

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

*"Connecting Your Community"*

Established 1966

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*Chatting with the LOCALS*

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## Proposed underground/undersea link project



Marinus Link is a planned undersea and underground electricity and internet cable between north west Tasmania and Hazelwood.

The Marinus Link project is being progressed by Marinus Link Pty Ltd (MLPL), which is jointly owned by the Australian, Tasmanian and Victorian governments.

The project will give Victoria energy security during the transition from coal to renewables by improving access to Tasmania's large hydropower energy storage.

As coal stations retire, solar and wind will be the main replacement energy sources, but there will be times when it is not windy and sunny, and sometimes for long periods. This is where Marinus Link and Tasmania's unique hydropower will be crucial for Victorians.

Hydropower can plug the gaps, giving Victoria a secure, reliable and renewable energy supply during peak periods of

electricity demand (in the evenings and early mornings) or periods of low solar and wind. Additionally, hydropower is a low-cost and low-emissions alternative to gas generation, which can play a similar role of 'firming'.

Marinus Link will be underground in Gippsland, crossing the shore at Waratah Bay about 3 km west of Sandy Point, running north through South Gippsland and into the Latrobe Valley.

It will connect into the national electricity grid at Hazelwood. A converter station will be constructed at the connection point on Tramway Road in Hazelwood, neighbouring the current Hazelwood Terminal Station.

The cables will be about 345 kilometres long, including 255 kilometres of undersea cables across Bass Strait and 90 kilometres of underground cables in Victoria.

The project will be delivered in two stages. Each stage will deliver one complete 750 MW cable system and converter station

in Tasmania and Victoria. Civil works, trenching and installation of cable conduits and joint pits for both stages will be completed in Stage 1.

This will minimise impacts to landholders and the extent of works associated with Stage 2, and provide for the efficient delivery of the second stage at a time determined by market demand. MLPL's most recent major milestone was the public exhibition of the project's Commonwealth and Victorian environmental assessment documents.

The milestone is the culmination of several years' engagement, surveys, and studies undertaken by technical experts on land and at sea.

The combined documentation for the draft Commonwealth Environmental Impact Statement and the Victorian Environment Effects Statement (EIS/EES) and draft Planning Scheme Amendment (PSA) appeared on public exhibition from May 31 –

July 12, 2024.

The combined EIS/EES addresses Commonwealth and Victorian matters, identifies potential impacts, and proposes how the project plans to avoid, minimise or manage them. During public exhibition, MLPL hosted a series of drop-in sessions throughout Gippsland, including two in Churchill, to answer questions and provide information on the documents, the approvals process and how to make a submission.

Community feedback at these sessions focused on the timing of the project, its connection to other renewable energy projects in Gippsland, the location for the converter station and the range of job opportunities the project may provide.

Summary documents and fact sheets on the EIS/EES process are available on the Marinus Link website: [www.marinuslink.com.au/assessment/commonwealth-and-victoria/](http://www.marinuslink.com.au/assessment/commonwealth-and-victoria/).



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# 2024

# WINTER

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**CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS**

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**The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the August 2024 edition is July 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](mailto:cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au)  
All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



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We acknowledge the support of



**Book Review**

**"Things You Save in a Fire"**

by Katherine Center 2019

Katherine Center is an American author, born in Houston Texas in 1972. She gained a Bachelor of Arts from Vassar College and later a Master of Arts from The University of Houston. She is the New York Times best selling author of ten novels including "The Bodyguard", "How to Walk Away" and "Things You Save in a Fire".

Cassie, the main character in this story, loves her job as a firefighter, she is well accepted and highly respected by all members in her crew, and she is the youngest and only female to receive a valor award.

When her estranged mother calls and asks her to come and live with her for a year because she has some eye problems, Cassie flatly refuses. She reminds her mother that she left Cassie and her father for another man on Cassie's sixteenth birthday and Cassie has not forgiven her. In fact, Cassie has built a wall around herself because of this and another trauma which happened on that day.

Cassie and the whole crew are attending the award ceremony and Cassie is called up on stage to receive hers from the local mayor. When he gropes her she bashes him with the quite heavy trophy she has received and he ends up in hospital.

Cassie is given an ultimatum that she either makes a public apology or she will be dismissed. She refuses to apologise and strikes a deal with her boss to move to Boston. This would kill two birds with one stone as she could continue her career and live with her mother.

Over time Cassie and her mother grow to understand and respect each other but Cassie's experience at the fire station was quite confronting.

The crew was made up of older men who showed little respect for a woman and it was made clear that she was only there because there was no-one else. Her sleeping quarters were a cupboard and there was no female toilet. She felt she had to constantly



prove herself worthy but when she achieved better than the men she was resented.

At the same time Cassie started, a rookie also commenced, and Cassie was given the task of training him. Despite her resolve to avoid any romantic attachment she did develop strong feelings for him and he gave her support when she was bullied and abused.

The story came to a climax when there was a large fire and the senior fireman believed he could see a child inside.

Despite clear orders from the chief that under no circumstances were

they to enter the building Cassie and the rookie were ordered in with disastrous consequences.

We all enjoyed this book – it was an easy to read love story and moved along quickly.

Despite being fairly lightweight the book covered many contemporary issues such as bullying in the workplace, sexism and misogyny, and the effects of reliance on pain killing medication. It also gave many insights into modern firefighting. A central theme was also the universal need for forgiveness.

Don't forget to read the epilogue!

**Rainfall**



**Churchill Rainfall**

June was the fourth below average month for rain this year with only 36mm being recorded.

The total rainfall for the year so far is 274mm; the lowest for the same period since 2019.

**Rain at Hazelwood South:**

Hazelwood South had half of the average rain for June, with only 43mm.

The Latrobe Valley weather station unusually had 15% more rain than

Hazelwood South. After almost three months of low rain, the soil moisture is poor, making digging difficult, and if that continues, increases fire danger next summer.

The rainwater tanks are down a bit, and the garden requires regular watering. For the total of the first half of the year, the rain is 22% below average. This is a good time of the year for preparing for next year's fire season, and collecting firewood.

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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
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- 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](mailto:cdnadvertising@cdnews.com.au)

Guest Speakers

So often CDCA arranges guest speakers to attend our regular meetings (on the second Thursday of every second month). Speakers are chosen based on relevant local interest – such things as new developments, infrastructure planning and projects impacting Churchill.

Two speakers were to address our June meeting – Professor Andrew O’Loughlin from Federation University, Churchill campus and Mr David Burt of Energy Australia’s Wooreen Battery Project. Unfortunately, on the day, Professor O’Loughlin was ill, while Mr Burt tested positive for COVID-19, so both were late apologies!

Not to worry – this gave us time for some of our members to speak in detail about matters of local interest that they are directly involved in.

Ian Gibson, our Treasurer, works at Federation University as Industry Placement Officer and provided some interesting insights into student enrolments and the challenges facing the university since the COVID pandemic.

Sgt Jordan Atkinson, Officer-In-Charge at Churchill police station, reported on local crime statistics, contrasting these with other towns in Latrobe City and similarly sized towns in other parts of Gippsland. Data shows that Churchill has a relatively low crime rate compared to many other locations.

Our Neighbourhood Watch representative, Peter Gray, had some sad news: after many years of service here and across Latrobe City, Latrobe Valley Neighbourhood Watch is winding up. Faced with a dwindling number of ageing volunteers (down to five active members) and unable to attract

Are you feeling the effects of the cost of living crisis? LCHS can help

Many people are feeling the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. With everything getting so expensive, some people are having to make the hard choice between basics like eating dinner and paying rent.

Making decisions about how to tighten an already strict budget can feel overwhelming at times. But this is exactly what LCHS Financial Capability Worker, Mike Kirkness does on a daily basis, and he has some tips on managing budgets while still prioritising your health and wellbeing.

With the cost of grocery shopping increasing by roughly 30 percent, it may feel like a visit to the local fast-food chain is cheaper than a visit to the store to pick up fresh veggies. But Mike says there are steps shoppers can take to reduce their grocery spend while still eating well.

“It is so important to write out a shopping list and look for



new ones, the decision has been made to dispose of assets and disband.

CDCA gave Peter (and his colleagues) a round of applause for all their work over many years. Many residents will have had contact with the Neighbourhood Watch team at a variety of events in Latrobe City.

We will miss them cooking sausages at our Shop Local Market Days and fitting anti-theft screws to vehicle number plates in the carpark.

Vice-President Linda Reid provided an update on the “Creative Latrobe” project which is to provide art installations in various locations around Latrobe City.

A recent event was held in Boolarra, whilst decisions about a Churchill project are likely to be made in August.

Kathleen Roberts from Latrobe City Council, provided copies of a new quarterly Council publication – the “Positive Ageing” newsletter.

This is available at Churchill Library (in the Hub) and various locations around Latrobe, or people can subscribe and receive the newsletter via email.

Our June meeting was attended by members and several guest residents. The agenda was full and discussions were wide-ranging – from public toilets in the town centre to the upgrading of Tramway Road; from Council elections this year to the purchase of more decorations to be displayed in the town centre at Christmas time....and lots more!

We decided to have a

table at the next Churchill Shop Local Market – to be held on Saturday August 24 in the shopping centre. This will be after our August 8 meeting, at which we will be conducting a short planning workshop to determine CDCA priorities for the next 12 months.

Come along and have some input, or speak to a CDCA representative at the market.

We also resolved to write to the Body Corporate at Hazelwood Village about a number of issues that locals have raised with us concerning that part of the shopping centre.

Minutes of our meetings (and agendas) are posted online on our website – cdca.org.au/about-cdca/minutes

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting and will be held on Thursday August 8 at 7pm, downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (park and enter from Philip Parade).

All residents of Churchill and district are welcome to attend our meetings, including our AGM (but only members can vote or nominate for a committee position).

At CDCA’s AGM, Mr David Burt will give a brief update on the Wooreen Battery Project, to be constructed in Bond’s Lane (off Tramway Road) by Energy Australia. Professor O’Loughlin (from Fed Uni) will be guest speaker at another CDCA meeting later in the year!

You can contact CDCA via our website - cdca.org.au – or by emailing us directly at info@cdca.org.au or via our Facebook page (search for Churchill District Community Association). You can also write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill.



specials when walking through aisles,” he says.

“Another good trick to know is that the pricier items are always at eye level. Do not forget to scan the shelves from top to bottom to make sure you are getting the best deal,” says Mike.

Shopping without the kids where possible and making sure you do not go to the shops when you are hungry are also good ways to reduce overspending.

Food banks are another great option for those doing it tough. Even though most people feel hesitant to use them, Mike says “that is exactly what they are there for.”

When it comes to the cost of medical appointments, Mike advises looking for a bulk-billed GP clinic or choosing a phone or telehealth appointment for things like filling a script.

With the high cost of fuel, getting to appointments is another consideration.

“Ask yourself, do I need to drive? Can I get a lift here or walk?” he says.

Staying warm is one of the ways that we avoid getting sick in the first place, but utility bills can be one of the biggest household expenses.

“Consider how high your heating is, and once it is on, keeping doors closed to trap warmth in, covering windows with curtains, and using door stoppers to limit cool draughts can keep bills low,” he said.

Mike’s final piece of advice is encouraging those on a health care card to look into the Utility Relief Grant with their provider to see if they are eligible for discounts on their bills.

Financial counselling is free and confidential for anyone in Gippsland. Our counsellors will not judge your situation and have lots of tricks up their sleeves. Call us on 1800 242 696 to see how we can help.

1977

News release

Forests Commission field officers are currently examining the possibility of retaining an area of nearly two square miles, bounded by Jeeralang North Road and Thomson Road to be east of Churchill, as natural bushland, the Secretary of the Commission Mr Lenne wrote in a letter of acknowledgement last week.

This letter was in response to a letter signed by over 20 residents concerned that the Commission was going to plant most of the area under pines. Planting has started at the Eastern end of the land which is now reserved State Forest.

Walkley Park preschool centre

The kinder year is now off to a good start. Interviews with parents have been conducted and the compilation of the booklet “A Place to Play” by the Directress and others is most valuable and informative, and gives a great insight into the philosophy and programming of activities which take place at the kinder. Fees of \$12 for term 1 are now due.

Senior citizens at Churchill

Can you believe it, a Senior Citizen’s Club in Churchill! Five years ago, we had only eight people over 60 years of age. Judging by the attendance of senior people at a local card party last week, we could be in for quite a surprise when the Bureau of Census and Statistics issue the age distribution figures next month. At the meeting it was wholeheartedly agreed that a Senior Citizens Club be formed.

Latrobe Valley Festival

The Latrobe Valley



1977

Festival is in full swing with towns throughout the Valley participating in the festivities. It is a shame that Churchill, the town itself, is not more involved in the Festival. Perhaps one of the soccer matches, concerts or exhibitions, could have been held in our town. Churchill is part of the Morwell Shire, therefore part of the Latrobe Valley, and surely deserves a more active part in the festival.

Masquerade Ball

St Patrick’s Day was the date chosen for a Masquerade Ball held at the G.I.A.E. dining room. The Ball was the first social event held since formation of the new Churchill Catholic Parish. The many costumes were varied and of a high standard, some very funny, with 120 people joining in the fancy dress fun.

S.S.E.C.C.

The Secondary School Establishment Committee of Churchill has not been idle. It has met twice since a public meeting held last year elected a committee for the establishment of a Post Primary School in Churchill. At the moment plans are in hand to prepare a questionnaire in order to survey the residents to determine the needs of the Community regarding Secondary Education.

Churchill Bikies

Hello to all Churchill newsboys and newsgirls who help deliver our Churchill News. We have another member of our group this week Debra, who is 12 years old who helped us out before at short notice, now she has been promoted to an area of her own. Welcome Debra.

Michael, 10 years old now becomes first emergency. Michael rides a yellow Panther bike, he says he would like a new racing bike. So would most of the newsboys, no doubt. Instead of walking Ewan is now set up with a green 24 inch bike with gears and lights and a special carrier for his Churchill news.

Churchill Citizens Association

Among the new initiatives was our Broken Bottle Anti Litter Campaign, which received national publicity. Another of our involvements concerned the noise problem from the Churchill Hotel Motel. Among our other successes was the deputation to Mr Dickie, the Chief Secretary concerning additional police for Churchill.

Cigarette sales

Following advice from Morwell Police that it is an offence for any person to sell cigarette papers, cigars, or tobacco in any form to any child under 16 without the written permission of the parent, local tobacco retailers have been asked to obey the Law.

Please do not send your child for smokes without a signed note.

Modified footy rules

Our junior footballers travelled to Drouin to give a demonstration of modified rules. The Bombers and Maroons, both Churchill teams put on an excellent game with the Maroons winning. About 90 Churchill boys take part in Modified rules and have the support of many parents. By the look of things, some of these young boys could end up top League players.

COMMUNITY SAFETY Words of Wisdom Graffiti and Vandalism

This month, we are looking at graffiti and associated vandalism. You may notice various signs and other things around town that have been defaced by graffiti or straight out vandalism.

Graffiti includes defacing, writing, scratching or drawing on property so that the marks cannot be removed easily with a dry cloth. This includes stencil art and engraving.

There are very serious penalties for making or intending to make graffiti, including large fines and imprisonment.

If you see things around town that have been defaced by graffiti or vandalism, you can report them via “Snap Send Solve” (The app that can be installed on your phone) or, report it to your local shire council. If you witness someone doing these “Crimes”, you can call the police and report them. Either 000, if you need

the Police immediately, or 131 444 if you do not need them there and then.

In Victoria, it is an offence to destroy or damage any property belonging to another person. This offence is punishable by a maximum of 10 years imprisonment.

Prevention. Graffiti prevention measures aim to reduce opportunities for offending and encourage ownership and observation of areas by the community as a means of discouraging vandalism.

Reducing the opportunity for graffiti aims to deter graffiti by analysing the ‘risks and rewards’ of graffiti to the offender. By maximising the risks to offenders and minimising the rewards, it is possible to discourage offenders from damaging a particular area.

Keep your town safe and tidy, do the right thing and report any issues to the authorities.

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.

# Church NEWS

## Co-Operative Church Snippets



Cathie spoke to us about listening to God. She asked the children "Have you ever heard God's voice? What do you think it sounds like? What do you think happens when God speaks?"

God's voice can be like booming thunder, a rushing waterfall, a flash of lightning, wind whistling through the trees, or a still, small voice. No matter what you think God's voice sounds like, we owe Him praise and humility for all He has done and will do.

Listen for that voice. It may come in a storm, on a mountaintop, or through a friend, a stranger, a picture, a song or a sermon. Sometimes the answer could be that you are bewildered.

However, God has given you the answers. You have the church, the Bible, prayer, conversations with others, and especially the Holy Spirit. You can see it in

God's creation, hear it in the cry of the hungry, in people who need care, the sick who want to be made well, in the oppressed and the lonely who need a friend".

Bec spoke about being ready to listen and respond. To know the voice of God calling and to say "Speak Lord for I am listening. She went on to say that the Pharisees were just desperately trying to obey the law because they did not know what else to do.

This is what they had of God and this is what they clung to. Then Jesus turns up and they are trying to map this fresh revelation of God on to their grim determination to keep the law. It does not work out so well for them.

Jesus says look up, look out, there is freedom. The Sabbath was made for you. It is for you. It is so you can know re-creation, know

rest and to understand what freedom feels like. You have built up all this anxiety around it: we have to get it right, and you have forgotten what it was ever there for. The Sabbath can be a time to do good for others.

We can find ourselves in that same trap. God gives us something good and we build up all these rules and subsequent anxiety around it.

Prayer can be like that: we have to pray, to pray and we forget what a gift it is of relationship with our Father. Church can be like that and we take it as a chore to be done rather than a gift of fellowship with God and others.

So many good, good gifts from our Creator that get distorted and bound up in rules until we no longer remember that the Sabbath was meant as a gift from our loving Father.

The All Age Worship

service saw our young people taking parts in the service along with their parents. Other team members each had parts to contribute. As we were close to Reconciliation Week dates, we included a special acknowledgement of country and an Aboriginal version of the Lord's Prayer.

Our theme was grounded in the 2 Corinthians 4: 13-5:1. No matter what your circumstances you can live a life worthy of Jesus' teaching to love and care for others, talk to others about Jesus and have the hope of looking forward to eternal life where no earthly problem exist.

Cathie's winter theme.

Winter is part of God's good plan, not just for plants and animals, but for us too. Can we learn to see that just as God is with us in the summer of our busyness, so God is with us in our winter of perhaps forced rest.

There are no circumstances in our life when God is not lovingly involved. For many of us, Jesus' words are a sharp reminder piercing our comfortableness: we need to stop and take stock. We may be called to shed some of our current activities to make way for new ones- the new ones God wants us to do with our lives individually and as a congregation.

Remember that just as within the deciduous trees buds wait to blossom, so our lives in Christ awaits the new life he will provide if we take the time to listen and act.

What will the future of our churches look like?

May we be more perceptive, O God, discerning those moments when we are more like stumbling blocks than stepping stones, and to be prepared to lay down our weapons, to move over and make room for others to

serve you too.

When people offer their talents, may we not ridicule but welcome. May our welcome be unconditional, not demanding conformity, but accepting diversity. Give us security in your love and your calling so that we will always be able to make room for others, to appreciate their gifts may be more useful or creative than ours.

Bible stories of old can come to life when told to a new generation. God's word is not safe, it is dangerous. It's not benign, it is powerful. It encourages action and dissent and sounds an alarm for us to take up its challenge and fight the problems of today.

The Good News is a living word that speaks in every age, that calls on God's people to rise to new challenges, to seek new ways, to love and to serve all God's people.



## Church Times

### Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

Sunday Services: 10.00am  
Williams Avenue,  
Churchill.  
Tel: 5166 1819

### Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish Boolarra/Yinnar

1st and 3rd Sunday: 10am  
Christ Church Tarwin St.,  
Boolarra

### Churchill Christian Fellowship

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

### Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes

Tel: 5134 2849  
Fr James Fernandez  
**Saturday 5.00pm** St Vincent's,  
Morwell.  
**Sunday 9.00am** Lumen Christi,  
Churchill.

10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell.  
Every 4th Sunday alternates  
Yinnar/Boolarra.

**See Church bulletin  
or call 5134 2849**

### King of Glory Ministries International

Now meeting regularly in Yinnar  
7.00pm first and third  
Saturday of each month  
at Yinnar RSL Hall.  
Christ-centred, Bible-based, Spirit led,  
and for prayer and bible study.  
Info 0400 690 972  
<https://kogmii.com>

## Churchill Christian Fellowship

Well, here we are in the middle of winter again. Those frosty mornings when you do not really want to get out of bed. Or, if you have central heating that comes on every morning, going outside might be the first serious challenge of the new day. I am sure some of our members are grateful that our Sunday services do not start until 3pm.

Even so, winter is the time of year for coughs and colds and this inevitably affects our attendance. However if we manage our heaters properly, no-one needs to be cold in our meetings.

Our community garden is coming along nicely and a dedicated group of church members and non-members come together every Friday, from 10am to 2 pm to work in the garden. Come spring, we hope to have lots of vegetables to share.

Recently, some of the

ladies have started getting together for craft activities, making this 10am to 2pm Friday timeslot more of a social gathering with a mixture of work and fun. One Friday recently, we put together some new cupboards for our kitchen. There is still a lot of work to be done in the kitchen but this was a good start.

Sadly, our garden shed was broken into in June and some garden equipment was stolen. Police attended during one of our Sunday services but, so far, they have not found the culprits. Whoever they are, we continue to pray for them.

On December 7 this year, we are planning a Christmas Auction and Concert. Some long-term Churchill residents may remember one of these nights from when Sandie and I were here in the 1990s. Despite what this may sound like, it is not a fundraising event

but a night when we as a church and community can give some Christmas cheer to people who, for whatever reason, have had a tough year. Planning begins in earnest now and we will soon be visiting local community groups and businesses with further information.

Churchill Christian Fellowship is all about sharing God's love, in whatever way we can.

Please feel free to visit with us any Sunday from 3pm at 762 Tramway Rd, next to the soccer ground. As it says on our A-frame sign, we offer Bible-based teaching, Christ-centred worship and Holy Spirit ministry.

Enquire about one of our home fellowship meetings, or just turn up one Friday between 10am and 2pm. You will be most welcome.

For more information, please call 0409 173 747.

Steve McNeilly (Pastor)

# Chatting with the LOCALS

**Derek Watson, volunteer firefighter with Churchill Fire Brigade is entering this year's Melbourne Firefighter Stair Climb in September. Money raised will aid the fight against cancer, depression and suicide. CD News talks with him on the lead up to the event . . .**

**CD News:** *Derek, you're taking on a very arduous event, tell us a little of what it is about and where it all takes place?*

**DW:** The Melbourne firefighter stair climb is an annual charity event held at the Crown Metropol where firefighters and emergency services personnel ascend on 28 floors of stairs wearing up to 25kg of turnout gear. The event replicates the action of a firefighter entering a burning high-rise building in full structural protective clothing while wearing a self-contained breathing apparatus. The event is a symbol of the burden of the significant health and well-being issues faced by our first responders and their families on a daily basis. The funds raised improve support services, fund research, remove stigmas and raise awareness of mental health issues like depression, post-traumatic stress injury and suicide, especially for those within emergency services.

**CDN:** *What's involved so far for you to get to this event?*

**DW:** So far there has not been too much preparation, mainly focusing on the registration

process, booking accommodation because I sure won't be driving home after that run, and organising fundraising to work on building my tally consistently.

**CDN:** *What support are you getting and what further support do you need?*

**DW:** So far, I have had great support from friends, loved ones, colleagues and fellow brigade members. As part of my fundraising efforts, I've been collecting bottles and cans to convert to funds that go to my fundraising tally which has been supported by some Churchill community members and organisations. Every little bit counts, so I'm always looking for further support of my fundraising efforts, whether that be a direct financial donation or keeping bottles and cans aside for me to collect and convert.

**CDN:** *Derek, you took on this event last year. How did you go? What was your time at the top?*

**DW:** Last year was my first time taking on the stairs head on, I was pretty nervous to start with, looking up at the sheer height of the staircase can be pretty daunting, but I



Derek prepares for another training run.

just took a few deep breaths and gave it all I've got. With a couple of short stops to catch my breath, I kept pushing forward, making it to the top in 11 minutes and 3 seconds.

**CDN:** *Ok, you're nearing the start line for this event . . . based on last year's run, how are you feeling, what's going through your mind? Take us through your thoughts while*

*you are readying for the climb.*

**DW:** Even before the start line, I spent the whole morning looking at the height of the Crown Metropol, psyching myself up, but the closer you get to the start line, the bigger the nerves get. Your heart is in your stomach, wondering whether you'll make it to the top. Last year being my first time, I think my main focus and nerves were on whether I can make it through, but now I have my first run, I think the nerves will be a bit bigger, because now I have a standard I have to beat.

**CDN:** *Can you take us through the run up those flights of stairs . . . ?*

**DW:** Like any run, you start off strong and steady, you're mentally planning your route, then make it to the stairwell to find you can't create a rhythm because every flight has a different amount of steps, you decide to focus on one step at a time, then when reaching about half way, you start to feel the lactic acid build up in your legs as they get heavier to lift, you start to breathe a bit faster as your body heats up under all your firefighter gear.

Then when you finally make it near the top and you start to feel like your legs can't lift you any longer, but in front, behind and beside you, you find you've got the support of your fellow climbers, the volunteer climb crew cheering you on, just a little bit further, just a couple more steps...

**CDN:** *Well, you have reached the top . . . aside from being exhausted . . . how are you feeling at this point, relieved that it is all finished? . . . what time are you looking for . . . ?*

**DW:** That single moment when you realise the next step is in fact not a step, but a level ground is exhilarating! Rounding the corner to see the arch that says "finish" and you use every ounce of energy you've got left to make a run for it. Crossing that line brings a release of so many feelings . . . exhaustion, pride, relief and an amazing feeling of achievement.

As I mentioned earlier, this year the focus is to do better and be better than the time before, but my goal is to reach it in 8 minutes, beating my previous time by 3 minutes.

I'll be sure to let you know how I go with that.

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**Sponsorship unites juniors in goal to stay hydrated**

Gippsland Water has announced a three-year sponsorship deal with Gippsland United Football Club.

The organisation will provide more than \$25,000 over three years to support the club's seven junior community teams and encourage local families to drink tap water and stay active.

General Manager People and Customer, Michael Crane said Gippsland Water and Gippsland United Football Club are aligned in their ambition to help children establish healthy habits early in life.

"This partnership encourages local children to stay active and helps increase the reach of our Drink Gippy Tap campaign, which promotes the benefits of drinking tap water," Mr



Crane said.

"Tap water is the healthiest drink you can get. It is also the best choice for the environment and for your wallet.

We have some of the best tap water in the world, and it is about 2000 times cheaper than bottled water."

Gippsland United President Peter O'Dea said the club was delighted to partner with Gippsland Water.

"This sponsorship is a great support for our grassroots junior teams and will help set up our kids to thrive," Mr O'Dea said.

"We want our kids kicking goals for their health, as well as their teams. By drinking tap water and

avoiding sugary drinks, they will be winning in more ways than one."

The three-year deal will see the club's junior teams display the Gippsland Water logo on their home jerseys, as well as new signage promoting the water corporation's educational campaigns installed at Baxter Park in Warragul and Gippsland Sports and Entertainment Park in Morwell.

The sponsorship is part of Gippsland Water's commitment to invest at least \$100,000 per year in initiatives that support the wellbeing of the community.

Other community investments include public drinking fountains, community education and supporting communities during emergency events.

The commitment to community investment was made in response to customer feedback gathered for the water corporation's 2023-28 price submission.

To find out more about Gippsland Water's sponsorship program, visit [www.gippswater.com.au/sponsorship/](http://www.gippswater.com.au/sponsorship/)

**Strzelecki Bushwalking Club**



Members of the SBWC enjoying a day walking near Walhalla



The heritage listed Poverty Point Bridge

On Saturday June 15, the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club led a walk from Walhalla to the Poverty Point Bridge. A group of ten participants started from the band rotunda and climbed to the Australian Alps Walking track above the town. This track is in relatively good condition for walkers of a medium fitness level and is well signed.

This walk will take you along what used to be a horse-drawn tramway that took timber from the forest to supply the gold-mining town of Walhalla in the late 1800s.

The Poverty Point Bridge spanning the Thompson River, is heritage listed and is historically important to the Gippsland region. It is a valuable reminder of the gold mining industry of Gippsland, and for its role in serving the Long Tunnel gold mining company mine at Walhalla.

The bridge was built

in 1900 and is significant as it was constructed from prefabricated steel supplied by Dorman Long and Co. of Middlesbrough, England. This company is better known for designing and building Sydney Harbour Bridge, which was opened decades later in 1932.

The horse-drawn trams ceased operating in 1944 and the original timber deck was later destroyed by fire. However, the Poverty Point Bridge took on a new lease of life in 1976 when handrails were added by the Forestry Commission, and it began to be used as a pedestrian bridge.

Sadly, several years ago the Bridge was declared unsafe for walkers and is currently closed to the public. There is a notice currently attached to the Bridge declaring that repair works will be urgently undertaken however, as yet

the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club is unaware of when the Bridge will reopen.

There are many historically significant sights all over the Gippsland region that are easily accessible by a day walk. If this type of activity is of interest, then you may wish to make enquiries with the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club to find out more.

We offer a very diverse range of activities each month run by experienced and knowledgeable leaders. We hold a monthly club night at the Trafalgar Scout Hall and visitors are welcome to come along. Our monthly newsletter is accessible online and shows a list of our current activities.

Further information is available on the website at [sbwc.org.au](http://sbwc.org.au), on our Facebook page or by contacting [publicity@sbwc.org.au](mailto:publicity@sbwc.org.au)



**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

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# Churchill Fire Brigade



## Why should I have a smoke alarm?

In the past decade, Victorian firefighters have responded to more than 30,000 residential fires across the state, with more than half of all fatal fires starting in peoples' bedrooms and living areas. Despite this, a concerning number of Victorians still do not have smoke alarms in their bedrooms and living areas. Did you know that most fatal fires happen in the sleeping hours between 8pm and 8am? When you are asleep you lose your sense of smell. A smoke alarm is your electronic nose. It will alert you if there is smoke from a fire. A small fire can grow to involve an entire room in just two to three minutes. A smoke alarm provides early warning and time to escape.

other parts are a strobe light (sight) and vibrating pad (tactile) for your bed. In the event of a fire, all alarms will sound, the lights will flash, and the vibrating pad will activate.

Specialised alarms can be interconnected with conventional audible alarms in different locations within the home.

Due to the cost of this type of alarm a Smoke Alarm Subsidy is available. Find out if you are eligible for the Smoke Alarm Subsidy via Expression Australia using the URL below. <https://www.expression.com.au/services/support-for-seniors-over-65/smoke-alarm-subsidy>

### Charging and Battery Safety

Many portable devices today are powered by rechargeable lithium-ion batteries. These types of batteries pose a higher risk of fire than others.

Lithium-ion batteries are popular because they are light weight and long lasting compared to other rechargeable batteries.

You will find them in many devices such as phones, tablets, power banks, laptop computers, toys, appliances and tools, as well as mobility equipment such as e-bikes and e-scooters. They can also be found in many other modern devices that need power.

### What causes lithium-ion batteries to catch fire?

Lithium-ion batteries release toxic and flammable gases when they short circuit, which may lead to them catching fire. If the battery is fully charged, violent fire behaviour with sparks and jet-like flames may be experienced.

The main reasons lithium-ion batteries short circuit and catch fire - a process called thermal runaway - are because they:

- Are incorrectly charged using a charging cable that was not designed for the device or battery. This can result in overcharging or overheating.
- Have been damaged by

an impact, cracked, dented, punctured, crushed or exposed to overheating.

- Have been in fresh or salt water for a long time, causing corrosion within the battery.

It is therefore very important that you dispose of old or damaged lithium-ion batteries correctly

### How can I prevent my devices or batteries from catching fire?

Use the correct charger.

Using chargers with incorrect power delivery (voltage and current) can cause damage to the battery including overheating that can lead to fires.

Ensure the battery and charger is suited for the job and has no electrical faults.

Only use chargers that are supplied with the equipment or device, or certified third-party charging equipment that is compatible with the battery specifications.

Only purchase and use devices and equipment from reputable manufacturers and suppliers.

Always follow the manufacturers' charging and operation instructions.

Disconnect a device or battery once it indicates that it is fully charged.

Only use chargers that meet Australian Standards - look for the Regulatory Compliance Mark.

### Do not help your devices to overheat

Devices left on soft surfaces like beds and couches can overheat and catch fire.

Do not charge batteries or devices on soft surfaces such as beds, couches and carpet.

Keep batteries and devices away from items that can easily catch fire like blankets, clothing and paper.

- Never charge a device under a pillow.

- Do not leave charging devices unattended

There is a higher risk from fire if you are not in attendance or sleeping while devices are charging



Smoke alarms beep loudly when there is a fire

Avoid charging batteries or devices overnight.

Avoid leaving batteries or devices unattended while they are on charge.

### General charging safety

Only plug in one device per outlet, and always keep power boards and cables neat and tidy.

Do not use battery charging devices with worn or damaged cables.

Always ensure the battery charger is switched off from the electrical power supply before connecting the batteries. This will minimise the risk of shock and sparking while connecting the batteries.

Lithium-ion batteries can be sensitive to heat and therefore must be charged and stored in moderate temperatures.

Never store or leave batteries and devices in areas where they can be exposed to heat or moisture.

Do not leave devices such as phones, computers or charging devices in direct sunlight or in parked vehicles where they can quickly heat up.

Larger batteries and equipment such as power tools and especially electric bikes, scooters or skateboards should be charged in the garage, shed or carport away from living

spaces.

Victorian fire services recommend that interconnected smoke alarms are installed in areas where devices are often charged.

### Disposal of lithium-ion batteries

Note that some batteries may contain toxic chemicals, heavy metals and other environmental pollutants that can contaminate water supplies and ecosystems when they are incorrectly disposed of.

### Protect yourself from burns

Never touch a swollen or ruptured device or battery with bare hands as the heat and/or chemicals can cause severe burns.

Always use gloves/hand

protection before touching or moving leaking batteries.

Many battery related fires start in household bins, garbage trucks and waste facilities

Never throw lithium-ion batteries in your regular waste or recycling collection bins.

Where safe to do so, place leaking or damaged (but not overheating or off-gassing) batteries in a clear plastic bag and take them to a reputable place (see below) for disposal.

More information on where and how to dispose of used batteries can be found from:

- B-cycle
- Planet Ark
- Mobile Muster
- Australian Battery Recycler's Initiative

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## Notice of

# CDCA

Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

## Annual General Meeting

### 7.00 pm, Thursday, August 8, 2024

Studio 1 – downstairs in Churchill Town Hall (Park and Enter from Philip Parade)

### GUEST SPEAKER from Energy Australia

## WOOREN BATTERY PROJECT

Find out – What is the Wooren Battery Project?

Where and When will it be constructed?

Why is Energy Australia building a big battery?

**Agenda items include:**

- Presentation of Annual Report
- Annual Financial Statement
- Committee Elections
- Setting of Meeting Dates for 2024/25

*All members and local residents are welcome to attend but you **MUST** be a member to vote and/or nominate for CDCA Committee membership.*

**The Annual General Meeting will be followed by an Ordinary General Meeting (time permitting) to consider other matters.**

# Ling Wang

At the age of five, the year before I started primary school, my parents decided to keep me at home for a year after they were no longer happy sending me to kindergarten. This is when I first remember drawing.

I was left home alone every day, crying behind the locked doors while my parents worked. I would slowly quieten down after being worn out from crying and stare at the Spring Festival posters that were hung on the wall. I picked up pencils and paper and began sketching the beautiful traditionally clothed models in the Spring Festival posters. I no longer cried once my parents brought back more pencils, erasers, and papers.

I would stay at home alone quietly, spending my days drawing and scribbling when my parents worked until I entered primary school a year later.

I never stopped drawing after I began my education. I have studied countless images from comic books and picture books. Drawing has always been my main entertainment activity every night after studying. My parents sent me to art classes in the holidays once they discovered my passion for art.

To be able to study fine arts in university had always been my childhood dream. Unfortunately, I could not realise this dream for several reasons. I joined

the workforce immediately after I graduated from a technical secondary school. Nevertheless, my childhood dream was never forgotten. I finally discovered and commenced an art-related fashion design course seven years after working. I cherished this year of sketching fashion models. After the birth of my daughter, I excelled in a self-study examination and commenced a university graphic design course for two years. In university, I studied the standard artistic methods of still life, portraiture, and landscape studies. Afterwards, I also participated in animation classes for a year driven by my hobby. Unfortunately, I was not able to persist in it.

In 2017, we settled down in a beautiful Gippsland town named Newborough. I realised that I finally had some spare time to myself after both of my children had gone to school. I was inspired by the world of art again on an accidental occasion when we visited a local art exhibition. Picking up pencil and paper again, I realised that my skills were terribly lacking. Therefore, I searched for different artists and their painting timelapses on YouTube to learn different techniques and skills from them. Since I had an artistic foundation from my studies in China, I have progressed a great deal since my first baby steps back into the world of paint and pencil.

I love pastels. I love their rich and abundant colours and sense of layers. I was almost unstoppable whenever I started painting with pastels. For three years, I would spend hours daily next to my easel.

Gippsland is a beautiful

place; it is full of the songs of birds and the fragrance of flowers. My family adores birds, and we have our own aviary. We own many birds and are also visited by many wild birds. These feathered friends are my favourite subject matter. There are varieties of beautiful and adorable birds in Gippsland, I think I can barely portray them all with my pastels!

In 2022, I fell in love with acrylic. And once again, I began my pilgrimage of learning from YouTube videos. I enjoyed my journey very much! I often participate in local art exhibitions, appreciate the works of other artists, and learn from them to improve myself. Until 2024, I have successively sold some of my artworks and won some prizes.

2019 Berwick Great Art Show Highly Commended Award

2019 Tanjil Valley Art Show Third Prize

Zoe Buckingham Award

2019 Ficifolia Art Show Highly Commended Award

2020 Honourable Mention Pastel Award Inverloch Art Show

2021 Moe Art Spring Show Best in Show Award People's Choice Award

2021 Tanjil Valley Art Show People's Choice Award

2022 Sandy Point Art Show People's Choice Award

2022 Hasting Art Show People's Choice Award

2022 Rotary Yarram Festival Art Show People's Choice Award



At the Sandy Point art show at Easter earlier in the year with two runner up paintings

2022 Tanjil Valley Art Show 1st Prize

People's Choice Award  
2022 Pakenham Art Show Highly Commended Award

2022 Moe Art Spring Show Traditional Section 1st Prize People's Choice Award

2023 Sandy Point Art Show People's Choice Award  
2023 Hastings Art Show People's Choice Award

2023 Hastings Art Show People's Choice Award Runner Up

2023 Pakenham Art Show Highly Commended Award

2023 Tanjil Valley Art Show People's Choice Award  
2023 Edrington Art Show Berwick Flora and Fauna 1st Prize

2023 Mountview Art Show Best Acrylic

2023 Tyers Art Show Hangers Choice

2024 Upper Beaconsfield Village Festival First Place Adult Art

2024 Sandy Point Art Show Best in Show Runner Up

Best Acrylic Runner Up  
People's Choice Award  
People's Choice Award

Runner Up  
In 2020, I participated in "Art Aid Gippsland, the bushfire fundraiser event". I donated a painting portraying the horror of the fires and the hope inspired by the many volunteers fighting the fires and supporting the victims of this tragedy. My work was auctioned, and the proceeds were donated to the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund. It was such an honour for me to provide what I could offer to assist in the restoration of the loss from the bushfires.

I aspire to continue painting. There is so much beauty in Gippsland, both the scenery and the wildlife. It has become an inseparable part of my life to record the beauty of Gippsland down on my canvas.

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Open Day at Gippsland Campus: August 11, 2024



Federation University warmly invites you to Open Day 2024 at our Gippsland campus! This exciting event will be held on August 11, 2024, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm. It is the perfect opportunity for prospective students, especially those in Years 11 and 12, to explore all that our campus has to offer and get a taste of university life.

During Open Day, you will have the chance to join various information sessions to learn about our diverse courses, the admissions process, and the student support services we provide. These sessions are designed to give you a comprehensive understanding of what to expect at Federation University and how we can support your academic journey.

Our campus tours are a highlight of the day, allowing you to see our

state-of-the-art facilities and beautiful campus grounds. You will also have the opportunity to participate in engaging activities and demonstrations, giving you a first hand experience of what studying at our university is like. These interactive sessions are a great way to see the practical application of what you will learn in the classroom. You will also get to hear directly from our current students about their experiences at Federation University. Their insights and stories will provide valuable perspectives on student life and the supportive community we foster.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Gippsland campus on August 11. Join us for an informative and enjoyable day. For more details, visit our website or contact us directly. We hope to see you there!

Ready to Study? Try FedReady



Are you starting university and feeling unsure about what to expect? FedReady is here to help you begin your academic journey with confidence. This comprehensive, free course runs just before the semester starts and covers essential study skills, making it perfect for both first-time students and those looking to sharpen their skills.

FedReady equips you with the skills to manage your studies, plan and write assignments, think critically, reference correctly, and use university systems and the library.

Whether you choose the interactive FedReady Live sessions or the flexible Self-Paced option, you will be well-prepared for university life.

The second option, FedReady Self-Paced, is ideal if you have other commitments; this option lets you work through pre-recorded classes at your own pace. Please register by July 22 for FedReady Self-Paced.

Do not miss this chance to get a head start on your studies. Register for FedReady today! For more information, search FedReady on the Federation University website.

WELCOME from the happy team at

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

We hope your stay will be fulfilling and achieve your goals. We are inviting you to come and join us as a volunteer in the following areas – article writing, layout and design, using In Design and Photoshop to produce the paper.

We have our contact on campus who is willing to talk to you about it. He submits a page each month. Jubin can be contacted on this email Jubin.Ragu@federation.edu.au

Fed Uni Students Page - Fed Uni Students Page - Fed Uni Students Page - Fed Uni Students Page

Yinnar, Yinnar South Landcare

Winter is a busy season for Landcarers, and our group has quite a bit happening. The new plants season began with our stall at the Yinnar Memorial Hall Market at the beginning of May. Group members have since bought most of the remaining plants that we had for sale. We have also grown plants ready for our group's planting sites and for members and others who are doing revegetation work on their land. Unlike exotic plants, our native species do best when planted as small seedlings from late autumn to early spring. Wetland areas can be planted later. Most species are difficult to move, and they prefer less soil disturbance around their roots. Avoiding fertilisers containing phosphate is another useful tip.

Our group's newest planting site is on a section of our proposed pollinator link between Yinnar township and the Hazelwood Cemetery. This site is more accessible than the others, and we have been able to get out and do

monthly surveys to try and establish a starting point or base line for our efforts. We missed out on doing our planned bird surveys in May and June as we were rained off, but September 10 or October 10 still look possible for bird surveys. In early July we will be trying to identify more of the Eucalypt species. We will have help with this from Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists. A pollinator insect survey is the plan for November 10, hopefully at a few different locations. If our current Victorian Landcare Grant application is successful, we can also look forward to a Grasses workshop and field visit in October or November and acoustic bat monitoring in February or March 2025.

Latrobe City Environment Dept are working with us on the pollinator link planting sites and have done a great job in removing exotic weeds and preparing planting sites on the road reserves. We will have our first planting day

there on August 10, meeting in Yinnar at 9.30 a.m. We have been able to buy plants for the site this year due to a successful application to Planet Ark's National Tree Day seedling bank and Latrobe City will also supply some seedlings.

Meanwhile, our existing projects on public land have needed all our problem solving skills. Sheep are running rampant on our site in the Billys Creek valley and this is proving a real challenge to our revegetation efforts. Our ideas factory isn't really giving us any workable solutions to that one.

We're currently looking into hiring a drone to work on the inaccessible areas of the Billys Creek site. The idea would be to spray blackberries and then come back later to spread seed into the dead canes. We will have a planting day in a different area of the site in August with TAFE students to assist our volunteers. If the drone project looks do-able it will

mean a big seed collection effort over the summer months.

At our site along Upper Middle Creek the invasive weed, Cape Ivy, has spread through the areas that were flooded in the June 2021 floods.

It is choking out the plants we have put in, and needs to be stopped before it can climb larger trees and spread more seed into the area. It is a big area and a very invasive weed. We currently have a couple of small trial plots set up to see if we can find a weed management solution that will work.

Our next group meeting will be our Annual General Meeting on Monday August 5.

Details of our group's activities are posted on our website – a search for Yinnar Landcare will find us.

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

Our e-mail address is: yinnar.landcare@gmail.com



Many native insects provide pollination services to plants. These photos are of a beetle and a moth.

Photos by Joelle Champerts

# Strzelecki Koala and over-abundance



To observe a koala in the wild for me, is a delightful experience. Today I had the pleasure of seeing three Strzelecki koalas resting and

sometimes browsing leaves way up high in the canopy of some Mountain Ash trees. I could also hear the calls of a male koala farther away in

the nearby gully, close to the Morwell National Park. I feel very fortunate that I am able to experience the presence of this unique and iconic native species in the area in which I live. I wonder how many other future generations will be able to see Strzelecki koalas in the Jeeralang Hills and the Strzelecki Ranges?

At the moment the Victorian koala population is regarded as being over abundant and causing problems like overbreeding and habitat destruction. This is the case in the populations that have been relocated from the French Island koalas. These koalas found in Western Victoria, the Otway Ranges, Phillip Island and Raymond Island require management to prevent over population and enhance sustainability of the ecosystem. However it is not the case for the Strzelecki and South Gippsland populations. It is estimated that there could only be as few as 1500 Strzelecki koalas. (The Significance of the Strzelecki Koala. 14-9-2020; 18-6-24)

The Strzelecki koala and the South Gippsland koala populations do not cause habitat over browsing and degradation. Their numbers should not be considered as being over abundant.

Why do the Strzelecki and South Gippsland koala numbers not have the same issues of overpopulation as the relocated koala populations? Scientists are unsure of the reason and more research is required. Because the Strzelecki and South Gippsland koalas are the only endemic koala population in Victoria, that is the only koala that still lives in its native habitat and has an uninterrupted gene pool, it is probable that they are exposed to the original diseases that have always controlled its numbers. (The Significance of the Strzelecki Koala. 14-9-2020 ; 18-6-24 )

The population numbers of the Strzelecki koala and the South Gippsland koalas are still unclear and require more data collection. The new Victorian Koala Management Strategy 2023 (p26) (www.wildlife.vic.gov.au; 18-6-24) mentions the need for better data collection and monitoring of koala numbers. The Friends of the Earth koala collective have collected data since before 2010 and are continuing to do so. The information can be found on the www.strzkoala.australianmap.set. Sightings of koala scats and alive, injured or deceased koalas are recorded. Assistance from the public in reporting these sightings and location is always needed. Public donations for more mapping surveys in the Strzelecki Ranges region are also wanted. (Strzelecki Koala Action Team, www.melbournefoe.org.au/koala )

Knowing the population numbers now will enable more conservation efforts to be made. At present the Strzelecki and South Gippsland populations are regarded as being significant in the new Victorian Koala Management Strategy 2023 ( p 16 ) because of their genetic diversity.

It seems these genetic diverse koala populations could be a means of enhancing the gene pool of other koala populations in Victoria and other Australian states; nevertheless they have not been given any special consideration or extra protection despite their significance to the survival of the koala species.

Even without knowing exact numbers, our Strzelecki koalas and South Gippsland koala populations are facing continued habitat loss, habitat degradation, fire, storm events, feral animals, industry, human encroachment, car trauma and dog attacks. All of which impact population numbers and a population's well being. Then there is the threat of climate change and its impact on weather, habitat and the individual koala like "heat-related stress and dehydration". ( Victorian Koala Management Strategy 2023 p27 www.wildlife.vic.gov.au 18-6-24) What hope

does the Strzelecki and South Gippsland population have with all these negatives?

It is really imperative that the Strzelecki and South Gippsland koalas and their habitats need to be given extra protections and positive actions to ensure their viability into the future. Some of these are :

More reserved land that contains koala preferred food and shelter trees, and plenty of wildlife corridors to connect fragmented areas as these allow gene flow and escape routes from danger.

Public education programs to curb loss from road trauma, dog attack and habitat destruction.

Numerous experts trained to care for the parks, conduct relevant research and to ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

Most of these actions are mentioned in the new Victorian Koala Management Strategy 2023 for all Victorian koala populations. Nevertheless it will be interesting to find out how many of these actions have been enacted when the strategy has its two year review(p35). Especially how much has been done to ensure that the unique, valuable and diverse genetic population of the Strzelecki koala and South Gippsland koala and its habitat have benefited from this strategy so far.

### How you can help :

Please be an active Citizen Scientist and send information of koala or koala scat sightings to Anthony Amis (anthony.amis@foe.org.au). Anthony requires more data from the Churchill area.

Remember to drive carefully and be aware of wildlife on the roads especially in the Jeeralang Hills and Strzelecki Ranges.

Protect, provide and plant koala food and shelter trees.

Be a responsible dog owner.

Join and/or fund groups that foster the conservation of native animals and their habitat.

Contact local politicians about the importance of the Strzelecki Koala and its need for extra protection.

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# Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

## By Abbey Flower Monash University Medical Student on Placement at the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre.

Located in the Churchill Hub, the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre is a not-for-profit organisation offering a diverse range of services designed to improve the quality of life for community members, foster a sense of belonging, and help those in need.

As a student on placement here, I have had the opportunity to witness firsthand the incredible work this Centre does for the community. The Centre offers an array of adult education classes that cater to a wide range of interests and skill sets, meeting the diverse needs of the community. For example, new cooking classes that are starting next term, not only teach basic culinary skills but also how to cook on a budget, making it easier for individuals to prepare nutritious meals. IT skills workshops that help bridge the digital gap for older adults and those new to technology, the Centre is committed to lifelong learning. Additionally, arts and crafts sessions provide a much-needed creative outlet and providing further opportunity for forming

friendships and connections. The exercise classes offered by the Centre are also a hit, particularly chair yoga, which is a gentle form of yoga practised while seated. This activity is perfect for seniors and those with mobility difficulties, helping to improve flexibility, strength, and mental well-being. Tai Chi classes, a traditional Chinese practice, promote balance and mental calmness through slow, deliberate movements, making them another fantastic option for holistic health.

One of the standout programs at the Centre is the Mens' Shed. This program provides a space for men to work on projects, share skills, and form friendships, playing a critical role in promoting mental health and combating social isolation.

One of the newest additions to the class schedule is the smartphone photography class, which teaches participants how to make the most of their smartphone cameras. The class covers everything from basic techniques to more advanced photography tips, empowering people to capture their world in new and exciting ways, people can also bring their digital or film cameras if they choose.

Beyond education and

wellness programs, the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre addresses food insecurity through its local food bank service. This vital resource provides much-needed assistance to individuals and families facing hardship, ensuring they have access to nutritious food. The Food Bank is a lifeline for many, highlighting the Centre's commitment to supporting the community in all aspects of life. As a student, I have had the opportunity to observe the impact that foodbank can have on individuals and the community as a whole.

As a not-for-profit organisation, the Centre relies heavily on the support of volunteers and donations. Community involvement is encouraged, whether through volunteering time, skills, or resources. This support ensures the Centre can continue to offer its valuable services and expand its reach to meet the growing needs of the community.

For more information about the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and how to get involved, visit their website, or drop by the Centre to say hi. Together, we can support this vital community resource and ensure it continues to thrive for years to come.

## "My First Speech" competition

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Milton Dick MP and Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester have launched the "My First Speech" Competition for Gippsland Electorate schools. This national competition challenges students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to envision themselves as newly elected Members of the House of Representatives and record a 90-second speech on video, focusing on a topic of their choosing.

The winning entrant from each year group, accompanied by a parent

or guardian, will be flown to Canberra to deliver their speeches live at Parliament House and participate in an engaging program tailored to deepen their understanding of the legislative process.

Mr Chester said the "My First Speech" Competition is an exciting opportunity for local Gippsland students to shine a national spotlight on the issues that matter most to them.

"The students participating in this competition will be our local leaders of tomorrow, and I am excited to give them a head start on their futures

with this program," he said.

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Milton Dick, said promoting parliamentary education to students across the country has been a key priority as Speaker.

"The "My First Speech" Competition is yet another exciting way that young people can take an active role in our democratic system," Mr Dick said.

"This competition will provide high school students with the chance to learn more about the way our nation's democracy works and how actively engaging with the parliamentary process can draw attention to the issues that are most important to them."

The submission deadline for the competition is set for 11.59pm AEST on July 27, 2024.

To learn more about the competition and submit their entries, students can visit the dedicated competition website: [www.aph.gov.au/myfirstspeech](http://www.aph.gov.au/myfirstspeech).



**Trevor Whelan**  
Shop 16 West Place Churchill  
(Access from Marina Drive)  
ABN 57 719 482 063  
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# SCAMWATCH

## Hang up on remote access scammers

Criminals who contact you unexpectedly offering to help 'fix problems' with your account, phone or computer are causing increasing financial loss through remote access scams. Professional-sounding scammers ask you to download well-known screen-sharing (or remote desktop application) software.

They then use this software to steal from you. Australians reported losing \$15.5 million to these scams in 2023, with criminals stealing averages in the tens of thousands of dollars. Australians over 65 years old are losing the most money in these scams.

### How to spot the scam

You get an unexpected phone call from someone telling you there is a problem with your account, phone, or computer.

They may pretend they are calling from a well-known bank, internet, phone, software or web security business and they can help you 'fix the problem'.

They tell you to download software or an app which will let them remotely control your computer or mobile phone.

### How the scam works

When you download the software or app they say they need to 'fix the problem', the scammer can now fully control your device.

They do not fix any problem, because there is no problem to fix.

They ask you to tell them your banking passwords or one-time security codes.

Sharing these lets the scammer access your bank accounts, personal information and steal your money.

You might not realise they have stolen your money and emptied your bank accounts until the next time you log in.

**Protect yourself**  
STOP – Do not rush to act. Hang up on anyone asking you to download software or an app over the phone. Never provide banking information, passwords, or 2-factor identification codes over the phone.

**THINK** – Ask yourself if you really know who you are communicating with? Take the time to call the business you are dealing with using independently sourced contact details, or check you are talking to a real employee using their secure app.

**PROTECT** – Act quickly if something feels wrong. If you have shared financial information or transferred money, contact your bank immediately. Help others by reporting to Scamwatch.

If you have been affected: If you have lost money, contact your bank or financial institution immediately.

If you have had personal information stolen or need support to recover from a scam, contact IDCARE on 1800 595 160.

Help others by reporting scams to Scamwatch.

Tell your friends and family: you can share your experience, get support and help to protect others from scams.

## Who is the National Anti-Scam Centre?

The National Anti-Scam Centre is where government and industry work together to protect Australians. We are harnessing shared resources and smarter analytics to cover blind spots, strengthen weak links and use data to react faster, stopping scams before they happen.

Our aim is to make Australia a harder target for scammers.

For more information about how to avoid or report a scam, visit the Scamwatch website.

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# Morwell and District Red Cross



This month saw Morwell and District Red Cross participate in the Latrobe City Council Volunteers Expo in the forecourt of Gippsland Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon. It was a fabulous day of networking with other volunteer groups as well as meeting wonderful members of the community and spreading the word about our wonderful Trauma Teddies. Our lifesized Teddies even made an appearance.

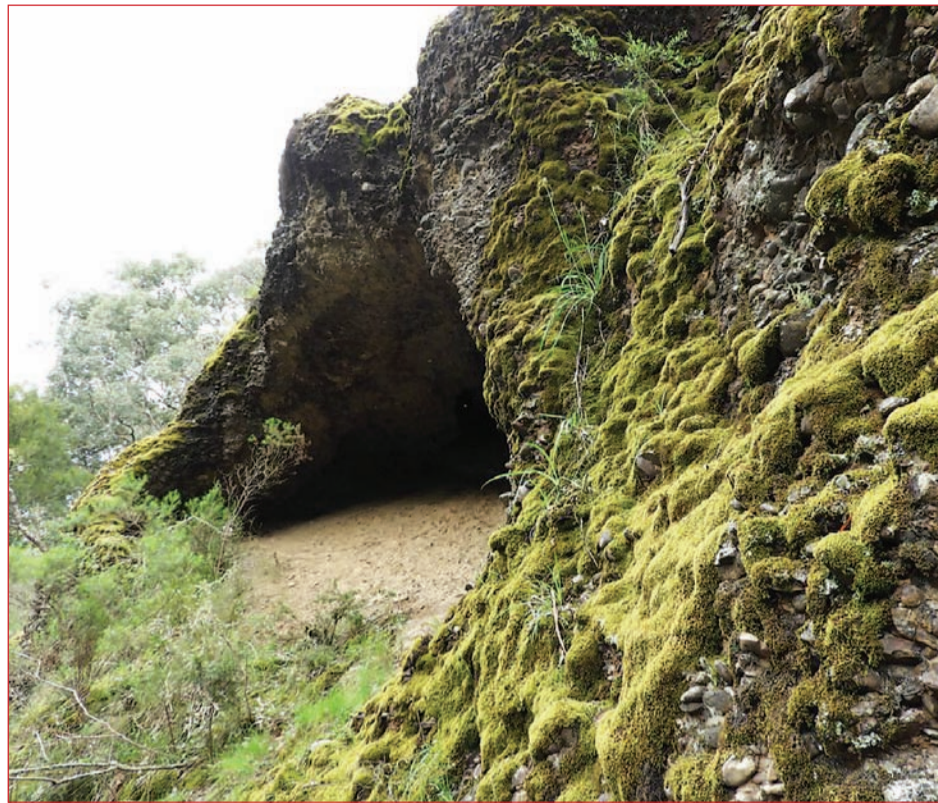
Our Spring has Sprung Fundraiser is coming up on

Wednesday September 11, 2024 at 1:30pm. It will be held at Yinnar and District Memorial Hall, so if you are into fabulous fashion come join us for a Postie Social Styling Show. \$10 entry (includes afternoon tea and entry into the raffle). Proceeds from the day will go to the 2024 Australian Red Cross Overseas Project, Cruz Vermelha de Timor-Leste (CVTL).

At our monthly meeting we had a guest speaker from Latrobe Community Health who had a chat about the

Care Finders Gippsland Program. Team Leader David Oyinloye, who is a social worker with nine years experience, gave an in depth insight in to how Care Finders help the vulnerable and older people access aged care services. Our next meeting will be held at the Yinnar and District Memorial Hall at 1:30pm on August 7. As always, we welcome new members, so if this sounds like you, come and join in the fun.

# Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club



Mouth of conglomerate cave, Tyers Park. Photo: Irene Proebsting

The next meeting of the Latrobe Valley Field Naturalists Club starting at 7:30 pm on July 26 in the Moe Library, is our 'Winter Members' night where several members give short presentations about places and aspects of natural history. This is followed by the monthly Club meeting.

The following day,

Saturday July 27, the main features of the excursion to Tyers Park are geological sites and fossils. We will meet at the Tyers Primary School car park in Mt Hope Road, Tyers to organise car pooling, as required, at 9.30am and set off at 10.00 am. Wear sturdy boots and warm clothing and bring your lunch.

Everyone is most welcome, both to the meeting and the excursion. For more information contact our secretary, Rose, on 0410 237 292. Please visit our website [www.lvfieldnats.org](http://www.lvfieldnats.org) to register if you wish to use Zoom to join the meeting from home and/or if you would like to come on the excursion.

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# STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



In the world of formal gardens, the most people-friendly is the Persian garden.

The design dates to the first Persian Empire and the oldest one which can be identified dates to 600BC. The garden is associated with a palace and is a walled garden, rectangular in shape. In ancient Persian the word for a walled garden is 'paredaida' which has evolved through different languages to our modern word 'paradise'.

The gardens are usually found in countries which have embraced the Moslem faith.

The most prominent feature of these gardens is the water feature. They have a pool or a series of pools in the shape of a cross with a fountain at the intersection of the arms. Smaller fountains may be incorporated into the design. The use of water as a focal point is understandable, given that the countries involved generally have a hot, dry climate. Some gardens source their water from a considerable distance. The garden in Marrakesh

pipes water from the Atlas Mountains, more than sixty kilometres away and the garden in Shiraz in Iran nearly as far. The fact that water piping systems were built some centuries ago shows they are marvels of hydraulic engineering in their own right.

The second feature is the paved and gravelled pathways around the pools and fountains. They provide a solid footing and allow the people who go to the park, a peaceful environment to wander at will. The gardens are enjoyed by the public at large and are very popular.

The third element of the garden is the flora planted within. Firstly, we have trees which provide shade for the strollers, a welcome relief from the hot sun.

Many of the trees are fruit trees, pomegranate, fig trees and date palms in the east and North Africa and citrus trees in Spain. The fruit may be eaten but most, when flowering, users leave it be.

The understorey is planted with aromatic herbs and flowers, with an eye for decoration as well as fragrance. Roses and rosemary proliferate in Iran, tulips in Turkey and orange trees in Spain.

The overall effect provides a tranquil and satisfying atmosphere, created to provide a place where ideas can be shared, and conversations indulged in by the public. Since many of the palaces contain rooms which were used by the rulers to receive petitions from their subjects, the

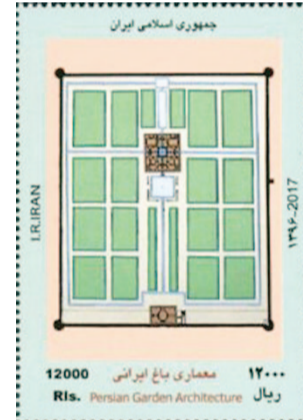
# Persian Gardens

gardens provide the perfect waiting room.

When you consider all the parts put together into one whole thing, no wonder they call such a place Paradise.

The garden most frequently visited by tourists today is the Taj Mahal in India. Built as a memorial tomb, its' white marble building and surrounds provide a wonderful attraction to the point that visitor numbers have had to be controlled.

In December 2017, Iran issued a stamp showing the basic design of the Persian garden. The Taj Mahal has appeared on many stamps from countries all over the world.



# Know your LOCAL BUSINESS

## Pizza HQ

Pizza HQ is now open from 8.30 am - 8.30 pm. They have added some new items to their menu. Hot dogs with five different flavours are now available. The coffee bar has extended its hours into the afternoon.



A new pizza bar has been installed to make service faster. This means a new layout for the shop.

The owners continue to employ locals to work in the business.

The Pizza HQ provides opportunities to develop skills in many areas of hospitality from cooking, pizza making, dough preparation, taking orders and table service to name a few.

## Churchill Newsagency



They now stock a large range of slippers for both men and women. There is a wide range of women's clothing.

Wool, both genuine and acrylic is available in an expanding range. Pattern books and special orders are available.

A stock of local crafts is ready in store. A large range of assorted gifts is there for that special present.

Man Cave tin signs are there for the man in your life. Also available is Australian made rock candy, toys, games, jigsaws, stationary, greetings cards AFL team goods and some winter hot water bottles and beanies.

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# COOKING with Noelene



## Cinnamon Slice



Ingredients - 1 cup of soft brown sugar, 1 cup of self raising flour, 70 gm of butter / marg, 1 tsp of ground cinnamon, 1 tsp of Chinese 5 spice mix, 1/2 tsp of baking powder, 1 egg lightly beaten, 1/3 rd cup of buttermilk (1 cup of milk mixed with 1 tsp of vinegar), 1/2 cup of granulated nuts. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C.

Grease a 28cm x 18cm pan and line base and sides with baking paper.

Place the sugar, flour and butter in your processor and use the pulse action, until the mixture is fine and crumbly.

Transfer the mixture to a large mixing bowl. Spread 1 cup of the mixture into the base of the prepared pan.

Add the spices and baking powder to the remaining mixture in the bowl, mix well using a wooden spoon, add the beaten egg and buttermilk, stirring until combined.

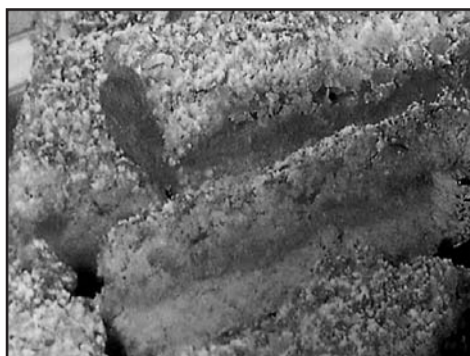
Do not over beat. Pour the batter into the pan on top of the base and smooth the surface with the back of a spoon.

Sprinkle with the granulated nuts and bake in the preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until a skewer inserted comes out clean.

Cool in the pan, then lift out and slice into squares.

This slice can be frozen or kept in an airtight container for 4 days.

## Lemon Blossom Slice



Ingredients - 185gm butter/ margarine, 4 tbs icing sugar, 185 gm plain flour, 60 gm custard powder, 1 x 397 gm can of condensed milk, 1/2 cup of lemon juice, 2 eggs separated, 60 gm castor sugar, 30gm desiccated coconut.

Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Grease a slab pan 9"x 11" and line the base with baking paper,(allowing a 2"overhang) .

Cream the butter / marg and icing sugar in the bowl of your electric mixer, gradually work in the flour and custard powder.

Press into the prepared pan and bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes.

Now using a clean bowl and clean beaters mix together the condensed milk, lemon juice and egg yolks.

Spread this over the top of the pastry base. Using cleaned and dry beaters whisk the egg whites in a clean and dried bowl until stiff, gradually beat in the sugar and finally fold in the coconut.

Spread this over the filling and bake for a further 15 minutes.

Remove from the oven and let cool in the pan. Then using the baking paper lining remove to a wire rack to cool completely. When cold cut into slices or squares.

## Prawn Omelette



Ingredients - 4 eggs ( room temp ,lightly beaten), 250gm of cooked prawns, peeled and deveined, 80 gm of shredded cabbage, 1 onion peeled and thinly sliced, 1 cup of bean sprouts, 4 spring onions chopped (green part only), 2 tbs of minced garlic, 2 tbs of water, 1 small carrot grated,1 tsp of canola oil and 1/4 tsp each of pepper and salt.

Preheat your oven to 180 deg C.

Combine all the ingredients (except the canola oil, salt and pepper), in a large bowl.

Line a medium to large frypan with baking paper, drizzle in the canola oil.

Now pour the omelette mixture onto the baking paper lined pan.

Cover with a loose sheet of aluminium foil. Cook until set in the preheated oven.

When the omelette is set, slice into 4 portions and turn each portion over , season to taste. Cover and cook for a further 2 minutes.

## Sticky Lemon Cake



For this dish, you can mix all the ingredients in just one bowl. Ingredients you will need - 270 gm plain flour, 1 dsp baking powder, 180 gm room temp butter/ marg, 180 gm castor sugar, 3 beaten eggs, 2 lemons finely grated, 2 tbs of lemon juice, 100ml of milk. Ingredients for the icing - 60 gm icing sugar, 60 ml lemon juice. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. Grease 23 cm round cake pan and line the base with baking paper. Place all the ingredients in the bowl of your electric mixer. Mix everything together until the batter is completely smooth and thoroughly combined. Pour the batter into the cake pan and bake in the preheated oven for 50 minutes or until golden and a skewer inserted comes out clean. Remove from the oven and let sit in the pan for 5 minutes, then remove from the pan and cool on a wire rack. Let the cake cool completely. To make the icing mix together the icing sugar and lemon juice in a bowl and heat in the microwave for 2 minutes. Then drizzle over the cooled cake.

## Thai Salmon Steak Marinade



You will need 4 salmon steaks / 6 salmon fillets with the skin on, 1 tbs peanut oil, 3 tbs lemon juice, 2 tbs minced garlic, 1/4 cup white vinegar, 1 tbs soft brown sugar,1/2 tsp of salt, 1 tsp of dried chilli flakes, 1 dsp of finely chopped coriander.

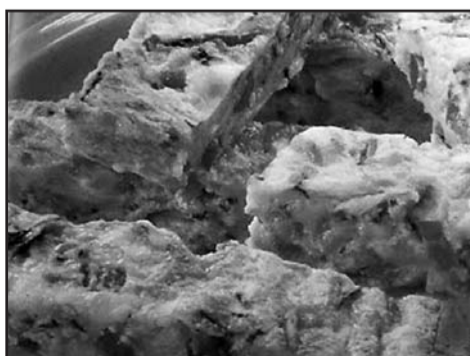
To prepare the marinade mix the peanut oil and lemon juice together.

Now mix in the minced garlic, the white vinegar, sugar, salt, chilli flakes and chopped coriander.

Coat each side of the salmon steaks / fillets and let them marinate in the refrigerator for 2 hours.

The marinated salmon can be oven baked and served on a mixed grain and vegetable mixture or grilled and served with a mixed leaf salad. It's your dish, make it your own.

## Tuna Chilli Slice



Ingredients - 4 eggs, lightly beaten, 1/4 cup milk, 2 tbs plain flour, 1 x 185gm can of tuna in springwater ( drained ), 1 and 1/2 tsp of dried chilli flakes, 2 small zucchinis grated, 1 small red capsicum finely diced, 1 cup of grated tasty cheese and 1 medium onion peeled and finely chopped. Preheat your oven to 180 deg C.

Let's get started - place the eggs, milk and flour into a bowl and whisk until smooth.

Stir in the tuna, onion, chilli, zucchinis, capsicum and cheese.

Now pour the combined ingredients into a greased lamington tray and bake for 35 minutes or until set.

Slice into fingers and serve warm or cool.

Thank you to the family who asked for a suggestion of something different to add to their end of autumn barbeque.

## Best wishes and thanks William



May we send a special Hello and our best wishes to our assistant 'Rainfall Recorder' William, who is now working and developing skills in the Australian Army.

# Friends of Morwell National Park



Stringybark bridge) and the replacement of bridges across Billys Creek.

The contracts are being made for the new signage and works on the Kerry Road section and could be completed over the next two months.

Over the week Matt had collected five nesting boxes from Latrobe City.

There were three smaller boxes suitable for sugar gliders and two larger boxes, good for ringtail possums. Since our stockpile of extra boxes had been used it is great to have these extra boxes to replace future broken or missing boxes.

We could receive more nesting boxes via Latrobe City Council in the future.

After the long meeting it was time to warm up and get moving.

The plan was to locate the Butterfly Orchid plots and place colourful star picket stakes at each corner to make each site easier to locate in future surveys. Some in the group went for a walk around Fosters Gully while others went searching for the survey plots.

One plot was done last month so the first task was to locate the second plot along Fosters Gully track.

Without the instructions of where each site was located finding each of the sites became very difficult.

The second plot was difficult to find with a few attempts made to find it. Firstly, two of the corner posts were found but the other two were difficult to find with us first looking in the wrong direction.

The next plot was even harder to find, with us searching and searching and not comfortably finding it. We will need to leave the remaining three sites to be done on another occasion.

The group returned to the picnic area to have lunch and share some cake.

While having lunch



The group met in the Kerry Road picnic area on a cold but dry morning.

In the morning chill, the group had a meeting and discussed progress on the bird

code which will be added to the signage at each entrance.

Related to the works on the repairs and replacements around the park, approvals have been gained from most



book, the group's tax status and financials and plans to register a new domain name for the group to link to a QR

of the related groups and the approvals have been gained for the Kerry Road replacement and repairs (including

rangers Mark and Renee called in and ate lunch with us. Renee is the ranger handling the repairs and replacements to the park so it was good to catch up with her and exchange more photos.

Caitilin, during the day, and more recently, took some more cool fungi photos.

### July Activity

Sunday July 21, 10am

The group will meet at Junction Road car park to complete some track maintenance and work upon the post markers on the Butterfly Orchid plots.

You will need to bring your lunch along with clothing and footwear suitable for the weather conditions on the day.

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## Churchill & District Lions Club



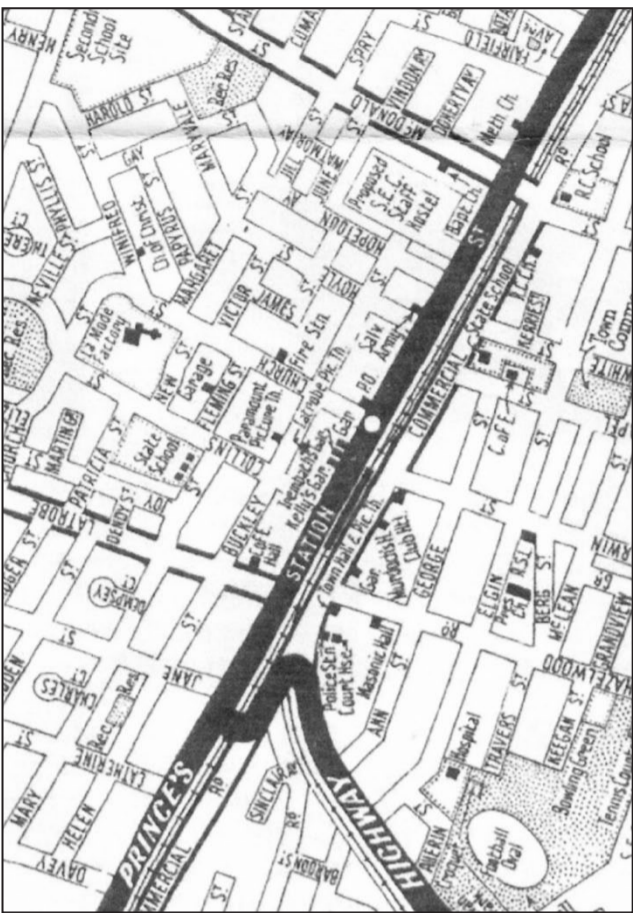
Meet  
1st and 3rd Wednesday  
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:  
**Peter Tait** 0421 167 915

A Churchill & District History Series

# Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington

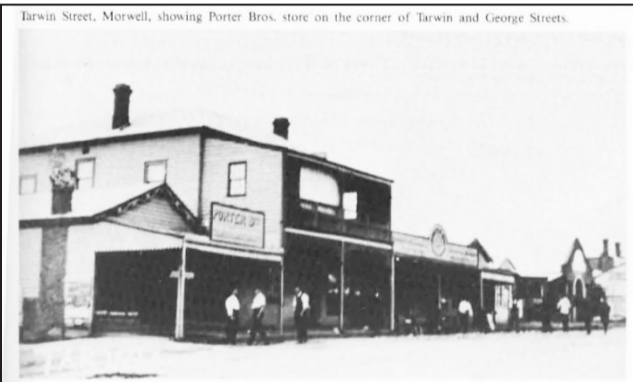
Parts of Morwell's history worth recalling.

Early in February this year, a house in Hopetoun Avenue was demolished. It was built around 1951 and was demolished without any fanfare. Many houses in Morwell have suffered the same fate. They go quietly.

Pictures show a large building, perhaps two homes in one, built in around 1955; perhaps late 1954. It was on this corner block an SEC staff hostel was proposed.

Announced in 1949 (Morwell Advertiser, May 19, 1949), this hostel would cater for 85 residents and would be located between the Morwell Post Office and the reservoir (Hourigan's Hill). All rather vague, however.

At around the same time, 24 cubicles at the Ridge Hostel were ready for occupation and in Wallace Street, construction of a further 20 cubicles for temporary staff accommodation was proceeding.



Tarwin Street, Morwell, Showing Porter Bros Store On The Corner Of Tarwin and George Street

Broadbent's Official Road Guides Co. in 1945 began producing town maps for Victorian country locations. One showed the proposed corner site for an SEC staff hostel in Morwell.

On Thursday October 26, 1950 edition, the Morwell Advertiser beamed its headlines:

S.E.C. Accommodation Hostel

The Council approved a proposal by The State Electricity Commission, in connection with its accommodation hostel to be constructed at the rear of properties facing Hopetoun Av., June St. and McDonald St., to carry out at its own cost and in accordance with the Council's private street specification, the construction of Buckley St.

and the main outfall drain along Watson Av.

As the drainage has to be cleared in a southerly direction under the railway, the secretary was instructed to negotiate with the Railways Department to enable this to be done.

The entrance to the hostel will be from Buckley St.

The hostel never eventuated with a now demolished large house and the former Morwell Medical Clinic when built in 1955, using the entire site. The clinic housed the practices of doctors: D. F. Mitchell, A.A. Crook, F.N. Bouvier, W.F. Ferguson, and J. F. Wiseman.

A close look at the house shows a small porch - remembered by former Morwell residents, when they were younger, as being the main entry for a ladies hairdresser. Similarly, reminisces recall a vacant block with some concrete foundations and minor brickwork. Basically in winter, large puddles were a great source of tadpoles. Eventually it was sold by the SEC to private buyers.

Today, part of the original

larger block is for sale.

Last month, this history section looked at former Morwell chemists, today, known as pharmacists.

For this month, early Morwell menswear retailers have their moment of historical fame.

Built by local contractor W. Tulloch in 1887, William Murdoch's hotel was completed in March 1888. This eminent building in Commercial Road heralded an influx of smaller retailers hoping to benefit from Morwell's future as a key town. We recall that the first train into Morwell on the Sale line, was in 1879.

Clothing, footwear, farming supplies, plus beverages featured as mainstays in Morwell's expansion of a small business sector.

In May 1893, Mr John Yule was an early visitor to town establishing himself for about a year in Murdoch's hotel. Brief editorial in the Morwell Advertiser announced he was "almost giving drapery etc away." Obviously keen to sell, John seemingly had advantages of being based in a hotel. Apparently, it was felt he would not last long anyway - perhaps he was not keen to cover costs. He had a clearing sale in February 1894, selling his drapery - mens' workwear - at cost price and then left Morwell.

Around about the same time, Mr J D Morris, shortly after his arrival in Victoria, at 17 years of age, came to Morwell, and toured the district with a drapery van, driven by two creamy horses. He had quite a large round of customers (mostly farmers) that he regularly called upon and, apparently, many housewives eagerly awaited his arrival selling women's fashions and men's clothing. J D promoted his wares as "suitable for 'Dad' and 'Mum'.

## PORTER BROS.



OUR STORE is well stocked in every Department with NEW SEASON'S GOODS.

DRAPERY, CLOTHING, MILLINERY, MERCERY, DRESSES, HATS, TRIMMINGS, BOOTS and SHOES. New Patterns for Suits to Measure.

Dressmaker-Miss Lotsch. Milliner-Miss Evans.

We always keep a complete stock of everything pertaining to a General Store.

GROCERY, CROCKERY, HARDWARE, SEEDS, PRODUCE, GRAIN, FURNITURE, BEDDING, TIMBER, BUILDING MATERIAL.

Our large and increasing business is the result of always endeavouring to do our best for our customers.

Porter Bros., General Merchants. The Store that Serves you Right.

Hailing from Aberdeen, J D Morris soon established a profitable business, enough for him to open a shop in Commercial Road, mid-way between the two main hotels - Murdoch's and Kelleher's. Following this success, he relocated to the corner of George and Tarwin Streets, building some shops, one of which later became the J A Jenkins Pty Ltd store.

His success as a general merchant, similar to the next owner of this corner site, Ernest and Robert Porter, and then later, J A Jenkins, ensured the location's significant real estate valuations. These retailers mainly sold boots, drapery, clothing, groceries, brush ware and some farm produce. J D also invested in property in Morwell and Traralgon; he left in May 1909, later passing away in Brisbane in January 1942.

Porter Brothers took over from J D Morris early in 1908. Robert was a close friend of J D's and Margaret Porter, a sister, married J D whilst in Morwell. Margaret passed away in 1954.

This is where we must leave these early retailers

for the moment. Their story continues in August.

## Summer AND Autumn, 1903.

J. D. MORRIS

Desires to announce that he

Annual . . . Half-Yearly Clearing . . . Sale . . . IS NOW IN FULL SWING.

And that

Great Reductions

Have been made in Prices of

Drapery AND

Men's Clothing

Ladies' Blouses, 10/- each. Prints for 2/- 5/- doz. Men's Tweed Suits, 13/- 11/- Youths' Suits, (up to size 24) 10/- Boys' Suits, 2/- 3/-

## J. D. Morris

DESIRES TO ANNOUNCE

ARRIVAL

OF

NEW

SPRING AND SUMMER

DRAPERY.

AND

INVITES INSPECTION

Of Same.





# Hello from Calamity Jane



I am a rehomed poodle and will be nine on August 10. I have resided in Churchill since 2018 when my parents, Greg and Marie Smith, moved here to live. I love it here as I have a great new home with lots of love, good food and a caring veterinarian in Morwell. Mary's grooming keeps me looking good so I have a before and after shot of me for your perusal and consideration, as my photo is going to be in the paper.



Walks with Mum are very interesting. People stop and say hello and give me a pat and ask Mum questions about me. I love to call in

and have a free puppy chino at Pizza HQ in Churchill. I was welcomed by the proprietor Peter and his wife. They think I'm just the bees knees. I had many pats and was made welcome by lots of passers-by who said I was just beautiful, gentle, and well groomed. Mum says I'm getting a big head now so I best be off for a beautiful walk home.

Love Calamity Jane Smith

# Plants in my Garden

**By Mike Beamish**  
**Species:** *Atractocarpus chartaceus* (syn. *Randia chartacea*).  
**Family:** Rubiaceae.  
**Derivation:**  
*Atractocarpus*: From Greek *atractos*, meaning spindle, and *karpos*, meaning fruit, referring to the shape of the fruits.  
*chartaceus*: From Latin *charta*, meaning paper and referring to the thin papery leaves.  
**Common Name:** Native or narrow-leaved gardenia.  
**Distribution:** Coastal, subtropical forests of eastern Australia from the Richmond River in NSW to Gladstone in Queensland, with a small disjunct population 370km to the north in Eungella National Park, near Mackay.  
**Description:** An understory shrub or small tree to 6m in height. Leaves are dark green and glabrous (smooth) on top and dull grey-green underneath. Juvenile leaves are long and narrow to 25cm x 1cm, mature leaves are broadly oblanceolate 15cm x 5cm, both with prominent veins on both surfaces. The species is dioecious, meaning that male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. Flowers are cream, with five or six petals, up to 30mm in diameter, fragrant and borne terminally or in the leaf axils.



Fruits are spindle-shaped berries to 30mm long and 18mm in diameter, red when fully ripe with sweet, edible pulp containing several 5mm long seeds.  
**Opinion:** I have had this plant for decades, it is positioned on the north-facing wall of the house underneath the eaves and the Omeo Gum planted nearby, so is in pretty solid shade and is protected from the worst of the frosts. This is probably why it is still only barely a metre tall and rarely flowers. The glossy green leaves are pleasant to look at though, even if they're prone to attack by scale insects. The easiest way to control the scale is to check the plant every now and then and scrape/crush the little blighters off with your fingernails. It is a bit messy, but it is effective and you should probably wash your hands more anyway! I have

never had any fruits on my plant to test their edibility, but if there ever is any, I doubt I would beat the birds or possums to them. I have also never tried to propagate this species, cuttings would be my only option, there is probably enough material for a couple of attempts but the word in the bible is that firm young growth or juvenile shoots are the go and striking can be slow. Maybe I will give it a go next summer.  
 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 8 (as *Randia chartacea*).  
 Online - Wikipedia.

# Darren Chester

Putting Locals First  
 #lovegippsland



THE NATIONALS for Gippsland www.darrenchester.com.au

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

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 7th September 2024  
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# Gaskin Park Update



The main update at this stage is that the turf wicket has been laid and fences have been installed. Drainage and irrigation works have also commenced.



## Community News

opportunities across Latrobe City Council.

To sign up to the newsletter please email [livingwell@latrobe.vic.gov.au](mailto:livingwell@latrobe.vic.gov.au) with your name and email address.

### Positive Ageing Awareness and Prevention Information Sessions

The Latrobe City Council Prevention and Awareness Information Sessions are aimed at community members who are aged 55+ years and focused on raising awareness of supports and services that are available in the community. The sessions also provide information about health and wellbeing prevention and education.

#### Upcoming session:

When: Thursday August 8, 2024

Time: 2pm to 4pm

Location: Morwell Senior Citizen Club - 2-24 Maryvale Crescent, Morwell  
For further information,

contact Teresa Pugliese on 0437 360 268 or email [teresa.pugliese@latrobe.vic.gov.au](mailto:teresa.pugliese@latrobe.vic.gov.au).

### Volunteering Gippsland Portal

GippSport is excited to announce its new role as the lead partner of the Volunteering Gippsland initiative. This innovative digital platform, supported by grant funding from the Australian Government, is dedicated to connecting volunteers with community organisations across Gippsland.

By enhancing volunteer culture through discussion, collaboration, and innovative solutions, Volunteering Gippsland simplifies the volunteer process and celebrates the invaluable contributions of volunteers.

Volunteering Gippsland provides a centralised platform for both volunteers and volunteer organisations. Volunteers can easily

find roles that match their interests and skills, while organisations can efficiently manage their volunteer programs.

This platform streamlines administrative tasks, allowing organisations to focus on their missions. Volunteers benefit from a wide range of opportunities for personal and professional growth, ensuring a rewarding experience.

### Free internet for students in eligible families

Eligible families with school-aged children could save between \$1500 and \$2000 per year by accessing a free nbn broadband service.

Do you have school-aged children but no active home broadband service to support them in their studies? Then, you may be eligible to access a free high-speed broadband service over the nbn® network under the Australian Government's School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI).

Launched in February 2023, the SSBI program

is providing up to 30,000 eligible families with free broadband until December 31, 2025, covering the cost of installation, nbn equipment and monthly fees.

## Thank you Recyclers.

A big thank you to those kind people who have recycled their glass bottles and cans and donated the money to Churchill & District News.

If you would like to help the paper you can use the code or the QR Code below.

### Churchill and District News



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# Rotary



humanity in motion

DINNER MEETINGS:  
**1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays**  
**6.30pm - 8.00pm**  
MORWELL BOWLING CLUB  
**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

Contact: Paula,  
Secretary  
0455 584 072

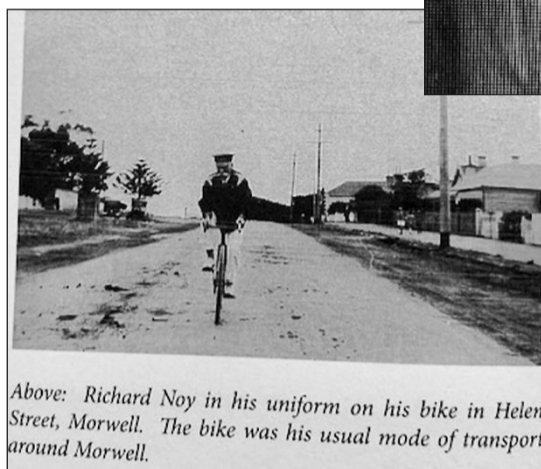
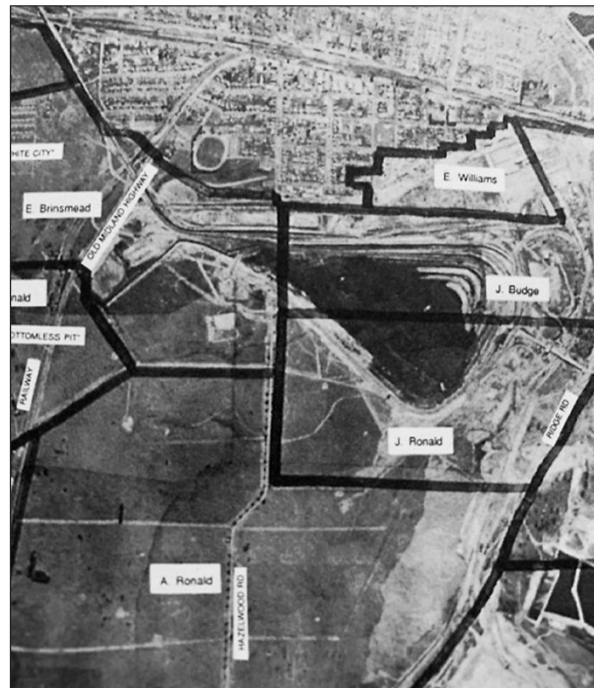
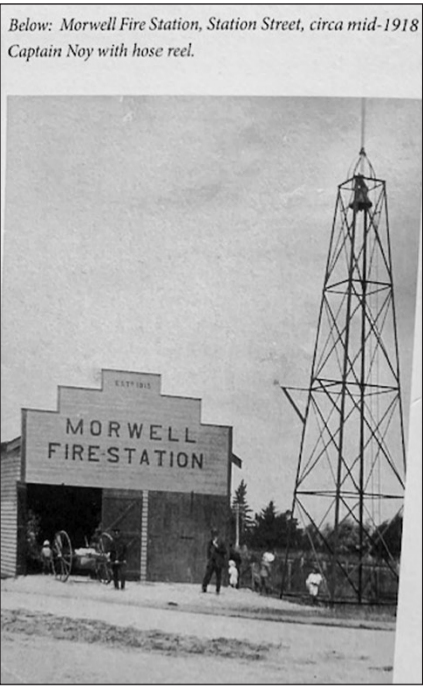
## Hazelwood Rotary Club



St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*

**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*

# Hazelwood Cemetery



Above: Richard Noy in his uniform on his bike in Helen Street, Morwell. The bike was his usual mode of transport around Morwell.

**By Leo Billington**  
How people are remembered and, hopefully not forgotten (series continued)

I had a serious discussion several weeks back about who or what manages Victorian cemeteries. Obviously, there is still confusion in our community about the correct answer.

Using the Hazelwood Cemetery as an example, my explanation does not refer to large cemeteries such as Melbourne General Cemetery Parkville, Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Fawcner Memorial Park or Bunurong Memorial Park Dandenong South.

The Hazelwood Cemetery is situated on Crown Land and managed by a public cemetery trust consisting of volunteers. In Victoria, there are approximately 3,500 cemetery trust members.

Hazelwood Cemetery is not managed by, nor is it connected to local government or federal government. It is answerable to the Victorian state government through the

Department of Human Services.

Notwithstanding that simple explanation, individual interment sites are owned by individuals and/or families - where ownership is confirmed by details recorded in a document called The Right of Interment.

Let us look at some older interment sites in the Hazelwood Cemetery.

Alfred William Ronald was born in Morwell in 1894. He passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 1987, aged 93 years.

His parents, Martha and John came to Morwell in about 1885, first buying a farm at Hazelwood North and then moved to "Meryla" estate, closer to Morwell. All this land was taken up with SECV projects, including the Hazelwood Power Station.

Alf - as he was more popularly known - enlisted in the A.I.F. on April 21, 1915. He gave his occupation as a farmer, aged 21 years and enlisted at Boolarra. He was wounded at Gallipoli on September 26, 1915. A gunshot wound to his left

arm possibly influenced his decision to join the 13th Australian Light Horse 1st A.I.F. and Australian Flying Corps, spending time in France, England, and Egypt. Alf returned to Australia on July 2, 1919.

He had been overseas for four years, having gone away as Private Ronald and returning as Flight Lieutenant Ronald. It was not long before Alf directed his energy towards community service and in August 1932, he successfully opposed Councillor John Bolger to represent the Morwell Riding, until 1949, and then switched to representing the West Riding from 1949 to 1964. Alf was Morwell Shire President in 1949/1950.

As a candidate in that 1932 shire election, Alf was described in the Morwell Advertiser, (August 11, 1932) as "an energetic and prospective young man with a good stake in the district and he is well and favourably known."

During his first term as a Councillor, Alf led the community opposition to building a new town hall on

the site formerly occupied by Morwell's Mechanics' Institute. The institute building was destroyed by fire in January 1935. Community debate raged on for several months, and Alf pushed for a community vote on the matter. Finally, it was decided to build a new town hall at the corner of Hazelwood and Commercial Roads.

Always resplendent when dressed for important occasions, Alf's white hair was a trademark. Others would recall his Rolls Royce Silver Cloud, sometimes parked outside Morwell's town hall where, upstairs, the council chamber was located. Occasionally, that car "begged" to be washed; and, anecdotally, its' large rear boot did carry a live lamb or two, being escapees from Alf's farm.

Another community minded Morwell resident was Richard Thomas Noy. Widely known as Dick, or Dicky, he is mainly responsible for being a strong advocate to establish Morwell's first local fire brigade. He was a volunteer firefighter - like everyone

else who turned out to extinguish fires.

At this time, 1900 to 1920, there was agitation and lobbying throughout Victoria's country regions to have local fire brigades.

The Morwell Fire Brigade was first registered with the then Country Fire Brigades Board (CFFB) on January 1, 1915. Richard was the first Captain, from 1915 to 1933. His successor was George (Rob) William Watson - senior partner in the family business, G Watson and Son, proprietors of the Morwell Advertiser.

When Richard stepped down as Captain in 1933, he continued to serve the brigade until 1940. His 25 years unflinching volunteer service was rewarded with the CFFB Long Service Medal.

He had seen massive progress in the Morwell brigade from buckets and ladders to a water cart, elementary firefighting equipment and even a fire truck.

Unfortunately, he did not live to see Morwell's new fire station built and opened on Thursday July 23, 1953.

At 76 years of age, Richard succumbed to "indifferent health" and passed away on April 1, 1950. Richard Noy lived in Helen Street, Morwell, and was well known as an avid bicycle rider. While photographs are difficult to find, Richard was easily identified because of his luxuriant white moustache.

In an earlier time, he was employed at Mr. John Rintoull's blacksmith business. He then became involved in various business partnerships. Noy and Nash was one grocery business before Richard established his own general store, right next to the Morwell Post Office.

Around 1947, his health was deteriorating and he retired from most of his outside interests.

Alf Ronald and Richard Noy are interred in the Hazelwood Cemetery. Alf's family plot caters for six and Richard is buried with his wife, Eliza Ann.

Both were humble men who played enormous roles in Morwell's foundation as a centre of growth.

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**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 - our AGM - is at 7pm, Thursday, August 8th  
downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (park and enter from Phillip Pde).  
**GUEST SPEAKER from Energy Australia - Wooreen Battery Project**  
Contact CDCA via our website - www.cdca.org.au or find us on Facebook!



# Lions Club



The first half of the year has been a very busy and challenging time for the Lions Club of Churchill. Early in the year the unprecedented storm and power emergency that did so much damage around Mirboo North and Boolarra, saw the Club cooking fish and chips for affected people in Boolarra. We also assisted in other areas as did Blaze Aid, who were repairing fences around the area. The Churchill and Traralgon Lions Clubs assisted Blaze Aid volunteers by cooking meals for them on alternative Tuesday nights.

The Club was kept busy cooking the Australia Day breakfast, and Anzac Day breakfast, and also at the new Latrobe Regional Hospital, cooking for staff as they moved into the new part of the hospital. There were 350 hungry people for two days, eager to get a healthy hamburger with the lot and that famous Lions sausage in bread. The Club also supported the local schools at the Inter School Sports Day as well as being at Morwell Bunnings quite a lot this year. They also assisted Bunnings at their Community Mother's Day event where the Club served up hot chips to those attending.

We were at Bunnings on Saturday July 13, so with winter coming early and being so cold, I am guessing fires are roaring, heaters are on and power bills will be shooting sky high. As you are snuggled in bed or in front of that roaring fire, think of us dedicated Lions who are already set up and ready to go at the Bunnings Sausage Sizzles – come on down and grab a freshly

cooked sausage with onions on freshly baked bread – yummy!

On Friday June 21, the Club helped out at the Biggest Blokes BBQ at Kernot Hall to help raise funds for Prostate Cancer.

Earlier this year Lion Ron Bell moved due to eye health issues. Ron joined our Club in 2014 with his wife Judith. Ron was a very active and popular member of the Club, and he is moving to be nearer family.

On June 4, we lost Lion Kevin Hogan more commonly known as Hoges to MND. Kevin joined our Lions Club in May 1997 and was a very active and very popular member of the Lions Club for 27 years. He served the Club in many different Board positions and on many of the projects the Club undertook over the years. Hoges loved to serve in the cooking van and was a part of the legendary "A" Team with current President Robin King. He cooked a mean egg and bacon sanga. A family man first and community-minded, who always tried to help those in need. Kevin lived life by the Lions code of ethics, to aid his fellow man, give sympathy to those in distress, hold friendship as an end and not a means, to be loyal to clients and customers, and always bear in mind the obligation as a citizen to the nation, and community.

We shall miss his presence at our meetings and his assistance in our programs, and his wicked

sense of humour and stories.

The Club held its Changeover Dinner on June 5, which was well attended by special guest, Zone Chairman Geoff Anderson, and by many members of both the Trafalgar and Moe Lions Clubs, all having a great time.

The new board for 2024/2025 was sworn in by Lion Herb Smith from the Yinnar Lions club, the new Club Office Bearers are:

- President: Robin King
- Secretary: Peter Tait
- Assistant Secretary: Bill Hurenkamp
- Treasurer: Peter North
- 1st Vice President: David Lyne
- 2nd Vice President:

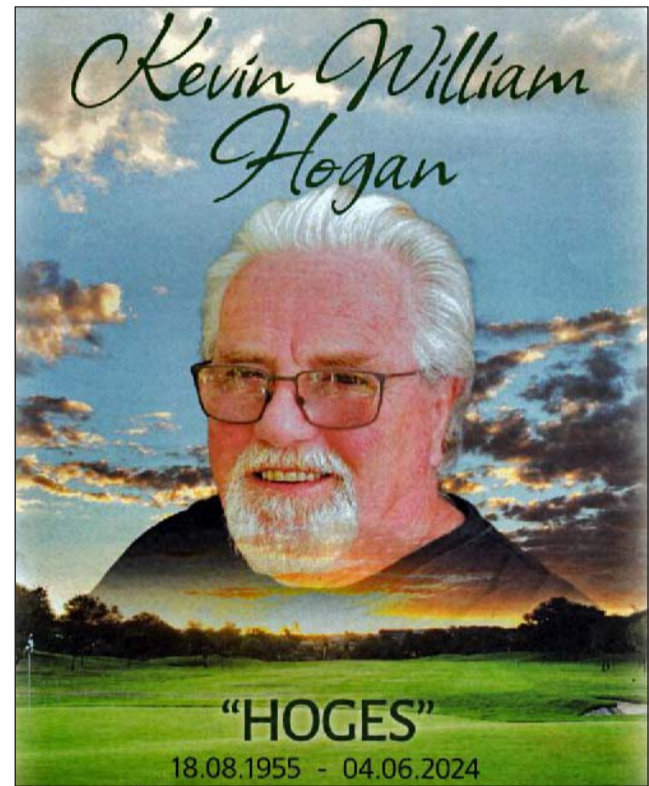
- Reg Grisotto
- 3rd Vice President: Ross Norman
- Assistant 3rd Vice President: Paul Jordan
- Membership Chairman: Steve Duggan
- Tail Twister: Ross Norman
- Lion Tamer: David Cranwell
- 2nd Year Directors: Carl Hood and Ray Medew
- 1st Year Directors: Meagan Young and Kevin Wanless

**Danny O'BRIEN MP**  
State Member for Gippsland South

*Working for Gippsland South*

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

**THE NATIONALS** for Regional Victoria



**Recycle right at Churchill Community Hub**

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

**Use the BRAD box:**

Numerous items, such as plastic milk and juice bottle tops, plastic bread tags, 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](http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/Latrobe_City_Council_Supports_Better_Waste_Management)

**Recycle these at the Hub "Recycling Centre"**

- X-rays; Printer Cartridges;
- All small e-waste items, including mobile phones and chargers
- 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**



# SCHOOL NEWS

## BOOLARRA PRIMARY

Last month Boolarra Primary School did the Conference of the Birds, which is a performance that happened in Boolarra.

To prepare for the performance we had lessons at school. In the lessons we would sing, dance and make our costumes. We sang two songs, one was called "take a rest from firewood."

There was also another song it was called "I am a sparkling light." Both of the songs were written by Garial. There were three people who taught Conference of the Birds - there was Gilbert, Garial and Margie. In the lessons we learnt a dance and then we made these cool costumes. Costumes were fun to make and look cool when you wear them.

Next came the performance. Before the performance we all met in the Boolarra Memorial Hall. In the hall they explained the way things were going to happen. About 45 minutes later the performance finally began.

To start, we walked to the park where we got into this thing that looked like a bird nest. We sat in the nest and sang the two songs that Garial had taught us. First,

we sang 'take a rest from firewood', then secondly, we sang "I am a sparkling light," then after that we walked out of the nest and down into the main area.

When we got to the main area we got given these fake candle things. Once we had our candles, we had to wait for what felt like two hours (it was actually only five mins.)

Then the main performance started. It was very long. At the very end my school got up and danced to this song by this man named Baker Boy. At the end I ran home where I enjoyed a well-deserved rest.

By Callan, Grade 6

Last month Boolarra Primary School did the Conference of the Birds.

The first thing we did was get split into two groups. The group I was in had to create our costumes and paint them with colourful paints. I had a super fun time creating my costume and everyone also had great costumes.

The groups swapped every day. The other group practised the songs and the dance. The songs we learned were called "sparkling light" and "take a rest from

firewood". I had a fun time singing and dancing.

When we got to the hall, we had to wait about around 45 minutes and after waiting we got to eat free food! Then we got to walk to the nest and sang "we are a sparkling light" after we jogged to a lady who handed us candles.

After that we went to the main performance stage and waited another 10 minutes. Then we watched Aboriginal men dance, then Aboriginal women dance, then Bollywood dancers came up and danced. Afterwards, there was a shadow puppet show, then we came up and danced.

Kodee, Grade 6

Two months ago Boolarra Primary School did something called Conference of the Birds. We were practising for approximately six weeks. My favourite was the dancing. We would do practice on Mondays and Thursdays. The things we did in the show was dancing and singing.

Ruby, Grade 6

Conference of the Birds was a live performance held at the Boolarra Park on Saturday May 25, 2024.

From the start of Term 2, we have been involved

in practising and getting our costumes ready for the performance. We started painting our costumes before we did the dance, because the costumes would take too long. All the people who finished their costumes got to practise the dance first. Some of us practised at home to be able to remember the dance. After we practised and practised, we all finally got the hang of it and loved the dance.

Grade F - 6 practised for six weeks.

On the day, we all got to the Memorial Hall to try on our dried costumes with our cockatoo hats. After all the Aboriginals and the Bollywood dancers got there, we were able to go and get some food. After we ate all the food, Margie told us the Order of the Conference of the birds, so we didn't get confused.

When we were ready, we lined up in two lines and walked over to the circle where we were doing our first song which was called "sparkling light".

When we finished our songs, we had to walk over to a big circle with lots of people inside. My classmates and I had to wait around an

hour to do our dance. Our dance was called "Meditijn" by Baker Boy.

May 25, 2024 was the day when 'Conference of the Birds' happened. When the Conference of the Birds was on, first there were a bunch of Aborigines doing some dances. They were doing a dance to represent a kookaburra pecking at a gumtree. Secondly, there were some ladies doing some dances from their home country. At the start they were doing really well, but after a while they were starting to get tired.

Then we had some Bollywood dancers, they were just little girls who were doing so well and I was amazed.

Thirdly, we had orchestra singers sing a nice and calm song, called "Don't Stop Thinking About Tomorrow". Lastly, we at Boolarra Primary School did our amazing dance that they were practising for six weeks.

Ethan, Grade 6

At the Conference of the Birds we did so much to make it happen. Let's start with practice on Mondays. We would practise to start, we would sing and dance. We would have our size

taken for the costumes that two weeks later we would paint. The costumes were so fun to paint. We painted the costumes different ways and all added feathers with a black marker before painting. We used so many colours it was so beautiful.

At practice we sang "take a rest from firewood", "sparkling light" and "dance to meditijn". Garial wrote the songs 'take a rest from firewood' and 'sparkling light' and Marge helped us sing the song with her guitar.

Garial and Gilbert helped teach us the dance meditijn which was so much fun to do. All the kids were so respectful to the teachers and helpers that's why I was so happy to be involved.

On the day for the conference of the birds we went into the hall to meet up with the others.

We all would find out what order to go in. We found out we would go to a tent to do the songs.

Then walk to a different tent where we would get a candle. Then we went to a sand pit where we would watch a lot of performers. Then we would perform, we were all so good.

Dylan, Grade 5



# SCHOOL NEWS

## CHURCHILL PRIMARY

Our Foundation students have been really enjoying their start to school life. We have had an action-packed Semester 1, including a

school Colour Run, Sports Days, cultural day and an excursion to GPAC in Traralgon to watch 'How to Catch a Star'.

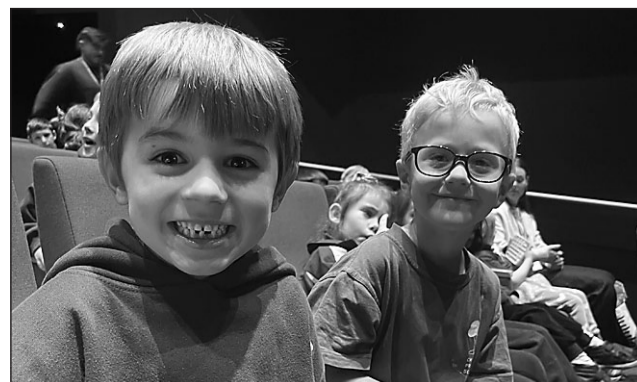
Representatives from AFL Australia and Gippsland Pacers have also run clinics at our school.

The Foundation students

really enjoyed our Easter Fun Day, including an Easter Hat Parade and loved showing off their classroom during our Mother's Day showcase.

We are looking forward to celebrating our 100 Days of School and whole school excursion to the zoo early next semester.

Left to Right Colour Run, Sprot's day, GPAC visit, Prepars at School



# SCHOOL NEWS

## CHURCHILL NORTH PRIMARY



umpires and coaches on the day. These days just do not happen without you all.

Twenty students participated in District soccer and 40 students participated in football and netball. The majority of the students do not play these sports on a regular basis so to be given the opportunity to try something new saw some students thrive, and wanting to go home and ask their parents if they can join a local club and give it a go.

Lilly has just started playing soccer on the weekends and really enjoyed District soccer because she was able to help her teammates learn.

All students showed that they could listen and show respect to the referees, other teams and adults, as well as having a go at everything including goal keeper, despite the wet and cold conditions of the day.

At football students participated in a number of games against other schools including Yinnar, Boolarra, Lumen Christi and Churchill Primary.

When talking with students they said they enjoyed the support they received from other teams and parents who came to watch. Ruby enjoyed being tackled and getting to tackle others. Quinton found the day helped him clear his mind and Amellia learnt new skills. Amin's favourite thing was that everyone showed

good sportsmanship. Some of the girls who played netball, Holly and Gabby, played last year and were very unsure of the rules, where they could move. They both went and played in a competition in Morwell and to see the difference when playing this year was very rewarding.

### African Drumming Workshop

We had the pleasure of having an African Drumming workshop incursion at our school. The Fundraising committee covered the cost so that all students were able to participate. The workshop was a positive, energetic, and creative musical experience for all students and teachers. The aim of the program was to introduce basic musical concepts, connect students through inclusive community music and to learn African drumming, singing and dance techniques.

Odai brought along drums for everyone to use and he came dressed in traditional clothing, very excited to share stories that bring West African culture to life.

Students moved into the fun quickly with drumming, learning African rhythms and great jamming. Students learnt they had to be patient keeping up with the beat and were



surprised when they already knew some of the songs they sang. The smiles on their faces definitely showed they enjoyed the workshop and Odai's personality and enthusiasm.

Carter liked drumming and dancing outside. I really liked when Odai played the flute in his nose. Havana liked playing with the drums and when we got to do it

outside with Odai and the whole school. Elijah said the drumming was lots of fun. I liked when he played the whistle in his nose and mouth at the same time. Aria said Odai was really fun and full of energy. Aria also said it hurt her hands because she isn't used to drumming for such a long time.

For bookings go to [africandrumming.com.au](http://africandrumming.com.au)

### District Sports

During Term 2 students have participated in a number of Yinnar and District sports including soccer, football and netball.

Churchill United Soccer club kindly hosted the soccer games. The students were very excited to be playing at such a magnificent complex, the club personnel should be extremely proud of their soccer grounds and facilities. We would like to thank

Churchill United and also to thank the young referees on the day. They took control of all games, explained some rules as the games went along and let the students play fairly.

Yinnar Football / Netball community kindly hosted the football and netball games. Again, another wonderful complex for our local students to enjoy. A huge thank you to all the helpers, football and netball



# SCHOOL NEWS

## KURNAI UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

### General Achievement Test

On June 18, 2024, every student undertaking a year 12 subject sat for the General Achievement Test (GAT), a rigorous pen-and-paper assessment of general knowledge and skills conducted under strict examination conditions.

VCE/Vocational Major students were required to sit a two hour test, while VCE students sat a demanding five-hour session in a single day. Staff commended students for their maturity

and conduct during the testing.

### University Trip

Recently, a group of Year 12 students enjoyed an enriching two-day excursion to Melbourne, where they explored various universities. Visiting Deakin University, Swinburne University, Victoria University, RMIT, and Monash University, students had the opportunity to learn about diverse academic programs and experience the vibrant campus environments

firsthand. This trip provided valuable insights into potential future pathways after graduating Year 12.

### Year 11 and 12 Exams

VCE students have successfully completed their mid-year examinations across various subjects, a week-long effort requiring meticulous planning and organisation by staff.

### Reconciliation Week

To honour Reconciliation Week, our University Campus hosted a campfire conversation evening.

Students, families, and esteemed guests Aunty Christine and Uncle Laurie contributed to the event's success with heartfelt storytelling.

Camp fire conversations are an important event on the Kurnai calendar and a valuable chance to experience the joy of community coming together for a yarn.

### VCE Physical Education Excursion

On June 20, Year 12 VCE Physical Education

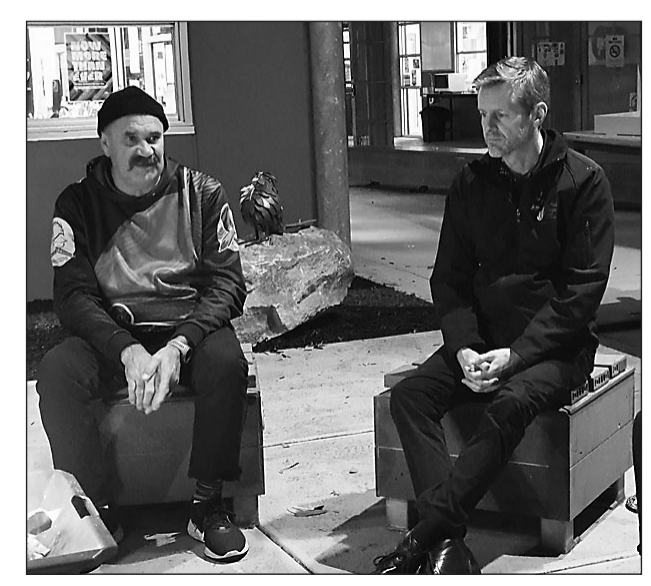
students participated in an educational session at Federation University led by Dr. Matt O'Grady. During the visit, one student underwent a V02 Max test and Lactate Inflexion Point (LIP) test, providing a live demonstration for classmates to observe and analyse.

These tests are crucial for assessing an individual's maximum oxygen uptake and determining the power output at which lactate begins to accumulate during cycling.

They serve to evaluate the participant's endurance capabilities.

Additionally, another student performed a Wingate test to measure anaerobic power and capacity, aligning with the curriculum covered in Units 3 and 4 Physical Education.

The session was engaging, and all students actively participated, reflecting well on Kurnai College.



Left to Right:  
VCE Physical Education Excursion  
University Trip  
Reconciliation

# SCHOOL NEWS

## HAZELWOOD NORTH PRIMARY



### Tree Planting!

On Monday May 27, we had Barb and Kelly from Bunnings Morwell come to help the junior grades and their teachers to do some planting in the new sensory garden behind the art room. We thank Barb and Kelly

very much for the donation of plants and their expertise in helping to fill our garden.

### Objects in Space!

On Friday May 31, we were lucky to have a member of the Latrobe Valley Astronomical Society, Chris Stockdale, visit as a

guest speaker for each of our senior classes, with a presentation on 'Objects in Space' and to get a close look at his portable telescopes. Students had a great time and were able to use a variety of interesting equipment.

### Dr Jane Goodall

On Monday June 3, five of our 'Curiosities' students went to Melbourne with their parents and Mrs Hughes to present projects and meet Jane Goodall! It was a fabulous opportunity, and we would like to thank Mrs Hughes for all her efforts in entering our school and to the parents for taking their children down. We are so proud of you!

### District Netball and Football!

A terrific day was had at the District Football and Netball on June 6. Both Hazelwood North teams won at least one of their games, and the final for football saw us finish second to Yinnar. A great result for our school. A special 'thank you' to Bryce, for coaching the football team, and Sharon, for coaching the netball team leading up to game day. Thank you also to the parents who came along to support our students on the day.

### Welcome Mrs V!

This term we welcomed our new Visual Arts teacher, Mrs Naomi Van Hooydonk. Mrs V started her art classes with a bang, and the students have loved learning about lines and getting creative

with sculptures. Students have been enthusiastic about their creations and extremely proud to take them home and have them on display at school.

### Congratulations Ms Adams!

We would like to congratulate Ms Eden Adams on the arrival of her baby girl, Maisy. Although Maisy was a little earlier than expected, both mum and

baby are doing well.

### Welcome back Mrs Seppings!

As Ms Adams has gone on parental leave, the students and staff have been very excited to welcome back from parental leave, Mrs Liana Seppings. Mrs Seppings has stepped into the specialist role of Health and Physical Education Teacher and students have been excited for these lessons.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## YINNAR PRIMARY

### National Reconciliation Week

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The National Reconciliation Week theme for 2024, Now More Than Ever, is a reminder to all of us that no matter what, the fight for justice and the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people will —and must —continue.

acknowledged National Sorry Day and students and teachers have engaged in lessons and conversations about reconciliation.

Reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples, for the benefit of all Australians.

### Students and Sports

This term, many of our Grade 4-6 students have participated in sporting events at various levels (School, District, Division, and Regional). These events offer our students valuable

learning opportunities. Sporting events provide a platform for students to develop crucial life skills such as teamwork, discipline, and time management.

Sports teach students perseverance, resilience, and self-motivation. Participation in sports promotes far more than physical fitness.

We would like to congratulate all the students who have taken part in cross country at all levels, soccer, T-ball, and the winter football and netball competitions.

We would also like to acknowledge and

congratulate several of our students who stepped out of their comfort zones to join a team. Well done!

### The Big Sing

Some of our students attended 'The Big Sing' which was held recently at the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre in Traralgon.

There were many dedicated hours of practice for students who gave up some of their lunch times to learn the music and songs involved in 'The Big Sing'.

A whole days rehearsal was held on Thursday June 20, in Traralgon with students learning the behind

the scenes action that takes place for a big production. That evening it was the children's chance to truly shine and show family and friends their singing and theatrical talents.

The 'Big Sing' is a collaborative choir initiative offered to local primary school students within the Latrobe Valley region which is run by the Gippsland Children's Choir.

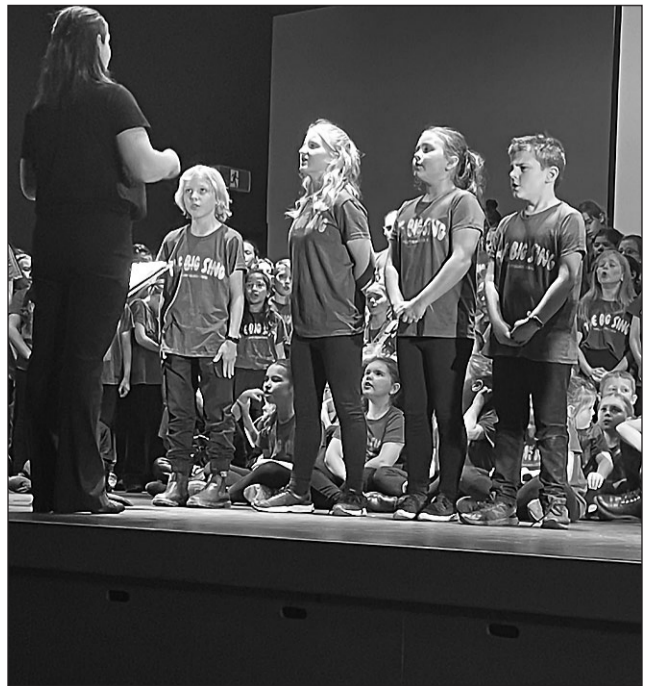
This event provides an opportunity for our local students to sing and perform in a massed choir, developing confidence, resilience, co-operation and teamwork

skills in a fun and inclusive environment.

### Grade 3/4 Solar System Spectacular

Our Grade 3/4 Students have been learning about the Solar System and have hosted the 'Solar System Spectacular' in their classrooms.

Students from throughout the school have been invited to wander through the Grade 3/4 rooms and learn from the interactive and informative displays that the Grade 3/4 students have created through their learning about the Solar System.



# Mathison Park



Further cleaning up has been done along the creek at the Kurnai end of the park.

The Gippsland Interchange crew helped the park volunteers to burn the piles of rubbish accumulated from all the clearing up. The burning off started in the morning but the crew was a

great help as the fires burnt down.

The mesh on the long boardwalk is being replaced.

The working bee was a success with eight people turning up. Some more weed mat was removed, some more cleaning up along the creek at the Kurnai end

was done, and the cleaning of the large picnic shelter of grease and grime on the wind panels, floor, tables and BBQ. It was hard but satisfying work resulting in a few stiff muscles the next day. Three new trees were planted in the cleared area on the corner of Mackeys Road and Tramway Road. Morning tea was welcomed after much hard exertion.

It was lovely to work with a happy group of people who love maintaining our park and participating in its development with Council support.

The large sign near the old house with information about the old house has had the Perspex changed so that it is clear to read the sign. Thanks is extended to Steve Bruen for his help with this.

The Gippsland Interchange crew helped a further two weeks later with clearing up the pathway and surrounds of the new pathway through the Loy Yang plantation beside the concrete path to Kurnai.

It has been a productive month. Plans are under way to purchase more plants and create garden beds along the Lions path in the top paddock. Watch this space.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS  
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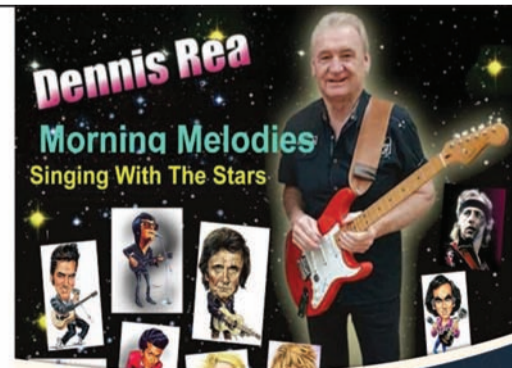
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