

CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

"Connecting Your Community"

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Membership Campaign



Winter Program



Working Smoke Detectors



Morwell National Park - Friends

Churchill & Monash Golf Club Match Play Knockout

Beyer and Caldwell clinch Match Play glory

Over May and June, Churchill and Monash Golf Club hosted its annual Men's and Women's Match Play Knockout tournaments. Unlike traditional

stroke play, this thrilling tennis-style knockout format sees players duel head-to-head on a mutually agreed day. Scoring is calculated hole-by-hole, with higher-handicap players receiving extra strokes based on the

handicap difference. Tied holes are "halved," and matches often conclude early if a player's lead exceeds the number of remaining holes.

In the Men's division, Greg Beyer claimed the title after defeating Ash

West in a hard-fought final. In the Women's division, Sandra Caldwell defeated Christine Stevens to lift the trophy. Remarkably, this is Caldwell's third title in the six years since the event was introduced.

Congratulations to all participants, and a special thank you to our dedicated event sponsors: Web Lease Used Cars, Weld Spot Morwell, Normy's Tree Felling, and Drummond Golf Traralgon.



Steve Sanders (Event Organiser), Sandra Caldwell (Women's Champion) and Dave Byers (Club President)



Ash West (Men's Runner Up), Greg Beyer (Men's Champion) and Dave Byers (Club President)



Shop Local
MARKET
2026

Father's Day Market SATURDAY, AUGUST 29

Christmas Market SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5



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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 2026

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We acknowledge the support of



Latrobe Regional Gallery Winter Prog.

Latrobe Regional Gallery launches bold and engaging winter program

This winter season, Latrobe Regional Gallery (LRG) presents a suite of bold, playful and thought-provoking exhibitions designed to captivate visitors of all ages.

Galleries 1 and 2 feature 'Anatomy Lessons', a major touring exhibition by artist Michele Beevors. Showcasing life-size, hand-knitted animal skeletons created over 17 years, the exhibition explores climate change, animal rights and the human responsibility to care for the natural world. Blending beauty with unease, it invites eco-conscious audiences and families alike to reflect on environmental loss and our shared future.

Gallery 3 presents 'Gathered Threads: Lyrical Practices', featuring nine Victorian textile artists whose work emphasises sustainable practices. Using overlooked materials such as discarded fabrics, mass-produced cloth and undervalued fibres, the exhibition highlights

creativity rooted in reuse and renewal, appealing to crafters, textile enthusiasts and those interested in mindful making.

'Strange Company: Unusual, Unseen and Overlooked Works from the Collection', exhibiting in Galleries 4 and 5, is an eclectic selection of works drawn from the LRG Collection. Ranging from playful and experimental, to bold and unsettling, the exhibition highlights rarely seen works that challenge expectations and spark curiosity.

Gallery 6 comes alive with 'ARCA ARCADE: Round One', where playable arcade machines are wrapped in designs inspired by

te ao M?ori and the distinctive styles of Aotearoa New Zealand's eminent artists. This immersive exhibition offers a nostalgic yet contemporary experience, blending gaming culture with artistic expression.

The Lane - Kids Space transforms into 'Strange World', a quirky, playful



and curious space inspired by 'Strange Company and Anatomy Lessons'.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson encouraged the community to experience the gallery's dynamic winter offering.

This winter season, Latrobe Regional Gallery is proud to present a very different and engaging program that offers something for everyone - from thought-provoking, contemporary exhibitions, to playful family-friendly experiences," the Mayor said.

"It is wonderful to see such an eclectic mix of works on display, showcasing artistic talent while inviting our community to sit back and remember their lost youth, use their curiosity and marvel at what is being created from everyday materials."

The winter exhibitions were officially launched by the Mayor at the season opening on Saturday June 20, 2026.

LRG is free and open seven days a week from 10am to 4pm.

Rainfall



Churchill Rainfall

Rainfall for the month of June for Churchill was pretty good with a total of 54.75mm recorded.

Our highest 24hr rainfall was 17mm.

June last year was rather cold with several mornings dipping into the minus figures. This June we had above average temperatures for both minimum and maximum temperatures. Last year we had several frosts in June but this year I only recorded one frosty morning but the temperature did not drop into the minus.

Churchill's rainfall year to date total is now 253.5mm.

Rain at Hazelwood South

If you thought it to be wet and cold, it is, because it is winter. It should have been wetter and much colder. The rain was 16% below average with 72mm in June, and decades ago we would have had some cracker morning frosts - not anymore. It did not get close. Picking ripe tomatoes from the garden has finally ended. The cumulative annual rain for 2026 is right on average, but the ground water level is low for the time of the year, with no running and standing

water.

Hazelwood South had 27% more rain than the Latrobe Valley weather station.

The above normal temperature is making weed growth months early, and is to be controlled early. After the 2009 bushfire, the undergrowth grew fast and thick, it continues to thin.



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CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

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4.	58 mm x 260 mm	6 x 5.8 cm	93.00	150.00	84.00	134.00
5.	138 mm x 128 mm	3 x 13.8 cm	109.00	174.00	98.00	156.00
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Churchill Fire Brigade



Churchill Fire Brigade part of new AV and CFA Lifesaving Program

Churchill Fire Brigade is one of 50 CFA brigades that are trained and ready to respond to select medical Triple Zero calls as part of a new program that officially commenced in 2023.

The new Fire Medical Response (FMR) program is a joint initiative of CFA and Ambulance Victoria that will see CFA brigades and Ambulance Victoria dispatched simultaneously to cardiac arrests.

More than 25 brigades are now part of the program, with a total of 50 brigades around Victoria to undertake the FMR role in their communities.

Churchill Fire Brigade Captain Matt Fisher said the decision to join the program was an easy one to make given the benefits it will provide the Churchill community.

“When a life threatening

cardiac emergency occurs, early intervention is key” said Matt. “What this program means is that community members who call for an ambulance may receive both a fire truck and an ambulance. There is no specific order in which the services arrive to the incident.”

Churchill Fire Brigade has been training with Ambulance Victoria for months, in preparation for the program which will complement the Ambulance Victoria service in the local area.

CFA Deputy Chief Officer Garry Cook said the program was a natural fit for CFA because of the 52,000 volunteers across the state.

“CFA has more than 1,100 volunteer fire stations with more than 52,000 members,” Garry said.

“This puts CFA in a unique position to complement the Ambulance Victoria response in 50

locations across Victoria to help deliver early intervention to cardiac arrests.”

Ambulance Victoria Acting Executive Director of Regional Operations, Michael Georgiou, said Victoria has the best cardiac survival rate in Australia and is second only to Denmark worldwide, thanks to high rates of early intervention.

“Victoria remains the safest state in Australia to go into cardiac arrest with Ambulance Victoria initiatives, such as the FMR program, saving lives,” Michael said.

By upskilling CFA brigades to provide life-saving intervention, particularly in areas where a fire truck may reach a patient sooner than an ambulance, we can get people the care they need faster.

“FMR makes a real difference – when patients experiencing cardiac arrest are shocked by an Automated

External Defibrillator before paramedics arrive, an incredible 63 per cent survive. This is compared to just seven per cent when there was no bystander CPR or AED use.”

Only working smoke alarms save lives

Are you sick of hearing the sound of a nagging smoke alarm? Change your old smoke alarms to a new unit with a long-life battery that has a 10 year lifespan.

New smoke alarms that have a 10 year lifespan ensure families can feel the highest level of security. Working smoke alarms are your best defence against preventable residential fires, especially during the night, when people lose their sense of smell. These new alarms provide the security of knowing you and your family are protected, while also ensuring you are not interrupted every year with a nagging smoke alarm.

In the past decade, Victorian firefighters have responded to more than 30,000 residential fires across the state, with more than half of all fatal fires starting in people’s bedrooms and living areas. Despite this, a concerning number of Victorians still do not have smoke alarms in their bedrooms and living areas. Did you know that most fatal fires happen in the sleeping hours between 8pm and 8am?

When you are asleep you lose your sense of smell. A smoke alarm is your electronic nose. It will alert you if there is smoke from a fire. A small fire can grow to involve an entire room in just two to three minutes. A smoke alarm provides early warning and time to escape.

Smoke alarms are compulsory in every home

Since August 1, 1997 Victorian law states that smoke alarms (complying with Australian Standard AS3786) must be installed in all homes, units, flats and townhouses. It is the responsibility of all owners and landlords to install working smoke alarms.

Homes constructed before August 1, 1997 need only standalone, battery powered smoke alarms. Homes constructed after

August 1, 1997 must have smoke alarms connected to 240 volt mains power. These smoke alarms must also have a backup battery installed in the smoke alarm in case there is a loss of power.

Additionally, in homes constructed or largely renovated after May 1, 2014, where there is a need for more than one smoke alarm, all smoke alarms must be interconnected so that if one smoke alarm activates, they all will.

Smoke alarms for people who are deaf or hard of hearing

Specialised smoke alarms are available for people who may have difficulty hearing standard smoke alarms and evacuation systems.

The main body of the unit looks like a normal smoke alarm on your ceiling. The other parts are a strobe light (sight) and vibrating pad (tactile) for your bed. In the event of a fire, all alarms will sound, the lights will flash, and the vibrating pad will activate.

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

Due to the cost of this type of alarm a Smoke Alarm Subsidy is available. Find out if you are eligible for the Smoke Alarm Subsidy via Expression Australia.

<https://www.expression.com.au/services/support-for-seniors-over-65/smoke-alarm-subsidy>



Morwell Rose Garden

Transplanting roses

Roses can be transplanted during their winter dormancy to reduce stress. Prune the plant by one-half to two thirds and trim back roots. Dig a wide circle to keep the root ball intact, move it quickly, and plant at the same depth, watering thoroughly with a seaweed tonic.

Steps for transplanting:

Late winter or early spring is ideal for transplanting, as the plant is dormant and not trying to support flowers, minimising shock.

Prepare the new site:

Dig the new hole first, making it larger than the root ball, and add compost or manure to the hole. Prune before moving. Cut back the rose by about one half to two thirds. Remove all foliage.

Digging up:

Use a sharp spade to cut a circle around the plant, roughly 45 cm in diameter for mature plants, and lift with as much soil attached to the roots as possible. Try to remove all roots to prevent suckers appearing.

Replanting:

Place the new plant in hole, ensuring the graft union (swollen, lumpy part on the stem) is at or slightly below ground level, similar to its original depth.

Watering and care:

Water thoroughly upon planting to remove air pockets, keep it moist in the weeks following. Avoid heavy fertilisers; instead, use a seaweed-based tonic to encourage root growth.

Rose facts:

Roses are one of the oldest flowers. Archaeologists have discovered rose fossils that date back as far as 35million years.

Roses can live for a very long time

The oldest living rose is 1,000 years old. It grows on the wall of the Cathedral of Hildesheim in Germany and its presence is documented since A.D.815.

You can eat roses:

While it is true that most people add roses to the garden for their looks alone, roses have a long

history of being used for food and medicine. Roses are classified as “herbs” and as such are recognised as useful plants.

Their fragrance is used to make perfumes:

We all know the saying ‘stop and smell the roses’. Roses were not chosen for this phrase by chance, their lovely aroma is a popular floral scent and is even used in many perfumes.

Wild roses usually only have five petals:

Wild rose species often produce flowers with five petals. Garden roses often show dozens of petals due to selective breeding.

International Rose Garden Festival Morwell

Friday November 6, 6.30 – 9.30pm

Saturday November 7, 11.00am – 9.30pm

Another year has passed and plans for this year’s Festival are well under way. Make sure you mark this on your calendar. Visitors can book the steam train from Melbourne. This has proven very popular with over two

hundred each year enjoying the experience. Once again the popular celebrities will join us, Costa, Scrapboy and Dirt Girl. The light installation will be sponsored by AGL. There will be live music, market stalls, cut rose competition, butterfly enclosure and Kid’s zone, Fairy Julie Rainbow Unicorn Show.

Workshops/Talks:

Resin pouring platters,

Bush Tucker Bites cooking demonstration, Paint and Snip – Tiffany’s Florist, Sound Bowl Healing. There will also be a hop-on-hop-off bus for visitors to see sites around Morwell.



Please contact me with any State Government matters.

Harriet Shing MP
State Member for Eastern Victoria

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CHURCH *news*

Co-Operating Church Snippets

Bec's sermon contained these words of hope:

I was talking with a certain someone about Easter and it had me thinking. Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar and (obviously I'm biased)- it is the most important event in world history because it has changed the course of human history. Tom Wright (famous NT scholar) calls Good Friday the day the revolution began. He laments that in the west we have reduced the cross to the assurance that my sins are forgiven therefore I get to go to heaven when I die. That is great but that is not all.

I grieve for the youth of today. I think it is so difficult. They have so little hope; so little sense of purpose. They watch the world going mad before them with wars and environmental destruction and they just do not see the point in trying anymore. Many of them are so depressed and anxious they can barely leave their rooms. If we reduce the gospel to 'my sins are forgiven so I get to go to heaven when I die', then what are we offering our youth? Hope for the next life sure. But little hope for this life. And, when you are young, this life is an awfully long time.

The cross is so much more and I want my messaging to be clear so that people can know that the cross is so much more. There is hope, there is purpose for this life as well as the next. Let me pull apart this passage.

In Acts 7:55-60 they are stoning Stephen. In such a situation, it looks like the powers of evil are winning. They are not. Even as he dies, Stephen cries out: 'Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!'

God's right hand is the place of authority. Jesus is ruling earth from heaven. This is the fulfilment of the long-awaited prophecy out of Daniel. This is the deeper, stronger more powerful message of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus: He reigns. Even as we are being stoned, even as we walk the path of suffering that our Lord trod, he reigns. No matter how much it feels like he does not, in fact he does. Look up. And see the heavens open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. He reigns over our world today: that is the message of the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus.



All Age Worship service

Reflection on Matthew 9:35-10:8

Matthew shows us the heart of Jesus before he ever sends anyone out. He walks through towns and villages teaching, healing, and proclaiming good news, and when he sees the crowds—tired, burdened, and directionless—his response is compassion. He sees people as they truly are, sheep without a shepherd. And from that compassion comes a call. The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Mission begins not

with strategy, but with seeing as Jesus sees and praying as Jesus asks.

Then Jesus sends the disciples to continue his own work. They are given authority to heal, to free, to restore, and to proclaim that the kingdom of heaven has come near. They go not as perfect people but as ordinary followers shaped by grace—people like Peter, who would deny Jesus. Their identity as disciples is found not in their perfection but in their willingness to be sent.

Jesus is honest that this calling carries risk. Following him may bring rejection, conflict, even division within families. Yet this hardship echoes the perseverance and hope Paul describes in Romans. Discipleship is not easy, but God is with us. The Spirit of the Father will speak through us, guide us, and sustain us.

The signs of the kingdom—healing, liberation, peace—are not relics of the past. They are the ongoing work of God freeing people from whatever binds or diminishes life. Any act that brings peace, justice, or love into places of fear participates in this liberating work.

And Jesus sends his disciples out in vulnerability, dependent on the hospitality of others. Mission is not only about what we bring; it is also about receiving, listening, and discovering God's presence in the people we meet. We find that God often arrives through the doorway of shared hospitality.

This passage calls us to a way of life shaped by compassion, courage, humility, and trust. We are sent as peacemakers and healers, carrying the nearness of God's kingdom into a world longing for hope—and trusting that the One who sends us also goes with us.

Following on this reflection the children went out to do activities based on how they could be a help to others.

Coffee Connections.

The topic for show and tell was your favourite flower or plant. What a difficult topic for decision making! Many could not decide out of all the beautiful flowers we are so privileged to have. Roses, violets, daphne, lavender and many others received a mention. Marion reminded us of the many ways flowers and plant names are used. For example, people's names, Poppies and Rosemary for Remembrance and wattle for Australia Day, State emblems, for celebrations like weddings etc.

There was a lot of sharing and interaction as people shared and memories

were stirred. It was a lovely morning of fellowship and food.

Fellowship Dinner.

Cathie, her family, friends and volunteers produced a lovely three course meal for our delight and thankfulness at being served and looked after.

Cathie's Service

Cathie began her service by saying "In the cold and darkness of winter, God remains present, sustaining, renewing and preparing us for new growth." God is with us in every season.

In winter's stillness, teach us to rest. In winter's darkness, help us trust your light. In winter's cold, surround us with your warmth.

When life feels uncertain, remind us that your love never fails. Renew us through your Spirit, encourage us through one another and draw us closer to Jesus. Remember that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

When life is easy, help us to be thankful.

When life is difficult, help us to trust You.

Remind us that you are always working in our lives, even when we cannot see it.

Help us to stay connected to Jesus.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ: Nothing.

Not our fears. Not our doubts. Not our losses. Not our mistakes. Not even the dark winter season. God's love remains. What an encouragement!



Church Times

Co-Operating Churches of Churchill Sunday Services: 10.00am Williams Avenue, Churchill. Tel: 5166 1819	Churchill/Morwell Catholic Parishes Tel: 5134 2849 Fr Paul Zaher Saturday 5.00pm St Vincent's, Morwell. Sunday 9.00am Lumen Christi, Churchill. 10.30am Sacred Heart, Morwell. Every 4th Sunday alternates Yinnar/Boolarra. <i>See Church bulletin or call 5134 2849</i>
King of Glory Ministries Yinnar/Boolarra Meeting at the RSL Hall, Yinnar 3.00 pm each Sunday.	Boolarra/Yinnar Co-Operating Parish Boolarra/Yinnar 1st and 3rd Sunday: 10am Christ Church Tarwin St., Boolarra
Prayer and Bible Study: 10.00 am Mondays at Yinnar Bakery and Coffee Shop. 10.00 am Wednesdays at Boolarra Co-op Church Hall. For more info: Pastor Lynn Fowler 0493 193 141	Churchill Christian Fellowship 3.00pm Sundays at Haz S. Hall 762 Tramway Road Churchill (next to the soccer ground) Everyone Welcome 0409 173 747



Hazelwood Cemetery

By Leo Billington

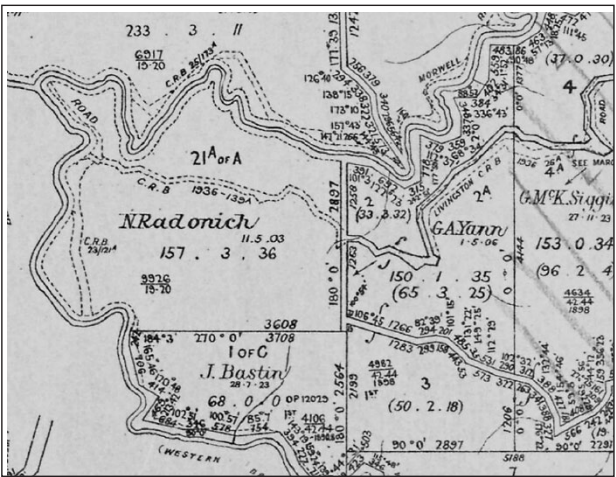
How people are remembered and, hopefully not erased by time (series continued)

To date, and since 2019, almost 70 articles have been written about our local history encapsulated in the Hazelwood Cemetery.

What follows are some stories behind what actually appears on headstones and brass plaques. In fact, reality is that there is not enough space for detailed stories.

Which draws our attention to two deaths reported on Friday November 10, 1899 (Morwell Advertiser). These two deaths stunned our community for different reasons.

On Monday evening, October 30, 1899, Mrs Virginie/Verginie De Pazanan passed away at her home in Morwell. Verginie was most highly respected throughout Morwell's fledgling community and her sudden death-the result of influenza came as a huge surprise to her friends and family (Morwell Advertiser, Friday November 3, 1899).



Mrs De Pazanan's daughter, Miss Marie De Pazanan was appointed to Morwell's first catholic school, then located as part of the then Sacred Heart Church in George Street, Morwell. Initially, there were six lay teachers, including Mademoiselle De Pazanan.

Verginie was Maria's mother, who, in 1894, had moved from Ballarat with her retired husband, Auguste, to start their new life in Morwell. It is all quite sad that Verginie is interred in an unmarked grave in the Hazelwood Cemetery. In December 1900, Maria married Mr Robert Boylen in a glamorous wedding at St Michael's Church in Traralgon.

The other death was Robert Victor John Radonich, second son of Natale and Emily of Budgeree. At four years of age, Robert passed peacefully away at the Morwell Coffee Palace. He was suffering with dysentery and in order that he might

receive proper medical attendance, his parents bought him to the local coffee palace in Morwell. By the time Doctor Moir arrived, the weak boy had died (Morwell Advertiser, Friday November 10, 1899).

Both interments were held on almost the same day at the Hazelwood Cemetery.

However, there was more heartache for the Radonich family, as at one year old, Christopher Nicholas died from natural causes in July 1904. Records show that by August 1907, Natale and Emily had endured enough tragedy at their Budgeree farm which was located in tough hill country through which Radonich's Road was carved; and later renamed Livingston Road.

Then a third son, five year old William Percy died at Dandenong in July 1909. He is also interred at Hazelwood Cemetery.

These three boys are in unmarked graves; an extremely sad and confronting period in the lives of Emily and Natale. They sold their farm to neighbour, George Yann

announcing the sale was formalised by Friday August 30, 1907.

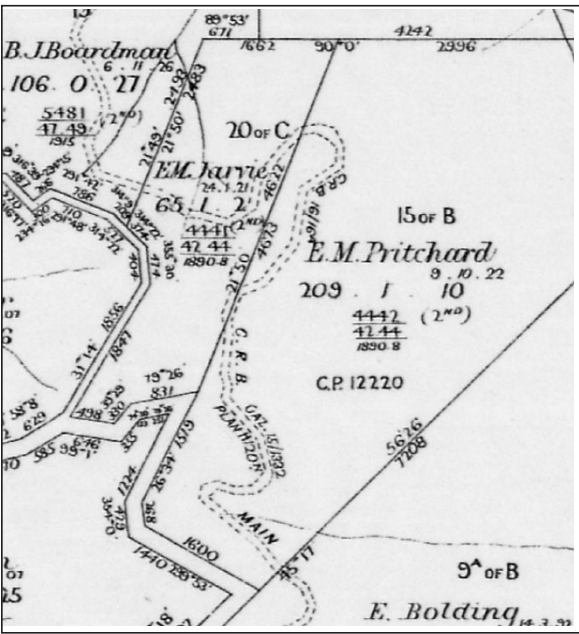
Emily and Natale moved away to Melbourne's eastern suburbs. George Yann eventually moved to Wynyard, Tasmania.

During recent months, there has been heightened interest, and some mild debate, about memorialising soldiers who enlisted in various wars, and who are remembered in the Hazelwood Cemetery. Memorialisation is an ongoing project using thorough research which at time flies in the face of

others. I make the point that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is not used in these editorials.

One such example is a grave for Peter Jarvie, from Jeeralang who was one of many local volunteers for enlistment in the Boer War. On Wednesday evening, June 23, 1915, at age 43 years, Peter committed suicide.

A magisterial Inquiry held a month later concluded,



that in accordance with doctor's evidence, Peter Jarvie died from a wound self-inflicted by rifle, and that there was unsoundness of mind at the time.

The Morwell Advertiser, (Friday June 25, 1915) printed Peter's obituary, which in part said:

'He was a hard-working, industrious man of steady habits, and naturally prospered. He, however, resolved to leave the hills and settle on the flat country'.

Peter's mind was troubled with memories from time overseas and problems in negotiating purchase of another property. Peter left a wife, Ellen Maud, and five young children. Born in 1884 at Yea, Maud married Peter James Jarvie in 1905. Later, Maud married Arthur Cecil Vere Pritchard in 1918; he died in 1936 aged 48. Maud died in Dandenong, in 1950 aged 66.

With generous support from the Morwell RSL sub-branch, and via Bruce Jeffery and Graham Burgess (two extremely wonderful people), appropriate memorialisation is being prepared.

Another family with

a close connection to Hazelwood, Morwell and the Boer War is that of John MacMillan and his children.

There is plenty to write about nonetheless, a brief outline is vital, as well as being interesting, before the facts are lost. I know John MacMillan has featured in countless words across various publications over the years. His stature and presence always guaranteed

his place in our history.

John is generally described as a Highland Scotsman, standing over six feet and built in proportion, who took over the Hazelwood Run in 1859. He and his wife, Isabella, had six daughters and three sons (Donald, John Lachlan and Alexander Campbell) were all born on Hazelwood. The latter served in the Boer War of 1898 -1902, and John, who stood over 6½ feet (1.9 metres), and like his father built in proportion, served in the Great War of 1914 - 1918.

The large MacMillan headstone gives a glimpse of a family who became well-known locally and into Eastern Gippsland.

However, also mentioned on the headstone are three extra names - Dr. Horne and Flora, together with son, John MacMillan (1926).



Whether the bottom name, John MacMillan (died July 1926 aged 88 years) is an error requires greater research. (I am sure some readers will provide details.)

John MacMillan Snr died in 1899 and Isabella in 1926, which took place at East Malvern. The deceased lady was 89 years of age. Another son, Donald died in January 1933.

Space does not allow a large number of words explaining the prominence of Doctor Horne, John Lachlan and Alexander Campbell. Suffice to say, Doctor Herbert Roger was well-known and the brothers also, all of whom enlisted for service overseas. Wait for the next issue of CDN.

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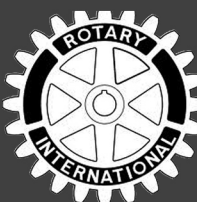
Morwell & District Red Cross Branch

Members meet on the second Wednesday of each month (February through until December) at 1.30pm. 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

Rotary



Hazelwood Rotary Club

DINNER MEETINGS:
1st, 3rd and 5th Mondays
6.30pm - 8.00pm
VENUE TO BE DECIDED
Contact Secretary Paula
NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

humanity in motion

Contact:
Richard Henshaw
0466 233 991

Friends of Morwell National Park on display

The group met with seven other community members in the picnic area and were welcomed by Caitlin. High above in the tree tops a koala was spotted in a little pocket of sunlight. Caitlin thanked everyone who helped make our 40th anniversary celebration such a success. Several of our guests commented on

of Weir and But But Tracks, close to the first bridge across Billys Creek). We will put forward a proposal for the planting of 40 trees to Parks Victoria. If approved, we will complete the planting in a future activity from seedlings that Peter currently has. A mix of local plants would be planted.

The day's activity was

while others carefully searched beside the track to discover the little gems to be found. A wide variety of lichens and fungi were unearthed. A huge thanks goes to Mike for sharing and identifying his photos from the day.

As the first group completed the full circuit of Fosters Gully, another group had returned from Lynton's Landing. The first group spotted four koalas during their walk. Lunch was had by each group as they returned to the picnic area.

After lunch each group returned home, and the timing was good since while being dry during the walks it rained soon after, later that afternoon.



Gum Milkcap *Lactarius Eucalypti*

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



Coral Fungus *Clavulina*



Nodding Greenhood *Pterostylis*



Earthstars *Geastrum*



Pixie's Parasols *Mycena Interrupt*

what a lovely afternoon it was. There was a suggestion that as part of our 40th anniversary celebrations we should plant 40 trees in the park (most likely in the vacant area near the junction

a fungi and lichen walk around Fosters Gully. Multiple groups walked at different paces around Fosters Gully. Some enjoyed the opportunity to walk and warm up on the cold morning

July Activity

Sunday July 19, 10am

The group will meet in the Junction Road car park to conduct some track



Artomyces colensoi

Darren Chester

Putting Locals First

#lovegippsland



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STAMP MATTERS- A NEW EXPERIENCE



A Prickly Subject

There are three prickly animals in the world, each living in different continents and each completely different in just about every way possible. They are the echidna, the hedgehog and the porcupine.

The echidna, native to Australia and New Guinea is a true wonder of nature; an egg-laying marsupial. They live in forested areas which is the home of their food, which is predominantly ants which they catch on their long, sticky tongue. They use their strong front claws to tear into ant nests.

Their upper bodies are covered in sharp spines interspersed with coarse hair. To protect themselves from predators they roll into a tight ball. Their underbellies are bare so they cannot hurt themselves. The spines are made of keratin, the same as their hair which has evolved over millions of years to a solid state. The female lays a single egg into her pouch from which hatches a puggle; a young echidna.

The second spiny animal is the hedgehog. The

hedgehog is a relative to the shrew and lives throughout Europe and Asia. They are nocturnal by nature and are easily stressed. They are omnivorous, eating insects, snails, small lizards and snakes, bird's eggs, mushrooms and even carrion.

They are smaller than echidnas, but most species of hedgehogs protect themselves the same way as echidnas by rolling into a spiky ball. They live in densely foliated places such as hedges and often live in a den at the end of a short tunnel. In winter they hibernate and produce up to four young in springtime. Their spines are hollow hairs strengthened by keratin and are short compared to echidnas.

The third animal with spikes is the porcupine. Really there are two types of porcupine, one from Africa and south and west Asia and the other from North and South America. The species have evolved separately in the different continents but have a great number of similarities. They belong to the rodent family and usually



are nocturnal.

They are larger than echidnas and have a tail. They can grow up to 90 centimetres long and some can weigh up to 27 kilos. Their spines, commonly called quills, are longer than the other spiky animals but are more brittle and can break easily. The porcupine does not roll into a ball to protect itself, relying rather on the length of its quills. They usually live on the ground in forested areas, but some American species can climb trees and live an arboreal life.

Their diet is strictly vegetable. They eat bark, roots, leaves, grass, clover, fruit and berries. Some eat cultivated crops and the farmers retaliate by using them as a food source. They often live in family and clan groups. The young are born with a thick covering of hair, each hair hardening to a quill within a few days. Young ones are called porcupettes.

These animals are easily grouped within an animal stamp collection and make an interesting addition to it.



This last month, the CDCA meeting had a lineup of eleven people present at the bi monthly meeting, with talk about the Churchill Guided Historical walk, with the September 6 walk scheduled to be run and advertising being worked out to promote the walk as required. A Web site has been made for the walk: <https://churchilltownwalk.com.au>

Councillor Leanne Potter gave an update and Council report. There was discussion regarding the new toilet block at West Place shops, and the new speed limits around town.

There was discussion

about the Churchill "Shop local day" and the good things it does for promoting the town. A survey was discussed to get ideas from residents about the needs of people in the town. The next Shop Local date will be Saturday August 29, 9am to 1pm.

Sgt Atkinson gave us an update regarding police activities around Churchill. The current crime rate in Churchill, is down by 7.9% compared to other towns with discussion regarding unlocked properties that are being broken into.

Funding for the 2026 Christmas decorations has been sourced and

plans will go into place for the installation of the decorations as required.

Hazelwood house update was discussed and CDCA will be kept up to date on the upgrade for the future.

David Burt from Wooreen energy gave an update on the battery installations at the Jeeralang power station and will update again at the upcoming AGM.

Keep up to date on our web site. <https://www.cdca.org.au/>

The next CDCA meeting will be our AGM conducted at the Churchill Town Hall 7pm on Thursday August 27, 2026.



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Looking Back...

...through the eyes of local residents



By Leo Billington

A montage from Morwell's heydays

Many readers will recall those magic days when hot rods and modified sedans would be transported to the Morwell Speedway, Aerodrome Road Morwell (or was it West Traralgon?). Nonetheless, at 60 cents for admission, cheaper for children, who could resist.

Kids would ride pushbikes from Morwell and Traralgon; or cadge a ride; or walk; or whatever was feasible and popular just to see noise. Mud, dust, petrol, oil, swearing, what a cacophony to brag about next day. Adjacent to the aerodrome was an approximate ¼ mile oval (not what a computer these days would sketch) gravel covered track. Although the area was basically swamp, ash and clinker refuse from Morwell's briquette and power station, (courtesy of the SECV) hardened the soft ground. A few potentially hazardous trees were easily removed. In the day, red tape was more flexible. Anyway, these nuisance trees interrupted spectators who

paid good money to have a grandstand view close to the real action.

Sunday July 2, 1966 saw a large advertisement in the Latrobe Valley Express (first issue was published on June 18, 1965) announcing a "Speedway Spectacular". Parents were responsible for their children's behaviour.

The Morwell Sporting Car Club at an earlier time held hot-rod scrambles on the southern side of Firmin's Lane. Entry was via Tramway Road, left turn into Firmin's Lane and then right turn into a paddock. Easy to access, ideal site, away from suburbia, perhaps annoying a few cows and lots of rabbits. The accompanying advertisement was in the Morwell Advertiser, Thursday July 2, 1959.

Morwell has a Town Common; or as many older residents will opine, Morwell once had a Town Common. It is located on the lands of the Braiakaulung people.

A google definition in such an area is "usually an area of grassy ground in the middle of the town or village that was traditionally used for common folk to graze

their animals." Not sure who are "common folk" but England's history might explain, and Morwell as a then hamlet, attracted folk from Britain. So it was only natural for land to be set aside. Our Town Common may have been seen as waste land, wasted land albeit it allowed junior football games, cricket competitions, a circus or two, exercise for walkers. It was generally viewed as a folly.

Councillor Edgar Walkley was the Morwell Shire Council President for one year, 1927 to 1928. From his Gunyah farm, where his prized 60 dairy cows battled ragwort and blackberries, Councillor Walkley's nomination for high office nearly did not happen, old records show he was unsure about becoming President. He was more concerned about having a suitable road to his farm.

At a September 1928 council meeting, Councillors were faced with deliberations about allowing camping on Morwell's Town Common. Councillor Walkley was not keen. He asked that this matter be "handballed"

to Morwell's Recreation Ground Committee.

Councillor Walkley thought campers could set-up on the banks of Morwell River, perhaps out on the Thorpdale Road. However he also was entirely enthusiastic about a site for croquet, and suggested development of an area east of town, close to the former band hall opposite the Morwell State School. A meeting of those interested in reorganising the Morwell Cricket Club was called at the Morwell Advertiser office on Monday evening August 25, 1901 at 8.00 pm.

Cricket practice was scheduled on the Town Common, for Saturday afternoon, August 31. Intending players were invited to attend. (Morwell Advertiser, Friday August 30, 1901.)

Being close to the Church of England in Chapel Street, the Sunday School had some of their annual picnics during an afternoon with games on the Town Common and in the evening

a series of lantern views was shown in the Mechanics Hall. As always, tea and supper were provided. (Morwell Advertiser, Friday July 13, 1900.)

The Councillors continued onwards to debate an effective use of Morwell's Town Common. Councillor Jim Bush was not sure, during a Council meeting in May 1953, about a request from the Morwell Hockey Club to use the Town Common; he remained quiet.

At the same Council meeting, Councillor Reg Davey offered a portion of his Latrobe Road paddock to the hockey club.

Back in early October 1935, Councillor Alf Ronald (17 years on Council) was concerned about danger and nuisance of cattle and horses "roaming the town day and night. The Council had made a law prohibiting it in the town area and they should take whatever action was necessary to see that it was carried out." He suggested a retention yard be erected in a corner of the

Town Common. (Morwell Advertiser, Thursday October 3, 1935)

A bye-law within the Shire of Morwell was passed on November 1, 1900 to regulate "the removal and disposal of night soil." Yes, the matter was becoming a real concern; but out in the farming areas, it was realised the amount of fertilising material that was contained in night soil. In town, it was an entirely different matter. Readers may remember the "poo man".

Unfortunately, there were accusations that night soil was being buried in the Roger and Madden Streets area (Morwell Advertiser September 29, 1949). The possibilities of a sewerage scheme were first investigated by the Shire Engineer (Mr F.A. Horsfall) in about 1940, who made preliminary estimates and prepared contour plans. There the matter rested for several years until an accurate costing was agreed. This saga continues in the next edition.

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GPAC presents Opera Australia's Don Giovanni this July

Opera Australia will bring its acclaimed production of Mozart's Don Giovanni to Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (GPAC), Traralgon for a special one-night-only performance on Tuesday July 21, 2026.

Celebrating 30 years of Opera Australia's national touring program, this milestone production offers local audiences the rare opportunity to experience world-class opera close to home. For one evening, the GPAC foyer will be reimagined as a vibrant Italian piazza, inviting guests to immerse themselves in the atmosphere and elegance of Italy.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Councillor Sharon Gibson, said this event would be a highlight for audiences across the region.

"We are thrilled to welcome Opera Australia and Don Giovanni to GPAC," the Mayor said.

"This is a rare chance to see a world-class performance locally, and we are proud to bring opportunities like this to our community."

Directed by renowned Australian theatre-maker Michael Gow, Don Giovanni is a gripping blend of dark comedy, drama and supernatural intrigue. Widely considered one of Mozart's greatest works, the opera follows the notorious Don Giovanni - a charismatic libertine whose reckless pursuits lead to a dramatic and chilling downfall.

This performance features a talented cast of Australian and international performers,

under the musical direction of conductor Simon Bruckard.

Audiences can expect powerful vocals, striking staging and a compelling theatrical experience.

The opera will be performed in Italian with English subtitles.

This performance forms part of Opera Australia's ongoing commitment to bringing high-quality arts experiences to regional communities across the country. For more information visit <https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/gpac/home> or phone the Box Office on 5176 3333.

Event Details

Don Giovanni
Tuesday July 21, 2026
Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, Traralgon

Boy & Bear - Tripping Over Time Regional Tour
Saturday August 15,
7.50pm GPAC Main Theatre.
Tickets from \$79.90

Following the biggest headline shows of their career at the Sydney Opera House Forecourt and Brisbane's Riverstage, Boy & Bear are bringing their captivating Tripping Over Time tour to the regions!

Boy & Bear swiftly catapulted onto the world stage releasing their double-platinum debut album 'Moonfire' which went on to receive five coveted ARIA awards and worldwide critical acclaim. Their follow-up 'Harlequin Dream' and 'Limit of Love' albums both charted at #1 on the ARIA charts with 'Harlequin Dream' also surpassing Platinum sales.

Their latest album 'Tripping Over Time' (December 2025) was

launched to over 5,500 Boy & Bear fans at the iconic Sydney Opera House Steps, landing at #1 on the Australian Album Charts, and further cementing the band's glowing reputation as one of Australia's most outstanding live acts and captivating musical exports.

Guy Sebastian - 100 x Around Australia Tour - On Sale Now!

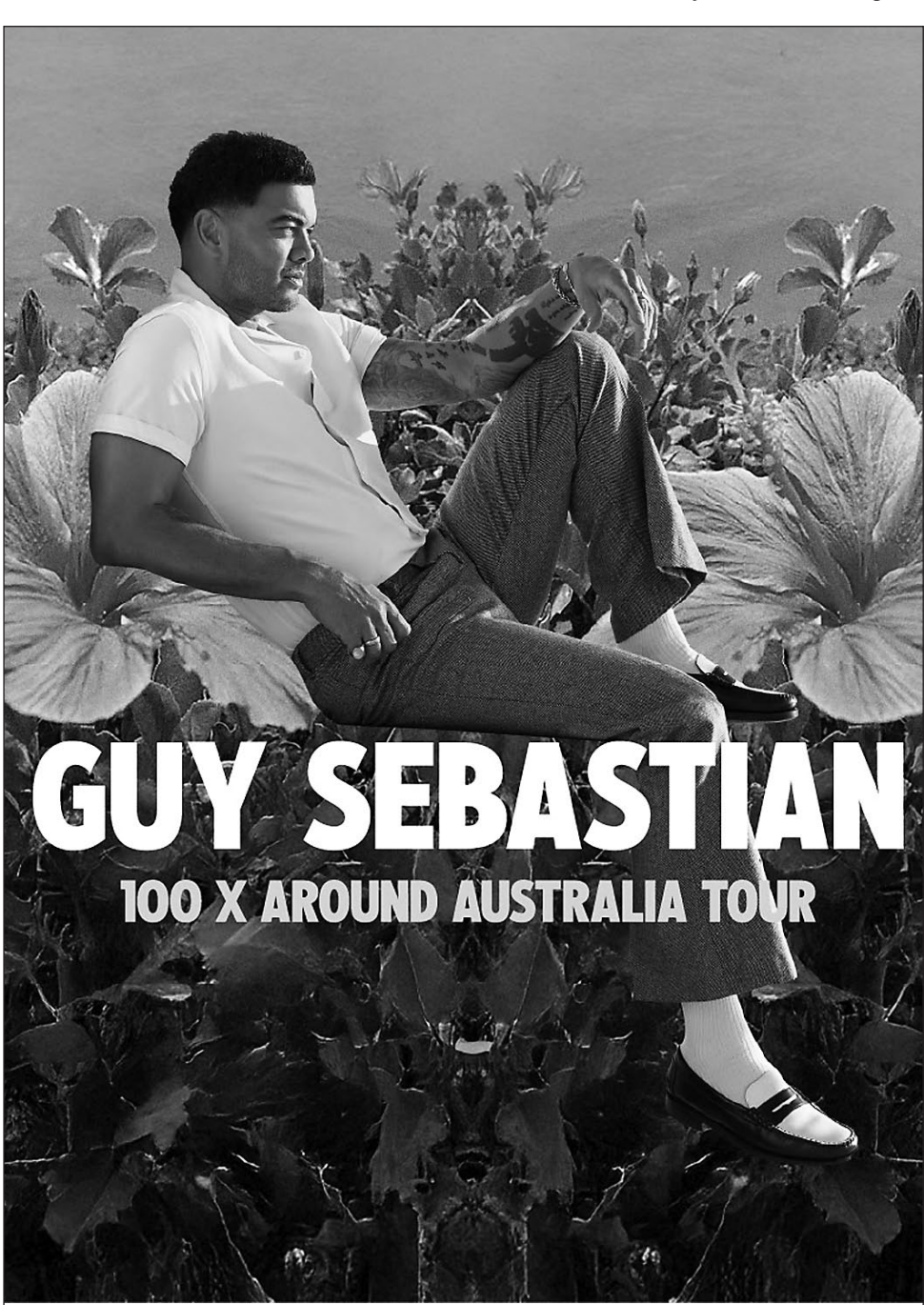
Friday November 6, 2026
7.30pm GPAC Main Theatre.
Tickets from \$122.10

Following his sold-out 2026 national arena '100 Times Around The Sun Tour,' Guy Sebastian has announced he will hit the road once again with his band for the 100 X Around Australia Tour — a major regional run across NSW, SA, QLD, WA and VIC. Tickets are on sale now.

The tour will see Guy perform some of the biggest songs from across his career, including viral fan favourite 'Who's That Girl', 'Like it Like That', 'Standing With You', and the ARIA Song of the Year and 4x platinum smash hit 'Choir'. "There is something really special about touring regional Australia.

I always feel like I am coming home! Driving around this beautiful country is incredible, but it is seeing the people in these communities who make every trip unforgettable"

Guy will be donating \$1 (plus GST) per ticket sold to The Sebastian Foundation, a charity set up by Guy and Jules Sebastian, to promote adolescent mental health and wellbeing.



COMMUNITY SAFETY *Words of Wisdom*

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

With wet weather, changing temperatures and heavy traffic across Australian roads, potholes can appear almost overnight.

Even one hard impact can affect your tyres, wheels, steering or alignment, sometimes without obvious signs straight away.

A quick inspection now could help you avoid uneven tyre wear, poor handling or costly repairs later.

What To Check After Hitting A Pothole

- 1. Check for tyre bulges**
A bulge in the sidewall can indicate internal tyre damage and should be inspected immediately.
- 2. Watch for steering changes**
If the car pulls left or right, or the steering wheel feels off-centre, your alignment may have been affected.
- 3. Feel for vibrations**
New vibrations through the steering wheel could point to wheel or tyre damage.
- 4. Inspect your wheels**
Look for cracks, dents or scuffing around the wheel after a significant impact.
- 5. Monitor tyre pressure**
A slow pressure loss after hitting a pothole could indicate tyre or wheel damage.

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.



St Vincent de Paul Society

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SOUP VAN

Starting 1st July 2026 we are changing
from Friday to Wednesday

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

BOOK REVIEW

“The Masterpiece” by Belinda Alexandra

Belinda Alexandra is an Australian author who lives in Sydney. She is approximately sixty years old and is the daughter of an Australian father and a Russian mother. She has written twelve best-selling novels and a memoir, but her success took a long time to come.

“The Masterpiece” is set in France and the two central characters are women born a generation apart. The older woman is Kristina Belova and we meet her in the early 1920’s. Her family has left Russia after the Revolution and have a family home in Nice. However Kristina is living in Paris with an aunt and cousin as she is studying art. She is a very skilled painter and enjoying being part of the Parisian art community. Kristina paints a portrait of a friend, Madeline, who has a brief affair with Serge, but decides to go to Australia with a loud-mouthed Australian she has met. Attention is drawn to one of Kristina’s paintings and art dealers Max and Serge purchase it for the small art gallery they own. Max and Kristina fall in love and marry, the art dealership expands and becomes very successful and together with

Serge they buy an apartment in Paris and Kristina and Max have two daughters.

Life is going well until the war breaks out and the Nazis are stealing art works for Hitler’s museum. This means people are hiding valuable pieces in false walls and under floor boards to protect them. A wealthy Jewish friend of Serge gives him a letter authorising him to care for some valuable pieces during the war and Max, Serge and the family leave Paris and go to Kristina’s family home in Nice where they hide the masterpieces. Kristina is encouraged to copy two of the paintings and put in a “time bomb” to prove that they are false, which she does successfully. The war gets worse and Max joins De Gaulle’s army while Kristina cares for her family and various refugees and Serge goes back and forth to Paris. Kristina is discovered to be hiding refugees, her daughters are murdered and she is taken to a concentration camp where she is beaten.

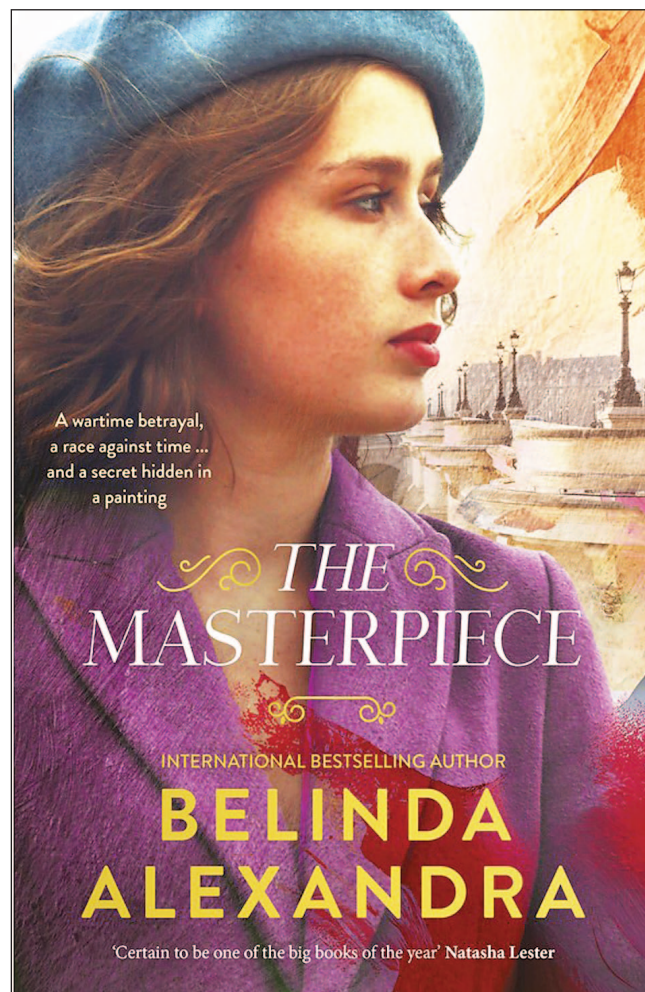
The story then goes to 1946 and we meet Eve Archer, a young woman who has come to Paris with a letter from her mother for Serge. Eve has been raised in Australia but her

mother became increasingly consumed by alcoholism and depression and Eve was very much left to raise herself. Her mother has died and Eve wants to disclose her identity to her father but before doing so she wants to make herself worthy of him. She gets a position as a companion to a wealthy but diffident socialite, Lucille, and redecorates her apartment and advises her choice of clothing, gradually increasing the social standing of both. She gets to know Serge by purchasing art works for Lucille but is waiting for the right moment to tell him who she is. The Parisian social scene is very competitive and when she and Lucille are invited to a very high-profile dinner Eve thinks she has made it. However when caught in an unwelcome but compromising position with the husband of a quite spiteful socialite Eve is instantly dismissed and thrown out. Fortunately Georges, nephew of Lucille is prepared to help her. It is then she discovers that Serge has been arrested for selling art works to the Nazis.

Eve and Georges need to prove his innocence and to do so they must find Kristina, who has returned to her damaged apartment

in Paris but is disfigured and suffering amnesia. They need to find the letter authorising Serge to care for the paintings and Kristina has to remember what the “time bomb” is in the fake paintings Serge is alleged to have sold.

This book was easy to read and one person in our group really loved it but most of us thought it was a bit contrived. Much of Kristina’s story was credible although it jumped about from past to present and back quite a lot, but Eve’s story was really stretching the imagination. From a historical perspective it was quite interesting as it mentioned the rise of De Gaulle, the division in France and also the role of the Italian army in Nice. There were several twists at the end, one of which none of us saw coming.



Federation University

Free cooking classes help students eat well, save money and connect with peers

Federation University Australia students are sharpening their cooking skills and connecting with each other as part of a series of free cooking classes at the Gippsland Campus.

Held every two weeks in the residential village kitchen, the classes are open to all students and focus on preparing simple, affordable and healthy meals using readily available ingredients.

Each session encourages students to take ownership of their meals, with flexibility to adapt recipes based on personal tastes, cultural backgrounds and available ingredients.

Supported by Anglicare Victoria, the program is focussed on helping students manage the rising cost of living by making the most of what is already available to them. Participants are introduced to free food

options on campus, including herbs and produce grown in the residential gardens, and are encouraged to think creatively about how to use pantry staples and substitute ingredients.

Bachelor of Nursing student Jen Phan, said the classes were a great opportunity to share her Vietnamese culture through food and learn about other students’ tastes. “We all come from different cultural backgrounds, so it has been a great way to get to know each other better, get an idea of how a dish is made and what it is supposed to taste like,” Jen said. “The best part is we have something to take home at the end of class.”

Recent classes have included multiple variations of pasta bake, where students learned how to make a roux and create their own cheese sauce, as well as a stir-fry session inspired by student interest and cultural input.

Gippsland Campus

Chaplain Rebecca Hayman said cooking and sharing food were simple and powerful ways to bring people together.

“The students are helping each other, building confidence and picking up skills they will use every day,” Reverend Hayman said. Fellow cooking class organiser and International Student Advisor Christine Hopwood contributed home-grown seedlings to expand the residential gardens, giving students access to fresh vegetables and herbs. “It is about showing students how to cook with what they have,” Christine said. “When you understand how to use simple ingredients and what is available to you, you can eat well without spending a lot.”

The classes build on existing cost-of-living support for students including a free weekly Breakfast Club, low-cost campus lunches and free pantry staples through the university’s Nourishment Nook.



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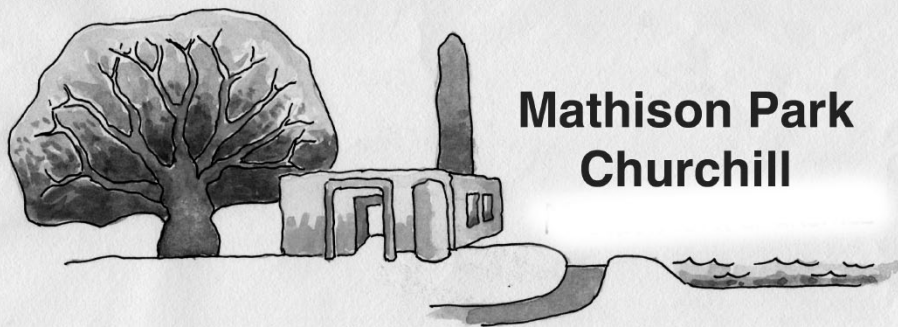
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The Gippsland Interchange crew came and helped to take away to the burn pile, large trailer loads of rubbish. They are a great help.

With Richard well organised and the requirements acquired, we set about planting 120 trees in the far corner of the park.

These trees will grow to create a further wildlife corridor for our native animals, especially koalas. A lovely morning tea was shared after the planting to refresh our energy. Thanks Faye.

There were more plants to plant but some clearing of the

area needed to take place. With Bruce and his excavator, this was achieved, ready for our next working bee.

The following Thursday the area was planted out with thirty-one new plants and mulched, ready to provide a safe space for our little birds.



Notice of Annual General Meeting 7pm, Thursday 27th August 2026

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

AGM Agenda items include:

- **Presentation of Annual Report**
- **Annual Financial Statement**
- **Committee Elections & Meeting Dates**

A brief workshop will be held during the AGM to determine priorities for the CDCA to address in the year ahead.

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

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

Co-Operating Churches

Craft Connections

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

Cooking with Noelene

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



What do you know?

Here are the answers to May's challenge:

1. Salad.
2. Bartlett.
3. Pineapple.
4. Feijoa.
5. Turmeric.
6. Lemon curd.

Here is my June challenge for you:

1. Remember when Little Miss Muffet sat on her tuffet, eating her curds and whey? What was she eating?
2. To plunge food into boiling or simmering water for a short period of time?
3. To heat a liquid to a point just before boiling?

4. A chocolate coating for cakes?
5. A highly perishable summer squash. The blossom of the young plant can be eaten, stuffed or fried?
6. Cooking vegetables in a little oil or fat over a medium heat in a covered pot or pan which releases moisture and intensifies the flavour?



Spaghetti Carbonara

Ingredients:

500gm fresh spaghetti, 3 eggs, lightly beaten, 1/2 cup cream, 1 cup finely grated Parmesan, 2 tbs canola/rice bran oil, 2 tbs minced garlic, 300 gm bacon pieces.

Cook the pasta in a large saucepan of boiling water until cooked, drain and keep warm. Mix together the eggs, cream and Parmesan in a bowl and set aside. Heat the oil in a large frying pan. Add the bacon pieces and the garlic, cook over a medium heat until the bacon is cooked through. Add the pasta to the frying pan and toss to combine. Remove from the heat and stir through the egg mixture, the heat of the pasta will cook the egg. Season to taste with cracked black pepper. Serve warm.



STEAMED SALMON WITH BURNT ORANGE SAUCE.

Ingredients:

1 large orange, 110 gm castor sugar, 1 tbs rice wine vinegar, 4 x 200 gm salmon fillets.(You can also use any firm white fish fillet.)

Grate rind from the orange, you will need 1 dsp of orange rind, squeeze the juice from the orange, you need 1/4 of a cup of juice. Mix together 1/3 of a cup of water and the sugar in a small saucepan over a low heat. Do not stir but bring to a simmer, until the mixture is a light golden colour. Remove the pot from the heat and let the bubbles subside. Now carefully stir in the rind and the juice. Return the pot to a low heat. Stir until any pieces of caramel have melted. Remove the pot from the heat and stir in the vinegar. Place the salmon fillets in a large steamer pot over simmering water. Steam covered for 15 minutes. To serve drizzle the salmon with the burnt orange sauce and salad / vegetables, as you desire.



CHICKEN LIVERS IN RED WINE AND THYME

Ingredients:

250 gm fresh chicken livers, 3 tbs rice bran /canola oil, 2 tbs finely grated lemon rind, 3 tbs minced garlic, 4 tbs red wine, 1 tbs fresh chopped thyme, cracked black pepper, rocket leaves and crusty bread, to serve.

Rinse the chicken livers under cold running water, pat dry with kitchen paper. Heat the oil and grated lemon rind in a frying pan, add the garlic and cook, stirring over a medium heat for 3 minutes. Add the chicken livers, wine and thyme. Season with the cracked black pepper and continue to cook for 5 minutes. To serve, arrange the rocket leaves on a serving platter. Remove the pan from the heat and spoon the chicken livers over the rocket leaves. Serve with crusty bread.



Ginger and Lemon Glace Icing

Place a 1/3 rd cup of icing sugar in a small bowl, add 1/2 tsp ground ginger, 20 gm butter/marg, 1 dsp milk and 1 tsp lemon juice. Mix to form a paste. Place the bowl in the top of a steamer saucepan, which has simmering water in the bottom pan. Stir the icing until smooth and glossy. Remove the bowl from the heat. Drizzle the icing over the cake or spread with a knife dipped in hot water for even covering. Do not reheat the icing.

Lime Icing

Place 2 cups icing sugar, 80 gm softened butter/marg and 2 tbs lime juice in a mixing bowl and mix with a wooden spoon, adding 1 tbs of water if the mixture is too dry. Spread the icing over the cake with a flat bladed knife.

Orange Glace Icing

Place 1 cup icing sugar into a heatproof bowl, add 10 gm softened butter/marg, 1 tsp grated orange rind and enough orange juice to make a soft pouring consistency. Place the bowl in the top of a steamer saucepan, which has simmering water in the bottom pan. Stir until the icing is smooth and glossy. Remove the bowl from the heat, drizzle the icing over the cake and let it run down the sides.



JAPANESE BAKED CHEESECAKE / COTTON CHEESECAKE.

Ingredients:

250 gm cream cheese, 60 gm butter/marg, 80 ml milk, 145 gm castor sugar, 6 eggs, at room temperature and separated, 1 tsp vanilla bean paste, 1 tbs lemon juice, 50 gm plain flour, 2 tbs cornflour, 1/4 tsp cream of tartar, 1 tbs icing sugar for dusting, whipped cream to serve, optional.

Preheat your oven to 160 deg C. Grease and line a 22cm cake pan with baking paper. Place the prepared pan in a roasting pan. Melt the cream cheese, butter/marg and milk in a small saucepan over a low heat, whisk until well combined. Remove the saucepan from the heat to cool for 10 minutes. Whisk in half the castor sugar, egg yolks, vanilla paste and lemon juice. Add the combined flours and gently whisk to combine. Beat the egg whites with an electric beater until frothy, add the cream of tartar and beat until well combined. Gradually add the remaining castor sugar and continue beating until the mixture is glossy and soft peaks have formed.

Now gently fold in the cream cheese mixture into the meringue, a little at a time. Fold in gently to keep as much air in the mixture as possible. Pour the mixture into the prepared pan. Add enough boiling water to the roasting pan to come halfway up the side of the cake pan. Bake in the preheated oven for 45 minutes or until the top is golden and the cake feels springy when touched in the centre. Turn off the oven and leave the cheesecake in the oven with the door slightly ajar, to cool for 30 minutes.

Remove from the oven to a wire rack to cool for another 30 minutes before removing from the cake pan to a serving dish. The cheesecake can be served warm or refrigerate for 2 hours to chill. Dust with icing sugar and serve with whipped cream if you like. The texture will become slightly creamier after refrigeration.



Lemon Cream Cheese Icing

The icing on the cake can make all the difference.

This is the perfect icing for a carrot cake. Place 60 gm of cream cheese and 30 gm of butter/marg in a small mixing bowl. Use electric beaters and beat until combined. Add 1 tbs lemon juice and 185 gm icing sugar and beat until smooth.

Chocolate Fudge Topping

Chop 150 gm of dark chocolate and place in a small saucepan with 90 gm of butter/marg and 1/2 cup of condensed milk. Stir over a low heat until the chocolate and butter/marg have melted and the mixture is smooth. Remove from heat and allow to cool until thick and spreadable.

Chocolate Ganache Topping

Combine 60 ml of cream and 150 gm of dark chocolate in a small saucepan. Stir over a low heat until the chocolate has melted and the mixture is smooth. Remove from the heat and allow to cool. Pour the ganache over the cake, then smooth the top and around sides of the cake with a flat bladed knife.

Plants in my Garden

By Mike Beamish

Species: *Hakea decurrens* subsp. *physocarpa*

Family: Proteaceae

Derivation:

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

decurrens: A Latin word meaning decurrent, definition 'running down' and used botanically to refer to a leaf of which the stalk runs down the stem as a raised ridge or wing. In this case, it is referring to the seed wing which forms a flange with the seed.

physocarpa: From Greek physao, meaning 'to inflate', and carpos, meaning 'fruit', referring to the size and shape of the seeds, their wings and their woody capsules.

Common Name:

Bushy Needlewood or Silky Hakea.

Distribution:

Previously known as and confused with *Hakea sericea*. Current distribution includes south-eastern NSW, eastern and central Victoria west to the Grampians, on the Bass Strait islands and in northern Tasmania.

Description:

An erect bushy shrub or small tree up to 4 metres tall, with stiff, needle-like leaves to 8cm long and 1.5mm wide. Flowers occur in winter and spring, pink or white clusters of 6 in the leaf axils. Fruits are broadly ovoid, warty woody capsules to 35mm long, with a prominent beak and horns. Seed is retained until the branch dies, usually caused by fire.

Opinion:

I have had lots of these over the years, in various places around the garden but usually in places where they can be seen but not felt. They are not friendly plants and therefore are good for screening and keeping unwanted neighbourhood critters, like cats and children from jumping your fences.

You would expect that they would be good protection for small birds to escape harassment from larger birds and predators, and they are for the most part, but if there is any

panic or haste involved, it is not unknown for little birds to spear themselves on the leaves.

My current specimen is in the back yard, underneath the pergola in the corner against my garage wall, well away from the path to the garage door. It is a fairly shaded, damp, protected corner, but the *Hakea* doesn't mind and has grown to about 3 metres tall and about a metre narrow, up through the beams of the pergola, reaching for the light. Mine has pink and white flowers, very pretty in springtime, and is starting to develop a few capsules, which can give the plants an overly woody look if they become too profuse. It was grown from seed from the previous plant, which was out on the northern nature strip and succumbed to either a too hot and dry summer exposure or was damaged by wind. Cannot remember which.

They are easy to grow from seed, up to 2 seeds in each capsule, but sometimes only 1 fertile one (firm and plump) with the other one skinny and papery. The capsules need to be at least 2 years old for the seeds to be ripe within.

Sit the capsules in a paper bag in a warm, sunny spot for a week or three to get them to open up – it's easier than taking to them with a pair of pliers, like the Black Cockatoos do!

The Australian Plants Society Latrobe Valley Group hosts monthly activities, excursions



Hakeas: A Field and Garden Guide – Holliday.



Native Trees and Shrubs of SE Australia – Costermans.

and /or meetings. phone 0447 452 755.
Interested persons are Sources: WA
welcome to join in, Plant Names and their
please contact Mike for Meanings – Sharr.
more information, email
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Strzelecki Koala- invasive plants hazards

Weeds impact the Strzelecki koala Part 2

An alarming statistic and one that is being continually maintained is, “70% of environmental weeds have originated from our gardens” according the 2021-Australia State of the Environment report. As I travel around the Jeeralangs and along arterial roads in the Latrobe Valley, I am quite concerned about escaped garden plants. In my previous article, the negative impacts of weeds to our environment, native species, economy and human health was discussed. Agapanthus is a garden escapee and so a weed. It is increasing in its spread and invading more natural areas. Such a plant is a threat to the health and balance of the Strzelecki koala habitat. Something needs to be done with the agapanthus plant and other invasive plants that start in our gardens. It is often through lack of knowledge that causes us to plant inappropriate plants on our land. We are given cuttings, seeds and plants from friends. We buy plants from stalls and unlicensed retailers. And then we are unaware of how to manage such plants in our gardens so that they do not become environmental pests. All landowners and users are responsible for the control and eradication of weeds. All of us are part of the solution. We need to support and actively prevent and eradicate weeds where

we live. Our involvement is important and stated in the “Australian Weeds Strategy 2017-2027”. (www. agriculture.gov.au 17.6.26) However how many of us are aware of our roles and responsibilities?

Part of the strategy is to educate people about invasive weeds. Our local council has booklets that contain important weed information. These are available at the Latrobe City Council Hubs. One booklet, “Common Weeds of Gippsland” has photographs, descriptions and removal methods for around 70 weeds. “Grow Me Instead” has suggestions for garden alternatives to invasive garden plants. For instance, after removing agapanthus put in lomandra/mat-rush, common fringe-myrtle or black-anther flax-lily. (P10 and 11).There is more information on the Latrobe City Council website - www.latrobe.vic.gov.au if you put “weeds” into the search section to find an article “Weeds and Invasive Animals”. Our garden habits are important in preventing invasive weed problems. If you have plants that can become garden escapees remove them or manage them appropriately so that they cannot spread. Place removed weeds and seeds in the green bin. Avoid planting invasive plants and instead consider suitable natives from a licensed nursery. Do not give away invasive plants or their seeds.

If you notice any weed outbreaks please notify the relevant organisation.

For instance, the Latrobe City Council is responsible for the removal of weeds in Council Reserves and on Council road sides. Use the “Snap, Send, Solve” app to notify the Council of any weed problems. Volunteers to help maintain healthy ecosystems are always needed in local bushland reserves, State parks and the Morwell National Park.

Be a Weed Warrior

Let only information about weed eradication and control be all that you spread. The Strzelecki koala and other native species will thrive into the future when their environment is invasive weed free.

Interesting Facts

“27,500 exotic plants

have been introduced into Australia” (www.dceew.gov.au , ‘2021- State of the Environment report, released in 2022.’ 21-6-26)

Noticeable Plants on road

sides that need eradicating: arum lily, agapanthus, bluebell creeper, cotoneaster, English ivy, pampas grass, Spanish heath, sweet pittosporum and willows.

Strzelecki Koala Event Koalathon October 25, 2026, www.koalathon.raiselysite.com



Latrobe City Libraries Membership

Join in July

Our membership campaign is on again!

Know a friend or family member who does not have a library card? Encourage them to join before the end of July and they can go into the prize draw. Already a member? Thank you! You can still enter the draw simply by borrowing during the month of July. Entry slips are available at all library branches.

To showcase the wide variety of programs and services we offer, we are running a Library Expo as

well as hosting AFL Hall of Famer and Traralgon footy legend, Kelvin Templeton for an author talk, and you can show off your quiz mastery at our next trivia night.

Free Trivia Night

Morwell Library: Tuesday July 28 from 6pm

Over four fun rounds you can test your knowledge on a variety of subjects! There will be games and activities between rounds, and prizes for the winners. We welcome teams of up to six people. You can book as a group, or individually, and we will match you with other players.

Warm Winter Read

As the temperature drops, we want you to make time for yourself and your chosen story every day. It is easier to find time to read than you think. Listen to an audiobook on your commute to work, walking the dog, or while completing household chores; swap scrolling time for reading time; or simply replace one episode of a binge-watch with a chapter (or two) of a great book.

Register online or visit any library branch and ask for a paper reading tracker. Take part in the challenges

and join in the fun on social media.

Read All The Comics!

Choose from a wide selection of comics for adults, young adults and kids for fun and learning! Login with your library membership card number.

Download the Comics Plus app to start reading all your favourites!

Adult Comics

Children’s Comics

If you need help setting up your account, contact the library at library@latrobe.vic.gov.au or visit a local branch.



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CDCA meets on the fourth Thursday of every second month

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2027 #Lovegippsland Calendar Competition

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester has officially launched the 2027 #lovegippsland calendar competition and is encouraging locals to dust off their cameras and share their best images of the region.

Now in its 15th year, the popular annual photography competition celebrates the people, places and landscapes that make Gippsland one of Australia's most spectacular regions, with prizes on offer for the best entries.

Mr Chester said this year's theme, "My Gippsland", invites photographers to showcase

the region's natural beauty, character and diversity.

"I love Gippsland, and this calendar showcases the very best our region has to offer," Mr Chester said.

"Whether it's our stunning coastline, rivers, lakes, mountains, rolling farmland, historic buildings or the diverse animal life that make Gippsland such a special place to live, work and visit, I encourage everyone to get involved.

Each year I am amazed by both the quality and quantity of entries, and I look forward to seeing another incredible collection of photographs from right

across Gippsland."

Thirteen photographs will be selected for inclusion in the 2027 #lovegippsland calendar, including one image to feature on the front cover.

More than 30,000 free calendars will be distributed throughout Gippsland at the end of the year, showcasing local photography in homes, businesses and community organisations across the region.

The photographers behind the three best entries will each receive a hamper featuring local Gippsland products.

Entries close at 5pm on Friday September 25, 2026, with a maximum of two entries permitted per person.

Photographs must be landscape-oriented and submitted at a minimum file size of 4MB and a maximum of 10MB. Images selected for the calendar must be available at a resolution of at least 300 DPI.

Entrants should provide their name, hometown, contact details, image location and a photo caption.

For competition details or to submit an entry, visit www.darrenchester.com.au



Scam alert: Food delivery scams

What is happening?

Scammers are targeting people who use food delivery platforms, including restaurants, customers and delivery workers. They may pretend to be DoorDash, Uber Eats, a restaurant or a customer.

They may contact you about an order, refund, cancellation, account issue or payment problem. They may ask for a one-time code, login details, your mobile number or bank information. They use these details to take over accounts, change payment settings or redirect money. Scammers may claim they can see your order but demand you provide additional details or payment outside the app in order to process it.

Scammers are also targeting delivery workers by gaining access to their accounts and redirecting the money they have earned. Delivery workers may receive messages about orders that have been cancelled for being 'fraudulent' or a 'double order' and ask for the worker's details to compensate them.

Who is at risk?

Restaurants, customers and delivery workers can all be affected. You may be at higher risk if you share one-time codes, respond to account alerts that do not include clear details, or feel pressured to act quickly.

What this may look like:

Below is an example of a scam Uber Eats message to a customer and an example of a scam DoorDash message to a delivery worker.

Text message saying 'Ubank: a fraudulent attempt made on card for Uber Eats has been flagged as fraud on your card ending in XX8010 if this was not you reply back

NO'

Text message from 'Tommy saying: 'Hi S DoorDash support connecting, unfortunately your KFC order/ delivery was reported in the system because the person who placed that order used someone else's card to make the payment and that is against the policies of DoorDash. Do not worry about the delivery of this order. I will be deleting this order from your screen so that you can receive the payment.'

Warning signs to look out for:

Unexpected calls or messages about an order, refund, cancellation or account problems.

Requests for one-time codes, passwords, login details or bank information.

Unexpected password reset emails, login alerts or changes to your account.

Pressure to act quickly because something is supposedly urgent or fraudulent.

Protect yourself from food delivery account takeover scams:

STOP.

Do not rush. Do not click links in unexpected messages or share passwords, one-time codes or financial information.

CHECK.

Contact the restaurant or delivery platform using the official app or website to check if the message or call is real.

PROTECT.

If you shared money or personal information with a scammer, act quickly. Visit Scamwatch to learn what to do if you have been scammed.

To report scams and find more info go to Scamwatch.gov.au



Pictured: Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester has launched his 2027 #lovegippsland calendar competition with entries now open for Gippslanders to submit their best photo capturing the great Gippsland region.

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www.matchboxgallery.com.au

[pipnikodemski](https://www.instagram.com/pipnikodemski)

Matchbox Gallery - Yinnar



Latrobe Regional Gallery workshops

Latrobe Regional Gallery
Control Freak Workshop
Saturday August 1, 2026
10.30am to 12.30pm
\$10 concession, \$15 non-concession

Recommended age: 12+
Arca Arcade: Round One creator Preston McNeil guides participants in building their own arcade-style joystick controller. Each plug-and-play kit includes all components needed to assemble a PC-compatible controller. After building, participants are introduced to DIY arcade software, test their controller, and take it home. No technical experience is required, and teams of two are welcome. Adult supervision is required for participants under 14.

Booking essential – limited to 15 kits only.

This exhibition is supported by the Creative New Zealand; International Presenters Fund.

Bookings
By phone: 03 5128 5700
Email: lrg@latrobe.vic.gov.au

gov.au

In person: everyday from 10am to 4pm
Street Fighter II Tournament

Sunday August 2, 2026
1pm to 3pm
Cost: Free

- Recommended age: 16+
If you were the champ at your local arcade this is your chance to prove it! Open to all ages and abilities. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Prizes available for tournament winners!

Arca Arcade: Round One creator Preston McNeil presents a Street Fighter II: Hyper Fighting tournament. Compete head-to-head in classic side-by-side arcade style against top local players.

The event begins with a round-robin stage to determine the top five seeds, followed by a double-elimination finals bracket to crown the champion.

This is a friendly event, open to all ages and abilities. Children under 16 must

be accompanied by an adult. Prizes available for tournament winners! Spaces are limited, so register early to secure your place.

Booking information – RSVP Essential – limited to 21 participants. + Additional waitlist.

Bookings
By phone: 03 5128 5700
Email: lrg@latrobe.vic.gov.au

In person: everyday from 10am to 4 pm

Meet the artists:

Gathered Threads – Lyrical Practices

Dijanne Cevaál, Lisa Anderson, Robina Summers, Sarah Louise Ricketts

Saturday August 15, 2026

11am to 12pm

Cost: Free - All ages

Join Gathered Threads: Lyrical Practices artists Dijanne Cevaál, Cheryl Cook, Robina Summers, and Sarah Louise Ricketts, together with curator Juan Rodriguez Sandoval, for

an engaging and reflective conversation exploring this unique project.

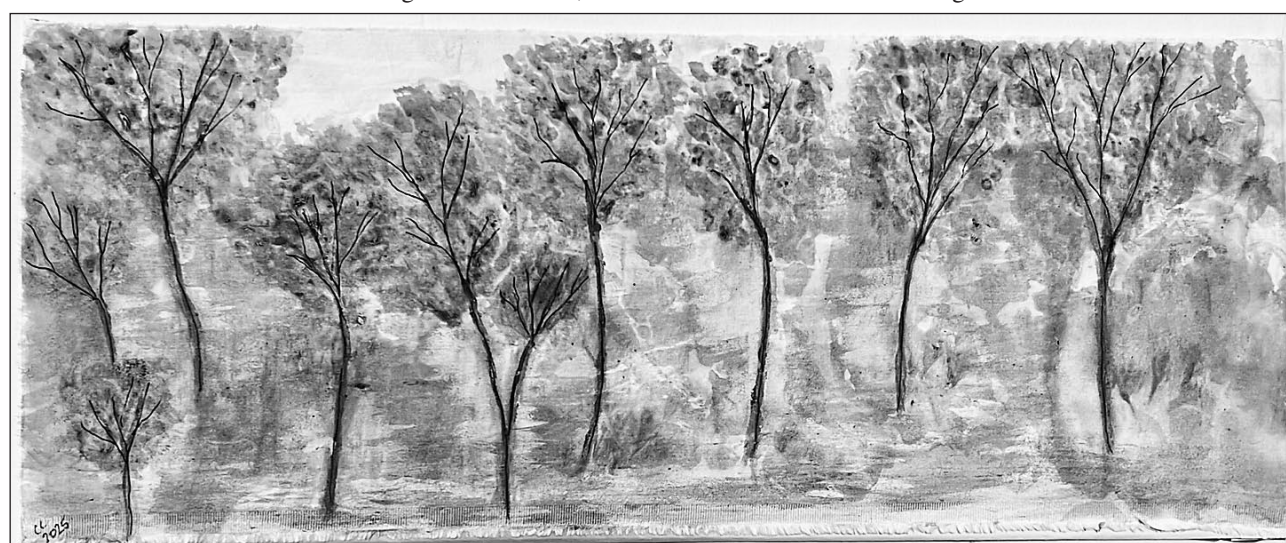
Delving into textiles, fabrics, the project's humble beginnings, and its remarkable evolution over the past five years, the discussion celebrates Gathered Threads as it marks its fifth anniversary!

Meet the Artists is a series of free, casual, and conversational artist talks that encourage

public participation and interaction. Furthermore, these talks aim to present a format that is accessible, supportive, educational and empowering to our local community in the Latrobe City Municipality, and communities beyond.

Bookings
By phone: 03 5128 5700
Email: lrg@latrobe.vic.gov.au

In person: everyday from 10am to 4 pm



Cheryl Cook, The Pink Forest, 2026. Natural inks on cotton. 61 x 31 cm.

My First Speech

Darren Chester and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Honourable Milton Dick MP, have launched the 2026 My First Speech Competition for Gippsland students. The national competition invites students in Years 10, 11 and 12 to imagine they have been elected as a Member of the House of Representatives and record a three-minute speech on an issue they are passionate about.

One winner from each year group will receive an expenses-paid trip to Parliament House in Canberra, including flights and accommodation, as well as a prize pack valued at \$250. Winners will also have the opportunity to present their speech to the Speaker

and Members of Parliament at Parliament House. Mr Chester encouraged Gippsland students to take part and use the competition as an opportunity to raise the issues that matter most to them. “Younger Gippslanders are the future leaders of our region and what they have to say is important,” Mr Chester said. “This competition gives local secondary school students the chance to speak up about the issues they care about and have their voices heard on a national stage. Whether they are passionate about education, the environment, mental health, regional services, sport, technology or another issue affecting their community, I encourage students to get involved and share their ideas.”

Mr Dick said one of his key priorities as Speaker has been to promote parliamentary education to students across the country. “The My First Speech Competition is yet another exciting way that young people can take an active role in our democratic system,” Mr Dick said. “This competition will provide high school students with the chance to learn more about the way our nation’s democracy works, and how actively engaging with the parliamentary process can draw attention to the issues that are most important to them.” Entries for the My First Speech

Competition close at 11:59pm on Monday, July 20, 2026.

For more information or to submit an entry, visit mfs.houseofrepresentatives.gov.au

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Men's Monthly Medal (Stroke) May 30, 2026

Monthly Medal Winner: D. Byers Nett 67 Scratch Winner: D. Byers 81

Putts Winner: D. Byers 27 A Grade Winner: D. Byers Nett 67 B Grade Winner: D. Cluderay Nett 72

C Grade Winner: P. Bolding Nett 68 D. Grade Winner: G. Carponi Nett 77 D.T.L: 1. B. Kilday 70, 2. D. Burridge

71, 3. G. Sanders 73, 4. B. Downie 74, 5. J. Cahill 75, 6. R. Vesty 76, 7. S. Caldwell, 8. P. Kearns 77, 9. A. Jenkins

77, 10. S. Allison 77, 11.R. Harvey 77 N.T.P: 3rd P. McGann, 5th G. Dingwall,

12th T. Webb (Propin), 14th J. Cahill Target Hole: B. Downie

Women's Monthly Medal (Stroke) June 2, 2026

Monthly Medal Winner: C. Stevens 79 Nett Scratch Winner: G. Dingwall 94

Putts Winner: S. Caldwell 31 A Grade Winner: G. Dingwall 78 Nett

B Grade Winner: Lindsey Chessum 78 Nett C Grade Winner: P. Jordan 66 Nett

D.T.L: 1. C. Stevens 79, 2. M. Hammer 82 N.T.P: 3rd M. Hammer, 5th C. Cunningham, 12th G. Dingwall, 14th C. Stevens

Stableford - June 6, 2026

A Grade Winner: I. Fortune 34 pts c/b B Grade

Winner: D. Cluderay 32 pts

C Grade Winner: T. Bennett 34 pts D.T.L: 1. R. Dent 34, 2. P. Kearns 32, 3. R. Timbs 32, 4. M. Lugton 32, 5. G. Sanders, 6. P. Kearns 31, 7. S. Allison 31, 8. D. Byers 31, 9. Adam

West 31, N.T.P: 12th S. Allison, 14th D. Burridge

Target Hole: B. Skinner Stableford - June 9, 2026

A Grade Winner: M. Hutchinson 31 pts B Grade Winner: C. Stevens 30 pts

D.T.L: 1. R. Dent 31, 2. P. McGann N.T.P: 3rd M. McQuillan, 5th M. Dear, 12th C. Carder, 14th C. Carder

2 Person Ambrose - June 13, 2026

Winners: I. Fortune/G. Tatterson 62.75 Nett Runners

Up: G. Sanders/D. Cluderay 63.75 Nett D.T.L: 1. P. Flanigan/R. King 64, 2. M. Hutchinson/P. Kearns 64.25, 3. P. McGrath/C. Thompson 64.75, 4. A. Jenkins/G. Leahy 66.25, 5. D. White/R. Dent 66.75 N.T.P: 3rd D. Leggo, 5th P. Kearns, 12th R. King (Propin), 14th D. Cluderay Target Hole: D. Burridge

Mulligans - June 16, 2026

Winner: C. Stevens 39

pts D.T.L: 1. G. Dingwell 38 pts N.T.P: 3rd M. Hutchinson, 5th K. Del Piccolo, 12th C. Stevens

Par - June 20, 2026 A Grade Winner: R. Harvey +2 B Grade Winner: P. Flanigan +2

C Grade Winner: T. Bennett +2 D.T.L: 1. C. Sterrick +1, 2. G. Tatterson +1, 3. D. Byers +1, 4. G. Sanders even, 5. G. Beyer even, 6. P. Kearns even, 7. M.

Hutchinson -1 c/b N.T.P: 3rd

D. Byers, 5th D. White, 12th D. White, 14th M. Soppe Birdies: 3rd D. Byers, 12th T. Bennet, 14th M. Soppe Target Hole: R. Dent

Stableford - June 23, 2026

Winner: R. Dent 35 pts D.T.L: 1. S. Caldwell 35, 2. J. Soppe 29 Birdies: 12th R. Dent, 14th R. Dent N.T.P: 3rd M. Ryan, 5th S. Caldwell, 12th S. Caldwell, 14th M. Dear/S. Caldwell

Churchill Bowls Club

The Churchill bowls club is situated in Manning Drive adjacent to the football ground.

It was officially opened in September 2016 by the Mayor of Latrobe City, Michael Rossiter.

The club plays competitively in the North Strzelecki Region which stretches from Traralgon in the east to Garfield in the west with many clubs

in between. The club fields sides in both Saturday and Tuesday pennant. The club has had some success in winning premierships in Saturday Divisions 5 and 6 and Tuesday Division 4.

Competitive play will resume in October after practice resumes in September. All are welcome to come and try bowls and further notice will follow at the appropriate time.

Our current President is long time Churchill resident Gill Turpin and secretary is David Moir.

The club also hosts carpet bowls on Thursday evenings in the clubhouse adjacent to the green. Play starts at 7 pm and costs \$5 for the evening's play. Everyone is welcome to come and join in.



From Gippsland to Nepal

Professor's cross-cultural connection honoured with new role A decade of collaboration, exchange and shared learning between Federation University Australia and Nepal, has been further strengthened with the appointment of Professor Wendy Wright to the Governing Board of Trustees of Nepal's National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC).

From immersive study tours benefiting almost 100 Federation students so far, to research projects addressing human-wildlife conflict and the discovery of five new species of gecko, the longstanding relationship between the University and the NTNC is a great source of pride for Professor Wright.

Now she will join the NTNC Board of Trustees as one of only two international members, supporting the not-for-profit organisation's work in nature and wildlife conservation including species such as the Bengal tiger and one-horned rhinoceros. "I am very honoured to accept the role. It is a great opportunity for me to continue to work with colleagues who have become very important to me over the last 10 years or so," Professor Wright said. Originally visiting Nepal in 2015 at the invitation of her first Nepali PhD student, Professor Wright was introduced to key members of the NTNC team. She then returned to lead a nature-training guide program with NTNC in 2016 and established the

first Federation student study tour in 2019. The study tour gives Federation students hands-on skills in wildlife and habitat monitoring while learning about Nepal's rural society, natural resource management and local culture through homestays. "We can show students something they would never see in Australia, which is a real connectedness to the environment and to wildlife conservation demonstrated by local communities," Professor Wright said. "The student visits really consolidated the relationship because it allowed me to visit Nepal regularly, building on and developing relationships and collaborations. We have since had a couple more Nepali students come to do their PhD with Federation because of these relationships." Professor Wright said it was the dedicated team of wildlife conservation specialists at NTNC who kept her going back to Nepal, along with her fascination with the research questions that exist there, particularly those around human-wildlife interactions. "Nepal is still a very rural and regional society where many people's livelihoods are directly connected to forests and other natural landscapes, so they are faced with daily challenges around managing conflict with wildlife, including predators such as tigers, who threaten livestock and human lives, and megaherbivores such as elephants who inflict substantial crop damage," Professor Wright said.

"The stakes are so high for people, and I feel we can really make a difference in the research space and help improve the lives and livelihoods of people while also taking care of the wildlife." One of the ways Professor Wright's research has made a difference is by advocating for better support for Nepali farmers who face losses from human-wildlife conflict. Other research has investigated the role of women in Nepalese forest management, while PhD student Santosh Bhattarai, working on the reptiles and amphibians of Nepal, discovered five new gecko species. Work led by Federation Associate Professor Fiona Hogan, in collaboration with Professor Wright, has identified a new genetic line of pangolins in Nepal - a fascinating group of mammals with similar habits to Australian echidnas. During the five-year board term, Professor Wright will support the NTNC's efforts in advancing biodiversity conservation, sustainable development and environmental resilience in Nepal.



SCAMWATCH

Be aware of Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and 'myGov' impersonation scams

With tax time 2026 here, Scamwatch and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) are reminding Australians to be aware of communications claiming to be from the ATO or 'myGov'.

Scammers make phone calls, send fake emails, texts, or messages, and even create fake websites that look like the real thing but they are not. They create a sense of urgency to manipulate you into clicking links to fake websites or to download harmful attachments. They may also send messages urging you to call a phone number that connects you to the scammer.

Criminals design these communications to look real, using official logos, branding, and language

to deceive people. The scammers may then use your stolen personal information, including your myGov sign in details, to commit fraud in your name.

Who is at risk?

All Australians (including those who are not required to lodge a tax return). Visit the Australian Taxation Office website for more information on how to protect your personal information and stay safe from these scammers.

Warning signs to look out for:

Unexpected requests for personal or financial information, especially if they include a sense of urgency.

An unsolicited message with a link that claims to be from the ATO. The ATO will never do this. The email or text includes a link that wants you to sign into your myGov account.

The email's sender details do not match the legitimate government agency and do not end in '.gov.au'.

Protect yourself from tax time scams:

STOP. Do not rush. Do not click links in unexpected messages or share passwords, one-time codes, or financial information.

CHECK. Contact the Australian Taxation Office using the official app or website or call 1800 008 540 to check if the contact is real.

PROTECT. If you shared money or personal information with a scammer, act quickly. Contact the ATO on 1800 008 540 to help protect your ATO accounts. Visit Scamwatch to learn more about what to do if you have been scammed.

To report scams and find more info go to Scamwatch.gov.au

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St Matt's Op Shop

YINNAR

St. Matt's Op Shop
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Open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays
from 10am to 4pm.

Volunteers Wanted - Enquire at the shop.

EFTPOS is now available.

Lifeline

Gippsland

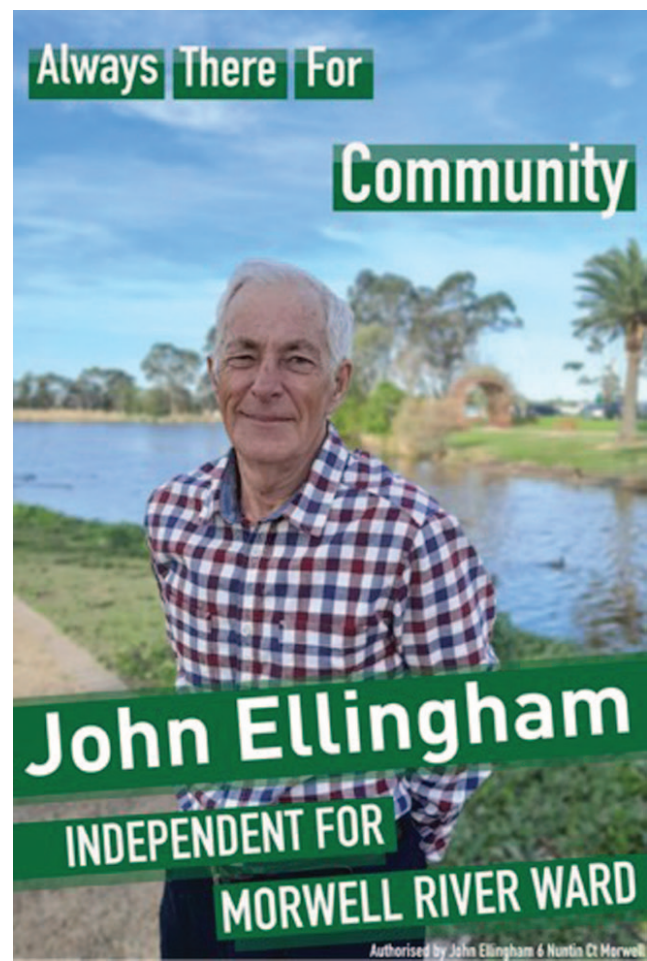


Warm winter finds at your local Lifeline Churchill Op Shop

As the cold really starts to settle in around Churchill and the wider district, our Lifeline op shop is a great place for locals to pick up some warm winter basics without spending a fortune.

Right now, we have a great range to choose from including, coats, jumpers, scarves, beanies and other winter layers for both kids and adults. Our clothing is in terrific condition, so it is well worth popping in for a look. You never know what you might find, whether it is a solid winter jacket or a comfy knit to get you through the chilly mornings.

Op shopping is a simple way to make things stretch a bit further. We know budgets are tight right now. It is also a great way to give good clothing another life, instead of it going to waste. We would love to see you in store this winter and have a chat with our friendly team. And if you are having a clear-out at home, we are always grateful for donations of clean, good-quality winter clothing. Every purchase and every donation helps support Lifeline Gippsland's work in our community, making sure support is there for people when they need it most - because no one should have to face their darkest moments alone.



FIRE MEDICAL RESPONSE (FMR)



Our brigade is now trained to co-respond to life-threatening medical emergencies like cardiac arrest with Ambulance Victoria to improve patient outcomes for our community.



Community members who call for an ambulance may receive both a fire truck and an ambulance.



Always call Triple Zero (000) in an emergency



SCHOOL news

Churchill Primary

Prep 2027 Enrolments now open

Come and discover why Churchill Primary School is the perfect place for your child to begin their educational journey and why we are proud to be one of the leading schools in the Latrobe Valley.

At Churchill Primary School, we provide a

safe, caring and inclusive environment where every child is encouraged to reach their full potential. With strong academic results, a commitment to student wellbeing, and high expectations for all learners, our dedicated staff work in partnership with families to ensure every child feels supported, valued and

successful.

Ready, Set, Prep!

To help our future Prep students make a confident and successful start to school, we invite all enrolled Prep 2027 students to participate in our Ready, Set, Prep transition program during Terms 3 and 4.

Sessions will be held from 2:15pm – 3:00pm on

the following dates:

Term 3

- Week 2 – 22 July
- Week 4 – 5 August
- Week 6 – 19 August
- Week 8 – 2

September

Term 4

- Week 2 – 14 October
- Week 4 – 28 October
- Week 6 – 11

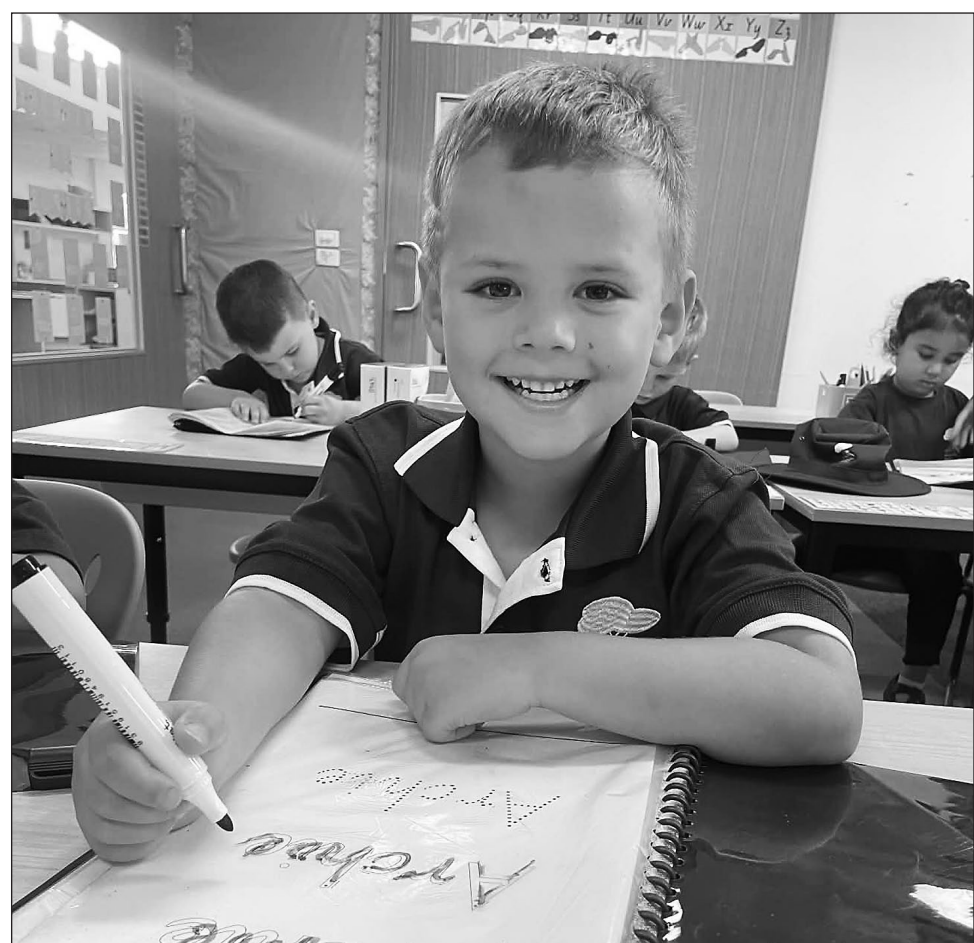
November

December

Each session will involve your child in fun, engaging and hands-on learning experiences designed to build confidence, develop early school readiness skills and create positive connections with our school environment. These sessions provide an exciting opportunity for

children to become familiar with school routines, meet new friends and begin developing the skills they need for a successful Foundation year.

We look forward to welcoming our Prep 2027 students and their families to the Churchill Primary School community.



Photos Top right
Learning about the seven continents.
Middle and bottom left Preps learning in the classroom with their
Grade 6 buddies
Top right and bottom
Preps learning in their classroom



SCHOOL *news*

Lumen Christi Primary

Lumen Christi students shine at Winter Sports Competition

Students from Lumen Christi Primary School proudly represented their school at the recent Winter Sports Competition, competing in football, netball and soccer against other schools from across the region.

Students demonstrated excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and determination, giving their best effort in every game. Whether on the football field, netball court or soccer pitch, our students displayed great skill and enthusiasm while supporting one another and showing respect to their opponents.

These events provided a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their sporting abilities,

build friendships and enjoy healthy competition. Staff were extremely proud of the way all teams conducted themselves, reflecting the values of Lumen Christi both on and off the field.

A special congratulations goes to our girls' soccer team, which achieved outstanding results and has progressed to the next stage of competition in Sale. We wish them every success as they continue their sporting journey and represent our school with pride.

Year 6 students celebrate Sacrament of Confirmation

Year 6 students at Lumen Christi Primary School recently celebrated an important milestone in their faith journey, receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation alongside their families and

parish community.

A special highlight of the preparation process was the students' Gifts and Services Night. As part of the evening, students prepared and served dinner for their families, demonstrating the values of service, generosity and hospitality. Families also had the opportunity to view presentations on Saints that the students had researched and completed in class, showcasing both their learning and their growing understanding of faith.

The Confirmation celebration was made even more special with Bishop Greg Bennet presiding over the Confirmation Mass. Surrounded by family members, sponsors, staff and parishioners, the students were confirmed and

strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit as they took the next step in their Catholic faith journey.

Lumen Christi Primary School congratulates all students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation and thanks the families, staff and parish community who supported them throughout their preparation. It was a joyful occasion and a wonderful celebration of faith, learning and community.



SCHOOL news

Hazelwood North Primary

It has been another busy month here at HNPS. We have seen many different activities and have opened our school for many visitors and experiences. Although extremely packed with all sorts, we have had so much fun in the last part of term two.

We commemorated Sorry Day and Reconciliation week with students learning about differing aspects of Aboriginal history, with all students decorating a hand for a school display to show our schools dedication for

respect for all peoples and cultures. We were even able to have Sam Solomon from Morwell Central come in and run incursion sessions with students. He demonstrated examples of Aboriginal music and dance, in which students were able to learn how a didgeridoo was made and participated in dances representing native animals such as the kangaroo. A big shoutout to our Sam for organising the activities and the incursion!

We sent our Grade 5/6 students to represent our

school in the district netball and football competitions. Students were extremely successful in demonstrating our school values as they played and even managed to see some success on the court and field. A big thanks to Sharon and Bryce for coaching the teams and spending many a lunchtime getting the teams prepared.

We enjoyed an afternoon of reading and activities with Simultaneous Story Time this term. Students enjoyed listening to our house leaders read "Luna Roo" a great

book based around Aussie animals playing an intense game of soccer. Then they participated in activities such as goal kicking and craft. Students then read together in their house groups across year levels. A big shoutout to our house leaders and Mrs Seppings for organising a wonderful activity.

This month also saw us celebrate Education Support Appreciation Day in which classes created gifts for our wonderful ES staff. Without them our school could not function. We would like to

thank Sharon, Brodie, Bryce, Kirsty, Bella, Sam, Casey, Cameron, Julachai and Fran!

Junior students had an exciting Monday, travelling to Old Gipps town to experience what it was like in the areas past. Students rode on the old time fire truck, had lessons in the old school and then did a bit of shopping in the old stores. Students got to check out some vintage cars and learnt how to hand wash clothes like in times past. They even took a trip to the police station, but only for a visit this time as they all

demonstrated our values and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Another fun day for junior students was the police incursion, with local officers coming in and talking with students.

They enjoyed getting familiar with the police car and even got to play dress up with some of the officer's equipment. Students enjoyed the visit and even tried to arrest their teachers to get an early finish from school.

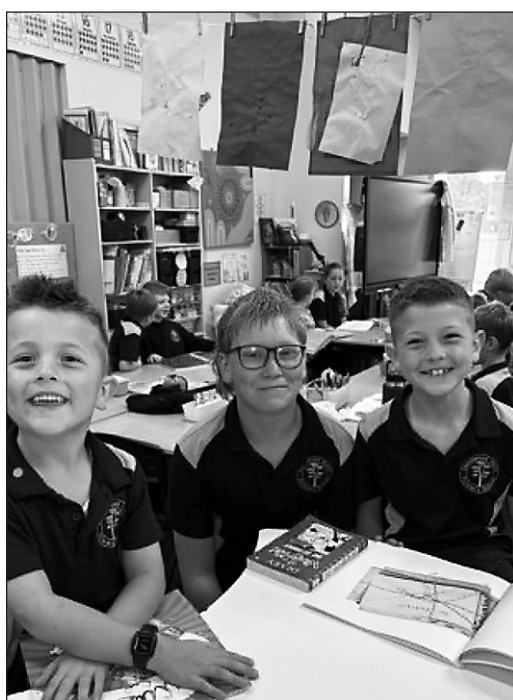


Top Left Our wonderful basketballers.
Top Right Sam Solomon demonstrating the didgeridoo.

Middle row left Amity Zoe and Mai dressing up.
Middle row right Students shopping at Old Gippsland.



Bottom left to right Charlie Isaac and Jack reading Tommy and Rylan reading to Bataluk House Our amazing ES Staff



SCHOOL news

Yinnar Primary

The Junior School Council of Yinnar Primary School was excited to host MND Day once again this year. The change of date made the event much more enjoyable for both participants taking on the slide and those cheering from the sidelines. A sunny 18°C was certainly more pleasant than a chilly winter day of 13°C!

Many staff and students got into the spirit of the day by dressing up and bravely taking on the cool slide, all in support of this important

cause.

We are proud to announce that, thanks to the generosity of our school community, we raised and donated almost \$200 to the MND Foundation.

We would like to thank our wonderful school community for their generosity and support. Every donation and every participant helped make the day a success, with funds raised going towards supporting people affected by Motor Neurone Disease.



SCHOOL news

Kurnai University Campus

SRC Blue Dress-Up Day for Men's Mental Health

On Thursday June 18, the Senior SRC proudly hosted a Blue Dress-Up Day to raise awareness of men's mental health and encourage important conversations within our school community.

Students and staff were invited to wear blue as a visible show of support,

helping to highlight the importance of mental wellbeing and reminding everyone that seeking support is a sign of strength.

To thank students for getting involved and supporting the cause, SRC members handed out free icy poles at recess. The event was well received, with many students participating and taking the opportunity

to learn more about the importance of looking after their mental health and checking in on those around them.

The SRC would like to thank everyone who participated and helped make the day a success. Together, we can continue to break down stigma, promote positive mental health, and create a supportive school

environment for all.

Winter Solstice celebration warms the Senior Campus

To celebrate the Winter Solstice, the Senior SRC hosted a special Winter Solstice Celebration, bringing students together to embrace the shortest day of the year and enjoy some winter warmth.

Students and staff were encouraged to wear their

favourite pyjamas and cosy clothing, creating a fun and relaxed atmosphere across the campus. It was wonderful to see so many students getting involved and showing off their colourful sleepwear while enjoying the sense of community the day provided.

As part of the celebration, the Senior SRC served free soup at lunchtime. It was a huge

hit and provided a great opportunity for students to gather, connect, and enjoy time with their peers.

A big thank you to the Senior SRC members who organised the event and to everyone who participated.

We look forward to bringing more opportunities for connection, fun, and school spirit to our campus throughout the year.



Hazelwood House Community Engagement occasion

The owners of Hazelwood House and the couple who will operate the Aged Care facility held a community engagement session at the venue on June 12 at 12 noon. A good crowd attended and listened to the owners speak of their plans.

The couple who will run the aged care facility answered lots of questions and offered a goody bag of information and treats to those attending. Our Churchill Lions provided a sausage sizzle and a coffee van was also on site to add a special

addition, while folks waited to talk to those in charge. There was an air of excitement and a buzz of chatter as people realised the promise of the future of the building to be returned to its former purpose.



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