

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

cdnews.com.au

Established 1966

Distributed Free



Strzelecki Bushwalkers - p 8



FMNP - p 15



School's News - p 21-23



SPORT: Brave's Baseball - p17

Busy month for Churchill Fire Brigade



The Churchill brigade has this month been very busy with an average of one callout per day so far this year.

Recent incidents attended were a 1.7 hectare grass fire just north of Churchill, which burnt out pasture in a number of small paddocks. This fire started from

an illegal burnoff that got out into the grassland. Although a mild day, with just a breeze blowing, the fire ran well through the very dry grass that is now 100 percent cured.

Along with appliances from Boolarra, Driffield, FRV Station 78 (Morwell),

Hazelwood North, Morwell, Traralgon, Traralgon West, Yallourn North, Yinnar and Yinnar South, multiple resources from the Hazelwood Mine and Helitak330, a fire bombing helicopter, and Firebird312, supervising helicopter, attended a fire near the Hazelwood Cemetery which was started

by a lightning strike. The fire was located in treed area in tough terrain in a gully, so crews worked very hard to contain and extinguish the fire. In total, the fire burnt 0.89 hectares, so it was a job very well done.

More brigade news, page 14



Churchill ANZAC Day Commemoration 2025

ANZAC Day, Friday April 25

Venue: Memorial outside the lower level of Churchill Hall

Time: **PLEASE NOTE** - 9.00 am

Ceremony followed by gunfire breakfast, tea and coffee
All welcome

Any Group/individual wishing to lay a wreath please contact Richard 0466 233 991

Arranged by Rotary, with RSL and Lions



Wealth for life

We are pleased to announce RGM have recently acquired Dainbridge Nicholson Financial Services.

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rgmgroup.com.au

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

The Team

- Editor: Carol Scott
- Team Leader/Sec: Ruth Place
- Treasurer: Maureen Schenkel
- Assistant Treasurer: Rachael Perrott
- Advertising: Ruth Place, Shelley McDonald,
- Layout: Allan Larkin
- Production: Carol Scott, Maureen Schenkel, Ruth Place, Allan Larkin, Aaron Xuereb
- Proof Readers: Ruth Place, Gary Weston, Shelley McDonald, Geraldine Larkin, Carol Scott, Delma Hodges, Lorraine Peake
- Distribution: Gary Weston, Roel Schenkel
- Team Members: Barbara Cheetham, Lorraine Glowacki
- Webpage: John Sunderland,
- Facebook: Rebecca Barry, Rachael Perrott
- IT: Oscar Ewen



www.cdnews.com.au

Contributions

The DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION of articles and advertisements for the March 2025 edition is February 25, 2025

EDITORIAL

Articles for publication and Letters to the Editor can be sent to: Churchill & District News
PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842
Or Email: cdneditorial@cdnews.com.au
All articles must be submitted by the 25th of each month for publication in the next issue.



the voice of the community

MEMBER 2025

ADVERTISING

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

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We acknowledge the support of



Advocacy

What is advocacy some of you may be asking. Well, it is what CDCA spends a lot of time doing, on behalf of our community!

A simple definition of advocacy is "any action that speaks in favour of, recommends, argues for a cause, supports or defends, or pleads on behalf of others."

An example of the advocacy work CDCA is engaged in is our continuing argument on behalf of this community that Latrobe City Council must address the issue of having an accessible public toilet at Churchill shopping centre - one which is open during extended retail hours e.g. across weekend trading hours and after 5pm on weekdays. Council considered its mid-year budget review at their February meeting and, with a cash surplus, returned \$1.9 million to the 2025/26 Capital Works Budget (for projects not yet decided upon).

A CDCA representative addressed Council at the meeting, advocating that a portion of this sum should be used to commence works on the much-needed public toilet here.

Given that Council's own Public Toilet Plan specifies that construction of a public toilet in Churchill CBD should begin in 2024/25 at an



estimated cost of \$450,000, it is very disappointing that Council did not allocate funds towards this project.

Our next opportunity to advocate to Council for public toilets will come when the draft 2025/26 Budget is released for public comment. CDCA intends to make a budget submission in support of implementing Council's Toilet Plan as a priority.

CDCA often makes submissions to Council on policies, planning applications and a range of issues that are raised with us by local residents.

Recently we lodged a submission to Council on their draft Community Engagement Policy, suggesting that community engagement on planning matters, such as commercial developments (e.g. the approved childcare centre proposal for underneath West Place in Marina Drive) could be improved.

Whilst required regulations might be met by having a developer/applicant post a small notice on a site,

townships' associations (representing community views) ought also be notified of proposed significant commercial and residential developments in order for the community to have some sort of say.

It is disappointing to find that, within the February Council meeting agenda, there was an item recommending the demolition of Hazelwood House, which has sat vacant for some time now and for which a genuine purchaser has not yet been found.

CDCA believes that some options detailing costs should be presented to our local community for consideration, and to also allow for suggestions (such as memorial plaques, relocation of the many rose bushes, salvage of memorabilia, etc), before any decision to bulldoze the building is imposed by Council. Again, CDCA spoke to this matter at Council's meeting.

Surprisingly, Council did not consider the matter during its open proceedings, but moved to consider the Hazelwood House report in its confidential portion of the meeting.

CDCA knows of the increasing popularity of the Shop Local markets at the shopping centre and actively

works towards making these markets a success (in partnership with Churchill Neighbourhood Centre and Churchill & District News).

Part of CDCA's work to make these markets successful is to advocate for corporate sponsorship to support the costs involved in putting on these events.

It is very pleasing to report that sponsorship for our next market - the Mothers Day market on Saturday May 3, has been gained as a result of our advocacy to EKU Energy to support our local community, including not-for-profit groups and retailers, who benefit from the Churchill market days.

EKU Energy is a large corporation (Canadian) proposing to construct a sizeable Battery Storage facility in Tramway Road. Local residents will have an opportunity to find out more about this project, as there will be an information stand (with reps on hand to chat to) at our May market.

You can find out more about CDCA through our website: cdca.org.au or email us directly with your inquiry - info@cdca.org.au

Send us a message via our Facebook page (search for Churchill District Community Association). Even write to us at PO Box 191, Churchill!

We welcome your thoughts and contributions! You will be most welcome to join us at our next meeting on Thursday April 10, at 7pm downstairs in the Churchill Town Hall (enter from Philip Parade).

Rainfall



Rainfall for Churchill
Total Rainfall for February was 20.5 mm.

Total Rainfall for the year to date is 53.5 mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South
The bake of the year! On average February has less than half the rain to September, add to that lots of sunshine, and high temperatures.

This February we had 27mm of rain, which is 63% of the monthly average. The small amount of rain and lower morning temperatures

has kept some green grass, much valued by the wildlife. Mowing was not required.

This time of the year, the size of the water tanks is important. The ground water is still adequate, keeping the trees in good condition, shading the grass, and helping to avoid very serious fire danger this summer. Queensland and NSW had floods, and parts of Victoria had good rains, but Hazelwood South remained sheltered from these rain events.

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ADVERTISING RATES

Effective January 1, 2025

No.	Size Height x Width	Column size	10% Discount (6 issues)			
			B/W	COLOUR		
			\$	\$	\$	\$
1.	58 mm x 83 mm	2 x 5.8 cm	32.00	NA	28.00	NA
2.	123 mm x 83 mm	2 x 12.3 cm	65.00	103.00	58.00	93.00
3.	93 mm x 128 mm	3 x 9.3 cm	74.00	118.00	66.00	106.00
4.	58 mm x 260 mm	6 x 5.8 cm	93.00	150.00	84.00	134.00
5.	138 mm x 128 mm	3 x 13.8 cm	109.00	174.00	98.00	156.00
6.	188 mm x 128 mm	3 x 18.8 cm	154.00	247.00	139.00	222.00
7.	188 mm x 260 mm	6 x 18.8 cm	324.00	517.00	291.00	466.00
8.	375 mm x 260 mm	6 x 37.5 cm	475.00	761.00	428.00	685.00

TO BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENT

PLEASE CONTACT
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Submission of Articles:

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

BOOK REVIEW

"Horse" by Geraldine Brooks

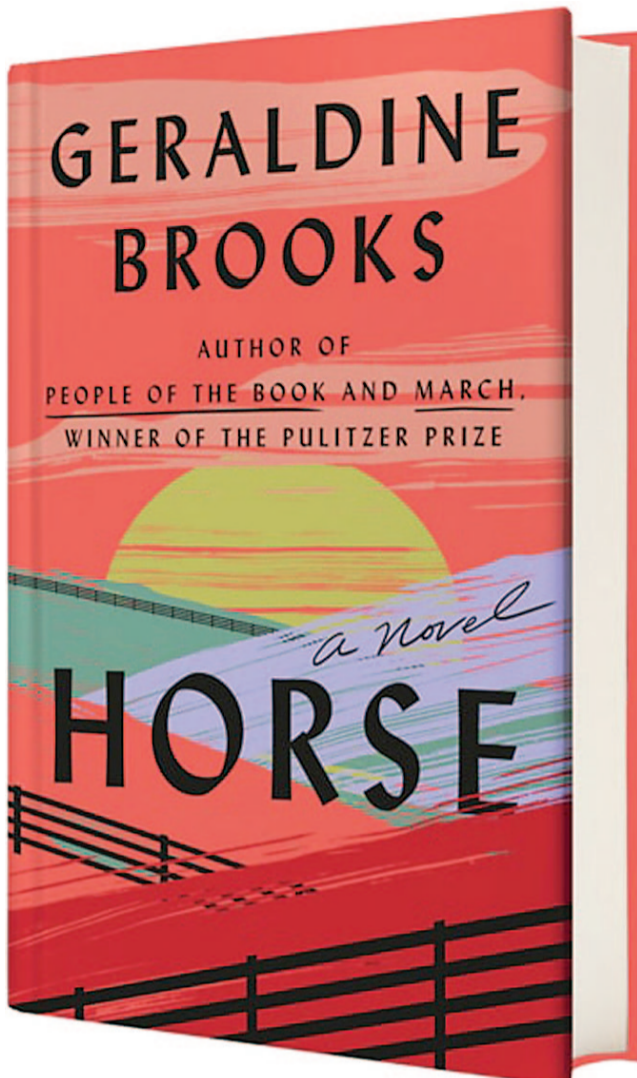
Geraldine Brooks is an Australian, American author and journalist who was born in Sydney in 1955. She received a BA from Sydney University, followed by an MA from Columbia University. She is a prolific writer, her most notable work so far being "March" for which she was awarded a Pulitzer Prize in 2005. "Horse" is a work of historical fiction.

This book is set in America and runs parallel stories throughout. The contemporary story is of Jess and Theo. Theo is a Nigerian American art historian who is trying to prove that early artists who painted horses included slaves in their paintings. Whilst helping an elderly neighbour he is given the discarded painting of a horse and he begins to trace the history of the painting and its artist.

He meets Jess, an Australian scientist working at the Smithsonian Institute. She is helping a fellow scientist researching the bones of former racehorses, and is aware of a skeleton stored at the Institute.

The first meeting of Jess and Theo is uncomfortable as Jess thinks he is trying to steal her bike, and they are both very aware of the underlying racism in this encounter.

A relationship eventually develops and they each pursue the history of a famous racehorse, Lexington, which went on to become



America's greatest stud sire.

The story also takes us to Kentucky in the mid-nineteenth century, before the American Civil War, where we follow the life of Jarret, a slave who is the son of a highly respected horse trainer.

His father has bought his own freedom and hopes to do the same for Jarret some

day. Jarret is present when a valuable mare gives birth to a foal and an unbreakable bond forms between the two.

The owner of the property says Jarret's father can have the foal but when a wealthy Northerner, who takes full advantage of the slave trade, offers a large amount of money for the foal he is sold,

and Jarret with him as his groom. We follow the life of Jarret as he witnesses cruelty to both the horse and himself, and watch as greed and vanity put the welfare of the horse in jeopardy. When Civil War breaks out Jarret shows his true worth.

This is a story with many threads and the author covers a lot of issues, the main one being enduring racism, present in Jarret's time but still present today, as are inequality, class and privilege. She also comments on the inhumane treatment of animals, injustice and greed as well as love, perseverance and survival.

It was also quite informative regarding the science involved in modern horse racing and the fact that, before cameras, artists were employed to paint valuable horses as a form of advertising.

Most of us enjoyed the book, it was easy to read and the characters were well drawn and convincing, although there were many coincidences. Some thought the introduction of the art dealer was superfluous to the story but everyone loved Jarret and none of us really liked the ending.

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

Churchill & District News is looking for volunteers.

"Connecting Your Community"

We are looking for people to assist us with procuring **ADVERTISING**

We would like to hear from you! Please ring Ruth on 5122 1961

Danny O'BRIEN MP
State Member for Gippsland South



Working for Gippsland South

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danny.obrien@parliament.vic.gov.au

www.dannyobrienmp.com.au

/dannyobrienmp

THE NATIONALS for Regional Victoria

SHOP LOCAL MARKETS 2025



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

Mothers Day Market - Saturday, May 3rd

Winter Market - Saturday, August 30th

Christmas Market - Saturday, December 6th



SUPPORT OUR LOCAL RETAILERS & SHOP LOCAL IN CHURCHILL



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



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

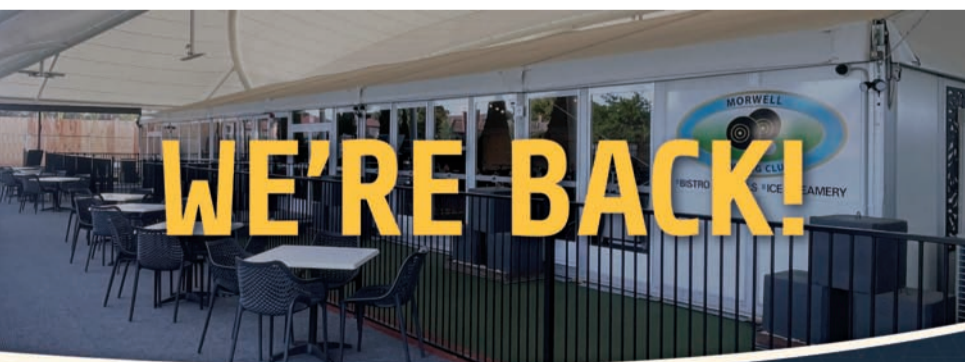
CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

SCAN TO VIEW:



CDNEWS LATEST AND PAST EDITIONS.
CDNEWS COMMUNITY DIRECTORY AND
COMMUNITY ARTICLES, ETC.,



WE'RE BACK!

We are thrilled to announce that Morwell Bowling Club has reopened

The board members & staff are excited to be back up and running, and even more excited to welcome back our members and the community. We are truly grateful for your continued support during this closure, and I look forward to seeing you back at the club.

The following are now available:

- Full bistro menu
- Ice creamery 10am - 10pm
- Lawn Bowls
- Snack menu
- Full bar

MORWELL BOWLING CLUB 52 Hazelwood Road Morwell

BOOKINGS (03) 5134 3449



morwellbowls.com.au

CHURCH *news*

Co-Operating Church Snippets



Cathie brought us several messages over the Christmas/January period.

Give us wisdom to pursue what really matters in this new year.

Remind us that our longing and our waiting are wrapped in God's care.

Draw us to a more simple and humble existence in which our treasures are defined by the hope, peace, joy, and love we feel and also give away.

As we are in the beginning of a new year, we often take stock of our lives and spend time in contemplation and discernment.

We ask ourselves, what are we seeking? Where is our attention focused? Will we just go back into routines of life or will we take a moment to understand more deeply.

We are to show simple undiluted love: the kind that is buried deep within, waiting to be kindled and coaxed into flame, so that the poor hear good news, captives are released, the blind can see and the oppressed go free.

Without witnessing to the poor and the imprisoned and the blind, we are not living the gospel.

Bec spoke about Mary and Joseph following the Law and taking Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to be dedicated as the first male child. Mary carried the child in her arms. Mary took two turtle doves as a sacrifice for her purification after child birth. There they met with the two faithful old people Simeon and Anna, who recognised that Jesus was the Messiah they had waited

for. Mary and Joseph were getting on with what they were to do.

Life is typically about getting on and doing what we are supposed to do: cleaning, gardening, cooking, going to work, whatever. Just get on and faithfully do what we are supposed to do. In the midst of that, as Christians we are not to forget that we carry the presence of Jesus and we should be open to the Holy Spirit leading us into the situations and places where we can reveal Jesus to people.

Russell spoke of God's grace - a spontaneous unmerited gift of divine favour in the salvation of sinners, and the divine influence operating in individuals for their regeneration and sanctification by trusting in Christ.



For God's grace, we only have to believe in our hearts that God loves us. God's unfailing love and faithfulness comes from Jesus Christ. God loves us despite our flaws.

No matter what the past, we can be transformed by His grace, if we let Him into our hearts. God's grace was not in vain - it is not meant to be wasted,

It should motivate us to live a God filled purposeful life. Nothing goes away until it teaches us what we have to know.

We are challenged to use our lives to reflect God's love and forgiveness to others. We are to do what we are called to do, in God's grace He is with us every step of the way. When we feel inadequate,

His grace is sufficient to guide and empower us to lead.

God provides the inspiration to use our skills even when we are getting older and are less capable physically, but with age comes W-I-S-D-O-M. In a storm would those around us know who to turn to?.

It is not what you say but what you do - living in God's grace - those around us notice. How does the message of grace in our own lives show how we can apply God's grace to our own struggles. We are called to do within the limits of our capabilities.

If we are called to do something challenging, God will equip us to overcome our fears. God's grace comes

to all who believe in his love in their hearts, no matter what their past.

Living in God's grace we are guided by God to use us where and when required. Use His grace to overcome our own fears and troubles for He is with us always.

Bev Lagerway

One of our long standing parishioners Bev Lagerway, passed away in February. Her funeral service was held on February 25.

Trevor Berryman

Trevor Berryman celebrated his 80th birthday with a party on the day, and later in church where he was lauded for his endless efforts to help the church.

He was given a cake to cut and share.



Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill

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

King of Glory Ministries International YINNAR

Service 1st and 3rd Saturday each month, 7pm at the RSL Hall. Bible study and prayer each Friday 10am - 12, at the Yinnar Bakery and Coffee Shop.

BOOLARRA

Ladies Craft, Cuppa n Chat, 10am - 12 Wednesdays
Bible study and prayer, 10am-12 Thursdays
at the Co-operating Church Hall, 19 Tarwin St.
Info 0400 690 972
<https://kogmii.com>

Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes

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

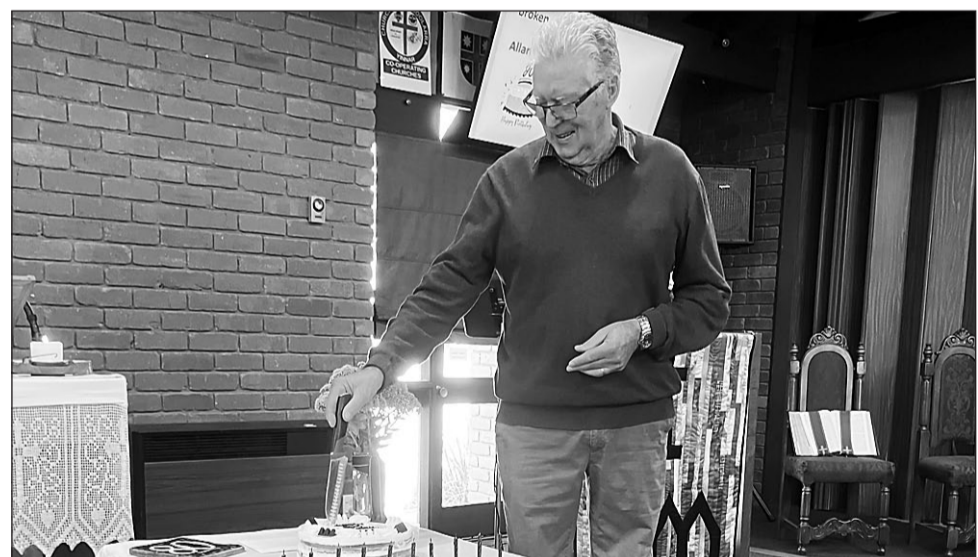
10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell.
Every 4th Sunday alternates Yinnar/Boolarra.
See Church bulletin or call 5134 2849

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 Christian Fellowship

By Steve McNeilly (Pastor)

Church life has changed a lot in the past fifty years. Things were a lot simpler back then. We did not have so many government regulations and compliance issues. Our only social media was the telephone and it certainly was not something we could carry around in our pockets. Our technology was uncomplicated. Some of us were still using printed songbooks but some forward-thinking churches were already using such advanced equipment as overhead projectors!

Modern technology, in my opinion sits somewhere in-between a blessing and a curse. They make things both

easier and harder.

Our services and sermons these days are available on the Internet and, at Churchill Christian Fellowship, there are hundreds of past Sunday services still available online.

However, what has not changed about church life? Here are a few things that I hope will never change.

Firstly, the love and fellowship of people who live for God, for each other, and for the community in which they work.

Secondly, the worship of a God who is infinitely greater and better than us, a God who answers prayers and gives context and meaning to our lives.

Thirdly, preaching that

helps people to understand God's Word, the Bible, and how the truth still sets us free.

This year, in my sermons at least, we are concentrating on Paul's epistle to the Romans. At the time of writing this, we have had five messages and barely finished the first two chapters. I am excited about our theme for this series, "The Obedience of Faith".

Please feel free to come check us out any Sunday at 3pm.

Enquire about one of our Home Fellowship/Bible study meetings, you will be most welcome.

For more information, please call 0409 173 747.

Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: Acianthus pusillus.

Family: Orchidaceae.

Derivation:

Acianthus: From Greek acis, meaning a pointed instrument, and anθος, meaning flower, which refers to the pointed dorsal sepal and narrow lateral sepals on the flowers in this genus.

pusillus: A Latin word meaning very small or insignificant and employed botanically to mean weak or slender.

Common Name: Small Mosquito Orchid.

Distribution:

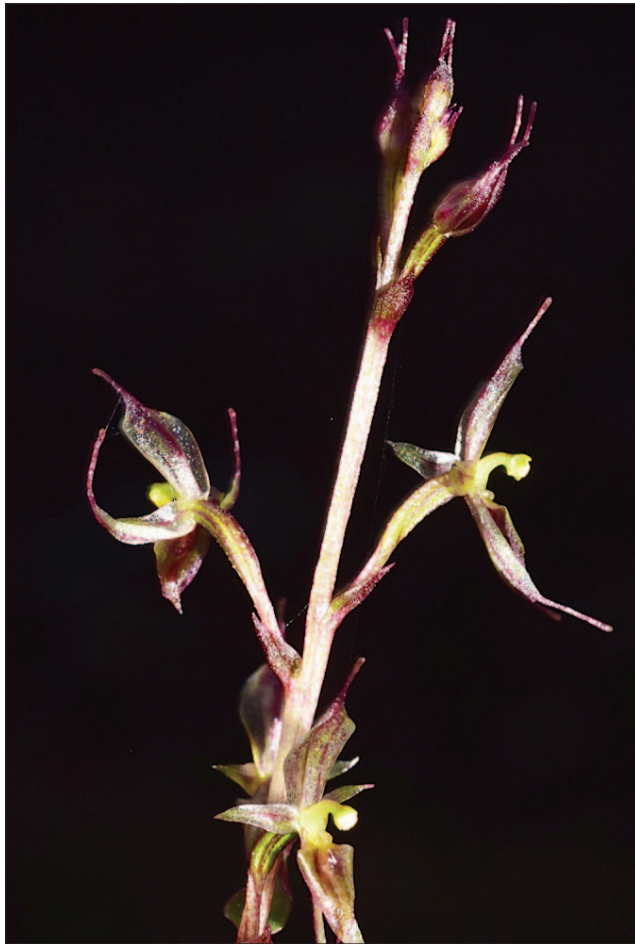
Widespread and common from the coast to the ranges from SE Queensland, through NSW, Victoria and Tasmania, and into South Australia as far west as the Eyre Peninsula.

Description:

Arising from an underground tuberoid, plants form a single ground-hugging cordate (heart shaped) leaf, up to 35mm long and 30mm wide, green on top and purplish green underneath. Flower stems are up to 20cm tall, pinkish in colour and bearing up to 18 flowers.

The flowers are up to 12mm long and consist of six highly modified tepals (three sepals and three petals) arranged around a central column comprised of the reproductive parts of the flower. The dorsal sepal is above the column and has a pointed tip.

Two narrow lateral sepals point downwards behind the labellum. Two petals are reflexed back against the ovary, one on each side of the column. The third petal is called the labellum and



sits out the front of the flower like a landing platform for visiting pollinators. Some plants have entirely green flowers, but most have translucent pink or reddish suffusions as shown in the photo.

Flowering time is over winter and can be from March to August, depending on seasonal conditions.

Opinion:

Orchids are great little plants, but keep in mind that they are all protected in the wild, some are very sensitive to disturbance and hence, are vulnerable/threatened/ endangered. Never collect plants from wild populations and take care if you are undertaking activities around

their habitats. My plants are obtained from reputable and legal sources (yes, I know that they all originated from plants collected from the bush back when that was the norm and before we knew better, but now we do know better, so do not be part of the problem!) with the aim of taking the pressure off the wild populations and hopefully increasing their numbers in cultivation.

I have a number of these plants in my collection, the successful ones do best in hanging baskets at my place. Others I have tried directly in the ground or in waterwell pots have not been able to maintain themselves over the seasons.

The reason for this is tied in with their natural life cycle; they become dormant and survive as underground tubers over the harsher summer months, walking the tightrope between desiccation if the tubers become too dry and rotting if the tubers become too wet. The hanging baskets seem to provide the best chance for the tubers to survive our summer humidity, when they are outside of their normal habitats. Frustrating, since they survive quite happily in the ground nearby in the Boolarra bush, where they no doubt have a better complement of their natural companions (fungi, bacteria, soil organisms) to assist them.

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

Sources:

Backhouse – Guide to Native Orchids of NSW and ACT (2022). Jones – eteGuide to Native Orchids of Australia (2021).

Sharr – WA Plant Names and their Meanings.

BE A Churchill LOCAL SHOP LOCAL Know your LOCAL BUSINESS

New Churchill Motors

Steve has been with New Churchill Motors in Phillip Parade for 25 years. It is open Monday to Friday 8 - 5.



He specialises in general repairs and servicing of 4WD and passenger vehicles. This includes brake and clutch machining and replacement, cylinder head and flywheel machining, steering and suspension repairs, tyre fitting and balancing along with log book servicing and general repairs.

All repairs are covered by a Repco Authorised Service nationwide warranty.

Chemist Discount Centre

The Chemist Discount Centre, opposite Woolworths, is run by Sarah Spaulding (retail manager) and Nelly Khalil (pharmacy manager). It is open Monday to Friday 9 - 6 and Saturday 9 - 2.



Professional services provided include prescriptions, immunisation, dose administration aids, asthma management, diabetes management, blood pressure monitoring, smoking cessation, methadone treatment programme, return of unwanted medicines, pharmacist consultations and absence from work certificates.

There is also a range of vitamins, beauty products and health aids available along with household goods and giftware. The business has a loyalty programme.

Invitation to the **Gippsland Sculpture Exhibition**
Sculpture Culture in Yinnar

Mark Niglia - "Liberta"

Opening 1pm-4pm 9 March
9 March - 20 April 2025

Main Street Yinnar & Arc Gallery

Live music & sculpture workshops every Sunday

Lorraine Meike - "Phoebe"

19-23 Main Street, Yinnar, Vic 3869
Open daily 10am-4pm
www.gippslandsculptureexhibition.com

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Criminals are impersonating real businesses and offering fake investment bonds.

They claim these bonds offer high returns and are protected by the government. Scammers will encourage you to register your name, mobile number and email on a fake website. They steal money by getting people to buy fake investment bonds. They will also use your personal details to commit other scams.

The National Anti-Scam Centre works with the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) to remove

investment scam websites, which led to thousands of websites being taken down in 2024.

How to spot the scam

This scam can be hard to spot because criminals set up fake emails where they pretend to be legitimate brokers.

They also have a fake website which looks like the real business's website.

The fake website has the business's branding and uses links that go to the real website.

The fake website comes up in internet searches for investment opportunities.

Recently criminals were impersonating Bunnings in one of these types of scams.

Scammers offered



environmental bonds that support carbon reduction, sustainability and waste reduction.

They offered investment options ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 and promised higher than market returns of up to 9%.

They said that the investments are supported by Bunnings and protected by government finance regulations.

ASIC has taken down the fake Bunnings websites.

What you should know

There are steps you

can take to help avoid investment scams:

Do not trust surprise offers to invest.

Do not take investment advice from people you have met on social media.

Check the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) website to confirm if the person offering the investment is licenced.

Check the Moneysmart investor alert list for companies and websites you should not trust.

Check if the business

details match the company's real website.

Stay protected

STOP – Do not give money or personal information to anyone if unsure. Say no, hang up, delete.

CHECK – Scammers pretend to be from organisations you know and trust. If you are not sure, call the official phone number of the organisation to check.

DO an internet search to see if there are warnings about any investment scam.

CHECK the ASIC website to confirm if the person offering the investment is licenced.

PROTECT – Act quickly if something feels wrong.

If you have had money or personal information stolen contact your bank immediately.

Help others by reporting scams to Scamwatch.

If you have been affected

Do not be embarrassed about being scammed.

If you have had money or personal information stolen contact your bank or card provider immediately.

If you have been scammed or have provided personal information call IDCARE on 1800 595 160.

Help others by reporting scams to Scamwatch.

Aaron Pearce
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 * Gas Fitting
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 Struts are not throw away items ...
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 • Repairs to all types of Struts
 • Design applications and pressure modification
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Tel: 5166 1665 Mob: 0407 542 122



Swimming program for migrant families a success

Sixteen parents and children recently made a splash at Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre where they learnt about open water safety and basic swimming skills, thanks to a new swimming program for multicultural families.

Recognising a gap in education and practical skills for migrants in the region—and with drowning statistics in Australia increasing year-on-year—Latrobe Community Health Service launched a swimming program designed to improve water safety in the region.

Multicultural communities often face unique challenges when it comes to water safety.

These can include cultural differences, religious considerations, and uncertainty about where to begin learning essential swimming skills.

"The goal of this program was to break down these barriers and create a



welcoming, supportive environment where families feel comfortable participating in safe swimming activities," LCHS Strategic Partnerships Coordinator Derya Deniz Demiroglu said.

Participants ranged in age from two to 67 years and included men, women, and

children. Those who attended learned how to be comfortable in the water and left with an understanding of how to stay safe in open-water scenarios.

They were also provided with equipment like swimsuits, goggles and caps to ensure cost was not a

barrier to participating.

"Most of our participants came into the program with little to no water experience. A lot of the participants had never learnt how to swim, and others did not have the knowledge of how open waters work," Community Programs Coordinator at Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre, Tess Poole said.

"At the end of the program, our participants expressed they now felt confident to visit beaches and knew what dangers to look for and where to be safe. Many want to continue on with swimming lessons to further improve their skills," Ms Poole added.

The six week course was run in collaboration with Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre, with funding from Department of Premier and Cabinet, through the LCHS Strategic Partnership Program.

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Community Spirit saves the plants



Early Saturday morning March 1, 2025, people were busy sharing the news about the destruction of the planting along Monash Way opposite the service station.

The newly planted shrubs and trees had been pulled out and strewn on the road and into the park behind.

Community spirit kicked in and replanting began. Watering was organised firstly by Reg and Ray following the re planting on

the Saturday. The fire brigade watered Sunday and Council was to follow up on Monday.

Reports show that the trees and shrubs look like they will survive.

Appreciation was noted by the replanters to Reg, the fire brigade and Council. It is amazing that this task was completed so quickly and so positively. Our community says thank you to those who rushed in to do something about this vandalism.



GENTLE WATER EXERCISE FOR ARTHRITIS

Join our group that exercises in the pool at the Churchill Leisure Centre Every Monday 11am to 12pm.

Keep moving with gentle exercises while having a good chat at the same time.

Cost is just entry to pool.

Contact Christine 0429060070

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Timely check-ups can save lives



Men are being urged to take more individual responsibility for their health by local MP Darren Chester after he met with a local health advocate. Mr Chester said he enjoyed catching up with leading men's health

advocate Moss Mahony (pictured) and learning more about his exceptional work in the community to promote prostate cancer awareness.

"It was a bit of a wake-up call for me. Moss told me that men living in regional

or rural areas like Gippsland have a 24% higher risk of dying of prostate cancer compared to blokes in the city, and the big issue is a failure to get tested," Mr Chester said.

"We need more men taking up the opportunity to have a PSA test and Moss is advocating for a change in regulations at a national level to make annual tests free of charge - the current system only supports a free test every second year. Establishing a register that reminds men that it is time for an annual PSA test would save the health budget in the longer term because any issues

would be detected earlier and require less expensive medical intervention. In the meantime, Moss and the Prostate Cancer Support Group are providing practical and valuable advice to locals, but it begins with men booking in for a check-up and getting tests done in a timely manner."

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COMMUNITY SAFETY Words of Wisdom

Drug cultivation and trafficking

This month we are looking at drug cultivation and trafficking in people's houses.

If you see something suspicious in a neighbour's house or back yard (coming and going of people at odd hours for example), it is important to let the police know of these activities.

You can anonymously report these things through "Crime Stoppers" on 1800 333 000 or drop

into your local police station at your convenience, and report the details as required.

You do not need to give your name if you do not want to. You may notice that the people of the house may not be very sociable to their neighbours, and may only do things after hours when there are not many people around.

Keep an eye open, and keep your neighbourhood safe.

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.

Strzelecki Bushwalking Club

The list of activities that the Strzelecki Bushwalking Club has been making available to members has been outstanding already for 2025. Adrian, our activities co-ordinator, puts together an amazing program each and every month with the help of our dedicated leaders.

We continue to hold regular kayaking events and have a multiday paddle coming up in March and this will start in Nelson which is at the western end of Victoria.

We have held a dog friendly walk, at the Blue Rock Lake in Willow Grove which is now becoming an annual event. We have many members who love to take their dog friends on a walk!

Our Club President, John led a day walk into Croll's Gorge. This is a spectacular day walk that you can get to from Tamboritha Road approximately 17 km past Licola. It is a great walk on a summers day because there is a lot of river walking. The scenery is world class and right on our doorstep.

Another interstate opportunity happening in March is a multi-day walk to the Walls of Jerusalem National Park in Tasmania. This is a wild and inspiring Alpine Park approximately 144km northwest of Hobart. There is no direct road access into this park, and it must be explored totally on foot.

A bit closer to home we have several walks exploring remote areas of the Baw Baw National Park. One of our leaders will also be taking a group from Wright Forest through to Emerald Lake in the Dandenongs. This walk is guaranteed to end with a spectacular afternoon tea!

There is something for everyone and every ability on our activities program each month. We continue to have regular enquiries from people wishing to engage with this Club.

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



Strzelecki Bushwalking Club members enjoying the summer sun near Licola



"Ready for adventure in the Walls of Jerusalem NP Tasmania"

Darren Chester
 Putting Locals First
 #lovegippsland

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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS
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Clean Up Australia Day in Churchill

More than 30 Latrobe City Council employees came to Churchill for an early Clean Up Australia Day. Together, they tackled litter across several parks, including Mathison, Gaskin, and Glendonald, collecting everything from plastics and paper to a stray shopping trolley and old tyres!

All the rubbish was removed, sorted for

recycling, disposed of properly, and, yes, the shopping trolley even made its way back to the supermarket where it belongs.

Leanne Potter our ward Councillor was on hand to help the eager workers. The efforts were much appreciated. Thanks to the Council and Leanne.

Clean Up



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CDCA

Churchill & District Community Association Inc.

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CDCA meets on the 2nd Thursday of every 2nd month
Next meeting - 7.00 pm Thursday, April 10, 2025
Downstairs in Churchill Town Hall

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

The Yinnar and District Memorial Hall



**Make It,
Bake It,
Grow It,
Sew It
Market**

The Yinnar & District Memorial Hall's next Make It, Bake It, Grow It, Sew It, Indoor/ Outdoor Market is scheduled for

Sunday May 4, 9am till 1pm

If you would be interested in putting in an expression of interest for our bi-annual Market keep the application date in mind.

Expression of interest application forms are available via email only from March 20, and close on April 3.

Enquiries to Helen O'Hara, Booking Officer
YDMH Market Coordinator
yinnarmemorialhallinc@outlook.com
0417 525 431

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Quantum Support Services

Quantum receives \$3 million investment to support housing for Gippslanders

Gippsland is set to benefit from a \$3 million investment to provide critical crisis and transitional housing, thanks to the Federal Government's Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF).

This funding, part of the national Crisis and Transitional Accommodation Program (CTAP), will deliver safe and secure housing for women and children escaping family and domestic violence, as well as older women at risk of homelessness. Quantum Support Services has welcomed this significant

investment, which will contribute to much needed housing solutions across Latrobe City.

Quantum CEO Natalie McDonald said the funding was a crucial step in addressing housing needs for vulnerable Gippslanders. "This investment will have a life-changing impact for women and children in Gippsland who are fleeing violence and seeking stability. Secure crisis and transitional housing provides a foundation for recovery, safety and independence," Ms McDonald said.

Ms McDonald emphasised the importance of ongoing investment in housing and support services. "Housing is fundamental to breaking the cycle of violence and homelessness.

This funding will allow Quantum and our partners to expand vital services and ensure that those in need have a safe place to turn to," she said.

"Through this funding we will be able to purchase four houses over the next two years, enabling us to provide immediate, safe housing and work towards long-term solutions."

For more information about Quantum Support Services and its work in the community visit www.quantum.org.au or phone 1800 243 455.

Latrobe Regional Gallery



Roof Improvements coming to Latrobe Regional Gallery

February 24 – March 16, 2025

Latrobe Regional Gallery was closed from February 24 to get a brand new roof! If all goes well, we should reopen on March 17, with our new exhibition 'Interfacial Intimacies'. Latrobe Regional Gallery is housed in the former Morwell Town Hall, originally built in 1880. The roof replacement will allow for improved energetic performance with new ceiling insulation and added solar panels. While we are closed, be sure to check out the upcoming programs at Gippsland Performing Arts Centre.

Interfacial Intimacies
March 16 to June 15, 2025

Galleries 4, 5 and 6
What does it mean to be the absolute essence of who you are without being wedded to any of it? For a long time, the 'self' was considered a stable and trustworthy container within which you can be found. Emerging theories of

selfhood recognise that it is not so simple. We know that we can have as many social selves as the people who recognise us.

Artists: Bruno Booth, Amrita Hepi, Léuli Eshr?ghi, Bhenji Ra, Aleks Danko, Cassie Sullivan, Georgia Morgan, Cigdem Aydemir, David Rosetzky, and Shea Kirk. Curated by Caine Chennatt.

Art for All Exhibition
December 6, 2024 – June 22, 2025

Gallery 1
International Day of People with Disability is celebrated on December 3 each year. To help celebrate this event, Latrobe Regional Gallery is holding the Art for All Exhibition to highlight and celebrate the diverse talents of people with disability. This Exhibition is part of Latrobe Regional Gallery's community art exhibitions, showcasing the work of artists in our community and beyond at LRG. This Exhibition showcases two-dimensional artworks, such as drawings, paintings,

photography, screen prints and poetry and sculptural objects like ceramics, glass or mixed media designs.

Latrobe City recognises the importance of celebrating art and culture as it enriches lives and communities and encourages social inclusion.

Storytime at the Gallery
Thursday April 10, 2pm

Latrobe Regional Gallery is thrilled to partner with Latrobe City Libraries to bring you a very special Storytime in the Gallery!

Enjoy some fun stories, songs, poems and then let your imagination go wild in the Lane. Listening to stories and songs helps children to develop their language and motor skills.

The sessions are aimed at children aged between three and five years old but older or younger children are welcome too.

Why not browse the exhibits at the Gallery while you are there?

Note: Children under the age of 12 should be accompanied by an adult for the duration of the activity.

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Leadlight enquiries welcome

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Matchbox Gallery - Yinnar

Group exhibition by Local Artists
 March 1st – April 27th

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NOELENE MARCHWICKI

Health Hints

Hypertension

As we age, high blood pressure (hypertension) becomes more common due to a combination of biological, lifestyle, and environmental factors.

Here is why:

1. Stiffening of blood vessels

- With age, arteries lose their elasticity and become stiffer. This makes it harder for blood to flow smoothly, leading to increased pressure on artery walls.

- Calcium and collagen build up in arterial walls over time, contributing to this rigidity.

2. Changes in the heart

- The heart's ability to pump efficiently may decline as it ages.

- If the heart has to pump against stiffer arteries, it works harder, increasing blood pressure.

3. Kidney function decline

- Kidneys regulate blood pressure by controlling fluid and salt balance.

- As we age, kidney function may decrease, leading to fluid retention and

higher blood pressure.

4. Lifestyle factors

- Weight gain: Metabolism slows with age, leading to weight gain in some people, which increases the risk of hypertension.

- Decreased physical activity: A sedentary lifestyle is more common in older adults and is linked to higher blood pressure.

- Dietary changes: Increased salt intake or poor nutrition can exacerbate blood pressure issues.

Preventive Measures

Regular physical

activity, a heart-healthy diet, maintaining a healthy weight, managing stress, and avoiding smoking can help reduce the risk or severity of high blood pressure as you age.

High blood pressure can have serious health consequences if left untreated like heart attack, heart diseases, kidney failure and stroke.

If you are concerned about your blood pressure, see your doctor or pharmacist as prevention is better than cure.



Monday – Wednesday
7.30 am – 4.30 pm

Thursday – Friday
7.30 am – 5.30 pm

Saturday
7.30 am – Noon

64 Main Street, Yinnar

CONTACT BRETT 5163 1262

COOKING with Noelene

<https://thegardeninggastronomer.blogspot.com/>



What do you know?

Here are the answers to last month's challenge:

1. Oolong,
2. Melt,
3. Jerky,
4. Gnache,
5. Infuse.

Here is my challenge for you this month:

1. A large cylindrical green fruit, known as summer squash?
2. A most important food item both for its' nutrition and texture, and is enclosed in a shell of calcium carbonate?
3. A large thick portion of animal flesh often including some bone?
4. If you get this, you can give yourself double points - Interspersed with long visible flecks of fat, usually a sign of high quality in lean beef?
5. Wheat made from any type of soft flour, between 9-10% protein and no raising agents?



Feijoa chutney



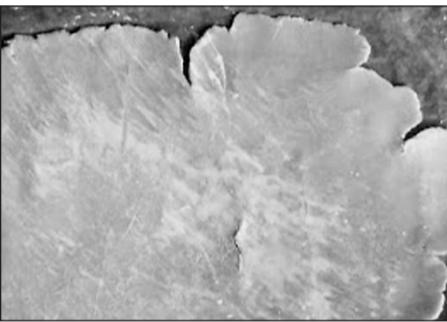
Ingredients

500gm of feijoas (trimmed), 500gm of chopped onions, 500gm of sultanas, 7 gm salt, 250gm of soft brown sugar, 1/2 tsp of ground cloves, 1 dsp of curry powder, 15gm of ground ginger, 1 tsp of sweet paprika, 550ml of white vinegar. Mince or process the onions, feijoas and raisins. Place in a medium saucepan. Add the salt, sugar and spices and finally the vinegar. Bring to the boil, stirring constantly, and boil for 1 hour or until thickened.

Pour into sterilised jars and seal while hot. Store in a cool dark place. Keep for 3 weeks before opening to allow flavours to develop. The chutney will keep for 12-18 months in a cool dark place. Once opened keep in your refrigerator.

N.B. Feijoas are in season March to June, my friend Maureen shared some of her frozen feijoas with me, which is the reason I was able to make the chutney, thank you Maureen and Roel.

It is just the best pasta ever (and gluten free).



Ingredients

250gm of gluten free cornflour, 140gm of potato flour, 300gm of fine polenta, 3 eggs beaten, 11 egg yolks beaten (keeping the egg whites aside for another dish) 185ml of soda water, an old fashioned clothes horse (not an ingredient). The trick to making this pasta is - you have to knead it firmly and have patience, it does work.

Mix the flours and polenta into a large bowl. Make a well in the centre and add the beaten eggs, using your hands to work them into the flour. Now make another well and add the egg yolks and work them into the mixture, adding a little soda water (2 tbs at a time), until the mixture comes together to form a firm elastic mixture.

Place the dough on a long sheet of baking paper, lightly dusted with a little extra fine polenta. Knead the dough with the heel of your hand firmly for 3 minutes.

Shape the dough into a log and divide into 5 portions. Cover the portions loosely with cling wrap. Place one portion of the dough on the floured baking paper, lightly sprinkle your rolling pin and gently roll out the pasta dough to 3mm thick.

Set aside and repeat this process with the remaining dough portions. Use a sharp knife to cut the dough lengthwise into 1 cm wide strips, or your desired width.

Drape the prepared dough lengths over the 'clothes horse'. Cook the pasta in a large pot of salted simmering water with a few drops of olive oil, until al dente, in batches (do not overcrowd your pot). Drain and serve with your favourite pasta sauce.

This is how I would teach you to make pasta, just as I was taught.

This is my gift to you, but the world has changed and I know your kitchens are full of all the electric mixers. Yes, you can use my recipe to prepare this amazing pasta with your wizz bang machines.

A morning or afternoon preparing pasta with your hands is invigorating and heartfelt, remembering how pasta has been hand made for centuries. Enjoy.

The Manor trifle



Ingredients

2 single rounds of 1 sponge, strawberry/ raspberry jam, 1 packet of jelly crystals (raspberry / port wine), 3 tbs of sweet cream sherry (optional), 1 packet of Cottee's instant pudding mix, 1x 825gm can of sliced peaches (drained), 125gm of creamed cheese, 1 x 300ml bottle of cream, 1 tsp of vanilla extract, 100gm of castor sugar.

The surface of the trifle is your canvas - make it your own, I used chocolate bits, fresh raspberries, maraschino cherries and sweet basil tips.

Spread one side of each of the sponge rounds with the jam. Slice the jam spread sponge rounds into squares. Turn the sponge pieces into a large bowl (a clear bowl, so the layers can be seen).

Sprinkle the sponge pieces with the cream sherry, if using. Mix the jelly crystals with 250ml of boiling water and 200ml of cold water until the crystals are dissolved. Pour the dissolved crystals over the broken sponge pieces in the bowl. Place the bowl in the refrigerator.

Drain the can of sliced peaches and place the peach slices on kitchen towelling to absorb excess liquid. Spread half the peach slices over the jellied sponge pieces. Now prepare the pudding mix according to the packet instructions or prepare a thickened custard mix, (I used the instant pudding mix). Spoon the pudding over the sliced peaches. Place the bowl back in the refrigerator for 20 minutes.

It is now time to top the rest of the sliced peaches over the pudding. Place the bowl back in the refrigerator. Now it is time to prepare the cream topping for your trifle. Place 125 gm of cream cheese in the bowl of your beater along with 300ml of cream, 100gm of castor sugar and 1 tsp of vanilla extract. Beat until the sugar has dissolved and the mixture has thickened. Pipe this mixture thickly over the layer of sliced peaches. The final topping of the cream is your open canvas, make the trifle your own. I used blueberries in place of the sliced peaches (peaches are traditional fruit in trifles). My trifle topping was a combination of chocolate bits, coconut balls, fresh raspberries and fresh sweet basil tips.

Gnocchi with sage and pine nuts



Ingredients

2 red onions, roughly chopped, 600gm of 'all rounder' potatoes, 1 tbs of minced garlic, oil for drizzling, 90 gm of quinoa flour, 1 egg, 100gm of finely grated parmesan cheese, 1/2 tsp of ground nutmeg, 6 tbs of butter/ marg, 1/3 cup of sage leaves, handful of pine nuts, 1 dsp of fennel seeds.

This dish was a staple at Castle Garden and is often requested when we all get together.

Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Grease and line a baking tray. Wash and peel the potatoes, then boil in lightly salted water.

Drain and leave to cool, then mash and set aside. Drizzle a frypan with the oil, sprinkle with cracked black pepper, add the minced garlic and chopped onion. Cook over a medium heat until the onions are softened and starting to colour.

Combine the mashed potato with the onion mixture in a large bowl and add the quinoa flour, lightly beaten egg, parmesan and nutmeg. Mix with your hands until well combined, now form the dough into tbs balls.

Bring a large saucepan of salted water to the boil. Drop 4 pieces of gnocchi at a time into the water, lower the temperature and simmer until the gnocchi rises to the surface.

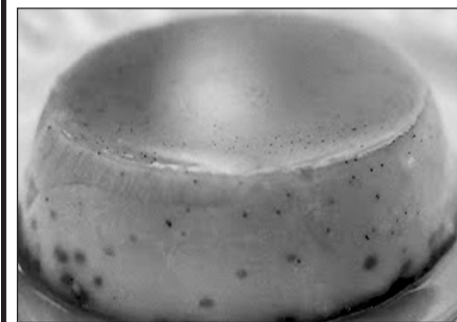
Remove with a slotted spoon and keep warm on the prepared oven tray in the preheated oven, to keep warm while you cook the rest of the gnocchi in batches. When the gnocchi is cooked, prepare the sage butter/ marg.

Melt the butter/ marg (in the pan you used to cook the onions) over a medium heat, add the sage leaves and a dsp of fennel seeds.

Cook for 3 minutes until the sage leaves start to wilt. To serve, place the gnocchi on serving plates, pour the sage butter/ marg over the top and sprinkle with pine nuts.

Delicious.

Crème caramel



Ingredients

100gm castor sugar (for the caramel), 650ml of milk, 1 tsp of vanilla paste (with seeds), 125gm of castor sugar, 3 beaten eggs, 3 egg yolks.

Preheat your oven to 180 deg C. You will also need six 125 ml (1/2 cup) ramekins.

To make the caramel, put the sugar in a small saucepan and heat over a medium heat until the sugar dissolves and starts to caramelise. Tip the saucepan from side to side as the sugar cooks to keep the colour even. Remove the saucepan from the heat and slowly / carefully add 2 tbs of water to stop the cooking process. Pour, dividing the caramel between the 6 ramekins and set aside to cool.

Place the milk and vanilla paste in a small saucepan and bring to a simmer over a low heat. Mix together the sugar, eggs and egg yolks. Pour the milk mixture into the egg mixture and stir well. Ladle the mixture into the ramekins and place the ramekins into a roasting pan. Pour enough hot water into the roasting pan to come halfway up the sides of the ramekins. Cook for 40 minutes or until firm to the touch. Remove the ramekins from the pan and leave to sit for 15 minutes. Unmould onto serving dishes and pour on any leftover caramel.

Swans

The swan is a large waterbird and is found in temperate areas of the world. Of the genus *Cygnus*, there are six species of swan across the world, the mute, trumpeter, whooper and tundra swans of the northern hemisphere and the black from Australia and the black-necked swan of South America. Swans pair for life but on the death of a mate, they will pair up with a new partner. They inhabit large rivers and lakes because they need a large length of water to take flight and land. The species from the northern



STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



although the belief that swans in England enjoy the protection of the British Crown so that they can only be eaten by the upper classes is a myth. Anyone can eat a British swan. It is just that the vast majority choose not to.

Swans have appeared on many stamp issues across the world. Western Australian stamps feature the black swan almost exclusively, while Great Britain issued a set of stamps featuring the 600th Anniversary of the Abbotsbury Swannery. The Black swan appears on the 2/3d value of the Perth Commonwealth Games set of 1962 and a 45c stamp showing a nesting pair was issued as part of a waterbird set in 1991. There are others.

Collecting swans on stamps is another interesting thematic pastime for those who love this delightful bird.

hemisphere are either partially or totally migratory birds, escaping the ice and snow of winter.

They nest in large grassy nests near the water and the

male helps with the nest building and often takes a turn incubating the eggs. Swans lay from three to eight eggs in a clutch and are fiercely protective of their nests. Many a boatman or walker who gets too close to a nest has been attacked, usually by the male. Size is not a factor. I have personally seen a sculling crew of eight plus a cox rowing madly to escape an attacking swan.

They are thought to be completely herbivorous, feeding on water plants which

they obtain from shallow water by dabbling. Consequently, they can ingest small water-dwelling creatures which live amongst water plants. They also graze on grasses bordering the water. The male swan can grow to a weight of 30kg while the female is smaller. The male swan is called a cob, the female a pen and the young a cygnet. A group of swans is called a wedge.

Because of their apparent fidelity to their mates, the white swans of the

north are held in high regard by the general population and feature widely in the culture of many groups. We have the fairy story of 'The Ugly Duckling', the ballet 'Swan Lake' and the Wagnerian operas 'Lohengrin' and 'Parsifal'. The swan appears on many coats of arms across the world and on Irish coinage to celebrate an Irish folk tale. Swans feature in many folk tales in their home countries.

In some countries they are eaten as a luxury food,

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Harriet Shing MP

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The Strzelecki Koala's nose

A distinctive feature of a koala's face is its nose. Individual koalas can be identified because of the unique markings that the nostrils of koala noses have. Since 1998, scientists and other people interested in koalas have identified, recorded and filed information relating to the patches inside a koala's nose. Janine Duffy, President of the Koala Clancy Foundation and founder of Echidna Walkabouts Nature Tours invented a technique of photographing koala noses and then ways to record the significant features in the nostrils. (<http://www.clancyfoundation.org.au> 20/2/25)

An article "How to Identify Koalas by Their Nose Patterns" (<http://www.echidna-walkabout.com> 20/2/25) explains how to best photograph a koala's nose and how to record the black, pink and white patches within the nostril and on the edge of a koala's nose. A YouTube item by Koala Gardens, 24,Nov2024, also explains how to record individual koala noses.

Being able to identify individual koalas is

important for more precise research, data collection and record keeping. The nostrils are being used because research has shown that no two koalas have the same markings within their nostrils and that these markings do not change over time. Fur and the outside surface of the nose will change because of scratches, injury and illness. Nostril identification is also an easier technique to do and to observe. Though koalas have individual paw prints, these are too difficult to get or see.

A koala's rectangular shape, smooth and black nose is crucial for it to live and survive. From birth, a koala uses its nose to find food and shelter.

At 35 days old koala joeys use their sense of smell to find milk in the mother's pouch, to detect suitable leaves to eat and to find out information about other koalas. (<http://www.savethekoala.com> 21/2/25) Because individual koalas have their own distinctive



odour, other koalas can determine the "sex, identity, dominance, relatedness to other koalas, readiness to mate, disease status and even what they have been eating" (<http://www.theconversation.com> "What Does a Koala's Nose Know? a Bit About Food and a Lot About Making Friends" 20/2/25).

Because a koala's

eyesight is so poor, it needs its keen sense of smell to recognise another koala's presence or to claim a tree. Koalas will mark the trees that they visit with their own scent when they arrive at a tree and when they leave.

This involves leaving some urine and for the male koalas rubbing their chest glands on the tree. Marking trees tells other koalas if

another koala is still present, how long ago the tree was used and the extent of a home range. (<http://www.koalagardens.net.au> 21/2/25)

Tree markings help individual koalas "to find or avoid each other". (<http://www.theconversation.com> 20/2/25) Scent placed on trees can last about a year and are warnings to young male koalas trying to find a new home range to not enter that habitat. A koala can recognise the other koalas that belong in the colony by knowing the odour of the individual koalas. This helps the home range population to remain stable and have few territorial fights.

Smelling scents helps with social interaction especially when individual koalas meet as home ranges overlap one another. (<http://www.savethekoala.com> 21/2/25)

When a koala is in captivity, a koala will use "nose kisses" to discover its new environment.

A koala will get very close to the humans and fellow koalas to learn their

odour. Branches and food are also sniffed. (<http://www.theconversation.com> 20/2/25) A koala's nose enables the animal to interact with its environment so that it can be safe and live to old age.

Like all koalas, the Strzelecki koala's senses of smell, touch, hearing, taste and sight all work together to allow it to survive but this unique local species needs our help too.

With this hot weather please leave out fresh clean water bowls for native animals. If you see a heat distressed animal call Wildlife Victoria (03) 8400 7300 or a local wildlife carer for help.

Always drive carefully from dusk to dawn and be watchful for wildlife.

Be a responsible pet owner and keep dogs away from koalas.

Provide escape poles, floats or ropes in pools and backyards.

Lastly why not participate in or donate to The Koalathon that is being conducted by the Strzelecki Koala Action Team on March 30 in Melbourne. For more details go to

<https://www.melbournefoe.org.au/koalathon>

Churchill, your community health centre is here for you!

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**May 8 Ross Noble-
Cranium of Curiosities**

Thursday May 8, 2025 |
8pm | GPAC Main Theatre

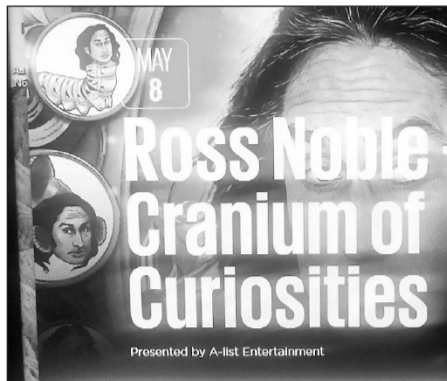
He is the Wizard of Waffle, The Rambler Royale, The Noodlers' Noodler, and he's back live on stage to tour a tornado of tangents.

What the show will be about is anybody's guess, but that's all part of the fun when you look inside his Cranium of Curiosities.

*We strongly advise trying not to get trapped in a barrel before or during the performance. Despite the expression "barrel of

laughs," it may impede your enjoyment of the show and potentially anger a cooper (barrel maker). We are fairly certain the masacara mishap music maker Alice Cooper would be fine with it.

"Thrilling to watch... weepingly funny" Daily Mail
"No one does off-the-wall noodling better" -



Evening Standard (4 Stars)

GPAC Main Theatre
Full Price \$54.90



**The Australian INXS
Tribute Show**

Thursday March 27,
2025 | 7:30pm | GPAC Main

Theatre

Featuring a breathtaking original video show as well as a fully authentic 6-piece

lineup delivering an energetic journey through the songs that made INXS a household name for the past four decades.

Fronted by the incredible Dellacoma Rio, whose uncanny portrayal of Michael Hutchence has captivated audiences worldwide. Touring across the globe, The Australian INXS Tribute Show has travelled to Dubai, India, Hawaii, Tahiti, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Vanuatu, Singapore, Japan, China, Bora Bora, New Caledonia, Taipei and South Korea.

Hailing from Melbourne, Australia, this unique INXS theatre experience delivers a breathtaking 'Australian Made' rock show unlike anything you've seen before!

GPAC Main Theatre
Full Price \$69
Concession \$64
Group of 5+ \$64
Student \$64

- Spiders
- Termites
- Ants
- Rodents
- Wasps
- Fleas - Bugs
- Flies - Mozzies
- Termite Inspections
- Pre-Purchase Inspections
- Vermin / Pest Animal Control



**Churchill Fire Brigade
Fire Restrictions are
still in force**



Churchill and District community is reminded that fire restrictions are still in force in Latrobe City, and across West, South and East Gippsland.

Find out what you can and cannot do during the declared Fire Danger Period, and on days of Total Fire Ban, when fires in the open air are legally restricted

in the 'Can I or Can't I' brochure available from CFA District 27 Headquarters (20 Hazelwood Rd Morwell), or online: cfa.vic.gov.au/can

Key Information Services

To stay up to date on what is happening around the state of Victoria, or in your local area, here is a listing of the main information services available.



VicEmergency
(Warnings, incidents and planned burns)
www.emergency.vic.gov.au

Warnings, incidents and planned burns are all displayed on the VicEmergency website - the single location for all emergency information in Victoria. Accessible via mobile phones or your computer.



VicRoads
(road closures) traffic.

transport.vic.gov.au

On this website you will find information about unplanned (emergency) road closures and traffic alerts. It is Victoria's official source of information about roads and traffic during incidents and emergencies that may impact road users.



Victoria Police
www.police.vic.gov.au

Information for motorists travelling in a bush fire environment - access during road closures.

Note: The term 'roadblock' or 'road block' is no longer in use. Instead the correct term is 'road closure'.



Bureau of Meteorology
www.bom.gov.au/vic/forecasts/melbourne.shtml
Victorian weather and warnings



State Emergency Service (SES) www.ses.vic.gov.au
Floods, severe storms, earthquakes, road accident rescue, search and rescue and other emergency support.

Ambulance Victoria
www.ambulance.vic.gov.au



Official portal for emergency and non-emergency ambulance services in Victoria, Australia. It also provides key information on health and safety, community programs, and career opportunities.

St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

**St Vinnies
SOUP VAN**

Soup van started Friday January 17

6.00 pm at White Parade reserve

6.30 pm at Illawonga Court

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

**Churchill & District
Lions Club**

Meet
1st and 3rd Wednesday
of each Month

Contact Secretary Phone:
Peter Tait 0421 167 915

Friends of Morwell National Park

The group met in the Kerry Road picnic area for the February activity.

In good news, over the last month two new tables have been installed into the picnic area. Construction of the new bridge across to Stringybark Track has also been completed.

The day before the activity the 2025 Volunteering Connections Event was held at Old Gippstown, Moe. Our group set up a stall there but sadly it was a very wet and cold day where few community people came out.

Thanks to Caitilin, Peter, Beryl and Cathy who run the stall and to Wendy and John who loaned their gazebo for a bit of protection from the weather.

Very few sales were completed but a few connections with other community groups were made. Caitilin returned with the new brochure published by Latrobe City identifying the main animals in the shire.

A few in the group had contributed photos to this publication.

Recently there was

another online meeting with Parks Victoria. It was good to hear that the signage for each of the three main entrances to the park are at the final draft stage and nearing construction and erection.

Now that Stringybark Track is nearly open, five dangerous trees have been identified to be removed or altered for walker safety.

The Billys Creek section of the park remains closed while contractors remove more dangerous trees. After these are handled, work can begin upon the track realignment and the tender to bridge replacements in this part of the park can be issued.

As night approached people tucked into their dinners. As it started to get dark Matt and Mike setup two mothing sheets in the picnic area.

On dark seven walkers went around Fosters Gully on the spotlight walk. Over the walk ringtail possums, koalas, a scorpion, a sugar glider, green tree frog and a mountain brushtail possum were sighted. Other animals that were heard were

lyrebirds, many wallabies, powerful owls and a boobook owl.

It was a clear night with many stars on display. The park is a very different world at night when the nocturnal animals are on the move.

The walkers returned to the mothing sheets where a few moths and lacewings were attracted by the lights. With it being a cooler evening the collection of moths was small.

Ken was happy to report that although it was one of the worst summer sessions ever, at least five new

species were recorded in the park. One moth and four leafhoppers that were seen are new to the park.

One leafhopper is still being identified, which brings us to 802 moths now on record in the park, and we have now reached 33 (soon to be 34) species of leafhoppers (Cicadellidae).

Everybody enjoyed their evening out observing the nocturnal animals of the park.

March Activity

Sunday March 16, 10am

The group will meet in

the Junction Road car park for two different activities. One group will complete the annual survey of the nesting boxes (delayed from January), while the other will conduct a bird walk to see what species of birds can be located.

If you would like to see

what creatures can be found in nesting boxes or want to look for birds you can come along to share in either endeavor.

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





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Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



As a reminder, last month's (CDN February 2025) Morwell history page carried two opinions about Morwell. Opinions, yes, but nonetheless raising topical issues still haunting us today.

A correspondent writing to the editor asked, "Is Morwell the Cinderella town of the main Gippsland line?" Morwell Advertiser, Thursday June 28, 1945.

Then, about eight months later, according to Mr Herbert Hyland MLA "the town's pet aversion", was the railway station. Morwell Advertiser, Thursday February 14, 1946.

Let us open up some local history that might have given credence to these opinions.

It was mid - November 1944, the Morwell Shire Council was deep in discussions about budgets. Tossed into the maze of words from councillors was reference to the Korumburra Comfort Station (that is, a public toilet). It was revealed this public amenity cost £1,500 - £500 from the state government and £1,000 from local fund raising.

Community fund raising for a public toilet! Morwell's councillors became excited about such a cheap price and also, "numerous enquiries" were being heard about a Comfort Station for Morwell.

There were toilets at the new Town Hall but some distance from shops. Complaints and low level lobbying was trying to explain this to male councillors.

Lobbying passed through 1945, 1946, mid 1947 when debate focussed

on an appropriate site, 1950 when such an amenity was approved for Leongatha, February 1952 when Moe got funding to build one, March 1953 when Council had ideas of building a "public lavatory" in George Street - for "both sexes".

Things became desperate by August 1953 when Morwell's Planning Committee pushed the button - and a site was suggested for approval by the Railways Department.

A response was printed in the Morwell Advertiser on Thursday October 15, 1953:

"Comforts -Station on Railway Land.

Objection by Railways Commissioners

As a matter of policy the department was opposed to the erection of comfort stations on railway property, said Mr. R. G. Wishart, Chairman of the Railway Commissioners, on Tuesday, when considering a suggested site for a comfort station in Morwell.

A deputation from the Morwell Shire Council had submitted to him for approval this week a proposed site for a comfort station on railway land, the eastern end of the northern side of the main Commercial Rd. shopping centre.

Undesirables Attracted. Mr. Wishart said that this policy had been determined by the Railways department after "bitter experience" as such buildings had always tended to attract undesirables on to railway property, particularly at night.

Cr. Ronald explained

that the proposed site was ideal, and was the only suitable one available for Morwell's large population.

A plan prepared by Mr. J. W. F. Connan, shire engineer, gave the location of the comfort station, adjacent to the expected site of the subway. Mr. Wishart said that the matter would be given full consideration when final plans had been completed for the subway and other extensions to the Morwell railway yards".

Morwellians could not wait any longer. An underground subway was to be constructed. A new bus terminal was announced, Morwell Advertiser, Monday August 23, 1954, so it was about time for a public lavatory; to be built at the apex of the then Morwell Soldiers Memorial gardens, and set back from the street alignment. It was announced the McDonald Street bridge was officially open.

Speaking with Morwell Shire councillors early in December 1954, Mr Wishart did comment that the site in Commercial Road appeared as "if it would have valuable possibilities for commercial uses." No doubt for other uses as well!

"New Subway for Morwell -

Wednesday — Work will begin immediately on construction of a subway under the Princes Highway at Morwell, at an estimated cost of £6,164. The new subway will be an extension of the underpass at present being built by the railways to do away with a level crossing in the heart of the town".

The Age Thursday

September 23, 1954.

To some extent, Morwell's development was showing signs of improvement - a public lavatory in the town centre, and for both sexes; a new bus terminal and a subway to do away with a dangerous railway crossing. Overhead bridges were opened at Jane Street and McDonald Street. Houses

were being built on land sub-divided by canny locals. Employment seemed, and was guaranteed, within the State Electricity Commission (SEC).

Morwell was destined to be "the flavour of the month" according to the Victorian State government Premier, Mr Ian McFarlane. He said, "the Commission should concentrate its attention to an area south of Morwell as being the most favourable site for a new open cut and briquette factory."

It is at this point an historical question needs revisiting - who had the stranglehold over Morwell's future - the Victorian Railway Commissioners or the State Electricity Commission?

As an example worth mentioning, on



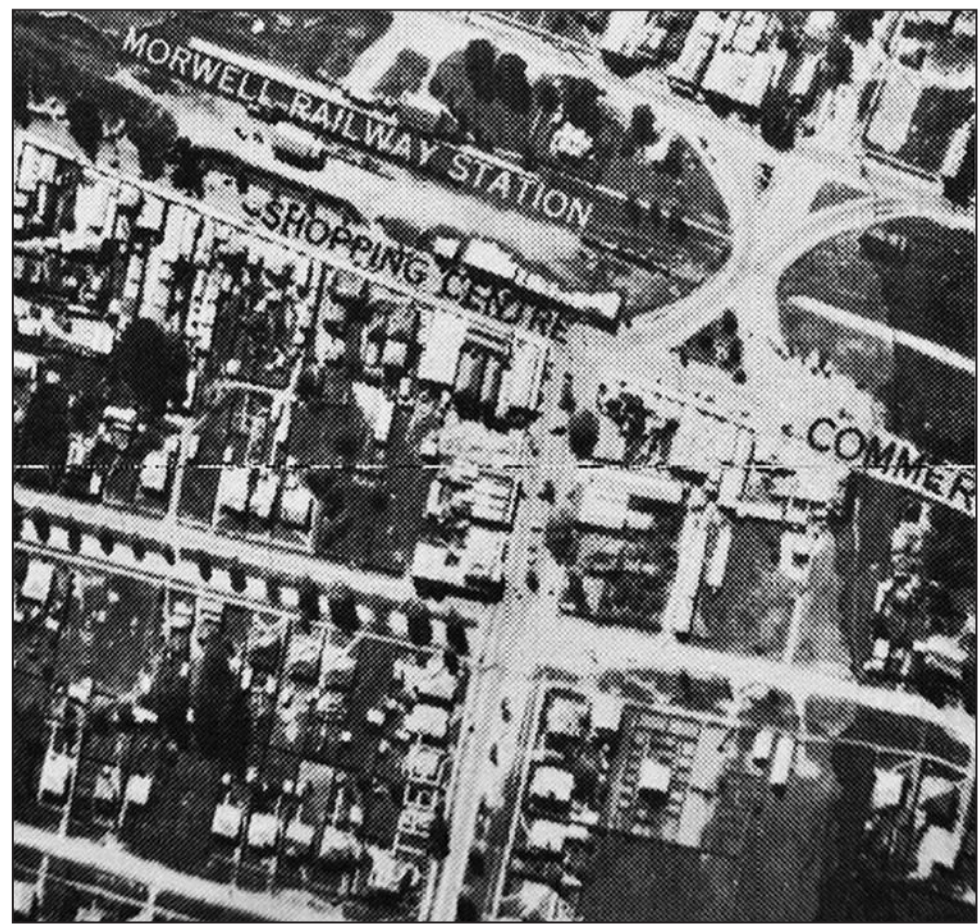
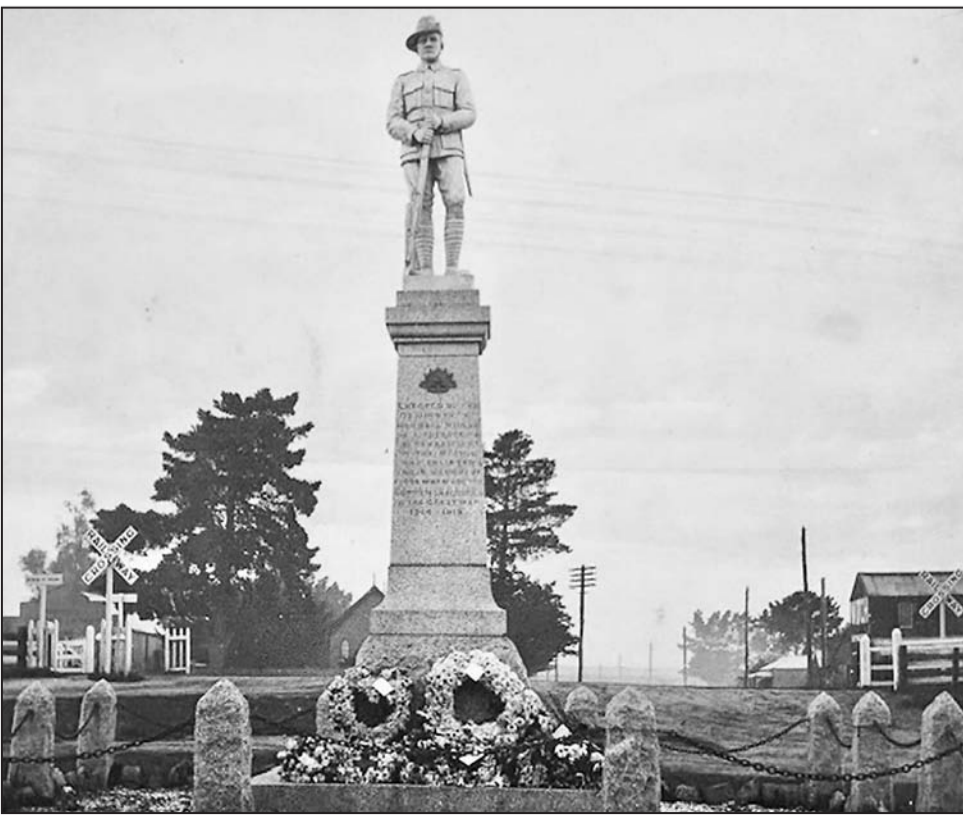
April 6, 1950, the Morwell Advertiser reported "the whole area of the present railway station being depressed, but was later abandoned because of serious restrictions of the area available for the handling of anticipated volume of rail traffic". This was made clear to Morwell's councillors that the present railway yards will cater for rail traffic only up to when "the two first briquetting units are in production at Morwell as full details of the proposed re-arrangement of Morwell station and yard have not been defined at this early stage, on account of pressure of other SEC urgent works, it has yet to be determined what further facilities, if any, can be incorporated in the town's development scheme.

Four years earlier, Morwell Advertiser, Thursday February 14, 1946, reported that "until the final plans for the railway network to meet the S.E.C.'s requirements were finalised, it was useless to press for alterations to the Morwell station and railways yard. So said Mr Herbert Hyland MLA.

In addition to all this, in June 1938, it was made known publicly, "there should be two shopping sides to the main street, Commercial Road.

Space in this edition of CDN is limited to write a voluminous story about the lobbying from various sources over how to improve Morwell's main Commercial Road business district.


More next month.



SPORT

Churchill Baseball Club invites you to Come & Try Day!

BASEBALL DREAMS START HERE!



ARE YOU READY TO SEE
WHERE BASEBALL CAN TAKE
YOU?

At Churchill Baseball Club,
we've been growing
champions for the past 50
years, offering incredible
opportunities for juniors to
learn, play, and excel.

WHY CHOOSE CHURCHILL BASEBALL CLUB?

- ✓ We develop young athletes with expert coaching.
- ✓ We provide pathways to state, national, and international success.
- ✓ We offer a supportive and family-friendly environment.

COME & TRY DAY!

Bring your friends, meet the team, and discover the thrill of baseball!
All ages welcome, no experience needed!

SUNDAY, 23RD MARCH

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

CHURCHILL BASEBALL GROUND

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

OUR JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST 7 YEARS

Churchill Baseball Club's juniors have shone bright across local, state, and international levels!

- ✓ **LVBA Champions**
 - U16 Premiers: 2018-2024
 - U13 Premiers: 2018-2023
- ✓ **Victorian State Winter Championships**
 - 2024 U18 State Winter Champions
 - 2023 & 2024 U16 Division 2 Champions
 - 2024 U12 & U14 Division 2 Runners-Up
- ✓ **Victorian Charter Teams**
 - 7 juniors competed at state-level tournaments.
 - 1 junior won the national championship and represented the Victorian Mariners in the USA.
- ✓ **International Success**
 - A junior represented Victoria at the Karl Ripkin Baseball Tournament (2018 & 2019, South Carolina).

CHURCHILLBRAVESBC@HOTMAIL.COM

Are you ready to step up to the plate and experience the thrill of baseball? The Churchill Baseball Club is hosting a Come & Try Day on Sunday March 23, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Churchill Baseball Ground. (Andrews Park West corner Birch Drive and Hawthorn Crescent)

This free event welcomes players of all ages and skill levels to have a go at baseball in a fun and supportive environment.

Whether you are a seasoned player or picking up a bat for the first time, our expert coaches will be on hand to guide you through skills, drills, and friendly games.

Churchill Baseball Club has a proud history of developing young athletes, with strong junior teams and pathways to higher-level competition. With a family-friendly atmosphere and a commitment to nurturing

talent, it is the perfect place for kids and families to get involved in the sport.


The club is also excited to introduce its 2025 junior coaching team, including Gregg Duncan (U16 and U13 Coach), Jonah Hughes (U13 Assistant Coach), Daniel McKinnon (U10 Coach) along with our Club Coach and B grade team Manager Brad Jones, A Grade Manager Sam Gillett and C grade Managers Dan McKinnon and Jonah Hughes.

These coaches bring a wealth of experience and passion for mentoring the next generation of players.

If you are interested in joining or just want to give baseball a try, come down and meet the team! Bring your friends, enjoy a great day out, and discover the excitement of baseball.

For more information, visit the Churchill Baseball Club Facebook page or email churchillbravesbc@hotmail.com.

A GRADE
COACH
2025







SAM GILLETT

Churchill Baseball Club is excited to welcome Sam Gillett back as our A Grade Manager for 2025! In his third year leading A Grade, Sam will blend young talent with experience to build a strong squad. His dedication to player development sets us up for a great season ahead!

UNDER 16S
COACH
2025






GREGG DUNCAN

Stepping into a new role in 2025, Gregg Duncan will be coaching our U16's team. Having coached many of these players in their younger years, Gregg already has a strong connection with the group. His ability to bring the team together and build strong relationships will ensure the U16's are set up for a fantastic season. We're excited to see what this team achieves under Gregg's guidance!

UNDER 13S
COACH
2025





JONAH HUGHES

Joining us for his first coaching season, Jonah Hughes will be assisting Gregg Duncan with the U13's. Jonah's enthusiasm for the game and commitment to learning from one of our most experienced coaches will help fast-track his development. The U13's will benefit greatly from Jonah's fresh perspective and Gregg's mentorship—a winning combination for our players!

Churchill & Monash Golf Club

Men's Monthly Medal
Saturday January 25, 2025.

Medal Winner: G. Sanders Nett 64 Scratch Winner: M. Peel 81

Putts: L. Anderson 25 A Grade Winner: D. Burridge Nett 71

B Grade Winner: G. Sanders Nett 64 C Grade Winner: P. Chapple Nett 71 D Grade Winner: Ash West Nett 68 D.T.L: 1. J. McCafferty 71, 2. C. Waring 72, 3. A. Sharrock 72, 4. V. Reid 72, 5. R. King 73, 6. D. Taylor 73, 7. D. Cluderay 73, 8. G. Spowart 74, 9. M. Brereton 74, 10. B. Kilday 77.

N.T.P: 3rd (Pro Pin) B. Mathieson, 12th G. Barnes, 14th G. Barnes.

Birdies: 3rd G. Harvey, D. Burridge 14th R. King Target Hole: P. Flanigan

Par Tuesday
January 28, 2025.

Winner: C. Carder -1 D.T.L: 1. L. Brent -2, 2. C. Barnes

N.T.P: 3rd M. Dear, 5th M. Dear, 12th C. Barnes, 14th C. Sterrick

Stableford
Saturday February 1, 2025.

A Grade Winner: R. Vesty 40pts B Grade Winner: P. Flanigan 41pts

C Grade Winner: J. McCafferty 39pts D.T.L: 1. B. Mathieson 38, 2. A. Sharrock 38, 3. R. Timbs 38, 4. A. Wright 38, 5. D. Radnell 37, 6. S. Turner 36, 7. R. Abel 36, 8. S. Ainsworth 35, 9. D. Taylor 35. N.T.P: 3rd A. Sharrock, 5th J. Soppe, 12th C. Waring (Propin), 14th B. Kilday Birdies: 3rd R. Vesty, 12th C. Waring, M. Allen. Target Hole: C. Gilfillan

Monthly Medal
Tuesday February 4, 2025.

Medal Winner: L. Brent 72 Nett Putts: J. Clegg 30

Stroke
Saturday February 8, 2025.

A Grade Winner: S. Allison 69 Nett B Grade Winner: G. Spowart 71 Nett C Grade Winner: W. Sutton 65 Nett Scratch

Winner: R. Madigan 84 D.T.L: 1. G. Corponi 67, 2. J. Jeffrey 68, 3. J. McCafferty 69, 4. P. McGann 71, 5. R. Timbs 71, 6. R. Abel 71, 7. D. Taylor 72 c/b. N.T.P: 3rd B. Kilday, 5th R. Welsh, 12th C. Waring, 14th C. Gilfillan Birdies: 5th R. Welsh Target Hole: A. Jenkins

Stableford Captain/Vice Captain's Day
Tuesday February 11, 2025.

Winner: L. Brent 39 pts D.T.L: 1. C. Carder 33 pts N.T.P: 3rd C. Carder, 5th C. Carder, 12th C. Barnes, 14th L. Brent

Team Winner: Captains team
2 Person Ambrose
Saturday February 15, 2025.

Winners: R. Dent/P. Kearns 63.25 nett Runners Up: D. Cluderay/G. Sanders 65.5 nett D.T.L: 1. M. Hammer/M. Beyer 65.75, 2. P. Smart/R. Madigan 65.75, 3. K. Kerslake/B. Robinson 66.5, 4. R. Noordam/G. Beyer 66.74.

N.T.P: 5th B. Cluderay, 14th C. Gilfillan Target Hole: R. Davidson

Stroke
Tuesday February 11, 2025.

Winner: C. Carder 67 nett D.T.L: J. Clegg 71 nett Scratch Winner: R. Dent 78 scratch N.T.P: 3rd L. Van Rooy, 5th C. Carder, 12th L. Van Rooy, 14th J. Clegg

Men's Monthly Medal (Stroke)
Saturday February 22, 2025.

A Grade Winner: P. Junker 70 Nett B Grade Winner: P. Chapple 67 Nett (Monthly Medal Winner) C Grade Winner: T. Collins 68 Nett

Scratch Winner - J. Cahill 83

D.T.L: 1. R. Welsh 71, 2. J. Cahill 71, 3. C. Waring 71, 4. V. Monument 72, 5. S. Turner 72, 6. B. Kilday 72, 7. P. Flanigan 72, 8. C. Sterrick 73 c/b, 9. P. McGann 73 c/b.

N.T.P: 3rd R. King, 5th R. King, 12th R. King

Winner: S. Turner 38pts D.T.L: C. Barnes 36pts N.T.P: 3rd S. Turner, 5th S. Gosling, 14th S. Turner Birdies: 3rd S. Turner

Stableford
Tuesday February 25, 2025.

Winner: S. Turner 38pts D.T.L: C. Barnes 36pts N.T.P: 3rd S. Turner, 5th S. Gosling, 14th S. Turner Birdies: 3rd S. Turner

Winner: S. Turner 38pts D.T.L: C. Barnes 36pts N.T.P: 3rd S. Turner, 5th S. Gosling, 14th S. Turner Birdies: 3rd S. Turner

Mathison Park

The work in Mathison Park at working bees, has been mostly about watering as the summer advanced with little rain. The Gippsland Interchange crew have been so important in this task to keep our precious trees alive through the heat.

The working bee on the second Saturday of February was watering, but also included removal of some unneeded fence. Some mulching of the garden bed near the old

house was included before we adjourned to the large picnic shelter for a special morning tea to celebrate Faye's birthday, with the lovely morning tea provided by Faye.

It was also the opportunity to have some time to meet our Latrobe City Councillor Leanne Potter. It was good to chat with her and show her some of the tasks which needed to be completed and inform her of the new playground which

is to be put in where the old one is at present.

The bird signs have been installed and look amazing, showing the wide variety of birdlife to be found in the park

Projects to be completed in the future are the GPS emergency markers to help emergency services to find the person in need, or the location of a fire in our large park area. Also the renewing of the fishing platforms



Every Tuesday

10am to 12 Noon

Co-Operating Churches
Corner Williams Ave and McDonald Way Churchill

Admission Free

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

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

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

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

Disability Access



Hazelwood Cemetery

By Leo Billington

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

Back in the early 1970s, it was pointed out by an astute local historian that it would have been more fitting to have called Wallace Street, Tolmie Street.

Mr Robert Porter selected this land in about 1874. He had previously married Margaret McPherson Tolmie at Malmesbury in 1863. Margaret's family also came to Morwell selecting adjacent land on the western side of the ridge. Their property was basically south of today's McLean Street, bordering on its north side land selected by Roger O'Flaherty.

Wallace Street was being constructed during the late 1950's and within a decade, the State Electricity Commission had completely taken over the whole area (plus more) historically occupied by these two neighbouring farms.

The Porter family had to shift further out to their present place in Boldings Road, Hazelwood North. Robert Williamson Tolmie stayed, eventually seeing his land taken either by some residential sub-divisions and/or the SEC.

Robert Williamson Tolmie, his wife Mary Kaye and two sons, were among the first settlers in Morwell. They arrived per bullock wagon, after travelling from Malmesbury, where their eldest son, Joseph William was born. In all, there were six children.

A farm had to be carved out of virgin bush and a significant part in this endeavour was played by the mother and children while the father operated as a teamster carrying merchandise between Morwell and Melbourne. These bullock teams required a fortnight to do the return trip. A hardy upbringing was the lot of the two youngsters, being required to help their parents from an early age.

On Tuesday afternoon, August 10, 1915, a Patriotic Auction Sale was reported as being successful (Morwell and Yinnar Gazette). Land formerly owned by Councillor Duncan Dunbar was sold at a knock-down price, without any commission, to Mr George Billingsley. This land was in an area known as Tolmie's sub-division. Those keen to obtain house blocks at "the best possible price" saw Morwell being "on a crest of prosperity." In fact, Morwell's developing community saw this sale as "Councillor Dunbar's gift to the Australian Wounded Soldiers' Fund."

Robert Williamson Tolmie died on Tuesday morning June 17, 1902. He was born in Inverness, Scotland. Remembered as an industrious and capable farmer, he died from liver, heart and kidney diseases. Son, Robert Henry and wife, Mary are interred in the family plot at Hazelwood Cemetery with Robert Williamson.



Eldest son, Joseph William passed away in 1942, aged 67 years. It is written he left Morwell bound for Western Australia when aged 19. He did volunteer for the Australian Expeditionary Force for service in the Boer War, but his rejection made him determined to visit South Africa anyway.

Upon his return to Morwell, and looking after the family farm, Joseph William soon sought greener grass elsewhere, and operated bakeries in Moe and Yarragon. His main rise to fame was, when working for the Lands Department, with appointments in Warragul, Hopetoun and Bacchus Marsh. Subsequently, he settled here for about 23 years in a prominent house -

which still exists today with a magnificent garden. He is buried, along with his wife, Barbara in the Maddingly Cemetery.

Elizabeth and Thomas Toogood are interred together in the Hazelwood cemetery in an unmarked grave. Their grave was recently identified - see accompanying photograph. No doubt, it is unmarked; and, nobody apparently cares too much.

Elizabeth, at 47 years, was killed by a falling tree on Wednesday December 27, 1905. It happened close to her house, resulting from nearby bush being cleared and then burnt. Evidence presented to a subsequent Magisterial Enquiry concluded accidental death was caused by a falling burnt tree. There were two young sons close by - William and

George - who witnessed the accident.

As reported in the Morwell Advertiser, Friday January 5, 1906, both boys and their father witnessed a gruesome scene as Elizabeth was seriously crushed to immediate death.

Elizabeth and Thomas, with their family of eight children, eeked out a living running a farm at Narracan South. Thomas was born at Box Hill, moving to his land working as a stockrider, fencer, and bullock driving. His farm assets were sold in April 1910 before moving further east to Sale. He died in March 1910.

In 'Harking Back' (Morwell Advertiser, Thursday September 10, 1942), Llew Vary wrote; "He, Thomas, had never learned to write but evidently some good samaritan had taught him to sign his name. He just printed two capital Ts and six small o's. After this he put an upward stroke on the last o and a downward stroke on the third."

During Monday February 14, 1944, 13 people lost their lives in a wild fire, several others were critically burned. Morwell's flax mill was destroyed, thousands of pounds of damage was done to property, and hundreds of sheep, cattle, and horses were burned in disastrous fires that enveloped Morwell and surrounding districts.

Their names are commemorated on the main granite gates at the Hazelwood Cemetery. One name is featured here in our history alongside her brother. Miss Grace Hare, of

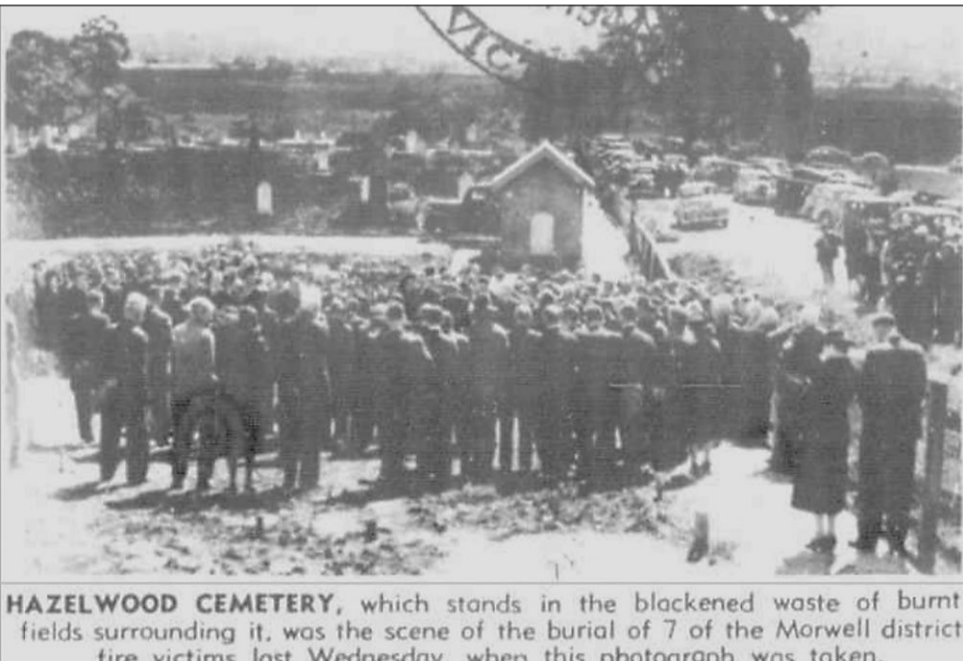
Morwell, was living with her brother at the time, Ernest Hare on his dairy farm, not far from Morwell. Grace lost her life helping to fight the fires. Assistance was provided by many others including Ernest and another brother, Councillor Les Hare, both of whom were badly burned.

One photograph, albeit slightly scratchy accompanies this editorial. They are invaluable reminders of damage fire can inflict, especially when it becomes unleashed. Back in the day, fire-fighting technology was unfortunately rudimentary.

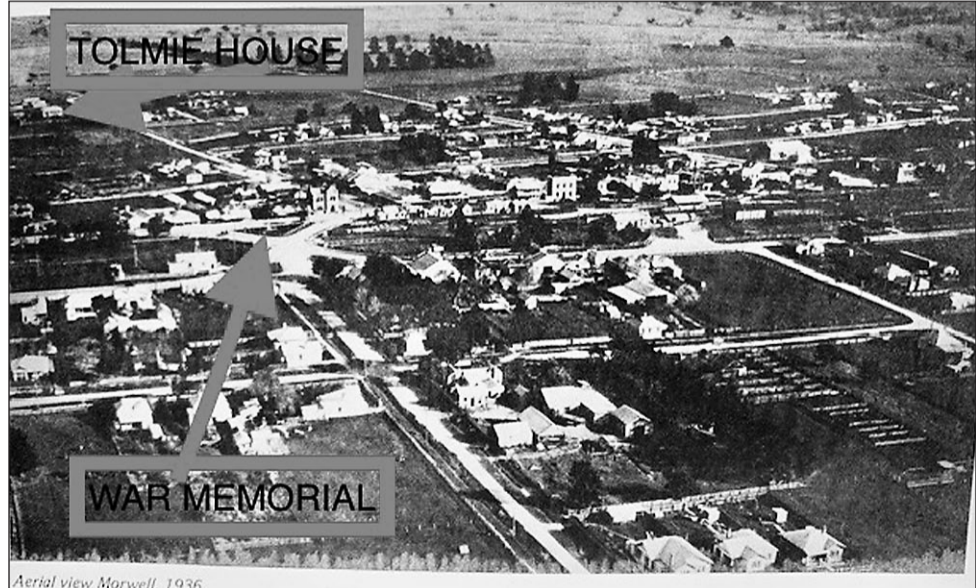
This picture is taken from The Australasian (Melbourne, Vic. 1864 - 1946). It shows a large crowd gathered at the cemetery main gateway where today, the names are commemorated on the main granite gate. The sexton's hut, quite visible, has been shifted to its current position.

Postscript - In case anyone is wondering, Wallace Street is apparently named after Peter Wallace. He was once described as "a pioneer of Australia's energy transition."

A brief biography reminded us "In his early career, Professor Wallace worked as a power systems engineer for the State Electricity Commission (SEC), now known as the State Electricity Commission of Victoria (SECV)." It is difficult to find him mentioned as a staff member throughout the Latrobe Valley SEC/SECV works domain!



HAZELWOOD CEMETERY, which stands in the blackened waste of burnt fields surrounding it, was the scene of the burial of 7 of the Morwell district fire victims last Wednesday, when this photograph was taken.



Aerial view Morwell, 1936

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AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Members meet on the second Wednesday of each month (February through until December) at 1.30 pm. at the Meeting Room of Yinnar and District Memorial Hall, unless otherwise notified. New members and visitors are welcome to attend. For further information contact the Secretary

Phone 0427 273 910

SHOP LOCAL MARKETS



Mothers Day Market

Saturday, May 3, 2025

9.00 am to 1.00 pm at Churchill Shopping Centre

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

SCHOOL news

Churchill North Primary

School Captains and House Captains

Churchill North has chosen their School and House Captains for 2025. All students interested in either of the positions had to apply in writing and present their speech in front of staff and students.

Staff and students then were able to vote for who they thought would be a

great leader for our school, somebody who would be able to connect with all students, follow school values, be brave enough to speak in front of others and be called upon to give some suggestions to enhance our school.

Presenting Lilly, Jaden, Jeremy and Amin who are our School Captains and Vice Captains. The group

of students are our House Captains. Staff and students wish all our leaders in their new roles the very best and cannot wait to see their confidence grow.

My name is Amin Gondal, I am a Vice School Captain at Churchill North Primary school. It feels like a responsibility on your shoulder, which I enjoy. I know I need to set a good

example, especially for the new Preps and other young students in our school. I love helping in the yard and jobs, knowing I am making the school a better place for the juniors and the seniors. I love sharing my ideas with the House Captains and School Captains and the staff. I am looking forward for another year of great learning with all of you.

Hello, our names are Bailey and Nathan, we are both House Captains at Churchill North Primary School for 2025. We are excited to be House Captains because it means that we are a leader of the school and get to set a good example for the younger students in our school.

We are happy that we will get given extra

responsibilities such as running the sports shed at lunch time and being leaders on sports days.

Being a House Captain means that we get to be part of Junior School Council which means we get to share our ideas to staff and other students. We are both excited about this year.



House Captains



School Captains

SCHOOL news

Yinnar South Primary

Settling in and starting the year strong!

The start of the year has been a smooth and exciting transition for the students at Yinnar South Primary School. After a long break, everyone has quickly settled into their routines, and the excitement is real! Students are happy to be back, reconnecting with their friends and meeting their teachers, making it a positive start to the year.

A special highlight so far has been the introduction of

Gecko sport, where students have been learning the exciting game of lacrosse. It has been great to see how quickly everyone has picked up the skills, with many students mentioning how much they enjoy the nature of the game.

Overall, it has been a fun and energetic start to the school year, and we are looking forward to more adventures and learning ahead at Yinnar South Primary School.



SCHOOL news

Lumen Christi Primary

Andrew Chinn Concert at Lumen Christi

On Friday February 14, Lumen Christi Primary School enjoyed a concert with Andrew Chinn. Andrew writes and performs songs for children to be celebrated as a part of school masses and assemblies.

We had the most wonderful time. There were many smiling

faces, lots of singing and dancing to songs that we have enjoyed at Lumen Christi school masses for many years.

We were lucky enough to be able to invite our families along as well as any younger brothers and sisters. It was lovely to be able to bring parents in to enjoy the concert with us on the day.

Andrew began the day with a

session with our school choir who then took a role singing throughout the concert.

We enjoyed participating in songs such as, "An African Blessing", "These Hands" and "Underneath God's Beautiful Rainbow".

Coming together as a community is an essential part of

being a Catholic School. At Lumen Christi, we aim to do this in a way that is fun, engaging and inclusive of everybody in our school community.

We thank Andrew Chinn for coming and

sharing his songs with us. It was a fantastic concert and a moment our children will remember for many years to come.



SCHOOL news

Yinnar Primary

A warm welcome to all, especially to our new students and families joining our school community. It has been wonderful to see our Prep children settling in so quickly, embracing their new learning environment with curiosity and enthusiasm. Their willingness to explore and take on new challenges will serve them well throughout the year.

We are pleased to report a smooth and positive start to the term, with students quickly re-establishing school routines and approaching the year ahead with eagerness. There

is a great sense of energy and engagement across the school, both in classrooms and in the playground. Over the next couple of weeks, our teachers will focus on building strong foundations by reinforcing expectations, fostering positive learning behaviours, and establishing effective classroom routines.

One of the most special aspects of our school is the genuine care and inclusivity our students show towards one another. In these first few weeks, our Prep students have been warmly welcomed and supported by their Grade 6 buddies. The playground

can be a big and sometimes overwhelming place for our youngest learners and having a friendly face to guide them makes all the difference. A big thank you to our Grade 6 students for their kindness and leadership—you are making a real impact!

We have also commenced Auslan lessons at the school. Auslan is the primary language of the Australian Deaf community and plays a significant role in promoting inclusivity and cultural awareness. We believe that introducing Auslan aligns with our school's values of inclusion and lifelong

learning, and we are excited about the positive impact this program will have on our students and school community.

Recently we held our House Fun Night. Our House Fun Night is a great opportunity for our school community to come together and it was great to see our parents, carers and family members participating in some friendly house team fun and rivalry and enjoy meeting up on an informal basis.

A special part of the House Fun Night is the presentation of badges to

our school leaders, including our School Captains, House Leaders, Junior School Council, Grace Teams and our Leaders in the Making. It is a proud moment for these students to be acknowledged by their student community and for the recognition of the roles that they will hold for the school year. Our School Captains in 2025 are Adelaide, Jazz, Annie and Jayden who have made the following message to our school community:

"We want to create a school environment where everyone feels safe,

appreciated and welcome. We will continuously reinforce the school rules and always uphold the GRACE core values. These include Growth Mindset, Respect, Aim high, Curiosity and Enthusiasm.

We will celebrate everyone's differences, and our aim is to make everyone feel included. We are all responsible, resilient, respectful, hardworking and kind to people. We believe that by using these leadership skills and working together we will maximise our strength as a team".



SCHOOL news

Kurnai Junior Campus

As Kurnai College welcomes back our students for the 2025 school year, it has been wonderful to see such positive energy around the school. Our students have returned enthusiastically, ready to take on the challenges and opportunities this year will bring.

We experienced some pretty hot weather in the early weeks, but staff and students managed this in a positive way. Our dedicated staff are committed to supporting every student reach their full potential, and I know it will be a year of learning, growth, and success.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and thank you for your continued support as we navigate the 2025 school year.

Year 7 Welcome BBQ

Early in Term 1, our school hosted the Year 7 Meet and Greet BBQ, and what an event it turned out to be! With a fantastic turnout from both students and families, it was an afternoon filled with good food, great company, and an overall sense of community spirit.

One of the highlights was the music provided by our talented college band. Their performance set the perfect tone, creating an inviting atmosphere everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

The beautiful weather allowed everyone to relax and mingle, enjoying the lovely surroundings while connecting with one another.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event.

Your participation is vital to strengthening the partnership between home and school. We know that when families and schools work together, the benefits for our students are far-reaching, leading to the best possible outcomes.

Year 10

Year 10 is the year

of endless opportunities! In Term 1 we will focus on supporting students to explore and prepare themselves for work experience.

Highlights of the term so far have been:

Australian Defence Forces Career Presentation:

Officers from the ADF visited to discuss career opportunities within the Defence Force. Students gained valuable insight into the different areas of the Defence Force and career pathways. Students also had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions with the officers. We are very grateful for the ADF in giving up their time, coming in and providing this opportunity to our students, and we thank them for their support

Year 10 Relationship Building Day

(Written collaboratively by 10C students)

On Friday February 21, the Year 10 Kurnai Churchill students travelled to Inverloch for a relationship building

day. It was a day designed to allow students to build connection, communication and collaboration with peers and staff.

As part of the day, students spent the day exploring Inverloch. Students had the option of relaxing on the beach, going into town to do some shopping, playing sporting activities at the Inverloch Recreation Reserve or enjoying the park. Students were provided with lunch, which was very amazing and delightful, oily chips covered in chicken salt with nice cold soft drinks. The students of 10B all agreed it was "a unique day and helped create memories they will keep until the end of time".



SCHOOL news

Churchill Primary

Congratulations to our 2025 Churchill Primary School Captains!
Our Captains have quickly embraced their roles, taking charge of our weekly

assemblies and working on projecting their voices and speaking clearly so everyone can hear them.
They are already demonstrating strong

leadership throughout the school. In April, they will be attending a leadership day to further enhance their leadership and organisational abilities.

Our Preps have been full of excitement as they begin their school journey and are adjusting well to their learning and the school structure.

They have started their countdown to 100 days of school and are eager to kick off a full week of school starting on March 11.

They are also looking forward to the upcoming school sports and have been practising their skills in preparation for the events.



Left: Preps of 2025 Right: School Captains for 2025 Back Row Willow and Will. Front Row Axel, Rory, LoLogahn)

SCHOOL news

Hazelwood North Primary

A big hello to all! We have had an amazing start to the year at HNPS! There are lots of events that have happened and some exciting ones coming up, so enjoy the read and stay tuned!

their learning journey here at HNPS. They have settled in amazingly and are having a lot of fun learning about sounds, colours and numbers. They have been enjoying buddy sessions with the Grade 5/6 students, and it is wonderful to see the support and guidance from the senior

Next, we held our annual Welcome BBQ night. The teachers ran information sessions about the F-2 and 3-6 students and what wonderful learning adventures they had in store for the students. It was a lovely evening, and the families enjoyed catching up with teachers and other

families.
We had 19 wonderful students from Years 3-6 volunteer to participate in the District Swimming. Each of these amazing students tried their best and showed our school values proudly. We have four students who qualified for Division! Good luck to those swimmers

who are going on to proudly represent our school, we are very proud of you.
Lastly, we had the team from Mindfull Aus come visit and do some more learning through the F-6. We learned how to identify, control and express our emotions. The Mindfull Aus team were excitedly

engaging for the students and there was lots of laughter. They taught them some new strategies to use when they are feeling big emotions that will definitely be useful throughout their lives.
I hope you enjoyed your read, and stay tuned for more HNPS adventures.



All our foundation students



Foundation Students making wonderful noise



Welcome BBQ



Swimming



Foundation students sorting counters

Breathing life back into the Yinnar South Historic Church



By Reverend Bec Hayman

It is no secret that the Church in Australia has been in decline over the past few decades. This is especially true of the more traditional churches such as the Anglican Church, formerly known as the Church of England. Congregations are ageing and dwindling. Churches go from having services every week, to every second week, to once a month, to special occasions

only, to being sold. For many years now our beautiful, historic church in Yinnar South has hovered around the 'special occasions only' mark. The problem is - we love our churches. Our grandmothers were married there; generations of children were christened there. It was there that we paid our last respects to those we have loved.

With all these memories associated with it, the Yinnar

South Historic Church is an important part of the local community. It was built in 1895 by James Mortan on land donated by Joseph Walker, and it has been used consistently for most of that time. These days the church is the responsibility of the Parish of Churchill, Boolarra and Yinnar and the Parish is keen to see the church open and used by the community again.

These days there are many

fresh expressions of what a church service may look like and many different ways of engaging with church that help people draw closer to God. If you are currently not

attending a church but are interested in matters of faith, the Parish invites you to join them at the Yinnar South Historic Church on March 30 at 10am, 320 Middle Creek

Road, Yinnar South.

Check out the 'Yinnar South Historic Church' Facebook Page for more details.

Basketball Australia

Basketball Australia will receive almost \$1 million in funding from the Australian Government which will allow 'She Hoops' to scale to a new level.

A \$998,000 grant was awarded to Basketball Australia from the Government's \$200 million Play Our Way Program, which funds initiatives to make it easier for women and girls to access, participate and remain involved in sport and physical activity. The investment will be channelled into 'She Hoops' with a three-year cycle of programs in 33 locations.

Lauren Jackson AO OLY is driving the project as the Head of Women at Basketball Australia and founder of 'She Hoops'. Jackson was joined by Anika Wells MP recently in Melbourne to make the announcement.

"We appreciate the investment from the Australian Government which will allow us to elevate the work of 'She Hoops'," said Jackson.

'She Hoops' was founded with a purpose of addressing the disadvantages in opportunity and resources available in basketball for girls and women in this country. We are invested in delivering programs that encourage everyone to meet their potential, both as participants of the game and as leaders in their communities." The programs will be designed to engage local associations and engage a range of basketball touchpoints with an Officials, Coaches and Leaders Program.

There is also a focus on regional and remote areas including Tennant Creek and Alice Springs in the Northern Territory, Kalgoorlie and

Bunbury in Western Australia, Whyalla in South Australia, and Grafton, Coffs Harbour, Yass and Cooma in New South Wales.

"Sport has great benefits for our health and mental health as individuals, and also brings people and communities together," said Honourable Anika Wells MP, Australian Minister for Sport.

"The 'She Hoops' Officials Coaches and Leaders Program will give hundreds of women and girls a fabulous opportunity to get into basketball, improve their skills or take the next step by becoming a coach or official."

"It is just one of the great initiatives funded by our Play Our Way program making it safer and easier for women and girls from all backgrounds to get involved and get active through sport."

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ANDREWS PARK, CHURCHILL
5-16 YEAR OLDS
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