locals First #lovegippsland



THE NATIONALS for Gippsland www.darrenchester.com.au

THE I GET IT, I THINK BIT



Lose yourself at one of Victoria's renowned galleries or artist workshops. You'll find plenty to your taste – or not. And that's the fun of it.

Get curious at cultural institutions like Bendigo Art Gallery.

VISITVICTORIA.COM

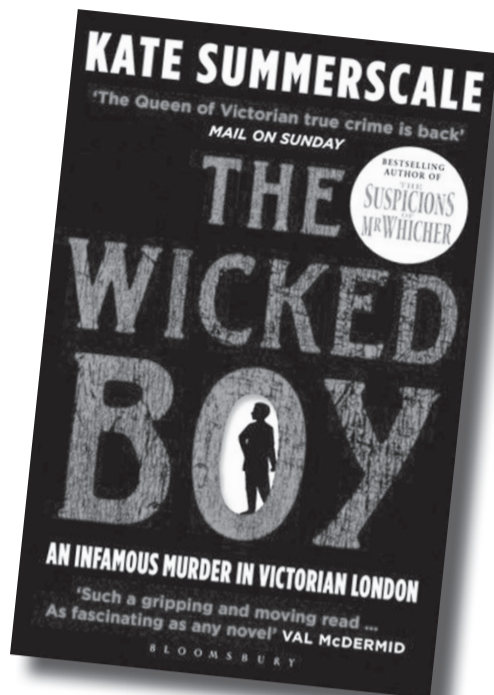
VICTORIA EVERY BIT DIFFERENT

Book Review

“The Wicked Boy” (The Mystery of a Victorian Child Murderer) by Kate Summerscale 2016

Kate Summerscale was born in England on September 2, 1965 and was brought up in Japan, England and Chile. She attended Bedales School from 1978-1983 then Oxford University, and later Stanford University where she obtained a Master of Arts in Journalism. She lives in London with her son. She is the author of “The Suspicions of Mr. Whicher at Road Hill House” which won the Samuel Johnson prize for non-fiction in 2008 and inspired the 2011-2014 drama series and “The Queen of Whale Cay” which won the Somerset Maugham Award in 1998 and was short-listed for the 1997 Whitbread Awards for Biography. She has also judged literary awards including the 2001 Booker Prize. She has worked as a journalist on the Daily Telegraph, The Independent and The Guardian.

This is a true story set in nineteenth century industrial Britain. Robert and Nathaniel Coombes lived with their mother and father in Plaistowe, an industrial town and ship-building hub on the Thames River. The family was classified as respectable poor because the father worked as a steward on a ship. This meant he spent a lot of time away and the mother was left to manage the boys on her own. After an incident where the younger Nathaniel was beaten by his mother for stealing food, Robert decided he was going to kill his mother, which he did. The boys then spent several days having a good time, spending money and eating out. When friends and neighbours became suspicious of the stench emanating from the house, the police were called and found the decomposing body of the boy's mother in her bed. The boys' father was not informed of his wife's death until the ship he was



on docked.

Then followed prolonged court proceedings during which Robert behaved in quite a bizarre manner. It was decided that instead of gaol he would be committed to a lunatic asylum.

Fortunately, for the times, the Superintendent of Broadmoor Asylum was very enlightened and it became like a sanctuary for Robert. The environment was calm and attractive, the inmates were able to play croquet, chat to other inmates and tend to their private gardens. There was also fresh produce grown in the grounds, from which most of their meals came.

The health, comfort and cleanliness of the inmates were monitored daily and Robert thrived. He learnt many new skills and enjoyed playing music. Eventually, after seventeen years, he was released into the Salvation Army Farm Colony where he gradually became used to a degree of freedom, and migrated to Australia. There he joined the Australian Infantry Forces as a stretcher bearer at Gallipoli. It is in the final chapters of the book that the Prologue makes sense.

Some members of our group found this book absolutely fascinating, many found parts of it, especially the court proceedings tedious, and some didn't enjoy it at all. The book was meticulously researched and included price lists of common foods that a family might purchase at the time, wages that the father might have earned, and copies of court documents and newspaper articles surrounding the case. This gave the reader a detailed picture of life at the time. It was interesting to note the medical theories and practices of the time. Robert's headaches were put down to the fact that he had a large head and was given bromide of potassium, a drug that is now thought to cause psychosis. The theory that the violence was caused by Robert reading “penny dreadfuls” is not unlike some people today who think the same about violent video games. The story best illustrated the impact of environment on the mind and body. Clean air and fresh food helped Robert back to health and his eventual ability to live independently and overcome his past.

GIPPSLAND
PERFORMING
ARTS CENTRE



Southern Sons live in concert Saturday March 9, 8pm

Southern Sons, the iconic 1990s band, reunites for a spectacular series of shows, bringing music lovers a nostalgic journey through their timeless hits.

All tickets \$75

Ross Wilson - 50 Years of Hits

Saturday March 16, 8pm
Ross Wilson is hitting the road with his all-star band The Peaceniks to celebrate over “50 Years of Hits” including all the Daddy Cool and Mondo Rock favourites you'd expect

Tickets from \$64

Vika & Linda Friday May 10, 8pm

Vika & Linda are bringing their close collaborator and producer Cameron Bruce on grand piano, in a concert that will truly showcase the rich beauty of their voices together.

All Tickets \$79

The World of Musicals in Concert

Saturday June 1, 2024,
7.30pm

GPAC Main Theatre

Following a sell-out Australia tour in 2022, The World of Musicals in Concert returns to Australia and is coming to our stage in 2024, featuring an all-new show!

From the best of ‘The Phantom of the Opera’ and ‘Les Miserables’ to ‘Guys & Dolls’ and ‘South Pacific’ and many, many more, The World of Musicals delivers a stirring musical theatre concert experience that will leave you spellbound – from the opening song to the final medley of classics.

Bjorn Again

Saturday June 15, 8pm

Prepare to be transported to the golden era of disco, where platforms were high, and the music was even higher. This is your chance to become a “Dancing Queen” for a night of non-stop fun. Tickets from \$69

Churchill/Latrobe City Neighbourhood Watch and Churchill Town Safety Group

Tips to help you stay well during hot weather

As we know, this year, we have had a late start to the summer weather, and the warmer months may be a bit behind. When they come, we need to do a few things to keep us safe.

Drink plenty of water

One of the best ways to avoid heat-related illness is to drink plenty of water. It is important to keep drinking water even if you do not feel thirsty, because this can prevent you from becoming dehydrated.

Keep your body cool

Keeping as cool as possible can also help you prevent heat-related illness.

Make sure you stay out of the sun. Drinking cold drinks and eating smaller, cold meals.

Keep your house cool

You can help keep your house cool by shutting curtains and blinds during the day.

If you do not have air-conditioning, go to a cool place. Stay in the coolest room in the house and use the stove and oven as little as possible.

Take care of others

Visit or call elderly friends, neighbours or relatives at least once a day. Check they have water in the fridge and encourage them to drink it.

Children also need to be reminded to drink water. Children or animals should never be left alone in a car, even if the air-conditioner is on.

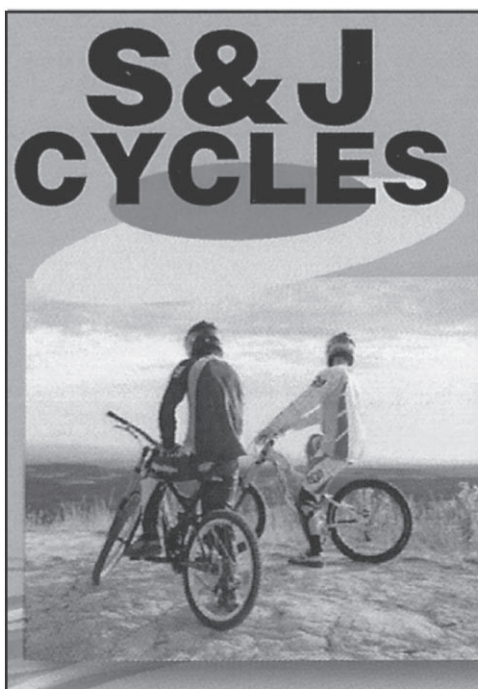
Ensure animals have water and plenty of shade if they are outside.

Have a plan

Keep an eye on the weather forecast and know who to call if you need help. Ask your doctor if you have any health conditions that mean you are at greater risk of heat-related illness immediately on triple zero (000).

Stay safe in the sun

If you need to go outside in the sun, it is important to protect you and your children's skin. If you avoid sunburn, you reduce the risk of skin cancer, which is one of the most common cancer types in Australia.



GIANT
RIDE LIFE. RIDE GIANT.

2024
GIANT
Bikes arriving

NORCO 2023 Model Available
.....
35 Tarwin Street,
Morwell
.....
Phone
5 134 389 1
Fax 5134 5503
Email: sjcycles@netspace.net.au



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.



A Churchill & District History Series

Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



Yinnar remains a centre of attraction - Part 2

By Leo Billington

Yinnar could easily have been our main town instead of Morwell. More about that later.

In this story, the second in the Yinnar series, we recall a series of Victorian government land acts. The Victorian Parliament passed Land Acts in 1860, 1862 and 1869, which offered settlers land within defined agricultural areas.

Settlers paid for half of an allotment on selection at a uniform price of £1 per acre, and paid rent on the other half for usually seven years.

Former squatting runs were thrown open for selection. In the case of Yinnar, selectors began arriving in 1865, as a result of squatting runs being divided for sale.

Two decades later, the railway line that was under construction provided further inducement to select in the area and a Lands Office was opened in Traralgon. One of these runs, Scrubby Forest holds a significant place in Yinnar's history.

George Firmin was allocated land in about 1882 and Henry Wicks around 1885. They were early Yinnar selectors taking up land abutting the Morwell River and Billys Creek.

There were other families around this time but these two held quite large land holdings.

It was several years later that part of George's

selection, the north west corner of Scrubby Forest, was granted to other selectors keen to pursue a livelihood in agriculture.

The focus at this stage is John Quigley. At Yinnar, he and his wife, Bridget, were fortunate to obtain land grants in around the mid-1880's bordering Middle Creek. More land was obtained a few years later in 1909 abutting Billys Creek. About this time also, John and Bridget obtained land grants in the north west corner of Scrubby Forest.

John and Bridget Quigley, around 1877, travelled by bullock dray, with their herd of dairy cattle, across Victoria, from the Ballarat area to Morwell Bridge.

John's entrepreneurial spirit kicked in with building a hostelry - an inn and pub combination.

A more practical location on higher ground was deemed necessary. Consequently, what is described as a "slab building" was constructed on a corner block near or at today's Tarwin Street and Commercial Road. His building was used as a hotel, general store and butchers shop. His fierce business rival was Edmund Kelleher, who was investing borrowed money in a large, more modern hotel.

Around 1880, John sold his business to Kelleher and

relocated to Yinnar.

Initially he took up farming and about 1900, a land grant in the north west corner of Scrubby Forest (northern end of town) became a location for his next venture - drapery, general store, butchers shop and, naturally, a hostelry.

Basically, Yinnar's commercial life was started by John. John died in late May, 1908, and Bridget in June 1930.

There is little doubt that John's business acumen was second to none. In May 1890, during what was known as The Great Liquor Case, he was accused of selling "beer under cover of night." Telling a crowded court in Yinnar's Mechanics Institute hall, John, stood straight, without any guilt, said, "the beer was a tonic." Case dismissed.

Henry Wicks also expanded Yinnar's business sector by building and owning the Yinnar Hotel.

Unfortunately it was destroyed in a fire, but later rebuilt on its present site.

George Firmin, aside from farming, devoted his energy to volunteer community work while three of his daughters, Jessie, Annie and Lizzie (Elizabeth) established their own business in Yinnar's Main Street.

Known locally as the three Firmin sisters, Lizzie and Jessie (Annie joined

them after returning from overseas) first opened their grocery store on February 4, 1927.

The Purvis Yinnar store was founded in the mid-thirties when Jack Purvis rented a shop from the three Firmin sisters. The shop had a house attached and was situated in Yinnar's Main Street.

By this stage, a co-operative butter factory was sited in Creamery Road. A larger, more permanent Yinnar and District Butter Factory, was built in 1929 in Main Street.

As mentioned, Yinnar's first wine saloon was built by John Quigley in the 1880s. Later on, it was run by Mr R Taylor as a wine cafe and billiard saloon and was known as the Railway Coffee Palace.

It succumbed to a fire on February 26, 1910. It is recorded that Bridget Quigley had kept up insurance payments so Mr Taylor's stock losses were adequately covered.

Nonetheless, those wishing to quench their ample thirsts still had the pub.

Meanwhile, as an alternative, Mrs W T Bolger started up the coffee palace with her advertisement in the Morwell Advertiser, Friday February 26, 1915.

Yinnar's railway station quickly provided a vital link to the main Melbourne line via Morwell. In the Churchill & District News, October 2023, it was explained excited discussions at government levels touted a railway line from Yinnar to Boolarra and then onwards through Budgeree and south to wherever.

There are records of locals meeting in the Ryton Hall lobbying for the railway. It was intended to have an Agricultural College established near English's Corner, but talk was cheap.

JOHN HALL

**UNIVERSAL EMPORIUM,
MORWELL AND YINNAR**

HAS always on hand Full and varied Stocks of the following lines—

Best Quality and Bed-rock Prices.

GROCERY × WINES × SPIRITS
BEST BRANDS

Furnishing and General Ironmongery

TIMBER

Hard and Soft Woods. Red Gum

IRON TOOLS CEMENT LIME

Fencing and Barbed Wire, Doors, Sashes, Pickets, Paints, Oils, Etc.

Crockery Special Assortment. Glassware

STATIONERY PATENT MEDICINES.

Choice Variety of Electro-Plated Ware
Suitable for Wedding and Birthday Presents.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.
A Splendid Assortment. Cash or Time Payment.

Grain, Chaff and Farm Produce

Building Contracts Paperhangings
Carried out on shortest notice of Latest Designs to select from

Murane and Sheet Glass
Stocked and Cut to any size required.

Agent For—
Yates' Reliable Farm & Garden Seeds.
The Victorian Fire Insurance Coy.

When anything in the above lines is wanted Ring Up
John Hall,
Universal Emporium, Morwell & Yinnar
Phone—Morwell No. 4. Yinnar No. 1

To meet a burgeoning demand for retailers, John Hall opened up, extending his reach from a well-established base in Morwell; James Pennycuik conducted a general store, as did the Firmin Sisters and then Purvis Stores for a short while.

Mrs M M Long had her own successful dressmaking and millinery business. John Moore had a general store, Mr D Taylor sold boots and harness.

Burnside, Reid and Company advertised

themselves as general merchants, being associated with James Pennycuik. George Purcell was a well-respected contractor carting cream to Yinnar from Jumbuck. Vinning Brothers Yinnar General Store celebrated its' 100th anniversary in December 2012.

We remember the well-known Yinnar stalwart, Bill Welsh and his older brother, Alwyn, who owned and ran their Yinnar Farm & Hardware for 37 years.

There were several sawmills such as Grant's Mill, Walter Edney's Yinnar Saw Mill, and Henry Collins who specialised in "cutting first class pointed pickets." William Turner was basically Morwell's main builder in those early years, sourcing timber from sawmillers who had established themselves in the immediate Yinnar area.

As explained in the Churchill & District News, December, 2023, Rob Benson and family have returned albeit via a circuitous historical route, to shine a spotlight on Yinnar.

Let us be positive that Yinnar will make its presence felt in central Gippsland.

There is plenty to write about, but newspaper space is limited. Yinnar's growth has not passed unnoticed.



Friends of Morwell National Park



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

In December, the group completed some track maintenance and cut lots of bracken from the Fosters Gully track.

During the walk, a wallaby and kookaburra were captured on film by Caitlin, who also took some great photos of a kingfisher.

In January, the group completed a survey of the

nesting boxes along the Billys Creek track.

We started off with Mike and Beryl managing the camera, Darren locating the nest boxes while Joelle recorded the findings.

The first box contained a rare find - three eggs. Only on one other occasion have we found eggs in the boxes. Jay completed some research which indicated that the eggs could be Common Myna.

While the boxes were

being surveyed, others (mainly Graeme and Caitlin) were removing weeds. Many tutsan, ragwort, thistle, ivy, teasel and foxgloves were removed.

With the healthy summer rains the weeds have been growing strongly throughout the park.

Throughout the morning, the survey of the boxes continued until the survey team returned to the vehicles to find Graeme, Cathy, Ken

and Gordon enjoying their lunches.

After lunch some light drizzle fell. Fortunately, it stopped since the camera is very sensitive to moisture.

After lunch the group moved to the next section with Mike and Tamara handling the camera.

A few of the boxes were not located and a few other boxes were found on the ground. These boxes will be replaced in a future activity.

After completing the boxes at the base of the Butt Butt track, the group needed to decide how to get to the Braniff Road boxes. With the bridge missing, it was either a long walk around or short trip across the creek in the vehicles.

While some walked back to the car park the remainder, who could fit into the vehicles, drove across the creek to complete the survey and remove many weeds.

Graeme ended up with a car full of bagged weeds.

Over the day, 57 sugar gliders and three eggs were found in the nesting boxes.

In some of the boxes adult and baby sugar gliders were found.

This is the first time that we have found babies in the boxes. A good healthy sugar glider population with this figure being the highest we have recorded in a few years.



Strut Re-Gas

GIPPSLAND



“The Strut Specialist”

Struts are not throw away items ...

They can be RE-GASSED

- Sales of Steel and Stainless Struts
- Repairs to all types of Struts
- Design applications and pressure modification
- Handles and Fittings available




Tel: 5166 1665 Mob: 0407 542 122

Books Comics DVD/CDs
LPs Bric-a-Brac
Collectables
Confectionery

Happy New Year to all our customers

Nook and Cranny
97 Buckley Street, Morwell



AA ACCOUNTING
Accountants & Tax Agents



National Tax and Accountants Assoc.

Antonio Antonelli BBus(Acc) (NTAA)

Shop 13 Georgina Place
Churchill VIC. 3842
Mobile: 0407 688 424
Phone: 03 5122 1155
Fax: 03 5122 3254
Email: tony@aaaccounting.com.au & office@aaaccounting.com.au



Meet Your Care Choice support worker Loida, whose passion lies in aged care.

A compassionate heart for the elderly has led LCHS Home Support Worker, Loida, to a fulfilling career. Born in the Philippines, Loida credits her mother and grandparents with igniting her passion for aged care.

“It makes me sad to know there are elderly people living alone, without a companion,” she says. “Helping to care for them is a simple thing I can do that also allows me to spend time with those who don’t have anyone else.”

Loida joined the ‘Your Care Choice’ team four years ago and has not looked back. Her role allows her to travel Gippsland and meet many different people, while providing them with assistance in personal care, domestic tasks and medication prompting.

Your Care Choice is LCHS’s fully qualified home support workforce, which marked eight years of successfully serving seniors across Gippsland in 2023.



A keen cook, one of Loida’s favourite things to do with her clients is prepare meals.

“My passion is cooking Filipino food; I like to discover different foods through my own cooking and share that with my clients.”

When asked if she would recommend a home support role to others looking for a job in aged care, she did not hesitate: “If you’ve always known in your heart that caring for people is what you want to do, this job is for

you.” The care and commitment of people like Loida helps older people within our community to stay in their homes for longer and maintain an enjoyment for life – thank you Loida for all the work that you do!

Curious about Your Care Choice and how aged care support from LCHS could help you or a loved one? Call our friendly team of consultants on 1800 242 696. You can also enquire online by visiting lchs.com.au/hcp

Morwell and District Red Cross



What a way to finish of a fabulous 2023. With no formal meeting, we took the opportunity to celebrate with a Christmas Luncheon at the Morwell Bowling Club.

The celebrations came with the bonus of a special presentation to our Branch Secretary, Robyn Irvine.

Robyn received a Red

Cross Service Award for her tireless contribution to Red Cross. She has been a Red Cross member for the past 16 years, 14 of which she has been the Morwell and District Branch Secretary as well as an Emergency Services Volunteer.

Throughout that time, she has organised countless

Bunnings BBQs, High Teas and fundraising raffles. For the Red Cross Centenary in 2014, she dedicated her time to liaising with Latrobe City Council to establish the Red Cross Rose Garden at Alexandra Park in Morwell.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 13.

CHURCHILL BASEBALL COME & TRY

17th MARCH **4-16 YEARS OLD**

Are you looking for a family friendly sport to join? Come and try baseball at Churchill Baseball Club. Everyone is welcome. BBQ Supplied. 9am - 1pm

WHERE **ANDREWS PARK, CHURCHILL 3842**

Check out our Facebook Churchill Baseball Club

More Information Churchillbravesbc@hotmail.com.au Call us - 0490 674 370

ADVERTISEMENT

DELIVERING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES & FAMILIES AS WE GROW.

Harriet Shing MP
LABOR MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

216 Commercial Road, Morwell VIC 3840
P: 1300 103 199 E: harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au
f [harrietshingmp](#) t [@ShingyWorld](#)

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



YINNAR HARDWARE
5163 1413

YINNAR HARDWARE Mon - Fri: 8.30 am - 5.30 pm Sat: 8.30 am - 1.00 pm

* FARM SUPPLIES * RURAL PRODUCE * STOCK FEED

58 Main Street, Yinnar. Phone 5163 1413



Strzelecki Koala in the holiday season



Our unique Strzelecki Koala continues to be vulnerable and requires extra protection to enable this special species of koala's survival into the future. Here are some of the ways we can help the koalas in the Jeeralang Hills, Strzelecki Ranges and surrounding areas this holiday season.

1. Be aware of koalas on the roads. It is still mating season so koalas are more active around their ranges. Young juvenile koalas, now recently separated from their mothers, are looking for new habitat.

Please drive slowly in known koala habitat areas.

2. Dogs cause distress for koalas and sometimes can injure koalas. Please restrain and contain your dogs if you live in koala habitat areas. Place poles on fences to aid a koala to escape danger. Escape poles or floats are

also recommended for backyard pools. ("A Guide to Living with Koalas in Sandy Point" Internet Search)

3. Hot weather can cause distress for wildlife. Please provide bowls of fresh water near trees in known koala habitat. This can prevent dehydration. Wetting the trunks of food and shelter trees can also help. Never, ever wet a koala as such action could cause serious health issues!

4. Fire is dangerous for all wildlife particularly koalas whose instinct is to travel higher in a tree than to outrun a fire. Please follow fire restriction rules during the summer to ensure safety for all.

5. There are organisations that promote the protection and research of the Strzelecki Koala and its habitat. Please consider becoming an active member

or providing financial support.

Strzelecki Koala Action Team www.melbournefoe.org.au

Lachlan's Legacy. https://melbournefoe.org.au/lachlan_abbott_legacy

Landcare www.landcare.vic.au

Friends of the Gippsland Bush (Facebook Page)

Friends of the Strzelecki Koala (Facebook Page)

6. If you see an injured or dead koala please contact Wildlife Victoria for assistance. wildlifevictoria.org.au or (03) 8400 7300

7. An Interesting fact.

You can smell the presence of koalas in the trees above. "Young koalas and female koalas give off a slight eucalyptus scent, while male koalas have a stronger, muskier smell." (Interesting Facts about Koalas -Tourism Australia).



MORWELL BOWLING CLUB

Bistro Open 7 days
Lunch and Dinner

Bookings essential

Phone 03 5134 3449

Website
www.morwellbowls.com.au

Email
bowls@morwellbowls.com.au

morwellbowls.com.au

Morning Melodies
With **Rockin' Rick Charles**



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
(03) 5134 3449

Thursday 15th February 2024

\$20 PER PERSON SHOW & LUNCH
SHOW ONLY \$10

Doors open 11.30am Lunch served 11.45am
2 Courses main & dessert

Show 12.45pm - 2pm

MORWELL CONVENTION & RECEPTION CENTRE
52 Hazelwood Road Morwell
(Morwell Bowling Club)



Martin CAMERON


THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR MORWELL

Securing the Valley's future

martin.cameron@parliament.vic.gov.au
03 5133 9088 12-14 George St, Morwell
Martin4Morwell martincameron.com.au

THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

**real dentures,
real smiles.**



gippsland dentures

57 Buckley Street, Morwell 5134 8309
96 Hotham Street, Traralgon 51761464
4A Peart Street, Leongatha 5662 0003
www.gippslanddentures.com.au

Berry Dairy Visit



Berry Dairy Nicole Manager

By Marie Smith

On January 4, my Latrobe Valley Line Dancers group went to the Berry Dairy at Newburn Park in Maffra. This venue is open from November to April, 10am to 6pm seven days a week.

Our group had a fantastic day and would recommend it as a venue to consider. 90% of the menu is Gippsland sourced, truly offering and providing you with the taste of Gippsland.

The venue caters for all age groups.

We saw the children excitedly picking their own sustainably grown strawberries.

At the farmyard petting zoo, they were walking through the farmyard and feeding the friendly animals, ranging from calves to lambs to chickens, and a bunny or two! Adults were having fun too.

Kids were playing on the specially designed playgrounds which cater from the little ones to the older ones. With two different playgrounds for different age groups, sandpits and outdoor yard games, footballs and large open spaces for the older ones to play, there were many happy

smiles.

Kids love food. We saw children being provided with an activity pack on arrival to keep them busy! It included a Berry Dairy happy meal.

The Berry Dairy Café is open daily from 10am – 6pm, with a locally sourced menu that has something for everyone, including freshly baked scones with strawberry jam and cream, French toast, Maffra cheese and Rosedale ham toasties, a delicious range of sharing boards and more!

For dessert they have churros, brownies, strawberries with chocolate dipping sauce, or have it all on the dessert sharing board.

Their signature ice cream, made freshly in front of you, blending delicious strawberries and premium vanilla ice cream is a winning combination also in a waffle cone or loaded with cream, sprinkles and a strawberry on top.

Our group indulged fully in these food delights.

The option for a bike ride is available with bikes on site or you and the family may go for a bike ride and drop in for the venue's temptations.

We thoroughly enjoyed our day there and wanted to tell people about it.



EDCOMP

IT SERVICES

Home & Business IT Support
Hardware/Software Solutions

✓ Network Services	✓ NBN Set Up	✓ Virus Removal
✓ Professional Services	✓ Computer Sales & Repairs	✓ Cloud Services
✓ Managed IT Services	✓ Installation	✓ Onsite Repairs
	✓ Collaboration Services	

1 Contingent St Trafalgar, Vic 3824
Phone: 56331344 Email: sales@edcomp.com.au

Find us on: facebook.

PEST CONTROL SERVICES

I & G COMBRIDGE
HAZELWOOD NTH

5166 1822

IAN & GLENDA

www.combridgepestcontrol.com.au

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 meeting is at 7pm, Thursday, April 11th,
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!



Churchill & District Lions Club




Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Bill Hurenkamp 0418 327 287

New Churchill Motors

Lot 8, Phillip Parade,
Churchill, Vic. 3840
Tel: 5122 1380
www.repcoservice.com.au




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

- * Brake and Clutch Machining and Replacement
- * Cylinder head and Flywheel machining
- * Steering and Suspension repairs
- * Tyre fitting and balancing
- * Log book servicing and general repairs
- * Specialist Diagnostic equipment for current models

Like us on Facebook

All repairs covered by Repco Authorized Service Nationwide Warranty




Harriet Shing



A big welcome to 2024, I hope you all had a good break and have reconnected with family and friends over Christmas, New Year, and the Australia Day long weekend and Lunar New Year which means the Year of the Dragon has begun!

The Latrobe Valley has been full of summer events and school holiday fun over the past month. The National Gallery of Victoria's Kids on Tour program at the Latrobe Regional Gallery and the 31st AGL Loy Yang Traralgon Junior Tennis competition came to town.

As did the filming of Ice Road 2, which transformed Walhalla and drew us in from all over the region to see movie magic come to life.

As always there are many natural attractions to visit in the summer including the Tarra Bulga National Park, Toorong Falls and for those who like a relaxing bike ride through some of the most beautiful scenery in Victoria - the Grand Ridge Trail near Boolarra.

The wonderful Mirboo North Italian Festa is also just around the corner with music, food, and celebration galore.

Over the break we have continued our work to bring thousands of new social and affordable homes to regional Victoria to meet demand as part of our \$1.25 billion Big Housing Build in regional Victoria, with additional work also underway to deliver at least 1300 additional homes under the \$1 billion Regional Package.

For people looking to buy their own home there are a range of supports available including the Victorian Government's Shared Equity Fund which contributes up to 25 per cent of a participant's home purchase price and reduces the required deposit to just 5 percent.

This also helps to avoid the need for buyers to pay

costly premiums for lenders mortgage insurance.

After a massive build, the Latrobe Regional Hospital's \$217 million upgrade has now reached practical completion in an expansion that adds 44 inpatient beds, six intensive care unit beds, an emergency department resuscitation bay, extra maternity services and car parking.

As a teaching hospital, the LRH is also bringing new generations of nurses, healthcare workers and specialists into our workforce to meet demand.

This means more capacity to treat a growing number of patients, and more people accessing free TAFE courses on offer such as nursing or midwifery that enable them to train and work closer to home.

Our partnership with Gippsland TAFE continues to deliver record numbers of enrolments across a wide range of in-demand industries and occupations. These free courses can be completed even if you hold a higher qualification.

The new year has also seen the end of native timber harvesting, following years of uncertainty, interrupted supply and multiple court actions that saw our timber yards empty and families becoming increasingly anxious about the future. We are continuing to support

timber towns and workers in Gippsland, with a package of more than \$875 million for compensation, retooling, training, and community development - and this work will go on. Please contact my office if you would like any information about this funding or the support available.

The wild weather and record-breaking storms in recent months have caused large scale damage across our Council and State roads so if you notice potholes or repairs that are required, you can report them via the Latrobe City Council's app Snap Send Solve or for urgent repairs call 1300 367 700.

Regional Roads Victoria is continuing work to repair storm and flood damaged roads, if the issue is on a freeway, please call the RRV hotline on 13 11 70.

Finally, please stay safe when you are out and about this summer. Speed, distraction, fatigue, drug and alcohol use are all significant factors in collisions and fatalities and are largely preventable.

With multiple tragic drownings on Gippsland beaches in recent weeks it has never been more important to swim between the flags, supervise your kids around water, and avoid rips and dangerous conditions.

As the government representative for our Eastern Victoria Region,

I am always looking to hear from you about important issues in the community.

My office is here to assist with a range of things from information about Victorian Energy upgrades to help on how to apply for grants and community funding.

For questions or assistance, please contact my office by email at harriet.shing@parliament.vic.gov.au or by phone on (03) 5134 8000.

1969



1969

Citizens committee

The Citizens Committee has been informed that there is no hope of a Police Station in Churchill at the moment. Patrol cars will continue to visit the area. It appears that one of the reasons for this decision is lack of work at the moment. "The present volume of police work at Churchill is small," says Mr Rylah.

In one of our papers last week we read of a small country town having its Police Station withdrawn. Reason stated that "there were only six road accidents in the last twelve months." The inference is obvious. But let us not follow it!

CDNews circulation

Circulation of the Churchill News is now almost 500 copies. Last issue 490 copies were printed with only 5 to spare. 500 copies of this issue will be printed.

Churchill News started life as a single sheet in July 1966. It has grown a lot since then, we are grateful to our advertisers for their support, and to many families who from time to time make a donation. We hope to continue this service to the people of Churchill for some time to come.

Churchill school "attacked"

The Churchill State School was broken into. A class room window was forced open and several table drawers were searched. Fortunately there was no damage and nothing was stolen. The matter has been reported to the Morwell Police which is now investigating. Do not let vandalism start again in Churchill.

Churchill Little Athletics

During the past weeks the last Inter club competitions and championship finals have been held. The Churchill team has done remarkably well, with many of the children showing great improvement in times and running ability.

Co-op Movement and hotel

Your hotel committee is still active. It is now

constituted as a sub-committee of the Churchill Citizens' Association.

Stolen items

Kelly's shop was broken into again this last week. Goods worth several hundreds of dollars were stolen.

Unfair delays

A number of newer residents claimed that they were suffering delays in signing the contract for purchase of their residences. Because of a Housing Commission 'bungle' they were being forced to pay \$12.00 a week rental for a much longer period than originally told and had been informed that none of this money would be credited against the purchase price of the house.

Shopping centre

Our 'shopping' is on the move again. The Ladies Beauty Salon is moving to larger premises, and will occupy Guss' original shop. The original fish café is re opening as a Ladies, Gents and Children's clothing establishment. All large premises in the shopping centre will then be occupied, and most commodities will again be available in Churchill.

Hazelwood South School

An album of photographs to record this school's history has been commenced. We have photos of the children, staff and of school events that are taking place in 1968. Photos of the school under construction will be included. Any photos of the Hazelwood South

School, with or without the temporary classrooms would be appreciated.

The album will be added to over the years to come and should be an attractive and interesting record of school events.

School library

All our new books have arrived, and your librarian is now very busy getting them ready for the shelves. As there is such a lot of work involved the library will not be in full operation until after the Christmas holidays.

Under new management

The Anne Lorraine Beauty Salon is now under new management. Mrs. Hazel Walsh of Yinnar has bought the business. From outside we see new curtains. Inside you still see capable Jan Bond at work. This week there is a very good special for all the ladies.


Churchill Service Station

Yes, we can talk about it now. We can even see it beginning to rise above the ground level. The building is the one you see just below the Post Office.

Bonfire night

The Scout Group Committee reports a most successful paper and bottle drive last week and wish to thank everyone who saved bottles and paper for them. They assure everyone that they will have another drive soon, please save your bottles and paper for the Scouts. The Scouts will organise their bonfire night and selling hot dogs in November.

Aaron Pearce ◀
Plumbing Services
 PO Box 408 Churchill
0412 795 984
 * Split System Air Con
 * Solar Hot Water
 * Wood Heating
 * Roofing
 * Gas Fitting
 * Drainage
 Reg No 46053

Rotary 
 DINNER MEETINGS:
1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays
6.30pm - 8.00pm
 MORWELL BOWLING CLUB
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME
 Contact: Paula,
 Secretary
 0455 584 072
humanity in motion
Hazelwood Rotary Club

MORWELL
RSL CLUB

Victoria Cross Bistro
Morwell RSL
OPEN 7 Days
LUNCH and DINNER
UPDATED MENU
 MONDAY Kids eat free with each main meal purchased.
 Come in and check out our **NEW Sports Bar and BIG Screen TV**
 Phone 5134 2455

Churchill CHATTER

As we begin 2024, let us take a minute to close our memories from 2023.

Congratulations to Churchill Lifeline for their impressive, colourful, winning Christmas window display.

A wonderful evening of Christmas carols was held at the Co-operating Churches.

The evening was a great success with over 100 people attending and joining together in song. Santa made a popular appearance for the children.

Our January summer has been a different season this year with cooler days, plenty of rain to keep the gardens growing and lawns in need of mowing more often than usual.

At last our Churchill

Symbol better known as the Cigar is working well and looks very impressive when alight at night. It can be seen from many vantage points around the district.

It is disappointing to see that there is constant graffiti appearing around Churchill over summer. It is unfortunate that someone has little to do apart from defacing buildings, signs and fences owned by residents.

Australia Day was celebrated at Churchill on a cool morning with a flag raising ceremony. Local Australia Day award winners were presented with their certificates to applause from the spectators. A very tasty breakfast barbeque was

cooked by the Churchill Lions Club and followed with lots of friendly chatter from residents.

Churchill Citizen of the Year winner was Graham Harvey, and Young Citizen winner William Bonnici. Primary School winners were from Churchill Primary Isla Godfrey, Churchill North winner Thane Allen, Hazelwood North winner Hudson Amos, and Lumen Christi Primary winner was Addisen Russell. Congratulations to everyone, we are proud of you.

Craft Connections happens each Tuesday morning at the Churchill Cooperative Church from 10.00am till noon. Bring along any craft you are working on and enjoy the company.

If you wish to learn or complete a craft project members will be able to help you. Enjoy a cuppa and chat with morning tea. For more information ring Sue 0411 714 564

Thought for the month As you get older, three things happen to you. The first is your memory disappears and unfortunately I cannot remember the other two.

Game, set, match! Latrobe Health Assembly makes a racket



Latrobe Health Reserve Assembly, supported by Morwell - Town Common Moe - Botanical Gardens Latrobe Valley. Yallourn North - McGregor Reserve Boolarra - Railway Park

Following the successful implementation of a table tennis table in Newman Park in Traralgon in 2022, which received an overwhelmingly positive response from community members, the project has been expanded to eight other townships. This includes:

- Churchill - Mathison Park
- Glengarry - Town Common
- Yinnar - Recreation Reserve
- Toongabbie - Recreation

Arriving in time for forecast sunshine, the vibrant orange additions aim to increase social connection and boost the benefits of physical and mental exercise in a fun and inclusive way.

Due to the addition of concrete slabs and footpaths where necessary, the tables are accessible so that they can be enjoyed by all.

'There's been a buzz of positive feedback from the community already. Something as simple as a

game or two of table tennis has such a huge impact - it promotes connection between family and friends and ticks all the boxes of physical and mental health,' says Latrobe Health Assembly Chair, Tanya Rong.

'The table tennis tables have been years in the making and are a fresh addition to some of the Latrobe Valley's beautiful parks and play spaces.

It's a testament to the collaboration between Latrobe Health Assembly, Latrobe City Council and our community members - who we hope to see with a paddle in hand and a game face on soon!



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



Every Tuesday 10am to 12 Noon

Co-Operating Churches Corner Williams Ave and McDonald Way Churchill

Admission Free

Tea, coffee and biscuits provided for morning tea by St Matts

BYO crafts on the day, knitting, crochet, card making, sewing or whatever craft you are interested in.

Everyone welcome, bring a friend, no booking required just turn up on the day and enjoy a friendly morning with like minded craft enthusiasts.

Please feel free to contact Sue on 0411 714 564 for more information

Disability Access



St Vinnies SOUP VAN EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

6.00 pm at White Parade reserve
6.45 pm at Illawonga Court

Soup, sandwiches, frozen meals, fruit. Please bring a bag and yourselves. SPREAD THE WORD



Churchill Fire Brigade



Fire Restrictions Are In Force

Fire restrictions were implemented in Latrobe City on December 18, 2023 and are still in force. This means that despite our recent wet weather, and milder temperatures, it is illegal to conduct a burn off without a written permit from the Latrobe City Municipal Fire Prevention Officer, or CFA.

Find out what you can and cannot do during the declared Fire Danger Period, and on days of Total Fire Ban, when fires in the open air are legally restricted in the Can I or Can't I brochure available from CFA District 27 Headquarters (20 Hazelwood Rd Morwell), or online: cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/can-i-or-cant-i

prepare, High - Be ready to act, Extreme - Take action now to protect your life and property Catastrophic - For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

Fire Danger Ratings will be issued on days when there is a fire risk. Each fire danger rating will have a clear set of messages including the actions the community can take to reduce their risk. Ratings are forecast using Bureau of Meteorology data for up to four days in advance, based on weather and other environmental conditions such as vegetation. The rating is your trigger to take action to stay safe.



CATASTROPHIC

What does it mean?

Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.

These are dangerous fire conditions.

Expect hot, dry and windy conditions.

What should I do?

Take action now to protect

your life and property.

Check your bushfire plan and that your property is fire ready.

If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts.

Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas.

Leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.



EXTREME

What does it mean?

Fires will spread quickly and be extremely dangerous.

These are dangerous fire conditions.

Expect hot, dry and windy conditions.

What should I do?

Take action now to protect your life and property.

Check your bushfire plan and that your property is fire ready.

If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts.

Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas.

Leaving bushfire risk areas early in the day is your safest option.



HIGH

What does it mean?

Fires can be dangerous.

What should I do?

Be ready to act.

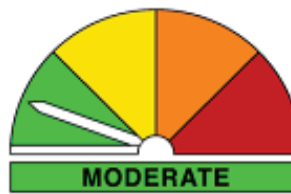
There is a heightened risk.

Be alert for fires in your area.

Decide what you will do if a fire starts.

If a fire starts, your life

and property may be at risk. The safest option is to avoid bushfire risk areas.



MODERATE

What does it mean?

Most fires can be controlled.

What should I do?

Plan and prepare.

Stay up to date and be ready to act if there is a fire.

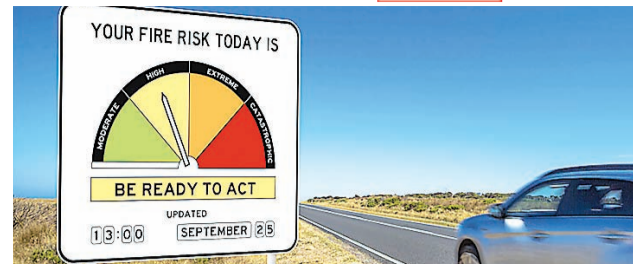
NO RATING

The system also introduces an 'off' level for days where no proactive action is required by the community. This does not mean that fires cannot happen, but that they are not likely to move or act in a way that threatens the safety of the community. This rating is the thin white wedge on the colour wheel sitting under 'Moderate'.

Find out more

To see the current Fire Danger Rating forecast across the state see Total Fire Bans & Fire Danger Ratings.

cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/fire-bans-ratings-and-restrictions/total-fire-bans-fire-danger-ratings



Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South
2024

Wishing you a Happy New Year!

54B Cunninghame St, Sale 03 5144 1987
danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au
www.dannyobrienmp.com.au
 /dannyobrienmp

THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

Fire Danger Ratings

Fire Danger Ratings tell you how dangerous a fire could be if one started. They are important because they help you decide what actions to take to protect yourself and others from bushfires and grassfires.

There are four levels of fire danger in the new system: Moderate - Plan and

Santa Joy



The Churchill Fire Brigade, with assistance from Driffield and Yinnar South Fire Brigades, were very pleased with the response to the run around town on Christmas Eve by Santa and his Fire Brigade helpers. It was fabulous to see so many of our younger (and not so

young) community members so excited to see Santa, and to receive a gift of lollies from his sack.

Participating in this type of event is very satisfying for Brigade members, where everyone can get a little happiness in their day seeing Santa and his helpers.

Melina BATH MP
THE NATIONALS MEMBER FOR EASTERN VICTORIA REGION

MY DOOR IS ALWAYS OPEN

melina.bath@parliament.vic.gov.au 2/181 Franklin St, Traralgon VIC 3844
03 5174 7066 MelinaBathMLC

BE A Churchill SHOP LOCAL

CHURCHILL SHOP LOCAL MARKETS

2024

9.00 am to 1.00 pm at Churchill Shopping Centre on these dates:

- SATURDAY, MAY 4th
- SATURDAY, AUGUST 24th
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7th

CRAFT MARKET & STALLS FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLES ENTERTAINMENT VOUCHER GIVE-AWAYS

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RETAILERS & SHOP LOCAL IN CHURCHILL



LIKE 'CHURCHILL SHOP LOCAL' ON FACEBOOK & STAY INFORMED ABOUT OUR SHOPPING CENTRE MARKET DAYS

Book your market stall site on-line at churchill.org.au/events

COOKING with Noelene

Whole Orange Cake



This is a moist syrupy, flourless slab. The actual cake takes around an hour to cook, but you need to boil the oranges for 2 hours prior to preparing the batter. So give yourself at least 3 hours to prepare this cake. To begin place 2 whole oranges in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring to the boil, then reduce heat, cover with a lid and simmer gently for 2 hours. Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Drain oranges and allow to cool enough to handle, cut the oranges into quarters, remove any pips and place the unpeeled segments into your processor. Blend until smooth. Now add 250 gm of castor sugar, 6 lightly beaten eggs, 250 gm of almond meal and finally 1 and 1/2 tsp of baking powder. Blend until thoroughly combined. Lightly grease a 24 cm springform pan, add a good pinch of fine polenta and shake the pan until the base and sides are thoroughly dusted with polenta. Tip out any excess polenta. Pour the batter into the pan and bake for around 1 hour or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. Cool in the pan before removing the sides of the springform pan. Serve from the base of the springform pan with thickened whipped cream or natural yoghurt.

Fish cakes



You will need 500gm of boneless white fish fillets, roughly chopped. Two spring onions chopped, 1/4 bunch of freshly chopped coriander (including roots). Now place in your food processor 1 lightly beaten egg, the chopped fish, coriander, spring onions, 1 tbs of cornflour, 1 dsp of fish sauce and 1 tbs of red curry paste. Process the mixture until combined. Wet your hands and shape the mixture into 24 cakes. Place the fish cakes on a tray, cover with plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator for 30 minutes. In the meantime heat 2 tbs of peanut oil in a large non stick frypan, cook the fish cakes in batches for 2 minutes each side or until golden. To serve garnish with lime wedges and a dipping sauce made with 1/4 cup of sweet chilli sauce mixed with 2 tbs of lemon juice and 1 tsp of fish sauce.



Basil

'The food of love is quite simply the food you prepare with knowledge and passion, with the intention of sharing it with the people you like' - Antonio Carluccio. (I had the honour of meeting this amazing man on Masterchef).

Thank you Maureen and Roel for the bunches of fresh vegetables from your garden. There were kale, rhubarb, cauliflowers and the most magnificent bunch of freshly picked basil. Basil's mouthwatering aroma makes it a versatile herb to use with many different types of foods. It is best known for its affinity with tomatoes and tomato based dishes. It also works well with eggplants, zucchini, marrow, squash and spinach. Basil added during the last half hour of cooking gives zest to pea soup as well as lentil soup. Basil is delicious with cream cheese in sandwiches, sliced cucumbers and gives salads a magical lift. Basil is excellent in all pasta dishes and goes well with poultry, veal, liver, kidneys, fish and shellfish. I make my own savoury vinegar by placing the fresh basil leaves in bottles of vinegar and steeping them for a few weeks. Needless to say, basil always has a place in my kitchen.

Passionfruit Sponge



Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Grease 2x 8" round pans and lightly sprinkle the bases with fine polenta. In a medium bowl mix together 1/4 cup of cornflour, 2 tbs of plain flour and 1 tsp of baking powder. Separate 4 eggs (room temp) and whisk the egg whites until stiff. Add 6oz (3/4 cup) of castor sugar, gradually, beating non stop. Add the beaten egg yolks, one at a time, continually beating. Now gently fold in the flour mixture with a metal spoon. Divide the mixture evenly between the two prepared pans. Cook in the moderate oven for 25 minutes. Leave stand in the pans for 3 minutes before turning on a wire rack, after loosening side from the pan with a knife, allow to cool completely. Okay, now it's time to fill and ice. Place one of the sponges on a serving dish. Thickly spread with 300ml of whipped cream. Place the second sponge on top. Make the icing by mixing together 1 tsp of melted butter/marg with a liberal 1/2 cup of icing sugar. Spread in a rustic manner over the top of the sponge and finish off with a drizzle of 3 tbs of passionfruit pulp (including seeds).

Lemon, Basil and Yoghurt cake



Each month I am going to share a recipe with you, using a vegetable or herb from the home garden. This month I am highlighting basil. I am going to share this recipe that uses chopped basil, lemon juice and lemon zest as well as Greek yoghurt. Oh and did I mention the aromas that will fill your kitchen while the cake is baking? So let's get started. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Grease either 8" round pan or standard loaf pan and sprinkle lightly with fine polenta. In a medium bowl mix together 1 and 1/2 cups of all purpose flour (plain), 2 and 1/2 tsp of baking powder and 1/2 tsp of salt. In a large bowl use your fingers to mix together 1 cup of golden castor sugar with the finely grated zest of 2 lemons, until the sugar mix has the texture of damp sand. Add 3/4 cup of Greek yoghurt and 1 tbs of lemon juice. Use electric whisk and mix well. Now add 1/2 cup of canola / rice bran oil, 2 lightly beaten eggs at room temp, 1 tsp of vanilla extract and finally 1/3 rd cup of finely chopped basil. Continue to whisk until well blended. Carefully fold in the dry ingredients until just combined. Pour into the prepared pan and bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes or until a skewer inserted comes out clean. Remove from the oven and leave to sit in the pan for 5 minutes, cool on a wire rack until completely cool and then drizzle with a lemon glaze.

Lemon glaze

Mix together 1/2 cup of icing sugar, 1 dsp of lemon juice with 1 tsp of milk, stir till well combined.

Spicy Sausage Puffs



Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Slice 2 chorizo or 1 kabana into bite size pieces. Cut strips from 1 ready made puff pastry sheet, large enough to wrap around each piece of sausage. (You should have approx 14 pieces). Roll up sausage pieces in the pastry sheet strips and brush with a beaten egg. Transfer the pastry wrapped sausage pieces to the lined baking tray and bake in the preheated oven until the pastry is golden brown.



PLACE YOUR AD HERE

SEND YOUR MESSAGE ALL OVER THE LOCAL DISTRICT

5122 1961



Line Dancing in the Latrobe Valley

By Linda Pink

Line Dancing is going from strength to strength in the Valley. COVID, as for many, hit us hard and gradually we had to build up our classes and socials again. It was so nice that in 2023, not only did we see some normality back in our group, but ended up having an amazing year. Early in the year, L.V Country Line Dancers, along with Rebel Bootscooters, Yarragon and Ramblin' Rose, Ringwood were announced Australian Line Dance Group of the year. This award is given for the work the groups put into Line Dancing and into their community. Since 2018, these three groups have worked hard to raise much needed funds in support of Depression/Suicide for Lifeline Gippsland.

This last year we manage to raise over \$20,500, which is such a wonderful effort and one of which we are proud. Events have already been organised to continue

this support into 2024. Then, for myself, to win Australian Line Dancer of the year was something I never dreamed of, but am extremely proud of. This is not a reflection of myself, but of my wonderful classes and the work they all do.

This last year, we were also able to assist Oferya Kicheni-Parr - Days of Hope and her team's incredible work of sending aid to her hometown in Zimbabwe. This is the sixth year we have been able to assist Oferya and it certainly was our biggest. The number of items we collected this year was staggering and with money raised and donated we were able to purchase a huge number of items for the school. We are just so pleased that our Line Dancers could once again lend a helping hand. Line Dancing is so much more than most people expect.

Besides the exercise, which sometimes is only a small part of it, Line Dancing

is a safe environment for people to socialise in. You do not need a partner and you dance at whatever level you feel comfortable. The benefits from dancing are endless and all this happens while you are laughing, dancing and having fun. What can be better than dancing (regardless of two left feet), listening to all genres of music (which is great for the soul) and socialising and creating new friendships within a wonderful group.

For more information on Line Dancing in the Latrobe Valley visit our website. www.lvbootscooters.com and to see just how much we have in classes/socials and trips visit our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LVCountryLineDancers/NewBeginners>. Courses commenced the first week in February in both Newborough and Heyfield. For more information on these visit our website.





Boolarra Folk Festival
Inc.
ABN 75 918 277 187
PO Box 247
Boolarra, Vic. 3870
www.boolarrafolkfestival.com.au
www.facebook.com/boolarrafolkfestival



BOOLARRA FOLK FESTIVAL
TURNS 21

The multi-award winning Boolarra Folk Festival will celebrate its' 21st birthday this year with a magnificent, free community event held within the beautiful setting of the mountain ash trees of Gippsland's Strzelecki Ranges. During the first weekend of March the festival will present music, market stalls featuring local arts and crafts, festival merchandise and food stalls offering a diverse range of delicious cuisine.

Since the festival's inception in 2003 over 800 mostly local musicians have entertained audiences, which have grown to over 9000 each year, on the main stage in Centennial Park, the Memorial Hall and ARC Yinnar. This year's festival will open on Friday, March 1, at 7pm, at the Boolarra Memorial Hall with a special, free celebration featuring extraordinary Gippsland musicians. The ever-popular Strzelecki Stringbusters will be followed by Paul Buchanan's Voodoo Preachers playing original raw, electric blues. The evening will close with Smokin' Dog Johnson, a swampy, dirty blues band from Boolarra.

Saturday, March 2, is the main event, with a full day of incredible artists and bands from 10.30am until 8pm.

Festival goers will enjoy Half Cut Hicks, a combination of banjo, mandolin, trombone, ukelele, sidchrome, bass and drums creating a high energy hillbilly blues sound, and Boneyard Blondes, who play a mix of blues and rock originals and covers with a Boneyard twist. Ally Row, an indie pop-folk duo and 2023 winners of the Port Fairy Street Fair Busking event, will be performing as well as the Hip Pockets, a 10-piece R&B soul band with a pumping rhythm section and sweet vocals.

A vibrant market will also be held in the adjacent Railway Park on the Saturday. From 50 market stalls in the early days of the festival, now over 100 art, craft and food stalls will be set up for the festival's 21st birthday.

This free community event would not be possible without much appreciated sponsorship. The Latrobe City Council have provided funding since the very first festival and Loy Yang B continues to be a major sponsor.

Car parking is available, including accessible parking.

CONTACT: Rick Teychenne
0408 696 243
boolarrafolkfestivalhq@gmail.com

CHURCHILL BASEBALL CLUB

PLAYERS WANTED

MEN

WOMEN

SENIORS

JUNIORS

**ALL ABILITIES AND EXPERIENCE
LEVELS WELCOME**






<https://www.facebook.com/churchillbraves>



churchillbraves@hotmail.com



GEORGIA LARKIN: 0480 674 370
GREGG BURCAN: 0418 320 057

Cricket: Cobras v Cougars



Cobras vs Cougars T10 Report

On Friday January 12, George Cain Oval hosted the inaugural T10 Match, Churchill Cricket Club vs Churchill Football Club. With the mercury reaching 32 degrees the crowds flocked in to what can only be described as the biggest function hosted by the Cricket Club in recent years.

The Cobras won the toss and in typical King Cobra fashion they chose to bat. Ricky Velardi and Ross Parker (Pom) strode to the crease with the aim

of dispatching every ball to the fence. This only lasted three balls for Ricky as he was caught out by Bailey Flanigan off the bowling of former B Grade Captain Jordy Fenech. Enter King Cobra himself who smashed 21 off 10 balls before succumbing to another Bailey catch which brought a knee slide celebration as the King Cobra made his way off.

The Pom and Covers steered the ship as the runs started to rise. Parker retired on 29 off 11 at what can only be described as his best

knock for Churchill Cricket Club. Covers was joined at the crease by twin brother Ryan as the Harvey boys took the score above 100. Covers retired on 32 off 22 which brought Kurt Holt to the crease. Kurt rather casual in his approach, strolled out with no pads or shoes on and was quickly bowled by Flanigan before Harry Van Rossum entered and left in the same fashion, without contributing to the score. With Flanigan on a hat trick there was a huge amount of pressure on Lleyton Hecker to see off the hat trick ball,

which he managed to do... just.

The Cobras finished their 10 overs with a score of 5/113.

After a quick drinks break the Cougars sent C Grade Premiership player and A Grade Premiership Player Ben Skinner and Ben Kearns to the crease. In typical Skinner fashion he attempted to dispatch the first ball to the fence only to be caught by Van Rossum off the bowling of Chris "Willow" Williams.

With the score at 1/0 the Cobras could not have

hoped for a better start, however the Cougars version of Chris Williams and Ben Skinner had different ideas reaching the boundary rope a combined 14 times before Kearnsy was caught off the bowling of King Cobra for an insane 50 off 19 balls. Chris 'Squid' Williams and Jordy Fenech continued to assert dominance as the win drew closer.

The Cobras managed to snag a couple of wickets before the Cougars passed the score in the last over.

Top Batting Performances

Cobras
Matthew Harvey 32* (22)
Ross Parker 29* (11)
John Keighran 21 (10)

Cougars
Ben Kearns 50 (19)
Chris 'Squid' Williams 41 (22)
Jordan Fenech 15 (9)

Top Bowling Performances

Cobras
Chris "Willow" Williams 1/6 off 1
Kurt Holt 1/6 off 1
Harry Van Rossum 1/7 off 1

Cougars
Bailey Flanigan 3/2 off 1
Jordan Fenech 1/6 off 1
Ryan Lowrie 1/14 off 1



"Connecting Your Community"

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

**Club Championships RD 3
Monthly Medal Star Medal
Saturday November 25,
2023.**

A Grade Winner : M. Brereton 13 67 nett Medal B Grade Winner : A. Sharrock 24 73 nett C Grade Winner : T. Lio 34 75 nett

Scratch : M. Brereton 80
Putts : J. Barnes 26 & M. Soppe 26 D.T.L : 1. R. Dent 74, 2. D. Burrige 74, 3. J. Cahill 75, 4. P. Kearns 75, 5th R. Madigan 75, 6. S. Allison 75, 7. T. Webb 75, 8. Ad. West 75 N.T.P : 3rd. C. Cummings, 5th D. Byers, 12th Pro-Pin : S. Caldwell, 14th R. Timbs Target Hole : P. Kearns Birdies : 12th P. Chapple and S. Caldwell, 14th I. Heppelston Star Medal Winner : D. Burrige 74 Nett

Club Champions

A. Grade Winner : M. Brereton 205 nett B. Grade : A. Sharrock 220 nett

Handicap :
Winner : M. Brereton 205 Nett Scratch Winner : M. Brereton 244 Nett

**Club Championships RD
3 Tuesday November 28,
2023.**

Day Winner : I. Heppelston 71 Nett B. Grade Winner : Lisa Van Rooy 76 Nett

Scratch : M. Ryan 96 D.T.L : 1. M. Ryan 75, 2. R. sands 77, 3. S. Caldwell 79

N.T.P : 3rd. M. Ryan, 5th L. Van Rooy, 12th M. Ryan, 14th C. Barnes

Championship Winners

Scratch Winner : M. Ryan 294 Handicap : S. Turner 217 A. Grade Handicap : S. Turner 217 B. Grade Winner : L. Van Rooy 217

**Stableford Saturday
December 2, 2023.**

A Grade Winner : M. Brereton 35pts B Grade Winner : S. Caldwell 36pts

C Grade Winner: B. Kilday 35pts D.T.L: 1. J. Langstaff 34, 2. S. Sanders 34, 3. R. Madigan 33, 4. R.

Sands 33, 5. R. King 33, 6. J. Sanders 31 C/B

N.T.P : 3rd Pro-Pin : R. Sands, 12th S. Allison Target Hole : J. Langstaff

Birdies: 3rd S. Caldwell

**Monthly Medal
Tuesday December 5,
2023.**

Scratch : Ad. West 92 Medal Winner : S. Caldwell 95-23-72

B Grade Winner : R. Sands 80 Nett D.T.L : Ad. West 77, S. Turner 78

N.T.P : 3rd L. Brent, 5th S. Caldwell, 14th J. Clegg Birdies : 3rd L. Brent, 12th S. Caldwell Putts: J. Blizzard 26 and S. Caldwell 26

**4 Person Ambrose
Saturday December
9, 2023.**

Winners : M. Hutchinson, J. Barnes, C. Waring, S. Sanders 56.25

Runners Up

: G. Spowart, P. Flanigan, B. Jenkins 58 D.T.L : 1. G. Sanders, T. Sanders, Ad. West, R. Sands 59.25, 2. D. Burrige, M. Brereton, T. Sterrick, M. Ryan 59.875 N.T.P : 3rd B. Jenkins, 5th C. Waring, 12th J. Banfield, 14th C. Thomson

**Monthly Medal Saturday
December 16, 2023.**

A Grade Winner : R. Vesty 17 Nett 68

B Grade Winner: R. Abel 25 Nett 67

C Grade Winner: M. Hutchinson 27 Nett 66 Medal D.T.L : 1. T. Collins 70, 2. P. Smart 71, 3. B. Mathieson 72, 4. As. West 72, 5. R. King 73, 6. C. Gosling 75, 7. J. Barrett 75, 8. P. Kearns 75, 9. R. Timbs 75 C/B N.T.P : 3rd R. Madigan, 12th Pro-Pin : P. Kearns, 14th M. Soppe Target Hole : R. Vesty, Putts



Congratulations to Sandra Caldwell, Christine Stevens and Sue Gosling from Churchill & Monash Golf Club on winning the Traralgon Golf Bowl on Friday November 24, in sunny conditions against 21 teams with a great score of 114 pts. Well Done !!

: R. Vesty 24 Birdies :

R. Madigan 3rd , R. Welsh 3rd Scratch : P. Smart 82

**Stableford Tuesday
December 19, 2023.**

Winner : C. Stevens 35 pts D.T.L : 1. S. Gosling 34, 2. L. Van Rooy 32 pts C/B

N.T.P : 3rd Ad. West, 5th L. Brent, 12th Ad. West, 12th Ad. West 14th M. Ryan

Birdies : 3rd S. Caldwell, 3rd Ad. West, 12th Ad. West
**Stableford Saturday
December 23, 2023.**

A Grade Winner : C. Hogbin 12 38pts B Grade Winner : P. Junker 20 39 pts

C Grade Winner : S. Sanders 24 37 pts D Grade Winner : C. Gardner 34 40pts D.T.L : 1. R. Zomer 38, 2. J. Soppe 36, 3. G. Barnes

36, 4. R. Abel 36, 5. R. Madigan 36, 6. R. Vesty 35, 7. B. Kilday 35, 8. J. Barrett 34 C/B, 9. D. Cook 34 C/B, 10. Ad. West 34 C/B N.T.P : 3rd Pro-Pin : P. Kearns, 12th A. Wright

Target Hole : R. Madigan Birdies : P. Kearns 3rd
**Stableford Saturday
December 30, 2023.**

A Grade Winner : I. Fortune 14 35pts B Grade Winner : S. Allison 20 37pts C Grade Winner : V. Reid 30 36 pts D.T.L : 1.

G. Barnes 37, 2. G. Harvey 36, 3. J. Soppe 35, 4. J. Jeffery 35, 5. R. Zomer 35, 6. C. Gillfillan 35, 7. R. Madigan 35, 8. S. Caldwell 34 C/B, 9. R. Abel 34 C/B N.T.P : 3rd D. Byers, 5th M. Dear, 12th Pro-Pin : T.

Darby, 14th P. Bolding Target Hole : S. Allison

Birdies : C. Warring 12th, I. Fortune 3rd , D. Byers 3rd

**Monthly Medal
Tuesday January
2, 2024.**

Scratch :
P. Smart 80 Medal Winner : V. Reid 101-29 72 nett C/B

A Grade Winner : P. Smart 80 -10 70 nett D.T.L : 1. R. Madigan 72, 2. S. Turner 72, 3. M. Hutchinson 73 N.T.P : 3rd C. Hogbin, 5th C. Cunningham, 12th J. Cahill, 14th S. Turner Putts : R. Madigan 20

Birdies: 3rd R. Madigan
**Stableford
Saturday
January 6,
2024.**

A Grade Winner : J. Langstaff 15 40pts B Grade Winner : M.

Soppe 20 40pts
C Grade Winner : W. Sutton 27 36pts D Grade Winner: T. Collins 30 36pts D.T.L : 1. J. Cahill 38, 2. L. Chessom 36, 3. R. Vesty 36, 4. P. Kearns 36, 5. R. Timbs 35, 6. R. Madigan 36, 7. C. Stevens 35, 8. C. Warring 35, 9. B. Mathieson 35 N.T.P : 3rd Pro-Pin :

P. Kearns, 12th P. Richer Target Hole: P. Flanigan Birdies : R. Dent, C. Gillfillan 3rd, M. Hutchinson 12th
**Stableford Tuesday
January 9, 2024.**

A Grade Winner: Ad. West 18 34pts B Grade Winner: S. Martinac 32 37pts D.T.L : 1. L. Chessom 35, 2. S. Turner 32 N.T.P : 3rd S. Caldwell, 5th S.

Martinac, 12th C. Gilfillan, 14th J. Tatterson

**Par Saturday January 13,
2024.**

A Grade Winner: R. King 15 +8 B Grade Winner: M. Soppe 19 -1

C Grade Winner: B. Mathieson 30 +4 D.T.L : 1. B. Kilday +2, 2. L. Chessom +2, 3. J. Barrett +2, 4. D. Radnell +2, 5. C. Warring +2, 6. P. Kearns +1, 7. J. Cahill +1, 8. R. Vesty Square, 9. Ad. West Square

N.T.P : 3rd D. Chessom, 5th D. Burrige, 12th Pro-Pin : B. Kilday, 14th B. Jenkins Target Hole: D. Byers Birdies : R. King 3rd , B. Kilday 14th
**Stableford Tuesday
January 16, 2024.**

Winner: S. Turner 24 35pts D.T.L : 1. R. Dent 35pts, 2. S. Martinac 33pts N.T.P : 3rd S. Gosling, 5th S. Turner, 12th M. Dear

**Stableford Saturday
January 20, 2024.**

A Grade Winner : I. Fortune 14 39pts B Grade Winner : C. Warring 17 37pts C Grade Winner: Pat Kearns 24 34pts D Grade Winner: B. Mathieson 29 39pts D.T.L : 1. R. Vesty 39, 2.

R. King 38, 3. C. Sterrick 37, 4. G. Corponi 36, 5. R. Dent 35, 6. C. Cummins 34, 7. M. Dear 33 C/B, 8. S. Sanders 33, 9. R. Madigan 33, 10. D. Burrige 33, 11. B. Kilday 33. N.T.P : 3rd Pro-Pin : R. Welsh, 12th J. Cahill, 14th P. Chapple Target Hole : Pat Kearns

Birdies: 3rd R. Dent, G. Barnes, C. Warring, 12th R. Vesty, J. Cahill, Ad. West

**Par Tuesday January 23,
2024.**

Winner A Grade : S. Caldwell 23 +1 B Grade Winner : R. Sands 31 -2

D.T.L: 1. M. Ryan -1, 2. L. Brent -2 N.T.P : 3rd Ad. West, 5th S. Turner, 12th L. Brent, 14th M. Ryan

Churchill Baseball Club

Swing into Fun

Churchill Baseball Club invites kids to try baseball on March 17.

Calling all young athletes and baseball enthusiasts! The Churchill Baseball Club is gearing up for an exciting day of swings, pitches, and home runs as they host a special Come and Try Day on March 17, from 9 am to 1 pm at Andrews Park (corner of Birch Drive and Hawthorn Crescent) in Churchill.

The event, open to kids aged 4-16, aims to introduce the thrill of baseball and

recruit new members for the upcoming season. A sizzling BBQ will be provided, making it a perfect day for families to come together, enjoy some great food, and discover the fantastic world of baseball.

About Churchill Baseball Club:

Part of the esteemed Latrobe Valley Baseball Association, the Churchill Baseball Club boasts a rich history dating back to its establishment in 1974. Celebrating its 50th season in 2024, the club has become synonymous with success, particularly in its

junior program.

The club offers diverse age divisions, including U10s (Teeball), U13s (Modified rules baseball), and U16s Baseball sides.

Notably, the junior program has achieved remarkable success, clinching all LVBA junior premierships since 2019. This accomplishment reflects the club's dedication to nurturing talent and fostering a love for the game among young players.

A Tradition of Excellence:

"At Churchill Baseball Club, our vision is to create an inclusive and thriving

baseball community that promotes an environment of growth, respect, and success on and off the field," says Club President Gregg Duncan. "Our core values of family-friendly enjoyment, and respect guide us in all that we do, and we take pride in the development and inclusiveness of our junior program."

What to Expect on Come and Try Day:

The event promises a day filled with exciting activities, including skill stations, mini-games, and friendly competitions suitable for different age

groups.

Parents can learn more about the club's history, recent achievements, and the upcoming season.

Current club members and coaches will be on hand to assist and share their positive experiences.

The Come and Try Day is an excellent opportunity for families to connect with the vibrant Churchill Baseball community and discover the benefits of joining a club with a passion for the sport and a commitment to player development.

Join the Braves Family:

The Churchill Baseball Club invites all aspiring baseball players, whether seasoned or just starting, to swing by on March 17 and be a part of the excitement. Registrations will be open, and information available on the upcoming season.

Do not miss out on the chance to be a part of a historic season and celebrate 50 years of Churchill Baseball excellence!

For more information, visit Churchill Baseball Club Facebook page or contact Gregg Duncan Club President on

0418 320 057.

SCHOOL NEWS

Churchill North Primary

Churchill North P.S staff and students have selected their School Captains and Vice Captains as well as their four House Captains (Red, Blue, Yellow and Green) for 2024.

Firstly, our Grade 5s signalled whether they wanted to apply for School Captain or House Captains in 2024. After that, they spent time drafting and finalising their speeches before presenting them in front of their peers. The 5/6 teaching team then held one on one interviews with all applicants so they could explain why they would be the best fit for our School leaders. Finally, the students and

staff voted on the candidates they would like in the School and House Captain roles for 2024. These were announced at our school Assembly.

School Captains are

Holly and Liam, Vice Captains are Marley and Bella. House Captains are Clinton, Tia, Aleria, Gabby, Cowan, Lara, Liam and Wes.

Holly: In 2024 I'm going to be a School Captain of CNPS. I am thrilled to have the role at our school, it's a great opportunity and a once in a life time role. I look forward to the responsibility as I am very reliable.

Liam F: I am excited to be School Captain of CNPS for 2024 because I like to



House Captains

help people throughout the school and make sure everything is okay. I am also excited that I can be a leader and a voice for younger students.

Marley: I am very grateful for becoming Vice Captain. My younger self would be so proud. I am very happy because all my friends became School/House Captains so I won't be the only friend with School/House Captain

Bella: I am a very kind and respectful person. I am excited about being Vice Captain because I get to host assembly and help with the sports shed. I'm really happy I received the position.

House Captains are:

Gabby (Green) Why I love being House Captain is because I like having a responsibility, helping others and having fun. I always say if you want to go for a position, go for it.

Clinton (Green) I will be a good House Captain because I can be a good role model. I will do anything that I need to do and I will love this job because I am a part of something and I am capable of being a good leader.

Lara (Red) I'm happy I got Red House Captain because I feel like I finally got a leadership role to take on. Let the challenge begin!

Aleria (Red) It's an honour to be Red House Captain. I'm so grateful to

have a leadership role at CNPS. I can't wait to do my jobs to the best of my ability.

Liam B (Blue) I'm Blue House Captain for 2024. I'm excited to be Blue House Captain because I have never been a House Captain before and I would like to help the school get more excursions. I would like to help the school with the stuff that they need done and brekky club and sports shed.

Tia (Blue) As House Captain I think I will do a great job because I like to take care of other students.

Wes (Yellow) I feel grateful for the role, I can take on more responsibilities in the school and be a role model for others.

Cowan (Yellow) I'm excited to be Yellow House Captain because I can do sports shed and be able to help people who need it. I'm proud of myself because I did my speech by myself and I didn't need help.

CNPS DUX 2023

The Kurnai DUX Academic Award is an award that goes to one of the top performing students in the school academically.

This award is given

to a student who also demonstrates all our school values, shows excellent behaviour in class and in the yard, and shows outstanding respect to teachers and their peers. Maddy Nicolopoulos had outstanding results across all areas of her learning,



DUX 2023 Maddy Nicolopoulos

especially in Numeracy. Congratulations Maddy and all the best at Kurnai next year.

Other awards given on the night were: RSL Bill Brennan Award - Amelia Row, John Tipping Award - Connor Bawden, Good Citizen Award - Shilah Kickett-Eades, Churchill North Primary School Award - Zoey Victor.



School Captains

By Leo Billington

How people are remembered and, hopefully not forgotten (series continued)

Former Morwell Shire President (1914/15), Mr Dave Latter, was regarded as one of the best timber experts in Gippsland. Dave lived in Boolarra, and many believed he could well lay claim to the title of the "Blackwood King" of Victoria. Boolarra and the adjacent country was the home of the blackwood, and hundreds of logs were gathered in by Mr Latter's teams and sent to Melbourne where the "sticks" were converted into beautiful suites of furniture.

John Leo Sullivan, a Boolarra resident, employed by Dave Latter, was driving a bullock team, laden with blackwood logs, into Boolarra.

As reported in the Morwell Advertiser Friday, October 13, 1893,

"a twitch pole, used for tightening the chains around the legs, came in contact with

a rotten sapling, which broke off under the pressure and fell on the driver, striking him on the back of the head causing instant death."

The older, heavier trained bullocks were called "polers" or "wheelers" and were positioned closest to the bullock dray or jinker to help slow the load when necessary.

At a formal enquiry conducted the following Tuesday, it was concluded by Mr Murdoch J P, that Mr Sullivan's death was accidental. The deceased, who was a married man, left behind a widow and three young children.

Sad to say, John Sullivan is buried in the Hazelwood Cemetery - in an unmarked grave. Also with John is his infant daughter, Ellen Catherine Sullivan, who died when nine months old.

To add more sadness, John's wife, Ellen, who had married him in 1883, after his early death in 1893, married Owen Reilly during 1900. Ellen had moved to somewhere near Sunbury and is buried in the Woodend cemetery. Ellen died 30 years after John's death and her grave is unmarked. However, heritage records for Ellen show no mention of her daughter, Ellen Catherine.

William Murdoch arrived in Morwell in about 1873 and quickly established himself as a keen entrepreneur. Besides being a Justice of the Peace, JP, he acquired a considerable amount of property. Unfortunately, William was a victim of being over capitalised and the 1880's land boom

collapse fuelled by speculation in land and shares, and he left Morwell for Melbourne.

While times were seemingly profitable, William set about establishing his edifice, Murdoch's Hotel in Commercial Road, Morwell. It was built by local builder, William Tulloch during 1887. Three years later, William retired from his hotel. He died in Melbourne - some reports describe him as "an invalid" - on Friday June 27, 1913.

William's obituary Morwell Advertiser, Friday July 4, 1913 mentions two sons - William and George. Actually, there was a third son, Neil.

Aged 22 years, William McCrae Murdoch was accidentally killed when riding home from Traralgon. He was then the assistant Morwell station master. His horse slipped, William was jammed against a tree and died instantly. George was aged 43 when working at the Great Boulder Mine in Western Australia. Between 1895-1931 over four million tonnes of ore was processed for almost the same amount in ounces of gold from this mine.

George was accidently killed when working about 1000 feet below. A planned powder charge dislodged rock and George was hit, and died with a broken neck.

Neil Murdoch was about two years old when he died of burns at Mount Cotterell; and was buried in the Bacchus Marsh cemetery on July 27, 1871. Research undertaken back in 1974 showed Neil's

date of death as being 1872. (This highlights a challenge when researching history.)

Nonetheless, the Murdoch family headstone in the Hazelwood Cemetery quite rightly records Neil and William McCrae. George was buried in the Kalgoorlie Cemetery.

Many words have been written about John Barton Hoyle. In one publication his name is given as "Hall". Again, mistakes should not pass unchecked.

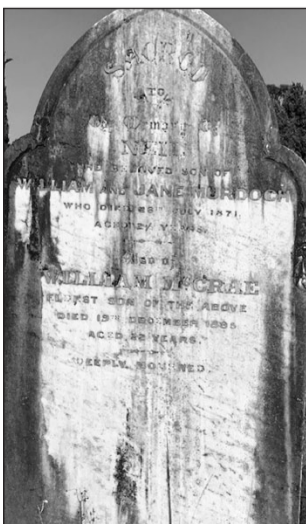
More importantly, The Morwell Advertiser, Friday, June 10, 1921, highlighted John Barton Hoyle's grand achievement.

He played a prominent part in the movement for erection of the Soldiers' Memorial in Morwell and as its Secretary did practically all the work in connection with the matter. Ill health on his part delayed the completion of his task for some considerable time, but eventually the memorial was erected and arrangements completed for the unveiling ceremony.

"Mr Hoyle, who suffered from bronchial asthma for years past, had a very bad attack about three months ago, and although he greatly improved he never seemed to thoroughly recover, and getting a relapse last week, he gradually sank, and passed peacefully away as stated on Monday evening last, a few hours after the unveiling of the Soldiers Memorial, the arrangements for which he had completed after

considerable efforts, but which he had not been permitted to witness although he had been looking forward with keen interest to the occasion, as the completion of a worthy task that was to him not only a labour of love but which he regarded as a duty as well."

John and his wife, Mary, are buried together in the Hazelwood Cemetery, their combined grave once marked by a stick. This stick was replaced with a sign. This



Hazelwood Cemetery

SCHOOL NEWS

Lumen Christi Primary



Lumen Christi's Bethlehem Bazaar raises record amount for Vinnie's Christmas Appeal

Lumen Christi school held its annual Bethlehem Bazaar on Friday December 1, raising a record amount of money for the Vinnie's Christmas appeal.

Students in Grades 5 and 6 developed ideas for market stalls – everything from selling cupcakes to prize winning games that children, staff and the school community brought along their money. All the monies raised were donated to Vinnie's, which helped people in the Churchill

community last Christmas with essential items that they need.

"As a Catholic school, it is our responsibility to have a focus on Social Justice," said Principal, Sally Darby.

The whole school community was involved, students and staff alike dressing up in Bethlehem clothes and the school Eco-Centre was transformed into a Bazaar.

Mrs Darby said that the students raised over \$1000, which is more than anyone can remember the school raising in the past.

"We might be a small school," said Mrs Darby,

"but our community spirit and generosity know no bounds. Lumen Christi is such a special place and I am blown away at how much our families have contributed to this cause.

The Bethlehem Bazaar is an event that the whole school looks forward to every year and is the highlight of the school calendar for many," said Mrs Darby. "I want to thank our teachers and staff for the work that has gone into organising the Bazaar this year and I'm incredibly proud of what our children have achieved to help others in our community."



SCHOOL NEWS

Yinnar Primary



Graduation

Our Grade 6 students graduated from Yinnar Primary School on Monday December 18. It was wonderful to celebrate the years of primary school that our Grade 6 students

enjoyed at Yinnar and to see them mature into fine young people. During the evening special awards were made and include:

- Kurnai College Scholarship - Sonny
- Morwell RSL Sub-

Branch Bill Brannan Award – Lachy

Yinnar Primary School Learner Award – Amira

Yinnar Primary School Performing Arts Award – Dakota

We wish all our 2023 Grade 6 students every success as they move onto secondary school and look forward to hearing of their achievements as they continue with their education.

We have a few families who are leaving Yinnar Primary School and we wish them well and thank them for their support for their child's education and their ongoing support and valuable contribution to the Yinnar Primary School community. Please stay in touch.

Australia Day

On Friday January 26, our four school leaders attended the Australia Day ceremony in Yinnar. Bonnie, Quade, Hudson and Dusty delivered their first official speech - 'What it means to be an Australian'. They were certainly well prepared and great ambassadors for our school.

2024

We extend an extra special welcome to our new students and new families. It has been lovely to see our Prep children settling into their new learning environment very quickly

and showing a willingness to try things. This mindset will hold them in good stead as they encounter different challenges throughout the year.

We have had a very smooth start to the term with all our students quickly returning to the routines of school ready for the year of learning. There is a very pleasant atmosphere throughout the school, both in classrooms and in the playground. For the first week or two, teachers are focussing on processes, learning behaviours and expectations, to lay solid foundations for learning and growth.

One of the special qualities of our school is how the students show genuine care and are generally very inclusive of one another. The Prep students were welcomed and supported by their Grade 6 buddy in the playground during their first week at school.

We are extremely fortunate to welcome Mr Greg Kneebone and Ms Mikayla Ainsworth to our classroom teaching

team. Over the past few weeks we have been most impressed by the amount of effort all of the staff put in to make sure that the students had a very smooth

start to the year. They are extremely passionate educators who aim to ensure that our children have the best possible learning experiences this year.





STAMP MATTERS – A NEW EXPERIENCE



A Happy New Year to all my readers. Last year I hoped for an unremarkable year and this year I am hoping for a year which rewards all with what they deserve in the way of prosperity. Now, down to business.

Prehistoric Paintings

A couple of years ago I did a column on Aboriginal Art, and given that the culture goes back over 60,000 years, the rock and cave art here is up there with the best, although the value with which it is regarded

leaves a lot to be desired. Other countries jealously guard their ancient art so much more than we do.

There have always been people blessed with the gift of artistic ability, able to see beauty in the forms created by nature and the wherewithal to transfer it onto a hard surface for others to see.

With the lifestyle they followed, grinding out a living as hunter-gatherers, their winter shelters of caves and the spare time given to them by nature, it is no wonder that cave paintings and etchings were done, and the protection of the caves allowed them to survive to this day.

The discovery of these marvels, not surprisingly, were adventurous children whose curiosity led them to explore the often forbidden places on their jaunts of discovery. That such

places were forbidden hints of some ancient knowledge of the art, and superstition kept people out of these strangely decorated places. Over time the art was forgotten, but the fear of the past remained. Thank heaven for curious kids.

How their eyes would have widened as they inched forward into the darkness, being egged on by their comrades, and then lighting a candle, which revealed the long-hidden marvels on the walls around them. They were able to recognise the horses, cattle, and deer.

There were other animals they did not recognise. In another cave, in Spain the scene was duplicated, this time showing men hunting strange animals with bows and arrows. The number of caves across the world with examples of cave art have increased over the years to Asia, Africa and the Americas.

How excited the earliest discoverers must have been,

racing home to tell their parents and others about their finds. The feelings of the adults at the news would have been a sight to behold as well.

Apprehension, fear even, but as well the natural inclination to verify the news which would have led to an ever-widening number of interested people wanting to see these rediscovered wonders. Most countries opened up the caves for viewing, enriching the local economies, but over-exposure led to the need for the protection of the sites.

Today, the sites are carefully managed so that the examples of art produced



by prehistoric people are preserved forever, preserved in situ so that the populations yet to come may marvel at them too.

The collection of stamps depicting these wonders

would be a worthwhile exercise by those interested in the time before recorded history.



Thank you

Churchill & District News would like to thank Latrobe City Council for a community grant to give continuing support to our community through the newspaper.

Thank you from the

community.

The community says thank you to the Churchill Fire Brigade for arranging the Santa Run each Christmas Eve. It is looked forward to and enjoyed by young and old.



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

Churchill, your community health centre is here for you!

Monday to Friday, 8.15am - 5pm
20-24 Philip Parade, Churchill

 1800 242 696

We're proud to offer you a range of health services in state-of-the-art facilities.

- Dental clinic
- Dietitian
- Podiatry
- Cervical cancer screenings
- Exercise physiology
- Planned Activity Groups





Churchill Australia Day Awards



Thank you to our wonderful, diligent Lions Club of Churchill for organising and setting up the Civic Space for Churchill's Australia Day Awards ceremony.

January 24 had seen rain come in later in the day and continue through the night. January 25 dawned fine but cool and the Awards ceremony went ahead outside as usual.

There was a crowd of approximately

150. Families came to support the Award winners, some with three or four generations. So good!

Bill Rowley entertained the gathering with a selection of Australian songs.

Lion Bill welcomed everyone acknowledging guest Cathie Halliwell and MP Martin Cameron, before the Churchill Scouts did the flag raising ceremony.

Following this, our local MP Martin

Cameron spoke of the significance Australia Day had for him in his early years and still was important to him today. He acknowledged that not everyone was of that opinion.

He congratulated the Award winners and wished everyone a pleasant time of community engagement.

He thanked the Lions for their efforts and said he, like those present, looked

forward to an egg and bacon sandwich or sausage with onions following the formal proceedings.

Cathie Halliwell from the Co-Operating Churches delivered the prayer.

The Awards were then presented with words read by Lion Reg and Martin Cameron presenting the Award.





Churchill cont.

Churchill Citizen of the Year - Graham (Grub) Harvey



Graham Harvey affectionately known as Grub, is today being recognised for his tireless service to the Churchill sporting community.

Grub, a resident of Churchill for 45 years, is a family man married to wife Julie and is father to twins Ryan and Matthew, and a grandfather to Kennedy.

Grub was born in Yallourn one of eight children. The family moved to Churchill when Grub was still very young. The family was one of Churchill's earliest residents, but had to move back to the Yallourn area due to Dad's work as a butcher. Grub attended Yallourn High School and started playing football and cricket, like a lot of other kids, and maybe even played a bit of soccer.

On leaving school Grub completed an apprenticeship as a motor mechanic at Maryvale Ford in Traralgon, later becoming the service Manager at Valley Ford and then moving onto apprentice training.

Grub's involvement in the Churchill Latrobe Valley sporting community is astonishing as both a player and administrator.

Grub is well respected, with his achievements and influence at the Churchill Cricket Club long-lasting. Grub's commitment and determination and tireless efforts have helped to make the Club the success it is today and a welcoming place to come and play cricket.

Grub is the type of guy who is always looking for ways to help out, the sort of guy who would do anything for you. He is humble, he does not make a fuss or big deal. He is driven by what is best for the clubs which he serves.

Grub has been a Churchill Cricket Club member for 40-plus years.

As a player, Grub played 534 games, won six Best Clubman Awards, was Club President for 10 years, and is a life member of the Club.

Grub served as the Latrobe Valley & District Cricket League President for three years and is also a League Life Member of the League.

He served as the Vice President of the Traralgon & District Cricket League for 17 years.

He is a former player, Reserves Coach and Committee member at the Churchill Football and Netball Club who, on Saturday nights, prepares and serves meals as well as

helping out at the Club wherever he can.

He is a committee member of the Churchill & Monash Golf Club and has served the Club as Treasurer for the past two years also manning the BBQ most weekends.

Well done Grub you are a Churchill Legend, a great community person and a most worthy Churchill Citizen of the Year.

A great Australian.

Churchill Young Citizen of the Year - William Bonnici,



William was nominated by the Churchill Kurnai University campus where he completed Year 12 last year, and achieved high academic results. William was a stand-out student at Kurnai College last year, a school Captain and dedicated to his studies.

William is 19, is a confident, friendly, caring, and compassionate young man, who demonstrates maturity beyond his years. He has a great personality, is popular amongst his peers, is a role model to other students, and strives to make a difference, always willing to assist others. William took on all the challenges that lay ahead last year, making a positive change for the good of the school and for other students. Williams's focus was to make his Year 12 a success to help secure his future which he achieved in amazing degrees.

William has been accepted to join the Australian Armed Forces and hopes to join the artillery services. He is looking forward to the challenges ahead and is proud to join the services at a time of need and at a time of great technology changes.

William has been very actively involved with the Morwell Citizens Band for a long time. He plays the sousaphone a brass instrument similar to a tuba, the bugle and played the Last Post at last year's ANZAC ceremony at Yinnar. William assists the band in helping out by teaching others. William likes the performing arts, acting, and the theatre.

William is an active community member a young person, striving for the best in everything he does. He is a member of a local Taekwondo Club where he has achieved his Black Belt. He is also actively involved with teaching self-defence and the discipline that goes with it to students young and old. He loves the interaction and seeing others improve.

William loves to do a spot of surf fishing.

He is a friendly, caring, and compassionate young man, who demonstrates maturity beyond his years, looks out for others and has an ease of making them feel welcome and included. William has proven to be an active member of our community and someone who strives and is determined to succeed at everything he does. One very deserving of community recognition.

Churchill Junior Citizen of the Year - Hudson Amos



Hudson was nominated by his school Hazelwood North Primary School, where he attended and completed Year 6 last year. Hudson was nominated by the school for his commitment to his education, respect for school values, his compassion for giving of his time to assist and help other students and his leadership qualities.

Hudson is a confident well-spoken, very likable young man who was school Captain last year. Hudson is someone who gets on well with others and is a role model for other young people. He is one of four siblings who are all close. He has two brothers and a sister and likes hanging out with them. They are a close unit and family is important to him.

Hudson's main interest and enjoyment are in the arts, dancing, acting, and theatre. He practises and rehearses five days per week after school, and he has performed in stage shows with Class Act Productions which is a dedicated youth theatre company in Gippsland. He has also performed with the Latrobe Valley Theatre Company and Junior Theatre Company. Hudson has auditioned for the Australian All Stars which will travel with other kids to perform in Los Angeles, New York, and Atlanta. Hudson is hard-working, ambitious, and determined to develop his artistic skills.

Hudson will be starting Year 7 at Lavalla College in Traralgon this year and is excited by the challenges that lie ahead and is determined to do well in his academic studies, at the same time continuing to further develop his passion for dancing and acting and performing on stage.

Hudson like most kids today has a very keen interest in electronics and technology and how best to use them. He is also starting to learn to play the guitar.

Hudson is a young man who knows where he wants his life to go, and is determined

to succeed in what he wants to do. He has great support from his family as well as his siblings and is a very worthy Australia Day award recipient.

Well done Hudson,

Churchill Junior Citizen of the Year - Isla Godfrey



Isla was nominated by her school Churchill Primary School. Isla is a Year 5 student who last year was Red House Captain and a member of the Student Representative Council. Isla is looking forward to Year 6 this year and is very committed to her education, has great respect for school values, and always makes time to assist and help others.

Eleven years old, Isla has a very bubbly personality and is one of three siblings with a brother and a younger sister. Isla is confident, polite, and well-spoken, and a leader and role model for other students.

She loves her sport and the outdoors, Isla loves hockey, not surprisingly considering both Mum and Dad play. Isla plays for the Gippsland Bulls Hockey team and has also played in the Under 12 state team. Isla loves helping around the Club whether it is showing people around, helping new young players, or scoring. She is always willing to help out.

Isla is an active member of the school and hockey community and is always a fantastic participant in school events. She loves helping out whenever she can, whether it is at home or at school helping the teachers or helping other children in the class or playground, Isla is a popular and respected student.

She loves dancing, storytelling and performing and has performed at Wakakirri at the Frankston Arts Centre which is a Story and Dance Festival for Primary and Secondary schools, Dance schools, and Community Groups.

Like most kids, Isla likes hanging out with her friends and bouncing around on the trampoline, going camping and roughing it with the family.

Isla is a determined young person inclusive, helpful always willing to help when needed, and one who strives to do her best to succeed in everything she does.

A worthy Australia Day award recipient Congratulations Isla.



Churchill cont.

**Churchill Junior Citizen of the Year -
Thane Allen**



Thane was nominated by Churchill North Primary School where he was recognised by the school for his commitment to his education, respect for school values and helping out around the school. Thane loves school and learning new things; is helpful in the classroom, and has hopes to become a House Captain.

Thane is 10 years old and has a younger sister Ebony. Thane is a quiet and unassuming young man who prefers not to be in the spotlight but is beginning to find his creative self by starting to learn to play the piano.

Thane loves being outdoors and has joined the Churchill Scout group as a Cub Scout. He loves going on camps and being with his fellow Cub Scouts learning to be creative, leadership skills and qualities.

Thane helps out at Mathison Park and

gives his time freely to assist at the park and help to make it a better place to be for the people of Churchill who use the park. Thane loves to go to the park and Lake Hyland for a spot of fishing trying to catching that big rainbow trout.

Thane is helpful at home and at the Church the family attends. He does Bible readings, prayers and helps to light the candles. He enjoys sharing his craft efforts with the congregation.

Thane enjoys hanging with his friends, is a kind and compassionate young person who is always willing to help out others by contributing to his school community, assisting in school activities and assisting teachers when required.

A worthy Australia Day Award recipient Great work Thane

**Churchill Junior Citizen of the Year -
Addisen Russell**



Addisen was nominated by Lumen Christi Catholic School where she will start Year 6 this year, Addisen is a popular member of the school community and was nominated by the school because of her commitment to her education, her leadership qualities, and for her deep compassion, giving of her time to assist and help others in need.

Addisen is a very confident polite young person and has hopes to become a School Captain, She loves sports, and being active by going for walks, plays tennis and basketball and has started playing soccer.

Addisen is a very happy and creative person who likes reading, drawing, story writing, and song writing. She is helpful

and likes to be involved whether it is at school, home or at sports,

A part of Addisen's creativity is her enjoyment for performing, singing, and dancing. Addisen loves music with her favorite singer being Taylor Swift.

Addisen is always willing to help and assist others who need help, whether in class helping the teachers when required, or looking out for the younger junior students.

Addisen is a definite role model to other students in the way she conducts herself at school, not only academically but also for her care and her desire to help others, whether at school or away from school, she has a strong will to make a difference.

Congratulations Addisen



Words from Graham Harvey

Churchill has been good to us and our family. We have been involved because it is what you do for your community. Graham thanked his family for their support in all his endeavours.

The formal proceedings over, people took photos, lined up for a delicious Lions feed, caught up with friends and had a pleasant time. All this happened before the rain decided to revisit about 9.45.

How good was that!

Yinnar & District

Yinnar and District Australia Day Celebrations

An egg and bacon breakfast was once again supplied to a crowd of approximately 150 by the Yinnar and District Lions Club.

The entertainment for 2024 was provided by Lucas Hobbs, an ex-Kurnai student who presented a wide range of songs and music.

The Yinnar Cubs and Scouts, led by Jess Cook, then raised the Australian flag.

Yinnar and District Community Association treasurer, Kevin Young, was the MC for the day.

The message "What does Australia Day mean to me?" was beautifully presented by the Yinnar Primary School Captains, Bonnie, Quade, Dusty and Hudson.

Mayor, Councillor Darren Howe, then gave a speech on behalf of Latrobe City emphasising the importance of unity both in the local and wider community.

The Yinnar and District Citizen of the Year was presented to Jan Smith by 2023 winner Sandy Hegarty, in recognition of

her community involvement for over 40 years.

This included working on the committees of the kindergarten, Primary School and as secretary for the Yinnar Football Netball Club. Jan was also a Brownie leader and over the years has knitted countless numbers of beanies, blankets and scarves for the homeless as well as beanies for the Latrobe Valley Hospital.

At Christmas time, she took on the role of Santa's helper and replied each year to hundreds of letters from the local children.

Jan also utilised her computer skills to create reports for the Yinnar Newsletter as well as being her husband's secretary for the YDCA and Lions Club - a very worthy recipient.

Fortunately, the rain held off just long enough to finish the formal proceedings. It was a wonderful start to Australia Day celebrations which were enjoyed by all.

Above left - Jan Smith with Sandy and Darren
Below left - the flag raising
Below - School Captains,





Boolarra



Australia Day 2023 in Boolarra
by Colin Brick, OA

Boolarra Community Development Group
Another enjoyable and sociable Australia Day for Boolarra.

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

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

Certainly early on, the number of kids seemed to be down this year, but as those who were there were happily ensconced on the playground, we did not stage the kid's games this year. However by the time the presentations were being done the numbers had increased.

A lovely time was had by all who attended, and it was great to meet some people new to town, and to catch up with some who used to live here and had come back for the event. With the assistance of the sound system from the Boolarra Memorial Hall, we were even able to present a reasonable rendition of the National Anthem.

The volunteers on the BBQ started at 7.30 to ensure the hungry masses were very well catered for, and everything went very smoothly. A special thanks to the Rotary Club of Traralgon, who provided several volunteers, they were greatly appreciated. Well done also to Chris Wareham for bringing the Koffee Kart along and providing free coffees to the masses, and to the Boolarra Football Netball Club for allowing us the use of their trailer BBQ.

A big thank you also to the staff at Latrobe City, especially Wendy Hrynyszyn, for

their assistance in working through the approvals maze to stage the event in a COVID-compliant manner and supplying a range of extra signage, bins, and even a cleaner for the day.

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

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

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

Lyrinda Carter has been nominated for her hard work and commitment to the Boolarra Community Hotel.

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

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

Another summer season done and dusted, with a very successful Christmas Carols and now Australia Day. Now we move onto the 20th Boolarra Folk Festival on March 2. . Finally on Friday March 22 there will be a Tom Curtain Do it for Dolly fundraiser at the footy ground (Boolarra Memorial Park), with stalls, activities, music, car displays and much more. So plenty coming up to look forward to in Boolarra.

Award Recipients
Left to Right - Lorre Ziebell, John Lubawski, Colin Brick, Juliet Olivier, Toby Grant, Callunn Olivier, Malcolm Grant, Sue Webster, Donna Mack, Robern Lubawski, Cr Dan Clancey

