

WARANGA NEWS

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Published fortnightly since 1978

Serving Colbinabbin, Corop, Girgarre, Kyabram, Murchison, Nagambie, Rushworth, Stanhope, Tatura, & Toolleen

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A community newspaper
staffed by volunteers

Thursday 5 December 2024

Christmas celebrations and summer fun ahead

The decorations are up, the famous community-decorated Christmas trees are in place in Rushworth's High St and the pools are open – all is ready for a fun-filled (and perhaps frenetic) festive season. And then, as another year winds down, there is the prospect of a leisurely January before the calendar fills up and we're all ready to meet the challenges of a new year.



A sure sign of the season when Buddy comes off the shelf! Amara was first to have a cuddle with our Christmas elf at the Waranga News.



With a warmer than usual November and a hot summer predicted, the pool opening was especially welcome - even better with free entry! (Don't forget the FReeZA pool party coming up on Friday 20 December!)



Tradition has it that one of Santa's first appearances in the district is at Sacred Heart Church, Cornella on the first Sunday of Advent - and this year he didn't disappoint!



Christmas Carols

**Santa will be attending
Jumping Castle**

Snow Cones - Drinks - children's activities

Free BBQ
Join us at

McEwen Place Stanhope

starts at 6pm Friday 13th December 2024

Stanhope School Children & Kinder

Children will be singing

Rushworth concert band & other artists

BYO chairs & rug

Community Meeting

- Tuesday December 10th at 6pm
- Murchison SES, 10A Watson Street

Murchison SES Unit is at risk



Do you want a local SES Unit to help during Floods, Storm and other emergencies?

Without new volunteers and community support, the Murchison SES Unit will have to close. The next closest SES Units are at Rushworth, Seymour, Euroa, and Tatura.

If you can't make it but have comments to make, you can email ust.gbroken@ses.vic.gov.au



Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) is volunteer-based. SES Volunteers train and respond to minimise the impact of emergencies and strengthen a community's capacity to plan, respond and recover. SES is the control agency for flood, storm, earthquake, tsunami and landslide and provides general rescue to lost and injured persons when requested by Victoria Police or Ambulance Victoria.



ses.vic.gov.au/volunteer

YOU CAN'T CONTROL FIRE, BUT YOU CAN PREPARE FOR IT.

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New Council's first meeting

Campaspe Shire Council held its first meeting of the newly elected Council on Tuesday evening, presided over by new Mayor, Cr Daniel Mackrell.

At the meeting Council affirmed the decision of the previous Council's September meeting to waive general admission fees during normal operating times for its outdoor pools for the 2024/25 financial year.

Fees will still apply to the use of the outdoor pools outside normal operational hours, including school swimming lessons and bookings such as carnivals. This is in line with previous years.

Council additionally approved that if a school based within the municipality requests to open a pool which may involve varying the operating hours, and there is no additional operating cost to Council or extension of operating hours, there would be no additional charge to the school for a maximum of ten days for the 2024/25 outdoor pool season only.

Last season, school carnival bookings were held at Tongala, Stanhope, Rushworth, Lockington and Kyabram. There is also a Learn to Swim program that Campaspe Aquatics staff facilitate at the outdoor pools.

Diversity and Inclusion Reference Group

Council also endorsed the establishment of a Diversity and Inclusion Reference Group that is representative of its nine Communities of Priority.

Campaspe Shire Council's Access and Inclusion Strategy 2020-2026 identifies nine Communities of Priority: LGBTIQ+, women, people with mental illness, older people, culturally diverse communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with social disadvantage, people with disability and youth.

The establishment of a Diversity and Inclusion Reference Group provides Council with an opportunity to engage with representatives of the nine Communities of Priority, to allow advice and recommendations to be received on Council activities as required.

Rushworth Foodbank grows its own food!

Following the renovations at the Shire Offices and the new-look foodbank façade, the team of volunteers asked the Parks and Gardens department if they could cultivate the adjoining garden beds. The results have been spectacular thanks to Christine Smith (foodbank manager) and her team.



Herbs and seasonal veggies abound for the benefit of foodbank customers and good use is made of the space, as well as enhancing the landscape.

Waranga News Christmas edition

The next edition of the Waranga News will be the last one for 2024 and once again it will be a bumper sized full-colour extravaganza!

We would love to receive all your colourful festive season photos to include - but PLEASE send them in as early as you can.

Our volunteers will be working overtime over the next couple of weeks to bring you this Christmas edition which will hit the streets on Thursday 19 December - together with a special surprise for our readers!

Our first edition for 2025 will be on 6 February (Happy holidays Waranga News!)





Helen Truran
Marriage Celebrant

Mobile: 0419 529 155
 Phone: (03) 5826 2001
 Email: hjtruran@gmail.com

Ceremonies with compassion

Have your say!

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

Keep SES Murchison alive!

The State Emergency Service (SES) in Victoria, Australia, relies heavily on volunteers to carry out its essential work. Their members not only provide emergency response services such as road crash rescue, flood rescue, storm damage response and search and rescue, but their volunteers are also trained to handle a wide range of situations, including natural disasters and other community emergencies. Other involvements include support roles such as administration, logistics, and fundraising, all of which help keep the service running.

Volunteers needed

The SES is one of the largest volunteer-based organizations in Victoria, with thousands of people dedicating their time and expertise to making their communities safer.

SES volunteers play a crucial role in supporting the community and their contributions are invaluable. They undergo effective training programs to develop the skills needed for the various emergency operations.

The Murchison SES unit have existed for over 50 years. To think yet another community involved service will close due to the lack of volunteers and support is devastating.

Rushworth is the closest unit to Murchison which will add fifteen minutes to the response times for an event in the area.

Community meeting

The community meeting on 10 December at 6pm at the Murchison SES unit, 10a Watson Street, is a pivotal one.

If you care about your community, come along and listen to how you can help keep Murchison SES alive!

*Denise Corbin
Deputy Controller
(Administration)
Rushworth SES*

Gold medals for Rushworth Gold

Rushworth's Lisadurne Hill has taken out the honours in a number of categories at the Australian International Olive Awards 2024.

At the Awards, held in Bendigo in October 2024 they were awarded Gold medal and Reserve Champion for Hojiblanca Extra Virgin Olive Oil.

Gold medal and Reserve Champion for Kalamata table olives. Silver medal for Angus Extra Virgin Olive Oil and Silver medal for Hill Paddock Blend Olive Oil.

Gold medal for Rushworth Gold Olive Oil at the Terra Olivo competition.

At Golden Olive Awards 2024 – Gold medal and Champion Agrumato for Lime Agrumato. Congratulations on a wonderful local achievement!



The Knight family, owners of Lisadurne Hill. Tina (second from right) with sons Alex, daughter-in-law Geri and Justin.

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Fifty years of shearing memories

A reunion was held at the Longwood Recreation Reserve on Saturday, 23 November for shearers, shed hands and wool classers in Jim Walker's shearing teams over the past fifty years, particularly those who worked at Puckapunyal Station during the 1980s.

Around 100 people attended and there were many memories jolted and questions asked about the identity of some of those present - it is amazing how some people change since last seen forty years ago.

It was also a chance to reminisce about the many places they had worked together across Australia.

Although some people couldn't attend it was an enjoyable afternoon and a great opportunity to catch up with friends and remember good times and amusing incidents during those fifty years.

Rushworth shearer, Eddie Clarke (centre), is photographed with four of the many contractors he worked for during his shearing days: (l-r) Jim Walker, Dick Duggan, John Harris and Julian Kelly.



A mystery Shire Hall photo

The photo below is something of a mystery. Some readers will know that it was taken from the front of the stage in the Shire Hall at Rushworth. The event is believed to have been held in 1928, and involved a presentation by a local doctor, shown in the foreground. A copy is held by a Rushworth resident who would be thrilled to learn whether anyone has the original photo and, of course, any caption or label which might explain the occasion. Ready to receive the answer for sharing with the enquirer is Alan McLean, who can be reached on 0412 143660.



Stanhope Community Garage Sale
 Birdwood Avenue, Stanhope
Sunday 8 December
 From 8.30 am
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Rushworth Rail Trail update

Construction of the asphalt path in Rushworth was scheduled to re-commence at the end of November. Pausing the works for several months was designed to give the sub-base sufficient time to dry and strengthen. It recently passed the required proof roll test (before the recent rains!) and the base layer and asphalt was given the all clear to be installed. These works are scheduled to be completed this month.

Construction of the 10km gravel section of the Waranga rail trail, from the Bendigo - Murchison Road crossing to Channel Inlet Road is in full swing.

The bottom "sub-base" layer has been installed along a majority of the paths length, and the top "base" layer has commenced. Repairs to six VicTrack bridges is also underway, and installation of the path's drainage culverts is almost complete.

Native plantings have also been undertaken in areas where residences are close to the trail for added privacy. These works are scheduled to be completed in March 2025.



Christmas Carols coming to Stanhope

The annual Stanhope carols will be on Friday 13 December at McEwen Place commencing at 6 pm.



Primary school and kindergarten children are always a popular item at the Christmas carols in Stanhope.

Come along and enjoy the Rushworth & District Concert Band, Stanhope Primary School and Kindergarten children singing and Shine kids will be offering an item too. There will be a jumping castle, a free BBQ, drinks to purchase and a visit from Santa.

Guest artists, activities for children and face painting will ensure a great night for all. So come along and enjoy community singing, and a relaxing evening listening to carols. BYO chair or rug.

See you there!

Rushy Mums helping mums

A new Facebook group has been created as a welcome support for local Mums.

Rushy Mums Helping Mums offers a space to share experiences, offer advice, and generally build a supportive community. It offers the potential to discuss everything from parenting tips to local events, and even share recommendations for services or products.

The Spirit of this group is just to help mums in anyway they can.

Introducing the group, the administrator writes:

"This is a safe place for mums of Rushworth to offer items for donation for anyone who might want or need them. Alternatively you may ask for what you're looking for.

You may need help with something, you may ask for that too. This is all about embracing our community, motherhood and helping to pay it forward whenever we can. No money is to be asked for, this is purely free good will.

If anyone is struggling this Christmas, please don't be too proud to reach out and ask for help. This is what we are here for. We got you."

Rushy Mums has promised discretion for more personal requests. The group admin went on to say "we are a small community of amazing big kind hearted people and together we can look after and support our own."

So far to date the group has 60 members and show promise of becoming very successful with many more members.

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CFA warns of fire risk this summer

Victorians are being urged to prepare for an increase in fire activity across large parts of the state this summer, according to the Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook .

Despite the recent rainfall across much of Victoria over the past week, the overall outlook suggests there will be more fuels available and an increased chance of fires as the predicted hot weather sets in.

In addition, a dry 18-months especially in southwest Victoria, has resulted, in more fuel within forests, making it easier for fires to start and spread.

The rest of the state is forecast to be at a normal risk, which means fires can still occur and fast running fires are possible on hot, dry and windy days.

In addition, the Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting a higher chance of warmer maximum day and night temperatures over summer.

If rain is followed by a sudden increase

in temperature and strong winds (a common occurrence during summer months), it can cause rapid drying of plants, making them more susceptible to igniting. The combination of heat, wind, and dry vegetation can create ideal conditions for fires to spread quickly.

Victoria’s emergency services remain well prepared for the potential of fires, with at least 54 dedicated aircraft positioned across the state as part of the core fleet for the higher risk weather season. This includes a mix of water bombing, air supervision and air intelligence gathering aircraft, which can be moved quickly, according to risk.

However preparedness is a shared responsibility and it’s important for communities to take action and understand their local risks.

Plan ahead

Having a fire plan with your family and reducing the vegetation around your home by mowing lawns and clearing gutters are some of the most important things you can do to prepare for the higher risk weather season.

Keep up to date with the Fire Danger ratings and warnings on the VicEmergency app and VicEmergency website. Make a fire plan at fireplanner.vic.gov.au.

The Australian Seasonal Bushfire Outlook for summer is developed by the AFAC, the National Council for fire and emergency services, and supported by the Bureau of Meteorology, along with state and territory fire and land managers. The outlook gives a national picture of the likelihood of fires over the summer months.

Haystack warning for farmers

CFA is warning farmers of the dangers of rain affected haystacks after heavy rainfalls of 40 to 100mm were recently recorded across parts of the northwest.

With more rain forecast, the combination of rushed baling and rain-affected haystacks could significantly increase the likelihood of spontaneous combustion as moisture levels rise within stored hay.

Between 30 June, 2023, and 1 July, 2024, CFA responded to 121 haystack fires across regional Victoria, with 66 per cent of incidents occurring in the west and northwest of the state.

CFA District 18 Assistant Chief Fire Officer Gavin Wright emphasised the risks tied to recent weather conditions and new haystacks across the district.

“Moisture in hay bales can quickly lead to heating, especially if baling was rushed or done under less than ideal conditions. Farmers need to be extra careful with their timing and monitoring,” Gavin said.

Gavin advised that checking haystacks regularly is critical to preventing fires.

“If you notice anything unusual, like a strange smell or rising heat, investigate immediately.



“Use a temperature probe to monitor conditions inside the stack and act early if you detect a problem,” he said.

“Regular monitoring of your hay can make all the difference between a manageable issue and a devastating fire.

“Farmers must stay alert, especially with current conditions.”

For advice on haystack safety or to learn more about reducing fire risk on your property, visit CFA’s website or contact your local CFA brigade.

Haystack Tips

- Ensure hay is well cured before baling
- Know the history of the hay you purchase
- Keep haystacks to a limited size and separate your haystacks
- Monitor moisture and temperature of your hay regularly
- Watch for unusual odours such as pipe tobacco, caramel, burning or musty smells
- Store hay in separate stacks or sheds away from farm equipment and other buildings
- Keep your hay dry. Protect it from rain, leaking rooves or spouts, and runoff. Cover stacks with tarps or hay caps
- Don’t stack hay right to the top of a hay shed. Allow some air to circulate at the top - this helps to carry away moisture

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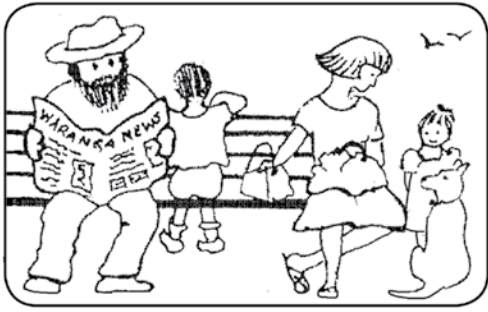
EXCAVATIONS

WATER BORING

Leon Doller

0413 906 449

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



Around Rushworth

Auction fun for garden lovers meeting

Twenty-two members of the Rushworth Garden Lovers attended the November meeting where a fun contested white elephant auction was held.

This was followed by the decoration of the Christmas tree which is on display all December in the street decorations.

Next meeting will be the Christmas one, meeting at the Colbinabbin hotel at 12 pm on the 19 December. Cost is \$40 for non-members, \$30 members. (When paying please place in an envelope.)

The January meeting will be on the third Thursday as usual, with time to do the syllabus (so bring ideas to the meeting). If anyone has something they think would be interesting to members and are willing to share, please let a member know.



Garden lovers enjoyed their white elephant auction.

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Stanhope Community Garage Sale - last chance for Christmas bargains

Stanhope will be the place to be on Sunday 8 December, at the last Community Garage Sale for the year.

Lots of Christmas bargains will be on offer, so come along and pick up that special, unique gift for the person in your life who seems to have everything. There are some very unusual items at the garage sale and you will be pleased at what you discover and could potentially purchase.

A BBQ lunch is available, coffee or even a roast meal at Jenna's café and all with Alia's live music for entertainment.

For the gardeners there will more than six stalls with a range of beautiful plants – and there's still enough time to plant out some veggies or get those indoor plants established before Christmas.

There are 'made in Stanhope' handcrafts, woodwork at Shaque a Taque and lots of stalls with great variety including lots of second hand bric-a-brac. Come along and check it out!



Christmas elves Ross and Marcie.



Regular stall-holders Jeanette and Beth.

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Spectacular Showdown at the Soundshell

contributed by Irene Labbett

A diverse range of modern music presented by twenty-three young performers from as far away as Albury, Bendigo, Moama and Kyabram thrilled the crowd at the second annual Showdown At The Soundshell.

The poise and talent shown by the young musicians impressed the judges. Glenn Bowker from Stanhope and Glenda and Paul Colyvan from Rochester. Glenn said the quality of each act was excellent. "The judges found it hard to choose, but in the end, the decision on who the winners are was unanimous." Glenn went on to congratulate the artists. "They are all just beginning their musical journey and will have benefitted from the experience," he said. "Competing in an event like the Showdown is only one step towards a future in music. I encourage them all to continue to hone their acts."

First place, sponsored by the Girgarre Development Group and presented by Jan Smith,

went to Kaitlyn Martin (15yrs) and Aditi Xavier (17yrs). They performed If I Ain't Got You and Fix You. Second place was presented by Alek Stokes from the Rushworth and District Community Bank, and went to Emma Gleeson, who performed two original songs: Safe With You, and Monster. Third place, also presented by Alek Stokes from the Rushworth and District Community Bank, went to Joey Possum Fox (12yrs), who performed Black Fella Hunting and Black Boy, both on the didgeridoo. The Born 'n' Bred prize of a half day recording session was awarded by Paul Colyvan, principal of the duo Born 'n' Bred, to Zay Ryan (17yrs), who performed Raise a Little Hell.



Jan Smith (Chair Girgarre Dev.), Alek Stokes (Rushworth & District Community Bank) with winners Aditi and Kaitlyn, Joseph Possum Fox, Emma Gleeson, and Lisa Smith MC.

Many thanks go to the sponsors, the Girgarre Development Group, for the first prize of \$1,000 and the Rushworth and District Community Bank who contributed \$250 each for second and third prizes.

(Right) Aditi and Kaitlyn



Joseph Possum Fox took out third prize.



Emma Gleeson was second place-getter.



(Above) The large crowd enjoyed the performances— and the shade.

(Right) Judges - Glenn Bowker - (gentleman's hat) Paul and Glenda Colyvan, (Duo Born 'n' Bred who sponsored a recording session).



Photos by Jenny Wadelton and Irene Labbett.

NEWS FROM THE OP-SHOP AND FOODBANK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY RUSHWORTH COMMUNITY SUPPORT INC.

Op-Shop highs (and some lows)

What lovely weather for ducks! The birds are really enjoying all the wet ground because the worms and bugs rise to the top and the ground is nice and soft. No more bent beaks trying to break the ground!

I'm afraid this week I have to start on a very serious note. There have been a couple of incidents recently when volunteers have been verbally abused and physically threatened at the Food Bank and the Op Shop to the point where the police have been called and involved. This is very upsetting for the volunteers, making them re-think about whether they want to keep working there. This affects whether the Food Bank could actually continue working.

Therefore, new security measures will be put in place. While this is happening the Food Bank door will be locked at all times but there will be a volunteer who will open the door to clients who pose no threat.

Our workers are volunteers and at no time is it acceptable to abuse our workers verbally or physically. Please show us the respect and kindness that we show our customers.

On to happier things . . .

We have had a flood of items into the Op Shop which would make great Christmas gifts or Kris Kringle exchanges. We are constantly amazed at the generosity of the community in supporting the Op Shop, which in turn supports the Food Bank.

This could be a great time to introduce your children to purchasing at the Op Shop. Their pocket money can go a lot further for buying little gifts for friends and teachers. We do have brand new things here as well as second hand items in good condition.

With Christmas dinners and gatherings coming up you may be thinking of table settings etc. (not me – the old mixing bowl can hold chips and nibbles just as well as anything else!) For those of you that like couth and culture we have some beautiful glass bowls and dishes that will sparkle and display their contents to the best advantage. Just imagine a trifle with three layers of colour showing through the glass – yum. Add cream and fruit on the top and, voila, a centrepiece



for your Christmas desserts.

Isn't it lovely to see the Christmas trees down the street? I love that I recognise some items from the Op Shop on them. You don't have to spend a fortune to have fun at Christmas. The walking group have put up a tree covered in old shoes! One tree is a series of tyres on top of one another and painted. If you live on a farm you could probably make an orchard of 'trees'.

That's enough waffling on from me. Until next time we wish you a full belly and a happy smile.

Heather

SANTA GOES OP SHOPPING

The weather is strange at this time we know,
It's rain and more rain, but at least it's not snow!

Poor Santa is trying to get things together

With padded warm clothes and big boots of leather.

His post box is full with letters of hope
Of presents for children – just how will he cope?

First check on the reindeer, just raring to go.

They're flying up high and flying down low

They're flying in circles and big loop the loops

And they fly upside down and whinney and whoop.

How will the presents stay in the sleigh?

Can Santa control them with a big sack of hay?

They stop their cavorting, come back to the stable,

They settle right down while elves pack at the table.

But oh dear me, no! The elves have run out

Of gifts for the people. Santa gives a loud shout

"Quick, onto the reindeer, ride hard and don't stop

At Rushworth are gifts at their local Op Shop,

All at prices so low it won't break the bank"

They come to our shop, fill up sacks and say thanks.

Then back to the workshop to finish their task,

The reindeer eat hay, Santa drinks a large cask!

They must gather their strength and get out the maps,

Eat lots of food and take lots of naps.

It isn't so long now until Christmas Night

And we need them all to be healthy and bright!





Colbo Tit Bits

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Thank you

Thank you to all who helped and contributed to the catering of Marg Wilson's funeral at the Colbo Hall. Her family were very grateful for the hospitality this community was able to provide.

Our sympathy

To Donald and Rhonda Risstrom and their extended family on the loss of their matriarch, Loris Risstrom. Her funeral will be held on Friday 6 December at 11am at Drysdale Uniting Church.

The Colbo Store

Please note the current open hours at OUR store: Monday to Friday 7am-5pm. Saturday and Sunday 8am-2pm. Australia Post: Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm.

Rosters etc

The next edition of the Waranga News will be the last for this year. If you have any notices or rosters you want in the Tit Bits for January-February 2025, let Glen Avard know or ring the News office. The first edition of the News will hit the streets on Thursday 6 February 2025.

Strength and balance

Strength and balance classes at the Colbo Hall will finish up for this year on Monday 16 December and will start again on 20 January 2025 at 3.30pm. Anyone interested in joining the group can contact Anita at Rushworth Community House 0417 334 817.

Ecumenical Advent Group

Mondays 9 and 16 Dec. 1.30pm at Avars. All welcome.

Colbo Diary

- Strength & Balance 3.30pm Mondays at hall
- Coffee and Cake 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 10.15am @CCH
- Colbo Community Shed - Thursdays BYO BBQ lunch
- Colbo Pub Choir - 5pm Tuesdays at CCH

DECEMBER

Mon 9 Ecu Advent Group at Avars @ 1.30pm
 Mon 16 Ecu Advent Group at Avars @ 1.30pm
 Sat 21 Carols by Barrels 5pm @ CCH
 Sun 22 Ecu Carol Service 8pm @ hall'

JANUARY

Mon Strength and Balance 3.30pm

FEBRUARY

Thurs 6 1st edition of Waranga News for 2025

Cemetery Trust

Mowing Roster (lawn section only)
 December - Carmel Turner

FIRE BRIGADE ROSTER


Dec 8 Robert Brown, Sam Brown
 Dec 15 Paul Tait, Oliver 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 11 December Pauline Wilson
 Wed 18 December Lynn Rathjen



Santa in his jeep visits children at Cornella



Children had a chance to meet up with Santa after their Advent Blessing at Cornella Mass last Sunday.

A book club Christmas at Colbinabbin



There are a number of Book Clubs in Colbinabbin would you believe? Celebrating another successful year as a group were (L-R) Jacqui Brown, Helen McRostie, Louise Scott, Pauline Wilson and Jenni Rathjen. The ladies enjoyed lunch at the Colbinabbin Country Hotel this week. Why join a Book Club, I hear you ask? Social connection. Book clubs offer an affordable way to connect with others. It forces you to read (meant in a good way), broaden your horizons, hear new perspectives and share your love of books.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas



Gav and Mick from Oz-Signs in Kyabram were taking a well earned break at the Colbo Pub, after decorating windows in the main street of the town. The Colbo Store, Wests CRT, Colbo Pub and the Memorial Hall were all made a little Christmassy this week thanks to a grant from the Shire of Campaspe. Keep an eye out next week for some more decorations to come!



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](https://www.facebook.com/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.

Year's end approaches at the Community House

As 2024 draws inexorably to a close, Rushworth Community House is busy preparing for the coming festive season and the holidays that follow.

Our final Carer Support Group lunch on Thursday, 5 December will enjoy a Christmas theme. It's a final opportunity for the year to say a huge "thank you" to this special bunch of people who devote so much of their lives to looking after others.

Christmas closure

RCH staff and volunteers are looking forward to their annual major holiday break.

The Community House will close on Friday 20 December and will remain closed until Monday, 13 January.

There will be no access to the Australian Government Services portal, so interactions with Centrelink or Medicare during the break will have to be done through their Shepparton office or online elsewhere.

In the meantime, the Community House remains open for business, and welcomes members of our community as it always has.



Rushworth's favorite calendar available mid-December



Design and layout of the Community House's 2025 calendar is now complete, and has been sent for printing. It is expected that the finished publication will be back in Rushworth by mid-December and available to members of the public shortly thereafter.

The annual Community House calendar has been a highlight of Waranga Christmases for many years, and has a strong following throughout the community. Copies of the calendar can be found in many homes in and around Rushworth.

People love the calendar's local content, including the comprehensive trades directory, publication dates for the Waranga News and both public and school holiday dates.

Lunar phases are also included on the monthly pages and are welcomed by a variety of special interest groups.

Rushworth has a number of community organisations and the calendar's Club Contact pages list names and phone numbers for representatives of many of those groups

Most importantly, the calendar has a quick access list of emergency numbers that may be required in a variety of situations. The Emergency Numbers page is probably the most highly valued feature of the calendar.

As is customary the 2025 Rushworth Community House Calendar will be made available to members of the public through the businesses that have supported the

2025 Term 1 Guide planning also underway

The Community House is planning several new activities for the first term in 2025, and is hoping that some other activities will be able to return in the new year.

RCH activities in Colbinabbin are proving to be very popular and new Board Games sessions are planned for both Colbo and Rushy on Thursday mornings subject to planned attendance.

Talented local artist Heather Wellington will be conducting new Art Group sessions at the Horne Street Community Hub in 2025. Sessions will run from 10am until 2pm (including BYO lunch), and will guide people through personal art projects.

Committee/Organisation	Club Contact	Phone No
Campaspe Regional Library		1300 666 535
Campaspe Shire Service Centre		1300 666 535
Friends of the Waranga Aged Care Hostel	Sue Sheers - Secretary	0428 572 516
Musica Working Droughts Home Musicians	John Quinane	0413 338 729
Neighbourhood Watch Rushworth	Heleen Mattsson	0409 561 478
Ruralnet Services League - Rushworth	Bill Birkow	0437 566 252
Rushworth Machinery Preservation Club Inc.	Regan Stok	0467 837 609
Rushworth Bowls Club Inc.	Joan Sprague	0419 100 954
Rushworth Cemetery Trust	Chris Dickson	0466 346 803
Rushworth Community House	Nick Butta - President	5058 1295
Rushworth Cricket Club	Kaylene Raglan - Treasurer	0418 120 497
Rushworth District Concert Band	Graham Waterford	0408 423 615
Rushworth Easter Heritage Festival	Peter Reade (Secretary)	0459 520 843
Rushworth Field & Game Association	Ruthie Donevan	0434 522 954
Rushworth Fire Brigade	Dean Lamont (President)	0412 972 884
Rushworth Football/Netball Association	Peta Williams	0418 232 722
Rushworth Garden Lovers Club	Pat Wakefield	1857 2760
Rushworth Golf Club Inc.	Dennis Harde	1856 1495
Rushworth Historical Society & Museum	Nick Butta (President)	0423 608 245
Rushworth Kindergarten & Children	Tammy Donevan	5856 1591

EMERGENCY CALLS 000	
Ambulance (non emergency)	1300 366 1313
Farmer Vet	5852 2000
Goulburn Valley Base Hospital	5832 2322
Injured Wildlife	0409 331 333
Bohollow Wildlife Shelter	0447 636 953
Police Station, Rushworth	5856 1000
Rushworth Medical Clinic	5856 1329
SES	13 25 00
Shire of Campaspe	1300 666 535
Waranga Medical Centre	5851 8400
Waranga Health	5851 8000

publication by advertising on the colour back sheet and/or page sponsorship advertisements on the monthly pages. The Community House thanks advertisers for their ongoing support.

Like to participate in Tai Chi and/or Yoga classes next year? Please contact the House on 5856 1295 and register your interest.

Often referred to as "meditation in motion", Tai Chi is a gentle, low-impact form of exercise that uses deliberate, flowing motions while focusing on deep, slow breaths.

Yoga is an ancient physical and mental practice that aims to control mind and body.

Tai Chi and Yoga are both highly beneficial to the wellbeing of their participants.

Arts & Tourism

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

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New exhibitions at Kyabram Town Hall Gallery

Santa's Cave is back again

Bring the children along for the thrill of Santa's Cave on any of the dates listed below right.

Through the Eyes of Five Artists

Through the Eyes of Five Artists is one of the new exhibitions soon to be featuring at the Kyabram Town Hall Gallery.

Artists Judy Hutchins, Desma Talamo, Wendy Schneider, Karen Macartney and Elaine van Dyk are all from central Victoria and their work covers a number of media, genres and styles.

The official opening will be on Saturday 7 December at 2 pm. All welcome.

Splinter Contemporary Artists

Love that song is the title of the latest exhibition by Splinters where they respond visually to a song they love.

We all have a song or piece of music that feels significant to us or that we connect with in some way.

Listening to a favourite song can impact us in many ways.

Among other things it can:

- awaken or enhance an emotion
- evoke a distant memory
- allow us to dance with abandon
- enable us to sing along with gusto
- assist us to relax and reflect on life

The exhibition can be seen until 3 February 2025.



Still Life by Wendy Schneider.



Revisiting the Greenhoods etching by Elaine Van Dyk.



Uccelli e Fiori in Ceramica

by Angie Russi

Angie's amazing ceramics can be seen in the Isobell Harvey Gallery for the next few weeks leading up to Christmas. So if you haven't visited yet now is the time and you can also catch the other great exhibitions on display.

Right is a colourful example of one of Angie's tables featuring her iconic spotted decor.



Love that song
Splinter Contemporary Artists
until 3 February 2025

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www.kyabramtownhall.com.au
info@kyabramtownhall.com.au

SANTAS CAVE
Saturday DEC 14 to Sunday 22nd DEC. 11am-5pm
ADMISSION \$5 per person or \$15 a family up to 4 children
Enter from Allan St. 58521546 0490371641

Santa's Cave IS BACK!		KYABRAM TOWN HALL	
DECEMBER 2024			
14 th Saturday	11am-5pm	14 th Saturday	11am-5pm
15 th Sunday	11am-5pm	15 th Sunday	11am-5pm
16 th Monday	11am-5pm	16 th Monday	11am-5pm
17 th Tuesday	11am-5pm	17 th Tuesday	11am-5pm
18 th Wednesday	11am-5pm	18 th Wednesday	11am-5pm
19 th Thursday	11am-5pm	19 th Thursday	11am-5pm
20 th Friday	11am-5pm	20 th Friday	11am-5pm
21 st Saturday	11am-5pm	21 st Saturday	11am-5pm
22 nd Sunday	11am-5pm	22 nd Sunday	11am-5pm

ADMISSION \$5 PER PERSON
\$15 a family (up to 4 Children)

CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

- JUDY HUTCHINS THROUGH THE YES OF FIVE ARTISTS 3rd December to February 2025
- ANGIE RUSSI CERAMICS. Ends 22nd Dec
- LOVE THAT SONG- Work by Splinter Contemporary Artists

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

Cooks Column

I don't know if you've heard, but Christmas is just around the corner. Assuming you have all your cakes and puddings sprinkled with a touch of brandy and well-wrapped, maturing away in your pantry, you might like to prepare some savoury treats for those unexpected visitors who call by.

Christmas canapés

You'll need a twelve-hole cake tray.

Ingredients

- 2 sheets puff pastry
- 1 cup baby spinach/fresh herbs
- 4 x large eggs beaten
- 1 cup grated cheese
- Salt and Pepper

Method

Set oven to 180°.

Grease your tray - mine is an older style tray; cavities are 6cms.

For the filling, I made up a scrambled eggs style mix. Finely chopped the spinach and or herbs.

For the cases, I used a 9cm glass to cut out the circles. Prick the bases before adding your filling.

You can tart them up a bit by adding a teaspoon of chutney or caramelised onion first then the egg mixture and lastly the grated cheese. These are vegetarian, so add in bacon or ham if desired

I cooked mine for approximately fifteen minutes. Ovens vary so keep an eye on them.

Super easy and quick to make. I'm sure they'd freeze OK to have on hand for entertaining.

This is my last recipe for the year.

Happy holidays.

Bon appetite!

Pauline



Do you enjoy cooking?

Do you have a favourite recipe you'd like to share with us?

It could be that special cake that always brings loud applause each time you bake it. Or a slice, maybe biscuits? What about an interesting casserole?

If you'd like to share, make it, take a photo of it (must be about 1MB) and send it to us at the News Office.

wnews@iinet.net.au

Garden Hints & Tips

Summer in 'tropical' Victoria

With our weather recent combination of heat and wet our gardens have responded with tropical style growth – especially the veggies!

While it's pretty exciting to see the tomato plants and cucumber vines triple in size over a week, a summer that's unusually rainy can create some challenges for gardeners. While rain that falls from the sky is undoubtedly more beneficial than any hose watering, (we know that because the plants just look happier!), excessive rainfall or unseasonable weather can lead to a variety of problems. Here are a few of the most common issues that gardeners may face during a rainy summer:

- **Root rot and fungal diseases** - Excess moisture in the soil can prevent proper drainage, which can then lead to waterlogged roots and perhaps root rot or fungal diseases.

Solution - Improve soil drainage by adding organic matter, such as compost or sand, to the soil. For plants in containers, ensure pots have proper drainage holes. Reduce watering and remove any affected plants to prevent the spread of disease.

- **Mould and mildew** - Humid, damp conditions create an environment where mould and mildew can flourish, particularly on leaves and stems of plants. This is especially common with plants that are susceptible to fungal infections, like cucumbers, tomatoes, and squash.

Solution - Prune affected areas and remove fallen leaves as they can harbor spores. Consider using organic fungicides or neem oil. Ensure plants have good airflow to help them dry out faster after rain.

- **Pests** - Wet conditions attract various pests, such as slugs, snails, and certain types of caterpillars. These pests thrive in damp environments and can quickly damage tender plant

foliage and vegetables.

Solution - Pick the pests off or use organic deterrents – or put copper barriers around plant bases to slugs and snails from climbing.

- **Weeds** - Unfortunately excess rain promotes the rapid growth of weeds as well as the veggies, particularly in areas that are already fertile. Weeds can out-compete your garden plants for sunlight, water, and nutrients.

Solution - Stay on top of weeding by manually removing them as they sprout (yes - easier said than done!). Using mulch (such as straw or wood chips) around your plants can help suppress weed growth.

- **Fruit splitting** - Continuous rainfall can lead to fruit splitting, especially for soft fruits like tomatoes, cherries, apricots and plums. The rapid influx of water causes the fruit to absorb moisture faster than it can expand, leading to cracks or splits in the skin.

Solution - If you see splitting fruit, harvest it immediately to prevent further damage. Make sure to prune plants for better air circulation to reduce excess humidity around the fruit.

These are just a few of the challenges of a wet summer -- if the current forecast holds no doubt we will see if there are more over the next few weeks!

(Right) Veggies running riot!



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. Of course, along the way we can find heaps of things to use for the most unusual reasons if we think outside the box a bit, so I really hope that some of these tips can help you too! - Here's the first set of Christmas hints and tips, and hopefully will assist you for an easier Christmas time! Have a great week and stay safe, Lyn Rumble

* **Fresh fruit options** – At Christmas there is always plenty of fresh fruit around for gorgeous fruit platters – but the only problem is that they can 'go soft or mushy' really easily! You could puree left over fruit and put in ice-cube trays for ice blocks for the kids, or summer flavourings in drinks with some tonic or soda water. Or cut up chunks and freeze as is, then when required can blend up for a really cool smoothie!

* **Kids and Christmas morning** – when I was a kid, my mum and dad used to buy one main present, and then lots of little presents (crayons, colouring books, small toys) and wrap them up individually and put them all in a Santa-type pillow case and put at the bottom of the tree! It was wonderful and kept us entertained for days.... I wonder if families still do that kind of thing?

* **Food bargains** - I've noticed some wonderful food bargains in the shops over the last month or so that could easily be stored in the freezer until needed – so if your budget allows - add in a few extra items for putting aside for that

special treat or two at Christmas.

* **Christmas paper is so easy to create and recycle.** Wrapping presents in newspaper is a good one – especially if it has a lead article of interest to the person! I am sure the young ones of the house would love to get their hands and fingers covered with paint to make some personalised handprint wrappers for siblings and school friends too. Of course, unless you want to keep their masterpieces – it is very recyclable waste! Win-Win all around!

* **Lazy Susan rug for decorating the tree** – organising the decorations and lights for the tree is an enjoyable process, but can get a bit fiddly. One way of making it a bit easier is put a bath mat fabric side down/rubber side up under your tree base making a mobile Lazy Susan type mat. Just rotate around your tree stand to decorate! Makes it so much easier (particularly on a wooden floor), and a real breeze when it's time to take the decorations down again!

Health and Wellbeing

Endometriosis treatment subsidy now available

Australian women living with endometriosis, a common and chronic condition that can cause crippling pain and infertility, will soon have access to the first treatment to be subsidised for their condition by the Federal Government in more than three decades.

The government has introduced subsidies to help with the cost of treating the condition in which tissue similar to the lining of the uterus grows outside the womb and in other parts of the body, often affecting the reproductive organs, bowel and bladder. It causes inflammation, scarring, and painful adhesions that join together pelvic organs that are normally separate.

Key elements of the subsidy include Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) changes to improve access to diagnostic and treatment services for endometriosis.

The Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) will provide subsidised access to medications used in the treatment of endometriosis, including pain relief medication and hormonal treatments. This can make it more affordable for individuals to manage the chronic pain and symptoms associated with endometriosis.

As part of the commitment to addressing endometriosis, the government has introduced the National Action Plan for Endometriosis. This plan aims to improve awareness, early diagnosis, treatment, and support for people with the condition. The introduction of these subsidies is part of broader efforts to reduce the health burden of endometriosis and improve quality of life for those affected.

Alongside treatment subsidies, the government has also committed funding for research into better treatments and a cure for endometriosis, and to support awareness campaigns. This research funding is crucial for improving long-term care options and advancing medical understanding of the disease.

The initiatives reflect the growing recognition of endometriosis as a significant health issue that affects many Australians, with the goal of reducing the financial burden on individuals seeking treatment while improving their access to necessary care.

Group Exercise manages symptoms

Rochester-Elmore District Health Service (REDHS) offers Exercise Physiology at Rushworth

Exercise Physiologists (EP's) manage the symptoms of chronic illness and injuries using exercise.

Conditions and illnesses may include cardiorespiratory disease, diabetes, respiratory issues, strokes, autoimmune diseases, falls risks, chronic pain symptoms and many more.

EPs also work to prevent the prevalence of secondary diseases and can have a positive impact on one's physical and mental wellbeing.

EPs work with clients to assess their current fitness level and find an exercise program that is appropriate for that individual. EPs are qualified in understanding how to care for clients, with complex needs and how medications interact when you exercise.

Treatment options include:

Individualised exercise rehabilitation programs and mobility/walking aid recommendations.

Under the supervision of our Accredited Exercise Physiologist, participants can enjoy exercising in a safe and supervised environment, learning specific exercises to maintain strength and function to remain as independent as possible.

Exercise sessions focus on balance, lower and upper limb strengthening, range of motion and stretching.

The exercise sessions commence with an initial one-on-one assessment by an accredited Exercise Physiologist, followed by supervised fortnightly 60-minute group exercise classes tailored to suit your needs.



Accredited Exercise Physiologist, Steph

What improvements will the program make for me?

We can work with you to improve your:

- Balance
- Joint mobility
- Muscle strength
- Independence
- Confidence
- General health and wellbeing

Where: Waranga Health, Multi-Purpose Room, 14 High Street Rushworth

When: Thursdays, 9:30am fortnightly

REDHS Exercise Physiology Services available at Rushworth (including home visits should this be required).

For more information, or to make an appointment for an assessment, please call our Intake Officer on (03) 5484 446



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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.

I often am asked why some baby birds cannot be reunited with their parents. This question does not have a simple answer, believe me. It would make our lives a lot easier if it did!

The reasons why a chick or nestling has ended up coming to the ground are usually extreme weather events, predation (cats,

A fledgling brancher



other birds and sometimes reptiles such as goannas), the nest being damaged and one of the most common reasons is that the baby bird actually jumps out itself when they are not quite ready to fly.

Many native bird species leave the nest of their own accord before they are up and flying. We call these ambitious fledglings, 'branchers'.

If not experienced, it can be difficult to determine whether a young bird is in trouble or just at the natural branching stage. There are some differences to look for and the critical key to each case is observation.

A brancher is able to flutter or fly short distances, hop and climb up branches to get out of harm's way. They may appear uncoordinated and ungainly, but they should be able to achieve some or all of these things, particularly by nightfall. They must be able to roost in a relatively safe place at night, usually close by or with their parents.

A brancher will have parent birds keeping a close eye on them. These young birds still require feeding by one or both parents and if you observe long enough, you will see parents return to feed their young. Keep in mind that adult birds may not come close to their young while they are put off by your presence, so observing from a distance is often more fruitful.

Some parent birds will swoop, vocalise and attempt to dissuade you from picking up one of their young. This does not necessarily mean that the young bird is not in trouble. It is natural for birds to protect their offspring.

Therefore, if a bird cannot flutter, climb or hop well enough to get up into a tree, it may need assistance and you need to call for help. If a young bird remains on the ground when darkness approaches, it needs assistance.

Branchers are fully feathered, although their flight and tail feathers are generally not at full length yet and may appear very small compared to the parent birds'. A baby bird who is not feathered but possesses only down or is naked, needs assistance.

If a baby bird cannot stand yet, it needs assistance.

If close observation reveals that there are no parents present, it needs assistance.

In all cases, when in any doubt, please call a registered shelter such as Bohollow for advice and help.

Please do not attempt to raise native baby birds yourself. Different species require special food types and regimes and feeding incorrectly can lead to death. Raising and preparing a bird for release takes experience and again, if not done correctly, can kill them.

When I was called to this tawny frogmouth babe that was discovered on the ground, I originally thought that it would need to come into care. When I realised how advanced it was and that it could indeed fly about hip height for a little distance and that its parents were above in trees, I made the decision to place it as high as I could in the fork of a nearby red gum and let mother and father tawny continue their care. I was in the area for about an hour and before I left, the little tawny had scrambled even higher up the tree branch. I am crossing fingers that it has continued to do alright.

Branchers usually only take a day or so to fly properly but the branching stage is almost more dangerous for them than the defenceless nestling stage. At least in a nest, they are usually concealed and less likely to be noticed by predators. Despite the danger, it is perfectly natural for many species to have branching young and to catch a brancher can be the equivalent of kidnapping for parent birds. In the case of this tawny family, I really felt that I would be stealing the parents' young if I took him into care, as in a few days, this young bird should be up and flying.

The bat beneath my wings

These photos were taken at the grey-headed flying fox bat colony on the creek at Numurkah recently. The mothers are already giving birth and I managed to snap off some shots of the teeny babes nestled under the safety of



their mother's wings.

Mother bats actually carry their babes around with them until they basically get too heavy to comfortably fly with them clinging to their body. The mothers have nipples under their armpits to feed their young and I am always amazed at how well they seem to carry their temporary load and hide them so expertly under their wings.

Grey-headed flying foxes give birth to a single young, usually around September/October, although Deb and I have seen young born later in the Numurkah colony.

These flying foxes are one of Australia's top pollinators and they can easily fly up to 50 km in one night, so their pollen dispersal can be great. They are an important aspect



of a healthy ecosystem here and we are quite privileged to have such a large camp at Numurkah. The numbers in the colony fluctuate from over a thousand bats to lower levels, depending on the time of year and also whether the Little Red flying foxes are choosing the camp to roost at as well. At the moment, the numbers are high as the females congregate together to give birth.

Look for the babes in the photos, snuggled in against their mother's body.



ON THE BRINK *by Neil Laurie*

Looking at endangered or extinct flora and fauna.

Solar and wind myths and falsehoods (part 2)

There are presently many arguments being touted around against solar farms and wind turbines, many of which do not hold up under scrutiny. In this edition we are continuing looking at some of these arguments.

That the production of solar panels is harmful to the environment is an exaggeration. The small environmental impact of the manufacture of solar panels is more than offset by the environmental benefits of their use. Solar panel manufacturers are bound by the same environmental laws and regulations as any other industry.

Problems with disposing of solar panels and wind turbines when they are no longer useful are valid concerns. Solar panels will never fill Victorian landfill sites to overflowing simply because they are not accepted by the sites in the first place. By law, they must be taken to e-waste drop-off points for recycling. While about 90% of the materials in panels can be recycled, it is a difficult and costly process. The towers, gearboxes and generators of wind turbines are made of recyclable metals. The blades and the nacelles are made of composites and cannot at present be recycled. There is a European company converting turbine nacelles into tiny houses. The recycling of solar panels and the wind turbines remain areas of active research. The decommissioning of fossil fueled power stations produces far more waste and can be difficult due to the historical use of asbestos in their construction. Coal fired power stations produce fly ash over the whole of their use, which is often used in agriculture as a soil additive. Studies have shown the fly ash contains significantly higher levels of heavy metals than soil samples from under solar panels. Nuclear power stations are even more difficult to decommission with the long-term containment of radioactive materials being of particular concern.

Solar panels will release heavy metals in the event of a wildfire. It has been found that by the time the heat breaks down the panels, the glass has melted and will encapsulate nearly all of the toxic materials (e.g. over 99.9% of cadmium).

There is an element of NIMBY (not in my back yard) surrounding solar and wind farms, largely because they change the appearance of the landscape. It must be pointed out that landscapes do change.



Over the last 250 or so years we have seen vast tracts of land cleared, then planted with wheat and oats, and later with canola. We have seen land become green and lush with the coming of irrigation and then turn back again with the rising of the water table and the shortfall of water for irrigation. Along the range at Colbinabbin, vineyards have come and gone and have come again. The appearance of paddocks filled with solar panels and hilltop ridges lined with wind turbines can be seen as two more changes to the ever-changing landscape.

At present the only other working solution for generating power is to go nuclear. With our reserves of uranium this has some merit but do we really want or need to take up the nuclear option, especially when we can be developing safer alternatives?

Today it is easy to put claims on the internet or onto social media where they gain enough traction to be regarded as facts. The Law School of Columbia University investigated claims surrounding solar and wind generation and debunked 33 of them as unfounded and false. It is important not to accept claims without first fact-checking them.

In many respects we are seeing a repeat of the controversy that surrounded the erection of mobile phone towers in the 1990s. We look back now, wondering what all the fuss was about and shake our heads at the purported hazards attributed to the towers. Will people look back in thirty years and wonder at the current fuss surrounding solar and wind farms?

And what has all this got to do with endangered species? Climate change is shaping-up to be a big driver of extinctions. Much of the climate change is due to our use of fossil fuels. While it is too late to prevent climate change, we can soften its impact by converting to green energy and hopefully save many species from going over the brink.

Taungurung Land and Waters Council agreement

Campaspe Shire Council has voted to support the Taungurung Land and Waters Council (TLaWC) Terms of Reference for the Local Government Forum, and to become a member of the forum.

The TLaWC is the Registered Aboriginal Party that represents the interests of the Taungurung people. It plays a vital role in the cultural, social, and environmental stewardship of the Taungurung people's traditional lands in Campaspe and other areas of central Victoria. One of their key activities involves collaborating with local governments to ensure the protection and promotion of Indigenous rights, heritage, and sustainable land management practices.

There are fifteen different local government agencies that operate in Taungurung country and TLaWC has determined that a collaborative approach via a forum is their preferred method for engaging with these agencies and with Local Government Victoria (LGV).

The forum is a mechanism to foster and govern a constructive and meaningful operational relationship between TLaWC and local government in Taungurung country. It also creates opportunities for local governments to incorporate traditional ecological knowledge into conservation practices.

The three objectives are:

- Work together in partnership;
- Respect, celebrate and support Taungurung people, culture and country.
- Achieve our responsibilities together.

Through these partnerships, the TLaWC works closely with local councils to influence policies, promote cultural awareness and support projects that benefit both the local Indigenous community and broader regional development. Collaboration can include consultation on land use planning, environmental conservation and community engagement initiatives that respect and integrate Taungurung knowledge and cultural values.

The Forum is consistent with the Campaspe Council Plan 2021-2025 which states: "We will work with Aboriginal communities and elders so they are more engaged with Council and have a genuine voice as a result of improved formal and informal communication mechanisms (e.g. committees, MOUs).

Fifty years ago in our district....

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



Another road fatality and more accidents in early December 1974

A spate of fatal car accidents in the district continued with the tragic death of Colin Speers on the Midland Highway west of Stanhope, outside his home. Colin was aged just seven, and there was great sympathy for his family and for the local driver of the car.

Ted Smith, the Murchison postmaster, was involved in a very serious car accident, on the highway south of Shepparton.

Brian Rogerson of Rushworth was taken to Mooroopna hospital after his car left the road and struck trees near the second deviation around the Basin, on the Murchison road. He suffered a fractured skull and internal injuries, and his vehicle was wrecked.

Murchison finally secured a doctor after the last-minute withdrawal of an Englishman whose wife got cold feet after the appointment seemed finalised. The newspaper report failed to name the new man, so I will need to look at Chronicles from the following year, 1975.

Community

Bill Barlow and Kay Branson were photographed in fancy dress at an Apex Club event held at the home of Robbie and Maxine Ryan. Noting the Italian theme, Kay appeared as a peasant woman, while Bill looked the part as Bacchus, the Roman god of wine, agriculture and fertility according to whichever search engines you use. *(It only leaves me to observe that Bill was very well suited in these roles, and what an outfit!)*

An Apex Club concert for the Senior Citizens Club featured a noted singer Telford Jackson. The oldest senior in attendance, for a number of successive years, was Mrs Bessie Barlow. If all of her grandchildren then and her great grandchildren and great great grandchildren now, were to be named, this edition of Waranga News would not be large enough!

Moor Fire Brigade roster: Ned Schade and Alf Sleep. A training exercise for local brigades involved an oil fire at Rushworth tip and a simultaneous fire at Corop. Stanhope CFA captain George Gemmill was photographed directing brigade members at Corop. A district de-brief was then held at Colbinabbin Football ground ahead of the fire season

Local Christmas carol singing "by candlelight" was planned for Rushworth Primary School. All grades were rehearsing for their performances at the event.

Schools

The year was winding down and a farewell was given to High School headmaster John Teasdale after six years in that office. Several

teachers were also farewelled, including a number who had been at the school for part of my time there (1967 – 1972). Roger Barnes, Warren McKeown and Bob Hurley were included.

Grade 6 at Rushworth Primary School reported, with some excitement, that a snake had come out from under the school and "Mr Mackinder killed it with a shovel"! *(He might be locked up for this today.)*

After school one day, sixteen fathers and six mothers attended starting construction of "an adventure playground and they painted the garden seats". The building work involved cutting up logs for stepping blocks and a climbing frame. "Mr George McLeod bought a tractor along and dug about 40 holes for the poles."

Personal

Rushworth man Jack "Pipes" Donovan was admitted to Waranga Memorial Hospital. Concerned friends asked about his condition and he said he was mainly there so he "could listen to the Test cricket in peace"!

Football news in summer

Rushworth Football Club declined to re-affiliate with the Heathcote District Football League for the 1975 season as the club's Annual General Meeting had not been held. This caused the HDFL meeting to be adjourned after the transaction of other business.

Up for debate in the HDFL were sixteen rule changes proposed by Colbinabbin Football Club, the effect being to reduce the number of ex-radius (outside) players for all clubs and to ban them altogether for Heathcote and Rushworth. Debate on this was "spirited" and not concluded in the report.

It being the AGM, the position of secretary was filled by David Roulston, ex-Mt Pleasant. John Holmberg of Elmore and Tom Morgan of Colbinabbin both declined to stand for the position of presiden favouring Sam Cheatley of Colbinabbin to remain for one more season.

The league was still reeling from the discovery on the eve of the finals that Tooborac had played a newcomer who was a disqualified player using a false name for much of the 1974 season and discussion addressed ways to prevent a repeat.

The Rushworth club AGM was subsequently held, with only 17 people in attendance, despite over 100 taking out club memberships in 1974. Few players attended and some committee members were also absent. Criticism was directed at local businesses for alleged failure to support the club.

Seeking a successor for Eddie Gleeson stepping down as president after heart

health issues and three terms, six men were nominated. All declined to accept the role. League delegates elected were Chief Perry, Tom Moylan, Tom Harrop and Eddie Gleeson (any two to attend), and they were given licence "to vote as they saw fit"!

Stanhope Football Club held its AGM and announced its 1975 coach as Tony Payne who had played with the club previously, and coached Lemnos (now Shepp Swans). Former coach Noel "Bones" Langley became the secretary and the meeting elected Gavin Poole as president for a third term after a rival nomination from Barney Maidment.

Treasurer Constable Ray Gavin was re-elected after reporting a turnover of \$11,000 for the 1974 season and a trading loss of \$1,134, leaving just \$7 credit balance to start season 1975.

Bowls

Murchison associate bowlers had their bowls blown off their bias in high winds but rinks skippered by Dot Kenny, Nell Halbert and Nancy Harrison got home by six over Merrigum.

Request from Alan

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

Rushing to Whroo, 1853 to 1880



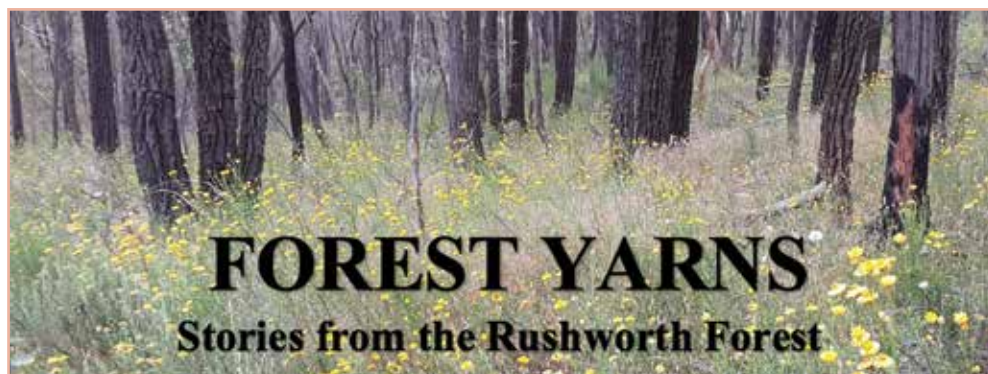
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Waranga News office and General Store Rushworth



Overview of the timber industry

The Rushworth forest has been harvested for timber since colonial days. Initially, during the gold rush, the tree felling was uncontrolled by the fledgling Victorian government. As time went by it was realised that unless there were some controls the forests would be completely denuded. The government has progressively introduced controls over the decades until today when legal access to timber in the forest is minimal.

Forest timber has been used for many end-products including (but not limited to) timber used in the mining industry, railway sleepers, telegraph and power poles, farm fence posts, stays, rails and droppers, roadside posts and building materials. An incredible amount of timber has been removed from the forest for firewood for local markets but especially for transport to Melbourne and other large centres. The firewood trade expanded rapidly after railways extended into local areas, including the line to Rushworth by 1890, with later extensions to Colbo and Girgarre.

Working in the forest and at sawmills at various locations (especially the stations on the Murchison-Colbinabbin line) provided employment for a large number of local people. At times this workforce was supplemented with outside labour including discharged soldiers after the First World War, sustenance workers during the Great Depression of the 1930s, and prisoners (both POWs and internees) during Second World War.

Early days

There is no doubt that a lot of timber was wasted during the gold rush, in the diggers' haste to get at the gold bearing soil and rock. When trees and understorey were removed there was the potential for erosion to be greatly accelerated, the effects of which can easily be seen in the forest gullies today.

Concern was already being expressed by the government in the mid-1860s about what was happening in box-ironbark forests amongst others in Victoria. A report stated that "rapid and unnecessary destruction of forest in the neighbourhood of the goldfields" had taken place. There was a need to ensure "a more economical use of native timber, and to conserve the forests."¹

Legislation followed which created two types of reserves. Timber reserves were set aside for use by miners and settlers, while State forests were established where the only timber that could be cut down was by licensed tree

fellers and timber millers. By 1868, 32,000 acres (13000 hectares) had already been set aside close to Rushworth for the latter purpose. The government employed people to oversee what happened in the forests with the first staff working out of Rushworth from the late 1860s.

Further regulation

Later in the 19th century, more legislation was introduced, with the responsible government departments regularly changing their names along with the titles of the relevant government officials and their areas of responsibility. Sound familiar?

Into the 20th century three separate Forests Acts were passed which ultimately resulted in the establishment of the Forests Commission in 1919. The Commission was tasked with "the establishment, maintenance, improvement and renewal of natural forests."²

The Forests Commission continued to oversee Victoria's forests until 1983, when its responsibilities were taken over by the newly established Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands. Since then, there have been no fewer than eight more name changes, not to mention multiple changes in government, as well as Ministers and heads of department, many of whom have had different priorities and levels of funding available. Rushworth forest is currently under the custodianship of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action. (DEECA)

Timber output

As stated in the opening paragraph, the timber industry has been shut out of the Rushworth forest over recent decades. There are many stories about the times when the industry was a significant economic player in the district, providing livelihoods for many people. Upcoming articles will highlight stories about those people and contributions are welcome from readers. Photographs from private collections would be welcome as the range of photos held by the historical society appears to be fairly limited. It would be wonderful to enhance this collection to enable future generations to gain a greater understanding of how important the industry was to the economic development of the Waranga area.

References – 1 Victorian Government, Report of the Advisableness of Establishing State Forests (1865); 2 Victorian Government, Forests Act 1918 Sec 15(b); 3 Lawrence, Ruth and Bellette, Marc, Gold, Timber, War and Parks: A History of the Rushworth Forest in Central Victoria (CSIRO Publishing 2010) Contact – Tony Ford boze24@hotmail.com

A Name from the Past Bachelor Jacob Geisler buried 100 years ago

The name Geisler has been found in the Rushworth area for well over a hundred years. It is precisely a century since the passing of a Geisler with the biblical name of Jacob and his funeral was held on a Sunday.

The Rushworth Chronicle of 5 December 1924 provided some details in a death notice and a short obituary. Miners' complaint was an illness of the lungs, damaged by working underground and a very common cause of death in that era. The discrepancy shown in his age is puzzling.

"GEISLER. -- On 29th November, at the Mooroopna Hospital, Jacob Geisler, aged 67 years, second eldest son of the late Frederick and Julia Ann and beloved brother of George, Conrad, Mary (Mrs. Haub), Catherine (Mrs. Popple) and Margaret (Mrs. Brideson). Rest in peace.

Another of the old pioneers of Rushworth passed away on Saturday last 29th ult. [November], in the person of Mr. Jacob Geisler, whose death took place in the Mooroopna Hospital, of which he had been an inmate for only a few days, the cause of death being miners' complaint.

The deceased, who was 65 years of age, was born in South Australia and came to Victoria with his parents when quite a lad. He engaged in mining until about 14 years ago, and since then has resided with his sister and brother-in-law (Mr. and Mrs. R. Brideson), being unmarried.

He was the second eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. Geisler, and brother of Messrs George and Conrad Geisler, of Rushworth and Mrs. Haub, Mrs. Popple and Mrs. R. Brideson.

The late Mr Geisler was of a quiet and unassuming nature and was highly respected by all who knew him.

The funeral took place on Sunday, the remains being interred in the Rushworth Cemetery. The Rev. Boyd (Presbyterian) officiated at the grave."

Alan McLean

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

Tabloid Sports day at St Mary's Primary

St Mary's students were very excited to have Simon from Education Sports Carnivals return for another year and run the school's Tabloid Sports day.

Throughout the sessions the students worked together to complete a variety of tasks and games. They were able to engage in tug-of-war, obstacle courses, parachute games, pizza deliveries plus many more fun activities.

It was a great time had by all and the students showed great team building skills.



St Mary's students battling it out in a tug-of-war.



Ebony and Scarlett delivering pizzas in the pizza run.

Tips for school holidays

(from Vic Dept Education website)

- Exercise boosts mood and mental health – make it fun!
- Nourish your brain by eating healthily – it will also improve your mood
- Prioritise sleep to support mental and emotional wellbeing
- Explore relaxation techniques and coping strategies
- Stay in touch and catch up with friends and loved ones
- Make time to do things you enjoy

https://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/school/Wellbeing%20Support_Factsheet_Students.pdf

Fun at the fete (for Mr Ryan)



The annual St Mary's School Fete was held on Friday 22 November. There was a great turn out to the event and lots of fun was to be had. Members of the school and broader community participated in colour runs, the spinning wheel, mystery jars and many more activities. One of the highlights was getting to see the principal, Mr Ryan, dunked in the dunk tank on the first throw!

Annabelle *Member for Euroa*
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Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our

The Lightning Express comes to St Mary's

On Tuesday 26 November St Mary's held their bi-annual production, showcasing the creativity and talents of the students. This year's production, named 'The Lightning Express,' featured a blend of Christmas and space themes.

The play was an original work, written by the school's Performing Arts teacher, Ms Parry, who developed the storyline in consultation with the students. Students also had an active role in developing the dance moves and in the overall way that the production would be performed.

Rushworth Kindergarten children and Waranga Aged Care Hostel residents were welcomed to our matinee/dress rehearsal, while students' families and friends attended the main evening performance.

All the students worked very hard on the production and their efforts shone through on the stage.



Grade 3 perform in The Lightning Express.



Pippa, Logan, Oliver, Ethan and Sofia take on their role of space pirates.

Grade 6 retreat

As Grade 6 students prepare to end their time at St Mary's, they had the opportunity to reflect on their years of schooling at the Grade 6 retreat.

The students were able to bring up many fond memories and see how far they have come. They also looked towards their future as they reflected on the theme 'Reach for the Stars'.



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Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our schools Around our **Murchison Preschool busy in Term 4**

This term Miranda Anthony was welcomed as the Early Childhood Teacher and Service Leader. Miranda lives locally with her family and is very excited to strengthen the ties between the community and the Preschool. Anyone who has ideas on how this can be facilitated is welcome to get in touch.

So far this term the focus has been on strengthening fine motor skills through a range of activities and scissor skills, as well as facilitating lots of pattern recognition experiences as part of a school readiness program. Within this play based program the focus is on developing skills such as pre-writing skills to prepare learners for more formalised numeracy and literacy lessons once they enter prep, as well as foster a positive disposition to learning.

This term the children have been learning about term 'Respect' and reflecting on the way in which we demonstrate respect for our learning environments.

Through this process they have begun planting seeds, and adding garden beds to the outdoor surroundings to enhance them.

Everyone is excited to see where the rest of term leads!



There are many creative craft activities happening at Murchison Pre-school!

Celebrating 5 years in Rushworth.



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Recognising Murchison's flood history

It is now over two years since Murchison experienced the heartbreak of the flood in October 2022.

The City of Greater Shepparton Flood Support Team "Resilience in Recovery" have had a constant presence in the town since October 2022 and wanted to acknowledge the community members who came together to support one another during and after the floods.

A small exhibition of both historic photos and images from the 2022 flood, have been enlarged and mounted for display at the Murchison Heritage Centre with support by the Support Team to mark this anniversary.

Reflecting on the challenges the town has faced, the Flood Recovery Team salute the incredible resilience of the community and the unwavering support from volunteers, emergency services and local leaders who have supported the town every step of the way.

Team members say "The photos capture both the lasting impacts of the floods and the reality of the risk that comes with living in such a beautiful community alongside the river. However, through unity and strength, Murchison continues to rebuild and thrive."

Humans so often settle beside a river for the benefit it offers, but then are troubled by the times when it floods! Murchison township is no exception and history books record many incidences when high levels caused significant disruption.

In 1870 the worst flood known to white settlers occurred. Apart from losses of crops and livestock, it interrupted the building of the first timber bridge over the river at Murchison for months. Construction of the Goulburn Weir was delayed by the flood of 1889 causing an overrun of expenses.

But the flood of 1916 was even worse.

The rain came down for 48 hours and measured 7 inches (175mm) at Murchison, but the same rain event dropped 13 inches (325mm) at Yea so the Goulburn burst its banks in Murchison and there were boats in most streets as people and possessions were rescued from their houses. This flood still holds the record when the river rose to 12.22m.

In 2022 a flood again caused heartbreak and damage in Murchison, rising to 12.03m around midnight on Saturday 15 October with the river flowing over its banks inundating properties to the east of the town.

The efforts of Greater Shepparton Council staff, residents and total strangers, SES, CFA, Police and Australian Defence Force filling sandbags, building 'the great wall of Murchison', and pumping water from storm water drains that back-flowed into Stevenson Street, was outstanding and heartwarming.

Residents met regularly on the viewing platform near the bridge to watch the river rising and see the level measured on the Flood Marker – not as accurate as the Bureau of Meteorology data but it gave a very good indication of how rapidly the water rose. The speed and power of the current, the noise of its flow and the sheer volume and spread of the water over the opposite bank was mind-boggling!

Call into the Heritage Centre to see the display – we are open Wednesday and Saturday 10am – 12pm. We welcome groups outside these times by arrangement – ring Janet to make a booking, 5826 2363.

**Kay Ball, President,
Murchison & District
Historical Society**



High Road Murchison-east, off the bridge 1916



River level under the bridge 15 October, 2022



Gregory's Hotel Murchison. Gregory family in boat 1906

Advent blessings and candy canes



Fr Jinjo hands out candy canes to the children who'd come to Mass at Cornella with their families for an Advent blessing.

More Christmas gift ideas for love of both people and planet

If you read last edition's suggestions for Christmas gift ideas that show love for the person AND love for the planet, here's a few more suggestions.

Give something that grows

Plants live, breathe, and brighten up any space. Plus, the receiver can use cuttings to propagate more, give them as great gifts themselves and spread beauty and sustainable giving for years to come. Let's create jungles, not jumbles!

Give second-hand or local

Opt for pre-loved treasures or locally-made items. You'll reduce your

environmental footprint and support small businesses and foster a sense of community.

Repair, regift or upcycle something you already own

Instead of buying new, think about upcycling old furniture, clothes or household items and turn them into something new and exciting for someone you love. It's creative, thoughtful, and sustainable.

See Page 25 for more suggestions

St Vinnies Christmas appeal 2024

The St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) has officially launched its 2024 Christmas Appeal, continuing its long-standing tradition of helping those in need during the festive season.

The appeal focuses on supporting vulnerable individuals and families who face financial hardship, homelessness or other challenges, particularly during the holiday period.

Each year, Vinnies relies on the generosity of Australians to provide food, shelter, and essential support to those experiencing crisis or isolation. Through donations, both financial and in-kind, Vinnies is able to provide Christmas meals, children's gifts, emergency accommodation and critical services like access to utility assistance, clothing, and social services. The goal is to ensure that as many people as possible can enjoy the warmth and joy of the season regardless of their circumstances.

The appeal highlights the increasing challenges many face, with rising living costs and economic pressures making it harder for vulnerable communities to access basic needs. It also aims to raise awareness and encourage people to offer support to those who might otherwise go without.

St Mary's Vinnies conference will be receiving donations to the appeal at Masses over the first two weekends of December. You can also donate through the Vinnies website, - indicating the Vinnies conference you wish to support will ensure your donation is allocated to support our local community.

<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal-vic>

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.



Lord, thank You for the food before us, the family and friends beside us and the love between us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

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living the GOOD LIFE

The most important things are not things

As the year draws to a close, many of us find ourselves reflecting on what truly matters. It's a season of preparation, of clearing space in our lives to focus on the enduring values that shape us.

In the Christian tradition, this season is known as Advent—a time to centre on hope, courage, joy, and love. Yet, these are not just religious ideals; they are universal truths that sustain us all.

Hope: a light in the darkness

Hope is where it all begins. It's the spark that keeps us going when life feels overwhelming. We've all faced moments of uncertainty or grief when hope seemed distant. Yet, even in the darkest times, hope has a way of reappearing – in the kind words of a friend, the resilience of a child, or the breathtaking beauty of a sunrise.

Hope isn't loud or flashy. It's a quiet, steady force. William H McRaven, a former Navy admiral, once said, "Hope is the most powerful force in the universe." It's what reminds us that today's struggles are not the end of the story. Whether through a comforting smile or the steadfast belief in better days, hope is the foundation that carries us forward.

Courage: showing up in the storm

If hope is the spark, courage is what fans it into a flame. Courage isn't about the absence of fear; it's about moving forward despite it. I've seen courage in extraordinary moments – a friend facing a devastating diagnosis with quiet strength and in everyday acts, like a parent showing resilience for their children or someone seeking help in difficult times.

Courage doesn't need grand gestures. It's found in the small, determined steps we take each day. It's speaking up for the right. It's trusting that those steps matter, even when the path ahead isn't clear. This season invites us to clear space in our lives for courage to flourish—for ourselves and for those around us.

Joy: more than happiness

Joy is often confused with happiness, but it's something deeper. Happiness depends on circumstances – a good day, a compliment, or a satisfying meal. Joy, by contrast, is about connection and meaning. It can be found in



the simplest moments: laughter shared with loved ones, the warmth of community, or the quiet contentment of being present.

One of my favourite memories of joy is an ordinary afternoon with family. Nothing remarkable happened, yet there was laughter and a profound sense of belonging. This kind of joy doesn't rely on material things or accomplishments; it grows when shared and when we focus on what truly matters.



Love: the greatest of all

At the heart of it all is love – the love we give and the love we receive. Love is the foundation for hope, courage, and joy. It shows up in countless ways: a kind word, a listening ear, a helping hand. Love doesn't have to be dramatic to be transformative. It often shines brightest in small, selfless acts.

What I've learned is that love is what makes life worth living. It asks us to prioritise others, to forgive, to give freely of ourselves. It's what binds us together and lifts us up.

The embodiment of values

For Christians, these values take on flesh in the story of the Incarnation, when God chose to walk among us. In Jesus, we see hope fulfilled, courage embodied, joy shared, and love perfected. But even for those who do not share this faith, these values remain powerful guides to a meaningful life.

- Hope reminds us that even in despair, brighter days lie ahead.

-

Courage calls us to take the next step, no matter how difficult.

- Joy invites us to cherish life's connections.
- Love transforms us and those around us through small, everyday acts.

The ephemeral good life

This season reminds us that the most important things in life are not things at all. In a world that often equates success with possessions or status, we are invited to embrace what truly endures: hope that carries us through, courage that helps us act, joy that connects us, and love that transforms us.

So as the holidays approach, let's pause to consider how we might embody these values. How can we spark hope for someone else? What act of courage might brighten another's day? How can we share joy and love in meaningful ways?

The good life isn't found in things. It's found in the ways we live out these values each day. As we prepare for the holidays, let's remember that it's the ephemeral – hope, courage, joy, and love – that make life truly good.

As the angels said to the shepherds on that first Christmas morning, "Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." (Luke 2:10-11)

This is the good news and it's for everyone.

Brian Spencer, Minister,
Waranga Uniting Churches

Gifts of love

(continued from Page 24)

Give homemade

There's something extra special about a gift that's been made by hand. Whether it's baked goods, homemade jam, or a hand-knitted scarf, these kinds of presents are personal and meaningful. They also avoid the environmental footprint of mass-produced goods and packaging.

Give a digital or subscription gift

Subscriptions to streaming services, audiobooks or digital magazines eliminate the need for physical products and packaging. You can even gift memberships to services like a virtual yoga class or an online creative workshop. *from Uniting World (online)*

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WARANGA NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

DEATH

RISSTROM (nee Calder), Loris Eugenia
 Passed away peacefully Monday 25 November 2024 at Drysdale Grove Aged Care. Aged 95 years.
 Dearly loved Wife of Harvey (married 75 years).
 Dearly loved Mother and Mother in Law of Donald and Rhonda.
 Cherished Ma of Travis, Shelley and Kimberley and their families.
 Malessa, Milla, Piper and Torah Risstrom, Adrian, Ivy and Wren Rodrigues, Daniel, Oliver and Alexandra (Lexi) Riley.
 Forever In our Hearts, at peace at last.
 Xx

STIRK, Nerine: 25/7/30 - 25/11/24
 Aged 94.
 Wife of Fred (dec).
 Mother of Fred and Lyn.
 Loved Grandmother.
 Loved Sister and Sister-in-law of Bob (dec) and Mavis.
Sadly Missed.

FUNERAL

RISSTROM, Loris.
 Celebration of Life Service will be held at Drysdale Uniting Church, Friday 6 December 2024 at 11.00 a.m.
 Followed by the Drysdale Cemetery service at 12.00 Noon.
 All welcome back at Drysdale Uniting Church Hall for memories, lunch and fellowship.

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DISTRICT INFORMATION BOARD

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE TOWNS

DECEMBER

Sat 7	Opera in the Country, Girgarre Town Hall 7.30pm to 9.30pm.
Sun 8	Kyabram & District Bush Verse Group Christmas Party at Kyvalley Hall at 12 Noon
Sun 8	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Tue 10	Free Health Screenings Max's Maze - 9am to 5pm
Fri 13	Stanhope Carols - 6pm McEwen Place Stanhope
Fri 13	Tatura Carols - 7.30pm, Tatura Presbyterian Church, 241 Hogan Street
Sun 15	Murchison Carols and market - 4pm to 8pm, Murchison Riverside Gardens
Mon 16	Rushworth & District Concert Band Christmas Carols at 7pm in High street
Thu 19	Nine Lessons & carols at St Matthew's Stanhope 7pm
Fri 20	Rushworth Pool Party from 3.30pm to 5.30pm Music, activities and prizes
Sat 21	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm

JANUARY

Sun 12	Stanhope Town Garage Sale from 9am
Sat 18	Rushworth Market, High Street - 8.30am to 1pm

FEBRUARY

Thu 6	First Edition of Waranga News out for 2025!
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LOCAL SERVICE PHONE NUMBERS

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

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

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

DOCTORS:
Murchison Medical Centre.....5826 2575
Rushworth Medical Centre..... 5856 1329
Stanhope Telecare Medical Centre
4800 5291
Waranga Medical Centre..... 5851 8400

HEALTH:
Stanhope Health.....5857 0451
Waranga Health5851 8000
Nurse on call..... 1300 606 024

HELP:
Lifeline.....13 1114
Kids Helpline.....1800 551 800

POLICE:
Rushworth.....5856 1000
Murchison.....5826 2222
Colbinabbin.....5856 1000

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

WARANGA NEWS OFFICE.....5856 1120

ADVERTISING DEADLINES

NEXT EDITION - 19 DECEMBER

Display Ads: Friday, 13 December

Classified: Monday, 16 December

wnews@iinet.net.au

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: Wednesdays 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.

Waranga News



A Voluntary Community Newspaper

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of 3 Phillips Street, Rushworth, 3612 for

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Your Council News

f @CampaspeShireCouncil
@ #campaspeshire
P: 1300 666 535 | 03 5481 2200
E: shire@campaspe.vic.gov.au
www.campaspe.vic.gov.au

Project Update

Works are nearing completion of the public toilet facilities at the Pumphouse, Aquatic Reserve, Echuca.



Coming Up Council meeting | 6pm Tuesday, 10 December | Echuca Civic Centre
 Meetings can be streamed live: www.campaspe.vic.gov.au/livestreaming

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, 3 December

- 5.30-6.30pm | Rochester Service Centre

Thursday, 5 December

- 9:00 – 10am | Echuca Library
- 11.30-12noon | Stanhope Community Health Centre

Wednesday, 18 December

- 9:00 – 10am | Kyabram Service Centre

Thursday, 19 December

- 5:30pm-6:30pm | Echuca Library

Monday, 23 December

- 9am-10am | Tongala Service Centre

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

Employment

#campaspecareers

- Early Childhood Educator Co-Worker – Casual
- Group Fitness Instructor
- Learn to Swim Teacher
- Parks & Gardens Arboriculture Team Leader
- Parks Maintenance Employee

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

EOI 24050 Victoria Park Multipurpose Facility Redevelopment Project.

Council is seeking submissions from suitably experienced contractors for the above work. A compulsory site meeting will be held on either 6 December 2024 at 2pm or 11 December 2024 at 2pm.

EOI submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal no later than 2.00pm on 23 December 2024. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Now Open

For all projects and applications open, visit campaspe.vic.gov.au/nowopen



Council Community Flood Recovery and Resilience Grants

The Community Flood Recovery and Resilience Grants aim to support individuals, families, and organisations affected by the October 2022 flood event and plan for a flood-resilient future. The grants provide funding of up to \$10,000 to eligible not-for-profit community organisations, groups, social enterprises, and creative organisations. Each eligible applicant can submit one application per project v or event, with a maximum of five applications per organisation. Activities must be completed by 30 April, 2025.

Community Vision Survey

With the newly elected Council, we're renewing our Community Vision. We have a few quick questions to ask community members that will help us to understand your views on the current Community Vision. Visit the "Now Open" section on our website for more details.

You could win \$100 by doing our Community Grants Survey


Council's Community Partnerships Team is currently conducting a survey about our various community grants programs and is seeking community feedback. By completing the survey, you could win a \$100 gift card. You can find the survey on our website in the "Now Open" section.

Tenders

24053 Request for Tender - Supply and Deliver three Multi-Combination Rollers.

Council is seeking submissions for the supply delivery of three multi-combination rollers and trade offer for three Cox multi-combination rollers.

RFT submissions must be uploaded to the eProcure tender portal no later than 2.00pm on 11 December 2024. Late submissions will not be accepted.



Newsletter Out now

The summer edition of the Campaspe Times community newsletter has been delivered to residents and businesses across the shire. It can also be viewed on our website by searching for "Community newsletters".

Plenty to offer at GV Libraries

There is plenty to do this summer with Goulburn Valley Libraries: there is no excuse for anyone in Murchison or Tatura to be bored!

For the younger members of the community, The Big Summer Read has started. You can sign up online or pick up an entry form at any Goulburn Valley Library branch or the Mobile Library (more details about how to sign up can be found on our website). There will be challenges, activities, rewards and prizes to keep you reading and entertained right through till 31 January 2025.

There are lots of free activities happening in libraries across the region. Don't forget to borrow a book, eBook or DVD when you drop in to do a fun crafty activity. Remember, if you borrow a book while doing an activity in Tatura you can always return it to Mooroopna (or any of our other libraries) when you drop in to do a different activity.

Keep an eye on our socials, check out our website or visit your library for more information about all the free children's activities being offered.

The Mobile Library will continue to visit the Murchison community over the Christmas and New Year period. It is only off the road on public holidays. We will be following the regular Mobile timetable but don't forget you can put books on hold and collect them from the Murchison Library Locker anytime.

Too hot or too wet to come out? Check out our huge range of eBooks, eAudiobooks and eMagazines, or watch movies and documentaries on our Kanopy streaming service – information about all these services can be found on our website. All free with your Goulburn Valley Libraries membership.

If you would like more information, check out our website www.gvlibraries.com.au or contact Goulburn Valley Libraries on 1300 374 765. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more information and announcements.

Dear Rudolph,
 Thank you for letting us know you will be visiting us soon. We couldn't find a copy of 'A reindeer's guide to travelling Australia in under three hours' for you, and our copy of 'A history of the six white boomers' is being read by another library member. We know you will be very busy on your work trip to the Goulburn valley on Christmas Eve, but if you join our library as an online member now, you will be able to read an eBook or listen to an eAudiobook while travelling from the North Pole – you can even watch a video or catch up on local newspapers.
 If you, the elves, or the other reindeer, have any more questions please give us a call on 1300 374 765 or email us at gvlibraries@gvlibraries.com.au
 Wishing you safe and happy travels.



The team at
 Goulburn valley Libraries.

Changes to Campaspe Council hours over Christmas period

With the festive season fast approaching, Campaspe Shire Council would like to remind the community of some changes to its operations over the Christmas and New Year period. The following changes to opening hours will occur between Tuesday, 24 December and Thursday, 2 January.

Council services

Customer Service Centres – close 3pm on Tuesday 24 December and reopen 8:30am on Thursday, 2 January 2025.

Echuca Library - closes 3pm on Tuesday 24 December and reopens at 10am on Thursday, 2 January.

Kyabram, Rochester, Tongala and Rushworth Libraries - close 3pm Tuesday 24 December and re-open 8.30am Thursday 2 January.

All online Library services and after-hours return chutes will still be available.

Resource Recovery Centres – closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Maternal and Child Health – service operating for first home visits and essential appointments only, contact the MCH booking line to discuss your options on 1300 644 964.

Campaspe Animal Shelter – closed Sundays and Christmas Day. Open via appointment only from 10am – 12 noon on Boxing Day and New Year's Day. All other days in between open via appointment as per usual operating hours. Appointments can be made by calling 5480 3005.

Echuca War Memorial Aquatic Centre – closed Christmas Day.

Outdoor swimming pools – closed Christmas Day.

Parks and Gardens - will have a staff presence to maintain public toilets, barbecues etc over the break, with most crew returning 2 January.

Quarries - closed for sales from Friday, 20 December and reopen on Monday, 6 January.

Roads maintenance – closes Friday, 20 December and reopens on Monday, 6 January.

Campaspe Community Children's Centre – closes 5.45pm on Monday, 23 December and reopens Monday, 6 January.

Rochester and District Childcare Centre – closes 6pm on Monday, 23 December and reopens Monday, 6 January.

Volunteer-based Community Transport - will conclude on Friday, 20 December and reopen for bookings from Tuesday, 14 January.

Service requests lodged during Council's office closure period will be attended to upon reopening of Council offices.

On-call ranger services operate throughout the holiday period for emergencies only.

For urgent requests, call 1300 666 535 and follow the prompts.

Kerbside bin collections

Kerbside waste collections during the Christmas period are likely to be one hour earlier on some days – so please be prepared!

Kerbside collection will not be impacted on New Year's Day. Collections will return to normal on Monday, 30 December and onwards.

Collection dates across the municipality will change as follows:

- Usual collection day Wednesday 25 Dec

New collection day Thursday 16 Dec

- Usual collection day Thursday, 26 Dec

New collection day now Friday 27 Dec

- Usual collection day Friday, 27 Dec

New collection day now Saturday, 28 Dec

If a collection is missed, residents can take their rubbish to any of Campaspe's Resource Recovery Centres at Colbinabbin, Echuca, Gunbower, Lockington, Mount Scobie, Rochester, Rushworth and Toolleen for a fee. All Resource Recovery Centres now have EFTPOS facilities. Recycling (items you would normally put in your yellow lid bin) can be taken to any of the transfer stations at no charge.

Resource Recovery Centres

All eight Resource Recovery Centres will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Services will operate as usual on all other dates. For additional information about our Resource Recovery Centre locations and opening hours, call us on 1300 666 535.

Additional closures on 12 December only:

Most Campaspe Shire Council services will close from 11am on Thursday, 12 December, and will re-open as usual on Friday, 13 December. The exceptions are the Echuca Customer Service Centre and Echuca Library, which will close from 11:45am on Thursday, 12 December and re-open at 8:30am and 10am respectively on 13 December.

Sports Report

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Rushworth Bowls competition - Men's Pairs

The Mens Drawn Pairs Final was held on Monday 18 November.

Barry Thompson and Dave Morton (Taffy) played Jason Cashmore and Noel Lloyd.

A great day with a nail biting end, the boys were all square on the last end, so one extra end was played to determine the winner.

Congratulations to Barry and Dave (Taffy) who won by 2.

The Ladies Drawn Pairs Final was held on Monday 4 November.

Jean Sprague and Glenis Ray played Kay Quirk and Karren Cruz. A fantastic day and great to see so many supporters attending to cheer them on.

Congratulations to Karren and Kay for the win on the day.

Barefoot bowls

Looking for a fun evening out? Rushworth Bowls Club is currently running Barefoot Bowls Season 1 - Thursday nights till 12 December 2024 from 5:45pm

Come on down for an entertaining evening, no experience necessary. Test your bowling skills; spare bowls are available at the club.

There will be a sausage sizzle and the bar is open. A \$5 entry fee for the night.

We welcome anyone interested. Season two kicks off in mid January 2025.



Barry Thompson and Dave Morton (Taffy) played Jason Cashmore and Noel Lloyd.

Colbinabbin Football Netball Club - looking to 2025

Coaching positions

Are you our next coach? The club is seeking coaches to lead their B Reserve and Under 17 teams into 2025! They have a talented group of girls, coaches, volunteers and supporters who will support you along the way. New to coaching, been doing it for years? We want to hear from you!

Please any expression of interest contact - Mikayla Palmer - Email: colbonetballops@gmail.com

Break-in

Any Information regarding the recent break-ins at the football ground would be appreciated. Facebook have attached recent security vision.

Please contact Dean Wallace or anyone you know from Colbo and they will get the information to me.

Or please call Crimestoppers 180033300.

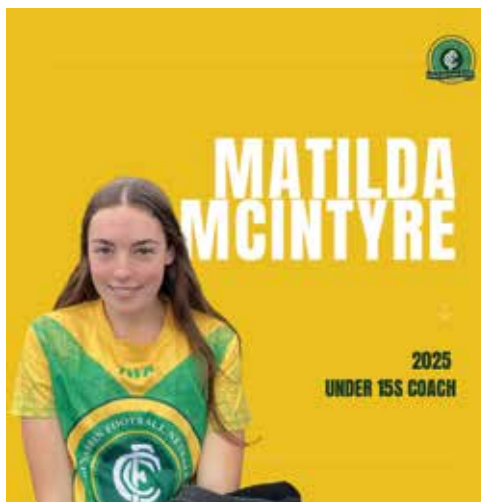
GO HOPPERS

Coaching Announcement

Matilda McIntyre - The club is excited to announce the 2025 Under 15s netball coach and to see what Matilda can achieve assisting with the development of the Under 15s team.

Re-signed for 2025

Elle Palmer - The club has secured Elle for the 2025 season. After a wonderful 2024 Elle will enjoy another year with the Hoppers.



Please provide photos with your stories - a picture tells a thousand words!

**KANANGRA
ACCOMMODATION**

Colbinabbin Bed and Breakfast
53 Mitchell Street Colbinabbin

Phone: 0408 602 841
Email: julie.prince59@bigpond.com

Murchison/Toolamba Football news for 2025

After a premiership seniors year, Murchison club is pleased to announce the return of many players from 2024.

Coaches return for 2025

Brett Foley - The club is pleased to announce the re-appointment of our Premiership-winning Seniors Coach.

Fred Andronaco - Also the club's Reserves football coaches for 2025.

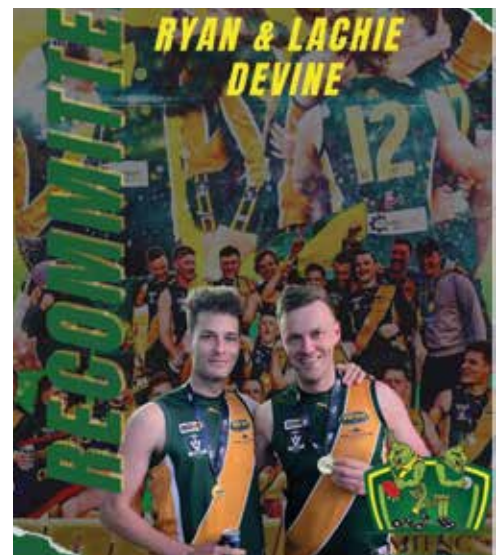
Best and Fairest back

James Milne - We are delighted to have this legend of our club, League Best and Fairest winner and all round good bloke keen as to play again in 2025.



George Brisbane - Welcome back to the Hoppers for 2025. The tough midfielder will fit back into the club perfectly.

Ryan and Lachie Devine, premiership brothers return.

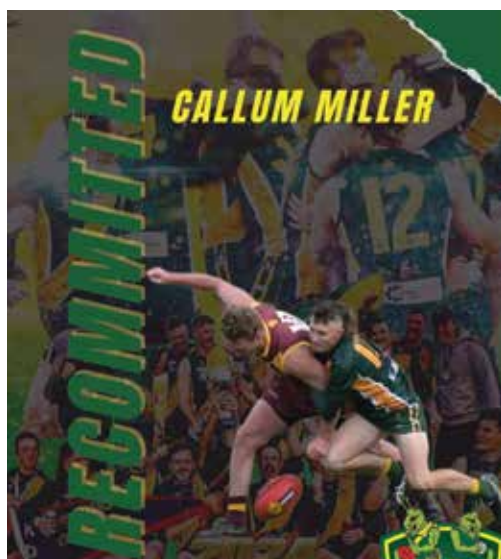
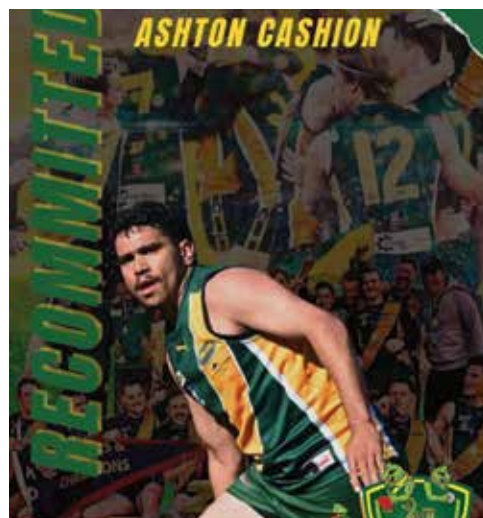


Players returning in 2025

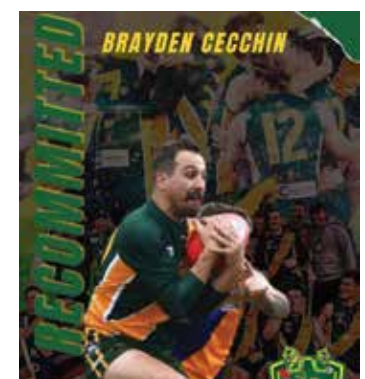
Mason Sleeth and Callum Miller



Other players returning for 2025 – Ashton Cashion, Jai Utiger, Jye Borg and Brayden Cecchin.



Also welcome back to - Aaron Miller, Liam Leahy, Andrew Ralph, Kall Sanders, Brodie Sanders, Nathan Turner, Leighroy Wellington, Josh Wild, Cody Vincitorio, Sam Mackrill, Jedd Harrison, Joel May.



Murchison/Toolamba Netballers' next season

After a wonderful season in 2024, the girls are looking forward to getting back on the court.

2025 Netball coaching 11 Under

The club is also very excited to get the ball rolling by welcoming back club veteran Carly Tuhan for her third year as our 11 and Under netball coach.

Carly had a very successful 2024 season, coaching and developing the 11 and Under team as well as co-coaching B Grade netball, with B Grade making it through to finals.

With an absolute wealth of knowledge and experience, Carly is set to take on 2025 with our littlest Hoppers! Welcome back Carly!



2025 Netball coaching 13 Under announcement

The club warmly welcomes Alice Cunningham to the Junior coaching team in 2025.

After having Stace Hodgkisson and Chlo Murray retire from their four year coaching stint with our 13 and Under team, Alice now steps up to the plate and will be a fantastic asset and mentor for our 2025 team.

Alice has an amazing netball resume and the club can't wait to see what great things come for her and her team in 2025



2025 Netball coaching 15 Under

After a very successful 2024 season for outgoing 15's netball coach Shae Ewart, we warmly welcome club legend Kelsey McDonald to the position.

Kels brings so much enthusiasm and experience to this role, having spent her time last year in our A Grade team and taking out club Best and Fairest, which shows just how much hard work and dedication she strives to achieve.

Welcome Kels! We wish you all the very best of luck for your 2025 Season.



2025 netball coaching 17 Under

The club is very excited to announce our new 17 and Under Netball Coach, Sharne Bravo!

Sharne is no stranger to the netball court having played many games over the years (150 games in August this year) and taking part in the MTFNC C Grade Grand Final game this year. Her experience extends to coaching roles over the years with MTFNC which include A Grade, B Grade, 11 and Under, as well as the first ever Premiership side when C Grade took out the flag.

The 17 and Under team in 2025 will reap the benefits of Sharne's experience and leadership!

2025 netball coaching C Res

The club are excited to announce the 2025 C Reserve coaches with Liv Kerrins and Kristy-Lee Ralph teaming up to create the ultimate coaching dream team.

Liv's coaching experience spans from 15 and Under in 2023 as well as our 17 and Under girls 2024, who had a successful season on the court making it through to finals. Liv has many netball years under her belt which will be an asset when she takes on her new role. Kristy-Lee coached the clubs 17 and Under team in 2023 and previously the first junior Murchison-Toolamba teams in the SNA competition and like Liv, has lots of netball expertise at her disposal.

Liv and Kristy-Lee are a force to be reckoned with in 2025! Let's go girls!

2025 netball coaching C Grade

Ultimate duo Tanesha Cecchin, who is back for her second consecutive year as C Grade coach, along with C Grade Vice Captain of this years team and equal C Grade Best and Fairest, Leah Foley.

These two have some magic chemistry when it comes to game day tactics and strategies. They know what works and what doesn't, and can bounce ideas off each other on how to make things work more effectively. Tanesha will look to continue her coaching success after leading C Grade into the Grand Final this season, and Leah will be right there with her.

We wish these ladies all the very best of luck for Season 2025!



2025 netball coaching B Grade

The club would like to introduce B Grade coach, Charlotte Thomas.

Charlotte had her first year at Murchison this season, securing a Best and Fairest win in her B Grade team, who also made it through to finals. Playing in the GV League since she was 15 years old, Charlotte comes to the club having played A Grade for Tatura and has also coached their B Reserve side.

Charlotte is a ray of sunshine and a well respected member of the club. Our youngsters will look up to her as a fantastic role model and skilled player, and our seniors will have a fantastic teammate and mentor at their fingertips.

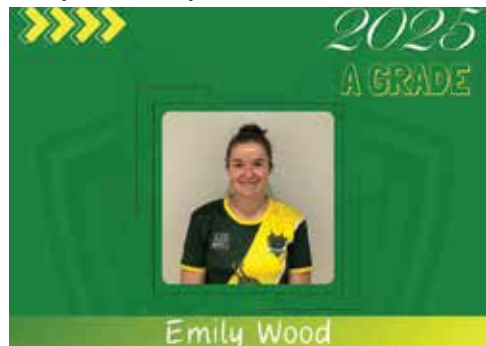


2025 netball coaching A Grade

Emily Wood has been a part of the A Grade squad for a number of years, having been awarded A Grade Best and Fairest in 2023, and Runner-up Best and Fairest in 2024. Em also took on the role of our B Grade co-coach 2024 and lead the side into finals.

Em is a passionate and dedicated netballer, club person and role model, which is why she is such a fantastic fit to head up our A Grade team. The 2025 side will really benefit from Em's leadership, netball smarts and drive to succeed.

We can't wait to see what 2025 has in store for Em and her A Grade team. We wish Emily all the very best of luck!



RFNC - More players re-signing for 2025

Rushworth players have flocked to the Ironbark Stadium for early training in order to prepare for the 2025 season. The club is thrilled to announce Ryan Beale as signed with the club for season 2025.

In the initial conversations with Ryan, the club was extremely impressed. He is a really sound character who will no doubt be an important addition to the club. Playing his early football in Gippsland, then progressing to the VAFA playing for Old Trinity, Ryan is hungry for the next challenge in his career. Ryan will add great depth to the forward line and midfield groups and more importantly the whole environment of the club. Please join the club in welcoming Ryan to the Tigers.



Netball coaches for 2025

The club is excited to see the teams hit the court this season after a promising start to preseason training and senior trials.

Please join the club in welcoming all of our coaches and let's all get behind them for the upcoming season.

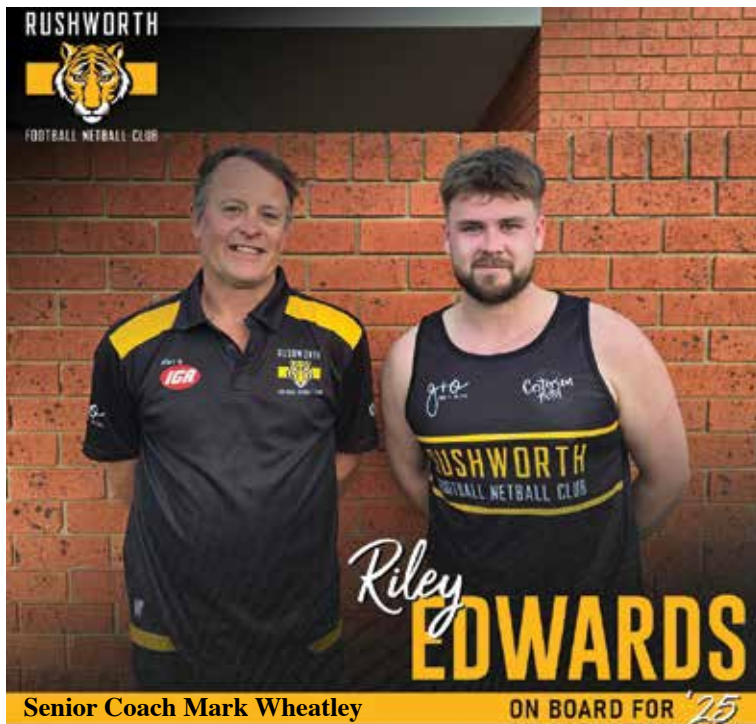


Also joining the Tigers for 2025 is Riley Edwards.

Riley comes to the club from Mernda and is always a chance to hit the scoreboard, kicking over 300 goals across his career so far.

Playing as a forward/mid Riley adds valuable depth to our team and will be looking to cause opposition teams' headaches over the course of the year!

Looking for a change of scenery and to reignite his passion for football, we think Riley is the perfect fit for our club as we look to build upon the 2024 season. Welcome to Riley. The club can't wait to see him take the field in the black and gold.

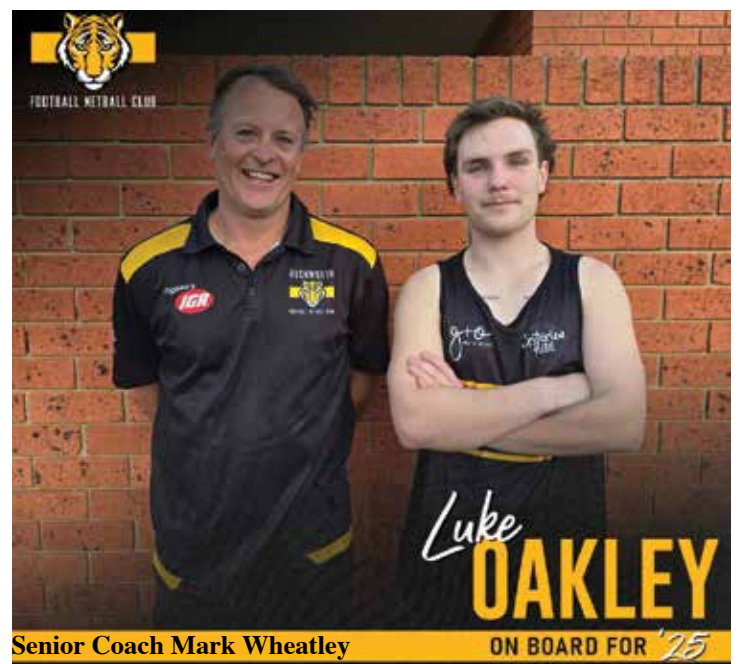


Luke Oakley is on board for Season 2025.

Joining us from Greensborough Under 19s, Luke has enjoyed a successful junior career so far that includes three Premierships, a Best and Fairest and rep side experience.

Luke had a taste for Senior footy last year with Greensborough and is looking to get stuck into the next chapter of his career with the tigers. Adding to the midfield/forward rotation, Luke prides himself on his in and under footy combined with his running ability and a propensity to hit the scoreboard.

Please join the club in welcoming Luke to the Ironbark Stadium.



Rushworth Under 13 junior cricketers

Wednesday 20 November

Under 13's went to Rochester Secondary College to play against Rochester Gold. Unfortunately, our team lost. Rochester won the toss and were 7/107 after 20 overs, while Rushworth could only muster 2/74 after 20 overs, although there were seven players that retired after facing the 12-ball limit. Best batsman on the day was Heath Odgen with 24 no. Our best bowler for the game was Heath Odgen with 3 for 2 off 3 overs including a maiden.

The Game Award was given to Thomas Odgen, below.



Seniors cricketers

Sat 23 November

B Grade

B Grade played Fire Brigade at the Northern Oval in Kyabram. Fire Brigade won the toss and elected to bat first up. Fire Brigade made 7/146 from the 40 overs while Rushworth 10/104 from 37 overs. Shannon Jarrett was the best bowler on the day, taking three wickets for 29 from his eight overs. Our batsman was Tommy Stevens making 44 runs.

D Grade

D Grade played Stanhope at Stanhope Oval 2. Stanhope won the toss and elected to bat. Stanhope made 6/142 from 36 overs and Rushworth won the game 0/143 from 23.1 overs. Our best bowlers were Brodie Shepherd with 2/8 from his 8 overs and Declan Baldwin 2/40 from his 8 overs. Our batsmen for the day were Declan Baldwin compulsory retiring after making 52 no, because of the compulsory retirement of Declan this allowed the grandfather/grandson combination in Peter Raglus/Heath Odgen to bat together for the first time, Peter Raglus also compulsory retiring on 50 no. Heath Odgen on 21no and Brodie Shepherd 15no.

Wed 27 November - abandoned

Under 13's game was abandoned due to the weather. Rushworth were to play Echuca White.

Sat 30 November - abandoned

B Grade played Moama at Moama. The game was abandoned due to the weather.

D Grade played Fire Brigade at Kyabram Secondary College, which was changed to Brose Reserve, Tongala. The game was abandoned due to the weather.

Rushworth Cricket Club hosts Pink Stumps Ladies Day

Rushworth Cricket Club are hosting our Pink Stumps Ladies Day in support of the McGrath Foundation on 7 December at the Ironbark Stadium.

The boys will be wearing pink shirts in both D and B Grade as they play Colbinabbin and Tongala.

Whilst the boys play, the club is treating the ladies to an afternoon of luxury with platters and sweets as well as drinks all included for a \$25 donation to the fundraiser. (The link is on the Cricket Club facebook page).

There are raffles and prizes to be won, as well as a guest speaker, Michelle Parish, a breast care nurse from the McGrath Foundation coming to talk to the ladies on the day to help raise awareness.

The club openly invites everyone to come and join in on the day and help raise funds for a good cause.

The club would also like to thank their sponsors who helped provide the shirts with all money raised from the day being donated to the McGrath Foundation.



Boss Baldwin and Liam Francis proudly wearing their pink shirts.



Peter Raglus and grandson Heath batting together.



Share in the merry

From silent nights to loud Christmas lunches,
may your festive season be a special one.

During the festive season our branch will close on Wednesday
25 December, and reopen Friday 27 December.

From the Community Bank · Rushworth & District team.

 Community Bank · Rushworth & District 03 5856 2122

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