

WARANGA NEWS

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A community newspaper
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 26 September 2024

Springtime around Rushworth

Rushworth town is well-known for its historic buildings and streetscape reflecting our goldfields heritage, but especially at this time of year we remember there is so much to experience and enjoy in places just outside our town boundary. Whether our interest is nature, history or wildlife, the warmer spring weather makes it an ideal time for outdoor activities such as bushwalking and cycling. We can enjoy peaceful hikes enjoying the forest's natural beauty or explore areas rich in history, where remnants of old gold-mining operations are evident.



The spectacular old blossoming tree (right) at the cyanide sands near Battery Dam is a living remnant of the domestic life of Rushworth's early miners.

Gold-mining today (left) pictured north west of Rushworth is a very different operation from that of the gold pans, picks and shovels of the pioneering past!



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Celebrate Stanhope

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Sunday October 6, 2024 11am - 4pm
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JB & Me



June Newman

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VOTE 1

Deb CHUMBLEY

Campaspe Shire

For a strong community voice at the table



I'm Deb and I am excited to put myself forward as an independent candidate for Campaspe Shire in October's Council election. I have lived in Campaspe most of my adult life and bring a broad range of skills and experience to the table.

I understand the enormous contribution our smaller communities make to our Shire and want to make sure all voices are considered in decision making.

debchumbley.com.au



 info@debchumbley.com.au
 [@debchumbleycampaspe](https://www.facebook.com/debchumbleycampaspe)

Authorised by D Chumbley
PO Box 2080, Echuca South Vic 3564

Glenn Starr to entertain Seniors at Kyabram

As part of Victoria Seniors Festival, which runs from 1 - 31 October, Campaspe Shire Council's Annual Seniors Concert will take place on Wednesday, 23 October at the Kyabram Bocce Club. Doors will open at 10:15 am, with the concert commencing at 10:45 am.

This year's featured performer is the dynamic and versatile Glenn Starr, a renowned Australian singer with over twenty-five years of experience captivating audiences worldwide.

Glenn will take concert-goers on a journey through some of the greatest hits from the 50s, 60s, and beyond. His impressive vocal range and emotive delivery will ensure a performance not to be missed. The concert will also feature a special morning tea served during the performance, making for a delightful and festive experience.

Campaspe Shire Council Acting CEO Michael Sharp said Council is proud to celebrate our senior citizens and their invaluable contributions to our community.

Tickets to the concert are free but must be booked in advance for catering purposes. Bookings will open to the public via TryBookings on Monday, 16 September and will close on Wednesday, 16 October.

For assistance with bookings contact Council on 1300 666 535 or visit any of Council's service centres.

Campaspe Council election candidates announced

Nominations for the Campaspe Shire Council election have officially closed, with twelve candidates to compete for nine vacancies in the new unsubdivided structure.

This election will be the first under the new structure, with candidates representing the shire as a whole instead of in wards.

The abolition of wards in the shire will see Waranga ward residents voting in a council election for the first time since 2012, when current sitting councillor Adrian Weston defeated incumbent Cr Marion Riley and third contender Geoff Francis. Since then Cr Weston has been elected unopposed.

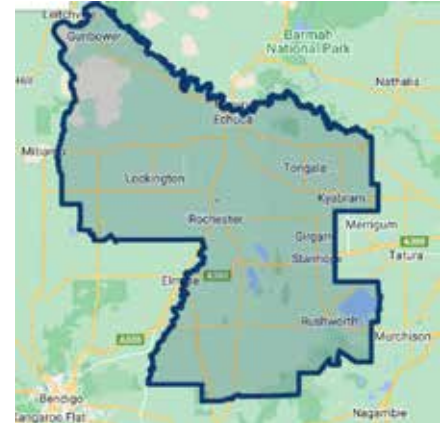
Campaspe voters will be required to select their preference of candidates, numbering from one to twelve.

All Victorian Council elections are conducted by post. Ballot packs will be sent to enrolled voters from Monday, 7 October, to be completed and posted back or dropped off by Friday, 25 October at 6 pm.

These packs contain a ballot paper, candidate statements, a ballot paper envelope, a reply-paid envelope and a leaflet with instructions in other languages.

The twelve contenders

With some current councillors choosing to withdraw from the contest, the new field of nominees sees an even split between currently serving councillors and new challengers.



Sitting councillors who have nominated are Rob Amos, Paul Jarman, Daniel Mackrell, Tony Marwood, Adrian Weston and John Zobec.

The other candidates are Deb Chumbley, Zoe Cook, Michael Farrant, Jessica Mitchell, Brett Ould and Luke Sharrock.

The closing of nominations at noon on Tuesday, 17 September also marked the beginning of the election or 'caretaker' period for Campaspe Shire Council.

Until 6 pm on Saturday, 26 October, Victorian local councils are limited in their activities so that council resources cannot be used to influence election results.

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Have your say!

Readers are invited to contribute their letters, opinion pieces and ideas to these pages.

Colbinabbin Rec Reserve Community Hub update

Further to the successful community forum held in May 2024, the Colbinabbin Recreation Reserve Community Hub working party comprising Dean Wallace, Anne McEvoy, Tait Hamilton and Tim Hill, committed to providing community updates on further progress of this exciting project.

An application was submitted to the Campaspe Shire Council in August 2024 under their Community Projects Scheme to support the funding required for detailed design of the Community Hub which we envisage will cost over \$100K. The application included the key linkages to both the Colbinabbin Place Based and Rec Reserve Master Plans along with evidence of need, community consultation feedback, as well as the concept designs which had been developed. All of this information created a strong eligible proposal.

The Shire advised last week that they are currently in Stage 1 of the community project proposal assessment which starts with their Active Communities team. The working party anticipate that we will receive a notification of our application outcome from the Shire by the end of December 2024.

If approved, the next stage will be the project undergoing Council budget process and approval. This will usually take around three months before the draft budget is prepared and ready in March/April 2025 for community feedback.

Once the Shire has an indication of approval in their budget, they will advise the working party. Once the budget is finalised in June 2025, and if the project is approved for 25/26 financial year, the Shire will appoint a member in the Active Communities team to liaise with the Recreation Reserve committee who will ultimately project manage the detailed design process. Once the detailed design is complete then the Recreation Reserve Community Hub project will be "shovel ready" to progress by seeking the funding for the actual build.

The working party is genuinely excited that we have gained this momentum which is a credit to the support and positivity of our community of which we extend our thanks.

**Dean Wallace
Colbinabbin**

Letters or opinion pieces are welcome, but must be accompanied by the sender's name and residential address (address not for publication). Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Longer submissions may be subject to editing. Published articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Waranga News.

Keeping the Local in Local Government

In a couple of weeks you will receive ballot papers in the mail for the upcoming Local Government elections in Campaspe. This will be my last term as your Waranga Ward Councillor – more on that later.

I have been your Councillor now for twelve years representing your interests and ensuring we have had a strong voice in our part of Campaspe Shire and making sure we get our fair share. Some achievements include a renewed High St streetscape with improved drainage, a redeveloped service centre, new toilets and parking at the Lions park, and finally started and scheduled to be completed early next year, the Waranga trail connecting through to Murchison. These are in addition to numerous other projects in Stanhope, Girgarre and Colbinabbin.

Place Based Plans for Stanhope, Colbinabbin and Rushworth have now been completed outlining the things that are important to us going forward in our respective communities, including a commitment from Council to keep our pools.

It has been a privilege being your Councillor and I have nominated again as a candidate for next month's elections and am asking for your support to continue to be your voice for our district.

The reconfigured electoral structure in Campaspe does no longer include wards, referred to as unsubdivided, meaning all twelve candidates will be on one ballot paper with nine councillors elected from across the whole Shire. There are four candidates in our area, myself in Rushworth, Brett Ould in Stanhope, John Zobec from Girgarre and Jessica Mitchell based in Kyabram.

For this election your second, third and fourth votes will be just as important as your first in deciding who gets elected, noting you will need to put a number from 1 to 12 for each candidate in your order of preference.

Supporting us will help keep the local in Local Government.

Cr Adrian Weston

**Authorised by Adrian Weston,
P.O. Box 162, Rushworth, 3612.**

Police Beat

Greetings and welcome to your local police report for the Rushworth Police Service Area, for the months of August and September 2024.

The following is a list of reported crimes and incidents. Any information in relation to these crimes can be reported to the Rushworth Police Station on 58561000, or by calling Crime Stoppers on 1800333000 if you wish to remain anonymous. Any information is greatly appreciated by both victims and police.

- A theft occurred at the Rushworth Golf Club overnight between 31/07/24 and 01/08/24. The hot water system valued at \$800 was removed from the side of the building facing the Rushworth-Tatura Road.
- At 11.10 a.m. on 05/08/24 an offender has driven into a vineyard along the Heathcote-Rochester Road in Colbinabbin. They entered an open shed and stolen Makita power tools valued at \$2200.
- A criminal damage occurred at a Plain Road Colbinabbin residential property between 06/08/24 and 09/08/24. The decking and window frames were damaged valued at \$1000.
- A trailer was stolen from Tait-Hamilton Road, Wanalta between 8.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. on 11/08/24. The stock moving trailer valued at \$500 was removed from the side of the road.
- A burglary to an unlocked shed occurred at a rural Plain Road Colbinabbin property between 8.00 p.m. on 27/08/24 and 8.00 a.m. on 28/08/24. Power and gardening tools valued at \$3600 were stolen. Two male offenders were later

arrested and charged by police.

That is our list of reported crimes. Please take the time to secure your property and sheds when you can. Offenders love finding open sheds and can only take a few minutes to load it up. These thefts can often be avoided. Local members attended two family violence incidents during this period. We have also issued a total of 75 infringement notices for a variety of offences. I'm running late for an appointment, or I just wasn't concentrating were the most used excuses for speeding. The school zones in Rushworth and Colbinabbin continue to be a concern. Please be aware of speed limits during school times. We just must keep our kids safe when coming and going from school. Local members also attended two accidental fires recently. It is certainly drying out of late, and fires can easily start when out working. Our traffic operations are also ramping up as the weather warms up. You heard it here first, so please pay extra attention when out driving to avoid a fine.

I also had a coffee and chat with Julie at the Colbinabbin Hotel last week. She makes a fine brew so please pop in and support our local business 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*

Celebrate Stanhope Food & Wine Festival

The popular *Celebrate Stanhope Food and Wine Festival* is returning for 2024, with the town's centre coming alive on October 6 with music, food and endless entertainment for kids and adults of all ages.

Foody delights will include Dairy-Fresh Gelato, G-free donuts, Brothyn Ramen Japanese food, Vegetari-Yum gourmet spring rolls, a coffee cart, Smokin' Barrells American BBQ, Oh My Ceylon Sri Lankan, Girgarre and Stanhope Fire Brigade barbecue, Angelo's Pizza and Pasta, Stanhope Cafe, That Sweet Chef, Armstrong's Rivers Edge Olive Oil, Timmering Food & Beverage Co as well as grazing platters, cheese and coffee.

In addition to enjoying all that tasty food on offer, you can learn to prepare your own with Fiona Hansford hosting a cooking demonstration at 11.45 am.

To ensure you don't go thirsty, wineries will include Callipari Wines & Ned Kelly Red, Strathbogie Estate Winery, Shiraz Republic and Broken River Vineyards, while adding to the Mediterranean vibe will be local olive oil and herbs at the stalls selling local produce.



The streets were packed for last year's Celebrate Stanhope event - a huge success.

JB and Me and June Newman will be providing the musical entertainment and the children will be well-catered for with face painting, horse and cart rides, Tiny Tales Reptiles, a jumping castle, craft zone, plaster painting, windmill making, colouring and chalk activities.

Entry to all of this activity at *Celebrate Stanhope* Food and Wine Festival is just a gold coin donation. For safety reasons please

leave your pooch at home though - it is a dog-free, glass-free and smoke-free event.

Stanhope Food and Wine Festival is on at Birdwood St, Stanhope, on Sunday, October 6, from 11am to 4pm.

Birdwood Ave, parts of Monash St and surrounding lanes will be closed on the Sunday from 7am to 5pm by council/ VicRoads. Appropriate signage will be displayed.


Men's shed funding now available

Grants of up to \$100,000 are now available in the latest round of the Men's Shed Funding Program.

The funding can be used for the construction of new men's sheds, including the conversion of an existing building, the refurbishment, extension or upgrade of existing men's sheds, or the purchase of major shed equipment for use in men's sheds.

Men's sheds are designed to be safe and practical places for men to meet, make social connections and actively participate in their local communities.

Apply now <https://www.vic.gov.au/mens-shed-funding-program> – closing 16 October, 2024.



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Band's competition adventures

by Alan McLean

This is the second in a three-part series highlighting snippets of the history of the Rushworth & District Band, extracted from research undertaken by George Gemmill of Stanhope, who has in turn found details in early editions of the Rushworth Chronicle.

Early last century, Mr E. F. Geyle, who was Waranga Shire secretary, was also the energetic band secretary, always on the lookout for potential sources of funding. He was also an amateur reporter, describing challenging band excursions to places such as Bendigo for statewide competitions, one from 1927, recalled in Rushworth Chronicle on 15 June, 1928.

"We left Rushworth on Christmas night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, drove in open [horse-drawn] vehicles to Elmore [to catch a train] and arrived between 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning, tired of the dusty road and terrible heat.

We pulled up at the Bridge Hotel and knocked the hotel-keeper up. He had little or no accommodation, all his rooms being full, and he having only one room to spare, the bar parlour. We slept on the floor with no bedding, with a cornet box or an instrument for a pillow.

We tried to sleep, but nobody did for the fleas had got to work rather early. Those that did not lay down walked the street. The train did not leave for Bendigo till 6 o'clock.... We were met at Bendigo station by Drum-Major Hanby of the Maldon Band. We marched through the streets. Our turn [to play] came and it was terribly hot, but we put up a good performance.... Our march was called "Blaze Away" --- it was only 110 degrees F in the shade --- what a most appropriate tune. [43 degrees Celsius]

Arriving at the sports ground, we found a poor crowd. Windy and dirty, it looked like

a storm was coming. As each band played its first number, they had to keep the music tucked down to the band stand..... Rain set in. We were playing, or trying to play, our music nearly wet through.... We played a beautiful waltz called 'Dreams of the Ocean', played in torrents of rain."

Apparently Rushworth finished third in that contest, not taking much of the incentive prize money, and having to deal with rain throughout the journey back to Elmore, to collect their open vehicles, for a further soaking while returning to Rushworth.

Mr Geyle resigned and was awarded life membership for his 22 years of service as secretary, replaced by Mr W. Johnson.

Each year, country Victoria had multiple Band Carnivals and Rushworth won the Shepparton event on two occasions, prompting a late entry in 1928, with the need to quickly learn a difficult piece and to re-hone their marching skills. The band finished in third place.

Any prize-money was meagre, and the regular fund-raising was the holding of well-advertised concerts at the rotunda in High Street, Rushworth, and passing around the collection box hoping for a shilling from each of the adult members of the audience.

In the 1930s, a ladies auxiliary was formed, and the women organised a bazaar to raise funds. Instruments needed to be purchased, and sometimes repaired. Sheet music for up to 30 players did not come cheaply, or last long in the weather conditions described above!



Given its 142-year history, it is no surprise that the Band has had a wealth of talented characters setting up their music stands. In the 1930s, the bandmaster Mr Fred Rich contributed both his baton and a rare, outstanding, male soprano voice! He was succeeded by Mr Jim Collard but when the Second World War broke out, the band went into recess, obviously disturbing the continuity of its community service.

After the war the band was reformed in 1946, and it was not long before 24 chairs were needed, as brass and percussion roles were well filled. This was under the leadership of a bandmaster with the perfect name. The new man, believe it or not, was Mr. C. Sharp!

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A Tribute to Duffy

The Band Master of the Rushworth and District Concert Band, Matt Tatti, along with fellow band members, wish to acknowledge the long and faithful service given by their late member Graeme 'Duffy' Collard.

Duffy passed away in August at the age of 88 years. He joined the band as a young lad of ten years of age and has been a loyal and dedicated member until ill health made it impossible to blow his cornet.

Along with his friend Stewart Nurse, they were seen at all the ANZAC and Remembrance services in Rushworth playing The Last Post.

Your many years of service are not taken for granted and it was a pleasure and an honour to be asked to play at your funeral.

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Commitment of CFA Volunteers recognised

On Sunday 15 September 2024 Colbinabbin Lieutenant Sam Brown was one of over sixty CFA Volunteers from CFA's North-West Region to receive a National Emergency Medal for their services to the Australian community during the 2019/2020 fire season.

The Medals were presented by CFA Board Member, Peter Shaw accompanied by CFA Chief Officer Jason Heffernan, and VFBV delegate Greg Murphy.

The National Emergency Medal is an operational service medal which recognises significant or sustained service to others in response to nationally-significant emergencies within Australia, and complements the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal, which honours members of eligible Australian groups for humanitarian service overseas in hazardous circumstances.

The National Emergency Medal Regulations 2011 were approved by Queen Elizabeth II during her visit to Australia in October 2011.

The National Emergency Medal is administered by the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House who provide secretariat support to the National Emergency Medal Committee.

The Medal

A stylised representation of Australia's national floral emblem, the wattle, is the central symbol of the National Emergency Medal. The image around the central image is of flowering wattle, representing the accomplishments and sacrifices made by Australians in the service of others in times of crisis. The back of the medal repeats the ring of flowering wattle, and details the award and recipient.

The colours of the ribbon are gold and eucalyptus green. Gold symbolises the Australian sun, optimism and hope. Eucalyptus green complements the symbolism of the medal design. The seven gold coloured bands represent Australia's six states, with the seventh representing the territories.



Colbinabbin CFA Lieutenant Sam Brown receives his National Emergency Medal

Rushworth CFA Unit receive their Medals



Rushworth members Alistair Thompson, Debbie Thompson, Cath Cornford, Chris Coleman, John Meguyer and and Mark Jones display their medals (Absent Brendan Hawking)

Competency in Road Accident / Crash Rescue

Three members of the SES Rushworth Unit have completed an expert course and are now fully trained to attend road accidents.

The rigorous training now enables them to perform competent extraction of people from vehicles in emergency situations.



Fully trained: Susan Perry, Mike Perry and Garry Kay.

New Rushworth SES member welcomed to the unit

The Rushworth unit attended many call-outs to trees down during the last big storm, with the property of Nebbi Popovic being one of them.

Nebbi had a tree fall on the back of his house and it was a successful challenge for the SES to cut it down without causing further damage to the house. After time at the property and further discussions about what



Nebbi with Ray Barber, Rushworth Controller.

else the SES does, Nebbi decided to join our unit. He has already been to several training nights and is enjoying the comradie and exercises performed on the Wednesday nights of training.

Rushworth welcomes Nebbi and anyone else who would like to join the crew!

Arts & Tourism

Places to stay, things to do and see in our district

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Basket weaving with Tony



A very versatile group of baskets in the making last Sunday at the ART Depot when Tony Ford held another of his workshops. Apart from weaving there was also lots of good story telling going on making it a very rewarding day all round.

Successful exhibition closes

Texture and Colour was definitely the theme of Heather Wellington's exhibition held over the past three weeks at the Motofinish Cafe in Rushworth. Heather was in attendance most days to chat which helped boost sales of her work. There were many red dots on works indicating they were sold.

Thanks

Heather would like to thank the local community for supporting her and coming to see and buy her art.

A special thanks goes to Fiona at Motofinish and the IGA Supermarket who donated as well as Lyn Rumble and the Waranga News for great publicity.



Dabble and Babble at the ART Depot monthly

Every third Saturday in the month artists come together at the ART Depot, 34 Esmonde Street to 'dabble and babble' with like-minded folk.

Last Saturday saw some interesting outcomes including this one by Roseanne Mayer. It was fascinating to watch her create this in such a short time.



Saturday 19 October
10.00 - 1.00
Dabble and Babble
34 Esmonde St. Gold coin

Campaspe secures critical flood infrastructure funds

Campaspe Shire Council has been awarded \$280,000 from the Australian Government's Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) for the Critical Flood Infrastructure for Emergency Response and Resilience Project.

The project aims to enhance the Shire's flood mitigation capabilities and improve community resilience in the face of flood emergencies.

The funding is part of the Australian Government's flagship initiative for disaster resilience and risk reduction, which provides up to one billion dollars over five years from 1 July 2023. The total project cost is \$560,000, with the Commonwealth contributing \$280,000 and Council co-contributing an additional \$280,000.

The funding will enable Council to deliver essential flood mitigation infrastructure, including the acquisition of pumps, trailers, and pipework, as well as the construction of shedding to protect the equipment. The deployment of this new infrastructure will enable rapid response and isolation of town drainage systems during flood emergencies, mitigating potential flooding impacts and building community disaster preparedness capability and resilience.

Campaspe Shire Council Acting CEO Michael Sharp expressed gratitude to the Australian Government for their support through the Disaster Ready Fund.

"This funding is crucial for enhancing our flood mitigation infrastructure and ensuring the safety and resilience of our community.

"With this funding, we can significantly improve our ability to respond swiftly and effectively to flood emergencies, protecting our residents and minimising potential damage," Mr Sharp said.

Local councils develop new emergency management plan

Campaspe Shire Council has launched a new program about how residents should respond within the first 72 hours of an emergency.

The First 72 Hours initiative, launched by local councils in Victoria, aims to empower communities to respond effectively in the critical initial phase following a disaster.

The program emphasizes the importance of self-reliance, equipping residents with knowledge and skills to manage emergencies within the critical initial 72 hours post-crisis, before external help arrives.

The First 72 Hours aims to bolster community resilience in the face of natural disasters by providing tools for residents to create an emergency plan that can be used to respond to fires, floods or any other natural disasters.

Campaspe Shire Council Acting CEO, Michael Sharp said the plan provides great resources for community to become prepared and think about their response during an emergency.

"Emergencies can be hard to predict, and emergency services are in high demand in disasters," he said.

"This collaborative initiative involving various Councils and response agencies has seen the development of an informative resource that involves creating your own plan and being prepared for an emergency.

"It helps prepare for the first 72 hours of

an emergency. If you had no access to power, water, gas, road access, reception and limited food, the plan helps you prepare for these scenarios and ultimately, keep you safe," Mr Sharp said.

The plan focuses on four key steps, including:

1. Making an emergency plan
2. Back up information
3. Preparing a kit
4. Staying informed

The program highlights the significance of having essential supplies ready, such as food, water, and first-aid kits, to sustain families during the first three days post-disaster.

The First 72 Hours initiative is a proactive approach to safeguarding. It cultivates a culture of readiness, ensuring that Victorians are better equipped to effectively face disasters. It also strengthens community bonds, encouraging residents to support one another in times of need.

For further information visit www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/thefirst72hours.

Hard copy brochures and plan templates will also be available from the Recovery Hub in Rochester and all Council service centres, libraries.

Channel up and running again at Colbo



The creek at Colbinabbin got an environmental flush from an extra high water level in the Waranga Channel when it started running again this month.



The gates were wide open at the stops as the over-full channel poured its way through Colbinabbin on its way north.



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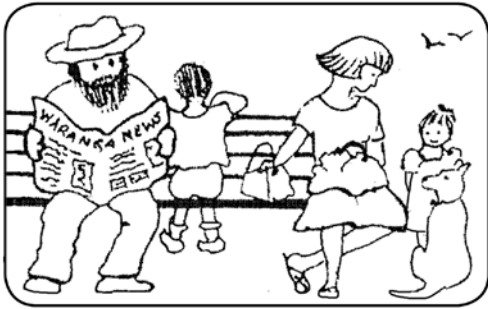


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Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns Around our towns



Around Rushworth

Toni Moller CFA 'legend'

Rushworth resident of over ten years, Toni Moller, lived in Pantom Hills for twenty-six years before she moved here and was a member of the Pantom Hill CFA.

Toni spent approximately twelve years in the fire service at the unit and upon a return to the unit has recently been advised she was the first woman in Victoria to become a Lieutenant at their unit and in the Victorian CFA.

She was also the unit Secretary for six years and spend many long hours as coordinator of their Art and Craft Show, which was a very prominent annual event.

Nice to know women represented the CFA in those years. Well done Toni!



Making CFA history - Toni Moller

Is it news in your town?

If you have something newsworthy to tell from around your town why not pass it on to the

Waranga News?

wnews@iinet.net.au



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The Christmas Elves are awake!

The Rushworth Christmas Elves are getting busy again. They need to find out who wants to decorate a community Christmas tree for the centre of town this year.

Some people kept their tree frames last year to enable them to have longer to construct their decorations. Those people still need to fill in a registration form with Rushworth Artistries. Instructions are at the end of this article.

The following tree frame sizes are available to give out this year:

- 7 feet – 2 available
- 6 feet – 8
- 5 feet – 9
- 4 feet – 7

The Elves have noticed how inventive and creative the decorations have become over the years and our 'Trees' are certainly a great drawcard for Rushworth.

To reserve a tree please text 0429 686 375 or email rushworthartistries@gmail.com with your **name, email** and the **size** of the tree you want.

If you already have a

tree please text with the same information, except, of course, you already know the size of your tree. Confirmation is needed that you will be using it this year. If you have a tree and don't want to decorate it contact the above number and an elf will come and pick it up.

Once this information has been received further information will be sent out to you with regards to categories, some suggestions, etc.

Dates to note

- 2/3 November between 10am-1pm - pick up tree frames from Community Hub
- 30 Nov and 1st Dec 9am – 1pm - bring decorated trees to the Bell Tower in High Street
- 11/12 January 2025 - trees to be undecorated and left in the High Street.



If you want to keep the frame you **MUST** fill in a form before you take it.

Remember - Rushworth Artistries Elves can be contacted by email rushworthartistries@gmail.com or phone 0429 686 375.

Rushworth and District Historical Society AGM 2024

The AGM of the Rushworth and District Historical Society took place on Wednesday 4 September and the following people were elected to be the office bearers for the next twelve months.

- President – Nick Buzza
- Vice President - John Kean
- Secretary – Nick Buzza
- Treasurer – Wendy Everest
- Curator - Hester Macansh
- Assistant Curator - Cheryl Pericic
- Genealogy and Research - Tracey Bons
- Steam & Traction Engine - John Kean

Museum hours are every Saturday from 10am to 12noon and the first and last Sunday of the month from 11am to 1pm. The Museum can be open at other times for large groups or for genealogy research by appointment. The museum is staffed by volunteers and new members are most welcome to join. Visit the museum any time it is open or contact any of the office bearers, details on the website www.rushworthmuseum.com.au.

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Colbo Tit Bits

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Strength and Balance

Strength and Balance classes started up at 3.30pm on Monday this week at the Colbinabbin hall with the first two sessions free. Ring Rushworth Community House to find out more and look for enrolment forms at the Colbinabbin Store.

What a great show!

If you weren't at the Colbo Hall last Thursday evening, you missed a great show put on by our local Primary School. Such enthusiasm by those with starring roles and supported by the whole school with song and dance. Thanks everyone for a great night.

Babies

George and Lindy Stewart have a new little French granddaughter, Thelma Rosa, born to Bobby and Lucie Stewart in Rennes, France.

And welcome to Tom and Meg Hill's baby daughter, Hazel Catherine. Another little granddaughter for David and Kathy.

Got any news? Tell Nata or Shell or ring Vicki at the News 5856 1120
wnews@inet.net.au

Serenaded on his birthday @CCH



Clem Furphy was the centre of attention on his birthday with an a cappella rendition in two-part harmony of the Birthday song by the Wright sisters, Julie and Clare (out of shot) of CCH. Also in the photo is Pat Kennedy who really only joined in with the other guests for the rousing chorus.

The Spyder Ryders were in town to celebrate

The Colbinabbin Country Hotel played host to a very special group on the weekend. The event was the eighth birthday celebrations of the Northern Victoria Spyder Ryders, who come from all over Northern Victoria, and ride regularly. The happy group were very proud to show off their amazing bikes, and enjoyed lunch and birthday cake at their destination. If any Spyder (CanAm) owners out there are looking for others to ride with, you are most welcome to email Ian Carruthers nvsr09@gmail.com. Looks like a whole lot of fun!



Colbo Diary

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

FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER


Sept 29 Robert Brown, Sam Brown
Oct 6 Paul Tait, Oliven Rathjen

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.

LIBRARY

Wed 2 October Heather Woodman
Wed 9 October Lynn Rathjen



Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)
September - Barrie Borger
October - Robert Brown



Rushworth COMMUNITY HOUSE INC.

67 High Street Rushworth 3612

Phone (03) 5856 1295

Email:

admin@rushcomhouse.org.au

Website:

www.rushcomhouse.org.au

Facebook:

Rushworth Community-House

Office Hours:

Mon, Tues Thurs : 9.00am to 3.00pm

Wed, Fri : 9.00am to 1.00pm



Your local access point for Medicare, Centrelink and other Australian Government services.

Learn how to stay safe when you are on-line



Now running at the Community House each Tuesday between 11 am and 1 pm, the new *Being Safe Online* program is designed to increase the on-line knowledge and skills of participants, while providing feedback about their progress after each session.

The program is brought to us by the *Good Things Foundation* and is supported by Rushworth and District Financial Services.

People bring their own devices to the sessions, and are taught how to manage those devices confidently and safely.

Importantly, any help with on-line financial services is referred to the bank for expert review and advice. Course assessments measure participant's progress at the end of each session. Contact the Community House to join this course, which is free of charge.

Almost 100,000 containers recycled!

Since it began in late April this year, Rushworth Community House's Container Deposit Scheme has processed more than 93,000 containers, and expects to reach the magic figure of 100,000 recycled bottles and cans by the end of this month.

Community House Manager Anita Pirie is delighted with the scheme's success, and with the dedication of the volunteers who are physically on-hand to receive the containers and issue payments.

The scheme operates from the old Council Depot in Horne Street and is open to recycle containers for members of the public at the following times:

- Tuesdays 9.00 am until 3.00 pm
- Wednesdays 9.00 am until 1.00 pm
- Thursdays 9.00 am until 3.00 pm

More volunteers needed

The Community House would like to open the old depot on Saturday mornings as well, offering greater convenience to locals wishing to use the scheme. However, in order to increase opening hours to include Saturday mornings, more volunteers are needed.

If you would like to be part of this valuable scheme please contact Anita at the Community House on 5856 1295.

(Upper right) CDS Volunteer Deb is a vital team member of this valuable community endeavour. She and her fellow volunteers enjoy their activity and would love to share it with new team members.

(Right) Almost ten thousand dollars has already been paid out from the scheme, with ten cents for each recycled container going to the person returning it, or being paid to a registered "good cause" of their choice. The scheme also assists the Community House to deliver other services of benefit to the local community.



Digital Essentials now "more personal"

Visitors to Rushworth Community House often praise the extremely high quality of the House's computer training room, with its modern computers running the latest version of Windows, its touch-activated screens, and teaching tools to rival any university or college, all located in a quiet, air-conditioned room.

The computer training room is an ideal venue for one of the House's most popular courses - Digital Essentials Level One - which is designed for adults with some basic digital know-how, helping them get to grips with technology and programs commonly used in contemporary workplaces, including word processing, spreadsheets and presentation and publishing software.

Mitchell Petersen delivers this course for the Community House in his own quietly competent manner.



While the course contents remain compliant with Australian standards, delivery at the House has been "softened" somewhat to make it easier for participants to both follow and enjoy. Contact the House for details.

Meanwhile, anyone having problems with a device such as a mobile phone, tablet or laptop PC should arrange to meet one of our talented volunteers - Rhoni - at the House on Mondays between 9.30 am and 11.30 am for some technical advice and support.

**Strength and Balance Classes are now in both Rushworth and Colbinabbin.
Rushworth - Mondays between 1pm and 2pm at the Community House
Colbinabbin - Mondays between 3.30pm and 4.30pm at the Colbinabbin Hall**

NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

Summer coming, ready or not!

Is the warmer weather coming, or is it not? What a confusion of weather we are getting lately. The poor old plants don't know if they are supposed to be flowering or not.

If you're someone who feels the cold still, or likes a bargain, the Op Shop has a rack of jackets/coats that are of beautiful quality. They are warm, stylish and only \$7. Some are wool, others synthetic suede and lamb's wool or fleecy material. A range of colours and sizes are available.!

We had a unicorn visit the Op Shop in a fleecy onesie for a very large adult. She had great fun prancing around the shop. If you want to give your family a laugh you can buy it for only \$10 and spring out from behind the door one night.

Of course, if you are more conventional and slim as we have an absolutely stunning evening dress (or even a bridal dress). It is gold with shimmering sequins in curving patterns and a size 8/10 (see, I said you had to be slim). I believe it came from Melbourne, never been worn, and cost a LOT of money, but you can buy it here for only \$30.

Some of our children's books were donated to an opticians in Bendigo. We had so many here and he had set up little house libraries in his surgery for children to take free books. The children have been delighted with the books and our organization is happy

to encourage children to read.

Talking of books, we have so many that for two weeks we will be selling five BOOKS FOR \$1. If you are passing through in a caravan, pop in, fill up your shelves and take them away!

We also have some household items on our shelves: coffee making machine, toaster, mixer etc. so check them out next time you pop in to say hello.

Wishing you a full belly and a happy smile until next time.

Heather Wellington



Visiting unicorn in a onesie.



Dress for summer

Time is coming, soon we hope
With sun out now we cease to mope.
We dive into old summer clothes
To check out colours, cut and flow.
But, oh dear me, my clothes have shrunk!

And that old dress looks just like junk.
I CAN'T have put on that much weight,
Was that the chocolates that I ate?

The Op Shop has a fine selection
Of dresses that suit to perfection.

Fine and floaty, sleeves or not,
Patterns, plain, lace or dots.

No need to look so plain and drab
With \$5 dresses you can look fab.

You swish and swirl and still stay cool
With elegance, - you're no-one's fool.

Why pay a fortune in other shops
When here you can buy lots and lots

For the same money - what a win,
So don't just sit there - come on in!

Foodbank hours

Open 10 am to 12 noon

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

located next to Campaspe Shire Council offices.

Donated goods are appreciated and may be left in the Pantry after hours but please don't leave perishables as the 'fridge' is not refrigerated!



Fifty years ago in our district....

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



Bad accident at outlet bridge, September 1974

In light rain, vehicles driven by Mrs Joyce Heily (with passenger son Glen) and Graeme Perry (with passenger Ken Pearce) collided at the outlet bridge, with all four taken to Mooroopna Hospital by Rushworth-based ambulance with injuries less severe than the completely wrecked vehicles might have suggested. (*50 years ago, Cass. Still no bridge action!*)

Two cranes were used to lift the old water tower off its stand in Murchison.

Departed Constable Norman Conway received a valour award for his role when shot while attempting to arrest a man at a High Street Rushworth property in January 1973. The week of the award presentation in Melbourne, Norman's wife Mavis gave birth to Kylie Louise at Footscray hospital.

Courts and crime

Criterion Hotel licensee, Arthur Harradence, was placed on a bond to be of good behaviour for twelve months after trading outside legal hours. (*Difficult to believe. What will they think of next?*) Two men on the premises had told police that beer to refresh Apex Club members on a Sunday bottle drive had been purchased on the Saturday night and they had just visited on Sunday to pick it up. The Magistrate formed a different interpretation of events and imposed the penalty.

Vandals in Rushworth caused over \$300 damage to street signs, cisterns in public toilets, and wrecking newly-laid wet cement which had to be dug up subsequently. (*Vandalism? No! Criminal damage.*)

Shire of Waranga

Work commenced on the Senior Citizens' building adjacent to the Shire offices, the cost estimate being \$52,000.

New Councillors Laurie Tuohy of Colbo and Max Grant of Stanhope were photographed with Shire President Bill Jacobson, who was seated in the historic president's chair. (*See the seat of power in the Rushworth museum.*)

Community

Moora Fire Brigade roster: Chief Perry, Tom Harrop.

Big news from Stanhope CWA branch when Mrs N. Buzza won a prize for her "set of unusual spoons", edging out a set of spoons entered by Mrs Maidment. (*Just thought you would like to know!*)

Equally big was the change of venue for Rushworth-Colbinabbin Apex Club Beef and Burgundy night, listed for October. The Shire Hall was double-booked, so it was off to Colbo Memorial Hall.

Promotion ahead of Elmore Field days encouraged people to go and see a complete wire-strand cattle-yard! (*That must have dragged the crowds in!*) The event was still being held at Ayson's Reserve, a bend in the Campaspe River, off Burnewang Road.

Rushworth Band was set to welcome Dandenong Band for a big performance at Rushworth oval. Instrumental (*Ha! Ha!*) in that arrangement were Alan and the late Bruce Collard, with links to both bands.

Schools

Rushworth Primary's Grade 6 was hearing a serial story, The Hobbit, by Tolkein. The Grade 4 contribution to the weekly report was written by Veronica Martin, telling of a visit to the bush where they found insectivorous plants. (*I had to look it up too. Insect-eating plants.*)

Personal

Mrs Ruby McDonald's 80th birthday was celebrated, and included a photo with daughter Jean Curtis and grand-daughter Nola Holland.

Rushworth Presbyterian church farewelled long-serving office-bearer Mr Farquhar McLean and organist wife Jess, ahead of their move to semi-retirement at Kirwans Bridge. (*My uncle and aunt.*)

Born to Ross and Beryl Coyle was Leonie Joan, joining Susan and David.

Mr Vic Whitford of Rushworth died. See Name from the Past in this edition. Mrs Muriel Jackson of Rushworth died at Mooroopna after a fall, leaving husband Alan, four children and seven grandchildren.

A letter to the editor from Mr Q. C. Binks of Bendigo, whose mother-in-law was Mrs Gladys Hill (formerly of Colbinabbin), told of Binks meeting with Grace Branson in August 1975 during a trip to England. Mrs Branson had lived in Rushworth during World War II, but had since married and lived in England.

Bowls

Murchison's new President Ron Baker welcomed new bowler David Dixon. Ron's wife Greta "threw" the kitty then veteran Dot Kenny sent down the first bowl, and the season was underway, with strong competition for places in the pennant team.

Golf

John Teasdale gathered 48 stableford points, to beat Bob Barlow (43) and Stephen Teasdale (42). Longest drive in A-grade went to Terry Cogan, while B-grade's Ross Coyle opened his shoulders and whacked it a long way.

The back page of one Chronicle edition had a photograph of three Teasdales, father John the High School Principal, son Stephen, a third-year golfer though still a schoolboy,

and son Craig, a first-year player. All had won trophies during the season, which was a fine effort.

Thank you

I have visited the district for a few events recently and have been pleased to hear from people, some being strangers (as they are newcomers to the area), telling me how much enjoyment and information is gained from reading 50 Years Ago. Thank you all, in return for your appreciation. Nice to know that the scrounging through old newspapers is worthwhile for readers, or at least for some

of them! Golden Wedding

In our last edition the wedding of Les and Jenny Hoyling (nee Muir) was mentioned. The photo below should have appeared with the article to help them celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. Happy anniversary to you both!



Les and Jenny Hoyling (nee Muir) on their wedding day, 7 September, 1974.

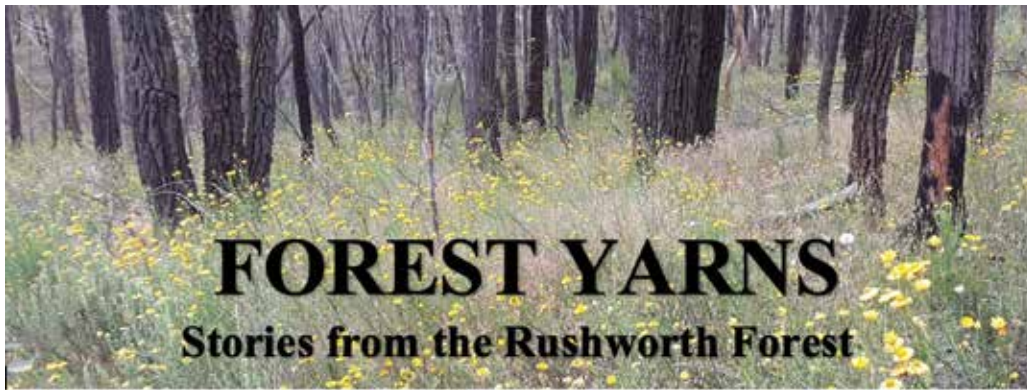
Rushing to Whroo,

1853 to 1880



\$25

Alan McLean 0412 143 660
Books available: Waranga News office and General Store Rushworth



Aboriginal connections

The first users of the Rushworth Forest were the Aboriginal people who had been there for tens of thousands of years before European colonisation began to encroach on their country from the 1830s.

Many stories about these people were included in an earlier series which appeared in the Waranga News over four years (Waranga Dreaming 2019-22).¹ Consequently, this current series of stories will not repeat the content of those stories, but will simply recap some of the main themes that were contained in that collection.

The people who traversed the country on foot and used the forests around Rushworth and Murchison before colonisation were the Ngurai-illum Wurrung people, who were part of what is now usually known as the Kulin Nation – a loose confederation of Aboriginal people who comprised several similar language groups, which had family connections and shared many cultural attributes.

Connection to country

It is hard for most of us to imagine the depth of connection between Aboriginal people and their Country. The connection was a practical one, because Country provided everything that the people needed to live their lives in a sustainable way. However, it was also a spiritual one, with many significant places throughout the local area that will largely remain a mystery to us. They could include places we now know by other names – the waterhole at Whroo, Balaclava Hill, the Mount Camel range, numerous wetlands including Reedy Lake and the former Waranga swamp.

There are magical places of significance in and around the Rushworth Forest that are an innate part of the former occupants and their descendants, and always will be. Travelling along songlines, they returned to them again and again throughout their lives, collecting ever-evolving stories that would be passed down orally over multiple generations. Sometimes this would be through narration of particular stories, while at other times it would be encapsulated in song, dance, ceremony and artwork.

Connection of people and Country remains strong, even though the descendants are now largely physically removed. For an Aboriginal person, it could be stated that they considered themselves part of their environment. In the context of these stories, they were 'of the forest', which would incorporate all the fauna, flora, geology and other aspects of the forest.

Products of the forest

In terms of the products that the Ngurai-illum Wurrung people obtained from the forest, water was obviously vitally important, as the forest is often extremely dry. One historian was convinced that the rock well at Whroo was part of a



Pellets of Grass Tree gum - Rushworth forest

number of reliable water sources along the songlines between Reedy Lake and points to the north and west, some of which were mentioned above.²

Materials to make items essential to the daily lives of the Aboriginal people were collected in the forest – timber for weapons and tools, gum from the wattle and grass trees as adhesives, plants for making a range of other items such as fish traps and dilly bags, bark for building materials and making twine, stone and ochre, and medicinal plants amongst many others.

Food was also collected from the forest, including birds, animals and reptiles. With hollows in older trees providing homes for smaller animals like possums, the forest would be a rich food source, although hunting for kangaroo, a staple food, more often occurred on the plains to the north of the forest. By-products from these animals included skins, bones, teeth and sinews.

Many plant materials were also sourced for food, including the fruit of the cherry ballart, as well as various roots and leaves. Bush honey was reputed to have been much sought after.

One of the things that is clear from the Aboriginal way of life in the forest is that when something was taken, the harvester only took what was needed at the time. This meant that later sojourners were provided for.

With whatever was taken, very little or nothing was wasted. All parts of the animal or plant were used where possible. If a plant or animal happened to be a totem of a forager, then that species would not be touched by that person, and they would have a duty to ensure its welfare and conservation.

References

1 Ford, Tony, *Waranga Dreaming – Stories of the Ngurai-illum Wurrung People and Their Country*. Note: these stories are available to read or download free from the Rushworth museum website - <https://rushworthmuseum.com.au/>

2 Parris, Harry (of Nagambie)

A Name from the Past

Victor Whitford - had links to Murchison and Rushworth

The Rushworth Chronicle of 26 September, 1974, gave a summary of the life of former Victorian Railways man, Victor Whitford, who had lived his life at Murchison and at Rushworth.

“A highly respectable citizen of Rushworth in the person of Victor Percival Whitford, passed away at the Rushworth Hospital on September 16th.

Born at Graytown 66 years ago, the late Victor resided with his parents at Murchison for a number of years, before shifting to Rushworth to live, where he spent his school days.

During the War he was a cook in the Sergeants' Mess at 13 P.O.W. Camp, and it was during those four years that he married Miss Jean Tuhan (an old Murchison family) in 1944.

After the War, he went back to his employment and worked for 31 years with the Victorian Railways, before retiring to live in Rushworth.

He was a keen fisherman and in his younger days he played cricket and football.

Of a quiet personality, he was a devoted husband and father. He was a most useful man and could turn his hands to anything to improve his home. While living in Murchison, when he was on the Railways, the late Victor was continually [line of print obscured] by getting wood for them and cutting it up and if some carpentering [sic] was needed Vic was always on the spot with his tools, fixing verandahs, etc., in a quiet, modest manner. Very few people knew what good deeds he did as he never boasted.

Left to mourn are his loving wife Jean and four daughters, Verna (Mrs Hawkins), Noeline (Mrs Tully), Wilma (Mrs Hogarth) and Leonie (Mrs Hill).

The funeral took place last Wednesday at Rushworth when the late Vic's work-mates and friends he made while on the Railways came from far and near to pay their respects. The four coffin bearers were Colin and John Higgins, Robert Whitford (nephew) and Alan Hogarth.

Rev. D. McDougall conducted the service at the Church of England and at the graveside. Kittle Bros. had charge of the funeral arrangements.”

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.

Keeping native animals

A few days ago I was called to a bird of prey at a residence near Shepparton. The bird was not able to fly and had appeared in someone's back yard.

On arrival, once I had the Brown Goshawk in my hands and began to do a quick assessment for possible injuries to determine why the bird was down, I discovered that feathers on each wing had been cut by human hands, rendering the bird flightless.

The bird's tail was ratty and frayed and the remaining flight feathers on both wings were fractured, broken and also frayed. The bird's weight was good, which is not usual for a bird of prey who is compromised for flight as they cannot obviously catch prey if they cannot fly. This poor bird has been captured somewhere along the line and people have attempted to keep it as a pet.

Goshawks are renowned for entering chook pens to prey on chickens and also known for hitting windows in flight. The most likely scenario for this bird is that it found itself trapped in a chook shed, was caught or it was dazed and confused after colliding with something, possibly a window, and was caught by people.

These people have decided, for whatever reason, to keep the bird as their own. To ensure the bird couldn't escape and fly away, they've clipped both wings to render it flightless. This is a really low act. A bird which should be capable of release is now set for a possible twelve months or longer in care as that is the time it will take to do a complete moult of the damaged feathers.

I believe the bird has been in this situation for quite awhile due to the condition of the remaining feathers and the bird's demeanour. Somehow, the bird has escaped. Like all wild creatures, instinct is very strong, particularly in raptors. It was inevitable that the bird would leave. It was likely destroying itself in a mesh cage or enclosure, hence the wings clipped with the idea that then it could be let out and not be able to leave. The best thing this bird has done for itself was leave....and luckily it found its way into a yard owned by people who care and did the right thing by calling for help.

Australian wildlife laws and regulations do not permit the capture and keeping of our native animals from the wild. It is simply not allowed, for good reason. There are private wildlife licences you can obtain to keep native wildlife but only to keep wildlife which is captive bred.

Captive bred stock obviously originally came from wild stock when we had no wildlife

laws. Animals were allowed to be freely trapped and sold both here and overseas. Many people made a lot of money. Many species are still having population problems today as a direct result of trapping to fuel the wildlife pet trade. A lot of our native finches were targeted for their beauty and ease of keeping and are a prime example of how these actions decimated wild populations, to the point of near extinction for some species. Many of our beautiful, intelligent parrots have endured the same.

Wildlife is not owned by anyone. We are their only voices, we are the guardians of their environment and of their lives purely because we have the power to be so. Many people know our wildlife laws and do the wrong thing. These people believe that wildlife is there for them to do as they wish with.

Each year we deal with horror stories of roo joeys being kept, wild birds with clipped wings, wild birds being kept with horrific fractures for many years. These animals almost always eventually find their way to us. They escape, just like this bird has. They become a burden and not fun any more when instinct kicks in and they lose their juvenile friendliness. They get sick and the people begin to panic and we are handed an animal that has endured great suffering and is on death's door. These people claim to be getting it to us because it 'was doing fine but now isn't and we don't want it to die'. Really, they're saying they don't want the animal to die in their care but it's perfectly OK for it to die in ours from the mistakes they have made.

We get so many animals who are kept by people for varying lengths of time, sometimes years, before they are 'dumped' on us to 'fix'. A common theme is, 'we have raised it but now it needs the company of others of its own kind so it can learn to be what it is again and be released'. It's not that simple. Cases such as these are the most heartbreaking for us.



Many animals each year have to be humanely euthanised due to injuries and conditions caused by inappropriate care and housing. When we are able to successfully rehabilitate them for the wild, it's usually a long, drawn out process which takes much of our time and resources, much more than it would have if the animal was taken to an appropriate shelter as soon as it was found.

We are a wonderfully multi cultural society here in Australia. Other countries have very different rules when it comes to wildlife; some do not have any real rules at all regarding wildlife, or they are not enforced.

I can understand ignorance for some who truly do not realise our laws are different here. Many know the rules though. If you know the rules and care for our native animals and our environment, if you see someone doing the wrong thing, please be proactive. The actions of many people regarding wildlife is really not on. Education is the key for some. Unfortunately others who recognise they are committing a crime against wildlife, require harsher lessons. Once again, we are their only voice; make yours the right one.



The clipped wing of the goshawk.



Ratty tail on the bird from trying to escape.

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

ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

The little big killers.... cats



The predation of native species by cats comes up in almost every On the Brink column. They wreak havoc among native

species already under pressure from habitat loss, sometimes pushing them to extinction. Today there are there are approximately 3.8 million domestic cats and up to 6.3 million feral cats in Australia.

Cats were introduced to Australia with the First Fleet and soon there were feral cats in Australia. Australian species had not co-evolved with cats and for such an efficient predator they were easy prey. Before long, feral cats had spread throughout Australia, often well in advance of the European settlers. However, the cats did not have it all their own way. The indigenous inhabitants started hunting the cats as a food source. Unfortunately, as Aboriginal Australians died from European diseases, forced onto missions and reserves, or made to work on

stations, there was nothing to keep the cat numbers in check. Today traditional hunting of feral cats only occurs in the Nyirripi and Kiwirrkurra communities.

Another introduced pest species, the rabbit, proved itself to be a real bonus for feral cats. The large numbers of rabbits allowed the feral cat population to explode. It would be great if feral cats only ate rabbits, but they are opportunistic hunters and will kill any creature they can eat. A decline in rabbit numbers due to myxomatosis, calicivirus, or drought forces the cats to seek out other prey; inevitably native species.

Feral cats can grow to be big...very big. They weigh up to nine kilograms and can have a nose to tail tip length of over 90cm. It takes a lot of prey for them to grow to this size and then sustain them. A feral cat in the bush will eat 791 mammals, birds, reptiles and frogs each year and 371 invertebrates. Female cats can have two litters of kittens a year so the competition for a territory is fierce; another reason why they are so big. The sightings of panthers roaming the bush are most likely very big feral cats. The density of the feral cat population varies considerably with the availability of prey.

The average density of feral cats is about one cat per four square kilometres.

Unless they are kept in an enclosure or inside domestic cats also exact a toll on wildlife. Just because they are domestic cats does not mean they have lost their instinct to hunt. Domestic cats will hunt. Most at risk are small ground dwelling creatures: skinks and lizards, ground frequenting birds such as crested pigeons and red-rumped parrots, and small native mammals such as antechinus and bandicoots. While not so at risk, small birds will avoid a cat's territory, depriving them of habitat. Most municipalities require a cat to be confined to its owner's property and have a have a cat curfew requiring cats to be inside after dark. Both of these requirements are often ignored by cat owners.

At present I have blue wrens building their annual nest in a wormwood, a pair of striated pardalotes are checking out a nesting box, two species of skinks are doing skinky stuff, the crested pigeons are starting to display and court and various rosellas are looking at their nesting box. None of these things would be happening in my garden if there was a cat on the scene.

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Grow rhubarb for delicious pies, preserves and jams

One of the most rewarding plants for the little effort it requires is rhubarb, a hardy perennial plant grown for its tart (but delicious) edible stalks. It's supposed to prefer a cooler climate for good results but it can certainly thrive in our climate (although it can get a bit thirsty). Perhaps our chilly winter nights help it to imagine it's in cooler climes!

To cultivate rhubarb, choose a well-drained location with full sun or partial shade. The soil should be rich in organic matter, slightly acidic (pH 6.0-6.8), and deeply worked, as rhubarb plants develop large root systems.

Plant rhubarb crowns or divisions in early spring or late autumn, spacing them 3-4 feet apart to allow room for their expansive growth. Water the plants regularly, especially during dry periods, but avoid overwatering,

as this can lead to root rot. Mulch around the base of the plants to retain moisture and suppress weeds.

Rhubarb takes about a year to establish before it can be harvested. It's one of those plants you shouldn't harvest in the first growing season (which takes discipline), allowing the plant to strengthen. After that stalks can be harvested by pulling them gently from the base as they mature in late spring or early summer.

But beware - don't give the leaves to your chooks (or eat them yourself!) as they contain oxalic acid, which is toxic.

Rhubarb plants can be very long-living. With the right care, they can thrive for ten to fifteen years or even longer. Once established, they require minimal maintenance, making them a great addition to the kitchen garden.



Rhubarb's longevity is supported by its ability to go dormant during the winter, conserving energy and coming back stronger each spring. Proper care, such as regular watering, mulching, and occasional fertilizing, helps the plant remain healthy over the years.

Dividing the plant every five to six years can also encourage growth and extend its lifespan.

School holiday time means you should probably top up your cake tins for the hordes of children. Here's a slice for you to try:

Caramelised Honey Almond Slice

Ingredients

- 120gm brown sugar
- 90gm unsalted butter melted
- 1cup(150gm) plain flour
- 1/2cup (70gm) almond meal

Almond Topping

- 125gm unsalted butter
- 95gm runny honey
- 1 1/2cup (200gm) slivered almonds. (I used some flaked almonds to make up the weight)

Method

Preheat oven 170°. Grease and line a 19 x 30 slice pan. If you don't have one, go for a smaller size as this is a thin slice.

Combine melted butter, flour, sugar and almond meal in a large bowl; mix well. If the mix appears too floury add more butter.

Spread evenly over base. Bake 12-15 minutes until lightly golden. Remove from oven and rest on a wire rack.

Topping

Place butter and honey in a small saucepan over medium heat. Simmer, stirring occasionally, 3-4 minutes until mixture is lightly caramelised then stir in nuts.

Pour evenly over the base. Bake a further 12-15 minutes until golden.

Remove from oven and cool in tin until completely cool. Cut into slices about sixteen pieces.

(Maybe, seeing it's school holidays, you should make a double batch?)

*Bon Appetit
Pauline*



Caramelised Honey Almond Slice

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. I hope that some of these tips can help you too!

Have a great week and stay safe.

* **Cleaning up broken glass** – if your dustpan and brush is nowhere to be seen, then there are another couple of alternatives: You could use a stodgy piece of bread to pick up the small pieces, or some dampened cotton wool. To dispose of the broken bits, lay the pieces on sheets of old newspaper, then drop the package off to the local tip for glass recycling.

* **Room temperature eggs** – If your recipe calls for room-temperature eggs but you forgot – and they are really cold – I have a solution for you. Take the eggs required, put them whole (still in shell) into a dish of some kind and fill ¾ up sides of bowl with lukewarm water. Leave them for 15 minutes or so – and they should be good to use as required.

* **Burnt-on gunk inside baking pans** – unfortunately this is something that we all get from time to time when we cook – but mostly not all that easy to clean up! The easiest way I've found is after removing the food for serving - scrape as much off as you can and then pour boiling water directly over the gunk. Note: boiling water should be straight from the kettle. Then let the pan sit there for five minutes or so, and with luck the rest of the goo will come straight off in the washing up water.

* **How to extinguish a candle** – proper way is with a candle snuffer. But if you don't have one of those just use a large paper clip.

Carefully pull open the end and the inside loop of the paper clip until just left with a length of wire with a hook at the end. With the hook end gently push the lit flame candle wick down into the molten wax, and then lift it back straight upright again. If it's the end of life of the candle, you can clean the jar/glass when the wax is cooled and reuse or recycle it. If you have just extinguished it temporarily, the wick - when the wax has reset - is ready to use again. Just remember to trim the top part of the burnt wick before relighting and enjoying your candle fragrance once again.

* **Computers and mobile phones are wonderful when they are working!** – eventually sooner or later they won't – or run out of hard drive space! That poses a problem for me, as the majority of files I save are kept on external hard drives. I have several external hard drives, and one of the best ways I've found to identify them is writing on the side of the casing with Posca Paint Pens (white or a pale coloured), as sticky tape or post-it notes come off too easily! We are rapidly coming up towards the summer season when you will possibly be taking loads of photos. Why not clean out your phone photos and important files on your laptop now - onto an external drive - and free up that space! Your phone and your PC will be happier for it!

Health and Wellbeing

School holiday safety urged

Ambulance Victoria (AV) paramedics are urging anyone going on a camping or hiking getaway to be prepared and avoid needing an emergency response.

The warmer weather and school holidays mean many will be dusting off the camping gear or stepping into hiking boots for the first time in months, and AV Manager Emergency Management Ian Hunt said it's important people do these activities within their abilities and take preparation seriously.

"Before you hit the road, ask yourself if you've prepared if something goes wrong," he said.

"Consider learning basic first aid and CPR as emergencies can happen anywhere and at any time.

"There are many parks and remote bushland locations across Victoria where people can enjoy hiking, mountain bike riding, 4WDing or camping, but we want people to be safe."

He said checking the weather and being prepared for conditions to change is vital if you're spending time in remote or unfamiliar locations.

"It's easy to become lost or disorientated in remote bushland, especially in unpredictable weather conditions," Ian said.

"Make sure you're dressed appropriately for the conditions and bring enough water, food, matches, a torch and sunscreen with you.

"For hikers, be sure to consider the ten essentials – navigation, light, sun protection, first aid, knife, fire, shelter, food, water and clothing."

Always tell someone where you're going and when you plan to return, and if you're with someone use the 'buddy system' to check each other for warning signs of hypothermia or heatstroke.

It can be difficult to recognise your own symptoms of hypothermia or heatstroke.

Emergencies can happen any time and particularly in remote or unfamiliar environments, so be sure to familiarise yourself with the resources you may need to call Triple Zero (000).

If travelling to a remote location you should download the EmergencyPlus app, which uses your phone's GPS function to provide location details to the call taker.

The app has the 'What3Words' function which works offline so it can be used in remote areas with poor data connection and can confirm your exact location quickly and accurately using three words.

Download the VicEmergency app or visit www.emergency.vic.gov.au to be notified of incidents and warnings in your area.

Be thunderstorm asthma ready this spring

With thunderstorm season starting on October 1st, the Goulburn Valley Public Health Unit (GVPHU) urges people who experience asthma and hay fever to prepare now.

Dr. Will Cross, GVPHU Clinical Director, emphasises the importance of preparation: "If you have asthma or experience seasonal asthma, it's important to have an up-to-date asthma action plan and manage your symptoms with advice from your General Practitioner. An asthma action plan is a simple guide created with your doctor to help you manage your asthma and know what to do if your symptoms get worse. Make sure you have your asthma medication with you at all times during this high-risk season," said Dr. Cross.

What Is Thunderstorm Asthma?

Thunderstorm asthma is a rare weather-related event that primarily occurs during Spring but can extend into December, aligned with the grass pollen season. It occurs during Spring thunderstorms when pollen grains are swept up into the air and break into tiny particles. These particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and trigger sudden asthma flare-ups, particularly in people with pre-existing asthma or hay fever. Episodes triggered during these events can be much more severe than regular asthma attacks, so even those with mild pre-existing conditions should be prepared.

Who Is at Risk?

You are at higher risk of thunderstorm asthma if you:

- Experience seasonal hay fever
- Have current asthma
- Have a history of asthma
- Have undiagnosed asthma

Wearing a device can be life-saving

• An estimated half a million Australians have atrial fibrillation (AF), which is an irregular pulse or heartbeat.

• AF is a major public health issue. In 2020-21 an estimated \$1.4 billion was spent on AF, making it the second most expensive cardiovascular disease condition in Australia.

• Wearable devices such as smart watches can help identify possible AF symptoms, which can then be further investigated by a healthcare professional.

• If left untreated, atrial fibrillation can increase the risk of stroke, heart failure and dementia.

How to Protect Yourself:

The GVPHU recommends the following steps to reduce the risk of thunderstorm asthma when it is a known trigger:

1. Use Your Preventer Medication: If you have been prescribed a preventer inhaler, use it as directed, especially during Spring.

2. Manage Hay Fever: Keep hay fever symptoms under control with advice from your General Practitioner (GP) or Pharmacist, as this can help prevent asthma flare-ups, particularly during thunderstorm events.

3. Monitor Pollen Levels: Check daily pollen forecasts through the Vic Emergency website or app. Try to stay indoors on high pollen days.

4. Be Prepared: Keep your and loved one's asthma action plans up to date and ensure you have enough medication on hand, including inhalers and antihistamines.

Act Now:

Thunderstorm asthma can be serious. Make sure you're prepared this season:

- Talk to your GP about an asthma action plan
- Ensure you have enough medication
- Keep an eye on the weather and pollen forecasts

For more information and resources on thunderstorm asthma, visit: www.gvhealth.org.au/public-health-unit or www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/thunderstorm-asthma.



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"To ensure good health: eat lightly, breathe deeply, live moderately, cultivate cheerfulness, and maintain an interest in life." -William Londen

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

P-12 Primary students learn about Agriculture during Term 3

This term, the F-6 students have been enjoying their once-a-week Agriculture classes and getting acquainted with the animals at school. They started with brainstorming and identifying what agriculture means to them. We have talked about farm safety, good bugs and bad bugs, paddock to plate and production systems in dairy, sheep and chickens.

Each of the students were given the opportunity to colour a Royal Melbourne Show picture to enter in the RASV Schools Poultry Competition. If you are visiting the show over the holidays, drop into the poultry shed and see if you can find any Rushworth P-12 pictures.

The F-3 students are currently working on Lego models to show the paddock to plate journey to be displayed at the Numurkah Show on October 23.

Shona Janky



Goat handling has been lots of fun.



Learning about the connection between the paddock to plate, and getting ready to exhibit at the Numurkah show.

Defence careers at Puckapunyal explored

On Friday 13 September, students in Years 9/10 explored the Puckapunyal Military Base looking at the different career opportunities in the Australian Defence Force. Students were able to ride in Bushmasters, Trucks and look at equipment the Defence Force use in their everyday careers. It was an experience for the students they will never forget and provides a feasible opportunity for a future career.

Curtis McDonald



Emma and Tamikah cover up in readiness for a trip in the bushmaster.



James and Noah exploring more equipment.



James and Aydan explore one of the many tanks on base.



The Year 9/10 students enjoyed their visit to Puckapunyal immensely.

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

P-12 Year 4/5/6 explore Gold Rush history on camp

‘On Monday 16 September the 4/5/6 class along with Miss Russell and Mr McDonald headed off to Sovereign Hill in Ballarat.

Once we arrived, students got to take part in a STEM challenge where they created a system to separate gold from sediment in ways they would have done so in the Gold Rush. Students also got to have a look at and test some old pulley systems and see how mining used to work. After this, students enjoyed watching the gold being poured out of a furnace and into a brick which weighed five kilograms. We also got to have a go at nine-pin bowling, a few of us were lucky enough to get a strike, and yes some of us (Mr McDonald) after a lap or two around giving high fives were very humble in their achievements. Later that night after dinner we got to see the AURA which is a sound and light show at Sovereign Hill where they show the origins of gold in the universe in 3D and the Gold Rush, including the Eureka Rebellion, in the outdoor theatre. Mohammed was very excited to see the re-enactment of the Eureka Hotel being burnt down and was saying ‘this is the best thing ever; this has made my day.’

On Day 2 students got to meet a lot of the costumed people at Sovereign Hill and enjoyed learning about how school used to run, using a quill to write their names with ink. We also did some gold panning where students were able to collect some specks of gold if they were lucky enough to find some. Throughout the day the students were on a mission to ‘get rich quick’ by finding a wanted person ‘Fredrick Vern,’ students asked everyone if they were this mystery person and even found themselves involved with a dramatic retelling of a story with some characters when they ‘turned someone

in.’ We also made some candles using different coloured wax and got to go down underground in a caged train to see a mine which was twenty metres deep!

On the last day, students were excited for their last few activities where they got to go down seven metres into the Red Hill Mine where they experienced what life was like for the miners who found the ‘Welcome Stranger Nugget.’ Lastly, before heading home we went to visit Brown’s Confectionery where students got to taste test some freshly made lemon drops which were still warm in the centre!

We all had a great time on camp, seeing what we have been learning about throughout the term in inquiry at the living museum in Sovereign Hill and many students were heard saying that this ‘was the best camp ever.’ A big thank you to students and families and for Mr McDonald for coming along with us to Sovereign Hill, it was definitely a camp to remember!

Katelyn Russell



(Above) Discussing the finer points of being a Constable during the Gold Rush period.

(Below) Yes, you even have to go to school while on camp!



Kids’ thoughts on camp...

On the second day we did lots of walking and activities like ‘shopping’ and we went down into the mines twice and I really liked it.
- Flynn

...We met this guy Andrew. He taught us how to take gold and transfer it to a different spot with a mini model of a poppet head tower. After that, we went to a bowling alley but the thing was, it was only a ‘nine-pin’ bowling and ironically only Mr. McDonald got a strike.
- Zandar

On the first night we had a sound and light show and it was amazing.
- Sophie

... then we coloured candles it was fun! After that we went down into the mineshaft, I was so scared at first but about halfway through the

mine I was not scared anymore and really liked it. - Edward

Then we watched the gold pour. It was very cool how he showed how you make 22 carat to 24 carat gold. Then we saw the AURA show. First we were in a cinema-like room and about four other schools came in. Then they showed us how the universe and Earth were made. - Josh

...then went to the aura light show there were three parts to the aura light show the first part was 3D where we learnt about the universe... - Gypsy

We went down the red hill mineshaft and got to taste some delicious sour lollies. - Wyatt

Mohammed Quote “This is the best camp ever... this has just made my day.”



Learning the finer points of gold panning.

Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our P-12 students undertake Merino Challenge

On Tuesday August 27, seven students from the school show team were lucky enough to go to Clunes to participate in the Victorian Schools Merino Wether Challenge (VSMWC).

We travelled over two hours to the Clunes Showground where our sheep had already been dropped off. Once we arrived at Clunes we worked with the sheep and then shortly after we walked to the National Hotel for dinner. That night the girls slept in swags while Charlie was in a warm house.

On Wednesday we woke up and had breakfast then fed and cleaned our sheep ready to present them. Our sheep were judged on their carcass value and fleece value and the team were judged based on the presentation of their sheep. At school we had to put our sheep into two groups of three based on how we thought they would score – an A Team and a B Team. One of our sheep’s wool was 15.5 micron.

Major thank you to Ms Janky for taking us, Brian for transporting our sheep, Andrew and Mandy McLean for driving some students and all the volunteers who helped run the challenge and competition day.

Rushworth P-12 College Show Team

The school had received six merino wethers to raise from March to August as part of the challenge.

Reids Stockfeed kindly donated grain and Mark Barlow donated a round bale of hay. During this time the students were given challenges to work through, one of which was how the sheep would be judged and the calculations used to award the prizes.

The students were involved with feeding, haltering and all husbandry tasks while the sheep were at school.



The show team from l-r – Tamikah C, Keileigh B, Emma M, Emily McL, Millie N, Charlie McL and Chloe J with the sheep (front).

On competition day the sheep were weighed and scanned for their fat depth and eye muscle depth. A fleece sample was taken and put into an Optical Fibre Diameter Analyser to measure the micron value and staple length.

All sheep were paraded by the students and judged to determine the best presented group. The students then had to take their sheep to the shearer, collect their fleece, weigh it and throw it on the skirting table. Here the wool classer estimated the staple strength and yield.

Throughout the program the students learnt a lot about sheep production and significantly improved their skills in handling

and showing the sheep.

Working as a team, they were confidently able to round up another school’s rogue sheep and get it into the pen to be loaded onto a truck at the end of the show.

The team are looking forward to providing advice and leadership to next year’s Year 9/10 Agriculture class when they are tasked with growing their six merino wethers.

I am proud of what the students have achieved over this time and look forward to seeing them use many of the skills they have gained in the future.

*Shona Janky
AgHort Teacher*



Chloe J settling in the sheep at Clunes.

(Right) Charlie, Keileigh and Millie handling the sheep for judging.



Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our
St Mary's welcomes next year's new students

The 2025 Foundation students were welcomed into the school for their first transition day.

It was sensational having some of the students come in for the morning. The students integrated wonderfully into our current cohort and were welcomed beautifully by some of their siblings, peers and teachers. It was beautiful witnessing their enthusiasm and excitement for school.



Transition students with Miss Ryan



Taylah in Walker Learning.

Dads welcomed for Fathers Day breakfast

It was a wonderful turnout for the Fathers Day breakfast last week. It was great to see everyone's smiling faces celebrating the wonderful fathers and father figures in our lives. Many took the opportunity for a special family photo. Thank you to the Parents and Friends committee for cooking.



The Ackroyd family.

Swimming program prepares for summer

St Mary's whole school swimming program has commenced. Students have travelled from the school to Aquamoves in Shepparton each day to learn some new swimming skills such as water safety and stroke development. Some of the favourite things from the swimming lessons have been...

- Zoe: 'learning how to do dives'.
- Alia: 'Learning how to improve my swimming'.
- Bryce: 'Just having fun'.
- Thomas: 'Probably diving and playing with the sports equipment'.
- Archie: 'Doing freestyle'.
- Mason: 'Backstroke and freestyle and swimming the whole pool'.
- Bodhi: 'No homework!'.
- Eleanor: 'Probably having a good swim teacher'.
- Jaida: 'Doing freestyle'.
- Meila: 'I like having fun'.
- Sophie: 'I like going down to the deep end'.
- Mia: 'I like having a great teacher to teach swimming'.
- Oliver and Heath liked the bus ride to and from the pool.



Bryce ready for swimming.



The Jarretts.



Hunter and James.

Season of Creation outdoor Mass at Huntly Reserve

An outdoor Mass this month held at Huntly Streamside Reserve was an occasion for parish and school communities to celebrate the Season of Creation.

Bishop Shane Mackinlay said in his homily that, 'If we are to be people of hope we must start with faith that this is God's world, it's not just us on our own here, we are all part of God's story, a story that goes back millions of years before us and will go on long after us.'

'This doesn't mean standing back and doing nothing ourselves, of course. It means being committed to looking for His presence around us ... listening for His wisdom; seeing the world in the way He sees the world; and doing what He calls us to do.'

Bishop Shane's message was clear: we must listen to what God is telling us through creation's groaning.

By being people of hope, we acknowledge the reality of our world's suffering while committing ourselves to the work of healing and restoration.



Bishop of Sandhurst, Shane Mackinlay concelebrated the outdoor Mass with Fr Joe Taylor, Fr DJ Suguitan and Fr Brian Boyle with Andrew Howe as altar server.



Students and parishioners enjoyed a sausage after the outdoor Mass at Huntly Streamside Reserve to celebrate the Season of Creation.



Students from FCJ College Benalla, joined schools from around the diocese to plant seedlings, thanks to sponsorship from the Knights of the Southern Cross.



District Church Times and Contacts

Anglican

- St Paul's, Rushworth: 0419 512 632
 - 9.30am 2nd Sunday of month - lay led service
 - 9.30am 4th 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. 1st and 3rd Sundays: Cornella 9am; Stanhope 10.30am. 2nd and 4th Sundays: Rushworth 9am; Murchison 10.30am. 5th 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 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.



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Talking about my death: A conversation that matters

This past week, something unexpected happened. My eldest son called me, which isn't out of the ordinary, but the direction our conversation took was.

After chatting about his plans to visit, he surprised me by asking, "Dad, who are you? How would you want yourself talked about at your funeral?"

He had just attended the funeral of a friend's father, and it had affected him deeply. The friend's father, an active eighty-year-old, was killed while cycling, having been hit by a car.

The funeral service made him think not only about loss but about what is said—and what is left unsaid about someone's life when they're no longer here to tell their own story. And so we talked, not just about how I want to be remembered, but about the deep things: life, death, and the legacies we leave behind.

I was struck by how unusual that conversation with my son was. In our culture, death is rarely discussed, especially not our own. When the subject does come up, it's often met with discomfort. We change the subject, reassure each other that death is far off for us, or dismiss it with, "Oh, you'll be around for a long time yet." But as I have learnt from conducting many funerals, death is not something we can ignore or escape. It is part of life, as much as birth, growth, and everything in between are.

In the Bible, we see that Jesus didn't avoid talking about his death. In the Gospel of Mark, there are three distinct moments, found in chapters eight, nine and ten, where Jesus openly tells his disciples that he is going to die. He speaks about his death plainly and clearly, and yet, each time, the disciples respond in ways all too familiar to us—they deny it, deflect it, or simply fail to understand it.

Peter tries to shut down the conversation altogether. The others are too afraid to ask what Jesus means. Some even change the subject, focussing on other matters, wanting to avoid the reality of what Jesus is saying to them about his pending death.

It is easy to see ourselves in the disciples, isn't it? When people we love try to talk to us about their own death, our first instinct is to reassure them, "Don't talk like that!" or "You'll be fine." We don't want to confront the

reality that one day, they won't be here, and yet, by avoiding those conversations, we miss the opportunity to talk about the things that really matter with those we love the most—things like what kind of legacy we want to leave, how we hope to be remembered, and what gives us peace as we approach the end of our life's journey.



The conversation with my son made me realise that, while talking about death can be uncomfortable, it is also a gift. It allows us to prepare, not just practically, but emotionally and spiritually, for the inevitable. It gives our loved ones clarity and direction for when the time of our death comes, ensuring they're not left wondering what we would have wanted or, worse, regretting words they left unsaid.

But how do we start these conversations? Here are a few things I've learnt:

1. Acknowledge the discomfort

It's okay to admit that talking about death feels strange. By saying that out loud, you take the pressure off yourself and your loved ones, making the conversation a little easier.

2. Explain your intentions

Make it clear that you're not trying to be morbid or dramatic. You're simply being practical and loving, ensuring that when your death comes, your family isn't left guessing what you want said and done. While it's important to share your wishes, I also believe in not being too prescriptive about funeral arrangements—after all, funerals are for the living as much as they are for the dead, a time for loved ones to find comfort and closure in a way that feels right to them.

3. Talk about your faith

For many of us, our faith is central to how we view life and death so share with your family about how your beliefs give you peace and that you see death as a journey into something greater.

4. Be patient

Not everyone will be ready to talk about death right away, and that's okay. Sometimes, these conversations take time, and it may take more than one attempt to achieve the depth of conversation you desire.

As a Christian, I do believe that death is not the end, but rather, the beginning of something far greater—life with God. I

have no idea what that might look like, but my belief gives me great comfort. That's something I want my family to understand. By talking openly about my own death, I hope to leave behind not just practical instructions but also a legacy of faith and peace.

So I encourage you to think about how you can start this conversation with your own family. It's not easy, but it's one of the most important conversations you'll ever have. Death is part of the cycle of life and when we face the reality of death with openness and honesty, we can find peace, not just for ourselves, but for those we love.

And perhaps, like me, you'll find that talking about death isn't just about the end of life, it is also about living the good life now, fully and freely, with nothing left unsaid.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live." (John 11: 25)

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

Brian Spencer,

Minister, Waranga Uniting Churches

Peace and Justice



During the World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel, church organizations, and congregations have been encouraged to bear a common witness by participating in worship services, educational events, and acts of support for peace and justice for Palestinians and Israelis.

The World Council of Churches invites member churches, faith-based communities, and civil society organisations to join in prayer for a just peace for all in Palestine and Israel.

Climate Justice

Uniting Church leaders and communities were among those who made a stand for climate justice and climate action as part of the Multifaith Week of Action.

Advocacy on the climate crisis is now more urgent than ever, as Pacific nations bear the worst impacts of climate change and we seek safety and security for future generations.

Let us be united in prayer for peace.

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119 Albion Street, Kyabram 3620

Phone: 5852 1061 Mobile: 0409 935 375

WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

DEATHS

FRANCIS, Elaine Therese (nee Kennedy)
(21/9/1944 – 21/9/2024)

Loved and adored wife to Leslie, mother of Stephen, Peter and Louise, mother in law of Georgia, Amy and Scott. Beautiful, kind, caring and cheeky grandma of Liam, Harper, Josh, Zahley, Emma, Lailah and Talbot. Blessed and loved friend to so many, leaving this world on your 80th birthday surrounded by family and so much love.

“Now you are peacefully sleeping, away from all your pain. But the love in our heart will always remain.”

FRANCIS, Elaine

Rest peacefully. Special thoughts, love and prayers to you and your family.

Ann, Marianne, Pamela, Patricia, Rhonda, Maree and Moira.

FUNERAL

FRANCIS - A Graveside Funeral service for Mrs Elaine Therese Francis will be held at the Rushworth Lawn Cemetery on Tuesday 1 October 2024 at 11.00 am. Please wear a splash of Purple.

CLIVE COVENTRY

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www.clivecoventry.com.au

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

COLLARD Graeme (Duffy)

Claire, Tim and family would like to sincerely thank everyone for their condolences, cards, flowers, food, phone calls, visits and kind thoughts following the passing of our Dad and Pop.

Your kindness at this sad time is greatly appreciated.

Special thanks to the staff and residents of Waranga Health for their wonderful care and support, we are immensely grateful.

To the Rushworth Citizens Band a very heartfelt thank you for your support, friendship and the befitting tribute at the funeral service – Dad would have been very humbled.

Please accept this as our personal thanks.

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POSITION VACANT

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For position description and further information please contact Anita Pirie, Manager.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Rushworth
Kindergarten &
Childcare Centre**

ABN 13 231 252 680

**2024 Annual
General Meeting**

7.30pm : Mon 28 October

**Meeting will be held at
Rushworth Community House
67 High St, Rushworth**

**Parents and Grandparents are
urged to attend and join the
Committee of Management**

**Committee Nomination forms
available from the Kindergarten.**

**Community Members are also
welcome to attend.**

**Rushworth
Kindergarten &
Childcare Centre**

ABN 13 231 252 680

**Special General
Meeting to Plan
Kindergarten
Future Directions**

**Meeting will be held at
Rushworth Community House
67 High St, Rushworth
Monday 28 October
after the Kinder AGM**

**Members of the
Rushworth Community
are cordially invited.**

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING
Murchison Retirement Village
Inc**

“Wybalena”

ABN 29 140 412 893

**25-27 Impey Street,
Murchison, 3610.**

**Correspondence to: PO Box
29, Murchison, 3610**

Email: wybalena25@gmail.com

The Annual General Meeting of Members of Murchison Retirement Village will be held on Thursday 24 October, 2024 at 2pm in the community room at the retirement village.

AGENDA:

1. To confirm the minutes of the AGM held on 18 October 2023.
2. President’s Report
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Election of Committee of Management
5. Appointment of Auditor
6. Any other business which has been received in writing at least 5 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Nominations for the Committee of Management must be in writing and received by the Secretary at least three days prior to the AGM. (Nomination forms available from the Secretary.)

Margaret McMaster

Hon. Secretary

0417 262 213

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Dr. Judith Mulholland
BSc. BVMS



Phone:
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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

OCTOBER

Tue 1- Thu 3	Elmore Field Days
Fri 4	Rushworth General Store Fashion Collection launch, St Paul's Anglican Church 6pm
Sun 6	Celebrate Stanhope Wine and Food Festival, Birdwood Avenue, 11am - 4pm
Thu 10	Ram Sale, 11am Andrews Road, Colbinabbin
Fri 11	St Mary's Transition Prep program
Sun 13	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Sun 13	Tongala Eats & Beats - Sound shell Tongala
Sat 19	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm
Sat 19	Rushworth ART Depot (RAD) - every Market day - Sat 10am -1pm
Fri 25	Ballot packs for voters in Campaspe to be completed and posted back or dropped off by Friday, 25 October at 6 pm.
Sun 27	Girgarre Open Gardens Festival

Meetings & Activities - around the district

- Rushworth SES training: Wednesday evenings at 7pm
- Rushworth CFA: Tuesday nights
- Rushworth Food bank: Mon 10am -12pm, Wed 10am-12pm, Frid 10am-12pm
- #9 Op-Shop: 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
- Murchison Community Garden: Tuesdays 9am - 11am
- Rushworth Museum: every Saturday 10am-12 noon, 1st and 4th 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
- Alcoholics Anonymous(AA) meetings, 14 High street , Rushworth, Thursdays 7pm

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

POLICE or FIRE.....Emergency.....000
Non-emergency 13 1444

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

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

DOCTORS:
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400
Stanhope5857 0452
West Goulburn Comm Health....5857 2400
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575

HOSPITAL:
Waranga Health5851 8000

POLICE:
Rushworth.....5856 1000
Murchison.....5826 2222
Stanhope Telecare
Medical Centre5857 2507
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000

SUPPORT SERVICE:
St Vincent de Paul.....0417 597 468

WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

ADVERTISING DEADLINES FOR NEXT EDITION - 10 OCTOBER

Display Ads: Friday, 4 October
Classified: Monday, 7 October
wnews@iinet.net.au

Waranga News



A Voluntary Community Newspaper

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Coming Up ▶ Local Government Elections- Saturday 26 October 2024 |
For more information visit <https://www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/elections>

Immunisation Sessions

By appointment only. Register at 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.

Tuesday, 1 October

5.30-6.30pm | Rochester Service Centre

Thursday, 3 October

9-10am | Echuca Library

11.30am – 12noon | Stanhope Community Health Centre

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

Works Notice - Annual Road Resurfacing Program

Residents are advised that contractors will be conducting road resurfacing works on behalf of Council from Monday 23, September. The works are scheduled between 7:30am and 6:00pm on designated dates. During this period, streets must be clear of vehicles, and residents are requested to ensure children and pets are kept away from the work zones. Driveway access will be briefly restricted while bitumen is sprayed, but the crew will inform when access is available. Post-completion, residents may drive on the new surface at low speeds. Suction sweeping of loose stones will follow in subsequent days and again after two weeks. In case of delays due to weather or other factors, works will be rescheduled. For further inquiries, contact Council on 1300 666 535. Thank you for your cooperation as we work to improve our roads.

Employment

#campaspecareers

- Business Support Officer - Engineering
- Early Childhood Educators
- Group Fitness Instructor
- Learn to Swim Teacher
- Lifeguards & Junior Lifeguards
- Road Use Officer

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/

Seniors Concert

As part of Seniors Month Campaspe Shire Council is presenting Glenn Starr for its Annual Seniors Concert on Wednesday, 23 October at the Kyabram Bocce Club starting at 10.15am including morning tea.

Mental Health Expo

To coincide with Mental Health Month, Council is hosting a Mental Health Expo at Kyabram Memorial Gardens on Thursday, 10 October from 11am-2pm.

Youth Glow Up Disco

Join the Glow Up Youth Disco at Fuzion Café, Echuca! Open to 12-17 year-olds for a night of music, dance, photos, and prizes. Free entry, food, and drinks in a safe, alcohol-free environment.

For Sale By Tender - Impounded Vehicles

Campaspe Shire Council invites tenders for the purchase of the following impounded vehicles:

No	Vehicle Make	Colour	VIN
1	BMW Sedan	Blue	WBAET16070NG44804
2	Daihatsu Hatch	Blue	JDAG100S000705507
3	Ford Sedan	White	6FPAAAJGSW4B63988
4	Ford Wagon	Black	6FPAAAJGAT5B56877
5	Holden Station Wagon	Blue	6H8VRK35HSL805787
6	Holden Station Wagon	White	6H8VSK35HVL990130
7	Hyundai Sedan	Silver	KMHDM51DR4U113409
8	Toyota Sedan	Gold	6T153XK200X564775

Vehicles can be inspected at the Echuca Environment Centre, McKenzie Road, Echuca on 30 September 2024 between 10am – 11am. Tenders are to be submitted to the Echuca Council Office before 5pm on 7 October 2024. The form can be requested by emailing j.reither@campaspe.vic.gov.au or it will be available at the inspections.

Rushworth 2024 season golf champions

Our golfing season has come and gone and our last get-together was the Presentation night.

Winners on the night

A Grade Champion - Sam Perry

B Grade Champion - Jim Perry

Cheatley Shield - Rob Geisler and Dean Pontin

Perry Trophy - Dean Pontin

Goberup Cup - Frank Stewart

Star Medallist - Tony Geisler

Highlights of the year

Open Tournament winner - Kelly Cheong

Dennis Hardie was the B Grade Open Tournament winner.

Perpetual Cup went to father and son combo Slim and Sam Perry.

We hope everyone had an enjoyable season, I know the Friday 4BBB trips were great fun and hope to see you all next year.

Finally a big thank you to the Waranga News team who do great work putting the paper together.

Lipout

Sam Perry A Grade Champion on the left and Tony Geisler Club Captain



Rushworth Speedway back in October for 2024-2025 season

There will be a working bee on 5 October as there are still plenty of jobs to be done at the track. Interested drivers can collect their calendars and sign up for the season.

For all interested parties their AGM will on 8 October at 7 pm at the Shamrock Hotel, 84 Railway Place, Elmore.

Speedway Calendar for 2024-2025

20 October 2024

Compact Speedcars Championship, AMCA's, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

23 November

GP Midgets Ironbark Classic + Round Master Series, GOSA Blue Shed Series, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

14 December

Lightning Sprints, SDAV Hotrods, VMPA Modied Series Round, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

11 January 2025

GOSA Colin Young Memorial Round 2, SDAV Hotrods, SSA1200 Juniors, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

15 February

GP Midgets Victorian Title, Sports Sedans, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

1 March

AMCAs, GC Production Sedans Feature, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

22 March

Crash and Bash, GV Ladies Feature, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

12 April

GV Mods Feature, VSC Unlimiteds Rnd, Sports Sedan, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

26 April

Modified Sedans Victorian Title, JSPA Juniors, GV Ladies

10 May

Super Sedans, Paul Benton Memorial for GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, GV Ladies, VSC Standard Juniors

24 May

GP Midgets, AMCAS VSC Ladies Sports Sedan Marg Beattie Memorial, GV Mods, GV Production Sedans, VSC Standard Juniors

Rushworth Cricket Club AGM

On Wednesday 4 September Rushworth Cricket Club held their AGM. It was well attended, and all positions were filled.

President: Peter Raglus

Vice President: David Baldwin

Secretary: Peta Williams

Treasurer: Kaylene Raglus

B Grade Captain: Liam Francis

D Grade Captain: David Baldwin

Junior coordinators: Sarah and Shannon Jarrett

This year Rushworth is having a Cricket Blast, Master Blasters, and Under 11's and an Under 13's playing.

Any kids interested in joining, please contact Sarah or Shannon Jarrett. The club is really pleased to be able to offer this to juniors interested in playing. The playing season starts on 12 October or B Grade and a week later for our D Grade on 19 October.

Funds on offer for sporting clubs

Local sporting clubs have been urged to apply for the latest round of the Sporting Club Grants Program, with grants of up to \$5000 available.

Applications for this round of the program are open until 11 October, with funding available across a range of categories.

The grant categories include:

\$5000 for training coaches and volunteers, \$4000 for setting up new sports or active recreation programs,

\$1000 for uniforms and equipment, and \$750 to assist clubs with travel to away games and competitions.

Kyabram District Football Netball League 2024

Grand Final - Murchison/Toolamba triumphant in Seniors

Football - Seniors

Murch/Toolamba 13. 13. 91
Shepparton East 6. 8. 44

Reserves

Murch/Toolamba 9. 9. 63
Stanhope 3. 3. 21

U18

Nagambie 10. 14. 74
Violet Town 4. 6. 30

Under 15

Violet Town 6. 7. 43
Dookie United 5. 6. 36

Triple Seniors

Best and Fairest

For the first time in The Apprenticeship Factory Kyabram District League's history, there were three Senior Best and Fairest winners.

The 2024 Bryan McNamara Senior Best and Fairest Medallists are:

- James Milne - (Murchison-Toolamba Football Netball Club)

- Blake Fothergill and Rielly Old - (both from Nagambie Lakers Football Netball Club) who all polled 22 votes

Elden Wade Medal

Reserves Best and Fairest

- Cobey Aynsley (Shepparton East)

Jim Inch Medal

U18 Best and Fairest

- Sam Leigh (Violet Town)

KD League Medal

Under 15 Best and Fairest

- Xavier Waters (Dookie)

Leading Goal kickers

Seniors - James Lloyd - Murchison/Tool

Reserves - Nathan Woods - Avenel

U18 - Ethan Davies - Nagambie FNC

U15 - Ryder Robertson - Violet Town

Bennett's Intersport Rising Star - Football

- Sam Leigh - Violet Town

Apprentice Factory Coach of the year Junior Football

- Trent Sidebottom - Tallygaroopna

Apprenticeship Factory Coach of the year Senior Football

- Tom Davies - Lancaster

KDL Spirit Award Junior Football

- Caleb Hueston - Tally

KDL Spirit Award Senior Football

- Daniel Kelsey - Rushworth

Netball - A Grade

Girgarre 43 def Lancaster 40

B Grade

Tally 38 def Shep East 37

C Grade

Stanhope 39 def Murch/tool 34

C Reserve

Tally 48 def Girgarre 37

13 Under

Girgarre 25 def Tally 22

Under 15

Murch/Tool 36 def Tally 27

17 Under

Stanhope 43 def Merrigum 28

Rita Warren Medal

A Grade - Best and Fairest

- Sharni Lloyd - (Nagambie)

Keith Whitford Medal

B Grade Best and Fairest

- Melinda Kittlety - Tallygaroopna

Denise Mc Cormack Medal

C Grade Best and Fairest

- Hayley Trevena - Stanhope FNC

Kelli Halden Medal

C Reserve Best and Fairest

- Bethany McKellar - Merrigum FNC

Gail Glover Medal

17 and Under

- Alyssa Christou - Merrigum

15 and Under

Best and Fairest

- Frankie Ewart - Murch/Tool

Leanne Good Medal

13 and Under Best and Fairest

- Ava Giles - Tallygaroopna

Bennetts Intersport Rising Star Netball

- Charli Westerveld - Lancaster

The Apprenticeship Factory Coach of the year Junior Netball

- Cienna Halden -Tallygaroopna

Apprentice Factory Coach of the year Senior Netball

- Michelle Hill - Lancaster

KDL Spirit Award Junior Netball

- Gemma Whithall -Lancaster

KDL Spirit Award Senior Netball

- Bianca Atley - Stanhope

KDL Spirit Award Senior Volunteer

- Gareth Florence - Tallygaroopna

KDL Spirit Award Junior Volunteer

- Tyler Grogan - Undera

Champion Club

Football

- Murch/Toolamba FNC -

Champion Club

Netball

- Shepparton East FNC -

Administrator of the Year

- Tenealle Nicholson -

Girgarre FNC

Most disciplined club

- Stanhope FNC -

KD Netball League team of the year

Michelle Williams and Sharni Lloyd (Nagambie)

Allana Adams and Holly Butler (Girgarre)

Sarah Maskell (Shep East)

Phillipa Inglis, Caddison Mulholland and Chicquita Vick (Lancaster)

Gemma O'Sullivan (Dookie United)

Kolby Wild (Violet Town)

Sharne Milne (Murch/Tool)

Breanna Baker (Merrigum)

Coach - Michelle Hill (Lancaster)

KD Football League team of the year

Zac Parkinson (Merrigum)

Joshua Delaney, Braydon Avola (Avenel)

Mark Nolan, Jonathon Moore, Blake Fothergill (Nagambie)

Nathan O'Reilly, Jack Donnell (Stanhope)

Cameron Simpson, Zac Cerrone (Lancaster)

Leigh Wellington, James Lloyd, Sam Mackerell, Lachie Devine (Murch/Toolamba)

Tom McCluskey, Jamie Spencer (Shep East)

Jye Formosa (Longwood)

Nicolas Cunningham (Undera)

Josh Temple (Girgarre)

Adam Brophy (Tallygaroopna)

Kyle Tapscott (Dookie United)

Liam Francis (Rushworth)

Coach - Tom Davies (Lancaster)

Congratulations

Well done to all clubs and members for a successful season of football and netball.

Rally for next season early and enjoy your sport!



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RFNC - Great Tiger presentations

The club Presentation Day at the Ironbark Stadium was a little different this year for the Tigers. Saturday 21 September saw the day start at 11am with a welcome to all followed by the Under 15 junior boys football and then junior netball presentations. Roast in rolls and salad were enjoyed during the day.

Football - Under 15s

Best and Fairest - Brodie Shepherd
Runner-up Best and Fairest - William Ogden

Best Utility - Bryce Shepherd
Most Improved - Aiden Porter
Coaches Award - Zade Charles
Most Consistent - Riley Knight

Best First Year - Lucas Jones

Netball - 13 and Under

Best and Fairest - Pippa Lockwood
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Billie Johnstone and Willow Bertram
Most Determined - Charlie Rose
Coaches Award - Sophia Perry

15 and Under

Best and Fairest - Makayla Lockwood
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Tyra Roberts
Most Improved - Lailah Francis
Coaches Award - Matilda Lockwood

17 and Under

Best and Fairest - Grace Barlow
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Madalen Knight
Most Improved - Zahley Francis
Most Determined - Jackie Jones
Most Consistent - Ella Johnstone

C Grade

Best and Fairest - Emma Francis
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Sarah Lange-Richards
Rising Star - Tyra Roberts
Players Player - Emma Francis
Players Player - Britt Kourdupakis

B Grade

Best and Fairest - Montana Mylon
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Maya Barlow

Most Consistent - Kiarrah Lehmann
Players Player - Jessica Pilling
Players Player - Hailey Wilson

A Grade

Best and Fairest - Janelle Doolan
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Shanae Baldwin

Most Consistent - Crystal Pateman
Players Player - Mikaela Hanson
Players Player - Caitlin Brown

Football - Reserves

Best & Fairest - Josh Newton
Runner-up Best and Fairest - Kane McLeod
Coaches Award - Declan Baldwin
Most Determined - Scott Saunders
Most Improved - Josh Mckinley

Seniors

Lambden Trophy Seniors, Best & Fairest - Liam Francis

Runner-up Best and Fairest - Liam Adlington

Most Consistent - Ethan Arnold

Best First Year - Dante Henry

Coaches Award - Isaac Griffin

Ian Borger Memorial, Most Determined - Ryan Raglus

'Pluto' Perry Memorial, Best Team Man - Riley Cusack

Alec Horne Memorial Best Utility - Nico Mckinley

Most Improved - Manning Hetherton

Most Improved - Manning Hetherton

**Club Award
Winners 2024**

**Junior Endeavour Award
Football**
- Brodie Shepherd -

**Junior Endeavour Award
Netball**
- Madalen Knight -

**Harris Family
Junior Club Person**
- Emma Francis -

**Williams Family
Best Club Person**
- Crystal Pateman -

Congratulations

Well done to **Liam Francis** for making the KDFL Football team of the year 2024.

KDFL Awards

Congratulations to **Daniel Kelsey** achieving the KDFL Spirit Award, Senior Football

RFNC AGM - Hard work to continue for 2025

The RFNC is pleased to announce the appointment of the 2025 Executive Committee after the recent successful club AGM.

President - Regan Hanson

Vice President - Katrina Ogden and Shaun Young

Treasurer - Alek Stokes

Secretary - Crystal Pateman

Senior Football Director - Daniel Kelsey

Junior Football Director - Calvin Gleeson

The club would first like to thank everyone who attended the AGM and to also extend a big thanks to the outgoing committee from this season.

The executive committee will work alongside a General Committee of fourteen

members who have taken on the sub-committee and gameday positions.

The club is still taking expressions of interest in the Junior and Senior Netball Director roles; these positions will be appointed after the netball head coach has been selected.

Trainers needed

The club is seeking applications for head and assistant trainer positions, catering for both junior and senior football and netball. Training, upskilling or reaccreditation assistance and remuneration available.

Email, rushworthtigers@gmail.com

Returning

The RFNC is excited to announce the return of Matt Caton. Matt played a number

of new roles this year in the Senior side. His ferocious attack on the ball and opposition players is something to behold.

Only slight in stature, this doesn't deter his competitiveness or appetite for the contest, something which we hold in high regard at Tigerland!

Matt has an extremely promising future playing Senior Football and we can't wait to see him develop both mentally and physically over the next year and beyond into an outstanding young person both on and off the ground.

Please join us in welcoming Matty back to Ironbark Stadium in 2025!

Colbo kids take to the stage

Colbo Primary School held its ASPA Production of "An Aussie Adventure" at the Colbo Hall. The whole school took part with great enthusiasm. Here are just some of the cast.



The Partridge Family L-R Poppy - Isla Knight Polly - Maddison West Peter - Fin Rathjen and Perry - Arlo Downie.



Charlie Greenway, Corban Safstrom, Isabelle Hill and Pippa Knight .



Erica Echidna - Arabella Smith Camille Crocodile - Evelyn Wilkinson. Kevin Koala - Harry Woodman and Patty Platypus is Stephanie Guerra.



A few Birds - Rory Rosella - Saxon Masterson, Chloe cockatoo - Frankie Ryan and Gabby Galah played by Evie Borger.



Kyle Kookaburra - Ethan Johnson Terersa Turtle - Isabelle Hill Matilda Magpie - Pippa Knight Liza Lyrebird - Lillie Reeves and Lachlan Lizard - Nick Weppner



Geoffrey Lipshut

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in your car and having to blow zero for three years.

