

# WARANGA NEWS

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Print Post Approved PP1000007000

RRP \$2.00

A community newspaper  
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 15 August 2024

## Big weekend for Sport in Rushworth

**It wasn't only in Paris that Sport was huge last weekend!**

Rushworth's sporting community turned out in force to celebrate some local legends, including an inductee into the Victorian Country Cricket League Hall of Fame and his daughter who celebrated her record-breaking 400th game of netball for the Rushworth Football Netball Club.

The Rushworth club also held a big reunion weekend, with their 1999 C Grade and Reserves team, the 2004 (twenty year) A Grade and Seniors and the 2014 (ten year) Reserves. A Past Players Day added to the event and two ex AFL players donning the black and gold for Rushworth Seniors added to the excitement.

The reminiscing wasn't confined to Rushworth either, as both Colbinabbin and Murchison were catching up with past players and supporters too.

Read about all these events in our bumper sports section this edition starting on page 29.



(Right) Katrina was rewarded with many bouquets on her award winning 400 games with the Rushworth Football Netball Club. She is the first player in football or netball in the club's history to reach this milestone.



Katrina Ogden - her record includes 3 Premierships, B Grade Best and Fairest and many Runner-up Best and Fairest finishes. She has led many teams as captain including this year's - and she is a committee member and umpires as well!

On Sunday 11 August, Peter Raglus was invited by the Victorian Country Cricket League to be inducted into the Hall of Fame which acknowledges country cricket people who have contributed significantly to this great sport over a period of time.

Peter was nominated by James Stokes (the administrator for the GMC) for his contribution to Melbourne Country Week for over 36 years of participation as a player, then as an official for the Kyabram District Cricket and Goulburn Murray Cricket.



It was a big day for golf too as the crowds gathered at the picturesque 'Royal Rushworth to play off for the prestigious Rushworth Open Championship. (p 29).

Chris Bolton **BOLTON ESTATE AGENTS** 0413 092 698

# Shearing for Kids hits six-figure milestone

Bill and Val Barlow along with Bill and Katrina Ogden hosted their tenth Shearing for Kids with Cancer Day on 26 July. A remarkable display of community support and generosity saw the grand total of funds raised smash the event's previous records. The achievement highlights the power of community-driven efforts when united around a cause - in this case that cause is making life a little better for children battling cancer. Katrina writes about her appreciation for all involved:

It was an incredible day with people coming from near and far to enjoy it. The fog made it a little bit chillier than we had hoped for but it definitely didn't keep people away.

The boys were hard at work in the shed, shearing a total of 650 for the morning. We had ten stands set up for the twenty-five shearers to pull in and out of gear while the roustabouts were kept very busy, picking up the fleeces, on the broom or at the table.

We would like to thank everyone who worked in the shed on the day. Without these people we would not be able to have this annual event. They all donate their time, services and skills for this show to run.

After lunch, the time had come for the two-legged friends to lose some locks; Declan Baldwin and Kade Dearing. Both boys haven't had a haircut for ten years between them. We really appreciate them having their hair cut and donating their hair to make wigs for children. Thank you, gentlemen!

We then started with our auction items. We had 48 items which included crushed gravel, gypsum, lime, diesel, wind-rowing, golf packages, wine, shearing gear, loaded eskies, football tickets, a signed football and

juniper.

Then the wood auction started. We had fourteen loads of wood up for grabs, with the biggest load going for \$2100.

During the day, we also had a silent auction going with 24 items to make a bid on. This included wine, pizza oven, vouchers, meat hamper and a golf package. We then finished the day with the raffle. There were 160 prizes to win so there were some very happy people when this was finished.

We would like to thank all of the wonderful businesses around our community that had donated to this. You all are remarkable.

We would also like to thank Nigel, Chris and the Elders Team from Bendigo for their auctioneering expertise. You do a fantastic job every year and we really appreciate this.

We would also like to thank Janelle and Shanae for your face painting skills and Leonie and Rowan from Its Party Time Jumping Castles. You kept the children entertained for the day. Kaylene, Joel and Slim for manning the entry tent all day. You guys are amazing. Everyone else who cooked morning smoko, served drinks, cooked the BBQ and roast meat and gravy rolls. Thank

you!

It was an awesome effort by everyone to work together and raise some much-needed funds to go to the My Room Children's Cancer Charity, trying to make a difference for the children and their families who have got the long road ahead.

My Room is an organisation raising funds for childhood cancer research, clinical care, family support and to improve the quality of life for children with cancer with 95c out of every \$1 donated going back to support the families.

We would like to thank everyone who came out on the day, buying raffle tickets, working in the shed or even having a snag and supporting us. Without your contribution and everyone's hard work, we would not have been able to raise the total of:

**\$101,898.69!**

We truly thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts, as we would not be able to raise this amount without your dedication and the fantastic effort by all involved. Thank you again!

*Katrina*



Aerial shots of the day show clearly where all the action was at Wanalta!


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# Rushworth's Place Based Plan – where to now?

With Rushworth's long-anticipated Place Based Plan officially endorsed by Council, the focus now shifts to implementing the outlined strategies and how this will be achieved.

The release of the final PBP document was accompanied by an action plan which broke down identified strategies into specific tasks and timelines. However, as the role of the appointed PBP committee concludes with the finalisation of the plan, it is unclear how the initiatives outlined will be implemented and whose responsibility it is to 'kick-start' the action.

Speaking in support of the plan that was endorsed at the August Council meeting, Waranga Ward Councillor Adrian Weston noted the high level of engagement that reflected a broad cross-section of the community.

"The community has clearly expressed their desires for a thriving local economy, stronger community connections, environmental sustainability, and the preservation of Rushworth's unique character," Cr Weston

stated. However, he added that we must also think about how the goals articulated by residents will be achieved.

"Development of the plan is an important milestone, but a plan that sits on the shelf gathering dust is useless," Cr Weston said.

"It's now up to the community to ensure the goals of the plan are achieved."

Cr Weston believes an essential first step towards achieving the community's goals will be the establishment of an overseeing body to prioritise, set up working groups and assign responsibilities. While the formation of a Development Committee is a defined action in the plan, it will be up to the community to decide the form this will take and to define its responsibilities.

"It is important we start

this conversation as soon as possible," Cr Weston said.

He noted that it might take some time to decide on the best 'fit-for-purpose' committee model for our community. The process should allow for a careful assessment of the most effective composition and skills required to get the job done.

Other important tasks ahead will include the identification of key resources – human, financial and material – that need to be allocated to ensure the plan's execution.

Most importantly, critical to sustaining momentum will be a framework for evaluating progress, with regular updates on milestones achieved reported to the community. This will ensure that Rushworth's Place Based Plan doesn't end up "on the shelf gathering dust".



Cr Weston encourages the community to be active in achieving the vision of the Place Based Plan.



Development of an arts precinct was one of the short goal priorities outlined in the plan.

## Help shape future of Vic Goldfields

Efforts are continuing to obtain World Heritage listing for the Victorian Goldfields' historical and cultural legacy.

The Victorian Goldfields Bid notes that the region holds "the most extensive, coherent, and best-surviving goldrush landscape in the world". It is especially valued for its heritage buildings and preserved 19th-century town layouts as well as retaining significant remnants of early mining infrastructure.

The early goldrush years were a time of rapid economic growth and social change as people flocked to the area in search of the elusive metal. The fortune-hunting activity left an indelible mark on the landscape and architecture of the region.

It is hoped that World Heritage listing would help preserve the region's historical integrity, promote sustainable tourism and ensure future generations can learn from a significant chapter

in Australia's history.

To contribute to the bid, residents of the region are being asked to complete a survey about what makes their towns great places to live, what could be better and what is of most value that must be retained.

To complete the survey go to <https://goldfieldsworldheritage.com.au/get-involved/lets-get-world-heritage-ready/>

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**www.campaspe.vic.gov.au**

## Project Update

The renewal of toilets and shower at the Kyabram Northern Oval Cricket Clubrooms have been completed. All cubicles are now unisex.



**Coming Up** ▶ Council meeting | 6pm Tuesday, 20 August | Echuca Civic Centre

Meetings can be streamed live: [campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming](http://campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming)



## Campaspe Health Expo

The community is invited to the Campaspe Health Expo, a free event at Rochester Town Hall on 28 August from 2 - 6pm. The expo aims to raise awareness of community services in five health domains: wellbeing, physical, financial, legal, and pet health. Part of the Active August program, the event will feature various exhibitors and BBQ catering by the Rochester Lions Club. Visit our website for more information [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/eventsdirectory](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/eventsdirectory)

## Tenders

### C24034 - Two Tree Road Bridge Replacement

Tenders are invited for the provision of the Two Tree Road Bridge Replacement. The scope of works includes removing and replacing the entire bridge structure. A copy of the documents can be downloaded from Council's website. Tenders must be submitted via the eProcure portal no later than 2pm (AEDST) on Thursday, 29 August. Late submissions will not be accepted.

## Immunisation Sessions

**By appointment only.** Register at [campaspe.vic.gov.au/immunisations](http://campaspe.vic.gov.au/immunisations)

If you are feeling unwell or have any cold or flu like symptoms, you must cancel or reschedule your appointment.

### Wednesday, 14 August

• 9 - 10am | Kyabram Senior Citizens Centre

### Thursday, 15 August

• 5.30 - 6.30pm | Echuca Library

### Monday, 26 August

• 9 - 10am | Tongala Service Centre

Need help making an appointment? Please call Council on 1300 666 535.

## Employment

### #campaspecareers

- Contracts and Procurement Coordinator - closes 28 August
- Early Childhood Educator- various positions
- Group Fitness Instructor
- Learn to Swim Teacher
- Prosecutions Lead - closes 18 August

For all positions currently open and application details, visit Council's website.

## Now Open

For all projects and applications open, visit [campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen](http://campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen)



## Lockington Place Based Plan

The Lockington & District Place Based Plan survey has opened for community consultation. Tell us what you love about your local community and share your ideas and needs for future places, infrastructure, and services in Lockington & District. Complete the online survey or pick up a hard copy from any of our service centres or the Lockington Business Centre. Survey closes Sunday, 25 August.

## #MyCampaspe Photo Competition

Show off what you love about where you live, work or visit and feature in the 2025 Campaspe Shire Calendar. All photos, including three new artwork categories, need to be taken in Campaspe Shire, must be in landscape orientation and high quality, up to 10mb. Each winning entry will receive \$100 and feature for a month in the calendar. Entries close Friday, 27 September.

## Community Grants

The Community Grants Program offers financial support to not-for-profit community organisations, groups and associations for projects, exhibitions and/or performances. The maximum grant amount is \$4,000. Applications close at 5pm on Monday, 16 September. If you require assistance with your application, contact our Community Development Team on 1300 666 535.

## Victorian Government's Creative State Strategy

The Victorian Government is seeking input from those involved or interested in the creative sector. An online survey and the option to submit ideas are also available to submit feedback. The strategy will shape the government's priorities and investments in the creative industries. The deadline for contributions is Monday, 26 August at 11:59pm.

# Landcare Week celebrated with activities and grants

Landcare Week (5 - 11 August) , an annual celebration dedicated to community-driven environmental care, saw a number of events and a series of grants awarded to support various sustainability and conservation projects.

To mark the week, several local groups were awarded funding to support their environmental initiatives. These grants, ranging from small to substantial amounts, are designed to enable communities to undertake projects such as enhancing biodiversity, managing water resources and rehabilitating degraded landscapes.

Among the recipients were community groups working on reforestation efforts, schools developing educational programs on sustainability and farmers adopting regenerative agriculture practices.

Notable projects included a wetlands restoration initiative, a citizen science program monitoring local wildlife and a youth-led project promoting urban greening.

Small local Landcare groups with limited resources were also assisted with funding to help with basic insurance and administrative costs. These included Waranga Catchment Collective, Girgarre-Stanhope Land Protection Group and Harston Landcare group, all of which received \$500.

The grants are provided by a coalition of government bodies, businesses, and philanthropic organisations and underscore the importance of grassroots efforts in environmental conservation. Landcare Week highlights the impact of local groups in fostering a healthier, more sustainable environment.

## Rushworth P-12 students celebrate Landcare Week

To mark Landcare Week, volunteers from the Goulburn Murray Landcare Network presented some information sessions for Prep to Year 10 students at Rushworth P-12. Students rotated through the various sessions and were especially mesmerised by the mini beasts!

John Laing showed the students a collection of live insects (including spiders), cocoons, nests, hives etc and talked about habitat, the role of invertebrates in the environment and how humans can live alongside them.

### Tracks and Scats

Fiona Stewart will guide students through an activity of matching a range of scats and tracks with pictures of the animals. She also had taxidermy native species to share with the students.

### Nature Walk

Louise Costa took groups on a short, guided walk into the bushland adjacent to the school to talk about habitat and local plant and animal species.

Thanks go to the volunteers for giving up their time so freely and for sharing their expertise with the students.



Fiona Stewart showed the students lots of interesting things about the tracks animals leave behind. *More photos on page 21.*



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# Community Grants Program - next round open

Campaspe Shire Council is inviting applications for round two of the 2024/25 Community Grants Program.

The program provides financial support to Campaspe's not-for-profit sector to deliver a range of initiatives that will improve the lives of people within the community.

Community organisations, clubs, and associations may apply for up to \$4,000 to fund a wide variety of initiatives, projects, and activities that positively impact local residents and promote active community participation.

The allocation of funds aims to improve the lives of residents by supporting initiatives in health, wellness, sports, leisure, and the arts.

Mayor Rob Amos stated that these grants are instrumental in aiding the non-profit sector to execute a variety of projects that align with the Council's aspiration for the shire to be strong, supportive, vibrant and sustainable.

"I urge local organisations to begin their grant applications promptly and, crucially, to consult with a council representative regarding their submission to ensure it adheres to the criteria and increasing its likelihood of approval," said Mayor Amos.

Applications for the Community Grant program open 8am, Monday, 5 August and close at 5pm on Monday 16 September 2024. Applications will be assessed against set criteria.

For full details on funds available and assessment criteria go to [www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/grants).

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# Campaspe calendar photo competition now open

Campaspe Shire Council's #MyCampaspe 2025 calendar photo competition is open for submissions. This year the competition is changing, with ten photo and three artwork categories being introduced.

The traditional photo competition's expansion to include artwork offers a broader platform for creatively exploring Campaspe and all it has to offer. The move aims to engage a wider audience and invites artists of all ages and skill levels a chance to showcase their talents.

The winning photos will be selected by an internal panel and the public will have the opportunity to vote for the calendar cover photo. The winning photo will also feature as one of the monthly photos inside the calendar.

Up to five photos can be entered across thirteen categories by each person with the winning entry for each category receiving \$100.

## Categories

### 1. Local Events + Festivals

Share your favourite local events and/or festivals that took place over the last 12 months in Campaspe.

### 2. Community Spirit

Show a moment in time when the Campaspe community spirit shone bright.

### 3. Get Sporty in Campaspe

Submit your best photos that capture the spirit, energy and excitement of sport in the shire.

### 4. Waterways, Countryside and Farmlands

Campaspe is known for its stunning views. Share your best waterway, countryside and farmland snaps.

### 5. Arts and Culture

Through your eyes, share the rich, diverse, vibrant culture of Campaspe.

### 6. Special moments with your nearest and dearest

Show a moment that captures the essence, connection and special moments with your nearest and dearest in Campaspe.

### 7. Christmas in Campaspe

Illuminate December with your favourite snaps that capture the magic of Christmas.

### 8. A moment in time with your furry friend/s

Share the charm, personality and touching



moments of your beloved fur companions.

### 9. Flora and Fauna

Immerse yourself in the natural attractions of Campaspe, capturing the beauty and diversity of our flora and fauna.

### 10. Artwork for Under 12 year olds

Get creative and share artwork capturing Campaspe through the lens of children 12 years and under.

### 11. Artwork for 13 – 25 year olds

Showcase your creativity and unique perspective of Campaspe through a range of artistic mediums.

### 12. Artwork for 26+ year olds

Share your creativity and imagination through artwork that embodies the Campaspe spirit, open to ages 26+.

### 13. Freeform

If you've got photos of Campaspe that don't fit into any of the twelve categories above, submit them under freeform.

Photos must be located in Campaspe Shire, high quality and in landscape orientation.

Photos from the competition will also form part of Council's photographic library and feature in promotional publications, Council reports and on social media.

The competition is now open with entries being accepted until Friday, 27 September. Enter online via Council's website under the 'Now Open' tab.

The calendar is free to all residents and will become available later in the year.

**Rushworth Market**  
 Village Green High st, Rushworth  
 Saturday 17 August  
 8.30am - 1pm  
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# Forum focuses on youth homelessness

A recent “End Homelessness for Good” sector forum, hosted by The Salvation Army in partnership with GOTAFE, placed youth homelessness at the forefront of discussions as part of Homelessness Week 2024, which ran from August 5 to 11.

Panellists at the forum included The Bridge Youth Service Program Manager Renae Ford, Goulburn Ovens Murray Homelessness Network Coordinator Renee Murtagh, Tarmara Flanagan from The Salvation Army’s Northeast Victoria Youth Service, Peter McGrath, State Manager for Homelessness Services in Victoria at The Salvation Army, and resident of Shepparton Education First Youth Foyer, Jasmine.

Some alarming numbers raised at the forum included:

- 436 people without a home in Shepparton on any given night;
- homelessness affects 59 people per 10,000 of the population in the Greater Shepparton area, making it 23rd out of 88 Victorian electorates;
- since the last Census, homelessness has increased by 17.2%; and
- In 2022 to 2023 in Greater Shepparton, 838 people were homeless, 397 of those were men, 69 were 19 years and under, 443 were women and 93 were 19 years and under.

Jasmine provided a powerful account of her personal experience with homelessness,

sparking a dynamic and passionate discussion.

The panel not only explored actionable strategies to end homelessness in our region, but also addressed the critical need to overcome stigma associated with homelessness, emphasising that understanding and empathy are essential in driving meaningful change.

## Reduce stigma

The Bridge’s Renae Ford said we need to reduce the stigma and build community awareness about the issue.

“While we (the Bridge Youth Service) are focused on providing services, it’s vital for the community to understand and advocate for the realities of homelessness and its impact.”

Audience questions highlighted interest in community involvement and the role of Greater Shepparton City Council in providing additional support. Attendees included Federal Member for Nichols Sam Birrell, State Member for Shepparton Kim O’Keeffe, and State Member for Northern Victoria Wendy Lovell.

“The theme of what we’re hearing today is the importance of education, reducing stigma, and uniting our efforts,” Ms Ford said.

## Homelessness Week campaign at Parliament House

Staff members from Shepparton’s The Bridge Youth Service joined fellow housing service providers from across the state at Melbourne’s Parliament House on Wednesday.

The Bridge, a member of the Goulburn Ovens Murray Homelessness Network, added its collective effort to Victorian Homelessness Network’s Houses at Parliament campaign, folding more than 600 origami houses to raise awareness of the urgent need for at least 60,000 additional, appropriate social housing homes in Victoria.

Six-thousand origami houses, symbolising 10 per cent of the actual need, were showcased on the steps of Parliament House. The vibrant and colourful display contrasted sharply with the serious message conveyed.

The campaign is asking that state and federal governments commit to:

- Building at least 60,000 additional, appropriate social homes to meet the current need in Victoria; and to
- Implement the 10-year National plan, with a commitment to end homelessness.

“Thirty-thousand Victorians, every night are experiencing homelessness,” Council to Homeless Persons CEO Deborah Di Natale told the gathered crowd.

The Bridge Program Manager Renae Ford said it was inspiring to stand alongside others in the sector be part of the campaign.

“It was important for us at the Bridge to be a part of the advocacy to end homelessness and for us to represent the young people we support in the Goulburn region of Victoria,” Ms Ford said.

“Standing alongside those in the sector, with similar stories, challenges, limited resources but a whole lot of passion was inspiring.



Panellists discussed potential strategies to address homelessness and noted the need to reduce stigma and develop awareness about the issue in the community.



Origami houses cover the steps of Parliament House representing 60,000 needed social homes.

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## A new arts event coming our way

The inaugural Campaspe Artists Studio Trail will be held across Campaspe Shire on the weekend of 22, 23 February 2025.

A group of Campaspe artists and makers have banded together to create this event which will see over twenty artists showing and demonstrating their work. About a dozen artists will open their studios to the public, while three groups of artists will be set up at Kyabram Town Hall, The Foundry Arts Space in Echuca, and at our very own Rushworth ART Depot (RAD).

If you're an artist or maker from the Rushworth region, we have space for more artists to join in the event at RAD. Or you can open your own studio if it's in a suitable location for public access.

And if you're even just a little bit interested in art and would like to meet some artists and see what they do and how they do it, this will be a great event for you to attend. Put the dates in your diary!

To find out more about the event, <https://castrail.art> or phone 0408585348



**Art Circle at RAD Market Day**  
34 Esmonde Street Rushworth

## Beth and Trevor Reid - Sewn Together over 52 years



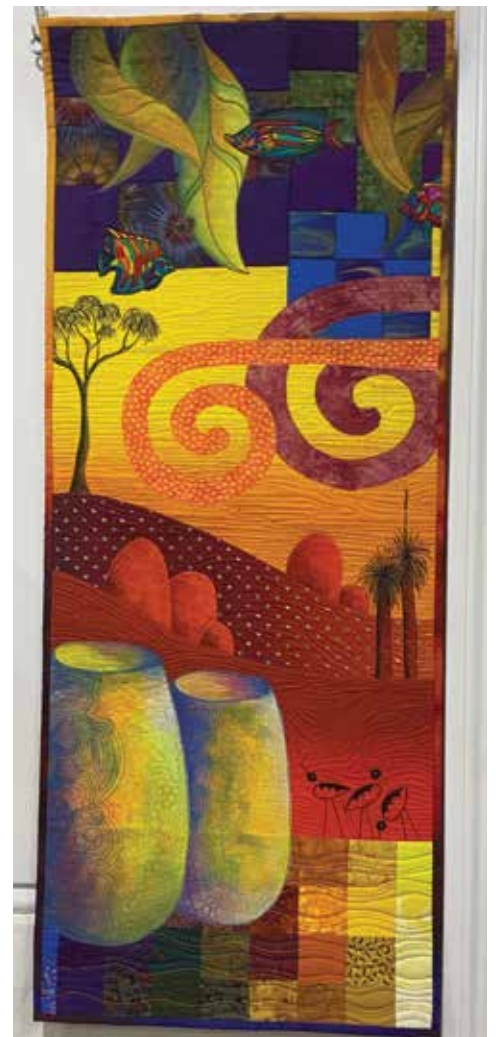
Quilting artists Beth and Trevor Reid from Canberra gave an interesting talk on their fifty-two years of working together on amazing art quilts at the opening of their exhibition at Kyabram Town Hall Gallery on 3 August. Their exhibition, along with two others can be seen during the month of August.



(Above) Beth and Trevor Reid with some of the many art quilts to be seen at Kyabram Town Hall Gallery.

(Left) 3D gum leaves were part of their entry in the exhibition in 2013 celebrating the centenary of Canberra where 100 quilts were displayed, one for each year. There were twenty such leaves which made a great display.

(Right) Another dynamic work of art. As partners Trevor does much of the designing of their pieces and Beth does the hard work of making them in fabric.



Kennedy Shiraz 2019, Kennedy Cambria (Reserve) 2014, Kennedy Pink Hills Rosé 2021, Henrietta Shiraz 2020  
Henrietta Rose 2022 available online and being served at Colbinabbin Country Hotel.



# Community meets to discuss prison closure

by Kay Ball

A community meeting instigated by local Dhurringile resident, Sherri Smith-Hoyer on Thursday 8 August was attended by 150 people and buzzing with animated conversation expressing a variety of concerns about the closure of Dhurringile Prison.

Many aspects of what this closure means to the community were raised; staff job losses and the emotional and economic fallout that it is causing, impact on surrounding towns if families move away for work – e.g. the effect on the economy, school enrolments falling - and the risk of deterioration of the historic buildings on site. Possible re-use of the property brought great ideas into discussion. Most popular suggestion was to establish an education centre offering training for farming skills.

The meeting was very well conducted by joint Chairs Sherri from Dhurringile and Rob Jones from Murchison, with excellent and informed comment from City of Greater Shepparton Mayor Shane Sali and local MPs Kim O’Keeffe and Annabelle Cleeland. Staff spoke about the shock experienced with the announcement and also how the prisoners themselves were upset with their re-location.



Meeting panel - Shane Sali, Kim O’Keeffe, Rob Jones, Sherri Smith-Hoyer and Annabelle Cleeland.



The crowd gathers at the hall to discuss the future of the decommissioned Dhurringile prison site.

In Murchison and other towns, community work parties by selected prisoners have for years worked out in the area performing very useful tasks such as gardening, painting and general maintenance of public amenities such as cemeteries, school properties, parklands and church grounds. This was a very positive activity as the prisoners were motivated to make a positive contribution to the community based on good behaviour allowing them to take part in the team. These work parties will be sorely missed.

There will be a committee formed to continue the expression of community concerns and ideas for the future of the property. Contact Sherri Smith-Hoyer 0429 396 029 if wanting to be involved, or email [sherri.smith-hoyer@outlook.com](mailto:sherri.smith-hoyer@outlook.com).

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**Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns**



**Around Rushworth**

# Happy birthday Pauline!



**It might not have been a Big 0 birthday but Pauline Perry's special day was celebrated in style at the Colbinabbin Country Hotel - and with a very spectacular cake!**

# Fundraiser event at Longleat Winery

Friends of SAM (Shepparton Art Museum) held their annual fundraising luncheon at Longleat Winery, Murchison with a packed house last Sunday.

The main attractions were a delicious Italian themed meal served before a very informative talk by Rushworth ceramic artist Angie Russi who told of the long journey to complete the floor to ceiling ceramic mural that adorns the wall of the main dining hall. Angie worked on it over a period nearly of two years, overcoming the many challenges set by such a large project.

**(Right) The Friends of SAM committee in front of the mural. President Helen Hinks (centre front) was very pleased with the success of the day.**



# Karate Kids



**Children are enjoying local Karate classes which have commenced with instructor Greg and are funded by Rushworth Community Support Inc.**

# Police Beat

**Greetings and welcome to your local police report for the Rushworth Police Service Area, for the month of July 2024.**

The following is a list of reported crimes. Any information in relation to these crimes can be reported to the Rushworth Police Station on 58561 000, or by calling Crime Stoppers on 1800 3330 00 if you wish to remain anonymous. Any information is greatly appreciated by both victims and police.

- A theft occurred at a Frenchmans Road Waranga Shores property between 15/07/24 and 18/07/24. An open garage had power tools, a chainsaw, angle grinder wheels, and halogen lights stolen. The property being valued at approximately \$4000.
- A theft to Mitchell Street Colbinabbin residence occurred overnight on 15/07/24. Three chainsaws were stolen from an open shed valued at \$4400.
- The theft of three bait stations occurred in the bush along Murchison-Whroo Road in Whroo between 21/06/24 and 27/06/24. The property being valued at \$240 and was not reported to police initially.
- A burglary at a premises along Reedy Lake Road in Whroo occurred between 27/07/24 and

29/07/24. Entry was gained by forcing open a wooden door. A large amount of property was stolen including, e-bikes, chainsaws and antiques valued at approximately \$15000.

That is our list of reported crimes. If you have valuables in sheds or garages, please secure them as best you can. It also seems that isolated rural properties are our main targets. If you do live in a remote location, maybe take some extra time to secure items at home. It only takes a few minutes to remove your property. Local members attended two family violence incidents for the month. We also had a couple of lost property reports for keys and phones. If you do find property, please attend the station to hand it in. If the station is not attended, then press the phone button at the entrance and speak to the Echuca Police. They will pass on your details to us, and we will contact you to collect the property.

Now on to other matters of local interest. Local members issued a total of 57 infringement notices for the month, the majority being for speeding offences. This included four motorists

who had their licence suspended for three months for high range speeding. Sometimes it's just better to be late for an appointment. Two drug drivers were also detected. The station has just had an increase in drug tests allocated each month. We will be looking to conduct more roadside tests as we approach the end of the year. Please also drive to suit the road and weather conditions. The fog has been very thick some mornings. Put your headlights on and slow down if you need to. We are also continuing our radar duties in the school zones. Please be aware of the speed limits during these times.

I also had a coffee with Nat and Kay at the Colbinabbin Store last week. It was a lovely coffee and chat. Please support our local businesses when you can. Well, that about wraps up another police report. Please stay safe until we chat again. All the best.

*All the best,*  
**Ldg. Sen. Cons Steve Thomson**  
**Rushworth Police**



# Colbo Tit Bits

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## Springtime

There will be a special outdoor church service celebrating the beauty and renewal of spring, surrounded by the vibrant colours of a canola field in full bloom. You're invited to gather to reflect on the season's promise of new beginnings and growth. Come and experience the warmth of community, the joy of worship, and the breathtaking beauty of nature in this unique and uplifting service.

Whether you're a long-time member or a first-time visitor, all are welcome to share in this celebration of life and hope.

**9.30am Sunday 1 September at Shiraz Republic, 507 Hamblin Road, Cornella.**

## Our sympathy

- To the family of Ray Wilson who passed away recently. His funeral service was held in Bendigo with a graveside service at the Colbinabbin cemetery. Ray Wilson and his team built many local homes while they were in business here.

- To Sue and Anne Hassell and their families on the loss of their mother, Pam Hassell. Pam and her husband Fred were foster parents to numerous children over many years, so there will be a lot of families remembering Pam's love and influence in their lives.

**Pam Hassell's funeral will be held at the Colbinabbin Memorial Hall at 11am today, Thursday 15th August at 11am.**

## Any ideas?

Anita from Rushworth Community House has asked if there is any course that the Colbinabbin community would be interested in having in our town.

There has been some interest shown in having a Strength and Balance class and this is likely to take off. Also mentioned was a Getting to Know Your Mobile Phone workshop . . . but if you have some ideas of your own, please ring the Community House (5856 1295) or email to: admin@rushcomhouse.org.au to let them know.

**Cemetery Trust**  
**Mowing Roster** (lawn section only)  
 August - Will Hayes  
 September - Barrie Borger

**Colbo Diary**


*Coffee and Cake 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays 10.15am @CCH  
 Colbo Community Shed - Thursdays BYO BBQ lunch  
 Colbo Pub Choir - 5pm Tuesdays at CCH*

**August**  
 Thurs 15 Pam Hassell funeral 11 am at the Hall

**September**  
 Sun 1 Springtime Service at Shiraz Republic  
 Sun 8 CFNC Presentation Day

**LIBRARY**

|            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| Wed 21 Aug | Pam Nihill  |
| Wed 28 Aug | Janice Tait |



## A special birthday lunch with Janelle



**Mates since Colbo Primary School and Rushy High school days gathered for lunch at the Colbo Country Hotel to help Janelle Beagley (Burge) celebrate her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Back row (L-R) using their old Colbo surnames - Lyn Brown, Sam Brown, Sadie Morgan, Louise Rathjen, Cath Ivey. Front row (L-R) Anne Ellis, Jac Avard and the birthday girl herself, Janelle Burge.**

## Happy birthday Maree!



Maree Stewart celebrated a birthday with her family last weekend at CCH . . . but we can't tell how old as there are only four candles on her cake.

**FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER**

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| August 18 | Bill Johnson, Gerard Stewart |
| August 25 | Matt Ryan, Martin Borger     |

*If unable to attend for duty, call Chris/Leo.*  
 Siren, radio and test pager at 9am. Crew member should ensure the siren and radio tests are carried out. Vehicles should be checked for fuel and taken for a road test.

## Right on target



**Congratulations to Logan West of Colbinabbin on coming second in his division for Rochester Secondary College at the North East Zone School Clay Target Shooting Championships in Echuca. Logan will move through to the next level in early September.**



# Rushworth COMMUNITY HOUSE INC.

67 High Street Rushworth 3612

Phone (03) 5856 1295

Email:

[admin@rushcomhouse.org.au](mailto:admin@rushcomhouse.org.au)

Website:

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

Facebook:

[Rushworth Community-House](https://www.facebook.com/Rushworth-Community-House)

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues Thurs : 9.00am to 3.00pm

Wed, Fri : 9.00am to 1.00pm

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## Professional housing advice available again at Community House

Rushworth Community House is again partnering with members of the Housing for the Aged Action Group (HAAG) to help people find local affordable accommodation, and to give them valuable advice about registering for the Australian Government's My Aged Care program.

HAAG members will be at the House on Monday, 19 August between 12 noon and 2pm and can help guide people through the complexities that can sometimes arise when registering for the My Aged Care service.

HAAG is supported by the Victorian Government, and offers free, confidential advice, support and advocacy for people aged 50 and above. It can provide guidance across a range of options, including:

- public and community housing
- retirement villages
- movable and independent living units
- caravan and residential parks
- rooming houses.

HAAG can also help with emergency and crisis accommodation.

Anyone who needs help or advice with housing issues should contact the Community House on (03) 5856 1295 to arrange an appointment on 19 August.

## Observatory visits available in October

The Community House is partnering with Rushworth Observatory to deliver three public viewing evenings in October, 2024. Members of the public will be able to visit the observatory and view some stunning celestial sights through the observatory's computer-controlled Meade professional telescope (shown below).

The observatory is situated about two kilometres west of Rushworth and will be open to the public on Monday 7 - Wednesday 9 October. These dates have been chosen to give access to a variety of astro-objects without too much interference from the moon.

The sessions will start at 8pm, by which time it will be dark enough to view parts of the lunar surface in detail (Daylight Savings starts in Victoria on Sunday, 6 October).

In addition to the lunar surface, visitors will be able to view the planet Saturn and its wondrous rings, the blue gas dot of Neptune, the magnificent Sculptor Galaxy, star clusters, and gaseous nebulae. A map of a tiny portion of the sky and some of the objects that will be visible in early October is shown below.

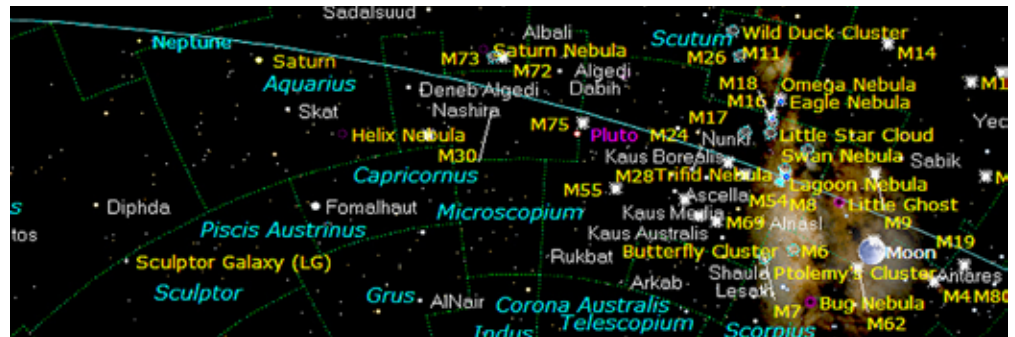
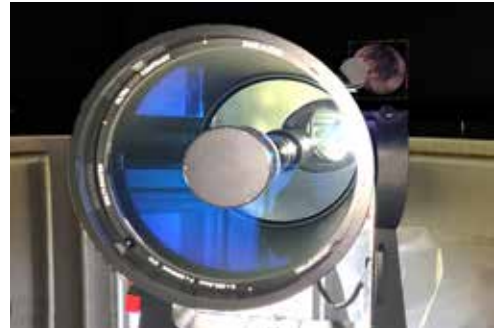
The public sessions will run for about 90 minutes and the admission charge for adults is just \$10.00 per person. There is no charge for children but they must be accompanied by an adult, and be at least ten years old.

Each session can include up to six visitors.

In order to avoid air turbulence within the observatory, there is no internal heating, so warm clothes are a must on cold evenings.

Previous public sessions have been sold out very rapidly, so bookings are essential. Please call the Community House on 5856 1295 to book for this amazing experience.

If cloud prevents viewing on any of the nights, alternative dates will be arranged.



## Container bonanza!

Rushworth's Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) continues to grow and return real savings to people who recycle their bottles and cans at the Horne St depot site.

Last month, more than 25,000 items were deposited, and around two and a half thousand dollars were paid out to customers.

The scheme is open for business on Tuesdays 9am to 3pm, Wednesdays 9am to 1pm and Thursdays 9am to 3pm.

To speed up future transactions, customers are advised to download the Visy CDS smartphone app. If you need help setting up the app on your phone, call into the Community House or ask one of the volunteers at the container deposit scheme site.



**Need to find an organisation to work at for your Centrelink payment?**

**\* Contact the Community House - we are registered and are always needing volunteers \***

# NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

*BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.*

## New manager for Rushworth Op Shop - welcome Sam!

Everyone is very excited this week to introduce Samara Rouget, who will be the new Manager in the Rushworth Op Shop. Samara (or Sam) is a very well qualified retailer, having managed a university bookshop across six campuses, which included managing staff, OH&S, finance and customer service.

Sam is very excited to be part of the Op Shop and Rushworth community. And not only that, she doesn't mind wearing silly hats for a photo!

On a more serious note, Foodbank Victoria is running out of desperately needed basic foodstuffs. At the moment Foodbank Victoria is feeding 65,000 people EVERY DAY. I'll repeat that – 65,000 people EVERY DAY and the demand is the highest it has ever been AND increasing. In a country like Australia that is a horrifying statistic. Therefore Foodbank Victoria has opened a Virtual Food Drive where you can buy a bag, basket or trolley worth of food (or individual items) which will go directly to Foodbank Victoria and then out to the various distribution places. They particularly need pastas, tomato pasta sauces, rice, long life milk and other staple foods.

Foodbank Victoria can be contacted on: [partnerships@foodbankvictoria.org.au](mailto:partnerships@foodbankvictoria.org.au) or (03) 9362 8300 or google Foodbank Victoria Virtual Food Drive. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

In Rushworth we have quite a number of families and single people who have to use our Foodbank on a regular basis to enable them to make what money they have go further. Many are single mums or dads or pensioners. Sometimes they are employed but only part time. But we are lucky in that



**New Op-Shop Manager Samara models an example of the shop's millinery selection.**

we have the Rushworth Op Shop, because profits we make from the shop go directly to our OWN Foodbank so Christine is able to make further purchases.

Christine said if anyone would like to donate food directly to Rushworth Foodbank please bring in non-perishable items on the days the Foodbank is operating, which is Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Their phone number is 0494 177 746. The

**SILLY POEM TIME**

Although we've said goodbye to Jean  
We've found someone who's just as keen  
To run the shop, keep us in check,  
Make sure we have all hands on deck.  
A lovely lass, her name is Sam  
A name that rhymes so well with jam,  
And other 'am's that I'm quite happy  
That I can make a poem snappy.  
Meanwhile, if you need things for home  
You certainly don't have so far to roam.  
We have the bedding, linen, mugs,  
The cutlery, glasses, saucepans, jugs,  
Cookery books and glass microwave plates.  
So come in early, please don't wait  
We don't want you to miss out . . . .  
mate!

**Heather**

Rushworth Foodbank is at the side of the Council Offices. If you walk up the path from the main street that goes through to the Kindergarten it is on your right.

Of course, by buying at our wonderful Op Shop you are providing food indirectly and also giving yourself an enjoyable experience rummaging around in all our bargains. (And talking to our wonderful volunteers – even singing with them if you like) If you are not following our Facebook page you are missing out. Margaret takes great photos of some of the new stock that comes in and it gives you the chance to get a bargain quickly. If you see something you like ring 0494 159 314 and ask them to put it aside until you can get there later that morning.

A reminder that our phone numbers have changed recently so here they are again:

**Op Shop: 0494 159 314**

**Rushworth Foodbank: 0494 177 746.**

That's all for now. We wish you a full belly and a happy smile until next time.

**Heather Wellington**



# Fifty years ago in our district....

Looking through the pages of past 'Rushworth Chronicles'  
.....compiled by former district resident Alan McLean



## 90 years up for Fire Brigade, August 1974

A banquet for 80 people was held in a packed Fire Brigade hall, to acknowledge the work done since 1984. Attended by the top brass from the CFA, ex-captains Mal Reid and Charlie Boyson were also welcomed. Only two men from the 1914-16 era were present, with Sid Hunt the oldest at 82.

Former firemen Albert Jones, Vic Medhurst, Les Parrott, Ray Locke, Les O'Donnell, Ray McArdle, Ken King, Charlie Curtis, Ron Ristrom, Don and Bill Raglus, Ray Lloyd, Doug Poulson, Graeme Collard and Reg Pearce also participated.

Receivers were called in to administer Mitchelton Winery. Liquidity issues were explained to staff as the business continued to trade after serious flooding had added far too much liquid.

New Rushworth policeman travelling daily from Tatura was Senior Constable Peter Hromenko.

## Shire of Waranga

There were free adult immunisations for polio, rubella, diphtheria and tetanus, if names were registered with new Health Inspector, Jim Hastings. Mr Hastings then resigned, not happy with his access to support staff at the Shire office! With his notice period included, he completed two months with few ratepayers ever meeting him.

The inspector had declared the home of Miss Smith in Moora Road to be unfit for habitation but worthy of preservation for its historical significance. He had found a Wigg Street residence to be rat-infested, asking Council to enforce a previous demolition order by pulling the house down.

## Schools

Mr Ross was reading "Paddington Abroad" to Grade 4, as the Grades 1 and 2 combined class made a book about dinosaurs. (*Still a very popular primary school topic.*) Grade 6 went on a "cycle safari" along the Nine-Mile Road.

## Community

Stanhope Senior Citizens invited Rushworth-Colbinabbin Senior Citizens to join a planned bus trip to Maryborough Golden Wattle Festival. (*But what about the wattle in the Rushworth forest?*)

Saleyards near rail line in Murchison owned by agents Dennys Lascelles were sold for \$2700 to Mr Davis. The plan was to demolish the yards to create house blocks on the 1.5 acres.

Miss Australia quest entrant Yvonne Hill planned a "Hayshed Dance" at Mac Hill's

property on the Heathcote-Corop Road.

Stanhope Catholic Ball Matron award went to Mrs Aileen Barrett, while Miss Rhonda Wallace was Belle of the Ball.

## Personal

Les Hammond of Murchison died, leaving widow Gladys. Also passing was Mary Guthrie (nee Matheson). A sister was Rushworth's Mrs Nell Quirk. Music teacher Miss Smith died at Rushworth. She is featured in Name from the Past today.

Peter Stewart died at Rushworth. He was the son of William and Christine Stewart of Moora, brother of Myra Nurse, and uncle of Stewart Nurse and his family.

Melissa Hammond arrived for parents John and Margaret at Murchison.

Marriage of Tony and Bronwyn Barlow of Wanalta was to be followed by their honeymoon in Britain. Assisting on their wedding day were Jeanette and Leonie Murphy, Kevin Ryan and Peter Stewart.

Those attending Jenny Muir's kitchen tea were invited to bring presents coloured lime green, yellow and brown. Ladies a plate please. (*Hope there were scones on some.*)

## Football

In the final round, Rushworth 21-17 belted Elmore 2-14, as Alec Horne kicked his regular five goals. Bill Barlow and John Schneider got three each, joined in the best by Herb Barlow, Bill Cruz, Maurice Clarke, Ian Williams and teachers Dave Roberts and Warren McKeown. (*Do any teachers play footy now?*)

Rushworth Seconds' spearhead Geoff Hawking got three goals in the 6-4 to 2-2 victory over Elmore, who failed to score in the second half. G. Wall, T. Cogan, D. Ogden, C. Potter, R. Jones, G. Cruz and P. Damon got their names in the paper.

Heathcote League Cheatley Medal went to J. Walsh of Tooborac. Bill Johnson of Colbo won the Seconds' award and Chris Geisler of Rushworth dominated the Thirds' award with 34 votes.

The finals began at Toolleen after the ground at Tooborac was declared unplayable in its heavy condition. Rushworth 19-15 eliminated Heathcote 15-26, after Schneider got six goals, Lambden 5 and Horne 3. Kevin Mitchell kicked seven for Heathcote. Nine Tigers were named as best: Lambden, Heily, M. Clarke, I. Williams, D. Perry, J. Schneider, D. Farrer, H. Barlow and A. Horne. That left Tooborac, Colbo and Rushworth still in the race.

Goulburn Valley League nominated Ron Ristrom to receive a Victorian Country Football Service Medal. He had been a club

delegate from 1935 to 1964, before chairing the League's independent tribunal from 1965 to 1974.

## Netball

Rushworth beat Elmore 55 to 10 in A-grade, 39 to 27 in B-grade but no good players were shown.

Rushworth then advanced to the preliminary final, beating Tooborac by eight goals in the first semi-final, as Leayne Hawking starred in the centre. B-grade also advanced, beating Colbo by 16.

## Tennis Club AGM

The AGM was adjourned after just nine showed up to hear that Ted Whitehead was stepping down as president after six seasons. Three attendees declined nomination. (*There had been 28 attend the AGM in 1973.*)

## Golf

There was poor form also at the golf club where players were not replacing their divots! Jack Borger had a win, ahead of Stephen Teasdale, as Norm Geisler got closest to the pin.

On quarter-finals day for the club championship, in C-grade Bruce Wootton beat Bill Barlow, 1-up, but Bill was nearest the pin. Lurch Hoyling defeated Graham Bolden at the 19th hole.

B-grader Norm Geisler beat Bill Cruz, five-up with four to play. In A-grade Graham Spence edged out Mal McLeod 2-1. (*The pair had been teammates in Rushworth football and cricket, including in a semi-final in the 1960s when Graham took four catches off Mal's fast bowling.*)

## Rushing to Whroo,

1853 to 1880



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Alan McLean

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STORIES OF CHINESE IMMIGRANTS TO THE  
WARANGA AREA

## On the kokoda track

Images and stories from Kokoda Track might have you believe that Australian soldiers, all of good British stock, took on and ultimately beat back the invasion by Asiatic hordes in Papua New Guinea during World War 2. However, some of the Australians were from other ethnic backgrounds, including Asian. Indeed, George Cheong from the local Waranga area, and whose grandfather was Chinese, was one of the defenders on the Kokoda Track.

George was born in Rushworth during World War 1, to parents William and Caroline. He grew up at Whroo and lived there prior to World War 2. Sadly, his father William died in 1944 while George was on active service and never got to rejoice in George's homecoming at the end of the war. He is buried in the Rushworth cemetery.

Later Sergeant George William Cheong (VX116530), George had initially enlisted at Rushworth in April 1941 at the age of 24. At first, he was in the militia i.e. civilian forces that were not part of the regular army, and only supposed to serve in Australia. His battalion went to Papua New Guinea in late 1941, as PNG was deemed to be part of Australian territory at the time. Later, he signed on to be part of the regular army at Iloilo, Papua, just before his unit went up the Kokoda Track to meet the invaders.

## Facing the japanese invaders

Like many local men, he was a member of the famous 39th Battalion, which became the first unit to front the Japanese advance around Kokoda in July 1942. Other locals who were in the battalion included Charles Clarke, Joe Baker, Roy Nutt, Jack Lloyd and John McLeod (all of Rushworth), George Saunders and John Taylor (Girgarre), Aub Downing and George Dunster (Stanhope) and several from Tatura including Jack McPhail. Many of these men belonged to B Company of the 39th.

With the Japanese threat building, the 39th Battalion was ordered up the Kokoda Track along with another militia battalion. After the Japanese landed on the north coast of PNG in late July, they moved quickly to try to seize the strategic town and airfield at Kokoda. It soon became clear that Kokoda was indefensible, and the 39th started a strategic withdrawal back along the track towards Port Moresby.

At Isurava, site of the first major battle on the track, the militia battalions had been reinforced by two experienced regular army battalions. Eventually they were relieved as more troops arrived. Later in the war, George worked with the Australian New Guinea Administration Unit before his eventual discharge in February 1945. Shortly before that, he married his sweetheart Myee Aileen Bryant at St John's church in Ashfield, NSW. His wife had also served her country in the Australian Women's Army Service.

After the war, George and Myee farmed for a while at Moora East, then lived in Kyabram where George was a mail contractor and bus proprietor. The couple later moved to Macleod, a north-eastern suburb of Melbourne where George died in 1989. He is not recognised on the Rushworth war memorial's WW2 nominal roll plaque even though he appears to tick all the boxes with regard to qualifying criteria.

## Brothers in arms

George's brother Arthur (VX126780) served for over two years (August 1943-October 1945) at Adelaide River, just over 100 km south of Darwin, as a truck driver. The Australians and Americans had set up a major army base there and an airfield at nearby Batchelor. Arthur's unit was 1 Australian BIPOD – Bulk Issue of Petrol and Oil Depot. The airfield was bombed by the Japanese in November 1943, the last of over 200 air raids on northern Australia during the war. It is unclear whether Arthur was there at the time.

Another brother, Albert Edwin Cheong (V331265) served on the home front, including at the No 3 and 4 Internment camps off Zegelin Road, north of Rushworth. Each camp contained up to 1000 civilians who were interned because they were foreign nationals from countries like Italy and Germany, and therefore deemed to be the enemy.

The Cheong family made a significant contribution to Australia's war effort during World War 2. These three boys were just some of the many Australians of Asian descent who helped thwart Japan's intentions. Perhaps there was an element of retribution involved, as the Imperial Japanese Army had already carried out many depredations in China in the 1930s.

## A Name from the Past *Miss Florence Smith - pianist linked to the gold days*

As the last of a generation, and with no children, there is always the issue of who is left to mourn, and to bury. Such was the case with Miss Florence Smith. It is not known who wrote her obituary but the Rushworth Chronicle of 22 August, 1974, reported on her passing at the age of 91.

"Miss Florence Alice Smith. Born July 8th 1883, the youngest member of a large family, Miss Smith was reared and educated at Rushworth. She was the last link with one of Rushworth's oldest families, her nine brothers and sisters having predeceased her.

Miss Smith used to be a well-known pianist for the local dances and concerts. At one time she and one of her brothers were members of a local dance band.

She was a first-class dressmaker and noted for the expertise with which she was able to interpret the latest fashion trends.

In her mid-teens, Miss Smith opened her door to her first music pupil and for the next 75 years taught music to several generations of Rushworth young people. In sports she was very fond of playing golf, and like everything she attempted she did quite well.

Till her death she resided at 62 Moora Road, Rushworth in the old family home. It is perhaps the oldest home in the town, and many features about it are reminiscent of the gold-digging days."

I well recall Miss Smith's small cottage from the outside, with a front garden of archways and creeper plants almost obscuring the home. I also recall my mate Bruce Wootton having to negotiate with her to alter his after-school piano lesson, so that he could participate in junior sports training. Ask Bruce about his career tickling the ivories on the piano! He may have just fallen just short of Mozart status.

## Request from Alan

**Lately I have had a run of requests for the book "Grass-seeds and Thistles – the early years of Moora, Gobarup and Wanalta". It is completely out of stock. If anyone has finished with a copy purchased a few years ago, there is a buy-back offer available! If you can help, I would be grateful for a call on 0412 143660. Thank you.**

**Alan McLean.**



# All about wildlife

*Kirsty Ramadan from BoHollow Wildlife is a wildlife rescue expert. Here she shares some of her knowledge about our very familiar wildlife neighbours.*

If I had a dollar for every person who has said to me, "I'd love to do your job", I would be a rich person indeed!

I'm sure many people think our wildlife work involves playing with cute, furry wildlife, being able to look after amazing animals who most folks don't get to see up close, let alone have them in their homes. The reality couldn't be further from this assumption.

The costs are high to be involved at the high level of wildlife rescue and care we carry out at Bohollow. We sacrifice copious amounts of our time, our finances and also our own wellbeing at times. It's by no means an easy gig.

I was asked about euthanasia recently and how we determine whether an animal is viable for rehabilitation or needs to be euthanised. This question is not an easy one to answer. Each case is different and lots of factors come into play when we have to make this difficult decision. Things we must consider are species, age, wounds, treatment necessary to rehabilitate, individual animal's tolerance for both treatment and care for the duration of their rehabilitation.

Some species are known to not handle being contained in human care very well, regardless of how good the facilities are. Younger animals generally tolerate this better than fully mature animals. Having a young, at foot joey with laceration injuries from being caught in a fence is a lot different to having an 80kg big, male kangaroo in care with identical injuries. Adult roos can often require sedation to minimise stress in care, they are not an animal that tolerates extensive time in care, can refuse to eat once they become depressed with their situation.

Adult wombats can pose the same problem for carers as well as some adult birds. Injury and wounds are another consideration. We have to weigh up time needed in care if we deem an animal's injuries viable to treat, the type of treatment required and whether the animal in its current state will be able to tolerate treatment. A fracture which we may

technically be able to fix, may not be viable to fix when we know the animal will not tolerate the treatment and time in care required.

We can do some amazing things with wound treatment and fracture repair in wildlife but at the end of the day, our concern must be for the animal in question. We need to ask ourselves whether at the end of it all, is this animal going to be able to live a wild life back out in their natural environment and sadly, if the answer is no, euthanasia is the result. Under our Victorian wildlife shelter licensing, if an animal cannot be returned to the wild, it must be euthanised.

Making the decision to euthanise is not one we treat lightly. It is a heart breaking reality to the work we do and having to make that hard decision and carry it out is an awful weight on our hearts. Sometimes we can only take comfort in knowing the last act we are able to do for an animal is end their pain and suffering in the most humane way possible.

Sometimes, when we have exhausted all options and treatment or toleration of care has not gone as we had expected, we then have to decide to euthanise. This is even harder emotionally on us as we've invested time, money and all our energy into a critter only to then have to pull the pin and say goodbye.

Deb and I have to euthanise many animals in the course of a year. It does take its toll. It does wear you down. We do become hardened to it . . . but it still does hurt and sadden us to the core. Often people do not want to hand in injured or orphaned wildlife to a vet or wildlife carer as they believe the critter will just be euthanised. This is not the case. We have worked hard to build great networks with all our local veterinary clinics and provided better diagnosis in the clinics than in years gone by. Both Deb and myself are able to assess most cases after extensive physical examination and if we require xrays or further tests, the clinics help us to provide what is needed.

If you do call us for help or drop wildlife to a veterinary clinic, and the result is euthanasia, please don't let it stop you from

helping another animal in need and getting it to where it needs to be for proper assessment. Always call your local wildlife shelter.

What is even more distressing to us is having an animal brought to us after spending many months, sometimes even years, with someone who has not sought the correct assessment and care initially. I deal with birds who are kept with horrific fractures for many years, then are handed in. These birds are not fit to return to the wild for obvious reasons, and can experience pain from incorrectly treated injuries.

We do not attempt to fix our own broken arm. Don't put an animal through the same thing!

Wildlife do not shed tears of pain like we do. Just because they may tolerate life in a human environment, does not mean they are happy with their situation. The urge to stay alive is strong within us all, including wildlife and there is a difference in surviving and living the life they deserve in their wild homes.

So, why do we do it? We do it because we believe wildlife deserve the same help domestic animals are entitled to when things go wrong for them. Wildlife are not owned by anyone. People will pay exuberant costs to ensure their pets live as long as possible and have the best quality of life they can give them. We care for wildlife as they have no guardian to foot the bills when they require vet assistance or care.

So many cases come to us through man-made causes, most in fact. We are just giving them a second chance to get back to their natural homes and if we are successful, that is our reward.

*Kirsty*



For injured wildlife contact Kirsty at Bohollow on: 0447 636 953



## ON THE BRINK *by Neil Lawrie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

### Is it sustainable?

As a species, we do not have a very good track record. Not only have we overpopulated the Earth but we have done so to the detriment of other species and to the planet in general. We are being faced with quite a bleak future. How bleak depends upon what changes we make now to the way we are living on the planet. A key criterion which needs to be used in making decisions about these changes is "Is it sustainable?". If something is sustainable, it can continue. If it is not sustainable, it needs to be changed.

It is important to understand exactly what sustainability is. The use of a resource at a rate equal or lower than the rate it can be renewed is easily understood as sustainable. Sustainability can be more complex than this. For example, the act of processing of a resource may not be sustainable. Sometimes the use of a product may not be sustainable. Even the disposal of products at the end of its usefulness may be unsustainable.

To determine if something is sustainable, we need to look at its life cycle (*see diagram below right*).

In an ideal world, this is a cycle with the raw materials being recycled from the discarded product. If any stage of the cycle is not sustainable then we need to have a careful rethink.

It should be obvious that an unsustainable practise will eventually reach a point where it can no longer be sustained and it is better to make changes sooner rather than later.

The problem is there are frequently vested interests involved. The logging truck driver does not want to see native hardwood

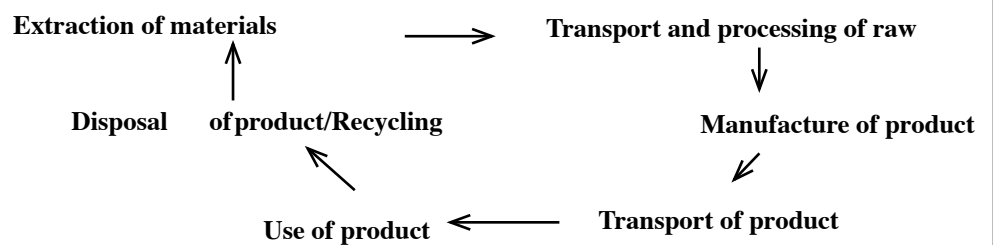
logging stopped, duck shooters do not want to see duck shooting phased out, horse lovers do not want to see brumbies culled or removed from our National Parks. These are just a few examples. When people's livelihoods are at stake or things that are seen as part of people's heritages are involved, things can become very emotive. Governments, with an eye for the next election, are loathe to do anything that will lose them votes. Generally, they will not act until there is wider community support and a net gain in votes. The concept of 'Is it sustainable?' either gets lost or is over-ridden.

Coupled with the arguments connected with vested interests are the arguments against the alternatives: products will become more expensive, there will be a duck plague, we will lose our heritage, it is a poor substitute. Often these arguments are not based on hard facts. In the case of wind and solar farms the 'NIMBY' (not in my back yard) element can come into play.

The development and uptake of electric vehicles makes for an interesting case study. Petrol, gas and diesel engined vehicles are not sustainable because they

burn fossil fuels. Fossil fuels are a limited resource and will eventually run out and their combustion releases greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Electric vehicles are steadily gaining sales in Australia. It is noticeable that many people have been quick to criticise electric vehicles: they are slow to charge (especially at home), charging them at charging stations is expensive, their batteries wear out and are expensive to replace, there is a limited supply of lithium. It must be remembered that this is an emerging technology with big improvements still being made. With most of our electricity in Victoria being generated by burning fossil fuels, EVs are not 'green' and will not be until they are charged using only renewable energy.

We take so much for granted: we turn on a tap and water comes out, flick a switch and there is light, go to the supermarket and we buy all sorts of food (even those out of season in Victoria) and if something is no longer useful we throw it out. It is so easy and it allows us to become quite wasteful. We all need to keep asking "Is it sustainable?" instead of taking it all for granted.



## Celebrating Landcare Week

Students enjoyed a walk in the forest with Louise Costa, and John his audience with his mini beasts. (See story page 5)



# Cooks Column

# Garden Hints & Tips

## Spring is in the air.....

We have a couple of recipes this edition, sent in by one of our regular readers. Norma has sent us recipes before, so I hope you enjoy these. You'll notice the recipes come from the era of imperial measurements (and so do Norma and I!).

### Beef and Vegetable Casserole

#### Ingredients

- 1<sup>1/2</sup> lb gravy beef (600g)
- 2 onions
- 1 zucchini
- 2 carrots
- sml can tinned mushrooms
- 3/4 cup macaroni
- little celery
- 2 dstspn of tomato paste
- salt and pepper
- pinch mixed herbs
- 1<sup>1/2</sup> pints water

#### Method

Heat a little oil in a saucepan, add cut up onion and cook a few minutes, then add cut up gravy beef, cook until changed colour, then add water and cook <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> hour. Then add herbs, tomato paste, salt and pepper, cut up carrots and celery and macaroni and cook for a further <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hour. Add zucchini and mushrooms for the last ten minutes.



### Chicken Casserole Ingredients

- 6 chicken drumsticks or whatever you prefer
- 1 carrot
- 1 parsnip
- 1 onion
- 2 rashers bacon (chopped)
- 1 can chicken vegetable soup

#### Method

Fry chicken pieces in butter - just brown on each side. Put in a casserole.

Fry in the same butter: carrot, parsnip, onion and bacon. Add to the casserole. Pour over the can of soup and cook for one hour or until tender.

Serve with other vegetables and mashed potatoes.

*Norma Morgan*



Finally the days are getting longer and the temperatures are rising although only in little bursts!

Gardens are starting to come to life with bulbs popping up all over the place bringing an end to that winter gloom.

Roses should have been pruned by now and signs of new growth charging along promising us lovely blooms in the next few months. Fruit trees are all budding up and almond trees are in full blossom giving a very spectacular early spring display.

There has been a bit of frost damage on plants around our area this year, so here's hoping most of the heavy frosts have passed now - but to be safe maybe leave another week or two before tidying up damage affected plants.

Spring brings many garden activities at home and out and about in our region over the next 3 - 4 months, and it's a great time to be visiting nurseries.

Feeding fruit trees and general feeding of home gardens is in full swing with any organic matter that you can get your hands on will ensure good healthy growth in the

coming season.

Those chilly frosty nights we have been having should bring us some good yields on our stone fruit in the home orchard . . - as long as it doesn't fall prey to the dreaded fruit fly.

And - a reminder - if you haven't sprayed for curly leaf you may still just have enough time if no leaves have developed yet!



**Almond blossom time - a sure sign that spring is just around the corner!**

### Handy Hints - from Lyn Rumble

*Hi there,*

*Recycling, Repurposing and Reusing is big on my list to try to do my bit for the environment. In turn that usually means I can save some money in my weekly budget, which is wonderful. This issue we have some everyday things that you just might never have thought of before! I hope that some of these tips can help you too!*

*Have a great week and stay safe,  
Lyn Rumble*

- Sending 'Get-Well Cards' to a patient in Hospital - It is wonderful to receive a get-well card when your sick - but sometimes when people get discharged from hospital - any card that is in the mail at the time - will either get destroyed or sent back to sender if address is on the back of the envelope. Could be a good idea to put the sick person's home address on the back of the card (instead of the sender's name & address) - that way the recipient will get the card eventually at home.
- Losing your wallet/purse/handbag - This is so distressing when this happens - but you could minimise the process if occasionally you go through your handbag etc and list down all your cards & vital information you carry and store it in a safe place at home. Then if needed you can contact bank/s & authorities quickly. Better still take a photograph or scan all your cards front and back and store that with your records at home.
- Furniture/Electrical goods purchased - it's a really good idea to get into the habit of as soon as you get home with your new expensive purchase - staple the purchase receipt in the instruction/installation manual enclosed in the box. Once the item installed, you can store the instruction manual in your documents to keep just in case any equipment fails or is faulty. If that situation unfortunately arises - you can then contact the manufacturer with all the relevant details.
- Finding it hard to remove twist-off lids from small jars & drinks? I find a pair of rubber gloves, or a silicone potholder works wonders in giving extra grip. If that still doesn't work, run the lid under some very hot water for 20 seconds or so, and hopefully you will get the lid off much easier.
- Saving your fingers from hammer injury! How many times have I done that??? Lots - but now I put the nail through a piece of cardboard then hammer into the wall. I can easily tear off the cardboard once in place - and my fingers thankfully are not flattened!

# Health and Wellbeing

## Celebrating Aged Care workers

Wednesday 7 August was Aged Care Workers Day and Waranga Hostel staff had a dress up day - opting for a Pyjama day!

Some staff did a catwalk for the residents and there were prizes for the three best dressed as voted by residents.

There were even some residents who wore their pyjamas in support for the day!

Residents were asked to say a few of their own words about the staff at Waranga Health and these were communicated at the all-staff meeting, a few of these being:

“The staff here are wonderful. Pleasant and always very helpful.”

“I am really happy here, everyone treats me like family.”

“Staff here are friendly and helpful. I am quite happy.”

“Very good, no complaints whatsoever.”

“They treat me well, I always feel safe, I really do.”

“I love that they treat us just the same as any other person. The staff are on the same page as us residents.”

“The kitchen staff, all staff are just lovely and very polite.”

“The ladies at front reception are always cheery and say hello.”

“We love that the manager comes up and says good morning to us.”

Director of Nursing Nadiene Jerram said “If we are maintaining our residents’ safety, care, sense of self and purpose, then we are making a difference in everyone’s life.

“Well done everyone,” she added.



Staff dressed in their PJs for Aged Care Worker Day, with some residents joining them in their fashion statement.

### Know F.A.S.T. signs of stroke

Ambulance Victoria paramedics were out in force last week to share the F.A.S.T. signs of stroke with their communities in National Stroke Week (5 – 11 August). These are

A stroke occurs when blood supply to the brain is interrupted and when it happens, you need to act fast.

A person suffers a stroke every 19 minutes in Australia and it’s one of Victoria’s biggest killers and a leading cause of disability.

The longer a stroke remains untreated, the greater the chance of stroke-related brain damage.

#### The F.A.S.T. Signs of Stroke

- **Face Check** - has their mouth drooped?
- **Arms** - Can they lift both arms?
- **Speech** - Is it slurred? Do they understand you?
- **Time** Is critical - Call 000 straight away.

Find out more about the signs of stroke at [www.strokefoundation.org.au](http://www.strokefoundation.org.au).

## Full house on Stanhope’s Telecare Centre first day



KDHS staff welcoming and celebrating Stanhope Telecare Medical Centre’s first day of their new GP practice based at Stanhope Health which was fully booked. Appointments now available via phone 48005291, email [stanhope@telecare.com.au](mailto:stanhope@telecare.com.au) or via the HotDoc app.

### Coming up:

18 August - National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Bullying is Never OK! Resources help understand and recognise what bullying is, how to report it, and where to get help. <https://bullyingnoway.gov.au/resources>

**2 - 6 September - Women’s Health Week.**

Women’s health in the spotlight - sign up for the latest information.

<https://www.jeanhailes.org.au/womens-health-week>

# Kids Corner

- interesting things to know!

## CODES Bar & QR

**Hey Kids!** This time we are looking at something that you will come across daily - bar codes and QR codes. Bar codes and other kinds of ID tags are everywhere, tracking everything that moves in clever ways. If you have a quick look around, you'll probably spot at least three items near you that have bar codes on them.

Today, barcodes are used to identify patients in hospitals, supply prescriptions, speed up manufacturing processes, log into Wi-Fi networks, exchange contact information, check-in at the airport, buy groceries and other retail purchases, find out when the next train or tram is coming and much, much more.

Read all about this everyday part of our lives and then have a go at the word search!

A barcode is a way of storing numbers printed in a way that a computer can easily read. The first barcodes stored the numbers using lines (bars).



The story of barcodes begins with Norman Woodland who, inspired by Morse code, drew the first ever barcode in the sand on a Florida beach. He was trying to solve a problem posed by a supermarket executive to his employer, the Drexel Institute. Woodland patented the idea in 1952, but it would be June of 1974 before the first ever barcode was scanned at a supermarket in Ohio, USA. The item was a ten-pack of Wrigley's Juicy Fruit chewing gum. It was another decade before most leading retailers had barcode technology in place.

QR codes were first created back in 1994. In 1994, Denso Wave, a Toyota subsidiary, invented the QR code to help track vehicle parts. It was designed to allow for fast decoding speeds, hence the name Quick Response code.

It marked the beginning of the two-dimensional barcode - so called because it is made up of two-dimensional symbols and shapes.

QR Codes are now popular for marketing campaigns and directing people from physical to online content as they can be scanned on just about any smart device. This includes inexpensive smartphones.

The Aztec code was invented in 1995 by Andrew Longacre and Robert Hussey. The two worked at medical device manufacturer Welch Allyn. As well as being used in Healthcare, the Aztec is now popular with the transport sector and can be found on train tickets.

It was also chosen by the airline industry as the standard barcode for electronic boarding passes. So, if a boarding pass has been sent to your phone, it is likely



to feature an Aztec code.

Unsurprisingly, its name derives from the central part of the code, which is said to bear a resemblance to an Aztec pyramid.

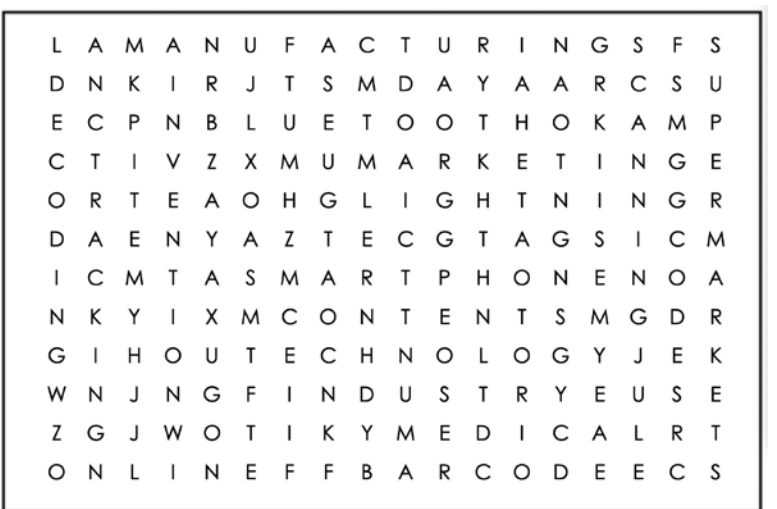
Today, a smartphone's ability to scan a barcode with its video camera and decode it at lightning speed is taken for granted. But video recording only started to appear on mobile phones in the early 2000s.

One of the first was the Nokia 6600, which was launched in 2003. At the time, it was Nokia's most advanced mobile phone. Features included a 6MB internal memory, WAP internet access, and Bluetooth.

Compared to traditional barcodes, QR Codes can hold a tremendous amount of data. A single QR Code can store up to 4,296 alphanumeric characters - over 200 times more than the 20-character capacity of a regular barcode!

The sheer volume of data that a QR Code can store makes it an effective option for sharing files, including documents, images, video clips, and other mediums. Most QR Codes can handle file sizes from 3MB to 5MB.

In Sweden, some graves have barcodes on them, allowing visitors to scan and learn more about the deceased person: This system, known as the "Memorial QR code," was developed in 2014 and is used in some cemeteries in Sweden. When scanned, the barcode takes visitors to a website with information about the person buried in that grave.



Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

- |           |               |              |
|-----------|---------------|--------------|
| AZTEC     | INVENTION     | SCANNING     |
| BARCODE   | ITEM          | SMARTPHONE   |
| BLUETOOTH | LIGHTNING     | SUPERMARKETS |
| CODES     | MANUFACTURING | TAGS         |
| CONTENT   | MARKETING     | TECHNOLOGY   |
| DECODING  | MEDICAL       | TRACKING     |
| INDUSTRY  | ONLINE        |              |

Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our

# Into the Olympic Spirit at Kinder



For the past two weeks the children at the Rushworth Kinder have been exploring and learning about the Olympic Games. On Thursday 8 August the children got into the Olympic spirit holding their own mini Olympics. Throughout the day the children competed in ten events for a fun packed day of friendly competition and exercise.

Events throughout the day included cycling races, sprints, sack races, egg and spoon race, beanbag toss, ball toss, long jump, three legged race, a distance run and hurdles. To complete the day they enjoyed a treat lunch of a bbq, complete with a juice box and a packet of chips.

Our champions of the day were Noah Perry coming in first place, Madeline Cleary coming in second closely followed with Taylah Jamieson coming in third. The overall winners of the day though was all of the children that demonstrated amazing sportsmanship and participation with every child participating over the whole day.

Enrolments for Rushworth Kindergarten & Childcare in 2025 are open now. To enrol your child please call the Rushworth Kinder & Childcare 03 58561591.

(Top left) Madeline Cleary second, Noah Perry first, Taylah Jamieson third take to the podium



(Middle left) Payton Thompson, Finn Storen, Ashlee Johnstone and Bailey Norris compete in the egg and spoon race

(Below right) Payton Thompson flies over the hurdles



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*Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our*

# St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Feast Day

St Mary's school community came together in a spirit of unity and reverence to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Mary MacKillop on 8 August, a cherished occasion that holds deep significance for all Josephite schools.

This special day was marked by the collaboration of students, staff, and families from both St Mary's Rushworth and St Joseph's Nagambie, who joined in to honour the life and legacy of Australia's first saint.

The day began with a moving Mass that brought together the two school communities. It was a heartwarming sight to see students from both schools actively participating in the liturgy, offering prayers, readings, and hymns that reflected the values St. Mary MacKillop embodied: compassion, perseverance, and a commitment to the welfare of others.

Following the Mass, students from St. Mary's and St. Joseph's engaged in a variety of activities designed to deepen their understanding of Mary MacKillop's mission. Workshops focused on the importance of kindness, service, and resilience—traits that Mary exemplified throughout her life.

Creative sessions allowed students to express their learnings through art and writing, while team-building games fostered a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose.

As we celebrated this Feast Day, we were reminded of the powerful legacy that St. Mary MacKillop has left behind—a legacy that continues to inspire us to be better, do better, and uplift those around us. The collaboration between St. Mary's Rushworth and St. Joseph's Nagambie made this year's celebration particularly meaningful, highlighting the strength and unity that come from working together in faith.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to making this day a success and look forward to continuing to walk in the footsteps of St. Mary MacKillop, with courage and compassion guiding our way.

**Katherine Jamieson**  
*Leading Teacher*

## Principal Appreciation Day



**Happy Principal's Day to Mr. Ryan!**  
**Thank you for all you do and have done for St. Mary's. We truly appreciate your dedication and hard work!**



Two school communities with a Josephite heritage came together to celebrate the feast day of their founder.

## Vinnies Winter Blanket Appeal

Vinnies Winter Blanket appeal on 6 August was a learning experience in maths as well as in compassion and concern for those in need.

Students spread out the donated blankets from our amazing school community to find the area and perimeter of them.

They then enjoyed a water, milo and a teddy-bear biscuit!



## Wear Green & Gold Wednesday

Students came to school on 7 August dressed in a splash of Green and Gold to celebrate the successes of Australia at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

**Next edition: Foundation's 100 Days of School!**

## 2025 Foundation Transition days

- Friday 30 August: 'Come and Try' morning: 8:50am - 11:35am
- Friday 11 October: 8:50am - 11:35am (Information session)
- Friday 25 October: 8:50am - 11:35am
- Friday 8 November: 8:50am - 11:35am
- Friday 22 November: 8:50am - 11:35am
- Friday 6 December: 8:50am - 11:35am
- Tuesday 10 December: Statewide Transition Day - 8:50am - 1:35pm

You are invited to visit our school, meet our dedicated staff and see firsthand the wonderful opportunities we offer. Families asked to remain on site during their children's visit.

### How to Enrol

Contact the office on 5856 1347, or email at [admin@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:admin@smrushworth.catholic.edu.au) or come into the School Office for an enrolment pack.

# Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our Rushworth children enjoy Flying Bookworm Theatre visit at P-12 College

This week the Rushworth P-12 Foundation - Year 3 students enjoyed a visit from the Rushworth Kindergarten students and their counterparts from St. Mary's Primary School. All of the students were very excited to take in the antics of the Flying Bookworm Theatre, especially those who took on acting roles.



Students from the Rushworth Kindergarten, St Mary's Primary school and the P-12 College enjoyed coming together to take part in the Flying Bookworm Theatre production.



## Local Police visit

On Monday the 5 August, Shane Roberts (Youth Specialist Officer) from Victoria Police attended the College to deliver an informative presentation and open discussion with students in Years 7-10.

The presentation involved the use of appropriate language (sexual harassment, racism, sexism etc), and how this relates to the law, as well as an update on the new vaping laws and how they impact individuals and business who use/sell/distribute vape products. A thorough discussion was held about the use of social media and distribution of child pornography and sexting.

Shane is returning on the 12 August to catch up with our Years 4-6 cohort regarding bullying/harassment and cyber safety.

We appreciate the time Shane has taken to develop these presentations for our school, and we hope the students find the content as engaging as the staff have.

*Keely and Sarah – Wellbeing.*

# Celebration of the Season of Creation

Following last year's very successful event, Sandhurst Diocese will mark the Season of Creation 2024 with an outdoor Mass on Friday 6 September.

Mass will be celebrated at 11am by Bishop Shane Mackinlay at Huntly Streamside Reserve, followed by a picnic lunch (either BYO or enjoy provided sausage sizzle).

All are invited and encouraged to come along and celebrate this occasion.

## Anointing Mass at Waranga Health

An Anointing Mass is held on the first Sunday of each month at Waranga Health in Rushworth.

Parishioners are welcome to attend the monthly Mass when Fr Jinjo Solis celebrates on the first Sunday of each month in the B wing lounge at 1pm.

Anyone attending is required to wear a mask and sign in as per visitor protocol.

## The Games

The Olympic Games events bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds in a harmonious pursuit of excellence.

Athletes, through their determination and hard work, embody the virtues of perseverance and dedication. Their stories of struggle and triumph can inspire us to push beyond our limitations and strive for our personal best, much like St Paul encouraged us to 'run with perseverance the race that is set before us.' (Hebrews 12:1)

# Fr Jackson Saunders - an assistant priest with 'another job'

Fr Jackson Saunders, assistant priest at St Brendan's Parish, Shepparton, shared some of his story in the recent *SandPiper* (the Sandhurst Diocese's online news).

"My first memory of the thought of priesthood came to me in prayer when I was fifteen and asking God to help me to become an AFL commentator.

"At that time, I would never have imagined that, eighteen years later, I would be serving as a priest and continuing to work as a sports broadcaster on radio. I wanted to pursue a professional calling career but, in fact, found another divine calling.

"I am very blessed now to serve as the assistant priest of St Brendan's Parish in Shepparton and as a football and cricket commentator on 98.5 ONE FM in the heart of the Goulburn Valley.

"Throughout the football season, I juggle radio and parish commitments. Most weekends I commentate a football game on a Saturday and/or Sunday afternoon. The commentators and listeners are fascinated by the schedule I may have before or after games in the parish. This can include masses, baptisms, weddings, funerals or hospital visits for end-of-life pastoral care.

"Small insights into these moments often



Fr Jackson Saunders at his 'other job'.

come out live on-air, which raise awareness about my vocation and our Catholic faith.

"While my intention in broadcasting sport is purely to provide an engaging and informative commentary for listeners, I find that this work has also become a ministry. It is an opportunity for me to witness to my faith and vocation.

"The commentators themselves do much of the evangelising for me through light-hearted comments and banter during the sports broadcasts.

"I have discovered in my prayer and life experiences that God wants me to continue to use this talent that he has entrusted to me as part of my ministry."

## District Church Times and Contacts

### Anglican

- St Paul's, Rushworth: 0419 512 632  
- 9.30am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month - lay led service  
- 9.30am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of month - Communion
- Christ Church, Murchison: Rev Andre du Plooy  
0458 155 930  
-10.30 am Thursdays Holy Eucharist  
-11am service every Sunday
- St Matthews, Stanhope: 0419 855 964 (Church Warden)
- St John's, Colbinabbin: 0428 329 344 (Mick Clayton)

### Presbyterian

- St Andrew's, Rushworth: Sunday 9am: Minister Kalpan Vasa 0477 241 042 or Elder Gary Dunstan 5856 1332.
- St Andrew's, Stanhope: 5831 6494 (Rev Kyung Rae Ee)

### Catholic

St Mary's Parish. 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am. 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday: One Parish Mass - Rushworth. Contact a team member on the parish mobile phone: 0459 898 925. Sunday Mass continues online from St Kilian's Sundays 10am.

### Shine Church, Stanhope

Sunday services at 10am at the Stanhope Community Hall. All COVID restrictions abided by. Kids church running as well during service. More info call Wal Sinapius 0408 393 398.

### Living Waters Rushworth:

Sunday 3.30pm coffee: 4pm service 0428 323 631 (Pastor Peter Guerra)

### Generations Church, Tatura

5824 3240 (Pastor Jeremy Burr)

### Salvation Army: 5852 3875

### Uniting Church

Waranga Uniting Churches - Rushworth, Colbinabbin, Murchison and Tatura.

Service Times: Weekly at 9.30am (with the 'room' open for a chat at 9am)

Every congregation is open for services which will be streamed each week into all four of our church buildings.

Each week one congregation will host the service with people in other congregations participating in leading the readings, sharing news and fellowship via the magic of Zoom.

You are welcome to join us in person or from your lounge room via Zoom.

The link for the Zoom service can be found on our website [warangaunitingchurches.net.au](http://warangaunitingchurches.net.au) or can be emailed to you each week.

As you gather around the dinner table, join hands to give thanks to God for all his blessings.



GRACE BEFORE MEALS

We close our eyes and say a prayer:  
Thanks for for this food we share.  
AMEN.

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# living the GOOD LIFE

## Warmth again

There's something almost magical about the first warm days at the end of a long winter. It's as if the world, which has been huddled under a thick blanket of cold and darkness, suddenly stretches and yawns, waking up to the possibility of life again. The air, still tinged with the crispness of winter, carries a hint of warmth which whispers to us that spring is not far away. It's a promise, a subtle nudge from nature that we're moving from the dormancy of winter into the vitality of a new season.

## Revival on the Vineyard

On our little vineyard, this shift is more than just a change in temperature. It is a renewal of life itself. The vines, which have stood bare and dormant for months, begin to show the tiniest signs of new growth. The buds, which have seemed frozen in time, begin to swell, and sap starts to flow as we complete pruning the vines.

## The Golden Wonder: Blooming Canola Fields

However, the true spectacle of Spring in our corner of the world is the blooming canola fields. These fields, which stretch out in vibrant swathes of gold, transform the landscape into a sea of sunshine. There's an almost surreal quality when driving past these fields.

The bright yellow blossoms sway gently in the breeze under a clear blue sky. It's a sight that never fails to stir a sense of wonder and gratitude for the beauty of the natural world.

## A Renewal of Spirit

It's not just the landscape that shifts. There's something within us that stirs as well. After months of enduring long nights and short days, of rugging up against the cold, we're reminded of what it feels like to be warm again. Our steps become lighter, our lungs take deeper breaths. The sun, now higher in the sky, casts a golden hue over everything, and we find ourselves lingering longer outside, soaking in the precious rays we've missed so much.

## The Call to Connect

Spring's arrival also invites us to step outside of ourselves. Winter, with its

early nights and cold days often leads to introspection. We turn to books, to the warmth of firesides, to the comfort of familiar routines. Spring calls us outwards, to re-connect with the world around us. There's a sense of community that emerges with Spring, as neighbours emerge from their winter hibernation, and conversations, once brief and hurried, go on and on in the warmth of the sun.

## The Spiritual Resonance of Spring

Spring is often associated with resurrection, and it's not hard to see why. In the Northern Hemisphere, the Christian season of Easter, a celebration of Christ's resurrection, symbolising the triumph of life over death, occurs during Spring.



Canola crop on the hills above Colbinabbin.

But even without religious connotations, spring embodies the idea of renewal, of life returning where once there was only dormancy.

As we step into the warmth of these spring-like days, it's a good time to reflect on our own lives. What parts of us have been dormant, waiting for the right time to grow? What new possibilities are beginning to stir within us, waiting for the warmth of Spring to coax them into life?

## Nurturing Connections

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus tells the parable of the mustard seed, illustrating how something as small as a seed can grow into the largest of garden plants, with branches strong enough to provide shelter for the birds (Mark 4:30-32). This parable beautifully reflects the spirit of spring—a season of small beginnings that hold immense potential for

growth. Just as the mustard seed grows into a mighty plant, the connections we nurture—whether with the earth, with each other, or with the divine—can flourish into something enduring and life-giving. Spring invites us to plant these seeds of connection, trusting that with care and patience, they will grow into strong, sustaining relationships that enrich our lives and the world around us.

## Embracing the Spirit of Spring

Spring is the season of new beginnings, a time when creation shakes off the dormancy of winter and bursts into life with fresh energy. It reminds us that no matter how long or harsh the cold is, there's always a chance to start anew.

The budding vines, the blooming canola fields, and the tender green shoots demonstrate the resilience of life and the promise of growth and renewal. Whether it's a new project, a fresh outlook, or a deepening relationship, Spring invites us to step out with hope, trusting that the seeds we plant in time blossom into something wonderful.

This is the gospel, and it's good news.

*Brian Spencer, Minister  
Waranga Uniting Churches*

## Worship in the Canola

Join us for a special outdoor church service celebrating the beauty and renewal of spring, surrounded by the vibrant colours of a canola field in full bloom.

As the golden flowers stretch towards the sky, we'll gather to reflect on the season's promise of new beginnings and growth. Come and experience the warmth of community, the joy of worship, and the breathtaking beauty of nature in this unique and uplifting service.

Whether you're a long-time member or a first-time visitor, all are welcome to share in this celebration of life and hope.

9.30am Sunday 1 September 2024.

Venue: Shiraz Republic

507 Hamblin Road, Cornella.

And this also is the good news!

*Brian Spencer, Minister  
Waranga Uniting Churches*



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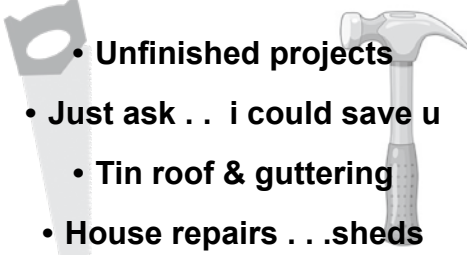
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## Campaspe Shire Council postal election

My council, my vote



### Vote by post this October

Ballot packs will be mailed to voters enrolled in the Campaspe Shire Council general election from Monday 7 October. Complete and return your ballot material ASAP. Ballot material must be in the mail or delivered to the election manager by **6 pm on Friday 25 October**.

### If you will be away

If you will be away when ballot packs are mailed, or your address has changed since Wednesday 7 August, you can request for your ballot pack to be redirected by completing the online redirection form at [vec.vic.gov.au/redirections](http://vec.vic.gov.au/redirections), or call 131 832.

Requests for redirection must be received by 5 pm on Monday 9 September.

### Large print and braille ballot papers

Large print or braille ballot papers are available for voters who are blind or have low vision—please register by 5 pm Tuesday 10 September. To register, call 03 8620 1314 during business hours.

### Early votes

If you will be away during the voting period (7–25 October), you can go to your local election office to vote in person, from 10 am on Wednesday 18 September.

The Campaspe Shire Council election office is at:

Former Echuca-Moama Information Centre  
2 Heygarth Street  
Echuca

### How to nominate as a candidate

To nominate as a candidate, you must:

- be an Australian citizen and enrolled on the voters roll for Campaspe Shire Council AND
- be eligible to become a councillor should you be elected AND
- have completed the mandatory candidate training before lodging your nomination with the election manager.

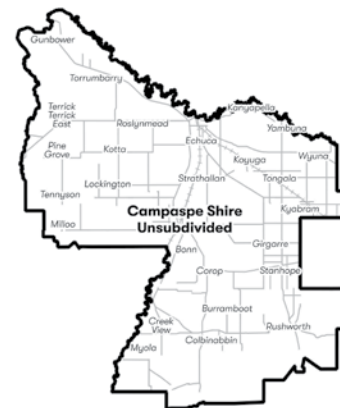
To nominate, complete the nomination form and lodge it with the election manager together with the \$250 nomination fee. Nomination forms can be lodged by appointment during business hours from Monday 9 September until 12 noon on Tuesday 17 September at the election office.

Visit [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) for more information and to pre-complete your nomination form using the online Candidate Helper. The online Candidate Helper will be available from Tuesday 20 August.

If you use the online Candidate Helper, print your pre-completed form and make an appointment to lodge it with the election manager along with the nomination fee.

Call the election manager from Monday 9 September on 131 832 to make a nomination appointment.

**Nominations close 12 noon Tuesday 17 September.**



### Candidate information sessions

6 pm Wednesday 4 September at Election Office, Former Echuca-Moama Information Centre, 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca

1 pm Friday 6 September at Election Office, Former Echuca-Moama Information Centre, 2 Heygarth Street, Echuca

Candidate information kits containing nomination forms and other electoral information will be available online and from the election manager.

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at [vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au)

For enquiries in languages other than English:

العربية (Arabic) 9209 0100 • ܐܘܪܝܝܬܝܢܐ (Assyrian) 9209 0160 • မြန်မာစာ (Burmese) 9209 0161 • 简体中文 (Mandarin) 9209 0106 • 廣東話 (Cantonese) 9209 0101 • Hrvatski (Croatian) 9209 0102 • Dansk (Dan) 9209 0193 • Թուրքերեն (Dinka) 9209 01119 • Ελληνικά (Greek) 9209 0103 • ھازارگی (Hazaragi) 9209 0162 • Italiano (Italian) 9209 0104 • ភាសាខ្មែរ (Khmer) 9209 0192 • 한국어 (Korean) 9209 0194 • македонски (Macedonian) 9209 0105 • नेपाली (Nepali) 9209 0163 • ڀرسان (Persian) 9209 0195 • ภาษาไทย (Thai) 9209 0164 • Türkçe (Turkish) 9209 0110 • اردو (Urdu) 9209 0165 • Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese) 9209 0111 • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

[vec.vic.gov.au](http://vec.vic.gov.au) | 131 832 @electionsvic Authorised by S. Bluemel, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.



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# DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

## WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

### AUGUST

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Thu 15</b> | Researching your family history seminar - Rushworth Library 1pm or 2pm - bookings 5481 2400 by appointment |
| <b>Sat 17</b> | Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm  |
| <b>Sat 17</b> | Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm   |

### SEPTEMBER

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Sun 8</b>  | <b>Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am</b>                    |
| <b>Sat 21</b> | Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm                |
| <b>Sat 21</b> | Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm |

### OCTOBER

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| <b>Fri 11</b> | <b>St Mary's Transition Prep program</b>      |
| <b>Sun 13</b> | <b>Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am</b>     |
| <b>Sat 19</b> | Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm |

## Meetings & Activities - around the district

- Rushworth SES training: Wednesday evenings at 7pm
- Rushworth CFA: Tuesday nights
- Rushworth Food bank: Wed 9am to 12pm and Friday 9am to 12pm
- #9 Op-Shop: (Summer hours) Mon, Wed and Fri - 9am - 2pm Saturday 9am to 12pm
- Rushworth Community Garden every Wednesday
- Rushworth Community House - Genealogy, every Friday from 9.30 to 12.30pm
- Colbinabbin Library: Wednesdays
- Colbinabbin Community Shed: most Thursdays (old Shire Depot), 10am
- Rushworth Band practice: 7.30pm every Monday night
- Stanhope Walking Group: Tuesdays at 10am at McEwen Place
- Rushworth Market: 3rd Saturday of month - 8.30am to 1pm
- Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm
- Murchison CFA: Meeting 1st Monday 8pm - training on 3rd Monday 6.30pm
- Rushworth Museum: every Saturday 10am-12 noon, 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 11am - 1pm
- Rushworth & District Community Bank Board: meets 1st Tuesday monthly, at 6pm
- Rushworth Events Inc: meets bi-monthly, third Wednesday at 7pm
- Community Walking Group: Thurs 8 - 9am meet at front of Waranga Health
- Stanhope Mens Shed: Mon - Wed - Fri 9am - 12 noon
- Murchison Mens Shed: Wednesdays 10am – 3pm
- Rushworth Garden Lovers Club meet 3rd Thursday Month 1.30pm at old Senior Citizen's building
- Friends of the Hostel: Third Monday 1.30pm monthly

**Local clubs or groups who would like to display their event, occasion, community service, entertainment, meeting or opening times, give Waranga News a call or email to be included in our events calendar.**

## EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

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**AMBULANCE.....Emergency.....000**  
 Non-emergency...13 3009

SES: (storm & flood).....13 2500

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 Stanhope .....5857 0452  
 West Goulburn Comm Health....5857 2400  
 Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575

**HOSPITAL:**  
 Waranga Health .....5851 8000


**POLICE:**  
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 Murchison.....5826 2222  
 Stanhope.....5857 2507  
 Colbinabbin.....5856 1000

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**Display Ads: Friday, 23 August**  
**Classifieds: Noon Monday, 26 August**  
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## Waranga News



MEMBER 2024

**A Voluntary Community Newspaper**

Printed by Maxam Printing, Shepparton  
 Published by Mary Jo Fortuna OAM,  
 of 3 Phillips Street, Rushworth, 3612 for  
**Waranga News Incorporated**  
 (ABN 45 086 403 564)  
 Office Hours: Mon, Wed & Fri  
 9.30am - 5.30pm  
 (All day Mon & Tues of production week)  
 33 Moora Road, Rushworth.  
 Postal address: **PO Box 53, Rushworth, 3612**  
**E-mail address: wnews@iinet.net.au**  
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 Advertising & Accounts: (03) 5856 1120  
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# 'Royal Rushworth' a picture for Club's 66th Open Tournament

**Sunday 4 August**

## Open Championship 18 holes

A good field of twenty-eight players arrived to compete in the event. The field was split into A and B Grades.

### A Grade Open

This was a high-class field with no fewer than eleven players on single figure handicaps.

Several past winners and runners-up were in the field so a win would not be easy.

Ash Kuiper (Valley View) was the early clubhouse leader with a fine 76 until Kelly Cheong came in with the last group also with a 76. A sudden death playoff was ordered with Kelly winning on the first hole.

Congratulations Kelly, another classy performance. Commiserations to Ash who has come close to winning this event several times. Thank you for supporting our tournament.

### A Grade Handicap

**Winner:** Ray Colman, Nett 70

**Runner-up:** Slim Perry

### B Grade

**Winner:** Dennis Hardie 80

**Runner-up:** Frank Stewart 82

**Straight drive:** Allan Akerstrom

**Nearest the pin:** 7/16 Dean Ponton, 5/14 Jim Ewart

**Second shot:** Kelly Cheong

**Nearest the stump:** Terry O'Brien



### Points of interest

Any casual observer watching Kelly Cheong play a round of golf would swear he was having a bad day but invariably he comes in with a good score if not a winning one. Well done again Kelly on your big win in the Open – no need to change anything!

During the tournament we welcomed visitors from twelve clubs and it was great to see Colin Barlow and Tim Webb back at our club.

Special thanks to Slim Perry for all the hours he puts in mowing the course and to all the members and ladies who contributed to making our tournament a success.



From NAGA winner to Open winner, Kelly Cheong.

### Player of the Tournament

**Dennis Hardie – winner of Friday 4-ball and B Grade on Sunday.**

**There is an old saying that a bad loss can snap an athlete out of the doldrums and back into winning form. Dennis should thank Sam Perry for the thrashing he handed out in the match play two weeks ago. Well done, Dennis. It's good to have you back on track; no need to give the game away for a few more years at least! It might be best to avoid getting out of your depth taking on the A Graders in match play!**



Runner-up Open Championship Ash Kuiper

# Unlikely pair pull off Rushworth 4-ball Tournament

**Friday 2 August**

## Open 4ball

Our tournament was off to a good start with a beautiful sunny morning and our course looked a postcard.

A good field of forty-eight players assembled for an 11am shotgun start. All the best 4-ball specialists (bandits) from around the district were in the field so competition was sure to be tough.

Local pair, Dennis Hardie and Dean Pontin were not considered to have any chance, with Dean far too erratic and Dennis totally out of form and confidence. However, a transformation was about to take place.

Dean simply blazed around the first nine holes putting on a show with long straight drives and deadly accurate putts. The par 3 fifth hole was a standout where his tee shot finished two metres from the hole. He then calmly sank the putt for a birdie 2 and 5 points! Amazing! They scored an unprecedented 27 points on the first nine, but how could they possibly keep going at this level?

They started the second nine in reasonable fashion but after a couple of ordinary shots the doubts started to creep in. They were desperate not to waste such a terrific start. Dean need not have worried as this is where Dennis stepped up. He brought them home



over the last five holes with a par, par, birdie, birdie, par to put the result beyond doubt. They had scored 50 points.

This was an unexpected but very popular win!

**Winners:** Dennis Hardie and Dean Pontin, 50 points

**Runners-up:** Ron Dixon and Ian Scurrah, 45 points

**Nearest the pin:** 5/14 Dean Pontin, 7/16 Jim Perry

**Second shot:** Tony Geisler

**Straight drive:** Peter Cuthbert

**Nearest the stump:** Bruce Bryant

**NAGA Award:** Kelly Cheong and Darryl Harrison

### Points of interest

Note the winning margin was a massive five points

NAGA Award winners Kelly and Darryl's score of 31 points is an appalling effort for two experienced golfers.

A special thank you to Tim Quinlan from Rochester for coming along to. Tim has competed in this event for fifty-two years. What a great effort. Thank you Tim.

# Murchison win against old rivals



Murchison hosted their past players for the Annual Reunion and were delighted to welcome back most of the players and their families from the 1964 Premiership team. It was a lovely afternoon of catching up and reminiscing and many of the players commented on seeing the club in such good shape on and off the ground/ court.

## 3 August - Round 14 Murchison vs Stanhope Netball - Under 11s

We played Stanhope only a few weeks ago and it was a really tight game; the girls only going up by one goal.

This time around the girls showed how much they have improved by taking the win by twenty goals. We were all so proud of how well they worked as a team, how they helped each other out on court and how hard they were chasing loose balls.

We have been focusing on getting our basic skills right at training, including running onto the ball and throwing the ball out in front, and I saw how much of an improvement their hard work at training is making.

Well done girls! Be proud!

**Awards:** Maddi and Ruby for giving their all in GA, to Lexie for her fantastic defensive work and to Macy for chasing loose balls with speed down the court.

A shout out to Esther who showed some great sportsmanship, sharing the ball around in the goal ring to ensure everyone got to experience shooting goals this week.

## Under 13s Murch Toolamba 13 - Stanhope 28

U13's stepped onto the court for their second last game of the season with a sense of determination and hunger for the ball. This showed in all four quarters of their game with many opportunities rewarded purely from their willingness to implement efforts. A huge improvement on our scores from when we last met Stanhope a few weeks ago.

**Awards:** Zoe, Alexis, Chelsea, AJ and Liv.

## Under 15s

Defeating Stanhope by four goals two weeks prior, we were aware we had a battle on our hands! The intensity was high from the first whistle and our girls were certainly up for the challenge.

Lori Bathman, Lexi Anderson and Matilda Ewart combined effortlessly and did their best to keep the Stanhope goal shooters quiet.

Nyla Anderson teamed up with Summer Kirby in goals and there she proceeded to give us a much needed injection of energy to start the second quarter.

Strong centre court plays from Delilah Thomas, Erin Calleja and Frankie Ewart saw Stanhope consider numerous positional changes in the third term.

Unfortunately for us our late fourth quarter surge home wasn't quite enough.

## Under 17s Stanhope 48 def MTFNC 25

U17s took on a determined Stanhope, knowing they had a lot to prove since last meeting them.

Unfortunately Stanhope got away to an early lead in the first quarter and despite some great passages of plays the girls were unable to close the gap.

**Best on court:** Reagan Connors for her tremendous efforts in driving and attacking the ball, allowing us to score.

**2nd best:** Imogen Morrison earned herself second best on the improvement over the past few weeks has been outstanding and a credit to our defence end.

**3rd best:** Maggie Harrison for her 'never give up' attitude and consistency.

Under15s player Nyla Anderson joined the side again and was a fresh burst of energy in the goaling end and earned herself fourth best on.

## C Reserve

The girls stepped on the court, knowing it was a must win game and never looked back. Injury saw the team adjust to multiple position changes, with everyone stepping up and playing their part. There are plenty of great positive aspects to take from the game and implement in the last few rounds before finals.

**Awards:** Shae, Emerson, Tori and Ellie M.

## C Grade

C Grade knew coming into this week we had a tough game ahead of us having lost to Stanhope by fourteen goals the last time we played them.

The girls gave their all but unfortunately were unlucky converting in the ring and went down by four goals.

**Best on court:** Liv Miller, Molly Connors and Jade Golightly.

## B Grade

We went into this week's game wanting to improve on our twenty goal loss from a few weeks ago. We have been working hard at training on our set plays in both attack and defence, the timing of our leads and our passing accuracy. This really showed out on court, coming away winners by nine goals.

**Awards:** Sienna Mellington, Mel Brown and Chloe Miller.

## A Grade

There were lots of positives to take out of today. Tacita-impressive statistics on her shooting accuracy. Kelsey and Kat-under control up the defensive. Unfortunately the final score wasn't in our favour.

## Football

### Under 9s

The Under 9's and Under 12's GMJL teams played their final games for the season. We thank our coaches, team managers, volunteers and parents for all working together to create such a wonderful environment for the kids to play, enjoy and develop in their footy.

Season 2024 was such a great experience for the kids.

**Coaches awards for Under 9s:** Miles, Jackson, Sammy, Louis, Hugh and Cash.

**Coaches awards for Under 12s:** Lachie Merriman, Benji Mann, Hayden Chetkett, Edward Stammers, Jacob Robinson, Cooper Anderson and Makenzy Pena.

### Under 15s

The U15 boys played Rushworth at Nagambie under lights Wednesday night. Rushworth were leading all game up until the boys kicked five goals with seven minutes to go in the last quarter to come out with an exciting six point win.

**Best on ground:** Will Mann, Kaide Anderson, Jimmy Turnbull, Wally Ewart and Ryder Heaney.

The boys then had to back it up on Saturday against Rushworth, their third game in seven days. They had plenty of the ball but found it hard to score from a determined Rushworth. But yet again, to their credit, came away with a ten point win.

**Best on ground:** Hugo Turnbull who showed his class on the wing, Logan Bedwell taking one of the marks of the year, Bailey Davies who was hard to stop around the ground, Will Sibio who was great in the backline and in the centre and Kobe Mann with his first game back from injury.

## Under 18s

The boys played some great team footy and tackling pressure was through the roof all day. To the credit of Stanhope, they kept our team on their toes all day but we dealt well with their pressure and got the win.

**Best on ground:** Brooklyn Varapodio, Tyren Trevaskis, Ollie Hunt-Whipps, Kye Goodwin, Hunta Brown and Myom Dang.

## Reserves

Reserves had a solid win against another top-four team. After an even first half the team was able to break away in the third quarter to come away with a good win.

**Best Players:** Shane Kay, Jamie Jones, Joel May, Cameron Blackswell, Mason Sleeth and Callum Miller.

## Seniors

Senior boys had another impressive win against old rivals Stanhope in front of legends of the past. A four goal to nothing first quarter and the game was on our terms. At half time the boys took a nine goal lead but we took a 47 point lead into the last quarter and we ran away 97 point winners.

**Best players:** Sam Mackrill, James Milne, Nathan Turner, Jaydon Hexter, Aaron Miller and Josh Wild.

*Shelley McCormack*

## Social Events

### Sat 17 August

- Sponsors Day at Murchison
- Goods & Services Auction

### Fri 27 September

- Little Legends Games at Toolamba Rec Reserve

### Fri 11 October

- Senior Vote Count and Presentation Night

### Sun 13 October

- Junior Vote Count and Presentation Day

## Sharne Milne

### 250 games

**A Grade - Congratulations to Sharne for her 250 games. She should certainly be proud of her efforts.**

# CFNC - It's off to the finals for some

Well, in the blink of an eye, we found ourselves at the end of the line for the season, and for some we still had a chance of progressing but for others, that train left months ago.



## Round 18: Colbo v Nth Bendigo

On a day that saw us bathed in sunshine and with MJ Morgan Oval looking a million bucks, where else would you rather be.

### Football - Seniors

#### Colbo 12.10. 82 def Nth Bendigo 7.12. 54

Imagine beating all the teams you lose to in the first half of the season and losing to the teams you beat in the first half of the season, all happening in the second half, except for one mob.

However, the equation was extremely simple. A lot of things had to go right - winning the game was one thing, but the result of the game over the hill playing the biggest roll in all of this. Colbo win, Mounts lose, Colbo into finals, end of story.

But they did it emphatically in the end. The Colbo boys just wanted it more on the day, with so much at stake. They finished the game 28-point winners.

We find ourselves heading way up the highway to Leitchville to take on Heathcote in an elimination final,

**Goal kickers:** Alex Carr 5, Clint Shields 2, Nathan Basile 1, Connor Aldous 1, Laine Fitzgerald 1, Jed Brain 1, Sam Coughlin 1, Julian Bull 1

**Best on ground:** Alex Carr, Judge Judy Ryan, Nathan Basile, Jed Brain, Connor Aldous, Will Lowe

### Reserves

#### Colbo 5.12. 42 lt Nth Bendigo 18.11. 119

A good, healthy, overaged and underplayed side was assembled. The chances of a last round upset was on the cards and those cards were turned about 10 minutes into the game.

It took a whole half for the lads to play some footy, albeit 12 goals down. From here it was an even contest, but we were too far behind.

A gallant effort in the end to finish a pretty mediocre season. Big thanks to everyone for the year and we go again next season.

**Goal kickers:** Ned Morgan 2, Butch Hill 1, Willy Morrow 1, Will Hayes 1

**Best on ground:** Butch Hill, Thomboy Hill, Gizza Guinane, Bodey Abbott, Will Morrow, Xav Maher

### Netball - A Grade

#### Colbinabbin 70 def North Bendigo 39

The girls were focused and ready to go from the first whistle in stunning weather reminding us that finals are just around the corner.

With a score of 63 required to crack 1000 goals for the season, the Colbo girls were slick all over the court. Credit to the defence who kept a tall North Bendigo goal circle to four goals at quarter time.

Congratulations to all team members on a good home and away season and let's get behind the girls as they head into finals.

**Best on court:** Matilda McIntyre and Elle Palmer

### A Reserve

#### Colbinabbin 51 def North Bendigo 43

A Reserve continued on their winning way and showed what a calm, composed and dangerous team they can be taking the win.

With a very versatile line up and a 'team first' mentality, it will be exciting to watch the girls in finals. The defenders were on song rebounding strongly and constantly rebounding the ball into attack against very accurate North Bendigo goalers. Centre passes were working beautifully, and our clever goalies adapted to some strong North defence, changing up their game to find an alternative way to score.

Congratulations on making the finals and now let's believe we can do some damage.

**Best on court:** Morghan Hughes and Aggie Minne

### B Grade

#### Colbo 36 lt Nth Bendigo 56

This year our B Grade has regularly faced adversity with girls out or playing unwell. This round was no different. It was a warm day and the girls were eager to finish the year on a high and enjoy their final game of the season.

Our defence did what they do best, won lots of ball and then smoothly transitioned it through the court to the goalers. We showed flashes of our brilliance, however North proved to be that bit more consistent.

Big thank you to all players who stepped up to play B Grade at various points this year. Looking forward to 2025.

**Best on court:** Lucy White and Eliza Searle

### B Reserve

#### Colbo 37 lt North Bendigo 48

A very nervous crew warmed up with not a cloud on the sky. It was 'd' day for the B Reserve girls who needed to win to make the top five. They certainly were hungry from the beginning and made the bulldogs work hard for the win all game. The girls worked tirelessly, but sadly just couldn't compete with the accuracy of North's goalers.

**Best on court:** Alex Duke and Corrie Seabrook

### 17 and Under

#### Colbo 25 lt North Bendigo 50

For the last game of the season, the girls were ready to have a little bit of fun. Harriet and Maisy put up plenty of shots, scoring from all over the ring. Zahara, Brigid, Chelsea and Mikayla controlled the play through the mid court, and Sadie and Emily worked for rebounds and intercepts in defence.

The last quarter was a little off script, with a few highlights being Zahara's well deserved goal in the final three seconds of the match, Emily eyeballing the bench looking to be rolled out of the C bib, Sadie passing the ball under the ring avoiding one of those elusive goals she'd been talking about, and Chels skipping into the centre third as a GK!

Although we went down by a bit, everyone came off the court with a smile on their faces, wrapping up another season.... some for the last time in juniors. Special mention to Coach Shannon who has devoted every Thursday and Saturday to these gals sharing a wealth of knowledge.

**Best on court :** Zahara Ali and Harriet East  
**15 and Under**

#### Colbo 55 def North Bendigo 13

Well done 15s on a fantastic season. It was great to end the season with a win! A hot game meant the midcourters Audrey, Ella and Riordo worked hard continually driving to get the ball. Defenders Macey and Abbey provided pressure over the ball and watched the play to gain lots of intercepts. Goalers Harriet and Evie C and Zac converted lots of the play into goals for the team. Congratulations everyone!

**Best on court:** Zac Morgan, Evie Coghill and Audrey McFadzean

### 13 and Under

#### Colbo 36 def North Bendigo 20

What a way to finish off the season! The Under 13's had a brilliant win against North Bendigo, with fantastic, clean and polished plays leading to goals being shot left right and centre.

The play was swift, complemented by our strong defensive pressure increasing the intensity for North. Whilst they demonstrated a significant improvement since our last match, we were able to collate all the skills that we have learned over the season and combine them to achieve our best game yet. Awards this week could have been given to any player, Thanks for being such an outstanding group of kids and we look forward to watching you develop as fantastic netballers. Well done everyone, we are so proud!

**Best on court:** George McFadzean, Madison West and Frankie Ryan

## Finals times Saturday 17 August Qualifying Final

Lockington Reserve

Netball 3pm

- A Grade Colbo vs Elmore

## Sunday 18 August Elimination Final

Leitchville Rec Reserve

Netball 12.30

- A Reserve vs LBU

Football 2.15pm

- Seniors vs Heathcote

**Go Hoppers!**

# Colbo members of 1984 Premiership reminisce



The CFNC welcomed 'Royalty' to town! Some of the netballers from the 1984 A Grade premiership team caught up and reminisced on their glory days, forty years on. They were absolute superstars in their day (possibly still could show us a thing or two these days), winning six flags in a row from 1982 - 1987.



Photo: Janelle Beagley (Burge), Cath Pearce (Ivey), Anne McEvoy (Ellis), Sadie Vale (Morgan) and Jacqui Avard. Missing from the photo are: Kate Tuohey, Denise McEvoy, Pauline Morgan and Janine Morgan.

## RFNC - U15s footballers show their great skills



**31 July**

**Football - Under 15s vs Murchison**  
**Rushy 8-8-56 lt Murch 9-8-62**

Wednesday 31 July was a makeup game and the boys played their first game under lights at Nagambie against Murchison.

The boys played a great game, working together extremely well all over the ground. Their pressure has definitely improved during the season. The young lads unfortunately lost the game in the last 10 seconds with Murch kicking a goal to win!

**Goal kickers:** Bryce 4, William 3

**1st incentives:** Brodie doing his job and

having a crack all game.

**2nd incentive:** Jaydn for working well down back and his attack on the footy.

**3rd incentive:** Aiden for his focus on the footy.

**The Umpires Award:** William for his consistent effort in the ruck.

**3 August**

**Rushy 3-2-20 lt Murch 4-6-30**

The boys travelled down the road to take on Murchison for the third time in eight days. They started off well and were only down by eight points at halftime. They kept up their great defensive work all over

the ground in the third quarter keeping Murchison scoreless in the quarter. Then the tables turned and they were unable to score in the last quarter going down by just ten points.

**Goal kicker:** William with 2.

**1st incentives:** William for his great work rate around the ground.

**2nd incentive:** Bryce for his consistency in the backline and his strong hands.

**3rd incentive:** Thomas attacking on the ball in the forward half.

**The Umpires Award:** Lucas for pressure everywhere.

## RFNC - U17 netballers head for finals



**Round 14 vs Girgarre**

**Football - Reserves**

**Rushworth 3-2-20 lt Girgarre 28-15-183**

**Seniors**

**Rushworth 7-8-50 lt Girgarre 14-14-98**

**Netball**

**11/U**

**Rushworth 10 def Girgarre 5**

**Incentives:** Zoe, Lil, and Sophie

**13/U**

**Rushworth 17 lt Girgarre 22**

The game was a close one and great to watch. Although the girls lost by five there was brilliant sportsmanship displayed by all today.

**Incentives:** Charlii, Sofia and Kaitlyn.

**15/U**

**Rushworth 24 lt Girgarre 52**

**Incentives:** Tyra, Kaitlyn and Lailah

**17/U**

**Rushworth 67 def Girgarre 22**

The girls started out flat for the first quarter, not playing to their own abilities, but coach Maya's quarter time speech revved them up for the second quarter and the girls made it happen. They showed strength in their second efforts and backups in all thirds of the court. It was great to see the girls supporting each other.

**Incentives:** Millie N, Emma and Jackie

**C Grade**

**Rushworth 22 lt Girgarre 60**

**Incentives:** Zahley Francis, Millie Newton and Tyra

**B Grade**

**Rushworth 30 lt Girgarre 48**

B Grade came out strongly and showed lots of energy early on.

It was nice to have all girls back from injury and good team bonding. It was a well fought game and even with the margin stretching out in the last quarter, the girls should be proud of themselves for closing the gap from the last time we met at the start of the season.

**Incentives:** Jess, Laura and Montana

**A Grade**

**Rushworth 24 lt Girgarre 72**

A Grade started strongly against an impressive opposition outfit in some warm winter heat. Unfortunately Gig came away with the win but A grade girls should be proud of their growth over the season, closing the gap significantly from our last meet.

**Incentives:** Kayla, Janelle and Montana



# RFNC - Big win to the Tigers on a memorable day

What a fabulous weekend it was with so many returning for the reunion celebrations, congratulations to the organising committee it was a huge success. It was great to see so many people around the Club.

This year has been an incredible transformation, from being on the edge of closure to becoming a competitive club. This is amazing and we thank everyone who has helped along the way, including all the fantastic sponsors and amazing supporters. Next year will be even better.

## 10 August - Round 15

### Netball - U/15

Rushworth 38 drew Merrigum 38



### U/17

Rushworth 48 def Merrigum 34



By the end of the first quarter the score was 11 all. The girls played four solid quarters, inching away each time. They all gave 100% in shooting, attacking and defending and it paid off with a win, 48 to 34.

A big thank you to Keileigh for stepping up and filling in. One more week to go, then finals.

**Incentives:** Grace, Jackie and Bella

### C Grade

Rushworth 40 def Merrigum 28



An incredible win by the C Grade girls! The defensive end made the goalers work for every single goal scored and the shooters were accurate and dominant. The incredible mid-courtiers ran out a hot game with speed, agility and a never-say-die attitude.

**1st incentive** - Tyra, one of the best games of netball I have seen from our U15s superstar!

**2nd incentive** - Britt, an incredible player for our juniors to be able to learn from.

**3rd incentive** - Sarah LR, An absolute pleasure to watch and coach!

### B Grade

Rushworth 40 drew Merrigum 40

In a fairytale finish coming into the end of the season, the B Grade girls have really shown just how far they've come this year, drawing with one of the ladder leaders. At the start of the season we lost by almost fifty goals to this opposition and to finish with a draw in the last thirty seconds with a mammoth ten goals turn-around in the last quarter is absolutely insane.

**1st incentive** - Jess

**2nd incentive** - Montana

**3rd incentive** - Hailey

### A Grade

Rushworth 32 lt Merrigum 49

Our ladies had a tough slog, unfortunately coming away second best but with one of our closest margins throughout the season.

**1st incentive** - Janelle Doolan

**2nd incentive** - Kayla Shep

**3rd incentives** - Crystal Pateman.

### Football - Reserves

In what was a massive day for the club it was time for the Reserves to kick off the day with no juniors.

Although the boys started off slowly they gained some momentum in the second quarter to be within a few kicks at halftime. Matt Thomas was gathering possessions at



will with Hayden Gray also jumping on board to get plenty of the ball also, although his goalkicking was a bit wayward.

The boys gained the lead in the last quarter only to have it snatched away with two late goals in the dying minutes .

Best players: Matt Thomas, Tom Jones, Scott Saunders, Josh (skipper) Newton, Declan Baldwin and Kane McLeod.



### Seniors

With some quality inclusions (Milney and Harris) it was stressed to the group about still needing to play our way! Harris slotted the first goal.

At quarter time we were up by four goals The boys continued to play their style, hard in the contest. Merrigum came back hard and kicked two goals and the boys needed to be brave with the ball movement and be composed.

Five goals in the last quarter, our forwards applied pressure and were unselfishly giving the ball to players in a better position.

A special mention to Merrigum players/coaches for attendance in our after match; it's greatly appreciated with much respect from our club to yours.

# RFNC - A reunion like no other!

This last weekend the Rushworth Football Netball Club welcomed back premiership winners from five different teams: 2014 Reserves, 2004 Seniors and A Grade netball and the 1999 Reserves and C Grade netball.

## Friday night catch-up

Many players from these teams, plus a massive amount of past players and supporters, returned to Ironbark Stadium for a weekend full of celebration, reminiscing and laughs.

We started with the quick catch ups on the Friday night, while we watched the Swannies beat the Pies....just! But everyone was keen for an early night knowing the big day was tomorrow.

## The game

The weather was absolutely perfect for a day of footy and netball. With no junior footy and two junior netball teams not playing, the crowd was slow to roll in but by the time the Reserves started, the crowd was flowing in.

Many people travelled far and wide to reunite with old mates and some hadn't been back to the club in years. Lots of old stories were told over some refreshments, but also a lot of positive comments about how the club is travelling and how happy they were to see the direction in which they are going after having a rough year last year.

Then it was time for the 'big dance'. Ex-Saints player, Stephen Milne and home grown ex-Roos and Suns player Daniel Harris had the crowd keen, but many were also excited to see the team that have been turning up each and every week and putting 100% into the game and their club.

We also had a good turn-out for the senior netball, with a draw for U15, another win to the U17s, a win to the Cs, draw for the B Grade and a loss for the A Grade – it was still amazing to see past players up at the courts cheering on the Tiger girls.

More importantly, they were able to be there to see their ex-team-mate, Katrina Ogden, presented with flowers for her 400th game; many of those 400 games were being shared with those women, especially the winning team of 1999.

## Sportsman night

Saturday night then turned into a sportsman night at the Shire Hall, which was enjoyed by all who attended.

Stephen Milne answered some of the hard hitting questions from Super Coach Mark and shared some AFL yarns. Plenty more reminiscing and more stories being told and shared, into the very late hours!

This didn't stop everyone from turning up Sunday to the clubrooms for the first replay of the day - 2014 Reserves Grand Final. This was nicely commentated by the hungover boys and special comments from the Lancaster losing coach, who is now coaching our Reserves – you know what they say, 'If you cant beat them, join them!'

Then it was on to the 2004 Seniors game, which, after some technical difficulties, was a very amusing day.

A lot of special comments and great



Daniel Harris kicked the first goal.



Steve Milne ex St Kilda player



Katrina Ogden thanks some of her old team-mates and new A Grade players.



insight from the minds of these players. Although 20 years was a long time ago these boys still talk as if it was yesterday!

A massive thank you to Shaun Young, Crystal Pateman, Regan Hanson and the rest of the committee and crew who made this amazing weekend possible. It will go down in history as one of the biggest weekends in RFNC history!

*Rushworth Football Netball Club Inc*



# Seniors put on a show for the crowd!



Seniors game - and they won!



Reserves lost their game but gave it their all.



*Geoffrey Lipshut*

### Accepting Instructions in:

- Wills & Estates
- Powers of Attorney both Enduring & Medical
- Property & Conveyancing
- Notary Public
- General Legal Advice

### THE COOBA SOLAR PROJECT

The proposed Cooba Solar Project has committed to an annual Community Benefit Fund (CBF) of \$200,000 per year, which equates to \$6M over the 30-year operational life of the project. This is an industry-leading economic package, which will provide funding to local projects and initiatives in the Colbinabbin community.

The project is in the initial stages of setting up a Community Reference Group (CRG), who will provide direct input into the structure and governance of the CBF. We invite community members who would like to provide their input or be involved in the CRG to get in touch with us.



VENN ENERGY

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