

# CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

Est. 1966

Distributed Free

## Churchill & District Australia Day 2010

Val Giles

Churchill Citizen of the Year

Ashleigh Cauldwell

Churchill Young Citizen of the Year



Val Giles, Churchill & District Lions Club Citizen of the Year with Darrell White, Peter McShane and Russell Northe

For more stories and pictures of Churchill & District's Australia Day award winners turn to pages 14 - 16



CFA volunteer, Ashleigh Caldwell is congratulated by Lion Peter McShane on becoming Churchill & District Lions Club Young Citizen of the year 2010.

## Latrobe City Lions Clubs Community Service of the Year



Latrobe City Lions Clubs were awarded the Latrobe City Council's Community Service of the Year. Pictured above are members of the Churchill & District Lions Club

## What About our Wall?



Owen McKenzie

Has anyone noticed that since the opening of our brand new supermarket and adjoining mall that this has opened up the area which has had numerous site sheds, fencing, blackberries and the remnants of the old nursery covering up our Commemorative Wall?

In the original scheme of things, the wall was to be part of a stopover and garden area containing the wall and a public toilet. However, due to the supermarket being turned around, what was to be the "front door" has now been relegated to a "no entry" situation.

*Continued on page 3*

Churchill & District News Proudly Supported By



DAINBRIDGE NICHOLSON FINANCIAL SERVICES

### Accountants, Taxation and Financial Services

Phone: 5122 2033

Fax: 5122 2733

Email: kim.dainbridge@bigpond.com

## Churchill & District News

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

**The Team:**

Team Leader/Secretary : Ruth Place  
 Editor/Treasurer: Val Prokopiv

Advertising: Ruth Place, Peter Prokopiv, Tracey Burr  
 Layout/Design: Val Prokopiv, Tracey Burr  
 Webpage: Val Prokopiv  
 Proof Readers: Ruth Place, Olivia Jackson, Allan Larkin, Geraldine

Larkin  
 Photography/Computer Support: Matt Prokopiv  
 Team Members: Wendy Brown, Charlie Rawlinson, Carol Scott, Allan Larkin, Bea Stallbom

### Contributions

The deadline for the submission of articles and advertisements for the March 2010 edition is February 28

Articles for publication and letters to the Editor can be sent to:  
 Churchill & District News PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842  
 Or Email: cdnews@dcsi.net.au

All articles must be submitted by the 30th of each month for publication in the middle of the following month.  
 Advertising enquires can be

addressed to:  
 Peter Prokopiv  
 Churchill & District News PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842  
 Tel: 03 5122 2589 or 0402 406 376

### PUBLICATION DATES 2010

Thursday 11 March  
 Thursday 8 April  
 Thursday 20 May  
 Thursday 17 June  
 Thursday 15 July  
 Thursday 12 August  
 Thursday 16 September  
 Thursday 14 October  
 Thursday 11 November  
 Thursday 16 December

Special Schools Edition  
 Thursday 25 November

Please ensure your articles are submitted on or before the deadline.  
 Guidelines for the submission of articles and photographs are available on our web site at cdnews.com.au or contact the Editor on 0411053546.  
 If you are unable to meet the specific deadline please contact the Editor on 04110 53546

Articles can be left in our Drop Off Boxes  
 Located at:  
**Churchill Primary School, Churchill Hub and the Co-Operating Church**



### ADVERTISING RATES

Full Page:	\$280.00	26cm x 8.5cm	\$125.00	All prices include GST. Inquiries Tel: Peter on 5122 2589
Colour:	\$495.00	11cm x 14.5cm	\$90.00	
Half Page:	\$215.00	11cm x 8.5cm:	\$50.00	
Colour:	\$300.00	7cm x 6.5cm:	\$35.00	
19cm x 14.8cm:	\$125.00	11cm x 4cm:	\$35.00	

Webpage: [www.cdnews.com.au](http://www.cdnews.com.au)

### Disclaimer

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

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

# Podicare

**NEW**

## WINTER STOCK ARRIVING!

110 George Street, Morwell  
**Telephone: 5134 2375**

## Hazelwood Rotary

MEETINGS: 1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH  
 6.30PM - 8.00PM  
 ITALIAN AUSTRALIAN SPORTING CLUB  
 Next Meeting: 1.03.10  
 \*No Meeting on 8.03.10

**CONTACT:** Leo Billington, President  
**PHONE:** 5166 1848

## Expanding Gippsland Community Bank® Network

With 17 Community Bank® branches established in Gippsland, and moves under way for more including Grantville, Meeniyah, Mirboo North and Churchill, Gippsland communities are striving to improve their lot according to Churchill & District Community Bank® Steering Committee Chairman Wayne Casey.

A Steering Committee has been formed to start an independent locally owned company to franchise banking services from Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd. Gross revenue will be shared equally with Bendigo & Adelaide Bank Ltd and the local community company who will be able to distribute up to 80% of net profits to community groups with the remaining 20% available to return to shareholders

Mr Casey said the Churchill & District campaign requires between 300 to 400 people to pledge to take up \$750,000 worth of \$1 shares with a minimum of 500 shares and maximum of 10,000 shares per person. He stressed that no money is needed now.

Already Churchill & District Community Bank® Project, launched near the end of September to the start of the festive season has received about \$200,000 in pledges

"But lots more are still needed" said Chairman Wayne Casey.

The campaign to gain pledges will be accelerated this year with the committee hoping to have the pledge part of the process wrapped up with increased community support within a few months. Once this is achieved, a feasibility study

conducted by an independent company will be conducted to assess the viability of the business before a vote is taken on whether to proceed, a prospectus issued, pledges called in and a fit out of premises started.

Mr Casey said the other Gippsland Community Bank® branches where a great example of what could be achieved in Churchill with nearby Bunyip returning almost \$60,000 in grants, donations and sponsorships to their community last financial year.

Further examples include Inverloch with over \$32,000, Drouin with over \$152,000, Heyfield over \$80,000 and Trafalgar over \$85,000. Rye/Dromana have also returned a spectacular \$474,759. Recipients have included schools, sporting and social groups and major community projects.

"The returns to the communities are truly inspiring" said Mr Casey.  
 "Given your support, we too can keep some of our banking profits locally."

Information, pledge forms and return boxes are available at The Hub, Ritchies IGA Supermarket, Acacia Way Foodtown and Monash Students Union office. Further video information can be found at

[http://www.bendigobank.com.au/public/community\\_bank/community\\_bank\\_stories.asp](http://www.bendigobank.com.au/public/community_bank/community_bank_stories.asp)

For further information contact:

- Wayne Casey 5122 1363
- Craig Flanigan 5122 2846
- Jeff Kemp 5122 1293
- Sharon Middlemiss 0412 348 964

Advertisement

## Russell Northe MLA

Member for Morwell

I encourage you to contact me if I can be of assistance on any State Government issue.

[russell.northe@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:russell.northe@parliament.vic.gov.au) [www.russellnorthe.com.au](http://www.russellnorthe.com.au)  
 66 George Street, Morwell VIC 3840 PO Box 214, Morwell VIC 3840  
 ph 03 5133 9088 fax 03 5133 9388

Authorised by Russell Northe MLA, 66 George Street, Morwell VIC 3840

SANDRA KUEMPFLIN

## Morwell Florist

SHOP 31 MID VALLEY SHOPPING CENTRE  
 MORWELL PH/FAX: (03) 5133 7322  
[www.morwellflorist.com.au](http://www.morwellflorist.com.au)

## Olive & Brown

FOR ALL THINGS GORGEOUS

**15% OFF**  
 All Wall Irons

234 Commercial Road, Morwell  
 Ph: 03 5135 3960

# What About Our Wall?

Continued from page 1

## Concrete reminder of past



CHURCHILL'S 25th anniversary, to be celebrated from 9 to 18 November, will have a 'concrete' reminder of the event when the festivities are over.

Hazelwood Rotary, in conjunction with the Churchill Back-to-Committee, are building a commemorative wall with the names of the 366 original settlers engraved on individual bricks. Eleven volunteers spent a day engraving the names.

Hazelwood Rotary club services director Owen McKenzie (one of the volunteers) said the wall would be built next to the Churchill cigar monument on the Midland Highway, and that at a later date the City of Morwell would put its own plaque on the wall to

"tie in the significance of the symbol and the wall".

"Considerable research has been done by the Back-to-Committee, particularly Marion Harrison, to find the names of the original residents," Mr McKenzie said.

The first brick to be engraved was that of Graham Ayres, the foreman for the builders of the first houses in Churchill.

Work on the construction of the 1200 brick, five metre long, one and a half metre high, wall, starts this week.

LEFT: Hazelwood Rotary club services director Owen McKenzie engraves the first two bricks for Churchill's commemorative wall.

BELOW: All finished... the volunteer engravers show off their day's work.



Article in the Latrobe Valley Express, Thursday 18 October 1990

There are several new and no doubt important additions to our Town Centre. A War Memorial, civic areas, new bus stop, to name but a few, but our poor old Commemorative Wall seems to have missed out on a spot due mainly, to the inability to move it.

The issue of the Wall has been raised with Council and they are very sympathetic to the problem and are asking for community input.

They would like to see what

thoughts and ideas are forthcoming from the community who were very supportive of the Wall's concept when it was built in 1990.

The wall commemorates the farmers whose land was acquired for the new township of Churchill and the names of the first 350 families who moved into the new township.

Perhaps those residents who are still in the town and surrounding area or are descendants of those named on the Wall would like to put

their ideas and thoughts into gear and let the Council know they are still an important part of our community, and would like to help plan another location or new concept to suit the changing face of Churchill.

I would be more than happy to collect any of these ideas and work with Council to achieve a satisfactory outcome. I can be contacted on 51 221918.



The Commemorative Wall built on the 25th anniversary of Churchill as it is today

**Old Time Family Dance**  
**Hazelwood North Hall**  
 Church Road, Hazelwood North  
**Friday 26 February 2010**

Dancing from  
 8.00 pm to 11.30 pm  
 Music: Harmony Plus

Admission: \$5.00  
 Door Prize & Novelties  
 Please bring a plate



For more details please ring Zelma Mildenhall 5166 1264

**advantage**  
 PHARMACY

**50% OFF READERS**



was  
 \$19.95  
 now from  
 \$9.95

INSIGHT OPTICS

**SUNGLASSES**

**50% OFF**



Shop 7  
 West Place  
 Shopping Centre  
 Churchill

Monday - Friday  
 8.30am - 6.00pm  
 Saturday  
 9.00am - 2.00pm

Telephone:  
 5122 1390



- \*Unisex Hair Cuts
- \*Colours & Foils
- \*Make - Up
- \*Facials
- \*Spray Tanning
- \*Waxing
- \*Nails
- \*Pedicure - Manicure

Hazelwood Shopping Centre  
 Phone: 5122 3311

H.A.Z.E.L.W.O.O.D  
**HHC**  
**HEALTH CENTRE**

**Bulk Billing**

- \*Family Medicine
- \*Industrial Medicals
- \*Women's Health
- \*Visiting Paediatrician
- \*Counselling
- \*Visiting Physiotherapist
- \*Minor Surgical Procedures
- \*Visiting Surgeon
- \*Pathology Service
- \*Visiting Psychologists

\*Travel & Health Immunisations

Consulting Hours

Monday to Friday 8am - 5.30pm

Saturday 8am - 1.30pm

24 hour on call service

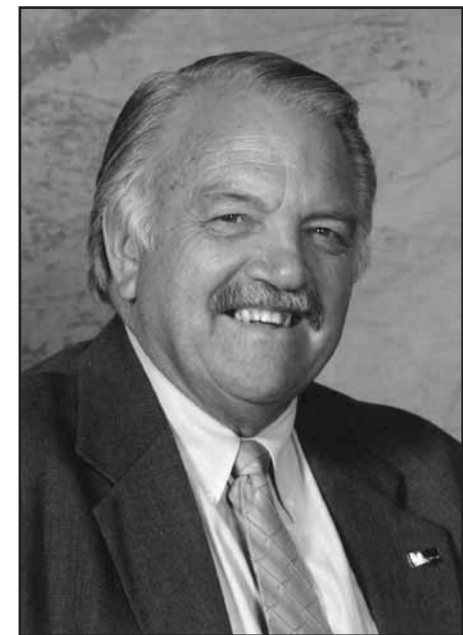
Tel: 5122 2555

9a Georgina Place, Churchill, 3842

"Caring Family Medicine"

# Public Feedback Sought on Draft Diversity Action Plan

## Cr Darrell White



by Council.

This "draft" Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Action Plan is on display at all of Council's Service Centres and on Council's website [www.latrobe.vic.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au) for public comment.

Written submissions should be made to Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell 3840, by no later than 5pm on Thursday 25 February 2010.

For further information contact Jody O'Kane, Acting Manager, Community Capacity Building, at Latrobe City Council on 5128 5643.

### Public comment sought regarding the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Feasibility Study Report

Latrobe City Council is seeking public comment on the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Feasibility Study Report.

The Report provides analysis and financial impact assessments in respect of two site options for a new Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre.

A number of Information Sessions are being

held to provide an overview to the community of the Feasibility Study Report and to answer any questions from the community regarding the Report's contents.

Further Sessions are to be held as follows:

Tuesday 16th February, 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
Nambur Wariga Room, Morwell Headquarters

Wednesday 17th February, 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
Macfarlane Burnet Room, Traralgon Service Centre

The option to locate the facility in Traralgon, at the corner of Kay and Church Streets, offers a strong connection between the CBD and the facility, and recognises the historical association between Traralgon and the performing arts.

The option to locate the facility in Morwell, adjacent to Kernot Hall and Lake, offers the opportunity of developing a destination which takes advantage of the lake frontage afforded by the site.

Copies of the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Feasibility Study Report are now available on the Council website [www.latrobe.vic.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au). People can also make

comment by following the links on the website.

Written comments on the Latrobe Performing Arts and Convention Centre Feasibility Study should be forwarded to Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell VIC 3840; or email: [paul.ho@latrobe.vic.gov.au](mailto:paul.ho@latrobe.vic.gov.au).

Comments will be received until 24 February 2010. For further details contact Latrobe City's Manager, Cultural Liveability, Paul Holton, on 5128 5497.

### 2010 Gippsland Food & Wine Festival

Be Inspired! GippsTAFE Waratah Training Restaurant, Morwell, in conjunction with the Gippsland Ethnic Communities' Council, is presenting the 'Latrobe Longest Lunch'. Come and experience local food and wines, brought to you by Gippsland's best up and coming chefs and waiters, who will serve you beside the picturesque Kernot Lake.

A dining experience never to be forgotten.

Date: 12 March 2010, 11.45am – 3.00pm.  
\$65.00 per head

For more details and bookings contact 5120 4510.



By Margaret Guthrie, President

Churchill and District Community Association invites all local residents and interested parties to our next meeting, at which a special presentation will be given by members of the 'Plan Our Park Action Committee' (POPAC).

This group has a vision for the Walker Parade land across Monash Way from the shopping centre. Many locals, including Churchill Primary School students, use the path through this parcel of land.

POPAC has presented a plan to Latrobe City Council for the development of this land into another formal park for the residents of Churchill. Council requested CDCA's comments on the plan. As other ideas have also been put forward to CDCA, including that of having some medium density residential development in the area, we are keen to hear the view(s) of our community.

CDCA has also invited Council representatives to attend this meeting, to hear the views put forward by residents and follow up any questions around planning issues that may arise.

This special meeting will be held at the Churchill Community Hub in Phillip Parade at 7pm on Wednesday 24 February. Tea and coffee will be provided and we hope to see many residents in attendance.

Users of the Hub and Phillip Parade may have noticed (road) works being undertaken in this area. Power cables have been put underground between McDonald Way and Balfour Place.

Council has been preparing tender documents for the 'reconstruction' of Phillip Parade, along with extra parking adjacent to the Hub. It is hoped works will begin on this project prior to the end of the financial year.

Likewise, tender documents are being prepared for the construction and landscaping of the new 'Town Hall Plaza' and works should begin mid-year.

CDCA representatives are involved in the Churchill Town Centre Plan 'Implementation Consultation Group'. This is an exciting project to be involved in – seeing Churchill "get a facelift". Plans include a second 'plaza' (the 'Town Centre Plaza'), a centrally located bus stop, the re-alignment of Georgina Place and other new developments.

There will, no doubt, be some inconvenience to

motorists and pedestrians during construction phase(s), but every endeavour will be made to keep these to a minimum. However, we can look forward to a much improved, 'user-friendly' town centre in the future.

Motorists may have noticed new road markings that create a formal T-intersection where Georgina Place currently meets the new Balfour Place through-road, between Woolworths and the petrol station.

It was brought to CDCA's attention that initially, due to a lack of signage or road markings, there was some confusion amongst motorists regarding which vehicles should give way. CDCA raised this issue with Council (there are usually 1 or more Council officers in attendance at CDCA meetings) and the matter was attended to promptly.

'Giving Way' at this intersection is now quite clear – vehicles entering Balfour Place from Georgina Way must give way to Balfour Place traffic.

In the same way, CDCA was earlier able to address the issue of potential collision at the Balfour Place/Balfour Way intersection. This resulted in the newly created roundabout which slows traffic and indicates that drivers must give way to vehicles on the right.

Often, such safety matters can be easily addressed and CDCA is able to take up residents' concerns in the appropriate forum. We welcome all residents of Churchill and district at our meetings and always allocate time on our regular meeting agenda for the raising of issues by those attending.

Whilst we encourage residents to join – our annual membership fee is \$2 – you do not have to be a member to attend our meetings or raise your concerns.

CDCA meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7pm, usually in the Churchill Hub.

Next meeting is on Wednesday 24 February, 7pm at the Hub, where the main item of business will be the presentation by the 'Plan Our Park Action Committee' on the Walker Parade parkland, with questions and discussion to follow.

Contact CDCA at PO Box 191, Churchill or by phoning the Secretary, Rob Whelan on 0427223602 or via email: [robwhelan@eftel.net.au](mailto:robwhelan@eftel.net.au)

## Invitation to All Residents



How Walker Parade Reserve could look





PTY LTD

**13 George Street Morwell, 3840**  
**Tel: (03) 5134 2555 Fax: (03) 5134 3109**

*Providing a Complete Service to the Community*

- Spectacle Makers
- Sun Glasses
- Contact Lens Practitioners
- Eye Examinations
- Cataract, Diabetes & Glaucoma Co-Management

# Free Music Festival in Boolarra



**The Stillsons will be performing at the Boolarra Festival**

Over eight hours of traditional folk, bluegrass, blues, roots, Celtic and world music for free! Hard to believe but it's happening at the next Boolarra Folk Festival to be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010.

It's a great family day with a varied line-up of entertainers. Returning to the town are Melbourne band, The Go Set, who combine the folk elements of the bagpipes, accordion, and mandolin with distorted punk guitars and a rock 'n' roll ethos, as well local group, The Strzelecki Stringbusters, with their mix of mandolins, banjos, guitars and fiddles. The 2010 festival will also feature The Original Snakeskins, Croque Monsieur and The Stillsons, an Indie folk music outfit, tinged with country blues, who have received radio play on Radio National (ABC), Triple J, Triple R, PBS, Joy FM, and 3MBS.

Other popular performers include Danny Burton, Todd Cook and the Celtic-inspired Evelyn's Secret.

The town centre will come alive. The performance area is located in shady 'Centenary Park', and nearby in 'Railway Park' there will be a large food and arts/crafts market with stalls to explore and buskers to be heard. The kid's tent and the healing area are always popular. Car-parking is free.

Festival Director Ray Stewart says "Last year's festival, with visitor numbers in excess of 9000, was a great success especially after the town surrounds were hit by bushfire. We are expecting that this year's festival, and the great community spirit that goes with it, will continue to attract a large audience."

A pre-festival gig featuring local acts will be held on the Friday night, February 26 at Yinnar A.R.C from

7.30pm and the festival gets underway in Boolarra at 11am on Saturday. An informal 'open mike' session, where budding musicians can play to an appreciative audience, will be held at the local football clubrooms at the festival's end around 7.30pm.

The 'School Drumming Performance' will return this year. This extremely popular act will open the festival at 11am.

Accommodation is available at bed and breakfast providers throughout the district; alternatively camping is free at the Boolarra Memorial Park. More information can be found at [www.boolarrafolk-festival.com.au](http://www.boolarrafolk-festival.com.au) or contact Ray Stewart on 03 5169 6275.

Join Boolarra for its annual celebration of the best local and regional musical talent.

## Letter to the Editor

### Hooning

Being woken up at the unearthly hour of 2am by somebody wanting to communicate by way of hooning through Churchill last week, gave me ample time to contemplate the possible messages that hooning tries to convey. It is suggested that it is a way to gain social status, or defining a self-concept. If this is true, why keep everybody in the dark as to the identity of our hoon-artists? How can we possibly admire people with these exceptional skills if we cannot put a face to the activity?

This is a fascinating phenomenon. How is it possible that a mature person (mature=old enough to have obtained a driver's license) so obviously and openly, brags or shows off in public. This is behavior that I always thought should be tolerated and accepted with patience - that is, insecurity, not hooning - but in association with young and therefore immature children. Since I assume that all these drivers have obtained a driver's license at some stage, this age group cannot apply to them. (Which is why I think the licensing authorities should focus more on a sense of responsibility than on skills.)

I wonder if these guys could be looking to impress others by a show of dominance and intimidation?:

Dominating a mechanical object, a car, which has no choice in the matter

Dominating everybody in hearing distance or sight, any time of day, night but preferably early morning hours, intruding in the sense of making a nuisance of

yourself. (Invariably I find myself being confronted by a feeling of apathy if one of these drivers should be injured during these burnouts.)

Intimidating others without the slightest sense of consequence, should our skillful hooners lose control over the vehicle and plough into our gardens or homes where we like to feel safe and offer protection to our loved ones.

Fortunately for those with this tendency, Victoria's rain pattern (1-5mm at a time) also suits their habits. Sometimes these hooners idle up (peacefully) close to a street corner, from where they depart (!) with screeching tyres. This display of power gives rise to a primeval fear: that of a prey being stalked when he least expects it, or of somebody in command of a dangerous tool (a speeding car) when he might not be thinking clearly.

Unfortunately (depending on the stance you take) I have also noticed the reaction of the general public to this lifestyle, a point that may disappoint enthusiasts: nobody interrupts a conversation when this happens, looks up or even vaguely indicates that they have noticed. This reminds me of the time I was training a puppy according to the principle of: reward good behavior, ignore bad behavior. The ignored behavior eventually disappears, for lack of reaction.

Hopefully this applies to other species too. If so, it defies the action, doesn't it?

*Name and address supplied*

## Morwell Art & Framing

Custom Framing

Restoration Work

Large Variety of Art Supplies

Art Classes

Your Artwork is Handled and Framed by

Artists, Giving You a Professional Edge

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Fast, Efficient Service

Services include lamination, block mounting,  
canvas boards made to order

**Lea & Rod Jones**

49 Chickereell Street, Morwell 3840

Ph: (03) 5134 5515

Fax: (03) 5133 7078



Gippsland  
Physiotherapy  
Group

... Keeping  
Gippslanders  
Pain Free

Gippsland Physiotherapy Group

**Physiotherapy  
Service**

Hazelwood Health Centre

Wednesdays 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Fridays 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

*Devon Soutar*  
Physiotherapist

Phone 5122 2555

## Morwell RSL Sub Branch Inc

BISTRO  
OPEN 7 DAYS  
LUNCH & DINNER



All functions catered for  
Rooms Available for:  
Meetings, Conferences, & Seminars

## Entertainment for February

Friday 12th Unknown Quantity  
Saturday 13th Blackhill Ramblers  
\* Wed 17th *Under the Spotlight*  
*Featuring: Nigel Foenander*

Friday 19th Low Profile  
Saturday 20th George & the Jetsons 'Purple Night'  
Sunday 21st Old Time Dance *Featuring*  
Ken & Alice Rae: 2pm Onwards

Friday 26th Mr & Mrs Jones  
Saturday 27th The 60s Band

\*Back by popular demand for summer. Held on 1st & 3rd  
Wednesday's from 8pm - 10.30pm in the Members Lounge  
Sat 20th Feb: wear something PURPLE. Prizes for best dressed  
Male & Female. Photos taken on the night

**Telephone: 5134 2455**

# Church News

## Church Times

**Lumen Christi Catholic Church**  
35 Walker Parade, Churchill  
Tel: 5122 2226  
Rev. Hugh Brown  
Saturday: Mass: 6.00pm  
Sunday: Mass: 9.00am  
1st and 3rd Sundays:  
Yinnar: Mass: 10.30 am  
2nd and 4th Sundays:  
Boolarra: Mass: 10.30am

**Co-operating Churches of Churchill**  
Rev. Dr. Bob Brown  
Williams Avenue,  
Churchill.  
Tel: 5122 1480  
Glenda and Ian  
Combridge  
Tel: 5166 1819  
Sunday Service: 9.30am.



**Churchill Christian Fellowship**  
Maple Crescent, Churchill.  
Sunday: 10.00am  
Ladies Meeting:  
Tuesday 10.00am

## Carols By Candlelight



BY Ruth Place

Again we were blessed weather wise with a marvelous night.

The amphitheatre at Monash is a great venue, open to all now that the reception area door can be opened and the lift used so wheelchair access is available.

Approximately 250-300 people attended, (we ran out of books) and as the light dimmed the glow of the candles added a wonderful atmosphere.

The combined churches thank Monash for their provision of the amphitheatre free for this event.

Many thanks go to Peter Schneider as MC, the Latrobe Community Concert Band, the members of the Sudanese community who came to tell about Christmas celebrations in Sudan, to sing to us and to explain how

their life here is quite different to that in Sudan, John Mazur for the sound and his guitar work, Ian Combridge for the lighting, The Men in Black for presenting some items and leading the singing, Ben Schuback, Joanie Smith and Julia Buras for their items, Courtney Semple, Vanessa Gillett and Leisal Ritchie for leading the children in some popular songs, Pastor Tony Marsden for his message and prayer and Linda Whitney for the Bible readings and closing prayer.

A big thank you goes to all who attended and joined in the community singing and the other activities, for making it such a pleasant evening.

The collection taken for the Brekky Club Programs at the local schools totaled \$331.

A great effort. Thanks everyone.

## Saturday Breakfast

The Breakfast will be held on Saturday 27 February commencing at 7.45am.

The guest speaker will be Oliver Raymond and his talk will be titled: "A Wander with the Nomads - a walk in

western Mongolia".

People interested in attending should contact Keith Enders by Thursday 25 February on 5122 1158 or at kenders@net-tech.com.au

## Snippets

By Ruth Place

Many thanks to the Combridges' for supplying the Christmas Service signs for Churchill, Boolarra and Yinnar churches.

The bright yellow signs were easily seen.

The Crib Service saw the church full of people who had come to celebrate and remember the true meaning of Christmas- Jesus' birthday.

The children did a great job of acting

out the nativity story, and learning that Jesus is the Light of the World.

A huge thank you goes to all the people who helped with the service in any way.

The Ladies Fellowship organized the collection of Christmas food and gifts to help Lumen Christi provide hampers to local families.

Thank you to all those who contributed to that effort.



## Are you involved in building or renovating?

Consumer Affairs Victoria invites you to attend a free building and renovating seminar. The session is for trades people, as well as people who are building or renovating.

25 February 2010

3pm or 5.30pm

Century Inn, Traralgon

RSVP: 5116 5701 or email [chris.childs@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:chris.childs@justice.vic.gov.au)

Topics include:

\*Contracts, permits and warranties

\*Registered builders \*Associated building costs

\*Renovating older homes \*Owner builders.

## Bob Cooper: Tamworth Country Songwriter's Association Finalist

Bob Cooper can remember country music being a part of his life for almost as long as he has lived. There was a time when he was first married that it was on hold for a while, but in 1995 Bob started playing the guitar again for two reasons, the most important to lift the spirits of his terminally ill daughter Danielle, but also to practice, because country music was returning to his life.

In 1998, after three years of practice, Bob went to the Bairnsdale Country Music Club and played three songs. His idea was to gauge the reaction of the members and gain some feedback. One comment was, "Where have you been hiding all these years?"

With that, Bob continued to attend Bairnsdale and Moe Country Music Clubs where he would perform in a 'walk up'. He would come from the audience and play.

He was invited to enter a song-writing contest in 2007, to write a song about a Melbourne Cup Winner of 1915. A statue

of this horse, Patrobis, is in the main street of Rosedale. This contest fell through, so Bob entered the song in the 2007 Latrobe Valley Eisteddfod and won the Country Songwriting section, which started Bob's songwriting career.

Since then he has written twenty-four songs, both melody and words, recorded a CD, is currently recording another CD and has several other songs also written but not recorded.

In 2008, he wrote a song, "Sadness in Her Eyes", which reached the Tamworth Songwriting Association grand finals.

In 2009 he again reached the grand finals with "No Middle Road"

Even though Bob did not win either of the finals, the recognition he received from his peers and other recording artists of the same style, has been a highlight of his short songwriting career, and is spurring him on with ten new songs ready to go in future years.

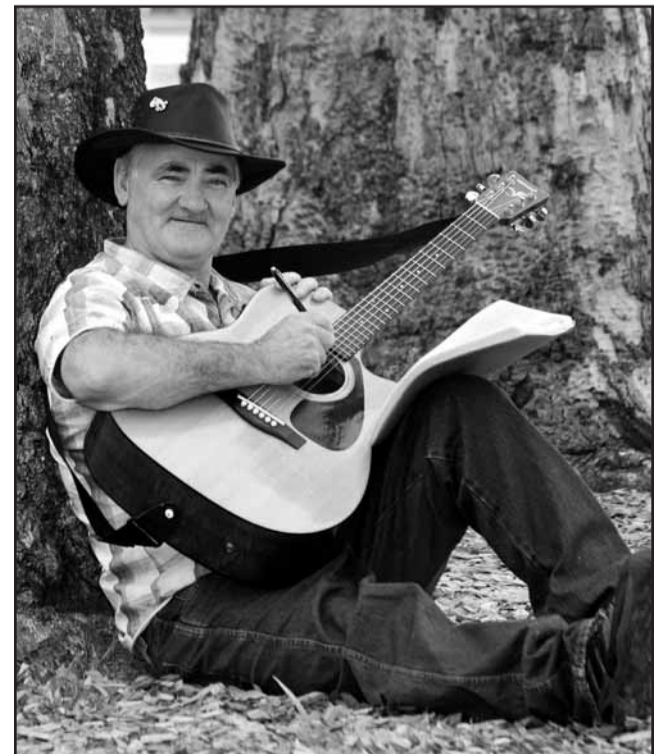
As part of Bob's writing career in the

last two years he has been as a founding member of, and in association with the "Our Kind of Country Club", which is located in Crinigan Road in Morwell. There music nights are held every second Friday and they encourage artists of all ability to 'walk up' and perform.

For a short while, the club tried to establish itself in Churchill at the Cricket Club, but due to lack of patronage, it folded.

However, during that time, several groups benefited from the funds generated. The charity works continued in the Morwell venue, where two fire recovery concerts were held for Churchill and Callignee. The Club regularly performs at senior citizens homes, and they raise funds for the Royal Children's Hospital.

Bob would like to express his thanks to the committee and members of the "Our Kind of Country Club", for their support and encouragement, as well as his wife Roslyn and his family for their backing.





Rotarians with a shelter box display at Midvalley shopping Centre

## Hazelwood Rotary

# Helping Locally and Internationally

Despite the holiday break, January has been a busy month for members of the Rotary Club of Hazelwood.

The club supported a scout with mobility difficulties to attend the Australian Scout Jamboree in Campbellfield, New South Wales, by providing a motorized wheel chair to help her get around and participate in Jamboree activities. This not only increased her mobility but also reduced her reliance on others for assistance.

Rotary Club Service Director, Reg Kemp said that it was very rewarding for the Club to be able to assist a young person in this way.

“Whenever we hear that support is needed we are always keen to help if we can,” he said.

On Australia Day, the club provided a BBQ at Callignee for those people who were victims of the Black Saturday bush fires. Nine Rotarians assisted on the day and provided over 260 meals to the local people. Many residents are still experiencing trauma as they deal with the recovery process. The response from the people of Callignee and surrounding districts was overwhelming with many expressing their heartfelt thanks to Club members.

The Saturday and Sunday prior

to Australia Day saw the Club conducting BBQ’s at Bunnings and all funds were committed to the Haiti victims. Over the two days, almost \$2,000 was raised and this money went towards the supply of two shelter boxes as part of the Rotary international aid to the victims of the Haiti earthquake.

Shelter boxes provide emergency accommodation and basic survival supplies for victims of natural disasters. Within a very short time of the earthquake occurring, over 3000 of these emergency shelters were delivered to earthquake victims through Rotary Clubs from all over the world.



Residents of Callignee enjoying the BBQ provided by Hazelwood Rotarians on Australia Day and part of the day’s entertainment.



## JB Computers PTY LTD

71A, George Street, Morwell 3840  
(Opp. Bendigo Bank)

New computers from \$845 with LCD Screen, Used PCs from \$100, Used Laptops \$390, 17inch LCD monitor \$245, 19inch LCD \$290, Pioneer DVD Burner \$55, High Definition TV & Capture Card \$95, Wireless Keyboard, Optical Mice & Charger Pack \$53, 512MB Geforce 8500GT \$109, 256MG Geforce 8400GS \$89, 7100GS 512 shared \$109.

**Upgrade Kit:** Latest Core2 Duo Main Board, CPU & 1GB DDR2 Memory \$250. Repairs & fault findings from \$20, Labor for upgrade PCs from \$30. Very cheap to fix your PC. DVD Disk:- Ritek, Maxdata, Princo any brand 50 pack \$20, DVD Single Black Cases Box (100) for \$17, Many Brands, Cheap Price. 10% pensioners discount to repair computers.

**Telephone: 03 5133 7617**

## Latrobe City

GUNYAH WARD

For general assistance and information

**1300 367 700**

or

[www.latrobe.vic.gov.au](http://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au)



Cr Ed Vermuelen

To contact Cr. Vermeulen for matters concerning Gunyah Ward

**0428 148 585**

or Email:

[edve@latrobe.vic.gov.au](mailto:edve@latrobe.vic.gov.au)

## Not getting the service you expect from your travel agent?



Call into



Morwell,

and see

Irene, Karen, Joy or Kimberlee



Morwell

213 Commercial Road

Phone 5134 3388

Licence No. 32298

## CHURCHILL JUNIOR INDOOR NETBALL ASSOCIATION MEETING

DATE : Wednesday 17 February

TIME: 7.30pm

VENUE: Churchill Hub

All interested players, coaches, umpires for the 2010 season welcome to attend.

If you have any queries please contact :- President

Kim Hogarth 0418 514 557

OR Secretary Kayleen Hill 0419 118 510

## Lifeline Churchill Shop News

Christmas might be just a distant memory but Lifeline’s Churchill shop is still stocked to the gills with bargains galore so why not pop in to the shop which is located next door to the Churchill Chiropractor and is open each week day from 9.30am until 4pm .

If you find yourself at a bit of loose end, we are on the lookout for enthusiastic, community-minded people to volun-

teer at the Churchill shop.

Volunteering is a great way to give back to the community - proceeds from Lifeline Gippsland shops help fund our vital 24-hour counselling and other support services. We have both ongoing and emergency fill-in positions available. If you are interested, call into the shop for a volunteer application form or call Cheryl on 5136 3500.

Churchill & District News

# Photographic Competition 2010

The Churchill & District News invites you to take part in our  
2010 Photographic Competition

## 'Churchill & District Picture Postcard'



Selected Winning Entries will be reproduced as post-  
cards to showcase Churchill & District

Closing Date for Entries:

30 May 2010

All proceeds will go towards the costs of publishing the  
Churchill & District News which is run by volunteers and is a  
non-profit making organisation.

**Churchill & District News  
'Picture Postcard' Photographic Competition 2010  
Conditions of Entry**

**CATEGORIES:** Entries are accepted in 3 Categories:

1. Adult 18+
2. 10 - 17 Years of Age
3. Children's: 4 - 9 Years of Age

**PRIZES:** Prizes can be won in all categories.

**JUDGING:** Entries will be judged locally.

1. Each entry must be accompanied with an entry form and state where the photograph was taken.
2. Entries must be in the form of a photographic print. Photographs can be submitted in colour or black and white. They must be unframed. Size 150mm x 100mm (4"x6")
3. Slides will not be accepted.
4. Multiple entries will be accepted
5. Photographs must be received by 31 May 2010
6. The greatest care will be taken with entries, but no responsibility will be accepted for loss or damage
7. Unless otherwise specified, permission to reproduce entries for publicity purposes will be assumed.
8. Photographers will be credited whenever the images are used.
9. Any persons included in the photographic image must be consenting for the photograph and any subsequent use of the photograph. A consent form must accompany any entries that include images of people.
10. Entries from children under the age of 18 must have adult consent
11. Entries will be returned only if they are accompanied by a SAE.
12. The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
13. Signing of the entry form for this competition constitutes acceptance of these conditions of entry.
14. Winning entries may be used on postcards to be printed and sold commercially. Permission to reproduce photographs for this purpose will be assumed.

**Churchill & District News Photographic Competition 2010  
Consent Form: Adult/Child**

I .....(full name)  
do hereby give permission to the Churchill & District News to use my or my childs (please tick)

Name  Yes  No  
Image/photograph  Yes  No

In any publications produced for the Churchill & District News.

I understand that:

The image/photograph may appear in print

The image/photograph may enable readers to identify me and or my child.

Signature..... Date.....

Address ..... Telephone.....

**Churchill & District News  
Photographic Competition 2010  
Entry Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Photograph: \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

The Photograph was taken at: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Photograph: \_\_\_\_\_ Category \_\_\_\_\_

The Photograph was taken at: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understood the conditions of entry and agree to abide by them. I certify that this is an original photograph, taken by myself.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee to be included with Entry Form:

Entry Fees:

\$2.00 per photograph (\$1.00 per photograph concession or student): (Maximum \$5.00 per entrant regardless of number of entries)

Please make cheques or postal orders payable to 'Churchill & District News'.

No cash or stamps. Attach consent form if necessary.

Entries to be mailed to:

Churchill & District News  
PO Box 234 Churchill 3842

**Closing Date: 30 May 2010**



# Festival 2010

## Churchill's Own Community Festival

### Saturday 17 April 2010

#### Gaskin Park Churchill



- \*Entertainment
- \*Sports Clinics
- \*Craft
- \*Information

\*Music  
& Much More  
**FREE ENTRY**



CHURCHILL & DISTRICT NEWS

## Churchill Festival to Go Ahead!

For a while there we thought it might not! The task of organising such a big event was proving too much for the Churchill News team. Help was not far away however. The festival is now being jointly organised by Hazelwood Rotary, Churchill & District Lions Club and Churchill News.

"Its fantastic that the Festival is going ahead," said Ruth Place from the News. "Its great to have Hazelwood Rotary and Churchill Lions helping and we

thank them very much for stepping in."

The date of the Festival has been put back to the 17th April and we are currently contacting all those who agreed to participate. If you, your club, community group ect. would like to be involved please contact Ruth Place on 03 5122 1961 as soon as possible.

This is a non-commercial event. Exhibitors must be from not-for profit and/or community organisation.

## Churchill & District Toy Library Open Again

The Churchill & District Toy Library is a great community resource that has been around for over 20 years. It operates exactly like a book library. Upon payment of a small membership fee, members may borrow up to 4 items which are to be returned after 2 weeks.

The Toy Library will be open again from Saturday 6 February from 10.00am until 12.00pm. Located in the old Watson Park Kinder building on Heesom Crescent, the toy library offers a wide range of toys and games for

borrowing. We cater for babies, toddlers and children up to about 8 years of age.

Membership is very affordable at only \$40 annually or \$10 per term (concession cardholders pay only \$20 annually or \$5 per term). Come along this Saturday and have a look.

If you would like more information, please call Jo on 5163 1629 or Kylie on 0403 287214.

## STRUT RE-GAS

GIPPSLAND  
*"The Strut Specialist"*

Tel: 5166 1665 Mob: 0407 542 122

Struts are not throw away items ...  
They can be RE-GASSED



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

**PICK-UP  
IN MOST  
AREAS**

## Your Friendly Local Taxi Company

Servicing Churchill and  
Surrounding Areas



**Wheelchair &  
Party Vehicle  
available**

Special rates to Melbourne  
and goods moving

## Churchill Self Storage

**THREE SIZES:**

**3m x 3m**

**3m x 4.5m**

**3m x 6m**

*Situated at corner of  
Switchback Rd &  
McCormick St, Churchill -  
Across from Churchill  
Timber & Hardware*

**SECURE ACCESS VIA ELECTRIC GATE & YOUR PADLOCK**

Phone: 03 5134 2790



**Contact:**  
**B. J Bennett & Co. REAL ESTATE PTY LTD**  
**219 COMMERCIAL RD, MORWELL**

# Churchill & District News Looking Back... Volume 2

**\*\*\*Volume 1 Now Available\*\*\***

### Order Form

I would like ..... copies of Looking Back... Volume 2 / ..... copies of Volume 2 at \$15 each

Please mail my copy(s) to:

Name .....

Telephone .....

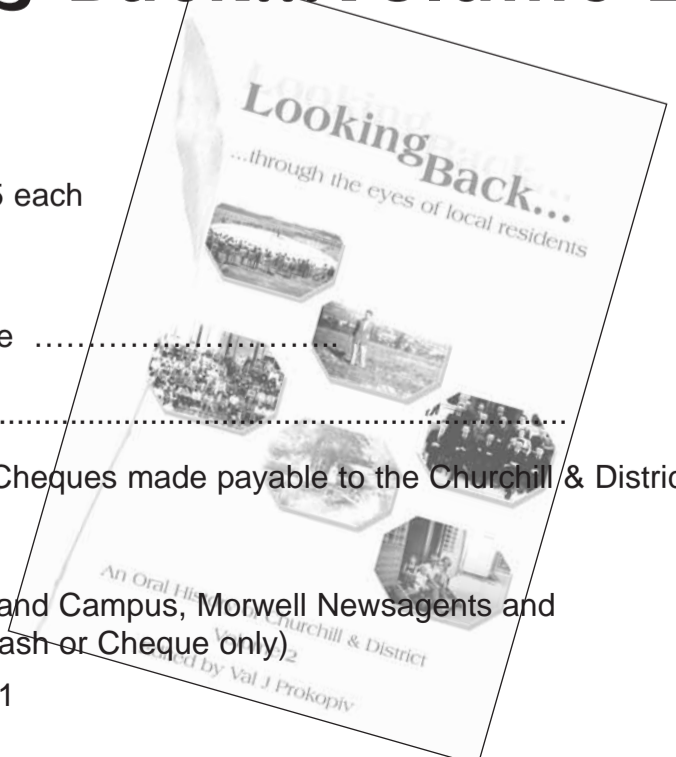
Address .....

Payment must be sent with order. Please add \$2.50 per copy for postage and handling. Cheques made payable to the Churchill & District News.

Return form to PO Box 234, Churchill, 3842.

Books can be purchased from: Churchill Post Office, Monash University Bookshop, Gippsland Campus, Morwell Newsagents and Gippsland Trades & Labour Council, 8 - 10 Elizabeth Street, Morwell Tel: 03 5133 7684 (Cash or Cheque only)

Delivery / Collection can be arranged by tel: 03 5122 2589 / 0411 053 546 or 03 5122 1961



# Pooh Corner

Child Care Centre

Caring for children since 1980

# LIMITED CHILDCARE VACANCIES

**Babies Room,  
0-12 months**

Seperate sleep, playroom and outdoor areas. *Places available*

**1 - 2 year olds  
Limited places**

**2 - 3 year olds  
Limited places**

**3 - 5 year olds  
Very limited places**

**INSPECTION BY  
APPOINTMENT  
WELCOME**

**5122 6227**

"Whilst the centre is new and refurbished with new toys and equipment, one thing remains the same and that is the high level of caring and professionalism practiced by all our Staff at Pooh Corner"

Proudly operating Pooh Corner



[www.mugsu.org.au](http://www.mugsu.org.au)

Churchill Hub, Phillip Parade, Churchill

# Gallery arc Regeneration Exhibition



Gallery arc is featuring an exciting yet sobering group exhibition called "Regeneration" this month. Twelve months since the Delburn and Churchill bushfires reeked havoc on local families the exhibition attempts to reflect back and find positive stories from those affected.

With funding from Arts Victoria and Regional Arts Victoria arc Yinnar was able to host a four day series of intensive art workshops in Yinnar, at no cost to those interested in expressing their ideas.

Arc member artists led these well attended activities. Many of the pieces made in the workshops are included in the Regeneration exhibition. A wide variety of works including ceramics, printmaking, sculp-

ture, photography, wirework and book binding is on show. On the opening night visitors heard from the drumming circle and the vocal nosh singers - also part of the workshop program.

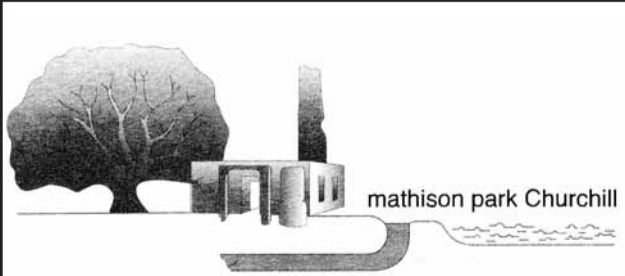
Other works include the large Boolarra Community Quilt made in the town by local women meeting weekly and led by artist Meg Viney. A series of photographic portraits by Rod Bechaz called 'Precious Little Remains' bring a tear to your eye as you read each subject's story of the personal objects they hold, rescued from pending disaster.

Many other photographs relating to the fires are on show, also pastels, watercolours, oil paintings and mixed media works.

A simple and powerful sculpture in the form of a tree by John Abery of Hazelwood North, uses burnt and rusted carpentry tools from his studio which was destroyed in the fires. A few small green leaves are entwined around the objects indicating a message of hope.

The Regeneration exhibition is on show until Saturday 27 February.

Gallery arc is on Main Street in Yinnar and is open Tuesday to Fridays 12 - 4 pm; Saturdays 11am to 3pm. Group bookings to see the exhibition may be arranged at other times by appointment; phone 5163 1310 or email [arcyinnar@speed-web.com.au](mailto:arcyinnar@speed-web.com.au).



## Mathison Park Bird Visitors

Many thanks go to those hardy souls who turned up for the January working bee. The temperature soared early, and made the task of brush cutting and checking the plants on the eastern side of the lake a hot task.

Water was also given to the new plants in the park along the Tramway Road side.

Thanks go to another park helper who spent many hours

spraying weeds on another day.

Some interesting bird visitors have been seen and heard in the park over the summer.

A night heron was seen on several occasions. Another feathered arrival had us looking for the bird which made 'that particular noise', but identification has so far been to no avail.

The next working bee will be held on the third Saturday of

February and thereafter in on the third Saturday of each month. Your attendance will be most appreciated.

If you have any questions or want further information about the park or working bees, please phone Tom on 51661388 or Ruth on 51221961.

## Drivers Wanted



**Reliable Churchill residents needed to drive Taxi's part time Days or Nights**

**Must be over 25 with good driving record**

**Contact Peter on 0428-516019**



## CHURCHILL & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Invites all local residents & interested parties to attend our next meeting

**7pm Wednesday 24 February**

Churchill Community Hub, Philip Parade, Churchill

**To consider future development of the vacant Walker Parade land (next to Monash Way)**

Special presentation by members of "Plan Our Park Action Committee"

## Churchill & District News

### Advertising Rates 2010

Full Page	\$280.00
Colour	\$495.00
Half Page	\$215.00
Colour	\$300.00
4 Columns	\$125.00
19cm x 14.8cm	
7 Columns	\$125.00
26cm x 8.5cm	
3 Columns	\$ 90.00
11cm x 14.5cm	
3 Columns	\$ 50.00
11cm x 8.5cm	
2 Columns	\$ 35.00
7cm x 6.5cm	
3 Columns	\$ 35.00
11cm x 4cm	

\* All prices include 10% GST

**Special: Book your Ad for six months and get 10% OFF**

*The Churchill & District News reaches the customers you need at a price you want to pay*

**ADVERTISING PAYS!**

**To Book Your Ad Telephone: Peter on 03 5122 2589**

# Black Saturday – One Year On

Heather Kuijpers and Sharon Heffernan from Jeeralang share their story of Black Saturday, one year on.

The day changed their lives forever, but both can see positive aspects which evolved, some from their own staunch determination to make it so for themselves, their families and others around them and some from the outstanding support they received from many sources.

## Heather Kuijpers

"It is called 'Black Saturday', but for my family it was much more than that; It was also 'Black Sunday', 'Black Monday', 'Black Tuesday' and still it goes on.

We were there, we got caught, no time to flee. We had a fire plan. We were prepared to defend our home and our animals, but we were not prepared for the fire ball of a monster that confronted us.

It changed me; it took part of me with it, my confidence. I had no control, I could not keep my family safe. By 6 pm the fire ball had already taken our farm, was it going to take our house where we were sheltering and my whole family with it? The floor was hot, flames were coming in through the back door.

Darkness, children crying, smoke alarms wailing, and a smoke filled house. Stinging eyes and troubled breathing. Still the windows and the back door glowed, and the roar of that monster. Would he take us with him or would he release us?

After the longest ten minutes, when I feared for my husband's life, my children's and my own life, I could feel him releasing us, the roar gone as quickly as it had come upon us.

The next few hours we were on auto-pilot trying to minimise the burning. We watched two of our neighbours houses burn to the ground, feeling useless, not being able to do a thing to stop their houses burning, feeling guilty knowing we still had our home. I managed to settle the children into bed, finally my husband and I fell in a heap at about 4am.

We knew we had lost some animals, most had survived, but it would be the light of day that would show us the real picture. I couldn't open the gate because the post had burned through and the gate would just fall down with the rest of the fences. The hay shed and all our winter feed was gone. The paddocks charred black. Some farm machinery and the kids outdoor toys all gone.

And people ask: "Were you affected by the fires?"

"Yes" I say, "It went right through our farm."

"Did you lose your house?" they ask

"No" I say

"Well you were lucky, imagine those poor people who lost their houses!" they say.

***One year after the fires, how do I feel? I feel many things. I feel different, changed somehow. My eyes have been opened. I have a better understanding of others who have faced or are facing a major trauma.***

My heart feels heavy, my stomach turns over. I do feel sorry for the people who lost their houses, but I don't feel lucky. My family and I spent ten minutes in hell and were released to a black burnt-out mess that reminds us every day of what we went through. We were not lucky.....

One year after the fires, how do I feel? I feel many things. I feel different, changed somehow. My eyes have been opened. I have a better understanding of others who have faced or are facing a major trauma. My heart goes out to them, knowing that there is a process that they must go through and how that journey can be so different from one person to the next.

Now I do feel lucky, lucky to be an Aussie. I have seen how a whole community can pull together in a crisis. The help and support has been amazing. I am so grateful to everyone who has helped us along the way; family, friends, neighbors, work colleges, government bodies, volunteers, random acts of kindness from complete strangers. There is no way I know to thank everyone for all the support, the occasional nudge, or for the much needed ear to vent to, other than to say, "It worked!!!!.... I'm here, I've comethrough it." My family has come through this trauma intact, I can't speak for others, but all your efforts have worked for me, tomorrow is a bright new day and for that I thank you,....., thank you, thank you, thank you.

## Sharon Heffernan

My husband and I used these words to describe Black Saturday.

The day was eerie from start- a day which promised to be what it turned out to be dry,

windy, painfully hot with us on guard constantly. This was summer, curtains closed and limited water. Alarm bells sounded at the first sight of smoke. This was the time. "The Real Fire Plan" to be immediately put into action. Prior to our leaving, frantic last minute phone calls were made warning neighbours, and receiving calls from panicking family and friends. I was terrified as I ran away leaving behind loved family members and neighbours. My husband waited on for the predicted wind change which came with an eerie ten minutes of silence before death was knocking at our back door. There was darkness and the deafening sound of the wind and fire, a suction of the oxygen from the air, sparks of debris and fire balls hitting like a nine inch grinder at 150 km/h.

After Black Saturday, returning home, the drive felt like the war had hit the Jeeralangs. The fire storm dramatically bombed our country side with a black autumn appearance. Burnt smell of tragic losses; lives, homes, properties, livestock, wildlife, traumatic physical and financial loss. Privacy and density wiped away- naked to the strong winds. I felt exposed.

It was vital to me to immediately rebuild normality, family lifestyle. But that was not going to be as immediate as I would like. For my husband there were fifteen days with no running water, or electricity, no cooked meals, no family.

I found I had to have the kids within arms reach at all times.

I felt I needed to mentally survive, to set an example, as kids sponge off your emotions. They were already traumatized and insecure as our home was upside down with our family separated, and I didn't want them to feel worse because of how I felt. But they helped me. They don't let you stop. They keep you going as they still need feeding, bathing, dressing, reading to. So we kept up the routine of kinder, swimming lessons etc. My view was that if our routine was OK we would be OK. It felt very reassuring and comforting to have the kids around.

The regular drive home through the black bush became gloomy. But we had to stay on the bright side, so we purposely looked for and admired, every new change which we would never have been able to experience before- tree ferns with magnificent green fronds, trees sprouting, stringy barks misty green, mauve and grey, blue gums red orange color, wildflowers like blue bells starting to bloom, and even grass growing in the bush.

At home I chose not to look around me and see the whole picture, but to concentrate on the next few steps ahead of me. One lady asked me, "How do you keep going, always worrying about future fires, packing and evacuating?" I thought back to what my Mum had said about there being someone who was always worse off. I thought about the war years when daily people had to suffer poverty, depression, regular hideouts in bomb shelters, illness, disease and the agonizing wait for the arrival of a death notice of a family's soldier. They got through it and I feel we can get through it, even though we may have to face more bad times ahead.

Our lives had been spared, but we felt that we

***The Aussie strength combined with governments, councils, contractors, organizations, fund raising groups, to all work together. We will continue our re-uniting process with our neighbors and community, because through that we can grow within our newly established support network.***

would now be slaves to the fire devastation in rebuilding and replacing our losses. We thought it should not be for others to judge, compare or comment, unless they had worn our shoes! But the generosity of Australians was overwhelming. The Salvation Army, case managers, volunteers, neighbors all lifted our spirits in ways we didn't expect. The Aussie strength combined with governments, councils, contractors, organizations, fund raising groups, to all work together. We will continue our re-uniting process with our neighbors and community, because through that we can grow within our newly established support network.

*Much more could be recorded here. But what is written is for the benefit of all those who went through this trauma. You may identify with the thoughts, feelings and positives outcomes experiences by these two special people. They hope that in sharing their thoughts it may be of help to others.*

areas

FOR

ate Coal Mine at

Back-

ERS

rchillor has stated

ck yard businesses

he main street. Cr.

point at a recent

gh.

ISHOPS TO BE

ENTHRONED

IT SALE

provi The Most Rev. A. F. Fox

entat Bishop elect of Sale, will

ity dibe enthroned at Sale,

NEW SHOPPING CENTRE AT CHURCHILL STRIKES TROUBLE

The recently opened shopping centre at Churchill in Gippsland may become a "Ghost Town" according to one of the shopkeepers. Businessmen believe that unless conditions change for the better and very soon they will face financial disaster.

It has been estimated that less than one third of the citizens of Churchill are shopping in their local centre. A milk-bar proprietor, Mr. J. Manikis claims "everyone is going broke" and he would be closing down unless more solid support was forthcoming.

The chemist said that he was of the opinion that it would become a "ghost town".

Two businesses closed at Christmas.

High rentals and lack of support was the reasons given.

BEACH BUGGIES ARE WAY OUT

## New Shopping Centre at Churchill Strikes Trouble

Local resident Bruce Stephenson sent the following press clipping about Churchill Shopping Centre from the 'Kooweerup Sun', printed Wednesday 10 January 1968. It would, as Bruce says, be interesting to get the views and memories from some of the residents and shopkeepers of that time.

### "NEW SHOPPING CENTRE AT CHURCHILL STRIKES TROUBLE"

The recently opened shopping centre at Churchill in Gippsland may become a 'Ghost Town' according to one of the shopkeepers. Businessmen believe that unless conditions change for the better and very soon they will face financial disaster.

It has been estimated that less than one third of the citizens of Churchill are shopping in their local centre. A milk-bar proprietor, Mr. J.

Manikis claims "everyone is going broke" and he would be closing down unless more solid support was forthcoming.

The chemist said that he was of the opinion that it would become a 'ghost town'.

Two businesses closed at Christmas.

High rentals and lack of support was the reasons given."

Ross Ollquist, the chemist, had this to say about the article.

Certainly business was dismal. Most businesses eked out a living.

The overall location and design of the original centre was a failure, evidenced by the now total rebuild.

Yes, there was media controversy at that point, raised, I think, by Manikis, an early quitter.

I am an optimist, and eagerly

looked forward to each letting of contracts to build more houses.

The media revelled in superlatives and I certainly deny making the "ghost town" comment.

The establishment of a co-operative hotel, thwarted by the Housing Commission was a disappointment as it could have provided a much needed resource and impetus to boost the new town.

Our community now has a unique opportunity to really consolidate four decades of halting progress by supporting the establishment of a Churchill and District Community Bank®

If you would like to comment please email: cdnews@dcsi.net.au or contact the Editor on 04110 43456.

# Northe's Natter



First of all I'd like to wish everyone a belated happy Australia Day. This day is when we come together as a nation to celebrate what is great about Australia and being Australian. We reflect on what we have achieved and what we are proud of.

Australia Day is driven by communities, unified by the celebration of our patriotism. This year I was lucky enough to attend the Churchill ceremony, which was fantastic. It was great to see so many locals gathered in the one place to commemorate the history of our great country.

I'd like to congratulate the community members who were awarded the following honours; Val Giles for Adult Citizen of the Year for her tireless efforts within the community, Ashleigh Caldwell for Junior Citizen of the Year for her commitment to the Churchill CFA, and the Churchill Lions Club for their Latrobe City Community Service Award and continuous hard work and dedication which speaks volumes.

To all these award recipients I thank you for the significant contribution you make to our community. I would especially like to thank the Churchill Lions Club for their assistance to the Churchill community, and all the work and effort they contribute to the area. The same can be said for all our service clubs and volunteers who tirelessly contribute so much to make our region such a wonderful place to live.

I would also like to welcome all students back to school. I hope all primary, secondary and tertiary students take the opportunity this year to exceed all expectations and put 100% into their studies. For those beginning Year 12, I wish you all the best for the year, and I am sure the dedication and brainpower you put into your schoolwork will see you succeed.

I wish every member of the community the best for 2010, and I hope that it is a prosperous year, filled with many memorable moments.

# Writing On At the Community Centre

Classes in creative writing have resumed at Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

after the summer holidays. There are a few vacancies for men and women who enjoy reading and writing and who would like to enhance their skills.

The Creative Writing group meets every Tuesday at 10 am and goes through to 12 p.m. Members write in a friendly, encouraging atmosphere and often read their work to the others in the group. The tutor is Cora Pal, veteran teacher and writer. Cora has been teaching at the centre for many years and several people in the class have been in the group right from its early beginnings at the Leisure Centre.

Each year the class puts out an anthology of its work, guest speakers are sometimes invited, and there are

social get-togethers too, especially on Melbourne Cup Day and at Christmas.

In 2009 several class members were successful in getting their work published, winning prizes in competitions, and branching out into related groups.

Olivia Langley won first prize in the Short Story for Children section of the Churchill News annual writing competition. Anne Beschle won first prize in the adult Short Story section. Kevin Jackson won second prize in the same section.

Anne Beschle also won the prize for her short story in the MoArtz annual competition, and Cora Pal won in the song section of the same competition.

Daniel Barclay has extended his love for the written word to speech writing. He joined Toastmasters, Traralgon, two years ago and is now Sergeant-at-Arms

for the group.

In the last term of 2009, members were sorry to say goodbye to Sandra James, a long time member of the group, who has left Gippsland to live in the Castlemaine-Daylesford area. Sandra continues to publish her monthly magazine 'Positive Words' which has a tradition of publishing the work of new writers. During the year, Sandra won prizes in competitions and also had her stories published in magazines in Australia and U.K.

If you are interested in joining the Creative Writing class at Churchill, please contact Coordinator Henry Parniak at the Hub, phone him on 51222955 or just drop into the Community Centre.

# Gardening Series to Come

We have received many requests over the time for gardening articles. We had a series for a while which was popular, but nothing of recent years. Attempts to find a gardening contributor have been to no avail- UNTIL NOW.

The Gardening Club has agreed to do a monthly article for us. They also are willing to try to answer any gardening questions you have.

To submit your questions please email [cdnews@dcsi.net.au](mailto:cdnews@dcsi.net.au) or send a letter to P.O. Box 234 CHURCHILL 3842. The Gardening Club members between them have a wealth of knowledge and experience



## GIPPSLAND FURNITURE HOUSE GROUP

Established 33 years

## Quality Custom-Made Furniture



Ash Dining

### Huge Range of Furniture and Bedding

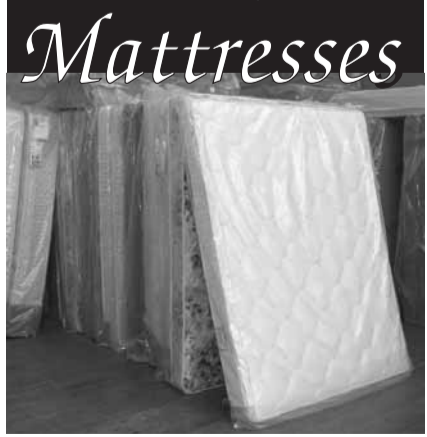
including Entertainment Units, Occasional Furniture and Chest of Drawers



Ash Lowline



Jessica Entertainment Unit



## Mattresses

Huge Selection on all bedding



Large Corner TV Unit



Fabric and Leather Lounges

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT: 224 COMMERCIAL ROAD, MORWELL. PHONE 5134 1888

OR TAKE YOUR PLAN TO OUR FACTORY FOR A FREE QUOTE AT: 73 CHURCH STREET, MORWELL. PHONE/FAX 5134 2933

## Churchill Citizen of the Year 2010 Valerie Giles

*A caring person with a strong passion for helping others*

Churchill Citizen of the Year, Valerie Giles, is, without doubt, a very worthy recipient of this award in recognition of her compassion and caring for others within the community. Val has always had a strong passion for helping others, especially the aged, Veterans and the disabled.

Val was born and educated in Yallourn. Her parents, the Wilden's, were early settlers in the Old Brown Coal Mine, now known as Yallourn North. After finishing her schooling Val chose nursing as a career and trained at Yallourn and Traralgon hospitals. After her training she worked in all Latrobe Valley hospitals, gaining a reputation as an excellent nurse.

In 1969 she married a Vietnam Veteran and moved to Churchill where they began to raise a family. During her children's education, she was actively involved in canteen duties, school council and parents associations of Churchill North Primary School and Kurnai College. During this period she also owned and operated Pooh Corner, one of the first Child Care Centres to be established in Victoria. Over the years this business has operated from Monash University, Churchill and is currently operating from the Churchill Hub. After selling the business Val moved back into nursing and became very involved in aged care. Val formed and coordinated a Day Care Centre at the Morwell Nursing Home upon leav-

ing general nursing. She then became involved in aged care nursing with BapCare, the Salvation Army and Silver Circle. She achieved levels of care, coordination and assessments for the aged, not only locally but across Gippsland. Whilst in these roles, Val liaised with local councils to set up the best quality of care for the aged in the community.

Val retired to care for her husband who was suffering PTSD, a legacy from the Vietnam War. Whilst in retirement she continued to volunteer in and around the community, especially the veteran and aged community of the Morwell RSL. Within the Morwell RSL she is the only female on committee and is Welfare Coordinator. In this role she was instrumental in forming the Day Club. To this day she remains a coordinator as it continues with its success in supporting veterans and their families. Val is also actively involved with the Morwell Red Cross Unit, as a co-ordinator of the Emergency Service Unit and Blood Bank assistant. She has also been chairperson of the organisation.

During the Black Saturday bushfires Val's property was threatened by fire and she and her husband evacuated. Fortunately their proper-



ty was saved and the very next day Val on behalf of the Red Cross, was in the Traralgon Emergency Centre working to help and support others who unfortunately were affected. She put in big hours over the next week.

Throughout her life Val has also had a passion for caring for people with intellectual disabilities. She worked for Interchange where she offered respite and care for the disabled. She has always, and continues to, care and have responsibilities for her sister who has an intellectual disability.

Thank you Val for your years of dedication to our community, your work is commendable.

## Margaret Guthrie Latrobe City Australia Day Award Recipient



Margaret Guthrie has for many years served as the President of the Churchill & District Community Association or CDCA. During her time at the CDCA there has been considerable change in Churchill, with many new projects completed and some still in progress. Margaret has shown considerable leadership skills, not only in chairing meetings of the CDCA, but also in articulating

a vision for Churchill.

Opinions on significant changes in Churchill such as the Churchill District Community Hub, the Shopping Centre Developments and Planning Schemes have prompted strong and diverse views. Margaret has steered the CDCA through these discussions ensuring that all are heard, and that the long term collective benefit is not overshadowed by

sectional interests.

Margaret has always been available to consult with community members, Councillors and Council officers, attend planning appeals, and support other individuals and groups in their projects for Churchill.

Margaret is to be congratulated for her commitment to the community.

## CFA Volunteer Ashleigh Caldwell Churchill Young Citizen of the Year

Ashleigh Caldwell joined Churchill CFA in September 2008. She has completed her Minimum Skills Wildfire component, which enables her to participate in wildfire activities such as bushfires. Ashleigh has also completed her Low Structure and Hazmet Awareness components.

Ashleigh assists with Brigade activities which includes the 'Brigades in Schools' program and servicing fire extinguishers throughout the Churchill community. In October 2009, she was presented with 'Rookie of the Year' for her dedicated and professional approach to the Brigade and the community as a whole.

Ashleigh was a new rookie when Churchill experienced the devastating fires in February 2009. She was too young to fight the fires but she supported her fellow members and the community by helping at the Fire Station with numerous tasks. She is only too willing to take on new tasks and learn more skills to enhance her knowledge when dealing with potential fire risks.

As well as being an active member of the Brigade, Ashleigh is a student at Kurnai College. She was awarded the



RSL Weary Dunlop Scholarship and a Conservation / Energy and Mining Corporation Scholarship.

Ashleigh is an inspiration to the younger generation of Churchill and it is hoped that she will become a fully fledged firefighter in the not too distant future.

Congratulations Ashleigh!

## Latrobe City Lions Clubs 2010 Australia Day Community Service of the Year



The demonstrated commitment to Community Service displayed by the Lions Clubs of Latrobe City paved the way for them to receive the 2010 Australia Day Community Service of the Year Award.

The Latrobe Valley bushfire that commenced in Churchill on 7 February 2009 was a tragic event, resulting in loss of life and widespread destruction of property within the Latrobe City municipality. Along with many other community groups, Lions club members sprang into action to provide emergency relief to those in need.

Lion Barbara Cameron is the Zone 5 emergency coordinator for Lions District 201V3, which locally includes the Lions Club of Moe, Traralgon, Churchill, Yinnar and Morwell. Members of these clubs were heavily involved in a wide range of emergency relief activities such as delivering hay and supplies, collecting wood, assisting in arranging for the repair

of fences and setting up a warehouse in Traralgon for donated goods and distributing them to needy families.

Lions were also very busy in the aftermath of the bushfires, catering for numerous emergency services relief teams, also the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund fundraising concert at Traralgon, which raised over \$100,000, and catering for the 300 Army cadets who attended the two-day working bee in the Traralgon South area.

In addition, vouchers amounting to \$160,000 were distributed from the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund set up by Lions District 201V3 to assist people in this area who had lost their homes. The Australian Lions Foundation supplied these funds.

The work done throughout the year by these dedicated Lions Clubs, including the Australia Day breakfasts is remarkable and they are to be thanked for their dedication to the community.

## 2009 Boolarra Folk Festival

Latrobe City Council Community Event of the Year



Ray Stewart

The Boolarra Community was thrilled last week to learn that the Boolarra Folk Festival has won the Latrobe City Australia Day "Community Event of the Year" Award for the 2009 festival.

This is the second time this event has won this award, the first being for the 2007 festival. The award was given in recognition of the effort made to stage the 2009 event, just 5 weeks after the bushfires swept through the district leaving a trail of devastation in its wake.

During the weeks leading up to the festival we could sense from the reaction of people offering support to ours and neighbouring communities affected by the fires, that we were in for our biggest crowd yet.

It was possibly the most people to have visited the town during a single day in the town's 130 year history, in excess of 9,000 people came.

It was a challenge to be able to cater for such a large crowd, for example having to provide a variety of foods and drinks takes some doing, however the town coped quite well.

The assistance from groups such as the Churchill Lions Club who assisted our locals with the car parking was timely, that was one area we would have found difficult had we not had their help.

With many still reeling from the effects of the recent events it was the first real opportunity for many peo-

ple to sit down and talk of their experiences or listen to those of others.

With the friendly and relaxed carnival like atmosphere of music, market stalls and other activities that took place throughout the parks, there was an obviously strong bond between people, from our community, and also between people from neighbouring communities who were showing their support by just being there.

The generosity of Latrobe City Bus Lines in providing a free bus service from Traralgon to Boolarra via Traralgon South and Churchill was a tremendous gesture.

It was good having people come to the festival who were affected by the Churchill fires. I spoke to one family that had lost everything. They were enjoying the day out, listening to music and catching up with friends.

We had people from near and far come and help out on the day, members of the Heyfield Lions Club turned up to do what ever they could to help.

The surveys done during the event were full of praise for the festival, the town's setting, lovely parks, the good music and market stalls, took many first time attendees by surprise.

The 2010 Boolarra Folk Festival will again be staged in the town centre on Saturday February 27th. This will be the eighth festival and as

with all previous festivals this year's will again be a free event.

The festival will open at ARC Yinnar on the Friday night the 26th, 4 acts will perform between 8pm and midnight. There will be a small cover charge.

The main music event will start at 11 am this year, the always popular school percussion segment led by Steve Schultz that will be the first of 14 acts that look certain to please the audience again.

Around the time that the main event is concluding in the park, the 'After Dark' music at the football ground social rooms will commence. This is also a free event. This is an opportunity for musicians to play a few songs, either by themselves or with others.

We welcome people to bring out a caravan or tent and stay at the Boolarra Recreation Reserve (football ground) on the Friday and Saturday nights, there are showers and toilets available and again there is no charge.

None of this would be possible without the support of our many sponsors, Latrobe City, International Power, O'Connors Transport, Maryvale Electronics and Latrobe Valley Bus Lines are just a few of our valued support team.

[www.boolarrafolkfestival.com](http://www.boolarrafolkfestival.com) has more information on the festival, if you would like to help as a volunteer on the day contact Ray on 51696275.

## Piper Bennett-Swinley Yinnar Young Citizen of the Year

Twelve year old Piper Bennet-Swinley has won the Yinnar Citizen of the year for her outstanding sporting and community commitment. She has been involved in tennis, soccer and singing. At school she was House Captain, a representative in regional athletics, played basketball, netball soccer and cricket. She represented Gippsland Zone in the State Champions League Soccer and was selected for the State netball squad. Piper won the award for the most outstanding girl at the Latrobe Valley Sports Camp and was Vice Captain of the Junior School Council.

According to her peers, she is a great friend who encourages others. Well done Piper!

## Zelma Mildenhall

Latrobe City 2010 Australia Day Citizen Of The Year



Zelma Mildenhall has been a passionate community member of the Jeeralang/Hazelwood district for many years. She had been a guide leader for over 30 years, local tennis player, and an outstanding community member. She is one of the main members of the district's Church and is always on hand when needed.

Her kind and gentle nature, is shown in the way she works within the commu-

nity, and her passion and dedication is evident to anyone who meets her.

Zelma is known for being hard working, never standing still, always on the go, and many wonder where her energy comes from. If you need help, she is there, no questions asked.

Zelma's leadership is renowned, she is a role model for the community and excels in community service.

Congratulations Zelma!

## Julie McWalters Yinnar Citizen of the Year



Yinnar Citizen of the Year Julie McWalters has lived in Yinnar since 1987 and has, according to residents, made the town a better place to live. She has been involved in the Yinnar Friendship Club, which keeps the older citizens of Yinnar active.

Her recent work in helping the young Chapman family with three beautiful daughters all struggling with a genetic

disease, has been overwhelming. Julie has sought financial support to enable the girls to receive medical assistance in the USA, cooked meals, washed clothes and has become a Nana figure to the three girls who need 24 hour care. She has done all of this while assisting her brother Greg to run the Yinnar General Store.

Congratulations to Julie on a much deserved award.



## Australia Day 2010

# Boolarra Community Recognition Awards

The following were recipients of Boolarra Awards for their significant contribution to the Boolarra community.

## Cherry Prior

for her efforts to restructure and reinvigorate the Football Netball Club to be more cohesive and better positioned for the future.

She has coached, established the "netters" junior team, pursued funding opportunities, and organised publicity, always encouraging the club and members to achieve to their maximum.

## Noel Fox

For his tireless efforts over many years to improve the environment of the 4km of Morwell River adjoining his property; removing the willow infestation, planting native vegetation, and keeping weeds in check.

He also maintains Fox's hole area for picnickers and swimmers, and has eased access to the river for anglers.

## Ian "Bluey" Hibbins

Ian is a foundation member of the Boolarra Museum Reserve Committee of Management, and is currently the President. Ian has worked tirelessly for the past 25 years planning and overseeing renovations to bring the Old School Building and contents up to heritage standards.

Ian is also currently an active member of the Boolarra and District Historical Society, having also been a founding member, and recently assisted with the installation of the Town Heritage signs.

## Mengar Hibbins

Mengar has devoted 25 years of service to the Boolarra & District Historical Society as Secretary.

Mengar has worked enthusiastically to develop our Historical Museum and to foster appreciation of Boolarra's past. She was instrumental in the recent Town Heritage signage project.

## Gwenda and Roger Pither

For their teamwork and the tremendous support they rendered the entire community during and after the fires. They have provided a listening post for many troubled people, and have greatly facilitated the coordination and communication of important information throughout the community, whilst maintaining their friendly smiles and lovely calm persona.

## Mirboo CWA

The ladies from MCWA organised the distribution of knitted and handmade cotton quilts to all school children in Boolarra.

They also contributed to the pamper day, supplying meals and pamper kits.

## Shirley Bonning

Through her efforts in operating the local Op Shop for approximately 15 years to promote animal welfare, and for the personal assistance that she provides for any animals in need.

She has been a dedicated community worker.

Congratulations to all Award recipients.



*Pictured Left Churchill United Soccer Club Committee: Matthew Prokopiwski, Richie Lehrner, Stephen Breheny, Marianne Osborne, Sue Azlin, Ian Sands and Mark Medew. Absent: Jenny Webb, Maryanne Gauci-Lugton, Fred Riess, Ben Kimpton, Craig King, Rob Sands & Charlie Twomey.*

## Latrobe City Australia Day Award The Churchill United Soccer Club Community Bushfire Appeal

After the devastating Boolarra fires, the Churchill United Soccer Club's volunteers quickly organised a bushfire appeal - within five days of the event. It was a remarkable achievement.

They had a monster raffle and auction with goods donated by local businesses. A local real estate auctioneer conducted events and the club raised in excess of \$21,000 on the night for Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund. Churchill and District Lions Club assisted with a barbecue.

The Churchill and District community supported the event in force with 1700 people estimated to be in attendance, local bands played free of charge on the back of a semi trailer to a family-based crowd.

The next day was Black Saturday and many of the people in attendance had to

fight to defend their homes or were forced to evacuate.

The event consisted of raffles, auctions, live music, food and drink, and children's activities and was an outstanding success.

A month later the club ran a second appeal in conjunction with the other Gippsland Soccer League (GSL) clubs and with organisation of local soccer identity Gerry Clarke to raise a further \$13,000 - taking the total funds raised for GERF to in excess of \$34,000.

Congratulations to the Churchill United Soccer Club.

**\*\*\*Junior training for boys and girls starts on Tuesday February 16 at 4.30pm. For more information visit the club website: [cusc.com.au](http://cusc.com.au) (please note: no www.)\*\*\***

## OAM for Doug Caulfield

Emergency Management Coordinator, Gippsland Region, DHS

With almost 40 years experience in a broad range of emergency activities, Doug Caulfield has developed a substantial knowledge base in both the practical and theoretical aspects of emergency management.

Complimenting this experience is a parallel career of more than 35 years of Australian Defence Force Reserve service that has provided command and control skill development able to be well utilized in times of need caused through a multitude of natural and 'man-made' disasters in his region.

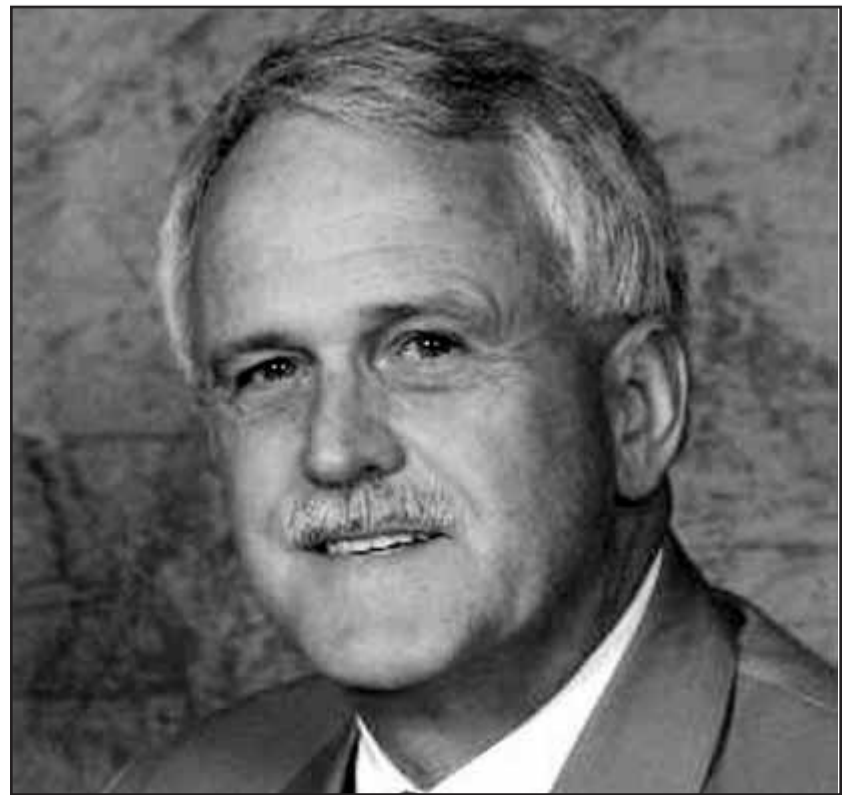
He has a passion for community capacity building in the area of EM and has campaigned for many years to strive to achieve best practice in emergency management planning particularly within the local government network that makes up the geographic region of Gippsland in Victoria.

Doug is a regular guest lecturer at the Emergency Management Australia Institute at Mount Macedon and

was recently recognized in the Australia Day Honours list with the award of the Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community of Gippsland through a range of ex-service, sporting and local government organizations.

Doug served as Ward Councilor in the Gonyah Ward of Latrobe City for three years 2005-2009 and speaks highly of the community members and groups that work tirelessly for their respective areas across the Gippsland Region.

"The three years spent working with the community in my capacity as a City Councilor, has confirmed my belief that we all need to contribute in some way to the future of our place in the region. I encourage everyone, irrespective of age to join a local group, make a contribution and do your part to make our community just that much better for the future".





### C & D Celebrity Chefs'

# Apple Pratie County Down Style

## From the kitchen of KATHLEEN McDONNELL

### Hazelwood South

As a young girl growing up in Dromore, County Down, Northern Ireland Kathleen McDonnell would often help her mother prepare traditional Irish apple pratie. She continues to sometimes make it for her family today even though Australia has been her home since 1971.

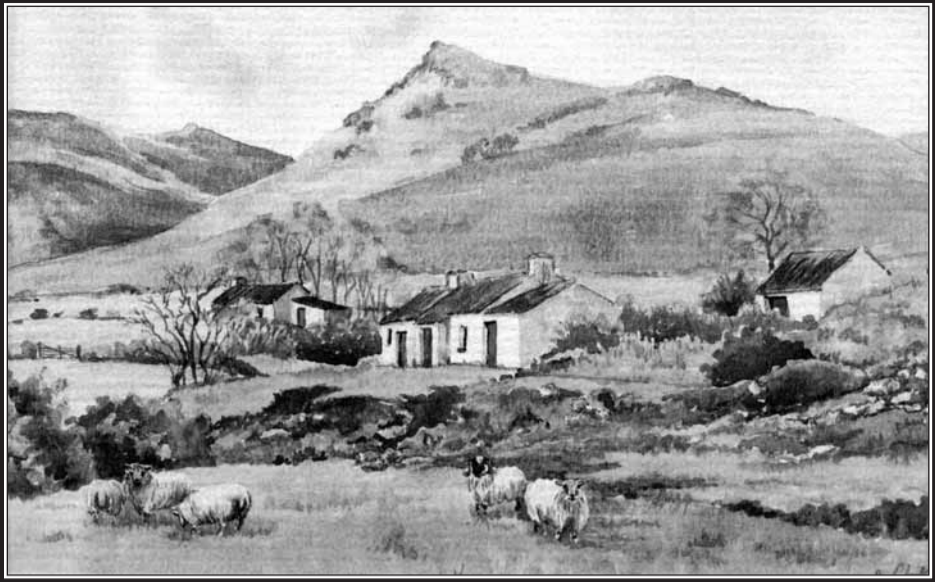
Kathleen, her husband Henry and their baby daughter Deirdre arrived in Australia in 1971. Their first home was in Queenscliff, Sydney. They lived in New South Wales until they came to the Latrobe Valley in 1971. They have a son Peter and three grandchildren Micah, Maya and Liam, all born in Australia.

After a short time in Morwell, Kathleen and Henry moved to Rickard Drive, Hazelwood South

and have lived there ever since. For a number of years Kathleen worked at McDonald's restaurant in Morwell then at Baker and Gordon, the accountants.

Now retired, Kathleen loves her life in Australia but returns to her roots in Ireland, where she has five sisters, 'quite often'. A true bookworm, Kathleen is never happier than when reading. She likes all kinds of books – novels, autobiographies, biographies – you name it.

Kathleen is our 'Churchill Celebrity Chef' No. 3. Here is her recipe for apple pratie. Pratie is Irish for potato. She tells me the pastry used in this recipe is not as crisp as shortcrust, being quite chewy in texture.



'Hen Mountain' at Hilltown in Northern Ireland by artist Beth Cheney

## APPLE PRATIE

- 1 cup mashed potato – cooled
- 1 cup plain sugar
- ¼ cup caster sugar
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 5 large green apples
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 2 tablespoons honey
- Egg or water for glazing
- 1 tablespoon caster sugar, extra.
- Whipped cream to serve.

Pre-heat oven to 190 C. Place mashed potato in a bowl. Stir flour, sugar and baking powder over potato, mix with wooden spoon to form a stiff dough. Refrigerate pastry for 30 minutes. Peel and core apples, cut into 1 cm slices, cover with water to

prevent browning while rolling out pastry. Lightly grease 20 cm pie plate. Divide pastry in half. Roll out one half to fit base of pie plate. Arrange drained apple slices over pastry base, sprinkle with cinnamon and drizzle with honey. Roll out remaining pastry to cover top of pie. Trim and decorate edges. Cut three deep slits in pastry to allow steam to escape. Glaze with egg or water and sprinkle with 1 tablespoon sugar. Bake for 30-40 minutes until golden. Serve immediately with whipped cream.

Happy cooking, everyone!  
Cora Pal



Dr David A Forys, Chiropractor  
Laberta K Forys, MSc, Dietitian  
Hazelwood Village Shopping Centre  
Churchill  
Phone: 5122 3336

# People's Choice - A First for Latrobe City!

The excitement and anticipation is building as the LCBTA (Latrobe City Business Tourism Association) gears up for the launch of the inaugural LCBTA People's Choice Awards 2010. The LCBTA People's Choice Awards is designed to celebrate the achievements of businesses in the Latrobe City - "Whatever Business You're In, You're In Tourism" and to celebrate that we are open for business and ready to tackle a new year. The LCBTA is encouraging all businesses to participate and for customers to vote for their favourite business in the following categories.

- the Best Tourism Attraction
  - the Best Dining Experience
  - the Best Accommodation Experience
  - the Best Small Business or Retail Experience
  - the Best Community Event
  - or the Best Experience in the Walhalla Mountain Rivers area
- Encourage your customers to fill in the form below, mail it or drop it into one of the voting boxes at Latrobe City Service Centres or nominated venues in your town. Or go online to [www.visitlatrobe.com](http://www.visitlatrobe.com) and follow the links. You can be a visitor to or a resident of the Latrobe Valley to

be eligible to vote and it is one vote per person per category but you must be over 18 years of age. Voting is open until 6 April 2010. A Gala Awards night will be held on 30 April 2010. By voting you could WIN a Latrobe Tourism package valued at \$500. Voting slips can be posted to the LCBTA P.O. Box 3485 Morwell MC Morwell 3841. If you have any questions on how to participate in the LCBTA People's Choice Awards 2010 then contact the Project Officer on 0458 148 220 or email [lcbusiness tourism@latrobe.com](mailto:lcbusiness tourism@latrobe.com)

Name of Business you are voting for \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick Category

Best Accommodation Experience

Best Community Event in Latrobe City

Best Dining Experience in Latrobe City

Best Small Business & Retail Experience

Best Tourism Attraction Experience

Best Experience in the Walhalla & Mountain Rivers Region

Mail your Voting Slips to:  
**Latrobe City Business Tourism Association**  
 PO Box 3485, Morwell 3841  
 or VOTE online at [www.visitlatrobe.com](http://www.visitlatrobe.com)



**Vote now for your chance to WIN a Latrobe City Tourism Package worth \$500!**

Your Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No \_\_\_\_\_ Mob \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please tick this box if you do not want to receive Latrobe City marketing information

Terms & Conditions  
 One vote per person per category, you must be over 18, you must supply your name and address and contact details. Further conditions can be found on the website [www.visitlatrobe.com](http://www.visitlatrobe.com)



Asleigh Caldwell with members of the Churchill CFA

# Stay Alert



The Captain and members of the Churchill Fire Brigade wish all those who were impacted by the 2009 January/February bushfires to know that their thoughts are with them at this time.

"We still need to be alert to what is happening around us. The cooler weather has assisted in keeping fire activity low so far this year, but as we head into the drier part of February and the hotter days of the weeks ahead, the community should consider their bushfire plans and

think about what they would do in the event of a serious fire close to Churchill," said Captain Steve Barling.

The brigade is thrilled that young member Ashleigh Caldwell was named the Lions Club of Churchill and District "Young Citizen of the Year". Congratulations Ashleigh. It was a well deserved award. We are all proud of you.

## Rain Gauge Weather Observations

By Peter Prokopiv

It was suggested by one of the Churchill News team members that it would be a good idea to record rainfall in Churchill. Quite often, there seems to be a difference in this area compared to Morwell and Traralgon.

We have now set up a rain gauge and have been recording rainfall in Churchill and will compare our monthly figures with those of the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) who record weather at Latrobe Valley Airport (always bearing in mind that they are 'professionals' and we are 'amateurs!').

As we did not begin recording until 13 January we cannot compare the figures for that month but we will bring you our observations for February in the next edition.

Interestingly on the 5 February, we recorded 19.6mm of rain whereas the BOM recorded 31mm.

For those interested the figures recorded by the BOM for January were as follows:

Total Rainfall: 26.0mm. Highest temperature: 40.1. Lowest temperature: 5.2.

# Hazelwood House Happenings



A day trip to Walhalla was enjoyed by some of our residents. After a picnic lunch we went for a drive around the town.



Joan Greaves and volunteer Lorraine Bissett celebrating Joan's 80th birthday at the hostel



Maisie and her family Ron and Betty Fox celebrate Maisie's 101st birthday at the hostel.



A group of residents enjoyed an afternoon feeding and patting the animals at the Alpaca farm at Neerim South

**Kurnai College Churchill Campus**



**Adventurer - Tim Cope**

**Tim Cope – an inspirational start to the school year**

Kurnai staff enjoyed and were inspired by a presentation by Gippsland adventurer Tim Cope in the lead up to the school year. During three days of professional learning prior to classes beginning, staff engaged in a range of learning workshops and presentations.

Tim's presentation 'On the trail of Genghis Khan-a 10,000 km journey on horseback from Mongolia to Hungary' was the final scheduled college activity and provided a motivating finale to the three day build up to the start of the school year proper.

Tim spent three years tracing the footsteps of Genghis Khan across the Mongolian steppes encountering all manner of personal challenges.

He completed this remarkable adventure with just his three horses and dog Tiggan for company, apart from the many nomads and other characters that he encountered on his odyssey.

Tim's presentation was full of breathtaking photographs, amusing and touching anecdotes and his own philosophy and learning about life gleaned from the nomads and his trials and tribulations.

All members of Kurnai college attended the presentation and unanimously agreed that his story and accomplishments helped prepare for another great year at Kurnai College.

Tim's website [timcopejourneys.com](http://timcopejourneys.com) contains lots more information about Tim including.....

Tim Cope - National Geographic Adventure Honoree 2007, Australian Adventurer of the year 2006 - is a 30 year old from Gippsland, Victoria (Australia), who is pursuing a life of

adventure, writing, and film. Tim, who speaks fluent Russian, and guides in Antarctica, Siberia, and Mongolia, has spent around five years travelling in regions of Russia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine by bicycle, row boat, skis, horse, camel and many other means.

Most of all Tim enjoys coming to know people in their home environments by traveling in traditional and local ways.

Upon return from every experience, he has been motivated to take his personal discoveries to schools, organisations and community groups through the medium of lectures, film and articles.

Over time this has become his profession with the writing of books, articles, and professional presentations.

Currently he is in Australia working on a film series for ZDF and ARTE in Europe, and the ABC in Australia, a book about the Eurasian nomads (for Bloomsbury), and a children's story book about his traveling dog, Tiggan.

Highlights for Tim have included:  
 \* (2004-2007) Travelling by horse from Mongolia to Hungary on the trail of nomads- a path most famously laid down by Ghengis Khan and the Mongols in the 13th century.

\* Rowing a wooden boat through



**Tiggan makes his entrance**

Siberia to the Arctic Ocean (2001)

\* Riding a bicycle for 10,000km across Russia and Mongolia (1999-2000)

\* Training as a Wilderness Guide in the Arctic and forest regions of Finland and north-west Russia (1998-1999).



**Tiggan enjoying the attention from staff**

**Gippsland Education Precinct**

**STUDY BEGINS FOR 2010**

Students at the senior campus of Kurnai College at the Gippsland Education Precinct (GEP) returned to study on Monday February 1 and were quickly focused on their learning journey for the year.

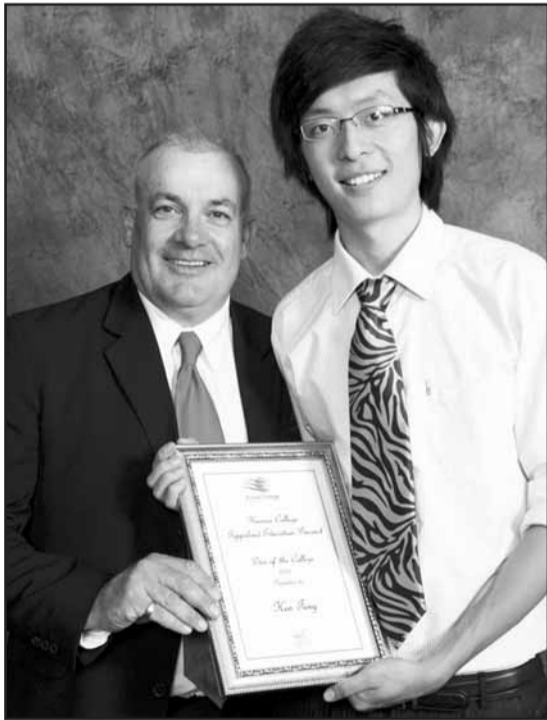
The GEP campus has continued to grow in enrolments and program offerings in 2010.

Over eighty new students from outside Kurnai College have joined the campus this year and are looking forward to enjoying the young adult environment that exists at the GEP.

The 2009 cohort achieved very pleasing results lead by the College Dux, Ken Teng, with an Enter score of 99.80.

Students at the senior campus this year are also well placed to achieve high level results as well as having the

opportunity to develop a future pathway with the other GEP partners in Monash University, GippsTAFE, and Apprenticeships Group Australia (AGA).



**GEP - Kurnai College Dux Ken Teng with College Principal**



**Hazelwood North Primary School**

The 2010 school year started very smoothly.

The 24 preps and three other new students have settled comfortably into the school environment.

Our current enrolment is 156. We welcome two new teachers – Mrs Lisa Pursch and Mrs

Justine Morgan to our school.

The whole school is working on the theme "Switch On To Learning" for the first two weeks.

The annual 'Back to School' barbecue was held during the second week of school.

Parent Information sessions will be held

during the third and fourth weeks of term.

We are looking forward to the development of a new site plan for the school.

It is hoped that building of a hall will commence this year, to be followed by a classroom block and a library/art/computer room.

The classrooms are buzzing with excite-

ment and the playground behaviour has been excellent.

We are looking forward to a great 2010, as we work as a team – students, parents and teachers.

**Boolarra Primary School**

**P/1/2 Dinner at School and Grade 2 Sleepover**

This was staged towards the end of the 2009 school year. The following report was written by grade 2 student, Rory Peter:

For dinner we had salad and sausages. After we had dessert, we went outside for a treasure hunt. I found one lollipop. After the P/1s went home we played a balloon game. You blew the balloon up and then you let it go to see how far it goes. I won it three times and then we had a final. The balloon went all over Mrs Hilton. Adam got his balloon stuck on the roof. He got two prizes. We voted for a movie. There was Happy Feet, The Polar Express, Stuart Little and Ice Age to choose from. We watched Happy Feet after we had Milo and milk. It was good. After the movie we went to bed. In the morning we had breakfast. I had rice bubbles. Then we had free time and went home.

**Jemma, of grade one, provided this report:**

I came to school in Dad's ute. Mum had to drive the ute. On the day of the sleep-over and dinner it was terrible. There was rain and thunder. We played musical chairs, Maltesers games and had two treasure hunts. In the Maltesers game Adam ate 15 Maltesers. After the Maltesers game the people who didn't eat any Maltesers got to have a treasure hunt. I found a green lollipop. I traded with Tilly and Caitlyn. For dinner I ate everything first. For seconds I just had a sausage. After that we had fruit salad and ice-cream. Then the grade twos got to have a sleep over.

**Special Awards for Grade 6s**

It was wonderful to have local federal parliamentarian, Russell Northe in attendance at the evening performance of our concert. Russell took this opportunity to present a Community Service award to grade 6 student, Erin Hassett. Other awards were also presented at the Grade 6 Graduation Ceremony. Tessa Anderson was the recipient of the very prestigious "Academic

Excellence, Bill Brannon Award" generously provided by the RSL. Mirboo North and District Rotary Presented a Student Leadership Award to Alana Napier for her outstanding job as Junior School Council (JSC) President. They also provided encouragement awards and vouchers to each of the other Grade 6 Graduates. The Yinnar and District Lions Club presented a special award for Artistic Contribution to Holly Hodges for her all round artistic excellence. We are very grateful to these organizations for their generous support of our students.

**Farewell to Our 2009 Grade 6's**

On the 17 December, we staged our traditional Grade 6 Graduation ceremony. The highlights of the evening were the speeches presented by the students (along with lots of tears), the poem our School Council President, Mandi Peter read, the PowerPoint presentations made by each of the students and the beautiful song performed by students Holly and Tessa. The Boolarra Football /Netball Club did a magnificent job providing dinner for the grade 6s and their guests and kindly allowed us to use the social rooms.

**The Grade 6's Graduation Poem**

This was written by very talented former Boolarra Primary School parent, Graeme Colbert on the occasion of his daughter, Bonnie's graduation many years ago:

**"PREPS NO MORE"  
(For our preps of 2003)**

It seems like only yesterday, but it's seven years I know,

We brushed their hair and dressed them up; to school they had to go.

The parents went reluctantly; some even shed a tear,

But the kids they went in boldly, for them it held no fear.



Sure they've had their scrapes and fights, but oh so precious few,

More the sounds of sport and songs and lots of giggling too.

But the thing that's more important, in times of dire strife,

They've formed great bonds and friendships that will stay with them for life.

'Cos they're Boolarra kids together, home grown in our great town,

And I'm sure they'll stick together, they won't let each other down.

So as they start another journey, to Leongatha and Mirboo High,

Maybe we shouldn't cage them up, maybe let them fly.

For they'll exceed our expectations, great futures lie in store,

So good luck you little smiley kids, you're at Primary School no more!

2009 Version

**Great Excitement and Sadness**

Our grade 5/6 teacher, Ms Tina Larrad was unable to attend the Grade 6 Graduation as she was rushed to hospital on that day.

Tina had twin sons Jenson and Cooper, born very prematurely at 26 weeks.

Jenson and Cooper both required intensive

medical support. Sadly, after a very brave four week battle, Jenson passed away. Cooper continues to do well but will remain at Monash Medical Centre for some time yet.

As soon as possible Ms Larrad will bring Cooper to school for a visit, which will be lovely as her students made some wonderful gifts and cards for the boys.

**2010 School Year**

We are excited to offer 4 small classes this year (all under 20).

This will allow lots of individual attention for our students.

We welcome two new teachers to our staff – Liz Tingay who will teach the 5/6s and Megan Clymo teaching one of the P/1/2 classes.

Glynn Taylor will also return to teach P.E. The Blue Earth fitness and participation program enjoyed so much by our students in 2009 will be provided again.

Heather James will conduct keyboard and piano tuition, whilst Darren will teach guitar.

We have 13 new preps joining us, our largest cohort in some time. We are looking forward to them making a fabulous start to their education.

**End of Year Concert - "Send in the Clowns"**

Rave reviews were received following our end of year production. Students from grade prep to six all participated in the show, which was an

original work developed by local performing arts expert, Maria Andjelkovic.

The show featured lots of contem-

porary music centering on the circus theme with Britney Spears, Pink and Lady Gaga songs being performed.

Parents struggled to recognise their

children as the costumes and make up were such effective disguises.

Parents and other family members are now snapping up DVDs of the

show from the school office for \$10 a copy.

If you would like a copy, please contact the school on 51696471.



# Churchill Primary School

# The New Year has begun well at Churchill Primary

## New Staff For 2010



Mr. Peter Stokes - Mrs. Halie McColl

We welcome Mr. Peter Stokes to grade 2/3 for term one.

He is replacing Mrs. Kryshia Speirs as she has taken up the acting Principal Position at Wurruck Primary School.

There have been some changes in staff roles including Mrs. Jacqui Burrows who is taking the Language Support program and Mrs Halie McColl who is now taking the PE program.

## Performance and Development Culture Accreditation

Our Principal, Mrs. Susan Gilmore and Leading Teacher, Mrs. Helen Dyson attended the accreditation ceremony at Roxburgh Park Secondary College in December. The Minister, Bronwyn Pike, addressed the

schools receiving awards, congratulating them for continued work for school improvements in a number of areas including



## OUR PREPS!!!!



Mrs. Jacqui Burrows



The new preps have settled in very well and their enthusiasm and energy is infectious. Mr. Matthew Dubois and Miss Brooke Henry

have been busy preparing for a great start to school in the Prep /One rooms. We will be using the developmental curriculum approach to

learning to ease the little ones into school.

## More CPS News

### Induction of new staff

Feedback Processes to staff, students and parents Individual Teacher Development Plans Providing Quality Professional Development.

We are very proud of this achievement and will push to make further improvements to benefit our learning community.

### Building Education Revolution

The plans are struck, the builders appointed and in February, our new building will begin. At the end of last year, the upper grades were moved out of the building to be demolished. We look forward to moving back into our new Library / IT centre and 4 new classrooms at the end of the year

## Boolarra Primary School continued

### Boolarra Folk Festival

We are gearing up for our part in this wonderful annual event, which will be staged on Saturday 27 February.

This year, renowned local drummer Steve Shultz will lead our students in performing a drumming extravaganza at 11am to kick off the musical performances.

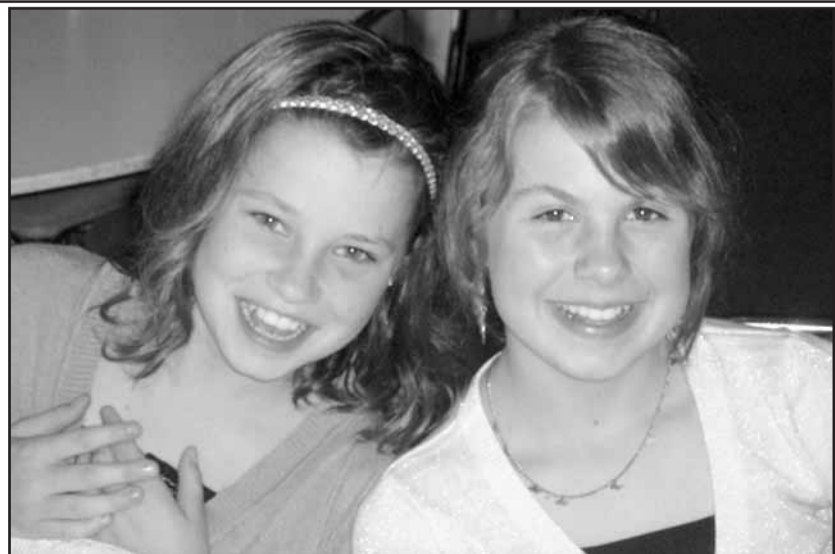
Every child in the school will participate. Throughout the day, we will have an Art Display showcasing the magnificent creativity of our students, organized by our fabulous Art teacher Ms Karen Twomey.

This will be set up in the Boolarra Lawn Bowls Club social rooms, where the Bowling Club will sell

Devonshire tea and refreshments from their bar. At some stage in the afternoon, we hope to have an auction of surplus goods from the school and donated items.

All money raised will go towards new classroom furniture for our eagerly awaited new Library / Technology Centre. If anyone wishes to donate items for us to sell, we would be most grateful. Contact us on 51696471.

Chloe and Alana enjoying the 2009 Grade 6 Graduation





# Get Fit - Play Tennis!

## Churchill Tennis Club

# ROUND ROBIN

**\* \* \* \* School Holiday Fun \* \* \* \***

Monday 29 March 2010

9.00am - 12.00pm

Churchill Tennis Club, Manning Drive,  
Churchill



Only  
**\$2**  
To Enter  
(\$5 Family)

Heaps of Trophy's to be Won  
Lucky Door Prizes  
Sausage Sizzle

U8 U10 U13 U15

Beginners and Competition  
Players in each age group

## Never Played Before?

Come along and have a go in a relaxed and  
friendly environment  
Racquets and Balls Supplied

To Register: : Fill in the Entry Form and Mail to  
PO Box 270, Churchill by Monday 22 March 2010

Entry Forms also available online at  
[cdnews.com.au](http://cdnews.com.au)

More Information: Contact  
Carol Scott: 0409 326 769

### Churchill Tennis Club Get Fit

### Play Tennis/Round Robin

Monday March 29 2010: 9am - 12 noon

### Entry Form

Players Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you played competition tennis before? YES / NO

#### Events

(tick the event that you would like to enter, age as of March 29 2010)

	AGE	CATEGORY	TICK TO ENTER
1	Under 8	Beginners	
2	Under 8	Competition	
3	Under 10	Beginners	
4	Under 10	Competition	
5	Under 13	Beginners	
6	Under 13	Competition	
7	Under 15	Beginners	
8	Under 15	Competition	
9	Doubles (if time permits)		

#### Conditions of Entry

\* Players enter at their own risk

\* The referees decision will be final (Referee: Sally Kirstine)

I understand the conditions of entry:

Signature of Parent or Guardian:

For further information contact: Carol Scott 51221464

Entries close: Wednesday Monday 22 March 2010

Post Entries to: Churchill Tennis Club, PO Box 270, Churchill 3842



## New Churchill Motors

Specialising in all  
general repairs and  
servicing of 4WD and  
passenger vehicles  
including:-

**NEW CHURCHILL MOTORS**  
Lot 8 Phillip pde CHURCHILL 3842  
Phone: (03) 5122 1380  
Fax: (03) 5122 3586  
**STEVEN ABBEY**

\*Brake and Clutch  
replacement and brake  
machining  
\*Steering and  
suspension

\*Gas and petrol tuning  
\*Cylinder head and  
Flywheel machining  
\*Log book servicing and  
general repairs



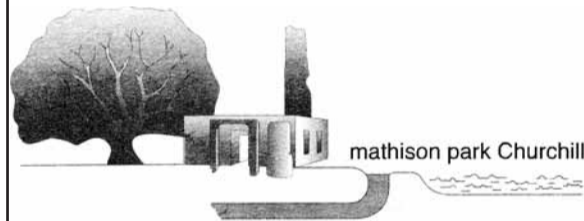
# Valley Trophy Centre

60 George Street, Morwell

\*Engraving \*Personalised Coffee  
Mugs \*Name Badges \*Giftware  
and Pewter \*Glass Engraving  
\*Large Trophy Display

**5134 1493**

FAX 5134 1334  
[www.valleytrophycentre.com.au](http://www.valleytrophycentre.com.au)



mathison park Churchill

## Water Plants in Mathison Park

By Ken Harris

Walking around Lake Hyland in Mathison Park one sees large patches of reed-like plants. These are not in fact reeds, which are not at present to be found in the park. They are in fact known as Tall Spike-rushes – *Eleocharis sphacelata* and are a type of sedge. They consist of tall hollow cylindrical stems and the flowers are just bunches of stamens (on the males) or styles (on the females). My picture shows a female flowering stem. Most of these Spike-rush patches are home to the Purple Swampphen. The Swampphens spend a lot of time among the spike-rushes and they build their nests as a platform of spike-rush stems, piled to quite a height above the water,



Tall Spike-rush



Tassel Sedge

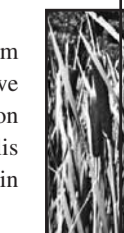
A second sedge is also common all around the edge of the lake. This is the Tassel Sedge – *Carex fasciculata*. They grow as green clumps of rather coarse grass-like leaves and their flower stems arch over so that the flower spikes hang downwards, leading to the name Tassel Sedge. Each flower head of the Tassel Sedge consists of two different spikes one above the other. The female flower-spike comes first and the male flower-spike immediately follows it on the stem.

There is one other water plant that grows very commonly in the park. These are often called Cumbungi in Australia, but have a number of different names elsewhere, being any of Bulrush, Common Bulrush, Broadleaf Cattail, Common Cattail, or Cat-o'-nine-tails. Their scientific name is *Typha latifolia*. Bulrushes are in a different family and are not closely related to the sedges. The bulrushes in the park are all the same species and it is an introduced species

that is spreading at a great rate in the Gippsland Region and is tending to out compete the two native species of Cumbungi which are both still to be found in Gippsland. In Mathison Park these Cumbungi are very common in the swampy region in the middle of the park and along Eelhole Creek. The Friends of Mathison Park are trying to eliminate this aggressive weed from the park and if we succeed, we hope to introduce the Common Reed – *Phragmites australis* (which is a native species) in its place.



Tall Spike-rush



Common Bulrush

# No Charge Weekend to Celebrate Upgrade at Latrobe Leisure Churchill

To celebrate the reopening of the pool and the new gym space at Latrobe Leisure Churchill, Latrobe City Council is hosting an open weekend at the facility on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 February 2010.

Latrobe City mayor, Cr Kellie O'Callaghan said the Churchill facility will be open to the public at no charge over the weekend to encourage the community to experience the completed upgrades. The no charge offer includes use of the pool and the gym equipment.

"The Churchill Leisure facility is undergoing an extensive \$4.8 million redevelopment which is progressing well. Redevelopment has now reached a very exciting stage with the reopening of the pool and the new gym space earlier this week," Cr O'Callaghan said.

"The new gym space is almost three times the size of the old gym and features an improved user-friendly layout and space. There is a new audio and visual cardio area, a new assessment room, and there will be some exciting new equipment arriving shortly."

Latrobe City councillor, Cr Darrell White, said pool users will note a huge difference in the aquatic area.

"The pool hall has received a facelift with new aquatic grade paint; and the pool deck surrounds and change rooms have also received a facelift with the vibrant Latrobe Leisure corporate colours being applied to provide a fresh clean appearance," Cr White said.

"The construction of the stadium is progressing well with upgrades to the stadium space to include three new fully compliant multi-use courts, new change and toilet facilities, and upgraded reception. To improve accessibility for all users, there will also be a lift installed.

"This is a major redevelopment from which the community as a whole will benefit. The various sports participants, keep-fitters, families, workers, students and other community members can look forward to embracing a facility that encompasses their individual needs."

The project is scheduled for completion



in August 2010, and is a collaborative effort between Latrobe City Council and Monash University Gippsland, with funding from Latrobe City, Monash University and the Federal Government.

During the first two weeks of February 2010 Latrobe Leisure will also be offering a discounted membership rate on Gold direct debit, reduced to \$50 per month for the first 12 months of the membership or a term membership through until 30 June for \$300.

Further information on the reopening of the facility and membership offers can be obtained at the Churchill Leisure facility, or alternatively contact Josh Graham, leisure facility leader, Churchill, telephone 5122 2504.

*Pictured above: Councillors and Executive Team from Latrobe City inspect the renovated pool.*

*Pictured right: The new gym space is almost three times as large as the old facility.*



## Schools In for 2010!

New Preps at Churchill Primary School

