

Church News

Farewell to Russell, Sheena, Ethan and Torben Jones

By RAE BILLING
 REV'D Russell Jones, our Parish Minister, is being transferred to the Yallourn 'Cluster' of the Uniting Church. He will minister to congregations in Moe, Newborough, Narracan and Yallourn North. The family will live in Newborough.

Uniting Church ministers usually have to move after about five years in one place. The Jones family have been in Boolarra for almost six years and say "Our time here has been very enjoyable. We have had a lot of support and we are going to miss our friends - but we won't be far away".

This move will be a change, especially for their boys Ethan and Torben, who have never lived in such a big town before. With Ethan starting high school next year and Torben also close to being a teenager, they will enjoy this new adventure.

Russell's final service in Boolarra will be at Christ Church (Anglican) at 10.00am on January 4. There will be a Bring and Share Lunch after the service and all are invited (more details closer to the date). It is not clear yet whether there

will be another part time minister like Russell at Boolarra, or if our congregation will link up with the Churchill Co-Operating Parish to share a full time minister.

Recently Mark and Millie Coleman moved to Morwell from Yinnar, to be nearer to family and medical services and we thank them for their help and friendship over many years.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair is to be held on December 6 in the church grounds at Boolarra, starting at 11.00am. Stalls will include cakes (look out for my scones!),

books, produce, plants, a sausage sizzle, Devonshire teas, etc, etc. Last year we were blessed with great weather, lots of customers and a profitable day. I remember several visitors from the Churchill News coming and enjoying the sunshine and snacks, while relaxing in the gardens. My sister Sandra and I got our photo in the following issue, our '15 minutes of fame'. Hope to see you there.



Saturday Breakfast in Egypt!

By KEITH ENDERS
 THE October Saturday Breakfast at the Co-Operating Churches was well attended with 21 people coming to hear the Rev Canon Don Crewe from the Traralgon Anglican Parish.

Don gave some personal background before talking about his interest in Egyptology. Don came to Australia in 1968 with his wife and intended staying 12 months. He was a surgeon and was originally involved in heart surgery but changed to other areas of surgery.

He lectured at one stage to the nursing students at Gippsland Institute. He experienced a call to become a priest in the Church and he trained for the ministry in Melbourne as a result.

His last Parish before retiring to Traralgon was Trafalgar where he ministered for six years.

Don talked about his interest in

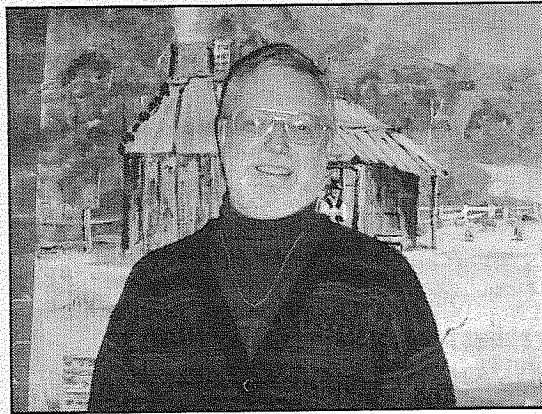
Egyptology, particularly the diseases in the common people of Egypt in ancient times, thousands of years BC.

He has made five visits to Egypt working in archaeological 'digs' and researching at museums. Living to 40 years of age in those days would have been considered old and most people died before that age. They suffered from heart problems as well as arthritis as modern folk do, and they lived very humbly compared to the 'upper crust' society, which we tend to hear and read about. They were not buried in Pyramids but in basic graves or thrown into the river for crocodile food.

The Egyptian authorities are now very strict on what can be taken out of the country and how 'digs' are carried out, which are carefully overseen by government officials. Don indicated that the work of investigating mummies for example, and helping in digs is not glamorous work but often dirty and painstaking.

The next Breakfast will be on the 29 November at 7.30 am. There will not be a guest speaker but a video or discussion is to be organised. Interested people can contact Keith Enders on 51221148.

Left: Rev Cannon Don Crewe



Co-operating Churches of Churchill

Williams Avenue, Churchill.
 Tel: 5122 1480
 Glenda and Ian Combridge
 Tel: 5166 1819
 Sunday Service: 9.30am.
 Choruses: 9.20am
 Sunday School: 9.30am
 December 24: Crib Service 6.30pm
 Carol Service 11.00pm
 Christmas Day: 9.30am

Church Times

Lumen Christi Catholic Church

35 Walker Parade, Churchill
 Tel: 5122 2226
 Father Andrew Wise
 Saturday: Mass: 7.30pm
 Sunday: Mass: 9.30am
 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays: Yinnar:
 Mass: 11.00 am
 2nd and 4th Sundays: Boolarra:
 Mass: 11.00am

Churchill Christian Fellowship

Maple Crescent, Churchill.
 Pastor Tony or Hermanna Marsden:
 5122 2777
 Sunday: 10.00am
 Ladies Meeting: Tuesday 10.00am
 Christmas Day: 10.00am service

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday December 21
 Monash Amphitheatre 8.00pm



International Year of Freshwater

By IVY GOODWIN

Churchill Co-operating Congregations

DID you know that 2003 is the International Year of Freshwater? All around the world people have been reflecting on how important fresh drinking water is and how we should never take it for granted. For some people it is just a dream.

Their drinking water is fetched from a polluted pond or stream and there is no hope of anything changing. For others, a lucky minority, fresh-water is just a matter of turning a tap.

However, Australians are learning that they must 'turn on a tap' less often if we are to survive on this continent. 'Australia faces an implacable crisis of biodiversity and sustainable living, born of years of accumulated misunderstanding and inappropriate practices.'

The National Land and Water Resources Audit this year shows us that the nation is now using all the water which is available to it - and much more than is sustainable. We increased our water consumption by 65% in the last ten years or so. Water consumption for irrigation, which accounts for 75% of our total water usage, rose by 75% in the last 10 years. Our irrigation areas nearly doubled over the past 20 years.

'The quality of our waterways is also in crisis. A third

of our wetlands are in decline, over 80% of our river length is seriously disturbed, and we continue to destroy and clear catchment bushland. In W.A. thousands of hectares which were recently stripped bare for farming are now crystalline paddocks of deadly salt.' (UCA Frontier News, August 2003)

Certainly farmers, townspeople and scientists are now trying to work together to right the wrongs of our past and bring about a more sustainable future. But it will take time.

In the meantime, as we give thanks for (or complain about) the rain that is falling, spare a thought for the parts of Australia which are still in drought.

Think about the children who can't tell you what rain sounds like and think about the fathers who must work a long way from their homes in order to pay something off the mortgage.

Think about the mothers who have to tend the farms, try to keep some remaining stock alive as well as supervise their children's correspondence classes.

And say a prayer of thanks for the rain. And turn off the tap!

For more information visit websites: www.awa.asn.au and www.ndsp.gov.au or www.unesco.org.au/water/iyfw

*Say a prayer of thanks for the rain.
 And turn off the tap!*

Co-Operating Churches Snippets

By RUTH PLACE

A highlight of this past month's activities was the Chocolate Indulgence Night held by the Ladies Fellowship. This is an annual event, which takes the format of a hymn sing-along, followed by a guest speaker, followed by a delicious supper, and is a memorable night out. This year's occasion was no exception, in fact the ladies excelled themselves with a very 'wicked' selection of temptingly morish dishes.

As guest speaker, Ruth Judd from the Medical Mission Auxiliary, delivered a disturbing message about the lack of clean, attractive medical facilities like hospitals and birthing units, medical equipment and medicines, in many countries around the World. She particularly mentioned Africa, India and Asia. She also spoke of the dreadful impact of HIV/AIDS in many countries. It certainly highlighted the differences between the 'haves and the have nots'.

It was a busy weekend, as the next day Sunday we celebrated Frontier Services Sunday. The Church was



decorated with many things Australiana - windmills, fencing wire, galvanized iron, old wood stove pots and pans, a flat iron, and a forty-four gallon drum, to name some.

During the service we focused on the desperate need of some people for fresh clean water. We were treated to a small slide show by Bruce Campbell of slides taken on a recent inland Australian trip. This also highlighted the dryness of our own land.

Preparations continue for the Christmas Club, which is only days away. The congregation has been marvelously generous in their support of this project.

Frontier Service: Left: Australiana at the Co-Operating Church. Above: Ruth Judd from the Medical Mission Auxiliary.



Gordon's
Gents Hairdressing

25 Church Street Morwell
 (Opposite Monacellars)

Appointments

Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday - Friday
 8am - 9am

5134 4785



Camp Quality Escarpade 2003

By JOHN BARKER

The Camp Quality Escarpade is a fun outback motor-ing fundraising adventure that took place from October 18 to 25 2003. The Escarpade is run to raise money for Camp Quality; a national charity committed to bringing fun therapy to every child living with cancer, as well as their families.

The Escarpade is full of fun and laughter from the start right through to the end with theme nights, auctions and frivolity. The event is not a race, nor is it a rally. But that is not to say the participants can't still enjoy a motoring event that both challenges and rewards their dirt road motoring skills.

The participants visited schools along the way with the McDonalds Camp Quality Puppets in order to collect donations and spread the message of Camp Quality as well as show the children the bright shiny noisy cars.

The Lions Club of Churchill and District has participated in the event for a number of years, and through fundraising and the generous donations and sponsorship of local businesses, organisations and individuals has raised well in excess of \$130,000 for the kids.

This year a team of members from the Lions Clubs of Churchill and Yinnar set off in a HQ Holden suitably dressed in it's best finery of sirens, lights and signwriting and "OKA" the support vehicle. Club members have built up the car from a shell during the year to a registered, roadworthy beast ready for the event. It was suitably fitted with roll cage, safety harnesses, radios, spares, fuel and water especially for the event.

Our initial team of Escarpadians (to be joined by more later), Bob Lowick and Trent Kooyman from our club and Reg Stirling from the Yinnar club set off early Friday morning for the long trip to the start location Liverpool, Sydney. Bright and early Saturday morning the 35 cars assembled and with sirens blaring and lights flashing were flagged off on the journey.

Day 1: The Escarpade drove to the lunch stop at the Australian National Aviation Museum on the RAAF Base, HMAS Albatross. From there they traveled on dirt roads to Braidwood, then on to the first overnight stop at Bateman's Bay.

Day 2: Traveled through the forests of the Far South Coast of NSW for lunch at Bombala, followed by a fun



stop at Delegate on the NSW/Victoria border and the site of an old pre-Federation customs post. The overnight stop was Lakes Entrance.

Day 3: Through the "back blocks" to lunch at the Maffra Primary School. The team was joined at Maffra by Ross Norman and John Barker. On to Licola then via Jamison (through the snow) to the overnight stop at Eildon.

Day 4: Cross country to the lunch stop at Rushworth, before continuing on more outback dirt roads which were wet and slippery for an overnight stop at Swan Hill on the River Murray. That night the local Pioneer Settlement Museum took the Escarpade back in time and hosted a night of music, fun and friendship.

Day 5: A special delight for the true motoring enthusiast when the Escarpade had access to part of the famous Mallee Rally Track at Sea Lake. After lunch the route went through Sunset Country to cross the South Australia border for a night in the city of Renmark.

Day 6: The final day offered the chance to see remote parts of SA on the way to lunch at Terowie before the final drive to finish at Wilpina Pound Resort in the Flinders Ranges - a total distance of 2600 kms.

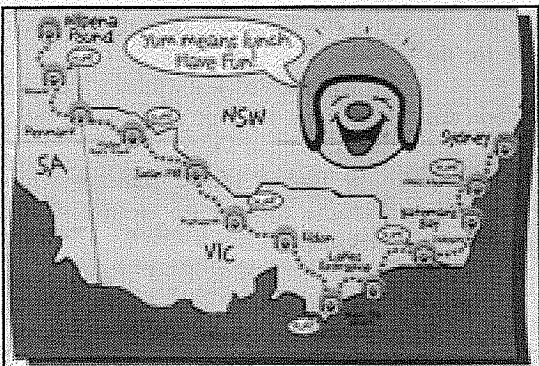
The final leg was to travel home some 1400km on Friday (all on bitumen for a nice change).

Camp Quality is a non-profit organisation committed to bringing hope and happiness to every child living with cancer, their families and communities through ongoing quality recreational and educational programs.

Camp Quality passionately believes in the power of fun in helping children and their families overcome the challenges that cancer and illness brings.

Over 5000 families each year are supported by Camp Quality; they participate in the camps and recreational activities. Nationally there will be 100 camps held in Australia in 2003. The program is unique and provides a wonderful opportunity for a child with cancer to put their illness aside and just be a child again, enjoying a variety of activities that are fun. There are five families in the Latrobe Valley and immediate surrounding areas that benefit in the program.

Camp Quality is all about fun therapy for every child living with cancer and their families as "Laughter is the Best Medicine".



Lions:

Please Contact Latrobe City

By JOHN BARKER

THE Lions Club of Churchill and District Inc was visited recently by District Governor Norma Barnard. It was a mixed night and hugely successful.

Australia Day 2004 will be held in Churchill, organised again by the Lions Club. We need residents to contact Latrobe City with our concerns regarding safety of patrons on the day if it is held alongside Monash Way as was the case last year. The Lions club has requested an alternate location be nominated and approved by Latrobe Shire for the celebration.

Lion's Christmas Cakes are now available at various outlets in Churchill. A quick sell-out would be greatly appreciated.

A mixed interclub 10 pin bowling night was held on 30th October at Morwell Ten Pin with Trafalgar Lions and Lioness Clubs. A great night was had by all.

Our club is again running the "Letters To Santa" project this year - very successful through the efforts of Hazelwood North Primary School last year. Post boxes will be available from mid November at Primary Schools in Churchill. All letters submitted will be answered provided there is a name and address on the letter. A donation of a gold coin would greatly assist

Santa. Another Lions Club activity for the children in our community.

Bunnings barbeque held on 11th October was another huge success - thanks for your support. All profits go to Camp Quality through the Escarpade.

Maddylen Lock was the happy Birthday Club recipient of the two \$10 vouchers last month. All children under 12 are eligible to join and each month a lucky "birthdayite" will be chosen at random by the editor. Make sure your child is registered - just follow the instructions in the Birthday List.

- Catering in the pipeline include -
- 8 November, Junior Fishing Competition at Lake Hyland
 - 8 November, Hazelwood House fundraiser
 - 9 November, Bunnings for Camp Quality
 - 9 November, Computer Expo at Kernot Hall
 - December, Christmas barbeque for Glendonald Residents Group
 - May 15 2004, Churchill Festival

To all the families in our community of Churchill and surrounding district, we thank you for your support. Need to contact us? Our address is The Secretary, PO Box 110, Churchill 3842.

Roadside

Garden of Remembrance

THE effects of a road accident ripple through a community as family and friends deal with the loss.

By planting a living roadside memorial, RMIT University's Sue Ann Ware, Senior Lecturer in Landscape Architecture, wants to help prevent further road accidents and provide a place of remembrance that marks the tragedy and the suffering of family and friends.

Starting this month, with the support of Latrobe City Council, volunteers with friends and family who have died as a result of a road accident will begin planting a roadside native ornamental garden on the Hazelwood Estate Road in Churchill.

Paul and Melissa Morse are two family members who were amongst the first people to volunteer for the project.

They are planting the native everlasting daises to not only remember their Aaron who died earlier last year but to help prevent any of their friends dying needlessly.

The Hazelwood Roadside Garden is more than a memorial. According to the

RMIT project leader Sue Ann Ware "By planting a road side garden where there have been accidents we hope passing drivers will think about the possibility of their own accident and reduce their speed and alcohol intake accordingly.

Young people often think they are invincible. However, road accidents do happen and they mainly involve young people who take unnecessary and often deadly risks."

The next phase of the project involves a controlled burn that invigorates native vegetation returning the garden to its natural state.

"All gardens have built in seasons, and we will be using this garden's changes to reinforce the safe driving message. After the annual burn it will definitely look different," Ms Ware added.

The project is a Gippsland community initiative with support from Diggers Seeds, Tony Leach at Gippsland TAFE Horticultural program, Dave Egan at Kurnai Secondary College and Deb Wood, a local landscape architect.

Valley Trophy Centre

Congratulations
Churchill & District News
on your 1st Year
Thank you for your Support

Trophies for all Sports
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Pewter Giftware
Sand Carving
Sublimation Computer
Engraving

Email: draper1@net-tech.com.au
Web: lv.gippslander.com/valleytrophycentre

Wayne & Annette Draper
60 George Street
Morwell, Victoria, 3840
Phone: (03) 5134 1493
Fax: (03) 5134 1334

David Morrison Overseas

DAVID Morrison is travelling overseas on a study tour from 4th - 18th December. While he is away Andrew Lewis will be the locum vet. Andrew has several years experi-
ence and will be more than capable of assisting with your animal health needs. Please note the change of hours while David is away

Morrison Veterinary Services

Clinic: (03) 5122 1122

Open: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 3:00pm - 5:00pm

*Note: Thursday 4th December 2003 - Thursday 18 December

Open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9.00am - 5.00pm

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By Appointment Only

Kurnai College Wins Debating Competition



By CHERYL TAYLOR, Debate Team Coach
ON Tuesday, October 14, students of Year 9, who had trained through Semester Two, left for Lowanna College to compete in the Latrobe gifted Students Debating Competition.

There were four schools involved, Lowanna College, Traralgon Secondary College, Morwell Campus and Churchill Campus, Kurnai College.

Judges were provided by Rostrum International, and Lowanna had provided a trophy for each debate, and a best speaker trophy for each, as well.

There were three debates:

1. Morwell Kurnai vs Lowanna:

"That Capital Punishment be reintroduced"

2. Traralgon vs Morwell Kurnai:

"That the Space Race is a waste of time and money"

3. Lowanna vs Churchill Kurnai:

"That boys and girls be educated separately".

Kurnai College won all three debates.

Our Churchill team, argued the affirmative for Topic 3, researched and argued the topic among themselves, then, once position papers were finished, they rehearsed and practised at every opportunity, even during their school holidays.

They focussed on academic, medical and social research findings, and drew examples from trials conducted in other schools, to demonstrate their position.

Their presentations were individually strong, and together, they argued from a documented, researched and well understood position.

Our terrific Year 9 team, competed against the Lowanna College Year 10 team and not only won the debate, but also the best speaker award.

Our debaters were: Kaitlin Duffus, Team Leader and

winner of the best speaker award, Danelle Wright and Sam Alexander.

The two Morwell Kurnai teams were:

Team 1: Melanie Smith, Stephanie Clark and Rachel Smith

Team 2: Lachlan Yates, Sarah Kennedy and David Howell

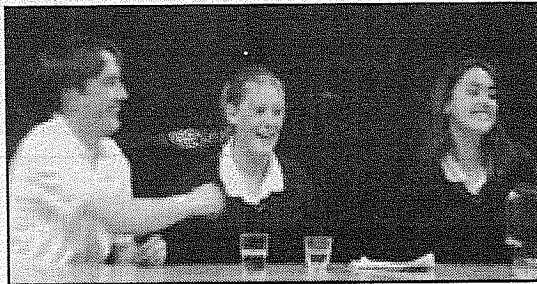
They were coached by Ms Kamla Reddy, who was also the key organiser for this competition.

It was a terrific event, well organised by MS Reddy, and supported by Lowanna/ Churchill and Traralgon staff. Students from surrounding primary schools attended the first half of the day, and enjoyed watching and listening to the students, and provided a very attentive audience.

Not only did the result acknowledge the quality of Kurnai students work, but also their ability to take it up to other schools and be very competitive.

It showed what our very able Churchill students can achieve with persistence and practice.

Well done! All at Churchill Campus of Kurnai College are very proud of them.



Kurnai College Churchill Campus Debate Team 2003

Life Ed Van Visits Churchill Primary

CHURCHILL Primary School students benefited from a visit by the Life Ed Van, sponsored by Edisson Mission, recently.

Each grade level at the school participated in an age-appropriate drug education session related to aspects of healthy

living and the effects of drugs.

These sessions have armed the children with the knowledge to help them to make good choices in order to lead safe and healthy lives.



Pictured below is Mrs Shields' Grade 3-4s with Judith and Harold from Edisson Mission's Life Ed Van.



Yinnar South Primary Wins An Author!

By MARK ANDERSON, Principal
THIS year the 'NESTLE Write Around Australia' creative writing program gave schools across Australia the opportunity to 'Win an Author for the Day'.

The successful school in Victoria was Yinnar South Primary School and Melbourne based author Meredith Costain conducted creative writing workshops to inspire students in years 4, 5 and 6.

The students learnt about the art of writing from an expert and gained an insight into the life and work of an author.

Meredith has written more than 30 books for young readers including 'Get a Life with Freddy & Fifi', 'The Sandpit War' and '50 Famous Australians'.

She is also the literary editor for a number of children's magazines.

'NESTLE Write Around Australia' is a Nestle Australia community program developed to encourage children to take part in creative writing and utilise the resources of public libraries.

The program is coordinated by the State Library of New South Wales and supported by the State and public libraries around Australia.

2003 is the tenth and biggest year for 'NESTLE Write Around Australia'.

Entries were up this year with a whopping 36,600 students entering the competition.

With each student writing a 500 word story on a topic of their choice, that's over 18 million words!

A further 18,000 students across Australia attended the creative writing workshops.

Fifty authors travelled to destinations across the country to host them.

960 finalists attended creative writing workshops and they each received backpacks full of Nestle goodies and a certificate.

More information can be found on the 'NESTLE Write Around Australia' website at www.writearound.com.au.

Winning schools for 2003: Canning Vale Primary School (Canning Vale, WA), Yinnar South Primary School (Yinnar, Vic), St Benedict's Primary School (Narrabundah, ACT), Golden Grove Lutheran Primary School (Golden Grove, SA), Kenilworth State Community College (Kennilworth, QLD) and Kambora Primary School (Davidson, NSW).



Water For Life



STUDENTS from 2/3A at Hazelwood North entered a Water for Life poster competition run by Gippsland Water. Two members of the class were successful - Danielle won the Grade 3/4 section and Clementine came second in the Prep to Grade 2 section.

It has been an extremely busy time for parents, stu-

dents and staff this term. Highlights included:

*Students from Years 3 and 4 attended a camp at Phillip Island.

*Kurnai Brass teacher, Ian Cooper is teaching a group of Year 5 and 6 students each Wednesday.

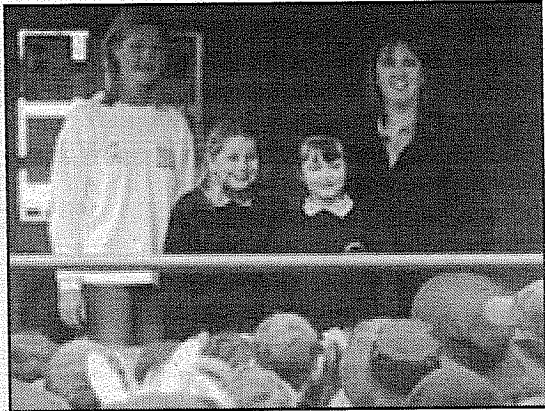
*The Book Fair was popular with both students and parents.

*A recent working bee smartened up the schoolyard. The whole school enjoyed Circus Maximus, a performance by two visiting clowns.

Year 5 and 6 students are preparing for the RACV Energy Breakthrough at Maryborough.

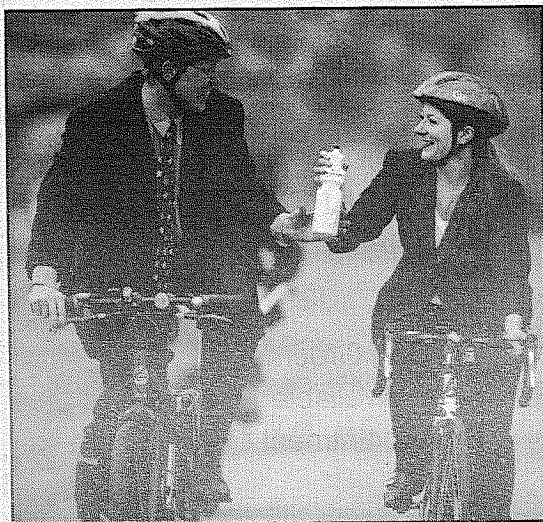
Enrolments are on the increase and preparations are underway for an eighth class in 2004.

We are having a Car Boot Sale on Sunday November 30. Telephone the school on 51661267 for further details or to make a booking.



Left: Danielle and Clemantine with their teacher Mrs. Alexander and Theresa from Gippsland Water

Ride to Work Day



By TRISH OWEN

STAFF at Churchill North Primary School took part in the recent Ride to Work Day despite adverse weather conditions and general very low level of fitness!

Ride to Work Day is organised by Bicycle Victoria and sponsored by Travel Smart.

Bicycle Victoria is Australia's largest cycling organisation. It is a self-funded, community based organisation, with an aim to get more people cycling.